

# THE INNER LIFE

THE HERALD OF THE NEW AGE

*Preparing the minds of men for the  
coming of that Age.*

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Devoted to the study of the Soul and of experiences  
of an inner nature pertaining to the Soul life.

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## EDITORIAL

### DIVINE UNION

**T**O MANY students of the higher law how God works His will on earth remains a great mystery.

In this article we will try to make clear some facts which will enable thinking minds to see that God can work on earth only through man, that man is the natural and only channel through which He can make His will and purpose manifest.

First realize that man in his true nature is made in the image and likeness of God. Why? Only so God, when all is ready, can perfectly express His Self and His Nature through him. Think! Must this not be so? Otherwise why should God make man at all? Why not be content with the animal and other kingdoms of nature where there are no minds or wills to burden or limit the perfect expression of the species? Why create or bring into existence anything that might thwart His will and cause inharmony in an otherwise seemingly perfect world? For, from

all reports, it was only when man appeared as a permanent resident on earth that sin and its consequent inharmonies came into existence.

Thinking minds, and especially those who are conversant with the teachings in our articles on the Soul, realize that man is the final evolution of *form* which permits of God's endowing His creatures with many of His own attributes, and of course for the sole purpose—when the creature man has unfolded in *consciousness* sufficiently to make it possible, by recognizing and acknowledging the God attributes and qualities in him—of *enabling God to express freely His Divine Self and Nature and to manifest His will on earth even as in Heaven.*

So that God is and must be working His will in and through man, even if as yet man cannot see it and will not admit it. We will now try to show you definitely how this must be so.

We will not attempt in this article to tell of God Himself, of Who He is or What He is; for we wish to tell you instead of His Representatives, of Those He has sent here purposely and consciously to do His will, to make of earth and all upon it like unto the Kingdom of Heaven, the Divine Idea God had for this earth from the beginning.

We therefore ask you to realize that these Representatives are the Sons of God we told you about in the Soul articles—*are your own Higher Selves.* Think what this means! If it is hard for you to realize that God dwells in you, *is you, is your very Self,* then know Him in His Representatives—your Higher Selves. For in very truth is *your Higher Self* a ray of Him, a reflection or reflector of Him in matter, even if most poorly outpictured in flesh—as you see yourself through the imperfect lens of your human mind—but a truly perfect image and likeness of Him in your Real Nature.

This may be difficult for some to realize who are not yet conscious of the Loving One Within, but these words are intended chiefly for those who have found Him and *know* He is there, deep within their hearts, who are waiting upon Him there, seeking only to please Him, concerned only that they are doing perfectly what He wants them to do. They are the ones we wish to know that He whom they have found there is not only the REAL You,

your I AM, but is an actual Son of God, is very God, Himself, reflected in You.

From this you may glimpse how God works through man, through you—even if you are not yet very conscious of Him. Without such an understanding of these Sons of God as your Higher Selves, God cannot be satisfactorily explained to the human mind. Not that the human mind in its natural state can ever clearly comprehend God, the Ineffable One, but we feel that it must be brought to some understanding that satisfies its reason, before it can be lifted into a consciousness where it is able to grasp the fact of its own non-reality as a separate or human state of being. The principal purpose of this article is to give the final push that will not only lift it into but will establish it in such consciousness. In other words, our effort will be to bring about its union with your Higher or Christ Consciousness.

We ask you to think for a while what this means—what union, complete oneness with your True Self, a direct Ray of or Descendant from God, would mean, were you to accomplish it while still in the flesh. Try to see yourself as an actual, *conscious* Son of God, conscious of all that has happened from the very beginning—of all your countless lives on earth; of your descent from the Celestial Realms; of your activities there; of your many previous experiences and training in world building; of your existence preceding that as a human soul on another planet long before the earth was born; of your long, long journey back to *your* Father's Consciousness; of the vast Wisdom gained from such experience, extending back through a million millenniums of time,—for such a Son of God you actually are, and such is the knowledge you possess and which you can pass down to your brain mind whenever there is a need for it to know any part of that knowledge.

Think long and earnestly upon this so that you will remember it and understand when later we make very definite statements about your having all knowledge within you.

Try to realize this, and that the sole purpose of your physical life is to bring your brain mind into the full consciousness of your divine mind and into the all-knowing of your Real Self. This must surely come when the Wall of Self has been destroyed and

there are no longer two selves—only one, and you *know* you are that one—a *conscious* Son of God.

Now we are going to speak to you from the consciousness of a Son of God in order to help lift your consciousness into oneness with that of your True Self.

First realize that We, as your Higher Selves, are all one in consciousness, are one in that same consciousness from which Christ Jesus spoke, when He said, "I and my Father are one," and also "I came forth from the Father and I am come into the world; again I leave the world and go unto the Father." Which means We have such oneness of consciousness that We *are not*—of ourselves, knowing We are but attributes of the Father through which He is expressing His Divine Nature on earth.

As your Higher Selves, Our constant effort is to get your recognition of Us within you—not as a Master or Teacher separate from you, but that you may feel and know Us *within your hearts* as the Great Love of the Father there, seeking to express through that Love and to explain to you Our life and nature. This means that that part of you, your human mind and intellect which have their abode in the head, and which for so long have encouraged and maintained for you your sense of self and separation, must be dethroned and be brought to realize Us within the *heart* as the Source and directing Cause of their being, and be taught to wait upon and lovingly serve Us there.

Through such service in time the sense of self and its importance will gradually disappear, for Service and the consequent blessings that We cause to manifest will not feed or encourage such a sense; instead more and more will there grow a realization of and dependence upon Us, learning that We are really doing all that is being done, that the human part is merely a covering, a channel, developed and prepared by Us for Our use.

In "*The Impersonal Life*" and its companion books, We spoke to you as God, as the I AM of you. Now, in order for Us to make it more intimate, to come closer and thus enable you to see how God works in and actually is in You, We, your Higher Selves, living Rays of His Spirit, will tell you about Ourselves, about your REAL Selves, in order to help you remove that Wall of Self you ignorantly built between you and Us in consciousness long ages ago in the dim past.

So all We now require is that the human mind of you be ever in a listening attitude, thus waiting upon Us, you yourselves letting go completely, knowing that We will assume full charge and responsibility, and of course know always what is best; for have We not all knowledge, all power, and all the capacity and love of the Father's Mind to draw upon?

You, when you have truly learned all the lessons out of the many experiences We necessarily brought to you to teach you this, will realize first intellectually, in your mind, and then, by *feeling* its truth in your heart and soul, that We are not separate, but that We are Yourself, and you no longer exist as selves—*We only are*. Then, of course, you will not any more seek to do anything of yourselves, but will wait for Our urge to do or say it, and then confidently will start to say or do whatever We impel, knowing it will all be perfectly done, which it always is when you thus let Us do it.

Now let us see if you know just who "you" are, when We thus speak of you. But in order to make it still more intimate, so that each one who reads may know that his or her own Self is speaking—which will be actually so, if you will listen within—your own Higher Self will speak to you as a Son of God, as your Divine Self.

As you read you will perceive that it is only to a true disciple or one who has found Him, is conscious of Him abiding in the heart and is waiting upon and serving Him there, that He speaks. And while all that is said applies in a way to those who do not yet know Him within, and to them He seems to talk as from *above* and *without*, even they will get a glimpse of a very great truth. Hear now His word.

You, My child, have learned from the teachings given you through "*The Impersonal Life*" that "you" are a soul or ego which through many long ages I have finally brought to that stage of consciousness where I can abide in and work from you—that is, in and from your soul consciousness or your soul body. For where you are in consciousness you find yourself in a body peculiar to and of the nature of that consciousness, and in which you live and work. You have learned to love, or more strictly speaking, to let Me love through you and thereby to use you and to work through you. This has lifted you as a soul consciousness to where I, as Love, can dwell in you.

Remember, I am a Son of God who descended from the Celestial Realms of My Father's Consciousness to redeem "you", who as a soul are the sum-total of My mistakes of a former world period. During these long ages I have caused you to take on many bodies of flesh, that is, to descend into generation in order that you, as a composite center of My sins given birth out of a consciousness of generation, might be taught the lessons which would permit of My Love awakening you and of its being recognized by you and which would lift you, My thus re-born consciousness, back through re-generation into My now God Consciousness, redeeming you and bringing you up into consciousness with Me and eventually with Our Father God.

Now I may have caused you, as a soul in some past life in the flesh, to learn this, and ever since as a soul you have co-operated with Me in one or more lives on earth, aiding Me to accomplish what I sent you into incarnation to do. Or it may be this is the first clear recognition you have had of yourself as a soul and of your relation to Me, your Real Self, a Son of God.

But remember, when incarnated in a mortal body, in your brain mind I may or may not have disclosed to you My purpose for you, except enough to unfold more and more of your love nature so I could teach you to serve, and thus accomplish the awakening and helping of others seeking the light of Truth. Gradually, I am thus bringing you unto a full recognition of Me, of My Love, Wisdom and Power, so that you are learning to give over all to Me, to wait upon Me and to let Me direct you in all ways.

If you were to know your past lives on earth—which I will make known to you in due season, when you are trusting *all* to Me—you would perceive the reason for many things, why I put you through this or that experience, and the necessity of developing certain soul qualities still lacking and which prevented our fully accomplishing My purpose in former lives—My purpose never being for our benefit alone but chiefly for the benefit of humanity. All I now send you to earth for is to accomplish as much as possible of the Father's Will and Purpose of bringing all human consciousness back into His Consciousness and Love—the only reason for Our descent from Our Celestial home.

As you know, comparatively only a very few in the world are conscious in their brain minds of Us, their Divine Selves. But at

this particular time, the end of a dispensation, many of Us have come into incarnation for the express purpose of ushering in the New Age, even as We came many times before for the same purpose, and therefore many of Us are quickening Our human instruments, through the great Spiritual Force now being poured down upon the earth, so that they are awakening in large numbers and becoming aware of and are more or less consciously co-operating with Us in what We are here to do. But these large numbers of awakened ones are few compared to the millions who are yet asleep and whom We must awaken, and the many millions more who will not and cannot be awakened because they are young and laggard souls who, through ignorance, undevelopment or laziness, refuse to learn their lessons. For this reason every awakened soul is required by Us to turn about and use every effort possible to carry the Light to those whose personalities are wandering in darkness but whose souls are seeking Truth.

The Apostle Paul tells you that Christ Jesus was the "first fruit of them that are asleep." When I tell you that in the beginning We all descended to earth together under Christ's leadership, He, our Elder Brother, being the Representative of the Father, to Whom We dedicated Ourselves to follow and serve, you will get a glimpse of what is the *real* Christ Consciousness and how We are truly One in Christ and are guided wholly from There; for the Christ Consciousness is Our Father-God's Holy Spirit, the Light of His Divine Love pushing through and shining in the darkness of earth wherever We are.

In that descent to earth, it was not actually a descent into mortality, but only far enough into the inner realms surrounding the earth to permit Our overshadowing the souls We had evolved into human beings and for which We are responsible.

The soul known as Jesus of Nazareth naturally was the first human soul to be awakened by His Higher Self, the Christ, into the full consciousness of His Divinity, or into conscious oneness with His Father-in-Heaven—into His Christhood. Thereupon, humanity now being ripe for it, He assumed His true position as the Light of the world from that time on—after His Resurrection and its proof of His God Nature, and He became the Great Leader, the Way Shower, the Example for all humanity, even as He was

for Us in Spirit, His life and His teachings showing clearly the way for all who were willing and ready to follow Him.

Remember that We are all Sons of God, are Reflectors of Him, but that very few of Us as yet have been able to reflect God fully in and through our human instruments, your personalities; but eventually through the power of Christ, the Spirit of God, Whose Light shines in the darkness of all upon earth, We shall lift up not only you, Our human reflections, but the consciousness of the earth itself and all partaking of its nature, into oneness with Our Father-God's consciousness.

In the meantime, as shown in the articles on the Soul, all souls whom We have not yet been able to awaken and thereby to purify so We could enter and dwell in them, We will overshadow and direct from the Spiritual realms, waiting until they ripen so We can bud and blossom forth in them the Divine Spirit of Love and in that Spirit can find an abiding place.

But as for you, Our dear ones, who have found and know Us within as that Love in your hearts, We have told you of these high truths in order that you may know your identity with Us, may establish yourselves in that knowing, so that you will begin to think, speak and act from Our Consciousness.

That is the goal We have set for you and which We are leading you to, as fast as We are able to prove to your human minds the unreality of its Wall of Self. Divine Union awaits with all the glories of which We have given you a glimpse, and We urge that from now on you carry about with you the consciousness of your identity as a *Son of God*, that within you is all knowledge, all truth and that you try to think, speak and act always in such consciousness. As surely as you faithfully do this will We establish you in that consciousness, for We will cause gradually to disappear all sense of separation, and you will forget the Wall of Self, so that the union will be complete.

—From Paper 31.

A very helpful aid to impressing these great truths upon the mind can be found in the Meditation Card, "Sons of God," price 5c, Sun Publishing Co.

**T**HE Editor wishes to thank all the many dear friends who have sent in such kind words of appreciation of his enforced



rest, and who recognize the good such a rest will accomplish. Also for their encouragement and deep understanding of the situation. He is slowly but surely regaining his strength, and when the opportunity permits, will write personal acknowledgements to as many of these friends as possible.

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**D**UE to circumstances over which we had no control we found it necessary to omit the July issue of the **INNER LIFE Magazine** and to combine it with the August number. The date of the expiration of all subscriptions will be advanced one month.

The conclusion of the article on "*Lemuria*" and the next article on "*Soul Communion*," will be found in the September issue.

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### WASHINGTON CONGRESS OF THE I. N. T. A.

**T**HE 1938 Congress of the International New Thought Alliance will be held at the Hotel Raleigh, corner of Twelfth and Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C., for five days beginning Sunday, October 23rd. Speakers of international note will take part including Emmet Fox and Elizabeth Towne. Write to Miss Leona Feathers, Secretary I. N. T. A., Room 700, American Building, 1317 F. Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., for particulars, enclosing \$1.00 for subscription to the New Thought BULLETIN which gives details of the Congress.

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### SCHOOL FOR DISCIPLES FUND

**C**ONTRIBUTIONS to the Fund since last report: M. H. \$1.39; E. W. 10.00; E. L. 2.00; R. J. E. 2.00; E. S. W. Group 5.00; A. D. C. 4.00; E. P. W. 1.27; F. B. U. 1.00; C. L. 1.00; L. B. 1.00; R. H. 6.00; E. M. .50; M. G. B. 5.00; C. W. 5.00; A. R. A. .50; C. C. G. .85; W. B. C. 1.00; N. H. R. 1.00; A. R. J. 1.00; E. L. H. .50; Mrs. H. E. R. 5.00; I. M. 3.50. Total to date \$241.76.

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**PLEASE NOTE:** Change of address must be in our hands by the 10th of the month. Otherwise we cannot be responsible for magazine not reaching subscriber.

# SOUL KNOWLEDGE

By Helen W. Bishop

**I** AS a soul am conscious of all the truth which I have experienced in all lives up to that point in evolution where I now stand. I am trying to discipline the vehicle which I, as a soul use, that it may through my mind, become conscious of soul knowledge.

There is a distinction between knowledge and learning. The mind is the vehicle for learning. The soul has imbibed knowledge. During the intervals between incarnations the soul has discarded all that is not real, or is not truth. That is, it has transmuted mis-interpreted learning into truth, for there is nothing that is not a part of truth. There is only mis-interpretation of truth. The soul is not conscious of defects.

My human mind sees in separation. My soul is seeking to show the mind how to interpret as a whole. The root of the word *interpret*, Webster says, is of uncertain origin. The definition is given as: "to explain or tell the meaning of; to translate into intelligible or familiar language or terms: to expound, elucidate, translate." It may be possible that there is a vital connection between this word and the word *integer*, meaning the whole. The soul seeks to translate the whole to man.

When the mind obeys this stimulus that it receives from the soul, it co-operates with the soul, and separative functioning or so-called thinking, ceases. The mind is therefor, the disciple,—is disciplined by the soul. The cause of separative thinking lies in the reaction of the mind to all that is without. This is due to *sense* response and reaction. The cause of integral thinking lies in the co-operation of the mind with all that is within. This is due to *soul* response.

If, when perplexed, we ask ourselves "How may I co-operate with my soul in this matter?" We will instantaneously get our answer from within. Practice in so doing is the method advised by Jesus. It implies seeking first the Kingdom of Heaven and His Consciousness. It is the seeking of His Consciousness in distinction to reacting to the without. It leads us to use our spiritual senses, and builds the bridge between the Higher and lower self, known in occultism as the Antaskarana. Spiritual response is the

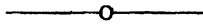
material for the house (or consciousness) built upon the rock. Physical response is the material for the house built upon the sand.

Spiritual response overcomes separative thinking. Critical sight is lost when integral sight is used. Critical sight is ever separative thinking. Learning becomes knowledge. Thinking becomes knowing. The application becomes wisdom, and wisdom is *wise love*.

The heart gives the stimulus to all such endeavor. First the heart, love, then the mind, will. The quality that binds is faith. Whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in Heaven, and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in Heaven. In fact, the separative cannot exist in Heaven.

*"I Am the Way." "I Am the Truth." "I Am the Light."  
"I Am the Resurrection and the Life."*

Unity or the integral whole is made through LOVE for LOVE is the Cause and the Effect, and is the relation between the two.



## THE UNDISCOVERED COUNTRY

Ella Wheeler Wilcox

MAN has explored all countries and all lands,  
And made his own the secrets of each clime.  
Now, ere the world has fully reached its prime,  
The oval earth lies compassed with steel bands,  
The seas are slaves to ships that touch all strands,  
And even the haughty elements sublime  
And bold, yield him their secrets for all time,  
And speed like lackeys forth at his commands.

Still, though he search from shore to distant shore,  
And no strange realms, no unlocated plains  
Are left for his attainment and control.  
Yet is there one more kingdom to explore.  
Go, know thyself, O man! there yet remains  
The undiscovered country of thy soul!

# THE LORD IS A SUN

By Hilda Dorothea Marquardt

**I**T HAS been said that a writer of deep subjects merely introduces a reader to his own mind, then takes a little walk, so to speak, and leaves him to get acquainted. This is so because reality is too vast to be put into our limited vocabulary. We must imbibe the Spirit in order to conceive it in full. If we are to progress in truth and light as rapidly as the materially-minded have in discoveries and inventions, we will have to receive new ideas with the same open mind, meditating long, thinking much, and proving all things as the scientists do before accepting or discarding a thing.

The Master Jesus said: "I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now." This being true we may expect their revelations to be, more or less, a jolt to us and beyond our immediate comprehension. Mortal mind is a creature of habit, clinging to the old and reluctant to accept the new. Men of inventions and discoveries were ridiculed, some branded insane, until time proved their worth. So it is with religious progress. Our Master Jesus began His ministry preaching direct to the people. The tension of the multitudes grew against Him. He then tried preaching in parables with no better results. His teachings were condemned. He was crucified.

But words filled with life and truth cannot die. They were preserved by secret Orders. Not until about three hundred years after the crucifixion were the books of the Bible printed, first in separate books, then all bound together. The Book of Revelations was added last. Persecutions and wars followed. The hundred and fifty years of Christian War, known as The Crusades, were climaxed with the historic event called The Big Bon-Fire. It was ordered that every Bible throughout the land be piled in one heap, and at a given date, burned. Penalty of death awaited anyone possessing an original Bible after that date.

After the Big Bon-Fire the politicians of the day formulated the Bible to suit themselves. It is the one we have today, with slight modifications, and is, as our critics say, a history of the Jewish people and the life of Jesus. It contains some of His

teachings but far from all of them. An apology to this fact, to passify the rebellion, is found in the last verse of the book of John: *"And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written."*

In re-writing the Bible, the scribes, in their spiritual ignorance, let some mighty big truths slip through their pen. This accounts for the many contradictions. The sheep who know His voice have perceived the Light, kept the Bible living down through the ages, and kept us in communion with Him who said: *"Blessed are they who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled."* With His promise: *"Lo, I am with thee always, even unto the end of the world,"* let us have no fear in attempting to take one step closer to Reality.

With Him present, showing us the way, let us picture ourselves seated in a Spiritual Laboratory, wherein we can dissect every new thought submitted, amputate it if necessary, or let it pass into oblivion. Then let us take this scripture, *"Jehovah is a Sun,"* and ask the question: Is the sun we see every day, Jehovah God?

No! comes the reply. The Bible forbids sun worshipping: *"Lest thou lift up thine eyes unto heaven, and when thou seest the sun, and the moon, and the stars, even all the host of heaven, and should be driven to worship them, and serve them."*

Very well, then let us put it this way: The sun, of itself can do nothing; the Father in the sun, He doeth the works. That is different!

We are advanced enough now to understand that God is All in all: *"Lo, not here, Lo, not there, but Lo everywhere."* We also understand polarized mentalities, and can easily see how the sun might be the Christ force, the Christ consciousness, or very Life itself in manifestation, streaming out from the sun, in and through every human being.

We do not know what the sun is. We know it gives life, and without it there would be no life on earth. Every material thing we possess is made from growing things produced by the sun. We know the sun has healing, caressing rays, and that the word Jehovah means healer, lifegiver. We know *"God is love, God is spirit,"* also, *"God is light, and in Him there is no dark-*

ness at all." We know there are many suns in the firmament, all revolving with their planets around a great central sun. We may rightly presume that behind this central sun is a Spiritual Sun, the God Almighty, the Most High, operating through the material qualities of the suns which we see with our mortal eyes. Then we, by the same token, as sons of God, would be actually *suns* of God of smaller degree, made in His image and all created equal.

The writer has had several revelations that may prove we are suns of Jehovah God the Sun. I will cite them as briefly as possible. One night I was sitting before the glowing fire-place meditating on the scripture: "*No one hath ascended into heaven but he that descended out of heaven.*" What does that mean? I asked. Suddenly an invisible force took hold of me. I began to breathe in a deep and strange way. My eyes closed and I sank heavily into the chair, yet with each breath came a feeling of being raised upward and onward. Purple scenes of beautiful mountains passed swiftly by. At length the scenes vanished and a stifling bright, golden light, thick and powerful, enwrapped me. Then all cleared and I was in a new world; new for the moment when suddenly I remembered all.

For before I was born on earth, I was there. I knew everybody. They were clothed in golden light, like the sun. They were individual suns, going to and fro, in an atmosphere of light, like unto the sun. A miniature example of this plane of being is like the sunbeams in the sunlight that streams through an open window. Everyone was busy serving others on different planes. Like television, they could see everything, everywhere; and like radio, they could communicate with anyone, anywhere; they were made thus. The wisdom of eternity illumined my consciousness. I had lived forever, was ageless, I knew everything. I had been born on earth many times to bring truth and light to humanity. This time I chose to come to reveal the healing law, that just to know anyone's true Being, the Light, heals permanently—"The Sun of righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings." Herebefore, on earth, most healings have been accomplished by Beings from the higher planes casting their light upon the sick who believe and receive, but unless one "sins no more," that is, retains the light and does not return into darkness, the healing is not permanent.

Coming back from this realm, onto the earth, and into the body was almost unbearable. It seemed like tons of weight were crushing my body. Pain and depression overwhelmed me as the vast glory of eternity gave way to mortal consciousness. Things on earth are just opposite from what they should be, and will be. *"Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven,"* a voice said, that sounded like the voice of a multitude.

These great experiences do not occur often. The shock is too severe. We have to grow into the consciousness, rise gradually into the higher rates of vibration, like unto the leaven in the bread. Gradual sunshine is healing to the body but too much all at once is a stroke, which answers the question so many truth students ask: "Why don't I progress faster?" The helpers on the higher planes have charge concerning us, and our progress is attained as rapidly as we can receive.

*"It is the Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."* How do we receive the kingdom? The same way we receive a guest in our home: we may have other duties to perform, such as preparing and serving a meal, but the presence of the guest is never out of our mind in joyous companionship. *"Behold, I stand at the door and knock: if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."*

## PART 2

**I** AM the Light of the world: He that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness but shall have the Light of Life." The Logos that this light of life contains, is so vast it makes one's head reel for the few moments in which it is presented to a mortal mind. All advanced truth students have experienced these moments of glories unutterable.

The children of darkness ask: "If this is true why don't you prove it by giving something vital to the world?" The children of light may answer that question by asking another: "Why does not a student of mathematics grasp the fundamentals in one breath?" Or, "why can not a beginner in music play a symphony the moment he hears one played?" After hearing many concerts he still cannot perform the act or tell another how it is done. Why? How can the master musicians in the orchestra play with

such ease and grace? They just know how, comes the reply. Yes, they just know how, but did they know how without much mental effort? So it is with truth. We have to know as the Masters know. This is accomplished in degrees; as the light penetrates our mortal consciousness we take on immortality.

*"Verily, verily, I say unto you, ye must be born again,"* said the First Born, the only begotten Son. *"Ye must become as little children."* While we are growing into truth and light let us bear in mind the song we use to sing in Sunday-school: "Jesus wants me for a sunbeam, To shine for Him each day." Then, to prove we are sunbeams, this is how it is done: Look up into the sun, at not over seventy degrees, for a few moments, close your eyes, and watch: If the sun is not available, a bright electric light will do. You will see lights of different hues whirling about. They may stay close to you or swing far out into space, according to your growth or ability to receive the light.

You will find that the highest point is just as vivid as the lowest; that this is your Father's house in which there are many mansions, abodes, planes; that there is no space or separation; that we are all one: we in Him, He in us. You will find your memory quickened and awakened, and will fully understand the scripture: *"Glorify thou Me with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was."* That is, before worldliness claimed us, the Mystery City, Babylon the Great, that is doomed and will be no more.

The things of this world grasped our attention the moment we were born on earth. Just because we forget the glories is no proof they never happened. When someone reminds us we say: "Ah yes, I remember now!" So it is when we find our way to our Father's house in the re-birth. We are reminded, then we remember. When we were born on earth we were born in sin, that is, darkness; when we are born again we are born in the light, which is the kingdom.

As we grow into the kingdom of light, the Christ consciousness, we find that eventually we can see things spiritual with our mortal eyes open. It is just a matter of raising our rate of vibration. When a wheel stands still we can see the spokes, but if the wheel is whirled around, they all blend. If we were on another wheel, going around at the same rate, we could see the spokes clearly. So it is with our mortal body; its vibrations must be raised to that of spirit, then we can see spiritually.



"*Every eye shall behold Him,*" when He pours out His Spirit upon all flesh. In the meantime we enter into our inner chamber, close the doors, or our mortal eyes, and see through the "single eye" which is located in the middle of the forehead. When our eyes close they naturally turn upward to this single eye. Hence to "look up and watch" is as normal as breathing. If the power makes the eyes quiver, place both hands, one across the other, over the closed eyes. Sometimes a powerful white light, like the sunlight at noonday, flashes over the eyes. This may happen anytime, anywhere, when one least expects it. The eyes quickly close, the hands go over them, and we see right through as clearly as we see with our eyes open, people and material things around us.

Spirit does this in order to prove that our seeing is a fact, not a fancy, and that the things which we see in the kingdom are just as true as the things we see in the world. Sometimes this All Powerful white light takes us on a local sojourn, out of the body, to places on earth we are very familiar with, in order to prove that the journeys we take to higher planes are a fact, not a fancy. These are very happy moments: "*In the presence of the Lord there is fullness of joy.*"

Advanced truth students are prone not to mingle much with the world, as people often tap their solar-rays. "*Someone hath touched me; for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me,*" said Jesus, as the woman touched the hem of His garment and was healed. "*And the whole multitude sought to touch him, for there went virtue out of Him, and healed them all.*" We have to give as well as receive; light the world as well as receive the light, and we must not forget the parable of the talents.

One night, after having mingled with "publicans and sinners," who tapped my solar-rays and left me in low spirits, I retired early, asking in prayer: "Just why am I forsaken?" Quickly I fell asleep. On awakening, a light like the sunrise at dawn was streaming forth from my innermost Being. The whole room became illumined. I looked at the clock. It was five minutes to ten: just one hour of sleep, yet it seemed like many, I was so refreshed. The wisdom of eternity was dawning in my mortal consciousness, when suddenly I fell asleep again.

Once more I awakened. It was five minutes to eleven—just one hour and the same experience. This was repeated every hour

of the night. At four in the morning I asked: "What is it all about?" A voice promptly replied: "How can you say you are forsaken when we are with you every hour of your life?"

We have the promise we shall never be forsaken, and this experience proves it to be a fact. Regardless of where we are called to go, among sinners or saints, our response should be: "Where He leads me, I will follow." We should bear in mind the story of the ninety and nine. As we stoop to lift up others, so those on the higher planes stoop to lift us up; a living Jacob's ladder.

Seeing the sunlight stream forth from our innermost Being we can perceive the truth hidden in some of our old hymns: "Let the Blessed Sunshine in;" "Sunlight, Sunlight, in my Soul today;" "Sun of my Soul, Thou Saviour dear;" "Jerusalem the Golden," we can vision with our light shining in full. The Logos that this light contains would certainly be the new Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God: "*And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it; for the glory of God did lighten it.*"

Once a heavenly scene was presented to me that was repeated some time later, as I did not grasp the full significance the first time. Purple substance, whirling about through space, formed a tunnel that extended from me high up into the heavens. Through the opening at the top I saw, very clearly, a world of peace and beauty. A huge ball of golden light, like our setting sun, was slowly revolving, casting forth colored light-rays in every direction.

The second time this was presented, the golden sun was perfectly still. Two gorgeous Beings, which may rightly be called Angels, were floating leisurely about, when suddenly one of them headed towards the tunnel and came downward with terrific speed. Its power pierced every fibre of my Being until it seemed my soul would be rent asunder. When I could stand it no longer, the angel floated out of the tunnel and disappeared.

"*Jehovah will send His Angels with thee and prosper thy way,*" a voice said. It was explained to me that the colored light-rays were the substance called Faith, from which the worlds were framed. But the golden sun, what was it? Somehow I perceived that within, or behind that light, was Jehovah God, and the rays

were His aura. "No man can see God and live," a voice quoted, and the power of the angel proved it. Yet, "Blessed are the pure in heart, (sunlight within) for they shall see God."

The Apostle John, in his Revelations, saw a heavenly scene that may be the same one that was presented to me: "And there was a rainbow round about the throne, and out of the throne proceeded lightnings." In describing the angel he says: "His countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength. His face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire." In the prophecies of things that are to come, he says: "And there appeared a great wonder in the heaven; a woman clothed with the sun: and she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered. And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne."

Many people on earth today are letting their light so shine that they are becoming "clothed with the sun." During a conversation with a moving picture star, whom I had known years ago, when his life was one of poverty, struggle and hardship, I asked him: "What do you consider is the secret of your success?" He promptly replied: "The light." This surprised me, coming from a man seemingly of the world. "What light?" I asked. He explained: "It is a light within me that shines outward. Sometimes when I awaken in the night this light is streaming forth from me and lights the whole room. It is very powerful. Sometimes it takes me out of the body on a visit to my friends, and are they surprised when I tell them just what they were doing at such and such a time!

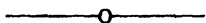
"This light is the glamour that the public admires when they see me on the screen. As long as the light is shining I am a success. When the light goes out I am a failure; scenes in the picture have to be re-taken."

I asked: "What makes the light go out?" He answered: "My temper. If only I could control that! Little things annoy me, such as a jealous worker making a face at me when he thinks my back is turned. It isn't so much the face he makes as it is the thoughts behind that ugly expression. In the light I am at peace; all is harmony. I cannot stand the inharmony of the world."

I asked him: "Do you find the planets having any effect on you, that is, adverse days and beneficial days?" He answered: "No, I can go into an office on a very adverse day when papers are scattered and officials are mentally upset, stand there and let my light shine, and they come up to me smiling. I win them over every time."

So we find that this light is practical as well as spiritual. It is the force that will overcome the world, the Mystery City, Babylon the Great. "*For by her sorceries were all nations deceived. In her are the abominations of the earth. Her merchants were the great men of the earth. (including the politicians who ordered the Big Bon-fire and burned our original Bible.) And in her was found the blood of the prophets, and of the saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth.*"

And now, dear reader, the Spiritual Laboratory adjourns, having presented, for your acceptance or rejection, new thoughts on the scripture: "*Jehovah is a sun.*"



## THE SPIRITUAL SUN

**T**HERE is an earthly sun which is the cause of all heat, and all who are able to see may see the sun; and those who are blind and cannot see him, may feel his heat. There is a spiritual sun, which is the source of all wisdom, and those whose spiritual senses have awakened to life will see that sun and be conscious of his existence; but those who have not attained spiritual consciousness may yet feel His power by an inner faculty, which is called Intuition. Animal reason is active in the animal soul, and angelic wisdom in the spiritual soul. The former see by the light of Nature, which is produced by a reflection of the rays of the divine light acting in Nature; but the light of the spirit is not a product of Nature, but the supreme cause of all which in Nature becomes manifest."—*Paracelsus.*

\* \* \* \*

**T**HE LORD is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and Glory.—*Psalms.*

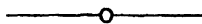
# THE SUMMER CLASSES

SOME of those who so kindly responded and accepted the change in time of the Summer Classes, expressed a wish that they might be held either in September or later. In view of the hot weather usually experienced in August and September, we believe that a change to October will be acceptable to those planning to attend. We can assure you that the Teacher will have a message that will more than repay for the delay.

Therefore we propose to open the Classes on the 10th, ending them on the 22nd of October, and would be glad if those planning to come will advise us promptly if they can come at that time. We know that all who are to attend these Special Classes will have it perfectly and easily arranged for them. So if there is a strong inner leading to attend, place it all in the Father's hands, and He will take care of it. It may be that this later date will permit a considerable number to come who could not make it in July.

The first few days only will be devoted to foundational work, for those who have not previously attended, or for those who wish to review the more important phases of the earlier teachings. The remaining time will be given to the more advanced teachings and to their practical application in the times immediately ahead. This will be of a purely spiritual nature and will include the highest form of Healing and of Inner work.

We would remind our Students that, according to the time measurement given in an article on the "King's Chamber" in the June 1936 issue of the INNER LIFE Magazine, October 1938 sees the close of the period allowed for all to make the "right-hand turn," not merely by an intellectual or emotional acceptance of the idea, but by having done so in reality, and by that time be on their way to the "Open Tomb." It is the earnest hope that all who attend will have made the "right-hand" turn," or will make it in actuality during the meeting of the Classes, and that even greater blessings will be their portion.



BE AT rest. There is a law of mental repose or ease in the midst of seeming chaos and confusion. There is a quiet zone in the sea of greatest din.—*Jane Hanford Hopkins.*

# THE WEALTHIEST WOMAN IN THE WORLD

By August Hashagen

I HAD not seen her for several months and I almost dreaded to meet her, for when I was in her store the last time she was so utterly dejected that the thought of her did not leave me for days after.

And here she was on the avenue, Fifth Avenue, walking with sprightly step, smiling, radiant with joy. I had never considered her even good-looking, but here she was—beautiful, an inner glow of supreme happiness shining out of her eyes. It seemed a miracle.

She greeted me, holding out both gloved hands. Taking my arm under hers, she cried, "I am so glad to meet you! Come, we'll take a cup of coffee at Schraffts', for I want to tell you good news, that you will want to hear!"

When we were seated she looked at me very earnestly for a while before she spoke, and then she began quietly, "You always found an encouraging word for me when I was so terribly worried, almost sick with the fear of impending disaster, and that is why I want to tell you of the miracle which has come to me. I have not dared speak of it to anyone," a wistful smile on her lips, "because they would not understand, and then . . . oh, well, you know!"

"After I saw you last, things were going from bad to worse with me. You know that my little gift-shop received what everyone thought was the final blow when the 'five and ten' opened a new store a few doors from me. What trade I had left, went rapidly to them.

"The landlord had been lenient, but the wholesale house from which I bought most of my goods sent me a letter that they would take court action unless I paid my account by the fifteenth of the month. It meant the end!

"It was late the night before the fateful fifteenth. I was alone in the store, for customers there had been none. I was sitting

at my desk in the rear, heart-broken, sick in my soul. My savings were gone. My future looked as dark as it possibly could. Who would employ a woman of my age when so many young girls were anxious to get a position?

"The door opened and a stranger walked in. He was an elderly man with gray hair, quietly dressed and quiet in manner. After looking around for a while, he made a purchase and while I was wrapping the little vase he had selected, I felt his eyes upon me. I am afraid that the thought of the coming morning made my hands tremble, and he saw it.

"When I held out the package he took it slowly, while his quiet, searching glance seemed to probe my inmost.

"Then he said, 'Child,'—she interrupted herself with a delighted little laugh. "Fancy anyone calling me, a mature woman of thirty, 'Child, I am going to say something to you which I rarely say to anyone. Most of us unfortunately do not understand, and then it hurts so much to have spoken.'

"The man's quiet, gentle voice seemed to strike a chord within me, and a strange feeling of new hope began to steal over me.

"He went on, 'You need not tell me that you are worried, for I know it, and I want to show you the way out of your trials. It is a sure way and it rests solely with you whether you want to take it or not.

"I have seen much of life and much sorrow has been mine. There was a time when something precious within me seemed to have died. I was fearing, fearing, always fearing! And always wretched! Just as you are now.

"Today I bless these trials, for they made me find the friend who has been at my side every hour of my life since then. That friend is God, Child! And I want you to look upon Him as your truest friend, talk to Him as you would to your friend, ask Him to guide and aid you as you would a human friend! He will not fail you! He has never failed me!

"Then he went on to explain how misfortune often is the greatest blessing of our life, for it makes the soul understand the suffering of others, and as he spoke I learned to understand and

an unknown warmth began to come over me. My heart went out to a suffering world, and with this my own trouble was forgotten. I knew what had been wanting in me; I had been thinking too much of myself, forgetting my fellowman and, without realizing it, I was becoming self-centered and selfish.

“Soon after this the stranger left. When we shook hands I felt that we should never meet again. I do not know who he is. He did not tell me and I did not ask. Ships that pass in the night!

“It seemed strange how everything had suddenly changed. It seems strange even now as I think of it. With steady hand I opened the drawer of my desk and calmly and with quiet confidence I took out my old Comforter, my black-covered, well-thumbed Bible. I turned over its pages at random, but a thought to my new-found Friend went out with it! I knew, I should find guidance here!

“I read, ‘Take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do you premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye.’

“I went home and to bed soon after this, dismissing from my mind everything that I had anxiously thought out to say to the wholesaler on my visit to them in the morning. I slept peacefully.

“And when I found myself the next morning in the sumptuously appointed office of the great George K., the tsar of the trade, I was equally calm. The long and carefully prepared plea for leniency was put aside. In fact, I should not have had the opportunity to present it, for George K. opened the attack himself by saying brusquely, ‘I know, of course, why you have come. We have gone over your account some time ago. It is long overdue and we have to protect ourselves!’

“I did not cry. To my own surprise I found myself replying, quietly, ‘I understand your position very well and know how you feel about it. It’s quite all right.’

“He looked at me in astonishment, for he had expected something else. His stern features relaxed a little, and he said in a more friendly tone, ‘I am sorry, but, as I said, I have to protect myself. Things have not been going so well lately.’



"As he was saying this a worried look came into his eyes and he stared absently out of the window. I looked at him in amazement, and, then, something came to me which has never left me since that day. I saw clearly what was going on in the soul of this iron-jawed, strong man—he was just what I had been, a frightened little child that is afraid of the dark.

"I almost had to smile as I thought what all this great business really meant. Endless worry to the one who had built it up, and how long would he be able to enjoy what he considered his greatest possession? A few more short years and George K. would be forgotten.

"The recollection of my own terrible fear which had obsessed me rushed in upon me and my heart went out to this man before me. I found myself saying, 'Don't worry too much, please! The future often looks darker to us than it is in reality!'

"He did not resent this and replied, not by any means convinced, 'I hope so!'

"There was something in his voice which made me go on. The words seemed to come to me and it was as if I myself had little to do with it. I told him, in my own way, what the stranger had said to me the night before, and my heart was in it. I knew that I had never spoken like this before. I was passing on a message.

"I looked at the heavy-set man before me, as he was leaning toward me over his desk. The mask of force and power had fallen from his face. Amazement had given place to deep interest. His eyes seemed to be hanging on my lips.

"When I stopped he took my hand and shook it warmly. 'I needed that!' he said, quietly.

"I rose and started for the door, but he called me back. 'You have given me something very fine, young woman, and I want to give you a bit of good advice in return. I know that the 'five and ten' has hurt your business. Now, what you need is a line of goods better than theirs, things which are exclusive. That will bring back your trade!'

"I had to laugh. 'Thank you, sir! But I have neither money nor credit.'

“He smiled grimly, ‘I know you have no money, but you have all the credit you want!’

“He pushed a button and Johnston, the salesman who had always waited on me, came in.

“‘Johnston, let this young woman select as much as she wants. I’ll okay the bill myself.’ And as an after-thought George K. added with a wry smile, ‘And I don’t believe you will have to advise her what to buy. She has a friend with her who will help out!’

“Before I bought my goods, I hurried into a secluded corner of the store and had a good cry, which blotted out the last bit of bitterness that may have been left in my heart.

“This was only the beginning. Things came my way right along now. There was no difficulty which I could not readily meet. In fact, there were no difficulties. Today my rent is paid up in full. My wholesale bills are all met. Nothing is due.

“The great wish of my life has been fulfilled. I could take my old aunt, a dear old lady, into my home. She is happy with me. I have just bought her a fine radio set. I take her to the movies, once in a while to the theater. When spring comes I shall buy a little car, and on Sundays we will then go out into God’s great garden in the hills. I have all I possibly could ask for!

“My customers have all come back. New ones have come with them. Often they come in only to chat a bit and I am glad to have them.

“One little lady who always was near to me said, one day, ‘Your things in the store are beautiful, dear, but there is something else here which draws me and which I don’t quite understand! It’s here and I feel it, and yet I don’t see it!’

“Maybe, some day I will tell her of my wonderful Friend! I am the Wealthiest Woman in the World!”

# BUILDING A NEW BODY

By Vera Eyton Wavell

DO YOU realize that you, the Real You, never sleeps? We have been accustomed from childhood to say, "I have been asleep," or "I am going to sleep." This assertion, however, is not accurate, for that which sleeps is not the "I", or the "I Am," but merely the physical body which sense-dominated man has out-manifested by his imperfect material, thinking and believing.

Certainly the I am inhabits and uses this body for contact with the physical world. It was built as a useful vehicle through which necessary development and experience might be gained by the soul. But in the process of time man succumbed to the thrill of sense experience and indulging in it, gradually accepted as predominant the belief that he lived only in his outer body. But such is not man's real body, for it is only a materialized thought-form, unstable, weak, and as impermanent as the vacillating thought which made it: a form subject to sickness and decay, and altogether inferior to the glorious, eternal, spiritual body which God gave to His Son. This true body is made of Divine Spiritual Substance, and cannot express discord or death, being eternal and perfect as Spirit.

In the preservation and renewal of the physical body, sleep plays an important part. The physiological reason for sleep, lies in the fact that the body becomes for a time quiescent, ceasing its sense-conscious thinking and negative activity, and is submissive to the renewing work of Spirit which can then proceed unhampered by the erroneous thought of the materially minded man.

When the body sleeps, consciousness is withdrawn, and the soul of man functions joyously in its native element unobstructed, by the action of sense-consciousness. The body and its condition, even pain, is forgotten, and when it awakens, it is refreshed and rehabilitated by reason of the temporary release from material consciousness and discord, which discord only exists through man's *belief* in its reality.

But there is a better way, and that consists in learning to still the outer consciousness in what we call our waking life. If we learn to do this at will, we shall achieve the realization of

ourselves, as the Image and Likeness of God, and we shall express and manifest complete well-being even in our visible bodies, automatically sustaining their perfection and life by continuous conscious contact with our Divine Source.

This can be done by us all, and it has already been done by those exalted ones who now seek to lead the race back to its original condition of being fully efficient channels for the expression and activity of our Father God. It is not beyond your power or mine to accomplish. We need but realize Truth and thereby know ourselves for what we really are, viz. spiritual beings. If we will go to the trouble of achieving this understanding, we shall yearn to "return to our Father's home" which is the Kingdom of Heaven within every man. Like the Prodigal Son, we shall say, "I will arise and go to my Father." For who would be content to remain in bondage and "eat the husks that the swine did eat," once he knew it to be in his power to abide consciously in the heavenly Father's love, care, and home!

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? . . . The temple of God is holy, and such are ye."

*Our bodies, then, are holy, and house Almighty God.* But do we always remember to treat them with the profound reverence that we should offer to that which is holy? Do we nourish and renew them with clean and natural food and drink, keep them spotlessly pure, give them the rest they require at their present stage, and try to build into them a living spiritual consciousness? For every part of the body has a consciousness of its own, every cell composing it, having its own brain. If we do not do this, we are guilty of desecrating God's temple, guilty of irreverence to the Most High, and the result is that we render ourselves unable to receive the constant influx of the renewing life of Spirit, thus starving the body of divine replenishment and lowering it into a weak and inefficient instrument that has lost contact with its life-giving Source.

But let us learn to still these senses. Let us conquer material thinking, speaking, and body building, so that the Life and Light of God may permeate our entire being and we shall then, though gradually, build and enjoy a glorious spiritual body wherein the supernal power, perfection, intelligence, and life of the I AM may

function freely and vitally. Then shall the body become an ideal vehicle for the spirit of the awakened man, the Christ who sleeps not nor needs to sleep. It shall become vibrant, harmonious, and beautiful, a fit channel for the expression and activity of God in the external world.

As we have said, this achievement will be a gradual process requiring the application of the spiritualized will, set steadfastly to encompass its purpose, requiring in him who undertakes such purpose, an understanding of Truth and a turning away from the outer and illusory world of things in order that the mind may be freely focussed upon the Kingdom of Heaven within. It involves the achievement of non-reaction to all that is not of God, and the elimination of personality, so that true individuality—God-in-us—may reign. And it means a steady refusal to be entangled with negativity and friction, and the ability truthfully to declare when these are brought to our notice: "None of these things move me."

Does all this seem beyond your power to accomplish? It is not! Certainly, he who is immersed in the life of the senses, he who refuses to follow the Light of Truth when it shines before him can not achieve it, but if you, having seen the Light, sincerely essay to walk by it you will soon recognize, acknowledge, and use the divine power of your Real Self which will guide you to victory.

Think it out! If you are one of those who have given years of your life to acquiring proficiency in some art, profession, or specific line of work you will remember how patiently you strove, how earnestly you studied each problem that faced you until you understood and conquered it, and you finally became master in your chosen occupation.

Admittedly you studied systematically and under competent instructors. But it was neither the system nor the instructors that eventually rendered you efficient. It was the I Am within you, the ever-active *Will of God* to express Himself, which inspired you to the devotion, perseverance, and faith wherewith you overcame every obstacle and at last attained proficiency.

And is not the achievement of a purified body worth equal effort? A body harmonious, unlimited in power, able eventually to transport itself, when fully developed, as easily as you think,

to wherever your thought be directed, even through solid objects which can offer no obstruction to its tenuity, a temple that is never weak, tired, sick, or subject to death. Surely it is! And even though its complete attainment will take time, the sense of joyous release from carnal limitations that is experienced during the process more than compensates for the effort put forth.

And we should not imagine that in building this perfect body we shall be called upon to separate ourselves from the dear human contacts, or deny ourselves reasonable human amenities. On the contrary, the man endeavoring by the light of Truth to attain a spiritual body becomes more and more aware of his oneness with all, discord cannot disrupt his peace and he fulfills his worldly activities and duties with an ease that would be impossible to the sense-enslaved man functioning in a sense-built body.

Such an achievement involves systematized study and hard work. We must prepare ourselves by training and disciplining the mind, which in turn governs the body and the emotions. With a quickened desire for attainment, the disciplined mind will in the fulness of time, turn to and make the contact with the Master Within. It is a law that desire in the heart of man brings its own fulfillment, and he cannot desire anything which he has not the power to attain if he will go about it the right way.

Part of the process—a very important part—lies in giving sufficient time to correct and regular meditation, for in the silence we are enabled to commune with God, and to know ourselves as one with Him, as having for our heritage as His Son, His power and perfection. In such an illumined condition we realize what must be done to achieve our purpose and we cease to regard ourselves as a physical body having a soul, and know ourselves as Spirit using a soul and a body. Then we commence to think and live from the standpoint of Spirit.

This means that our desire to be profoundly and consciously at-one with God, increases until it becomes the dominating factor in our lives. With such a divine ambition we shall cease to regard external happenings seriously. If we are misunderstood, mistreated, frustrated, we shall not allow the condition or any hurt in relation to it into our consciousness. Refusing to react to it we shall not think about it, and hold resentment. For to the one yearning with all his being for union with God, such things are

revealed in their true nothingness and, overshadowed by the greater and real issue, they disappear.

Again, much good work toward the attainment of our objective may be accomplished during sleep, if before we lose consciousness, we turn our thought—without tenseness—inward to the divine Source of all life and intelligence and calmly and confidently expect to receive enlightenment, we shall surely be given it. When we first begin to practice this, we may not have a great deal of success in making the desired contact, but “practice makes perfect,” and if we are faithful we shall in due time be rewarded, by awakening with the memory of instructive and inspiring dreams and visions. Sometimes these embody literal and humanly comprehensible information, and sometimes they are of a symbolic nature. We should give much thought to them, and in the latter case we should go into meditation and ask for light. By doing this we shall gradually learn to translate these symbols belonging to the realm of ideas into such terms as are understandable to us at our existing stage of development. Later, when we have attained the unity of the One Consciousness, and are always spiritually conscious; when our constructive thinking, speaking, and living is always of this nature, we shall build for ourselves the perfect spiritual body which does not require sleep, either for the purpose of renewal, or in order to commune with Divine Mind, and absorb Its wisdom, for we shall then *be* that wisdom and shall be fully at home in the realm of ideas.

All mankind will eventually attain this One consciousness, and the expression of unlimited divine Life and Intelligence, for that is the destiny God has ordained for His children. Its achievement will take time, but could we use time to a better end? And in the process we shall *rejoice* in a progress that bestows increasingly greater freedom from bondage and discord of every kind connected with the material world, until at last we stand forth as the expression and manifestation of that Ideal Man which in the beginning our Father God shaped in His holy Substance, and projected into visibility as His own supernal and perfect Image and Likeness, His Son, the Living Word.

“Awake, thou that sleepest . . . and Christ shall give thee Light.”

# SUBSTANCE

By Earl Sumner

**M**ONEY is not substance. It is merely a symbol of value, a "medium of exchange," which we have vitalized and made powerful by our faith in it. The real power back of the symbol which we call money is *our faith in it and our love for it*. Our love for it is based upon our belief in the power which its possession will give us. Faith is the power that brings substance into visibility. That in which we place our faith always manifests to us—good, bad or indifferent. "*Even as thy faith, so be it unto thee.*"

Money is local. Each Government has its own peculiar symbol for its medium of exchange. On the other hand, substance is universal, interplanetary, omnipresent. Substance completely fills that incomprehensible all space-filling infinity, those mansions in the sky, to which our Heavenly Father has made our title clear.

When faith, "*the substance of things hoped for,*" is taken away from money, we see it for what it really is—just an empty symbol, without life, intelligence or substance. "Fiat money," we call it. Some years ago I bought two million German Marks for twenty-five cents in American money. I wanted the Marks for a curio, nothing more. Why did the man sell me two million Marks for an American quarter? Because he had perfect faith in the American symbol of money and none whatever in the German Marks.

I know a man whose friendship I prize very highly. The mining boom in Goldfield, Nevada, made him a multi-millionaire. Stored away in an attic he has a trunk full of mining stocks for which he once refused five million dollars in cash. One day I was fortunate enough to catch him in just the right mood and he opened the trunk. For awhile I revelled in the wealth of another day—a wealth which had been, but is no more. I held millions of dollars worth of the empty symbol of an erstwhile fortune in my hands. Gone was its value, gone its power. Even the printer's ink, which had once festooned it in gay and colorful magnificence, was faded and dead. Whimsically my friend said: "Its old and worthless now, like myself; but we both have our memories, and fond ones,



too. Men long ago lost faith in those stocks and their value is now gone.”

Years ago, as a boy, it was my privilege to “play” with countless wealth that once had been. I scooped up thousands upon thousands of dollars worth of cancelled Government Script. The Government had removed the faith of the public from it. Without the public’s faith in was worthless, powerless.

By our faith in the power of money we make of it a Calf of Gold, before which we bow down and worship, not realizing that our faith is the real *substance* back of it, and that the Golden Calf of money before which we grovel, is just an empty symbol. Even at its best, money is only an accepted standard by which we measure values—values more or less uncertain and always fluctuating.

Gold has always been considered the most lasting, enduring and reliable standard of money. For the possession of gold men have suffered every known privation, including death. Human beings have been known literally to starve to death rather than spend a little of their hoarded gold. In the hope of securing it, men have committed every known crime, from the “little white lies” of deception, to the most fiendish murders. And the best they can do with their gold after they have gained possession of it is to hoard it.

This habit of hoarding is the cause of most of the suffering in the world today. Millions of men, women and children, deprived of sufficient and proper food, are living below the level of nutrition, slowly lapsing into despair, because of man’s insatiable greed for gold. When man is healed of this insane desire to hoard the symbol of wealth, the ever-present super-abundance of God’s limitless Substance will become manifest.

In view of the foregoing facts, man’s manner of handling gold is most mystifying. After having suffered every privation to get it out of the bowels of the earth, he solemnly proceeds to bury it again! Every “gold standard” nation has its gold reserve hidden in some specially constructed and carefully guarded vault. The gold reserve of France is said to be buried somewhere beneath the streets of Paris. Just now, while the war clouds are lowering so

menacingly over all Europe, millions of dollars worth of gold is being shipped to the United States because it is thought to be safer.

If we can find no better use for gold than to bury it again, why mine it in the first place? How long will men foolishly continue to worship the empty symbol and completely ignore the real substance? The habit of hoarding is the outpicturing of thoughts of fear, and fear is lack of faith in God. Therefore by faith shall we be healed of the poverty caused by hoarding and come to realize the ever-present presence of God's abundance, always and instantly available. Truly the *Lord is our Shepherd*, and we shall not want when our faith is quickened.

Substance is the living mirror which faithfully reflects our mental images upon the screen of visibility. Our innermost, habitual thoughts take form, and, filled with substance, present themselves to us for our consideration and disposal. Thus are we given dominion over all things. We are free-will agents, not mere automatons, and we can control our thoughts, if we have sufficient courage. By controlling our thoughts we control conditions in our environment. "*All power in heaven and on earth*" is given to us through our freedom of choice. All of the limitless power of God may be used by him who holds his thoughts true to God, the Good. That same boundless power, with every iota of its strength, is against the one who allows his mind to run riot. We must reap what we sow, but we have the choice of what seed we will sow.

When we have learned to think thoughts of abundance we shall cease to experience lack. When we have learned to think thoughts of love we shall cease to suffer from the hatred of others, *or from our hatred of them*. When we have learned to think thoughts of health we shall no longer writhe in painful disease. When we have learned to think thoughts of Eternal Life we shall cease to pass through the gate called death. Then will the Angel of Life roll away the stone of negation from the door of the sepulcher of defeated death, and we, clothed in the light of understanding, shall live forevermore, that our Father may be glorified.

# CHILD'S WAY OUT COURSE

## GARDENING

### Part XII (Conclusion)

FROM the moment she had first watched her dad plow up their large garden, Colombe had shown an intense interest and delight in every step of the process. As she watched the plowed ground broken into smaller and smaller pieces by the disc, and leveled for planting by the heavy spiked harrow, her mother explained how much like our souls a garden is.

"Before our Soul-Garden is prepared for planting," she stated, "it is just as wild and full of thistles and weeds as was this piece of land. Then many things happen to us, turning our lives upside-down (like the plow turns the sod) and sometimes hurting us and 'breaking us all up' ready for planting. All of this, of course, is to 'break up' and rid our Soul-Gardens of the wrong thought-pictures we have allowed to grow there."

"Oh!" exclaimed Colombe, "So *that's* why some little girls and boys have to be spanked and punished, and get sick, and are very poor!"

"Yes, all that is to help loosen up their Garden so that the good seed can be planted" was the answer.

What a thrill it was for the little girl to watch the various seeds go into the prepared and fertilized soil—and what fun to watch for them to pop up. Then along came a long dry spell, and she could almost hear the poor little seeds panting with thirst.

"Oh, Mother! How I wish it would rain," she cried. "Let's ask God for rain."

And so, though there was not a cloud in the sky, Colombe and Mother went into the LAND OF LIGHT and made a good clear thought-picture of a nice rain, and because they *were* in the LAND OF LIGHT they *knew* it would come, and thanked God for it. The moment she arose Colombe ran to the window fully expecting rain then and there, and cried in disappointment "Why Mother, it hasn't come yet!"

At this Mother laughed and explained that a few hours were usually necessary for the clouds to gather—and so they went to bed certain of a rain the following day. Of course the rain came, and Colombe felt overjoyed to see the thirsty garden drinking it up. However, since the land was still quite dry and she heard her dad wishing for more rain, she decided to *ask* for more. Before long it began to rain, and rain, and rain, and keep on raining until the garden was nearly flooded—the fields were like mud, and some of the poor little seeds were drowned.

“Oh! Mother!” cried the child, “I didn’t ask for *that* much. I’m so tired of staying in the house—and *look* at that garden! Why doesn’t God stop the rain? I asked Him to but He didn’t!”

“The trouble probably is that our thought-pictures aren’t strong enough to melt all of the ‘rain-fear-pictures’ which the people around here are all making. God knows what we need and will send it if we don’t keep it from us by wrong pictures. We don’t have to tell *Him* everything to do. All *we* need to do is to really TRUST him and everything will be alright. Let’s try it!”

And so Colombe and Mother ceased to worry about the rain and just *knew* that God would take care of everything for them in the very best way possible. Soon the rain in their particular locality ceased, the sun came out, and the garden thrived.

“Weren’t we foolish to worry about the rain, Mother?” laughed Colombe.

“Indeed we were,” said her mother. “We should never worry about *any thing* because God knows so much better than we do what is best—and our worries keep our good from coming to us just like weeds crowd out the good things of the garden if allowed to grow.”

“Shouldn’t we make thought-films anymore then, like we did to get this farm?”

“Certainly,” answered Mother. “In fact we *can’t help* making thought-films because every thought we become at all interested in makes a ‘film’ of some sort. So we must be very careful to give our interest and attention *only* to God’s good perfect thoughts, and *never* to the fearful, sad, worry thoughts of others. Whenever we see something ugly or unpleasant we can know that it

is a foolish picture made by some old thought-film which we haven't yet dug out of our mind. As soon as we stop believing in this old picture, the thought-film will melt and the picture will fade away from the lovely God-Thought which it covered—and the unpleasant thing will then look beautiful."

This explanation brought forth another question from Colombe. "Is there a 'lovely God-Thought' even under spiders, rats, thistles, flies, and mosquitoes?"

"Yes!" answered Mother. "God's Life sparkles even within *those* horrid pictures which we have made because, as you know, God is *everywhere* and in *everything* ALL THE TIME. And so—since everything is a part of God's OWN SELF, He most surely would make ALL beautiful, good, and perfect, wouldn't He? You wouldn't purposely make any part of *your* body ugly or bad or imperfect would you?"

"I should say not!" emphatically replied the girl.

"Then you can see that it is only our own wrong thoughts which make some parts of God (like the flies, rats, etc.) look imperfect or ugly to us. Also, you would most certainly never *deliberately* hurt *any* part of yourself," Mother continued. "And so, since God can do *anything* He wants to, don't you suppose that He always takes *perfect* care of *every* part of His Own Self?"

"Why, yes, of course He must! I suppose it's our miserable old thought-films again that makes us think He has forgotten us."

"Exactly!" agreed Mother. "And it isn't very likely that God would let any PART OF HIMSELF hurt or make unhappy ANY OTHER PART OF HIMSELF any more than you would make your fingers hurt some other part of *your* body!"

"Oh, I see!" exclaimed the child. "You mean we don't have to be afraid of ANYTHING because it is a part of God just like we are!"

"Yes! Nothing can *really* ever hurt you. God wouldn't let it. It is only your wrong thoughts and feelings that make things *seem* to hurt you—and as soon as you get rid of them nothing will ever bother you again. And so, to be always safe, happy, healthy, and well-cared-for all we need do is to give ALL of our love, our interest, and our attention to GOD, and do everything

we do to please HIM ONLY. Then, no matter how ugly some of the pictures around us *seem*, we must TRUST GOD PERFECTLY, *knowing* that He will take the very best of care of every beautiful part of His Wonderful Self. If we really do this ALL THE TIME there will be no interest or attention or fear or desire left to put life into the wrong thought-films—and they will ALL fade away and never bother us again, leaving us happy, strong, and prosperous in the beautiful wonderful world as GOD SEES IT.”

End of Course.

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OVERHEARD IN AN ORCHARD

SAID the robin to the sparrow,  
“I should really like to know  
Why these anxious human beings  
Rush about and worry so.”  
Said the sparrow to the robin,  
“Friend, I think that it must be  
That they have no Heavenly Father  
Such as cares for you and me!”  
—*Elizabeth Cheney.*

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JUST TO BE STILL

O GOD, I would that I could be,  
Still to the deepest heart of me;  
Nor saying yes, nor saying no,  
Nor wishing high, nor wishing low.  
Just to be still.  
O God, the stillness I would hold,  
Is that of fire-tested gold;  
Till purified within Thy flame,  
My soul shines forth, whole, in Thy Name.  
Just to be still.  
Praise God I can at last be still,  
And enter in Thy Holy Will;  
Forgotten are earth's joy and pain,  
How blessed to be Home again.  
Just to be still.

Translated from the German by *Paula Manley.*

# THE IMPERSONAL WORK

**I**N THIS Department will be included teachings and truths for more advanced students, especially for those who have received the monthly lessons in the sixty-five issued Papers.

Some of our readers perhaps may not be able to grasp these truths, but we urge if so that they reserve them for future study and consideration, as they will contain matter of vital moment to the soul, when it is grown ready to receive and use it as intended.

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## THE FATHER

**W**HAT the FATHER IS, so may and can and must HIS Sons become! How far you are away from this Ideal your own Spirit within can tell you, for your Spirit holds within you the Spark of that Great FATHER-LIFE Who gives you of HIMSELF, ever dwelling within you to be the very Dynamo of your own everlasting life!

Freewill belong to GOD, and He gives of this HIS Nature, too, to Man. By your own use of freewill you can learn to live rightly, following the laws He gives for guidance, or you can choose to damp down the Fire of GOD, and turning a deaf ear to guidance make of self—a god! O, if you, My Children to whom I call, would but use freewill to acknowledge HIS LIFE within you, as greater than your own “self” and would open the gates, and let the King of Glory use the highways of HIS great creation Man! There would then be no end to the wonder and the greatness which That FIRE of Energy could pour forth *through you!* If you would acknowledge this Lord strong and mighty, great in all the love and wisdom and power which your birthright inspires you to work for and express!

My Children, how can you sell your birthright for a mess of pottage, and satisfy your lowest cravings and waste your days playing on that plane of life belonging only to the instrument you are given to use on earth. The plane of bodily life is but a stepping stone to protect, while it initiates your Spirit into its higher calling! It is but the school through which you work, to learn about your higher Spirit Life, and where you use the scaffolding of physical environment to build your eternal structure

—not abusing its privileges, but using it to reach the heights of finish and perfection, a building not made with hands, but capable of taking its place in the eternal Universe to which you belong. Your Spirit is this building, and it can grow in heavenly stature *within* the scaffolding of your bodily life—and it is this Spirit—within which your Father gives into your hands, to build according to the use you make of His Indwelling Fire-of-Life that is “You.”

From Him You came. To Him You go. He is ONE. I in You and You in ME. ONE SPIRIT.

And I Who speak to you, Whom you knew as Jesus of Nazareth—I Who am His Son—I came forth in Spirit from Him—even as I say to you, you *also* do—you are His Sons and Daughters and His *loved* Children. I came out from GOD, and because I did His Will and not Mine own, I therefore could go back in Spirit to My FATHER. So I call to you to do His will and not your own, that you also may return to your FATHER and to My FATHER—your GOD and My GOD.

Will you not try to understand more fully how you may do this.

He is *not* solitary, away in a Sphere, untouchable, unknown!

*HE is in you!* HE is round you. HE is the LIFE of all that is.

*HE is LOVE beyond all telling.* HE IS ALL.

HE is all you long for, and HE is all the filling of your need.

HE is the empty Cup, and HE is the full-filling of all hope.

HE is the weakness, and HE is the strength that makes you strong.

HE is the longing to see, to hear, to feel, and He is the vision, and the understanding, and the tenderness which lifts you up to reach these joys of life and mind and heart.

HIS Indwelling urges you onwards and upwards step by step upon the ladder of progression, as your Spirit realizes more and more the Glory which His Indwelling means to you.



HE is the Law that sets His Children seeking for its power, its use, and HE is the wisdom and the understanding which leads them on to manifest His love's supply to His family.

When the best in man lifts him to give his present human life for his friends, it is the glory of Divine Indwelling Love raising him to the heights of perfect Sonship.

O Children of MY FATHER, take more thought to worship Him from Whom all your blessings flow, learn to love HIM not only for His Greatness but for all the tender nearness of His Indwelling love and wisdom and power. I came myself to earth, taking up a body like unto your bodies, to shew you and to teach you of MY FATHER, that you may become His Sons, and that you may learn to open the "gates" of "self", yourselves and acknowledge His Indwelling.

Who is this Lord of Glory? He is the Lord strong and mighty to save and to lift. Then lift up your heads, and be ye lift up ye everlasting doors, and He will come into your consciousness and glorify your lives!

—My Messenger.

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## MIND DISCIPLINE

**F**OR the Aspirant who thinks to enter the Kingdom without mind discipline, to him will come the hour of retribution.

"And that servant which knew his Lord's will and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes . . . For whomsoever much is given, of him shall much be required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more."

Every step out of this dream of mortal consciousness can be won only by mind training and control . . . "I tell thee, thou shalt not depart thence till thou hast paid the very last mite."

Does another come and abuse you and accuse you unjustly? Perhaps bringing to your attention a small duty or obligation causing you to resent the intrusion? Or they may remind you that your words or acts are unworthy of a disciple of Christ.

Do not condemn or become hurt or angry because these messengers are bringing home to you the outmanifestation of your own consciousness? Have you not promised the Lord Self that you will lift your mind creations back into His Consciousness?

The human mind is to be diligently watched, for it will deceive and lead you astray—even at the very Gates of Paradise.

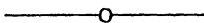
This human-mind-self may surreptitiously assume the part of the Lord Self, telling you that there is little time in your life for the Spirit study or group meetings; it will bring many so called reasons to bear to convince you that you are justified in your decisions.

Have you noticed how a subject keeps coming up in your consciousness and the mind has to convince you all over again that it is right? If it is the Lord's voice the decision is final, the **FIRST TIME**.

Can the Lord Self speak to a mind that knows little of relaxation, of concentration, of persistence, of poise, of continuity?

The time will come when the Lord Self will give you a vision of a great body of the cast-off thought-belief-images you have strewn along the path of life. For the first time you may catch a glimpse of your fellow men—of **YOUR CRIMES**.

Then, if you have acquired poise and control you will not be overcome, but you will stand still—**UNEMOTIONAL**—awaiting the Voice of the Lord Self. He will take over your creations and in His own way He will redeem them and they will be no more.

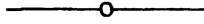


## SUBLIMATED THOUGHTS

**“EVERY** proverb, every book, every byword that belongs to thee for aid and comfort shall surely come home through open or winding passages. Every friend whom not thy fantastic will, but the great and tender soul in thee craveth, shall lock thee in his embrace.”—*Emerson*.

If we have the consciousness of the Angels, Angels will attend us. If a mortal is near when the mind is attuned to the Angel Consciousness, that mortal will assume the contour and vestment of our concept of an Angel!

**H**ERE IS the secret by which you can regain your power,—you need only to remember *Who you are*, that your home is back in the center, in the Kingdom there where I AM—where the God of you IS; and then to refocus your attention and interest there by *seeing* and *feeling* yourself centered therein and surrounded by and filled with *My Love*,—when you will *actually and truly be there*.



—Nancy.

The Soul may send a friend or one in the home to outmanifester the needed thought. Their words, to the *uninitiated*, may seem cruel or unjust, but the *trained* mind *knows* there is a loving purpose back of what is said, and will center its attention within and *not* without; and with the aid of the Soul will make sublime every word so that the lesson need not be repeated.

Each remembered or forgotten unredeemed thought-belief is brought to the mind's attention by the loving Soul. Now if the mind is willful and stubborn, these pictures will annoy or anger, or perhaps it will try to ignore its pictured mistakes. So the patient Soul repeats the picture lesson until, in desperation, the mind gives the annoying thought a constructive turn. But a *trained* mind is alert to every thought which enters it, having become so intimate in its acquaintance with its Soul and Lord that it loves and trusts and watches every moment, in its effort to obey.

Yes, it is true that one can KNOW—I AM THAT I AM—on rare occasions . . . and still have unredeemed thoughts.

But if there is *one thought* image left out of the KINGDOM, the consciousness will leave the HIGH PLACES and return into its *creation* until that part is lifted and made sublime.

We may KNOW the consciousness of Elysium Bliss wherein our images appear as Lords or Gods and Goddesses. Or the acme of all states may be experienced in the bliss of the FORMLESS! . . . I AM THAT I AM! . . .

WORK is the sublimation of our world of pictures in imagination. All we see without are the picture images created by our thinking and which exist only in our consciousness. THE GREAT

Then by practicing staying in that Love Center realizing Who you are—your identity with Me, and feeling My Love pouring out through you, as a heart center, you will find you can look out through and go in and out of these outer realms of consciousness at will, seeing and knowing they are all illusions—reflections rather—of the glorious Realities within the Kingdom, created out of the substance of those imagined worlds that exist only by reason of your fancying them real and separate from My Consciousness; distorted concepts fashioned in ignorance, and from efforts to understand their peculiar influence upon you.

This is a great secret indeed, and it is waiting for all to know who have found the Way of Love, through the heart, unto Me. For I, God, AM Love, and the more you love—the more you forget self—the more do you let Me have My way in you. Therefore let My Love, which is My Creative Life, flow freely through you. For in very truth you are My agent, My channel of expression; and only through you whom I created in My Image and Likeness for such purpose, can I pour forth the fullness of My Life and express My Real Self. In fact, I can do nothing outwardly except through you.

Know that the very nature of My life is to love and bless, to grow and unfold, to heal and make perfect. It will do this naturally and always, if not interfered with by man's wrong thoughts, or by man's ignorant thoughts—his not knowing the mighty power he is wielding by forming thought pictures in his mind, into every one of which My life flows and vitalizes and outmanifests them, according to the kind of feeling he puts into them.

—From *BROTHERHOOD*.

### THE HOLY PLACE

**W**HO shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who shall stand in his holy place?

He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

—*Psalms*.

# THE INTERPRETER'S HOUSE

**I**N THIS Department will be given interpretations of dreams and visions of those needing to know their inner meaning. We reserve for it only those of special interest and helpfulness.

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## INITIATION

**A**N ANGEL appeared at the foot of my bed, and looking intently at me said, "Follow Me." My first impulse was to say NO, but I could not deny the imperative command in his dark piercing eyes. I arose, put on a robe and followed him down stairs, through the house, and on through the city out into the country. We came to a great, burning forest. I could feel the heat from the flames. I paused but the angel passed on. When he was about half way through the flames, he turned and gave me a commanding look. Always, as he would turn and look at me, even though I had paused out of fear, I had to obey the command. As I entered the forest, these words came to me, "As thou passeth through the fire, thou shalt not be burned."

Next we came to a strange and weird, desert-like country. I saw all kinds of wild animals. Again I paused. But the angel turned and said, "Follow thou me." Not verbally, but by the command in his eyes. The thought passed through my mind, that in Isaiah it is prophesied, that the lamb shall lie down with the lion and shall not be harmed. I reached out my hand to a lion to test that prophecy. The lion cuddled up close to me like a kitten. With my other hand I patted the head of a leopard and walked on safely.

We came to a great high fence, with a gate fastened by a large padlock. The angel unlocked the padlock with a key that seemed to be more than a foot long, and bade me pass through. I did not notice where I was until I heard a great splash and saw the key disappearing in the water. Turning, I saw that to the right of me, to the left of me, and in front of me as far as I could see, there was nothing but a great body of black, turbulent water. And there I was, scared to death of water, and only about two feet of land between the fence and the water, the gate locked, the key thrown into the water, and a fence so high I could not scale it. The angel had walked half way across the water by now. I was still standing there trying to make up my mind to venture after him, when the angel paused, and as before, by his look commanded me to follow. Then, like soft music, it seemed I heard these words, "My child, when thou passeth through the deep waters, they shall not overflow thee, I will not fail thee nor forsake thee."

Keeping my eyes on the angel, I started across the water and passed, as if on firm ground, safely. It was then that I noticed a large placard, seemingly suspended from the heavens. This placard was brilliant as though studded with diamonds. I forgot all else so intently was I watching this

phenomenon of beauty. In the center of this placard I noticed, as we drew near, that words in amethyst color were being formed. The sentence when complete was "Perfect Love casteth out all fear." I seemed to be enveloped in a spirit of remoteness or forgetfulness. I don't know how long I remained there—it seemed as if my very soul was lifted in ecstasy.

But the angel recalled me. In front of me was a beautiful pearly double gate and on either side of the gate were great pillars of pearl. On these were great balls of blue sapphire, and from these to the East and to the West a beautiful fence of pearl. Attached to the gate was a tiny, golden chain and a small golden padlock. The angel unlocked the padlock with a tiny key of gold and placed it in the palm of my hand. The gate was open and I held the key; the angel vanished and I stood alone.

Following the death of my father four years later, I had this same identical dream, except as I stood holding the key, the gate and the fence seemed to vanish with the angel, and beyond me was a great field of ripened grain. There seemed to be hands of all colors reaching up in supplication. As a background to this there seemed to be a number of figures clad in white. Their hands were also extended in supplication with a moan proceeding from their lips. They appeared to be lepers.

It seemed as if I were enshrined in a halo of golden light with the key clasped tightly in my hands. I knelt in a spirit of adoration or worship. When I awakened I was still conscious of the presence of the key in my hand.

Your dream is evidently a series of Soul Initiations in which you were required to prove your ability to pass unaffected through the test of fire, earth, water and air. That of fire symbolizing the fires of affliction; that of earth, the mastery of the animal forces or the laws of earthly nature; that of water, the mastery of the emotional nature; that of air, the ability to enter the Kingdom, the Highest Consciousness, whose pearly gates were opened to you. The later part of your dream, with the great field of ripened grain before you, and the people with hands extended in supplication, clearly symbolized what entitled you to enter the gate and harvest the ripened grain. All of those hands reaching towards you in supplication were the souls awaiting your help. Yes, you held the key, the key of loving selfless service, which alone admits you into the Kingdom.

# THE INNER ROOM

**C**ONTAINING quotations from our replies to those writing us for help in their *Spiritual problems*.

Each day at 12 o'clock noon, we take the names of those asking for such help in the Silence of the Spirit, and "Speak the Word" for them. Many hundreds have testified to receiving the blessings of such ministry.

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## NO LACK OR LIMITATION

**R**EMEMBER that God knows no lack nor limitation of any kind, that such things exist only in man's consciousness—not in His. Now try to realize that everything is governed by law here in the mortal plane of consciousness. And that the law is: "Whatever one thinks and believes is so, is what is manifesting in the outer life." But this means it is manifesting only because it is a permanent belief or manifestation in your consciousness. Change your belief and the manifestation must change.

Stay with this truth until its full inner meaning unfolds to you. Then begin to know the truth and see it instead of that other picture that has such a powerful hold on your mind, only because you believe it is so. What is the true picture? God has a place and a work for everyone of His children and they are always working in His Service, seeking only to please Him. Therefore see yourself doing the thing you would most dearly love to do, see yourself happily and successfully doing it with every proper return coming to you continually, knowing that this is God's Work and you are happy, because you are thus serving Him. Do not try to particularize on the work, but just see yourself happily busy in the Father's work and live in such work, holding it in your mind as an actual thing—despite anything that is happening in the outer. By thus building this mental picture perfectly, vitalizing it with your faith and trust and love of God, refusing to see or acknowledge anything else as so—in accordance with the Law—you will soon find that a miracle will happen and you will be lifted away from your present condition into something wonderful.

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## PROBLEMS

**Y**OUR kind letter received and read carefully, and we will try to help by explaining just what is causing the trouble you are having.

Try to realize that when your Higher Self brings to you truths such as those you have been studying in the Impersonal Lessons, it is for one purpose only—first to plant them in your consciousness as seeds, and then when they grow and become living things in your life, to bring you trials and problems in which to *apply these truths* and exercise the ability He will provide to enable you to master these problems and tests that confront you. That is what you are facing now.

All of these things that cause you to act the way you do and to rebel against these problems are but the forces of your lower nature that are being shown up to you so you can see them for just what they are and you can determinedly take a hold of them and master them. Until you do this, they will come fast and furious until you see that the only thing to do, if you want peace, is to take hold of self and compel it to obey you and to subdue all of these forces. This is putting it about as plain as can be shown.

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## GOD HEALS

**A**T THE suggestion of a friend, we are writing you about your present problem, telling you that if you really believe in God and that He is ALL that there is; that it is His Life that is in and growing every living thing; and that Life heals all cuts and bruises on one's body if one exercises ordinary care—then you must believe that His Life will heal, correct and make perfect any injury or hurt in the inside of one's body as well.

If we have perfect faith and trust in that Life, and pay no attention to what doctors say or what others believe, think you, God is not able to heal and make perfect anything that He has made and grown to where it is now, and is it not sensible to assume that even as He heals cuts and bruises in one's body and in trees and other things, He will at once repair any other injury to His human expression? Of course He will, because how can He express perfectly without a perfect instrument of expression?

But here is another proof of God's wonderful loving presence and care. God made man in His image and likeness in the beginning, and not even man can change what God has made. Therefore, man is perfect now and always will be. But do our minds see and believe this? No. When anything happens to these bodies of ours, we get frightened and our minds become filled with fears and anxieties, and of all kinds of negative and untrue thoughts that clog up the channel through which God is expressing, and for the time being hinders perfect health and harmony from doing its natural healing and correcting work.

In other words, God being ALL that there is, all that is good and perfect now, despite what our eyes may see or our minds may think and fear, and what doctors say. Can anyone hurt God or make Him sick or diseased? No! The disease and the hurt is only in man's mind. God knows always and only perfection.

But remember, the moment you begin to think and build a contrary picture in your mind of yourself and your body, and you see it in your mind as diseased and full of imperfections, and you put life into that picture through your fears, worries and anxieties about it—then such picture beliefs must manifest. Think this over, dear friend, and decide which picture you want to believe and hold in your mind as so, and then trust the Law to bring it into effect.