

# Some Things George Fox Said

Note: Most of the following is 'lifted' from Cecil W. Sharman's George Fox and the Quakers. Some of the language has been 'updated' and some has not, some interpretations of what George Fox said may have crept in.

## 1. Advices:

... wait patiently upon the Lord, whatsoever condition you be in; wait in the grace and truth that comes from (the Spirit); for if you do, there is a promise to you, and the Lord God will fulfill it in you... I have found it so (through personal experience)...

... give up the world's ways and teachers and turn to the one true teacher...

... Everyone must come through this flaming two-edged sword before they can come into the Paradise of God. They must know this sword to cut down the... earthly wisdom and to burn it up... And this I know by experience...

My dear Friends, the Lord doth require more of you... because he hath committed more to you. He requires the fruits of his Spirit, and (Christ) is glorified in your bringing forth... fruits of righteousness, holiness, godliness, virtue, truth and purity, so that you may answer that which is of God in all people.

You will say 'Christ saith this' and 'the apostles say this', but what can you say? Are you a child of the Light and have you walked in the Light, and what do you speak and is it inwardly from God?

## 2. About his own condition:

... I saw that there was none among them all (respected authorities, friends, and family) that could speak to my condition... I had nothing outwardly to help me....

After a time of searching: "I heard a voice which said, 'there is one, even Christ Jesus, which can speak to thy condition'".

If I had a king's diet, palace, and attenders, all would have been as nothing... And I saw professors, priests, and people... at ease in that condition which was my misery (they were satisfied with material things and superficial status).

... I saw... the Seed of God lying thick in the ground... and there was none to gather it, and this I mourned with tears.

I did in the presence of the Lord God declare, that I did deny the wearing or drawing of a carnal sword, or any other outward weapon, against anyone.... I was sent of the Lord to stand a witness against all violence... and to bring (people) from the occasion of wars and fighting, to the peaceable Gospel; and from being evil doers...

The concern I hold that permeates all of my ministry is to turn people from darkness to the Light which Christ, the second Adam, does enlighten.<sup>1</sup>

3. About Professors: (Preachers / Priests / Authorities / The Church / Government):

I was afraid of them for I was sensible they did not *possess* what they *professed*.

Great (well known) professors” are “dark and under the chain of darkness.

... the true Church, having the invisible Christ as its head, (has no place for human priests, for) the Lord will teach his people himself.

... I saw many talked of the law, who had never known the law (never became inwardly just)... and many who talked of Christ (and who did not live by the Light of Christ)...

God, who made the world, does not dwell in temples made with hands... but in people’s hearts... Gods people are his temple....

Christ, when he sent forth his ministers, told them to give freely. He did not say: take tithes, Easter reckonings, Midsummer dues, Augmentations...

4. About Peace, Violence, Suffering

“Our principle is, and our practice has always been, to seek peace... and to follow after righteousness and the knowledge of God, seeking the good and welfare, and doing that which tends to the peace of all... All bloody principles and practices we do utterly deny; with all outward wars and strife and fightings with outward weapons, for any end, or under any pretence whatever... For this we can say to all the world: we have wronged no man’s person or possessions, we have used no force nor violence against any man, we have been found in no plots, nor (have we been) guilty of sedition. And when we have been wronged, we have not sought to revenge ourselves, we have not made resistance against authority, but wherein we could not obey for conscience’ sake we have suffered even the most of any people in the nation.

The spirit of Christ, by which we are guided, is not changeable, so as once to command us from a thing as evil and again to move unto it; and we do certainly know, and so testify to the world, that the spirit of Christ, which leads us into all Truth, will never move us to fight any war against any man with outward weapons, neither for the kingdom of Christ, nor for the kingdoms of this world.

Secondly, we do earnestly desire and wait, that by the Word of God’s power, and its effectual operation in the hearts of men, the Kingdom’s of the world may become the Kingdoms of the Lord, whereby all people out of all different judgements and professions might be brought into love and unity with God, and with one another... and might all come to witness the Prophet’s words, ‘Nation shall not lift up sword against nation...’”.

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<sup>1</sup> The Works of George Fox, Volume Seven, Page 1