

The Voice of the Silence

10 (Verses 123-141)

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Continuing an exploration of “The Two Paths,” that is, the Path of self-perfection and the Path of service to others, verses 123 to 134 explore a theme that HPB made central to Theosophy: altruism — the willingness to live, not for oneself alone, but for others. This theme is central to the entire second fragment of the book, but is developed in these passages with special clarity.

A. VERSES [123-134].

[123] If thou art told that to become Arhan thou hast to cease to love all beings — tell them they lie.

[124] If thou art told that to gain liberation thou hast to hate thy mother and disregard thy son; to disavow thy father and call him “householder”; for man and beast all pity to renounce — tell them their tongue is false.

[125] Thus teach the Tirthikas, the unbelievers.

[126] If thou art taught that sin is born of action and bliss of absolute inaction, then tell them that they err. Non-permanence of human action, deliverance of mind from thralldom by the cessation of sin and faults, are not for Deva Egos. Thus saith the Doctrine of the Heart.

[127] The Dharma of the “Eye” is the embodiment of the external, and the non-existing.

[128] The Dharma of the “Heart” is the embodiment of Bodhi, the permanent and everlasting.

[129] The Lamp burns bright when wick and oil are clean. To make them clean a cleaner is required. The flame feels not the process of the cleaning. “The branches of a tree are shaken by the wind; the trunk remains unmoved.”

[130] Both action and inaction may find room in thee; thy body