

The "Seven Principles of Spiritualism" Explained



The philosophy of Spiritualism is founded upon Seven Principles which Spiritualists can interpret as they think best. The concepts and original wording of the Seven Principles came through the mediumship of Emma Hardinge Britten who was a Spiritualist medium and great speaker on Spiritualism's philosophy. She was inspired in 1871, by the communicating spirit of Robert Owen, to summarise the philosophy of Spiritualism in principles that all Spiritualists would agree. These have since become known as the Seven Principles of Spiritualism.

1. The Fatherhood of God

By the study of Nature, by personal experience and from the wisdom given to us from those in the spirit-world we recognise that there is a creative force in the universe. This force created the whole universe and life itself in its many forms. This 'Creative Force' manifests in all things and as we are part of the Life created by God, we acknowledge God as our Father.

2. The Brotherhood of Man

We are all part of the universal creative force, one large human family in God. Spiritualists try to understand the needs of others and aim to help all people materially, emotionally, and spiritually.

3. The Communion of Spirits and the Ministry of Angels

Spiritualism aims to prove that there is life after death and encourages the development of mediums who are able to communicate with the many loved relatives and friends in the spirit world. There are people in the spirit world who are dedicated to the welfare and service of mankind - some bring inspiration and guidance whilst others help with healing.

4. The Continuous Existence of the Human Soul

Spirit is part of the 'Creative Force' and indestructible. After death the spirit continues in a different dimension, that we call the 'spirit world'. In the spirit world we have a spirit body which, until we progress far enough, is a replica of our earthly body. We have the same personality and characteristics and we change and grow, as we would on earth, by experience and as result of our own efforts.

5. Personal Responsibility

Responsibility for wrongful thoughts and actions, in every aspect of life, lies with the individual. No other person or influence can put right our wrong doings. No one can interfere with our spiritual development unless we allow this.

6. Compensation and Retribution hereafter for all the Good and Evil Deeds Done on Earth

Spiritualists believe that this sixth Principle is a natural law and has been expressed by others as, 'as you sow, so shall you reap'. If someone is cruel and vindictive towards others then in some way retribution will follow; if someone gives love and kindness then compensation follows. This law operates now, on earth, as well as in the spirit world.

7. Eternal Progress Open to Every Human Soul.

All who want to walk the path that leads to perfection are able to progress in mental and spiritual understanding. By doing our best in earth life and by following our inward intuitions we shall find progress comes on earth and in spirit.

Thanks to the Spiritualist National Union for the information supplied on their website:

www.snu.org.uk/Spiritualism/philosophy.htm