

Dearly beloved Friends, these things we do
not lay upon you as a rule or form to walk
by, but that all, with the measure of the
light which is pure and holy,
may be guided.
Meeting of elders at Balby 1656

For, when I came into the silent assemblies
of God's people, I felt a secret power
among them, which touched my heart;
and as I gave way unto it I found the evil
weakening and the good lifted up.
Robert Barclay 1676

Now was I come up in spirit through the
flaming sword into the paradise of God. All
things were new, and all the creation gave
another smell unto me than before, beyond
what words can utter.
George Fox 1647

I saw also that there was an ocean of
darkness and death,
but an infinite ocean of light and love,
which flowed over the ocean of darkness.
George Fox 1647

Now I am clear, I am fully clear. . .
The Seed of God reigns over all
and over death itself.
George Fox 1691

When all my hopes in men were gone...
I heard a voice which said, 'There is one,
even Christ Jesus, that can speak to thy
condition,' and when I heard it my heart did
leap for joy.
George Fox 1647

He ... opened the scriptures, and said, 'You
will say, Christ saith this,
and the apostles say this;
but what canst thou say?
George Fox
quoted by Margaret Fell 1652

Art thou a child of Light and hast walked in
the Light, and what thou speakest is it
inwardly from God?'
George Fox
quoted by Margaret Fell 1652

There is a spirit which I feel that delights to
do no evil, nor to revenge any wrong, but
delights to endure all things, in hope to
enjoy its own in the end.
James Nayler 1660

George said to him, 'William where is thy
sword?' 'Oh!' said he, 'I have taken thy
advice; I wore it as long as I could.'
Will Penn & George Fox
quoted by Samuel Janney

Sing and rejoice, ye children of the Day and
of the Light, for the Lord is at work in this
thick night of Darkness that may be felt:
and the truth does flourish like the rose,
and the lilies do grow among the thorns. . .

George Fox 1663

And never heed the tempests
nor the storms, floods nor rains,
for the Seed Christ is over all
and doth reign.

George Fox 1663

Be patterns, be examples in all countries,
places, islands, nations, wherever you
come, that your carriage and life may
preach among all sorts of people; then you
will come to walk cheerfully over the world,
answering that of God in everyone.

George Fox 1656

We utterly deny all outward wars and
strifes and fightings with outward weapons,
for any end or under any pretence
whatsoever. And this is our testimony to
the whole world .

Declaration to Charles II 1661

The Spirit of Christ which leads us into all
Truth will never move us to fight and war
against any man with outward weapons,
neither for the kingdom of Christ, nor for
the kingdoms of the world.

Declaration to Charles II 1661

I told them I lived in the virtue
of that life and power that took away the
occasion of all wars ...
I told them I was come into the covenant of
peace which was before wars and strifes
were.

George Fox 1651

Although I am out of the king's protection,
I am not out of the
protection of the Almighty God.

Margaret Fell 1664

We must all be in one dress and one colour:
this is silly poor gospel.
It is more fit for us to be covered with God's
Eternal Spirit, and clothed with
his Eternal Light.

Margaret Fell 1700

There is a daily round for beauty
as well as for goodness. . .
God is in all beauty.

Caroline C Graveson 1937

The Kingdom of Heaven did gather us
and catch us all, as in a net,
and his heavenly power at one time drew
many hundreds to land.
We came to know a place to stand in and
what to wait in.

Francis Howgill 1672

'Didn't you know I would come?
It is all right now.'
All of a sudden I saw with my spirit that
there was love behind my shut gate.
Yes, 'where there is so much love,
there must be more.'

Rufus Jones 1947

Death is but Crossing the World,
as Friends do the Seas;
they live in one another still.

William Penn 1693

Our life is love, and peace, and tenderness;
and bearing one with another, and
forgiving one another, and not laying
accusation one against another; but
praying for one another, and helping one
another up with a tender hand.

Isaac Penington 1667

Friends, whatever ye are addicted to,
the tempter will come in that thing;
and when he can trouble you
then he gets advantage over you
and you are gone.

Stand still in that which is pure.

George Fox 1652

The humble, meek, merciful, just, pious,
and devout souls are everywhere of one
religion; and when death has taken off the
mask they will know one another, though
the diverse liveries they wear here makes
them strangers.

William Penn 1693

True godliness don't turn men and women
out of the world,
but enables them to live better in it,
and excites their endeavours to mend it.

William Penn 1682

Love was the first motion

John Woolman 1763

May we look upon our treasures, the
furniture of our houses, and our garments,
and try whether the seeds of war have
nourishment in these our possessions.

John Woolman 1763

There is a principle which is pure,
placed in the human mind,
which in different places and ages
hath had different names.
It is, however, pure and proceeds from
God.

John Woolman 1761

To turn all the treasures we possess
into the channel of universal love
becomes the business of our lives.

John Woolman 1763

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
Till all our strivings cease;
Take from our souls the strain and stress,
And let our ordered lives confess
The beauty of thy peace.
John Greenleaf Whittier 1807-1892

Friends, meet together and know each
other in that which is eternal, which was
before the world was.

George Fox 1657

As many candles lighted and put in the
same place do greatly augment the light
and make it more to shine forth, so when
many are gathered together into the same
life there is more of the glory of God.
Robert Barclay 1676

Open Thou my life
Guide my thoughts where I dare not
let them go.
But thou darest.
Thy will be done.

Thomas Kelly 1941

Friends believe that true leadership consists
first and foremost in being led ... The only
authentic leadership is divine followship.

Friends as Leaders 1979

Life from the Center is a life of unhurried
peace and power. It is simple. It is serene.
It is amazing. It is triumphant. It is radiant.
It takes no time, but it occupies all our time.

Thomas Kelly 1941

I'd rather be jolly St. Francis hymning
his canticle to the sun
than a dour sobersides Quaker
whose diet would appear to have been
spiritual persimmons.
Thomas Kelly 1941

We cannot see that you believe in God;
the sword you are wearing
blocks our view.

Pierre Ceresole 1879-1945

We do not own the world, and its riches are
not ours to dispose of at will. Show a loving
consideration for all creatures, and work to
maintain the beauty and variety of the
world.
Advices and Queries 1995

When we leave behind the enslaving
culture that is destroying the Earth we will
need to discern who will be our fellow-
voyagers and what we will retain from our
past and present if there is to be a future for
creation.

Anne Thomas 1995