



OFFICIAL EMBLEM OF

# THE MAYANS

All material, discourses, lectures, illustrations, lessons, scientific dissertations and letters of transmittal appearing under this Official Emblem are protected by copyright. They may not be quoted except by official and written permission of The Mayans. They are not for sale but are prepared for the private use of Members of our Order. The recipient of this manuscript agrees by acceptance to hold it Private as the property of The Mayans to be delivered up to the Order upon demand. All rights in the material appearing beneath this cover are reserved by The Mayans, including the privilege of translation into other languages.

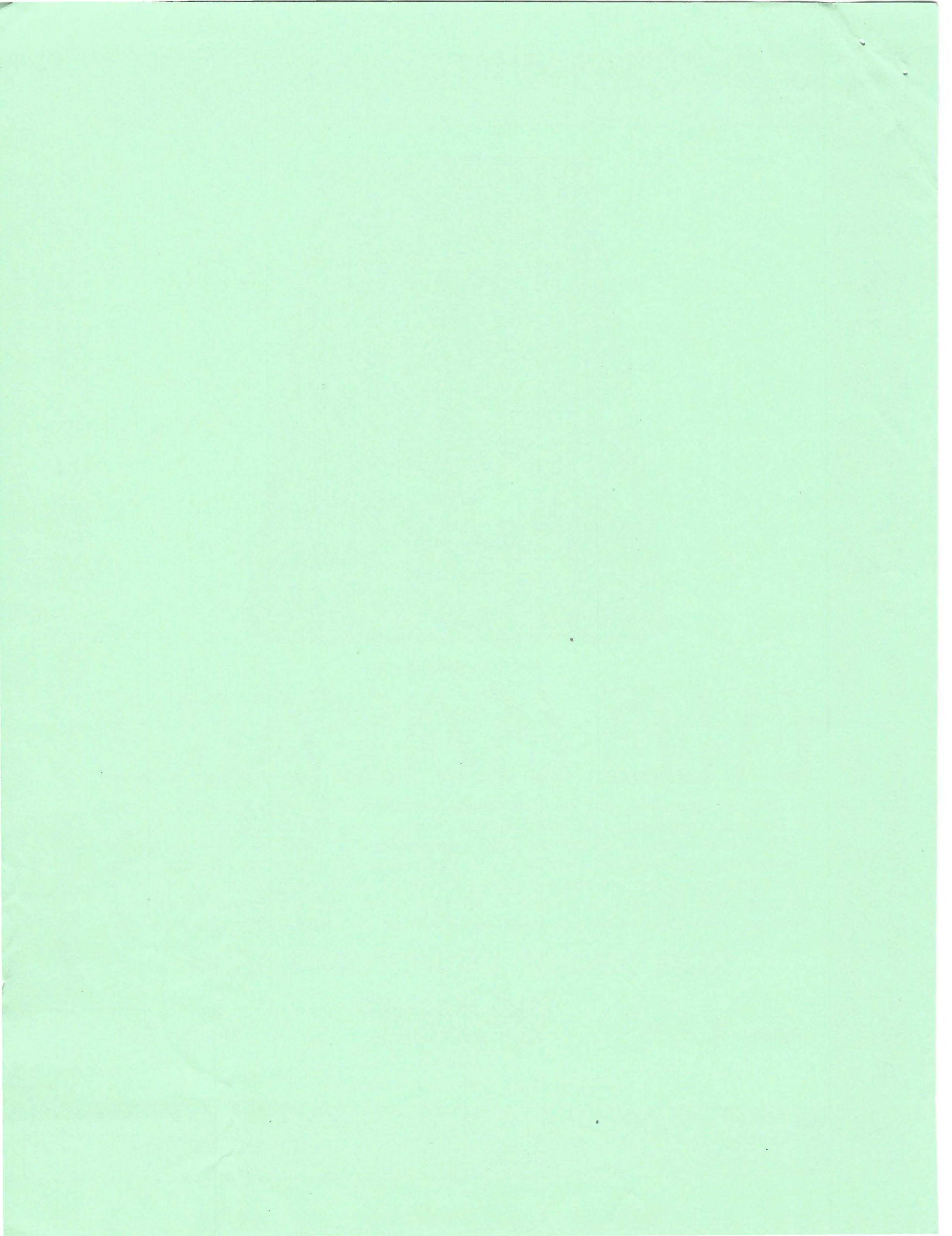
**VADE MECUM, VOLVENTIBUS ANNIS**

**THE MAYANS**  
**SAN ANTONIO,**  
**TEXAS**

Degree 8 - 9

Number 227

Copyright 1960 by, The Mayans





*Keeping Adjusted*

MAYAN REVELATION NUMBER 227

**Adjustment**

**Scope**

**Responsibility**

**Opportunity**

**Conscience**

**The Universe**

**In Closing**



Beloved Centurion:

This lesson covers many departments of your life that perhaps may need adjusting. For instance, we cover the importance of keeping adjusted to your family life, to world affairs in general, to your business life, to your church life, to everything that goes on about you, and to your responsibilities.

Regardless of what condition or problem may be confronting you, regardless of what adjustment you may find it necessary to make in your life due to circumstances, remember always that prayer is the best adjustor. So, as you take up the study of this lesson, which we have called "Keeping Adjusted", please keep this truth uppermost in your mind.

Always remember that responsibility walks hand in hand with capacity and power. Each of us has a work to carry on within himself, duties to perform abroad, and his influence on other people. Each and every one of us has a responsibility to God and must give an account of himself to God.

For example, your lesson takes up the matter of conscience. We each have a conscience to guide us, to show us what is right and what is wrong. And in order to keep that conscience sharp, we must constantly keep our natural instincts adjusted to the will of God.

Another important subject we have covered rather at length is the importance of opportunity, recognizing it when it comes and taking advantage of it. The opportunity of yesterday never returns, but that does not mean that there will be no more opportunities. They are always here, waiting for us to grasp them, so never be discouraged, feeling that you are one of the unfortunates who never has had an opportunity. Remember that opportunity sooner or later comes to everyone. The important thing is keeping so well adjusted to what goes on about you that you are able to take advantage of opportunity when it comes.

We must face every opportunity of life thoughtfully and seek the meaning bravely and earnestly. And right here, may I stress the importance of praying about these things when they arise, for it is the only way to meet the supreme opportunities when they come. Sometimes they are disguised and we do not always recognize them, and that is where our prayer is most important. Of course, sometimes they are easily recognizable, open-faced, but if there is any question in your mind, prayer is the answer. This is so important to you.

Shakespeare wrote these immortal words:

"There is a tide in the affairs of men, which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune; omitted, all the voyage of their life is bound in shallows, and in miseries; we must take the current when it serves or lose our ventures."

These words are so true and should be memorized by everyone if they are to keep well adjusted.

Remembering the above brief explanation of what is to follow, let us

prepare our hearts and minds by repeating the words of this short prayer:

PRAYER

Help me, Heavenly Father,  
to do justice to all that depends on me,  
and to be loyal to all on which I depend. Amen.

\*\*OO\*\*

ADJUSTMENT

If a machine you operate, whatever kind or size of machine it may be, is going along smoothly, doing its work steadily and well and with no noise except its natural hum, you say it is in good adjustment, perhaps even perfect. If not, you are concerned and give it attention to bring it into adjustment. The same is true of that intricate and delicate machine, the body; also of that other less tangible but very real mechanism, the life one lives.

If anything goes wrong with any one of these, it may be serious, or can become so. When anything is out of adjustment in our personal lives the situation is similar, though more important, to what it would be if the trouble were in a radio set, a farm implement, or even in the motor equipment of an airplane flying aloft. Once in a very great number of cases, a maladjusted mechanism will slip back into place of itself, but that happens too seldom to be depended upon. It is safer to assume that it will get worse until it is corrected or put into adjustment again.

It is amazing how serious even a slight maladjustment can be. It may be a small part with a small function to perform, but very much may depend on that function, and a small part can go from a slight slip to great destruction. The person who said that small leaks sink great ships must have been thinking of this possibility.

It is well to note small matters and correct them at once before they get worse and affect more than themselves, but a still better way is to prevent their occurrence by constant care in maintenance and operation. In the case of a machine, this is done by constant inspection, lubrication, and attention to needs. In daily living, it is done by watching one's relationships within himself and with the world around him, and keeping them in good condition. That is the best way to get maximum service and satisfaction from the use of our powers and time.

As you consider this, you will see that the principle involved is really cooperation. The parts of a machine must be kept working together and for each other, each for all and all for each. The various phases of the operation of daily living or lifetime living are all adjusted to each other. If they do not help, they will begin to do harm, or at least to be useless. Success in living is

a matter of generalship, management, strategy, the best deployment and use of the forces at command-mind, emotions, senses, and action - all working together for the good of the totality of them.

This is not the cold, calculating matter it may sound like. It is what gives life the thrill of purpose and realization. It is what puts into living the joy of wellbeing and the satisfaction of knowing that the purpose of our coming into the world is being achieved.

\*\*00\*\*

### SCOPE

This is a larger process than it might appear. This is true even of a machine. A locomotive engineer must not only keep the parts of his engine in adjustment, but he must also keep the engine adjusted to its work, to the passengers, the track, the stations, the sidings, and the other engines on the line.

In noting the relationships we have to maintain in living, there seems no place to stop. We have to keep ourselves in adjustment, but we have to keep adjusted to just about everyone and everything. We do not even know about them all, but we have to consider them. We may assume that if we keep in adjustment with what we know, we need have no fear about other people and things reaching around the world and on into the future.

Assuming that the powers and processes of living our lives are in good working order, there are three general factors in our situation to which we should keep well adjusted. They are people, things, and conditions or situations. Adjustment with people is special because they are living, feeling, conscious parts of our total lives. This may make adjustment with them either easier or harder, but we can always tell quickly what the reaction is. Getting along with people has many phases, but it can be simplified to about this: Be the foe of none, respect personality always, put yourself in the other person's place, think and live in the spirit of understanding, and remember that kindness of word and act always pays.

Keeping adjusted to things is a little different, but always different because our knowledge of things seen and unseen is always growing. But let one fact about anything be remembered - it is good or bad, and helps or hurts, according to our relationship to it. Anything in its place is good. Anything out of its place is evil. You see how important the matter of adjustment is. For instance, possessions are good till all true needs are met, from there on they are roots of trouble. Fire can warm or consume. Water can maintain life or destroy it. Stone can shelter or crush. A little of a drug may save, while more of it may kill. Not only do we joy or suffer, but we actually live or die, by our adjustment to things.

Conditions, circumstances, or situations, are something different again. We do not always know at first how much of a problem they are or whether they are any problem at all. Too, they may change quickly, constantly presenting new fronts

that challenge our strategy, and may even threaten us. That is where our best powers of life-management are called for. Are you adequate to the situation that confronts you today, and will you be sufficient for the changes that may have taken place by tomorrow?

This is no misfortune. It is what puts the thrill of interest into living. It calls for the best that is in you, and that is what makes life constructive and interesting. When you finish a puzzle or a game, what have you? When you live in adjustment, you not only win but you have something to show for it.

\*\*00\*\*

### RESPONSIBILITY

There are unseen things too, to which we have to keep adjusted, and anyone who has had any experience at all knows that some of the most real of all the realities are invisible. For one thing, we have to keep adjusted to our responsibilities if we hope to know the peace of satisfying living.

To some obligations we are born, some simply attach themselves to us, and still others we deliberately take upon ourselves. One of those born with us is our obligation to ourselves. It is not being selfish - in fact it may be unselfish - to recognize this; for unless we keep our own integrity, how can we meet our obligation to anyone or anything else? As Shakespeare has said, if we are really true to ourselves we cannot be false to anyone. Our own fidelity requires it. As we go on, we find that it is perfectly natural to keep adjusted to our own natures and requirements. There are many layers to selfhood.

Then, there are our responsibilities to our friends. To try to live without friends is not to live at all, and to have friends means obligation. We have responsibilities to them as they have to us. It is hard to know which meeting of obligation brings us the greater satisfaction, but it is probably meeting our obligations to others; at least, that side of friendship is one of life's chief rewards.

Our civic responsibility is to be considered. It flowers in good citizenship, patriotism, and public service. All the way from a new roof on the schoolhouse to state or national leadership, or even international interests, it flowers in the public good. The quality, and even the safety, of any collective unit can be no greater than the sum of its people's sense of public responsibility.

How can the life and character of a people have much quality without love of country? If the flag thrills us, or the name of our country wakens our love and loyalty, we should be proud. If patriotism is "corny", then its "corn" is a very high and commendable commodity. If its symbols do not awaken any response of feeling and action, then here is a point where our lives need some adjustment at once.

And how shall we do justice to, or place enough emphasis on, that responsibility at the mention of which the angels smile - our responsibility to those who



love us and believe in us? The vanishing home and the crumbling family are menacing problems today. Why? Because responsibility has so largely broken down. That means a maladjustment in so many lives that it has become a maladjustment in the life of the country, and perhaps a threat to the world life itself.

Our sense of responsibility should apply in keeping our own home loyalties strong and beautiful. It should then reach out to the religious, social, ethical, and economic forces that contribute to this disintegration, and remove them. The home, the church, and the flag are symbols of three things that must be kept bright and strong in our hearts, and they are all responsibilities, obligations to others but obligations in which our own welfare and happiness are bound up too.

\*\*00\*\*

#### OPPORTUNITY

We need also to keep adjusted to our opportunities. That means to be on the lookout for them, to recognize them when they appear, to know the difference between the false and the real ones, to seize them and make the most of them while we may, and to follow through to the full extent of their meaning and value for us. That is a large order, but a rewarding one. It may take a long while to fill it, but it will be a golden while.

\*0\*

It is not true that opportunity knocks but once at each of our doors. That is probably true of some opportunities, but others come again and again. Some camp on our doorsteps, as it were; and some actually pursue us as long as there is the least chance of our reaching out for them. Every opportunity ungrasped and every one grasped and then not made the most of is a point of maladjustment that will hurt and do damage while we complain and feel ill-used that we should be hurt by our own failure to keep adjusted to the opportunity that came to improve our lives, our happiness, and our success.

\*0\*

In this, we have a problem in recognition. Foresight is better than hindsight, but it is neither more popular nor more general. It is easier to see things that have gone by, and sentiment draws a futile attention to them when we can no longer do anything about them. In the case of opportunities, the one still within reach is the important one.

We need to be more vigilant, and learn to see opportunities as they approach. Observe an alert American boy spotting airplanes. He has studied the designs and checked them in the air till he knows them all. If a new model appeared, he would notice it at once. If one appeared that should not be there, he would know that. And if one carried treasure or opportunity, he would be hard to deceive about that. It would be well to take the same interest in seeing and knowing how to recognize an opportunity when we see it. We must develop sight, and even foresight, as well as hindsight.

"If" is a costly word to have in the language, especially when it occurs in such sentences as, "If I had only seen that opportunity in time". Forget about the opportunities that are gone forever, and center your interest in those that are passing all the time and those yet to come. There will be more, make no mistake about that, and some of them will be important. Don't let pass another one that was just made for you, and thus leave another maladjustment in your life. Forget what you didn't do right, or not at all, yesterday. That doesn't count now. Its only importance to you is having learned how opportunities can slip by and get away. Wake up this present hour and moment. Be like the player who never misses a pass because his eyes are always on the ball.

Tomorrow, or maybe yet today, you will suddenly see how you can make some improvement in the way you live, how you can improve a situation, add a new value, build a new ability or utilize an old one, create a new happiness. The fruit is ripe. Don't let it fall and be lost. Pluck it and let it enrich your life. Watch the harbor. Don't let your ship come in unnoticed.

\*\*00\*\*

### CONSCIENCE

We have already said that one of the necessary adjustments we must maintain is that with ourselves. One phase of this is so important that it seems to need and deserve special consideration. It is a matter familiar to us all - that of keeping our lives adjusted to our consciences.

Conscience has several facets, one of which is weighing what we know and factoring out the thing we do not but need to know. But the phase of it we are emphasizing in this lesson is the more popular conception of conscience as an inward sense of right and wrong, that deep and silent approval or disapproval we feel within ourselves. As to lesser matters, it is relative to early training; but in the things of fundamental importance, it is usually reliable. It is a kind of tug of one's ideals that approves the right, reproaches the wrong, and insists on the course of action that gives us inner peace.

Let us say that a man is building a wall that must be certain height. But it stands on uneven ground where it is not easy to keep it at the same height at every point, and where a little deviation would probably not be noticed. He prepares the way and begins setting the stones. At first, he is very conscientious about the uniform height called for in the specifications. As he wearies, he weakens and becomes less careful about it. But he is not happy about what he is doing and at last rebuilds the part carelessly done, and holds strictly to the standard the rest of the way - not merely because he expects any trouble, but because he wants to feel that he has done an honest piece of work.

Others may never know our secret shortcomings; but they are there, and we know them all too well. The Bible tells of a man with a measuring rod examining the lines of the temple. We all know him in the living of our lives. He is the builder's conscience, the inspector of all we do; and we are always much happier afterward for knowing we have kept our work adjusted to his requirements. We need

to require many things of ourselves that no one else may require of us.

A builder needs standards, whether he is building a fence, a temple, or a life. This all-too-general idea of living and doing things without bothering about standards, requirements, and specifications, is neither to our happiness nor our good. It is good to feel of what we have done, that it was well done and serves its purpose. It is good to feel that we have exacted the best of ourselves and that we have performed it; in other words, that we have kept ourselves adapted to the standards of conscience.

Of course we are not always building walls or trying to establish good situations for ourselves. Sometimes we are dealing with the welfare of human lives and the happiness of human hearts. It is a good feeling when we know we have said or done the right thing in relation to someone else; and we invariably find that the kinder the action was, the happier we are. If, on the other hand, we have been ruthless, or hasty, or negative, we shall not be happy about it until and unless we neutralize it with something better. Friend conscience will see to that. By day or by night, it will keep reminding us that there was a way to have made someone else happier and ourselves happier as well.

\*\*00\*\*

### THE UNIVERSE

Adjustment is something to which the widest possible application is not only desirable but necessary. We need adjustment not only to about everything in life, but to life itself; not only to everything around us, but to everything that exists - in other words, to the universe itself.

An ocean liner must have adjustment among all its mechanical parts, its total self; but it must also maintain adjustment with its passengers, its crew, its schedule, the water, the shore, the docks, its channel, conditions and forces in the whole ocean, the weather, the sun, and the stars. It is an inhabitant of the universe and a part of it, and must maintain adjustment with it all. The same is true of us as we sail the sea of life.

Everything - seen and unseen, past, present and future - can affect our lives and be affected by them. We know only a few of the secrets of the universe, but keeping adjusted to them helps us keep adjusted to the rest and to keep discovering more about them. We cannot learn them all in one lifetime, but we can proceed on the assumption that everything we are is related to everything that is.

The more conscious our adjustments are, the more effective and helpful they can be. When one becomes active on a summer morning, and sees the dawn, the sunrise, the dewy grass, the hills, the flowers, the trees, the floating clouds, he comes into adjustment with that much of the universe. When one catches the joy in the smile of a child and realizes the wonder of a growing life, he falls into harmony with the law of friendliness. And so it goes through all the gamut of understanding and feeling.

\*O\*

Adjustment with the universe means, most of all, harmony with its Maker and Ruler. The recognition of the necessity for this fact is as essential as that of the necessity for air, food, and water. This is not a matter of tenets, form, and dogmas; it is one of recognition and cooperation, just as in the case of human beings who are necessary to us in a lesser way.

\*O\*

Have you known someone whose life seemed in perfect balance physically, mentally, spiritually, and in his relationships? It happens sometimes, but there is no good reason why it should not happen all the time. It happens to some people, but there is no good reason why it should not happen to all. There is no good reason why it should not happen to you.

A word now about the order in which to go about attaining this unusual adjustment and harmony. If you start with the universe, it is so vast and complex that you cannot get far. But if you start with the Ruler of the universe, in whose will it all centers, you will find that since God is in harmony with all, you are also a part of that harmony. That would be the great adjustment indeed. Its results would be peace, confidence, assurance, freedom, happiness, and victory, enough to make you an overcomer for all that is worth-while.

\*\*OO\*\*

#### IN CLOSING

When you are alone with yourself and your thoughts, are you at peace? When you waken in the night's world of silent darkness, do you feel secure and content? When you are in the solitude of the woods with no other human being to question or reply, are you happy? If you are, then your adjustments must be in good order, and you need only to try to keep them so and make them better. If not, you should try to find the reason for your unrest and see if you cannot correct it. Something is out of adjustment, and should be adjusted. It may not be easy, and it may take time, but even trying will give you some relief.

Is some phase of your life out of adjustment? Such things can cause an immense amount of friction. They can make one so irritable that he will be short-tempered with others when he does not mean to be, or want to be, or know why he is. He has some unsolved problem. Perhaps he is not doing what he knows he should do about something. Whatever it is, he can set it right because it is within his reach and in an area he can control.

Have you a friendship that is out of adjustment? Such things fester when neglected. If you have one, no wonder you are depressed. It can cause you to ruin more of your friendships still. You can do your part to set it right, so begin at once. If it is your fault, admit it and undo it. If not, put away all blame of the person whose fault it is. Pray for him, and pray constantly that you may be forgiven as you forgive. That is one of the best of all adjusters. When you pray that another be set right, be sure and pray that you may be also.

You may discover phases of the matter you never realized before.

Is something out of adjustment in your home and family relationships? This is a frightful charge against the heart and can soon bankrupt it. It is especially wrong because it hurts others perhaps even more than you. Do something to stem the tide of heartaches while you can. If you do not, you will wish bitterly to your dying day that you had.

Is there something out of adjustment in your relation to your fellow man - humanity, the human race, all of it, the hoi polloi that some scorn but never should? If there is, it is probably a wrong attitude that you could change, and would wish to change if you could see its true nature. Every other human being on earth is a fellow-traveler of yours. He has problems, weaknesses, struggles, needs, and heartaches, just as you do. Put yourself in his place. Treat him as you like to be treated. The least you can do is to smile, speak a friendly word, and be considerate and helpful, whether he deserves it or not. He needs it, and that is enough. You may need it too some day, and the return on your investment will come back to you.

Have you failed or neglected to establish right relations with the Eternal, or having established them have you failed to maintain them? Set this condition right, and, as we have already pointed out, many others will come right of themselves. Association with good and wise friends sometimes helps us keep adjusted to Him who is the Supreme Friend, and living an adjusted life will help you to keep in right relation to the Author of Life.

\*\*00\*\*

AFFIRMATION

I strive to keep each phase of my life adjusted with everything to which it is related, within and without. Thus life is made whole for me.

Blessings,

Your Instructor.

