

GLEANINGS FROM OUR PAST

Letter from Sister Lasius

91 Graham St.
Jersey City Heights, N.J.
Oct. 10, 1910

Mrs. Ida Smithson Wood
Dear Sister:

Your letter of Sept. 21st is [sic] received a few days ago. It has been mis-carried because of being wrongly directed. My letters now are always addressed to 91 Graham St., Jersey City Heights, N.J. Well, I am very glad indeed to hear from you. I remember well the name of Smithson in Lunenberg Co., Va., though sorry that there is

still ecclesial trouble to mar that spirit of "joy and peace in believing" which ought to characterize Christadelphians everywhere.

In reference to your question as to whether the Dr., my dear father, was re-immersed upon the fuller understanding of resurrection and judgment and "*mortal emergence*" from the grave—I think I can answer in the negative—I never heard him mention a *third* immersion or say that it was necessary.

In obedience to the Apostle Paul's command that believers should "endeavor to keep the unity of the spirit

in the bond of peace" as he wrote to the saints at Ephesus, it is necessary that they accept the teaching of Paul upon all things and not throw out any part of it.

Consequently we are bound to accept the exposition of the doctor, as from a competent expounder of Paul's doctrine. This is only reasonable and right. Why should anyone want to substitute their own notions of things upon such important matters—and not give honor to whom honor is due? Surely we should all have been as lost sheep wandering o'er the dark mountains of error and superstition if it had not pleased the Father in heaven to raise up such a faithful workman as our beloved teacher brother Thomas, to lead us out into the "light of the knowledge of the glory of God, in the face of Jesus Christ" (II Cor. 4:6).

Why should anyone desire to ignore or substitute something else in place of his valuable work? What trouble it causes among those who ought to be knit together in love of the truth, and trying to build up one another in our most holy faith.

Dear Sister,—I shall be glad to hear from you again. Believe me ever—

Yours in the one hope of Israel

E.J. Lasius

Some may be prompted to enquire—

"Is it necessary to understand all the details of the Resurrection and Judgment in order to possess the faith that justifies?" In reply I would say—if it were necessary there would scarcely be found in this generation a corporal's guard of justified believers. I apprehend that if a person heartily believes in "the resurrection of the just and the unjust," and that both these classes will appear in the presence of the Righteous Judge "to give account of themselves to him," their understanding so far is sound upon these two first principles.

Dr. John Thomas

Anastasis, Preface, p.1. ¶2

Transcribed from a fragile handwritten copy given to me by Brother Edwin H. Harris, South Hill, Virginia, August 15, 1982. Sister Lasius was the daughter of Brother Thomas.