

THE REIGN OF JUSTICE

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The causes of human degeneracy

ALL things age, all things wear out, and all things pass away. That is the theory men have adopted, founded on what they observe going on around them. They themselves, when they come to middle age, experience a drop in vitality. Decrepitude sets in and goes on increasing, to end at last in destruction. It is not to be wondered at, in the face of these undeniable facts, that eternal life should appear to be impossible, and that when we broach the subject, most people should shrug their shoulders. They are ignorant of the principles of life, and also of the direction from which the terrible misfortune comes that overtakes them all: the horrible bugbear called "old age". Old age comes sooner to some than to others. At 75, some people are still exceedingly vigorous, whereas others, at 60, are already worn out and rapidly declining. So it is to be perceived that the age at which strength and faculties begin to diminish is not the same for everybody; nevertheless, death comes in all cases, sooner or later: nothing is more certain.

Till today, mankind did not know why they died. The Bible tells us that the wages of sin is death. However, the deep meaning of that short sentence which contains the entire destiny of man from his Fall till now, has never been taken into consideration. After all, who, in all the religions of the world, would be capable of giving a reasonable definition of sin? Some will tell you that to eat certain things is sinful, while others attach no importance to it. Some say you must not work on Saturday, whereas others see no virtue in it at all. There is in the world a vague idea of what sin might possibly be, for it is obvious to many that it is wrong to injure your fellow men. But there is a vast gap to be bridged between that dim view of the matter and a correct appreciation of why sin is sin.

The conscience, which is part of the human make-up, is exceedingly delicate; but when it has been often violated, in the end, it stirs no more. Take the case of one who smokes for the first time. His first cigarette makes him sick, but if he perseveres, his organism will gradually get used to it and finally will not react at all. Having been perverted, the sensory nerves no longer play their part. This does not prevent the harm from taking its course in the organism. Thus, in all manner of ways, man subjects his body to veritable tortures. His body will stand it for a while, for it is endowed with great endurance. Nevertheless, these things mark

it deeply, and the time comes, in the end, when it has not the strength to make the supreme effort required for getting over the trouble. Sickness comes, followed by death.

Every infringement of the Universal Law, to which a man subjects his organism is sin, because it places his life in danger. The sensory nerves suffer and then create a deficit in the organism, and sooner or later, that deficit comes to light. In this way, a man commits many sins in the course of a day, unknown to himself, of course, because he is ignorant of the whole Truth. He possesses no scientific basis upon which to build up knowledge on how to set about obtaining eternal life, or on what makes him die.

A life principle essential to man is joy. He absolutely needs to be happy and contented. Mental pain kills him. Now, not to be embittered by the way the great majority of the human race is being treated today, one needs to know the ways of God and to have a firm footing on the solid foundation of Truth. To that end, one has to attend the School of Christ, who says: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." All mankind are in this condition, even if they try to disguise the fact. They are all wretched because they are cut off from the only source of real happiness. A bridge has been thrown across the gap to help man over, this is faith in the Lord's promises. When one takes those promises to heart and does one's best to live up to the conditions God has laid down, so that they may become part of oneself, then one is able to obtain their fulfilment, but they must be taken seriously.

What is to be contemplated is the reformation of one's character. It is true indeed that it is written: "The wages of sin is death." Theologians have never succeeded in making out what sin was. It is simply a line of conduct that does not accord with the possibilities of one's organism. We were designed for being good, kind, affectionate, amicable, just, honest, noble and selfless. Our organism constantly works in line with those dispositions: the functions of every organ are altruistic on all counts. Man ought to be altruistic, too, in the life he lives. If he lives like that, he prospers, because he is obeying the Law of his organism and provides it with what promotes its health. If he is selfish, he makes it die. That is the simple and logical truth.

Mankind, including religious people, are ignorant of all this. In the world, everyone seeks to advantage

himself. They sow selfish things, which is bad spiritual seed, and expect to reap good things. That is quite contrary to good sense. After all, when you come to think of it, a farmer will take care to sow first-quality seed so that he may have the best crops possible. It never enters his head that this is a law that reveals itself in every department of life.

Take astronomers as another instance. They observe the march of the planets and of the myriad of solar systems. They are filled with wonder at the exactitude of the recurrent periods set by the Law which rules those celestial bodies. They note all this but fail to perceive the love that is behind that sublime Law. As they do not notice the fact that in the universe everything is done out of love, their knowledge is of no use to them, and they are unable to extract from it the life that alone would be of real advantage to them.

Side by side with all their magnificent observations, they find it in their hearts to believe that man has descended from monkeys and that all things in the universe evolve on their own. Yet they must realise that such a faithful movement cannot come into existence and maintain itself without there being some intelligence to make it work. Therefore, beside capabilities which in some cases are prodigious, mankind are utterly blind to altruism, concerning which they understand nothing at all. In the first place, they seek an advantage for themselves; in the second place, for their families; and mostly there is nothing left for their fellow men. It is because of this frightful selfishness that man destroys himself like an animal with no intelligence.

Nevertheless, the Lord's promises still hold good and are splendid. One of them is: "This is the promise that he himself made to us: eternal life." So glorious is this that people think it is impossible to believe in it. In their opinion, it is even less possible for the promise of the Resurrection to come true. Yet we have assurance of these things from God Himself, and nothing could be more certain. The moment one sets about living up to the conditions on the fulfilment of which they depend, assurance begins to make its way into our hearts. If we keep on in the right direction, that of altruism, we become quite sure, because, since we fulfil the conditions, the promises become concrete realities for us. Thus, in the matter of life and health, people who conform to the principles of the Universal Law, witness a daily improvement in their health.

What we must succeed in doing is to love our neighbour: love God above all and your neighbour as yourself, and our Lord said: "Do this, and you will live." Love shown to others relaxes one's nerves and opens

The result of perseverance

IN their small village hidden away in a high mountain valley, Giacomo's parents had much ado to bring up their numerous family. The winters were long during which everything was covered with dazzling white snow.

Giacomo, the seventh boy, realised how heavy the burden was parents bore. When he saw his mother's face often wet with tears, his heart would be heavy in his breast, and he would cudgel his brains to discover what he could do to help her.

In the evenings, everyone would come home, some from the pasture where they had been minding the sheep, and others from the fields with the cows. Sitting round the table, they would tell the tale of the day's happenings. Giacomo would often go a long way up the mountain with his sheep. He would observe the sure-footed chamois among the

rocks, the marmots sitting up on their hind quarters outside their holes and nibbling roots; the flutter of partridges wings would make him turn to watch them flying about their business, and the shimmering colours of the gaudy pheasants would fill him with admiration. Up there in the deep solitude of the mountains he would think of the Creator of all these wonders and longed to know Him. His grandfather on his mother's side would often talk to him about Jesus and his disciples. How much the young lad would have liked to have been living in those days!

It was the grandfather's habit in the winter evenings to come and visit the family after supper. Being a God-fearing man, virtuous and very kind-hearted, whenever he came his pockets were filled with wild mountain apples and nuts that he would distribute to the children, and in this way would show them his tender affection. In the kindly atmosphere thus created he would gather them

together in prayer, followed by the reading of a fragment of sacred history which he would explain to them as best he could. Seated at his grandfather's feet, Giacomo would be all ears to take in what he could grasp of these matters which interested him so much. What delightful moments he would spend thus listening to the stories of Daniel, of Joseph, of Moses and of other Bible characters. He listened to every word and would envy the people who had lived with them.

When the stories and explanations were over, not having discovered all that he wanted to know, he would bombard his grandfather with questions, but the poor man did not know sufficient to be able to enlighten him on all points. On Sundays the little boy would be very proud to appear beside his grandfather at Mass.

One evening the old man died; and great was the child's sorrow to see him stretched out on his bed in the pallor of death with his eyes

closed, and unresponding to his voice. This last farewell was a great blow to Giacomo.

After the funeral the lad asked the priest if his grandfather had gone to heaven. "We must hope so", was the evasive answer that left the child in great perplexity. The answer he would invariably get to other questions was: "That is a mystery, my boy, it is beyond our understanding." Giacomo was sure the priest knew the answer, but could not yet tell him everything. In spite of all this he went on serving at Mass and the priest was very fond of him.

When he grew up to manhood, Giacomo had but one thought, and this was to go abroad to work that he might assist his family. He was engaged by some relations, and afterwards by some other people. He never forgot his childhood's impressions. He was ever wishful to know the things he had set his heart on, he was seeking some real friends who loved upright things and good, for the

up every circulation in one's organism. In contrast, if you feel jealousy or if you feel angry or bitter, or show pride, these things thrust you into all manner of bad feelings that attack your sensory nerves disastrously. The consequence is obstruction of the circulations of the organism, causing it to get choked up with filth because elimination does not go on as it normally should. From this, there result all sorts of disturbances and finally comes sickness and death.

We have now come to a very particular time. It is the time of the Restoration of All Things, of which God has spoken of old by the mouth of all his holy prophets. It is the time indicated by Job, even as far back as his day, saying: "If there is an angel [a messenger], a mediator, one among the thousands, to show man what is right for him, then God is gracious to him and says: 'Deliver him from going down into the pit, for I have found a ransom.'" That Ransom is our dear Saviour who provides mankind with deliverance. He is the Way, the Truth and the Life, as he said himself. All throughout the 2,000 years since his resurrection, he has been choosing some disciples for himself, whose desire it has been to sacrifice themselves also for mankind and so to take part in paying the Ransom. This work of atonement is now drawing to its close, and that is why the door to eternal life is open. To all who wish to go through it, the question is to sin no more, which means that they must change their line of conduct, simply that, so that they may no longer do the things which ruin their organism. On the contrary, they have to cultivate thoughts, words and deeds that preserve it and restore it to perfection in its functions. This is something that everyone can understand. It is in this way that the promise of eternal life, made by our dear Saviour, can become a splendid reality to all who will step out in the direction of the Universal Law.

The foregoing statements indicate clearly that sin is quite simply everything that is contrary to the Law in accordance with which man has been designed and which rules his whole being. That law is altruistic and decrees that each should love his neighbour. Divine love is the power of life, whereas selfishness is the spore of death.

Thousands of people now are rallying to those glorious principles and have so far achieved magnificent progress in their health. The work being given to people who now want to head for eternal life, is glorious. It consists, among other things, in restoring the Earth to perfect condition and in treating it as it ought to be treated, altruistically for its own good, according to God's Law. Then, it will once more become the Garden of Eden and will bring forth a profusion of everything man needs in the way of food for his physical maintenance. Having returned into harmony with his Maker by living a life in accordance with that Maker's Law, man will once more be able to be supplied with the Vital Fluid, God's Holy Spirit. He will be at the benefit of all three elements indispensable to him, which are: first and foremost, the Vital Fluid, and with that, pure air and suitable material food. At the benefit of those three vital principles, man will be able to head joyfully and gladly for eternal life, and so return to his original destiny. It is the destiny of a terrestrial son of God, called to be viable and happy for evermore, to the honour and the praise of his Maker, the great God of Heaven, whose wisdom has no bounds, and whose love knows no change.

Watch, oh, watch over your heart!

The following article — taken from the monthly French-language health and environment magazine *Biocontact*,

feverish existence of those about him did not interest him to a great degree.

Once, when on a visit to his family, he became acquainted with Carla, a girl from a neighbouring village. Hers was a kindly heart, and the young people got on so well that they decided to get married.

Carla told her husband about the many times she had been protected in danger. Her mother had told her how, three days before her little girl was born she had fallen from a third storey window and had been miraculously saved. One winter's night, coming out of the stable, the little girl was buried under an immense heap of snow which fell from the roof. It was fortunate that her father saw her and was able to extricate her from her predicament. Later, when waking along the tow-path of the canal, she slipped and fell into the water, a young man who happened to be passing, got her out before she could drown. Several years later, walking along a

country road, she was knocked down by a car at a bend. They thought she was dead, but once more she came out of it miraculously. Giacomo was deeply impressed by these incidents, and would often think about them.

One evening, chatting with a friend in the village, Giacomo learnt that one of their neighbours would speak about the end of the world which was for a short time ahead and announced by a prophet from Switzerland; this man even said that it was possible to survive that great trouble about to fall upon the human race. Giacomo would have liked to have further details but did not know the name of that man, which was Joseph, nor that he lived somewhere near.

The Second World War was raging in Europe. Giacomo was worried about his relations and his brothers who were at the front. One evening, on his knees, he prayed with tears: "O Great God of Heaven, if there is a prophet on Earth, let me have knowledge of

and written by a former clinic director Dr Paul Dupont — details the harmful effects of different traits of character and states of mind, on our body. We cannot help drawing a parallel with the Holy Scriptures where these truths were already explained almost 3,000 years ago in the Book of Proverbs. In it, we read, among others things:

"A peaceful heart leads to a healthy body, but jealousy rots the bones." Proverbs 14: 30.

"Laziness causes deep sleep." Proverbs 19: 15.

"A very angry person shall suffer punishment." Proverbs 19: 19.

"A joyful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit dries the bones." Proverbs 17: 22.

"A wise person has great power." Proverbs 24: 5.

"Fear the LORD, and depart from evil. This shall bring health to your body and strength to your bones." Proverbs 3: 7 and 8.

"Keep your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the sources of life." Proverbs 4: 23.

Our dear Saviour said: "What comes out of a person defiles them. For from within, out of a person's heart, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, wickedness, deceit, lust, envy, slander, pride and foolishness. All these evil things come from within and defile a person." Mark 7: 20–23.

That is what medicine reveals to us today:

Passions consume us

How some inappropriate passions disrupt our glands in a psychological way:

Envy disrupts the pineal gland [located in the brain]. It affects the sleep and the appetite, it causes fever and numerous sicknesses that are associated with melancholy, and this condition carries within itself the seed of cancer, as suspected by Galen, Hippocrates and Celsus [who were ancient Greeks].

Pride irritates the pituitary gland [located in the brain] and disrupts its function, which leads to madness, megalomania [delusions of grandeur], hypocrisy and unstable excitability. Over-excitability and lack of self-control create an excess of hormonal secretions. Fear produces troubles with the thyroid gland [located in the neck].

Laziness slows down the function of the thyroid gland. It weakens all the functions that depend on it. A loafer becomes weak, apathetic, timid, sluggish, inhibited and prematurely old.

Greed disrupts the function of the thymus gland [located in the upper front part of the chest]. A greedy person thinks about nothing apart from their wealth and their business, and they live in miserable conditions that destroy their health. They are susceptible to infectious sicknesses.

Intemperance [lack of self-control] and excessiveness of all types affect the heart and lead to neurosis and to weakness and congestion in the veins and arteries. Excessive eating or drinking burdens the intestines, the pancreas and the liver.

Jealousy affects the solar plexus [a complex network of nerves in the abdomen] and produces disturbances in some glands, such as the liver, which is affected by hot-tempered behaviour. The intestines are affected by fearful behaviour, the pancreas is affected by behaviour based on false judgements, the spleen is affected by laziness, and the kidneys are affected by worries.

Anger disrupts the balance of the adrenal glands [located above the kidneys] and causes cardiovascular diseases, high blood pressure and premature aging of the brain.

Beware of negative thoughts

Conversely, we can in ourselves develop abilities that prevent the harmful effects of these faults on our health. Notably, in some people, a disrupted thymus gland is often related to psychological problems whose origin is found on the level of the ego, of the mood and of self-love. A disrupted thymus gland contributes to

autoimmune diseases. These appear more frequently in very sensitive people. Children who have eczema [dermatitis] have the tendency to be influenced by the worries of others. This triggers sadness or irritability. One may often observe that among children eczema occurs as a result of difficulties or false presumptions, such as believing that they are no longer loved or that they are abandoned. It is these negative thoughts that attack the ego and cause trouble.

But one should not directly attack that sensitivity. It is natural and comes from the empathic [caring] nature of our being. Does not the word "thymus" come from the Greek word "thumos", which means "sacrifice"? It is important to avoid letting oneself be influenced by the negative thoughts or fixed ideas of others. One who has an autoimmune disease should help others to not interfere in one's life. One should let everyone live and be less concerned within oneself in order to not "take on to oneself the problems of others". One could give similar advice for every endocrine gland. The observation of various glandular disturbances could enable the development of behaviour against every imbalance, and one could evaluate the interest of everyone who suffers from their thyroid gland in order to follow a recommendation for more self-confidence, because that reduces fear, and for those whose adrenal glands do not work properly, one could advise more patience, because that prevents anger and so forth.

It is not enough to treat glands with hormones, one must also find the causes of the disturbances. In every case and in other situations, one should also accept that it is better to prevent than to cure. If our health therefore depends on the right environment and the balance of our vital functions, then it also depends on our moral state. Body and mind depend on each other. Let us therefore be in harmony with ourselves if we want to maintain the proper function of our endocrine glands for as long as possible in order to maintain our health!

Those detailed explanations help us to better understand how all things in the human body are connected with each other and that one cannot separate the mental from the physical. But medicine often does that when it treats the symptoms rather than the causes. The body, to a large extent, depends on the mind that governs it. All our sentiments (feelings) and emotions inevitably have their repercussions on the functions of the entire body. Negative thoughts and sentiments have a harmful and destructive effect, but the opposite is also just as true: good sentiments and positive thoughts have a marvellously beneficial effect. The former produces "vasoconstriction" (the constriction of the blood vessels), and the latter produces "vasodilation" (the dilation of the blood vessels).

One can say with certainty, as the Lord's Messenger showed in his book *Eternal Life*, that the human body is of divine origin and that it was created according to the image of God, which means, according to the way God thinks (to God's mentality). The divine law is set into the human body so that all its organs function in an altruistic way. They each work for the good of the others, which produces marvellous harmony down to the smallest detail. This harmony allows for the perfect function of all the organs and produces the greatest and the most beautiful of all miracles: life.

Only the Being of supreme intelligence and unlimited power could arrange the various inanimate elements of the Earth in such a way as to form a living being gifted with intelligence, with a mind and with admirable abilities that represent a complete personality. This personality, a human being, contains within oneself an infinitely small version of an entire universe. This small universe in turn can comprehend up to the infinite size of the universe that it is surrounded by and can communicate with it in moving unity.

That is furthermore what should have manifested itself on Earth: the establishment of harmony and unity

him, and let me meet this Joseph who knows about him."

He did not have to wait long for an answer. Next morning at the cherry-picking, his friend pointed Joseph out to him who jointed them in the orchard. As the work went on, Giacomo noticed how everybody made fun of Joseph because he kept on announcing the introduction of the New Earth. He drew near him timidly before the mid-day meal to propose that they should eat together, for they were out in the open air. He asked him any number of questions and learnt that he attended some meetings and would provide him with a wonderful book *The Message to Humanity*. Giacomo simply flew home that evening, and eagerly told Carla all that he had heard: that there was no such place as hell or purgatory, that the dead were asleep in their graves awaiting resurrection which was assured by the ransom paid by Christ. This consoling revelation was a balm to their

hearts, and the husband and wife were moved to tears by it.

Giacomo lay awake all night, imagining wonderful pictures of Paradise restored, of humanity consoled at last, freed from sickness and hideous death. He could imagine the wild animals become tame just as Isaiah the prophet had foretold. He thought of his grandfather, of the small seed the old man had sown in his boyish heart. He still had one desire unfulfilled, and that was to meet God's latest prophet.

The young couple attended their first meeting with the family of faith, and discovered there an atmosphere of fraternity and kindness. In spite of all these encouragements, Giacomo felt a bitter struggle going on within him. There was a voice constantly ringing in his ears and saying: "How could your grandfather, your mother, who were real Christians, a real example to others, have been led into error by the teachings of a false religion?"

among all beings in order to produce joy, peace and life. That life, as we understand it, is perfect and continuous health that comes from divine spirituality. It is the destiny that was fixed by the Creator for the finest of his terrestrial (earthly) creations. But for this, people should have followed the guideline of good, should have expressed nothing apart from noble sentiments full of love towards each other and towards everything else that lives, and should have expressed complete gratitude and attachment towards their Creator. That would have fulfilled the greatest divine commandment. "Do this, and you shall live," said our dear Saviour. Luke 10: 28.

That is the basis of the new education that the Almighty is today offering to all those who would like to participate in the Restoration of All Things. This great Restoration, which is announced in the Holy Scriptures, is the phase that follows the Permission of Evil. It is Christ's Ransom that enables the beginning of that tremendous time: the reconciliation of people with God, with each other and with their body. By putting into practice the Universal Law of altruism, people are no longer the enemies of their body. They no longer let it suffer from the nerve tension that stems from selfishness. On the contrary, they attract to themselves God Spirit that vivifies, and that is how they can fulfil their sublime destiny, namely to be God's earthly children who are worthy and able to inherit eternal life. These words of Scripture take shape in them: "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6: 23.\$

An unusual but beneficial friendship

The following story was published in the *You* magazine, a supplement of the *Daily Mail*:

An odd couple

Together, they are the rarest couple of the ocean, a duo that only Mother Nature could create. In the crystal-clear waters of paradise-like Providenciales, an island in the Caribbean Sea, a dolphin named JoJo and his companion [Toffee] of the canine race, frolic and splash about under the tropical sun, each one more than the other.

"It is the most extraordinary thing I have ever seen. Who would have thought that a dog would befriend a dolphin? All the islanders are taken aback," says Kevin Roche, the dog's master. "Despite their obvious differences, JoJo and Toffee are two of a kind. They are fond of each other; it is a unique friendship."

In the morning, when they catch sight of each other, it looks like a meeting of close friends after a long separation. Every day, Toffee searches the beach, scanning the sea, waiting for a sign of JoJo. Sooner or later, the head of this happy dolphin emerges, and the whistle blast from his blowhole is the signal that Toffee expected, to plunge into the sea. If we see JoJo in the distance, we shout and point towards the direction with an outstretched arm, and Toffee plunges into the waves to join his friend.

They are in a world of their own and can play for hours. Anyone who sees them cannot believe their eyes.

If we are on a boat, as soon as Toffee spots JoJo, he leaps out and dives in. It started two years ago. Toffee was a little island dog that felt completely at home in the water. We used to say with a laugh that he was half dog and half fish, since he was such a good swimmer. At that time, JoJo was part of a group of four or five dolphins known by the island's fishers. The dolphins stayed around, but did not get close to people. They moved near the boats and the swimmers, while keeping a distance.

Toffee ran along the beach every day, chasing crabs, barking frantically and driving them toward the sea. He frolicked in the surf and through the foam, chasing away

thornback rays. He spent as much time in water as on land. From the beach or from the boat, he watched the comings and goings of the dolphins. He barked and was excited as soon as he could see them. But JoJo was too unpredictable to make friends.

In some ways, fate brought JoJo and Toffee together. One day, as he was chasing a thornback ray, it turned around and seriously lacerated his hip and his leg. He got back to shore with a limp, wailing in pain. By the time he got to the vet, he had already lost a good deal of blood, and it took no less than fifteen stitches to close his wound. After the incident, Toffee looked like a beaten dog. He avoided water because of the painful memory of his skirmish with the ray.

Over the next two weeks, he became more and more indifferent and apathetic. He continuously chewed his leg, which did not help. He would not let it recover, and it eventually became infected. He was given a series of antibiotic injections. We feared that the poor animal would not recover from it. But by a strange coincidence, JoJo got involved.

It was said on the island that all the dolphins had left except one. The others must have been searching for new waters. JoJo neared the shore, but continued to keep his distance. One day, Toffee saw him. It looked like he had lost his mind: he barked and jumped on the beach. The following days, JoJo cut through the water in front of the dog, as if he was challenging him, to encourage him to get back to the water.

Every time Toffee saw JoJo, he reacted in the same way, he barked with enthusiasm. Just seeing him seemed to make him alive. It looked like he gave him a new will to live. The day came when he finally faced the water and joined JoJo. They played for hours, and since then, they have been the best of friends.

JoJo likes to follow the boat a lot, the bubbles must give him the impression of a spa. JoJo and Toffee play underwater games, they chase each other in turn. When we go back to the shore, JoJo glides under the boat. It looks like he cannot stand losing sight of Toffee.

The above text is illustrated by a large colour photograph showing the two companions in this huge body of water in which they obviously like to be together.

Although looking and being completely different, they express a devoted friendship to each other. It is curious and even incredible for anyone who watches them romping and playing, but it confirms the effect of a flow of sympathy, changing something deemed incompatible into an undeniable reality.

This is certainly not the first time that one notices that animals entirely different in regard to species and to way of life, and even known to have irreconcilable moods, establish kind and caring relationships. But it must be recognized that this case is quite amazing.

Apparently, the innate friendship that dolphins have for human beings and that has been observed on many occasions, especially after a shipwreck when the latter are threatened by sharks or unable to reach a distant shore, has extended to one of their pets. The enthusiastic barking of Toffee, while watching the dolphins from his master's boat, definitely had a favourable effect on JoJo that led him to stay in the island's waters while the other dolphins swam away. Furthermore, the dog's depressive and fearful state that occurred after his misadventure with the ray that he chased, was perceived by the sensitivity of the dolphin that wanted to rekindle his desire to live. The unhappy dog eventually understood the dolphin's intentions.

And that was how the bonds of friendship were established between the two animals, which revived the courage and energy of the unfortunate cripple... The dolphin's affection and the protective influence that poured out of him, was the best cure for Toffee.

An enlightening experience for all of us humans who find it so hard to establish true friendship with each other, the sole proof of long-lasting peace and happiness.

Arsenal of weapons ready for war

There has always been war, and no matter how it has been looked at, it has always been a terrible scourge, a blood bath and a cause of tears, horror and despair, and left enormous guilt behind. However, this does not stop "ingenious" humankind from improving its weapons and ammunition... The following article, published in the French daily newspaper *Sud-Ouest* on 23 May 2016, reports the first visit of an American president to Hiroshima, 71 years after the catastrophe. As numerous media representatives said, he did not apologize...

The bomb still threatens the planet

Barack Obama is expected in Hiroshima in Japan on Friday. No US president has ever been to this place, which was destroyed by the first atom bomb in history on 6 August 1945. The second bomb was dropped over Nagasaki on 9 August. More than 200,000 people died, which is why the Japanese emperor was forced to declare an end to the War on 15 August. The capitulation was signed on 2 September, four months after that of Germany's.

71 years later and despite numerous treaties, the world still lives in fear of a nuclear fiery death. Nevertheless, Barack Obama reminds us of the possibility of a world without nuclear weapons in a speech that he gave in 2009 in Prague on the occasion of a summit between the US and the EU: "This goal will not be reached quickly — perhaps not in my lifetime. It will take patience and persistence," said the US president, who was 48 years old at the time.

According to various estimates, among all the countries that have nuclear weapons, there is currently a total of between 15,000 and 16,000 nuclear warheads, compared to more than 50,000 during the 1980s and 1990s. Between 5,000 and 6,000 of these explosive devices will be disarmed, but about 10,000 are effectively deployed, and about 4,000 of them are ready for short-term use, built into rockets or stored on bases with troops. According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), based in Sweden, about 1,800 warheads are constantly ready in case of an alarm.

Together, Russia and the US possess more than 90% of this global arsenal of weapons. In total, nine countries [states] are considered to be equipped with nuclear weapons. Five of them are officially considered as "nuclear-weapon states" (NWS): the US, Russia, Great Britain, France and China. The Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) of 1968 recognizes the right of five states to possess the bomb and stipulates that other states agree to never acquire or build nuclear weapons. This document, up till today, has been signed by almost all countries in the world. Four countries have not signed (or signed and then withdrawn) and are considered as "de facto" nuclear-weapon states: India, Pakistan and North Korea, which have conducted tests, and Israel, which has not confirmed or denied possessing nuclear weapons, but which is more than suspected of having mastered the technology.

Reduction...and modernization

Several countries are also suspected of wanting to get the bomb. This especially applies to Syria, Libya, Iraq and Algeria. Iran's programme has long caused "serious concern", but even if the international community in the past year has made a reassuring agreement with Teheran, the country remains under close surveillance.

For about the last 20 years, the arsenals of weapons have been reduced by more than three quarters, but at the same time, they have been modernized. In contrast to a widely held view, the disarmament has not led to a reversal of the proliferation. Nowadays, the threat is particularly concentrated in Asia and in the Middle East.

He unbosomed himself to the elder of the group, saying:

"I recognise you as the best people in the world; the teachings of the truth are a great joy to me. But who can prove to me that my parents were in error, and that the Messenger is truly the Lord's prophet?"

The elder explained everything to him very kindly, reminding him that the Lord himself had announced the coming of his servant in Matthew 24: 45, in Malachi 1: 4 and also in Job 33: 5. Giacomo, who did not know the holy Writings, looked up the quoted texts and was convinced. He would have liked to know what was meant by the prayer: "Give us our daily bread." As he read the writings of God's Messenger, as he attended the meetings" and particularly as he strove to tarry out the principles of truth, he realised that all this was the spiritual food his heart needed and that from now on he would receive in abundance.

The war continued to rage. The parents of

the young couple lived close by the frontier, in a spot where there were many barracks. So that they were constantly in great danger. Giacomo prayed to God asking to give him proof that he had found the truth by protecting his and Carla's parents. His great desire was that none of them should die before knowing about the wonderful hopes of the family of faith.

From that moment he did not miss a single meeting, and he delivered his testimony to everyone he met. Displaying great enthusiasm and zeal, he touched many receptive hearts, and formed a group in the village he had lived in.

An unforeseen trial awaited him: being a foreigner, he was invited to go to Germany. The Lord, however, was watching over him. Having recommended himself to the grace of God, he went with the regional elder to interview the military authorities and explained his circumstances to them. He was

discharged of every obligation: and thus God visibly showed his kind protection.

When the war was over, Giacomo discovered that his whole family, and Carla's as well, his brothers who had been at the front, others who had been taken prisoners, some even in Russia, all had survived and were able to return home. What immense gratitude he had towards God who had generously answered his prayer and had given him proof of his faithfulness by protecting all those he loved.

Being ever more firmly convinced of the exactitude and kindness of divine ways, and feeling that he was cured of his terrible timidity which in the past had made him suffer so much, Giacomo felt the need to respond to the Lord's invitation: "Be about the Kingdom of God and his righteousness" being desirous of finding out whether truly: "all else would be added to him." He freed himself from every obligation and set about evangelising round about where he lived. Then he was invited

to return to his homeland for the purpose of starting up the Lord's work there. It was a very severe trial to leave his house and this spot he had become very fond of. To cap all, having been discouraged by several relations and friends, Carla did not wish to go with him. Giacomo found with his God all the assistance that was indispensable to him. Being a generous girl, his wife did not like the idea of letting him go alone, and she followed him in this new mission.

In their home country, they established themselves in a large town, and had to face many difficulties. Without a roof and short of funds, they finally discovered an attic for which they were very grateful. It was a very cold winter that year and they had hardly anything to warm themselves with. So they shared together what the day would bring, glad as they were to have something to bear for the Kingdom's sake. Some small gatherings began in these premises which served

