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## ***SPIRIT TEACHINGS BEAR DIVINE HALLMARK — SILVER BIRCH***

A MAN [Michael Flagg, unnamed] who has dedicated his life to spreading Spiritualism was given a glimpse of the spirit plan when he was addressed by Silver Birch, guide of Hannen Swaffer's home circle, in these words:

"You are no stranger to these truths which have come to you as a blinding revelation. And you recognise very clearly how you have been guided. You have work to do, and you must go on and do it for your own soul's sake.

### ***Man's bondage***

"You must look not to the left nor to the right, but go straight ahead and add your contribution. Disseminate those truths which will deliver man from bondage and rescue him not only from self-imposed prisons but also from the mighty and powerful interests that stand in the way of his attaining the spiritual richness that should be his.

**"The work on which we are all engaged bears the divine imprimatur. It is a work which must go forward in increasing measure because it is directed to the all-important task of saving mankind from himself and from those forces which have subjugated him."**

"I know I have been very blessed," said the visitor. "Nothing will stop me in the work that I have been privileged to begin."

"We would be failing in our purpose if we were to declare that the task of spiritual attainment is easy and that those who, in any measure, would attempt to

spread light where there is darkness will meet with an easy task. It could never be so.

### ***Constant warfare***

"The whole of history is against it, for truth and error have been engaged in a dreadful warfare that will not cease until infinite perfection can be achieved and that, in the very nature of the case, is unattainable. It is a long and difficult, toilsome struggle on which we are engaged.

"You do not realise the prejudice, opposition, hostility, antagonism, misrepresentation, superstition and deliberate attack that will have to be faced. I do not say these things to daunt you, but to place any quest in its proper setting. I know how difficult it is.

"I have had to overcome, with all the power at my command, almost insuperable obstacles to reach your world, and I am not alone in this. I am one of those who elected to return because it was seen that the calamities which man would bring on himself were of so awesome a character that unless the power of the spirit could effect its bridgeheads everywhere, man would destroy himself physically and the world in which he lives.

**"Wonderful though he measures his material achievements, spiritually he is still very puny. Oh that the achievements of the spirit could match the achievements of matter, that progress could be made in fields of the mind and spirit that are comparable with the advance that has been made in certain fields of material endeavour.**

"Because man is not spiritually led he is in danger of blowing himself up with forces that he is not entitled to have at his command. All our efforts are directed, wherever channels can be found, towards the single purpose of ensuring that the spiritual truths upon which the whole of life are founded should be the basis by which man everywhere builds his life.

### **Modern cancers**

"All jealousies and bickerings, all strife and fratricide, all war and chaos, all envy and jealousy, all greed and malice can be driven from the earth. Compassion, kindness, gentleness, amity and co-operation can be the principles by which men rule everywhere because of the recognition of their common spiritual nature.

"There is a bright side. It is not a picture of unrelieved gloom, because amid such obstacles and difficulties, any step forward is great progress. If you can help only one soul to be comforted when all seems drear, dark and dismal, then it has all been worth while. And you can help far more than one."

Answering the visitor's comment on psychic faculties the guide said: "You can have mediumship without high moral, ethical and spiritual attainment, but it registers on a very low vibration. If you want to reach the heights then you must pay the price.

**"The prizes of the spirit are not easy to be won, otherwise they would not be worth winning. If the victor makes no effort, what is his victory? If you can scale peaks without labour, what have you attained? It is in the very essence of the case that spiritual attainment must be a lonely, solitary path that gets more and more isolated the farther you reach because you have to leave familiar landmarks behind.**

"Wherever the effort is made from your world, at least an equal, and usually a greater, effort is put forth from our world. It is always true that any sincere request for spiritual help can never fail."

Now it was the turn of two more visitors...

### **"Laws are Perfect"**

**"YOU cannot measure the things of the spirit with your yardsticks," said Silver Birch at this séance. "Neither can you equate spiritual realities with material standards. The Power of the spirit cannot be hurried.**

**"The Great Spirit has been in charge of this universe for millions of years and, being perfect, is quite capable of continuing with universal activities. The laws are so perfect in their operation that none is excluded, none is overlooked, despite all the multitudinous aspects of being.**

**"Nothing goes wrong in natural activity. The earth never forgets to rotate on its axis. The tide always ebbs and flows with unflinching precision. The seasons follow one another. Growth is automatic, for effect always follows cause."**

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