

How futile seem our phylacteries, our amulets and charms, when compared to the many opportunities we have to enlarge our minds, and increase our willingness to do good.

Some one, in envisioning the coming of a world at peace, has written:- "The lion with the lamb shall dwell, the leopard with the kid." While that may be a possibility of the future it has had no place in the history of the past. A tiny drop of stagnant water, under a powerful microscope, shows warfare and destruction between the fearful beasts of that miniature universe.

A version about fleas accredited to Swift, reads as follows:-

"So, naturally to observe, a flea
Has smaller fleas, that on him prey.
And these have smaller still to bite 'em.
And so proceed, ad infinitum."

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~~And~~ this is now, so it probably has always been. The birth of fear and struggle must, therefore, date from man's earliest experiences.

The human race certainly had its beginning. Perhaps 50,000 years ago, but the story of Adam and Eve will suffice. Surrounded by everything to make one happy and contented, they evidently suspected or feared that they were being denied something that was their due, and therefore ate of the forbidden fruit. Later, follows the story of Cain and Abel in which jealousy, or fear, caused one to become a murderer.

Wherever it was that man had his beginning, he had to eat and drink. He feared the other denizens of the forest and water holes, and they feared him. The children which followed, no matter how perfect or how primitive, were taught the cunning which enabled them to survive, when the greater, better protected, more powerful and more ferocious animals became extinct.