

LIVING THE LIFE.

- I. Phrase has application to employment of principles taught by sages and mystics of all time.
- II. Principle is that conduct should follow course indicated by ideas enunciated.
- III. Field of conduct.
 - A. Obviously covers objective action and social relationships.
 - B. Also applies to conduct in terms of thought itself.
 1. This aspect often neglected.
 2. Highly important as thought-action ultimately dominates objective action.
 3. Application.
 - a. Conscientiousness in thought.
 - b. Truthfulness; do not deceive oneself as by so-called process of "rationalizing".
 - c. Justice; giving just balance and consideration to all available facts and theories.
 - d. Temperance; avoiding hasty and extreme judgments.
- IV. Contradiction between present world and Wisdom Religion makes living the life in ideal completeness impossible.
 - A. Man in this world like a mentally sick patient.
 1. Hence full life of healthy man cannot be attained in one step.
 2. The next step toward health of a sick man often requires course that would be improper for a well man.
 - B. Every man must find the course of conduct that is possible for him.
 1. The point is that this should be shaped progressively in the direction indicated by the Teachings.
 - C. Each man an unique bundle of strength and weakness.
 1. Hence variable degrees of perfection in the different phases of living the Life.
 - D. Of highest importance to cultivate tolerance for the other fellow.
 1. He may be weak where we are strong and yet be strong where we are weak.
 - a. It is the balance of various weak and strong aspects that determines how well one lives the Life.
- V. Motto: *A TOLERANT HEART BUT A DISCRIMINATING MIND!
 - A. The heart should exclude no one high or low.
 1. Recognize that the right to sin is a Divine right.
 - a. Only because of this right is the growth of positive virtue possible.
 2. It means to cultivate positive love for all creatures regardless of what mistakes they may make.
 - B. Equally important is discrimination as to the Truth.
 1. Be unceasingly vigilant in rooting out of false doctrine.
 - a. Yet recognize the individual's right to follow a false doctrine.
 - b. Practice is public and abstract out-spokenness but consideration for the specific individual.
- VI. Individual not to be condemned because his vision reaches farther than his practice.
 - A. Any man worthwhile must be able to see beyond where he is.
 - B. No hypocrisy so long as there is effort in appropriate direction.

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