MEDITATIONS FROM AUGUST 2020 SUNDAY BULLETINS

THE TRUTH OF MAN

August 2, 2020 Rev. Wayne M. Gatewood, Jr.

Coming into this world and being filled with the race mind, we come to accept that which appears real and outside of us...this is the temporal life of the Son of Man. We accept this or that mental God concept and belief structure, and through ignorance and blindness we turn to some God separate and apart from us. Turning away from our Truth, we experience error and emotional turnoil brought about by an unsettling sense of duality.

While in this limited, confused, and barren state of mind, we know not who we are. It is only when we turn within to the Light, when we are fully ready to sit in the stillness, in the silence, and turn away from the error of the world of the flesh, that we shall, overtime, come to the realization of our Truth as individualized expressions of God. In our Truth we, each of us, are eternal spiritual Beings, Sons and Daughters of God, and all that we are is of our Father...we can never be anything else.

"The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life. Job 33:4

KNOWN BY YOUR FRUITS

August 9, 2020 Rev. Donna Gatewood

Every farmer and everyone else that ever planted a seed or a cutting knows that the seed or the cutting you put into the soil will bear fruit after its kind. A kernel of corn will produce corn and a cutting from a rose bush will produce another rose bush. This is the law of nature. We can see this law in nature but for some reason we are not able to relate to our human affairs.

Scripture puts it this way: "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked, for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap." This verse describes an unalterable law that affects everyone in all areas of life, family, work, and pleasure. It is both a warning and an encouragement.

A kind word spoken or a good deed done will result in your receiving a kind word or a good deed just as a word said in anger and a deed done out of spite will come back to you like a boomerang. We always reap what we sow, more than we sow, and later than we sow.

Jesus used agricultural images to show that when we allow God's Word to produce positive qualities in us, the results multiply; "The one on whom seed was sown on the good soil, this is the man who hears the word and understands it; who indeed bears fruit and brings forth, some a hundredfold, some sixty, and some thirty."

On the other side of the ledger, the prophet Hosea describes the consequences awaiting those who sow the seeds of ill will: "They sow the wind and they reap a whirlwind." What are you sowing?

GOD IS

August 16, 2020 Rev. Janet Friedline

We say we want to know God. Many individuals try to define God, speaking of his goodness and mercy, exploring through classes, seminars and lectures to validate their idea of God. But an idea is a thought, and thoughts belong to the human nature. The process of thinking allows us to become aware, and we become aware according to our personal attitudes, views and opinions. These are limited to individual experience, not nearly wide enough to comprehend and know God.

The Bible tells us we cannot know God through the mental work of thought and reason. These merely talk about God, viewing with the eye of observation, not going beyond what we consider a logical conclusion. We will not know God through this type of manipulation. Mystics tell us that God simply "is." To say, "God is," places God in the present time, no end to his ability to bring forth and manifest. His creative activity is the 'is-ness" that gives visibility to the invisible, on into eternity. His message is, "I will never leave you," and now we know that this is so.

BECOME A BEHOLDER

August 23, 2020 Rev. Donna Gatewood

When our eye is single, the whole body is full of light. In this mystic way Jesus counseled His listeners to focus their attention on the Father or God Presence within. That is to focus our attention on the every-whereness of the Father as a fullness of Light; a fullness of Love; a fullness of all the attributes of God.

Jesus most likely meant that in this single eye symbol for Oneness with God, we can realize every good that we could ever need. The realization will only be manifested according our readiness to accept this fullness. Condition your mind now to the perfect Good that is God within you and know that all is well, all is right as we lift our consciousness in acknowledgement of perfect Life.

"Eye hath not seen nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him."

WISDOM

August 23, 2020 Rev. Janet Friedline

Student Recognition Day No Meditation Message