



THE RELIGION OF SPIRITUALISM

Spiritualism is not as is commonly believed, a sinister cult meeting in darkened rooms to "call up the dead" but an officially recognised religious movement with its own churches and Ministers, who possess the same rights and privileges as other religions.

Proof of Survival

Spiritualism is in itself a religion in that it embodies the main ideas of all religions that there is a life after death, an immortality and the existence of a God. The difference between Spiritualism and other religions is the ability through mediumship to prove that man survives the grave; that is to say certain people called mediums are able to communicate with those who have passed over, thus furnishing conclusive evidence of their continued existence in another world. Mediums cannot call up these people as one would a friend on the telephone; they come to us, but only when they are ready, willing and able so to do.

The philosophy of Spiritualism is based on seven fundamental principles.

1. The Fatherhood of God.
2. The Brotherhood of Man.
3. The Communion of Spirits and the Ministry of Angels.
4. The Continuous Existence of the Human Soul.
5. Personal Responsibility.
6. Compensation and Retribution Hereafter for all the Good or Evil Deeds done on Earth.
7. Eternal Progress Open to every Human Soul.

Not Anti-Christian

Spiritualists are often accused of being atheists or anti-Christian. Spiritualists are not anti-Christian any more than they are anti-Jewish, anti-Hindu or anti-Moslem. Spiritualism is a universal religion recognising such leaders as Buddha, Mohammed, Moses as well as Jesus. Another major difference between Spiritualism and the orthodox Christian religion is embodied in our fifth principle, which is Personal Responsibility. We do

not accept that Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sins. We hold that no one can do this but ourselves. We are given free will and the ability to distinguish between right and wrong and we alone are responsible for all our thoughts and actions.

God is not Vindictive

Further, we do not believe in a vindictive God sitting in judgement over us. We are our own judges here and now and we shall receive compensation or retribution for whatever we have done, whether good or bad. Heaven and Hell are not places to which we are destined to go, but states of mind of our own creation.

We do not automatically become spiritual when we leave this world. We shall in fact, retain our earthly characteristics while the opportunity will be given throughout eternity to make spiritual progress and so undo any wrongs we committed on earth, for both free will and personal responsibility will still be with us in the world to come.

We are living in a material age in which orthodox religion has lost its impact. Any religion therefore which can successfully overcome this materialist influence must be scientific, and Spiritualism is just that. It has turned the pious hope of a hereafter into a scientific fact. The advent of the spirit of man into this world and in the course of time, his transition to another world is a scientific fact proved by mediumship.

What is a Medium?

Mediums are ordinary people who have through training developed their natural psychic ability to enable them to communicate with the Spirit world.

There are three main types of Mediumship, mental physical and healing. The reason for so many forms of mediumship is because our friends in the spirit world will use whatever means they can to get through and help us to understand the truth of everlasting life.

Mental Mediumship

Mental mediumship is by far the most common and falls into two categories, perception and control. First

perception, in this the spirit communicator works through the medium's mind and he or she is able to see, hear or sense, pictures, sounds or feelings. They will perceive them either subjectively or objectively. In the controlled state the medium will go into trance, this will enable the Spirit control to speak through the medium or to do automatic writing.

Physical Mediumship

Physical mediumship is now quite rare, possibly because it takes many years to develop. This is a more direct form of mediumship as everyone present will witness the same phenomena. Spirits can speak directly with their own voice or even materialise for all to see, objects can also be levitated and moved around the room with no visible means of support.

Healing Mediumship

Among the great forces of Spiritualism is healing the sick either by personal contact, "the laying on of hands", or through absent healing, in which patients are treated often at great distances away, by the sending out of healing thoughts and prayers.

Many incurable diseases have been successfully treated. However no healer can guarantee a cure, but at least he can alleviate suffering, ease a passing, and possibly effect a complete cure.

Spiritualist healing is not faith healing. If you think about it, babies or our pets cannot have faith, yet they can all benefit from Spiritualist healing.

We do not expect you to accept these things blindly but we do invite you to prove our claim for yourself.

Types of Services

There are several different types of Spiritualist services, the most common being; divine services, specials, open circles and the healing service. The divine service is held

on a Sunday usually at 6:30pm. We start off with a hymn and the guest speaker and demonstrator will give a short talk usually on Spiritualist philosophy. After a second hymn it is time for the demonstration of mediumship. This is when the Medium will communicate with those in the Spirit world and relay the messages to someone in the audience.

The special service is very similar to the divine service also having a demonstration of mediumship. These are on other evenings at about 7pm.

The open circle gives everyone the opportunity to practice and develop their own mediumship. Everyone sits facing inwards forming a rough circle, beginner or trained medium alike. They then take turns to practice their gifts.

At the healing service people can usually come and go as they please, there being no need to stay for the whole service. Some even bring their pets along for treatment.

Need Help?

Being able to communicate with the Spirit world is not just for the gifted few. We believe it is the right of everyone. To this end we have made available our most valuable assets, our mediums, our knowledge and our experience. Members of the public can gain access to our expertise in one of several ways:

Through the SNU

You can contact The Head Office of the Spiritualist National Union on 0845 4580 768.

Through our college

The Arthur Findlay College is open most of the year, for day visits or weekend and week long courses. It is situated in Essex near Stansted Airport. For more information or a programme telephone 0845 4580 232.

If you require further information please write to:-

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