

sorrow to one of the most beautiful and useful of God's creatures. Will not every woman in the land let the nobler nature rise highest, and help to put down the vain fashion, which is destroying the birds of our land?

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ANSWER TO A. M. S.

Since reading the communication of A. M. S., in REVIEW for 5th mo., 15th., I have felt that I must write a few lines in answer to it, and the thought will not be put aside until I feel that I *must* add my mite in regard to the subject. There seems to be no written nor human authority I can refer to which would carry any weight with A. M. S., as he, or she, puts all history on a level with tradition, and says "we look back too much to the time of Jesus Christ, George Fox, and others," thus placing them, apparently, on the same level; and as he regards so much of the New Testament as untrue, it would be useless to quote it to him, but I may so do in the explanation of my views.

I have never felt, like A. M. S., that our religious society prohibits the free expression of any of its members. On the contrary, I think we have the greatest freedom of expression, and have heard, and read, the sayings of Friends frequently, as to how individuals might cherish very different opinions in regard to doctrines, etc., and yet be free and unmolested in what they believed to be the truth. Were this not the case it is evident that we should divide and sub-divide as other sects have done, and as others would do were not charity and forbearance exercised.

I believe, with A. M. S., we should "look for the divine promptings within our own souls," and faithfully follow them, for they are to us the voice of God to which Jesus was ever calling the attention of mankind. But I do not believe that any "promptings"

which come from God will lead us to deny that *Jesus was the Christ*, and therefore infinitely higher and holier than any mere human being. And was not this the revealed truth which Jesus told Peter was the rock upon which he would build his church? Immediate revelation, which is our fundamental doctrine, revealed to Peter that in Jesus was fulfilled all the prophecies of the ages, and his was the "body prepared" to show to the world God as a loving father, who yearns for the salvation of every one of his children. The history of the world, if studied thoughtfully, shows us how great was the effect of the true revelation of God through his son Jesus Christ, and how dark, in comparison, seems the ages before, when the true attributes of God were so little understood.

I too, am a teacher in the First-day School. I too, "have dear children looking to me for guidance," and, as a mother, it is the greatest desire of my heart to see my children come to a living knowledge of God's truth. Week after week as I meet my large class of little children, and in my humble capacity endeavor to hand forth at least the "crumbs from the Master's table," I find in the youngest, most thoughtless mind, a reverent faith which is able to grasp the fact of Christ's power to still the tempest, heal the sick, and raise the dead. The mind of the child can readily believe that God who made all things, sent forth his son so filled with his spirit that "all power was given unto him," and "except ye be converted and become as little children ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. I believe in the words of the beloved disciple that "Whosoever denieth the Son, the same hath not the Father, but he that acknowledgeth the Son hath the Father also." "And this is the promise which he hath promised us, even eternal life." "Whatsoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God; whosoever is born of