Great Awakening Jim Skovran Upbeat V. 4, n.4, 1971

Inspiration can best be defined as an awakening of the mind. In the troubled times of today, our thoughts are often clouded with petty problems which we give more attention than they actually need. Each of us lives in a world which concerns only our individual needs and desires. We all need to find out what is truly important to us. Each of us needs to be awakened, and we all must discover some way to seek and to find the truth.

I can best find this truth, in a place which is declining in popularity but not in value. It is no longer the "in" place to go for many young people, but it nevertheless is "where it's at" for some of us. This place is a church.

To walk into a church at night is to pass into a different world. When we go there, we leave our surroundings behind us. As we enter the sanctuary, we become engulfed by darkness which intensifies the light of a few glittering candles on the altar. The darkness portrays a mysterious mood while the flames of the candles provide a certain degree of excitement. The cross of our Lord looms high above us and is awe-inspiring. This is a world of peace, serenity, and beauty which is ours for that glorious moment.

As I sit in a pew, I feel content ant happy; all my troubles seem so far away. Then a beautiful sensation enters my body and spreads rapidly through it. This is God. I know God is alive because He comes into me, and I become one with Him. I have found the truth. "Seek and ye shall find."

During this moment I review my life and see what little I have done with the time that God has granted to me. I look at how fortunate I have been and of the abilities which were given to me. I think of those who do not have as much as I do; the poor, the hungry and the sick. Then I thank God for everything He as given me.

God then shows me His path, but only I can decide if I am willing to follow it. He points out the barriers facing me, and He gives me the power to overcome them. God wants me to follow His teachings, and He has enlightened my mind so I may do so. He gives me a purpose in life. He shows me the truth. God has awakened my mind and has let me to the true beauty and meaning of life. I need not depend on anyone or anything else but my God.