1/24/58

The sad and tragic part is that this very thing is happening to-day. They have been taken up unto the high mountain - and not for love of them. Many proud and promising words have been spoken to them, in many tongues. The meaning of these words in not quite clear in their minds - but each repeats to his neighbour what he thinks that he has heard. In this way, the words become a song in their ears, and the song itself is an intoxication to them.

It is not that they are inspired by greed but the excitement of the promise of "things to one who has never had them can grow into greed ------- breathing out fresh threatenings and slaughter.

Is it possible that we too are being tempted - on a higher mountain, and also, not for love? If so, do the heavenly bodies tremble in fear of "little man"? Would an invasion by man upset the order of the universe ------- holding back the four winds ----- letting fall the stars ----- spilling their vials of wrath and leaving a trail of blood in their wake? Is the universe established from everlasting to everlasting ---- making a thousand years as but yesterday when it is past? Or is the battle-field between God and Satan established only in the mind of man?

Man knows that he is being tempted as he has never been tempted before .... he is also tormented with the torment of a scorpion, with a sting in its tail. He sees a New Heaven and a New Earth opening before him and the first Heaven and the first Earth are passing away. But to reach this New Heaven he must first light a holocaust which could destroy his loved earth and make it impossible to return. This fear is the sting ....

Epilogue

We walk the Eternal Shore: The Marthas, The Marys and the beautiful, unknowing children. This is our meeting place ----- on the Sea Shore of the Endless Worlds.

None of us have solved the mystery of that primal question --- "Who am I, Lord"? None of us can say from whence we came, nor whither bound.

The ragged prodigal returns to His Father's house, with empty and out-stretched hands. His Father runs to meet him --- putting a ring on his finger and a cloak around him. This is the moment made immortal and contains the miracle of human existence. The Marthas and the Marys know ---- altho" they may not always remember --- the children must be told: the gift of life is not what we take ---- but what we receive from the Giver's hand. "I am the bread of life" saith the Lord. The gift and the giver are one.

"The mountains shall bring peace to the people and the little hills, by righteousness". the banner over us is Love.