

THE CHART

Jesus and Ourselves

"Instruction for Teachers and Believers"

3. INSTRUCTION FOR TEACHERS AND BELIEVERS

1 At Edrei, where Thomas and his associates labored, Jesus spent a day and a night and, in the course of the evening's discussion, gave expression to the principles which should guide those who preach truth, and which should activate all who teach the gospel of the kingdom. Summarized and restated in modern phraseology, Jesus taught:

2 Always respect the personality of man.

Never should a righteous cause be promoted by force;

Spiritual victories

1. JESUS' RESPECT FOR OUR PERSONALITY (27)

There are at least four ways in which one man can impose his will on another.... Let us see how Christ regarded these four methods.

First of all, think of physical power. Jesus must have been in touch with resources of physical power which no one else could tap.... He could end oppression. He could give men justice; and it might be argued that, if His aim were good, the use of this force would have been legitimate. Yet the striking thing is that, out of respect for man's personality, Jesus will not try to win even a righteous cause by force (27-28).

I have seen a picture called 'Victory' which shows a hill-top, a standard floating proudly from a flag-staff, a captain standing with uplifted sword among the remnant of his followers, and the bodies of the beaten enemy lying around. Many would like to picture in their minds the victory of God like that (34).