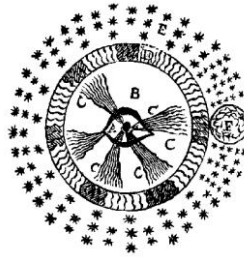


Spirit's Day Studies

The Writings of Jane Lead
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The Threefold Coming of Christ

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Now it was given me to understand, that there is a Threefold Coming of Christ, besides His first coming in the flesh. After which, before He left the World, He engaged, that He would come again in Spirit to His own that were in it. This has been accomplished, and this was His Second Coming. Upon which we have lived and spent upon this stock of Life, ever since His departure. I mean such who for this worthy Gift, have with great seeking obtained it. The Apostles had this more richly and abundantly, as to the manifold working by powers and gifts, than any since. But yet they were still looking out for His next coming in Spirit. For by His Spirit He was to make meet, and ready; that the inward Spirit with his mind, will and senses should be all internally transformed: (as the New Testament runs much upon it) to be found sinless, spotless, and blameless against the coming of the Lord. And what is to be done now, at this His Second, or it may be called His Third Coming, but to change our vile bodies, and to fashion them like unto His own glorious body, by that power which shall open the element, which the celestial body shall evermore consist of. Christ's Third Coming will be to this purpose, to redeem bodies out from all those evil events that sin brought in, that so every spirit may come to have its own native body, and that the spirit may no longer draw one way and the flesh another.

But surely that saying will forever cease, *To will is present, but power is wanting to perform.* For all power will be given to His saints, as it was unto our Lord Jesus. As *Daniel* foresaw the dominion should be given to the saints of the Most High. Such a royal, holy, peculiar church shall that be. The Firstborn from the Dead, fitly qualified to join with the Heavenly Quire in heavenly places. These are those that will be the pure and wise virgins, that are all ready, as the Bride of the Lamb to meet Him at His last general call and trumpet sound to them, which shall be at this His Third Coming. Who shall not prevent the descending down of those, who are departed in the Faith, and now are in the invisible *Mount-Sion*. They with Christ shall appear again in this principle in spirits and bodies all celestial. Then the great overturn in this visible world, will be for those new heavens and earth to be known, and the old visible heavens and elements to pass away, and all flesh with them to be consumed. For no place for terrestrial bodies will be here, when this great Day will come, that will burn as an oven.

This is that great general Conflagration, that the Apostle *Peter* speaks of, where in the Earth, and all the Works thereof shall be burnt up, and the Judgment will be passed, and pronounced against those, who are found as those were in *Noah's* time, whom the Flood took away, but here the fiery Indignation will make the terrible Dissolution in the whole visible Frame of this World. And all those Inhabitants, who were in Love and Friendship with it, as it stood in the Sin and Curse, this will be a dreadful Day to overtake such. For great distress, as our Lord foretells, will be, as never was. But upon whom will it come to hurt? only them which are found out of the Ark. For I must let you know from that Spirit, that reveals things to come, that before the last general Day of Judgement shall come, this deluge shall come at Christ's third coming, and another mighty *Noah* will be found, who in and by Faith shall raise and build an Ark, which no Flames can devour, no more then the Waters could prevail upon the first Ark. *Elijah* with his Fiery Chariot will also come, before this great and notable Day of Christ's third Coming, to show to some the way for to escape out of this Corporeal State, into that other Principle of the one pure Eternal Element. From whence the Lord, the mighty God, and Savior with all his Saints in his time will be revealed.

But know there will be in this latter day, when Christ shall appear, such an Ark, that will be all of refined Gold for a harbour, and as a city, upon which the Name of Everlasting Life, Power, and Might will be written. Whereinto the wise and prudent will take sanctuary, as foreseeing the destruction that will come upon all flesh. Therefore those, who as *Noah* are warned of this surprisal Day; take certain instructions from the Lord's Mouth, how to prepare this Celestial Ark, and to bring in thereinto such, who are willing to wait in truth and soberness in this Body of the Golden Ark, having put off the Body of the Sins of the Flesh, and as pure naked abstracted Spirits are free from all entanglements of the Earthly Life. These are here ready to be received and to be clothed upon with this House, that can stand in the midst of all burnings. Such a Spouse and Bride will verily be ever waiting for the Bridegroom, in a perfect Virgin-Life, separated, and redeemed from amongst Men, as minding no other thing, but to be trimming their Lamps, and making themselves all ready in pure and white Robes, wherein no spot of Pollution may be found. For verily the Heavens shall not any longer contain the Lord Christ, then the Temple-Body and Ark is rebuilt for his presence, and till his Saints do look out for his appearance. For this was the Posture, which the Saints of old did labor to put themselves into, upon the hopes of this his Personal coming, to take to him the whole Dominion, and to deliver up the Kingdom to his Father, all in Transparent purity. Every Subject in it attired, and put into a suitable Habit for immediate entrance, into the inward and most *Holy Jerusalem*, where God will fill all in all. But you will say, all this is granted, that when Christ comes to his last Judgment, our vile Bodies will be changed, and then he will make us meet to see his Father's Face, when the Kingdom shall then be perfectly restored: But you affirm, that there will be a Translation at Christ's third coming, before his fourth and last coming to Judgment. Yea, and I shall aver it, knowing the true and infallible Testator that witnesses it. For these firstborn Spirits will have Power in them, by his inward risen Body, to figure out according to pleasure a visible One, agreeable to the Lord's own Body, or else they could not lift up their Heads with that joy, when he shall come to transmute this Principle. Know it therefore for a certainty the Lord will have a pure, and spotless Church upon the Earth, that before the general Day of Judgment shall have the Keys of the Power, yea of the Transmuting Power too, as all AETHEREAL to ascend and descend. And they will be in such purity and separation from all of this corrupt Element, that they will frequently be admitted to the Holy Trinity, to know the Celestial affairs belonging to their own

Kingdom. And hereof declare, that many thereat may be converted, and may be received into the Golden Ark, there still to wait in a devoted Life from the World. For whoever they be, that shall not fully agree to this, and totally depart from the whole Earthly Life, and live in an absolute Virgin-State, knowing henceforth nothing more, according to that first Man, that degenerated from his Creator, I do know this, that without such a full leave be taken of this Worldly conversation, there will be no part for them in this matter. For this Life of the Resurrection doth never spring, till the Earthly pass away. Oh these are hard sayings, indeed, because of the Destruction of Flesh, the losing of Life; that we might not taste at all of Death. Where in this Age shall we find five Wise Virgins? That have parted with all things, that are drossy and impedimental for God, and do go on making ready the pure Body-Ark, that in it they may be able to move upon the fiery Element: who have hereunto disposed, and given up themselves for to be in Election for this high Holy, Christ dignified State.

But it may be objected, that *If we should put ourselves to this loss in Friends, Honors, Riches, and all that is pleasant and lawful, and come to live a Life, that is all Dead to this World, yet we are not sure that it may be our Lot, to be thus clothed upon with our Immortal Vehicle, to hold us out to the coming of our Lord.* As to this receive, what the Spirit answered my own Heart's objection herein. §.Whether or no (said the Spirit) ye may hereunto reach, yet the nearer ye do come unto it, though your Mortal Body should break before the attainment hereunto, you will thereby lose nothing, for you will the sooner be clothed with them according to that degree, as has been wrought here. And then again we shall have this advantage by this Holy and Unrebukable Life, we shall have the most free and familiar Society with the sacred Trinity, that loves to frequent those, who for the Love of God, have wholly rent themselves from this World. Giving sufficient proof, that they neither Love nor regard anything, but what may dispose, and qualify them for high Love-Communion with God their Creator. Which can so far assure, according to what I have received, through inward Transformation of Mind and Heart, may in great tranquility be now enjoyed.

§.The Kingdom of God opens and springs first from the Golden Ark refined within, where Christ the true *Noah* will gather in all to himself, for where the true Body is, both for Food and Shelter, thereunto the sprightly Eagles will surely resort. It will be worth our while here for to wait in all pure Sequestration of mind, though we know not for certainty, who now of us may come unto this high celestialty, as to be found in the risen Body of immortality. But let it suffice, that this is the hope of our High-Calling; and we have liberty to draw out the bow of Faith, and Shoot at all adventure, if by any means we may come to reach this Mark. Faith is that great and mighty Energy, which may bring to effect for us this Translation: therefore the Spirit of it, we are incited to cherish, and keep up with all care and tenderness, concerning that by Faith *Enoch* was Translated, so as he saw not Death. It has various purifying properties, from whence will come mighty Powerful actings also, for the accomplishing of the last days Wonders.

§.Thus I have been unexpectedly carried out upon this subject, wherein I have obeyed the Vision, upon which all this Mysterious and deep matter did open. The Hand of Love and Power which did guide me to Record it, in Writing, may have some service for it in its time; yea for some, who have right to the precious thing made mention of, so as happily they may find this weighty Transmuting Stone. The worth thereof may be so great and valuable in their Eye, as with us, they may not think much to suffer and endure loss of Life, I mean that Life, which doth conflict in the Friendship, Honor, Pleasures, Riches of this evil World: and to wind out and

estrangle themselves from all of this perishing and polluted State, must first be resolved upon by such, who shall willingly join with us in Faith, to attain this pure Body-Ark now before the Flood comes. Therefore let us be preparing with all speed, for to testify we are none of those sloathful Ones, that do here take ease upon a Bed of Thorns, and as being all over beset with a dark and cloudy Night of the fall: Concluding the Lord may yet delay his coming, because that all things ever since his departure have continued at a stay, and we have heard little from him, since *John's Revelation*, that might stir and awaken us up. Upon which those, who are in Love and Reconciliation to this evil and this imbondaged State, do very aptly make these kinds of Evil conclusions. But let us remember that Word of our dear Lord, who saith, *Behold I come as a Thief in the Night*. Therefore he had warned us again and again, we should never be found off our Watch.

THE THREE WATCHES

For after his first coming, he has set Three Watches before us, wherein we might expect him. The one is past, two more are yet to come. His coming in Spirit has, and is still witnessed. But now this his third coming is that which is more excellent, and will produce more wonderful Effects, as preceding the great and last Day, when the Universal Judgment shall be passed upon both Quick and Dead: according as it is Written, he has appointed a Day, in which he will judge the World in Righteousness. This we are not to look for, till the first Resurrection is past, upon whom the second Death can have no Power. Now what more forcibly Argument can I use to persuade myself and others to this pure abstracted and World-denying Life, but what the Lord himself has done, for encouragement to this Watchful State, having pronounced Blessedness to it, as it is Written, *Luke 12. Blessed are those, who when the Lord comes shall be found watching*, that when he knocks, they may open immediately without any demur, having their Loyns girded about and their Lamps burning. Which implies all in a readiness, entire, wanting nothing. They need not a serious Call, being found in a waiting posture, and swift to hear the Bridegroom's Voice. Our Lord professes, that he will be so affected with them, who shall in such Love and long Patience approve themselves diligent Watchers, that so by his expression he knows not, what enough to do for them. But cries verily your Lord shall gird himself, and make you to sit down at Meat, and come and serve you and also make you Stewards of great things. Oh who would not now think it worth losing and leaving all, and waiting together in a pure Life of introversion, out of the noise and multiplicity of the Earthly rudiments, of a World that lies wholly in pollution and deceit. Oh, Come, come, let us from hence draw away and be found in those Goodly tents of *Jacob*, waiting till all the shadows of this long Night of our Lord's absence shall break away. Who knows how suddenly to such, who are found in a Bridal-Habit all pure and spotless, he may appear. Let us make it our only business and care, to prepare for this his Coming, then assuredly he will not from us long tarry. Oh Lord Jesus, even so come quickly to us, as the *Alpha* and *Amen*.