

THE REIGN OF JUSTICE

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Faithfulness: a wonderful principle

THE mechanism of the human body is a wonder. The operation of its organs results in that which we call life. This life manifests its presence through the senses and through motion. Moreover, we know that the habits a person makes will, in the long run, shape his character, and that character will be his identity.

By the Universal Law, we know what is law-abiding and what is lawless, that is to say, what does us good and what harms us, and the choice is ours. We are used to the bad things, owing to having practised them. Whereas the good things are new to us because we have not done them. We readily leave aside some bad things because they have always disgusted us. But if we have become accustomed to some bad things, once having tried them, it is no longer such an easy matter, with all the goodwill in the world. They have grown tendrils and roots, and to weed them out is an arduous task. Nevertheless, when we become aware of their lawlessness, we must do what is needful to get rid of them, because, in the long run, they will do us a deal of harm. There are things that are able to give us a moment's pleasurable sensations, momentary gratification. They do *not* appear to be harmful. Nevertheless, the outcome of practising them is always bad, and that is why we need to get away from them by practising to be faithful to what is good.

Faithfulness is a virtue that the world cannot contemplate, because the world is not faithful. It may, of course, be faithful to its own principles, but since these are entirely wrong, there can be no question of faithfulness according to the word in its true sense. When you get down to brass tacks, to be faithful to what is wrong means that one is unfaithful to one's fellow creatures, since it can lead only to bad results. Therefore, it is faithfulness which is none, for faithfulness is a wonderful virtue that implies something glorious, ineffable and sublime, and that does good and creates blessing, blessing that finally results in no disappointment.

Therefore, it is possible to contemplate being faithful only to things in accordance with the law, things that are good. Only then can there be a question of faithfulness. Concerning this, our dear Saviour said: "He who faithful in very little is also faithful in much."

Life is made up of very small details, and this assemblage of quite small things finally makes up some big ones. After all, there is nothing of secondary consideration, everything is important, because it is the sum of

the many bad impressions we have received that earns us, as the Apostle Paul indicates to the Romans, "the wages of sin", which is death.

Thus, it is the sum of an infinite number of small lawless things, which have accumulated, that leads, in the end, to the destruction of the body. Never in the past would we have thought that sin was simply everything that was harmful to us. We used to think that it was a pity that such and such a thing was a sin. Had it not been, we should have indulged in it to the hilt of our bent. Of course, we were uninstructed and ignorant, and that was why we saw things in that way. Indeed, so many things that procure us some very pleasant sensations, at the time, contain within themselves a hook that is fatal to us. It is like a net that is laid out, and we shall not fail to be enmeshed if we do not struggle free. Thus, we can see how obligatory it is to act on divine principles.

Thanks to the wonderful Universal Law, everything can now be very easily made out and set in its place. We call that law "Universal" because it is to be met with everywhere. If we will resolutely take our stand on its principles, we shall always remain upright, and we shall be able to distinguish between what is faithfulness and what is unfaithfulness.

To be faithful is to exist for the good of our fellow creatures, to help them, support them, love them and show them kindness, but never to scold or command, since our ideal is to arrive at serving and at the wonderful glory of children of God. For that purpose, our service must be given in full freedom.

How to become a viable child of God

Mankind today must be educated to be able to reach the splendid transparency of God's children. This is obtained by achieving holiness, which is simply altruism. As soon as we exist for the good of others, not only do we do no more wrong, but we do good. On the other hand, when we begin to exist for our own selves, we are a sect because we want things for ourselves, selfishly. Then, evil begins, and a multitude of minor infidelities insinuate themselves into our behaviour. We often declare some small defect has no importance, that it is of such small account that we can very well let it be. That is a mistake. We absolutely must stick to the divine principles if we want to obtain blessing.

To stick to the principles is to cling to life. Today, the

Almighty is working on setting up a new family on our planet, a family who has to be educated and to then take the place of the present one. Our affection, our efforts and our every desire must conduce to achieve that new condition of life, while honouring the duties we have taken on ourselves. If we have a family of our own, we must look after it, fulfil our obligations towards it, and do our best to introduce it into the divine family by setting our loved ones an example of uprightness, of faithfulness, of loving-kindness and of goodness, which will draw them irresistibly to the Kingdom of God.

People strongly tend to become accustomed to things. Then, they act independently of their spirituality. Solomon even says that when man is separated from God, he is no better than an animal. He is merely tormented more than the animal because his mental powers give free rein to all sorts of thoughts that cause him so much pain as to lead him to the grave. In this way, people make their own unhappiness and even each other's, sometimes to a terrible extent. Moreover, they are tormented abominably by the devilish spirit. All this is the result of the wrong education that is prevalent in the human race. They know neither the Truth nor the law, and nothing about the things that depend on them. The divine principles are entirely unknown. Faithfulness is one that must be achieved with great care in everything we do. How we shall get on along the road to life, depends on it.

Faith is also one of those principles, whereas credulity is its counterfeit. To the uninitiated, credulity has every appearance of faith, but the results of the two are very different. The same applies to love. True love, divine love, is the opposite of devilish love, which is practised by humanity and results, for them, in so much trouble and so much pain and disappointment. They are totally ignorant of divine love, which leads to happiness, life and blessing.

How to set about being happy

Mankind cannot go on living if they are not happy, that too is a clearly established principle. Therefore, if they intend to subsist, they must achieve constant felicity. They are made that way. If they are unhappy, they cannot last long, since that is destructive for the human organism. They must have well-being and must be joyful and glad. Then, they can prosper. If they have pain or are discontented, bitter or discouraged, then all is wrong with them. Whereas if there is hope in their hearts, this brings them health.

To become hopeful, one has to think reasonably, for it is impossible to hope in delusions, dreams, and

Heed the voice that says: "This is the way"

AT the foot of a wooded hillside, positioned so as to catch the rays of the Sun practically the whole day through, there stood a pleasant looking country house, in which dwelt an agreeable and closely united family. Warm affection formed a close tie between parents and children. The father applied himself wholeheartedly to cultivating the small property which surrounded the house. He had full confidence in the seed he sowed in his fields, for he never sowed anything without asking the Almighty to grant his blessing on the seed and to make it fructify. He never employed artificial manure. This brought on him the derision of surrounding farmers, but their mockeries had no more effect on him than water running off a duck's back.

Of an evening, father and mother took pleasure in calling their children around them

and in reading passages out of the Bible. They would regale their hearts particularly with the promises of the Restoration of All Things, to be found in the Book of Isaiah, the prophet.

Silvia, one of the little girls, even more than the other children, loved to listen to those readings and the comments they brought forth. She would express surprise that her beloved parents always read out of the same big book. Her mother always answered her childlike questions with great kindness. She would explain — to the best of her ability, and as far as she was able to understand — the time of blessing foretold by the prophets.

As Silvia grew up, the impressions received in this way from her parents, stayed with her. Their happy influence accompanied her along her life's journey. Her various employments took her far from her family, close to a very large town.

One day, having some trouble with her eyes, she visited an ophthalmologist. In the

waiting room, there was another patient awaiting her turn. She had a *Monitor* in her hand, and offered it to Silvia with a friendly smile. This opened the way to an agreeable conversation between the two patients. It became quite animated as they talked about the coming of the Reign of Justice, and particularly about one of the articles in *The Monitor*, which reported on the felling of trees and pointed out the madness of so doing. The article explained the terrible disturbances and the frightful disasters brought about by the disappearance of the giant trees that used to regulate the water cycle.

Silvia opened eyes of wonder. Her heart swelled with emotion on finding again the impressions that reminded her of her childhood and of her beloved parents talking about the future and the divine promises. She realised that the paper she had been given contained the very things her beloved parents had constantly been seeking.

When she got home, Silvia wrote at once to the head office of *The Monitor of the Reign of Justice* in Cartigny, Switzerland, expressing the wish to subscribe to that precious paper.

Some time after that, Silvia got married, for she was looking for happiness in the joys of home life. In spite of the cares a family brings with it, she obtained much happiness from the love she lavished on her husband and children. *The Monitor* remained, for her, a faithful and peaceful companion, a friend whose advice could always be relied on.

In her letterbox, one day, there was news of the coming visit of an evangelist from the Philanthropic Association of *The Monitor*. A *Paper for All* was also enclosed.

She found a great deal to interest her in reading the wonderful instructions that those papers contained. They gave her much food for thought and great encouragement, in the invitation to change her character and to become truly happy at last. Deeply impressed

things that do not hold water. We must set our hopes on divine principles, on things that are stable and will not pass away, things that stand the test of time. Such are the things the Truth is providing us with today: immutable principles. Those principles are set before us. They make us immensely happy when we see them clearly through the eyes of our faith, and when we do our best to live up to them.

The Truth reveals to us the full process of the divine programme, and leads us into the light, as it is written: "Light is sown for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart." But one with a bad conscience is in no hurry to get into the light, because his evil conscience preys on his mind. That is how the devilish spirit even makes use of the Truth to cause us suffering. However, if we openly confess our shortcomings, we discover a wonderful Saviour in the Son of God. When we have confessed our wrongdoing, he remits it and covers us with his grace. He encourages us not to persist in doing wrong, but to take to doing well. All the fears and all the suggestion that have preyed upon us, the pangs of fear, and the apprehension, all these things are reduced to nothing in contact with such a kind Master, who generously forgives his servants and encourages instead of punishing them. He does not make the guilty perish, he gives them life, the Vital Fluid, which comforts them and sets them on their feet again.

So, the question is to take divine ways to heart and to practise being faithful to the principles, so that there may be nothing with the power to distract our attention or deprive us of the precious grace which the Lord has granted us in the Truth contained in the publications of the Kingdom of God. The Truth is incommensurable wealth. If we live up to it faithfully, we can attain glorious emancipation, joy, and peace of heart.

The Almighty's unchanging faithfulness is apparent in everything around us: splendid nature, the glorious Sun, the flowers which are so beautiful, the superb trees, and the great variety of fruit, all with a delicious taste. All these things speak eloquently of the wonderful wisdom and the infinite goodness of the Creator, and above all, of his faithfulness in serving mankind. That is why, with all our heart, we will bring Him homage, worship, thanksgiving and praise.

The best way to praise the Lord is to be faithful in little things and in everything that comes our way. We must be faithful to the principles and faithful to those who live with us by encouraging them, being a blessing to them, being a comfort to them and giving them joy. They must have reason to say of us: "He is faithful. He is always the same." That is the result we must obtain. Then, they will, in turn, try to live up to that divine virtue, which has such glorious results.

The Almighty's immutable faithfulness

As we said before, faithfulness can only exist with regard to things that endure. People in the world are able to keep their word for a time, but everything in the world passes. Man himself is like the grass that grows: in the morning, it flourishes, but in the evening, it is cut. And that is what happens to all man's resolutions. They cannot continue because they are founded on false principles. This does not happen with divine principles, which are established on foundations of wisdom, of justice, of consistency and of unchangeableness. For instance, the promise God gave to Abraham, that in him and his seed, all the families of the Earth shall be blessed, rests on unshakeable foundations. Already in his lifetime, it was fulfilled for his benefit. After his death, it did not cease, it continued to rest on his descendants. All who hoped in the promise were blessed in an admirable way. It was brought to light

again by Moses, by the prophets, and on behalf of those of Abraham's descendants who valued it.

When Abraham's natural seed was no longer in a position to have the benefit of the promise, for lack of faith, due to faithlessness, God went on being faithful to his promise in spite of all, and He raised a spiritual seed for Abraham. That was when Christ stepped in, who, according to the Apostle Paul, is the Seed of Abraham, the Heir according to the promise. The Holy Scriptures declare: "You are all the children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. ... And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Thus, we see the appearance of numerous descendants, without, for this purpose, any pressure being put on the recalcitrant people of Israel. In this way, the promise given to Abraham has been fulfilled in every detail, in spite of the infidelity of his blood descendants.

God has been able to find Abraham descendants who are employed in blessing all the families of the Earth. Thus, the divine promise will be active to the end and fulfilled in every detail, without, for all that, anyone being compelled or pestered.

That absolute faithfulness on the Lord's part, gives us wonderful encouragement and always urges us to take the divine programme more closely to heart, for the purpose of associating, with all our heart, in that glorious Work, made entirely of faithfulness. Respect and love are its foundation, so solid as to give the guarantee of the continuity of divine sentiments. It is an unshakeable foundation, anchored on to the Rock of Ages, who is the Saviour, the Executor of divine justice, and who is supreme in doing good and giving consolation.

At present, we possess every opportunity to develop faithfulness. As our exposé demonstrates, if we intend to build up that virtue, our foundation must be immovable. The Universal Law, which rules the whole Universe, is a foundation that cannot be shaken. If then we make resolutions or engage ourselves towards someone, towards ourselves or towards the Lord, those resolutions or engagements must be established on that admirable law, which, when it is respected, has happy results of blessing. That is also what is demonstrated by the mechanism of the Universe. The Sun appears to the inhabitants of the Earth with total faithfulness, punctual to the hour, to the minute, even to the second, because all that rotary movement has the Universal Law as its basis.

We rejoice, with all our heart, in the glorious light provided, to us, thus by knowledge of the Universal Law, by which is revealed, to us, the charitable and benevolent intentions of the Lord towards mankind, and by which we are able to recognise the glorious Work of God's dearly beloved Son, who has stood faithful to this principle: "Overcome evil with good." He invites us to follow him in this, so that we may inherit life and happiness, and have the privilege of teaching the divine principles to all who are sincere, who thirst for justice, truth and faithfulness, and for consolation and lasting happiness.

Unexpected rescuers

Various newspapers reported a truly remarkable occurrence. The following report, which was published some time ago, is taken from a German newspaper whose name we are unaware of:

Dolphins save the lives of Japanese fishermen

Japan will sing a new song of glory to honour dolphins, the most intelligent animals in the sea. Far off the coast of the Awa-Kazusa peninsula, the Japanese fishing boat Southern Sun sank in April with ten men on board,

six of whom lost their lives. The lifeboats could not be launched in time. The four survivors had already been swimming for six hours, frantically calling for help in the immense sea, where no ship appeared. Their strength was waning; they were beginning to stiffen.

It was at this moment that two dolphins suddenly approached. At first, the shipwrecked men clung to the dolphins' backs as best they could; then, the sea animals dived a little under the weakened men. The men instinctively held on tightly. As soon as the dolphins became aware of this, they began to swim faster and faster, one behind the other, carrying a double load on each of their backs. The dolphins swam 36 nautical miles [approximately 67 kilometres] to the coast of Noshima-saki, where they threw off the survivors in a decisive way. Then, they swam around them several times, to make sure that the men were able to walk the last few hundred metres that separated them from the shore. Then, they disappeared into the sea.

This is how the 28-year-old survivor Nirumi Ikeda described the event: "At the prospect of drowning, we were overcome by anguish. At that moment, I turned around and shouted to Ogata [another fisherman]: 'Here come the dolphins! They are animals that come to the rescue of humans.' Swimming a few meters away from me, Ogata shouted with his last strength: 'Don't believe in miracles!' Then, I heard a gurgling sound. A dolphin was approaching me, blowing large air bubbles. I later understood that it was doing this to bend and straighten its back. We were very weak, so when the huge animal forcefully pushed us and pressed us under water, Ogata yelled out that "it wants to kill us". I also thought that it was no better than a shark. But then I held on firmly to its back. I literally grabbed its body and clung to it like a claw. I must have hurt the dolphin, but it let me do it. I then quickly decided, once and for all, to climb on top of it like a horse, and it began to gurgle again. It swam with me towards Ogata, and then nudged him, until he also sat on it. Minuro and Amatoka [the other fisherman] saw this.

The second dolphin seemed to have been waiting for what its big brother would do, maybe its example. So, it did the same thing for the other two fishermen, who were still calling for help. We were more clinging than sitting on the backs of the dolphins, but we were going at full speed and thus travelled the 36 nautical miles of water separating us from the shore, which we would never have seen again without the dolphins."

The sculptor Ogo will erect a monument to dolphins, on the spit of land at Noshima-saki. These clever animals had already saved the three men of a motorboat crew from the coastal city of Kamogawa in 1961. Also on that occasion, for a few weeks after their rescue feat, the dolphins returned to the shore, where they liked to play with the men and let themselves be fed by them. Then one day, they disappeared into the vast ocean.

That occurrence is really very touching. It once again shows us the solidarity that should exist among all beings, according to the principles of the Universal Law. We have often had the opportunity to read interesting reports about dolphins, which seem to be among the most intelligent marine animals, and which allow themselves to be approached and even stroked by humans. The same applies to some types of sea lions and seals.

We are happy to report this fact. It is also an encouragement for people to become true friends to all of the animal kingdom that surrounds them. Unfortunately, it is often the opposite. It is no exaggeration to say that many animals suffer mainly because of human wickedness and brutality.

It is understandable that, in the Restoration of All Things, humankind will learn to live naturally, and their only food will be fruit and grain. It is with this diet that there will be the greatest variety of flavours, and everything to suit all tastes.

by what she read, she was eagerly looking forward to the evangelist's visit. However, the letter did not mention the date on which it would take place, so that when the evangelist came, Silvia was not at home. The same thing happened a second time.

As the evangelist had the welfare of the subscribers to *The Monitor* very much at heart, she made a third attempt to find Silvia at home, in spite of the long journey out of town that this occasioned. This time, she was successful, and they were both made very happy by the encounter. So glad was Silvia, and so keen was her desire to know more, that she bombarded her new friend with questions, just like she used to ask her parents when she was a child. Her husband, who was also present, listened very readily, for he was a kind man, with his heart in the right place.

So, they spent a splendid evening together, in which the Lord's presence was to be felt

in accordance with his promise: "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, I am there among them." The evangelist got home very late that night. She felt very happy and deeply moved at having been able to serve, to gladden and to encourage two amiable hearts. She commended those dear friends to the Lord's kindness in a fervent prayer, hoping with all her heart that, with the assistance of divine grace, they would undertake the fight that leads to the victory of good over evil, the Good Fight of Faith, whose goal is eternal life.

In *The Monitor*, there was the announcement of a regional meeting sometime later. Silvia really wanted to go to it and was looking forward to making the acquaintance, on a broader scale, of the Family of Faith, and to hearing the wonderful divine instructions under the influence of the family Spirit. She returned from it filled with enthusiasm and with an ardent desire to make greater efforts

in the Good Fight of Faith, and to improve her sentiments.

Of course, Silvia hadn't yet had much experience in the Adversary's tactics, in the wiles he employs to make trouble in the hearts of those who intend to follow the ways of justice and Truth. He will bring into play everything possible to discourage those who are still shaky in their attempt to follow divine ways, to induce them to let their aspirations towards goodness slide.

Shortly after her return from the regional meeting, dark clouds began to pile up on her horizon. The atmosphere that pervaded the home, which till then had been so agreeable, began to become oppressive, and went on to become unbearable. Silvia had let herself be keenly affected by some insidious things going around, concerning her husband. The evil said of him got worse and worse, and gave rise to horrid suspicions in her heart.

Not yet being accustomed to the work-

ings of divine ways, and being unaware of the Adversary's methods, and ignorant of the way to successfully resist him by opposing evil with good, the subtle poison was making deeper and deeper inroads into her trust and patience. The harmonious relations which had existed between her and her husband, were completely broken down, and the poor man was deeply affected by this situation. The young woman's nerves became terribly irritated. The Adversary's suggestion obtained an ever-increasing hold on her mind, which became so firmly convinced of the baseless things she had come to believe, that she would not hear a word of explanation.

Being consumed with sorrow and bitterness, she finally made up her mind to pack her bags and leave. She feverishly set about gathering her belongings, and she was in the midst of this activity when the postman rang their doorbell. Her husband answered, and then called his wife: "Come and look,

As we have often previously mentioned, this is also the only means by which it will be possible to feed all of humanity. It has been proven that for humankind's food production, six to ten times more land is needed for meat than for fruit.

Really intelligent people should now do their research in that direction, in view of the famine which is increasingly spreading over the world. It would also be an enormous advantage for human health. It would put an end to all the horrors and brutalities that occur to produce meat.

Another greatly appreciable and proven result is that a diet exclusively consisting of fruit and vegetables, automatically diminishes all the instincts of brutality and violence of the poor human race. There would be only advantages in this way of doing things.

It is up to us to make good use of all this knowledge!

Always the problem of CO₂

In the column "Economie" ("Economy)" of the Swiss French-language newspaper *Tribune de Genève* on the 11th of July 2022, there was an article about a new technology that can capture the CO₂ (carbon dioxide) that is released into the atmosphere. This technology seems to be very promising for the engineers in this activity sector and for the investors, and the mood is optimistic. We quote the text by Mr Nicolas Pinguely in its entirety:

The capture of CO₂.

For the Swiss company Climeworks, the day of recognition has come. Climeworks has developed a giant carbon-dioxide vacuum cleaner to purify the atmosphere. Investors, researchers and companies flocked to its conference day.

There was a festive air in the Swiss city of Zurich, in early July. In the former industrial area of Oerlikon, Clime-works brought together nearly 600 people: scientists, financiers, nongovernmental organizations, and companies, to talk about the climate and the technologies needed to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. A topic that is gaining momentum at a time when the fight against "climate change" ["global warming"] is on everybody's agenda. In the large meeting hall, the mood is festive. On the stage, discreet smoke and a soft blue-grey light accompany the different speakers. "We are going to build a second site, in Iceland, called Mammoth, to remove CO₂ from the air," announced Mr Jan Wurzbacher, a co-founder of Climeworks.

650 million US dollars

Climeworks was founded by two engineers from the ETH Zurich [Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich], and has developed gigantic vacuum cleaners to siphon off the CO₂. "We have just raised 650 million US dollars from institutional investors, including infrastructure and technology specialists," said Mr Christoph Gebald, the other co-founder of the company. Swiss Reinsurance Company Ltd [Swiss Re] has also invested in it.

It is true that Climeworks and the technologies that can remove carbon from the atmosphere, are attractive. "Financial flows are directed towards these solutions," says Mr Keith Tuffley, Citibank's Global Co-Head of Sustainability and Corporate Transitions.

Why are they so successful? Because the fight against climate change will not only require the reduction of CO₂ emissions, but also the removal of CO₂ from the atmosphere. It will be necessary to be "net zero", a term that was regularly mentioned by the speakers at the Zurich conference.

"Direct Air Capture" (DAC) technology is maturing. "DAC is exploding," says scientist Mr Suren Erkman. The two main pioneering companies in this field are the Swiss-based Climeworks and the Canadian-based Carbon Engineering. Climeworks CO₂ vacuum clean-

ers are a real eye opener. "Its technology is robust and proven," he said. "Furthermore, it is based on well-known physical and chemical principles."

The process must be refined

However, the process will need to be refined in the future. Climeworks is working hard to make its technology more energy efficient. Because the technology needs a stable temperature to operate.

That is why the heat from the geothermal sources in Iceland is interesting for Climeworks. "In addition to natural sources, there are many industrial sources that can be used, from waste incinerators, to oil refineries and to cement factories," says Mr Suren Erkman.

The future looks bright for Climeworks. "Wind and solar energies followed the same path before they succeeded," said Mr Paul Judge, a general manager at General Electric, who attended the conference.

Still too expensive

However, the price remains an issue today. Climeworks CO₂ extraction costs are as high as 600 to 800 dollars per tonne, compared to about 80 dollars to buy a certificate to offset a company's emissions. But in the future, things are going to change.

"When the costs of Climeworks and the carbon tax are comparable, it will be as attractive to buy CO₂ removed from the atmosphere as it is to buy offset certificates," claims Mr Suren Erkman.

The challenges are enormous. Every year, 40 billion tonnes of carbon are emitted into the atmosphere. "The natural environments, forests, soils, fields and oceans, capture half of it," he adds.

Since the middle of the 18th century, the excess CO₂ generated by human activities amounts to 900 billion tonnes. An amount that has risen sharply in the last 10 years. "We are going to have to mine the atmosphere to remove some of the excess CO₂," he also says.

Maximum 1.5 °C [degrees Celsius]

Scientists have set a maximum global warming of 1.5 °C as the target to limit the risk of climate disasters. This requires a drastic reduction of "greenhouse gases" in the atmosphere. "At the same time, we must be able to extract 10 billion tonnes of CO₂ every year from 2050 onwards to fight against climate change," continues Mr Suren Erkman. Currently, only a few thousand tonnes are being removed every year.

What happens to this CO₂? The carbon extracted from the atmosphere can be recycled. "It can be used as synthetic fuel, transformed into plastic, used in carbonated drinks or serve as a fertilizer," he explains.

In fact, CO₂ will become a source of income for companies. "In the coming years, industrial applications could absorb several billion tonnes every year," this scientist predicts.

However, the amounts that need to be removed from the atmosphere are gigantic. "That is why most of it will need to be stored in geological structures for hundreds of years," he warns. But they will be a great distance from the city of Zurich. At cocktail hour, the scientists and bankers are chatting. Their faces are smiling. For Climeworks, this is "very" interesting.

One must emphasize the ingenuity and the abilities of the co-founders of this project. One must first figure out how to extract CO₂ from the atmosphere, especially by finding a way of doing it perhaps at a high but still acceptable price. Truly, humankind have received fantastic abilities from their Creator, the Almighty.

As everyone knows, a high level of carbon dioxide (CO₂) is a significant cause of environmental pollution. It is considered as a greenhouse gas, and a high level of it contributes to global warming. Since the beginning of the Industrial Age, large amounts of this gas have been released into the atmosphere. The above article mentions the figure of 900 billion tonnes, which repre-

sents a considerable quantity. Because carbon dioxide has a density of 1.977 grams per litre [g/L], this would equate to the volume of approximately 450,000 billion cubic metres [m³]. A reduction of CO₂ emissions would not be enough to stop global warming, which is why the possibility of capturing CO₂ from the atmosphere would contribute to reducing the feared warming effect.

The co-founders have even considered solutions to recycle this CO₂ into forms of fuel, etc. One may well say that humankind have tried everything. However, we know that the definitive solution for all problems does not lie here. It is only God Who has it. Because He is almighty, his plan for the benefit of humanity is also very simple and majestically great. Our dear Saviour is the Executor of this plan. He already took the first step in this plan when he came to Earth and gave his life for us. Throughout around the last 2,000 years, he has chosen, called and educated all those who shall belong to his Church. They are 144,000 priests who have faithfully given their lives by following in the noble footsteps of their Master. This sacrifice is almost complete, and another class of people are being called into existence. They are the Host of the Lord, who do not give their lives, and who keep them for all eternity on the restored and shared Earth if they remain faithful to their Covenant on the Divine Law.

The final phase of the Almighty's wonderful plan of love, is the resurrection and the restoration of all people who have descended into the grave and who will receive lasting life in God's Kingdom, which will be established on the ruins of the current world. Through God's Spirit, everything will be able to be restored with ease. There will no longer be any trace of the curse, which has struck humankind as "the wages of sin". It will be bliss for all and for ever.

Therapy with animals

In our columns, we have often published articles about animals, which have various abilities that have often astounded, rejoiced and sometimes also moved us. The following article deals with another one of their numerous abilities, which enables them to understand us and to even decode the emotions that we don't express. The Belgian-French magazine *En Marche* on the 19th of June 2022, on this subject dedicates an article which written by Mr Julien Marteleur and which we quote in its entirety:

When animals heal

We know them as faithful companions in life. But they are also fabulous nursing assistants. Some pets are increasingly used for their therapeutic "virtues". The reason? An extraordinary "emotional intelligence", which has been underestimated for far too long...and from which we could draw inspiration.

Activities with guinea pigs in nursing homes; the presence of dogs in reading classes; horses in "relations-training" courses; cats in "resensitization" sessions with prisoners convicted of violent crimes... In the United States, this is called "pet therapy" ["animal therapy" or "animal-assisted therapy"]. In our country [Belgium], we prefer to use the terms "animal mediation" or "animal-facilitated therapy". For some vulnerable groups (the elderly, prisoners, or people with illnesses or disabilities), the presence of a domestic animal can recuperate or give the desire to move again or to talk or interact with others. Our "animal friends", through their instinctively nonjudgmental and authentic behaviour, can produce reactions that are favourable to psychological and physical well-being.

Furry or feathered therapists

In the 19th century, in Belgium, the first example of the voluntary use of animals for human mental health, was observed. In 1860, the French journalist Mr Jules Duval

Silvia. There's a little parcel for you from the evangelist who came to the house."

Silvia's mind was on her packing that she had started upstairs. But she opened the parcel mechanically and unwrapped a beautiful little book. It was the *Heavenly Dew* that she had ordered a long time ago and that had finally reached her. There was a short note enclosed. It was ornamented with a wreath of ivy and said: "Peace and harmony reign in the House of the Lord."

As she read those few lines, peace suddenly sank into her heart. It set her thinking, and she opened the *Heavenly Dew* on the page that contained the instructions for the day. The text was: "I will never leave you or forsake you." What a joyful thrill for Silvia's heart to suddenly hear, behind her, a voice speaking so affectionately, pointing out to her a very different way from the one she had been about to take! She felt her heart melt before the kindness of the Lord. In haste, she again

looked through the *Heavenly Dew*, seeking the text for the day on which she had broken the harmony and peace of their home with her hardness and wickedness towards her husband. With great astonishment and emotion, she read the text for that day: "Wrath is cruel, and anger is outrageous, but who can withstand jealousy?" At that moment, Silvia's arms dropped. Light was born in her heart. She realised that she had been overcome in the trial because she had looked at it from the wrong angle. Her husband did not scold her or get angry, he responded in the divine way. She remembered that, according to the teachings of *The Monitor*, in the transformation of one's character, trials are indispensable if one wishes for success, and that trials can be received victoriously only if we will adopt these precious principles: "Put your hands behind you to receive nothing against your fellows. Stop your ears from hearing evil and listening to accusations, in order to

get the better of the situation with love and goodness."

"I've been quite bowled over by the Adversary," she said to herself. "It's been a very painful though quite salutary lesson. From now on, I shall keep much closer to the Lord, so that I may understand a trial when it comes my way, and not let my bad character get the better of me with suspicion, jealousy or pride."

What a joyful thing it was for Silvia's husband to witness the easing of his wife's mood! She was truly sorry for what had happened. She went into her husband's arms, asking him, with tears, to forgive her for being so silly as to listen to all the wicked things said, and for having been so hard towards him.

There was now no need for explanations. They were united once more in the bonds of reconciliation and in the delightful atmosphere of the Kingdom of God, where there is harmony, joy and peace in the heart.

Having come through this painful experience, they both felt even more attached than ever before to the Lord and to his ways, for they realised how infinitely kind it was of the Almighty to arrange all things with his powerful and kind hand, and with wondrous wisdom and solicitude, coming to Silvia's assistance, as He had done, to prevent her from carrying out her wretched plan.

"How kind the Lord is! she said to her husband. "He doesn't punish. He reconciles poor human beings who are vanquished by their habits and their character. What a precious thing it is to know the Truth, to have such guidelines like those I was able to find in the *Heavenly Dew*. To think that I was stupidly going to run away and to make a wide breach between us, which would have given us both a deal of pain! The Lord had compassion on us. He placed the *Heavenly Dew* in my hands at the very moment when it was needed. So, if you agree, we will read

writes in his French-language book *Gheel, une colonie d'aliénés* [Gheel, a Colony of Insane People] about the case of a group of patients suffering from psychological disorders, who were interned in the Flemish city of Gheel (nowadays Geel), and who were entrusted with the care of birds during their recovery. By taking care of an animal, the patient learns to take better care of himself, noted the doctors of the time. It was in the 1950s that animal-assisted therapy really saw the light of day, thanks to Mr Boris Levinson, an American child psychiatrist. One day in his practice, he spoke with a married couple who brought along their young autistic son. The parents were distraught at the thought of their son going into a specialized institution. By chance, Levinson forgot the presence of his dog, Jingle, which slept in the corner of his office. Unexpectedly, Jingle woke up with the arrival of the family, and went to greet the little boy, who, in front of his amazed parents, began to pat the dog and pay attention to it. Levinson then started a therapy programme involving Jingle, which led to very clear progress of the little boy, and which prevented him from being placed in an institution.

For the first time, a pet became a "cotherapist". In other words, it placed itself as a mediator within a now triangular relationship among the practitioner, the animal and the patient. Mocked at the time by the profession, Levinson's work is now the subject of very serious studies, and practitioners may now willingly train in animal-assisted therapy, as is the case here in the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Liège, or at the Belgian Institute of Animal Therapy in area of Franc-Waret (near the city of Namur).

Don't say "IQ" anymore, say "EQ" instead!

Without verbal communication, a pet seeks interaction (no offence to cat owners!) It is spontaneous and stimulates, awakens and comforts in a natural way. A pet draws these qualities from a well-developed "emotional quotient" (EQ). In other words, it has a good control of its own emotions, but also a good understanding of others' emotions. Of course, not all animals have the same emotional intelligence. Therapy is usually carried out with specially trained animals in order to create a relationship with the patient. Pets also have a better emotional understanding of humans than wild animals. "Humans selected them for that," explains French behavioural-ecology professor Mr Loïc Ballache on the French website *Le Devoir*. "Pets are the result of artificial selection that aimed to choose the kindest individuals to humans. Empathy exists between individuals of the same species, but also between us humans and our pets. Your dog, or any other pet, watches you all day, because you are the one who feeds it, who pats it

and who takes it for a walk. It is entirely dependent on you. It is extremely attentive to your slightest signs: it learns to decode everything about you. So, when you're not well, or when you're sad, it definitely perceives it.

An example to follow

We have become so convinced of the superiority that language gives us, that we have become very bad at communicating with the species around us. The world is constantly vibrating with messages from animals, to which we remain deaf. We are unable to accurately understand the neighing of a horse, or the meowing of a cat. Not to mention that we can't always communicate with our loved ones, that we don't always understand ourselves, and that we don't always know what we really want. What are we waiting for to follow "the animal example" to pay more attention, without judgment or comparison, to what surrounds us? And perhaps, at the same time, to come to understand each other better?

Everyone has surely heard that animals can have a beneficial influence on us, especially if we have difficulties or are sick. It is instructive for us to be aware that animals are sensitive to our emotions and can interpret them and act accordingly. Those who have a pet — be it a dog, cat or other animal — will have often noticed these abilities. We are reminded of many accidents in which dogs have sought help and saved their owners.

As Julien Marteleur writes, a pet doesn't judge us. That is what does us good. Because a person must not be judged, but be loved. If a person has failed us or if something is not right, it is very important for them to feel, above all, that this doesn't change anything about the friendly relations that we normally have with them.

The above article is accompanied by a photo of a little girl lying on a bed, possibly in a hospital. In her hands, she is holding a little cat, which she is kissing. The little cat is letting it happen and has closed its eyes. One can imagine that it is purring with happiness, and one can also imagine how good the natural attitude of this little companion is for the child.

That photo describes everything that is said in the article about the empathy that animals have, namely, that they can feel more than they can understand about what is going on around them.

That is a profound lesson for us. In fact, humankind were placed on Earth as the royalty of divine Creation, over which they should fulfil a role of protector and benefactor. Animals should approach humans and feel in that contact, what we should feel in contact with our Creator, and what we should transmit and pass on to them. Now, this article shows us the exact opposite. Here, animals have been called to do good to humans

in difficulty. Once again, we are facing the obvious fact of our sin, which we are reminded of by creatures that we describe an inferior, but that show themselves to more capable than us in many circumstances.

How often do we feel helpless and speechless when facing someone who is going through a particular difficulty, a family drama or something else! Despite all our knowledge in psychology, philosophy, medicine, etc., we often don't know how to help our fellow person, and if we do perhaps find a few consoling words, they do not penetrate deeply into their heart, because we are not able to put ourselves in their position. We are not able to think about them and to thereby fully put aside our own problems and difficulties in order to feel the magnitude of the trial that they are going through.

For that to be possible, we would have to learn to love our neighbour, as our dear Saviour recommends us to. It is this inexpressibly altruistic sentiment that enables us to do good to our fellow person without judging them. Even if we might not be able to approve of what has happened between us and them, let them feel that this doesn't change the affection that we have for them. Then, when the occasion presents itself, when the wound has closed, one can kindly tell them the truth. It is an art to love and to be loved, which makes us inseparably attached to our fellow person and thereby also to our Creator, the Almighty. This makes us true friends and benefactors to our fellow person, and free people who live the Universal Law of altruism, who exist for the good, and only for the good, of those around them.

Until we have learned and expressed those wonderful feelings at the School of Christ, we will have to content ourselves with learning from our fine furry and feathered friends. May this lesson make us humbler and lead us to treat them appropriately, so that we no longer exploit them or use them to satisfy our moods, and rather respect them. They will know how to thank us.

The Prophet Isaiah, in chapter 11 of his book, gives us a poetic image of how so-called "wild" animals will live together with harmless animals, such as a wolf with a lamb, and a leopard with a kid. It was, in fact, humans who set the animals a bad example through the Fall into sin.

Let us therefore learn the lesson contained in this narrative. Let us not be of those who think they are superior and have a lot of knowledge and want to pass it on to others. If one thinks that one already knows everything, then one cannot learn anything else. Let us instead be aware that we can learn something from everyone. Then, we can do a lot of good around us, and that is what we are called to do.

it together every morning to prepare for the day ahead. In this way, we shall always have solid ground for our feet, and a precious exhortation to keep us from being unhinged by trial or difficulty."

Silvia's husband was so glad to have recovered the delightful atmosphere of affection and trust, so unfortunately dissipated for a while, that he was able to assess, at its true value, the blessing contained in the teachings of the Lord's Messenger.

"Certainly," he responded. "I realise how important it is for us to have that spiritual food every morning to feed our hearts."

A few days later, they had the joy of receiving a kind visit from the beloved and faithful evangelist. They told her all about what had happened, and thanked her, with all their heart, for having been the Lord's instrument in bringing about their reconciliation with the very timely sending off of the *Heavenly Dew*. Thus, it was their turn to prove to be a delightful encouragement and a splendid reward for the evangelist, who rejoiced to see how the Lord had answered her humble prayer.

Agreeably stimulated and strengthened by their experience, our two friends decided to go and visit Silvia's father, now a very old man, who lived a long way from them. They brought him the happy influence of their joy and the Good News of the Kingdom of God, and the powerful echoes of the Restoration of All Things, which shall become a sublime reality. They gave him a copy of *The Message to Humanity* (the Book of Remembrance). The kind old man, happy in their joy, promised to read it respectfully and with close attention. His heart beat with joy on learning that the time of blessing he used to talk about with his wife, was close, and that the Kingdom of God was already taking shape in a small way on Earth.

"Now, my dear children," said the good old man, "we don't have the right to keep this Good News to ourselves. We'll invite

some of the village folk over for an evening, so that you can tell them about your beliefs, your hopes and your assurances, in which I am one with you with all my heart."

And so, one evening in this village, where they would forgather solely for music and dancing, about twenty people met at Silvia's father's place to hear about the new era, foretold by the Prophet Isaiah, the New Earth on which justice dwells, where there will be no more crying or pain, and where there will be no more death. *The Monitor of the Reign of Justice* was presented to them as the indispensable companion for every family wishing for happiness and to live in harmony and peace, to obtain good health and to maintain it, as well as everlasting life.

News in brief of the Reign of Justice

On the 22nd and the 23rd of April, in Sternberg Castle, the dear Family of Faith in Germany was able to meet and benefit from exposés of the Faithful and Wise Servant of God, which impressed everyone. On the Saturday, the *Heavenly Dew* text was this statement of Apostle Peter about our dear Saviour: "He who, while being reviled, did not revile" (1 Peter 2: 23). Here are some passages from that magnificent commentary:

"The Son of God has overcome. It was he who, while being reviled, did not revile, which means that he was able to overcome evil with good in every way.

The Salvation that our dear Saviour offers us, cost him unflinching devotion. He took on himself the equivalent of the curse resting on the human race. He endured the punishment in order to set free condemned humankind and to relieve them completely. He especially did it for us, so that we can associate with him to introduce his Kingdom on Earth, and so that, as the Consecrated, he can elevate us to divine nature. For this, we must also take the place of the guilty, and endure the punishment for them.

We know the Truth, and we are invited by our dear Saviour to now bring peace on Earth. To do this, we must definitively follow suit in the great circulation of love, by living the conditions of our ministry as reconcilers and saviours.

That is a constant exercise, because of how quickly we feel animosity when we are somewhat aggrieved. It is a question of perseverance and habit. ...

To overcome one's antagonist with benevolence and kindness, is the only way that can lead to a happy result. It is thus the only way that we can build 'the wall of Salvation' with our dear Saviour. When it is completely finished, the proclamation of the Kingdom of God, will be manifested, and the blessing will spread abundantly.

What is required is to occupy oneself with the Kingdom of God, in order to introduce it. Then, one no longer has the time to fight against one who does one harm. ...

For that, one must be able to deny [renounce] oneself. We can therefore understand why the Lord said that no one can be his disciple if they do not deny themselves. It is quite understandable, since it is denial [renouncement] that engraves in us the impressions that make us 'new creatures'.

Above all, we must be deeply grateful for the Work of our dear Saviour. Just think: now and every day, we can go to him if we have failed, we can humble ourselves before him, and we can acknowledge our fault: as with the wipe of a sponge, everything is erased, and our heart is calm. What wonderful grace! But if one really wants to have peace and reach eternal life, one must change, deny oneself and become selfless. Then, everything will be good. ...

By living God's ways honestly, we can get rid of all the evil that is in us, so much so that, in the end, there is no trace of any trouble in the heart. For this, it is good if we have enemies, in order to learn to love them. This detoxifies us completely. It is the excellent

antidote. That is how we, as the Consecrated, come to lay down our lives for the deliverance of our enemies. ...

The Lord never sought his personal glory. He never punished or scolded. He never demanded his rights. He did not spare his life. He did not claim his due. He consented to be born in a stable. He did the will of his Father, no matter what it cost. He carried out the Work of reconciliation with great faithfulness. Our dear Brother Stephen, the first after him, gave his life as a sacrifice while giving a marvellous testimony. Covered with blood and wounds, he knelt down and said with a loud voice: "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." Then, he fell asleep. Even at that supreme moment, when he was made to suffer the worst evil, that is to say, when they took his life, the feeling that came out of his heart was forgiveness. As a member of the Royal Priesthood, he endured the ordeal with great dignity and nobility.

That ineffable Work of reconciliation continues among us until the very last member of the Body of Christ, has completed their sacrifice with literal death. But to be a part of it, one needs the required mentality. ...

Nothing in the world can prevent the Lord's plans from being fulfilled, we have nothing to fear. He is still the same faithful God. He protects his people, so that they can introduce God's Kingdom on Earth. ..."

The testimony of our dear Saviour's glorious line of conduct, was a wonderful preparation for the Passover ceremony that took place on the Saturday afternoon. We will report on the second day in the next "News in brief..."

We mention that the next congresses will take place, God willing, in Turin, Italy, from the 15th to the 17th of July, and in Lyon, France, from the 2nd to the 4th of September.

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