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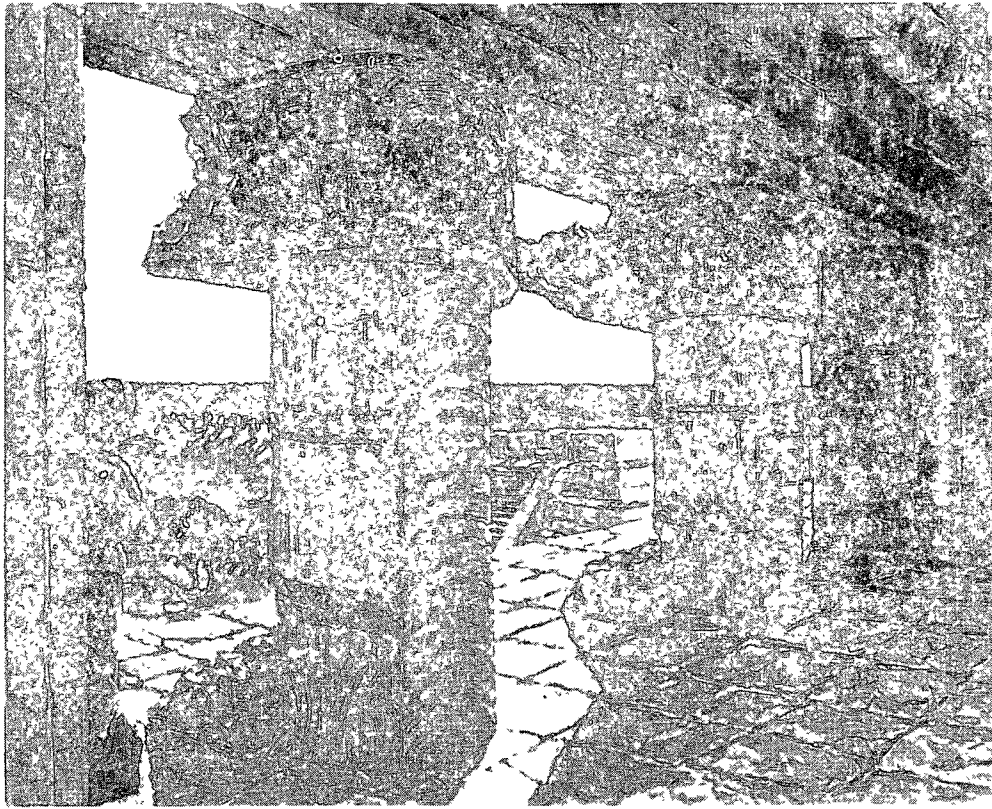
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## THE MIRACLE TEMPLE LECTURES

MAYAN REVELATION NUMBER 119

### LESSON NUMBER SIX IN A SERIES OF Seven Magic Words

#### Believe

Clinging Hands  
Building Beliefs  
Pattern for Growth  
The Community of Beliefs

Sincerity Is Not Enough  
Belief In The Spirit  
It Adds Up To Faith  
Master Prayer

Beloved Centurion:

As we progress forward on the Path, we come to the 6th Revelation in the Miracle Temple Series. We take up now the subject which we have called BELIEVE.

This lesson can bring you strength, can cultivate spiritual growth, build character. Its message is very important to you as a Truth Seeker and as a Mayan. I wish it were possible for all peoples in the world today to be able to absorb the words in this manuscript and to put its message to work in their lives. I refer to non-Mayans, as well as all members of The Mayan Order. Its words can strengthen those whose faith is not strong enough, as well as be an inspiration to those whose faith is already strong, and it also should be very helpful to those who think that they have faith, but who, in reality, have little or no faith.

As you put yourself in a mood now for your study period, please put all other thoughts from your mind and read carefully. There are several passages indicated which should be read several times. THEY ARE IMPORTANT.

And now we repeat slowly the words of our Meditation:

#### MEDITATION

I see my beliefs as shining white steps leading up to the strength and wonder of a great faith. I propose that they shall be firm enough to support me, but there shall also be enough of them to carry me to that level which lies forever above the weakness of unbelief. I propose also to tread them one by one till that level is mine.

#### CLINGING HANDS

Our beliefs are the fingers with which we cling to reality and hope. Being intangible and invisible, they seem not to be real, but they are. They are like the hands, weak or strong, with which one holds, sometimes desperately, to a crag, rock, or spur, when climbing a mountain. If the climber had no hands, or if he had them and did not use them well, he would likely fall to destruction on the rocks below. Therefore, let the hands of belief be strong and ready.

Truth and reality are indeed like mountain crests, very high and reached by slopes that are very steep and rocky. Peace and happiness are much the same. We believe that this is the way, or that is the thing to do, or here is the rough surface that will do to hold to, while we strike the alpenstock a little higher and take another careful step. It is precarious business, it becomes more so as we reach the higher levels, and without the clinging fingers of belief how could we ever make the climb? And how could we make it if we trusted the wrong thing?

Remember this when the way seems difficult as you journey on the Mayan Path. In further regard to the journey, I am reminded of a letter I received from one of our members who has been with us since 1936, and here is what she said: "I must confess it is not easy to keep on the Path that leads to the heights and it would be a lonely climb were it not for my Mayan Companions and our great and ever constant Companion who goes on before us and who is always with us. It is harder than ever these days as there is such a downward trend and one finds but few companions on the way up (I mean few compared to all the people in the world and to all the

people one meets). There are many on the way down, or those stuck in ruts on by-paths, and many who are altogether indifferent. Sometimes we on the upgrade slide back with those we contact coming down, or we get stuck in the ruts of this earthly life and get to feeling that it is useless and hopeless to go on. My experience has been that God never lets go of anyone who has at one time given their hearts to Him, and Jesus, the tender Shepherd, is always there on the mountainside to gather His loved ones back into the fold."

Believe something, and try to have it be the right thing. Do not expect to master the matter in a day, but everyone has to make a beginning. Begin by selecting your necessary basic beliefs honestly and carefully, then cling to them until and unless you find surer anchorage. Do not find just one handhold and stop. You will never reach the summits of belief that way.

Like hands in mountain-climbing, our beliefs are means by which we continue to live. This is literally as well as figuratively true. Your life actually consists largely of your beliefs and what you build on them. To them you commit yourself body and soul. What your life turns out to be depends on the principles to which you have committed it.

To believe nothing is not really to live. Have you not seen flat-souled, flabby-minded people, who have no convictions of their own and no respect for them in others? They absorb none of life's wonder for themselves. They count for nothing in the affairs of life, rendering nothing to their age and passing nothing on to the future. Their lives are weak, their thinking negative, and their attitudes neutral. Their personalities give off no glow, because it is our beliefs that must kindle the flame if there is to be one.

YOUR BELIEFS, so far as they are correct, ARE YOUR CONTACTS WITH THE DIVINE MIND, THE THOUGHTS OF WHICH ARE TRUTH ITSELF. In every one that is right you actually share the thoughts of the Eternal. Believe something then. Cherish your beliefs, and strive to build them ever more into a great, true, challenging, commanding faith. That is what it takes to make one's life a power in the world.

Remember that believing something is more than just supposing it may be true, or thinking it probably is because someone says so, or wishing it were true. BELIEVING HAS SURENESS IN IT. It is something we have chosen for anchorage, something we are willing to exemplify and defend.

#### BUILDING BELIEFS

Building up what one is going to believe is far less a thing to be done in any slipshod or haphazard way than is building the house he proposes to live in. Like all orderly processes, it has a beginning; but, unlike them, it has no end. Since truth is infinite, the quest for it is also.

THE RIGHT BEGINNING IS TO TAKE NOTE OF WHAT YOU BELIEVE AND WHETHER YOU ARE JUSTIFIED IN BELIEVING IT. Your instructor would suggest that you make a written list of these things. The very act of writing necessitates concentration and when we concentrate on a thing completely the results are far more satisfactory. When you have gone through the things you already believe, or thought you did, dust them off and rearrange them. You will then have what will serve very well as beginning, but never entertain the idea that it is completed.

One of the great troubles about believing is that so many people are dogmatic and self-satisfied with their present positions. One's beliefs should undergo CONSTANT REVISION. Some will be borne out by experience, and others not. Some will take different forms or present new angles. THE BELIEF DEPARTMENT OF ONE'S LIFE SHOULD BE RICHER, TRUER, AND FREER FROM ERROR EVERY DAY. IF IT IS NOT SO HE IS NOT GROWING. Never close your mind. The road to wisdom is not a blind street, which is one of the reasons your Mayan Book House is constantly seeking books which deal with the subjects of faith, believing, power from within, words that have been written by well-known inspirational writers on ways to achieve a more profound belief. Such books have a tremendous influence for good in shaping what our present life is and what our future life is to become.

Still, do not think you must know all about a thing before you accept and try it. Nobody knows all about anything. Accept what seems right. Try it out and see if it works. As St. Paul said, PROVE ALL THINGS AND HOLD FAST TO WHAT IS GOOD.

You will find that your chart of belief will grow and change in surprising places and ways. At one stage a certain thing may seem utterly false to you. At a later stage when your viewpoint has ripened and your prejudice lessened, it may look plausible. Then some day when your need is sore, you may try it and find it true. If honest and intelligent people have found a thing good it must have some value. The test of a proposition is not the label it bears, but whether it meets first the tests of verity and second the tests of experience.

You will find that your beliefs, carefully chosen and tested in everyday living, will become increasingly precious to you. Time will snatch from you some things that are dear, but this it cannot take away. Change may at times leave you very lonely, but you would be far more lonely still if it were not for those things you can review in your heart and say, "THIS I BELIEVE". There is nothing more soul-satisfying than this when all else seems to have failed you - the ability to say truthfully: "THIS I BELIEVE."

Your beliefs will come to much more than the formal things you glibly say when you repeat a creed, or even when you try to list them in a conversation. In building them up take time to be thoughtful about them. Do not hurry them as they take form in your mind, for doing so may mar them. Let them possess your thinking. When they have crystallized, step out on them and see if they hold you up. If they do, you will have added something in the way of permanent riches to your life. After that they are no longer debatable. YOU KNOW IN YOUR HEART THAT THEY ARE TRUE.

#### PATTERN FOR GROWTH

Our beliefs should not be made occasions for argument. Having once come to believe a thing try to express it in your way of life, and speak of it to those who indicate a wish to hear; but it works against both it and you to go about trying to force it on others. Such tactics convince no one. They only arouse antagonisms and lose the sympathy that might make others accept the viewpoint some time. What any truth needs is defense not in words but deeds, NOT ARGUMENT but demonstration, which is, after all, the best argument.

In other words, one who believes a thing must prove his faith by being willing to accept the implications of it in his own way of life. Unless he is willing

to do that - and sometimes it takes quite a bit of doing - he has no real right to claim that he believes it.

This is true, however much adjustment is required in one's living to conform to it. A BELIEF IS A PROGRAM, and unless one lives it he is not putting it to the laboratory test. THE WORD OF TRUTH, THOUGH GREAT IN POTENTIAL VALUE, IS OF LITTLE ACTUAL WORTH UNLESS ONE IS A DOER OF IT AND NOT A HEARER ONLY. At best, one who is not a doer is no more than a would-be believer. This is not always easy. Belief in application may require a good deal of courage, but what good is faith unless it is courageous? If it is to be our victory it must be brave.

In this positive believing, this believing in something and proving it in practice, a wonderful miracle occurs. As one lives a life it becomes a pattern for his growth and development. This process continues until he becomes a living picture of it and the other things to which he has actively committed his mind. The experienced observer knows one who has lived his beliefs a long time, and can tell with great accuracy what any person believes from what he is and how he does. As the Master said, a tree is known by its fruits.

Those who discount the importance of belief by saying that it does not matter what one believes, but the important thing is what he does, miss the point badly. You cannot separate an honest man's deeds from his faith. His beliefs are the patterns of his actions, and his actions become the pictures of his beliefs, as his whole life ultimately comes to be. Please read the above three lines again. They are important; make every action in your daily life an example of what the INNER YOU really is.

Considering your beliefs as a part of your life program will strengthen you in important ways. For one thing, it will keep you constantly reminded how vital and serious a matter the choice of them is. Choose them with care, for the way they work out in your life will profoundly affect your future. If your beliefs are true, you can look to the future with complete confidence, knowing that the results cannot be anything but good. REMEMBER, THEN, THAT A CREED - BY WHICH WE MEAN WHATEVER ONE HAS COMMITTED HIS MIND TO - IS A PROGRAM: THAT YOUR BELIEFS ARE COMMITMENTS TO ACTION, AND THAT THE DAY WILL COME WHEN YOUR CHARACTER WILL BE STRONG, TRUE, AND GOOD IN PROPORTION TO THEIR STRENGTH, TRUTH, AND GOODNESS.

Watch a flower or a leaf development, and you will know that an unseen pattern was there and that it simply grew to fit that pattern. Our thinking and believing is an unseen pattern that our lives will certainly grow - are growing every day - to fit. What a power and responsibility this places in your hands!

If and when there are periods in your life when you find your faith and belief faltering - (and this comes to everyone in his or her life) - go to the nearest garden you can find and watch Nature at work and know if the Divine Companion can create so many patterns so perfect in shape and color, even to the most minute detail, certainly the same can be done in our own lives, if we will but follow the intellect of Nature's pattern and believe that man often creates his own interference and it is then that the Divine plan for our lives fails.

### THE COMMUNITY OF BELIEFS

There is a tragically amusing moment in the drama of Job when the sufferer turns on the three foolish friends who had come to set him right when they did not understand what to do or how to do it. Feeling that their presumptuous claims and irritating attempts at comfort had become one of the worst of his many afflictions, the patriarch burst out with this indignant protest, "No doubt ye are the people, and wisdom shall die with you."

In your search for sound beliefs and your efforts to establish and apply them in your life never let yourself become a person to whom anything like that could be appropriately said. No matter what you believe and how profoundly you believe it, always have respect for the beliefs of others, even though they may be different from or even opposite to yours.

It may be, as in the case of the six blind men of Hindustan who went to see the elephant, that both you and others are partly right and partly wrong. Or, it may be that as your concepts of truth develop and undergo further testing, some phases of your viewpoint may change. Or it may be that these other people may be so impressed with your courtesy and respect as to decide that you are right. They would be far less likely to make such a decision if you had belittled their viewpoints. We are all seekers, and none of us is so wise that wisdom is likely to die with us. The humble believer is likely to be nearest right.

This is no suggestion that you accept someone else's belief unless you are honestly convinced that it is true, but merely to respect the right of all to what they believe or think they believe. Listen to them with respect. You may find that you did not understand their viewpoints. At least they are too honest, earnest, and well-meaning, to be needlessly misunderstood. Respect for the faith of others need not in any way lessen your loyalty to your own.

Here is the gist of the whole matter. We ourselves vary, so naturally our beliefs vary. Each of us is trying to discover the truth, and such is our human nature that each of us tends to think he is right. The whole field of human thinking is a jumble of mingled truth and error, but the constant sifting of our thinking and testing tends to blow out the chaff of error and bring the grains of truth to light. SOME DAY, THOUGH THE TIME IS NOT YET IN SIGHT, THE SIFTING WILL BE FINISHED, AND WE WILL ALL AGREE BECAUSE WE SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH.

Then we shall have unity of faith, but until then we must bear with each other. Cling to what seems to you to be true, and honor your neighbor for doing the same.

### SINCERITY IS NOT ENOUGH

Occasionally you will probably hear someone claim that it does not really matter what you believe as long as you are sincere about it. Do not allow yourself to be deceived by any such claims. They are not only careless and thoughtless. They are also deceptive and untrue. One can be perfectly sincere and at the same time wholly mistaken.

Now and then you may need to assume the truth of something till you have had a chance to test it. Scientists do this all the time. They call it discovery

by hypothesis. But if they try a thing and find it false they discard it at once, however much it may have appeared to be true. You will need always to distinguish clearly between what has been dependably established and what is as yet merely on trial. Sincerity will not be a factor in the process.

Those who seek, discover, make, compound, or sell medicine of any kind have to be scrupulously careful against error. They dare not assume anything, however sincerely, till careful and repeated tests have been made, even if it takes days, weeks, months, or years. They have the health, happiness, and life of human beings in their hands, and they dare not be wrong. However sincere they are, they must also be right. One dare not take such things lightly.

The engineer does not build a bridge to carry traffic over dangerous places with the stresses and strains figured on a basis of sincerity. A builder dares not erect a building with the strength of the foundations out of proportion to the load they must carry. The statesman dares not miscalculate the chances of a depression or a war. These and other things are too serious to permit any substitution of sincerity for correctness. THEY HAVE TO BE RIGHT.

What has this to do with your problems in the living of your life? Very much indeed. The hours of this earthly existence tick off pretty fast, and they do not return. Of course you do not mean to make any mistake that will mar your life, but it can happen. It happens usually because someone has not been careful what he built into his thinking. You may feel pretty certain a thing is so, but test it on minor things before trying it on major ones.

Consider the care exercised in a school of medicine, pharmacy, law, and the like to train students to be right about things. Observe a good workman and see how careful he is to do it right. Do the same with your affairs and the thinking which guides them.

Josh Billings was quite right when he remarked, "It's a heap better not to know nothin' at all than to know so many things that ain't so." Too many thought-lives are like houses of cards that will tumble in a gust of wind or ropes of sand that never would support any weight. The old adage had it right - be sure you are right, and then go ahead. It is never safe to go ahead till one is sure he is right, and it is of little use to be sure one is right unless he does go ahead. RIGHT ACTION BASED ON RIGHT THINKING (BELIEVING) IS THE FORMULA.

#### BELIEF IN THE SPIRIT

The spiritual realm is just as much a part of the universe as the physical one is, but we go about building our beliefs there a little differently. In that realm we have nothing to start with except what others believe, what we have been taught to believe, and what we feel led to believe. For much of this we have authority, but at first it is mostly authority derived from other people's experience. We have nothing material to go by. It takes a bit higher mental development to work in that realm.

For instance, what shall we believe about God, the soul, immortality, the Christ. This last has always become a vital matter for everyone who ever asked anything of Jesus. There was always a preliminary question, and it always had to do with belief - What think ye of Jesus who is called Christ? Who do men say that



I, the son of man, am? Who do you say I am? Believest thou that I am able to do this? When one seeker was so questioned, he cried out, "Lord, I believe. Help thou mine unbelief." This was a cry of desperation from one who knew he must find the answer.

You can see that here we have a contradiction to consider. This man asserted belief and unbelief in the same breath. That was not foolish. He was following a law now well-known in Metaphysics, NAMELY THAT THE WAY TO GET A THING IS TO DECLARE THAT YOU ALREADY HAVE IT. Then the stars in their courses join with the forces in your soul to make the declaration true. Jesus told us to pray for things, believing that we had them. One who can convince his soul that he believes will no longer have to ask help for his unbelief. That is the best formula for coming to believe a thing that is obviously true and yet not easy to accept.

If you have trouble feeling a satisfactory faith in God, or in Jesus Christ, or in your status in the heavenly family, live, act, and talk as if you had this belief and see if you do not some day suddenly waken to the fact that you do have it. Your assertion planted the seed and your conduct in line with it tended the soil, so now the plant has actually come up. In this way God works in our lives exactly in the same manner in which he works in all Nature. Have you ever noticed that even in blending colors, whether it is a sunset, a sunrise, or a field of wild flowers, Nature never makes a mistake? The blending is never discordant but always harmonious.

The evidences of God are all around us, and for the nature of the Christ we have a cloud of witnesses, but it seems to take some kind of a spark to ignite such a faith and make it real. To assume such a faith and then proceed on the assumption seems to supply such a spark. If you still need help about unbelief, it would be well to start with the ancient seeker's claim, "Lord, I believe", and do your best to mean it.

Belief touches every field of life, but of course our religious beliefs are most important of all because they determine the nature of all the others. They are our anchorage to the Eternal and the Infinite. They are the determining factors of our lives and the directions they take.

GET YOURSELF ADJUSTED RELIGIOUSLY. START WITH THE BELIEFS YOU HAVE, AND BUILD. More will come as you are ready, and so will greater insight and understanding. You may return later to some of the things you rejected in your youth, but that will take care of itself. The important thing is, first to GET STARTED, and second to keep going till your faith is adequate to your needs.

#### IT ADDS UP TO FAITH

The building of a set of beliefs, if well done, always arrives at a wonderful climax which we discover to be faith. That great word represents something not easy to explain, but after being experienced it does not have to be explained. It is that in which belief finds itself to have arrived at something more than itself, - confidence, insight, courage, the power of realization, the skill to use deep hidden forces to attain purposes, the key to limitless living, the power to avail one's self of the whole heritage of the children of God - in short, faith.

Those who asked Jesus for manifestations of his power were told they must

believe, but it seems that that compound and acme of belief called faith was what was really meant. "According to your faith" or "in proportion to your faith be it done unto you", he told one supplicant. That is probably the pattern of his dealings with us all. Those who have faith have the key to all good.

A novice beginning to take piano lessons will serve as an illustration. When he begins, he does not believe in either the piano or himself. The instrument seems like an enemy with its strings all especially jangled so he can get no music out of them. As he goes on with his exercises he learns that the piano is not against him but is correctly tuned and quite ready to yield to his efforts in proportion to his skill. But he does not yet believe in his fingers. They refuse to keep the rhythm and they will not coordinate. He has made some progress, but he is still far from being a musician. After further effort his fingers begin to be obedient, and he believes they may become able to follow the score. This belief grows till his hands do his bidding. In time he can touch the keyboard with unconscious assurance, knowing that great concertos and symphonies will thunder from the strings at his command.

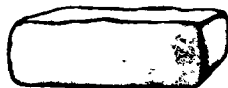
That is faith - belief built up into power. It works the same way on any level or in any of the affairs of life. THE SKILL AND POWER OF THE MASTER IS AT THE END OF THE ROAD OF SIMPLE BELIEVING.

All this is for you. Faith is not just something you have or do not have. It is rather something you acquire or do not take the trouble to acquire. It wrought wonders in the past when and where there were souls great enough to rise to it and give it expression, but it did nothing in the past it is not capable of doing now or in the future.

Reread the eleventh chapter of Hebrews. Pay special attention to the definition of faith in as many versions of the Bible as you have or can find. Take account of the notes, marginal references, and optional readings.

Having gained an idea of what faith is, read the rest of the chapter for a great series of case histories showing how faith works and what it does. Consider each one and try to see how faith accomplished what it did. Try to build your beliefs to a climax in faith as quickly as possible. YOU WILL THEN STAND AMONG THE MASTERS.

One more brief but important word. Remember that the richness of your life is measured not by how little you believe but how much. Most of the great things in history have been done by people who were a little more credulous than their own neighbors.



If your steps falter as you journey to the crests, may I remind you of a little poem which appeared in your D.M.:

"I cannot do it alone, the waves run fast and high,  
And the fogs close chill around, the light goes out in the sky--  
But I know that we two shall win in the end - Jesus and I.  
Coward and wayward and weak, I change with the changing sky --  
Today so safe and brave, tomorrow too weak to fly;  
But He ne'er gives in, so we two shall win - Jesus and I."

--Anonymous.

And now may the words of this Revelation 6 be blessed unto you as we repeat the following

MASTER PRAYER

Father God, I come now to think of that soul-expanding power - belief. I am to consider what I shall believe and how. Since the answers will do so much to shape my destiny, help me to look with clear vision on that field of living I call my beliefs. Let my believing, however humble its beginnings, grow into a sure and a living faith. Amen.

Your Class Instructor.



The last of our lectures in the Miracle Temple Series is a very important one. I feel that the previous lessons of the series have prepared you for the next and last in the Series, Number 7, which is entitled DQ.

In Lecture Lesson Number 7 you will be told how to set about doing the things which you are most desirous of accomplishing, and it is one which your Instructor feels is the most important in the entire Series. Make yourself ready. In it you will find the following subjects:

The Climax	Building
We Learn By Doing	Service
Apply What You Learn	A Parable
The Divine Law	Master Prayer