

Excerpt from:
Albert C. Grier
The Truth Way

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Sermons delivered by Albert Grier while Pastor of the Church of the Truth (Divine Science), New York City.

A NEW HOPE FOR THE WORLD

The perfect Kingdom of God is in reality -- it is not in the consciousness of man. In a very large sense the Kingdom is not perfected until, added to its absolute presence, is its perfect understanding. In one sense God's creation was an instant creation. The story of creation as given in the book of Genesis indicates the immediate response to the call and command of God. God instantly created his Kingdom, but all of the cosmic process, all time and eternity are required for the perfecting of his task. His task was not finished in his creation but rather was only begun; it will only be finished when every one of his children through consciousness enters into the perfection of the divine creation.

There are people who speak of the finished kingdom and who talk as if there was nothing being done, or to be done, but perhaps they have forgotten in clear consciousness of God's creation, the other element of it, which is man's creation, and that is the part with which we are vitally concerned -- that is the stupendous project in which we, as well as God, are engaged.

Creation is not simply existing as has been said, in "smiling repose." It is only doing so in the sense that an apple seed planted in the ground is lying in smiling repose. The apple seed is not worrying, but something mighty is going on in it which eventuates in the apple tree and the ripened fruit.

Likewise in this universe, something tremendous is going on, and something mighty is taking place, and that mighty thing is the reconstruction, in the mind, heart and soul of man, of that perfect creation which was from the beginning. What more marvelous concept than that could come to the mind of man? What more worthy purpose of a cosmic enterprise could be conceived than that? Mankind in the past has seen one side of this; he has seen a perfect creation that was to be -- a millennium that was to come -- but he has failed to see (and it is fatal) that nothing ever could come out of a universe that was not first put into it. Nothing can evolve from an apple seed but that which has been involved in that apple seed by the previous life. We had to have a perfect creation which is to come into manifestation, rather than a perfect creation which was to be brought out of imperfection.

This vision of a perfect creation of God to be reproduced by his children was the vision of Jesus Christ and it is the Truth vision. In Jesus's prayer, which we call the Lord's Prayer, he says: "Thy kingdom come: Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven." Jesus knew that God's will is always being perfectly done in the Kingdom of Heaven, and the goal of creation and the objective of his life was that the kingdom be reproduced here on earth in the life of man. "Thy kingdom come: Thy will be done on earth (in man) as it is done in heaven (reality)."

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This thing of reproducing that Kingdom of God has been going on through countless ages, but only recently, except among the schools of the illumined, has it been apprehended by man. Man has known that something great was being worked out, and he has attempted to vision it; and so we have given to us many plans of salvation, some of which were majestic, and some childish; but none of them could compare in greatness and worthiness with this concept of Jesus.

That thing which is taking place in the great action of the universe is the reproduction in the consciousness of man, of the perfect kingdom of God's creation. The discovery of this is the greatest discovery that man has yet made.

When man has found the purpose of God he has made the supreme discovery -- a discovery that there is a perfect Kingdom of God which man is privileged and called upon to know and incorporate in his own life. This discovery leaves life entirely different from what it was before. There never will be any other means of saving men from their sins and sufferings except by catching a vision of that purpose. Seeing the light of Truth is the reconstruction in the life of man, not simply of the goodness of God, but the power of God. When Jesus said, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father is perfect," he did not mean only perfect in goodness, but perfect in power and dominion and sovereignty, and he manifested that perfection in himself.

This discovery is not all there is to the story; there have been quite a large number of people in the world who have had this illumination, who have seen this great truth, who have learned this wonderful thing, and yet have, in a sense, been among the troubled people of the world. They have seen the sin, sickness, sorrow and suffering of the world, and their souls have been troubled, and these in common with other quickened hearts and minds have desired to put an end to this inharmony. They have desired to advance that purpose of God which is the reproduction of his perfect creation in the heart and mind of man.

Think of the millions who have laid down their lives on the battlefield. In many cases they have done so for the purpose of bringing the Kingdom of God as they understood it. They clothed it in terms of democracy, or socialism, or whatever their vision of that kingdom was, and millions of them have given their lives to bring in that kingdom of righteousness. It was not always religious righteousness -- sometimes it was freedom from religious persecution and religious control and men paid with their blood for the bringing in of that kingdom. But as we look over the earth we are almost persuaded that it was in vain and that it has not succeeded -- that it makes but little advance against the forces of evil. We find that even where man does make advance toward bringing in the kingdom which is the kingdom of perfection of body, mind, heart and circumstances, he has made the advance in one direction but has lost in another. We find men who have made great gains in morals, whose ethical lives have been builded rich and big and yet have broken down from nervous prostration -- crumbling in their body as their moral natures advanced. Others we find increasing tremendously in wealth and breaking down in their moral life.

Men have so increased their intellectual capacity that they have lost their minds and our insane hospitals contain many of those who have climbed to the mountain top of intellectual attainment only to have the mind break. So, man has not succeeded in making successful advance, even when he has seen the purpose of the Father to

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establish in the life of his children the perfectness of his own creation.

Another discovery had to be made, and Truth has made it, and that is the discovery of the law by which things are produced -- and that law is that it is the tendency of the mind to reproduce whatever the mind contemplates. We know that it is true that whatever the mind gazes upon or contemplates is reproduced in the body and in circumstances.

In the Encyclopedia Britannica under "Stigmata" you will find this account of Saint Francis of Assisi. He contemplated the crucifixion of Jesus and meditated upon that crucifixion -- gazed upon pictures -- looked at the wounds of Jesus until when he died there were found in the palms of his hands and in his side marks of the crucifixion of Jesus. It further states there are many other cases in human history of men and women who have upon their bodies what they call the stigma marks of Jesus -- even to the crown of thorns on their forehead.

It is a law of life that whatever we look upon, contemplate, or believe in, will be reproduced. As the camera receives its impression from the thing upon which it is focused, so our minds are impressed by what we look upon or contemplate. Fear, perhaps as far as ordinary experiences in life are concerned, is the most dynamic form of impression. If only we could get people to believe as dynamically as they fear, we would transform the world; but fear, although dynamic, is a destructive thing. I want you to realize that it is essential that we do not think about anything which we do not want reproduced. If we want sickness reproduced, then let us think of it, meditate upon it, be afraid of it and we can have it. Because the world has not known this law -- with all of its endeavors to overcome evil and reproduce the Kingdom of Heaven upon earth -- it has tried to heal sickness by studying sickness. We have a great medical profession who want to free the world of disease, but they are constantly insisting that the mind of the world should be directed toward disease.

Mankind has wanted to free the world from sin and crime, and how have they gone about it? -- by keeping before them a picture of sin. It does not make any difference what picture is held -- it will be reproduced in the life of man, and man will go on and multiply sickness and poverty and sin and crime upon this earth as long as he keeps such pictures before his mind.

Almost everybody wants to get rid of war -- people want a warless world, and what do we proceed to do? We send children to school during their impressional years under theegis of state and church and teach them the history of the wars of the world. Is there any hope of getting rid of war so long as we are putting such a picture before every child born to civilization -- the picture of a world at war?

We have made two great discoveries: one of the presence of that Kingdom of God; the other that whatever we look upon we reproduce in our lives and our circumstances. Let us see what the unilluminated says: "If I am not to learn by experience -- by what am I to learn?"

Do you not see what a wonderful other way there is? God has not left us without a way; God has provided a perfect pattern. God has in his creation of man given man a perfect pattern upon which to look. He has said, here is a law of your being: you shall reproduce whatever you contemplate; but I have given you a perfect pattern -- the Kingdom of God to look at. Look at the perfect creation which was in the beginning

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and ever more shall be, world without end. We are not compelled to look upon that which is unpleasant. We have a perfect creation to look upon -- God's divine creation, always before us, always at hand. Look through the lens of the soul. "Look to God" -- for in the perfect creation in the mind of God there is no such thing as sickness or injury. Think of God and his perfect Christ, and when we have learned to do that, by the law of mind, which reproduces what we look upon, the creation of God will be reproduced in the life of man.

I stand confounded before the magnitude of this vision that God has perfected, the law of reproducing our pattern, and that he has furnished a perfect pattern of the Kingdom of God. The soul that can realize that there is no such thing as sickness when sickness seems to be, is the soul that will be set free. Marvelous discovery -- a perfect kingdom upon which to look! But this thing has a very definite power, a very definite program. Here, we say, is a present ill --- perhaps it is a disease of the lungs; but, the soul says, "I have seen and do testify that my Father has created a perfect universe and I am a part of that creation, therefore I am perfect -- I have a perfect set of lungs in the mind of God, which is my own true reality, therefore I refuse to look at this set of lungs or contemplate them. I contemplate only that perfect set which is in my soul, which is in my Christ. I will see only that."

Is there not a new hope for the world when it has learned the law by which all life is brought into expression and learned to know there is a perfect pattern which can be presented to that mind and its manifestation presented in the life of man? This is the law of reproducing God's Kingdom. This is the new hope for mankind. That which seemed so difficult -- reproducing God's Kingdom -- is not so far off.

We have this law of life -- reproduction through contemplation -- and we are given the most engaging thing to look upon, Jesus Christ, the face of God's perfect Christ, and God's perfect Christ in us. In our mentality there is a perfect picture of every organ of our bodies and if we look upon that picture we will reproduce it. When this discovery is common among men, we can look for an early visit of God to man, an early reproduction of the perfect creation of God in the life of humanity upon this earth. We reproduce whatever we look upon and God has given us this perfect kingdom upon which we in the Silence can ever look.

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Seal it to us -- seal it to the world -- and may we be as worthy emissaries of thy Truth as was he upon whom we gaze and may we reproduce his features in our lives.

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