

Bahai Nest Mount Carmel

Haifa. Syria

July 18th 1914

Dear friends!

It was 4 pm. The sun was slowly reclining toward the Western horizon, to be hidden behind Mount Carmel, nature was enfolded in the lap of luxuriant silence, the birds of inspiration were fluttering their wings in the higher regions of the souls, the delicate scent of the flowers, unheralded, stole its way into the upper sphere of the minds, the magic charm and mystic beauty of the Eastern Radiance envelopped the spirits, the divine Idea of Creation was slowly unfolded before the wondering gaze of man; the believers were sauntering in the rose-garden and speaking about the Light of the world - when as in answer to their earnest prayer the door was opened and the Master came out. No sooner they saw him than they stood in reverence before his simple, yet awe-inspiring Presence. While walking to and fro amongst the flower-beds, the sun streamed down upon his white locks its golden rays and encircled him with a halo of supernatural beauty. He spoke on the guidance of God. Laying a good foundation

for his forthcoming remarks he said:—"God addressing one of the great prophets of the past say: 'Dost thou think thou art able to guide a blind man, although he does not see? Art thou capable to suffer a deaf man to hear, while this power is not given him?' Often one false statement finds greater credence than thousand words of truth. When the veil of negligence and injustice cover the pupils of the eyes, man becomes blind to the most plain facts. Once they saw His holiness Christ flying away with great haste. They asked him: 'Why art thou running so fast?' He answered:—"I am trying to escape from the dullard." 'Oh,' they replied, 'Hast thou not the most great Name of God. With that name thou hast healed the blind and the deaf and the mute and raised the dead. Why dost thou not read it over the dullard so that he may become intelligent?' Christ answered: 'I whispered the most great Name of God into the ears of the blind and he obtained hearing, the blind found sight and the lame ^{the} kept and dead quickened, but I repeated the same name a thousand times to the dullard and saw no change in him. Therefore I am flying away from him.' When Moses got down from Mount

Sinai and saw his people have corrupted themselves by the
 worship of the molten calf saying: 'These be thy gods, O Israel,
 which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.' his wrath
 waxed hot against them and at their stiffneckedness and
 said to one of these worshippers: Why didst thou worship
 this molten calf? Why didst thou offered before it burnt
 offerings and brought peace offerings? Was it not fashioned
 with a graving tool at thy own hands? Thou hast committed
 indeed a great sin, Thou didst see so many miracles perfor-
 med by Jehovah in the land of Egypt and yet doubted
 his existence and availing thyself of my delay upon Mount
 Sinai thou didst go to Aaron and said unto him, Up, make
 us ~~Gods~~, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses,
 the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt,
 we wot not what is become of him. What didst thou
 see in this molten calf to excite thy adoration? Every
 day thou didst doubted my divine mission, but thou
 didst never entertain the same doubts about this
 molten calf. How deaf and blind thou art!....
 When the guidance of God is vouchsafed us we are
 enabled to throw away false ideas and erroneous
 thoughts. The angels of providence must come to our

assistance, the Confirmations of God must encircle us, -
 so that we may become mindful, aware, intelligent,
 and conscious of our ^{own} mistakes and shortcomings....
 Faith and assurance are the two gifts that are bestowed
 upon us through the guidance of God years ago
 there was in Acca a Scottish woman missionary. She was
 most zealous in her proselytizing but with little result.
 She did not like us at all but whenever I met her
 I inquired about her health. One day I was sitting in front
 of a store in the Bazaar and with me there was a Jewish
 Bahai by the name Mirza Azzizollah. While we
 were talking I saw Miss Ramsay pass by. I called
 after her and she came back. 'Do you see this man?'
 I asked 'Formerly he was a Jew and disliked Christ but
 now through the Guidance of God he has become a
 believer in him and worships him.' 'Oh! Is this
 true!' she exclaimed 'Am I permitted to ask him
 a few questions?' 'Surely' I answered 'you may
 ask him as many questions as you like.' Then turn-
 ing her face she asked puzzlingly. 'Do you believe
 in Christ as your Saviour?' 'Yes,' he said. 'How
 did you come to believe in him?' 'Do you want me

telling you Scriptural or rational Proofs? 'Scriptural prop'
Then for nearly half an hour this Jew spoke in an eloquent
language, ~~bringing~~^{and using} in quotations after quotations from the
old Testament to prove the validity of Christ. Then
she asked for rational evidences which were presented
with equal force and fluency. After a few moments of
silence she said: 'This is indeed a miracle, ^{the} a most
wonderful thing that could ever happen. But I have
one objection to offer: I would have been most thankful
to you if you had kept him at the fountain of Christ
but you have made him believe in Baha-Allah
and all the other prophets.' She could not realize
that the belief of this Jew in Christ was only through
the efficacy of the Words of Baha-Allah.
Because she was very angry with me, one day I told
her: Dost thou know how much I love thee?
'How could I guess?' she answered gruffly.
'I love thee as much as thou hatest me.' "

This morning the Beloved went out and on
his return he called me into his Presence. For
nearly two hours I read to him the petitions of the
believers and dictated answers.

This evening there was a large meeting and the Beloved having just returned from a walk with Mirza Haydar Ali delivered a lengthy talk on the true nature of worship. He said in part:- "To night they are holding the Feast of Elijah on the top of Mount Carmel in memory of his ascent to heaven in a chariot of fire. It is most significant that the Jews, Christians and Mohamadaus are celebrating this feast in common without any religious prejudices. Thousands of men, women and children come from the neighboring towns and villages and fill the rather large tableland and drink and dance and sing all night. Did you not see so many companies with their donkeys going up the mountain this afternoon? It is very strange to see how man is ever prompt to associate ~~the~~ worship and prayer with certain form of amusements and pastimes! There is the Moulavi sect amongst the Mohamadaus who at a specified hour gather in a hall and while one plays on the tamboorine the others dance, going through definite motions and gyrations. They claim in this manner they are worshipping God and commemorating his name "