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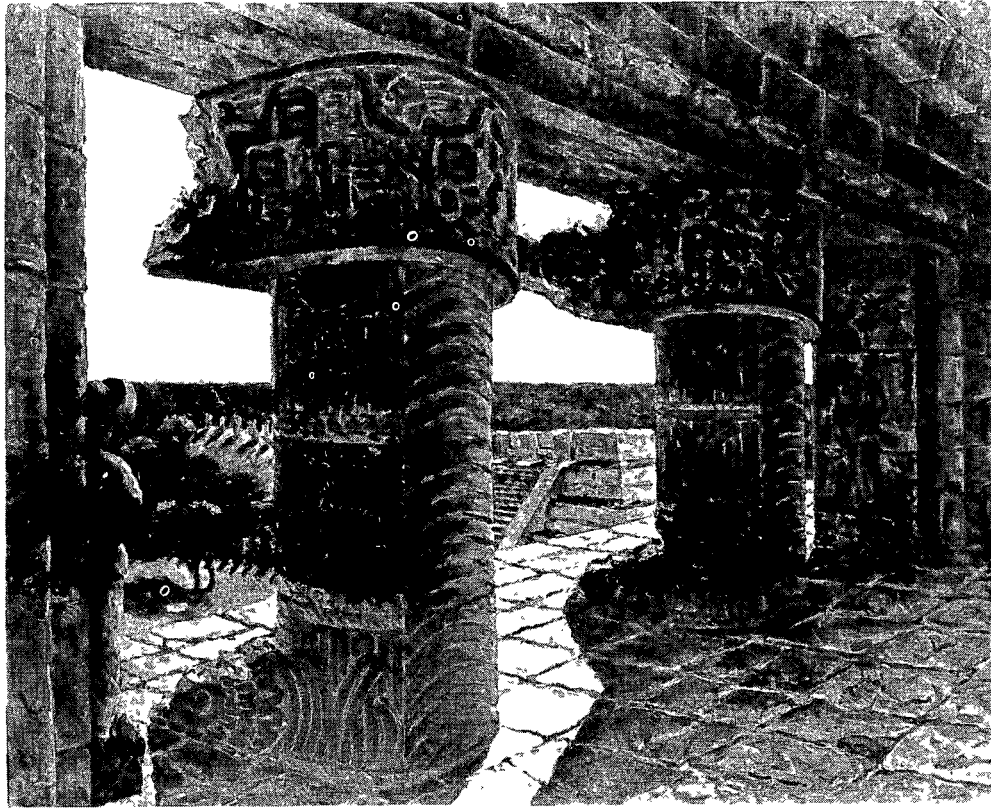
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THE MIRACLE TEMPLE LECTURES

MAYAN REVELATION NUMBER 117

LESSON NUMBER FOUR

IN A SERIES OF

Seven Magic Words

Seek

*Aim to Attain
Life Is a Reaching
Objectives
The Law of Finding*

*What We Miss
Discoveries By the Way
If Haply We May Find God
Master Prayer*

Beloved Centurion:

We are now ready for the fourth lesson in your MAYAN TEMPLE SERIES. This monograph is entitled SEEK. Before beginning, I would like for you to put yourself in a mood for receiving the truth which will be revealed to you if you are receptive.

Let us first and now try an experiment in "MENTAL PICTURING": close your eyes, fold your hands loosely in your lap, and try to picture a long procession of people, made up of men and women, winding slowly up the hill to the temple; when they reach the top of the pyramid where the temple is located, each one, as he approaches the top, pauses before the large temple door and knocks. Can you see this picture clearly? These members of the long procession you are seeing in your mind's eye, as you form your picture, are your Mayan Companions. They are members of your class, and you are among them, faithfully following the path that leads to TRUTH and the perfect life.

It is your instructor's firm conviction that in this monograph, you will find riches beyond measure if you will carefully weigh the words given you herein. Hidden meanings are here if you but seek to find them - meanings that can change the whole course of your life and bring happiness out of despair, contentment out of restlessness, success out of failure. I hope that you will read it more than once, carefully, thoughtfully, seriously, meditatively. Even though you in the higher degrees are becoming more highly evolved with each lesson, it can be a great step upward in your travel along the path of Mayanry. Even greater progress than expected can be attained through an understanding of the truths set forth.

The first step by which we gain a sense of the reality of God must be accompanied by a yearning deep within the human soul to FIND Him. We must SEEK God as a desert traveler seeks the refreshment of spring water. Many have discovered for themselves that God is; in other words, that there is God, but that's as far as they go. Very often their prayer life is thwarted, because there has not been the incentive to tap the source of unlimited power in God.

When we have realized that in seeking we have only to seek, knock, and enter, then and then only will we have learned tranquility of heart, mind and spirit.

And so with these aims in our mind and heart, if you are now in a receptive frame of mind and if you feel you are ready, we will proceed. We will begin our seeking by repeating together the following Meditation:

MEDITATION

Though the promise that those who seek shall find is a great one, I claim that promise. I realize that only seeking aright stands between my life and its every true good; I purpose that mine shall be a seeking life. My quest is not for selfish gain or advantage, but for the wealth of character and mind which moth and rust do not corrupt, nor thieves break through and steal.

AIM TO ATTAIN

Russell H. Conwell made himself famous with a great lecture known the country

over in its day under the title, Acres of Diamonds. It was built on the story of a man who dreamed, yearned, and longed to find a place where he could dig diamonds when all the while his own farm was underlaid with acres of them, the existence of which he did not suspect.

What this man wanted to do was to mine diamonds, but he never did anything about it but the wanting. He had a goal in a wishful sort of way, but he lacked that equally necessary thing, an aim, a plan, a program. What a pitiful heap might be made of all the fine goals that have been lost for the lack of any orderly effort to attain them!

Let us pursue the diamond figure a little further, that precious stone being a good symbol of any worthy desire, material or spiritual. Suppose this man were going aimlessly about his place one day, perhaps wishing he owned a diamond mine and lamenting its seeming impossibility. And suppose he had accidentally found one of the precious fragments of uncut and unpolished carbon cropping out of the ground. If he had even known what it was that would have been the realization of his goal in a small, chance way, for most people are happy in the possession of even one fine diamond. He might have gone on the rest of his life gloating on his chance discovery while the really surpassing value he possessed remained undiscovered, all for the lack of any plan other than chance.

One may discover a fragmentary goal now and then by accident, but the supreme values take systematic searching. One may now and then chance on a bit of worth for living, but the acres of diamonds of life values each of us should have are found in no such way. We may happen on occasional outcroppings of what are or might be our aims, but outcroppings are only hints of the greater things that require search, discovery, and adequately planned use.

Any realization requires an aim and purpose. Some fragment of it might or might not be come upon in haphazard fashion, but at best that is something far less than the attaining of a life purpose. Consider the people who have done worthwhile things. Are they not in all cases people who had worthwhile purposes?

One may hide behind the claim that he is just a simple person with no particular mission in life. He would have to be a very simple person indeed for that to be true. Each and every one of us is sent into this world under sealed orders. If one has no other indication of what his mission is, he can at least consider what he can do best and try to render that service.

Even the simplest structure requires a plan, and even the simplest endeavor is too important to leave to chance. Where are you trying to arrive? Have you a considered plan for getting there?

LIFE IS A REACHING

A certain man grew very tall and strong. He was especially muscular in his arms and shoulders, and could reach up or out and get things or do things entirely out of the reach of most people. As a baby in his crib he had had a way of reaching for the ceiling. When taken out of doors he reached for treetops, clouds, and even for the moon. Of course he never laid hold of any of them, but he did develop fine arm muscles, and he did grow very strong and tall.

It is the same way with one's spiritual stature. The person who has great knowledge or wisdom has not come upon it by chance, nor without conscious effort, nor in any haphazard way. Such things are attained by seeking, reaching, constantly obeying some compulsion to lay hold. Nor are the supreme quests the efforts of a short time. Any great quest is a lifetime affair.

It is the same even though the quest is for some quality of personality or excellence of mind or character. One may be born with a tendency, like the man discovering one lone diamond on ground underlaid with them; but if that tendency becomes anything much above the ordinary it must be by cultivation, following a plan, working to a purpose, - reaching.

It is the same in attaining any central life purpose. One may wander aimlessly about and accomplish a few chance things, but whoever attains anything worthwhile is one who has reached out for it and found it and a way to it.

When you studied Biology in school were you not impressed with the prevalence in animal and plant life of feelers, antennae, tendrils - equipment for reaching, finding, and laying hold of things? A good many living creatures have to depend on these instead of eyes.

Have you not been amazed at the way a plant reaches out with these feelers? If they touch the ground the plant keeps growing away from it, but if they find something stronger and higher than themselves they hold and cling to it, for even a plant is always trying to climb rather than descend.

Being more highly developed organisms, we have eyes to see with and hands to grope with; but we still have a kind of antennae of the soul, something always seeking for light, groping for reality, feeling after what is most desirable in the way of values to live for and ultimately attain. They are restless and strong. They warn us from the lower levels, but when they touch something higher and stronger, they twine themselves about it and hold on. It is this quality within you that caused you to seek and find Mayanry, and having found it you will go onward and upward. The more highly evolved you become, the more you learn. The more you seek, the more highly evolved you will become.

Thus life is a reaching. Only when it rests or is content to be inactive are the tendrils of the soul not searching, reaching, leading us on, trying to attach us to whatever is good. If life were not a quest it would be nothing.

Watch these reachings, gropings, and longings. Where they point look for a goal. That is your port. Set your sails and be on the way.

OBJECTIVES

Perhaps this is a good place to raise the question of objectives. Thus far we have been talking about aims and goals, but we must now become more definite than that. Exactly what are these aims and goals to be? Exactly what is the special one you propose to try to realize? One must see it, or in some way know where and what it is, if his quest is not to be an uncertain and fumbling one.

We have some great tunnels in this country, such as the Holland and Lincoln Tunnels running under the Hudson River into New York. The writer asked an engineer

how these were constructed. He said two sets of workmen, one at each end of the proposed tunnel, started digging, boring, and blasting into the solid rock of the riverbed. Each followed a carefully figured course into the subterranean darkness, and when at last they came together somewhere deep under the ground near the middle of the river, the variation was not more than a quarter of an inch, so exact had been the calculations.

In the sense of tunnel construction that was having an objective. These excavators were working to a plan. We have to do the same with our task, whatever it is. No matter what may be our station or our talents, we have to know where we want to go and how we propose to get there; what we want to do and what is the best way to go about accomplishing it. The first thing to do is to choose an objective, and the next is to formulate a workable plan for realizing that objective.

Some choose one great goal they want to reach and set out on what seems the most direct road to it. Others choose a series of nearer and easier goals to be reached one at a time, thus approaching the supreme one by gradual stages. It does not matter much which plan one adopts so long as he adopts a workable one and sees it through, for let us repeat that there is no use in having a goal if one does nothing about it. Now let us particularize this matter of where you want to arrive.

First, choose a goal for which you are fitted, a place you are capable of occupying in case you reach it. There are little shrubs peeping out of the snow that would have become great trees if they had stopped at levels to which they were better adapted. Aim at a task you are capable of handling, a position adapted to your age, training, and ability.

Second, choose a goal it is possible for you to reach. It may be difficult and challenging, but let it not be impossible. It is not wise to choose a point of arrival so far away that at the end of the day you will find it still far out of reach. Choose a goal that is right for you.

Third, choose a goal that is good. Let it be something good for others and for the world in general as well as for yourself. Too many good years and talents are spent on things of little or no value to anyone. Keep the things of lesser importance in second place. Let your general objective be something constructive and something of a nature that devoting yourself to it will really be a consecration.

Fourth, let your goal be something abiding. There is an immortality of work. We pass on our way, but our work remains. Not only are we lost to the memory of mankind unless we leave something that endures, but we are lost even to the silent currents of history itself. It is as though we had never been.

THE LAW OF FINDING

Do not be deceived into the idea that you will find your good without conscious effort. Even when you seem to it is the result of something you have done. There is a definite law governing this, "Seek and ye shall find". It was announced by Jesus early in his ministry. It is not even to be considered possible that one will seek and see his search go unrewarded. The promise that it will not be so is sure. It seems that in the realm of the spirit the very act of seeking develops some discernment that makes finding certain.

For one thing the bounty of the universe is so abundant every way that one can hardly fail to find what he seeks if he makes any effort worthy of the name. The man who so much wanted diamonds would have been sure to find them if he had made any search at all. They were there almost begging him to look for them and possess them. That might not in every case be specifically true of diamonds, but it is true of the values and opportunities of life in general. One's good is like the light; about the only way to avoid finding it is to keep one's eyes shut.

One of the things the Master told us to seek is the kingdom of heaven, the wonderful condition of right and justice realized on earth, a world made happy because it has been made good. Seek that kingdom first of all things, he said. He also explained that it was not hard to find, for it was at hand. It still is - at hand. Like getting dressed for company or having flowers in the garden this year, it is a condition as close as the clothes closet or the garden tools. But unless we seek it by doing our part it will remain at hand, and we shall not see it. If we made any reasonable effort we could have right conditions or anything pertaining to our good. They are at our fingertips begging us to take them.

We do not see it, did you say? Of course not. The great pyramid was always there at hand, waiting to be done; but no one ever saw it till it was built. Possibility is never visible until it has been made actual. Flowers are unseen till we grow them. Unfaith sees only an empty spot, but faith sees beauty growing. It plants and cultivates, and the loveliness is realized. It has sought and found.

Even the finished product is sometimes waiting along the path to be discovered, if someone will only bother to look. The mother of the writer had a remarkable eye for seeking. Walking in a meadow she would suddenly step into the thick growth and return with a four-leafed clover she had distinguished among all the countless three-leafed ones. Or she would suddenly step aside from the path and pluck a rare wildflower that had been practically hidden in the verdure. She seemed never to miss anything of the kind.

When asked how she did it she was likely to reply that she just kept on the lookout for such things. That is what we all have to learn to do - keep on the lookout for the four-leafed clovers and the rare flowers of life. Anyway, go through the years watching, searching, realizing. The worth you find will amaze you.

WHAT WE MISS

This brings up one of life's most pitiful tragedies and the question of how to avoid it - the things we miss. There is a story about John Ruskin walking with a friend on the London streets one night. They moved through the pitiful crowd of those who were groping and fumbling through life and missing the way. When the walk was finished Mr. Ruskin was sad and thoughtful. "I do not wonder at what men suffer" he mused, "but I wonder often at what they lose."

Early one morning Jesus stood looking through his tears over the city of Jerusalem. The lament he uttered shows that he was thinking what unrealized possibilities and undiscovered happiness lay within reach of the unsuspecting people who lay sleeping under those silent rooftops. The tragedy was all the greater because they would never understand.

Here is something fundamental. REALIZE ONCE AND FOR ALL THAT NOTHING

IS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE. SOME THINGS MIGHT BE TOO BAD TO BE TRUE, BUT NEVER TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE. Remember that this is our Father's world, and when it was created He saw that it was good. Men have twisted much of its wonder out of shape, but to those who know how to live in it, it is good still.

Realize too that the bountiful grace of God has never been altered or reduced at any time or by anything. Any good that has EVER been available to human beings is available to them NOW. GOD'S BOUNTY IS THE SAME YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND FOREVER. THE RECORD OF YESTERDAY IS THE POSSIBILITY OF TODAY.

Realize too that God is our Father, and that since He is His chief aim is always to see the children doing well. He has placed all true happiness and good within our reach. He can hardly take it up and use it for us. That is for us to do. He makes available. Our part is to seek and find.

Realize too that all this was done as much for you individually and personally as for anyone else whatever. We see some very fortunate people now and then, but they are not so by chance. They are different from others only that in some way they have sought their good and found it. They somehow saw and availed themselves of their abundant share of the divine bounty.

YOU can do the same. Perhaps you can do it even better than they. Seek that which is for you. Accept it when you find it or when it comes your way. Don't question, or object that it is not just what you expected. That may be the best thing about it. RECEIVE it with GRATITUDE, and GIVE GOD A CHANCE TO SHOW YOU HOW MUCH BETTER IT IS THAN YOU EVER DREAMED COULD HAPPEN TO YOU.

Realize too that God is not reluctant but ANXIOUS to bless you. You do not have to plead and fret. You have only to seek and find. Why? You are God's child - the best of all reasons. Goodness and mercy do not run from us. They follow us, always pursuing and trying to catch up with us. PAUSE AND LET THEM.

These are some of the ways to avoid the tragedy of missing our heritage of happiness and self-realization. Try them and see for yourself.

DISCOVERIES BY THE WAY

WATCH OUT, then, not only for the special values you are seeking but also for the incidental ones that may be lying half hidden along your path. The time may come when some of them may not seem so incidental, and certainly none of them is of minor importance. BLESSINGS HAVE SUCH A WAY OF WEARING DISGUISES THAT UNLESS YOU ARE CAREFUL YOU MAY NOT RECOGNIZE YOUR OWN GOOD WHEN YOU COME UPON IT. That which seemed LAST may turn out to be FIRST.

There is an old story that in the early stages of the building of Solomon's temple at Jerusalem the workmen came upon a queer-shaped stone they seemed to have no place for. It was not plumb, nor square, nor level. Since it seemed to meet no regular specifications it was thrown on the waste heap and was soon covered deep with rubble. It was soon forgotten by the workmen too.

When in the later stages of the building they were ready to set the capstone of the arch that swept the Holy of Holies it was nowhere to be found. After long

discussion an old workman remembered the queer shaped stone that had been thrown away long before. After the removal of much accumulated rubbish it was found, and when set in the vacant space at the top of the arch it fitted perfectly.

It sometimes happens that something of great value, even the supreme thing one is looking for, is cast aside because it does not seem to fit any specifications we know. But it may be intended for something better than that. It may conform to extraordinary specifications we do not know. It may even be the capstone of the arch that sweeps the Holy of Holies of our lives. It is well to be on the lookout for such possibilities. But there are also certain standard values for which we should always be looking.

LOOK for WORTHWHILE FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES. MUCH OF OUR GOOD MUST COME FROM OTHERS WHO HAVE DONE WELL IN THE ENTERPRISE OF LIVING. What we LEARN from THEM is of DOUBLE VALUE, because it is DEMONSTRATED TRUTH.

LOOK for great hours and inspiring occasions. Many of earth's good and great got their starts and kept going in that way. A certain country boy had decided to give up school at the end of the seventh grade. He was standing in the door one evening when some other young people came by and invited him to go with them to a commencement in a neighboring town. He went, and the occasion so fired his soul that he went back to school and never stopped till he held college and university degrees. He became a distinguished man in public life because in his youth a great hour had pushed him on when he was slowing down to a stop. Such times may thrust us forward when we need it, as the firing of successive jets accelerate slowing rockets and then thrust them farther into space. Use them when they come to you.

LOOK for every worthwhile thing you can learn and make a part of your life. It will enrich your personality and give you a store of strength on which to draw in time of need. Indeed LOOK for everything that will make life more meaningful to you and make your life more valuable to the world. Whatever enlarges your outlook, sharpens your spiritual understanding, and turns on the current of aspiration, claim it as your own. Be grateful to anyone who makes it available to you. IN HIM YOU HAVE ENTERTAINED AN ANGEL (A MESSENGER) UNAWARE.

IF HAPLY WE MAY FIND GOD

In his remarkable speech on Mars Hill to the people of Athens, as reported in the seventeenth chapter of the Book of Acts, St. Paul made this statement about the human search for the Divine:

The God that made the world and all things therein, he being Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; neither is he served by men's hands, as though he needed anything, seeing he himself giveth to all life, and breath, and all things; and he made of one every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed seasons, and the bounds of their habitation; that they should seek God, if haply they might feel after him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us: for in him we live, and move, and have our being.

What we have been saying of other great values of life, then, applies also to the highest value of all - conscious union with the Universal Spirit we call God, the

One in whom we live, and move, and have our being. To bear a certain automatic relation to God in the sense that we are His offspring and cannot help ourselves is one thing. To be united with Him in thought and purpose by our own choice and desire is quite another. THIS LATTER IS THE RESULT OF SEEKING.

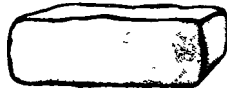
This union we are always trying to accomplish, whether we know it or not. As St. Augustine said, God has made us for Himself, and we find no rest until we rest in Him. Many do not know why they are dissatisfied, always beating their already bruised wings against the cage of their frustrations, nor do they know what peace it would bring them to find harmony with their Creator and His purposes.

(Beloved Companion, please read the above paragraph again. It is very important).

We are not now discussing any credal or sectarian road to God. We here mean turning into our lives the love, wisdom, grace, and power from which order, beauty, and good have proceeded from the beginning of things. It comes about in the same way all our good comes - through seeking - by trying all the stops and all the keys till we are a part of the great harmony. KNOWING ANY GOOD THING IS A PART OF KNOWING GOD, and KNOWING GOD LEADS TO KNOWING EVERY GOOD THING.

One gray, dim morning after the resurrection of Jesus, the lonely and discouraged disciples were trying to catch some fish for breakfast. All night they had been putting out their nets in vain. Then a familiar figure appeared approaching through the morning mist. It was their risen Lord. Ever solicitous about their comfort, he asked if they had anything to eat. When told that they had not, he told them to cast the net on the right side of the boat and they would find fish. When this was done the catch was so great they could hardly raise the net. Seeking for a goal, our place in life, our good, our God, is a kind of fishing. We are always casting the net, but too often we take nothing because we do not cast it on the right side. Is that your trouble? If so, correct your fishing methods and see if results are not better.

Above all, in your quest for the best in life, do not omit its crowning phase, the quest for the Giver of all Good. Feel after God if haply you may find Him. There is really no "if" about it, FOR YOU WILL. Seek and ye shall find, even if what you seek is the Father of your Soul. Like the father of the prodigal, He will not hide Himself from you, but will run to meet you at the gate.



As we leave this lecture lesson, may I say in all humility that I feel its message to be golden, if you have read it thoughtfully and prayerfully. The words set forth for you are TRUE; - believe it; - know it; - affirm it; and you can be happier than you have ever been in your life. YOU CAN KNOW INWARD JOY AND PEACE PROFOUND. YOU CAN BE A BLESSING TO YOURSELF AND TO ALL THINGS AND PEOPLE WITH WHOM YOU COME IN CONTACT, EVERY DAY OF YOUR LIFE.

Remember this, the Lord does want us to count most certainly on this, that asking, seeking, knocking cannot be in vain: receiving an answer, finding GOD, the opened heart and home of God, are the certain fruit of prayer.

Yes, truly, Beloved Centurion, if you will seek, you will find. Blessings.

MASTER PRAYER

Father God, Thy Son has told us that if we seek we shall find. I humbly claim that promise now. Teach me how to see aright and for the right things. Let no deceptive values claim my time and strength. Thus, when the seeking is done, may I have found that which will make my life really better and more enduring. Amen.

Your Class Instructor.

It gives me great happiness to announce the title of the next Lecture Lesson in this series, PRAY, in which we take up the following subjects:

The Right of Petition
The Right of Appeal
Faith Brings Power
Claim Your Good

... Than This World Dreams Of
Prayer Is Radiation
Giants At Prayer
Master Prayer
