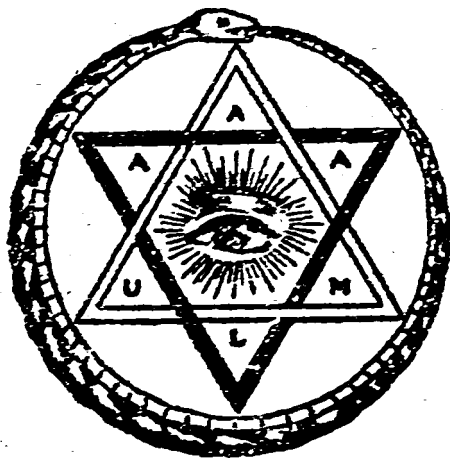


THE
DIVINE · LIFE

A Mirror of the Soul

TRUTH ALONE IS REAL.



DECEMBER, 1908

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CONTENTS

THE INTIMATE.....	195
ONE PHASE OF REINCARNATION.....	198
SPIRITUAL RESEARCH.....	203
HEART CENTER.....	207
A LIVING WITNESS TO THE HIGHER LIFE.....	208
CORRESPONDENCE... ..	209

Those who wish to unite with the Uranides on this Continent may apply to the Association of Uranian Mystics at the Heart Center, Lodge 1., Urania Mission, VIA LAS CRUCES. N. M., or DIVINE LIFE CENTER, LODGE II., A. U. M. 255 OAKWOOD BOULEVARD, CHICAGO, ILL.

THE URANIAN MYSTICS

THIS Sisterhood and the Brotherhood formed on similar lines constitute the Central Heart of the Order of the Golden Rule, and are composed of women and men who have reached, through effort and aspiration, a stage in evolution where spiritual growth and unfoldment must take precedence over all other interests in life; who have pledged their own immortal Selves to devote all the energy and power of their lives to the uplifting and betterment of their fellowmen, regardless of nationality, race or creed; who firmly believe that the religion of every human being, if sincerely followed, is the manifestation of the inmost soul, the essence of the spiritual Self of that being, and as such is holy ground. None are able to enter the Pathway of the Uranian Mystics who have not attained to this state of human consciousness. Having reached this point, they are brought under practical instructions for soul development. Soul sight and soul hearing are taught by scientific methods, followed by demonstrating the continuity of life beyond the change called death, through the conscious transition from the physical body on to the higher spheres of life. Each stage of development is dependent upon the disciple's ability to grasp the laws of spiritual unfoldment.

The Divine Life

A MONTHLY MIRROR OF THE SOUL

CELESTIA ROOT LANG, Editor

VOL. I

CHICAGO, ILL., DECEMBER, 1908

NO. 12

THE INITIATE

LET your Light shine that others may see your good works that they may glorify their Father in Heaven also. Who is the Father in Heaven? This vague idea of the Father in Heaven, of which Jesus often spoke in so familiar a way, needs to be brought down to a certainty before the reasoning mind can grasp it.

To whom was Jacob speaking when he exclaimed, My Lord and my God! The Lord is in this place (the inner temple) and I knew it not! He recognized his inner God, the voice of his Lord, his own Higher SELF, his Father in Heaven. Was it an audible voice? heard through the organ of hearing on the sense plane, this voice of his God? No, I have the interior evidence in saying; that never yet did the voice of God speak audibly to man on the sense plane of hearing, other than through the inner senses.

Abraham talked with God, and Moses talked with God, but it was their inner God which, Jesus, called the Father in Heaven. Abraham, Moses, and Jesus, were Initiates in the Great Lodge, that is, they had come into the inner consciousness where speech, as we hear it on the outer plane, is dropped and communication takes place through the Soundless Sound; but if it is to be expressed on the outer plane, it must be translated into human language as the divine or celestial language cannot be understood by any except those who have been initiated; not by any ritual, or ceremony, but by hearing it.

The Initiate; is there another word to be found in the English language, so full of meaning, that has been so misapprehended and misunderstood? To try to explain it from an intellectual point of view is a most failure, for no man or woman has ever been found who could find words to fully express its *words* or hidden meaning, except those who have passed through that change or transformation which takes place within one who has truly been initiated; none other can apprehend or explain it.

Many there are in the Masonic and other Lodges, while having conferred upon them the benefits of many fraternities, in the Masonic, to the third degree or Master Mason, yet, have not truly been initiated, and thousands have traveled the path of the Mysteries of the Order, passing initiation after initiation, to higher and higher degrees only to emerge uninitiated. If you were to ask me to define "initiation" I would define it by using one word, and that is, *transmutation*, the change of one substance into

another, the consciousness must pass through a spiritual
 transmutation into a finer and finer or more interior state
 of consciousness; that which we call *self-consciousness*;
 hence it is not a state that can be reached by the mind,
 nor defined by the intellect; it belongs to the inner or
 super-sensory, the plane of the inner senses; thus, the
 first step, in initiation, is to blend the mind and soul, and
 this transmutation—which Jesus explained in the hidden
 meaning of the parable of the leaven—continues until
 the whole lump is leavened; until the five inner senses,
 sight, hearing, taste, smell and touch are purified and are
 ready to pass into the sixth. . . . Then, the initiate passes
 into that One consciousness and lives therein; and that
 One is the Higher SELF, the Christos, the highest vibration
 or Christ-consciousness; hence, it is utterly impossible for
 a soul to attain Christ-consciousness without the appropriate
 inner initiation or transmutation, of which he or she may
 or may not have been sufficiently conscious to express it
 in words, but nevertheless it had been going on all the
 time; and the result is *self-hearing* and *self-sight*; and
 his or her recognition of the fact, as he first hears the
 Voice of his own Higher SELF, his exclamation may be
 and probably will be—My Lord and my God! and in the
 age of the Patriarchs, the next step would have been to
 build an altar to their God; but in this age the next step
 is to reason; to ask from whence the Boundless Voice
 comes, and to question and search, and search; perhaps
 for twenty years; and when you have found the answer,
 you have found YOURSELF; your inner God, or Father in
 Heaven.

In our present state of evolution we may attain initiation in this incarnation, in other words become an Initiate. From the foregoing may be gleaned a glint of what it means to become an Initiate in the Great Lodge. Many believe that Initiation can be no other than the reception into certain rites, but I would have you know, you that have not entered into the Great Lodge, that Initiation is a great change and a great mystery, which takes place within the person initiated; nevertheless, the door to the mystery is ever open to those who would tread the "narrow way" to the true Initiation; and all are welcome who come prepared; and this preparation is a desire for Wisdom and Oneness with the Higher SELF; to attain the Christ-consciousness and live the divine life.

ONE PHASE OF REINCARNATION

DEAR SISTER CELESTIA:—God bless you for your letter! Help me! In the name of the Almighty One whom you and I worship in the Light! Help me to understand one question! Who am I? Where did I come from? How did I come to earth? Can any mortal being understand me?... You yourself must have passed through soul experiences similar to mine, and thus are able to judge rightly and advise kindly... I send you my manuscript as a sample of my strange soul state. J. B.

DEAR SISTER:—I have read your manuscript, and have heard the cry of your soul; and I feel that if you had a knowledge, an inner understanding, of Reincarnation it would answer all your questions and satisfy your reason

perfectly; but your question, Who am I? shows that you have not a correct conception of Reincarnation. Who could you be but yourself or the aggregate of your ancestral selves? unless you were obsessed, your real self, the the reincarnating Ego, which takes on, life after life, another personality, garment or "shadow", but you, are not your personality or fleshly garment, which you have donned from time immemorial; through which to manifest on the material plane; and all the knowledge which your personalities have gained from experience is transmuted and stored in your real self which is permanent and immortal, and one with the Higher SELF. Get this fixed in your mind, that you, are an entity, hence, your real identity never changes, through the process of Reincarnation, in its course of evolution. This is all very clear to me; if Jesus, for instance, were to be again incarnated he would still be the same entity; of which Jesus of Nazareth is only one phase or one of his personalities; if the last of his ancestral selves; then, he would need to adjust himself to the present mode of life and the western civilization, if he chanced to be born in the Occident; though he might not be able to recall an incident in his past life until he again becomes united to his Higher SELF, the Christos, and through the SELF regains the knowledge that he possessed at that time. Gautama and Jesus, each passed their thirtieth year before they entered Nirvana or become "enlightened", and began their public teaching. As Jesus said, of myself, my personal self, I can do nothing. It was only when he was in conscious union

with his Higher SELF—while they were One—the living power made free in Him, that power which was HIMSELF, that he could speak and act for the Christ which was himself, in other words, his self-consciousness was merged into his Christ-consciousness and he spoke from his Higher SELF or Christos when he spake as never man spake, not only that, but he was in the consciousness which contains all knowledge; he was able to translate the Voice in the Spiritual Sound, the celestial language, into human language.

But to return to your own phase of development; and I venture to say, that these strange experiences, which we will term «visions», are incidents from the pages of your ancestral selves; when you were born in the Orient, perhaps a Yogi, and your Soul is out of harmony with the present ideas and mode of life; why drag the past manner and customs of life into the present? they do not belong to the permanent. You are trying to describe the Third-heaven of Paul; that which is «unlawful to tell». I have pondered over that many times; why it was «unlawful»? but I understand it now; Paul was an Initiate, Pledged to Silence; the Initiates knew but were forbidden to attempt to describe these states. This sentence of Paul's would, alone, prove him to be an Initiate; and this, «then the mortal puts on immortality; and Death is swallowed up in Victory» the inner or occult meaning is, the self-consciousness is transmuted into the Higher; and now thyself is lost in Self. Thyself unto (merged into) THYSELF, merged in That SELF from which thou first didst radiate—and

Death is swallowed up in Victory!" and this again shows what it is to become an Initiate. You need to study the Esoteric; and you will find YOURSELF. Your soul's cry has evidently been heard at the Heart Center and you will get help. Your type of unfoldment does not belong to the Occidental world at all, so to speak. It seems that you have found re-birth in this land so differently constructed in mentality; but all Orientals who find re-birth in the Occident will have to go through the same readjustment when they awake to soul-consciousness; and it behooves them to readjust themselves to the age in which they are reborn; in place of trying to adjust the advancing age to the age in which they, or that of their last ancestral self; this is where many advanced souls fail; and give up the battle and lose their chance of helping the younger humanity. Oh to know! is the voiceless cry of every awakened Soul, accompanied by an intense desire for some one who can understand them; it was my experience for years on years; until I knew that it was impossible for another to understand until they too had come into the same state of consciousness; the same vibration; the same round of the ladder; and again you find that it is only those on the same or next lower round, that you can reach down to help as all below this, "their eyes are holden" and though you make it as plain as day, they cannot see; these are those, who, having eyes, see not, and ears, hear not; and you must know that the ladder is not from one step to another in ascent, each round is a spiral; but being on the same round, I hope I may be able to help you; no one



is ready to be helped until he is willing to help others. When you have attained illumination, "all things will be brought to your remembrance," that which you have desired to know unfolds to your consciousness like the opening petals of a rose.

Did Shelley, Coleridge, Keats, Byron, Burns, or did Homer, Shakespeare, Milton, and Browning sing? I, too, sang ages before they were born; for I am bound on the wheel of re-birth, and I have chanted world-songs in the dim past, and I will chant them again. . . . And though I be least of them that sing always, before His face, still will I sing on, desirous only of doing good—helping another to find the path. . . .

Comrade, brother, there is something better, sweeter, deeper than the wisdom of this world. My songs are built on it. It is Love. If you deny me and my songs you deny Love and yourself who are a part of me. . . .

I have longed to help you more than to live. I did not seek you in trade. See these? Only a few verses.

. . . . The mists of that change which men call death must come soon. We shall awake from the Nightmare men call Life. After a long time we shall return to it again; and, if the Lord wills, come upon these faint traces of our past. We shall not feel ashamed of our words if they helped some one when we were gone into the Silence for our rest.

I pray for you that the wine in the Cup may
never turn bitter!

I pray, Brother, whom I have never seen with
these earthly eyes, for you—for you !
Let us go into the Peace ; but, ere we go, here
are a few verses to read upon the way !
Let us go into the Heart of the Lotus where
the Dove sits !
Come, I am eager to be gone !
Peace be with you !

REM. A. JOHNSTON

SPIRITUAL RESEARCH

ARISE! Shine! for thy Light (illumination) is come
and the glory of thy Lord (the Christ, the Higher
SELF) is upon thee!

For a score of years there has been in existence a
Society for Psychical Research, including only the Psychic
plane, and those who are interested in demonstrating the
phenomena of that plane.

The time seems propitious; the fields white for the
harvest; ready for a Society for Spiritual Research; for
demonstrating the state of consciousness above that of
the psychic. Truth can be demonstrated.

But unto whom is the arm of the Lord (the Christ the
Higher SELF, the demonstrator and manifestor) revealed?
Who are ready to become members of such an association?
while many might be interested and become members;
the research must needs be carried on by the few, those
that have attained the plane of soul-consciousness, and

can be relied upon in educating facts emanating from the higher realm of consciousness, which they themselves have attained or become; and these facts are to be held sacred to Science; as Science includes the visible and invisible, and not brought down to the plane of sensation; the plane of psychic phenomena.

The *DIVINE LIFE* has been in the field for two years as an exponent of spiritual unfoldment, along the lines of the Higher or inner consciousness which the Editor herself has experienced; and many articles and letters have been published showing that others have attained the same plane of consciousness. And now the way is open for the *DIVINE LIFE* to serve the Masters in a broader capacity and more extended field, by uniting with the Association of Uranian Mystics and the Divine Life Center, an Association for the demonstration of practical spiritual unfoldment; and Spiritual Research in the realm of soul-consciousness; and the door is open to all those who are in earnest in their search for the Truth, through the development of their own Higher consciousness. There are no pledges; only filling out a Petition for membership. It would seem that all the subscribers for the *DIVINE LIFE* are ready for this step. There is no organization to be kept up; no fees, nor dues, only voluntary offerings. It is simply forming a Center, an Outer Court, for those who have access to the Inner Court, or Great Lodge, to come together, or rather, to focus their separate Rays of Light, into one Radiation that it may extend over a greater area; that all that come within its radius may receive di-

rect help from the Inner Court, besides that which they receive through the Uranian and Divine Life literature. Many of the old subscribers have already joined; they have, in a sense, become "wireless" stations connected with the main stations, Heart Center, and Divine Life Center. These stations will all become as Beacon Lights to the weary Pilgrim on the Path.

My Dear Sister:—Just a line to tell you how delighted I am with the November number of the DIVINE LIFE. I have read it with greatest interest.

Page 192, "Do you know anything of this?" Yes, I do. I received the same sort of a letter some time ago; and I sent for the "Fire Book", at the same time begging to be excused from entering into the "Magic Circle." I am forwarding the book to you; do not return it, I have no use for it. Read the book, please. "Do you find the stamp of devotion? Does the Higher SELF speak?" I leave it to you to judge. "Jesus did not teach the HOW of financial success."

I can endorse every word of your outspoken answer. Yes, you are very open; very outspoken. God bless you for it; you are doing an immense good; you have done me good just by your brave sincerity. You are a true champion of the Great Work; it must succeed! it will be a great success. The divine work of those unselfish workers in the vineyard of our Lord; to enlighten, uplift, help and comfort the struggling wandering souls; not for money's sake—just for the sake of a (God bless you.)

My soul just aches and shivers in seeing God's Word misused; shielding cupidity and ignorance; dragging into the very money market the most holy treasures of the soul.

O God! Oh, for another MASTER to overturn once more those tables and send the false prophets out of «my Father's House.» It is not easy for the untrained eye to distinguish at first sight the wheat from the chaff, and they take for genuine that which is counterfeit, hugging powerless idols unto their heart, to find at the end that they are misled and ill-advised. Happy those who have found a true guide and helper, one who is serving our Lord for his own holy cause, we may trust them and follow their advice. They do not trifle with the great «Living Fire». They are High Priests of Om. Beware of the Living Fire! Oh ye who are not yet called; do not approach too near; it is all consuming, an all devouring flame. God's eternal flame can only be worshiped in holiness and purity.

I am progressing, and am very very happy.

Yours in the Love of our Lord.

Mrs. J. B.

I want to remove the barrier which Orthodox Christianity has placed between God and man. If Jesus is the only Son of God, then the rest of humanity are aliens created for God and His only Son to experiment on! That is about what the Orthodox Creed amounts to, to those that have outgrown it. The truth iterated, and reiterated will in time take root in the consciousness; and when it is once rooted in that soil it can never again be uprooted.

So long as you worship, Jesus, as a mediator or redeemer, you place Him between yourself and God, between yourself and your Higher SELF, or real Christ.

Some writers say, they will not use the word Christ, because of its hackneyed use in the Orthodox Christianity. But that is just what I desire to do; to remove the hack-

ne'dness and place it in the hearts of the people where it belongs; for there is no other Name (or means) under Heaven, that is, in the sense world, whereby you can save the lower self, how? by uniting or transmuting the consciousness into the Higher SELF; and thus the Christ becomes your Savior.

HEART CENTER

BELOVED SISTER CELESTIA :—I have just received your letter with applications enclosed. I am rejoiced to know that so many are ready for a step so far advanced as the movement represented by the A. U. M. I often would that I could enjoy with you the letters of rejoicing that come to this Center from eager souls who feel that at last they have entered the stream that will lead them most direct to the great ocean of universal Love.

Our morning lesson was the Ten Virgins from your book «Behold the Christ,» and Sappho, a child of eight years, was delighted and remarked at the closing of the service, «Well surely, the virgin who wrote this book has oil in her lamp.»

I always look forward to the coming of your letters, although I am in constant communion on the plane of our Realities, still the little outward messages of comradeship are very dear and welcome. Peace be unto thee, and All Light, thou who dwellest in thy «ten-gate city» of Perfection.

Fondly—fraternally—SISTER ONFA.

«Listen only to the Voice which is soundless»,—the Voice of my own Higher Self—the inner Master.

A LIVING WITNESS TO THE HIGHER LIFE

From the Rev. M. E. Taylor. I love to use the term Reverend, when it is not merely an empty title. No one has a right to the title of Reverend who does not live the Higher life; and is not able to hold his title clear to the mansions in his Father's House.

It is only the awakened souls that can find and recognize each other in the cosmic-consciousness. Why? because their lamp is lit, all others are groping in the dark.

Santa Barbara, Cal., Nov. 23, 1908.

Editor THE DIVINE LIFE.

Beloved Sister Student in the Divine Wisdom Religion. Through the politeness and spirit of our beloved Sister Onfa, of Urania Mission, New Mexico, I have been cheered and made increasingly happy by the pure thought flashes that have recently greeted me on the pages of the DIVINE LIFE, published in the city of Chicago, Ill., under the manifestation and guiding hand of Celestia Root Lang - your worthy self.

And your first name sports an immortal charm among the divine or Higher Life Constellations, a sweet name sported by a dear one to myself, who has been a teacher in the beautiful Spirit realm for a long time. Yes, that dear ministering angelic one has proved a brilliant illumination and instructor to me for many years through the veil; and I grasp it, that you are on a like plane with that angelic Celestia, in your uplifting and truly instructive work. Well, go on, dear daughter of the INFINITE DUAL AUM; and help divinityize humanity up the steeps; out of darkness into the light. I am much impressed with your truly spiritual work, and I pray for your success in the Golden Rule Enterprise. Yours in the sweet name and love for all that is pure and illuminating.

Evangelus Taylor.

1236 Garden Street, Santa Barbara, Cal.

My dear dear Celestia Lang: "Behold the Christ" Too great for any words of mine to touch! I wish that all who are ready for the message might read this book written, surely, by your Father in Heaven.

I enclose a dollar bill, send me two copies to send out. It is so wonderful the message. With Love, L. E. A.

Dear Sister Soul:— I have found that with every one who reads "Behold the Christ", and comprehends it, there is formed a link, as it were, or bright Ray between their soul and mine; and they become one of the (wireless) stations in the Soundless Sound; and words as we know them are no longer necessary, space seems to be eliminated and they stand at my side, a very presence; for have we not the same Blessed One? which is the link between every awakened soul; then are we members one of another.

Dear Sister Celestia: The book "Behold the Christ" and another copy of The Divine Life received. You can hardly realize what a feast these things are to my hungry soul; for I have been literally starved for that which alone feeds the Higher life. Yes, I am a member of the Heart Center, which I suppose is the same as Divine Life Center; and I am so thankful to have found two such beautiful souls as yourself and Sister Onfa. . . . I am reading the books and they are helping me to understand the Bible.

Lovingly your Sister, E. S. P.

DEAR SISTER CELESTIA:—What a wonderful work is yours! What a longing this work satisfies in hungry souls like mine. Yourself and Sister Onfa have touched cords in my soul that never vibrated to any other call or work,

9/11/11

I am only a babe in my a b's but Oh so hungry and anxious for Bread! and I never felt before that I had found the true way, for the churches only gave us a crumb when we asked for bread: but I now feel as though I had indeed found the bread of life. May you be preserved in your labor of love and I know you will.

With love, E. S. L.

Shakti Margya Sahit Office.

Bangalore City, India. Nov. 10, 1906.

Editor Divine Life:

Dear Sister—Your very excellent journal just received. The advanced thoughts are very well expounded in your journal. The wearied souls must find solace and comfort while reading it.

Yours faithfully, E. S. Swamy.

14 Yashwanth Lane Calcutta India Nov. 10, 1906

Dear Sister Calcutta—I am very thankful for the copy of 'DIVINE LIFE' sent me. . . . I am in correspondence with dear Sister Orla and have just sent the Petition duly filled out for membership in the A. U. M. I would advise all our poor dear souls to remember me in your prayers; I am struggling hard to gain the knowledge that this world cannot impart, save through the 'Jesus' within each one of us. I am sure you will be able to help me. I am very anxious to get thoroughly acquainted with the subjects you write about. I think 'Behold the Christ' must be a very good book. I will remit money later on for a copy. May the Light that lighteth every man shine brightly in your soul.

Your earnest Friend Swamy. D. Anthony.