

the Fundamental for which we stand, but being open-minded and open-hearted in words, deeds and actions that our Work and our Mission might be ready for investigation or for examination at any time.

That is why I have as I have often said—when you know you are right you can go ahead. You have nothing to doubt, you have nothing to fear, you need not care what others may think, say or do, for if GOD to you is True and Real, why HE can be true to others as well as to you if they, too, will bring themselves into subjection to the Fundamentals of Life and live according to HIS Teaching.

Willing to Receive People at all Times

For this cause we are rejoicing and we are exceedingly glad, to stand as a standard lived, and willing and ready to receive and to meet people at all times, whensoever they wish to come, so long as they come in harmony and are not antagonistic.

This is what I instruct MY coworkers and followers to do at all times, and in all of the different places. Yet, as I said, as I was telling the followers here just as we sat down to partake of this tea, all of our places are private places. They are private, but this does not prohibit us from having hospitality and expressing it for others, because our places are private.

As I say, the same as there are private homes out in the country some place, and in the city your homes are private no doubt, but yet if you are not selfish you would receive strangers and treat them as you would anyone in the family, so long as they come accordingly, you see!

One Family of GOD

So that is what I was saying this afternoon when I came to partake of the tea with them. We are willing and ready to meet any and all persons so long as they come in harmony, the same as a person would in his or her own home—private home—if they only had a one-room bungalow. Why, we should know our privacy—at least, our homes are as private as a person with a one-room bungalow; nevertheless, we have more accommodation to accommodate the many from time to time than a person would with merely one room. But however, it should be as free as though it was public and a public home, or public meeting place, yet with the same understanding and the same Constitutional Rights as those of one's home or private home, as being just an individual private family; for we are representing the one family—the family of GOD.

All of the families of the earth shall eventually be unified together—all of the nations and languages, tongues and people shall unify themselves together when all selfishness, graft and greed shall have been done away with. For this cause you can see these of MY followers, coworkers and friends, those who are harmonizing with ME and with MY Teaching, they are unifying themselves together of every nation, every language and every tongue and every people, and we are actually dispelling division and segregation from among us.

WE ARE GLAD TO HAVE VISITING GUESTS TO PARTAKE

FATHER DIVINE'S ANNOUNCEMENT
Given Whilst at the
HOLY COMMUNION TABLE
UNITY MISSION CHURCH, HOME
AND TRAINING SCHOOL, INC. of PA.
907 N. 41st STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA
MAY 28 and 29, 1946 A.D.F.D.
TIME: 2:00 A. M.

PEACE, EVERYONE: We do not wish to bore you and we do not wish to disturb, or did not like to disturb the speaker and did not mean for him to stop at the instance, but I had arisen to say something as soon as he had finished his speech and that was this — we have visiting guests with us as usual, and our visiting guests are not accustomed of working all night and all day as I do. For this cause, we desire to give any and all of them that desire to go, after they have served generously of all the material and mental and spiritual food that they desire to eat—we want to give them the privilege to go any time after then, but not until then.

Our honored senator and representatives did not refrain from coming in to break bread with us. They had started away from the auditorium even before the services were over, down there; but I insisted on them staying to break bread with us, because this is where I preside. This is the great part of MY Work and Mission. Jesus said to Peter or Simon:

“Feed my lambs” and “Feed my sheep.”

I told him to do both, I told him to feed the lambs and to feed the sheep. Therefore, this is our system of service especially and our custom of Holy Communion. It was in olden days more of the manner of a Love Feast, according to the way we see it, and any and everybody, they are all privileged to come in and dine. Therefore, when we serve our Holy Communion, we are glad to have visiting guests to partake—not necessarily as Communion service to those to whom it is not revealed, but I can say, we can give you a good hearty meal.

Now the senator and, no doubt, his party, are about ready to go, according to the message that came to ME. While I shall just go out with them for a moment, you all do not have to vacate immediately unless it is those who are going to. I will be back in a few minutes, no doubt, and Rev. Selfless may have something to say while I AM making MY seeming get-away with the senator and his party, to entertain them.

THE PERFECTION OF TRUE AND REAL DIVINE HUMANE WORK

EXCERPT FROM
FATHER DIVINE'S MESSAGE
GIVEN AT THE BANQUET TABLE
150-160 WEST 126th STREET
NEW YORK CITY

APRIL 6 and 7th, 1939 A.D.F.D.
TIME: 2:48 A. M.

Again I wish to say whilst bringing these thoughts to a conclusion in the act of conveying the Truth to you, whereby you might check up on yourselves and be more accurate in checking up on yourselves as individuals, I have taught you daily to be mindful how you entertain strangers. I have taught you daily some have entertained angels unaware. I have told you from time to time, as representatives of MINE you must represent the perfection of true and real DIVINE humane work, that you might express the Spirit of true Christianity and the Christ Characteristics as I have established them.

By this I say, if a person is in need of help, you should be hospitable enough to be mindful how you entertain a stranger, for you do not know what may be the cause of such a person being a pilgrim and a stranger in a far land. Take these thoughts to consideration.

Speak and Act with Kindness to All

As I was going to say last evening, there will be people coming here from all parts of the world, and especially whilst the World's Fair is here. You should be hospitable enough which is to say, be kind enough and be thoughtful enough to speak to everybody with the spirit of kindness, of love and of hospitality, and act accordingly from every angle expressible. To be representing ME you will do it, and if you do not wish to do according to the way I want you to do in ME and around ME and in MY Name, why, just go on out and do not be connected as a representative. Take these thoughts to consideration.

Be mindful how you entertain strangers and treat every individual as you would have them treat you. Even if a person may apparently be drunk or drinking, it does not say that that is not a human being just because he has been drinking. Characteristically or dispositionally he may act piggish or he may act doggish, but physically he is representing humanity as a person.

You should be mindful how you treat them, unless they do something physically detrimental or say something that would cause you to even say, speak rudely to them. If a person is out of doors in the cold and rain, or any such a thing, they could be taken care of until they are warmed up at least, and give them a chance to go on their way rejoicing. Do not get self-conceited and self-exalted! I have lifted thousands and millions of you from vice and from crime and sin and debauchery of every kind, from sickness and from disease and from all sorts of undesirable and unclean conditions. Now consider, as I have been by you, I will be even also by others, if you do not will to be.

Unless there is some cause for ME not to express such hospitality, such love and compassion for humanity, I will express it over and above every opposition. Those of you who may come here or be here in opposition to MY Plan and MY Purpose and in opposition to MY Teaching, I mean to carry out MY Plan and MY Purpose to the letter, and not a one of you shall hinder ME.

“The Lord is Good to All”

Put these thoughts down in your vocabularies and remember, I AM the same today, yesterday

and forever! When you as individuals were sinking deep in sin far from the Celestial Shores, your dear Redeemer took you in, whilst you were sinking to rise no more.

Then I say, be watchful and mindful how you entertain strangers. Instruct and give advice to the best advantage according to your understanding. You will find people coming here asking how to get out to the fair grounds, find them asking different things—you should be courteous to all people, even as I have taught you; for when you came to ME, was I not courteous to you?

I have taught you in the way of wisdom. I have led you into the right path. I have shown you the way to go, that you might have victory by being kind to others, that you might be able to be and to say with David and with ME,

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall abide in the house of the LORD forever."

You will not be able to say this effectively and with the spirit of sincerity unless you express it and express it accurately—having goodness and mercy and passing it on to others, that you might be the reproducers of it and also receive at the hands of others just such as you have imparted. Take these thoughts to consideration.

Let Them Be Warmed and Cared for

As I say, when people come here seeking information, give them such information as is in your power to give—any constructive information that is necessary or that would be necessary for a person under such conditions or such circumstances, and when a person comes cold or destitute at that instance, especially if they are strangers, sick or afflicted, you can let them come in or you can bring them in or let those who may be in charge of them take them in until they are warm and cared for, even as you would desire others to care for you and even as I do care for you.

I have not left the point, although it may apparently be submerged, but the words I have spoken have gone down on record mentally and spiritually and even in your notebooks. They shall be recorded and you shall remember. You must be mindful how you entertain strangers. You must be true and do not be bribers, trying to bribe in the Kingdom of GOD. Do not be aggressive, expressing the spirit of aggression individually, trying to outrun some other person to get something.

Animals in the animalistic kingdom do such things, for they have no sense of reasoning or consideration to consider others effectively as they do themselves. They do not know it is a law that that which you do to others will come back to you.

The Majority in Hearts and Lives

Now take these thoughts to consideration and remember what I have told you. I may have to stand alone, even though I have been—at least I will have to—but if I AM in the hearts and lives of the children of men universally, I AM the majority, I AM the masses, I AM all after a while anyhow. For those bodies that will not adhere to MY Message, they will go one way or the other and MY Spirit will have free access over and above their opposition, yea, over and above every conflicting tendency within them,

and I will establish MY going effectively in the place of them and will cause others to be the reincarnators of their respective calling, if they will not live accordingly.

Those and many other things I will do, that you and all mankind might know GOD HIMSELF is here among you, and at this Name of Whom you say I AM, every knee must bow and every tongue must confess, over and above every sense of your feeling, over and above every opposition; for the mouth of GOD has declared it.

Now I would like to say again whilst I AM speaking along this line, paving out the way for the indwelling of MY Spirit or for the access of the expression of MY Spirit to express—as I have often said, in this and all other auditoriums and dining rooms, keep the way clear as much as possible in the entrance. Consider your fellow brother who may desire to enter, consider the one who may desire to pass out, and do not forget about everybody else; but to the reverse, try to forget about yourself. I thank you!

DO NOT TRY TO EMBARRASS OTHERS

EXCERPT FROM
FATHER DIVINE'S ANNOUNCEMENT
GIVEN WHILST AT THE
CIRCLE MISSION CHURCH, HOME AND
TRAINING SCHOOL OF PENNA.
764-772 S. BROAD STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA
MAY 6, 1952 A.D.F.D.
TIME: 3:07 P. M.

PEACE, EVERYONE. I have arisen at this instance to say, there are some strangers here, some who are not accustomed of our Service. At any and at all of our Banquet Tables, we do use linen napkins and also paper napkins. The coworkers, the followers, friends and strangers and all alike are privileged to use the linen napkins on the Table, the paper napkins or any of the napkins they choose. I mention this because there are a few so-called followers around, egotistic, impractical, unprofitable and virtually good for nothing but to interfere with our guests and friends, who will try to teach others what they should or should not do.

I mention this because, as you heard read a little while ago from the pages of The New Day of nineteen hundred and forty-seven (I believe it was) that as it was with David, he said, "Thou art with me. Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me." And also he said that I came to give you this new birth of freedom and that's what I AM giving you.

There are many too interested in others' affairs—I mean unconcerned others—even though if it would be some of those who are actually serving—MY Spirit and MY Presence supplies in the abundance of the fulness of every good and desirable blessing—and in serving the public or serving yourselves, I have given you that privilege to have access for expression in the way of service and serving, so that all might be served generously and be free to eat, to drink and to use the things that are necessary for them.

A good many of the different ones do not use the linen napkins when the paper napkins are

passed around, because they may not deem it necessary to use them; but all are privileged to use them—guests, friends and strangers, coworkers and followers alike. But if they do not desire to do it, they would not be especially required to do it.

So I AM saying this because we do not want anyone to be so egotistic and so anxious to try to embarrass others because your own sins have embarrassed you with afflictions and undesirable conditions. Do not try to embarrass others with your thoughts, your words and your actions, for your sins is it that have caused your conditions to result of such as you may express.

PERMIT MY SPIRIT TO SPEAK AND EXPRESS AND ACT, AND YOU KEEP SILENT

FATHER DIVINE'S MESSAGE (In part)
AT THE BANQUET TABLE
152-160 WEST 126 STREET
NEW YORK CITY
WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY
OCTOBER 26-27, 1938 A.D.F.D.
TIME: 12:35 A. M.

I further wish to say, in reference to a remark I heard directly and indirectly a little while ago,—on this Banquet Table daily we serve the divers foods; in other words, the divers dishes of food. We serve a variety of food. Why is it we serve a variety of food? It is for the purpose of each and every individual getting something to suit his or her appetite. I do not coerce you into eating especially, some special dish I eat; neither some special dish some other individual eats; but I endeavor to supply you with the divers foods, which is to say, the variety of dishes, that you might have your choice to eat whatsoever you may desire as it is passed around to you.

If you notice carefully, the different courses of the variety of bread—we serve many courses of the variety of bread for the purpose of giving all of the diners a chance to take whatsoever he or she wishes to eat. I will not force nor coerce you into eating something you are not accustomed to eating, unless you wish to. You are privileged to eat whatsoever I serve at this Banquet Table when it is passed around to you, without comment or without criticism.

If you do not desire certain dishes or certain courses of the variety of dishes and of food, you are not obliged to do so. This is according to the Gospel. What said the Gospel, yea, the Epistle concerning the mystery?

"Where the Spirit of God is there is liberty."

I have given you liberty and a privilege, according to the Gospel . . .

"He whom the Son sets free is free indeed."

Therefore, in the name of the Sonship Degree, you and whatsoever is passed around to you, you are free to eat just whatsoever is set before you without comment or without criticism or without accusation.