

A WORD FROM GOD TO THE INHABITANTS OF ZION

A short word of the Lord to the inhabitants of Zion, concerning the Holy and Sacred Inspired Books of God that are now freely manifested to the children of men throughout the world, showing in what manner and spirit they are to answer all questions that they are asked by the outside world regarding the Books of God.

1 Hearken, and give ear to My voice, and understand My words, all ye who name My name as true Children of Mine within the walls of My Zion, saith the Lord your God.

2 Whenever and wherever any of you may be interrogated or questioned by your fellow mortals respecting any of the Sacred passages contained in any of Zion's Holy Books or teachings (whether you believe what is therein contained, either in part or in full respecting their Divine Authority), I require that all ye who hold any relation within the walls of My Zion should answer after the following manner, having your words clothed with My solemn and Holy fear, saith the Lord.

3 Say: "Of the Holy and Sacred things of God, we cannot judge; for He is a God of yesterday, today and forever; and will reveal and declare Himself in whatsoever manner His Almighty Power pleases so to do.

4 As to ourselves, we are but poor worms of the dust, wholly dependent on God, for every blessing we enjoy; and to fear Him and keep His commandments, is our whole labor and duty. If we have found any favor in the sight of our God, it has been by yielding true obedience to His revealed will when made known to us."

5 And all those whose duty and calling will expose them to be frequently inquired of, regarding the Inspired Books of God found within Zion, should labor, in My solemn and Holy fear, to give as brief and comprehensive answers as possible.

6 But see that ye do not make any part of these Books a subject of argument and controversy, either with the children of men or with one another; but say as little about them in any way, when you are abroad, as you can and give becoming and unoffending answers to civil questions: for I have not sent them forth, either to Zion or the inhabitants of earth, to be made a theme of vain speculation and controversy.

7 But remember, all ye people who dwell within the borders of My Zion, that *if ye do not* walk humble and low before all men, keeping the commandments of the Lord your God unspotted, agreeable to the great privilege which He hath given you, it shall be more tolerable for them in the Day of Judgment, than for you.

8 I have not caused these revelations of My word to go forth from among the children dwelling in My Zion, because they have any stones to cast at the children of men; far from that, saith the Lord; nor because they have in the least, any cause to be exalted in their feelings before men; but great reason have they to walk humble and low before one another and before all people.

9 They are not called to meddle, either in word or in deed, with the political feelings and contentions that are abroad in the world, either respecting their different denominations of religion, or their political strife.

10 But if any apply to you, when you are abroad, desiring information respecting the way of salvation; if at a time and in a place suitable to converse upon Holy and Sacred things, give them as correct information as ye are able. If ye are not able to answer them, refer them to the place and order which is appointed for that purpose, where they can have all the attention paid to them that the sincerity of their soul requires.

11 Conversation of this kind, should never be held to much length, in crowds of people, where there is nothing but bustle and confusion, in barrooms and such other places of noisy resort; but seek such places of seclusion and retirement as you can keep and feel the fear of God, while you are conversing upon that which is Sacred and Holy.

12 And I again solemnly warn you saith the Angel, O ye inhabitants of Zion; suffer not your spirits to sound forth harsh or unkind words to the children of men; though you may feel that they have abused and treated you shamefully; but overcome evil with good and subdue passion by mild and kind treatment. Remember the spirit of the Lamb doth overcome, while that of fierce and ravenous beasts provoketh to battle and revenge, which belongeth not in the hearts of Zion's children.

13 See that ye speak not to the children of men in a bigoted or self-exalted air of feeling; for by so doing, you expose your own shame and nakedness, and thereby cast a stumbling block before men and dishonor your own calling and privilege.

14 We require nothing less than a spirit of gratitude and thankfulness at all times for your most priceless Eternal salvation while yet dwelling in mortal clay: for ye are they who have forever left the world behind to represent your Eternal Father God, Eternal Mother Wisdom, Jesus Christ the Lamb and Mother Ann Lee the Bride. For this, ye shall be Eternally rewarded. Therefore, be ye wise and obedient: For it is Our will to gradually populate the New Earth with regenerated souls and in Our appointed time, the Kingdom of God shall cover the entire Earth.

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Shaker Communities

THE PROPHECY

A Worldwide Kingdom of God and Zion of His Likeness on Earth (Daniel 2:44).

FOUNDER

Ann Lee, the Bride of Christ (1736-1784) of Manchester, England.

BASIC PRINCIPLES

Virgin Purity, Peace, Justice and Love

Expressed Through: Celibate Life, Complete Confession and Forsaking of all Sin,
Non Resistance, Community of Goods and Divine Order.

BELIEFS

Duality of the Deity, Father and Mother God (Power and Wisdom). The Mighty Dual Spirit, Creator of Life, Light, Truth and Love. Duality of the Christ Spirit, as manifested by Jesus Christ and Ann Lee, Immortal Life, Progress of the Soul, Faithfulness, Lawfulness, Equality of the Genders, Equality in Labor, Equality in Property, Temperance in all things, Justice and Kindness to all Living Beings.

GOVERNMENT

The Head of the Shaker Order is Christ.
Represented in a Dual Order of Leaders, Ministry Elders and Trustees.

COMMUNITY

Serious Minded and Competent individuals who vow to never deny
the Father God, the Mother Wisdom, the Son Jesus Christ or the Daughter Ann Lee.

SHAKER MOTTO

Hands to work, and Hearts to God.—ANN LEE

Zion's Center Of Union

