**THE THUNDER OF SILENCE**
Joel S. Goldsmith

Chapter XVIII — **YE ARE THE – “LIGHT”**Matthew 5:14-17

***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.***

***THINK NOT – THAT I HAVE COME – TO DESTROY –
 THE TEACH­INGS OF THE PROPHETS;***

***I CAME NOT – TO NULLIFY –
 BUT TO – PUB­LICLY DEMONSTRATE –
 THESE TEACHINGS*.**  Matt 5:14-17

***WHAT IS* *– THIS – LIGHT ???***

**“A Course In Miracles”**

**LESSON 6 *I AM* – *THE LIGHT* – *OF THE WORLD*.**

***WHO IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD* –
 *EXCEPT – GOD'S SON*?**

**This, then, is merely** **– A STATEMENT –
 *OF THE TRUTH ABOUT YOURSELF*.**

It is the **opposite of a statement of pride,
 of arrogance, or of self‑deception.**

***IT REFERS* – TO YOU *– AS YOU WERE CREATED BY GOD.***

***IT SIMPLY STATES – THE TRUTH.***

**To the ego, today's idea is the epitome of self‑glorification.**

But the ego does not understand humility,
 mistaking it for self‑debasement.

**3 *HUMILITY*** ***– CONSISTS OF*** ***–
 ACCEPTING YOUR ROLE* *– IN SALVATION*** ***–*** AND IN TAKING NO OTHER.

4 It is not humility ***–*** to insist you cannot be the light of the world ***–*** if that is the function God assigned to you.

***TRUE HUMILITY* *–* REQUIRES THAT YOU ACCEPT TODAY'S IDEA *–
 BECAUSE – IT IS GOD'S VOICE* *–
 WHICH TELLS YOU IT IS TRUE.***

**2 *THIS IS A BEGINNING STEP* *–
 IN ACCEPTING* *– YOUR REAL FUNCTION ON EARTH*.**

**3 IT IS A GIANT STRIDE *–* TOWARD *–
 TAKING YOUR RIGHTFUL PLACE IN SALVATION*.**

*4* ***IT IS AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT –
 OF THE POWER THAT IS GIVEN YOU – TO SAVE OTHERS*.**

**As many practice periods as possible *–* should be undertaken today…..**

**2 They should begin with telling yourself:**

**3 I AM *– THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD*.**

**4 *THAT* *– IS MY ONLY FUNCTION*.**

**5 *THAT* *– IS WHY I AM HERE*.**

The Thunder of Silence – Chapter XVIII

***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 SHOVEL FULL 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.***

***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.***

***THE GARDEN OF EDEN*
*WHAT IT IS:***

***THE GARDEN – OF EDEN* – *IS NOT* – *A HISTORICAL PLACE.***

***THE GARDEN* – *OF EDEN* – IS – *A SPIRITUAL STATE OF BEING.***

***THE GARDEN* – *IS – THE PLACE* – *ADAM NEVER LEFT.***

***THE GARDEN* – *OF EDEN* – *IS THE PLACE* –
 *WHEREIN* – THE LAW OF – GRACE –
 SUPERCEDES – *ALL LAWS*.**

***THE GARDEN* – *OF EDEN* – *IS – THE PLACE* –
 *WHEREIN* – Your – SPIRITUAL – REALITY – EXISTS.**

***THE GARDEN* – *OF EDEN* – *IS – THE PLACE* –
 *WHEREIN* – SPIRITUAL – IDENTITY – EXISTS.**

***THE GARDEN* – *OF EDEN* – AS – *A STATE OF MIND –
 IS* – *A STATE OF – SPIRITUAL - ILLUMINATION* –**

 ***WHICH IS* – *A PERSONAL - CONSCIOUS AWARENESS* –
 *THAT* – *THE SPIRIT OF GOD* – *USES AS AN* –
 *INSTRUMENT* – *VACUUM* – *VESSEL* –
 *CANDLESTICK* –**

 ***TO – “LET*” –
 *GOD SHINE* – *FORTH / OUTWARDLY* –
 *IN* – *and* – *AS* – and – *THROUGH* –
 *THE FORMS OF – FULFILLED PRAYER* –
 *AND – SHINE AS* –
 *GOD’S* – *PURPOSE* –
 *FOR HIS – “SONS”*.**

***PURPOSE* = *FUNCTION* – *USE***

***GOD’S* – *PURPOSE – FOR HIS – “SONS”:***

***GOD – USES – HIS SON – AS HIS – CANDLE STICK* –
 *THAT RADIATES* – *HIS LIGHT* – *TO THE WORLD,***

***BECOME – THE LIGHT* – *THAT YOU ALREADY ARE* –
 *BY BECOMING* – *MORE AND MORE* – *ILLUMINED* –
 BY – *LEARNING – and – THEN* –
 *DEMONSTRATING* – and – *TEACHING* –
 *THAT* – *THE CHRIST* – *LIVES IN YOU* –
 BY – *LETTING – HIS LIGHT – SHINE* –
 *THROUGH YOUR MIND* – *AS* –
 *THE BREAD – OF LIFE* – *IN THE WAYS OF* – *INFINITE*:**

**TRUTH – CONSCIOUSNESS – AWARENESS – INTELLIGENCE – UNDERSTANDING – WISDOM – KNOWLEDGE – REVELATION – INSPIRATION – INSIGHT – PERCEPTION – INTUITION**

**John 6**

**27 LABOR NOT – FOR EARTHLY THINGS –
 FOR THEY ARE LEFT BE­HIND,
 *BUT FOR* – *THE UNDERSTANDING OF LIFE* –
 *AND TRUE REA­SON*,
 *FOR THESE YE CAN KEEP FOREVER*.**

 ***THIS –* IS WHAT I AM STRIVING TO TEACH YOU –
 *FOR I UNDERSTAND* –
 THAT THIS – *LEADS TO ETERNAL PEACE*.**

**28 Then said they unto him,
 How can we –
 acquire the ability to do the work of God?**

**29 JESUS ANSWERED AND SAID UNTO THEM –
 *THE ONE THING NECESSARY* – *IS THAT* –
 *YE GAIN THE UNDERSTANDING OF MY TEACHING*,**

**32 Then Jesus said unto them –
 Verily, verily, I say unto you –
 MOSES – *GAVE YOU NOT* –
 THAT BREAD – *FROM HEAVEN*;
 *BUT MY FATHER* – *GIVETH YOU* –
 *THE -- TRUE BREAD -- FROM HEAVEN*.**

**33 *FOR* – *THE BREAD OF GOD –
 IS -- TRUE THOUGHT – OR ACTIVE TRUTH –***

 ***WHICH COMETH – FROM ACTUAL UNDERSTANDING –
 AND WHICH* – *WHEN UNDERSTOOD –
 BY* – *THE INDIVIDUAL CONSCIOUSNESS,
 IS* – *ETERNAL LIFE.***

**34 THEN SAID THEY UNTO HIM,
 *LORD, EVERMORE* – GIVE US – *THIS – BREAD*,**

**35 AND JESUS SAID UNTO THEM,
 *I AM – THE BREAD OF LIFE* – THAT IS –**

 ***I UNDERSTAND WHAT ETERNAL LIFE* – *CONSISTS OF* –
 *AND WHEN I TEACH – YOU* – *THIS*,
 *I AM GIVING –YOU* – *THE TRUE* – *BREAD OF LIFE*.**

**Philippians 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.***

***EVERYONE* – THAT UNDERSTANDS –
 *THIS* – *TRUE CONCEPT* – (*THE TRUTH OF BEING*) –
 *SHALL NOT WANT – MORE THAN THIS*.**