

Roots of Friend's testimonies & principles in the teaching of Jesus

Bible Study Notes

Ireland Yearly Meeting 2018 prepared by Charles B. Lamb updated 29/7/2018

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SECTIONS 1-4

Personal Relationships teaching of Christ

Is war compatible with the Teaching of Jesus about Relationships?

1. LOVE

1.1: RELATIONSHIPS ARE TO BE BASED ON LOVE

The second commandment is this, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' Mark 12:28-

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I (*Jesus*) have loved you. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love". John 15:9-12 **"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."** John 13:34-35

1.2: LOVE IS NOT TO BE LIMITED TO THOSE WHO LOVE US.

(Jesus said) **“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them..... But love your enemies.....,”** Luke 6:32

1.3: IMPLICATIONS OF LOVE

Love your neighbor as yourself, *includes loving your neighbor in the next generation:-*

War leaves roots of bitterness. Memories of Cromwellian wars and displacement of peoples from their homes still rankle some people in Ireland today after 350 years. Use of anti-personnel mines and weapons containing radioactive material like depleted uranium are likely to cause health problems for children yet unborn.

2. FORGIVENESS

2.1: FORGIVENESS OF OTHERS IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF BEING FORGIVEN OURSELVES

(Jesus said) **“Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone;”** Mark 11:25

(Jesus said) “When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases “Pray then in this way:...

And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

For if you forgive others their trespasses, your Heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.” Matthew 6:7-15

2.2: HOW MANY TIMES ARE WE TO FORGIVE?

Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy times seven”.. Matt 18:21-22

2.3: LACK OF FORGIVENESS OF OTHERS MAKES US LIABLE FOR SINS GOD HAS ALREADY FORGIVEN US.

My heavenly Father will punish every one of you, [for already forgiven debts] if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.” Matt 18:23-35

“There are no resentments in heaven, either we get rid of them here or we won’t be there.” Dorothy M Sinton

2.4: SPOKEN FORGIVENESS

On the Cross Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.” Luke 23:32-34

While Stephen was being stoned to death, he prayed aloud, **“Lord, do not hold this sin against them.”** Acts 7:59-60

I feel the situation in Ireland today would have been worse without those like Gordon Wilson, & Michael McGoldrick’s parents who have spoken forgiveness, after a child of theirs was killed by terrorists.

Note that neither Jesus nor Stephen waited to be asked for apology before forgiving.

2.5: THERE SEEMS TO BE NO BASIS IN THE TEACHING OF JESUS TO JUSTIFY WAITING FOR A PERSON TO APOLOGISE BEFORE WE FORGIVE THEM.

Sometimes people think an apology is necessary before forgiveness, possibly because of confusing reconciliation with forgiveness. Forgiveness sets us free and readies us for reconciliation when/if the apology arrives.

3. RECONCILIATION

3.1: FACE UP TO OUR OWN FAULTS

With the judgment you make you will be judged, ^{Matt 7:2} do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive*, and you will be forgiven; ^{Luke 6:37} (**different word from one usually translated forgive, “Release and you will be released.”-RV*). “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ^{Matt5:7}

Why do you see the speck in your neighbor’s eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? ^{Matt7:3-4} Or how can you say to your neighbor, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ while the log is in your own eye? ^{Luke 6:41-42} You hypocrite, (*you actor! Get real!*) - first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor’s eye. ^{Matt 7:3-4}

3.2: OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO BE RECONCILED

“If you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift”. ^{Matt 5:23-26}

When I was speaking to a group of people in a Black Church in Jamaica, I felt called to ask forgiveness, because probably my ancestors in England had done nothing when their ancestors were being shipped on slave ships.... Their faces lit up.

3.3: BASIS FOR RETALIATION?

“You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ But I (*Jesus*) say to you, do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also”. ^{Matt5:38-42}

When James and John wanted to call down fire on village that would not receive them Jesus “turned and rebuked them and said, “You know not what spirit you are of; the son of man has not come to destroy men’s lives but to save them.”* ^{Luke 9:51-56.} Another translation says, “But to give them Life”.

3.4: Implications of Love and Anger

While the emphasis of Jesus was clearly for his followers to be motivated by LOVE and to make love their aim, this did not stop him exposing actions that he considered wrong.

“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ But I [Jesus] say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment;” Matt 5:21-22

Since Jesus calls us to avoid anger - a root of murder - not just to avoid murder, how can his followers be justified in taking part in premeditated killing, or preparations for it?

4. RELATIONS WITH ENEMIES

4.1: WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?

“But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” Luke 10:25-37 Jesus answered by telling the story of the Good Samaritan ... implying that people of other cultures were neighbors.

4.2: LOVE YOUR ENEMIES

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I [Jesus] say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, Matt 5:43-48

“But I [Jesus] say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others, as you would have them do to you. Luke 6:27-31

SECTIONS 10-19

PEACE WHERE IS THERE BASIS FOR VIOLENCE OR WAR AGAINST THE ENEMIES YOU LOVE? IN THE TEACHING OF JESUS

With Jesus calling us to relationships based on love, forgiveness, & reconciliation - not only in relation to those who love us but also to our enemies, where is there any basis for violence and war?

10.1: GOD NOT PLEASED WITH DEATH OF WICKED

“God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him”. John3:17

“God our Savior, desires everyone to be saved (Live) and to come to the knowledge of the truth”. 1Tim.2:3-4

“Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?” Ezekiel 33:11

11. TEMPTATION TO HAVE EARTHLY POWER

11.1: TEMPTATION OF JESUS

One of the temptations Jesus faced in the desert recorded in Matt 4:8-10 and Luke 4 was to have earthly power. “When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time”. Luke 4:13

11.2 TEMPTATION THROUGH HIS DISCIPLES WHEN THEY WERE REJECTED

When Jesus and disciples were on the way to Jerusalem a Samaritan village rejected the disciples, “When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, “Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” But he turned and rebuked them.” Luke 9:51-56

11.3: WHY DID JESUS TELL HIS DISCIPLES TO BUY A SWORD ? LUKE 22:36

WAS IT A TEMPTATION FROM SCRIPTURE?

Was Jesus tempted through thinking of fulfilling the scripture (Isaiah 53:12) about being counted among the transgressors and lawless; maybe thinking that he actually had to be a transgressor?

Or A HUMAN MOMENT?

Knowing that the authorities in Jerusalem were out to get him, did Jesus have a human moment and think that swords could protect him?

What we do know is, that having taught that his disciples would be known by their love for one another... love for enemies... at the last supper he told them to buy swords. See Luke 22:35-38

11.4: “NOT WHAT I WANT”.....STRENGTH TO PERSEVERE IN DIFFICULT SITUATION

In the place called Gethsemane; **Jesus said, “Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.”** Mark 14: 32-41 *but the disciples slept, and were unprepared so note the difference between their attitudes and actions and those of Jesus.*

11.5: VIOLENCE OF UNPREPARED

When Jesus was betrayed, one of his disciples struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. Jesus realising that use of swords was not what he was called to and strengthened by his surrender in the garden said, “No more of this!” And he touched the slave’s ear and healed him. Luke 22:47 –53. (Jesus said to Peter, “Put your sword back into its sheath. Am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?)” John 18:10-11

Would it not appear that whatever the intentions of Jesus in asking his Disciples to buy swords, his surrender to the Father’s will in the Garden of Gethsemane strengthened him to choose the way of love

for enemies, instead of violence? He healed the servant's ear and told his followers to use no more violence.

By telling Peter to put up his sword, some early Christians felt that Jesus, in effect, told all his followers not to fight with the sword for his kingdom.

12. CITIZENSHIP

12.1: CITIZEN OF WHERE?

Pilate said, "What have you done?" Jesus answered, "**My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews, but as it is, my kingdom is not from here.**" John 18:35-37 Peshitta

Jesus' public ministry revolved around sharing the good news of the kingdom of God. Starting with, "Repent for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand" Matt 4:17 and included teaching his disciples to "pray thy kingdom come" Matt 6:10. He and his disciples interchanged the phrases "eternal life" Matt19:16 and "entering the kingdom" Matt19:24 with "being saved." Matt19:25. Near the end of his ministry, Jesus explained to Pilate (John 18:36) that his kingdom was not of this world. Early Christian writing later explains how this was understood.

13. EARLY FRIENDS

13.1: They asked George in Derby Gaol 1651 if he would not take up arms for the Commonwealth against the King.

George told them that he lived in the life and power that took away the occasion of all wars, and he knew from whence all wars did arise - from the lust according to James' doctrine. James 4:1

Most of the following sections taken from George Fox's Gospel truth Demonstrated GTD (also know as George Fox's Doctrinals)

13.2: The Jews in the Old Covenant and Testament, and in their old Way, had outward Helmets, Shields, and Swords and Carnal Weapons, and Armour. **But Christ in his New Covenant and Testament who is the New and Living Way, he saith, He had not come to destroy men's Lives but to Save them. Though he was King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, yet he was far off from giving any Precept or Command to his Disciples to destroy Men's Lives: When some would have had Fire to come down from Heaven, to consume them that would not receive him; he turned about, and rebuked them and said, He came not to destroy Men's lives, but to save them. Luke 9:56 (Peshitta translation but to give them life) And such Men as would have been plucking up the Tares, Christ the King of Kings would give them no Commission, no not so much as a License; but said, Let the Wheat and the Tares grow together till the Harvest, which was the End of the World; and then his Father would send forth his Angels which should be the Reapers, and they should sever the wheat from the Tares, etc And Christ gave a Reason, wherefore he would not give a Commission to Men to pluck up the Tares, Lest they in their blind Zeal should pluck up the Wheat also with the Tares.**

13.3: *And so Christ in his New Testament and New Covenant, who sent forth his twelve Disciples, and after his Seventy to preach the Gospel he did not sent them out with any Carnal Weapons 2 Corinthians 10:4 or Armour, any Carnal Weapons, Set-maintenance or Tithes, as was in the Old Covenant; nay, they were not so much as to take a Bag or Staff to defend them.*

13.4: *So the King of Kings was far off from giving them a Commission or Licenses, to beat People into his Religion, Way and Worship, Church or Belief with Carnal Weapons: but saith, He that believes is saved; and he that doth not, is condemned already; and that was Punishment enough. And therefore the Apostle Paul saith, The Weapons of our Warfare are not Carnal, but Spiritual: Mark, Spiritual, in the New Covenant and New Testament, and New and*

Living Way; but Carnal in the Old Covenant and Old Testament to the outward Jews in the Old Way.

13.5: *And in another place the Apostle tells the Saints in the New Covenant, That the Weapons and Armour were a Shield of Faith, which is the Gift of God, which Christ is the Author and Finisher of, that Saves Men's Lives, and the Sword of the Spirit, the Word of God; and the Helmet of Salvation, that preserved their Head; and the Breast plate of Righteousness, that kept Evil out of their Breast and Hearts; and their Loins were to be girth_with Truth; and to be shod with the Preparation of the Everlasting Gospel of Peace. Ephesians 6:16-*

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13.6: *And these are Christ's Ministers of the Spirit, and Believers, and true Christians, that stand in this Armour, and have these Weapons, and follow Christ, and fight under his banner of Love, with his spiritual Armour and Weapons, in his New and Living Way, and New Testament, and New Covenant of Grace and Light, and follow not the Jews in their Carnal Armour and Weapons, and signs and Shadows; but Christ is come and hath **abolished** them.*

*And so it is clear, that the New Covenant and Testament, and New and Living Way is not according to the Jews Old Covenant and Testament and Old Way, which served until the Seed, Christ, Came. All those Signs and Shadows in the Old Covenant, (upheld with their Outward Weapons and Carnal Armour), have done their Service to hold up their Signs and Shadows; but Christ is come and hath **abolished** them.*

13.7: *Old Testament - kill Blasphemers and Sabbath-breakers, and to Stone them to Death, or put to death with outward Weapons about Religion is a work of the Law, and not of the New Covenant and New Testament. For Christ though his Name was blasphemed, and the Apostles and their Doctrine and Teaching blasphemed and evil spoken of; yet he the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and his great Apostles did not command, nor put any to Death with Carnal Weapons: **But Christ said, They that Blasphemed against the Son of Man, it might be forgiven; but they that Blaspheme against the Holy Ghost, were***

not to be forgiven *Matthew 12:31, neither in this World, nor in the World to come; which was punishment enough. And further he said in the New Covenant and his Gospel-day, He came not to destroy Men's lives but to save them. Luke 9:56 (Peshitta translation but to give them life)*

13.8: *So all they that wrestle with Flesh and Blood, and with Carnal Weapons about Religion, it is a Work of the Law, and the Old Testament, and not a work of the New Testament and New Covenant.*

13.9: *For the Apostle said, "Their War-fare was Spiritual, and their Weapons were Spiritual, and not carnal, and they did not wrestle with the Flesh and Blood, but with Spiritual Wickedness and Rulers of Darkness. 2 Corinthians 10:4*

13.10: *So the Apostles were of Faith in the New Covenant and Testament and not of the Law - wrestling with the Works and Weapons of the Old Testament: And the Law was added because of Transgression, and served till the Seed Christ came, who redeems from under the Law, Christ Jesus, by whom the World was made: So Christ was before man fell into Transgression, by reason of which the Law was added, and served until the Seed came, which Seed is Christ, who doth fulfil the Promises and the Law, and so redeems his People from under the works of the Law, and from under the Curse. Galatians 3:10-13*

13.11: *And the Apostle saith, that the Law is fulfilled in one Word, even in this, to love thy Neighbour as thyself: And if you are led by the Spirit of God, ye are not under the Law, etc. Galatians 5. For I through the Law am dead to the Law, that I might live unto God, Galatians 2 And they that Love one another, fulfil the Law, Romans 13:8 Galatians 5:4."*

13.12: *But in the New Covenant and New Testament which is not according to the old, Christ saith, "Love your Enemies, and bless them that curse you, and do good to them that hate you, and pray for them that despitefully use you, and persecute you, that you may be children of your Father who is in Heaven". He makes the Sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends his rain on the unjust, as well as the just. Matthew 5:43-45*

13.13: And this is Christ's Doctrine in the New Covenant. And the Apostle saith, Being Reviled we bless, being Persecuted we Rejoice, 1

Corinthians 4:12-13

13.14: And again the Apostle saith, "Bless them that persecute you; bless and curse not". So though they were to bless and curse in the Old Covenant yet in the New Covenant they are to Bless, and not Curse, as in *Romans 12:14.*

13.15: It is clear - the Practice of the New Covenant and Testament is not according to the Old.

And in the Old Covenant it said, An Eye for an Eye and a Tooth for a Tooth. Matthew 5:38-39 ***But Christ in his New Covenant and Testament saith, "Whosoever smites thee on one cheek, turn to him the other also". Once more it is clear - the New Covenant's practice is not according to the Old.***

14. CONTRAST AND FULFILMENT OF OLD TESTAMENT

14.1: While the teachings of Jesus were clearly rooted in the Laws of Moses about loving God and loving ones neighbor. Jesus fulfilled prophesy in the Old Testament.

But there is a tremendous **contrast** for example between the words of the Psalm:

"Do I not hate those who hate you, O LORD?

I hate them with perfect hatred;

I count them my enemies." *Psalm 139:19-24*

And...: Jesus saying, "But I say unto you love your enemies" *Luke 6:27*

This saying of Jesus seems in part to be an answer to the Psalmist's plea "Search me, O God and know my heart: try me and know my thoughts and see if there be any wicked way in me and led me in the way everlasting". *Psalm 139:-24*

14.2: And in the Old Covenant it said, An Eye for an Eye and a Tooth for a Tooth. But Christ in his New Covenant and Testament saith, whosoever smites thee on one Cheek, turn to him the other also. So here the New Covenant's practice is not according to the Old. TU 179

¹And in the Old Time it was said, Thou shalt love thy Neighbour, and hate thine Enemy, but the New Covenant is not according to the Old it's said, Thou shalt love thine Enemies, and pray for them, and do good to them that hate you. TU 182

14.3: So through the Old Covenant taught Humanity, yet the New Covenant teaches not only Humanity, but Heavenly Humanity, Divinity and Christianity. TU 183

15. JAMES

15.1: WISDOM FROM ABOVE

“But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.” James 3:13-18

15.2: WHERE WARS COME FROM

“Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts”. James 4:1-5

“Come now, you rich people, weep and wail for the miseries that are coming to you.Listen! The wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You have lived on the earth in luxury and in pleasure; you have

fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter”. James 5:1-6 see also Luke 6:24 and Luke 9:15

16. JOHN

16.1: SOURCE OF BLINDNESS

“But whoever hates another a brother or sister is in the darkness, walks in the darkness, and does not know the way to go, because the darkness has brought on blindness.” ^{1John2:9-11} **“Can a blind person guide a blind person? Will not both fall into a pit?”** ^{Luke 6:39-42}

Are we not in great danger if we are led by people blinded by hatred and resentment?

17. PETER

17.1: RELATIONS WITH GOVERNMENTS

For the Lord’s sake accept the authority of every human institution, whether of the emperor as supreme, or of governors, as sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to praise those who do right. For it is God’s will that by doing right you should silence the ignorance of the foolish. **As servants of God, live as free people, yet do not use your freedom as a pretext for evil. Honor everyone (for there is that of God in everyone). Love the family of believers. Fear God. Honor the emperor.** ^{1Peter2:13-17}

Note: Our freedom is limited by Love and Jesus did not put a limit on who to love.

17.2: OBEDIENCE TO GOD BEFORE MAN

In Acts 4 Peter had chosen to listen to God rather than the religious rulers “Whether it is right in God’s sight to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge; for we cannot keep from speaking about what we have seen and heard.” ^{Acts 4:18-21}

Believers are called to obey governments in what is right, yet live in the freedom of servants of God.

18. PAUL

18.1: FOR PAUL THE BATTLE TO BE FOUGHT WAS NOT WITH WORLDLY WEAPONS.

“For though we live in the world we are not carrying on a worldly war for the weapons of our warfare are not worldly but have divine power to the pulling down of strongholds”. 2Cor10:3-4 RSV see also Ephesians 6:10-17

18.2: So the King of Kings was far off from giving them a Commission or Licenses, to beat People into his Religion, Way and Worship, Church or Belief with Carnal Weapons: but saith, He that believes is saved; and he that doth not, is condemned already; and that was Punishment enough. And therefore the Apostle Paul saith, *The Weapons of our Warfare are not Carnal, but Spiritual* 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 : Mark, Spiritual, in the New Covenant and New Testament, and New and Living Way; but Carnal in the Old Covenant and Old Testament to the outward Jews in the Old Way. TU 64

18.3: And this is Christ’s Doctrine in the New Covenant. And the Apostle saith, *Being Reviled we Bless, being Persecuted we Rejoice,* 1 Corinthians 4 TU 176

18.4: And again the Apostle saith, *Bless them that Persecute you; Bless and Curse not.* So though they were to Bless and Curse in the Old Covenant yet in the New Covenant they are to Bless, and not Curse, as in Romans 12:14. TU 177

18.5: RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHERS, INCLUDING GOVERNMENTS PURPOSE OF GOVERNMENT - ALL ENCOMPASSED BY LOVE.

18.6.1 LOVING ONE’S NEIGHBOUR AS ONESELF OVERCOMING EVIL WITH GOOD

“Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse

them....do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to *the indignation of God directed at wrong doing*²; for it is written, “*Vindication*³ is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good”. Rom 12:9-21

18.6.2 SUBJECT TO THOSE IN AUTHORITY

“Let every person be subject to the governing authorities; for there is no authority except from God and those authorities that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists authority resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Do you wish to have no fear of the authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive its approval; for it is God’s servant for your good. But if you do what is wrong, you should be afraid, for the authority does not bear the sword in vain! It is the servant of God to execute wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be subject, not only because of wrath but also because of conscience. For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are God’s servants, busy with this very thing. Pay to all what is due them—taxes to whom taxes are due, revenue to whom revenue is due, respect to whom respect is due, honor to whom honor is due”.

Romans13:1-7

The above passage from Romans 13 is the only passage in the New Testament quoted by one evangelical commentator to justify Christians taking part in war. Even if one goes along with that argument, one has to recognize that Christians could find themselves fighting on opposing sides in wars as has happened many times in the past. It should also be

² alternative word used instead of usual translation from Greek lexicon.

³ how same Greek word is translated Luke18:7 RSV

noted that to justify taking part in war from this passage one has to take it out of the context of the previous chapter and the verse that immediately follow :-

18.7: “Owe NO ONE ANYTHING, EXCEPT TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER;

The one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not kill⁴; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law”. Romans13:8-10

Can one go to war without doing harm to one’s neighbor?

18.8: Paul wrote to Titus

“Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work,” Titus 3:1-2

*(Note: In Titus Paul is speaking about being ready for any good work, just as he says in Romans 13 about acting in love and that love does no wrong to a neighbor. **Subjection to authority was not expected to include wronging anyone.**)*

18.9: “Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness?”

Rom6:16 *RSV

In the above passage Paul points out the importance of choosing whom we obey and the consequences, which is a very similar thought to Jesus saying, “ No one can serve two masters....God and mammon” Matt 6:24

19 Witness about war being inconsistent with the spirit and teaching of Christ

⁴ The Greek word here translated kill may also be translated Murder as is done in many modern translation. While Murder only covers premeditated killing and appears to restrict the meaning of the prohibition, However since a lot of preparation and forward planning goes into killing that takes place in Warfare the change of word does not exclude it.

19.1 IN 1660 GEORGE FOX AND OTHER QUAKERS WROTE TO KING CHARLES 2ND AT THE TIME OF FIFTH MONARCHY MEN RISING AGAINST THE KING.

“Our principle is, and our practices have always been, to seek peace, and ensue it, and to follow after righteousness and the knowledge of God, seeking the good and the welfare, and doing that which tends to the peace of all. All bloody principles and practices we do utterly deny, with all outward wars, and strife, and fightings with outward weapons, for any end, or under any pretence whatsoever, and this is our testimony to the whole world.

That spirit of Christ by which we are guided is not changeable, so as once to command us from a thing as evil, and again to move unto it; and we do certainly know, and so testify to the world, that the spirit of Christ which leads us into all Truth will never move us to fight and war against any man with outward weapons, neither for the kingdom of Christ, nor for the kingdoms of this world.

And as for the kingdoms of this world, we cannot covet them, much less can we fight for them, but we do earnestly desire and wait, that by the word of God's power and its effectual operation in the hearts of men the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdoms of the Lord and of his Christ, that he might rule and reign in men by his spirit and truth, that thereby all people, out of all different judgements and professions might be brought into love and unity with God and one another, and that they might all come to witness the prophet's words, who said, 'Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more'.” (Isaiah 2:4; Micah 4:3)

Extract from Declaration to Charles II, 1660

19.2 Part of 7th query of Irish Friends. “Do you faithfully maintain our witness that all war and preparation for it is inconsistent with the spirit and teaching of Christ?”

SECTIONS 20-

Simplicity

Modest Sober Prudent

20.1 For I am meek and lowly, foxes have holes and birds of the air nest but the son of man has nowhere to lay his head. Matthew 11:29 I send you out like Lamb's among wolves, Matt 8 :20 Luke 9:58 carry with you neither sacks nor extra clothing or shoes Luke 10:3-4 and 9:3

20.2 That ye walk with all lowliness Ephesians 4:2

Those, then, that preach the Messiah while overindulging themselves, are not doing it with a clean spirit.... Philippians 1:17

So I preach and hold fast to nothing less than that the messiah should be reflected in me before everyone's eyes Philippians 1:20

But in lowliness of mind let each Phil 2:3

Lowliness Condescension courtesy meekness humility Phil 4:5

20.3 Modest modest apparel 1Tim 2:9

*"let us be watchful and prudentwe are the children of the day, let us be vigilant in our minds and put on the breast plate of faith and love and let us take the helmet of the hope of life" 1 Thessalonians 5: 6 (P)
..... Because of these comfort one another build one another*

shoe your feet with readiness of the of the Gospel of peace Ephesians 6:14-16

20.4 Query seen in 1970

How can we simplify our lives so we can be available to the Spirit.

SECTIONS 30-

EQUALITY

30.1 The disciples of the Pharisees said to Jesus Matt22:16 “Teacher we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and care for no man; for you do not regard the position of men”

30.2 Consider the parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus Luke 16:19-31

30.3 Commenting on the rich young man’s reaction Matt19:22 the Gospel of the Nazoreans quoted by Origen says “But the rich man did not wish to hear this, and began to scratch his head. And the Lord said to him. How can you say that you follow the law and the prophets? In the law it says “Love your neighbour as yourself, look around you many of your brothers and sisters sons and daughters of Abraham are living in filth and dying in hunger....your house is full of good things and not a thing of yours gets to them.”

30.4 His disciple picked this up

30.4.1 My brethren show no partiality.....if you pay attention to the one who wears fine clothesand a poor man in dirty clothes.....have you not made distinctions among your selves and become judges with evil thoughts? If you show partiality you commit sin and are convicted as transgressors. James 2:1-9

30.4.2 “Those who were reputed to be something (what they were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)” Galatians 2:6

30.4.3 “Don’t let your minds be prejudiced for anything and do nothing by partiality. 1Timothy 5:21

30.4.4 “For we brought nothing into the world and we know that nothing are we able to take from it”. 1 Timothy 6:7

30.4.5 “And if you invoke as father him who judges each one impartially according to his deeds, conduct yourselves with fear....”₁

Peter 1:17

30.5 Consider the reaction when GF stopped taking off his hat to anyone TUP32 and when Friends use the singular thee and thou to everyone instead of the plural 'you' expected by people above them in society.

30.6 This was a testimony based on not giving more respect to those of wealth and position

30:7 They had all in common Acts 2:44-47

SECTIONS 40-41

Equality of Women in Ministry

40.1 It was accepted that the Holy Spirit was poured out similarly on women and men as Joel prophesied. So Women's ministry was accepted and several early men friends acknowledged the part women played.

William Edmundson was impacted indirectly by ministry of women Friends William Edmundson journal p 98

40. 2 Women's ministry was accepted and recognised because of what was spoken by the prophet Joel. Joel 2:28-32 "And it shall be in the last days God declares, I will pour out my spirit on all flesh: And your sons and **daughters** will prophesy, and your young men see visions and your old men dream dreams: Yea and on my servants and on **handmaidens** in those days will I pour forth my spirit and they shall prophesy" which was quoted by Peter on the day of Pentecost Acts 2:17. This was seen in the context of there being in Christ neither slave or free.....Male or **Female** for all are one in Christ Jesus Galatians 3:29 it was seen that Philip had 4 **daughters** who prophesied Acts 21:8-9 and that the spirit should not be quenched or prophesy despised 1 Thessalonians 5:20, Also mentioned The Hanna the **prophetess** in Luke 2-36-38 [after Simeon recognised the Lord's Christ] who spoke of him to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem And **Phoebe** and **Prisca** in Romans 16:1-3, 1Corinthians 16:19 Acts 18:24-26. In Philippians 4:3 help is asked for the **women** who have laboured side by side with the writer.

40.3 George Fox in chapter on subject p77-82 of Gospel Truth Demonstrated published 1704 said “for the light which comes from Christ is the same in the Male and in the **Female**.” You never read that any of the Prophets or Apostles were against the **Daughters** who had the Spirit of the Lord poured upon them, but a **daughter** might prophesy in a church, for let the prophets speak two or three. ¹ Corinthians 14:26-33. The apostle said Christ in the male and in the female, and of Christ in the **female** as well as in the male, is he not the same? And may not the spirit of Christ speak in the **female** as well as in the male? For the Light is the same in the Male and in the **Female**, which comes from Christ, he by whom the world was made, so Christ is one in all and not divided. In ¹ Thessalonians 5:20 we are told not to reject prophesy see in context verses 14-23. The rejection of women speaking ¹Corinthians14:34- was on basis of Old Testament law. Galatians 2:21 asks is the Law against the promise of God ¹Timothy 2:9-15 also had Old Testament basis for objection.

41. From the start of Friends there have been women in ministry

41.1 Elizabeth Hooton from 1646 till her death in Jamaica 1671, Margaret Fell 1652-

41.2 Elizabeth Fletcher who at less than 20 years of age travelled in Ireland

41.3 Barbara Blagdown who arrived just as Edward Burrows and Francis Howgill were banished (Barbara later survived shipwreck at Youghal)

41.4 Mary Fisher who went to see the Sultan of Turkey,

41.5 Even though Mary Dwyer was told not to return, she persisted in going to Boston Massachusetts three time till she was hung there in 1660, as were three other Friends.

41.6 Elizabeth Bathurst in 1669 clearly set out Friends message in “Truth Vindicated”

41.7 In 1678 Katherine Norton nee McLaughlin preached in Irish in Lurgan as she travelled in service of truth. Having been born near Colerain she had gone to Barbados where she was convinced by Friends ministry. She was an able minister and got the victory in several

disputes on account of truth. History of Rise and progress of Friends in Ireland Wright and Ruddy p129

41.8 Ann Wright went from Castledermot to see King Charles 2nd and deliver a paper to him and warned him that God was displeased with his present conduct. “Oh king in obedience to the great God of heaven and earth and to clear my conscience to thy immortal soul, I am here before thee this day...” Biographical notes of members of Society of Friends by Mary Leadbeater

SECTIONS 50-54

That of God in Everyone

50.1 Prophecy Jeremiah 31:31-33 that God would write the law in people’s minds repeated in Hebrews 8:10 and Hebrews 10:8

50.2 Christ enlightens every one that comes into the world. John 1:9

50.3 Spirit poured out on all flesh. Joel 2:28-32 Acts 2:172 Corinthians 5:16

50.4 Margaret Fell records in her journal that after Judge Fell heard George Fox speak powerfully and convincingly “The witness of God in his conscience answered that he spake Truth; and he was so far convinced in his mind that it was Truth that he willingly let us have meeting in his house” the next first day. p3 Margaret Fell Journal

50.5 At the end of George Fox’s 1672 letter to the Governor of the Barbados, writing about the slaves who many thought at that time to be “for there is something in them that tells them they should not practice these or any other evils”.

51 This was not to say that George Fox was not aware of what was in wicked people minds for in 1647 it was recorded in his Journal

George Fox “went back to Nottinghamshire; and there it pleased the Lord to shew him, that the nature of those things which were hurtful

without, were also within the minds of wicked men⁵ Matthew 12:33-35 Luke 6:45 Matthew 15:18 Mark 7:21; and that the natures of dogs, swine, vipers,⁶ Matthew 3:7, 12:34, 23:33 Luke 3:7 and those of Cain, Ismael, Esau, Pharaoh etc. were in the hearts of many people. Since this did grieve him, he cried to the Lord, saying, “Why should I be thus, seeing I was never addicted to commit these evils?” **Inwardly** it was answered him, that it was needful that he should have a sense of all conditions; how else should he speak to all conditions?”

51.1 The Introduction to 1702 book of George Fox Epistles includes; “A testimony of how the Lord sent George Fox (GF) forth at first in the year 1643.

When the Lord first sent me forth in the Year 1643, I was sent as an Innocent Lamb (and Young in Years) amongst (Men in the Nature of) Wolves, Dogs, Bears, Lions and Tigers unto the World, which the devil had made like as Wilderness, no right Way then found out of it. And I was To Turn People from Darkness to the Light, which Christ, the Second Adam, did Enlighten them withal; that so they might see Christ, their way to God, with the Spirit of God, which he doth pour upon all Flesh, that they might have an Understanding to know the things of God, and to know him, and his son Jesus Christ, which is Eternal Life; and so might worship and serve the Living God, their Maker and Creator, who takes Care of all, who is Lord of all; and with the Light and Spirit of God they might know the Scriptures, which were given forth from the Spirit of God in the Saints, and Holy Men and Women of God.

And when many began to be turned to the Light (which is the Life in Christ) and the Spirit of God, which gave them Understanding, and had found the Path of the Just, the Shining Light, then did the Wolves, Dogs, Dragons, Bears, Lions, Tigers, Wild Beasts, and Birds of Prey make a roaring and a Screeching Noise against the Lambs, Sheep, Doves and Children of Christ, and were ready to devour them and me and tear us

⁵ LYM CFP 7 and 134 BYM QFP 19.03 leaves out the next 3 lines. Cross reference to note 69p 29 IYM CE page3

⁶ Elwood also had ‘of Sodom and Egypt, Pharaoh,’ words one would wonder did Sewel miss including or Elwood add.

to pieces. But the Lord's arm and Power did preserve me; though many times I was in Danger of my Life, and very often cast into Dungeons and Prisons, and hauled before Magistrates. But all things did work together for good: And the more I was caste into outward Prisons, the more People came out of their Spiritual and Inward Prison Chosen." GF

52 Francis Howgill's experience of conscience. He often prayed words 3 or 4 times a day, but knew not God, imagining God at a distance. He grew in knowledge and became puffed up and admired by the World, while the root of iniquity grew in him, and he still felt condemned for words and actions. His heart showed him that it was corrupt but when he kept within the light of conscience he refrained from many actions, and he experienced great joy with in him. But a 'teacher' said that it was a natural conscience that kept Francis from sin, whereas the 'teacher' claimed he had restraining grace. So Francis listened to the 'teachers' imagination and slighted the light that had preserved him out of gross evils and instead harkened to the idea that the saint had peculiar Faith and Grace. TU 108

While Francis believed all that they called faith, he could not see Christ died for him and had taken away his sin for the witness of his conscience⁷ told him, he was a servant of sin⁸, while he committed it. Francis was told he must not omit an ordinance as thereby faith is confirmed and strength added. Yet Francis saw that scripture said that he who eats unworthily eats damnation⁹ to himself.... And great fear fell upon him that he had sinned against the Holy Ghost, and he was deeply troubled by this. The 'teacher' said he had not come prepared, even though he had prepared as advised, So he concluding that these were 'teachers' without value.

⁷ John 8:9 Romans 2:15

⁸ Romans 6:16

⁹ 1 Corinthians 11:29 KJV

53 ‘Some by neglecting Conscience have made shipwreck their Faith’ or in old version of verse ‘Some by rejecting conscience have been emptied of Faith’ 1 Timothy 1:19 (P)

53.1 That of God in people can be blinded, imprisoned:-

53.2 Blinded by a gift (bribe) Exodus 23:8

53.3 Blinded by veil of old Covenant 2 Corinthians 4:12-17

53.4 God of this world blinded the minds of the unbelieving. 2 Corinthians 4:4-5 Ephesians 4:17-24 deceitfulness of riches Mark 4:19

53.5 Emptied of faith, by rejecting conscience 1 Timothy 1:19 blind because of not growing 2 Peter 1:5-11, Psalm 66:18

53.6 He that hateth his brother is in darkness, and does not know where he is going. 1 John 7:11

53.7 Those who reject what is known about God and are puffed up in their own reasoning. Romans 1:19-23. Also Jude

53.8 Pride comes before a fall Proverbs 16:18 (1Tim 3:6)

53.9. Lust also leads to wrong James 4 Deceitfulness of sin Hebrews 3:13

53.10 Desire to justify oneself Luke 10:29

53.11 Where your treasure is there your heart is also Matthew 6:21-24

54 Take care lest the light in you is darkness Luke 11:35 See also section 80

54.1 “May there be no part dark in my heart” Prayer of Betty Pritchard when she was finding relating to another person difficult

54.2 If your entire body is enlightened and there is not in it any part darkened it shall be entirely shining like the flame in a lamp gives you light. Luke 11:33-36

SECTIONS 60-

TRUTHFULNESS INTEGRITY -NOT SWEARING

60.1 The nature of the light: Christ enlightens every one that comes into the world. John 1:9 TU 68

If you love the enlightening Light of Christ you will let that Light shine on what you are doing.

For those that walk in the Light, there is no occasion of stumbling Jude 24 *for it teaches righteousness and holiness.*

It will keep you:

- *From lying,* Matthew 5:37 *and not let thee lie;*
- *In tenderness of conscience* John 8:9 Acts 24:16 Romans 2:15 *towards God and man;* 1 Timothy 1:19 Romans 14:10, 2 Corinthians 5:10
- *From swearing* Matthew 5:35, James 5:12 *it will check thee if thou dost.*

60.2 Friends set out to be F/friends of Jesus John 15:14 *by doing what he taught – through the example of his life as well as his words. They did not want to be people who professed to know God, then deny him by their deeds* Titus 1:16 *or turn the grace of God into wantonness,* Jude 4 *Wycliffe Tyndale Coverdale Geneva translations.* TU 74

60:3 Friends saw that there was no point in calling him ‘Lord, Lord’ and not doing what he said Luke 6:46. *They heard Jesus’ ‘I-say-unto-you’ sayings in the Sermon on the Mount and endeavoured to put them into practice – e.g., by refusing to swear.* Matthew 5:34.

60.4 William Edmundson did his business in England and shipped his goods to be landed at Carrickfergus or Belfast. TU 102

While on the sea William’s mind argued strongly to save the duty on his goods; why not get help from the troop his brother was with (for they would have helped him night or day), but his awakened conscience argued for truth, justice and equity; as taught by Jesus. There was a great contest between conscience and self, and in this conflict many Scriptures were opened to his understanding, that duties and customs ought to be paid; and though “self” struggled hard for mastery, yet at last was overthrown and the judgement of truth prevailed.

60.5 That spirit of Christ by which we are guided is not changeable, so as once to command us from a thing as evil, and again to move unto it; and we do certainly know, and so testify to the world, that the spirit of Christ which leads us into all Truth will never move us to fight and war against any man with outward weapons, neither for the kingdom of Christ, nor for the kingdoms of this world. TU94 for context see section 19.1 page 18

61 Integrity

61.1 Peter “Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge for we cannot but speak what we have seen and heard Acts 4:19-20 context Acts 4:1-22

61.2 Stephen Acts 6:8 to Acts 7:60 Stephen experienced what Jesus said would happen Matthew 10:16-20 Luke 12:11-12

61.3 Paul kept his integrity, he did not shrink from declaring the whole council of God Acts 20:27 Acts 24:14-16 Acts 26:19-20

61.4 In the above they followed the example of

- Daniel refusing eat Kings meat Daniel 1:7-17 Romans 14:11;23
- Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego “If it so be our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace...but if not be it know unto you O’king that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image. Daniel 3:17-18 in context 3:1-27
- Daniel who prayed 3 times a day contrary to the kings decree and was thrown into the lion’s den Daniel 6:1-22

SWEARING

62.1 “Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’ But I (*Jesus*) say to you, Do not swear at all”,. Matt 5:33-37 IW8

There are two implications in this passage:

- *The concept of having one standard of honesty.*

- *The concept at that time that, fulfilling a vow was more important than acting according to moral standards like obeying the commandment not to kill. There is an apparent example of this in the “binding by the oath” ,in Acts 23:21, apparently giving Paul’s opponents the right to kill him.*

In telling us not to swear, Jesus advises us not to get involved in either aspect.

War Crimes Tribunals of recent times have not accepted a military oath to obey orders as a valid alibi for actions of genocide.

62.2 - Refusing to swear oaths Faithfulness, avoiding deceit. One standard of truth Swear not at all and let your yes be yes and no be no.

TU86

The Lord taught me to be faithful in all things, and to act faithful in two ways, viz inwardly towards God and outwardly to man; and to keep yea and nay in all things. For the Lord showed me, though the people of the world have mouths full of deceit and changeable words, I was to keep yea and nay in all things and that my words should be few and savoury, seasoned with grace. First Page George Fox Journal. Luke 16:10-11

2 Tim 2:2 1 John 2:10

62.3.1 Swearing

In 1664 George Middleton said, “Bring the book and put the oath of Allegiance and Supremacy to him”...So George Fox asked if he had taken the Oath of supremacy himself: who was a swearer and we could not swear at all because Christ forbade it and the Apostle Matthew5:33-34, James 5:12.....so he was committed till the Court Sessionsthen I said “You have given me a book to kiss and to swear on and the book says “Kiss the son” and the Son says, Swear not at all”: and likewise the Apostle James”. And as George was turning them to the places and holding up the Bible and telling them that I said as the book said ‘Christ said ye should not swear at all’, I wondered the Bible was at liberty and how chance they did not imprison the book, for it and Christ forbid swearing.....¹

62.3.2 *And in the Old Covenant and Testament and Old Way the Jews were to swear, and to perform their Oaths unto the Lord; and not to Swear Falsely.¹*

62.3.3 *But in the New Covenant and Testament, and New and Living Way Christ the Son of God saith, Swear not at all, but let your Yea be Yea and your Nay Nay; for whatsoever is more than these, cometh of Evil.* *Matthew 5:33-34, James 5:12*

62.3.4 *And the Apostle James in the New Covenant, in his general Epistle saith, Above all things, [Mark above all things] my Brethren Swear Not etc. So these are Brethren in the New Covenant and Testament, and New and Living Way that are not to Swear at all. And Further he Saith, They are not to Swear by Heaven nor by Earth, nor any other Oath, but let your Yea be Yea, and your Nay, Nay, lest ye fall into Condemnation.*

62.3.5 *So it is clear, the Command in the Old Covenant and Testament which Christ calls the Old Time, in which they were not to Forswear themselves, but to perform their Oath to the Lord, so they did not go into Evil and Condemnation that did Swear truly, and perform their Oaths to the Lord in the Old Time and Old Covenant: **For Christ, who is the Oath of God, he fulfils the Oaths of the Old, and takes away and abolishes** the Oaths¹ of the Old Covenant, sets up Yea and Nay instead of them.*

And now, if you should object, That Abraham, and Jacob, and Joseph, and Moses, and the Prophets, and the Angels swore: Christ the Son of God is greater than Moses; who said, Before Abraham was, I am; and he reigns over the House of Joseph and Jacob, and fulfils the Prophets; and he saith, Swear not at all: and Christ the great Prophet, whom God had raised up, is to be heard in all things.

62.3.6 *And as for the Angel's Swearing, it is said, I bring forth my first begotten into the World, let all the Angels worship him, to wit, the Son of God who saith, Swear not at all; This is my beloved Son, saith God hear ye him.*

62.3.7 *And in the Old Testament it is said, “That unto me every knee shall Bow and every Tongue, shall Swear”* *Isaiah 45:23KJV*, saith the Lord, in the Old Covenant and Testament **But in the New Covenant and Testament, the Apostle Quotes Isaiah, and Saith, *Every Knee shall bow and every Tongue shall confess to God*** *Romans. 14:10*

So here it is clear, that Swearing was allowed in old Covenant and old Time, but confessing in the new Covenant and new Time.

62.3.8 *And it is manifest that Christ hath taken away all Swearing in his new Testament and Covenant: For all swearing hath been since man fell from the image of God; and Christ renews Man and Woman up into the Image of God again, and sets up Yea, Yea and Nay, Nay, instead of an Oath.*

62.3.9 *And Christ sets up in his New Covenant instead of Swearing, True Witness bearing; and that in the mouth of two or three Witnesses everything shall be established: He doth not say, that in the mouth of two or three swearers everything shall be established.*

62.3.10 *And is not Swearing truly by the Lord a work of the Law, which the Law commanded, by which they ended the difference amongst men in the old Time of the Law? And so none of these are Works of the Gospel or Works of Faith in the time of the new Testament and Covenant which prohibited all Swearing, and saith, Men must not Swear at all, or take any Oath; but their Yea must be Yea, and their Nay, Nay, lest they go into Evil, and so into Condemnation.* *James 5:12*

Mark 7:6 Matthew 15:8

62.4 *And so the Law commanded Swearing; but the Gospel, and New Covenant, and Testament commands every man to speak Truth to his Neighbour; and in the Mouth of two or three Witnesses every word should be established.* *Ephesians 4:22-25* which speaking Truth is set up by Christ and his Apostles instead of Swearing, which was commanded in the old time, and under the old Covenant and Testament, which in the Law commanded people to Swear, which Oath was to end the Controversy and Strife among men, which served until Christ the seed

came. But when Christ came, he abolished the Law that commanded Swearing, and Swearing also.

SECTIONS 70-

Worship**Gathering in the name of Jesus Matthew 18:20 to worship God in Spirit and Truth****70:1 New Covenant and Testament, in John 4.**

- *That God is not Worshiped, neither at the mountain of Samaria, nor yet at Jerusalem;*
- *For the hour cometh and now is, [Mark, now is] that the true worshiper shall worship the Father in Spirit and in Truth; for the Father seeks such to Worship him: For God is a Spirit and they that Worship him, must Worship him in Spirit and Truth.*
- John 4:21 GTD
- *And this Spirit and Truth must every Man and Woman feel in their Hearts, by which they may know the God of Truth who is Spirit. And so the Jew inward Worships in his Temple, his Body being the Temple of the Lord. But the Jew inward, in the Spirit in the New Covenant and Testament, and New and Living Way, Sings and Rejoices, and Prays in the Holy Ghost, in their Bodies being Temples of the Holy Ghost. GTD 1Corinthians 14:15 &24-33 Jude 20*
- *God pours out his Spirit upon all Flesh, as was prophesied in Joel 2:28-29 And the Apostle preached the fulfilling of it, in Acts 2:17-21. So that with the Spirit all Flesh might see the Glory of God, and see Christ, who gave himself as a Ransom for them all, and tasted Death for every man. - GTD*
- *The Holy Ghost, which proceeds from the Father and the Son, leadeth the Servants of God and Christ into all the Truth, and reproveth the World for their Unbelief, and their false Judgements and Unrighteousness. — GTD John 14:26 John 15:26 John 16:7-*

70.2 Holy Spirit speaks through people and reveals what is in the hearts of those who come to worship.¹⁰ New Testament worship. No part dark Luke 11: 33-36

- ***God pours out of his Spirit upon all Flesh, that by it they might understand the Law of Life, which is in Christ Jesus, to make them free from the Law of Sin and Death.*** Romans 8:1 - GTD
- ***“Keep your meetings in the Name of Jesus, and feel him in the midst of you, who is your Life and Salvation; 1670 Epistle 281 Matthew 18:20 1Corinthians 14:24-25***
- ***Dear Friends, In the Name and Power of the Lord Jesus Christ, and his Spirit, keep all your Meetings for Worship, and your Meetings for Business, that you may see that all that profess the Light of Christ and his Truth, and hath received it, that they do walk according to Truth, and as becomes the Gospel that the Name of God may not be blasphemed amongst you. 1681 Epistle 371 to Carolina.***

70.2.1 WORSHIP *And in the Old Covenant and Testament, the Jews were to appear three times a year at the outward temple, and there Worship the Lord: And there was another place of Worship, where Jacob’s Well was, at the mountain near Samaria. But Christ saith in his New Covenant and Testament, in John 4. That God is not Worshipped, neither at the mountain of Samaria, nor yet at Jerusalem; For the hour cometh and now is, [Mark, now is] that the true worshiper shall worship the Father in Spirit and in Truth; for the Father seeks such to Worship him: For God is an Spirit and they that Worship him, must Worship him in Spirit and Truth. So this Worship in the New Covenant and Testament, is a New Worship which Christ Jesus, the Heavenly Spiritual Man, the Second Adam, set up above Sixteen Hundred Years ago¹¹; and then put down and abolished the Worship at the Mountain and the Worship at Jerusalem, when he set up this Worship in Spirit and in Truth. And this Spirit and Truth must every*

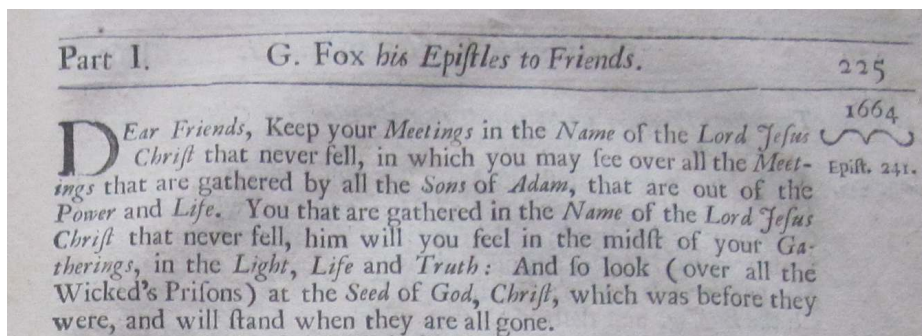
¹⁰ 1Corinthians 14:26-33

¹¹ Now 2000 years ago

Man and Woman feel in their Hearts, by which they may know the God of Truth who is Spirit. And so the Jew inward Worships in his Temple, his Body being the Temple of the Lord. And the Jew outward, in the Old Covenant and Testament, they Sung and Prayed in the Temple at the Outward Jerusalem: But the Jew inward, in the Spirit in the New Covenant and Testament, and New and Living Way, Sings and Rejoices, and Prays in the Holy Ghost, in their Bodies being Temples of the Holy Ghost. GLD

70.2.2 Worship in the Old Testament, particular places eg. Jerusalem and in tabernacle. In New Testament Christ opened the way through the Curtain.

- Old covenantpriests, sacrifices, laws, once a year the priest enters the holy of holies and interceded for the people so that their sins would be forgiven.
- New covenantJesus, the lamb without blemish, gave His life on the cross, once for all. He died for the sins of all who trust in Him.
- Old covenant When Moses read the Law, he put a veil over his face to shield the Israelites from the glory of the Lord. When anyone turns to the Lord this veil is taken away² Corinthians 3:12-18.
- New covenant The veil (curtain) in the temple was torn in two when Jesus yielded up his spirit on the cross^{Matthew 27:51} and, after, through Christ blindness removed and the veil taken away² Corinthians 3:14 we can have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain.....let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith.....Hebrews10:19-25



70.3 Old Covenant and Testament,

- *The Jews were to appear three times a year at the outward temple, and there Worship the Lord. - GTD*
- *And there was another place of Worship, where Jacob's well was, at the mountain near Samaria. - GTD*
- *And the Jew outward, in the Old Covenant and Testament, they Sung and Prayed in the Temple at the Outward Jerusalem. - GTD*
- *And in the Old Covenant and Testament, God poured out his Spirit upon the House of Israel, that they might serve God in his Law. - GTD*
- ***So that they need not have the Priests Lips Malachi 2:7 of the Old Covenant to preserve their Knowledge, nor the Priest to kill the clean Beasts; and they need not have the clean Beasts to die for them: For Christ, the Lamb without blemish, hath tasted Death for everyman, and died for the Sins of the whole World, and so not only for the Jews. -GTD***
- ***Abolished*** all these outward Candlesticks, Lamps and Lights in the outward Jews generation and Priesthood also. And in the Generation of Christ in the New Covenant, his Believers, that are gathered in his Name, which are passed from Death to Life, which are his Church; - GTD
- *But even until this Day, when Moses is read, the Veil is over their hearts, saith the Apostle, to wit, the Jews and other Jewish minded people¹; for while Moses is read, and in reading the Old Testament, it keeps the Veil upon them; then what do they, that not only read it, but practice many things in the Old Testament, and yet will be called Christians of the New Covenant? But doth not the Apostle tell you, The Veil is over their hearts when Moses is read? And the Old Testament and Veil is done away by Christ in his New Testament and new Covenant of Light, Life and Grace. And they that do not believe it, the Veil is over them, and their Glory is no Glory; and they are under the Ministration of Death*

and Condemnation, and not under the Ministration of the New Testament and Life; for the Veil remains untaken away in reading the Old Testament; And even to this day, whilst Moses is read, the Veil is over their hearts, as the Apostle saith 2 Corinthians 3:12-15. –

GTD See 39 Articles p67

70.4 Francis Howgill Experience

- Writing for book that was printed in 1655 Francis Howgill recorded that as soon as he heard, George Fox “declare, **That the light of Christ in Man was the way to Christ**, I believed the eternal word of truth, **and that of God in my Conscience sealed it**;¹²”
- To understand what he meant by the Light of Christ he also wrote about the same time. “I am bold in the name of the Lord, to declare to you, and unto all the world , that Christ is the true Light that, that enlightens every one that is come into the world, and this light is spiritual, and not natural and it convinces of sin, and turns minds towards God, and it shines in Darkness”; ...for the Scriptures witness to same, and Christ bears witness of it; and **no other light do we own but the same as ever was, which was in the beginning, and which convinced the world of sin**¹³,
- Francis Howgill was 32 years old when in 1652 he heard “That the light of Christ in Man was the way to Christ,” To appreciate the significance to him of what he heard one has to try and grasp his experiences over the previous 20 years, [The following is Editors paraphrase so if anything does not ring true to you the original published in 1670 is available for consideration.]
- Like George Fox Francis had set out to know God which he read about in Scripture, he attended much to reading and meditation and he was sober and serious alone. He began to see many pastimes as vanity which only lasted but for a moment, yet while

¹² Page 18 Photo 5648

¹³ Work of the Counsellor John 16:7-8 the spirit of Truth John 15:26 the Holy Spirit John 14:26

in folly and wantonness he ran into Transgression and Pleasure, only to be Judged in himself for what he had done. This made him feel weak and resolve in his own will not to do them again, but after a while back in the same company he again did what he saw to be vanity , and soon was checked for many things.

- While Francis believed all that they called faith, the witness of his conscience¹⁴ told him, he was a servant of sin¹⁵, while he committed it. Francis was told he must not omit an ordinance as thereby faith is confirmed and strength added. Yet Francis saw that scripture said that he who eats unworthily eats damnation¹⁶ to himself... And great fear fell upon him that he had sinned against the Holy Ghost, and he was deeply troubled by this. The ‘teacher’ said he had not come prepared, even though he had prepared as advised, So he concluding that these were ‘teachers’ without value.

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70.5 Waiting Worship Isaiah 40:31 They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength. Waiting in expectancy for God to teach his people himself Jeremiah 31:31-33 repeated Hebrews 8:10 & 10:16 to lead into truth John 16:7-14 and bring to remembrance what Jesus said John 14:26

70.6 Worship in truth.

Not calling Jesus Lord Lord and not doing what he said Luke 6:46-49.

Matthew 15:7-11 Mark 7:6-817 (1Peter 512-19)

70.7 MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP

William Edmundson’s brother having also been convinced of the truth met together with his wife twice a week in his home and after a while four more were convinced and they also met together to wait upon

¹⁴ John 8:9 Romans 2:15

¹⁵ Romans 6:16

¹⁶ 1 Corinthians 11:29 KJV

¹⁷ Isaiah 29:13-16 Ezekiel 33:31

God¹⁸ and worship him in spirit and truth. The Lords mercy and goodness often comforting and confirming the blessed truth in their hearts¹⁹. *Waiting Worship, in spirit and truth was just one aspect of desiring to do what Jesus had taught. Silent worship was not the source, it was his Lord's wisdom mercy and goodness.*

70.8 CONTRAST WITH OLD TESTAMENT WORSHIP

And in another place the Apostle tells the Saints in the New Covenant, That the Weapons and Armour were a Shield of Faith²⁰, which is the Gift of God, which Christ is the Author and Finisher of, that Saves Men's Lives, and the Sword of the Spirit, the Word of God; and the Helmet of Salvation, that preserved their Head; and the Breast plate of Righteousness, that kept Evil out of their Breast and Hearts; and their Loins were to be girth with Truth; and to be shod with the Preparation of the Everlasting Gospel of Peace. CN 66

And they that are Believers, are come to the **NEW COVENANT OF LIGHT, AND LIFE, AND GRACE**; and do receive the Spirit of Christ, and the Law of Life that is in Christ Jesus, that makes them free from the Law of Sin and Death. CN93-95

And so as I said before, it is clear that the New Covenant and New Testament, and the Law of Life is not according to the Old Covenant and Old Testament, and the Law from Mount Sinai, that was written in Tables of Stone. CN94

70.9 And now also, are not the Priests Garments, their Surplice, and white Sleeves, and their other distinguishing Garments a Work of the Law, though they do not offer Sacrifices and Offerings, as the outward Old Jews Priests did? CN95

CN102 And the Priests Pulpits is a work of the Law; for Ezra had his Pulpit to read the Law, in the time of the Law and the Old Covenant; and the Tenth of the Increase, with the Tithes and Offerings were a

¹⁸ Isaiah 40:31

¹⁹ John 16:13-15

²⁰ Ephesians 6:12

work of the Law, not a work of the Gospel; for Christ said to his Gospel Ministers, *Freely you received Freely give*²¹

70.10 The prophetic place envisioned for women in ministry in Joel and there actual place in New Testament ministry²² Philip had 4 daughters who prophesied, and important now to quench prophesy

¹Thesalonians 5:19-20 The fulfilment of a promise of God more important than the Law Galatians 3:21 more important than suggestion that women should keep silent²³ based on Eve being deceived in book of Genesis, the New Covenant replacing the old.

See also section 40- equality women in ministry

²¹ Matthew 10:8

²² Luke 2:36-38 Act2 2:17 Acts 21:8-9 Romans 16:1-3 1 Corinthians 16:19 Acts 18:24-26

²³ 1 Corinthians 14:34 and 1 Timothy 2:11-14

SECTIONS 80-

THE LIGHT

80.1 taken from 1653 tract To all that would know the way to the kingdom

80.1.1 The nature of the light: Christ enlightens every one that comes into the world. John 1:9

80.1.2 If you love the enlightening Light of Christ you will let that Light shine on what you are doing.

80.1.3 For those that walk in the Light, there is no occasion of stumbling Jude 24 *for it teaches righteousness and holiness.*

80.1.4 It will keep you:

- *From lying,* Matthew 5:37 *and not let thee lie; See TU Appendix 8 William Edmundson p102*
- *In tenderness of conscience* John 8:9 Acts 24:16 Romans 2:15 *towards God and man; 1 Timothy 1:19 Romans 14:10, 2 Corinthians 5:10*
- *From swearing* Matthew 5:35, James 5:12 *it will check thee if thou dost.*
- *From taking God's name in vain.*
- *From drunkenness,* Luke 21:34 *and vain company.*
- *From adultery* Matthew 19:9 1Corinthians6:9
- *From whoredom,* Hebrews 13:4 KJV *1 Corinthians 6:19*
- *From theft,* Matthew 15:19
- *From quarrelling,* Matthew 5:21-22
- *From fighting,* James 4:1-4
- *From abusing thyself*
 (“Loose” living, 1 Corinthians 6:9-19 KJV fornication, sexual relationship without lifelong faithfulness which exposes one to sexually transmitted diseases, and so is abusive to one’s own body). 1 Corinthians 10:8 Acts 15:20 Mark 7:20-22; Matthew 15:18-20
- *From envy.* 1 Timothy 6:4

80.1.5 This Light which is of God, will:

- *Let you see all the works of the world.* 1Corinthians 4:5

- *Draw thee out of the worships of the world.*
- *Keep thee in the fear of God where the true pure wisdom is seen.*

80.1.6 But as the eternal light which Christ has enlightened you withal is loved, minded, and taken heed unto, the daily cross Luke 9:23 is taken up. The fear of the Lord grows. The true, pure Wisdom increases James 3:17; the errors of the wicked are exposed and made manifest.

80.1.7 And waiting in the Light John 1:9 which Christ has enlightened you with, you come to be disciples of Jesus Christ, and servants to the Truth.

In that Light which shows thee all this, stand. Here thou wilt:

- *See the mercies of God made manifest.*
- *See the promises of God fulfilled. 2 Peter 1:4*
- *Find a Saviour;*
- *See what is cast out from God, and what enters.*

80.1.8 For the first step of peace is to stand still in the Light, (which discovers things contrary to it) for power and strength to stand against that nature which the Light reveals. Here grace grows, here is God alone glorified and exalted.

80.1.9 The True Church are those who are born again of the immortal Seed, by the Word of God 1Peter 1:23 ...And this is the Word John 1:14 by which the Saints are born again. You are born again by the immortal Word, which lives and endures forever; and feeding upon the milk of the Word, 1 Peter 2:2 which Word is God, which Word became flesh, and dwelt among us. So he (Christ) is the Head of the real-Church. It is disrespectful to Jesus Christ for you to say, the letter [the Bible] is the Word of God - when the letter says, God is the Word; John 1:1

80.1.10 Awake, awake all people everywhere who live in forms. See what you possess. Not having that eternal Spirit that gave forth the Scriptures, all your formal prayers, formal preaching, formal singing, will be found as the chaff which is for the unquenchable fire. For Christ is risen; the true Light shines; the glory of the Lord appears, and you

are discovered to him to be empty of that eternal Spirit, in your understandings, which [Spirit] gave forth the Scriptures John 14:26.

80.1.11 Wait in Light to receive Christ and power

'I am the Light,' saith Christ 'which enlightens everyone'. That Light you hate, and all who hate this Light, set up teachers to suit themselves. But all who love this Light are of God and lead to God which is a cross to all the world and this Light is in every one. Wait in it to receive Christ. And, as many as receive Christ John 1:12, to them he gives power to become 'the sons and daughters of God', - "who are not born of the will of man, nor by the will of man, but by the will of God" John 1:12-13.

80.1.12 All who hate this Light [of Christ], they set up to be their [own] light such as are called of men 'Masters'; Matthew 23:6-11 have the chiefest places in the assemblies; stand making long prayers; lay heavy burdens upon the people.

80.1.13 The Saints' Teacher

The Light [of Christ] is free that has enlightened John 1:4-9 every one that comes into the world; Thou that hates it, has learned thy condemnation; it lets thee see all the evil deeds of thy heart. And the Gospel is free Matthew 10:8 to every creature, not to be bought and sold for money.

80.1.14.1 Distinguishing light, life and power from the letter.

Now do not think that I hold free-will here, man's free-will. I speak of that which is contrary to man's will and loving the Light, it will keep your wills from running, and your will from willing anything, and keep it in subjection. But you that hates this Light and makes a profession of God and Christ, and says, the letter is the Word, and the four books Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are the Gospel, he knowest not Christ which is "glad tidings"; "the Lamb of God" who takes away the sin of the world. For the letter takes not away sin. And thou that sayest thou had not come to repentance, if thou had not known letter, thou deniest Christ, who came to call sinners to repentance, and before the letter was. (It is he that calls sinners to repentance and not the letter).

80.1.14.2 But the letter is a declaration of the Word - God is the Word. John 1:1-3. And it [the letter] is a declaration of the Light - Christ is the Light. And it [the letter] is a declaration of the Spirit, but the Spirit is not [in] it; a declaration of the Power; but the Power is not [in] it. The Power and the Life and the Light was in them that spoke it forth, which the world hated.

80.1.14.3 O shameless men that tell people the letter is the Word, and buy and sell it for money. And the grace is free, which has appeared to all men, which is the saints' Teacher. And you need not have any other teacher if you own the grace, which shows your ungodliness and worldly lusts.

80.1.14.4 O then all you that profess, see that you possess! And profess no more than you are!"

80.2 1647 Now George Fox was sent to turn people from darkness to the light, that they might receive Christ Jesus; for he saw that as many as should receive him in his Light, he would give power to become the sons of God. Therefore, he was to turn people to the grace of God, and to the truth in the heart; and that by this grace they might be taught, and thereby obtain salvation; since Christ had died for all men, and was a propitiation for all - having enlightened everyman with his divine and saving light, and the manifestation of the Spirit of God being given to every man to profit withal.

See also section 54

SECTIONS 90-94

Attitude to Scripture

90.1 Early Friends were people of the new and living way God had planned Hebrews 10:20

90.2 Christ the Word of God John 1

90.3 God spoke in past by prophets now by Son Hebrews 1:1-2

90.4 Law and prophets until John Luke 16:16

90.5 The “But I say to you” verses Luke 6:27 Matt 5 Matt 6 John 13 :34 (John 4:23)

91 Looked to the promised Holy Spirit the spirit of truth John 14:17 to bring to teach them John 14:26 bring remembrance what Jesus said John 15:26 and lead into all truth John 16:13-16

92. Note the translation of 1 Tim 3:16 used by Robert Barclay Elizabeth Bathurst likely the Coverdale (which followed Wycliffe) The Coverdale translation of the 2 Timothy 3v16: "For all Scripture, given by inspiration of God, is profitable to teach..." The Geneva and Bishops bible changed it to "All Scripture is inspired by God....." If you think about that, there is a very big difference in what it is saying and that was achieved by just changing a word or two and placing in a slightly different place.

92.1 In the 1672 letter to the Governor of Barbados while quoting from 1 Tim 3:16 avoided saying “that all scripture is inspired”.

93. After the reign of Charles 2nd, king of England, during which Friends were persecuted along with other dissenters and they were, , offered relief from some types of legal harassment in the Toleration Act of 1688/9 if they would ascribe Christian belief as follows: “*I A.B. profess faith in God the Father and in Jesus Christ his Eternal Son, the true God and in the Holy Spirit, one God blessed for evermore, and do acknowledge the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be given by Divine Inspiration.*” The underlined phrase was that proposed to Sir Thomas Cregis by George Whitehead

and John Vaughton and accepted to replace draft phrase, "do acknowledge the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the revealed will and word of God."

[Editors comment. Friends having seen clearly that Christ is the Word of God John 1 clearly avoided calling the Bible the Word of God, and avoided saying that all the Bible was Scripture and I think limited scripture to what came by inspiration of the Holy Spirit 2 Peter 1:20-21]

94. Paul recognised that what he was saying in 1 Corinthians 7:12 was from himself and not the Lord. And Galatians 3:3 reveals how easy it is for any of us to begin in the Spirit and go on in the flesh.

SECTION 95

The Letter Kills but the Spirit gives life 2 Corinthians 3:4-7

The law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus sets us free from the law of sin and death. Romans 8:2

To as many as receive him he gives power to become the children of God John 1:9-12

Whoever is in Christ is a new creation the old has passed away behold the new has come. 2 Corinthians 5:17

Jesus said I say to you unless one is born of water and the Spirit one cannot enter the kingdom of God John 3:5

The heavenly Father gives the Spirit to those who ask Luke 11:9-13

All who are led by the Spirit are the sons of God. Romans 8:14

The fruits of the Spirit are Love, Joy, Peace, Gentleness, Kindness, Self control against which there is no law. Galatians 5:22-23

Are you living in the life and power and spirit seen in the book of Acts? Question similar to this used many times by George Fox

Where did friends Testimonies and Insights come from?

From silent meetings? Or were Roots in the teaching of Jesus Christ and early followers of him?

Assembled in this booklet are scriptures that relate to Friends/Quaker testimonies and insights.

Also quotes that show how Quakers thought about these scriptures and lived them.