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SUPPLEMENTARY LESSON TWO

For The 4th and 5th Degrees
Before Initiation
Into The 6th and 7th Degrees

THE WAY OF ATTAINMENT

*B*eloved Companion:

There is another matter which I feel should be further emphasized before your entrance into the Higher Degrees. It is The Way of Attainment and the duties which attainment places upon the one who attains.

Attainment comes only through growth, the steady unfoldment of the mind into a greater understanding of the immutable law of the universe. True growth of the mind is not brought about by filling it with historical facts about the creation of man and his evolution down through the ages. That has its place in the growth of the spirit, but real growth goes beyond mere teachings. True attainment is the freeing of the mind from material fetters so that it can act for itself.

Man's first step in this attainment is a true conception of man and of the creative force and the unity which binds and holds them as one. His next step is to come into the harmonious vibrations which bind every particle of life, animate and inanimate.

But every student has heard this statement over and over. And every student has doubtless answered that statement with: "Yes, I know that; and I believe it, but just how am I to make this connection?"

The answer is simple, - through growth which comes from change. The world has been crying for light, yet we shrink in alarm at the first signs of change in our life and environment. Yet, change is the great and beneficent law of life which has made possible all progression, all attainment. Without change we would still be in the amoeba stage of development. We cannot grow and develop without change. Many of us are afraid to let go of the old conditions no matter how lacking in health, success or happiness they may be, for fear that the change may bring greater lack.

This fear of change is due to lack of understanding of the law of life. There can be no progression without understanding, for with an added degree of

understanding comes a corresponding added unfoldment. And attainment comes only through unfoldment, step by step, of the divine power and understanding within each one of us.



Attainment through unfoldment of our inherent power is not the discovery of a new truth, but of the eternal truth which has always been and must always be.

It was Emerson who said of Truth that "God enters by a private door into every individual." Not having true understanding of what "God" meant and the way of the "private door", the words of the great sage brought us no light. But groping in the darkness for understanding, gradually the light began to trickle through, not from the old accepted channels through which we looked for it, but from new ones.

The Mayan, perhaps more than all other philosophers, recognizes the unity of all life - the divine individual selfhood, responding through vibrations with the energy of the whole universe, the oneness of spirit that is a part of every soul.

Right here let me explain what I mean by the use of the word "soul". The soul ever-enduring and everlasting is the immortal but changing plane of the entity, of the man. That ever-enduring and enlarging plane of man vibrates with creative force and through it is the path of all knowledge, all understanding, all unfoldment, all attainment. Within itself sits memory, all emotions repose, imagination rises, and will and purpose live.

Although the soul is rich in its possessions, yet with all the potentialities it is dormant and unresponsive to the conscious mind until illuminated by Spirit. For Spirit is the light of the soul, it is God, it is universal. It is by Spirit that man is bound to the entire cosmos, and through it he comes to recognize his oneness with God, the creative impersonal energy and force of the universe.

So, in order to grow in spiritual understanding, each one of us must learn how to use this soul force. This can only be done through faithful times of daily meditation and prayer; not the prayer of supplication, but the actual being of that prayer or intense desire.

From those periods of quietly seeking the knowledge and the power of Spirit we come forth a little stronger each time, the light a little clearer and our desire to know the real and the living God burning more brightly in our soul.

But just as the rose does not unfold its beauty in a day, neither does this unfoldment of the spirit come in a day or a week, or a month. It comes so gradually that often we do not recognize its coming. We may sense only a greater repose, a clearer faith. The little things of life fail to upset and confuse us as before. A deeper feeling of love for all life, no matter how small, comes to us. We do not as yet understand that each change of feeling is but the unfoldment of our soul to the oneness of all life, to the connection of our soul, our individual life, to the All Soul, the All Life.



The first step necessary for spiritual unfoldment, this way of attainment, is to learn to be still. "Be still and know", for it is in the stillness when the noises and confusions of the outer world are blotted out that Spirit speaks to the Soul.

Each one, as a rule, finds the way to this stillness in his own way. Some by concentrating upon a particular statement of Truth; some by reading, others by deep meditation and communion with God. But whatever method, whatever pathway is followed, the important thing is that we do come into that physical and mental stillness where the world is forgotten and we can sense only the Infinite, the God, the Oneness of Life. We become immersed in the ocean of infinity, become a tiny ray of light shot out from the great central storehouse of life, - God.

I found the path to this stillness in my own peculiar way. As a child, I lived near the great woods, with tall, majestic trees reaching, as it seemed to my childish eyes, clear to the sky. I loved those trees and many were the hours I spent wandering in the woods; often alone, for somehow I felt that there was something in the stillness of those woods which was my very own.

I know now that it was the presence of the Infinite which I felt and which made me feel a part of the very whole of life which I loved. I can still feel the awe and wonder and the something too great for words which I felt as a child when alone in those woods.

Coming into Truth, I was taught the importance of outer and inner stillness as a means of contacting the universal life of God, becoming a part of the limitless infinite of the Allness of Life, so I slipped back in memory to the stillness which I had found as a child in the great forests. I would close my eyes and see again those towering trees. All about me nothing but God, a great ocean of perfect, vibrating life. Nothing but God. Nothing but life.

Immersed in that stillness and that presence, I grew to listen to the voice of the universe, God's voice, speaking to me. In those moments I could feel the power of the mighty universe itself surging through me, fairly lifting me up and out of myself. I felt that in all truth I was a child of God, one with His life, His energy, His love and His power. And it was in one of those moments of retreat from the world and its material things that I found the work which was mine to do.

"In the silence, in the silence,
In His love so kind and true,
In the living throbbing silence,
Find the work you have to do."

The way of attainment is not an easy one. But true attainment does not come the easy way. There is no royal road which leads to the heights. If the

path were made easy we would cease to make the effort and soon would lose sight of the goal - understanding.

We find this true in Nature. The tree whose roots go deepest is the tree that is subjected to the hardest blasts. So it is with man. He must be tested and tried all along the way. There is temptation after temptation to be overcome, irritations, friends grown cold and critical; often just when we feel we have reached the heights we come face to face with a problem which sends us down into the valley again. But these falls are good for us. They are tests to see if we are ready for greater understanding, greater responsibility.

All who have traveled this pathway of spiritual attainment through growth and unfoldment have found the same pitfalls, the same stumbling blocks, the same depths and the same heights.



All growth or unfoldment is from within outward. The very nature of unfoldment is the need for more room. We see that in the tree which requires more room than the seed. The unfolded rose is an expanded form of the bud. So each stage of spiritual unfoldment must necessitate the expansion of the soul, greater conception, an unlimited belief in God and His power, rather than the limited conception of God as we were taught to think of Him.

"When I was a child I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man I put away childish things."

All the great ones of history have trod the way of unfoldment. In the stillness they sought for and listened to the voice of the Infinite. And in time a new creation, a new science, a new brotherhood was given to the world.

But how few realized that back of the wonderful discovery, that new invention, that great philanthropy, was the voice of God speaking to one who in the stillness of his own soul had come in contact with the knowledge of all the universe. That one had in that space of time become one with God and had partaken of His likeness, His Power.

It is only through unfoldment, the opening of the soul to the light of the Spirit, either consciously or unconsciously, that this contact or union can be made. The contact may be made subconsciously in a moment of great illumination, but in some way that one had prepared the soul for that illumination, even though subconsciously done. Then in a moment of blinding light had come the glimpse of his divinity and he realized his heritage as a Son of God.



All power is of the Spirit, of God. You, being one with God, must also have access and be a part of that power. Every noble desire within you is born of God, and your dream of advancement is God's picture and promise of what

may be yours when you have taken the steps on the pathway of attainment.

Believe this, know this, and in the stillness of your union with the Infinite hold this desire as already yours. It is yours long before manifestation comes to your outer world. Its invisible substance must be possessed by your subconscious mind first; and through steadily holding it up consciously to the light of Spirit, it takes form and is revealed to the senses. This is what Jesus meant when he said, in effect, Whatsoever you desire when you pray, believe that you receive and you have already.

All the power necessary to bring forth into life that dream which you think is too great to be realized is lying dormant within you right now, waiting only the understanding necessary to make the contact with Universal Infinity. Do not fear to make your ideal high. Firmly assert and believe the truth, that the fulfillment of your highest desire is already yours. That is your work - to believe and to follow fearlessly the guiding light of the Spirit.



Through this law of growth and unfoldment we come into a conscious realization of our oneness with the Infinite Life. It is through this realization that man becomes the master instead of remaining the slave. For then we know that what the Father hath is ours, and what the Father doeth, that we may also do.

But only as we open ourselves to this power, as understanding comes to us, can we do the works. The Father sends the power through the unfoldment of our spiritual understanding and we must open ourselves to it, then come into harmony and unison with it.

The inception and growth of this law of unfoldment is much the same as the little child, as it begins to learn the simple things of life. Jesus said, "Except ye become as little children ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." Little children are willing to learn, to be taught each step of their understanding. They do not doubt, but they use each new bit of knowledge as it comes to them. In the same manner must we practice each step of understanding as it unfolds itself to us.



The great sage, Manu, said "He who in his own soul perceives the Supreme Soul in all things, and acquires equanimity toward them all, attains the highest bliss."

As we unfold the spiritual part of us it is impossible not to recognize and live this truth. For the small personal "I" has become submerged into the universal All. The sense of separateness is dispelled as we recognize that the I, the personal self, is a part of the Infinite whole.

All the seers and sages in the world's history became what they were through this simple and natural process of unfoldment of the power within their own soul. God never created a prophet, a seer, and a sage as such. He created men, but each of these great men recognized his true identity as a part of

the Infinite Life and recognized the oneness of his life with the Source from whence it came. He lived in the realization of that oneness, and unfolding his spiritual nature through this realization, he, in turn, became a prophet, a seer or a sage.

As the spiritual man is unfolded the body becomes more refined and purified. The physical becomes subordinated to, and ruled by, the mental, which, in turn, becomes subordinated to, and illuminated by the spiritual. And as the body becomes more refined, all the senses become finer so that powers which were not capable of being expressed in the purely physical body, gradually begin to unfold.

In this natural and simple way we come into the conscious realms whereby we ourselves make it possible for the higher laws to be revealed to us through the unfolding of our spiritual understanding.

Plotinus said, "The mind that wishes to behold God must itself become God." In other words, if we would have these higher laws and truths of God revealed to us, we must become enlightened ones, our spiritual sight must be unfolded so that we can see and understand the things of Spirit.

Only through attainment of the understanding of spiritual laws can we bring peace and joy into our lives so that we may become fit instruments of light for others. Through our living in unison with the Allness of the Spirit, we too may become teachers, prophets, sages; and thus become blessings to every soul with whom we come in contact. Unconsciously, they will feel the power of the divine, and within their souls will stir the desire for the greater understanding and greater service. Then they, too, will have consciously become a part of the Oversoul, the Allness of Life.



May the Omnipotent Great Spirit of God inspire you, and protect you, and give you the great understanding that will lead you to doing, fully, inspiredly, your life's purpose.

We await the Dawn of Your Rebirth, the day of your initiation into the Higher Orders. The dark night is passing. Be ye filled with new hope and new faith.

Decide during your meditations of these days what you will do for mankind. You have been well prepared for high honors.

GOD BLESS YOU

Your Class Instructor
of THE MAYANS.