

Home of Abdu'l Baha
Mount Carmel, Haifa Syria
May 13th 1915

Dear friends!

The translation of a wonderful Tablet revealed from the tongue of Baha Ollah between forty and 45 years ago will not be without interest:

He is God, the most exalted, He is the essence of Knowledge and Explanation!

Blessed are the souls who have taken a shelter under the shade of the Tree of Purity! Happy is the condition of those servants who have drunk from the Wine of Sanctity! Rejoicing be unto the men who were not prevented from the knowledge of the Incomparable Lord by the insinuation of the world beloved! Happy are the righteous ones who are illumined by the light of assurance and have taken their abode beneath the shadow of the Almighty. Blessed is the community who has left behind the world and are looking toward the horizon of the Will of the Possessor of Eternity. Blessed are the apostles who have been and are practicing the Commands of God! They fast in accord with His law, they eat in conformity to His Permission, they stand in His service, speak His praises and teach His Love. Blessed are the lovers who ^{have} abandoned the empires of wealth, crossed the vast continents of land and sea and attained to the loftiest Apex and the furthestmost station! Blessed is the Society who was not deprived of listening to the rustling of Sedrat-ol-Mountaha by the traditions of the sects of the world! Blessed are the souls who are walking on the earth of this Prison! Blessed are the feet which have touched this holy land and inhaled from its atmosphere the fragrance of the Divine Verses! Blessed are the individuals who have carried the loads of persecutions in the path of the Peerless Friend! These are indeed the mountaineers of the Restoration of the True One - Exalted be His Glory -

"O ye cohorts of God! To-day the sun of explanation is shining and the Ocean of the mercy of the Most Merciful is waving. Happy is the condition of that soul who has attained to the station of accept-

and adorned with the decoration of steadfastness. Blessed are the servants who in this wilderness are crying out the sacred words: 'Here am I, O Lord of the world'. Blessed are the Pilgrims who on this ninth day of the month of fasting, the most Great Luminary [Baha Allah Himself] advanced toward them from the highest and supreme horizon of the world."

In another Tablet of the same period He says:-

"O Ali: Upon thee be the eternal peace of God! Truly I say this Wronged One has had and has no other intention save the improvement of morals and the extinction of the fire of hatred and rancour raging in the hearts. I exhort ye in the performance of good deeds, praiseworthy morals and living in accord with the laws which God has revealed in His Manifest Book. Deeds precede words. I declare by the Sun of Reality that this Wronged One fasts during the holy month of fasting and during the evenings and midnights I am engaged in prayer and supplication. ~~Hold~~ ^{to the hope} fast of prayer and fasting. Verily religion is heaven, fasting is its sun and ~~the~~ prayer is its moon. These two laws are the pillars of religion and through their practical execution the obedient will become differentiated from the rebellious. The leg of God - Exalted and glorified is He - to confirm all in the accomplishment of that which is revealed in His Everlasting Book. There are some who while clinging to the word are deprived of the meaning and while uttering high-sounding talks are dispossessed of any and all actions. Verily, God tells the truth and guides mankind to the right path and Verily He is Unique, Peerless, Mighty and Beautiful."

In a third Tablet of the same time He says:-

"O thou Grace [lit. Namah, meaning Grace] of God! There are two kinds of Graces. The first kind of grace is a nourisher of the body, the second Grace adds to the strength of the spirit. God will that thou mayest obtain these two Graces; - so that outwardly thou mayest gain the physical energy and become occupied with the commemoration, praise and service of the righteous ones and inwardly find a way to the sea of Divine Generosity. Mayest thou drink

and cause others to drink: Blessed art thou and whosoever has attained and wakened the heedless ones!"

This morning the Beloved went out and after awhile returned with Zakki Bay and entertained and spoke with him in the garden till noon. For dinner he had as guests the said gentleman, the Isammagam of Haifa, the Commander of Acca, the military physician and he sent for Doctor Halilallah, Badi Effendi and this servant to sit with them and partake of the material and spiritual food. One of the points discussed was the prevalent immorality in certain phases of the Parisian life and the urgent need of a deep moral and religious awakening in the hearts of the mass of population. "Without the direct assistance of the power of God" he said "all social reforms are temporary. The cause and the root of the evil must be eradicated. The segregation of the undesirable members of the society into one separate group is like a colony of lepers in a clean and spotless town. If the hearts are not touched by the power of divine Love nothing will avail."

In the Afternoon I found the Master in the garden, walking to and fro. Little by little several strangers came in and they were ^{served} with tea. He told them three stories about his five years stay in Adrianople and concluded with these words: "The law of God demands that men live and treat each other as brothers. In the hours of need they must practice more than ever the command of mutual cooperation. The sphere of their sympathy must be widened, the circle of their fellow-feeling must be enlarged, the conception of their solidarity must become all-inclusive. They must kindle the torch of Love in the darkness of the world and then God will come to their assistance."

In the evening he spoke about a poor half-blind man who has seven daughters. They are all married and their husbands are taken ~~to~~ to the war. These women and their children have come to the house of their father and he must provide food for all. Now the authorities have laid their hands on him and want to send him to the scene of carnage. The Master has done his best to free him and at last he ^{has} succeeded. The man was weeping with joy.