

THE CONCURRENCE

This Week's Consideration of a Famous Opinion

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¶ With a broadness of vision and a thoroughness hitherto unequalled, Dr. Alexis Carrel, with the cooperation of incomparable experts in scientific research, undertook an exhaustive study of the phenomena of life. As mentioned in this monograph, the awakening

of the scientific world to the necessary relationship of the cosmic universe to man, and to the reality of the inner man, received important stimulus from his labors. Indicative of the newer scientific viewpoint, the following quotation should particularly interest us.

... Reality is not necessarily clear and simple. It is not even sure that we are always able to understand it. In addition, it assumes infinitely varied aspects. A state of consciousness, the humeral bone, a wound, are equally real things. A phenomenon does not owe its importance to the facility with which scientific techniques can be applied to its study. It must be conceived in function, not of the observer and his method, but of the subject, the human being. The grief of the mother who has lost her child, the distress of the mystical soul plunged in the 'dark night,' the suffering of the patient tortured by cancer, are evident realities, although they are not measurable. The study of the phenomena of clair-voyance should not be neglected any more than that of the chronaxy of nerves, though clairvoyance can neither be produced at will nor measured, while it is possible to measure chronaxy exactly by a simple method. . . .

—ALEXIS CARREL, 1873-1944

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To the Members of the Esoteric Hierarchy, Greetings!

Continuing some thoughts expressed in my talk with you last week and coming to some interesting esoteric ideas of the Rosicrucians, I want to say that the real problem that confronts the churches and various forms of sectarian religion today is the necessity of keeping abreast of man's inner and outer development and rapid evolution. A few years ago the churches began to blame their increasing weakness of membership on the postulations of science. They began by claiming that the schools and colleges were making atheists of students. Later they claimed that the doctrine of the evolution of man was contrary to the Bible and because of it the newer generations had less faith in the Bible and orthodox teachings. The present-day attitude is that men and women are becoming too educated in a materialistic viewpoint and therefore are losing all appreciation of the spiritual values of life.

The real truth is that mankind has been rapidly evolving and developing inwardly, subjectively and psychically, and not merely in an objective and worldly manner. Although modern teachings have advanced very greatly and are tending more and more toward the scientific viewpoint of life, that is not the real reason why so many people have wandered away from the Church and especially from the narrow creeds of the Church. It is not man's objective mental brain development of recent years that has changed man so much as his inner psychic and spiritual development. It is wrong to think that because a person becomes acquainted with the scientific laws of nature he becomes materialistic and, therefore, opposed to anything of a spiritual nature.

In the first place, most of the eminent and very learned scientists of the world today are firm believers in the existence of God and of many things spiritual. We can find among the thoroughly trained scientists in every department of life those who are very religiously inclined. It is true, of course, that among the rising generation and the younger people, the marvels of scientific law revealed to them in the classrooms of the modern schools tend to make them think that the laws of nature are superior to the laws of God. But 50 to 100 years ago young people, who were then given very little scientific education in the public schools, had neither a scientific belief in life nor very much of any other kind.

It is a mistake to think that, because in our youth we attended Sunday school with more strictness than the average child of today, we were convinced of everything that was read to us from the Bible, or of everything taught us in the Sunday school and church. We used to do our own thinking then just as young people do today. We had our doubts



and we accepted much only tentatively, feeling that it might be true or might not be true; might be exaggerated or might be allegorical. The difference between our youth and the youth of today is that young people today have a certain amount of

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scientific knowledge to turn to when they are in doubt regarding the Biblical statements whereas when we were young, we had only our doubts. We had nothing else to turn to and were left in the dark. Not until we were able to go to college or university did we discover some of the truths we wanted to know. The average boy or girl of 15 today is learning and understanding many of the scientific truths that were given only to adults years ago.

What the churches have overlooked is the fact that man has evolved, and this change manifests itself in the young as well as in the old. The allegorical statements contained in the Old and New Testaments were based upon great and profound truths; however, the metaphors and hyperboles, the illusions and allusions, the symbols and the analogies that were correct, precise and immediately illustrative in the ancient days, do not apply today. When Jesus based many of his spiritual truths upon the allusions to fishermen, he was talking in a manner that was easily understood and appealed very closely to a majority of his listeners. When we talk of fishermen today, we are talking to only one-half of 1 percent of the population.

The word hell and allusions to hell-fire had a very definite allegorical and analogous meaning to the populace at the time of Jesus. which they do not have now. The public generally was very familiar with large burial pits in the outlying districts of communities where diseased persons and persons having died of so-called evil spirits and of evil acts were cast and burned. These places were called by a name that is equivalent to the word hell. When allusion was made to the fires of hell consuming the body and those who were evil, the reference, analogy and symbolism had a very definite meaning. In modern times, however, to speak of hell as an actual place beneath the earth where fires are burning constantly to consume bodies, misses its real significance and makes no deep impression upon young or old.

Instead of the churches modifying their phraseology and modernizing their allegories, analogies and creeds, they have tried to stick to the accepted forms, forgetting or ignoring the fact that man's evolution and development have lifted him to higher planes of comprehension and understanding. Even men and women of today in the Western world who have had scientific training in school or college have an understanding of some of nature's laws entirely different from the understanding possessed by the populace 1900 years ago.

While science generally has been seeking to explain nature's laws in a purely scientific and mechanical or mathematical way, it has not

wholly ignored the existence of God and the operation of spiritual laws. Our Rosicrucian teachings show us that a divine spiritual law producing earthly manifestations, operates according to a mathematical scientific law. In earlier

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lessons, you were given facts about crystallography, about how matter conforms to the law of proportions to produce a mathematical result called atoms; and about how these atoms unite according to mathematical laws to produce molecules of matter. We even quote in our monographs the apt ancient mystical principle that "In the beginning God geometrized." We find that all of the laws of nature, all of the divine laws, operate according to geometrical law. We could not think of divine laws operating in a haphazard manner or carelessly or indifferently, or just arbitrarily.

There was a time when it was considered sinful for man to delve into the mysteries of life. It was said that God created man out of the dust of the earth. Man was supposed to accept that statement and thank God for having so manifested His power, but never to ask how God did these things or in what scientific or mathematical manner living forms with a life-knowing consciousness came about. To delve into the recesses of nature's mystery chambers was a grave sin indeed.

As scientists have continued to analyze these divine and natural laws, and have observed them working with precision, exactness, and mathematical control, they have more and more acclaimed the existence of God as a Supreme Intelligence or Supreme Being directing and governing these strange, worldly operations.

Dr. Alexis Carrel of the Rockefeller Institute in New York was selected many years ago by the Rockefellers as a most analytical, inquiring research worker and brought from France to America. He was given the assistance of a large staff and instructed to try to solve some of the mysteries of life. They certainly unearthed much valuable matter, especially divine rules and laws, but they never lost their faith in God as the Creator of all things and the prime mover in all of nature's operations.

In 1935 after many years of research work with microscope and chemical tubes, Dr. Carrel said that the real part of man is still unknown. He said that while science has been busy in the last fifty years examining the minute parts of man, the cells, crystals, and little things that make up only the individual parts of man, the world has forgotten, temporarily, that the real part of man is invisible under the microscope and is not made up of chemical elements but of some grand, magnificent spirit of the universe. He said he had found, as others have, that the eye is not the only part of man that sees, and the ear is not the only part of man that hears. He claimed that man has a telepathic power with which to send and receive communications, that he has a clairvoyant power which enables him to see at a



distance, or to see things that are hidden from all mortal sight. He has been challenged because of his mystical statements, but his answers have always been the same: No one can disprove the fact that there are certain powers and abilities

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of a psychic nature possessed by man and that these things can be developed, awakened, and quickened and made of great importance to the modern life of the modern man. He caused the scientific world to start new discussions and to take a new viewpoint of life.

That is precisely what you have been doing in your graded studies throughout the past five years or more. While you have been studying, the inner self has been evolving until now the inner man in each of you is more apprehensive and more vital in your life than the outer man. The outer man will some day be thrown off like a cloak and crumble away; but the inner man will continue to live. It is this inner man that carries on the stages of evolution and becomes the real power in all earthly and spiritual things.

In the meantime, churches and religious creeds will gradually modify, expand and extend their doctrines so as to meet the opinions of average individuals throughout the world. New leaders will be needed for the mass of mankind, and those who have reached the understanding of life and its mysteries will lead millions of others out of darkness into light. Your mission will be Cosmically pointed out, and you will find that every facility has been given you to make life and knowledge a great power for good against the evil tendencies that surround us and the possible errors of the future.

May Peace Profound abide with each of you.

Fraternally,

YOUR CLASS MASTER



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Summary of This Monograph

Below is a summary of the important principles of this monograph. It contains the essential statements which you should not forget. After you have carefully read the complete monograph, try to recall as many as you can of the important points you read. Then read this summary and see if you have forgotten any. Also refer to this summary during the ensuing week to refresh your memory.

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- While mankind has been rapidly evolving and developing inwardly, as well as outwardly, the Church has failed to modify its teachings or creeds to meet the higher requirements of man's comprehension and understanding.
- The churches have erroneously blamed their increasing weakness of membership on the postulations of science and a resultant materialistic viewpoint on the part of men and women.
- Most of the eminent scientists of today are firm believers in God and the operation of divine laws. The research of Dr. Alexis Carrel and his staff has contributed much to this viewpoint in the scientific world.
- The graded studies of the Rosicrucian Order have brought about a gradual evolution of the inner self which in time will become the real power in all earthly and spiritual things.
- Those who have reached an understanding of life and its mysteries will be the new leaders for the mass of mankind.

