

CHARLES FILLMORE, SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 1924.

John 2:14-22.

Freedom

We find that we are ^{not} free as we should be because we have

not fulfilled the laws of freedom. Jesus said, "You shall know the Truth and the Truth shall make you free." That freedom means not only freedom from your old ways of thinking, but it means freedom from the limitations that beset you on every side. Jesus Christ expected those that followed him to be like him. We are to awake in his image. That means a great deal. It

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means that we must inquire more carefully into the laws; we must have a better understanding of ourselves. In other words, we must interpret the man spiritually instead of materially. The whole life of Jesus Christ was a spiritual interpretation of man. He began as a spiritual being, and looked upon himself in the light of Spirit. The lesson this morning is one of the details of spiritual recognition. We are told that Jesus knew man.

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He didn't look at him merely as a physical organism animated by something he didn't know anything about, but he understood the animating principle back of the body and he understood the details through which it was formed. He understood man. He was in one respect a Greek. He knew that injunction that they had written over their temple: "Man, know thyself."

Now we are to follow Jesus in this knowing of ourselves and as

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we study the life of Jesus Christ, spiritually not physically by spiritually, we find it accords with modern discoveries in psychical research and psychology. We find that the Bible is full of psychology. Psychology means soul-ology. It means that we understand the inner consciousness. Now psychology has divided the consciousness of man up into three divisions, the conscious mind, the sub-conscious mind and the super-conscious mind. It gives but little attention to

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the super-consciousness, but the scriptures hinge all of man's activities really upon the super-consciousness, and it keeps man in such a high state that the majority of people miss him entirely. They are not even acquainted with the sub-conscious and all of their activities function around the body with its sub-conscious activity. We find as we study the Bible that it is a real book of initiation into the real man. It gives us the key to ourselves,

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and what is true of one is true of all. We become mind readers, we become physiologists, and above all we become spiritual discerners. We begin to discern the real character of man. But you say, "If you know the spiritual character, why give any attention to those minor expressions, secondary movements of the mind?" They all have their place in man. Man is a sum total of spirit, soul, body. But what do you know about your soul? People ask me that every

day. Now just what is the soul? The soul is everything that you are conscious of. You are not conscious right now of all your experiences but they are part of your consciousness and your consciousness is made up of the conscious mind and the sub-conscious mind. It is this sub-conscious mind that we are so ignorant about. What do you know about your sub-conscious mind? You say, "Very little." Well, if you study the Bible and get into this three-fold man

and see that it is expressed in these symbols all through the Scriptures you will see at once that this treats of the real man, of the threefold character. Those who look upon man as merely a body study the physiology and they study the physiological laws and they don't claim to get into the mind. They say that falls in another realm. They fall short there. You cannot handle your body without your mind. Is there anything above mind? Yes, ideas. There you have the trinity, spirit, soul,

body, and the soul is the mind of the man and the mind is not only conscious but subconscious. And here is where we are beginning to unfold the subconscious part of the man. You will begin to see that it is more than what we have understood it to be. We find as we study the man that each of these ideas has its place of action to function through the body and the body is a very much more important thing than we have ever conceived it to be. We find that the

conscious mind functions through the ^{front} / -brain, and the subconscious mind through the large brain of the solar plexus, and the super-conscious mind functions when it functions at all---it don't function very actively in the majority of people, but when it does it functions through the top brain. That is the upper story, the house or the roof. It is the mansion. All these symbols are used in the Bible to represent man when he goes up into his higher

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consciousness which we call the realm of the absolute. Most of us give all of our attention to the conscious mind. We work in the front brain almost entirely. Now in the lesson today we find that man---and Jesus represents man---goes into the subconsciousness. He finds that he is having experiences that cannot be accounted for on the more physical plane, nor can they be account for upon what he knows consciously. There must be another

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part of a man that we have not worked with. Now we find that in the beginning of our study of this scripture and of ourselves that we straighten out our thinking, our conscious thinking. That is the John the Baptist movement of this regenerative law that is talked about in the Bible. We change our mind, we make straight the way of the Lord. You straighten out your thoughts, you change your mind, you repent from your error ways of thinking. Pretty

soon you see that you are getting some new viewpoints about yourself and about God and about the world. But still the old conditions in your body do not straighten out. "What is the matter," you say, "I see this thing so clearly, and yet there is no change in my body? I am the same old character physically." That is because you have not gone into the sub-conscious. What has the sub-conscious got to do with it? Down here in your body are numerous brains, big

ones and little ones. The solar plexus ~~which~~ is made up we are told of cells just exactly like the cells in the head and there is a direct connection between the brain in the head and the brain in the body. The brain in the solar plexus in its functioning is in a way under the direction of the mind in the head or the functions in the head. The thought that we are holding in our conscious mind in a measure affects the sub-conscious.

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Although we are told by physiologists and also by certain branch of the mental scientists that there is really no connection only as we make it. But there is. Automatically almost, the thought that we have in our conscious mind does affect the sub-conscious. For example : you have been on the point of having your midday meal and you get news that something has gone wrong. All at once your appetite leaves you. Why? Because the

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subconscious has affected this center down in your solar plexus and changed the attitude there. You can see that there is a direct connection between the conscious and the subconscious mind. To what extent has that been going on? Why it has always been from the very beginning of our activities as independent souls. We have had this connection and it has in the sub-conscious--- we have stored up all of the experiences that we have ever had and they are all

put away there in a compartment. And we have, we will say, passed through in our many incarnations, many experiences in the natural world. We build up a body through experiences of various kinds. "But," you say, "well, that has all passed." No it hasn't. That is just the point we are coming to today. The creature, the animal man, is in the sub-conscious. That is, the ideas of the natural man have come up through evolution and are stored away

in the sub-conscious. Now in the regeneration we have got to change the whole base of operation. We are coming into a new man and that new man comes from above. That is the super^{man}, that is the real man, the Christ in the Bible. Now this temporary man, and we are only temporary people, we are not permanent yet. We are not in the kingdom of the heavens because we have not raised ourselves up to this high place, and the reason we haven't

raised ourselves up is that we haven't conceived of ourselves in our true relation. Now have you the consciousness that you have power over your body? You have within you the capacity to lay it down or take it up, meaning that you have the power, if it should go into a state of inactivity or death, you could through the power of your mind overcome that, raise it up. Well if you haven't, you haven't followed Jesus Christ, and he is showing us in

this lesson how to begin this regenerative process, how to raise up our bodies out of the consciousness of the creature into the consciousness of the Christ. That is a process that goes on with every Christian who follows Jesus Christ. Now the creature is thinking down here in the sub-conscious that he is the whole thing, that this is the temple of God. That of course is understood by all real fundamental activities, but that that

temple is part of a natural world and that it is kept going by natural forces and there is nothing higher than the natural man. That is why we have so many bodily needs. This mind that runs the body, and you will find that you have that mind in your sub⁽conscious, telling you what you shall eat and what you shall drink and what you shall wear. It is telling you that there is a natural law and that we have to follow that natural law.

Those are the doves, the sheep, the money-changers, that Jesus Christ found in the temple. He found that they were under the direction of these different images and they were carrying on their work there and Jesus came down to the subconscious and found all its conditions. What are you going to do about it? He said, "This isn't under the law; this can't be true; this is only the creature carrying on his work. He realized that man was making this temple

just a mere place of activity for his material world. He said, "This isn't right at all; I must change all this." How do you go about this change? Why when you realize now that the animal is taking up too much of your time and attention, that he is not being animated by the real, true spiritual ideas that come from the absolute, the man that lives in the high place of consciousness, when you realize that, the next step is to make the change.

Most people think, "I couldn't change nature." Why, you are the creature of nature. Nature is only part of man's environment. Nature is a law we use temporarily as we come into the higher consciousness of spirit. But spirit is the directive power and the moment you enter into the spirit, that is you go up into the mountain and begin to pray, you begin to demonstrate the power of the man and you will feel that a new something will come to you.

What is that? That is the power of the Word. Now the word is represented here by the whip that Jesus had made up of small cords; That is, little words; that is small words. We think of the Word as all one but I assure you it is made up of many words. We use words of denial. That is the whip of small cords. We deny first that we have animal propensities. You seem to be an animal and you want the comfort of the creature. Is that

showing the spiritual man? No. The spiritual man isn't under the material law at all. He doesn't have to submit to it if he claims his divine prerogative which is: "I am the head of this body," which is true. You can say: "This is the temple of God." We are told here in this lesson that when Jesus said, "Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it," the Jews, that is the people who looked at the temporal side of man said: "It took more than forty-six

years to build this temple. Do you think you are going to raise it in three days?" But the writer said he meant the temple of his body. His whole figure had to do with the temple of the body. He wasn't driving the money changers of men out of the temple. He didn't throw out the dogs and oxen and thieves and animals but those propensities in his own sub-consciousness. He did it because he wanted to arrive at the place where if that body was de-

stroyed he could raise it. And the disciples understood that when he demonstrated the raising of his body, and you can see it had to do with the body consciousness. This symbology is given as our guidance. We shall enter into the same place with the whip of denial and deny away in the subconscious all the thoughts that make us think that we are subject to this merchandising this trafficking mind that has to have this and that and

believes in the power of material things to satisfy the sensations of the body. Now the spiritual man is master of all conditions, and if you find in yourself anything that is interfering with the spiritual activity of your body, begin in spirit---begin with denial. Say: "In all of my functions in this body I am pure. Now the man of flesh is under my direction. He is subject to me because I am Spirit. I am one with the Christ mind." And don't

forget to center yourself in this spiritual ego. There are many egos in man. "There are gods many and lords man," said Paul. That means that in the consciousness of every one of us are these various egos and they really take possession of the body at times, but the real ego which we are every one forming is this Christ man and that man can take charge of the body and make it the temple of God which it really is. But as we are taught in the Old Testament

the children of Israel lived in tents and tabernacles, but Jehovah, the Christ, wants a permanent dwelling place. He asks that they build him a temple, and Solomon the wise built the temple. Now we are everyone of us building this temple just to the extent that we realize our I am dominion, and that dominion of Christ follows an elimination of everything that in any way attaches us to lesser things. As I said, we must overcome the animal propensities and animal

appetites and passions. Cut yourself loose from all that, and say: "I am Spirit; my feelings are Spirit; my appetites are spiritual; my passions are spiritual:" and you will put out that creature. He is just eliminated from your subconscious.

Now we are dealing today with the subconscious, the cleansing of the subconscious in man. I assure you this is a worth while process.

You have within you the ability; God has given you the power to dictate terms to this man within, and he listens gladly because it is through the I am ranged to its highest degree of activity, the top of the head that you control your man, but you enter in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ into your body consciousness. Now this zeal for the good things of the world and the zeal to make the body just as perfect as possible from

the animal standpoint eats up the Spirit. It is said in your scriptures. "The zeal of my heart has eaten me up." Eaten up what? The spiritual consciousness. Now we must have the spiritual consciousness and don't be too zealous from the material standpoint to get into the word. Don't be too zealous to have a beautiful body. Physical beauty isn't the real thing. What you want is soul beauty and it will make a beautiful body. If you once

get your soul into action and cleanse yourself from this animal consciousness and know that the body is really animated Spirit, I don't care how little the function may seem, how it has been despised, it is a part of your body consciousness. Begin to raise it up and deny away the tendency which we all have more or less to think about things as impure. Everything is really in the sight of mind pure. We have regarded it in a wrong way.

We haven't put two and two together and made four. We have said three or five or some other disregard of the absolute law. Now there is an absolute law and if you put within your mind the life, love, intelligence, in your subconscious and declare that they belong to the infinite, that they are the functions working in and through you, you will find that the old conditions will drop away and redemption will take place. You will be

lifted up and feel better. It doesn't make any difference what the trouble may be it will be redeemed from the old animal tendency. We live too much in the animal world. Let us come into the spiritual world. You can't see it with your natural eye or feel it with the sensations of the body but if you change your sensations and say: "All life is good; all love in me is spiritual love," you will immediately change yourself, you will raise yourself up into what we call the fourth dimension. That fourth

dimension is an interpenetrating dimension. It penetrates every part of this world and your body especially and if we enter into that consciousness--- just get right down into your subconscious. Sometimes you have to put your center of attention down at the solar plexus. Do that. Go down there in your mind. Center your attention in your solar plexus and say: "I am no longer in bondage to this animal tendency of the man. I am no longer governed by my

animal appetites." You can cleanse your appetite of those false ideas, and having cleansed it you will just intuitively choose the things you want; you will be fed with the food from heaven. Jesus Christ in the first temptation when the adversary, the ego that had been established in the body, said: "turn these stones into bread." Jesus said, "Man does not live on the material altogether." What does he live on? The spiritual

word, or ideas coming into consciousness from above. That is what we may every one say to our subconscious. You do not live on the food that you eat altogether. That is necessary while you are in this thought of material food but your real animating energy comes from Spirit. We are told that all food, before it is used by the body, is turned into energy. What is energy? It is Spirit. It has its foundation in Spirit, and if you will put out of

your subconscious this idea that you have inherited or built up through your own thought,---I say, put that right out, deny it away with the thought: "I am Spirit; I am energized directly from the fountainhead of Spirit," you don't have to go through this long process of eating and digesting the food; you get it direct and get your energy out of air. We will do that as a people later on. We draw all things out of the air

instead of getting them from material sources. You can do the same thing in your mind and body instead of depending on the food you eat you will say: "I am spirit: I draw all my energy, all my life, and intelligence directly from Spirit." Put out of this temple everything less than the absolute Spirit of God.