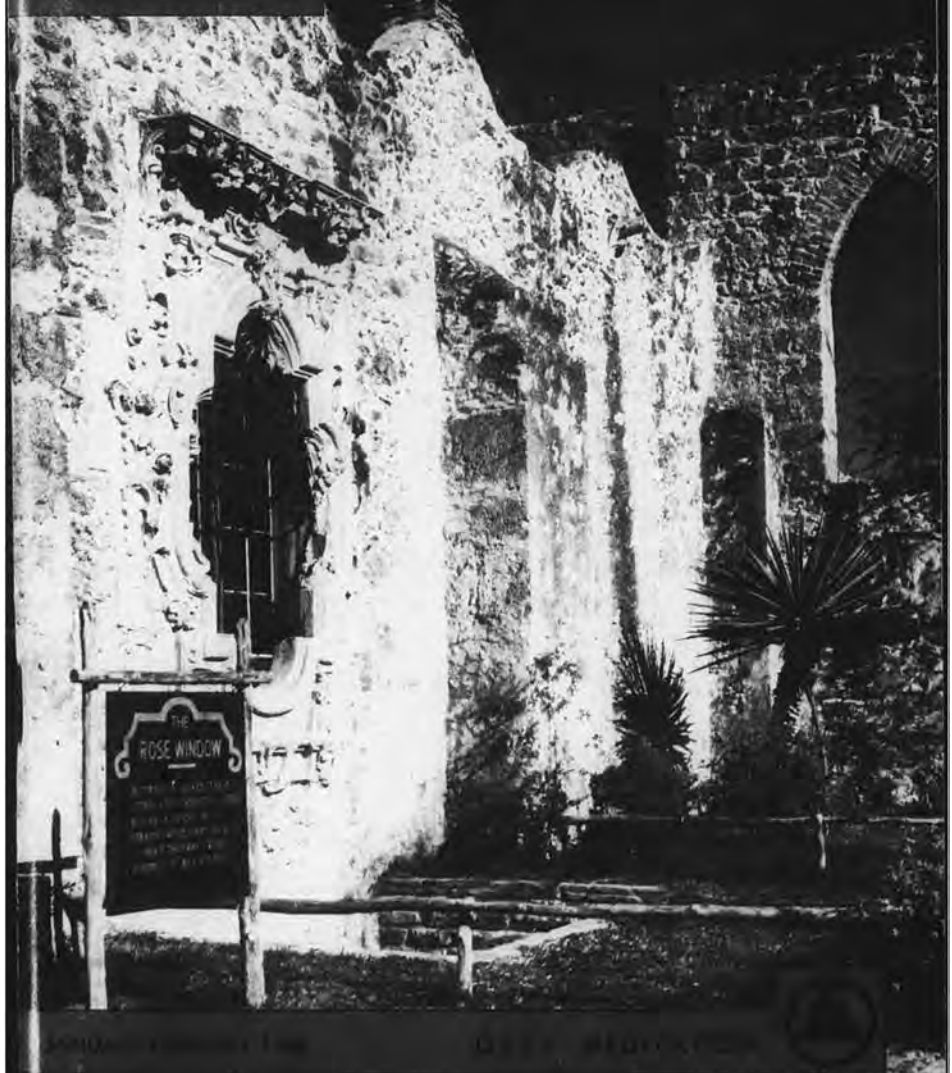


DAIL



THE
ROSE WINDOW

THE ROSE WINDOW WAS
CONSTRUCTED IN 1521 BY
FRANCISCO DE COLO
AND WAS THE FIRST OF
ITS KIND IN THE WEST
INDIES.



THE MAYA WORLD

In the steaming rain forests of Mexico and Guatemala, the ruins of the ancient Maya empire bear silent witness to a civilization that flourished hundreds of years before Columbus came to America. More appealing to the modern mind than their Aztec and Inca contemporaries, the Maya Indians are also more mysterious. Each year adds to the mass of information about them, but the central riddle of their rise and decline remains unsolved.

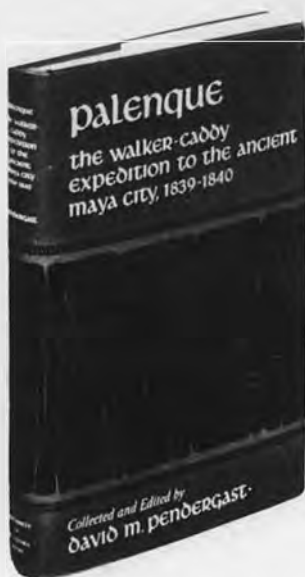
The reader is guided into THE MAYA WORLD with the skill of one who has come to know the ancient people well. By day, she cares for the treasures of this ancient culture that have come into the Pre-Columbian Collection at Dumbarton Oaks in Washington. At night, she has been researching and gathering her knowledge into this clear, careful account. Her enthusiasm transforms information into a personal discovery of the ancient Maya in daily life.

THE MAYA WORLD is both a fascinating introduction for those who have not "met" the ancient Maya, and a skillful coordinating key for all good Maya libraries.

• \$6.95 •

MAYAN BOOK HOUSE





In 1838 only three archaeological sites were known in the Maya area. In 1839, two expeditions were sponsored for further exploration of the ruins at Palenque. In the light of the larger work by Stephens and Catherwood, the other expedition was soon forgotten.

While field director of a present-day exploration, the author became interested in the Walker-Caddy expedition. Realizing its importance, he brought together remaining records of Caddy, diarist of the expedition, with explanatory notes to reveal the contribution Walker and Caddy made to knowledge of the ancient Maya.

Illustrated by Caddy's paintings, some considered equal to Catherwood's, the text interesting reading, this is a significant work to be added to your Mayan library.

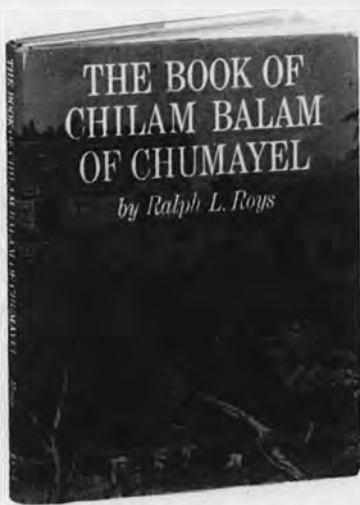
\$6.95

The Books of Chilam Balam contain much of what Maya Indians remembered after the Spanish Conquest of their early culture. They are written in the Maya language, but in European script adapted by early Spanish missionaries to express sounds not found in Spanish.

Taking its name from a village in the District of Tekax in Yucatan, this Book of the Prophet Balam known as THE BOOK OF CHILAM BALAM OF CHUMAYEL was first published in 1933 by the Carnegie Institution of Washington and has long been out of print until this edition now offered.

Rich in Maya rituals, history and traditions, a valuable resource for everyone interested in the life of the Maya Indians. This is a superb translation by a distinguished anthropologist long known for his work in the Maya field, especially in linguistics — a very important work.

\$6.95



January-February 1968

Volume Fifty-Five

Number One

ROSE DAWN

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Daily Meditation

"The Silent Guide to a Successful Future"

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COVER PICTURE: The Rose Window at Mission San Jose
San Antonio, Texas.

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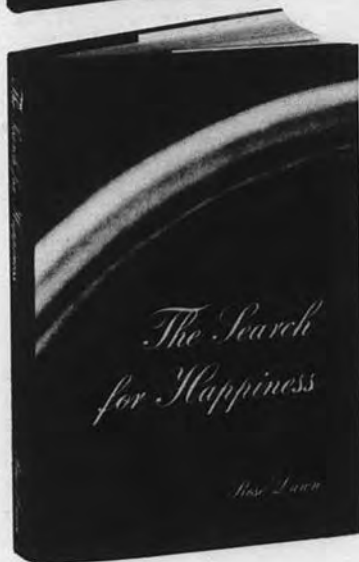


The uncertainties of our times are breeding a generation of fear and doubt. People are "running scared". They need help! Fighting to overcome these fears is the God-given desire to be happy, to build a good life that nothing can upset. To learn the way to true happiness is to find the only real security there is.

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MAYAN BOOK HOUSE





NEWS & NOTES

Mission Espada — To the left of the door stands the wooden cross to remind the faithful of the power of prayer.

It had been many days since the last rain fell to refresh the people and their fields, to fill the ponds around which their cattle and sheep and goats gathered to drink, to raise the level of the streams so the water could run freely in the irrigation ditches. Many times a day, the skies were scanned in the hope of finding even the tiniest rift of cloud that might promise rain. But the blue remained unbroken and the brilliant sun kept the days hot and dry, the nights still.

Who fashioned the rude wooden cross, we do not know, but legend tells us that one day it was lifted high on the shoulders of a strong man. Soon the entire populace of the compound followed as he strode around the plaza, all lifting their voices in supplication to God for the life-giving water they so needed. And suddenly, the rain fell in torrents! And the people sank to the wet earth in prayers of thanksgiving.

You can see the rough-hewn cross today, standing beside the door of the

church at Mission Espada where Father Bouchu ordered it placed a hundred years ago, to remind the faithful of the power of prayer and the goodness of God.

When I want to escape the confusion of demands that is part of our busy, modern way of life, I love to go to the missions. There, it is easy to recapture the serenity that prevailed, the tranquility of faith that was the center of living for the early people who built them. Standing tall and strong, a tower of faith in the middle of the compound, was the church. The people worked together all day, and sang and danced together when the night fell and stars shone in the heavens; but it was when the bell in the church steeple tolled that they were as one large family held within the circle of God's love. The bell united them in faith — to worship, or to fight against would-be invaders. That faith was the heart of all life.

Many are the delightful stories their descendents can tell you, if they come

to know you will not scoff, for they are stories of miracles that are not questioned. For cannot God do anything, and did He not indeed show His hand in many ways — and does He not today? Why question? Why not simply believe, and accept His blessings when they come? It does not matter how they come; it is enough that they come when they are needed.



This simplicity of faith and the recognition of God in every facet of life reminds me of the ancient Maya — and other so-called primitive cultures. In viewing them, we are apt to label them such because of our present age of progress and thereby ob-

scure so much that would give us better understanding of these people as they actually were and as to what they really believed. One thing we do know — that their lives were centered in God — and certainly we could do well to return to simplicity of faith such as they expressed in all their work and arts.

Feeling so strongly about this, it was heartening to me to read the words of Elizabeth Benson, author of *The Maya World* introduced in this issue, for she says, "I am not sure you can ever reconstruct the life of a people because we always interpret from the point of view of our own times." With an open mind, she examines the findings available and

Mission San Juan — Its pierced belfry shows kinship of design to its "sister mission" Espada. Inside, the Christ and the Virgin are of cornstalk pith made of a process known in Central Mexico before the Conquest and lost soon thereafter.

Mission Espada Ditch, which flows over the two lovely spans of the Espada Aqueduct, the only Spanish aqueduct in the U. S.



draws her conclusions. For this reason, her book is an excellent concise study of the Maya as known through exploration to date.

★

In this letter from Companion Harry Wenner of Florida, he shares excerpts from an article in the June 1967 issue of *Americas* magazine, telling about the ruins of Pajaten discovered high in the Andes north of Lima. What is so interesting to us is that although Incan articles have been found, the architecture is not Incan so it must be supposed that they were not the original builders of the city. Further, the main building has similarities to the Nun's Quadrangle in Uxmal and other characteristics of the Maya have been noted. Another mystery uncovered — in Peru.

★

Lovely picture post cards received too late for the last issue are still bringing vacation news into our office. The Pavilion of India was chosen by Companion Bertha Reed of New York when she visited Expo 67 in

Montreal. Companion David Stephens of North Carolina sent a picture of the Confederate Memorial at Stone Mountain, Georgia, an enormous and beautiful work of art.

Main Street of Butler, Pennsylvania might be your town or mine, but it is a very special town for young Lee, who was promised several years ago by his grandmother, our Companion Elizabeth Munday, that they would take a train trip there from their home in Ohio. It was his first train experience and how he loved it — and grandmother was having fun too!

The beautiful Nottawasaga River in Ontario, Canada was the choice of Companion Florence Marlinski of New York for a restful vacation amid the scenic beauty of that area. And Ridgecrest, the lovely retreat in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains known to all Baptists, drew Companion Ila Reddick to a W.M.U. convention there.

Companion Helen MacKay of California is right now on a tour with some Senior Citizens to Nassau,

Mission San Jose church, famed for its beautiful facade and Rose Window. Behind the bell tower is the old circular staircase with steps of solid hewn oak. Upper left is the granary that once served as the church. The compound has been beautifully restored and one can easily imagine the active community that it once housed.



Jamaica, Mexico City, Cuernavaca, Taxco, and also some of the Mayan ruins. We'll be very interested in her report when she returns.

And Companion Irving Adler of California had just returned from a trip with his son, who lives in New York — enjoying California and Nevada as fancy decreed for two whole weeks. Another happy Mayan enjoying her family was Companion Nancy Reeve of Florida, who has six children in the same city in Canada, and 20 grandchildren to spoil for a whole month! No less spoiled, in all probability, were the two grandchildren of Companion Rhoda Mattes of Oregon when she and her husband and son visited them in California.

It had been five years since Companion Lila Hunter of West Virginia had been able to visit her parents for any length of time, so she took a month this year just to be with them. While she was there, her sister and her children came for a visit, as did an uncle she had not seen for many years. Back at her own home, she was preparing for another family reunion!

Many colored slides will keep Companion Angeline Dallas's visit to Canada alive for years to come. She was enchanted with the beautiful scenic lakes and most interested in the many fine exhibits at Expo 67. Especially interesting was the Mexican Pavilion with the emphasis on the Mayan culture, and she says she was very proud of our own U. S. Pavilion as it stood among the others.

One of the most beautiful cards of all is of the Tulip gardens in Ottawa with thousands of the blossoms making a wide swath of color under the trees of the park. This was sent by Companion Adrienne Dimaria with her message that she soon would be enjoying France, England and Switzerland.

This past summer will be long remembered by Companion Flora Derrick of Pennsylvania, for to celebrate 25 years of happy marriage her hus-

January-February 1968



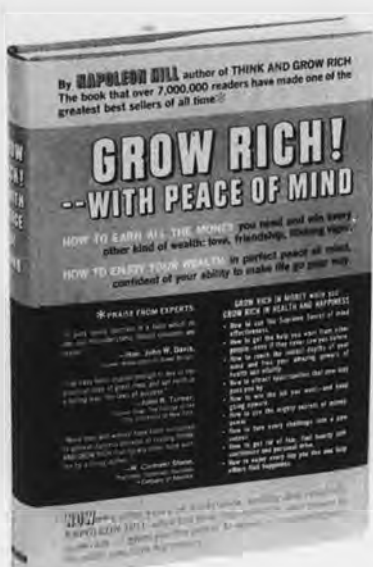
Mission Concepcion — the oldest church in Texas to remain intact and still be in use as a church.

band took her to Madrid, Spain. It was a dream of many years come true, and they both enjoyed each minute of it.

It was a "vacation at home" for Companion Samuel Loopen of Colorado, for they had visitors whom they had not seen for 43 years! His aunt is a lovely lady 87 years young, and her niece was there to celebrate her birthday — a very special birthday gift.

Another birthday is special — for Companion Reuben Marshall of New York, who shares the good news that through faith he has built "a crippled, pained body into . . . a 70-year youngster".

★



The author of **THINK AND GROW RICH** says, "Know your own mind, live your own life." He shows you how to attain and keep a positive mental attitude, which works even in invisible ways to build your energy and ensure your great accomplishment. Finding great new ways to see your goals, and attain them, you win the income you want and all that money can buy — a fine home, education, travel, luxuries of every kind. The law of Compensation goes to work for you as though you had opened a long-closed door and invited prosperity to walk in.

This is a book for anyone who wants more out of life and intends to get it.

• **\$5.95** •

MAYAN BOOK HOUSE

More family news includes the joy over a new grandson for Companions Doris and Broward McLean of Florida. Their son is at sea and so they were especially concerned for their daughter-in-law having to go through her confinement without his encouragement. But both she and baby are fine, and they thank us for our prayers.

We send our congratulations to Companion L. A. Hinds of England and our prayers for the new home established by his recent marriage; also to the son of Companion Ruth Burge of Oregon and his bride. May these be God-centered homes — and then we know happiness will reign, and blessings will come.

Fifty years of happiness were celebrated by Companion Maude Beasley and her husband of Colorado with their six children and their husbands and wives, ten grandchildren and five great grandchildren. "All are happy, healthy, prosperous good Christian people . . . We have much to be thankful for," Companion Maude writes in summing up the happiness the years have brought them.



Perhaps she would rather I did not use her name, but this letter from one of our Companions in Ohio must be shared in part with you. "I must tell you how grateful I am to our dear Heavenly Father and the Mayans, for life is now worth living again. God answers when we pray and live His way. I have a job, my husband and daughter have work also . . . and my two-year-old grandson's life was spared." She then tells of the little fellow wandering away from home and into a busy street. An elderly lady ran into the street and stopped the heavy traffic so she could lead the little fellow to safety. When our Companion wrote, she did not know

who the courageous lady was, but prayers of praise and thanksgiving are raised for God's using her in their hour of need.



Always, we have many letters from busy Mayans who are using their time and talents in most productive ways. Sharing some of her beautiful pictures that will be part of her book, Companion Anna Fierke tells us that it is now over half done — a dream coming true. Companion Ruby Magrane of Arkansas, 82 years young, is busy with her Natural Foods Shop — and raising a herd of goats! Companion Ida King of Missouri is very proud of her new diploma on completion of high school work — at the age of 61 years!

Companion and Mrs. Melvin Stanton of Washington have been involved in a hobby — making jewelry of gemstones that they grind and polish — and now it seems that soon they will have to devote full time to it, so great are the demands for their work.

Companion Gary Moses, a college student in New Mexico, is editing a publication for Apiarists and sent a copy of the first issue for us to share.

Very active in civic work, Companion Mrs. I. E. Slack of Colorado presided recently at a regional convention of service clubs of her state. This is only one of a long list of very responsible positions for which she has been chosen — always asking our special prayers that God may work through her to bring peace and harmony, so truly Mayan in spirit.

We rejoice with Companion Vivian Jenkins of California on the acquisition of some property that starts the realization of her dream.

Another Mayan expressing the love of God in her work is Companion
(Please turn to page 90)

January-February 1968

BIRD KINGDOM OF THE MAYAS



"Long ago, everything was different in the land of the Mayas. Flowers, birds, trees, and animals were dressed in different colors and shapes than those we see today... One day the Great Spirit grew tired of the constant chatter and fighting among the birds. He decided to organize the bird kingdom so that order would rule." So begins the story of how Kukul came to be king of the birds — the first of twelve colorful folk tales, told and retold for hundreds of years, about the jungle birds known to the ancient Maya. Expressive of the people who first told them, although written for young folks, adults too will delight in the further insight the stories bring into the people whose culture is so fascinating. Two-color illustrations.

One Minute Meditation Lessons For January

Beginning the

DAILY GUIDE SECTION

Today is God's Day—His gift to you. It is fresh and sparkling as the dew that dried in the brilliant rays of the morning sun. Gone are the problems of yesterday, for today is an opportunity to start all over again—it is another rare chance to find true happiness. To keep the enchantment of your waking moments with you through the day, begin it in prayer and meditation. If you feel the need of united prayer, send your written request to the Mayan Chapel of Miracles and we will be glad to pray with you. Even if everything else has failed, try a WRITTEN PRAYER. Each day, when the Angelus

call sounds, sincere hearts the world over join in earnest prayers for the requests placed on the altar. These written prayers remain in the Chapel for 30 days. At the end of that time, your prayer should be renewed, or, if your prayer is answered within that time, please notify us to remove it to make room for others. All the expenses of the Chapel are met by the freewill offerings of those who call upon its services. Those desiring to send a love offering to the Chapel are welcome to do so.

Meditation Lesson

January 1, 1968

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Now we are delivered.

Romans 7:6

TODAY IS newborn beginning of a New Year. The mistakes of yesteryear are in the past and have no place in the New Year ahead. Nothing can bind us to unhappy experiences which are gone for there is in each man a something greater than any mistakes, mightier than any obstacle. Today, we are alive to a new life, alert to the beauties around and about us and awake to the new opportunities into which we are being led. We can know with a certainty that all our aspirations are capable of being fulfilled. Let us refuse to pity ourselves or turn backward another day. Let us make the one aim, one goal and one objective this unerring beacon: to face the New Year eagerly and with the promise that we will love all life more intensely and shall listen only to the voice of our higher Self.

AFFIRMATION: Today I Am Reborn Into Higher Aspirations.

Meditation Lesson

January 2, 1968

Come, for all things are now ready.

Luke 14:17

TRYING TO LIVE in the past or in the future causes us to try to live in some time other than the eternal Now of spirit. By dwelling upon unpleasant experiences of the past or putting off our happiness and success until tomorrow we lose sight of the blessings which can be ours today. When we live in any time but the Now of Spirit we live apart from the joys of God's today. Let us cease to look for the tomorrow to bring us more health, more supply, more joy than today. Let us think of ourselves as coming into the greater opportunities today instead of at some future time or some other place. Spirit is timeless so we should train ourselves to know the truth of the eternal Now. Now is the time to make our great demonstration for health or supply. The truth about health and supply is as true today as it will ever be.

AFFIRMATION: I Live In The Eternal Now Of Spirit.

Meditation Lesson

January 3, 1968

Power belongeth unto God.

Psalms 62:11

WATER STORED in high places lies placid and its power is not felt until such time as it is brought into contact with the things which it is capable of accomplishing. Then all of that calm potentiality flows forth in power. So with people. Resident in everyone is an infinite reservoir of power and it lives in quiet potentiality until there is a demand upon it. Then it flows forth to become an accomplishing force. There is no power in confusion, for in confusion there is division; and division is never power. So if we would have the ability and authority to live according to our highest desires we should let our thought lay hold to peace, for peace follows a sense of unity. Instead of spending time in contemplating confusion let us bring our thought again to that center of Peace which is an indwelling knowledge of unity.

AFFIRMATION: At The Center Of My Being Is Power.

Meditation Lesson

January 4, 1968

Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel.

Mark 16:15

WITH THESE words Jesus gave His commission to all His followers. His command, however, is in fact an impulsion from within each one to go and give, and share because they care. For those who accept this command the way will not always be easy. Many times the flesh will cry out for the things of this world which would tend to make us neglect the inner man. To truly preach the gospel of the Christ we must also live the truth we preach. Our every word and act must exemplify the love, the justice, and the tolerance of the Master. But we must remember also that He not only sends us out to live His teachings; He goes beside us for "Lo, I am with you always." Whatever God commissions us to do He Himself is doing, for in offering us Himself He offers us both His power and inspiration.

AFFIRMATION: I Will Live The Truth I Preach.

Meditation Lesson

January 5, 1968

... that thou tell me nothing but that which is true. I Kings 22:16

THERE IS NOT and cannot be a condition of no faith. Every word we speak is motivated by faith and it in turn motivates or sets in motion the law which accomplishes. Ours is the simple part of speaking of the word. We do not even have to feign faith; we live by faith and always have. What we must do is to become aware that this is true and then change our faith. Let us give earnest, but not anxious thought to the demonstration which we are trying to make just now. We have the intelligence to want it, to think it is good; therefore we are intelligent enough to experience it. There will be no limitation to the demonstration that we do not first put into it. The law is automatic; the Word alone is spontaneous. Life is a free flowing, eternal Essence and we are free to partake of it in all its fullness.

AFFIRMATION: My Word Of Faith Accomplished The Good.

He is a rewarder of them who diligently seek him. Hebrews 11:6

THE TRULY successful person is that one who has learned to adjust things and conditions in his life into harmonious living. Success should be the part of every day, for success is a conscious satisfaction in our perception of life and our relationship to it. Our success does not depend upon our connection with certain persons or certain work. The greatest reason for success is the fact that we are a part of God's creation and can say with all truth "I AM." Without clamor or boasting we may completely realize that we are, today and at all times, reason enough for our own success. Success is first an attitude of mind before it can manifest as such in the outer world of affairs. The thought germ of success, having been sown in the soil of our minds, must be nourished by continued constructive thinking and actions.

AFFIRMATION: I Think And Act Only Success.

... and he shall bring it to pass.

Psalms 37:5

MANY OF US have experienced driving along a narrow mountain road in a dense fog which hid not only our way, but also the beauty around us. At such times we found it necessary to drive slower and slower, fairly creeping along through the thick whiteness, knowing that at any moment we might slip off the road into the depths below. Then with a sense of joy we found ourselves at the top and ahead lay the level road. The fog had lifted and the sun was shining as we found we were above the fog. This is typical of life as we so often find the way ahead obscured by the fog of doubt and fear. Yet with faith we continue the upward climb until we reach the place of understanding—with fear and doubt left behind and with only the glorious light of love around us.

AFFIRMATION: I Rise Above The Fog Of Fear And Doubt.

... and they spake the word of God with boldness. Acts 4:31

EVERYONE FINDS it difficult at times not to allow the trials of life to lessen his courage even with the certain knowledge that God is with him in every trouble. Yet with new strength we again face life unafraid in the renewed faith that He is able to keep us against the whole world. With this renewed vision we go forth to meet whatever life may hold for us. We remember the courage of those early disciples who, after leaving the Master, went out to face torture and death. Our early experiences in Truth when our zeal and enthusiasm were equal to any test should grow stronger with the passing years as the difficulties of life increase. With Jesus as our example we can stand fearlessly on the front line of service to "speak the word of God with boldness," thus, proclaiming our faith in Him.

AFFIRMATION: My Strength Is Equal To Any Test.

Ye shall be free indeed.

John 8:36

CONDITIONS have no power over us except the power we give them. We are as free as we know we are, right now, today. Yet we look about us and see all kinds of bondage and we cannot believe that we have anything to do with maintaining this bondage. Perhaps we have been unconscious of our part in it, but the truth is that we bound ourselves by allowing our selves to be bound. When we absolutely and completely realize our freedom, the freedom of our soul and of our spirit, even though we stand in chains, we at that moment will be free. We have listened to some one's recital of his bondage and we feel his chains are of little strength and he should break them. When we get far enough away from our own bondage we should see that our chains have little strength. Ours is a God-given freedom if we will use it.

AFFIRMATION: I Free Myself From All Bondage.

Meditation Lesson

January 10, 1968

Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

Matthew 7:20

JUST AS A corrupt tree cannot bring forth good fruit, so a wasted life cannot bring forth happiness and good. By the life we lead shall we be judged, for as we sow so shall we reap. Paul in Galatians has listed nine fruits of the spirit, but heading the list is Love which embraces all others. On the road to Damascus, Saul the persecutor came to know the power of love and became Paul the disciple. Before that experience Saul of Tarsus had a great and burning ambition, to blot out the despised Christians. Only the power of God's love could have turned Saul the wrecker into Paul who endured stonings, lashings, prison, in order that he might preach to others of the Christ whom he learned to serve. May we strive more earnestly to make greater use each day of the love He has given us.

AFFIRMATION: I Use The Power Of Love At All Times.

Meditation Lesson

January 11, 1968

And Peter remembered the word of the Lord.

Luke 22:61

IN THE RUSH of modern living we forget too quickly, and must needs have special days for remembering. Jesus must have known man's weakness in this respect; that even His disciples would soon forget His teachings and without something to keep His words fresh in their minds their zeal and faith might lessen. So on the evening of His crucifixion He broke bread with them saying: "This do in remembrance of me." Even Peter, the rock, soon forgot His words and denied His Master. When Jesus turned and looked at Peter, the disciple remembered and shed tears of repentance. How many we find today, like Peter, who fail to remember the love of the Father and deny Him. We, too, soon fail to remember to thank Him for the small blessings of each day—the love of a friend, the beauty around us, which seem so matter-of-fact yet make up a part of His love.

AFFIRMATION: I Will Remember The Father's Love.

January-February 1968

Page 15

Meditation Lesson

January 12, 1968

And ye are witnesses of these things.

Acts 5:32

IT IS NOT always possible for us to estimate the weight of another's influence upon our lives. When that one has the power of the Christ spirit within, that influence is much greater. As Truth followers it is our privilege to bear witness in different ways—in the things we do and those we do not do. In our meditation along spiritual lines, in our prayers for those in need—in the many little ways of service we bear the witness which gives evidence of the Christ love. Then the many things that we do not do; from speaking harshly of our brother, from putting ourselves first in all things—these bear witness of our service to the Christ. Nor must we remain silent when a spoken word is needed to bear witness to our faith. In all our words and actions let us bear witness to the things of Spirit.

AFFIRMATION: I Bear Witness To The Love Of The Father.

Meditation Lesson

January 13, 1968

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 2:5

WE SHOULD at times take a spiritual inventory of ourselves and determine if we are taking Christ as our standard. Do we do our daily living with the attitude that we are doing the will of the Father? Do we sense the oneness of God with all His creation? Or, do we feel ourselves apart from that creation, thus losing the great Truth which Jesus came to teach? Are we tolerant and just toward all others, knowing that each one is a part of the great central Sun, a radiation from God? And what is our attitude toward life itself? Do we find it cold and cruel, ugly and forbidding? Or, as true followers of the Christ, do we look for and find only the beautiful, the true? We must not forget that we each find in life a true replica of what we put into life.

AFFIRMATION: I See God's Creation As Only Good.

Meditation Lesson

January 14, 1968

... and went away grieved.

Mark 10:22

IN THE STORY of Nicodemus we have a parallel in the lives of some people today. They are sincere in their desire to know the truth and become humble in the face of the Christ light as revealed to their inmost souls. But, like Nicodemus, they turn away and miss the greatest opportunity in life to become a follower of that Christ spirit. This story of the wise young man who turned away gives us the reason why so many worthwhile people fall short of the race. They want to follow the Master, but in the demands of life upon them they fail or refuse to take time for meditation and prayer which are necessary if the Christ within shall come forth. Only through growth in the qualities which make for mastery do we attain the Christhood. So whatever the needs of daily life, let us tarry to learn of His ways and turn not away.

AFFIRMATION: I Tarry To Learn Of The Spirit.

Meditation Lesson

January 15, 1968

Why art thou cast down?

Psalms 42:11

NO ONE CAN go far in life without experiencing the ups and downs, the joys and sorrows, the successes and failures. But, like the traveler through the storm, we can pass through such times without letting them stop our progress. From experience in the past we know the sun is still shining behind the darkness. We can prevent these times of depression and sorrow from turning us off the upward path, and that is through prayer. Daily prayer is necessary in every life if we are to keep calm and poised in the face of chaos and unrest. It is the beacon sent from the great lighthouse of life guiding our ship from the shoals and rocks, beside and around us. May we never neglect prayer, for "mine eyes shall be open and my ears attend unto the prayer that is made in this place" (the heart).

AFFIRMATION: Prayer Is My Daily Food For Spirit.

Meditation Lesson

January 16, 1968

Ye shall receive of me gifts and rewards.

Daniel 2:6

IT IS THE WISH of many that they might inherit a fortune even though much of the estate must go for taxes. How many times we have been told that ours is the Kingdom of Heaven and as sons of God we are heirs to that Kingdom. Yet we seem to feel that this is something illusory while we would eagerly accept a paper giving us an earthly inheritance. We can have no inheritance unless we move toward it, accept and claim it. The only reason that we do not now benefit more greatly by this Divine Inheritance is because we do not really believe it is ours. But when we once realize this we shall have healed our unbelief. Let us begin to act as we would if we really believed that ours was the Kingdom of Heaven with all the riches we desire. . . . here for the taking.

AFFIRMATION: I Know I Am Heir To The Kingdom.

Meditation Lesson

January 17, 1968

And he went out, and wept bitterly.

Matthew 26:75

IN THIS ACCOUNT of Peter and Judas toward the betrayal of Christ we have two distinct and opposite sides of life. Peter, repenting in bitterness, was forgiven. Judas, in utter despair, hanged himself. So today and all through life defeat or victory depends upon our spiritual fortitude or the lack of it. God has wonderful ways of using those who, once defeated, repent and begin a new life. Jacob the cheat became Israel the Prince of God. Saul the persecutor became Paul the staunch disciple of Good. Many in the past through weakness or ignorance have lost their way along the spiritual path; but through a certain experience later found the truth and are sending out its light into the lives of those still in the shadow. At some period in life most of us have known defeat, but like Peter we can turn that defeat into a glorious service for the Christ.

AFFIRMATION: I Turn From Past Defeats Into Victory.

Meditation Lesson

January 18, 1968

Is not the life more than the meat?

Matthew 6:25

TODAY THE chief concern of the world is the earning of daily bread. In the gaining of this we are prone to give our best thought and energy, and as a result too often we find no time for the richer and spiritual food, for study and meditation, for forming of new and worthwhile friendships; so little time for searching the scriptures which is our guiding light on the path of progression. Bread is necessary to our physical life, yet the winning of it should not take first place in our lives. There are other attainments which are above that of merely satisfying physical needs. It has been written that "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Our Heavenly Father knows our physical needs—so, may we take time always for those things of the spirit.

AFFIRMATION: I Always Take Time To Learn Of Spirit.

Meditation Lesson

January 19, 1968

... to give the light of the knowledge.

II Corinthians 4:6

THE UNIVERSAL law governing any endeavor is always true and may never be violated. Sometimes we think we have complied with a certain law, yet find that we do not have the desired result. If there is something less than progress and happiness in our lives we must know that we have made some mistake in complying with the law and in case of failure it is a law of unbelief. Let us do something on the believing side instead of bemoaning our failures. Since we are one with life and law, our believing such brings us to a greater understanding of our oneness and enables the law which takes us at our belief to manifest in our experience greater success and progress. It is our duty to believe in ourselves which belief and faith will definitely and constantly build into our experience the awareness of that which we desire and believe in.

AFFIRMATION: I Believe In And Abide By The Law Of Life.

January-February 1968

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Meditation Lesson

January 20, 1968

For God is love.

I John 4:8

LET US PONDER the qualities which are born of love. Peace, Harmony, Understanding, Patience, Tolerance are all the fruits of this greatest of all virtues—Love. But in order that we experience these fruits of love it becomes necessary that we cleanse our minds of those things which are not a part of the divine inspiration. To do this we restrain from entering into combat with one whom we believe has wronged us, for that draws, with magnetic force, a sustaining vitality from our own attention to that thing or one we fear. We light a room not by opposing the darkness, but by bringing into it that which is light. In the same way, by illumination of spirit, we dissipate from our environment that which is not born of love. We simply bring into our consciousness the conviction of Love, or Unity with those whom we would harmonize.

AFFIRMATION: Love Dissipates All That Is Not Born Of Love.

Meditation Lesson

January 21, 1968

... thou upholdest me in mine integrity.

Psalms 41:12

WE FIND PEOPLE who fail to get any happiness from human associations because they are oversensitive. They fear that someone may do something to hurt their feelings. . . "carry a chip on their shoulder," as the saying goes. This feeling of sensitiveness comes from a misunderstanding of one's self and grows out of failure to really understand the other person. If we really understood the unity between ourselves and others we would not be falsely sensitive. All of us expect life and people to be kind toward us, so we must be willing to have the same feeling toward our fellowmen. When we train ourselves to look beneath the surface of another's conduct we will say, "This one is a part of God, as I am a part of God. As there is but one God there is only unity and understanding between us." Thus, we will find friendships.

AFFIRMATION: I Am One With All Men.

Meditation Lesson

January 22, 1968

All things are delivered to me of my Father.

Luke 10:22

THE REASON we fail to demonstrate is because we do not really believe. We speak with the intellect about the unity of God and man, and intellectually perhaps we believe it. But before we can receive the good He intends for us we must come to know that our unity with God is closer than any other union in the universe. We must bring the emotion, that part of us which feels and knows these facts without reservation, to accept the truth of what we speak that God is, and is in all. We cannot believe, yet not believe; so our great endeavor should be to affirm the good, the true, and the presence of God until nothing in us comes forth to contradict that assertion. Then and then only we shall have brought our faith and acceptance to the place where it embraces the truth we intellectually affirm.

AFFIRMATION: I Believe With The Spirit.

Meditation Lesson

January 23, 1968

He that built all things is God.

Hebrews 3:4

IN THE PAST we were taught that false humility, and personal inferiority were virtues which should be practiced in order to be spiritual. This is not so, for it is self-esteem and self-expression which we should learn and practice if we are to show forth the qualities of the Father. God built the world for man, and man for the world. He created man that man might enjoy his divinity, not that he should suffer. We look about and see the misery and heartache and it would seem difficult to live in accordance with the law of God's abundance. In our course through life we make our own hardships as we go along, or through ignorance feel that we must accept the mistakes which others have made. To each and all of us life may be free and glorious for we are equipped with the understanding and the power to make of life just what we choose.

AFFIRMATION: My Life Is Filled With The Goodness Of God.

**Bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ.
II Corinthians 10:5**

FREEDOM OF THOUGHT is an attribute of man which has never been and can never be curbed. Since thought is the innermost secret thing about man it means that at the roots of our being we have great power. Thought is power; and this thought which is mind in motion creates everything that is made. Because of our freedom of thought it is within our power to draw to us whatever we desire. Thought is the power which makes and moulds. Because of this fact it is our privilege to make of our world what we will. But we must believe that we have power of the Infinite and with every word we speak we must act as though we believe it. We should be steadfast in the consciousness of our free and powerful thinking until we get our thought completely loose from all limitations. We ourselves set the limitation on what we may do and be.

AFFIRMATION: I Speak The Word Of Power Within.

... but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. John 1:17

KNOWLEDGE of Truth unmasking ignorance and shows us the powerlessness of falsehood. Jesus gave to the world Truth as His philosophy of life and the means of escape from false beliefs. When we know the truth about health we break the chains of disease. Knowing Truth we free ourselves from belief of adversity. Truth of our relationship to God and His perfect will become clear to us as we put from us all former beliefs in disease and replace them by the truth of the nothingness of evil. Through the Christ within we gain an understanding of our own power to overcome belief in failure and lack. This science of the Christ, the truth which He brought, comes to us as power over all conditions. Therefore these wonderful words from the text of St. John give us courage and strength, "Know the truth and the truth shall make ye free."

AFFIRMATION: The Truth Of Christ Is My Guide.

Meditation Lesson

January 26, 1968

... and thou shalt have plenty of silver.

Job 22:25

TO THOSE WHO keep limited ideas about supply out of their minds, prosperity comes easily. Others who have lived in lack for so long find it difficult to discipline their minds to accept rich ideas with the resultant prosperity. Spirit directs us to prosperity and success through giving us rich ideas. With the mind unified with Spirit we give up the old line of thinking and a new set of ideas causes our whole mental world to change. The old belief in lack gives way to the truth about abundance. God provides for us this abundance at all times. Our part is not to refuse to see His blessings by giving our attention to lack and failure. We must lift up our eyes and see the bounty of heaven. And we need to know that as children of the Father we are heirs to His bounty and to His resource.

AFFIRMATION: I Accept The Rich Ideas And Prosperity Which The Father Gives Me.

Meditation Lesson

January 27, 1968

Always to pray, and not to faint.

Luke 18:1

IT IS BY MEANS of prayer that we become conscious of living close to God. The prayer of communion in which our thought is lifted heavenward is our way of continually drawing closer and closer to Him. We should not assume a groveling attitude in our communion with God. We should not think of ourselves as unworthy of approaching Him. Rather, we should think of ourselves as we exist in His sight, perfect in Truth. We need never beseech God for blessings; we simply realize that these are ours already, knowing that all that the Father has is given gladly and lovingly from His abundant store of supply. In prayer we talk with God. He talks with us when we await Him in silent meditation. We rejoice that we have the privilege of coming to Him at all times and that always we abide in the protecting presence of His power.

AFFIRMATION: I Live Today In Close Touch With God.

There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

I Corinthians 12:4

WE MUST DROP all sense of combat inspired by a difference of opinion or a difference of form. There must not be a sense of apartment or separation. Every form is made from the one Infinite Substance; every form is fashioned by the same Law, moved into action by thought. We will find if we can establish an agreement built on understanding with all about us that we will be living in a world of unity and our progress will be swift and sure. We will function better when we feel that everything and everybody in our environment is cooperating with us and receiving in return our cooperation. It is the same thing, a sense of cooperative unity, which we must achieve in our relationship to the entire universe, either manifest or unmanifest. Let us learn to look beyond the material into the Spirit where there is no separation.

AFFIRMATION: I Sense Only The Oneness Of All Life.

And forget not all his benefits.

Psalms 103:2

WE FIND PEOPLE of means who are very careful with their money and their possessions. This attitude does not necessarily imply a fault. Jesus increased the five loaves and two small fishes to feed five thousand persons, yet there was some food remaining. Although infinite bounty was at His command, He took care of what He had received. The same is true with us. If we really appreciate God's bounty we know that our obligations do not end with receiving it. Our part is to give thanks, to bless, and to use wisely and conserve what is left. The law of love holds throughout the universe. Even as we prefer to associate with those who appreciate us most, so the abundance of God flows most freely to those who appreciate it with greatest sincerity. Let us wisely care for what God has given us, for only in wise and loving use of it will it increase.

AFFIRMATION: I Bless And Appreciate God's Good.

Meditation Lesson

January 30, 1968

Break up your fallow ground.

Jeremiah 4:3

FALLOW GROUND brings to mind the unused land which must be broken up and prepared before the seed is planted and bears fruit. In the realm of mind this means the opportunities which have not been made use of and remain of no good to the world. Most of us have at some time allowed the soil of our minds to be fallow and unproductive. For some, fallow ground means time, talent, money, which are unused in the service of God. Now is the time to begin cultivating the fallow ground of our minds so that the way of Truth may be lighted for others to find the way to unused talents and opportunities. Let us not be like those who are always going to do the worthwhile deed, yet the good still remains undone; the fallow ground remains fallow. Now is the time to make productive the unproductive ground.

AFFIRMATION: Today I Stir Up The Talents Within Me.

Meditation Lesson

January 31, 1968

. . . and was restored.

Mark 8:25

IT IS THROUGH spiritual vision that we rise above material appearances. We are able to see the world of Spirit shining through what had seemed to be a world of limitation. Back of the fog of evil and limitation we see the glory of God's universal world of good. As we grow in strength to see spiritually we will find that our eyes become strengthened for we are able to discard our belief in limited sight, and cease to strain the eyes. We should seek always to see within ourselves the perfection of Spirit, and look for this in others as well. Through faith and discipline we reach the point where we see only the good, the true, the real, both in ourselves and in others. This treatment for spiritual vision will help to develop clear strong eyes when we turn our attention to them, and know that in Spirit they are strong and perfect.

AFFIRMATION: I Behold Myself And All Things In Spiritual Perfection.

(For your February Guide see Page 73)

Editorial Letter

Dear Friends:

Do you feel the thrill of anticipation that is always mine when an Old Year gives way to the excitement that heralds a fresh New Year? The bells ring so joyously; the whistles are so jubilant. Even the clatter of pans and tin cans is transformed into almost melodic, gay sounds. And how beautiful are the bursts of fireworks exploding great flashes of reds and greens and blues against the night sky. It is the gayest celebration of all the year, for it is the time of beginning again, of erasing the failures of the past and looking forward to 365 whole new days of opportunity awaiting us.

As we step over the threshold at midnight, we marvel at the miracle of Time. Each morning, we will awake to twenty-four hours that are ours to use and shape into great achievements. We rise with eagerness to get into the mainstream of activity, to be part of the enormous, glorious whole of life. In our early communion with God, we have been given the vision of the part we play in His great over-all plan. We are one with Him, the Creator; one with every thing He has made, the Universe; one with every one who has been, like us, created in His image, our Fellow Man.

How exciting it is to be part of His whole - to be part of the completion of His plan, used in the functioning of His will, able to join in the great wave of returning love and gratitude for His goodness to us.

Our daily tasks take on new meaning, for we look beyond the small scope of our immediate job and see the ultimate service in which we share. We find new glory in our work, for we realize that all we do is for His glory and we are an important part of His scheme of things. We catch a glimpse of all who will profit because we are approved of God, workmen that need not be ashamed of our use of the talents He has given us.

We catch a view of the beauty of fulfillment, arrayed like fragrant, fragile, lovely blossoms adorning the tree of life. And the branches up which we must climb to reach the heights no longer seem difficult, nor the stretches between them annoying obstacles, for the exhilaration of our shining goal ahead clears our vision and we welcome the challenges to our spiritual fitness to attain all that the Father desires for us.

It is to all this that His loving arms raise me from my prayerful meditation in the waning moments of the Old Year, and my thoughts rise in words of thanksgiving and praise to Him who has given us another year in which to glorify Him - in words and in deed, each moment of each day.

May each one of you be so lifted up to greet the New Year.

"He who would climb a tree must grasp its branches, not the blossoms." — Thackeray

Rose Dawn

The Lord's Prayer



Elizabeth Searle Lamb

Our Father Which Art In Heaven, Hallowed Be Thy Name.

My soul, my mind, my very being is now awakening to the glory which is of my Father. From the majesty of the star-studded sky to the detailed perfection of the tiniest seashell I see His handiwork about me. The essential orderliness of the seasons as they roll attests His rhythmic pattern. How, then, can we see less than the spark of Divine Creation in man, created in His image and after His likeness?

I would cultivate a growing awareness of God's beauty, His orderly pattern, His power, His ever-present bounty. I would be aware that deep within my own soul there is a spark of that Divine Life that is of God, a spark that may lie dormant for countless years; yet, once recognized, may be fanned into a radiance that will permeate every body cell, every human relationship, every outer affair. I would see and give humble thanks that my own life has spiritual significance if I but let that Divine Spark cleanse me of negation and then work through me into the outer world.

4 By the very act of creation, God has hallowed the universe and all that lies therein. I, too, am so hallowed, and every living creature the same.

Thy Kingdom Come. Thy Will Be Done In Earth, As It Is In Heaven.

The desire of every man, deep within his heart, is for the kingdom of heaven to come on earth. Every man wants to claim his divine birthright of abundance, health, wisdom, strength and creative opportunity. Surely it is in the divine pattern for men to have these things. But before that day can come, before the kingdom of heaven can be entirely made manifest in earth, each man must do his part.

I pray today that I may be a channel to further the coming of that kingdom. I pray for guidance that I may be led to do my own particular task, and for wisdom and strength to do it in accordance with the Divine Plan. I pray that love may flow through me from God to all those I meet — family, friends and strangers alike — love so strong and deep and powerful that any trace of corroding hate, of bitter dissension, of clogging fear may be dissolved.

I act today as if God's kingdom were on earth! I see His bounty all about me; His beauty lights my way; men and women take on a new and radiant appearance. So does, with increasing clarity and power, the kingdom of heaven manifest in earth.

Give Us This Day Our Daily Bread.

Within the framework of God's creation is abundance of every good thing for all if man will but recognize his position as a Son of God and claim his good. This day I acknowledge God as my Father; I acknowledge that my needs are real — they may not be imagined away — but I acknowledge at the same time that God has also provided an ample bounty to meet every one of those needs.

So today I list my needs, not putting down barest of minimum essentials, but freely expressing those needs and sincere desires that come from my heart. With this list in hand and heart, I pray God to "Give me this day my daily bread." I need not concern myself with yesterday's lack nor tomorrow's need. No, I ask for today. I ask and I expect to receive. Faith — that is the crux! I believe, I *know* I will receive. So I need not fear, nor be cross, nor belittle myself in an effort to beg these necessities of God or man. No, I ask and believe; and then I act on that faith, knowing serenely and confidently that God will not withhold from me. I take a positive stand against poverty of the soul and of the body alike.

Forgive Us Our Debts, As We Forgive Our Debtors.

I pray that the forgiving spirit of Jesus Christ that could forgive His enemies from the cross be strong within my heart. Then I send out this forgiveness to every person who has in any way offended or hurt me. I forgive each one fully and freely and pray that any person I may have hurt will so forgive me.

Now I look deep into my own heart and bring out every mistake, failure and humiliation I still harbor. I forgive myself completely and fully for each one, and release these past remembrances forever. I need carry them no longer; they are past and gone. This is a new day and I am free through forgiveness.

Only after I have forgiven every person against whom I have ever held a grudge, and have likewise fully forgiven myself, can I turn to God and ask forgiveness for my shortcomings, my sins, my many failures to live up to the Christ standard. With a loving and contrite heart, I lay before Him in deep prayer my imperfections, asking Him to forgive me, resolving from this day forward to maintain a closer guard over thoughts and actions until I measure up in all things to the high standard He has set for me.

*And Lead Us Not Into Temptation, But Deliver Us From Evil:
For Thine Is The Kingdom, And The Power, And The Glory,
For Ever. Amen.*

All the power of God, Omnipotent, is at my disposal if I need it. No circumstance, no bodily condition, no person that does not fully express God need affect my life. I am a Son of God; I hold fast to Him and yield to no temptation. He is my rock and my fortress. He delivers me from imperfection into perfection, from failure into victory.

I see the power of God, His goodness, His glory, in the world about me — in the functioning of my own body, in the clinging fingers of a baby, in the science of the atom!

I pray that I may ever mirror His desires for me. I pray that He will ever guide me, turning my feet from the downward way to His upper road. I pray that I may never fail to be worthy of Him. He is all power and all glory and all majesty, now and forever more, to every living soul. He is the One; there is no other. I look to Him for every need; I glorify His name with every breath. And so, conscious of a very closeness with His Presence, I say — for the sake of Jesus Christ, who showed us the only way to Thee — Amen.

My Morning Prayer

O, let me listen, Lord, to what you have to say;
I am so prone to talk, and ask for things my way.
But to know your will for me, I must quiet be;
Let me now be still, and you will speak to me.

I need a quiet mind, and deep serenity,
So that I may know your plan for me today.
I must be willing, Lord, to let you shine through me,
And forget myself, and just a channel be.

— Ada Rudge



Good Vibrations



Jon Williams

NOT long ago a popular song was telling the fictitious story of an individual who came to a fortune teller to find out how he was faring with a certain friend. For him the medium's report was very good. The world was rosy and life was a bowl of cherries. Thus the song explained that the "teller of fortunes" was receiving "good vibrations" in behalf of his client.

The New Year has dawned upon the horizon of another cycle of life. We have received a new gift. We have entered upon a new journey, traveling upon a path that is bright and shining, clean and spotless. It is unblemished and packed with promises of good. There are new frontiers to conquer. There are countless opportunities facing us and beckoning us to receive them. There are doors

opening before us that take us into the great world of adventure.

To the sensitive spirit within our beings, the magnificent receiving set of the soul, there comes a constant flow of those so-called "good vibrations", spiritual flashes of truth and reality from God Himself. To these we must be gratefully receptive. For as we do, we receive the divine good of God. Actually we experience good and positive "feelings", spiritual desires to adhere to the good, the right, the Truth of Christ. It is to dwell upon the perfection of God and to affirm the very fact of divine Truth and love.

ONE of the many good sensations and commands of the spirit that we receive as we set out on the journey in the New Year is that we must let go of

the past year, which includes a number of old failures and burdens as well as many of the former victories. To dwell upon either a defeat or a victory too long will draw us to the side and prevent us from entering into the delightful experiences of new victories and conquests that God has provided for us. But let us do give thanks for the splendid experiences and joys of yesterday, then let them be bygones. We must make room for new ones.

St. Paul knew the value of this, and for our good he gives us assistance with his fitting counsel: "... *one thing I do, forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Let those of us who are mature be thus minded . . . let us hold true to what we have attained.*" (Philippians 3:13-16)

Adding emphasis to St. Paul's words of wisdom are those of the poet in Ecclesiastes, "*God seeks what has been driven away.*" (Ecclesiastes 3:15) This is to say, God requires all that has taken place. God requires past events and happenings. One of the chief faults we usually have is that we retain in some way our shortcomings of the previous year. We think of our old mistakes and hold on to them. We seem to want to cling needlessly to them. We must let the past

year's events go and forget them. We must bury the past. Let God take it from us for He requires the past. Job's beautiful phrase gives us encouragement: "*You will forget your misery; you will remember it as waters that have passed away.*" (Job 11:16) The picture before me is that of a river, which continually flows on and on, bringing into the channel and river bed new, clean, fresh water. Such is our life when we choose to look forward instead of backward.

JESUS retells this truth in the illustration of the plowman.

As he keeps his eyes ahead and upon the furrow, he will arrive at the kingdom he is searching for, and if he looks back he is not fit for that kingdom. The Master uses another beautiful figure of speech when He advised putting new wine into new wine skins. The New Year deserves the attention of new events. Old experiences, defeats and events placed in the "bottles" of the New Year will only destroy the new. Old thoughts placed in new skins will destroy the new. Let us put new adventures into the containers of the New Year.

The rightful prayer to accompany all spiritual messages and "vibrations" from God should be without hesitation, "*The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me . . . to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.*" (Isaiah 61:1-2) The year is truly an acceptable year, a

good year, a year full of fortune and goodness as long as we apply these vibrant and living principles of "forgetting what lies behind" and letting God receive the past. Then, as we walk upon the path ahead, staying our minds upon the mind of Christ, we will be able to proclaim the New Year as acceptable in behalf of ourselves and our fellow man.

Spiritual vibrations continue to give us promises of a bright year ahead if we will attune ourselves to certain other worthy principles. With the writer of Revelation we must look up and behold as we affirm, "*I saw a new heaven and a new earth.*" One may state this as a present tense affirmative prayer, "*I see a new heaven and a new earth.*" The Christ within us declares, "*Behold, I make all things new.*" (Revelation 21:1,5)

ST. PAUL again informs us distinctly how we may become new creatures for a new year with the evident fact, "*If any one is in Christ, he is a new creation, the old has passed away, behold, the new has come.*" (II Corinthians 5:17) But how are we to become a person "in Christ" and thus a new creation? To the Ephesians the Apostle said, "*Put off your old nature which belongs to your former manner of life . . . and be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and put on the new nature, created after the like-*

ness of God in true righteousness and holiness." (Ephesians 4:22-24)

A final promise for the New Year, which may become an inevitable reality in our life, is the affirmation of the Psalmist that we usually hear during the harvest and thanksgiving seasons. However, let us think of it as a needful prayer at this time: "*Thou crownest the year with thy goodness.*" (Psalm 65:11) This is a prayer, a statement, a declaration of truth that should go with us. Every morning when we rise anew, after the shades of night have been pulled back, we may well affirm, "*Thou crownest this day with thy goodness; Lord God, I can feel it within, every atom and cell of my being.*" How can we miss the blessings and the gifts of God with a heart and mind full of positive thoughts! A further suggestion of how we must look to each new day in the New Year is contained in these time-honored lines:

*Look to this day,
For it is the very life of life.
In its brief course lie all the
verities and realities of
your existence:
The glory of action,
The bliss of growth,
The splendor of beauty,
For yesterday is but a dream
and tomorrow is only a
vision;
But today well lived makes
every yesterday a dream of*

*happiness, and every tomorrow a vision of hope.
Look well, therefore, to this day.*

PUT your minds in the channel of these thoughts of truth and as they become a part of you, begin to list and enumerate all of the blessings that are in store for you and others throughout this New Year. Consider the great new highway before you, the dawn of the year and each bright new day, the frontiers to conquer and mountains to climb, and opportunities that belong to you as a child of God. Remember that God, who is love Himself, loves you. To be in tune with God, the Infinite Being of your life, is to hear His voice and to know the wonderful promises that are in store for you and all who accept them.

Enter faithfully, courageously, hopefully, lovingly into meditation with Him now and feel within your heart and soul the very breathing, pulsating, vibrating life, light and love of God.

PRAYER:

Father of time, space and life;
Giver of health, illumination and prosperity;
I thank You for the gift of the New Year,
The road that leads ahead into untold adventures of good.
With the Divine Mind of Christ within me,
And my hand placed in Yours
I know that each day's dawn will unfold
Your vibrating blessings of good fortune. Amen.

The spectrum of love shows nine elements:

Patience — "Love suffereth long."

Kindness — "And is kind."

Generosity — "Love envieth not."

Humility — "Love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up."

Courtesy — "Doth not behave itself unseemly."

Unselfishness — "Seeketh not its own."

Good Temper — "Is not provoked."

Guilelessness — "Taketh not account of evil."

Sincerity — "Rejoiceth not in unrighteousness, but rejoiceth with the truth."

— Henry Drummond

Each His Own Healer

Elizabeth Gregg

HEALTH IS THE FIRST OF ALL LIBERTIES AND HAPPINESS
GIVES US THE ENERGY WHICH IS THE BASIS OF HEALTH

—Amiel

ALL HEALING is self-healing. As all diseases have a mental origin, disease and suffering will be increased by negative thought or decreased by a positive thought. Thoughts, which we consciously think or feel no matter whether or not we give them outward expression, are a literal call to health or sickness. It all depends on *how* we think and *how* we feel, for through our thoughts and feelings, we establish a true or a false relationship and our health and happiness depend on this relationship.

Every thought is a seed and each seed produces after its own. Good or evil is the result according to the kind of seed. If we sow the seed of good health in the mind, the more it is tilled afterward, the easier and sooner will health manifest. The habit of right thinking

established in this way will result in the individual's growing stronger and better able to accomplish that which he sets out to do.

When our thoughts and feelings are directed in the channel of strong, positive thinking, an enormous power for good is released within us. God cannot work for us unless we work for ourselves. Fear and doubt are unreal conditions of mind that have caused mental and physical suffering and must be routed from our minds. With each one rests the power to check and overcome the currents of his mental atmosphere. It is simply a question of overcoming, and there is only one kind of overcoming that counts; that is, the substitution of the true for the false, the turning on of a true thought to dispel the wrong one.

EACH ONE must look within himself for this healing power. No one would think of having someone else take his medicine for him. The healing agent must come in contact with that which is to be healed. In all cases of mental healing, what the healer really does is to suggest an idea that will be of sufficient power to counteract the negative thoughts of the patient, thus making conditions possible which will permit the cosmic wholeness within the patient to manifest itself. Just as a captain never brings his ship into port while there is a storm at sea, but anchors outside and waits until it is calm, so no healing can take place while the mind of the patient is torn by doubt, fear of punishment or trying to find help from without.

We can have good health if we are willing to work for it. Some say they want good health but that they do not know how to go about getting it. Our first step in self-healing should be taken by exercising control over our thoughts. We should affirm often to ourselves: "I am strong, healthy and happy."

To affirm anything to ourselves is to impress it on the subconscious mind and, in that way, the affirmation becomes the manifested self. Affirmation voluntarily made and repeated becomes a fixed habit, molding the health life for good or evil according to the kind of affir-

mation made. How necessary it is that we affirm only the positive condition instead of the negative condition.

LIFE and health are both *within*. The Creator has given unto each of us a kingdom to rule. The King is Self. The way lies within each of us and must be worked out by each one individually. No matter how we may stumble or fall, as time goes on, the result of our right thinking is sure. Proper use of the power that is within each one redeems the body from the bondage of inherited and involuntary race tendencies, heals it of its disorders and brings it into conscious knowledge of its strength.

Self-healing is based upon the faith in the latent power of our own inner self. We cannot be healthy from any form of thought that is not followed by action. Faith and words must be followed by action if there is to be any harvest from that faith.

In all mental healing, the mind must be adjusted to the natural laws that consciously act to remove disease. Mental healing is based upon the eternal character of constructive thought. Any thought held with intensity in the mind will produce the condition of that thought. Thoughts of health will produce a healthy condition of the body, while thoughts of disease will just as surely produce diseases of the body.

IT IS impossible for us to gain health until we learn to think health. Through sincere desire and earnest prayer, we connect with the Universal Power around us in much the same way that the electric wire connects a switch with the power plant that produces the light.

We would think a farmer insane who would sow thistle seeds over his farm and expect to reap wheat. But we sow fear, worry, anxiety and doubt — and often wonder why we are sick and unhappy. The harvest from our thoughts is just as much the result of law as that of the farmer's sowing. If we sow thoughts of failure, we can no more reap success than the farmer can get a wheat crop from thistle seeds. The kind of seed thoughts we sow will determine without fail our harvest, either of wheat or thistles.

Things that make us un-

happy, and that we call evil, are not real; they are shadows that are magnified out of all due proportion. In the Platonic doctrine of creation, the Supreme Goodness is that from which all things proceed and is that which contains in itself all existing things. This precludes anything that is evil. Good is positive and real. Evil is the absence of good and, consequently, has no real existence, only a seeming existence. So, in the healing of the body, we do not need to heal a seeming evil condition. We simply turn on the light of right thinking and we find only the good, the real, which is health and harmony.

All healing is self-healing, for there can be no true healing without the thought seed of health and harmony. And no one can think our thoughts for us. We must do that ourselves.



"You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt; as young as your confidence, as old as your fear; as young as your hope, as old as your despair. In the central place of every heart there is a recording chamber; so long as it receives messages of beauty, hope, cheer and courage, so long are we young. When the wires are all down and your heart is covered with the snows of pessimism and the ice of cynicism, then and then only are you grown old."

— General Douglas MacArthur
From Move Ahead With Possibility Thinking





A PRAYER

God, give me the power to love, for You are Love; and if I love, I shall express Your Being.

God, give me the power to see You in all beings; for if I see You in all beings, I shall have the power to love them, and manifest You through my love.

God, give me the power to see You in myself, and to hate in me all that is not You; for if I love You in myself, instead of loving myself, I shall love my real Self, and thus escape the crime of self-hatred.

God, give me the power to love Your Will, even when Your Will goes against my will, even when Your Will tears and bleeds my heart; for if I love Your Will, You will live in my heart, and my heart will forget its agony and bleeding, and I shall be Your tool, in place of being an obstruction, and You will flow through me on this sinful earth, and Your Light will bring joy to others.


God, give me the power to hate sin, without hating those who sin; for if I hate those who sin, my hatred will doom my soul, since I, myself, am sinful.

God, give me the power of being honest with myself, of not deceiving myself; for if I sin, I can be saved, but if I justify my sin, there is no possible salvation.

God, give me the power to be simple, for only the Simple do not deceive themselves, do not distort Your Sacred Truth through the conceited, subtle selfishness of rationalizations. Simplicity is Perfection itself. Simplicity is infinite and unfathomable like You, for Simplicity is You in all its pure, and radiant, and eternal Glory.

God, give me the power of Joy; for if I accept the burden of my cross and if I refuse to smile, my cross will be my death — and not my resurrection.

— Georges Agadjanian



Goal

Mary Elsnau

ARE you reaching for a goal or just drifting? The easiest thing in life is to drift — it requires no brains, no energy, no exertion. But to aim your life takes grit, determination and courage, and a large measure of self-confidence. Faith in yourself and in your Maker — that is self-confidence. Without faith, we get no farther than a car without gas.

In any life, in any time, faith will raise you above the drifters. Faith means belief. Believe that you can and dare to do. Believe in the God in you! You doubt this, you scorn it outwardly; but within you know it is true. We are all made of a pattern "in the image and likeness" of Him. We each have a mind, and our conscience that tells us when we are on the right track and warns us when we fall off. This, the spark of life, the God within, is our better self. We can accept that

better self and live up to its demands, or at least try, for being human we can only try and fail and try again, or we can allow the drifting, easy life to ruin us.

The will is more potent than we realize, for we so seldom use it except for display, in stubborn little ways. To set your will on your goal and aim at a high point and hold it there through determination, that is exercising your will to its fullest extent. This holding of the will fixedly on one point means a good deal of concentrative ability. It may be a good idea to learn to concentrate first. Unless trained, most people lack woefully the ability to think through any given subject.

ONE MAN, widely known for his unshakable will, says he taught himself will power by first concentrating on any article that happened to be in his

surroundings, no matter where he was.

If in a room waiting for an appointment and his eyes fell on a chair, he would study it, beginning with its general appearance. He would note if it were worn, the probable age of the chair, the period of its style. He would think of the work that had gone into the making of it — the lathe work, the cutting, carving, and staining, and the waxed or hand-rubbed finish.

He would go back to the very beginning. He sought information behind the apparent, this was his secret of what he called "thinking through". He saw back to the growing tree, before the chair was ever designed on blueprint or even thought of. Where was the wood likely to have come from? Was it mahogany from tropical climes, teakwood from India or pine cut from our own forests?

In his mind, he would see the lumbermen hauling the timber from mill to factory. He would imagine the logs chained together in rafts floating down rapidly flowing mountain streams, fresh from the logman's ax. Just about as he reached this point, a door would open and someone would announce it was his turn next. He was amazed to find how quickly and profitably his time was spent.

This, he says, is what taught him to concentrate in the most crowded public places. In the midst of hubbub he can think and plan his next move to the minutest detail, and be totally unaware of the many distractions all about him. He had his goal and won through to it by his ability to concentrate. With this ability to concentrate, he found a strength within: the tremendous force and power of his will, which he controlled and guided by reason. With his mind he aimed high, followed through with his will, and won!

WE CAN do the same if we will it so. It calls for the highest degree of self-discipline but the game is worth it. We must first find out what interests us most. Find an interest that so absorbs you that there is no end to studying it. If a glowing warmth suffuses you as you learn more and more, this, then, should be your chosen field, your aim. If it can so hold you that it demands all of your spare time, if it becomes "a jealous mistress", ah, then you know. But there may be times when the enthusiasm dies down, when the road seems long and weary. Now comes self-discipline and here self-respect and pride will aid you. If you keep your eyes on ultimate success, you're bound to win!



NEW EYES FOR THE MIND

B. Coursin Black

THE hospital was quiet. Pale light from the hall reflected into the room. Occasionally a white-clad figure went past the door like a wraith. The man in the other bed stirred, turned over, then was still. It was the twenty-second night I had been there — tomorrow I would go home. Yet the small room in a cabana seemed remote, vague.

The sudden heart attack had wakened me shortly after I had gone to bed. I have had angina pectoris for some years but it troubled me only occasionally when I walked. That night it erupted like a volcano. I was dimly aware of dressing, phoning for help, packing a small bag — finding the next day that I had put in a razor but no blades, a comb (which I never use), and a bottle of lighter fluid, which I likely thought was shaving cream.

When I realized that I would

be in the hospital for a considerable period, I was certain that I could do a lot of reading and perhaps plot a story or so. But I did none of these things. After a few days in bed, strain and tension subsided, and I was content to rest and relax. The very thought of action became alien to me — the action of stories and books, the intensity of creative effort.

Yet I anticipated the immediacy of the day — a few phone calls, some visitors, the ministrations of nurses, the several EKGs, the meals, the television programs in the evening. These were passive, demanding no effort. Above all, I awaited late afternoon eagerly.

THE room was on the top floor. The busy street was not visible. I could gaze out the window at the sky, usually a peaceful blue, sometimes flecked with small white clouds. A few

tall buildings showed their top stories, and they gleamed like gold in the slanting rays of the sunlight, at first bright and shining, then turning to a soft, burnished glow. When the sun went down lights appeared, and the whole scene became a fairy-land of colored illumination.

For twenty-two days I had been away from my work. Cards came from friends in town, but all my regular mail had been allowed to accumulate at home. I had no desire for it — then. That surprised me. The weeks preceding the heart attack had been very busy. There seemed never enough time for all that had to be done. The hours were maelstroms of activity. How, I wondered in amazement, had I been able to be away from it all for more than three weeks? Yet the world had not come to an end, life flowed on, and I was strangely content.

AT home I found a heaping box of mail, much of it Christmas cards and letters. Christmas has always meant much to me — a once-a-year

time of nostalgia, sending the annual messages to those I rarely wrote or heard from during the year. My practice is to write early, and I knew my correspondents must already be wondering why nothing had reached them from me — Christmas was just five days away.

It was not until the next morning, when I went to my desk, that I realized a subtle but real change had come to my way of thinking. I was in no hurry whatever. I did not even glance at the box of mail for some time. Instead, I was savoring so many things scarcely noticed before. Awake at five, as has been my habit for years, it was still dark outside, but flashes of light from the street fell on the aluminum side of a trailer, forming a crystal row of bright "icicles". Inside, my cluttered, small room assumed a significance I could scarcely credit. The shadowed books, the array of writing tools, boxes of paper and envelopes, pencils, clips, inks, pens, scrawled notes, clippings, tape, all formed a disorderly conglomer-

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

A number of you have requested envelopes with the name and address of your Mayan Order printed on them for use in writing us or returning your answer sheets.

These envelopes are now available in packages of 100 for only \$1.00 per package. Letter size (3 5/8 inches by 6 1/2 inches), you may use the space provided in the book order form to request your supply.

ation that fascinated me. I was a stranger, seeing as though for the first time items that held secret meanings now.

These treasures were part of me, the tools of the work that I loved. Never before had I noticed the color of a pencil, the allure of a bottle of ink, the complexity of a paper clip! A sheet of paper was a challenge to record the mystery of thoughts, the magic of mental ideas. How very interesting was every item. My fountain pen held all the glamour of Aladdin's lamp.

A red glow spread in the eastern sky and soon the sun came up and the shadows of night lightened and fled. The somewhat scraggly bush in front of my writing window became a silhouette of beauty. Then I looked at the box of letters under my lamp. Seventy or eighty messages of mystery awaiting me, to read and to answer!

SUDDENLY I realized that I was seeing and feeling with the newness of a child — or perhaps more aptly, that of a person who had been away in a dark valley and had reappeared on a hill bathed in sunshine. I was receptive to details, to minutes instead of simply another day of hours. Time had a meaning known only in occasional glimpses previously. Not time compressed and hemmed in by pressure, by hurry, but time expanded into a glorious

opportunity for life, for experiences that beckoned, for adventure that lured.

I read each note and card and letter, then answered it, before I opened the next. There was no sense of urgency, of hurry, of that busyness that adulterates and deadens everything we do. In the hour or so during which I had known the darkness of night and the resurgence of a new day, I had found the moment of Truth. Very contributory to my heart attack had been weeks and months of hurry and flurry, of tensions born not of lack of time but of perpetual racing in everything I did.

How is such a problem to be faced and overcome? Some people make a list of things to be done during a day, even the time to be allotted each project. That never works for me. I become so engrossed that I run over the period set aside, or become so appalled at how much there is to do that I shy away completely!

A friend phoned that she had not been able to complete an important manuscript on time. "Each day is so overwhelming," she said ruefully.

There is no one single answer; our methods of thinking and working are too different. Perhaps we are all trying to do too many things and *evaluate* too little. We are so eager to complete everything that we forfeit the vital pleasure in the

doing and pride in the result.

The storm destroys; only the calm period following permits rebuilding. The mind that races pell-mell blocks out the power and renewal that come only in quiet meditation. When we stop for a time the hectic rushing and fevered planning, we reach God, the Source of all strength.

RELAX! Let go! External pressures will always beset us. There will always be a line of things waiting our attention, if we are aware only of that which is outside us. Wisdom to solve our problems, enthusiasm in accomplishment, "finding

time" for all that is needful, are found in silent inner communion.

Today is not a burden; it is an opportunity. The work of *Now* is all that concerns us. Give it all you have. When the time comes to tackle the next undertaking, you will be ready.

So I read now, with new insight, the teachings in Proverbs 2:10, 11 —

"For wisdom shall enter into thy heart,

And knowledge shall be pleasant unto thy soul;

Discretion shall preserve thee, understanding shall keep thee."



A little faith goes a long way.

I say "little" in the sense that it doesn't cost anything. For, faith comes from deep, down inside — within our inner selves. It is one of our most beautiful spiritual possessions.

Some of us are apt to be too cynical. "Faith," we say, "never heard of it!" Perhaps we haven't, but it's there. It may be lying dormant — but it's there.

Faith ought to be privileged to daily exercise. It may be in the physical, mental, or spiritual realm, but it ought to be exercised.

The perfect Source of our faith is God. God is in all things; God is all things, all the more reason why we should have faith in ourselves, faith in our fellow men, faith in the world. After all, it is God's world.

Upon occasion, when a fellow being has failed to come up to our material expectations, we've uttered the words: "I've lost faith in him." Is it really that we lost faith, or that we had no faith at all to begin with? Perhaps our lack of faith blocked our friend's pathway to success.

Faith is too wonderful, too perfect, to be lost so quickly. Faith is eternal; it is the Flame of undying Love. We must keep it burning at all times — to uphold courage and fortitude, to meet the daily crises of this chaotic life.

— Jean L. Canzoneri



If You're Willing

Dan Harman

THE little lady seemed hardly able to do anything for herself. She was bent over and she moved slowly about the house. But there, stretched out before her, was a table covered with homemade noodles.

"Vell," she said with her thick accent, "I always made them, so I guess I still can." Her two strapping farmer sons knew that there was nothing their Mom needed to do unless she wanted to.

"But Mom stays young at heart by working at it," the older son said, as he dipped his fork into the egg noodles smothered with chicken and butter. They all ate heartily as Mom sat by and watched. Her smile showed that her efforts had been rewarded.

YOU can stay young if you'll work at it. In fact, there are a lot of things you can do if you aren't afraid of work.

The congregation of a little church over in Darlington, S.C.,

were told, "You're too small a group to build a new church building." But some of the folks thought differently — Thelma Biggs, for one. She refused to believe that the congregation was too small.

"Bring in your flour and sugar," she told the other ladies of the church. In no time at all, she'd sold over \$600 worth of cakes to help raise money for the church. And they're building that house of worship, just because Mrs. Biggs and many others weren't afraid of some work.

You can be a strong spirit, too, if you're not afraid of the discipline and rigors of the soul that it takes. You can study and learn and experience, if you don't expect something for nothing.

Mrs. Dingman up in northern Indiana found this to be true. After her husband's death, she almost retreated into her shell. "Mom, come live with us," the children said, and for some people this might be the thing to do. But, knowing herself, Mrs. Dingman refused. "I love you all, but I need a place of my own."

They found her a place, a little house, just two doors from one of her sons' homes.

It takes her much longer to get the little house cleaned and straightened than most ladies, but she does it herself. It's work, but it's also symbolic of

the independent spirit she has about things of God. Tucked away in a back room of one of her family's homes, she might have wilted. Instead, she's healthy, vigorous, and active in all the religious activities that have been dear to her through the years. It's work, but it's worth it. Her spirit is bright and alive.

SEARCH out your soul, and then the future. Are there areas where the easy way looks tempting? Check them again and see if the price tag is worth the ease. See if with just a little work rich dividends of the spirit will not be yours.

You'll never know the satisfaction of continued growth, or the sweet scent of victory unless you put your shoulder to the wheel and dig in. Conquer that fear. Complete that task. Gain that victory over handicap, disappointment and heartache. You can do it, you know. You can if only you're not afraid of a little work.

If you've become discouraged and possibly given up, check this list and find the inspiration to get that mind and spirit to work again.

First, are you tempted to let someone else pay for that which you enjoy? A "free ride" is nice now and then, but not as a way of life. If you do it yourself, you'll grow. If someone else does it, then something inside you starts to die. If it can't be

helped, that's one thing; but when you could do it, with a little work, then you very much need to do it.

Next, are there areas of your life that you've never developed? Surely, if you'll be honest, you should have more spare time if you plan your activities more carefully. Why not invest that time using your abilities and skills to discover new areas of satisfaction? The work will be worth whatever hardship, newness and uncertainty you may feel, once that new world is opened to you.

Then, how about new friends? Perhaps you've been hurt before in trying to make new friends. But if one in five becomes a real friend, it is worth your time. With a little work to get to know, understand and appreciate someone you've never known before, you'll be taking part in a venture that can spell rich blessings to you and the new friend, also.

A LITTLE work can do it. Be wise, be cautious, be sensible about your ventures. But don't hold back because the venture is new and untried. Work at it; try, then back off for an objective view. Try again. Put your mind, heart, soul and energy into the new field of interest.

Overcome, launch out, overcome your fears! You can do those things from which you shrink — with a little work.

Loving Is Living



Harold A. Schulz



Loving is living. To love is to live. To live is to love one another. In the beginning, God loved the universe into order and life.

AS THESE thoughts well up in my mind, there looms before my mind's eye the awesome photograph of our earth made by a camera placed by man thousands and thousands of miles in outer space. "Here on this earth," I say to myself, "on this whirling orb, a speck in universal space, lives the human race, which perfect God created in the great beginning of time. The God of love created with love, love-charged creatures, potential lovers of one another in a love-designed society."

Somehow, I feel that John, the epistle writer, had this picture in mind when he wrote his beautiful letters to the early churches. He was very sensitive to the importance of love, for to a group of hearers he said, *"This is the message which you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another . . . We know that we have passed out of death into life because we love the*

brethren. He who does not love remains in death." (I John 3:11, 14)

John is speaking to folks who have observed how Christ demonstrated the power of love in His life. They, having now come to life, have discovered the secret of true living. They have found that true living lies in the practice of Christ-love, radiating this expression upon and within everyone around them.

The premise upon which we center our contemplation is that hate and unloving feelings deaden all positive possibilities of life's normal pursuits. Anything opposite of love paralyzes the life forces within the physical, mental and spiritual realms of living. The stream of God's good ceases to flow when love ceases to be the way, because God's divine good can only flow into our lives, and our life can be fruitful and receptive of the good only when we are in love with God and our fellow man.

THE case of Adam and Eve is very apt. Each of them knew the laws, as they had been told not to indulge in the eating

of the fruit of a certain tree. Eve made a discovery that the fruit on this forbidden tree was good and made one temporarily joyous. Having partaken of it and having shared it with Adam, they then realized the unlovingness of their own deed. They felt the effects of having not obeyed the law of divine love, which God had given them. They estranged themselves from God.

This is the real effect of unloving acts and deeds. This is the core of all guilt, anxiety and fear. *When we estrange ourselves from God by unlovingness, we separate our life from His Life.* Love, then, we come to see, is the link in the chain of activity. Love is the umbilical cord of life through which flows the power of God into our lives.

"This is the message," said John, *"which you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another."* (I John 3:11) Love is the only way of life. It is the sunshine that melts the snow upon the mountains and sends the streams and waterfalls down into the valleys throughout the spring and summertime. It is the divine substance that melts the hearts of man's hardness and coldness and causes him to become again the creature God created him to be. Love is the only attitude with which we can live successfully. For with love, all fear, worry, resentment,

anger flee. Love heals and makes wholesome. *"This is the message"* — to love one another — that runs through the tapestry of the universe and through the heart and soul and mind of mankind.

John continued, saying, *"We know that we have passed out of death into life because we love the brethren. He who does not love remains in death."* (I John 3:14) This is to say that when we harm or hate, or harbor anxious feelings, we are as good as dead, existing in a living sort of death. This means that the real joy of true prosperity, true healing, true illumination does not exist for us unless we are lovers in and with God.

LOVE is of God. Love created the world. Love continues to create the universe. Love is the producer of life. Love creates and produces today in our life and in our affairs among society as it did in the beginning of time, because God who changes not is as much love today, and tomorrow and forever as He was in the long ago yesterday. Love will never cease, for God is love and life, and God is eternal.

Love of God produces living things upon the earth. Love produces animals, human beings, flowers. Loving is living. Living is loving.

There is the command that we should love one another ex-

plicity. Love is grounded in the message that is from the beginning. Love is a divine requirement that the universe itself imposes upon the human race. Love is written, painted, woven, engraved, in and through the fabric of the universe. It is an unbreakable thread, which unites and harmonizes the universe and all things, so long as there is co-operation.

Love is not an option. Love is not a choice to be made. Since this is true, *love is a divine imperative*. Love is a divine must. Love has no alternative in a world and universe that is created by Love.

Love is not something that was invented by holy men, such as Moses or even Jesus Christ. The Christ spirit of love was with God in the beginning. Love is eternal. Love is God.

Love is not a psychological or philosophical idea. *Love is a Divine Truth*. Love is a fact. Love is a divine requirement, which is imposed upon the human race that lives upon this planet Earth.

LET us look at the activity of Cain and Abel. When we think of this story, we may say it does not apply to us. Yet, this story teaches us that we are brothers one of another over the entire face of the earth. Thinking of ourselves as brothers, we can investigate the relationship of Cain and Abel. We

gain insight into our own daily affairs in our business and social life with one another.

We ask, "Why did Cain kill his brother?" We hurriedly say that his actions do not apply to us for we have committed no murder. Yet, divine truth looks us straight in the eye and desires to come with healing. For Cain killed his brother because his brother was right. Cain was jealous. The evil in man cannot bear to see rightness loom up before him when he, himself, has either been accidentally or purposely in the wrong. Evil cannot bear to look at goodness, and so the evil tries to destroy the good. Actually, good cannot be destroyed, for good is of God who is love. Where love predominates, goodness lives and remains imperishable.

Abel represents good and lovingkindness. Though he was killed by his brother, Abel's lovingkindness did not perish, but lived. Cain represents evil and all negative attitudes, the absence of love. That Cain is seen in our society today. Yet, while we may see this Cain-character about us, love predominates. Love looms up with the pillar of smoke from the sacrifice of good intent of the heart's gift, which Abel made to God. It is good that we open our eyes to this view of God-goodness. It is well that we incorporate this goodness into our own being so that we too may

radiate goodness as did Abel.

IN THE struggle between good and evil in today's society, among nations as well as individuals, we must observe the predominance of goodness. We must become Abel-practitioners of lovingkindness and goodness toward our fellow man. We must practice the art of love in order to help the human race find the promised land; and is not love that land? We must practice love in order to bring our brother and ourselves into the paradise of God; and is not love that paradise? We must love in order to have within us the peace that passeth all human understanding; and does not peace have its roots in love?

Love is the only genuine mark of life. In dealing with our fellow man, we must remember that love is the only way of life. When we deal in love, there is in reality no enemy, there is no negation, there is no defeat because love is the victor already. When we stand in the aura of love practiced by ourselves and others, we stand in light and beauty, which is really the creation of God our Father.

There is nothing to do but love. Love leaves the human race no alternative. Love is everything we need. Christ demonstrated the power, the beauty, the victory of love. He

demonstrated that love is life. Love is living. Love is that wonderful activity that melts the desolate, frozen ice and snow upon the high mountain peaks that winter gave, and brings joy and gladness and life with streams and waterfalls to the valleys below. For then the wildflowers begin to bloom and the flocks begin to graze.

Love brings the Kingdom into being. Love brings man into this promised land. Love says, *"This is the peace that passeth all understanding."* Love brings the flocks of the human race together to rejoice in the green pastures of contentment, as well as progress and advancement and fulfillment.

"Because we love the brethren." That is why. Again, there looms up before my mind's eye that photo of our whirling sphere on which we live and move and have our blessed and mysterious being. It whirls in rhythm and harmony and love, just as it was meant to do when God created it and put the universal order into motion. I see the human race, the great brotherhood of man, upon it, standing hand in hand, every heart becoming a great bond of brotherhood. I also hear the voice of John echoing the message of Christ: *"We know that we have passed out of death into life because we love the brethren."*

Crystal of Life



R. H. Cheevers

AS THE morning dew gathers in the marshes and love and peace hover in this corner of the world, I ask no more of my Lord than that the beauty I behold may be shared with all mankind; and that, removed from the bitterness of hatred and starvation of war, we may all see the wonder of Your love and become engulfed in its splendour.

The grey streaks of dawn mix with the red; the blue sea caresses the golden shore; perfection is before me and around me and engulfs the whole of the marvelous world of which I am only a small part. Soon I will leave this place to walk in the throng of cities and bustle of modern civilization. Then the curlews may not be heard, nor

the lark song re-echo from the purple heather-covered hills; nor will the clear tangy sea air fill my lungs to renew my perspective of life.

Yet, my Lord, I will love You. I will love You with all my heart as long as there is a child's smile or a man who stops to help another who has no limb or sight or voice. I will love You as long as humanity raises its voice to cry to the world its belief in the majesty of Your ways, denying detractors' shouts that You do not exist. Love, is of the many shades of You. It comes from You and through Your many perfect creations. Through love, You have given life to man and, with that life, an unquenchable belief in the glory of love.

NOW, out of my life this golden day will pass to merge with others. Yet, Oh my Lord, its passing only makes my love for You more resolute and real and gives to the people around me, despite their faults or failings, a stature beyond all stature, a greatness beyond all greatness. For they are of You and a part of You; their suffering is Your suffering, their joy, Your joy.

I have no fear of a world in which You are, in which, from China to Tibet, from Malaya to


Hong Kong, from Colorado to London, You inhabit the soul of man and the air that surrounds him. In the bitterness of a Vietnamese War, You walked with me. Walk with me now through this golden dawn. The canvas of life that has brightened these morning hours colours my life and, beyond me, the people who read of it or share it in their souls or seek for it in hospital or home. It is a crystal of colour that will soon become a rainbow without end.

Light and Shadows

John J. Eppensteiner

As the artist paints the light
Shadow follows in its wake
Supplementing, both unite
Light and shadows to partake
In the painting of a truth
Accents make the contrasts bold,
Vibrant imagery, forsooth,
Be the colors warm or cold.

Lights and shadows shape our life
Without one the other pales
Urged by salutary strife
Truth and right prevails
Light and shadows cross our way
Just as dawn must follow night
Darkest night makes room for day
Balancing the dark with light.



My New Year's Prayer

At this new year's beginning, Lord,
Thou knowest what I lack;
Today my prayer shall be, dear Lord,
"Keep me from looking back."

Keep me from looking back, dear Lord,
On failures that were mine;
The many times when I forgot
To walk Thy way divine.

Keep me from looking back, dear Lord,
With pride and self-content
On my accomplishments for Thee,
On deeds of good intent.

But keep me facing each new day
With glad expectancy;
In loving service let me grow
More nearly, Lord, like Thee.

— Helen Mary Sees

God Speaks to Me

FOR THE DAYS TO COME

"He guideth my way in perfectness."

— II Samuel 22:33

"He that is perfect in knowledge is with thee."

— Job 36:4

Hazel H. Pickett

MY BELOVED child, you are approaching a New Year, the time when the sun moves northward and My planet, earth, awakens to a new season. The ancient Greeks worshipped Me in many forms, one of which was the two-faced god whom they called Janus. One of My faces looked back into the past, the other ahead into the future. So January came to be the first month of the new year.

You are often admonished not to look back, to put your hand to the plough and press forward, but sometimes it is advisable to sit down and calmly make an inventory of the past year. What did you learn? Are you richer spiritually than you were a year ago? How did you solve your problems? What would be your course of action if you had the past year to live over?

Did you lose sight of Me and My design for you now and then? Do not be discouraged if you did for discouragement avails you nothing. Simply turn to Me and ask that this year My perfect Christ pattern will be manifest in you. Forgive everyone, yourself included, for the happenings of the past year, and face the light of Me. Erase the mistakes and failures from the blackboard and restate your new problems in the light of past experience. The Christ principle within you consists of love and wisdom, love as the fulfillment of the law, which gives wisdom to solve life's challenge. There really are no problems, only a spiritual challenge to prove Me.

How do you use My truth, My guidance to handle the outer manifestation of My creation? By appropriating Me and My wisdom, then by building a

positive plan in your mind and outer world. The Christ design is in each of My children, for Light centers all. Just as the pattern of an oak tree lies dormant in the acorn, so this perfect pattern centers you, My child. When you deeply desire to express this design and dedicate yourself to its perfect fulfillment, a perfect sequence of events occurs and you see your heart's desire in your visible world.

IT IS a good idea to make a definite plan for the year, a plan that is flexible enough to be changed in minor details if My leading indicates a change. Do you recall, My child, when you voiced a desire for a fountain pen to your son, and he said that your Christmas present had already been bought and it was not a fountain pen? But the next morning you received a lovely fountain pen and pencil set as an award for a little radio quiz question you had mailed in. Your pen was on its way to you when you voiced a desire and need for one. My good does not always come to you in the channels you have determined, but through other channels that you or I have opened up.

Visualizing your plan by means of words or "treasure maps" may keep your thoughts more positively linked with your pattern or plan for the New Year. Write down an outline

of your plan, what you wish to do, to have, to be, and read it over every day, checking off or changing any item you feel inclined to. Your desires and plans may need changing or, having been fulfilled, many require replacement of other things.

Another way to strengthen your plan is to make a treasure map. On a large cardboard place cut-out words or pictures of the conditions you wish to manifest in your life. You may think this is childish and immature in its method of impressing the deep inner mind. But haven't I said, "You must become as little children"? These methods help you attain the mental equivalent necessary for My plan to work through you.

You must live in and love My finished Kingdom by holding to the *already-I-have-received* attitude. You must see My perfect plan for you as an accomplished fact and act as though it were so, here and now. When Jesus called forth the food to feed five thousand people, He knew this supply was already an accomplished fact. It was there at hand and all about Him, and He had only to command it and it was so.

In gaining the Now-moment consciousness, you must hold to the thought, "I am a perfect being in Heaven now, living in a perfect world, governed by a perfect God." That consciousness is true living in the Christ

design. It is stepping out of the little personal self-consciousness into the God-Self-consciousness, which is the truth of your being. When you come into My consciousness, you are living in a new world, a new time, a revitalized body and mind.

There will be many new and thrilling things in the days to come — new truth, new inventions, material progress that will make life more pleasant and easier. And it is right that you should have the necessary things to contribute to your physical well-being. You are not to postpone living to the future, but be happy right now with the joy that Jesus mentioned, pressed down and running over.

BUT in this New Year and this new sense of My kingdom, do not forget the qualities of spirit. I want you to develop with greater faith, deeper love, loyalty, steadfastness, harmony, humility, gentleness. Even success and opulence are qualities of the spirit before they find outward expression through you in the material world. These qualities are spiritual prototypes of manifest forms. Know that the Christ design for the days to come is real and present *now* and will manifest in the outer world when you call it into being and are guided by it.

In the past year, there have

been times when you have lost sight of My design. Now you may go ahead by keeping your attention on Me, living each moment as a perfect being in Heaven now, living life, loving life, expressing Me in joy and happiness and helpfulness to others.

You may choose the perfect pattern for the New Year by knowing that every thought attains a definite form in your consciousness and that form is impressed, not only on your consciousness, but also on the universal consciousness. You, My little one, as a thinker, become a co-creator with Me and you are fully responsible for your own manifest world. When you learn to control your thoughts, you can build a perfect world of beauty. No other person can disturb or alter your world unless you give them the permission to do so.

You can change the things that you did not like in the past year, by turning back to the source of that inharmony, which was your own wrong thinking. Face yourself honestly, taking your little personal self to task in this way. "I do not like the conditions around me now, but I must have called them to me by wrong thinking. I have learned a lesson, so this year will be different. I assert my real identity, a perfect child of God, wise, loving, opulent, healthy, harmonious, knowing my perfection in Him, my one-

ness with Him, and that it is His pleasure to give me His Kingdom in the new year that is beginning."

Having brought your mind back to the source, you may turn within and find God, your Father, at any point of the universe. Your purpose in life is to become that which you are in Truth, My perfect child. Serenely and calmly, anchor your mind to your Source and begin to outpicture your own highest good. Build perfection into your consciousness. Ask Me for knowledge of your divine design and follow your vision. Go as straight to your right place as an aviator following a beam to the landing field. Look at your every thought in the light of Truth.

Since you are all One in Me, in your contacts with other people through the year you must hold to love, a divine impersonal love that does not bind or limit. When you criticize, you bind that imperfection to yourself and to the person you are judging. I am Love and I am all-inclusive and you must see Me in all your fellow men, realizing that all will someday attain to perfection, that appearances only indicate a particular stage of unfoldment.

Each morning of this New Year, as you sit in the silence before Me, pour out your love to all beings everywhere, great and small, rich and poor, sick and well, old and young, on this

planet and on all others in My extended Universe. Greet the day with love and let love go before you, touching all persons you contact with rich blessings.

You cannot change the old existing conditions by dashing madly about in the outer world. You build new conditions by thinking My new-old thoughts after Me. There is nothing to fear in all the world, for the integrity of My law can be fully trusted. My Law is the law of *Good*, all-embracing *Good*, everywhere-present *Good*.

USING your imagination, which is God-given, you can create new and beautiful thought forms, impress them on the universal consciousness by faith, and they will manifest quickly or slowly according to the degree of positive energy with which you endow them.

THE PATH

A majestic morn awakens
The rising sun
Like serenity passing
Over Man —
His heart beats with rapidity
Along the path,
Overlooking this Godly Touch
Of scenic beauty
He quavers no more,
Nor does he look back
To all that is motherless
Till he reaches the chapel's gate.
He bids them " . . . enter . . . "

— Paul Edward Napora

Life takes form and the substance of form comes from the creative force of My Holy Spirit, in motion.

Opulence is yours, because it contributes to My complete expression in your life as the good, the true, the beautiful. Through expression of service to others and to rich, fruitful ideas, you are entitled to all the opulence you can appropriate. Each child of Mine has his own particular treasure.

You may choose your thought forms in regard to health, for I desire your body to be a perfect instrument for

My use, a beautiful temple for My indwelling. Know that it is filled with the renewing, revitalizing energy of the Christ within, and keep it pure and clean.

Live the New Year in a sense of deep, serene peace, luminous with My transcendent Light. Know that the place of My Presence is the inner shrine of the human heart and through the still small voice of the Spirit within, your perfect Self speaks to you and guides you and with Christ's help you shall go through the year, sun-crowned in My perfect Way.

Apple Trees In Snow



In our old orchard
The gnarled apple trees
Are wearing white shawls
Against the cold breeze

That is sweeping down
From the snowy hills,
And the pastoral
Sight they make fills

My heart with warmth
Despite the frosted day,
Inspiring me to kneel
Before God and pray!

— Earle J. Grant

WHEN visiting a friend recently, I found her very cheerful although confined to the house with a leg injury. I said, "You don't need cheering up, you seem quite happy and contented."

"Why shouldn't I be?" was her reply. "This is the first time that I can remember that I have had time to relax and do the reading I've always wanted to do. I can really say I am glad I have had this confinement, but next week when I go back to the usual routine of work, I will be glad of that too. I have learned to live every hour as it comes and carry over no regrets for past hours."

I CAME away from that visit a much wiser person because of what she had said. She could have made herself miserable thinking of all she could have been doing and fretting over why this misfortune had to happen to her. Instead, she was making a triumph out of a tragedy, which I have not learned to do.

It was only this morning, with the usual rush to get the family off on time, my daughter Mary had lost her temper. The rest of the family seemed to catch her mood and it wasn't a pleasant breakfast hour. When they had all left and the house was peaceful and still, I thought about how much better it would have been if I had used my friend's way and after the

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Live Happily

Ella Goldsworthy Cripps

family departed said, "Well that hour is past and now to forget it and live the next hour differently." When the family comes home at suppertime they will have forgotten the morn-

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ing's happenings — and likely did as soon as they left the house.

This week we had a lovely family party, but while we were clearing away the dishes, someone accidentally dropped four little fruit nappies and they were broken. Although I smiled about it at the time, I still couldn't help thinking about how long I had had that set. Twenty-five years without one piece being broken until now. It was a set I had collected while my husband was away at war. The factory where it was produced in England was bombed and the pattern lost, hence I couldn't replace any broken pieces.

I suppose I thought I had reason to brood on this loss, but I really didn't, for a few days later when I was mentioning it to a friend, she said to me, "I wouldn't worry too much about that. Be glad it was the fruit nappies, for you can always get crystal sherbet glasses in their place and a set of crystal would look so attractive with your set."

Why hadn't I thought of this instead of thinking of the broken dishes? Too many minutes are wasted on futile thoughts.

WE all have relatives or friends who keep bringing up tragedies that happened years ago. They not only make themselves unhappy but others

very uncomfortable, for there is nothing anyone can do to remedy past happenings. These things would be better forgotten, or at least put to the very back of the mind and happier incidents brought to the fore.

I know a woman who lost a son and twenty years later she is still mourning and the family is kept in the shadow of her sorrow. His memory would be remembered happily if she accepted his death, recalling the richness he brought into the lives of the family. I'm sure he would have wanted it this way.

Have you lost a promotion you thought you should have received? You have a right to be disappointed, but don't let that last too long. Congratulate the winner and be sincerely happy for his achievement. Tomorrow will bring another day and with it new opportunities for you. Who knows? Maybe an even better promotion will come when you least expect it.

At a Sunday school picnic, a race for seven-year-old boys was over and the winners proudly went to the awards table to receive their prizes. One of the youngsters hadn't placed in the race, but he wasn't downhearted. He looked up to his dad and said, "It was fun, even if I didn't win." His Dad ruffled his son's hair and said, "That's the attitude, son. There will always be other races and, even if we can't win

them all, we can have fun trying."

Beside him stood a little fellow who also had just lost in the race. His face was so sad looking and I couldn't help thinking what a difference there is in *how* we accept the setbacks of life.

Reverses we all must have.

But rain needn't be the dismal weather ~~we~~ think it is if we would only see in it the beautiful flowers, luscious fruit and vegetables and that most wonderful commodity of all, fresh water.

Live happily! Will you try it? If you do, you'll be a different person.

WHO WERE THE MAYA?

It is unfortunate that the zealous Bishop Landa, as he journeyed with Cortez across the land of the Maya, ordered all Mayan books and records gathered and burned in the square of Mani, forbidding the people to write in their own language under penalty of death. So it is that the Maya are the only race of people who are able to speak their language as it was spoken thousands of years ago; yet, cannot write it or decipher the glyph writings of their ancestors.

Fortunate it is for us that a few Mayan priests, in defiance of their conquerors, secretly recorded the history of their past as they remembered it. These Books of Chilam Balam are invaluable and without them the mystery of the Maya would be much greater. Early Spanish chroniclers of the Mayas can be relied on also to a certain extent, for they received firsthand information from the Maya. These accounts refer to the Maya as a peaceful people and there is no indication that they practiced warfare. They worshipped one God, Hunab-Ku, placed flowers and fruit on their altars, and did not perform human sacrifices. It is said that this peace continued until "The Changing of the Times" — the arrival of Kukul-Can, or Quetzalcoatl as he was known in Mexico from whence he came.

As evidences of the belief that Atlantis was the motherland of the ancient civilizations of the world, Mr. Judd points out the comparisons identical between the Egyptians and the Mayas and Incas in architecture, decorative motifs, ceremonies and customs, sacred rites and religious beliefs, linguistic roots, legends, science, and other areas of their lives. Also, it is significant that the earliest known people of southern Europe, Asia Minor and northern Africa tell us their ancestors *came in boats across water from the setting sun* (west); while the earliest people of the Americas tell us their ancestors *came in boats across water from the land toward the rising sun* (east).

Had the Maya come in slow stages from either Asia or Europe, evidences of their progress would exist in some form along the route taken. But the *earliest* Mayan works in Central America and Yucatan are the best. This indicates that their arrival was the result of a hurried migration from an advanced culture, from which they brought the skills that have been confirmed by exploration findings.

Reference: *The Ancient Mayas*, by R. E. Stacy-Judd; *Kukulcan*, by T. A. Willard

THE PHANTOM BELL

J. A. Rickard

THE flames of a twilight fire lighted up the narrow canyon near the foot of the mountain and revealed a motley group. Sitting to themselves were six swarthy Aztecs and near by squatted ten Mestizos. Across the fire were a dozen Spanish soldiers, their swords and metal trappings reflecting the light. Three men with Spanish features and civilian dress completed the group.

A silence had fallen over the company, for on the night air was sounding the silvery tones of a cathedral bell. It came from the mountain side.

As the last peal died on the night air, one of the soldiers

stirred. "Padre Jose and his bell," he murmured to a companion. "He watches over it like a mother over a sick child. He even walks by the cart that carries it as we travel."

"And always hangs it in the woods near the camp, so we can hear it night and morning," added the other soldier. "And it does have a beautiful sound."

"Yes, one can hear it many miles on a foggy morning," admitted the first soldier. "But think how much trouble it is, to have to carry that heavy thing all the way from Mexico City to Santa Fe."

"But the young padre was so sad that he wept when we wanted to leave it behind. An odd person he is, indeed, as odd as his bell perhaps. I wish I knew their story, but he never offers to tell it when the time comes for stories."

"Shh!" cautioned the other soldier. "Here he comes now. Maybe he will tell us if we ask him to."

THE tall, sad-faced young padre silently took his seat by the fire near the soldiers. A momentary silence fell over the group. Finally, the first soldier who had been talking turned to him and said, "Padre Jose, many are the stories that we have told at night around the fire, but always you have listened. Won't you tell us one tonight? Tell us the story about your bell."

A pained expression came

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over the young Padre's face. Then he looked at the speaker quietly. "Yes, I guess I have been selfish. You have been good to me, and you have a right to know about my bell.

"Many years ago there was a small village of mountain people in northern Spain. Since they were far from other people, they had to look out for themselves and beat back many enemies.

"But alas! One day some enemies came down upon them, and camped on all sides, keeping out all help and food. After many days of siege, the poor people were about to starve.

"In despair they met at the church and prayed. In their prayers they promised God that if He would save them, they would take all their gold, silver, and other ornaments and make the finest bell that could be made.

"No one knows exactly what happened then, but the village was saved as if by magic. Within two hours, the natives were chasing the enemy into the mountains, leaving a deserted camp and many of their arms behind.

"True to their vow, the villagers cast their bell. They brought their metals until there was a pile higher than a man's head, and melted them and molded them into a bell.

"And such a bell it was! It was so perfectly made that its tones were of unearthly sweet-

ness. It was put in the belfry of the church, and thereafter it rang out to the humble people of the village, to remind them of God's mercy.

"For many generations, that bell hung in the little church. To each generation was told the story of its making, and sometimes other stories were added. Once, it was said, the bell rang of its own accord, with no sexton near it, to warn the villagers of an approaching enemy. At another time, it was believed to have rung before a great storm came. The people came to think of it as their protector and friend.

"It was to this village that I came when I first became a Padre. Soon I learned to love the simple people there, and to know such contentment among them as I had never known before.

"Then one day to my little village came a messenger from the king. It informed me that a company was being formed to go to Mexico, a land that Cortez had conquered eighty years before. In that land and far to the north, we were to establish missions and work among the Indians.

"I was very sad when this message came, for I loved my own country and people, and I had heard of the many hardships to be suffered in the New World. I went to the capital and begged the king to let me stay behind, but he reproached

me and again commanded me to get ready for the journey.

"With a great sadness in my heart, and with a great bitterness at my king, I prepared to leave my native village. My people were also sad as we gathered for the last time in our little church and heard the old bell ring. As I listened, it seemed to be saying, 'I want to go! I want to go! I want to go!'

"I wondered if it were saying the same message to the people. It must have been, for finally one old man rose and pointed toward the belfry. 'We must send that bell with Padre Jose as a blessing from his people,' he said in a trembling voice.

"The bell was carefully packed and carried to the port. For a while I thought the captain of the ship would not let it go, but I begged for it, and in the end he let me take it, just as you have let me bring it on this journey north from Mexico City. And that is why I love it so much."

FOR several minutes after Padre Jose had finished his story, there was a dead silence. Finally, someone noticed that the fire was about out, and someone else remarked that it was time to get some sleep. Soon the camp was astir with bedtime preparations.

The Padre was no longer with them, but that was not strange, for he often spent much time alone in the woods

with his bell. When they heard its peals, they knew he was with it now.

Presently the wind began to blow, and clouds covered the sky. A great blackness appeared in the west, from which lightning flashed and thunder rumbled. The waking men hurried to stake down their tents and cover their food to keep it from getting wet. No one noticed that Padre Jose was absent.

As the first drops of rain began to fall, the faint sound of a bell was heard. It was the bell of Padre Jose, but it seemed to be on the mountain top far away, instead of near them. The faster it rained, the faster came the tones of the bell, as if it were calling them.

They called for Padre Jose, and when he did not answer, they looked for him. At last, some of the men decided to brave the storm, for they feared that evil might befall him.

But when the rain stopped, the sounds of the bell ceased. There had been a blinding flash of lightning, a loud peal of the bell, and a loud clap of thunder, then silence. The bell rang no more.

In the mud and darkness, the searchers made their way up the mountain side to the spot where they thought the bell was hung, but they could not find it. Some went farther, and they spread out both to the east and to the west. They called his

name, but no answer came. Even after they had returned to their camp, hours later, some of them sat up longer, hoping to see him come in; but he did not.

The next morning all the men in the company formed a searching party. They looked all over the country side, and they looked for foot prints along the banks of the Rio Grande near by, but not a trace of the bell or of the Padre could they find. It was as if the earth had swallowed them up.

After spending three days more vainly looking, the party slowly took up their journey again toward Santa Fe. They could not agree among themselves what had happened. Some said the Padre and his bell had been changed into spirits and had flown away. Others believed that the bell was a spirit sent to protect Padre Jose, and that it had carried him to heaven.

The Captain and a few

others argued that the bell had been hung in an arroyo, which filled with water and washed the Padre with it into the Rio Grande. But no body was ever recovered, and no bell was ever found down the river.

TODAY, among the natives of the region, there are many who will tell one that the bell has tolled since then. At night, or during a rain storm, or on damp, foggy mornings, a native will catch the sleeve of a stranger in his home and mutter excitedly, "There it is! The phantom bell is ringing!"

So the legend lives on, and it has a basis of truth. There *was* a Padre Jose, and he *did* have a bell that he was taking to the missions in New Mexico, and they *did* disappear, never to be found again. All this is told in the matter-of-fact report of the Captain who led the expedition. What else happened remains a mystery.

Creation



Creation is not done,
Nor did He
Mean that it should be.

Made in His image, we
Must mould the world
As He would have it be.

— Frank Reeds

God

**is
Closer
Than You
Think!**

Mont Hurst

TO THOSE who may choose to believe that God is far away in the eons of distance and dwelling in an unattainable realm, it will sound strange for one to assert that He is at one's very fingertips. But such is the true fact and not a fantasy. God, through His Holy Spirit, is as accessible as the heart within your breast. He is that close to every human being on earth. And the way in which this can be proved is so easy it is truly a marvel as to why this all-powerful fact is not more readily recognized.

We can know God is at hand and can commune with Him through meditation, for meditation brings us into close fellowship with Him. Jeremy Taylor

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once said that "Meditation is the tongue of the soul and the language of our spirit." When the tongue of the soul begins to speak and words issue from the spirit, there is an instantaneous response from God, Himself. This fact has been proved so many times in the lives of believers that it needs no defense. But it does need to be proclaimed in order that more people can enjoy this advantageous fellowship with the One who is All-loving, All-powerful, and the Father of all.

Meditation, although appearing to be a spiritual relaxation, is the most powerful force one may employ if it is rightly understood. One believer said that "Meditation is the soul's per-

Daily Meditation

spective glass, whereby, in her long remove, she discerneth God, as if He were nearer at hand." All it requires for proof is a fair trial in the life of any individual who seeks Truth but has not found it.

Truth cannot penetrate the soul of an individual who is caught in the bedlam of confusion and feverish activities of life. To experience true meditation is to discover a golden key that unlocks the floodgates of Spiritual communication with Almighty God.

GENUINE happiness comes from God alone, and it must have a ready vehicle by which to arrive at its human destination. It is carried by the Holy Spirit along the way. Meditation brushes aside all obstacles, crushes all opposition, acts with power that nothing can curb. Meditation is the medium through which happiness begins its flow. It goes without saying that where you find a person of meditation, you find one who is happy — not for a fleeting moment, an hour or a day, but around the circle of the years that leads on into an Eternity of joy.

Meditation has always been recognized and applied by the truly great men and women of the world. Jesus, Himself, retired to the mountain tops for meditation and prayer. Could you imagine yourself spending forty days and nights on a

mountain top in prayer and meditation — and the power it would bring into your life?

IT HAS been said that consistent use of meditation will so exalt the mind and soul that one may almost shout for sheer joy of its power. Disraeli said that the art of meditation may be exercised at all hours, and in all places; and men of genius, in their walks, at table, and amidst assemblies, turning the eye of the mind inwards, can form an artificial attitude and solitude; retired amidst a crowd, calm amidst distraction, and wise amidst folly. And how much more powerful can it become when one changes this from an artificial attitude to one of reality by calling on God when in this mood. More power and discernment will issue from such a force than one may ever need.

Profound meditation in solitude will exalt the mind above its staid tone, give freedom to the imagination, and produce the most sublime moments a human being can enjoy. It also gives new conceptions of power, new means of solving problems, and new life to tired minds and bodies. It is the genesis of intellectual pleasure and regeneration, and gives impetus to Spiritual Power and a strengthening of the ties of the Holy Spirit. Zimmerman said that, through meditation, the mind on every motion darts

through space into eternity; and raised thusly, it is free to enjoy its true powers by its own enthusiasm, strengthening itself in contemplating the noblest subjects, and of adopting the most heroic pursuits.

The soul has its voice in meditation. Meditation is the tongue of the soul and the language of our spirit. Taylor said that our wandering, laggard thoughts in prayer are but the neglects of meditation and recessions from that sacred duty; and according as we neglect meditation, so are our prayers imperfect, meditation being the soul of prayer and the intention of our spirit.

IF YOU would put unfailing wings on your prayers, appropriate the powerhouse of meditation, God stands at the door of your mind, soul and heart. He is closer than you may believe. Prove this to your own happy conclusion by learning the way of meditation. Practice it. You will find that you will soon have a program arranged whereby you can meditate without loss of time or neglect of duty. Daily meditation is the joyful duty of every human being who would know and enjoy the way and words of God. Put meditation to the test. It will prove itself over and above your anticipations.



Light of the World

I sought a light to guide me
Through pathless vales.
The night was fraught with terror,
Unmarked the trails.
I thought my man-made candle,
Bought for a price,
Would cast a beam before me
That would suffice.
I lost my way unfriended,
To wander wide.
In blackest hour my candle
Flickered and died.
Out stretched a Hand to help me
And guide aright;
Now since we walk together
He is my Light.

— Marjorie Allen Anderson

NON-RESISTANCE

will work

MIRACLES for YOU

Freda K. Routh

IN His great Sermon On The Mount, Christ Jesus said, "I say unto you that ye resist not evil, but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also." Matthew 5:39)

To many people, "Resist not evil" might sound like the most foolish advice in the world. Yet it is one of the wisest, most practical of Jesus' teachings. Although He did not say it in so many words, the underlying implication here is that no matter how despitely others may treat us, we are to react with love, kindness and consideration, and leave the outcome to God.

No one can say that Jesus did not practice what He preached. When the soldiers came to take Him, He refused to let the sword of one of His disciples be used in His defense. "Put up thy sword," He said, "for all they that take the sword

shall perish with the sword." (Matthew 26:52)

Apparently sensing His disciples' puzzlement at His non-resistance to what they saw as the worst sort of danger, He added, "Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?" (verse 53) Yes, Jesus knew that, at any moment, had He so desired, He could have prevented His being taken by those soldiers. He went willingly, because He had something far greater in mind than mere human release.

WE MAY think that we are safe from the penalty that long-held resistance brings if we are not indulging in some outward opposition to unpleasant persons or situations. We delude ourselves. Mental resistance can be even more harmful to our health and peace of

mind than physical resistance. Mental resistance sets up an inner friction that irritates our nerves, tenses our muscles, and gives us aching heads and heavy hearts.

We all perhaps have been perplexed at times at the seeming contradiction of Jesus' "*Resist not evil*", with a statement made in James 4:7. In her book, "*What Are You?*" Imelda Shanklin explains it thus: "In nearly all cases, resistance means to oppose by physical force. The exceptional use serves the valuable purpose of reconciling two New Testament statements that otherwise appear contradictory. Jesus taught, '*Resist not him that is evil*.' The meaning is, do not oppose by active force anyone or any thing at any time. If you oppose, there will be a reaction as opposition; there will be war. James taught, '*Resist the devil, and he will flee from you*.' The meaning is ignore evil* and it will not attack you; it will retreat from your presence until it becomes lost to you. This use of resistance is equivalent to the denial that is taught by metaphysicians."

Nothing is surer than that whatever we resist resists us. If we resist work with the thought that it is hard and demanding, that is what it becomes. On the other hand, if we relax into a non-resistant attitude concerning it, we find

ourselves working easily and joyfully. The moment we allow ourselves to start mentally resisting the personality or individual beliefs of a relative, friend or co-worker, we will sense in that person a disturbing resistance toward us. Bringing ourselves to drop back into a benign state of non-resistance in our dealings with him or her, all friction between us disappears. If, when we feel ill, we begin to resist that feeling with self-pity or resentment at having to slow up in the things we want to do, the illness resists our efforts to heal it. But the moment we decide to "let go and let God" handle the situation, the illness also lets go. Saying, "Let go and let God" is identical in meaning to "Resist not evil".

ONE of the most amazing things about non-resistance is its efficacy in the healing of bodily hurts. Through its use, crushed fingers have immediately returned to normalcy. Spatterings of boiling oil have left little or no sign of burns. Cuts have been healed in a matter of hours. People who have been willing to put it to an even higher test have had teeth removed without drugs or gas.

Because of bad effects I had formerly suffered from the use of novocain, I had two teeth extracted at one sitting in this manner. Instead of thinking of what was going on and setting

*Ephesians 4:27

up what would seem a natural resistance, I relaxed into an acute consciousness of the Omnipresence of God, depending on His wondrous power and grace to protect me from harm. I was genuinely surprised at the good results. Not only was there little pain and no sense of shock during the extraction, there was no noticeable soreness afterwards.

If we will watch our reactions, we will find that we resist more than we realize. We resist the passing years and the passing years resist us, leaving their imprint of time and deterioration upon our minds and bodies. Non-resistance to time lifts us into eternity here and now, smooths the wrinkled brow, and brightens the farseeing eye.

Surprisingly enough, we even resist our good. We set up an opposition to God's disciplining, the discipline that, were we to accept as such, would aid us in overcoming the world. We pray for some humanly conceived good, and when things do not turn out exactly as we have outlined we sulk or give in to disappointment and resentment. We should learn to say with Christ, "Not my will but thine be done," and gracefully, non-resistantly accept God's idea of what is best for us.

Jesus came to teach us the way of Grace. Said the apostle Paul: "*For sin shall not have*

dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace." (Romans 6:14) Those who are living under God's grace, who have left off indulging the strictly human way of life, know only too well that the knife that one throws at another boomerangs to pierce his own heart. "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." (Joel Goldsmith, *Thunder Of Silence*)

Not long ago, I saw a picture of Daniel in the lions' den that was, to me, a striking example of what spiritual grace and non-resistance can do to protect one from harm. The artist had depicted Daniel, with his back toward the lions, kneeling beside a large rock, beams of light from above shining down on his serene, upturned face. The lions, with looks of no more than gentle curiosity on their faces, were not even near him. Truly, Daniel was a man of great grace.

WE CAN pray for grace earnestly and long, and never receive it until we are willing to give up the weapons of the world and relax into a state of Christlike non-resistance. The

old saying that "It takes two to make a quarrel" still holds true. Our refusal to oppose another's anger and resentment acts as oil on the troubled waters, bringing peace and calm instead of the storm that might otherwise ensue. We must remember that when we allow any outer condition whatsoever to dominate our consciousness, we lose sight of our spiritual nature and invite unpleasant experiences.

Non-resistance to error and Godly grace are twin attributes.

They walk hand-in-hand, blessing everyone with whom they come in contact, healing the sick and comforting the weary and heavy-laden. All hostility and inharmony dissolve at their approach.

Meditation: I am completely relaxed. I do not need to fight, for the battle is not mine, but God's. I do not resist anyone or anything; consequently, no one and nothing resists me. I am at peace with the whole of the universe, and the universe is at peace with me. Amen.

This is another day.
Let me be careful what I do and say
Through each fast-flying hour.
A single careless word has awful power
Upon the human heart.
Before I start
Upon the long familiar daily path,
Let me resolve that I will nurse no wrath,
Nor harbor envy, nor coddle greed,
Nor coldly turn away from one in need,
Nor check a welcoming smile.
All things worth-while
Let me endeavor to attain.
Above all else, let me not offer pain
To anyone, or thing.
If I can bring
Back home tonight a single shining thought,
The memory of some happiness I brought
To one who touched my life,
The daily strife
Will have been glorified, for as we give
The fruits of love and kindness, so we live.

— Edwin Carlile Litsey



ANOTHER DAY

One Minute Meditation Lessons For February *Beginning* *the*

DAILY GUIDE SECTION

(For your January Guide see Page 10)

Each day is colored by your first waking moments. If they are spent in counting your blessings, in praising the Giver of all Good, in prayer and meditation on His love, your day will be a wonderful experience. Make today a good day, the best you have ever known. Let the meditation lesson given be your guide for early praise and prayer, let its assurance give you courage to meet what problems may arise, let the knowledge of God's faithfulness impart flood your soul with serenity to overcome with love what would otherwise be annoying irritations. If you feel the special need for

united prayers, send your written request to the Mayan Chapel of Miracles and we will join with you each day when the Angelus Call sounds and sincere hearts around the world raise their petitions for the prayers on the altar. If at the end of thirty days you wish your prayer renewed, please let us know; or if your prayer is answered within that time, we shall appreciate hearing from you so it can be removed to make room for others. If you wish to include a love offering, you may do so.

Meditation Lesson

February 1, 1968

Yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength.

Proverbs 24:5

EVERYTHING that a firm manufactures has a stamp or impress upon all of its products. Just so, everything that issues forth from each one of us in the way of activity bears the impress or imprint of the thought which brought it into being. No reputable firm would have many different stamps to put on its products. Yet we often do that because we are not fixed enough in our thought. We affirm that nothing but success can come forth from our thought; yet almost in the same breath we say that we cannot be sure that everything we do will be successful. To be poised in our conviction of success we should ask Spirit guidance in everything we do, and have faith that it is ours and it will be ours. The Power and Intelligence into whose hands the execution of our desires is given knows how and is sufficiently powerful to work them out.

AFFIRMATION: All That I Do Bears The Imprint Of Success.

January-February 1968

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Meditation Lesson

February 2, 1968

... for God loveth a cheerful giver.

II Corinthians 9:7

THROUGHOUT nature there is a reciprocal action, giving and receiving. Yet with humans there would seem to be emphasis upon "getting." So many are looking for something for nothing, which actually cannot exist. If we have acquainted ourselves with the law of Cause and Effect we must know that nothing has come to us that is not our own. We are wise if we keep the balance even, to give as we go along. Behind the act of giving must be the desire to give of one's self. If we are dissatisfied with what we are receiving from life, let us look to the quality of our giving. Are we giving from a past pattern out of our own lives, from a pattern impressed by the current thought of the outer world; or are we giving from the divine center within ourselves which gives because it must? It is the free giving, be it no more than a kindly word, which opens the channels for receiving.

AFFIRMATION: I Give Freely And Lovingly Of Myself.

Meditation Lesson

February 3, 1968

When I consider thy heavens.

Psalms 8:3

PARADISE IS NOT in having possessions, although the possession of beautiful things gives us a sense of adequacy. Paradise is an appreciation of life and all it holds, and a sense of unity with it. When we, either consciously or unconsciously, merge our thought, and become consciously one with the universe and all things in it, then we are in Paradise and are aware that we are there. Either we use thought or thought uses us, or would seem to do so. We must live mentally in the condition of Paradise before we can find the manifestation in our lives. That is because thought is the fashioning agent. The most beautiful piece of marble in the world must be fashioned and the artist who fashions it into a thing of form must see the inspiration of beauty and unity behind the chaos which may seem to surround him. We must become the judge of our own thoughts and thereby find Paradise.

AFFIRMATION: I Find Paradise Through My Use Of Thought.

Meditation Lesson

February 4, 1968

... believe in the light ...

John 12:36

GOD IN THE midst of us is an eternal light sustaining us by His infinite strength. The world is sometimes dark, not because the light of the Spirit has left it but because we have left the light of the Spirit. Fear is a part of darkness, in fact it does not exist except in darkness, either physical or mental. Fear of the night vanishes with the light. Fear which is a child of ignorance vanishes with understanding. The one understanding which can banish all fear is our knowledge that there does shine eternally in us the pure radiant light of Spirit; that regardless of the darkness in which we appear to be stumbling we have but to open our eyes to stand in this full Spiritual Sunlight. If we would be in the Light we must open our eyes to understanding. "Incline thine ear to wisdom, and apply thine heart to understanding . . . and find the knowledge of God."

AFFIRMATION: The Light Of Spirit Disperses All Fear.

Meditation Lesson

February 5, 1968

Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand.

Jeremiah 18:6

MANY OF US have watched a potter as he worked with the clay on the revolving wheel. At times he would take from the clay some foreign substance which, if it remained there, would mark the finished product. Sometimes the potter would seem to be making one object, sometimes another, so that we could not always tell just what was in his mind until his work was finished. When done, where once had been a shapeless mass of clay stood revealed a beautiful object needing only the fire to make it ready for use. Then we think, "God is the 'Great Potter'; we are the clay, the world is the wheel and the experiences through which we pass are the manipulations of the potter's hands." We, you and I, in order to be what God would have us be and fill the place which He intends us to fill must be submissive to His will, trusting always in the face of changes we may not now understand.

AFFIRMATION: I Make Myself Submissive To The Great Potter.

... but the spirit of your Father which speaketh in you.

Matthew 10:20

EVERYONE DESIRES the fruits of intelligent living and thinking, and none of us would be deliberately unintelligent; yet many times we are unintelligent in our living. When the whole picture of what we desire (and desire to do about it) is before us we should pause for a brief time and lay it all on the altar of Divine Wisdom to determine if what we desire and do is all good. That is, if it be for the greatest good to ourselves and all concerned. If at such times we have our thought quite open and ask for guidance and keep ourselves receptive for the answer, we shall act in plenty of time with new power, and what we do will be right. As a part of God we have access to an Infinite Intelligence always and we should never deny ourselves its help. Divine qualities are ours to an infinite degree just for the asking.

AFFIRMATION: The Spirit Of Intelligence Governs My Thought.

Now the coat was without seam. . .

John 19:23

THE COAT without seam which Jesus wore symbolizes the perfection of Christ. Just as His garment could not be torn by the soldiers, so the perfection of the Saviour cannot be tarnished or destroyed. All the hatred and persecution which we heaped upon Him had no power to touch the perfection of the one they crucified. The Christ is our example of perfection, wisdom, love and power. The base intrigue of the Pharisees which brought Him to the cross was powerless to darken the glorious radiance of His life. Today we find those who would seek to hide their tattered garments beneath the seamless raiment of Christ in an effort to find favor in God's sight. However that can not be done. Not until we have proven ourselves worthy through searching out and finding Christ will we, His children, wear the seamless robe, symbol of the Christ light shining from within our own body-temple.

AFFIRMATION: I Strive To Be Worthy To Wear The Seamless Robe.

Meditation Lesson

February 8, 1968

Let your light shine before men . . .

Matthew 5:16

JESUS KNEW that His disciples would have reason to hide their light so He told them, "When men shall revile you and persecute you and say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake, rejoice." It was then for them to let their light shine, no matter how strong the human instinct might be to hide their light in the face of scorn and trial. These disciples were to become the spiritual light of their world, as the sun is the material light of the universe. The sun is the agent of the Lord for creating beauty and fullness and plenty and we daily give thanks for His love and goodness. In much the same way the disciples were to do good to the souls and bodies of men, as Jesus did when with man. When Jesus healed the sick and the blind many glorified God and rejoiced. So, we must rejoice today, and glorify the name God.

AFFIRMATION: I Shed The Light Of Truth Among Men.

Meditation Lesson

February 9, 1968

The Lord is on my side.

Psalms 118:6

WHEN OUR FAITH and understanding have become so strong that we feel only the Presence of God, we have put away all fear that anyone or anything can harm us. When we know that we are with the absolute Power of the universe, we are able to stand face-to-face with whatever may confront us for we have learned that we are in God and God is within us. Our consciousness of the omnipresence of God is our protection against any danger that may seem to threaten and we will have no fears at all. With this consciousness we may lie down in peace, knowing that the One Presence and Love and Power fills and surrounds us with the Light of Truth which dispels every shadow of doubt and fear. Under the protection of His love none of the darkness of evil can penetrate, for in His omnipresent love there is only the light of perfect peace.

AFFIRMATION: With God Beside Me I Am Safe And Secure.

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Meditation Lesson**February 10, 1968****He shall strengthen thine heart.****Psalms 27:14**

GOD DOES NOT look down upon us in our misery and suffering, and pitying us send His blessings, as many would think. If God could look down upon us with the consciousness of our need for pity, then we would indeed be lost souls. A God who could thus recognize that there were something other than perfection in His Kingdom would not be a God at all, for the consciousness of opposites is not a divine quality. We may know ourselves as sick and suffering, but God must ever be aware of us as a part of Himself. Thus, in our efforts to heal ourselves, we should not think of bringing God down to a sorrowing heart; rather to bring that sorrowing heart to a place where it knows that it need not sorrow if it will allow itself to be healed by the presence of Perfection, which is God. Spirit knows us only as whole and perfect now.

AFFIRMATION: In Spirit I Am Whole And Perfect.**Meditation Lesson****February 11, 1968****Put up again thy sword into his place.****Matthew 26:52**

ENMITY IS LIKE a two edged sword that injures the user as well as his adversary. Jesus said, "Love your enemies." How much happier and stronger we would be if we would ponder on these words of the Master. If anyone might have had the right to hate His enemies it was Jesus; yet His whole life was a living example of loving. Buddha, Mahatma Gandhi and all of our really great men understand this law of love overcoming hate, for they realize that most hatred arises from misunderstanding. The Indians are said to have a prayer that would be well for us to use each day in our relations with others, especially those whom we think are enemies: "Great Spirit, help me never to judge another until I have walked two weeks in his moccasins." In other words, let us learn to put ourselves in that other one's place, then we can not make criticism.

AFFIRMATION: Through Love I Transform Enemies Into Friends.

LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY

... whose builder and maker is God.

Hebrews 11:10

FEBRUARY 12, 1809 was an eventful day in the history of our country and of the world. On that day was born Abraham Lincoln, a man upon whose shoulders were placed heavier responsibilities than upon most any president. Yet, with all his burdens, Lincoln's faith in God grew deeper with passing years and eventually became the simple trusting faith of a little child. It is said that Lincoln's favorite verse from the Bible was, "Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord." We might all take a lesson in faith from this great man who, during those dark days when the very nation's existence was in peril, spent long hours in prayer for guidance and for his country's protection. With his sublime faith he never for one moment doubted the final outcome of the war, knowing that when we do our best we can safely stand still and see the salvation of the Lord.

AFFIRMATION: With Increased Faith I See The Good.**I have planted . . . but God gave the increase. I Corinthians 3:6**

TRUTH HAS TAUGHT us clearly that we are not creatures of chance and circumstances, but architects of our own fortune. A happy expectant attitude of mind attracts good "luck" as a magnet attracts iron filings. Luck is not something that just happens, we deliberately choose it whether we realize it or not, for the thoughts we think and the decisions we make determine what we attract. Every experience that comes to us exists first in mind. Our circumstances are mental conditions before they manifest in the outer world. This mental picture is the pattern by which the material thing or condition is cut. A truth which we should ponder well is that as the ideal is in ourselves so is the impediment in ourselves. Whatever we find or achieve is first a mental condition. In the words of Emerson, "Though we travel the world over to find the beautiful, we must carry it with us or we find it not."

AFFIRMATION: Through My Own Thought I Make My Good Fortune.

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY

You may be glad also with exceeding joy.**1 Peter 4:13**

THE PSALMS stress the quality of joy perhaps more than any other emotion. So today we celebrate the birth of that good Saint, Valentine, as we send our messages of love and cheer to friends and those who may be shut away from the usual joys of life. It is a lovely custom for in it we find the message of giving overshadowing the receiving. In whatever form our gift may be, whether with flowers, letters or thoughts, the joy we receive from remembering and giving must surely equal or exceed the joy of those receiving. The expression of joyous giving opens the channels of our being so that the love there may flow forth in rushing torrents, filling the lives of others with the same quality of love which is returned to us in full measure. Back of every gift today let us send forth a prayer of love and of healing to that loved one.

AFFIRMATION: I Send Forth Love Unbounded With My Gift.**But my God shall supply all your need . . .****Philippians 4:19**

WHEN THE CHILDREN of Israel were passing through the wilderness God fed them with manna from heaven, nor did He fail to supply their needs for each day. Many people feel they must hoard in order to have necessary supply for the future. This feeling arises from a lack of faith. Although thrift is an excellent quality let us beware that it does not blind us to another's need. It would be a wonderful practice if all the members of a community should forego luxuries as long as any one in that community lacked the necessities. That would be real practical Christianity—and religion, if worthy of the name, must be practical. God never intended that some should live in luxury while others live in poverty. However, this level ground can come only when the truth of man's inheritance is accepted by the poor and they lay claim to it as their natural right as children of God.

AFFIRMATION: God Supplies My Every Need Each Day.

Meditation Lesson

February 16, 1968

... so panteth my soul after thee, O God.

Psalms 42:1

THE CLOSEST of human relationships at times fail to bring the joy and the satisfaction they should. When we need them most we often find that friends prove false and loved ones fail us. God is the only friend who never fails, but who is always ready to meet our every need. Having once really found God we can never again feel that aloneness which we had once felt. And when we know that we have God we learn that we have less need of many material things. While if we do not have God all the wealth of the universe cannot bring real happiness. Each of us, according to our needs, will eventually find in God that which we seek, for God is the answer to every desire and the solution to every problem. In each soul is a vacuum that nothing but God can fill, a hunger that nothing but God can satisfy.

AFFIRMATION: In God I Find The Friend That Never Fails.

Meditation Lesson

February 17, 1968

Speak every man truth with his neighbor.

Ephesians 4:25

ALL FORMS of dishonesty are caused by a belief in a limited supply of good. Our part is to realize that good does not depend upon any person but that all good comes from the one source—God. We then come to understand that there is no necessity for dishonesty. When, through Truth, we come to know that the source of all good is God's love we understand that any dishonest intent robs no purse but our own. When the nature of our every thought and act is truth, by the Law of Attraction only truthful persons are attracted to us. Only those who understand the truth of our own honesty of purpose can be drawn into our environment. As we seek no unearned advantage over anyone following the golden rule, no one takes advantage of us. Then we understand fully the law of Cause and Effect—"As a man sows so shall he also reap."

AFFIRMATION: Truth Manifest In And Through Me.

Meditation Lesson**February 18, 1968****And Jesus answered, "O woman, great is thy faith."****Matthew 15:28**

TRUE FAITH is a belief beyond the shadow of a doubt. We place faith in men, in human laws, in institutions; but the one supreme faith is that which we place in God, or in the integrity of the Universe of His creation. Many will tell us such faith cannot be proved. Yet all the laws of nature are constantly proving their dependability. Our faith in the Goodness of God is substantiated daily in the abundance of nature. Our faith in the law of Cause and Effect is proved throughout every condition of our lives that "As a man thinketh, so is he." Faith in God exemplified not alone upon the intuition of the soul, but upon the physical evidence of the universe all about us. We know that our intelligence is the intelligence of God within us. We may then know that the faith we have is founded upon the very evidence of Being Itself.

AFFIRMATION: My Faith Now And Always Is Supreme.**Meditation Lesson****ASH WEDNESDAY****February 19, 1968****The Lord is my light and my salvation.****Psalms 27:1**

ALL THE WORLD is seeking security and equality, but before we can bring security into our lives we must learn the power of creative thought. We find many today who would tell us that God causes all the insecurity we experience. We may all prove this is not true for the only God is one of love and justice. We know that what we choose, through thought, shall be set in motion for us, so our thought alone determines either limitation or abundance. When, through seeking, we have the "mind of Christ" we are brought into complete unison with good. We have a sense of security and understand that God seeks us out; but we must choose Him. Thus, by the power of our own thought, we have set into motion the attracting power for all our desires. What we think we want or want to be, we will eventually have and eventually become.

AFFIRMATION: Through Creative Thought All Good Is Now Mine.

Meditation Lesson

February 20, 1968

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace.

Isaiah 26:3

TO THE ONE who really believes that God is Captain of his ship, that one will not be shaken adrift by the reports of evil in the world. But for those who are praying a prayer of anxious petition, begging God to help them, the only effect of such prayer will be to bind them tighter to the feeling of fear and foreboding. If we know that God is in us, around us and permeating every situation in which we find ourselves, then we have the assurance that the struggle is not ours but God's and our every step forward is made easy. Let us realize the infinitude of God; that all the substance there is, all the power there is, is present now and is acting this very moment in every detail of our daily lives. Then we can say, not in resignation, but in joy, and in complete assurance, "Thy will be done."

AFFIRMATION: God Is In Perfect Control Of My Life.

Meditation Lesson

February 21, 1968

Beloved, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us.

1 John 3:1

JOHAN THE APOSTLE knew that we have no vessel large enough or experience deep enough to measure the love of God, for he knew that God's love is immeasurable. The gift of His only Son shows His love for mankind, and that love must transcend any gift which a human father can give to his child. Many times we become bitter toward God when it would seem that He has been cruel and unjust in taking from us the one we loved. We ask ourselves where was God when we needed Him so sorely? Perhaps, after days of pondering this question, the answer comes to us that God was in the same place when our loved one was taken from us that He occupied when His only son suffered and died on the cross. In the thought of the cross we can find the answer to many of our questions. It is everlasting proof that God loves us because He is God and God is love.

AFFIRMATION: God's Love Fills All My Need.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY**The eternal God is thy refuge.****Deuteronomy 33:27**

AS OUR MINDS today turn to the birthday of another great American, we realize anew the power of faith and prayer. Like Lincoln, George Washington led the country through a crucial period, but never once did he lose faith that God was on the side of justice and freedom. Like Lincoln, he had an unwavering reliance upon divine Providence which reliance was never so strong as when adversity was strongest. At one time he said, "We will raise a standard to which the wise and the prudent may repair; the issue is in the hands of God." And again like Lincoln, he believed that when we have done our best, the rest is with God. With the example of faith which these two men have set for us, how humbly we should seek that secret place of prayer through faith, knowing that whatever may confront us, beneath in eternal protection are the everlasting arms giving sustenance and subsistence.

AFFIRMATION: In Prayer I Find The Strength I Need.**. . . that ye might be filled . . .****Ephesians 3:19**

NATURE TEACHES us that the plants and trees must be firmly rooted in the soil or they will be blown away by the wind. What the soil is to plants and trees, God is to man. In Him we find all that we need for a rich and full life. But unless we send out our roots to draw His strength into us we cannot make use of the vital substance about us. To pray without making any effort to develop the qualities necessary to answer our prayers we are no wiser than a foolish plant that dies for want of nourishment because it refuses to send its roots into the soil. We cannot root ourselves in God in a day; it takes a long period of time. We become rooted in God by living in constant awareness of Him, by having daily communion with Him and by the practice of the Presence of God.

AFFIRMATION: I Strive To Become Deeply Rooted In God.

Meditation Lesson

February 24, 1968

The Spirit of God hath made me. . .

Job 33:4

LIFE AT ITS Source is pure and unadulterated. In the individual it is concentrated into the form of a body. Always playing between the body and the Source is the field of thought in which we, as individuals, through the law of individualism have the freedom of choice as to what we shall think. If we choose to think in terms of harmony, peace and love we build our body and environment into patterns of strength, health, happiness and success. The life current flowing through our field of thought meets with no obstacles and can manifest in terms of its own perfection. Man came from God and is made of His essence; so we must be fundamentally perfect. The Spirit within us is life forever expanding and from the Spirit we receive inspiration and guidance. Spirit projects all change and brings into being the divine elements which individualize in each one of us and becomes personal to each of us.

AFFIRMATION: I Choose To Think Love And Peace.

Meditation Lesson

February 25, 1968

I have overcome the world.

John 16:33

TRUTH TEACHES us that we are not the victims of chance or change. The law of freedom is eternally established, abundance is at hand. It is not enough simply that we know this. We must mentally unite our spiritual identity with the One Substance, the one Spirit. This being done we will then act as if that abundance is already ours. As God's child we know that supply is always where we are, and is always manifesting itself for our good. All that with which we have mentally identified ourselves is now drawn into our experience. We have the assured conviction that we live in a world completely penetrated by the living God, and as a citizen of that world our life is an expression of that citizenship. As an expression of God we have access to the creative order of the universe and come into possession of our desire. The substance for which we seek is manifest through the One Source.

AFFIRMATION: Today I Possess My Good.

Meditation Lesson

February 26, 1968

One shall say I am the Lord's.

Isaiah 44:5

WITH AN EXPANSION of understanding comes new power. From a secret uneasiness within we become imbued with a positive sense of conviction. Understanding gives purpose and point to all our affairs and prevents us from being dismayed by conditions which may arise. Through understanding we gain strength and force-thought instead of harboring the weakness from fear which had been ours. Through understanding we learn to be at peace with ourselves and with the world. We no longer make hasty decisions for all our appraisals are based upon thorough thought-planning that results in balanced judgment. When the realization of our unity with the source of all life is accepted we lose all sense of fear for our thought is fixed upon eternal understanding. Then indeed we can say, "I am the Lord's" for we have become one with His power and love.

AFFIRMATION: My Strength Is Increased Through Understanding

Meditation Lesson

February 27, 1968

... and preaching the gospel of the kingdom ... Matthew 9:35

MOST OF US have known the time when we were forced to face the test of "Faith", believing in our own divine heritage when the outer manifestations would seem to prove ourselves wrong in our faith. Jesus, with His perfect understanding, knew that He and the Father were one; that the Father being the Creator of all is the Source of all energy, all life. Jesus knew this even beyond the point of faith. In the beginning He had had the faith; but by using that faith He established the perfect contact with this all creative energy. Jesus knew the real Truth of Universal Health. The most impressive fact about the healings He performed was that the people within themselves did not know how they could be healed; yet they realized that He did know; and when He told them they were healed they were healed by their own faith. Such is the power of faith.

AFFIRMATION: By My Faith I Am Healed Of All Weakness.

Meditation Lesson

February 28, 1968

Who then is that faithful and wise steward?

Luke 12:42

SOME PEOPLE mistakenly think they own that which has been given to them to administer only. Instead of thinking we own lands and other possessions our thought should be that God is the owner of all—the earth, the land, the houses we build, the business we conduct—that we are but God's stewards over these possessions and over the life which He has given us. When we feel that possessions belong to us it may tend to create a restlessness; a striving to hold them to ourselves for our own personal pleasure and power. We can never be really happy and free until we make a practice of returning to God a portion of those blessings with which we have been entrusted. It is in the giving and the sharing, not only of our material possessions but of our spiritual blessings and understanding, that we become co-workers with God and trusted and true stewards of His gifts.

AFFIRMATION: I Share Of My Blessings With Others.

Meditation Lesson

February 29, 1968

... we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalms 118:24

WE CANNOT MEASURE time, for yesterday has gone, tomorrow is not here and today is rapidly slipping past. We are glad for the joys of yesterday and for our hopes of tomorrow. And we are glad of today and try to see God in every person we meet and find Him in every experience through which we pass. With minds filled with loving thoughts for all and our hands busy with kindly deeds, there will be no time in our lives for anything unworthy of the Christ within us. We can go about our daily tasks conscious of our ability to meet every rightful demand upon us without haste or confusion. In conscious unity with the Father, we come to live above the influences that might depress and discourage because we have the assurance of faith which is "the victory that overcometh the world." We live today in Eternity.

AFFIRMATION: I Am Receiving Today's Blessings.

Letters *from those who found The Power*

● SAVED HER LIFE

From the teachings of The Mayan Order, I am a better person. Through the teachings I was able to pull myself together, to keep my sanity, and even my life, for I had just given up. I wish every despondent person in the world could come to know your kindness. I give thanks every day that I saw the small advertisement in a magazine and answered it.

E. L. H.
Ohio

● MIRACLE POWER

The Miracle Power is truly a Mayan light, seventy-seven pages of Truth bound in a blue and gold wrapper. I have read and re-read Page 48. You must have written it especially for me.

N. E. K.
Washington

● ENCOURAGEMENT

I don't know what I would have done without D. M. this past year. Its encouragement kept me from making the mistake of giving up too soon. God has surely blessed it. Thank you.

N. M.
Indiana

● FROM A BISHOP

When I started these lessons and the D. M., I was pastoring two rural churches. Since then, I have remodeled and put new furniture in one church, rebuilt another church, and in 1958 was consecrated to the Bishopric with 50 odd churches in my area. Outside the Bible, the Mayan lessons and the D. M. have been incalculable help, for which I am praising God and thanking you and your prayer group.

T. J. J.
Virginia

● DOOR OPENED

I am writing you in regard to the written prayer sent you last month. God wonderfully blessed. My son will return to the university.

S. F. J.
Florida

● WONDERFUL LESSONS

The wonderful (Mayan) lessons are so inspiring. I hope to be able to receive the very essence of these tremendous writings. May God help you to carry on and continue to spread this much-needed philosophy.

R. J.
Missouri

● HAPPIER

My life has changed and I'm an entirely different person since I became a Mayan. I'm in better spirits than I have been in years. I'm looking hopefully toward the future. And to me, D. M. is the most precious book! I lend copies to help others find what I've found.

G. J.
Delaware

● IN ONE HOUR

God led me to you. The teachings are so easy to learn and apply, I just can't believe it. For four years I wanted work with the sick and oppressed. I studied everything that I could get my hands on concerning this talent, but I didn't know where I could fit in. When I received the first two manuscripts, I studied them carefully, afraid to apply the principles lest I fail in my attempt, but became calmer and asked God to guide me in my new attempt. One hour after studying and applying these principles, I had the job that I had long wanted.

J. L.
Texas

—gathered from the mail by Rose Dawn

● BEYOND BELIEF

It is almost beyond belief, the help I have received through Mayanry. I thank God for guiding me into the Mayan Way.

Mrs. J. B. K.
New Mexico

● DEEPLY GRATEFUL

My sister and I are deeply grateful for the Mayan prayers. She's home now, having spent the least time in the hospital for arthritis this trip than any in the last five or six years. She wrote she felt aware and comforted when someone was praying for her. I'm still on my "rereading past lessons" project. It has made one of the most rewarding summers I've ever known.

F. H.
California

● SUPPLY NEED

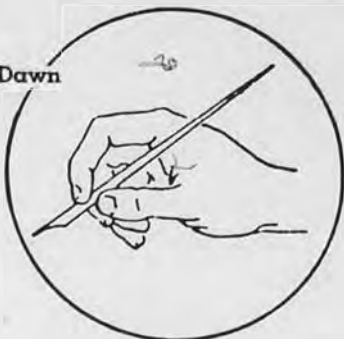
These lessons were prepared with not only wisdom and knowledge, but understanding and a heart full of compassion to get it over to us. Please believe that I am indeed grateful to you for your deep concern and efforts to supply our need for the life we're leading. Somehow you seem to know just what is needed at the right time. It is simply wonderful to be a Mayan.

H. S. M.
Louisiana

● GRATEFUL

I am thankful and grateful for many things and all I have. I wish that all people could have a copy of D. M. to start the day as I do. Every day there is something powerful that helps me to start the day so that I can face all problems that may arise.

A. N.
Nebraska



● MUCH WISDOM

I cannot put into words our sincere appreciation for your help and the help of the Mayan Order. I think Lessons 19 and 20 have been of greatest benefit, for we found much wisdom in them.

Mrs. B. B. J.
Tennessee

● GREAT TEACHINGS

When I first began my Mayan lessons, I never dreamed I would be receiving such greatness in teaching. After a few lessons, my ways started changing. I didn't get along with my fellow workers, did not enjoy myself, and was very unhappy. But after studying the fifth lesson several times, keeping in mind what I studied, I felt a change coming over me from day to day. Today, I get along well with fellow workers, am enjoying life, and am much happier. I am ever grateful for the Mayan teachings.

S. K.
Pennsylvania

● HELP AND SUPPORT

I am writing you this morning with a thankful heart for answered prayer. My daughter-in-law is so much improved and seems to be happy and content, just like a new person. We are so happy with her.

Mrs. B. H.
Ohio

NEWS & NOTES

(From page 9)

Mary Marks of California. I hope she won't mind my passing on to you the wonderful greeting she received one day when she reported for duty at the hospital — "You are special, aren't you? I am glad to have you," her superior said. And "God bless you" is the greeting from her patient, to whom she reads from *D. M.* each morning.

In the last issue, we told of Companion Carrie Pickard's receiving her college diploma at 74 years young, you will remember. Now the word comes that she plans to use her educational development as a teacher on special programs in Operation Head Start. Our prayers are with this lovely Mayan and her dedication to service to others.

As always, Companion Mary Tie-man's letters are full of news. Today, the highlight is a picture of her son accepting a scholarship on which he is now enrolled at Southern Illinois University.



It has been some time since we thanked you for your continuing words of encouragement to the staff of *D. M.* To know that its message is meeting your needs is most gratifying, for to do that is our sole purpose.

Among the many such letters recently was a note from England, from Rev. Arthur Hedley, who wrote *An Unfailing Friendship*, included in the September-October issue. In part, it reads: "I am reading the issue slowly with interest and profit. It has a message so much needed in this age of depression, division and disillusionment." Retired from pastoral work, it is Rev. Hedley's prayer that his min-

istry may continue through his writing. This loving spirit expressed in his work brings him to *D. M.* — and we welcome him.



It is not often we meet someone for whom a town has been named. When we do, there is always an interesting story — as there is about one of our new Companions, Donna Hooks Fletcher.

From the story of her life could be written a television series to equal or surpass any on the networks today. It begins in East Texas, where her grandfather had settled his Georgia family on coming west. But it was when her father moved his family to the Rio Grande Valley that the story began to center around our Companion.

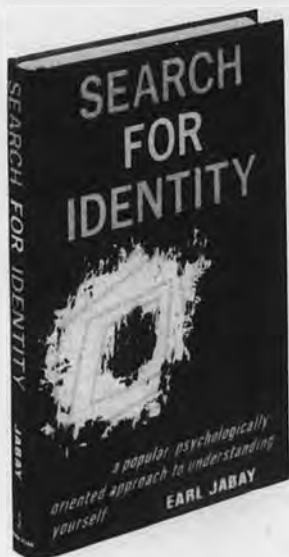
Not only was the town named for her, but many "firsts" have made her one of the Valley's honored citizens. First postmaster of the town, she also became its first Notary Public, built its first office building, fed and lodged its first land seekers, and later was the first "Gringo" woman to ride a train out of the Valley — as its only passenger riding in a boxcar secured by padlocks to insure safety.

But it was when she mounted her horse to lead her laborers to a snake-infested brushy thicket that her courage became a legend. Literally chop-

If you have moved, please let us have your change of address. This is most important. For each returned letter, there is a cost of 8c; for each returned *D.M.* there is a cost of 10c, plus the cost of remailing.

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A FEELING OF SOMEBODYNESS?

IF YOU ARE, THIS BOOK IS FOR YOU!



SEARCH FOR IDENTITY is not just another analysis of the life-problem that is the basis of all other problems of our restless age. It is not just pointing out symptoms that you recognize as your own. It is not the recital of others' experiences that only make you realize you are not alone in your quest to find yourself.

SEARCH FOR IDENTITY gets to the heart of the problem — by separating the person from the confusion of his surroundings — and then, with vision cleared, you are able to find the identity that your Maker intended you to have.

Best of all, the author is not content to just talk about these things, but shows you how to find your way out of the problem — to be the real YOU.

It is a fascinating book, written for the most fascinating of God's creations — YOU. Order your copy at once and end your restless search — by finding yourself!

• \$3.95 •

At Your **MAYAN BOOK HOUSE**



It was a hardened journalist who went, as a last resort, to Aylesbury that cold January day in 1964. A man who was seriously ill and on the brink of blindness, he was prepared to scoff — and he was healed by a famous surgeon who had died 27 years prior!

This book is a fascinating recording of facts — not fantasy or hearsay. Patients were interviewed, their statements and medical histories carefully checked to guard against purely emotional, and possibly inaccurate, accounts. Every name and place of residence is authentic. And, having presented objectively the truth about the subject in question, the author asks you to believe what you will.

This is a "must" for every open-minded seeker of Truth.

• \$3.95 •

MAYAN BOOK HOUSE

ping out her homestead, with the use of irrigation it soon became a model farm. Later, her Alameda Ranch became famous for her registered Jersey herd, which was another "first".

It was quite natural for her to raise a tiny kitten into a full grown wildcat that curled up at night on the foot of her bed. This unusual pet shared her love for music and would lie stretched across the top of her piano as long as she played. But the Brownsville Zoo acquired "Kitty" when his appetite for domestic fowl brought complications in neighbor relations.

Times have changed in the Valley, but one thing does not change — the love and respect accorded our Companion, as was evidenced on her 80th birthday in 1960. On that day, she was honored by the town that bears her name in a celebration that brought congratulations from President Dwight D. Eisenhower, Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, and Governor Price Daniel.

Through all her history-making life, the "inner flame of faith" has upheld her. Still a seeker of Truth, Companion Fletcher has come into our fellowship, and we welcome her with love — this gallant lady who is now 88 years young.



We cannot be reminded too often of those in other lands who are in the middle of political unrest and warfare. Always, we pray for the wonderful men who wear our country's uniforms and endure such hardships and hazards for us and our way of freedom.

But sometimes we do not realize the sorrows of other persons involved — the innocent victims of war, the families whose lives are saddened by death, whose homes lie in the path of armies and so they must leave everything and flee for their lives. Due to the news we receive here, we learn about some of the thousands of such cases in some of the areas of battle. But when we pray for "those who are caught in the devastation of war", we

YOU CAN IMPROVE YOUR LUCK
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YOU have a luck-potential — learn how to use it! Learn how YOU can attract luck with almost mathematical certainty. Learn how to bend this dynamic force to your will.

When you understand what LUCK is, you can bring it into your life in a positive way — you can make yourself the kind of person it's easy for Chance to help.

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What is ESP?

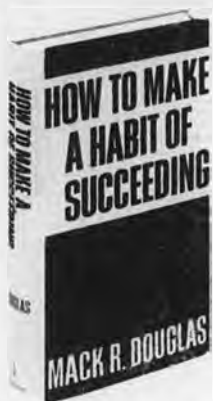
People have been quick to pick up the title, ESP, for a recognized but unexplained area of experience. But what is it?

Trace with Mrs. Rhine the process that produces ESP. The life side gives perspective; the experimental side gives reliability.

Learn about this part of your mind's equipment that is just as real as sense perception or reason or any other of your mental abilities.

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You've just taken the first step in building a future of your own choosing.

Then, with the help of Mack Douglas, establish your goals. Learn the dynamics of setting goals and how to use them. Learn how to put Imagination, Persistence, Motivation and Desire to work for you through Action — and you'll be well on your way to a successful life.

Use the 39 daily guideposts set out in right-where-you-are language. Fill in the outlines given for your own personal desires and ambitions and the way to achieve them.

Here is a book that shows you how you can assure personal success — if you really want it and will try.

• \$4.95 •

MAYAN BOOK HOUSE

cannot know just what that includes. The reason I say this is that we may seriously consider the specific hardships insofar as we are able, that our prayers may be more specific and our own gratitude deeper to God and to them — for, but for the Grace of God and the geographical location of the battles, we might be so personally involved.

This is brought home each day to us at Mayan headquarters when the returned mail is brought in. As I write this today, there are three countries from which our mail is barred. This means that our Companions in those countries in their hour of great need are deprived of the spiritual help the lesson material and *D.M.* offers. We thank God that their letters reach us and we know their faith is great, but how we wish they might know through our mail to them how very much they are in our prayers.

As we join together in spirit when the Angelus Call sounds, please join me in specific prayers for all of these dear ones, that at those times they may feel a marked surge of power flowing into them that tells them of our love. This is something we can do, something great to help them, for there is nothing more powerful than the prayers of those who truly love God and are deeply concerned for their fellow men.

No matter where you are at the Angelus Call, no matter what you are doing, let your heartfelt concern be raised to God for them. It may be that you can only for a moment let your thoughts ascend — remember that He knows the heart and your sincere concern. Then, when you can during the day or evening, arrange your time to voice your specific prayers. If we do this, God will do the rest.

And may God bless you all in this New Year!



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	Package of Envelopes (see Page 42)	1.00	

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Send in your own or a friend's application
on this convenient form for membership in



The Mayan Order

To the Committee on New Membership:

I wish to become a Member of the Mayan Order and enjoy all the privileges of the Order, including the lessons, the magazine, the books, and any other benefits which are sent free to Members of the Order. The following facts about my life are for your guidance only and are to be kept in strictest confidence:

My name is

Birthday.....
(Month) (Day) (Year)

Education..... Sex

Religion..... Occupation.....

Have you ever been a member of the Mayan Order? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you ever belonged to any mystical organization or studied any spiritual philosophy?
☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you believe that man possesses many God-given powers that he seldom uses? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you believe that with proper instruction and understanding, you can develop your inner forces to your own betterment? ☐ Yes ☐ No

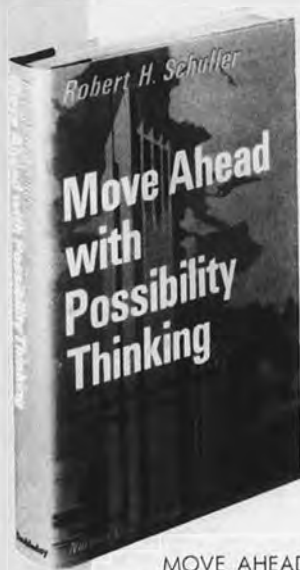
The Five Dollars which I am enclosing as registration fee and first month's dues are my donation to the Mayan Order, and I will continue to donate to the Order the sum of \$3.00 monthly as long as I wish to participate actively in the Order. If I am not accepted to membership, my money and this questionnaire will be returned to me promptly.

Signature

Address
(Street or Box Number) (Zip Code)

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Box 2710 — San Antonio, Texas 78206



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THE MAYAN CHAPEL OF MIRACLES

