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God's action is invariable: the reception of his gifts depends on man's faith. Man need never be uncertain as to God's will; it is in man's will that uncertainty is found, and God will never coerce the wills of men.

CHAPTER VII

THE PLACE OF THE KINGDOM IN THE STRUGGLE TO SURVIVE

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As a unit, or a part of a limited corporate unit, man survives by fighting and getting.

But the potentially universal unit called by Jesus the kingdom of heaven, can only be formed by men who cultivate the faculties of loving and giving to the atrophy of hate and greed.

Until this unit becomes universal the individualism and party spirit of the world will oppose it. Therefore the children of the kingdom—the Church—will suffer persecution; but it is only as the suffering is incidental to loving and giving, and is freed from all spirit of retaliation, that it goes to increase the sway of the kingdom.

It is only by accepting this plan that the human race can survive in a higher spiritual environment.

CHAPTER VIII

SALVATION BY JOY

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Suffering is incidental and temporary in the scheme of salvation that Jesus taught; joy is of its essence.

The Christian's suffering is that entailed by the opposition of the world-spirit to love.

The Christian is never commanded to undergo suffering for the sake of personal improvement.