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Jesus Brings Spiritual Life



WITH the advent of our Lord Jesus Christ something came into the world at large which had not been there before; at His touch something awoke in human experience which had not been felt before. Human nature, under His influence, discovered itself to be both greater and fouler than it had hitherto known, and as the believer mounted through the gateway of repentance, atonement, sanctification, he was ushered into the realms of blessedness and holy joy, such as the best and wisest of mankind had never glimpsed till then. "Verily I say unto you," said the Master, "that many prophets and righteous men have desired to see these things which ye see, and have not seen them, and to hear the things which ye hear, and have not heard them." Yes, exiled humanity has often longed for its spiritual hope without knowing what it wanted; in Jesus the revelation has been given. The spiritual consciousness has awakened on higher levels than heretofore, and has laid hold of and assimilated eternal realities in a way that, apart from the gospel, it had never been able to do. This is a note which you have never heard me strike so plainly, but I cannot help it. It is becoming ever clearer to me that the grace of God in Jesus Christ has produced unique effects in the world; it is a thing by itself, an impartation of life and power not to be accounted for on any other grounds than that it is the eternally perfect, the Kingdom of heaven, breaking its way through to the plane of flesh and sense, irradiating, transforming and uplifting the soul that yields itself to it. It is the Spirit of Christ that creates the sense of sin and makes us aware of our need for redemption, but it is the same Spirit that furnishes the assurance of repentance and reveals to us the high calling of God.

—R. J. Campbell.