

A READING FROM THE SERMONS OF HERMES TRISMEGISTUS

Father instruct me in regeneration, either by word of mouth or secretly, for I know not, O Trismegistus, of what Substance, or what Seed, or what womb a man is thus born.

O son, this wisdom is to be understood in silence, and the seed is the true Good.

Who sows it, O Father?

The will of God, O Son.

And what manner of Man is he, that is thus born?

Son, things of this kind are not taught, but are by God, brought to remembrance when he pleases.

Then tell me this; who is the Author and Maker of regeneration?

The Child of God, one Man by the Will of God.

Now, O Father, you have put me to silence forever, and all my former thoughts have quite left and forsaken me; for I see the greatness and shape of things here below and nothing but falsehood in them all.

O Son, hold your peace and praise God in silence and by that means the mercy of God will not cease or be wanting to us. Therefore, rejoice, my Son, from henceforward, being purged by the power of God, to the Knowledge of the Truth. For the revelation of God is come to us, and when that came, all ignorance is cast out.

According to God, whosoever, has by Mercy obtained this Generation, he, leaving all bodily sense, knows himself to consist of divine things and he rejoices, being made by God stable and immutable.