

A Presbyterian Minister in Dallas
Texas, had a Very dear friend who
died two years ago at the age of fifty.
Recently he wrote the following words
in his Church newsletter:

The scripture read by Alex expresses
the Christian conviction that our dead did
not cease to be the moment the breathing
ceased and the heart stopped, that they are
alive in God, and that they are exerting
a living influence on us now. It is this
last point that may be startling to those of us
who have been trained to think of our dead
as being in that "happy land, far, far away."
The Bible offers no encouragement to probe into
the exact nature of the life beyond and seems
to commend a hearty agnosticism. "They are
as like the angels," said Jesus, and how much do
we know about the angels? They are "alive
in God." "I'll come again and talk ~~to~~ you
to myself, that I can see how you may be
also." That's all -- and that's all we need
to know. What, then, do we mean by
the dead exerting an influence on us now?