

The Inner Light

by Harry Holloway

All sorts of characteristics have been attributed to the man who was called Jesus. In this study let us consider the Quaker characteristics of centring down and listening to (for) God to speak.

It is not stretching the imagination too far to postulate that the man Jesus (without detracting whatsoever from other characteristics which are attributed to him - miraculous, divine, etc) was also the perfect Quaker. Centring down, listening to God, and doing what was given to him to do, far better than any prophet, saint, monk, Quaker, or others down the centuries.

"I have done what My Father commanded, nothing was of my own doing."

Even so, his love for humanity must have led to his concentration on expressing and developing God's Love for humanity, as an outstanding aim of his life. The details of how that would be done, he left to God his Father (Mother/Parent). He followed, as "spoken" to him.

People are always searching for God, trying to get to God. That searching was in progress, and had been, down the ages, at the time of His Life on earth. Part of His desire to help people would be to help them get to God.

Because of His perfect following of God's leadings at all times, right to the crucifixion, the ultimate sacrifice of the ego, it might well be presumed that God satisfied that desire of Jesus - now Christ - to help others to get to Him/Herself, by installing Him, Christ, (without us knowing anything of the details, but together with the Holy Spirit) alongside Him/Herself, (I am one with the Father) above - transcendent - and "in all things," which includes "in ourselves" - immanent.

Any person, centring down, to allow God Within, at our centre, to commune, has to be perfect and have the right approach to be acceptable to God the Perfect One. Only exceptional persons are capable of attaining that condition. Most of us are not so capable.

Provided we acknowledge and accept, Christ, then Christ within is our Mediator, Redeemer, mediating, redeeming, our imperfect desires and approaches on our behalf, out of His Love for us, into forms acceptable to the Perfect One. This He can do, because of His life on earth knowing our plights and situations.

"I will do anything you ask," but there is a condition, "If you keep my word"!

After Pentecost, as St. John says, "Christ is now in every person coming into the world." It is through Him, Christ, that we pray, and are able to have God, through Christ, commune with us, even if it is subconsciously.

"The Light Within?"

Harry Holloway is an attender of Simcoe-Muskoka Monthly Meeting.

Section of the Americas

Friends World Committee for the Americas seeks a Friend for appointment as Executive Secretary beginning January 1, 2002. Secretary begins Americas administers a work of developing communication and cooperation among Friends of varying backgrounds. The section's Executive Secretary employs staff in office and elsewhere in the Americas to assist their worship and work together. The close coordination with Friends around the world and consideration of Spanish-language skills desirable. Applicants should have deep experience of the life of their own yearly meetings or groups and an active awareness of faith and practice among Friends. Applications August 31, 2002. Application form available. Friends World Committee for the Americas, 1506 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102, USA. Phone: (215) 241-7250. Fax: (215) 241-7285. Email: americas@fwcc.quaker.org

Quaker Youth Pilgrimage

Friends World Committee for the Americas is seeking two adult facilitators and four young Friends, ages sixteen to eighteen, for the Quaker Youth Pilgrimage, July 12-August 10, 2002. The pilgrimage, both physical and spiritual, follows George Fox's journey through Virginia, North Carolina. A diverse group of youth from around the world to explore their common roots, experience different forms of worship, visit important Quaker historical sites and complete a project while traveling, living and working together. Co-sponsored by Friends World Committee for the Americas, a Consultation, Section of the Americas, and Middle East Section, this is a biennial event for Quaker youth from around the world. For information and application materials contact: Friends World Committee for the Americas, Philadelphia, PA 19102, USA. Phone: 215-241-7250; Fax: 215-241-7285; <americas@fwcc.quaker.org>

Deadlines: Adult Facilitator - December 15, 2001; Pilgrims - January 15, 2002.