

Epistle 73

by George Fox

The sermon emphasizes the importance of witnessing the substance of Christ Jesus through the guidance of the light and acting in accordance with it.

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 3:9

Topics: "Eternal Light", "Christian Persecution"

Description

George Fox preaches about the importance of living in the eternal light to understand the true substance of spiritual matters, contrasting shadows and types with the ministry of life and condemnation. He emphasizes the significance of witnessing Christ Jesus as the ultimate substance and denouncing practices that go against the light. Fox encourages believers to stand firm in their faith, even in the face of persecution, and to focus on the unchangeable priesthood of Christ Jesus above all worldly inventions and conflicts.

Transcript

All Friends, who are in the eternal light, ye see the figures, the shadows, and the types, (the beginning and ending of them,) and with the light ye come to see the substance of the things shadowed and figured forth [Heb 11:1?]. So all in the light dwell, that with it ye may come to know the ministry of life, and the ministry of condemnation [2 Cor 3:9]; that with the light ye may come to witness the substance, Christ Jesus [Col 2:17]. And with the light ye will see what the apostle meant, when he spake of tithes and offerings, and of the changeable priesthood [Heb 7], and when he spake of the substance of those things he had before spoken of; who with the light denied the first priesthood, the tithes and offerings that were changeable. . . .

And bear witness to the sum and substance, Christ Jesus, and show forth that to them all. And declare it to the highest judicature in the nation, when ye suffer for the testimony of Jesus, that ye witness to the substance, Christ Jesus, who is ascended far above all the principalities and powers [Eph 4:10/Col 1:16]; and that ye witness to the ministry of life. And show forth the substance to them, (if ye have an opportunity,) showing to them, that ye suffer for conscience sake. And so over the world stand, and over all their evil works, and bring all men's works to the light.

And being guided by the light, it will let you join to none of their vain inventions, that are acted and made in that nature that is contrary to the light; it will bring you to witness the sum and substance, Christ Jesus, over all the world. And so, if the spoilers take your goods [Heb 10:34], let them go, and let them take the coat also [Mat 5:40]. And none act any thing in your own wills. But who act contrary to the light, and

pay tithes, go to the changeable; and with the unchangeable are cast out from the children of light [John 12:36]. And so the children of light are one in the light, and with the light see the body, and Christ Jesus the head [Col 1:18], and are all one in him [Gal 3:28]. Where did any sue one another for tithes under the first priesthood?

But with the light the primitive christians witnessed Christ Jesus, the substance of the things typified in the first priesthood's time. To the light of Christ Jesus in all your consciences, which comes from Christ, I speak, that ye may see what ye act; and that such as are sued for tithes, may look to the sum and substance, the unchangeable priest Christ Jesus [Heb 7:24].

G. F.

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