

and then others began to do the same. And all ate what others gave, and all were satisfied, but they had no need to eat all they had. And Jesus said, So also you must do. Every one must not seek to provide himself with food, but must give to others what he has, as the spirit in man tells him to do.

The real food of man is the spirit of the Father. Men live only through the spirit. We are bound to serve all the functions of life, for to live is not to do our own will, but the will of the Father of life. The will of the Father is that the life of the spirit, which is in every man, should remain in him, and that all should preserve that life till the hour of death. The Father is the spirit which is the source of all life. Life is only the fulfilment of the will of the Father, and, therefore, for the fulfilment of the will of the spirit it is necessary to give up the things of the flesh. The flesh is food for the life of the spirit, and only by consuming the things of the flesh can the spirit live.

After this Jesus chose certain disciples and sent them abroad to proclaim everywhere his teaching of the life of the spirit. When he sent them he said, Go and preach the life of the spirit, and therefore give up beforehand all the pleasures of the flesh; have nothing of your own. Make yourselves ready for persecution, privations, and suffering. You will be hated by those who love the life of the flesh, and they will torture and kill you, but be not afraid. If you fulfil the will of the Father, you will have the life of the spirit, and no man can take it from you.

The disciples set forth, and when they returned they announced that everywhere they had prevailed over evil.

Then the Pharisees said to Jesus that his teaching, even if it prevailed over evil, was an evil itself, inasmuch as those who professed it had to endure suffering. To this Jesus answered, Evil cannot prevail over evil, for evil can only be overcome by good. Good is the will of the Father's spirit, of the

spirit which is common to all men. Every man knows that good exists for him. If he does good to others, if he does what is the will of the Father, he does well. Therefore the fulfilment of the will of the Father spirit is good, although it be accompanied with suffering and death for those who accomplish it.

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## SPRING.

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Dip down upon the northern shore,  
O sweet new year, delaying long ;  
Thou dost expectant nature wrong ;  
Delay, delay no more.

What stays thee from the clouded noon,  
Thy sweetness from its proper place ?  
Can trouble live with April days,  
Or sadness in the summer moon ?

Bring orchis, being the foxglove spire,  
The little speedwell's darling blue,  
Deep tulips dashed with fiery dew,  
Laburnums, dropping wells of fire.

O thou new year, delaying long,  
Delayest the sorrow in my blood  
That longs to burst a frozen bud,  
And flood a fresher throat with song.

Now fades the last long streak of snow ;  
Now bourgeons every maze of quick,  
About the flowering squares, and thick  
By ashen roots the violet blow.

Now rings the woodland, loud and long,  
The distance takes a levelier hue,  
And drowned in yonder living blue,  
The lark becomes a sightless song.

Now dance the lights on lawn and lea,  
The flocks are whiter down the vale.  
And milkier every milky sail  
On widening stream or distant sea.

Where now the sew-mew pipes or dives,  
In yonder greening gleam, and fly  
The happy birds that change their sky  
To build and brood, that live their lives.

From land to land, and in my breast,  
Spring wakens too ; and my regret  
Becomes an April violet,  
And buds and blossoms like the rest.

ALFRED TENNYSON.

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I think the great main doctrine  
of Christ is that truth is light, and they  
who love the light come to it.

F. W. ROBERTSON.