

OTHER MEN'S BIBLES.

Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.—MATT. v: 8.

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose imagination is stayed on thee.—ISAIAH xxvi: 3.

1.--1. Tao the Master said: The Great Tao (the Law, the Way, the Path the Word, Truth, or Being in the Absolute sense; pronounced like *tau* in German, and apparently related to the ancient tau, or cross) has no bodily form, but It produced and nourishes heaven and earth. The Great Tao has no passions, but It causes the sun and moon to revolve as they do.

The Great Tao has no name, but I make an effort, and I call It the Tao.

2. Now the Tao [shows itself in two forms]; the Pure and the Turbid, and has [the two conditions of] Motion and Rest. Heaven is pure and earth is turbid; heaven moves and earth is at rest. The masculine is pure and the feminine is turbid; the masculine moves and the feminine is still. The radical [Purity] descended, and the [turbid] issue flowed abroad; and thus all things were produced.

The pure is the source of the turbid, and motion is the foundation of rest.

If man could always be pure and still, heaven and earth would revert [to non-existence].

3. Now the spirit of man loves Purity, but his mind disturbs it. The mind of the man loves stillness, but his desires draw it away. If he could always send his desires away, his mind would of itself become still. Let his mind become clean, and his spirit will of itself become pure.

As a matter of course the six desires (those which have their inlets in the eyes, ears, nostrils, the tongue, the sense of touch, known in Chinese as "the body," and the imagination, known as "the idea, or thought") will not arise, and their poisons (greed, anger, and stupidity) will be taken away and disappear.

4. The reason why men are not able to attain to this, is because their minds have not been cleansed, and their desires have not been sent away.

If one is able to send the desires away, when he then looks in at his mind, it is no longer his; when he looks at his body, it is no longer his; and when he looks further off at external things, they are

things which he has nothing to do with.

When he understands these three things, there will appear to him only vacancy.

The idea of vacuous space having vanished, that of nothingness itself also disappears; and when the idea of nothingness has disappeared, there ensues serenely the condition of constant stillness.

5. In that condition of rest independently of any place, how can any desire arise? And when no desire any longer arises, there is the True stillness and rest.

That True [stillness] becomes [a] constant quality, and responds to external things [without error]; yea, that True and Constant quality holds possession of the nature.

In such constant response and constant stillness there is the constant Purity and Rest.

He who has this absolute Purity enters gradually into the [inspiration of the] True Tao. And having entered thereto, he is styled Possessor of the Tao.

Although he is styled Possessor of the Tao, in reality he does not think that he has become possessed of anything. It is as accomplishing the transformation of all living things, that he is styled Possessor of the Tao.

He who is able to understand this may transmit to others the Sacred Tao.

From the Chhing Chang Ching, or the Classic of Purity, ascribed to Lao-tze, about B.C. 600, and translated by James Legge in vol. xl, "Sacred Books of the East."

Flower in the cranial wall
I pluck you out of the cranial wall—
Hold you here, root and all, in my hand,
Little flower; but if I could understand
What you are, root and all, and all in all,
I should know what God and man is.
—Tennyson.

Oh, the little birds sang east, and the little birds sang west,—

Toll slowly.
And I said in underbreath, all our life is mixed with death.
And who knoweth which is best?

Oh, the little birds sang east, and the little birds sang west,—

Toll slowly.
And I smiled to think God's greatness flowed around our incompleteness,—
Round our restlessness, His rest.

—Mrs. E. B. Browning.
"Rhyme of the Duchess May."