

SPIRITUALISM

by

SIR A. CONAN DOYLE.

SOME eighty years ago there came into the world the most important happening which has ever occurred there for two thousand years. It was a proof, absolute and complete, that man lives on as an intelligent being after death, and that he retains the power, under proper conditions, of communicating back to this world.

Since then the fact has been confirmed thousands and thousands of times. At a single meeting last year at the Albert Hall, six thousand people rose up to testify that each had PERSONALLY verified the fact.

And yet a time-serving and ignorant press, men of Science who break the first law of Science by talking about things they have never examined, "religious" men who deny that which is the very essence of religion, mock this sacred thing, and by their united folly have kept this all-important knowledge from mankind.

It is a very personal question. You have to die. This will tell you what will happen to you after you die. It may happen this very week. It is only a foolish man then who is not interested.

And it is good news we bring. The fate of mankind is far happier than anyone knew. We have accounts from "the dead" taken in all parts of the world. And they all agree in essentials. So they must be true.

What do they say? That death is not a painful process. The passing is pleasant. That we find ourselves in a spiritual body exactly like our present one. That we are in all ways the same, as if we had passed from one room to another.* That we then, if we have been at all decent in this life, find ourselves in an existence not unlike the present one, but very much happier in every way.

* I may add that the etheric body is a perfect thing, free from any deformity.

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This applies to those who die a natural death. The suicide suffers for his action if it be deliberate.

There are many grades upon the other side from the dark to the brilliant. The average human being is midway, which is a very happy condition. He has amusements, beautiful surroundings, congenial work, the companionship of those he loved. None wish to return. But some have to wait a long time in very dark surroundings. Who are those who have to wait? It has nothing to do with what you believe. You are graded not by your creed, but by your character—deeds not creeds. Those who are in the dark are those who are selfish, who are cruel, and who are bigotted. Those who try to confine God's mercy to one sect, or who say "We are the people" are in great danger. This applies to Spiritualists as well as to others. We have knowledge, but that will not save us. Have we character? that is everything. Are we kind? Do we help others? Do we use our money as a trust? Do we do our duty in everyday life? Those are the tests. All come into the light at last, but the undeveloped have to learn wisdom in the outer darkness first.

That is part of our message. That is what immediately applies to you. But there is much more—much which we receive from higher spirit people as to the fate and destiny of men.

The phenomena are nothing—mere signals to attract your attention. There is nothing spiritual in a floating table. But it may induce a train of thought which leads to higher things.

If you wish to know more, you can get pamphlets and books from sixpence upwards at *The Psychic Bookshop, 2 Victoria Street, S.W.1.*

Remember this is not a matter of faith—but of knowledge which Saint Peter said was better. What I tell you is SURE. It will save this degenerate world when once it is understood.

It removes all fear of death and it dries the mourners' tears.

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