**THE GARDEN OF EDEN**Part Two **“*TRANSCENDENTA*L—CONSCIOUSNESS”**

**Matthew 6: 31*THEREFORE TAKE NO THOUGHT*,**
 saying, what shall we eat? or, what shall we drink?
 or, wherewithal shall we be clothed?
**32(FOR AFTER ALL THESE THINGS** – ***DO THE – GENTILES SEEK*):**

 ***FOR YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER – KNOWETH* –
 *THAT YE HAVE NEED*** – ***OF ALL THESE THINGS*.**

 **33*BUT – SEEK YE FIRST*** – ***THE KINGDOM OF GOD*,
 *AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS;*
 *AND*** – ***ALL THESE THINGS*** – ***SHALL BE ADDED UNTO YOU.***

**34*TAKE THEREFORE*** – ***NO THOUGHT*** – ***FOR THE MORROW*:
 *FOR THE MORROW*** *–* ***SHALL TAKE THOUGHT*** *–* ***FOR THE THINGS*** *–* ***OF ITSELF*.**

**91st Psalms (KJV)**

**HE THAT** *–* **DWELLETH** *–* ***IN THE SECRET PLACE OF THE MOST HIGH* –
 SHALL ABIDE** *–* **under the shadow of the Almighty**.

**2*I WILL SAY OF THE LORD,
 HE IS MY REFUGE AND MY FORTRESS:
 MY GOD; IN HIM WILL I TRUST*.**

***7A THOUSAND – SHALL FALL AT THY SIDE,
 AND* – *TEN THOUSAND AT THY RIGHT HAND;
 BUT IT SHALL NOT – COME NIGH THEE*.**

 **9BECAUSE THOU HAST MADE** **–
 *THE LORD*, *WHICH IS – MY REFUGE***,
 even the most High, ***THY HABITATION***;

 **10*THERE SHALL – NO EVIL* *– BEFALL THEE*,
 NEITHER SHALL *–* ANY PLAGUE *–* COME NIGH THY DWELLING.**

 **11For he shall give his angels charge over thee,
 *TO KEEP THEE IN ALL THY WAYS*.**

**15He shall call upon me, and I will answer him:
 I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him.**

**16With long life – will I satisfy him and shew him my salvation.**

(9) ***REVELATION*** – always comes as somewhat of a shock,
 not only to the person who receives the – ***revelation***,
 but also to those with whom it is shared

***Had it not been for*** – ***REVELATION****,*
 **I, TOO, WOULD HAVE LIVED OUT MY LIFE** –
 **IN THIS** – ***WORLD OF MIND*** –
 *never realizing that the* – ***WORLD OF*** – ***MIND-POWER*** –
 ***IS AS ILLUSORY*** – ***as that of*** – ***MATERIAL POWER***;

***BUT ONE DAY* – *A MESSAGE CAME TO ME*** –
 ***THAT MIND*** – ***IS NOT POWER*,
 THAT THOUGHT** – ***IS NOT POWER*.**
***THIS SHOCKED ME*,
 *STEEPED AS I HAD BEEN*** – ***IN THE TEACHING THAT,*
 “*RIGHT-THINKING*” – *could solve all my problems*.**

(11) ***THE ONLY*** – ***REAL STRENGTH*** – ***THERE IS***,
 ***IS IN CONSCIOUS UNION WITH GOD*** – and –
 ***IN A*** – ***REALIZATION*** – **OF** –
 **THE TRUE NATURE** – **OF** – ***SPIRITUAL POWER*.**

**When we have** – ***THAT REALIZATION*,
 *ONE WITH GOD*** *–* ***BECOMES A MAJORITY***.

**One individual – having the –**
 ***SPIRITUAL UNDERSTANDING*** – ***OF THE NATURE OF GOD*** –
 **becomes a law of harmony, health, and supply –**
 unto thousands and thousands of people all over the world.
***THAT IS WHERE THE STRENGTH IS — IN UNION WITH GOD.***

For centuries, country after country has been – ***seeking its freedom***. Many a country has temporarily found –
 ***WHAT IT*** – ***THOUGHT WAS FREEDOM*** – only to find itself –
 **enslaved later on – BY SOMETHING** –
 **more powerful – than that – from which it had broken free.**

**IT IS NOT POSSIBLE** – **TO GET FREE** – ***FROM SOMETHING*.**
There are thousands of people trying to –
***FREE THEMSELVES – FROM*** – husbands or wives,
 thinking that when – **that particular freedom – is gained** –
 *their life is going to be a better one*.

***Sometimes*, IT IS**, – ***TEMPORARILY;***
 but even if it is – ***it is only a human solution***,
 ***NOT PERMANENT AND REAL***,
 ***because no one* – EVER GETS** – ***FREE - FROM***.

(11) To become –
***FREE - FROM – one thing*** –
 is to become – ***attached to – another thing***.
**There is no** – ***FREEDOM FROM*** – **ANYTHING.
 The** – ***ONLY*** – ***COMPLETE FREEDOM*** –
 **IS A** – ***FREEDOM*** *–* ***IN CHRIST*.**

(12) ***HARMONY IS FOUND*,
 not by exchanging one condition of bondage** –
 **for another**, **but by coming out – *FROM UNDER THE LAW* –
 *AND LIVING* – *UNDER THAT GRACE* –
 *WHICH IS THE GIFT OF GOD*.**

2. The longer we are on this path,
 the easier it will be – for us to understand that –
 **it is not possible for anyone** – ***to embrace truth* –
 *EXCEPT IN PROPORTION*** – **TO HIS** – **READINESS FOR IT.**

3. **Sometimes – *THAT READINESS COMES* – *ONLY BECAUSE* –
 OF – *THE FUTILITY AND FRUSTRATION*** –
 ***THAT HAVE GONE BEFORE*.**

**Every sin, every disease, and every lack** –
 **that** – **have ever touched our lives** –
***HAVE BEEN A NECESSARY PART*** –
 **OF OUR ENTIRE EXPERIENCE** – ***WITHOUT WHICH*** –
 ***WE WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN MADE READY*** –
 ***OR PREPARED*** *–* ***TO RECEIVE*** – ***THE UNFOLDMENT*** *–* ***OF A TRULY SPIRITUAL MESSAGE.***

***I say this*** – ***knowing that some of us*** –
 have been down into the very depths –
 where sin, disease, and lack are greatest,
 while others have had very little with which to contend.

**Yet whatever the degree of the severity of the problem –
*each one has had,*
*IT IS PERHAPS THE DEGREE THAT EACH ONE HAS NEEDED*.**

**SOME CANNOT** – ***GO UP******TO*** –
 ***THE HEIGHTS OF*** – ***SPIRITUAL VISION*** –
 **UNTIL** – **THEY HAVE GONE ALL** – **THE WAY DOWN –**
 **physically, mentally, morally, or financially.**

Some have had to go only halfway down –
 and some – probably much less than that;
**BUT WHATEVER DEPTHS**– **YOU AND I HAVE KNOWN –
THAT WAS THE EXPERIENCE NECESSARY** – **FOR US –
 *TO REACH THE HEIGHTS*.**

(13) **Some of you –
 may yet have to be pushed and prodded very hard –**
 **and involved in a great many serious problems –
 before you will be able to** –
 **embrace the principles set forth in this book;
 whereas some of you – will absorb them very easily –
 and without having any harassing problems to overcome.**

**That, too, depends upon –
 what degree of unfoldment you bring to this work.**

(13) ***ONE THING ALONE*** –
 ***WILL DEMONSTRATE THIS TEACHING***:
 **Realizing What The Principles Are – and then** –
 **Taking Them Into Your Heart And Mind And Soul And Body,
 living with them, and through them,
 until they become demonstrable principles within you.**

***THEN YOU BECOME*** – ***THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD***.
**No two will be led in the same way;
no two will evolve in the same manner.**
**It all depends upon the degree of – your individual unfoldment.**

(14) ***THE ENTIRE MESSAGE OF THIS BOOK* – is based on –
 *THE PRINCIPLE – THAT THERE IS*** – ***AN INNER GRACE*.**

***THIS GRACE*** – ***does not*** – **operate through, or by,
 *physical might*** – **or** – ***mental powers*.**

***THIS GRACE*, OF WHICH MOST PEOPLE ARE UNAWARE,**
***OPERATES ONLY*** –
***WHEN FAITH* – *IN ANYTHING* AND *EVERYTHING*** –
 ***HAS BEEN RELINQUISHED*,**

***EVEN INCLUDING* – *FAITH IN A GOD* – *FROM WHOM* –**
 **the world has been expecting miracles – *AND FOR WHOM* –
 the world has been waiting** – **since the beginning of time.**

**The truth in The Thunder of Silence** **–** can be found in the New Testament. Readers of this book, however, cannot expect that the mere reading of it will enable them to live by its revealed principles.

Those who feel no response to the unfoldment presented here **–**
 will, of course, be more than satisfied with one reading,
**but those who feel a thrill of recognition in their first reading –
should make this book their constant companion day and night,** **Sundays and holidays,
 until their materialistic state of consciousness –
 begins to yield – and surrenders itself –
 as the transcendental Consciousness –
 takes over the mind, body,
 and everyday experience of their lives.**

More than thirty years of experience **–** have demonstrated beyond doubt **–
 that this change of consciousness – can take place –
 in any person who continues to abide in this message.**

Such a change of consciousness **–** must take within the reader **–** before he will find it possible **–** to live by the I say unto you of the Sermon of the Mount.

***THE PURPOSE OF THIS BOOK******– IS TO******–
REVEAL – TRANSCENDENTAL CONSCIOUSNESS –
AND THEREBY – DEVELOP* – *INDIVIDUAL CONSCIOUSNESS:

TO THAT PLACE – WHERE ONE CAN – TRUTHFULLY SAY,
“I LIVE, – YET NOT I, – BUT – CHRIST LIVES IN ME.”******THIS PURPOSE******– CAN BE ACHIEVED ONLY BY******–
DWELLING – LIVING,* – *MOVING, AND HAVING ONE’S BEING –
 AND BY – CONTINUOUSLY – ABIDING IN THE WORD****.*
 Joel S. Goldsmith

Chapter I

**THE TWO COVENANTS**

For it is written, **that Abraham had two sons**,
 **the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman.**

**But he who was of the – bondwoman – was born after the flesh;
 but he of the – freewoman – was by promise.**

Which things are an allegory: ***for these are the two covenants***.
**The one from the mount Sinai**,
 which gendered to bondage, which is Agar….
But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all.
 Galatians 4:22-24, 26

(19) ***In our—HUMANHOOD,* *we are sons of the bondwoman*,
 in subjection to the flesh and its claims,
in bondage to the things, thoughts, and activities of the flesh, whether it be this flesh of the body or the flesh called money –
 or other forms of living.**

***Living in and through the flesh* –
 *as the offspring of the bondwoman*,**
 ***we are under the laws of matter*, *the laws of economics*,
 *and the laws of race*, *religion*, and *nationality* –
 *under the covenant* – “*which genders to bondage*.”**

***The other covenant* – *is that of our spiritual adoption*,** which comes through a conscious activity **–** within our own consciousness **–
 *and a time when we are prepared for that transition*,**
 **because the transition – *from* –
 humanhood to spiritual sonship –
 IS MADE ONLY BY GRACE.**

**When a person says *that he would like to be a child of God* –
 and be free of the burdens of the flesh,
 usually he does not really mean it.
*What he means is that* –
 he would like to be – *free of the burdens of the flesh*,
 *but retain the pleasures and the profits of the flesh*.
It is for this reason – *that as human beings* –
 *we cannot choose to be children of God*.**

(20) ***To be born of the Spirit*** – ***MEANS TO BE REBORN* –
 *THROUGH A TRANSITION OF CONSCIOUSNESS,*
 *and this rebirthing* – can occur –
 while we are on this very plane of consciousness –
 known as the earth,
 *or it can take place after we have left this sphere*.**

It is well to remember that **– if we fail to make the transition here,
there will always be the opportunity for us to make it – hereafter** **–
 because in the kingdom of God – there is no time**.
***There it is always*** **– *NOW***, and **– *THIS NOW*** **–
 is always presenting itself to us – with fresh opportunities.**

***This moment is now***. ***This moment*** **– *THIS NOW* –
 we have the opportunity – to reject our humanness –
 *and accept the divinity of our being***.

**But if it is beyond our immediate capacity to do that** **–** at this moment, later on tonight **–** we shall discover that **–
 *it is also now***, and **– in that nowness, we are again –
 face to face with the opportunity – to accept or reject –
 *THE DIVINITY OF OUR BEING*.**

**If we are not prepared to receive it then,**
 there will be tomorrow afternoon, next year, or the year after;
 and each time **–** that the opportunity **–** to realize our divine sonship **–** comes to our thought **–
 *it will be* – *now.*** A hundred years from now,
 ***it will be now to usNo.***

***NOW*** – is always the time **– *to accept our divinity***,
 but while **– *that now*** **–** may come to us at this moment,
 to some **– *it may have come years ago*** **–** and to some **–** it may come years hence. Whether or not it comes **–** at this particular hour of the clock or some other hour,
 ***whenever it comes*, *it will be now*.**

(21) Each of us must face **–** every moment **–** of every day **–** unto eternity, and those of us who, for one reason or another,
 are not able at this particular time **–
 to accept the covenant of our liberty,** **the liberty wherewith –
 we are “clothed upon” – when we accept Christhood**,
 will still have a new and fresh opportunity throughout all ages.

(21) Those who have gone on before us as human beings **–** and have left our visible sight, some in gross spiritual darkness **–** and some in actual sin and degradation, also exist now,
 and they, too, have the same opportunity now **–** that they had when they rejected it here on earth,
 only now they may have developed **–** a greater capacity to accept it.

What does it mean **–** to accept the spiritual dispensation **–** in our experience?
Unless we understand **–** what it is that constitutes this spiritual dispensation,
 we cannot be prepared to accept it.

Regardless of the fact **–** that the majority of people pay lip service to a belief in God,
 many of them do not believe in God.
True, they may believe that there is a God **–** or have a belief about God, but they have no faith,
 no realization, no conviction,
 because the nature of the bondman **–** is **–
 *to being bondage to effect*** **– to love**, worship, and fear **–** anything that has form, that is visible as effect.

It may be bodily health **–** the heart, liver, or lings –
 or it may be dollar bills, investments, or home,
 but the love and devotion and fear **–** of most human beings are always directed **–** at someone or something in the visible realm.

***The son of the bondwoman*** **– *is in bondage* –** **as long as –
 some thought, thing, or person – is necessary,
 AND THAT – *IS WHAT CONSTITUTES HUMANHOOD*.**

**The new covenant – of the new creature –
 *begins in the moment* – *when we realize*,
 “*I AND MY FATHER ARE ONE*,’ –
 *AND ALL THAT THE FATHER HAS IS MINE*.
*I LOOK IN NO OTHER DIRECTION* –
 *THAN TO THE INFINITE INVISIBLE*;
*IN THAT* – WHICH CAN NEVER BE SEEN, HEARD, TASTED,
TOUCHED, SMELLED – OR EVEN THOUGHT OR REASONED.**

**There has to be – a faith – without a reason for that faith.**
**There must be – *AN ALL-CONSUMING INNER* CONVICTION** **–
which agrees with – this faith**, ***even while not knowing what it is*** **– AN INNER INSTINCT, AN INNER INTUITION, AN INNER GRACE.**

(22) **It is possible to think and think on truth** **–
and up to a certain point – that is normal, natural, and right –
but then – THERE MUST COME A TIME –
*WHEN THOUGHT STOPS*, – *a blank comes*, *almost a vacuum*,
 *AND THEN – INTO THAT VACUUM –
 RUSH THE VERY PRESENCE AND POWER OF GOD.***

We can only come into that Presence **–** stark naked,
 in a moment of complete silence,
 when the entire thought processes have stopped,
 when we have nothing upon which to rely,
 nothing on which to pin our hopes,
 but when we have made ourselves barren and completely empty.

That is the moment – when we perceive that, even when we cannot know It or feel It or think It, there is an invisible Presence, an intangible Something, which nevertheless is operating, and then from that very Invisibility will come into expression everything necessary to our unfoldment.

If we think ourselves to be something, we greatly err. It is only when we come to that place of self-renunciation that the divine Selfhood of our own being reveals Itself. Silence is the way.

***The Silence is not an absence of sound***, but is a state of consciousness which enables us to refrain from mental reaction to what is seen or heard. For example, we may see and recognize a shadow on the wall **– an ugly appearance – and yet have no reaction of fer, knowing it to be a shadow.**

**When** consciousness has attained the awareness of one power, one law, one substance, one cause **–** oneness **–** we do not respond with fear, doubt, or horror to anything seen or heard, and then it is that consciousness has gone beyond power and attained the Silence **–** the healing consciousness.

Chapter II

**KARMIC LAW**

(28) “The Master told the disciples – ***not to glory*** –
 because the devil was subject unto them, –
 but because – their names were written in heaven.

 **That is why no one ever dares –
 *TAKE*** *–* ***GLORY*** – **unto himself** – **because of healing —
 *FOR NO HUMAN BEING*** –
 ***HAS EVER BROUGHT ABOUT A HEALING*;**  ***IT WAS BROUGHT ABOUT*** –
 **BY** – **A DIVINE STATE OF SPIRITUAL BEING,
 which operates** – **and** – **can operate –
 *ONLY THROUGH*** – **and** – ***AS*** –
 ***THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF ONE*** *–* ***WHO*** – ***KNOWS THE NATURE OF GOD* –
 and can therefore –
 bring healing** – **into visible manifestation.

*THAT IS OUR PART* – in this glorious spiritual work.**
***THAT IS OUR*** – ***ONLY PART* — *TO KNOW GOD*; and** – ***TO KNOW GOD* – *whom to know aright* – *is life eternal***.” P28

**(30) THERE IS NO RECORD –
 IN THE ENTIRE REVELATION OF THE MASTER –**
 **OF DAMNATION OR PUNISHMENT BY HIM, but there is this**:
 **“*SIN NO MORE*, – *LEST* – *A WORSE THING COME UNTO THEE*.”**
  **DOES HE SAY – *THAT GOD* – *WILL VISIT IT UPON US*?**

***NO,* – *OUR SIN* – *WILL VISIT IT UPON US,*** *–* ***NOT GOD.
THE VERY MISDEED – WILL RETURN UNTO US*.**

**We do not even – have to perform – a sinful deed**;
 ***WE MERELY* – have to have a desire for it, a wish for** it,
 as Jesus pointed out – when he cautioned against **–**
 **even looking upon a woman – *with an adulterous thought*.**

***One need not carry out the act*** –
 ***BECAUSE* – *THE VERY* – *MENTAL STATE*** –
 **BRINGS BACK TO ONE – something of its own nature**.

**This is not living – under** – **THE LAW OF GOD:**
**This is living – under** – **KARMIC LAW**,
 **because – when we are** – ***UNDER GOD* –
 there is** – ***NO POSSIBILITY*** – ***OF THERE BEING* – *ANY SIN***.

**Such an awareness of – *OUR TRUE IDENTITY* –**
***creates a spiritual bond* – *among all those who are on this path*.**

(33) **The opportunity – of sharing, loving, and co-operating –
 *IS ENOUGH* – *BECAUSE ALL THAT THE FATHER HAS IS OURS*,**
 **and – *THE FATHER HAS MEANS* –
 *OF BRINGING OUR SUPPLY TO US* –
 *WITHOUT OUR DESIRING IT* – *OR ASKING FOR IT*.**

(34) **The thoughts – *TO WHICH WE GIVE EXPRESSION* –
 as human beings** – ***COME BACK TO US* –
 *because that is* – the nature of – *THE KARMIC LAW* –
 of – AS YE SOW, – SO SHALL YE REAP,
 *BUT GOD* – *IS NOT TO BLAME FOR THAT*.**

Such an awareness of **– OUR TRUE IDENTITY** –
**creates a spiritual bond among all those who are on this path.**

**WE HAVE SET IN MOTION** – ***THE KARMIC LAW*,
 AND THAT** – ***IS WHAT IS RETURNING TO US*.**

**ALL OF US** – ***BY THE VERY NATURE OF HAVING BEEN BORN* –
 have been guilty of offenses of omission or commission –
 AND HAVE THEREFORE** – **BROUGHT OURSELVES** –
 **UNDER THE OPERATION – OF KARMIC LAW.**

**Naturally, then, the question arises:**
 ***CAN THIS KARMIC LAW*** – **BE BROKEN?
 CAN IT – *BE ENDED*? AND – *THE ANSWER IS*, *YES*.**

(34) We can stop the operation of karmic law –
 at any moment in our life
**when we recognize – THAT WE –
 HAVE SET THIS LAW IN MOTION –
 *BY OUR OWN THOUGHTS AND DEEDS*.**

**The way to break the karmic law – is through repentance –
and by** –
**living constantly in an atmosphere of love and forgiveness.
Then – we are no longer human or mortal –
because we no longer harbor thoughts and deeds of mortality.**

**Only one thing can free us –
from the law of – as ye sow, so shall ye reap –
 *TO STOP SOWING.* *The only way to stop sowing* –
 *IS TO RECOGNIZE OUR SPIRITUAL IDENTITY*** –
 **because then** –
 we need not reach out, scheming, plotting, planning, grasping,
 ***or even desiring*** **–** that which another has,
**BUT WE CAN BE – BEHOLDERS** –
**AND WATCH** – **WHAT WONDERFULWAYS** – **THE FATHER HAS** –
 **OF PROVIDING FOR US WITHOUT DEPRIVING ANOTHER.**

P 35 **“In the Infinite Way** – we recognize that –
***THERE IS*** – ***A LAW***, – **BUT WE ALSO RECOGNIZE** –
 ***THAT THERE IS SOMETHING CALLED*** – ***GRACE***.

Let me illustrate it in this way.
We are subject to – ***material laws*** –
 because there are – ***laws of matter*** –
 to plague us on this human plane –
***laws of climate***, ***infection***, ***heredity***, ***environment***, ***time***, and ***space***.
**Every human being in the world – is under the law of time**.

In fact, all we have to do – is to look at a calendar long enough –
 and we begin to feel weary, weak, and depleted.

**These laws of matter** – ***ARE NOT POWER* –
 *IN THE PRESENCE OF SPIRITUAL UNDERSTANDING*.**

***They are theories and beliefs***,

***BUT THERE IS* – A GRACE – WHICH SETS THEM ASIDE.**

That does not mean that – on the human level –
 there is not a law of matter;
 it does not mean – there is – not a law of mind:

It merely means –
***THAT THERE IS* – *A STATE OF GRACE*** – ***THAT SETS ASIDE*** –
***BOTH THE LAWS OF MATTER*** – **AND** – ***THE LAWS OF MIND*.**

***WHEN WE* – *COME UNDER GRACE*, – *NO LAWS OPERATE*** –
 ***IN THE SPIRITUAL REALM*,** *–* **WHICH IS** *–* **A STATE OF GRACE.**

**THERE ARE NOT – *TWO POWERS OPERATING*,
 one over another,** – **one overcoming the other,
 or one removing the other.** ***THERE IS BUT*** *–* ***ONE*.**

***THERE IS NO OPPOSITION*;
*THERE IS NO CONTENTION*** – ***IN THE REALM OF SPIRIT*:**
***THERE IS ONLY – A STATE OF GRACE*** – ***WHICH IS ITSELF*** –
 ***THE LAW OF ELIMINATION* –
 *TO EVERY PHASE OF MATERIALITY*.**

**When we come into – *A STATE OF GRACE***,
 **we no longer have – good health or bad health,**
 **nor do we have – abundant or meager supply.**

***WE LIVE IN A*** – ***STATE OF SPIRITUALITY* –
 IN WHICH** – **THERE IS NEITHER GOOD NOR EVIL –
 NO DEGREES AND NO COMPARISONS:**

***THERE IS ONLY*** *–* ***BEING*,** *–* ***divine being, spiritual being,
 ONE BEING.***

**It is only when we – *STOP THINKING* –
 in terms of health and sickness, wealth and poverty,
 AND BEGIN TO – THINK IN TERMS OF SPIRITUALITY** –
 ***THAT WE TRANSCEND* – not only – bad humanhood –
 but even – good humanhood**.

 **WE TRANSCEND** *–* **THE TEN COMMANDMENTS –
 and rise to that consciousness –
 which Christ Jesus revealed –
 in the two great commandments,**
 **which acknowledge** – ***BUT ONE POWER* —
 one God, one Spirit, one Soul —
 and each and every one of us** – ***THAT SAME ONE*.**

***SPIRITUAL POWER*** – ***IS THE LACK OF POWER***;
***IT IS*** – ***NO POWER*** – in the sense that **–**
***it is nothing that the world can conceive of*** – ***as power*** –
 **because it is – neither physical nor mental.**

***It is not*** – **a *power*** – that can be manipulated by man,
 and that is why a term such as using – ***Truth* – is archaic**;
 ***TRUTH – CANNOT BE USED*. *GOD*** – ***CANNOT BE USED***.
 Imagine man’s using God! The very thought is shocking.

***WHEN SPIRITUAL POWER*** – is finally understood,
 it will be revealed to be -- ***NO POWER***.
***NO POWER*** – **means – *A STATE OF CONSCIOUSNESS*** –
**in which there – *are not* – two forces combating one another**;
 ***one to be used to destroy the other***.

In other words, ***there is not*** – ***a spiritual power*** –
***that can be used by anyone to destroy his enemies***;
**Instead, we are going to** – **overcome the belief –
 that there is** – ***GOOD OR EVIL*** –
 ***IN ANY EFFECT*** *–* ***OR IN ANY FORM***. P43

**(47) “WE HAVE TO** – ***LOSE ALL DESIRE*** – **FOR THE VISIBLE** –
 ***in the*** – ***REALIZATION THAT*** –
***we live*** – ***NOT BY THAT WHICH IS*** – ***VISIBLE,*** – ***but by*** –
***THAT WHICH IS*** – ***INVISIBLE***, – ***AND THEN* –
 we shall find** **– *THAT THE*** – ***INFINITE INVISIBLE* –
 *WILL PRODUCE IN OUR EXPERIENCE* –
 THE PERSONS, THINGS, CIRCUMSTANCES,
 AND CONDITIONS** – **NECESSARY TO OUR DAILY LIFE**.
 **(*ALL OUR NEEDS*).**

**In the same way,
 every time we are tempted to think of** – ***some******power*** —
 some negative, evil, ***erroneous power*** –
 that apparently is dominating our life,
 rendering it futile and fruitless – and which we want destroyed;

***LET US SMILE AT IT*** – ***AS WE REALIZE*,
 “NO, I HAVE NO NEED** – **OF ANY POWER** –
 **WITH WHICH** – **TO OVERCOME THIS DISCORD.”** p47

**GOOD – and – EVIL
“Who Told You –** ***THAT***?

(53) **THE WORLD CAN NEVER – *RISE ABOVE* –
 the idea of using – *ONE POWER OVER ANOTHER* –
 and into the realm of – *NO POWER* –
 *UNTIL* – *THE MYSTERY OF GENESIS IS SOLVED*.**

**In this first book of the Bible**, **–** are found **– two completely –
 contradictory and conflicting – *RECORDS OF – CREATION***:

**The first chapter** – is obviously the work of a mystic **–** who had achieved complete union with God – and **– who saw that – *THIS ENTIRE UNIVERSE IS*** – ***CONSCIOUSNESS* –  *APPEARING AS FORM***,
 **whereas subsequent chapters** –
 **contain an account of** – **THE CREATION OF MIND**.

**The first record of – *CREATION*** –
 **is a revelation of – *the activity of Consciousness* –
 in all its purity and eternality.**

***IT RECOUNTS* – the unfolding of – *A SPIRITUAL UNIVERSE* –
where there is light – before the is a sun or a moon,**
**where the crops are in the ground – before the seeds are planted, and where there is man – before there is a woman.**

***THAT WHICH IS*** *–* ***FORMED OF CONSCIOUSNESS***,
 **which not only – has no beginning** – **but has no ending –
 because as long** – **as there is** – **Consciousness,
 there is** – **Consc7iousness** – **formed.**

(54) **WHEN CONSCIOUSNESS – APPEARS – AS FORM,
 IT CAN APPEAR AS A SEED – OR –
 AS A COMPLETELY DEVELOPED TREE –
 without ever having gone through – any process of growth.**

***CONSCIOUSNESS, OR SOUL*, – WHICH WE CALL – GOD,** –
**reveals or expresses itself – *AS A SPIRITUAL UNIVERSE* –
 *IN WHICH THERE IS* – *NO CONCEPTION AND NO BIRTH*.**

In other words,
***CREATION IS* – *THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF GOD*****–
 *REVEALING ITSELF* – as individual identity,
 an identity expressing as** **–** human, animal, vegetable and mineral forms;
 **so that in reality, *GOD, CONSCIOUSNESS***,
 **is the very essence and substance of the earth**—
 **even of what appears as – stones, rocks, sand, and soil** —
 **just as that same – *CONSCIOUSNESS* –
 *IS THE SUBSTANCE OF* – *OUR TRUE IDENTITY***.

**Genesis 2
16And the**Lord**God commanded the man,
 “You are free to eat** – **from any tree** – **in the garden;**
**17*BUT*** *–* ***YOU MUST NOT EAT*** *–* ***FROM THE TREE*** –
 **of the** – ***KNOWLEDGE OF*** – ***GOOD AND EVIL*,
 for when you eat from it** – **you will certainly die.”**

pg 54 **In Genesis**, we learn that **– God created Adam and Eve** –
 and placed them in the **– GARDEN OF EDEN** –
 **in the midst of perfection and harmony**,
 **surrounded only by goodness, love, and beauty**.

**Joy and harmony reigned there –
UNTIL INTO THAT EDEN – *CAME SOMETHING*** –
 ***THAT DESTROYED IT* –
AND EJECTED ADAM AND EVE – *FROM THE GARDEN*.**

***THAT SOMETHING*** – ***HAS ALWAYS REMAINED*** –
 ***more or less of*** – ***AN ENIGMA***,
and yet – ***the whole mystery*** – ***is clearly explained*** –
 **in the – second and third chapters – of Genesis**.

**In the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve – *WERE NAKED*,**
 **but they were** – ***UNAWARE* – *OF THEIR NAKEDNESS*;**

They had goodies but **–
AS LONG AS THEY WERE OF – A PURE MIND**,
***THERE WAS NO SHAME* – *IN THEM***.
Bodies were just normal, natural things, so why be ashamed of them?

**Yet – the next thing we read of** – **is that** –
**Adam and Eve** – ***WERE ASHAMED* –
 BECAUSE – THEY KNEW** – **they were naked**.
 ***SUDDENLY – THE BELIEF*** – ***OF EVIL*** –
 ***HAD COME INTO THEIR MINDS***,
 **and they began to** – ***COVER UP AND HIDE***.

**What were they** – **covering up – and –
 from what** – ***were they hiding* – *EXCEPT* –
 *THE BELIEF OF EVIL – IN THEIR MINDS*?**

**And God said to Adam,
 “*WHO TOLD THEE* – *THAT THOU WAST NAKED*?”**

 **IN THAT QUERY – *IS SUMMED UP* –
 *THE WHOLE ESSENCE OF HUMAN LIFE***.

***ALL OF US* – *ARE IN THAT SAME PREDICAMENT*** –
 ***IN WHICH ADAM FOUND HIMSELF***.

***AS LONG AS WE ENTERTAIN* – *A BELIEF OF GOOD AND EVIL,*** ***WE ARE* – *THE ADAM* – *WHO IS HIDING,***
 ***THE ADAM* – WHO IS OUTSIDE** – **THE GARDEN OF EDEN,**
 **AND BECAUSE OF THAT –
 *WE ARE ALL COVERING UP* – *OUR* – “NAKEDNESS.”**

***EVERYBODY IS HIDING*, –
HIDING FROM SOMEONE – OR** – **FROM HIMSELF,
 OR – HIDING SOMETHING** – **WITHIN HIMSELF** –
 ***FOR FEAR* – OF HAVING IT BROUGHT TO LIGHT.
WHY?
BECAUSE HE IS – DWELLING –
 IN THE REALM OF – GOOD AND EVIL.**

**WHO** – **TOLD HIM** – **that** – ***THIS IS GOOD AND THAT IS BAD*?**
**WHO** – **TOLD HIM** – **that** –
  **it is more moral to cover up the body than to expose it?**
**WHO** – **TOLD HIM** – **that** – ***THERE IS SIN?***

***WHO MADE THIS CONDITION*?**
***FROM HIS VERY QUESTION*, – *GOD CERTAINLY IMPLIES*** –
 ***THAT HE DID NOT*.**

 ***GOD DID NOT SAY* –
THERE WAS – *ANYTHING WRONG* – *ABOUT A NAKED BODY*,
 *NOR DID HE SAY THERE WAS* – *ANYTHING WRONG* –
 *ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH*.**

***THE SIN* – THAT CREPT INTO EDEN** –
 **was not an apple – nor was it sex,**
 although traditional religious opinion would so identify it.

***THE SIN – WAS THE ACCEPTANCE OF* – *TWO POWERS;***
 **and,** – **WHEN MAN BEGAN – *TO EAT*** –
***OF THE TREE OF* – *THE KNOWLEDGE OF* – *GOOD AND EVIL*,
 *he took upon himself* – *A DUAL UNIVERSE* –
because** – **NOW HE SAW AND KNEW** – ***BOTH GOOD AND EVIL*.**

(55) **The second chapter of Genesis** –
 **departs radically from the first** – in that –
***IT IS THE ACCOUNT OF***– ***THE CREATION OF MIND;***

***MIND*** – ***PRODUCING*** – ***MENTAL IMAGES;
NOT EXTERNALIZED*** – ***REALITY;
but mental images*** – ***in thought; mind appearing as thoughts;
 changeable as the weather;***
***THOUGHTS*** – ***WHICH NEVER PENETRATE* –
*BEYOND THE REALM OF MIND*** – ***IN THE REALM OF BEING.***

***IN THE INNER SILENCE***, ***which is a listening attitude*** **–
 IN WHICH WE ARE TAUGHT OF GOD** – and **–
 IN WHICH GOD UTTERS HIS VOICE**:

**The earth melts – sin, sickness, and all lack disappear** –
 **and God imparts to us** – **that which is**.
**Only in – THE REALM OF BEING –
 are we – outside of thoughts – *WHERE IS – IS****.*

Who is there – who has not had – ***good thoughts?***
Who is there – who has not had – ***evil thoughts***?
Who is there – who has not had **–
 *pleasant and unpleasant thoughts***,
 ***healthy and sickly thoughts***,
 ***pure thoughts* and sinful thoughts?**

**That is because – thoughts that –
 EMANATE – SOLELY FROM THE MIND –
 *ARE ALWAYS* – *EITHER GOOD OR EVIL***.

***THIS MENTAL CREATION* –
 IS NOT A CREATION OF SPIRIT, or *CONSCIOUSNESS*,**
 ***BUT A CREATION*** – ***OF THE FALSE OR* – *CARNAL MIND*.**

**THIS MIND** –
 **IS CONSTITUTED** – **OF BOTH GOOD AND EVIL**,
 ***AND THINKS*** – ***CORRECTLY AND INCORRECTLY***,
 ***HAVING NO CONSCIOUSNESS, OF GOD, FOR ITS GUIDE;***

***THE ENTIRE SENSE-WORLD***, is made up of that which we **–
 see, hear, taste, touch and smell,** and –
 ***HAS NO* – *EXISTENCE* – *WHATSOEVER*** –
 **EXCEPT AS A CREATION – OF THIS CARNAL MIND –
 which by its very nature – and from its very inception –
*IS FINITE*,** ***unreal***, ***unstable*** – **WITH NOTHING TO SUPPORT IT** –
  **except thoughts – *WHICH SHIFT FROM GOOD TO EVIL*,
 *AND FROM EVIL BACK TO GOOD***.

***(56) THE VERY MOMENT THAT WE RECOGNIZE*** –
 **that – the second chapter of Genesis** –
 ***DESCRIBES*** – ***MIND IN ACTION,*
 *WE HAVE THE SECRET*– *OF ITS DESTRUCTION*:**
 ***RISE ABOVE MIND,*** *–* ***ABOVE THOUGHT***.

***GOD’S THOUGHTS*** – ***ARE NOT OUR THOUGHTS.***
**We do not have the capacity** – **to think God’s thoughts,**
 **but when the mind, – *IN RISING* – *ABOVE THOUGHT,*
 *HAS BEEN TRANSCENDED* –
 *AND – SILENCE* – *SUPERCEDES THOUGHT,
 GOD CAN UTTER HIS WORD* – *THROUGH US.***

***WHEN WE ARE ABLE TO*** – ***RISE ABOVE* –
 *THE REALM OF THOUGHT*** –
 ***TO THAT HIGH PLACE* – WHERE WE HAVE – *NO OPINION*** –
 ***whether anything or anybody*** – ***IS GOOD OR EVIL*** –
 **but are willing to be** – ***a perfect transparency* –
 *for the instruction of God*,** – ***then God speaks in our ear*;**
***AND SHOWS US*** – ***THE SPIRITUAL REALITY*** – ***WHICH EXISTS*** –
 **right where** – **“that man of flesh”** –
 **who “cannot please God”** – **appears to be;**

***BUT IN THAT INSTANT*** *–* ***WHEN GOD SPEAKS*,** –
 **“the man of flesh”** –
 ***IS TRANSFORMED*** *–* ***INTO THE SON OF GOD*** –
**AND IS IMMEDIATELY** – ***RETURNED TO THE GARDEN OF EDEN* *WHERE HE IS NOW*** – ***THE SON OF GOD*** –
***LIVING UNDER GOD’S GOVERNMENT* – or – *(GRACE).***

***THE BELIEF IN TWO POWERS – IS WHAT TRAPS US*** –
 ***into vacillating*** – ***between the pairs of opposites*** —
 harmony and discord, poverty and abundance,
 life and death, sickness and health;
 ***WHEREAS THE ABILITY TO*** **– *abide in our inner being***,
 ***REALIZING THAT*** *–* ***THERE IS ONLY ONE POWER* —
 that there is** – **no good** – **and there** – **is no evil** –
 **in any form — *FREES US*** – ***AND BRINGS*** –
 ***THE PEACE THAT PASSES UNDERSTANDING*.**

***THE ONLY EVIL – IS THE* – *KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL*.**

**We decide that** – **this is good – and it is so unto us**,
 **or that** – **this is evil** – **and so it is;
 *WHEREAS THE TRUTH IS THAT* –
“*THERE IS NOTHING*** – ***EITHER GOOD OR BAD,
 BUT THINKING*** – ***MAKES IT SO.”***

**(57) I have been asked many times,
 “*HOW DO YOU STOP THINKING*?”**

***And I have found one way***.
**THE MINUTE I CAN LOOK AT ANY PERSON OR CONDITION –
 *AND KNOW THAT IT IS – NEITHER GOOD OR EVIL,*
 *my thought stops*,** – ***and my mind becomes quiet*.**

**That is the end of it – because –
*THEN* – *there are no thoughts left for me to think about it*:**
**I do not think** – **good of it – and** – **I do not think** – ***evil of it*.**
 ***All I know is that* – IT IS**, – **and then** –
 ***I am back at the center of my being* – *where all power is*.**

**Our mind is restless – only when** –
we are thinking about things or persons, either in terms of good or evil,
***BUT THE MIND IS AT REST –
 WHEN WE SURRENDER ALL SUCH CONCEPTS*.**

***HEALING*** *–* ***COMES WITH THE REALIZATION***,
 **“*THIS IS NOT EVIL – and – THIS IS NOT GOOD****;*

***THERE IS – NEITHER GOOD NOR EVIL HERE –
 BECAUSE GOD IS HERE*,** – ***AND WHERE GOD******IS*,**  ‘**where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty**.’ “

**When WE – LIVED IN Eden**, that is, in harmony and perfection as pure offspring of God, we were as gods – complete and whole –
***AND THE WAY TO RETURN TO THE GARDEN OF EDEN* – *IS – TO GIVE UP* – *THE PAIRS OF OPPOSITES.***

**(58) COMPLETE HARMONY – COMES** –
 ***WHEN WE NO LONGER DESIRE GOOD* –
 *ANY MORE THAN WE DESIRE EVIL*,
 because when we desire anything,
 although we may think we are desiring good,
 actually we have not the least way of knowing** –
 **whether our fulfilled desire will result in blessing or harm.**

**Traditional metaphysical teaching** – **would agree** –
 **that we must rise above evil,
 but it still looks longingly toward good,
 *HOPING TO SEE*** – ***THE EVIL*** – ***TRANSLATED INTO GOOD,*
*AND THAT IS WHERE*** – ***IT MAKES THE MISTAKE*** –
 **WHICH RESULTS IN THE INABILITY –
 *TO ATTAIN THE FINAL HARMONY*.**

**IT IS ONLY WHEN WE –
 *DO NOT – DESIRE*** – ***WEALTH OR HARMONY* –
 ANY MORE THAN** – **LACK OR DISCORD –
*BUT SEEK ONLY* – *THAT WHICH WAS ORIGINAL AND PRIMARY* *IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN*,
*THAT WE RISE ABOVE*** –
 ***THESE OPPOSITES*** – ***INTO ETERNAL LIFE*.**

**IN** – **THIS STATE OF CONSCIOUSNESS, we are sure enough –
 TO DWELL – IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN – which is** –
 **A STATE OF DESIRELESSNESS –
 A CONTENTEDNESS IN BEING.**

***THE ORIGINAL PURITY*** – ***OF ADAM AND EVE*** *–* ***CONSISTED OF THIS DESIRESSNESS*.
They were – constituted of God –
and given all that they needed – *BY THE GRACE OF GOD*:
 God WAS** – ***THEIR BEING*; God WAS** – ***THEIR LIFE*;
 God even formed and governed their body.**

(59)  **SO IT IS THAT – YOU AND I –
 ARE – THAT PURE CHILD OF GOD,** – ***BORN INTO EDEN***,
 **BUT AT THIS MOMENT –
 ENTERTAINING – *A SENSE*** – ***OF GOOD AND EVIL*.**

We are moving about **– *as the man and woman* – *of flesh*** **–
 *who cannot please God*** **–** and cannot be under the law of God,
 until at some given time in our lives – ***it is revealed to us that*** –
 **the whole difference between – the original Adam and Eve,
 the God-created, pure, eternal being, –
 and you and me – as we now are –
 IS THAT – *WE KNOW GOOD AND EVIL*.**

(59) **If we want to return to the – *THE EDENIC STATE*** **–** and be the man and woman **– we were in the beginning** —
 ***THE PURE CREATION*** **– all we have to do is –
 give up – our knowledge of – good and evil**.

**IN REALITY, *SUCH KNOWLEDGE* – *IS ALL IN* –
*THE REALM OF* – *THEORY* – *BELIEF, or* – *HUMAN CONCEPTS***.

We must be willing to look upon **–** all the good **–** as well as the evil conditions in our life **–** and in the world, and state with conviction –
 ”I renounce you, both of you.
Henceforth, I know neither good nor evil; I know only God manifest.

Henceforth, I accept only the revelation of the real creation **–** in which there is light even when there is no sun **–** and where all is harmony.”

(60) We say and do things **– *in this state of dualism*** –
in which we live, but we must learn to smile **–** an unbelieving smile **–** within ourselves **–** because we remember **–
 that we are only actors in a play – and, therefore,
 do not accept appearances – `at appearance value**.

**True, we have to rebuke evil**:
Sometimes we have to vote against it;
 sometimes we have to talk against it;
 and sometimes we have to correct children **–** and even grownups too.

But this has to be done without our actually believing it,
 recognizing, “Yes, that’s the appearance world,
 and the people in it have not awakened **–** to this great secret **–** that there is neither good nor evil in person, place or thing.”

(61**) THE FIRST CHAPTER OF GENESIS** –
***IS THE ACCOUNT OF* – *A SPIRITUAL UNIVERSE,* peopled by spiritual beings – who do not live by effect –
 but by cause**, who do not live by read alone,
 who do not have to earn their living **–** by the sweat of their brow;

**WHEREAS IN** – ***THE SECOND AND THIRD CHAPTERS,***
 ***A KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL*** –
 **CREATES** – **A SENSE OF** – ***SEPARATION FROM GOD*** –
 **AFTER WHICH** – ***MAN LIVES BY POWER*** – ***AND BY EFFECT*:
 He lives by bread, by money, by the beating of the heart,
 he lives** – **by all the creature things,** –
 ***INSTEAD OF BY THE CREATOR*.**

**Let us not forget that – tomorrow – there will be problems –
 that will tend to throw us right outside the Garden of Eden;** tomorrow there will be mail and telephone calls **–
 which will tempt us to be hypnotized –
 by the appearance of** – **good and evil.**

**WHEN THESE MOMENTS COME, let us remember** – **that** –
 ***THAT IS WHEN*** *–* ***FORTITUDE IS REQUIRED,*** – ***BUT*** –
 **that is also** – **when the grace of God** –
 **COMES FORWARD** – **TO ENABLE US** –
 **TO STAND FAST** – **IN OUR** – ***SPIRITUAL INTEGRITY*.**

***THE TRUTH THAT*** –
 **THERE IS** – **NEITHER GOOD NOR EVIL** – **IN ANY FORM** –
 ***IS THE SECRET OF*** – ***NO-POWER***;
 ***IT IS THE SECRET OF LIFE* –
 for which people have sought throughout the ages.**

They have called it a search for God, ***for the Holy Grail***,
but when they found it, if they did, **what they found was that** –
 ***THERE IS NEITHER*** – ***GOOD NOR EVIL*** – ***IN EFFECT*.**

**When they discovered – *that secret***,
 “they had their foot right inside of heaven,
 ***because they had found the ultimate reality.***

***IT IS ONLY* – *THE KNOWLEDGE*** *–* ***OF GOOD AND EVIL* –
 *THAT KEEPS ANYONE*** – ***FROM THE HOLY KINGDOM*.**

**Genesis 2
16And the**Lord**God commanded the man,
 “You are free to eat** – **from any tree** – **in the garden;**
**17*BUT*** *–* ***YOU MUST NOT EAT*** *–* ***FROM THE TREE*** –
 **of the** – ***KNOWLEDGE OF*** – ***GOOD AND EVIL*,
 for when you eat from it** – **you will certainly die.”**

**TRANSCENDING MIND
Chapter V**

(63) ***In the beginning***,
***THERE WAS ONLY ONE STATE OF CONSCIOUSNESS,***
 ***THE SPIRITUAL***,
***but ever since the so-called* – *FALL*,
man has been divided into – three states of consciousness —
 the material, mental, and spiritual.**

**Spiritual consciousness**,
 **when made flesh, is the perfect, immortal body,**
 but few of all the billions of people who have lived on this planet
 have achieved spiritual consciousness, very few.

(63) Even today, the world has not risen too far above that physical sense of a universe, **despite the fact that in this last century more of the mental has been revealed**, although revealed primarily in the sense of the mental governing the physical. **Out of that has come what is known as the science of right thinking, designed to manipulate the human scene.**

(64) For example, if a person does not have a home,
all he has to do is to catch hold of the right thought –
and the home appears, or if he does not have a satisfactory companion, just a little right thinking, and the old companion vanishes and a new one appears! If he suffers from some physical discord,
just a little bit of right thinking, holding the “right thoughts,”
and lo and behold, the diseased body disappears and the harmonious body appears in its place.

Even when this sort of mental therapy is effective,
and it often is, those using this technique are still left with a physical universe – a physical companion, a physical anything –
subject to the laws of good and evil – and the very next day it is possible for the discords and inharmonies to begin all over again.

Before we proceed any further, let us understand the function of the mind. Perhaps this can best be done by using the body as an example. **Everybody is aware that the body is an instrument used for the activity of human life, but few people recognize that because it is an instrument of God, it should be perfectly harmonious**.

There is no reason why the body should deteriorate or lose its faculties, and it appears to do so only because man has not yet learned how to prevent such changes – and maintain the body so that it is a proper and effective instrument for daily use.

This can be done by realizing that the mind also is an instrument and that it, too, has its rightful place in our human experience.

**When it is understood that the mind is an instrument, it should also be understood of what it is the instrument, because an instrument must of necessity have something governing and controlling it.**

(65) **Unfortunately, the average mind is not controlled,
 even though some people try to control it,
 thereby often working havoc with their lives –
 because they have not yet learned –
 *THAT THE MIND – CANNOT BE CONTROLLED BY MAN.***

**The mind is an instrument for something higher than itself, and that something is the one Self.** When we come to the point where the mind is governed by the Self, we will be embraced in a peace that passes understanding.

Then we do not control the body or the mind, but the activity of Truth in our consciousness, of which we become aware through the mind, keeps the mind clear, clean, harmonious, and vital; and it in its turn manages, controls, and governs the body, acting as the purifying agent of both mind and body.

***There is a spiritual center*** **– within every one of us.**
And in that center is stored up our entire spiritual heritage.
**This center is not within the body, but in our consciousness,**
and we can draw out of the infinity of our consciousness –
all that is necessary for our unfoldment –
from this day unto the end of the world and beyond it into infinity.

The original and basic creative principle and substance of life is God, Soul, or Consciousness, but mind is the instrument through which God’s activity takes place, because properly understood and utilized, mind is an instrument of God. When the mind is open to receive the divine Impulse, harmonious and perfect form flows out from it.

Through Adam, the mind of man accepted a belief of good and evil, and from that moment on, instead of being a pure instrument of the Soul, mind began forming itself in material forms of both good and evil, just as if it were a mold similar to a muffin tin – whatever the shape of the muffin tin, that is the shape in which the muffins come out. Similarly, the product of mind appears as form. If there is evil in the mind, it appears as evil form, and contrariwise, if there is good in the mind, it appears as good form.

(66) The mind produces its own image and likeness, and if we who stand behind the mind permit it to be filledf with superstition, ignorance, or fear, all of which stem from the belief in two powers, that is what the mind produces in our experience.

Miod is the substance of every form of sin, disease, death, false appetite, lack, limitation, wars, rumors of wars, and all the other things listed under the word evil.

The external appearance is always mind-formed. As we sow mentally, so shall we reap materially.

Matter is matter only to the material state of consciousness, but once we rise to a mental state of consciousness, matter is not matter, but mind.

Mind is the essence and substance of which matter if formed, and it appears to us as form or effect. Mind is principle, the life, and the law, of all material and mental form.

That is not an easy concept to grasp, but if we draw an analogy between this and a substance with which we are all familiar, it may clarify the idea.

(66) The combination of two parts hydrogen and one-part oxygen is called water, but water can be changed into steam or into ice, and whether this particular substance appears as water, steam, or ice, it is just a different form of one essence—two parts hydrogen and one part oxygen.

In the same manner, mind is the basic substance, but matter is the name given to mind when it takes form. Mind appears as many forms: Flesh is one of them, blood is another, bone another, and hair yet another; but every one of these is mind made visible, mind appearing as specific form.

Mind in one form is flesh and in another it is bone, gristle, blood, hair, or skin; but always the substance, or essence, is mind.

Mind functions as thought; mind appears as thing; and on this level, mind is the essence of creation as described in the second and third chapters of Genesis. Therefore, if matter is mind, a process of mind can change the product, matter.

(67) Mind—your mind and my mind—imbued with spiritual truth becomes the instrument through which God appears, in and through which God manifests, and God appearing becomes the body of our outer world.

Therefore, never do we live in a material world with material surroundings because God, Itself – Truth in your consciousness and my consciousness -- is the very substance and essence of our world.

When God, or Soul, becomes the activity of the mind and appears as form, then all form is spiritual and can be multiplied. When we rise above the level of mind and thought to the Silence, that is where I, God, becomes the activity and substance appearing as matter or form.

For example, in every miracle in the Gospels, it was the mind of Jesus Christ which appeared outwardly as health and harmony and as an infinity of loaves and fishes.

Loaves and fishes are not matter; health and wealth are not matter: They are mind formed. Once the mind becomes permeated with truth, truth becomes the substance and the essence of all form, and then the form can be multiplied, but it can be multiplied only because it is not matter.

This is the principle that was in operation when Jesus performed the miracle of the loaves and fishes. What he did was to multiply the visible form to satisfy the sense of need at that particular moment.

(68) There is only Spirit and its spiritual formations; but mind as the instrument of Spirit, forms and governs itself as outlined form, and this is called matter or physical form. Actually, it is mind, because matter can be reduced to the mental and eventually back into the spiritual; but mind appears to us as finite forms, and it is mind that forms that form.

Mind will form for us everything of which we seem to have need – and yet no new thing will have been added to creation.

Mind, when it functions on its own level, appears as either good or evil, or both; whereas mind when functioned by Soul or God appears only as a harmonious universe.

This does not mean that when we think good thoughts, our perfect spiritual universe appears; it means that when we have risen above both mind and thought into the realm of Silence, Soul or God now manifest as our spiritual identity, being, body, and universe.

(68) Our mind in its unillumined state is interpreting to us only what we can become aware of through our senses. We do not behold what is: We behold the interpretation of our mind.

(68) For example, if there were a bowl of yellow roses in the room, you and almost everyone in the room would see them as yellow; but to the person who is color-blind, they might be interpreted as some other color, or while these same roses might be beautiful to you, they might precipitate an attack of rose fever or asthma in another person.
Clearly, it is not what we become aware of that is important, but how the mind interprets that of which we are aware.

(70) ***WE LOOK AT*** – ***THE CREATIONS OF GOD –
 THROUGH THE*** – ***INSTRUMENT OF THE MIND*,
 and** – **THE FORMS** – **we see –
 take on the color and complexion** –
 ***OF THE MIND INTERPRETING THEM*.**

When a person comes to us and says, “I have a diseased body” –
 or “I have a sick mind” or “I have an empty pocketbook” –
**he is beholding creation – through limited, finite, material sense;** ***BUT IF WE CAN IGNORE*** –
 what the person is seeing, feeling, and experiencing –
 and realize – that our mind – is but an interpreter –
and if we can become sufficiently still –
 ***SO THAT*** – ***THE TRUE PICTURE*** – ***CAN REGISTER*** –
 ***THEN*** – ***OUT OF THE SILENCE*** – ***WE MAY HEAR,
 “THOU ART MY CHILD, MY BELOVED CHILD,
 IN WHOM I AM WELL PLEASED”*** – ***OR*** –
 ***“THIS VERY PLACE IS THE KINGDOM OF GOD”*** –
 ***OR “ALL THAT I HAVE IS THINE.”***

 **IN OTHER WORDS**,
 **THERE COMES** – **AN ASSURANCE** – **FROM WITHIN –
 THAT THE SCENE,
 AS MORTAL SENSE INTERPRETS IT,** – **IS INCORRECT;
 and** – **IN THE SILENCE –
 WHAT IS – ACTUALLY THERE – IS REVEALED TO US.**

(70) **IN THE HUMAN SCENE, THE MIND IS CREATIVE.**
 **It can create good** – **and** – **it can** **create evil** – **AND DOES**.

**IN THE** – ***SPIRITUAL SCENE*,** – **HOWEVER,
 THE MIND** – **IS NOT** – **A CREATIVE FACULTY,**
 **BUT AN** – ***AVENUE OF AWARENESS*.**

**For example – if we had a blank canvas in front of us –**
**and if instead of** – **racking our brains – as to what to put on it,**
**we learned how to be still and waited, TAKING THE ATTITUDE**,
**“HERE IS A CANVAS, FATHER,** – ***YOU PAINT THE PICTURE*,”
 we would find ideas flowing freely,
 *AND INTO OUR CONSCIOUSNESS*** – \**would come the directions** – **which our mind and hands would execute.**

(71) **The whole secret lies in making the transition from a thinking, plotting, planning, scheming mind to a mind at rest in a state of awareness, through which divine ideas can flow**.

**Ever since that illusory experience known as the Fall of man, however, mind has been used as a creative faculty, and that is what is at the root of our troubles and problems today.**

**Therefore, when called upon to help our family, friends, or others, or even when in need of help ourselves, instead of trying to change the person or condition or instead of condemning ourselves or others, we should realize that this is just another form of mind presenting itself to us. The healing agency lies in our realization that – *MIND IS NOT A POWER: MIND IS AN AVENUE OF AWARENESS.***

(72) **On the human level,
 *MIND GOVERNS OUR BODY AND ALL CREATION*,**
 ***and it governs it* – *for both good and evil***.

It gives us health one day, and sickness another day;
 it gives us wealth one day, and lack the next day **–** because the mind, being of the earth, earthy, **–** is made up of the two qualities **–** of good and evil,
 and therefore it manifest and expresses itself at these extremes.

***UNTIL WE RISE ABOVE MIND,* –  *WE CANNOT RISE ABOVE* – *THE PAIRS OF OPPOSITES.***

When we transcend mind and touch the realm of Spirit, we live in a different consciousness. No longer do we resort to the use of affirmations or denials, physical or mental remedies:

Now **– we contact that spiritual center –** where we find peace, and then we find that we have transcended the activity of mind both as to good and evil and are living what the world calls a normal life, but which in reality is a spiritual life, a life that to a great extent is untouched by the activity of the unillumined mind.

(72) Correctly understood, mind is an instrument of God, crated by God. Therefore, mind itself is an effect, just as the product of mind is an effect. It is not a cause; it is an effect. God, Soul, Spirit, alone is cause, and both mind and body are effects.

If we dwell with spiritual truth in our consciousness, noe of the evils of this world will come nigh our dwelling place because the truth enetertained in consciousness takes over and begins to live our lives.

**Living in an atmosphere of spiritual wisdom and feeding consciousness with truth, there comes a moment when that truth takes over the mind,** and then no longer is it necessary to fill the mind with truth. **FROM THEN ON, THE FLOW IS THE OTHER WAY**. It is not we who are thinking truth, remembering, declaring, or meditating on truth. ***IT IS TRUTH* –  *USING OUR MIND* – *FOR ITS EXPRESSION,* – *ALWAYS USING US* – *ALWAYS FLOWING THROUGH US***.

**UNCONDITIONED MND
Chapter VI**

(78) ***ALWAYS KEEP BEFORE YOU*** **– THE TRUTH –
 THAT UNCONDITIONED MIND –
 *IS FORMED AS* – *UNCONDITIONED EFFECT*.**

(73) **The basic secret of mind is that – there is only one mind,** and that mind is the mind of individual being **– your mind and my mind.**  When it has come to actual practice, however, an entity separate and apart from the one mind called **– mortal mind or the human mind – has always been introduced – and accepted as a power.**

**ACTUALLY, *THERE IS ONLY ONE MIND*,
 *AND THIS MIND IS UNCONDITIONED*:
It has no qualities of good or of evil;
 *IT IS A STATE OF BEING*, not good and not bad.**

In reality, there cannot be intelligent mind and ignorant mind;
**THERE CANNOT BE *HEALTHY MIND* AND DISEASED MIND**,
 ***for mind is unconditioned***.

Furthermore, mind forming itself as body is unconditioned; and therefore body is neither well nor sick, tall nor short, thin nor fat. Body is unconditioned as the mind which is the essence of its form.

Mind and body, being unconditioned, are a state of absolute being and perfection until the belief of good and evil is accepted into thought.

(74) Human experience is in reality the perfect mind, your mind and my mind, which manifests as perfect being and body, but which is human experience is influenced by this knowledge of good and evil. **THIS BELIEF IN TWO POWERS – *IS THE ESSENCE OF WHAT IS CALLED THE CARNAL MIND*.**

To return to the Father’s house **–** and once more **–** become the son of God, it is necessary that we individually**—(for not one can do this for us because it is an individual experience)—**give up the belief in good and evil through an activity of our consciousness.

(74) ***MIND FORMS* – *ITS OWN CONDITIONS* –
 of matter, body, and form.**
***MIND* – *DOES NOT CREATE: MIND FORMS*.**

***CREATION* – *IS ALREADY COMPLETE —
 SPIRTUAL, ETERNAL, AND PERFECT***;
***BUT OUR MIND***, ***depending on* – *ITS CONDITIONING***,
 ***FORMS* – *and* – *INTERPRETS* –
 *our human experience on this plane***.

**If our mind is completely free – of judgment of good and evil,**
 ***THEN SPIRIT FORMS* – its own image and likeness –** through the mind **–** as happy, harmonious, and successful living.
***IF MIND IS CONDITIONED*** **– *by judgments of good and evil***,
***MIND IS NOT A CLEAR TRANSPARENCY***,
 **AND IN PROPORTION – TO ITS CONDITIONING –
 will experiences of good and evil – take place in our lives**.

***ONLY AS WE OURSELVES* – *LET THE JUDGMENT* –
OF GOOD OR EVIL – HEALTHY OR UNHEALTHY – *OPERATE*, does the mind present these forms –
 to us – for our acceptance.**

**SOUL GOVERNS** **– ITS SPIRITUAL ACTIVITY – AND FORM,
 so mind, when it is free of hypnotism, that is,
 the belief of good and evil, receives the full light of Soul.**

**MIND, IMBUED WITH SPIRITUAL TRUTH,
is a law of renewal, regeneration, restoration, and resurrection.** Your mind and mine, ***imbued with Truth***, is the mind **–** of those who come to us **–** and of those embraced in our consciousness.
**Your mind and my mind – *IMBUED WITH TRUTH* –
 is the mind – of individual being.**

(75) Anyone who has ever been the means **– of a spiritual healing knows that thisis true –** and that his individual mind, as it is imbued with Truth, becomes a law of renewal, regeneration, or reformation expressing as physical, mental, moral, or financial healing to those who come to him.

As troubled people come to us, if we are able to see the person or condition as neither good nor evil, sick nor well, rich nor poor, that is, see him without judgment, we then no longer have a carnal mind, but are in full possession of the mind which was in Christ Jesus **– a mind which recognizes only one power, an unconditioned mind –and it dispels the illusions of sense.**

**WE DO NOT HAVE TO GET RID OF OR OVERCOME THE CARNAL MIND; WE DO NOT HAVE TO DESTROY IT; WE ONLY HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THAT OUR MIND IS A PERFECT INSTRUMENT FOR THE SOUL – AND THIS IT BECOMJES AS WE FILL OUR IND WITH SPIRITUAL TRUITH AND GRACE.**

When we are faced with a problem at any level,
 **we must first remember
 that the substance of the invisible universe** **–
 *is unconditioned mind*** **– *WHICH IS THE INSTRUMENT*** **–** of pure, immortal Being, Essence, Substance, and Reality,
 **and its formations – *are also unconditioned*,
 BECAUSE THEY ARE – MIND ITSELF –
 *appearing as infinite form*.**

Mind, unconditioned **– and havingno qualities of good or evil, is the substance of all that is visible; and all that is, is as unconditioned as the mind which is its basis.**

**If this were not true, it would be impossible for our state of consciousness to produce changes in what is called the material universe.**

**Those who have actually witnessed or experienced metaphysical and spiritual healing – know that a practitioner may be anywhere from one to twenty-five thousand miles away from the patient – and nevertheless – be the instrument – through which a fever is reduced, a lump removed, or wasted lungs restored, – because when the practitioner has attained a sufficient stillness – for the mind to be a pure transparency for God, – the condition of the body changes.**

(76) **Our – CONSCIOUSNESS OF THIS TRUTH** **–
 *IS THE LAW OF HARMONY*; and therefore –
 if we were called upon to help someone who had a fever –
 and were to realize that mind, unconditioned mind, is the substance of all visible form, and that this universal belief in two powers, good and evil, is not operative because it is the “arm of flesh,” or nothingness, and then the fever disappeared, we would know that our consciousness of one power, which really is a consciousness of no-power, had produced the healing and was a law of harmony.**

We would observe that our mind functioning as an instrument of God had produced an effect on what we call body or matter **–** and we would know then that the substance of mind and the substance of matter are one and the same. That is why mind can affect matter and moreover, that is why truth in consciousness can affect matter.

This mind and its formations are neither good nor bad:
They are unconditioned eternal being, and that which we behold as an erroneous condition or circumstance is not of mind or its formations, but is the universal belief in good and evil, which is termed devil or carnal mind.

***ACTUALLY* – THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS – CARNAL MIND –
because there is but one mind an dit is unconditioned.
It is not moretal, it is not human; it cannot be named, described, or analyzed. That which we call carnal mind is merely a belief in two powers, and when you recognize that, you can stop fighting error or tryin to overcome it, rise agbove it, or remove it.**

**Never try to protect yourself from motral mind or carnal mind.
The nature of any protective work must be your realization that *THERE ARE NOT TWO POWERS, AND ALL YOU EVER HAVE TO PROTECT YOURSELF FROM IS THAT BELIEF IN TWO POWERS.***

**(77) Being in the world – but not of it – is a life of nonattachment to things. It is only when we are trying to cling to something or to somebody or trying to get rid of someone or some condition that we are attached.**

**(77) The moment that you think of mind in terms of your mind and my mind – separate and apart from the one unconditioned mind, you have missed the point; but once you begin to understand that thre is only one mind,k you will begin to undedstand that tthere is only one mind, you will never do anything unless it is in keeping with God’s law. It will never be your will or my will: It will be God’s will.**

As a man becomes convinced in his heart, so is it unto him. It is all a matter of conditioning, and you can condition yourself for good or for evil; but when you leave the realm of conditioning, you are in the realm of that mind which was also in Christ Jesus.

In all the healings that Jesus brought forth in his ministry, it was the Father’s will that was being performed through him, and he knew that it was not his mind, but the Father’s mind.

***It was unconditioned mind***. Therefore, he could say to a blind man, ”Open your eyes.” He could say to the crippled man, “What did hinder you?” In other words, there was no conditioned condition in his consciousness. ***There was only unconditioned mind* – which is neither healthy nor sick, neither rich nor poor**.

(78) ***ALWAYS KEEP BEFORE YOU*** **– THE TRUTH –
 THAT UNCONDITIONED MIND –
 *IS FORMED AS* – *UNCONDITIONED EFFECT*.**

***Spiritual wisdom – must be made tangible.*** It must bear fruit in our earthly experience, but this it cannot do ***–*** if we do not become consciously aware of it. All the undiscovered inventions, sciences, and arts of the future ***–*** exist in the mind, but they can come through into expression ***–*** only in the degree ***–*** that an individual opens his consciousness to them. **So, with esoteric truth *–* which remains something hidden *–* until it takes form in consciousness,
and then it produces an effect in the outer world.**

***AS YOU KNOW THE TRUTH, –*** THIS TRUTH WILL FRE YOU FROM ALL CARNAL MIND CONDITIONS, WHICH MEAN ALL SITUATIONS OR CIRCUMSTANCES CONDITIONHED BY GOOD OR EVIL.

Every bit of truth realized ***–*** will help to set you free from some phase of good or evil, until you attain the fulness of the spiritual light ***–*** in which Spirit ***–*** through the instrument of the unconditioned mind ***–*** expresses Itself as your being, body, business, home, and relationships.

***BUT BEFORE THIS CAN HAPPEN –
 THERE MUST BE A PREPARATION –
 IN WHICH WE ABIDE IN THE WORD –
 AND LET THE WORD ABIDE IN US, –
 IN WHICH WE CONSCIOUSLY – DWELL IN THE WORD.***

**After the experience of illumination, however,
 life is lived without effort and without taking thought.**

***THE TEMPTER – THE BELIEF OF GOOD AND EVIL –
STANDS BEFORE US – AS IT DID BEFORE ADAM AND EVE –
ONLY NOW WE UNDERSTAND THAT –
 LIFE AND MIND – ARE UNCONDITIONED –
 and we turn on the tempter – as did Jesus:
 “Get thee gbehind me Satan.***

***I accept no conditioning of my life.
My mind, life, Soul, and body are –
 unconditioned, unfettered, and free,
 knowing neither good nor evil,
 knowing only God-being, pure Spirit, pure Soul, pure Life.”***

**A ROSE IS A ROSE IS A ROSE
Chapter VII**

**(79) NO ONE CAN FREE HIMSELF *–*FROM THE BELIEF IN *–* TWO POWERS** ***–
AND MAKE THE RETURN TO EDEN –
until he is willing – to relinquish his human judgments –
and look out upon the world with an – UNCONDITIONED MIND.***

***The practice of seeing neither good nor evil*** ***–***can begin at this very moment ***– with any object –
which comes within range of your vision –
or with any person with whom you may be confronted.
In most cases, however, it is simpler to begin the practice –
with some object or person –
 with whom you are not emotionally involved.***

The practice may begin with a bouquet of flowers ***–
 which may have been sent to you as a gift.***
If you have no ***– preconceived idea of them –
 you do not know whether they are going to give you –
 joy in their beauty – or an attack of hay fever.***

***Contemplate them, look at them;
and if you see them as having power for either good or evil,
you will be thinking thoughts about them for a long time to come.***

***Change all that – and acknowledge that these flowers;
in and of themselves, have no power whatsoever,
that they are – not good flowers – and they are – not bad flowers.***

***At this point, you may be willing to admit that – they are not evil,
 but you may still wonder why – they are not good.

(80) The answer is that – they are not good –
 in the sense that – good is embodied in them:
The good – is in the consciousness of the individual –
 who provided the flowers – because that good – IS LOVE.***

***LOVE IS – good, love is invisible and spiritual.***

***LOVE IS – THE SUBSTANCE – THAT SENT THESE FLOWERS –
 to you, perhaps from a great distance;
LOVE IS – THAT INVISIBLE THING – OF WHICH –
 THESE FLOWERS – ARE THE VISIBLE EXPRESSION.***

**If you were to call these flowers** ***– good*** ***– and then –
 in three or four days – they faded and were gone,
 you would have lost – your good;
 but if inasmuch as – their only value –
 beyond a momentary sense of pleasure –
 lies in the lasting remembrance of the giver –
 OF THE LOVE – THAT PROMPTED THEM,
 of the devotion, the friendship and gratitude;
 it makes no real difference – what happens to them.***

***WHEN THE FLOWERS THEMSELVES – HAVE FADED –
 and are long since gone and forgotten,
 STILL THE GOOD, THE LOVE – AND THE APPRECIATION –
 of which they were the expression, WILL REMAIN,
 creating on the invisible plane –
 an immortal and eternal bond –
 between the giver and the recipient.***

For this reason ***– there should never be grief over the loss of anything – to which you have attached value, regardless of how much money it may have cost.
The value of the object – lies in that – which is invisible – and which prompted – its coming into your experience.***

***THE REAL GOOD – IS ALWAYS INVISIBLE –
 it can never be seen, heard, touched, tasted, or smelled –
 AND BECAUSE IT IS INVISIBLE –
 IT IS INTANGIBLE – TO HUMAN SENSE.***

**These flowers, then, in front of you** ***– ARE JUST FLOWERS*** ***– beautiful, yes; nice to look at, yes; colorful, yes; fragrant, yes;***

***BUT WHO SAYS THEY ARE?
 Who says they are colorful? Or fragrant? Ask yourself, “Are they beautiful?” Then wait – until you begin to perceive, “Why, no color registers – until those vibrations –
 touch my eyes – and – MY MIND – INTERPRETS THEM,
 and then – I know that the flowers are yellow; but –
 they are not yellow, they are not beautiful,
 they are not fragrant – UNTIL – MY MIND –
 TRANSLATES THESE VIBRATIONS –
 INTO – beauty, color, and perfume.”***

(81) **As you ponder this** ***–
 you will find that even – the form of the flowers –
 is not beautiful, IN AND OF ITSELF,
 but is beautiful – only because – of your interpretation of it;
 and as you sit there contemplating them,
 convinced that these flowers are neither beautiful nor ugly,
 suddenly – into that vacuum – which you have created –
 will come the awareness of what it is – you are looking at;***

 ***AND THEN – YOU WILL FIND THAT – IT IS MUCH MORE –
THAN A BOWL OF ROSES, – AND YOU WILL BE LED –
TO THIS CONCLUSION:***

***“ROSES, ROSES, YOU ARE NOTHING:
 USING THE UNCONDITIONED MIND – AS AN INSTRUMENT,
 I CREATE YOU – in my own – image and – likeness;
 I give you your color, from, beauty, and perfume.***

***This, however, is not the personal sense of – “I”,
 WHICH CAN NEVER DO SUCH THINGS,
 BUT THE – I – WHICH IS GOD, that part of me –
 WHICH IS MY TRUE IDENTITY, and – it is – THAT – I –
 which has created these roses – in Its image and likeness;***

***And therefore –
they are not good – and – they are not bad – they are perfect.
Of themselves, they are nothing,
 but by virtue – of the grace of God – they are perfect.”***

**Everything in this world *–* has a spiritual significance,**
 you will never discover what that significance is ***–*** by consulting dictionaries or encyclopedias.
**You Will Only Come Into An Awareness *–*Of The Function *–* and *–* Spiritual Significance Of Anything *–
 AS YOU TURN WITHIN* *–* TO THAT VACUUM *–
 WHICH YOU HAVE CREATED* *–* BY YOUR REALIZATION:**

**“THIS IS NOT WHAT IT APPEARS TO BE, *–* AND OF MY OWN SELF,
 I CANNOT INTERPRET *–* THIS APPEARANCE.
 *GOD ALONE – CAN INTERPRET IT CORRECTLY.*
 SO NOW, GOD, WHAT IS IT?”**

**THEN *–* WILL COME THE REVELATION** ***– and the –*unfoldment *–* of *–* its true identity *–* and *–* spiritual significance.**

(81) ***If you are one who is plagued by lack***,
 it is possible that you may find yourself ***–*** in such a state of confusion, **with your mind so beset** ***–* with a sense of fear *– that there may not be a sufficiency***,
that sometimes you find it vey hard to quiet your mind enough for a peaceful meditation.
But there is a way in which you can meditate, even with these disturbing thoughts uppermost in your consciousness, and your mind will settle down into such a peace and tranquility that God will be able to speak to you about supply.

(82) Take out a piece of money – it makes no difference what its denomination is, whether a coin or currency ***– and put it in front of you. Look at it. If you can see what I see, you will agree that it is as dead as a doornail – inanimate and lifeless.***

***If you continue looking at this piece of money and proceed with your cogitations, your thought will eventually turn to where this money came from and how it came into your possession.***

***Perhaps somebody gave it to you as an expression of love or gratitude; or if you earned it, it represents somebody’s payment to you for service of some kind.***

***Then you may think of the use that will be made of it. As a piece of metal or paper, it has no value to you, but it can be used as a medium of exchange for marketing or purchase of one kind or another. You are now beginning to lose sight of this object as money and are gaining the vision of tits function as something useful, loving, and generous. SOON YOUR MIND HAS GONE BEYOND THE MONEY ITSELF,
AND YOU BEGIN TO SEE WHY THIS MONEY BELONGS TO YOU.***

Once you are able to look at money in this light, you will see that far from its supplying you, it is you who supply money with its capacities and power. By that time your mind has gone from the physical realm into the invisible, and peace descends, quiet comes, and a complete stillness in which you can receive an impartation from God in regard to the true interpretation of money.

***IF YOU FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE – IN REGARD TO ANYTHING
FOR WHICH YOU HAVE GRAVE CONCERN – or to which you are unduly attached, you will be given the correct interpretations of it and its function in your experience.***

***For example, whereas the acquisition of money is generally considered desirable, the addiction to alcohol is considered evil, and yet the problem of alcoholism can be handled In much the same way as the problem of supply.***

*(83)* When a person begins to realize that alcohol has power neither for good nor for evil, he loses all taste for it. This is also true of gluttony or tobacco habit. True, many people would be willing to go so far as to agree that these have no power for evil, but at the same time, they still think that they have power to give pleasure or satisfaction. As long as a person gives them any power, however, for good or for evil, they hold him in their grasp.

Many alchoholics have been healed through the understanding that there is ***– no power –******FOR EVIL IN ALCOHOL,******but – I have had greater success – in dealing with this particular problem by knowing – THERE IS NO POWER – FOR GOOD – IN ALCOHOL.***

Several years ago, a very interesting case was brought to me by a woman who told me in great tears and self-righteous horror that her husband had reached the place where he refused to work, that she had to support him, and that he lay in bed every day of the week except on her payday when he got up to go out to buy his weekly supply of whisky, using her hard earned money to pay for it.

The entire situation was just a little bit too much for her to take any longer; but she had become interested in spiritual healing and wanted to know what I could do about it spiritually. It was pure inspiration that led me to say:

“Do you know something?” ***It comes to me*** ***–* that your husband *–* is not an alcoholic at all:
*YOU ARE THE ALCOHOLIC*.”**
**“I don’t know what you mean.”**

**“Well, you seem to be *–* more afraid of alcohol** ***–
 than your husband is***.”’

She looked at me ***–*** uncomprehendingly ***–*** and said:
“Well, perhaps I am. Every day I see what it is doing.
 **My husband doesn’t think it is terrible; he likes it**.“

“There’s a difference of opinion there.
You really believe that alcohol is bad, don’t you?”
“I certainly do.”
**“And yet the whole basis of our work *–* is that there is neither good nor evil.**

Now what are we going to do with that? I can put it to you this way: Suppose your husband wanted to use your money ***–*** to buy ginger ale, would you object?

“No, I’d gladly go to work,
 and he could have all the ginger ale he wanted.”
**“So, *ginger ale is good*, *but alcohol is evil*.**
**THAT IS THE APPEARANCE AGAIN,
 and there we are back with Adam and Eve.**

Now let’s see who is at fault in this, your husband or you.

**Your husband thinks that alcohol is good *–* and you think it’s evil,** so you’re deadlocked, I guess,
 and that is where you are going to stay for a while ***–*** unless you can begin to see what I see ***–*** and that is ***–*** that actually ginger ale isn’t good,
 and whisky isn’t bad, that ***–* there is no power in either one,
 if all power is in God**. That’s the vision and the way I see it. God is the infinite all-power, and besides God,
 there is no power for good or evil.

“Where does that leave me? What am I supposed to do?”
“Suppose we agree that for the next week your husband has no power for good and that it has no power for evil, so we don’t care what he does with it.

You go right home and tell him that you’ve made a serious mistake and that you don’t think whisky is so terrible, after all, and that from now on, he can have all he wants of it.”

“Well, I’m not getting anywhere this way; I can’t do worse that way, so
I’m going to do it; but it’s a pretty hard thing to ask me to do.”

“Try it and see.”

She went home, waiting for the proper moment, and when her husband wanted whisky, she said:

“Oh, yes, sure, here it is.”
He looked at her in surprise, but made no comment until a few days later, when he came to her complaining.
“You know there is no use drinking this stuff. They’re making that wartime whisky again, and it has no punch, no effect – there’s no power to the stuff.”
And that’s how he was ultimately freed. He couldn’t drink it anymore because it no longer gave him the satisfaction, he had heretofore received from it.

From my observation, I believe that the majority of alcoholics suffer from alcoholism not so much because they think that its indulgence is evil as because they think they are going to derive some good, that is, some pleasure from it. With the realization that alcohol is not good, their taste for it disappears.

(85) “You know there is no use drinking this stuff. They’re making that wartime whisky again, and it has no punch, no effect—there’s no power tot eh stuff.: And that’s how he was ultimately freed. HE couldn’t drink it an y more because it no longer gave him the satisfaction he had heretofore received from it.

With the realization that alcohol is not good, their taste for it disappears. Watch this carefully. Do not make the metaphysical mistake of declaring that evil is not power, but believing that good is. Be quick to recognize that there is no power gut God.

Do not fear or worship any (creature) in any form and do not glorify it. Glorify the creator of ALL FORM, and when you do that, you have neither good power nor evil powerL You have only God-power, and for that one brief second you will be right back in the Garden of Eden where there is not a single problem, where there is not a force or power acting upon you negatively or positively: You are just suspended in an atmosphere of peace.

(85) You could throw every worry aside and never again know a sleepless night if you could put this book down in the conviction that there is nothing good or evil in and of itself. In that state of consciousness, there would be nothing to worry you or keep you awake, nor would there be anything to rejoice over. It is true that in following this way of life. This does not mean, however, that you do not continue to enjoy flowers and music and all the beautiful things of this world. This only difference is that you do not become overly elated about them.

(86) Whatever the appearance, it is merely a form of some sort, nothing but a blank in front of you until you decide in your own minhd that this thing is beautiful or ugly, that this person is good or bad, or that your dog is faithful to you but your neighbor’;s dog is a pest.

We view (creatures) as they appear to be, judging from appearances, and thereby suffer the consequences of such judgment.

Let us call things by their names – star, rose, dog, moon, (problems) – and we shall find that God will reveal their nature to us and the correct place and function they are to occupy and perform in our experience.

(87) In proportion as we keep our mind free of judgments, it functions without concepts, so that when the principles of life come into expression, they come through as they did through Einstein, as pure law.

Similarly, when the Spirit comes through the minds of understanding practitioners who sit in the Silence with no judgment – not trying to get rid of a disease, not trying to overcome a sin, and not trying to destroy a fear, but just sitting there in a vacuum of God’s grace – the truth comes through in its purity, and the patient says, “I feel better” or “I have had a healing.”

Chapter VIII

**HENCEFORTH KNOW WE NO MAN
AFTER THE FLESH**

(88) The question may arise in your mind, “How can I stop thinking about and believing in good and evil?” Let me give you an example which may help to clarify this point. Look at your hand, and ask yourself, “Is it a good hand or is it a bad hand?”

And if you carry out into practice what you have learned thus far, you will have to admit that your hand is neither good nor bad: It is just a hand, a piece of flesh and a bundle of bones. It has no power to act in or of itself: It cannot pet, and it cannot punch; it cannot give and it cannot withhold. But you can move it; you can use it as an instrument for giving or withholding. You can do such things, but the hand cannot.

The hand is but an instrument for your use. It can be used for various purposes: It can give generously and benevolently or steal unashamedly, but this hand cannot of itself do anything. There has to be something to move the hand and also the body, sometimes to do good and sometimes to do evil.

However, when you have transcended mind and thought, it is then that both mind and body are governed and controlled by the I that is God, and this produces a mind, body, and daily experience which are neither good nor evil but spiritual. The secret again is in the attainment of the unconditioned mind through which the
Soul functions as life and experience.

(89) Turn now from consideration of your hand – and take your whole body into your mind – and realize this same truth: You do not have a good or a bad body, a young or an old body. Your body is merely so much flesh and bones.

In and of itself, it has no intelligence; it knows nothing about either disease or health; it knows nothing abut time – nothing about calendars. Unfortunately, the human “I” does, and because of that, the body changes.

The body knows nothing about seasons of the year, whether it is winger or summer, good weather or bad, but again, unfortunately, we do, and because of that the body reflects whatever we accept in our mind.

It is the mind which becomes the avenue through which the body takes on the beliefs of the world. It is the mind, then, which determines whether the body is good or bad, young or old, well or sick, but when there is neither a good body or a bad one, a young one nor an old one, **from that moment on, I, which is the presence and power of God, takes over and begins to manifest Its conditions on the body. The body merely expresses that which is imposed on it.**

(91) Because you know the words and can say orally or silently, “There is no good nor evil,” do not believe that their repetition will work miracles in your life, because it will not. You have to live with this truth until you can demonstrate it; you have to prove it over and over again within yourself. Moreover, never forget that if you are tempted to tell this to any man before it becomes so evident that the world sees it in you, you will lose what you have received and, what is more, you may lose even the possibility o demonstrating it in this incarnation, because no one can trifle with the word of God, no one can boast with it and play with it, and think that he can retain it.

You can only prove this principle in the degree that you hug it tightly within yourself – keep it sacred and keep it secret – but use it. Use it morning, noon, and night with every bit of error that confronts you, whether in the newspaper, on the radio, in your family, or on the street.

If you can do that, you will refrain from accepting or judging by appearances and you will not be tempted to try to heal somebody or something, but you will stay within yourself and judge righteous judgment, stay within the Garden of Eden which represents your spiritual domain, the state of divine harmony.

(92) ***SPIRITUAL HEALING*** – ***CANNOT TAKE PLACE*** – ***ON THE HUMAN PLANE. It can take place*** – ***only when you have*** –
***STOPPED THINKING*** – **of the person and the disease and the condition and the belief and the claim** – **and have returned to Eden where there is only God, Spriit – wholeness and completeness.**

Nobody can ever be a spiritual healer – who works from the standpoint of effect or who prays from the standpoint of trying to correct something in the Adam-world because, if he succeeded, he would but have exchanged an unpleasant dream for a pleasant one. If he succeeded in improving the human picture, he would only have good materiality instead of bad materiality. He would be no nearer the kingdom of God.

At one time I was sitting in a room with a person who was to all sense every near death, and I felt the same discomfort that anyone would feel in similar circumstances because I realized that there was nothing, I could do to prevent his passing.

I had no miraculous gifts nor any miracle-working words that would prevent the apparently inevitable. Something had to come to me from the depths of the within, or there was going to be a funeral. All I could do was to turn within to that still small Voice and wait and wait and wait, and sometimes beg and plead.

(93) Finally, it came, and these were the words, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased!” No one would have believed that if he had seen him. Here was disease in its final form; here was a person dying, and yet despite the appearance the Voice said, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” After those words came, it was not long before they became an actual fact in demonstration; and health, harmony, and completeness were restored.

On another occasion – I was called to my own father’s side when he lay in an oxygen tent and, according to the physicians in attendance, was on his deathbed.

I stood there with no words of wisdom tht could change this appearance into health; I stood there just as anyone would stand in front of his own father in such a situation – but with this difference: I knew that if God uttered His voice, the earth would melt.

Standing there, watching my father breathing through that apparatus, the words came, “Man does not live by breath alone.” In less than five minutes, he signaled for the nurse to take the instrument away, and two days later he was out of the hospital.

Who decreed that that condition was evil? God did not; God merely said, “Man shall not live by breath alone,”: thus dissipating the belief that man lives by breath, and proving that he lies by the word of God.

Only as long as you entertain the belief in two powers, can you be in any difficulty. You are free as soon as you begin to look upon all conditions with a “Who told you, you are naked? Who told you, you are evil? Who told you this is sin? Who told you this is disease? Who told you this is dangerous? Where did it come from? Did God ever say that to anyone?”

94) ***In the second chapter*** – **of Genesis,
 God is no longer** – ***THE CREATOR*,
 *BUT NOW*** – **there** **is a** – **BEING CALLED** – ***LORD GOD*;
 and Lord,** – **it is said, is synonymous with** – ***LAW*.**

**In other words, the man of the** –
 **second chapter of Genesis – lives under** – ***THE LAW*,
 whereas the man of the** – **first chapter,
 created in the image and likeness of God** –
 **LIVES UNDER GRACE.**

**HOW CAN WE BECOME THAT MAN –
 *WHO LIVES UNDER GRACE*?**
**How else – except by –
 *GIVING UP THE BELIEF* – *IN TWO POWERS*?**
**THEN – *GRACE* – *PERMEATES OUR ENTIRE BEING*;**
***GRACE* – supports, maintains, and sustains us; *AND GRACE* –
 goes before us – to make the crooked places straight.**

***GRACE IS ALL ABOUT US***, **and yet** –
 ***WE HAVE NO MORE AWARENESS OF IT*** –
 ***than a fish has of water***.
 **The fish is swimming in the water**, ***but it does not know it***.
 ***A bird knows nothing about air***;
 **It is flying through it** - ***but flying unthinkingly***.

And so it is, that when we are – ***in a state of spiritual health***,
we not only **– *do not know disease*, but we – do not know health** – we only know that – ***we are harmonious, normal, and free***.

**How can a healthy man – describe health?
It is impossible because – he does not know it**:
He only knows – that he is in it,
 whatever it may be, and it is nice to be.

(97) **In our meditation, we may sit down** –
 with a sick person in our mind, or with a poor or sinful one,
 but we should not get up until, through realization,
 **we have come to that place – where there is no man,
 SICK OR WELL, RICH OR POOR, SINFUL OR PURE;
 THERE IS NO SICK PERSON – TO B`E MADE WELL –
 AND NO WELL PERSON – OVER WHOM TO REJOICE;**

There is only God – there is only God – appearing as the Father –
 and God appearing as the Son.
Then is our prayer complete – and with it comes the conviction,
 **“It is so.”**

(98**) As long as we are knowing the truth –
thinking, declaring, or voicing truth – we are in the mental realm. True, we may be thinking of spiritual things, but we are thinking of** spiritual things mentally, and no healing is likely to take place.

If healing does occur in some such cases, it is through mental argument, and it is not spiritual but mental healings, the effect of suggestion, the fruitage of the type of practice which says, “You are well” or “Your are perfect” or “God’s will is done in you”; and the mind accepts the suggestion and responds to it. That is not spiritual healing because the patient has merely responded to the suggestion of another mind.

In the Infinite Way, we do not make suggestions; we never use the word you in a treatment; we never use the name of the patient nor do we take the name of the disease, complaint, or condition into the treatment, nor do we let the person enter our though after he has asked for help.

Even though we are still in the mental realm when we contemplate, it is not about the patient: It is about God and the things of God that we know, or the laws of God that we understand or have read about and are now trying to realize.

The only way that this man of flesh can be restored to Eden and to his normal spiritual harmony is not by thinking thoughts about hi, but by entering into a state of Silence which recognizes neither good nor evil.

When we have no desires, we have o desire for good any more than we have a desire for evil, and then we are pure enough to be in the Garden of Eden which is desireless. **IT IS NOT A STATE OF DESIRING GOOD, BUT A CONTENTEDNESS WITH BEING.**

**Chapter IX**

**This Is A Spiritual Universe**

(102) ***THE SPIRITUAL CREATION*** – ***is an incorporeal creation***,
 and the proof of that – is that – ***there was light*** – ***BEFORE*** –
  ***there was a sun in the sky***.
If we live and move and have our being in the –
***spiritual creation*** – as set forth in the – first chapter of Genesis,
 we can have everything we need.
The sense-world, that which we can see, hear, taste, touch, and smell, ***is the unreal creation*** – described in –
 the second chapter of Genesis – ***A MENTAL IMAGE IN MIND***.

***If we remember that***, we shall not try –
 to manipulate the human scene or handle the mental image –
 which exists – only as a shadow within our thought,
 and then – we shall be witnesses –
 to the quick dissolution – ***of these – mental images***.

**We do not deny the body**.
**It is real**, **but what we see** – **as body is not body**:
**It is a mental image** – **within our own thought** –
 **a universal** – **mental concept, *individualized*** *–* ***within us*.**

(103) There is no such thing as a material body. There is only a material concept of body. There is no such thing as a material universal: There are only material concepts of the one spiritual universe. As long as we accept a material concept of universe, we are under the laws of matter, but we are free as soon as we begin to understand that we live and move and have our being in the first chapter of Genesis where man is made in the image an likeness of God, or Spirit, and that the Soul of God is the Soul of man, the life of God is the life of man, the mind of God is the mind of man, the body of God is the body of man.

“Know ye not that your body – is the temple of the Holy Ghost” – not the body as it is seen in the mirror, but as it actually is. To understand what body is and what tis universe is, is to arrive at a realization that would bring the solution:

***“I live and move and have my being in God; I am in my Father, and my Father is in me. How can I be finite or limited if an infinite Father is within me? How can a finite, limited being have an infinite God within Him? Therefore, I must be as spiritual as the Father that created me. All being must be spiritual, and into this spiritual creation, nothing finite can enter to limit or create any sense of separation.***

On a cloudy day, the sun seems to be absent when it is merely hidden from our view. Just so, the clouds of human belief and the density of human thought may temporarily hide from us that which is omnipresent, that which is present where I am. And what is it that is present where I am? All that the Father has is omnipresent – integrity, loyalty, fidelity, eternality, immortality, justice, freedom, joy, harmony of every name and nature – unless we finitize it and see it as a piece of baggage, something that occupies time and space.

Nothing occupies time or space but our mental images, and the reason they do is because we accept a yesterday, a today, and a tomorrow. The minute we rise above the mental realm of life, we shall perceive that thre is no such thing as time.

In other words, there is no such thing as an awareness of either time or space in the consciousness of Omnipresence. We are in the mental state of consciousness when we are thinking and reasoning, or when we are beholding anything as person or thing. **It is only in the spiritual realm that we transcend mind.**

People have sought for a way to transcend mind through a process which has been described as stilling the mind, and they have found that such attempts frequently result, not in achieving spiritual consciousness, but in quite the opposite effect, a dulling of consciousness.

There is a way, however, in which we can rise above the mental level of life, although we may not be able to remain there permanently because to do that requires years and years of devotion to this and to nothing else; but we can rise above mind to such a degree that, at least when we are in the world, it will no longer disturb us to any great extent.

(105) A beginning can be made **–** by not attempting to stop our thinking processes.
 If the mind wants to think, we let it, **–** and if necessary, even sit and watch it **–** as it goes through the thinking process.
No matter what thoughts come, they can do us no harm.
They have no power, and there is nothing in them for us to fear.

We let thoughts come and go while we sit and watch as beholders. All we are looking at are shadows that flit across the screen: There is no power in them, nor any substance; there is no law in them, nor any cause **– they are just shadows.**

Some of them may be very sweet, and we may want to cling to them. Some may disturb or frighten us, but they are only thoughts – thoughts and nothing else. They may testify to accident, but no matter how frightening they are, we sit unmoved and watch them come and go:

There is neither good nor evil in what I am beholding: These things are merely pictures, without power. They cannot do anything; they cannot testify to anything; and even if they seem to be good, they are not good because they are only pictures.

True, sometimes these (pictures or shadows) **– represent man-made theories or man-made rules – with man-made punishment – attached to them.** But does that endow them with authority? So let us look at them: This one tesetifies to infection and contagion; and that one to false appetites. The next one is a prophecy of disaster, another one is a fear of lack, and still another is a fear of fear; but the trth is tht these are only names, dterrible names certainly because of their g=tragic connotation, but neverthess only names **– names that Adam gave to something which he did not understand – ONLY IMAGES IN THOUGHT.**

*(106) LET US STOP BEING AFRAID OF NAMES. Even if it is a picture on an x-ray machine* **– WHY SHOULD WE BE AFRAID OF IT? *IT IS STILL* – *ONLY A PICTURE* – *A PICTURE OF* – MIND’S IMAGE. WHEN WE NO LONGER HAVE IT IN MIND – IT IS NO LONGER POSSIBLE TO HAVE A PICTURE OF IT.**

**WE CAN ONLY TAKE IN PICTURES – OF THAT WHICH IS BEING HELD IN MND. If we can see it, hear it, taste it, touch it, or smell it, it is an activity of mind, a mental image, the “arm of flesh” – nothingness. It is a false creation – which God never made.**

All the time we are thinking this, we are still in the mental realm, the realm of knowing the truth: but as we continue this exercise, looking squarely at the picture, we begin to realize that it is a picture without substance or cause. Regardless of how material the condition appears to be, it is not material **– it is a mental image.**

**(107) Regardless of what you seem to be or claim to be, there are no properties of good or evil – inherent in you. All properties are in the Consciousness that made this universe in Its own image and likeness, and NEITHER GOOD NOR EVIL – IS IN FORM OR EFFECT.**

**Whatever your name or nature, if you exist in time or space, you are a – mental image – a nothingness. I do not have to fear you because** **– you have no existence in my or anyone’s being. *You have existence only in mind*, and as a mind-existence, *YOU ARE WITHOUT FORM and VOID. You have no more good or evil in you* – *than the picture on the moving-picture screen – you are just a substanceless shadow.***

When we achieve complete quietness and peace, the mind is no longer functioning, and we have transcended mind and risen into the atmosphere of Spirit, in which we are receptive and responsive to whatever God imparts.

As soon as we become unattached, that is, as soon as we are detached from thought **– from hate, fear, or love of objects or people so that they can float in front of our eyes with the utmost indifference to us – *we are no longer in the realm of mind*: We are then reaching, touching, or being touched by our own Soul, which is God, and we are in an atmosphere where, when God speaks, we can hear Him. When God utters His voice, the earth melts, and all problems dissolve.**

Chapter X

**YE HAVE HEARD IT SAID OF OLD**

(111)  **At any moment of our experience – it makes no difference whether we are nine, nineteen, or ninety – we can begin the return to the Father’s house.**

**But let us not believe** **– that we can return to that Edenic state by continuing to be the same persons we were yesterday – with all our human virtues and failings, vacillating constantly between good and evil.**

**We have to lose both human failings and** **virtues – and –
 *TAKE ON THE MANTLE OF THE CHRIST* –
 *BY RISING ABOVE THE* – *MENTAL CREATION* –
 of the second chapter of Genesis –
 *WHICH HAS CHAINED US* – *TO THE LAW OF GOOD AND EVIL*.**

**“THE LAW WAS GIVEN BY MOSES,
 BUT GRACE AND TRUTH CAME BY CHRIST JESUS.”**

(112) For hundreds of years before Moses **–** the Hebrews had been living in a state of slavery with little or no opportunity to make advances in education, culture, religion, art, or the sciences; and under such circumstances it is not surprising that they were living without any greatly developed moral sense. To these people,
Moses presented a higher way of life, the backbone of which was the Ten Commandments.

Little or no concept of love was embraced in this teaching. It was strictly a teaching of moral and ethical laws.

A moral or ethical sense, high as it may be, however, is only a step on the way to spiritual consciousness. While a person may live in absolute obedience to the Ten Commandments he may still be eons away from the spiritual life because the true spiritual life is a living above the pairs of opposites.

**When Jesus came – he taught a way of life – which was not primarily concerned with changing – the negative sense of life – into the positive, *BUT WITH RISING ABOVE* – *BOTH THE NEGATIVE AND THE POSITIVE* – *INTO THE SPIRITUAL***.

There was no Christianity or Christians. Jesus was a Hebrew rabbi **–** preaching to Hebrews. But now a miracle takes place. This man Jesus received an illumination which gave him an entirely new religious teaching, something which heretofore had been unknown to the Hegbrews. Now he goes far beyond the karmic law of the Old Teastment in his teaching of one power.

As he taught this revelation to the men and women of his day, it made them free of all ritual and dogma, so free that the church would not tolerate the man or his teaching. What else but hatred and fear could they feel from one of their own who turned his back upon some of their long established and most cherished practices, such as the insistence on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem once a year for the purpose of paying tithes as well as the observance of other rituals.

(113) Jesus brought to light the truth that spiritual welfare is in no way related to the rigid observance of any forms but has to do with the state of consciousness developed by the individual. He preached a new dimension of life, a higher consciousness, which required a dying to old beliefs. He made it clear that new wine cannot be added to old bottles, that is, that this new dispensation could not merely be added to the old Hebraic mode of life, but that the old would have to be exchanged for the new because the two were contradictory.

And what is the teaching of this man **– who was undoubtedly the most illumined and spiritually developed of anyone ever known, so illumined that today the world practically revolves around his teachings?**

(113) ***THE WORD – GRACE – WILL REVEAL WHAT IT IS.***
 **“THE LAW WAS GIVEN BY MOSES,
 BUT GRACE AND TRUTH CAME BY CHRIST JESUS.”**

***THIS GRACE AND TRUTH*** ***–*mean something quite different *– from what is meant by the law*.** And so ***–*** for three hundred years ***–*** after Jesus’ ministry ***–***
 there were people traveling up and down the Holy Land,
 crossing over into Rome and Greece,
***teaching and preaching – not the law*** ***–***
 as set forth in the Hebrew faith, ***–*** but a something new,
 a something startling, something different ***–
 called – GRACE AND TRUTH*** ***–*** which gradually came to be known as ***–* THE TEACHING OF CHRISTIANITY**.

The first followers of his teaching were called Jewish Christians because they were Jews who were followers of the Christ. In fact, in those days, only those who were Hebrews could become Christians. But eventually Paul and Peter realized that this Christ-teaching was more than just a different kind of Judaism. It was unique, something separate and distinct of its own, and gradually it came to pass that in order to become a Christian, it was not necessary to be a Hebrew first:

Circumcision was no longer required, and many other time-honored practices were forsaken; the disciples began to preach to the Gentiles and to acknowledge that this teaching of the Christ was universal in its nature, until the day came when even the pagans of Rome and Greece or any man regardless of his background, could, if he would, become a Christian.

(114) So – for several hundred years this was the state of the Christian teaching, and then one of the strangest events that has ever hap;p;ened in the the history of the world took place.

A church was organized that adopted all the rites and rituals of the Egyptians and other pagans of the day, that accepted bodily and literally Judaism as taught in the Old Testament, discarded all the Christian teachng exept the name of its revelator, and then called itself the Christian church.

But what happened to this Christ-teaching when it became thus organized? Did this church practice Jesus’ teaching of “resist not evil,” or did it still cling to the ye-have-heard-it said of old-teaching of an “eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth”?

The God Jesus revealed was of an entirely different nature from that of the Old Testament, and in that part of the Sermon on the Mount which deals with karmic law, Jesus taught that sin is punished by the sin itself, but no reference is made to a God who punishes. It is clearly explained that as we do unto others, it will be done unto us ***–*** not by God, but according to the karmic law of as ye sow, so shall ye reap under which all human beings live.

Our deeds of love are reflected back to us in love, and our evil deeds are brought back to us in evil effects by the very act itself. By our own state of consciousness, we set in motion both the good and the evil “With what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again” ***– not by God, but by the law.***

(115) When we hate, we are invoking the law, and when we love, we are invoking the law; when we give or share, we are invoking the law, just as we are when we hold on to things.
On every hand, nature testifies to thetruth of this law. For example, unless the fruit on the tree is plucked or in some way removed from the tree, the tree will stop bearing. We do not blame God for that ***– God is not punishing the tree. It is a law of nature that the tree must yield up it fruit in order that it may bring forth more fruit. So unless we yield up, surrender, or release good, we become barren because the law is: “Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.”***

What evil we are experiencing ***–*** we are bringing upon ourselves ***– it is not God inflicting it on us.***

If men were taught tht the evil deed itself punished them, they would understand Jesus’ interpretations of karmic law, and then they would be prepared to accept his higher teaching of how to overcome tht law. It is possible to set aside karmic law, wipe out all punishment for our former misdeeds and live under Grace, but this cannot happen to anyone individually or to the world until the karmic law as explained by the Master is first learned and understood.

(116) The deed itself ***–*** carries with its own reward and its own punishment. It does not have to be an overt act, because the act itself is only the outward expression of the thought impelling the act. Therefore, for example, it is not necessary to steal to bring down the punishment of karmic law. It is only necessary to think of stealing, and actually it is not even necessary to think about it. Merely desiring what somebody else has is sufficient to set in motion karmic law. It is not necessary to strike a person ***–*** to become angry with him is enough to bring the law down upon us.

People in grosser states of consciousness do not feel the repercussions of karmic law ***–*** as quickly as those on the spiritual path who suffer more as a result of a minor infraction of the law than others from a major one, because they have a greater awareness of what is right and what is wrong, and the slightest deviation from the way sets the law in operation.

We begin to see that we alone are responsible. There is not a mysterious God somewhere chalking up our errors against us, but we, ourselves, determine the issues of life by understanding that we have set in motion the good and the evil that befall us.

Very quickly we learn what Paul discovered ***–*** that there are two of us. Each one of us is a dual person, one the creature who Is not under the law of God, and the other, the son of God who has the Spirit of God dwelling in him: “For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.”

There seem to be two of us, the one warring with the other ***–*** one who knows the right and the other who is struggling against it, one who wants to be the perfected man and the other who through limitation of one sort or another cannot achieve it.

(117) When we come to the place of realizing that there is a son of God in us, but that the prodigal son of man is still struggling for survival, we begin to understand the warfare between the flesh and the Spirit. The prodigal, or Adamic man, out in the world using up his substance and finally sinking to the depths of degradation as symbolized by his eating with the swine, was none other than the son and heir who later wore the purple robe and jeweled ring. They were not two different men, but the selfsame man in two different states of consciousness.

***AS SOON AS WE CAN BEGIN TO ACCEPT THE PRINCIPLE THAT THERE IS NEITHER GOOD NOR EVIL IN PERSON, THING, OR CONDITION, – that is – in any effect or appearance, IN THAT MOMENT – THE INNER YEILDING BEGINS – WHICH LEADS TO THE LIFE – BY GRACE – because we are no longer – in conflict with, or in opposition to – any person or thing. There is always the choice of accepting one way or the other, and the choice as to which way we accept – is ours.***

There is within every one of us ***–*** the kingdom of God. There is within every one of us a capacity for living on earth without fighting, hating, or envying. But this we cannot do as human beings, and that is why we are told by our friends that this is a very impractical way of life ***– beautiful, of course, but very impractical.***

(118) The Sermon on the Mount is a way of life ***–*** that is impossible for us as human beings to attain, unless we have contacted the divine faculties within us and are living through the Soul rather than through the body and mind. Then as we begin to accept the responsibility of loving our neighbor as ourselves and loving God supremely, acknowledging in true humility that of our own selves we can do nothing ***–*** that we cannot even be good because there is but one good, the Father, and nothing else is either good or evil ***– we are on the mystical path, the path of conscious communion with God.***

In the Sermon on the Mount, which is the greatest message ever given to the world, two diametrically opposite ways of life are presented. Here is the ye-have-heard it-said-of old way, the way the world is now living, and here too is the but-I-say-unto-you way, the new dispensation of living by divine Grace.

“I say unto you” ***– is a complete assurance that God is the creative, maintaining, and sustaining principle.*** It is the mystical way of life in which we are not the actor, the doer, or the be-er, but in which there is a transcendental Presence and Power which the Master called the Father within.

We live under the law and are in the ye-have-heard-it-said-of-old or the prodigal experience as long we are in the mind-creation of the second chapter of Genesis. When we return to our original state of pure being, we no longer live under karmic law but under Grace ***–*** under the “I say unto you” *– of the Sermon on the Mount.*

**RESIST NOT**Chapter XI

**And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat,
 *let him have thy cloak also*. Matthew 5:40**

(131) **TO LIVE – *THE SPIRITUAL LIFE*** –
 **means to live – *ABOVE – THE HUMAN SENSE OF LIFE*,**
 to live – without recourse to human modes and means,
 ***THAT IS*** – ***TO LIVE – BY THE CHRIST.***
It means – *never return evil for evil* – never to pray or hope or wish –
or desire that another suffer for his offense – even his offense to us –
 never to desire to recoup our losses,
 which is the human way of life – and, under our laws, legal.

***BUT LEGAL OR NOT*, *THIS IS NOT THE WAY OF THE CHRIST*.**
True, if someone defrauds us, it is considered legitimate,
 proper, and righ to sue him, but such procedure is not spiritual.

*(132) At first thought, such a teaching might seem to mean that we are to let anybody, and everybody walk all over us, defraud, and take from us all that we have while we are just the sweet gentle things that permit ourselves to be walked on.*

*But Jesus the Christ never meant that. What he meant was that we should not retaliate humanly, but he did not say what would happen spiritually if his advice were followed. He does not say a single word about what God will do for us when we stop doing for ourselves.*

*He does not explain how the problem will ge worked out without invoking the law of “an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.”*

*The implication, however, is that a spiritual Presence comes to our rescue to lift us up above injustice and dishonesty. Is it possible for anyone to defraud us if we stand on our spiritual identity as the child of God?*

*(132) When the soldiers came to seize the Master in the Garden and the sword was drawn in his defense, Jesus refused to permit his disciples to defend him, saying.*

*“Put up again thy sword into his place for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword.” To material sense, that would seem as if he were giving them carte glance to drag him away and do whatever they wanted to do with him.*

*But he was not doing that at all. Instead, he was realizing, “I have an Infinite Invisible upon which I rely. I have a divine Something that knoweth my need before I do, and I it is Its good pleasure to give me the kingdom.” In that complete reliance he rested.*

*(133) “Resist not evil”* – sounds like the most foolish and impractical of human teachings, yet it is the wisest and most practical of spiritual priinciples.

As long as we resist evil, we are not living under Grace but under the law; and the very knife that we throw at another will boomerang to pierce us in the chest, all in a blinding flash and out of nowhere. There is no way for Grace to descend upon us if we are indulging the human way of life.

*The Master reveals the basic karmic law of as ye sow, so shall ye reap, but he also makes plain the one sure and certain way to rise above the law of cause and effect, and that is not to set in motion a cause* – to do nothing, think nothing, and be nothing of ourselves.

For example, if we pray with some object or purpose in mind,
we are likely to produce an effect in accordance with the cause which we set up. But if we were to pray without an object, solely for the realization of God, then we would not have set up a cause, and there could be no effect. There would only be God Itself appearing as the harmony of our existence.

*So it is that if we do not take up the weapons of defense in our behalf, we cannot be injured by those weapons. If we do not mete out justice according to human standards, then human justice cannot come back at us.*

*Whatever it is that we bind, that is what is bound to us; whatever we loose, that is what is loosed. We are the ones who determine that, and when we relinquish the thoughts and things of this world and live in a continuous desire to know God aright, leaving all other considerations aside, then when God is realized, God appears in our experience as a perfected life.*

*We cannot fear something that has no more power for good or for evil than has a aglass of pure water.*

*We not only f=cannot fear a glass of water* – we cannot even love it.
We can enjoy and benefit by it, but there is nobody yet who has ever dallen in love with a glaas of water or hated it or feared it. We just take it as it is, for what it is – a glass of water.

The Master had that same attitude toward leprosy: He did not hate it and he did not fear it, and he certainly did not love it. He went up and toched it, showing by that action that he had risen above the belief of good and evil. For him, it had no power.

**(135) “Individually, we develop the state of consciousness** –
 ***that lives*** – ***WITHOUT USING POWER*** – and which –
 finally brings our world – into the orbit of – **NO POWER** –
 by understanding – **that** – ***NOTHING THAT EXISTS*** –
 as person, place, thing, circumstance, or condition –
 **is imbued with** – ***THE POWER*** – **for good or for evil**.

**There is** – ***NO POWER*** – ***FOR GOOD OR FOR EVIL*,
 BECAUSE THERE IS** – **NO POWER**.

***NOTHING IS*** – ***power***, and – ***NOBODY IS*** – ***power***:
***GOD ALONE*** – is a –
 ***creative***, ***maintaining***, and – ***sustaining power*** –
 **which operates – without any help from us.**

***GOD ALONE*** – ***IS POWER***, ***and we are*** – ***THE INSTRUMENTS*** –
***THROUGH WHICH***, – and – **AS WHICH,** – ***IT FLOWS***;
***BUT GOD ALONE*** – ***IS* and always remains,** ***THE ONLY POWER***.

The Master understood this clearly – when he said, –
**“Why callest thou me good?** …
***I CAN OF MINE OWN SELF*** – ***DO NOTHING*** …
***THE FATHER*** – ***that dwelleth in me*,** – ***HE DOETH THE WORKS*.”**

***SO IT IS WITH US***. ***POWER*** – ***is not really given to us***,
**BUT** – **IF WE COME TO** – **A STATE OF MIND –
 *IN WHICH*** –  **WE DO NOT RESIST** – **THE SEEMING ERROR –
 by** – ***denying*, *fighting*, or** – ***trying to destroy it*,
 *we too shall witness the wondrous things* –
 *WHICH THE FATHER WITHIN*** – ***PERFORMS*.**

***A CONSCIOUSNESS*** – ***MUST BE BUILT*** –
 **in which the response –**
***TO ANY PROBLEM*** – ***THAT IS PRESENTED TO US* –** ***IS*,**
**“*LOOK*, *HERE IT IS*** *–* ***IN MY MIND.* *I AM LOOKING AT IT*;**
***IT ISN’T BENEFITING ME.*** *–* ***IT ISN’T HURTING ME*.
 *IT IS A SHADOW*.**

**I know the world has said that –
 this thing – is a power** – that it can kill, destroy, or weaken,
 ***but i say*** – ***IT IS A SHADOW*** – **because** –
 **in a God-created world, *IT CANNOT BE* – *A POWER* –
 *AND I DO NOT EVEN NEED* –** ***A POWER***,
 ***TO DESTROY IT* –** ***OR OVERCOME IT* –** ***OR REMOVE IT*.”**  p135

*(136)*

Chapter XV

**FORGIVENESS**

(156) Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar,
 and there remember that thy brother hath ought against thee; Leave thy gift before the altar, and go thy way;
first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift….
**But if ye forgive not men their trespasses,
 neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.**
 Matthew 5:23,24

**(158) To his brethren – after they had –
 thrown him into the pit – and sold him into slavery,
Joseph said, “It was not you that sent me here, but God.”**

***HE DID NOT HOLD THEM*** – ***IN BONDAGE TO THEIR ACT*,**
**but gave them food to carry home, returning good for evil**.

One of the most important lessons for all of us to learn –
 is that there is no room – in the spiritual life –
 for the return of evil for evil —
 **there is no room for anything – but a life of forgiveness.**

**From the moment of waking in the morning –
 until going to sleep at night,
 *THERE MUST BE PERIODS IN THE DAY* –
 *IN WHICH WE CONSCIOUSLY REMEMBER*:**

***I FORGIVE*. If I have aught against any man, woman, or child,
 here and now I forgive – completely, perfectly, entirely.**
If any one’s misdeeds persist in coming back to my memory,
 over and over again I will forgive.
I seek no punishment for anyone; I seek no revenge;
 I seek no justice – I loose everyone and let him go.
Father, forgive me my trespasses – as I forgive those –
 who trespass against me. Father, open the eyes of the blind.
Father, open the eyes of the enemy,
 whether they are of my household or another’s.

**There is not any one of us – who has not committed offenses.**
We may not have considered a particular offense –
 of much significance in our human life, **but in the spiritual life –
 things that heretofore have seemed of minor importance –
 take on major significance**.

***THERE IS A SECRET*** – ***ABOUT FORGIVENESS:*** (159)
***THERE IS NOT ANYTHING OR ANYBODY*** –
 ***THAT CAN FORGIVE US***.
**Therefore, there is not any possibility –
 of our ever being forgiven** – **except under one condition**,
 **and that is when – there is no possibility –
 of the offense being repeated.**

**In other words, no matter what the offense may have been,
 AS LONG AS THERE IS** – **THE POTENTIALITY WITHIN US –
*OF ITS BEING REPEATED*, *WE ARE NOT WHOLLY FORGIVEN*.**

Just let us suppose for a moment – that we could –
 carry on a conversation with God about our faults.
We confess our fault – and we seek forgiveness,
 and to all this God says,
**What? Forgiveness** – **to do it all over again?”**“Oh no God, it will never happen again. It could not happen again.
 **I’ve realized the wrongness of it.
At the moment, we actually believe that**,
 but – let us not forget that God, being God,
 sees right through to the center of our heart –
 **and knows that the same thing that made us guilty –
 of this act once – could make us do it again –
 if similar circumstances arose.**

**And so in His omniscience, God says, “ah, its still there**.
**There is still a block within you, –
 and you will continue to be under the penalty of it –
 until you are completely purged of it.”**

**And so – we go our way** – ***and ponder this response from God***.
We meditate and look at the situation upside down –
 and from every angle, – until all of a sudden –
 we do catch a clear picture – not only of the wrongness –
 of what has been done – but of the truth – that –
 **only the state of consciousness –
 that made us commit this offense in the first place –
 could make us do it a second time**.

**And – if we find – *that state of consciousness*** –
 ***DOES NOT EXIST ANYMORE,* – *WE HAVE THEN “DIED”* –
 *and have been reborn of the Spirit*.**

**Then – we can go back again – and ask for forgiveness.
“This time, – God says,
 “I don’t even know who you are any more.**  **I don’t see anything wrong in you – to forgive.”**

**That is the true idea of forgiveness**.
***THERE REALLY IS*** – ***NO GOD TO FORGIVE.***

**When – the state of consciousness** –
 that could be guilty of resentment, anger, jealousy, malice –
 **or whatever it may have been – “dies”** –
 **there not only is – nothing to forgive, and nobody to forgive**,
 **there is not even a remembrance or a memory —
 not even a “smell of smoke.”**

**We are never held in bondage – to anything –
 *once we have recognized it as error* – *and have forsaken it*.**
**Every time that we come to a place –
 of inner grief** – ***over our errors*, *WE ARE FORGIVEN*.**

**That ends the episode,
 but** – ***IT CARRIES WITH IT THE COMMAND*,
 “Sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee.”**

**There is really no such thing –
 as one person forgiving another, or God forgiving us**:

***THERE IS ONLY A* – “DYING DAILY” –
 *TO THE STATE OF CONSCIOUSNESS*** –
***THAT ACCEPTED GOOD AND EVIL* –
 *AND ACTED FROM THAT PREMISE*;**

**AND WHEN** – ***THAT OLD CONSCIOUSNESS*** –
***HAS BEEN PURGED*** – **OR IS THOROUGHLY “DEAD”** –
**WE COME TO A PLACE – OF SELF – COMPLETENESS IN GOD**, **WHERE WE KNOW, – “I AND THE FATHER ARE ONE,
 AND ALL THAT THE FATHER HAS IS MINE.”**

When we are fully and completely aware – that – (161)
 “I and my Father are one” –
 **and *WHEN WE NO LONGER*** – ***HAVE ANY DESIRE* –
 for person, place, thing, circumstance, or condition,
 *WE ARE RE-BORN OF THE SPIRIT*;**

***WE ARE PURGED* – *because into that state of consciousness* –**
***we carry with us* – *none of the desires* – *that could result in sin*.**

**For God to forgive us: *It took a dying and a rebirthing*,
AND IN THIS – *NEW STATE OF CONSCIOUSNESS* –
 *WE NEED NO FORGIVING*, because there is no sin.**

**A heart** – ***THAT IS ENTERTAINING ANY JUDGEMENT*** –
 **of his fellow man – is not a heart at peace.**

**It is futile to seek for peace of mind or soul –
or peace of anything else –
until we have fulfilled that Christly message – of forgiving – seventy times seven – all those who offend us,
or forgiving debtors as we would have our debts forgiven**.

 **We store up within ourselves** – (162)
 ***THE BARRIERS* – *THAT PREVENT THE KINGDOM OF GOD* –
 from being established in us** –
 **BY OUR JUDGMENTS OF PEOPLE** –
 **and conditions, and by the desires –**
 ***THAT STILL REMAIN IN US*** —
 **not merely the sensual desires – but even the desires –
 that are considered good.**

**All of those things** – **operate in our minds –
 *TO SEPARATE US FROM THE REALIZATION* – THAT –
 *that which we are seeking* – *WE ALREADY ARE*.**  p162

**Forgiveness – is – LETTING GO OF – “THE PAST”.**

**How do you let go of the past – and what is – “THE PAST”?**

**THE PAST - is preserved thoughts, feelings, beliefs and mess,
 and has it’s** – **perceived reality or perceived life –
 *ONLY IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS* -
 *ABOUT IT* – IN THE PRESENT;
 In substance, CREATING –
 an oxymoron – or – AN ILLUSION – (or leprosy).**

P 162 In other words, – ***GOD’S GRACE*** –
 **IS NOT** – ***SOMETHING*** – ***WE ARE GOING TO ATTAIN***;
***GOD’S GRACE*** – ***WAS PLANTED IN US* –
*FROM THE BEGINNING*,** – ***SINCE BEFORE ABRAHAM WAS***;
**and it is only waiting** – **to function in us, but it cannot function –
while we are entertaining – a sense of separation from our good.**

There never is going to be a chance for us to know harmony –
 **until we have completely forgiven – and – been forgiven,**
 ***and so purged ourselves*** – **that we go to the altar purified**.

Father, I come to You with clean hands, holding no one in bondage –
 to a duty, – nor anyone in bondage – as a penalty for his sins.

As far as I am concerned, Father, I am willing for You to forgive him.
Whatever the sin, it is past, and let it be done and forgotten; and –
if he does it seventy times over again, forgive him seventy times over.

I want no revenge and no vengeance.
**I seek only to keep myself a pure instrument –
for Your love and Your grace – so as to be worthy in Your sight.**

*I forgive everyone who has ever trespassed against me,
consciously or unconsciously. I pray that You, Father, forgive them.*

*Humanly, there are those who owe me debts of duty – and of love.
 I forgive them also.
Henceforth, no one owes me anything, –
 not even the obligation of relationship.
What they give out of love, I cheerfully receive,
but as a matter of duty – I expect nothing, and I expect it of no one.
 I release my friends and my relatives, and everyone.”****They owe me nothing. It is my privilege and joy –
 to serve them in whatever way*** *–* ***You direct.
 I offer myself*** *–* ***an empty instrument. Use me.*** *p163*

Chapter XVI

**THAT YE MAY BE
THE CHILDREN OF YOUR FATHER**

(164)  **According to the Master, we are to “call no man”** –
 **our father upon the earth:
 for one is our Father which is in heaven.”**

***Therefore, no one has an*** –
American, British, or Russian father; a white, black, or yellow father;
 an occidental or oriental father:
***There is but one Father*** – ***the Father in heaven*** –
 **who is the creative and governing principle –
 of each one of us – and of all that is.**

(165**) If we go to the altar to pray, knowing in our hearts –
 that we have not –
 accepted all men as sons of the one Father –
 and therefore brothers,**
 **we might as well stop praying for ourselves,
 get up from the altar,** sit down quietly,
 and decide within ourselves that –
 ***BEFORE WE CAN HOPE TO REACH GOD,*
 *WE MUST BECOME RECONCILED WITH OUR BROTHER*.**

This not a world made up of separate people and things. Instead, it is like the finers that rise up from the palm of the hand, which are apparently separate, but nevertheless an integral part of the hand. Whatever takes place in the palm flows up into the fingers.

Or it may be likened to the Hawiaiian Islandds. From the air, they appear to ge six or e=seven islands, each one separate and apart fom the other, but if we were ablef to go down deep enough in the a=water, we would find that the Hawaiian Islands are reallyu one piecde of land – just one island with six or seven upward projections, all one and united in that oneness.

(166) And so it is that if we could see beneath the surface and look into the heart of all mankind, there is no doubt but that we would find that we are all united in the common ground of God. There is one dcommon Ground and that Ground is God. Each one of us is merely a projection, or individualization, of that One, and when we penertrate beneath the surface of the outer life, we soon discover that we are not alone, but that we have a contact with the Souyrce of infinity: We are one with It, and It is flowing out as our individual experience.

It is easy to know this truth about ourselves; it is pleasant and satisfying to think thus about our friends and family; but it is far more important for our own spiritual growth to be able to go beyond seeing only the true identity of those we love and admire and begin to realize that this is also true of those we like least.

Regardless of his origin or station in life, God is the creative principle of every man, and all that the FAher has and is, is his.

God constitutes individual being, and when we are in the presence of those who understand that, w are at peace, and can live, work, and e joyuous in that atmosphere.

As we inwardly release everyone from human obligations, holding him only in this united relationship of love each one feels his freedom an din that freedom gifing becomes a joy because it is not expected or demanded of him or held to be an obligation.

Until a person has had such an experience, he cannot know what love there is between people who have tasted God, nor can he even begin to comprehend how free such a relationship is. On the human level, love of family is for the most part not real love at all, but merely self-love, the desire to possess.

Only when the Spirit of God touches one, can hefeel spiritual love, ;and then that love is not limited merely tohisown family, but extends to his neighbor and enemy far and near. Human love usually is a completely personal and selfishlove, with time, money, an deffort for its own, but rarely for others.

When the Spiriti of God touches one, however, love of a universal nature springs up which is a love ithout an object – unless the whole world can be considered its object. Surrisingly enough, this universal love deepens and stegthns the love a pearson feels for his immediate family; it is a love so complete thatech memger of the family has a feeling of belonging and yet is separate in the sense that each one is a unit with God.

Can human families live that way/ Very, very seldom.

They live in a constant fear of and for one another, a longing and a desire to see and be in close proximity to one another. That does not exist in spiritual lofve, and yet in that spiritual love, there is always thejoy of tavbernacling together.

All mortals whether good or bad eventually must “:die” to the belief ofmortality and waken to the realization of their true identity. Knowing the truth does not imply a knowing of thetruth abouthumna beings or about any condition that ismoratl. There is no such truth. Knowing the truth means knowing th truth about God and God’s creation, and this knowing of the truth awakens man and lifdts him abgove and out of his mortality.

Everyone has a Soul – not a separate Soul, but the same Gsoul – and God is that Soul. It is like a tightly closed rose-bud – so tight and so small as to be imperceptible to a hjuman being. This Soul is not the bodyL IT is consciousness, and the more it an be touched by Truth the more it unfolds as if sunlight were treaching out and opening that bud.

Only as we learn to live more and more in the Spirit , do we see and sometimes touch tha center which is the Soul of man. We do not see the real person when we look at him as a physical entity:L WE see only his body.

In order to see anyone correctly, we must develop the habit of looking into his eyes, and then, if we are able to penetrate the depths that lie way, way back of his eyes, we shall see the person in his true identiy,k behold the reality of his being and s=discover tht names are but;masks for characters in God-consciousness, Go-conscoiusness. Itself produced as form. Behind the mask alled Bill, James, or Joseph, there is but the one name, G-o-d

(168) 3. When sufficient wisdom is gained to know that our Soul and th Soul of h=those we mmet are the one and only Soul, a spiritual relationship ofharmony, peace, and grace is establishe, and then the relatinshops in our lives are not only permanent, but mutually benefiial; whereas, as long as we look to one another humanlyj, wh shall be disappointed.

Only in the realization that God is the Soul oof man, and that the Soul of man is the source of his good, can freedom from bondage f=to the material way of life and the material things of life be attained.

When someone comes to me for help, I am not aware of this human identity. I recognize, of course, that here is a personl but the only person I see is a person ithout qualities ofhis own, a person whose qualities ae God-qualites whether or not at the present moment he is bringing them through into manifestation.

In my work in penal institutions, I lanred never to look upon the men who were incard=cerated in the prs=ison as thieves, murderers, or crifminals of favrying degrees. To me, they swere not prisoners guilty of crimes. They were men, and I did not reach back into their human history any more than I reach back into the hue humanhistoery of the studens=ts who come tome.

I knew what constituted these men, just as I know, sometimes better than myown students themselves know, what constitutes them, because thye are still somewhat immersed in thieri human identiy which they thik is composed parly of good, partl of bad, and patly o findfireerent wqualities.

But that is not they at all: That is a person which they have fashioned in their minds, a person molded by certain perenatal experiences, the environment of the o=early years of home life, childhood, and school days, and then ltera by personal expreinces out in the world. All these influences have formed not a person, but a cartiature of the person

And so with us. We all have human traits – some good, some badd, some indifferent, some we admire in each other, and som ewe dislike. But h=that isnot you or i. That is the mask that we have built up since birth; that is our presentation of ourselves to the world; that is the part we are playing for one reason or another.

(170) But if we could lay that aside, if there were such a thing as a curtain call and we could go to our dressing room and remove all the make-up, we would see ourselfves as possiessing only the qualities of God with no qualities of our own – no good qualities for which we should epect praise and no evil qualities for which we are to be condemwened.

As human beings, we are not spiritual and we are not perfect, despite what we may have been taught in metaphysics. As human beings, we are none of those things:L We are people: You are a person, and I am a person, but back of the mask is God, constituting the person that you and I are.

Let us be carerful not to endow anyone with qualities of good. No one is spr=iritual; no one is perfecdt; ;no one is good:

He is a person – a man, woman or child, ut what he or she really is is all that God is.

So instead of using the words “he”, “she,” or “you,” we go back to the word God and see what it is tht God is, and then realize that that is what the person is – God, the invisible, appearing outwaredly as God, the visigle; God, the Father, and God the Son – one.

Every person wears a mask – hiding his true identity. In fact, personal is the Latin word for mask; but when we remove thatmask of human personality, we discover that whatever Godis, the person is.

The humanpersonality with its good and bad, beautiful and ugly, rich and poor, up and down, hifh and low disappears in therealizatin:

“Here is indi=vidual being, God expressing Its perfedction and dharmony.”

The mere fact that we h=may be thus lokking at a person and the r=next minute he may steal our walallt=et does not change the truth of his identity, bbut merely proves that he has not uyet come into the w=awareness of his true identiy.

(171) God is the Soul of the individual; God is his mkind and intelligence. It is God that is pouiring Itself through into expression as infvidual being. Is there anything in all the world more desired by the human soul than this rcognition of his ral Self?

At first thought, we might feel that this is being too impersonal, but it is not that at all. It is really being truthful because in practicing this principle, we are beholding people as they really are. WhenPeter was able to say, “Thjou are the Christ, the So of ht living God,” dsit was because he was able to look through thehuman appearancea and see what it was that animated Jesus and made him a savior and a we=world leader. The outer signs indicated that Jesus was a carpenter, and a rabbi in the Hebrew suynagogue, but because of jhis spiritual discernment, Peter was able to see through that appreance and recon=gnize that it was the Christ that was rally functioning as theman Jesus.

If we see the Master in thatlight, but stop there, we lose our demonsttratin, because it is not only Jesis who was activated by the Christ:L It is you and I as well. In fact, thre is not a person in the world of whom it canoot be said, “God, the Father; God, th Son; God, the Holy Ghost.”

There is no one who in his spiritual identity is not the child of God, although in the human scene that is far from evident. The human ebeing living his everyday life, is the man of flesh who s=is not under Gods government and who cannot please God, and that is why he is d=confused, perplexed, frustrated, diseasssed, and often poverty-stricken. Not so the children of God:

They are not tangled up in the world;s trobles – the children of God ar free.

The children of God sre those who a=have renounced alljudgments of good and evil and ar convinced in their own minds of the truth about every appearance.:

“This is neither good nor evil: This is a flower a painting a rug. It is not good or evil because God alone is good, and evil is but the hypnotism of this wsorld.”

When anyone is able to do this, he has made the transition from being the man of earth to being the child of God.

(172) Undobtedly, there are men and women who are not to our liking, an dyet in some moment oftranstion or conversion their pst is siped out and suddenly they are become new.

They look the same; they have the same eyes, ears, nose, and mouth, the same legs and the same body; and often we ae not aware that anything unusual has happened to them because the change is an inner change, and it has come about as a transformation of conscounsess.

Transformation takes place, not by being transported to some kind of an etheric body, but by a change of consciousness which recognizes: “I am a person, and since God is the creative prinicile of my being, all that God is, I am – all that the Father has is mind.”

To be transformed from the man of earth to theman o =f Christ jis not a matter of another world: This is God’s unievese;; right here and now is the Garden of Eden. There could never be a better place than this veery world if so be we can withdraw our judgments – our praise and condemnation – of good and evil.

Thisis the world that every visionary has dreamed of attaining, but nobody can attain the Edenic stae while heis hypnotized by the knowledge of good and evil. This can come only as the fruitage of relinquishing not only alljudgemnt or condemnation, but een all praise.

(172) 4. When we are no longer under the hypnotic influence of the pairs of opposities, the world has no power to enslave us. This world is overcome in propor;tion to our giving up the belief in good and evil, but actually thereis no change in the world itself. It appears to be the same:

The great difference is that we do not see it the old way any more. For us, there is a different light on it,; we nowhave a different perspecftive, a different outlook.

Thepeople are the same – the same clerks in the stores, the same husband, wife, or child – and yet the whole vision changes the moment we perceive the divine nature of the Soul of man. The transformation has taken place in us.

(173) 2. When we remove world hypnotism or the belief in two powers from ourselves or any individual, w arwe fdee.

Thenf in that day we shall have a new name written on our forehead – a three letter word which can ge divided into two words to read, “I Am” - not

**YOUR FATHER KNOWETH**

**Chapter XVII**

**(176) There is a way of living, not by might, nor by power,
 but by – the** ***GRACE OF GOD.*** **However,
when we decide what it is we want – and how we want it, *when* – *we seek to educate God* – *and tell Him how He should operate*, *WE SET OURSELVES UP –
 AS POSSESSING GREATER WISDOM*** *–* ***AND INTELLIGENCE THAN GOD, AND THEREBY*** *–* ***BLOCK THE FLOW***– **OF GOD’S GRACE*.***

***IF WE UNDERSTAND*** – ***THE NATURE OF GOD.***
***WE WILL NEVER*** –
 ***REMIND GOD OF ANYTHING THAT CONCERNS US*** –
 or our affairs, and we shall never be tempted **–** to usurp –
 the prerogatives of the all-knowing Intelligence and Love –
 **which “knoweth that we have need of all these things.”**

Is asking God for things –
an indication that we understand God to be Intelligence and Love,
 or do not such requests imply –
 that we believe God is withholding something from us?

Can we really be concerned – about food, clothing,
 or anything in this world – when we have the direct assurance – that our heavenly Father knows that we have need of all these things? Did not Jesus instruct us to take not thought for our life,
for what we should eat or what we should drink,
 nor yet for our body, what we should put on?

(177) ***THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS*** – ***GOD – AND***.
It is for that reason – that the only demonstration there is for us to make – is the demonstration of God’s presence.
In demonstrating God’s presence, we demonstrate life eternal, an infinity of supply, brotherhood, peace, joy, protection, and safety. In His presence there is fullness of life — nothing is absent.

When we have God’s presence, we have God appearing as good, as clothing, housing.

But there is one requirement: to have His presence – not meaningless affirmations or the mouthing’s of the deep truths of Scripture, but His presence.

(177) ***WHERE GOD IS, FULFILLMENT IS,*** **and through the –
 *REALIZATION OF OMNIPRESENCE*,**
 ***ALL THINGS* – *ALREADY EXIST***.

God is forever functioning – to maintain and sustain –
the infinite and the eternal nature of this universe – ***appearing – as***. ***GOD APPEARS – AS*** – **the daily manna:**
 ***I AM*** – the bread of life –
 ***NOT*** – I will have – or should have – or will demonstrate it, –
***BUT I AM IT***; ***AND THIS – I WITHIN*** –
 **appears on our table** – **as daily bread.**

**It appears outwardly** – as transportation or clothing.
***In the beginning***, before time began, **God gave His Self to us,
 and in that giving, – infinity** – **was bestowed upon us.**

**It must be admitted – however –
THAT BECAUSE OF HIS** – **MATERIAL SENSE OF EXISTENCE,
*man has erroneously accepted the belief* –
that he must go out and earn his living by the sweat of his brow,
he must draw it to himself, labor for it, and compete with others.**

**In other words, *HE IS A MATERIALIST*** –
 a person who wants to get something,
 who wants to add to himself, achieve, or acquire.

On the contrary, the person – devoted to the spiritual way of life –
has little or no interest in accumulating things,
whether those things are fame or fortune,
because he knows that all that the Father has is already his.

(178) **God has** – ***FULFILLED HIS OWN BEING* –
 *AS OUR INDIVIDUAL BEING*** – **on earth**.
***GOD IS SPIRIT***, and when our prayer and our concern –
 ***are for spiritual realization***,
 **we leave the material concept of the world – alone –**
 and begin to understand – *that the world of Spirit* –
 is a different world, a new world –
***IN WHICH*** – ***GOD’S GRACE*** – ***IS OUR SUFFICIENCY*** –
 ***IN ALL THINGS*.**

(178) ***HOW SHALL WE SPEAK OF GRACE?
It has been called*** – ***THE GIFT OF GOD.
BUT GOD HAS*** – **ONLY ONE GIFT – *THE GIFT OF HIMSELF*.**

***WITH OUR HUMAN WISDOM,
 WE CANNOT KNOW*** – ***WHAT GOD’S GRACE IS,***
 and as long as we try to turn and twist it –
 into human language and human meanings,
 **we will never be able to understand –
 *GOD’S UNADULTERATED*** *–* ***SPIRITUAL GRACE****.*

***GOD’S GRACE*** – ***UNFOLDS IN WAYS THAT WE KNOW NOT OF*,**
 ***in un-thought of directions*** –
 ***and in forms*** – ***that we never knew were on earth*** – or,
 **if we did know about them, or – never dreamed that** –
 ***they would ever become a part of our experience***.

***IN EACH CASE*** – ***GOD’S GRACE*** –
 ***IS – AN INDIVIDUAL UNFOLDMENT.***

***It will not appear to a person in the form of roses*** –
 ***if he does not like roses*** –
*nor will it appear to a person as a ticket around the world* –
 *if he would find greater fulfillment* –
 *in a little cottage by the sea or up in the mountains*.

***GOD’S GRACE*** – ***flows* – AS SPIRITUAL ACTIVITY,**
 ***but it governs our human affairs* –
 in ways that we could not possibly** – ***OUTLINE OR PICTURE.***

***As we ponder*** – ***this subject of Grace***,
***THERE DEVELOPS WITHIN US* – *A SENSE OF INDEPENDENCE* –
 *of the thoughts and things of this world*.**

**We begin to feel** – that if there were not a person in our life –
 ***to bring anything to us***, ***NEVERTHELESS, BY MORNING*** –
 ***EVERYTHING NEEDFUL WOULD BE PROVIDED*** –
***AND THIS* –
 *THROUGH THE CONTEMPLATION OF GOD’S GRACE*.**

***IF WE ATTAIN – THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF GOD,
 we discover*** – ***that – THERE IS NOTHING BUT GOD –
GOD*** – ***APPEARING AS*** – ***the food on our table,
GOD*** – ***APPEARING AS*** – ***the clothing on our backs,
GOD*** – ***APPEARING AS*** – ***harmonious relationships.
GOD*** – ***APPEARING AS*** – ***THE PERFECT FUNCTIONING*** –
 ***OF OUR MINDS AND BODIES***.

***FIGHTING AND BATTLING DO NOT BRING THIS TO PASS.***
 ***All that is necessary to bring this into experience*** –
 ***IS FOR US TO – PUT UP THE SWORD***,
 ***TO STAND STILL*** –  ***an see the salvation of the Lord***.

(179) **THERE IS NO HIGHER GOAL ATTAINABLE ON EARTH –
THAN AN INNER COMMUNICATION WITH THIS PRESENCE –
 THAT NEVER LEAVES US NOR FORSAKES US.**

***IT DOES NOT – SEND*** – us food, clothing, or housing.
 ***IT IS*** – ***food, clothing, and housing***.
***IT DOES NOT – LEAD US TO* –** **a fortress or a high tower**;
***IT LITERALLY IS* – the fortress and high tower**.
**THERE IS – NO SENDING – of anything,
*THERE IS NO*** *–* ***GIVING*** – **of anything,
 *EXCEPT THE GIVING*** – ***OF ITSELF***.

***WHEN THE*** *–****REALIZATION*** – ***OF THE OMNIPRESENCE OF GOD IS ATTAINED,*** **there is freedom from worry, fear, lack, and limitation**.
***IF A NEED APPEARS***, ***WE RETIRE WITHIN*** –
 ***and tabernacle with this Presence***, ***AND IN DUE TIME***,
***IT WILL APPEAR OUTWARDLY*** – ***AS THE VERY FORM*** –
 ***NECESSARY TO OUR EXPERIENCE***.

**As we come to this** – ***place in consciousness* –
 where we are able to – *RELINQUISH*** –
human might and power, and human opinion and judgment,
***A DIVINE GRACE*, *INVISIBLE*, *YET PERFECTLY TANGIBLE*** –
 ***TO THE PERSON EXPERIENCING IT*, *TAKES OVER*.**

**We cannot** – ***see*** – ***THIS TRANSCENDENTAL SPIRIT*,
 *hear It*, *taste It*, *touch It*, or *smell It*,
 *YET IT IS* – *HERE*** – ***AND IT IS NOW* …
 *WE FEEL IT, AND WE KNOW IT*.**

***WHEN WE LET GO OF OUR HUMAN RIGHTS*** –
***OR HUMAN WILL OR DESIRES* – *EVEN THE GOOD DESIRES* –
 *AND ABSOLUTELY RESIGN OURSELVES*** – ***TO GOD’S WILL*,**
 ***IT RUSHES IN*** – ***AS IF THERE WERE A VACUUM*:**

***AND WHEN IT TAKES OVER,***
 we can feel Its every movement – *coursing throughout our body*,
 *right through the muscles and veins down to the nails*.

**We are one with the rhythm of the universe, and all is well.**

***ALL THAT THE FATHER HAS –
IS NOW FLOWING THROUGH US – OUT INTO THIS WORLD –
AS A DIVINE GRACE:
BRINGING TO US – ALL THAT IS OURS –
AND BRINGING US TO – ALL THOSE TO WHOM WE BELONG.***

(180) So, we learn – that we need to take no thought –
 for the things of this world; we need not fight –
 either aggressively or protectively.

***WE CAN*** – ***STAND STILL*** – ***AND THINK NO THOUGHTS*** –
 **JUST BE RECEPTIVE – and let –
 *God’s thoughts flow through us* –
 *and permeate our being*.**

***AND THEN* – our work will be accomplished.
*BUT I MUST REMIND YOU* –
 *THAT SPIRIT* – *IS NEVER WORKING* – *FOR US*.**

***IT IS WORKING*** – ***IN AND*** – ***THROUGH US*** –
 ***AS WE YIELD AND SURRENDER OURSELVES –
 EVEN OUR THOUGHTS*** –
 ***SO THAT – GOD CAN TAKE OVER.***

**Those who have attained even** **– *a slight measure of*** **–
 *CHRISTHOOD – OR – SPIRITUAL REALIZATION*** **–
 *are in the world – but not of it***.

***They themselves*** **– do not require supply or comforting –
 or any of the things *the human race finds so necessary*.**
***They have surrendered*** **– personal might and personal desires** **–
*and have accepted the love of God*** – ***THE GRACE OF GOD***,
and the government of God – ***as the all – and only*** – in their lives.

Chapter XVIII

**YE ARE THE LIGHT**

***YE ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD***.
 ***A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.***
Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel,
but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

***Let your light so shine before men***,
 ***that they may see your good works***,
 ***and glorify your Father which is in heaven.*** Matthew 5:14-16

(181**) *WE BECOME*** – ***THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD* –
 IN PROPORTION TO – OUR DEGREE OF ILLUMINATION**.
Some students attain that illumination quickly;
 and some wait, wait, and wait for the great experience **–** to descend upon them.

***WHEN IT COMES*, however, IT COMES SUDDENLY,**
although the preparation leading up to it **–**may have taken many, many years of studying and meditating,
during which time **–** we seem to have made little or no progress.

**From the first moment, however,** ***that we seriously*** **–
 *turned to the attainment of Realization***,
 **our progress** – **has been rapid –
 even though, to outward appearances**, ***imperceptible.***

***IT IS LIKE REMOVING A MOUNTAIN***.
**From the first shovelful of dirt that is carried away**,
**PROGRESS IS BEING MADE** – in leveling the entire mountain.
***But a mountain*** – **is made up of countless shovelfuls** –
*of earth and stone*, *and not until many of these have been removed* –
 ***is it apparent***– *that any noticeable progress has been made.*

(182**) So it is that – when we are aware –
OF THE DENSITY OF HUMAN SELFHOOD**, ***we know that we are;***
***MOVING A MOUNTAIN OF IGNORANCE***, and –
**although a beginning is made – *with our first serious meditation*,** ***progress will not be too evident*** – ***for a long, long time***.
***THEN ALL OF A SUDDEN*** –
 ***IT SEEMS TO BURST UPON US*** *–* ***LIKE A FLASH OF LIGHT*.**

When we have been touched by the Spirit,
 it is evident in the light shining forth from our eyes –
 and the glow on our face.
***Outwardly*** – our life changes: Our human relationships change;
 our nature changes; our health changes;
 and sometimes – even our physical form changes –
***BUT ONLY BECAUSE* – *SUCH CHANGES*** –
 ***ARE THE OUTER MANIFESTATION*** – ***OF AN INNER GLORY*,**
 an inner light, which has been attained –
 by contact with the Father within –
 and which has once again established us – ***IN EDEN.***

***OUR PURPOSE*** – ***IS TO BE*** – ***THE TRANSPARENCY*** –
***THROUGH WHICH*** – ***THE LIGHT – NOT WE,*** – ***BUT THE LIGHT*** – ***PERFORMS ITS MIGHT WORKS*,** – ***TO BE THE INSTRUMENT* –
 THROUGH WHICH** – ***THE DIVINE CAN MANIFEST* –
*AND EXPRESS – ITSELF* – *ON EARTH* – *AS IT DOES IN HEAVEN*.**

**We are never the doer; we are never the actor:
*WE ARE ALWAYS*** – ***THE VACUUM* –
 *THROUGH WHICH SPIRIT FLOWS*.**

**Let us never for a moment believe** –
 that by – ***our spiritual endowments*** –
  **we will ever attain personal or spiritual power.**
***There is no room*** – **in spiritual living – for egotism** –
 **or for the exercise** – ***OF PERSONAL POWER***.

***GOD DOES NOT GIVE*** – ***HIS POWER, THE GLORY,
 AND THE DOMINION*** – ***ALWAYS REMAIN IN GOD;***
 ***AND WE ARE*** *–* ***BUT INSTRUMENTS*,
*HUMBLE SERVANTS* OR TRANSPARENCIES,
 *THROUGH WHICH*** – ***THAT LIGHT MAY SHINE*.**

**God can find entrance to the world –
 *ONLY*** – ***THROUGH CONSCIOUSNESS*.**

**There was just as much God in the world –
 *BEFORE THE TIME OF MOSES,*
*but it had no effect upon the Hebrew people* –
 *UNTIL MOSES*** – ***OPENED HIS CONSCIOUSNESS*,
 received the Light, and then was led by God,
 after which – the liberation of the Hebrews was achieved.**

**It was not that there was no God in Egypt** – ***GOD WAS THERE***,
 ***but there was no consciousness*** –
 ***to receive and release God into the world*** –
 ***UNTIL MOSES HAD HIS ILLUMINATION***.
***There had to be a Moses*** – ***before the Hebrews could be freed.***

**There was just as much God on earth –
 *BEFORE THE TIME OF JESUS* –**
 **but it was only when – *A JESUS APPEARED*** –
 ***AND GOD-CONSCIOUSNESS*** – ***could flow through him*** –
 that the blessings took place –
 not only for that time but for all time.

**Had there been no Jesus in the ship at sea,
 the storm would not have been stilled.**
True, in time it would have worn itself out,
 but it would not have stopped so quickly.
**It was stilled – because of the presence of Jesus Christ**.

***WHAT WAS IT IN JESUS CHRIST*** – ***THAT STILLED THE WAVES*?
*Were the waves stilled* – *because he had power over them*,
 or** *–* ***BECAUSE HE KNEW THE TRUTH –
 WHICH MAKES MEN FREE*** *–* ***AND COULD THEREFORE*** *–* ***STAND STILL – AND LET*** *–* ***THE OMNIPRESENCE AND POWER OF GOD*** *–*  ***PERFORM ITS FUNCTION*?**

**THERE HAD TO BE A JESUS – BEFORE** –
 **THE POWER OF NON-RESISTANCE** –
 ***COULD BE MADE EVIDENT*.**

**There must always be someone –
 through whom – *the spiritual light can shine*** –
 ***and who can*** – ***stand still*** –
 **and bear witness to the presence and power of God** –
 ***as the only Presence and the only Power***.

Throughout all ages,
 the illuminations of a Moses, an Isaiah, a Jesus, John, or Paul –
 has resulted in – the revelation of harmony –
 of all those able and willing to receive it spiritually.

(183.4) No matter how high a degree of spiritual consciousness a person attains, he can bless and help only those who will bring themselves into the orbit of his consciousness.

As he become a living witness to the Word made flesh, he makes no attempt to exert power: He remains still and beholds the activity of God as It touches the lives of all those around him.

(184) If there is a disaster about us, it will go on and on until it exhausts itself unless one among us knows this truth.

If it is to be stopped dead in its tracks, there must be one – who can stand still – and realize that the grace of God,
besides which there is no power, is in operation;
there must be one – to be completely silent –
and bear witness to the Spirit – which stills the waves.

It is true that a thousand may fall at our left hand and ten thousand at our right. There is not much that we can do about that – at this present moment – except – to prove in our individual experience – that because of our consciousness with God – none of these things can come nigh our dwelling place.

The Spiritual Word – cannot penetrate the human mind;
 but we can and will help the world – rise above war and disease – by being the light in our own family, not preaching to them or trying to force them into our way of thinking, **but by holding our peace within ourselves – and retiring from the battle between good and evil, by going within and realizing that – only in the degree that we resist not evil – can the peace that passes understanding descend upon us**.

***IF NECESSARY,
LET US SIT IN A CHAIR ALL DAY AND ALL NIGHT,*** – ***UNTIL*** –
***THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON US AND DWELLS IN US.***

***THEN – AFTER THIS PRINCIPLE OF RESIST NOT*** –
has been demonstrated in our family, ***even to some small extent*** –
 **our consciousness of God’s presence** –
 **makes itself felt** –
 ***by bringing some measure of harmony to our community*.**

***TO US***, **IT IS GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND HOW TO RISE ABOVE THE BATTLE BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL, TO KNOW HOW TO STILL THE STORM, WHETHER AT SEA OR ON LAND, WHETHER A BURNING FIRE, AND INCOMING TIDAL WAVE, OR INFECTION AND CONTAGION RAVAGING THE LAND.**

(185) To us, it is given to know how to say, “Thus far, and no further,” and then to stand still, to retire within ourselves from the noise of the battle without refusing, denying, or fighting, without ever wielding the sword.

It is given to us to know that he who lives by the sword shall die by the sword, and therefore we have put up the sword and will never again take out either a physical or a mental sword – not even a spiritual word. In reality, there is no power for us to oppose physically, mentally, or spiritually, so we need no sword.

It has been given to us to know that we live and move and have our being in God in whom is no darkness at all, in whom is no warfare. It is given to us to know that the sovereign, divine remedy for all the ills of the world – ***IS TO RESIST NOT EVIL***.

Throughout all ages the world has been blessed with mystics who have made enduring contributions to the spiritual vision of the world, but just as the teaching found in this book cannot be understood by the masses, so the masses have not had the wisdom to heed these mystics or their teachings.

No spiritual teaching can ever be understood, believed, or accepted by the unillumined mind which can only grasp what can be seen heard, tasted, touched, or smelled.

The unillumined mind cannot comprehend the spiritual Presence or no power, because before spiritual wisdom can be understood, the Soul-faculties must be opened, and spiritual discernment aroused or awakened.

All human beings are asleep – asleep in the belief of material and mental powers, asleep to the reality of spiritual being. To the transcendental, and mystical Presence and Power which men call God.

The scriptures of every faith have revealed that there is a transcendental Presence which, when embraced, encompasses our being and reaches our heart center, setting us apart from the world. Then the germs that lay low the world with grippe and flu do not come nigh our dwelling place, and even if momentarily they do, they are quickly removed.

(186) Alcoholism, drug addiction, and juvenile delinquency do not mar the peace and serenity of our household, and if they should touch it, they are quickly dispelled because we have learned how to hide ourselves in the secret place of the most High and live in an atmosphere of love instead of hate, injustice, and inequality.

So it is that every spiritual healing is the result of one individual sitting in the Silence, quietly, peacefully waiting, and then the Spirit comes through the consciousness of that one – the voice thunders in the Silence, and the earth melts.

We become that one in proportion as we learn to be nothing, to be still, and to let that Light act in us and through us and as us.

***Someday*** – ***WHEN THIS WORLD COMES TO THE PLACE*** –
 ***OF SOLVING ITS PROBLEMS BY MEDITATION*** –
 ***instead of by arms – by the sword –
 the Spirit will so illumine every situation*** –
 ***that there will be no need for*** – ***the knife or the pistol.***

4. ***GOD DOES NOT IMPART HIS GLORY TO ANOTHER;***
 **therefore, let us not attempt to be – *spiritually powerful***,
 **but be spiritually humble – *AND LET*** *–* ***GOD’S GRACE*** –
 ***PERFORM IT’S FUNCTIONS THROUGH US AND AS US*.**

***GOD FUNCTIONS* – *THROUGH INDIVIDUAL CONSCIOUSNESS****,*
 ***AND THAT BECOMES – OUR CONSCIOUSNESS* –
 *when we have learned to be still enough*** –
 ***to bear the under of the Silence*.**

A human being reading or speaking words of truth –
 **is not** – **yet the transcendental Consciousness;**
 and yet – when that Consciousness has been attained,
 **it is the human being – who is the instrument –
 through which it operates**.

Man born of the born of woman is a mortal, a human being almost completely separated from God and not under God’s care or grace. But once this human being has attained the transcendental Consciousness, he becomes that very Christ, and thereafter cannot be separated from It. He is one with It and he is It.

(186) In many orthodox religious teachings, Jesus is set part as the Christ in the sense of his being Christ-consciousness separate and apart from any other individual as if he of his born humanhood were It.

On the other hand, metaphysics tries to separate Christ from Jesus as if they were two.

But Jesus is the Christ: The two are inseparable and indivisible one from the other to such an extent that it is almost forgotten that Jesus is Jesus, an he is usually referred to as the Christ.

(187) So is it true of any and every individual who has attained conscious union with God. The only difference is in degree. It takes a person of the attained consciousness of a Jesus to be able to say, “I and my Father are one… Thou seest me, thou seest the Father that sent me.”

Others do not quite attain that height of realization where they always speak out from the I: I am the bread; I am the wine; I am the water. That is the transcendental state of consciousness which has gone beyond the human.

In the earliest stages of illumination, there is a sense of twoness. There is a John, Bill, or Mary who is aware of a Presence and a Power – Something overshadowing him, Something helping, guiding, instructing, and governing him.

‘It is within him and functions within and through him, but there is a higher state of consciousness, and that is when there is no person any more. There is just I voicing Itself.

That is the Consciousness Itself, and It only comes in the very highest moments of our experience when the
Presence is the only being that I Am. It was then that Moses transcended humanhood and said, “I AM That I Am.” It was then that Jesus said: “I am the bread of life. …. I am life eternal… I am the resurrection.”

But even if we do not reach those mountain heights, let us be grateful that we have come to the place where we recognize that within us is Something greater than we are, Something greater than our mentality, experience, or education, Something that can use our mind and body and has knowledge far greater than anything we might have acquired in school or through travel.

This is the goal – the realization that as a person we are a nothingness. We only become something when we are transcended or overshadowed by this Presence within. That consciousness, when it is attained, is the miracle worker.

(188) **Therefore the only demonstration is attaining it.**
When we have this Light, there is no miracle then in having health, supply, companionship, or home. Therefore, our entire life must be spent in attaining the Light, the transcendental Consciousness.

If the grace of God has touched us to the point where we cannot stop studying and meditating, then we are doing everything that can be done.

We cannot hasten the day. We can delay it by ignoring this inner urge to meditate more and to read more, but we cannot hasten it. It comes in its own good time and its own good way.

A human being cannot do this of himself, because to a human being the word of God is foolishness. He has no time for it, no patience with it, and sometimes it can even offend him. But if he is touched with just enough Grace to compel him to keep reading, hearing the Word, or mediating, then he will be led to his ultimate demonstration.

When we are in this Spirit or when It is in us, consciously present, there are not two powers functioning. There is not one power doing something to another power; there is no power of God destroying evil, making evil people good or overcoming lack with abundance.

When this Consciousness is upon us, there are no other powers, and whatever seeming powers there are, are dissolved – not as if these were something being overcome, but as if they were a nothingness fading away.

The world is to be saved by My Spirit, but this Spirit operates only through the consciousness of a person who opens himself to It. Therefore, it is our responsibility to become a spiritual rock upon which the harmony of our neighborhood an community, even of our nation, can rest.

We do not need any deep metaphysics: We need to understand the simple little truth that the still small Voice is the power that destroys the illusions of this world.

That understanding does not consist of our having a power to do something to error: It consists of the truth that no power is needed to destroy error because error has within itself the elements of self-destruction.

(189) We bear witness to that as we stand and look at the unfruitful tree and watch as it withers. We do not wither it: Its own barrenness withers it. So error is dissolved as we sit in quietness and stillness, a witness to the divine Power, and watch as harmony descends upon all around us.

And so, step by step we ae strengthened until the day comes when we realize that now we can rest at will in God and let that Spirit that flows through us, that Robe that envelops us, be the prayer, the benediction, and the healing to our community and to the world.

We become the light of the world as we bring ourselves to a state of consciousness in which we do not battle the errors of the world, but in which we become completely still and let the Spirt of God nullify and dissolve the pictures of sense. No longer will we struggle with error, but rest, relax, and bear witness to God functioning on earth as in heaven.

Above all, we will never forget that we are the twelve, the seventy, the two hundred: We are the light in our community. We are that one, even if there is not another, who will not succumb to the mesmerism of fear, doubt, hate, envy, jealousy, or malice. We are that one who will be a rock ion our community, a rock of Silence, welling up within ourselves as peace, and letting that peace descend upon our community.

**XIX**

**THE STILL SMALL VOICE**

The world has come to a place – where it must go beyond power and beyond mind. Is there such a place? Is there a place where physical might and human thought are not power, and where safety, security, and pace are assured?

In a moment of futility and frustration, when every reliance has been forsaken, the answer comes as the voice of God utters Itself, a Voice not in the blustering whirlwinds, nor in the awesome rumblings of the volcano, but a Voice so still that only in the Silence can it be heard, and there It thunders.

When we hear that Voice, we need not concern ourselves about protection against bombs; we need not concern ourselves with depressions or recessions.

One thing alone then, concerns us: the ability to be still and let God manifest and express Himself as the still small Voice within us.

Today, world conditions make our personal problems seem infinitesimal, but whether we are thinking in terms of individual, national, or international problems, basically there is only one problem – material and mental power as against My Spirit.

(191) There is only one enemy – the universal belief that material and mental force can control this world. The enemies confronting us today are not a threatened epidemic of disease, not a devastating condition of weather or climate, not impending economic disaster nor destructive war: All these are but part and parcel of the belief in material and mental powers.

But are material and mental powers, power, or is the still small Vice the only power? The answer is that there is no power in the visible world, and anything that exists in our mind as an objective thing is not power.

Let us never fear an image in our mind whether that image is a person, a disease, or even a bomb. That still small Voice in the midst of us is mightier than all of these, and if we can become so silent that that Voice can utter Itself – even if only as a deep breath or a sense of peace or warmth – this earth will be filled with the voice of God and the belief in two powers will be silenced.

When we struggle and battle with the enemy, whether that enemy is physical and external or mental and internal we do not win any victories. The real victories are won when we use no power and do not fight our opposition, but rest in the knowledge that all opposition destroys itself.

“The battle is not yours…. Stand ye still and see the salvation of the Lord.” This standing still is not only a refraining from physical and mental power, but from spiritual power as well – a complete relaxing in an ocean of peace.

I do not know the process and neither can you, but we can and will witness the fruitage of that stillness an quietness because in the Silence a miracle takes place:

The enemy destroys itself and disappears out of our experience – evaporates and dissolves – whether that enemy is a fever, a person, or a nation.

We need not fight or struggle with it or with him:
We need only be still. We are aligned with a power that is not a power; we are achieving victory without force. We do not even use spiritual force. But our stillness permits spiritual force to use us. Ours is a refraining from power in a Silence which thunders, “I am God; therefore you be still and rest, for I will be with you unto the end of the world. You rest, relax, and be silent.”

(192) When we have rested, when we have become still, and when we have permitted the Spirit to permeate mind and body, a Something greater than ourselves goes before us and prepares the way for us: The enmity and opposition dissolve, and we stand within ourselves and marvel, “A mighty work.”

In a complete Silence, with no attempt to use God, use Truth, or use a power over anybody or for anybody, something takes place within us that dissolves the problems of life and makes the way one of joy and fulfillment.

The only effective and potent weapon against the powers that would destroy the world both physically and mentally is the Silence which comes of the conviction that there is a Something that created this universe and is responsible for maintaining it unto eternity – it is the ability to relax in Silence and let that Something perform Its function.

In that Silence we find Allness. In that quietness and confidence, we find our strength and peace. That is our Sabbath, the complete and perfect universe of the first chapter of Genesis in which we rest from all power living by the winds blew and beat upon the house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.”

As we meet with problems of every nature – conflicts, enemies, hatred, persecution, injustice – we no longer try to reach out to remove them either physically or mentally, but we rest in His word. We rest from all power, and God works the miracle.

Rumblings of the thunder of the deep Silence of My peace reverberate and increase in power until eventually they break every barrier. The mighty noise of the Silence grows in volume until its thunder rends asunder the veils of illusion and God stands revealed in all His majesty glory, and peace.