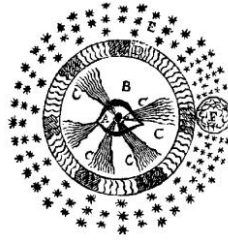


Spirit's Day Studies

The Writings of Jane Lead,
17th Century Christian Mystic



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THE 12 PROPERTIES OF THE TREE OF LIFE

[An excerpt from Jane Lead's *Heavenly Cloud Now Breaking*]

[HC 3:8] §.The first property: It gives a single, clear, and crystalline sight, to behold celestial glories, without any medium.

[HC 3:9] §.Secondly, it gives a supernatural hearing. It comes to understand the heavenly language, as spoken from Eternal Nature, which language is now quite lost in corrupted nature, and can only be restored in the Ascension.

[HC 3:10] §.The third property is the most profound and deep wisdom, which most highly excels and outvies all the craft and subtlety sucked in from the breast of fallen *Eve*, whose children have herein been nourished up in a shifting way of worldly wisdom, which showed itself in *Adam* and *Eve* when the Lord called them to an account for their disobedience to His command. All which subtlety must die and fall away when God's wisdom shall be restored again.

[HC 3:11] §.The fourth property of this Tree of Life gives an everlasting and unchangeable righteousness, as a White Robe that covers from head to foot, suffering no more spot of the earthly life to fall upon it.

[HC 3:12] §.The fifth property is an unutterable ravishing pleasure and joy drawn in as the sweetness of the dew, which lies always upon the branches of this Tree. The precious savor hereof never departs from the soul; it is all Paradisical power.

[HC 3:13] §.The sixth property is a flowing torrent of Love which knows no bounds. It expatiates itself from lengths to breadths, and from heights to depths. It runs through all degrees first and principally. It runs itself into its own Original Being of Love, where it comes out all covered with love, sweetness, and amity towards all, to scatter among all fellowships and societies these pure sparkling powers of love received from the Deity.

[HC 3:14] §.The seventh property produces an absolute, free and eternal liberty of will which stands fixed in God. It knows no restraint or bondage; for whatever it wills or decrees is made good, because it moves in the will of the Holy Ghost.

[HC 3:15] §.The eighth property is the serene meekness and tender mercifulness let forth, as from God's own nature of goodness, to objects that may require succor and help, whether interior or exterior. If in spiritual desertion and temptation, how readily is the balsam tincture of this Tree given forth, to heal and cure the wounded in Spirit, that so they may find present cure.

[HC 3:16] §.Ninthly, here is the donation of durable riches and honor, which is so infinitely great and glorious, that it draws a black cloud of contempt upon all the Babylonish treasures, that have been gotten and raised by earthly science and craft.

[HC 3:17] §.Tenthly, know in truth and verity, here is an eternal springing bank that will never be spent out. For it is the generating-revenue which the Holy Trinity spends upon, and freely receives the Ascended into community, to share in this springing gold-mine. There will be no need of digging, nor labor, either of body or mind. There will be no occasion to say, *What shall we eat or drink, or wherewithal shall we be clothed?* The Lily-Time is now come, that all of this kind will be supplied from God's flowing Fountain of all precious store, that will confer such a plenty of dowry riches and honors, that cannot be degraded nor plucked away from the Ascended. As a ship they will sail with out-spread banners of conquest and victory, floating upon the throne-river of Life, daring all sea and land enemies of this worldly principle, whose strength is rottenness, and cannot stand before the Ark of God's moving power, in which His Kingdom shall be established.

[HC 3:18] §.The eleventh property of this Tree of Life is known by sending forth sweet-scented odors and perfumes, a compounded spikenard, which is so strong and powerful that it is all-penetrating. It is so deep that it touches and influences, and is an antidote against all putrefaction of Sin and the evil consequences thereof. The very out-breathing words are all perfumed with the Oil of the Holy Ghost, which sends forth a virtual healing-life among whom they converse with in a Spiritual sense.

[HC 3:19] §.The twelfth and last property, which is the consummating glory of all, is an incessant flow of Immortal Life, which is fed from the Crystalline River proceeding from the Throne of God. This river encompasses this tree for fixation, so that no more death nor curse may be known, but is all swallowed up in victory, according to the vision which the beloved *John* saw. This tree grew in the midst, and on either side of this river, signifying it to be the Holy Trinity in their distinct variety, springing up for a feeding life to the Spirit, Soul and Body which has reached to Ascension.

[HC 3:20] §.Now by all that has been opened and revealed of the wonderful properties of this Tree of Life, can it do less than enforce most ardent longings and aspirations, to go forward to all of these degrees? Oh let not this low elementary kingdom, with all its subtle enchantments and binding weights, keep down any that are of the Resurrection. The Ascension-gate our *Emanuel* has passed through, and causes it to stand open for all that have good will and fervent love to come up after Him. Though as yet there may be but few presidents that have reached this Ascension mark, the Serpent with his twisting tail having drawn down many Ascending Stars, let not that discourage, but rather fire our zeal the more, and to be watchful to avoid his subtlety, who is not neglectful to lay numerous stumbling-blocks in our way. But through the Spirit of Faith, there may be a striding over all, taking up courage and holy resolution in this ascending way.

[HC 3:21] For something I do see breaking forth as the light of a new day, and by the great *Alpha* and *Omega* is testified, that what by His Spirit has been revealed, shall not go off as a dead seine, shown only in literal description, and so folded up again. No, a more lively draught the Holy Ghost will draw upon the hearts and spirits of those who are born again, this being now the very time wherein our expectation grows big, for bringing forth the Heir to all of these heavenly immunities which have been mentioned. This is the tenor that the New and Everlasting Covenant runs upon, wherein a new heart, and another Spirit, in which God's own Eternal and Pure Nature will be restored, so as to abolish the very root-essence of Sin—which no verbal ministration or doctrinal precept could reach, nor intellectual knowledge, or vision, that gives divine seeing and speculation of heavenly objects and things. All of these have their cessation and termination.

[HC 3:22] But that which is the safer groundwork, far excelling all, is to find ourselves rooted and essenced in the Birth of the Holy Ghost, which is firm, stable, and unchangeable, wherein the issues of a new-springing Life will go forth in every motion, putting a stop to all profuse and impertinent imaginations that have been put forth from Nature's Root. Such a signal change in ourselves we shall find, when the Lord from Heaven shall descend to bring up to Ascension, and will forever maintain His superiority and kingly power over all principalities in this worldly region, putting all things under, which have exalted themselves above Him. This is the irreversible decree of our Great Sion-King, wherein the ransomed shall passively stand, for the ruling scepter of the Holy Lamb of God to take all kingly power into His own hand, to manage a pure, righteous, and peaceable Kingdom, of which there shall be no end. This is that great and mighty overturn which we are looking and hastening for.