

and forms. Being deluded by the power of ignorance we forget Thee, and take pleasure in the playthings of the world. But when we come to Thee, take Thy refuge and worship Thee, Thou makest us free from ignorance and worldliness, and givest eternal happiness by keeping us, Thine own children, on Thy bosom."

The lecture by the Swami Abhedananda on "The Motherhood of God" is serious, logical, awakening, and one can hardly help feeling that only use and wont prevent us from recognizing that the phrase, "The Fatherhood of God," is really assailable. * * * * * Says Swami Abhedananda, "We live and move and have our existence in that Divine Mother." At present we are, as a rule, not much beyond the old Israelitish notion of Jehovah; and here we find this enlightened Indian's teaching specially rational and wholesome. The Hebrew religion gave us the picture of a Jehovah, stern, arbitrary, and exacting as an Eastern autocrat. Says the Swami, "The same Jehovah, when considered as the Father of the universe by Jesus and His followers, did not lose this extra-cosmic nature. Even to-day the majority of the Christians cannot go beyond this idea of an extra-cosmic God." And that is where we are to-day for the most part. What if the profound Eastern idea of the Motherhood of God, allied to our already fruitful idea of the immanent (instead of transcendent) God, should turn out to be the practical emancipation of the Western mind, delivering it from the anthropomorphic images that cluster about this "extra-cosmic" God, and introducing it to a thought of God which will bring Him absolutely near? * * * * * We have long needed a little more of this "superstition" and sentiment in "this happy English isle." Let us be hospitable to all who bring out from the treasury "things new and old," the "pearl of great price." Especially let us be hospitable to the interesting thinkers who increasingly remind us of the ancient proverb that wisdom comes from the East.—*Extracts from the leading editorial of "Light," London, July 8th, 1899.*