

THE ORDER OF THE ESSENES

2527 SUNSET DRIVE

TAMPA 6, FLORIDA

DEPARTMENT OF INSTRUCTION

JUST TALKING IT OVER

WITH YOU: --

Do not confuse what you find in Instruction Sixty-six with your idea of religion.

Theology is a very complicated affair. It deals with creeds, dogmas, theorems, and interpretations to correspond to them.

Throughout the Bible, when the word "heart" is used, you can substitute the word "mind" and get a better meaning. In the early days, and at the time of the early Essenes, they considered that the heart was the seat of the mind and thinking.

Let us take a quotation from the Bible, that you may understand what we mean: "Keep your heart (mind) with all diligence, for out of the heart (mind) are the issues of life" (health, or sickness; happiness, or misery; material well-being or poverty).

There should be no difficulty in understanding that if you would change your conditions you must change your thoughts.

When you understand this you are no longer at the mercy of circumstances; you are the maker of the circumstances you desire. These are "the issues of the heart" (mind).

In this set of Instructions we use the word "God" because we want to relate it to what you have learned in your religious studies. We not only want to make it understandable, but we want to make it workable.

It can be said that God is Universal Mind, and that you are an individual mind. Universal Mind means everywhere and ever present, and therefore your mind must be a part of it.

Certainly if your mind were isolated and independent there could be no such thing as Universal Mind, because within you there would be one place where it was not, and therefore it would not be Universal.

We are deeply desirous of your grasping this Instruction. It does not conflict with Christian teachings, but strictly conforms to them. Like a drop of water in the ocean, we have all of the attributes of the whole. When you believe it and when you act upon it, you will marvel at the changes you can bring about by strict adherence to the mental formula of attainment we have so clearly set forth and so often repeated.

Verily - It cannot fail,

THE ORDER OF THE ESSENES

By

S. Hamner Davis

Enc. 66



THE Essenes

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Instruction Headquarters - Tampa, Florida

INSTRUCTION 66

Assuring to the Acceptable and Accepted
HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND SUCCESS.

"GOD EXPRESSES HIMSELF THROUGH MAN - HIS
PURPOSE CAN ONLY BE REALIZED THROUGH MEN WHO
ARE AWARE OF THEIR ONENESS WITH HIM AND ARE
WILLING TO EXPRESS HIM IN THEIR LIVES. THE
POWERS OF MEN ARE BUT ONE - ALL POWER IS GOD.
THE DIFFERENCE IN MEN'S ABILITIES LIES IN THE
DIFFERING DEGREES IN WHICH THEY ALLOW GOD TO
EXPRESS IN THEM."

- - J. L. Fendrich, Jr.

PERSONALIZING GOD

Jesus, speaking with the woman of Samaria, said "God is spirit" - Let us take him at his word and see how far he was in advance of his time - - - Yes, and even of this time.

With just common sense we can develop an ability to reason on this subject and reach a conclusion which cannot be overthrown by any religious creed, which precludes the possibility of a personal God of parts, and which is soul satisfying as it affirms God within us, ever at hand - available and availing - and which in no way violates the scientific findings of the ages past.

We must gather many threads together. We have expressed it that through our Instructions run golden threads and that they would be woven into a pattern for beautiful and successful living - the object of Life Science, and the legitimate ideal of all religions.

It is basic that the universe consists of matter and spirit. For a thing to have form it must be matter. If it is matter it is finite--not infinite; it is particular, not universal; it comes within the limitations of time and space and is neither omnipresent nor omnipotent.

Going one step further - The source and substance of all things that exist (remember Instruction #2, "All things are here and now") must fill all space. It therefore contains all forms within it and therefore cannot be limited to form.

Science demonstrates that the ether is all pervading and universal; that cosmic waves fill all space. These are within and without every individual. In them he has his existence. We certainly know that radio waves are in the living room, dining room, and bedroom at the same instant they are in the neighbor's house.

Spirit is therefore not difficult to conceive. It is self evident and quite plain that God is not matter. Matter of itself is not and cannot be creative and no one would claim matter to be eternal.

God is therefore and must be pure Spirit. Being universal or omnipresent it must be within us and we must be enveloped within it.

If the characteristic expression of spirit is intelligence or thought - then one of its attributes must be mind - or intelligence. Being unlimited or universal it must be omniscience or all-knowingness, because it is not bounded by time or space - which as you know are relative.

It is therefore not difficult of understanding that the mind of man is part and parcel of the all-pervading mind - and looking about us at any time and any place we can draw the safe conclusion that man is the instrument through which this intelligence works.

Does not this make the statement of Jesus, "I and my Father are one", make sense?

Man, being made in "the likeness of God" has real meaning in view of this understanding. The only likeness man can have to God is likeness of spirit. We now refer you to Instruction Number One, our first effort to acquaint you with the real You of your being.

The source of all life is one. All created series were projected or initiated by thought or intelligence. Therefore spirit, besides embodying intelligence, embodies life itself.

This seems to be generally recognized. In all languages we speak of death as "the spirit leaving the body."

If there is one thing that science builds upon it is the understanding that there is a universal harmony; that the world and the universe show a perfect relation of all parts; that there is an adjustment or perfect order and that the relation is governed by laws - a definite change in the order or arrangement universally brings a definite result.

It can therefore be logically concluded that spirit is the embodiment of harmony. Have we not said that "Life is the constant endeavor of organisms to harmoniously meet existing conditions?" At least it is an accurate description of the operation of the life principle.

Countless are the teachers and teachings which say "God is Love." That love is an ingredient of the spirit principle should be self evident. Through man only can come the expression of the evident desire of the infinite, as we gather it from the trend of life - and the progression of created things. The end and aim is apparently perfection. Seeking perfection is born of the love of creation and love of the thing created.

Likewise we can reason that spirit embodies the beauty principle. Every snow flake has a different design. Man embodies spirit. Spirit embodies man -- The one and same spirit. Does not beauty appeal to man's instinct and his inherent and inborn sense of fitness? Is it not his nature in all he creates to strive for beauty of design and conception?

We therefore conceive of God or Spirit as the principle of life, harmony, beauty and love - and that spirit is governed by laws just as we find electricity has its laws - chemistry its laws - and that things mechanical and inanimate respond in an unvarying and dependable manner to forces and energies applied to them.

Is this not good? We know that when we know the law, conform to it, we can work with it - utilize it in creations of our own - for we are essentially spirit. This is the discovery of the real You of your being - and with it comes the recognition man is a creator in his own right.

Why should those who have conceived God as a person in some far off heaven rebel at the thought of God as spirit indwelling? It cannot be said that what they conceive to be God they cannot give up because they have looked to his love to care for them - believing that in some vague way that love will be partial, when they realize that spirit is the embodiment of love. Is partiality any part of perfection?

Nothing of the personal Savior belief is lost when one comes to the knowledge that it is spirit and is indwelling and ever present.

When God is thus perceived and accepted there is no longer any doubt that "he hears you" - Your prayers are not co-mingled with the prayers of three billion other people, sent afar, to a being to sit in judgment. Judgment has already

been passed - the unvarying law governing spirit insures an answer - in exact accordance with your thoughts. Jesus tried to teach this - using the symbol of sowing and reaping.

"Oh! But I want to feel there is one I can go to, and my sins will be forgiven" some say.

The principle of the forgiveness of sin is written into the very constitution of the universe. If your experiences are not satisfying change your way of thinking and you create a new set of experiences.

What could be more just. Your experiences are a consequence. The fruit of your mental sowing. There is one thing that binds spirit - the thread of your thinking. Create each hour on the spinning wheel of thought a golden thread - and on the loom of life you will weave the pattern of beautiful living which will shine for you.

Not so far back in our Instructions (#65) we considered inductive reasoning. It should be fresh in your mind. We can engage in inductive reasoning by starting with man - an effect - and going back to God - cause.

We have intelligence - we think - therefore it is, so to speak, an inherited ability. How natural therefore was it that Jesus spoke of the "Father in me!"

To conceive of God as spirit and as indwelling should make communion with him a very personal affair. It removes the feeling of detachment -- isolation and separation.

Knowing the qualities of God or spirit as life - harmony - love and beauty, and knowing that by your very nature you are the embodiment of these things - you naturally give expression to these qualities, for is not man's purpose on earth to give expression to the infinite?

Furthermore - knowing that you are a free will agent - you will not, by reason of your understanding, give expression to discord or violate the principle of harmony - because you will realize that you deal with cause - and the consequences are yours.

Knowing that spirit is life - and that life is wholeness, you realize that the healing principle is within you and not afar - and that you can do by direction and indirection - by your thinking - govern its operation.

To come to the realization that your thinking is a thing divine - is creative - and is backed up and supported by omnipotence - will just naturally tend to keep you on guard over your thinking, and this is doubly true when you are conscious that the results will be personal to you.

The Universal laws governing spirit are impersonal, but the consequences of your use of them is personal. The law is exact and exacting - but it is a source of comfort and faith that when you conform in your thinking and acting to the nature of Spirit and give expression to love - beauty - harmony - and what you know as good - that only good can be the harvest of your mental sowing.

Verily to "know thyself" is to know God. We assure health, happiness and success as a result of understanding Life Science. Knowing you are the embodiment of life itself - you will learn to give full and complete expression to it. This is health.

Knowing that happiness is a state of mind and that harmony is the basis of all happiness and that this is a quality of your being, ever striving to be uppermost in your life and affairs, you will learn to give it right of way.

Knowing that success and material well-being are the result of a consciousness, and that consciousness consists simply of a realization and the things you desire are existent - that they are natural and normal and appropriate to your station, needs and requirements - and are yours by reason of your deserving them and having obeyed the law of balanced compensation - you will be able to crystalize your consciousness and materialize your desires expressed with faith and expectancy.

Personalizing God resolves itself into becoming aware of the real You of your being. That heaven is as Jesus said within you - and that therein is God - personalized within you - ever ready to serve you, bringing to the task omniscience and omnipotence.

Faith in these things is resultful. Prayers, in the manner we have endeavored to instruct you, are resultful. God is ever present. Be ever conscious of this fact and you will be unerringly guided on the path of attainment.

* * * THOUGHT GEMS * * *

"All energy of all spirit comes from God. It never becomes power on earth, until we ourselves turn it into action. If you turn God's energy into talk you turn it into weakness. If you turn it into action, you turn it into power supreme."

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"Religion seems so often a celebration of something which has been; it is like an eddy in the stream of life, something apart."

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"Christian faith is a grand cathedral, with divinely pictured windows - - Standing without, you can see no glory, nor can imagine any, but standing within every ray of light reveals a harmony of unspeakable splendors." - Hawthorne

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"The happiness of your life depends upon the quality of your thoughts, therefore guard accordingly; and take care that you entertain no notions unsuitable to virtue and reasonable nature." - - Marcus Antoninus

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"Thinking is the talking of the soul with itself."
- - Plato