

the "light which enlighteneth every man that cometh into the world," and as this was the keynote to all George Fox's preaching and is the fundamental doctrine of the Society of Friends, we must look into it thoroughly and take it in the broad sense in which it was given us. If it "enlighteneth *every man*" we must go beyond the pale of those who profess the name of Christ. What was the light which shone in the heart of Socrates and gave him strength to die in the faith of some great power which he felt to be so infinitely greater than the idols of his countrymen, that he refused to pay to the idols divine honors, and death was the consequence? And what was the light which enlightened Seneca, and enabled the Roman Emperor, Marcus Aurelius, to live a pure, reverent life amid such great temptations and in a court so corrupt? Let us go still farther back before the Christian era. What was it that led Buddha to live so pure a life, who, with a heart full of love and compassion, taught the doctrines which are believed by four hundred and seventy millions of our race?

And George Fox proved by an Indian, ignorant barbarian as he was, that he felt and acknowledged a guide within him, which distinguished between right and wrong. The apostle tells us "when the Gentiles which have not the law do by nature the things contained in the law, these having not the law are a law unto themselves, which show the works of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness and their thoughts the meanwhile accusing or else excusing one another." Is not this clear enough? God is not divided. The light he gave the faithful Abraham, which he followed so closely, that he was called the "Friend of God," the same light has enlightened every great religious reformer since the creation of the world. That this light is given to every man is proved by the fact that no nation exists or ever did exist upon the earth but that acknowledged a

supreme power. History proves to us that when ambition makes tools of ignorance and superstition, times of such dense darkness ensue that excepting those who cherish the light given them in secret it would almost seem as if pure religion would disappear from the earth. Were it not for the strong, pure men whom God raises and strengthens to proclaim his truth against all the powers of darkness, and although it was the light of God which gave every great reformer what power he had to contend with the evils of his time, none of the reformers save George Fox taught us of this light itself, and how, if we follow its teachings, it will direct us how to act in all things. And do we not need something *within us* to direct us in our walk through life? Our *every action* cannot be guided by any outward law; actions proceed from motives formed in the heart, and God has given us that which is always with us if we will but listen to its dictates.

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(To be continued.)

THOUGHTS.

True religion is of slow growth.

Religion is a realization of our oneness with God.

A soul occupied with great ideas best performs small duties.—F. Martineau.

Don't place temptation in the way of others. Make it as easy as possible for them to do right, and as hard as possible for them to do wrong.

By troubling ourselves about what may be required of us in the future, we miss the duties lying near us and unfit ourselves for the performance of them."

If we keep the disagreeable things of life ever before our minds we will fail to see the good things awaiting us. Better keep the blessings so close before us that the disagreeables will be crowded out of sight.