

A Way of Life

---by---

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A Way of Life

A COURSE OF STUDY

---in---

Twenty-One Lessons

Received Through

Divine Revelation

---by---

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INTRODUCTION



In this present day and age we find many new conceptions of religion: Spiritualism, Unity, Christian Science, New Thought, Mental Science, the I Am Movement and others, have endeavored to shed a new light upon man's pathway and to bring to him a religion that is more in harmony with science and the immutable and unalterable operation of nature's laws than the theology of past years. We have practitioners and healers who claim to heal the human body by means of prayer, faith, and the laying on of hands; we learn of the effect of thought upon the physical body; of the development of the personality and the laws governing abundance and success. We are learning a philosophy of life that makes man personally responsible for his own errors. If we accept these new truths we can no longer rely upon the vicarious atonement of theology to gain us forgiveness without reparation, for we are told that we alone can and must make atonement for our own error.

Our anthropomorphic God has been replaced by a Dynamic and Creative Spirit that is not in some far off place called Heaven, but so very close that he is a part of our very being and literally moves and breathes with us. Heaven has become a state of consciousness and hell a mental purgatory from which we escape only by making restitution for past mistakes.

We believe that in this newly acquired conception of religion we have found something new under the sun—but have we? Let us see. Is there anything new under the sun? From the simple little briar rose has developed the marvellous American Beauty blossoms of today—the mind of a Luther Burbank cooperating with nature's law has helped to perfect the rose in its evolution; from the wax taper and the oil lamp have grown, because of the mind of an Edison, the brilliant electric lights of today. From the ox cart and the one-horse shay have emerged the automobile and the airplane; and from the fishing boats of yesterday and the crude steamboat of Robert Fulton have evolved the palatial ocean liners of this present era. We see the great law of Evolution worked out in the manifestations of nature. This we call progression. Must religion alone be exempt from the action of this law? It does not seem logical to believe. If God in the beginning only gave us the tiny seed that would in the future evolve into greater and greater things along commercial lines, surely he did

not tell us all there was to know regarding religion in one revelation. Is it not logical for us to believe that our understanding of God and religion have evolved just as everything else has evolved, and that their growth has depended upon the comprehension of the mind of man, the development of a spiritual consciousness that we may better understand the spiritual things?

Again I ask whether in this present day understanding of religion, we have discovered something new? No, indeed no! Nearly two thousand years ago there lived a lowly carpenter. They called him Jesus. This simple and kindly soul knew all that we of today understand about religion and even more. But the mind of the average man was not ready to comprehend the teachings of the Nazarene and so he was obliged to hedge them about with symbolisms and camouflage their truths with much wording. In the Sermon on the Mount we shall find, if we strive to read between the lines, the nucleus for all of our present day understanding of God and religion. With the usual perversity of human nature, we have built a wall of superstition around the Nazarene. We have made him a God when he wanted only to be a son of man. We say our prayers to him when he, as an elder brother, only wished to teach us how to pray with him. Did he not say,

**"Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy but to fulfil."—
Matthew 5:17.**

Yet we have made him a doer of miracles instead of a demonstrator of God's law. As a result of all this the most glorious example of the laws of right living that the world has ever known, the Man of Galilee, has been obscured and set apart from us because we have insisted on making him a God—Jesus Christ the only begotten Son.

The purpose of these lessons is to show the unity of thought, in so far as time and place makes it possible, between the teachings of the Man of Galilee and our present day conception of religion. Let us open our minds to a broader understanding of truth in religion and cease to be intolerant because of the difference in the man-made non-essentials of denominationalism.

Let us cease to be narrow and bigoted in our belief, finding truth in all religions and thereby learning a way of life that will truly teach us how to live in a broader and truer sense than ever before.

LESSON ONE



THE TEXT

1st John 4: 12, 13. No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.

Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.

THE SUBJECT

God

We have for many years visualized our God as a glorified man and placed Him in a body similar to our own. By so doing we have limited our understanding of Him and of His manifestations, in spite of the fact that we have asserted that he is omnipotent, omnipresent and omniscient. We have placed Him in a literal heaven which we have asserted to be in the skies, and thus we have builded a wall between our creator and ourselves. This wall is one of ignorance and in spite of the fact that God and the ways of life are still to a great extent incomprehensible to us we have learned much through Divine Revelation, and the findings of science. Thus have we seen a light upon the pathway and today we have a broader conception of our creator than ever before; we understand His laws better and our minds are ever alert to new truths, or rather a new understanding of old truths. We have learned that God is Divine Energy, Infinite Power, Creative Mind. He manifests through matter. We have also learned that all matter is an emanation from God, that God is All. If God is All, then it is logical for us to believe that God dwells in, and is a part of every manifestation of nature. Because we too are manifestations of God, and a part of Him we are truly Gods' in embryo, only awaiting the development of our own Spiritual Consciousness to bring into active manifestation in our lives the God Power within our own souls, for all that God is, we are; and all that we are, God is.

We have wasted much time hunting for God in this far-off country that we have called heaven, only to find at last that He is so close to us that He is a part of us, and to find Him we have only to go into the silence and attune the Spirit (God) within ourselves to the Great Spirit (God) the creator of the Universe and all therein, the maker of all laws that govern the phenomena of nature, including God's highest manifestation—Man.

MEDITATION

"God is a circle whose center is everywhere, and whose circumference is nowhere."—Empedocles.

LESSON TWO



THE TEXT

Gen. 1: 1. In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

THE SUBJECT

Creation or Evolution

Among other things, we have learned that God is Divine and Creative Mind, and that He manifests through matter; therefore the universe and all therein must logically have been brought into being through the manifestation of Divine Mind upon matter.

In St. John 1:1, we read: **In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

In Genesis we read the story of the creation as written by Moses, and after studying the findings of our present day scientists in regard to the theory of the evolution of organic matter and making a comparison of the two we find a certain harmony between the bible story and the different steps and eras in the theory of evolution. Nothing is created, in the literal sense of the word, for all is in the process of being created. Constant change and constant growth onward and upward is the law of the universe.

Haeckel, the great German naturalist, tells us that all organic matter was brought into being through the law of evolution, and that the first germs of life were generated in the mud and slime of ocean bed. And so, we believe that God has brought the universe into manifestation, not through a creation of seven days duration, but through a gradual growth from the single cell life principle up to our present day status, and that this growth has taken thousands of years and the end is not yet, for all things are still in the process of evolving.

In quoting to you from Nature's Divine Revelation, a book written by A. J. Davis, we feel that we are giving you a thought entirely in harmony with present day scientific findings, based upon the immutable laws of nature:

"In the beginning, the world was an unimaginable ocean of liquid fire! It was without parts for it was a whole. Particles did not exist; but the whole was as one particle. The power contained within this great vortex was the Great Positive Mind and its development was eternal motion. And so matter and motion constituted the original condition of all things."

MEDITATION

I shall realize daily that I am a conscious manifestation of the power of God.

LESSON THREE



THE TEXT

Genesis 1: 27. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

THE SUBJECT

Man

If man is made in the image of God, and God is a Spirit (St. John 4: 24) man also must be a Spirit, and therefore a part of God. The story of evolution tells us that man has evolved from the single cell life principle generated in the mud and slime of ocean bed, and has progressed to his present status. How far he can or will evolve is not known as he is still in the making. We agree with Robert G. Ingersoll in the following thought:

"I had far rather believe that I have evolved from the single cell life principle and progressed to my present status, than to think that I have been created perfect and retrogressed to my present imperfection."

The spirit of man, that which is a part of God, must of necessity be perfect as God is perfect. There is an intermediate principle between the Spirit and organic man which we call the soul or celestial body . . . thus man becomes a trinity, body, soul and spirit. At the time of so-called death, the soul and spirit leave organic man and the soul or celestial body forms over the physical body in a cloudy, vaporous replica of the body, from whence it has departed. It is attached to the physical body by a cord, similar in nature to the umbilical cord that connects the mother and her child before birth, only in this instance the cord is made of a more spiritual substance. Death, so-called, does not occur until this cord is severed, and then the soul and spirit pass into the next expression of life and the organic body now discarded, and no longer animated by spirit, goes back into chemicals and dust from which it came.

Gen. 2: 7: "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul."

The moment man becomes an individualized spirit he begins the journey through his earthly existence, and the collective results of his experiences establish his status in the next expression of life after he has cast aside his human organism. During his earthly existence, he is a free agent, building his life according to his own desires. Just as all other of God's creations, he is

subject to the immutable law of that creator and he progresses and retrogresses in accordance with his understanding of and obedience to the law. As the Word of God placed the universe in active manifestation, so the mind of man creates the individual universe in which he moves, breathes, and has his being.

MEDITATION

One Power controls the universe, and I am a conscious reasoning manifestation of that Power.



The history of man is the history of error gradually giving way to truth.



Man is not yet created, he is only in the process.



We are brothers to all who have trod the earth.

LESSON FOUR



THE TEXT

Mark 4: 22. For there is nothing hid, which shall not be manifested; neither was anything kept secret, but that it should come abroad.

THE SUBJECT

Divine Revelation

God has ever revealed himself to man through Divine Revelation. All down through the ages there have been those advanced souls who have been able to receive inspiration from Spiritual Sources. These souls have carried the torch of enlightenment to all humanity and have blazed the trail for new truths as rapidly as the mind of man has evolved to the point where he is able to receive them.

Every religious belief has been received by means of Divine Revelation. Buddha, Moses, Jesus, Paul, Mohammed and many others have had revelations and have been guided by a higher Spiritual Source. "Why then," you ask, "do the religions differ, if they all come from God?" In the essential fundamentals they do not differ. But in the dogma and creed of each, they do differ because the individual mind through which the revelation is received adds its bit to the story and each religion needs must fill the requirements of the particular era in which it originated. Thus man-made non-essentials become a part of God-made fundamentals and we have our many different creeds and beliefs.

Revelation is not confined solely to religion, for men in all walks of life are assisted in their progression by a higher Spiritual Force. Artists, doctors, poets and chemists are inspired by those in the Higher Realms of Life. New discoveries are made in medicine, electricity and all scientific lines, and are passed on to human minds that are capable of receiving them. All things are first perfected in the heaven world and passed on to this world by means of revelation.

Truly, "there is nothing hid, which shall not be manifested; neither was anything kept secret but that it should come abroad." The great Book of Life is open for all to read if they will but make the effort. The present day chaotic condition of the world is the forerunner of a new step in the evolution of mankind. Seek for a Spiritual Understanding that you may be able to go over the top in this coming onward surge of humanity. Truly it is a survival of the fittest, as growth has ever been since the begining of time. Out of this terror, hatred and bloodshed shall

arise, through a great Spiritual Awakening, a more civilized and God-like people. The keynote to our new song of victory shall be:

The Fatherhood of God,
The Brotherhood of Man,
And the unity of all.

MEDITATION

Man's silence is God's opportunity.



THE DAWNING

I am the dawn! Each morn I rise in glory,
In all my glowing splendor my banners I unfurl,
For I bring the golden sunrise to awaken all the world.

The birds fly out on downy wing,
And songs of praise they sweetly sing,
I kiss the sleeping rosebud,
As she wafts her perfume rare,
And the bees hum soft and lazy
As they scent the morning air;
I wave the dew kist grasses,
As I drive the clouds away,
God's messenger of hope, am I!
The harbinger of day.

On each new morn as I arise, from out the 'wakening skies,
I give you love, I give you faith, I make the past anew—
For I bring from Heaven another chance to live, to love, to do.

God sent me with this new born day
To guide the wanderers on their way,
To bind the wounds, the broken hearts,
To cheer the wearied souls,
That They might gain thru His dear love
The strength to make their goal.
My mission to the world and you
Is a song of joy so true,
For I bring to man a gift untold
Life's day to live anew.

Peggy Barnes.

LESSON FIVE



THE TEXT

St. John 14: 20. At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.

THE SUBJECT

Mind and Matter

Our text plainly shows to us our relationship to God and to one another. One cannot study the teachings of the Man of Galilee without realizing their logic and the demonstrable law underlying them all.

If God is a Spirit and His manifestations are brought about through the power of the word, using matter as its substance, then we are of a necessity monistic in our belief. Monotheism accepts mind and matter as one principle and dualism divides them into two separate principles. If in the beginning, God was all, nothing else was but God, then the things that God created must have come from within Himself. Therefore it is logical for us to believe that matter is an emanation from Divine Mind. Divine Mind or Infinite Intelligence thought and that thought, using matter as its substance, became an objective manifestation. Here our great law of vibration enters into the question and science tells us that the status of matter is determined by its rate of vibration. Thoughts attuned to a high Spiritual Consciousness naturally create things of a higher vibration and the lower the vibration of the creative thought the more dense the matter.

We draw no line of demarcation between man on the physical plane and man on the spiritual plane of existence. Life is continuous and regardless of man's surroundings, mind still dominates his progression and uses matter as its substance, matter on the Higher Planes of existence being of a more ethereal nature because of its higher rate of vibration.

Man does not immediately assume his higher Soul Rights the moment he has left the terrestrial body for the celestial, as he has many earthly desires to overcome before he can enter truly into a Spiritual Consciousness. No man is eternally damned for all have the opportunity for progression, and eventually, step by step, birth and rebirth from one plane to another, man grows Godward and finally finds his way back to the great All Source from whence he came.

At that day, he shall truly experience the meaning of our text, 'I am in my Father, and Ye in me, and I in you.'

MEDITATION

I and my Father are one.

LESSON SIX



THE TEXT

St. John 14: 2, 3. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.

THE SUBJECT

The Here and the Hereafter

Theology, in the many denominations of its churches, has bade us have faith in a life beyond this. Theosophy, Spiritualism and other of the New Thought religions claim to have indisputable evidence of an existence in a world of Higher Spiritual Consciousness after we have had our earthly experience. After studying the laws of evolution and realizing the growth, step by step, of organic life and of God's greatest achievement, man, an image of Himself, we cannot believe that Divine Mind would take all of these thousands of years to create man and after his three score and ten years of earthly existence cast him into oblivion. Matter changes its status, but always remains and in another formation or vibration . . . so says science. Spirit is immortal and therefore it seems logical for us to believe that man as a Spirit lives on after this change called death, and that he moves and has his being in a higher plane of Spiritual Consciousness, and his physical body, no longer needed, goes back to chemicals and dust from whence it came.

Gen. 3: 19. In the sweat of thy face shall thou eat bread, til thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken; for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

The return of Spirit is a part of the teachings of the Man of Galilee, and He, Himself proved that there was a pathway back from the grave by appearing in a celestial body nearly a score of times after his crucifixion.

Again may I say that we draw no line of demarcation between the here and the hereafter. Man becomes an individualized portion of God at the moment of conception, and at birth begins his earthly experience which eventually leads him back to God.

Death, therefore, is not the end of the book, just the close of the first chapter, and, as we turn the page, the story of life goes on more beautifully, more Spiritually than before.

MEDITATION

My heaven and hell are of my own creation.

LESSON SEVEN



THE TEXT

St. John 1: 1. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

THE SUBJECT

The Creative Power of Man

Let us go back over the preceding lessons so that we may thoroughly understand our creative power and learn how to demonstrate it constructively. We have learned that God is a Spirit, and we are made in the image of God; therefore, we must also be Spirits. We have also learned that God manifests through matter and by means of the Word, He was able to bring things into objective manifestation.

The Word was with God and the Word was God.

If God creates through the power of thought, man made in His image, with all His potentialities, must be able to create through the power of thought. As we realize this fact, we understand more fully the truth in the statement,

"As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he."

Jesus taught this same law and we find plenty of evidence regarding that fact in the book of St. Matthew. So much of hidden meaning is written in those pages that it could not all be brought out in one brief lesson. But you are advised to read, with Spiritual Understanding, the 5th, 6th, and 7th Chapters of St. Matthew, and strive to understand the hidden truths therein. All who grasp these teachings and put them into action in their lives, truly find

A Way of Life.

It is nature's law that we shall reap what we sow. Wheat begets wheat, corn begets corn, and weeds beget weeds. So also is this a mental law. Sow love and you reap love; sow hatred and you receive hatred in return. Your outward appearance and personality are the result of your inner thinking. As a first step in the way of life, let us learn to sow the right thought seeds that shall bring into our lives happiness and contentment, health and prosperity. Especially must we guard our thoughts against others, for evil thoughts sent out toward another, come back as does a homing pigeon and find rest in our own hearts.

In Matthew 6: 1-3, we read of the law that controls the giving of alms. It teaches us that when we have given to a

brother in all kindness and generosity, we must not destroy the value of that gift by boasting of our charity to another.

St. Matthew 6: 1. Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them; otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven.

The demonstration of the law will bring power into your life if you do not destroy your reward by much talk. Ask your brother not to repay you in kind for you have already been paid in the action of the law, but rather shall he, in turn, give to another, thus creating an endless chain of benefit and truly demonstrating the Brotherhood of Man.

MEDITATION

Knowledge of the law and obedience to it shall make me Master of my life.



Cast forth thy act, thy word, into the ever-living, ever-working universe; it is a seed-grain that can not die; unnoticed today, it will be found flourishing as a banyan-grove after a thousand years.

Carlyle.



Aim high and believe yourself capable of great things.



Failure is only for those who fail to think.

LESSON EIGHT



THE TEXT

St. Matthew 6: 33. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all of these things shall be added unto you.

THE SUBJECT

Material or Spiritual Growth Which?

In St. Matthew, we are told that if we first seek the kingdom of God, all other things shall be added unto us, and in St. Luke, we read that the kingdom of God is within ourselves. After studying these two statements, even without the actual demonstration of the law, we must logically come to the conclusion that Spiritual Understanding comes first, and if we have that, all other things must be added unto us.

If the Children of God had more truly understood these teachings of the Nazarene, our world would not be in the present chaotic condition. It seems very difficult for us to understand that material growth is a natural sequence of Spiritual Understanding. The kingdom of God is within us, and is demonstrated by living in His righteousness. This does not mean a smug adherence to the tenets of theological dogma and creed, a holier than thou attitude towards those who are not within the portals of the church . . . it means an understanding and demonstration of the natural laws of God, which create, not a literal kingdom, but a mental status of happiness and tolerance born of the desire to serve humanity and to give to all other men the same rights that we claim for ourselves.

Growth and success in material things come not in the greedy holding of all material things that come within our grasp, but rather from the giving away of that which we have in order that the law may be demonstrated in us. In the parable of the talents we read these words:

For unto everyone that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.

This statement is difficult for us to understand until we become Spiritually conscious. Then we realize that by giving away that talent which we have, not hiding it in a napkin and gloating over it, we automatically set in motion a law that brings into our lives a hundredfold more than we have given. Truly, he that hath ten talents receives more and he that hath but the one and re-

fuses to give shall lose even that which he hath. This is not a theory, it is a demonstrable fact and as we learn to understand the subtle truths in the teachings of the Master of Men, we too can live a life of abundance because of our knowledge that the kingdom of God lies within ourselves. The broad understanding of a Spiritual consciousness rids our minds forever of the narrow concepts of any particular theological belief and we recognize the vastness of the universe and the unity of the great Brotherhood of Man, regardless of race or creed.

MEDITATION

The fullest expression of life is found in a consciousness of the Spirit, for there is nothing higher than Spirit.



"THE SETTING SUN"

Another day is done, another setting sun,
And may the kindly word and consciousness of deed well done
Stand out like golden flowers
In the pattern of the web you've spun.

Another day is done, another setting sun,
See! The crimson light now sinking in the West
Shines in reflected glory
On the faces you love best.

In the immortal world where lives
The angel friends who have gone beyond,
A golden star is set to mark and spirit voices pause to hark
When you of earth in a humble way, a good deed do from day to day.

Be careful in your journey here to help some wearied pilgrim clear
The cloud of doubt from out his mind,
The mist from eyes that Heavenward shine;
And when your day of work is done, you, too, shall face the setting sun
And hear the Master say, "Well done!"

Peggy Barnes.

LESSON NINE



THE TEXT

Galatians 6: 4, 4. But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.

For every man shall bear his own burden.

THE SUBJECT

Personal Responsibility

How true are the words above: "For every man shall bear his own burden." Yet, seemingly, we have not realized their truth, nor sought to understand their value for all down through the ages we have persisted in believing that "Jesus paid it all." This has been one of the greatest stumbling blocks in the way of our progression. Think you that a just God would permit one individual to suffer for the collective sins of his brothers, and these brothers to be immune from punishment for their own errors? Creedists of yesterday would have us believe that such is the case, but we are grateful for our higher knowledge of the teachings of the Man of Galilee, and from them we gain an understanding of our own personal responsibility, and we realize that we alone can pay for our errors. Forgiveness by the priest, or the one whom we have injured, may make the mind easier, but it does not stop the results of the immutable law that we have set into motion, and we still must reap what we have sown.

By becoming an individual unto himself, man begins to realize his own opportunity to be what he wills to be. There are no heights to which man cannot ascend provided he makes the necessary effort. Lack of success in our lives can no longer be excused by environment and predestination. Sickness and poverty are no longer regarded as punishment by God for our spiritual misdeeds. Always remember that you are punished by your sins, and not for them. The law is automatic in its action, and you work out your own destiny as you obey or disobey the natural law of God. Surely a God capable of thinking this universe into being through the operation of the law, (the Word was with God, and God was the Word) could think this war-ridden and chaotic world into harmony again if He chose to break His own laws. He has placed men, embryonic gods, here upon this plane, to work out their own destinies. This they can do only through the laws of progression. The great law of evolution is no respecter of persons, and while the survival of the fittest seems a cruel decree, yet it is just. Man progresses only as he grows spiritually, and if that progression is gained through war, terror and bloodshed, it is after all the way that man has chosen through his ability to

create through the power of thought. Being personally responsible, he alone must work out and suffer or progress according to his own thoughts and deeds. Ultimately, all will be good and man must emerge from the fires of adversity, created by himself, a stronger and a better man. It is so that man earns his heaven and grows Godward with a knowledge of his own personal responsibility.

MEDITATION

**God gives to me my freedom. I alone choose, I alone weave.
Ill-fashioned or beautiful are my results.**



Every man measures others by himself for he has only one standard. When a man condemns certain traits in others he stands self condemned. How would he know other men were hateful did he not look into his own heart and see there the same thing?



The thinker knows no creed. Ever about him is an unvalled temple with roofless dome, star-gemmed by night and luminous in the sun. Here in the presence of God he stands erect. Faith, which begins where knowledge ends no longer satisfies the hunger of the human heart and brain.

LESSON TEN



THE TEXT

St. Matthew 7: 24, 25. Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise-man, which built his house upon a rock:

And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

THE SUBJECT

Are You the Master?

Have you ever permitted unfortunate situations to throw you off balance and cause you to impulsively retaliate for a wrong by doing something that will eventually cause you to regret having done it, something that will surely come back into your own life and shatter your peace of mind? Can you smile while another tears your character to shreds and spitefully uses you because of hatred and jealousy? Can you step calmly along the pathway toward attainment, shutting your eyes and ears to the destructive forces about you? If you can, then you are the Master and not the fool. It was this ability to control himself under all conditions that enabled the Nazarene to face death upon the cross with no recriminations and to say with almost his last breath:

"Father forgive them, for they know not what they do."

You have heard of your ability to create through the power of thought, and now you must learn how to make yourself immune to the destructive forces from the outside by simply shutting them out from your consciousness.

We must not talk the things that we do not wish to come into being. Failure, sickness and poverty have no part in your plan of life, so eliminate them from your mind and think success, health and prosperity instead. Permit no thought from an outside source to enter into your mind and destroy your building power for good.

Live your own life and do not try to control or in any way judge the actions of another. Help if you can, but don't tear down. If we are suspicious of every person we meet, we soon create an atmosphere of distrust about us which will surely bring unto us that which we declare. As we can only see in others that which we ourselves are capable of, we cannot be too honest ourselves if we are constantly suspecting others of trying to cheat us. Let us believe in ourselves, but let us also believe in others.

Be honest with yourself, and accept compensation for error as it comes into your life. Rightly understood, it is a stepping stone to higher and better things. If it does not belong to you refuse to accept it, and cast it out of your consciousness. You can control your conscious thoughts to the extent that you can become immune to the hurts and jealousies of another. See good in all things and know that the world is continually progressing and growing better. In this way you will truly be able to found your house of life upon a rock, and all the winds of adversity cannot shake it.

MEDITATION

I shall be unto myself a Master and a power for good among others.



FACE TO FACE

I shall hope some day to stand,
Face to face with God's dear angels
In a fair and glorious land.
There shall be no doubt and discord,
There shall be no sorrow there,
Face to face with my own loved ones
In a land beyond compare.

With this vision e'er before me,
With this knowledge in my heart,
I shall have no tears or sorrow
When from earth I must depart.
Angel loved ones, they have told me
That in Heaven's eternal day,
We shall live in joy forever,—
In that land just o'er the way.

Oh! ecstasy in knowing
That beyond Earth's sun there lies,
Faces sweet with radiance glowing
In that home beyond the skies.
Let me love and help my brother
O'er his path of grief and woe,
Seeing face to face the Master,
Heaven's glories, I shall know.

Peggy Barnes.

LESSON ELEVEN



THE TEXT

Galatians 6: 7. Be not deceived God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

THE SUBJECT

Compensation

In spite of Paul's many misunderstandings regarding the simple doctrine of the Man of Galilee, he did try to teach the disciples to understand Nature's law and to put it into operation in their lives. In every decade, we have had thinkers who have had the courage of their convictions, and who were not afraid to espouse the teachings of natural law even though it was sometimes contrary to the theological dogma of the day.

Nature is ever a great balancer and harmonizer of all things. She is kind to us and yet withal she requires payment for everything she gives us. Compensation is one of the great laws of life. Ralph Waldo Emerson has given us a most constructive interpretation of this law in his essay entitled "Compensation." We would suggest that each student purchase a copy of this essay and study it carefully.

It is evident from the teachings of the Man of Galilee that he thoroughly understood this law and tried to teach and demonstrate it to his disciples. In the gospel of Luke 6: 38, we find him quoted as saying:

For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

Paul, in his letter to the Galatians, was evidently trying to make them understand compensation when he said:

Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap.

This law does not teach that we are always repaid in kind. Sometimes when we suffer loss of health or material things, we fail to accept our own responsibility for the action of the law, and are likely to blame anyone but ourselves and wonder why we have been so shabbily treated. If we will sit down and recall our past errors, we will understand why these things have come upon us, and we will realize that we are only reaping the harvest of our own thoughts sown in days past.

Mental Science teaches us that our entire progress depends upon the kind of thoughts we think, and that we are outwardly the results of our inner thinking. To one who understands the law, the man or woman who believes the world owes them a

living, is in great need of pity but in greater need of being brought to a knowledge of self-realization. The world owes no man a living, and will not give anything unless, in some way it exacts payment for that gift. We give for all we receive, and in turn we receive for all we give.

In seeking knowledge, we must remember that we are also assuming a sacred obligation. Once we have received that knowledge we are responsible. To know a law, and not to put it into action, is a desecration of God's gift to man. If you would grow, you must accept responsibility and serve to the utmost, remembering that the existing conditions in any home or community are but the compensation of the collective thinking of the souls living in that community, and **you are responsible for your part of that thinking.**

MEDITATION

I realize my freedom through conscious adjustment with God and His law.



We eliminate distress, poverty and sin only as we cease to break God's laws.



Proverbs 28: 10—Whoso causeth the righteous to go astray in an evil way, he shall fall himself into his own pit; but the upright shall have good things in possession.



We help ourselves only as we help others.

LESSON TWELVE



THE TEXT

1st John 3: 4. Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law; for sin is the transgression of the law.

THE SUBJECT

What is Sin?

How often has man been asked, "What is sin?" Usually his answer has been based upon a man-made creed of morality instead of the natural law of God. Man's understanding of moral law differs according to his creed, race and country. That which is accepted as right in one country is considered an error in another. Surely this cannot be. If all men are children of God, regardless of race, creed or color, then all men must live by the same immutable law. That which is a sin in my country must also be a sin in your country. Not by man-made creed can we truly decree what is sin, but by God-made law.

Sin is transgression of the law.

If sin be the transgression of the law, then things hitherto not accepted as sin must come under that category. For instance—it is a sin if you are sick because in becoming ill you must have broken a law. It is a sin if you suffer for lack of material things, for if you are well and mentally right you can put into operation that law of Abundant Supply, which will bring into your life all that is needed . . . so again you have broken the law.

The time was when we blamed God for our lack of material things, and for our sickness, believing that He had sent these curses upon us because we had made Him angry. Job, the greatest pessimist that the world has ever known, believed that he was infested with boils because God was angry with him. Physical and mental sickness brought about by your own lack of understanding can be remedied by you alone. Study these laws of nature and put them into action in your life. Seek knowledge, for truly ignorance is the greatest of sins.

Do not forget that while knowledge applied brings you freedom, it also makes you personally responsible. If you would make the most of your new-found freedom, accept your responsibility to God and man, and do your part in bringing about a Spiritual Awakening that shall free us from the bondage of hate, greed and war.

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.
—Matt. 5, 16.

MEDITATION

Love is a revelation of God to man.

LESSON THIRTEEN



THE TEXT

St. John 15: 23. He that hateth me hateth my Father also.

THE SUBJECT

Have You Time for Hatred?

Let us go back again to the Bible quotation used in Lesson Five: St. John 14: 20. **In that day ye shall know that I am in my Father and ye in me and I in you.**

After thinking seriously upon this we come to realize that because we are one, one with the Father and one with our brother man, anything that is destructive in our individual lives must of necessity affect all other lives with which we are connected. If your thoughts tear down your own progression they also help to tear down all of the constructive forces of the universe. The answer to our question then is self-evident. We do not have time for hatred because in hating our brother we are also hating God. Did not the Nazarene say:

I John 4: 20. If a man say I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

Speaking from a scientific standpoint, we can truly state that hatred generates a poison in the blood that burns up man's vital energy and shortens his life in the physical body. Spiritual healing cannot be accomplished in a body that is constantly being filled with poison from an unconquered hatred and if this hate be allowed to nourish itself within the mind it can eventually create even a malignant disease. Years ago we were taught that the body controlled the mind but science has reversed that statement now and we have plenty of evidence that the mind controls the body. Mind is the creative force of man's life and in order to progress, he must focus the mind upon the constructive forces of the universe.

With our knowledge of the great laws of evolution, we know that progression means a constant onward surge with the tide of life. Hatred, jealousy and greed form an undertow which drags us down and if persisted in, will eventually cause us to drown in the black waters of despair. When you hate, you are aligning yourself with all of the destructive forces of nature and sickness, poverty, and unhappiness must be the result.

Your time of experience on the earthly plane is all too short without wasting it in destructive thinking. Assert your will power and control your destructive thoughts. Know that no one can hurt you unless you permit them to do so, and if you refuse to recognize an intended slight or injustice, then you will have no incentive for hatred. God's law takes care of those who break it and is immutable in its action, so you do not need to poison your body with the vitriol of hate, and destroy your own Spiritual Progression. Remember that Jesus also said: **"He that loveth God loveth his brother also."**

MEDITATION THOUGHT

I will let no error but mine own offend me.—Confucius.



Leviticus 19:17—Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart; thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbor, and not suffer sin upon him.



Romans 14:13—Let us not therefore judge one another any more; but judge this rather, that no man put a stumbling-block or an occasion to fall in his brother's way.



St. Luke 6:27—But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them which hate you.

LESSON FOURTEEN



THE TEXT

Job 3: 25. For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me.

THE SUBJECT

The Power of Fear

Because we have proven the power of thought by actual demonstration it is also well that we learn to differentiate between the thoughts that are helpful and those that are of a destructive nature. There is no force more destructive than that put into action by thoughts of fear. It is a proven fact that we bring into existence the very thing we fear by constantly holding the thought that it is about to come to pass. Many mothers hold fear over their children from the very moment of their birth and are wholly unconscious of the harm they are doing.

There can be no progress when the mind is filled with fear. To say that we love God and believe in our ability to demonstrate His law, and then live in fear and anxiety is a dishonor to God and to the individual. Fear is not of God, it is of man only.

The Nazarene knew the power of fear, and it is evident all through his teachings that he tried to eliminate it from the minds of his disciples. In the story of the healing of the daughter of the Ruler of the Synagogue, He is quoted as saying: Mark 5: 36—**Be not afraid, only believe.**

Fear brings poverty, sickness and unhappiness into your lives. Remember that the mind governs the body and if you fear disease and hold that thought constantly in your consciousness, you will finally make that disease a reality instead of just a thought. You can think poverty so vividly that it will eventually take on substance and become real.

Job is called the world's greatest pessimist because he always looked for the worst in everything. He feared that trouble would come upon him, and it did. He must have been a most uncomfortable man to live with, for his wife in desperation, advised him to "curse God and die." A pessimist is the most depressing person in the world and while we owe a certain duty to our brother man in relaying the grains of truth that we have garnered, we do not feel that we are required to remain in the vibration of such a person any longer than is necessary. Help him by suggestions of faith, teach him the law but do not allow your own progression to be retarded by another's pessimism. See all things as ultimately good. We do not advise you to be a Polly Anna optimist, for her type is almost as obnoxious as the pessimist but you, who know the law, consciously set certain

causes into motion and you know the effect they will bring about, therefore, there can be no doubt in your mind as to the success of your demonstration. Know the truth and the truth will set you free. Please do not cross your bridges until you come to them.

St. John showed a knowledge of the power of fear when he said, in

I John 4: 18—There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

Are you made perfect in love?

MEDITATION THOUGHT

My mind is free from all sense of fear, and I am secure in the consciousness that all worry has given place to perfect trust and peace.



To eliminate fear, my life must be dedicated to useful work—work in which I forget myself.



My faith destroys all fear.



1st John 4:8—He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.



II Cor. 5:17—Old things are passed away; behold, they are become new.

LESSON FIFTEEN



THE TEXT

I John 2: 10. He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in Him.

THE SUBJECT

The Brotherhood of Man

Selfishness has so grown upon us that many of us have no consideration for anyone but ourselves. We have become so conceited that we really believe we can live for ourselves alone and can be independent of anyone else. Some have gone so far as to think that they can be independent of God. No wonder that we are due for a great Spiritual Awakening and a conscious recognition of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man before these present chaotic conditions of the world can be overcome.

No man is sufficient unto himself and shall not live solely for material gain. Jesus said to the tempter—

Matthew 4: 4. It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Again we shall turn to the fourteenth chapter of St. John and in the twentieth verse we read these words—

I am in my Father, and ye in me and I in you.

If God is a Spirit and we, as individuals, made in the image of God, are a part of that Spirit, then our brother, regardless of race, creed or color, also partakes of that privilege and everything that causes destruction in our individual lives causes destruction in our brother's life, for we are as one with God and with our brother. We are each dependent upon the other. In the words of our beloved Ella Wheeler Wilcox:

**There are separate lines:—the chain
Too subtle for our seeing
Unites us all upon the plane
Of Universal Being.**

When we realize the reality of that chain of Universal Being and the fact that no chain can be stronger than its weakest link, we will begin to understand the true meaning of brotherhood among men. When we do unto others as we would they should do unto us, we are truly exemplifying this brotherhood. If you would have tolerance from your brother, you must be tolerant

toward him; if you would have your brother's love, you must first love him; if you would have a man's respect, you must first show him respect. We cannot expect material help from our brother unless we are willing to retaliate in kind. In judging our brother, let us always remember that we might not have done as well ourselves under the same conditions with which he has had to contend. Here is an old Indian Prayer that should be very helpful to you:

Great Spirit, Grant that I may not criticise my neighbor until I have walked a mile in his moccasins.

When men begin to realize and practice Spiritual Principles, wars will be no more and there shall come a new era in the evolution of mankind. But when? Oh when?

In the words of Robert G. Ingersoll, "When all men give to all other men the same rights that they claim for themselves, then, indeed will this world be civilized."

MEDITATION THOUGHT

I shall daily realize that I am as one with God and with my brother man.



Yes, you'd know him for a heathen
If you judged him by the hide,
But bless you, he's my brother,
For he's just like me inside.

Robert Freeman, from *The Heathen*.



Hebrews 13:1—Let brotherly love continue.

LESSON SIXTEEN



THE TEXT

St. Luke 9: 2. And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.

THE SUBJECT

Healing

The body terrestrial has ever been a worry to us in that it is bound to become worn out and to give us pain and disease.

We read, in I John 3: 4, that sin is the transgression of the law. This makes sickness a sin, because it is caused by the breaking of a law. Having accepted the responsibility for our sickness we shall see if we cannot find some way to correct this condition.

After reading our text, we realize that healing the sick must be a Holy Work because it is a part of the teachings of the Nazarene and is also coupled with the instruction **to preach the kingdom of God**. We turn to Luke, chapter 17, verse 21, and we read the words:

Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.

That simplifies matters, for if the kingdom of God is within us, then the power to heal ourselves is within ourselves. We have learned that we can and do create through the power of the word, therefore does it not seem logical for us to believe that the kingdom of God, being within us, gives us the power to demonstrate God Within Us and to create better physical conditions through the power of thought.

When we become ill we break one of three laws. We either eat incorrectly, abuse our bodies by overwork or exposure, or poison the body by destructive thinking.

In order to become well again, we must cease to break the particular law that has caused our trouble and then through the power of God Within Us, we can bring ourselves back to perfect health. All things are possible with God.

It is a scientifically proven fact that even malignant diseases can be cured through the power of prayer. Alexis Carrel in his marvelous book **"Man, the Unknown,"** claims to have demonstrated that fact.

Ever since the beginning of time there have been human souls who have had the power of curing sickness by the laying on of hands. The Man of Galilee possessed that Gift of God and practiced it all through his brief ministry. In St. John 14: 12, we read these words:

Verily verily I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

These greater works have been carried on and there are still human instruments capable of curing sickness by the laying on of hands. Faith is very necessary in all healing. Few there are that have progressed to the point where they demonstrate the power of God Within Us and therefore many must still resort to the science of medicine in curing bodily illness.

We are not advancing a new theory but reiterating an old truth—through the power of God you shall be made whole.

MEDITATION THOUGHT

God is Infinite and can do all things; He is in me and I in Him, therefore I am infinite and the power to heal myself is within myself.



1st Cor. 12:9—To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gift of healing by the same Spirit.



St. Luke 22-50—And one of them smote the servant of the high priest, and cut off his right ear.

51—And Jesus answered and said, Suffer ye thus far. And he touched his ear and healed him.



St. Mark 11:24—Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

LESSON SEVENTEEN



THE TEXT

Colossians 3: 13, 14. Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

THE SUBJECT

Forgiveness

By intolerance toward others, by the holding of malice for another's injustice toward ourselves, we greatly retard our own growth. The Man of Galilee was asked by Peter, "How oft shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? till seven times?" And Jesus answered, "until seventy times seven."

When a man holds a grudge against another and boasts that he is biding his time to get even, he is only showing himself to be a small man. Big men are too busy to hate and too wise to poison themselves with vindictiveness. If you refuse to see or accept an injustice, it does not become a part of your life; but immediately when you begin to hold a hatred because of it, it becomes a real and active thing in your existence and you must work it out. By harboring personal resentment you only retard your own growth. If you are seeking Self Mastery you must be too big to see a slight. If another criticizes you, first ask yourself if you deserve that criticism and if you do then let it be a stepping-stone to a better understanding. If you do not deserve it, refuse to accept it and it will go back again to the source from whence it came.

The Man of Galilee was too big to hold malice even against Peter who betrayed him thrice, and Judas Iscariot who sold him to the high priests for thirty pieces of silver. Even on the cross he held no hatred toward those who crucified him, but asked his father to forgive them for they knew not what they did.

In our text, we read that charity is the bond of perfectness. Our dictionary defines charity as the giving of alms but kindness in judging, and tolerance in speaking of the error of a brother, is a far greater charity than the mere giving of material aid. If we expect our brother to be charitable toward us we must first be charitable toward him. We, as individuals, are striving to live our lives according to our own particular understanding of that life. Because our viewpoint of right living differs from that of our brother why should we be uncharitable enough to say that we are right and he is wrong? Regardless of the non-essentials

that we have built into our life's structure, right living is fundamentally the same in all lives. In the 12th chapter of Ecclesiastes, verses 13 and 14, we read:

Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.

Your thoughts and deeds are ever impinging themselves upon the consciousness of another and if you have wronged your neighbor by as much as a thought, you must make amends before you can progress. From the wrongs we inflict upon others, we reap a harvest of grief and tears. In St. Matthew 5: 23, 24, we read:

Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath aught against thee;

Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.

MEDITATION THOUGHT

I shall love my neighbor as myself.



Luke 6:7—Forgive and ye shall be forgiven.



Luke 17:3—Take heed to yourselves. If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him.

LESSON EIGHTEEN



THE TEXT

St. Matthew 6: 14, 15. For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:

But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

THE SUBJECT

Forgive Us Our Trespasses

We are optimistic enough to believe that as a whole we are a praying people, that in one form or another, the majority of us close our day with a word of devotion and appreciation to the Father that hath given us life. A prayer that is a ritual, a group of words mumbled by certain creedists with no regard to the individuals need, does not seem very constructive in this day and age. Real prayer is not pleading with an unwilling God. Prayer is a creative force, based upon our own sincere desire, and set in motion by an individual knowing his or her own God-given power. We do not ask for bread and then sit down and wait for God to place it in our mouths. We know that we largely answer our own prayers by setting into motion the forces which operate according to our desire. Make your prayers holy, not destructive; selfless and not selfish; and then in confidence await their fulfillment.

Prayers should be a personal matter between ourselves and God—a communion of the Spirit. The Nazarene told us to make our prayers a private matter—a secret, for in St. Matthew 6: 5, 6, we read:

And when thou prayest thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, they have their reward.

But thou, when thou prayest enter into thy closet, and when thou has shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

Thoughts are things, so we must be careful what kind of thoughts we set into vibration even in our prayers. Too often we pray without proper thought and we set something into action that we really do not want when it comes to us. The Lord's Prayer, found in St. Matthew 6: 9-13, is in all probability the most frequently used prayer among those of the Christian faith and yet we have plenty of evidence that we really do not realize consciously the true import of the words we are saying, for we often

ask, "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us," when our hearts are filled with hatred toward a brother man. First learn to forgive, before you ask for forgiveness.

Pray not for power but pray for the ability to realize wisely the power you have. Pray not that your burdens may be lessened but that you may be stronger to bear those burdens that come to you in life.

MEDITATION THOUGHT

The blessing of perfect life, the blessing of perfect health, the blessing of perfect realization be thine (or mine).



St. Mark 11:25-26—And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any; that your father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.

But if ye do not forgive, neither will your father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

LESSON NINETEEN



THE TEXT

Psalms 119: 105 and 136. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Rivers of water run down mine eyes, because they keep not thy law.

THE SUBJECT

Self-Mastery

Be unto yourself a master and a power unto others.

Does this sound impossible to you? It should not if you have really studied the foregoing lessons with understanding and you are striving to live in obedience to the laws of God. Know the law and understand its operations and through that knowledge put into action in your life, you shall truly attain Self-Mastery.

So few ever realize their own possibilities and they still grope in the darkness of ignorance considering themselves "worms of the dust" rather than co-creators with God.

To realize thy true self and all thy potentialities is to truly live an emancipated life for where love abides in fulness there is Spiritual joy and happiness, health and success. Socrates, the Greek philosopher, was once asked by his students, "What is the greatest thing in life?" And his reply was, "to know thyself." Yet, that is the last thing we seem to have time for, to know ourselves. In all the business endeavors of our lives, we seek to understand that which is best. Every large business concern has its efficiency experts who report losses and show how they may be overcome. Every commercial project has its sales force that is taught how to advance the sale of the commodity that they represent. Yet, to this great business of building our individual lives we pay little heed. We live from day to day taking things as they come with no realization of our own responsibility as to what happens in our lives. We do not understand why we have adversities with which to contend and we never stop to think that sickness and lack are brought about by our own lack of knowledge. The law of Cause and Effect is like so much Greek to the majority of human souls and yet it governs our status in life.

You can plan your own life and make those plans a reality if you understand the natural laws of the universe and work with them instead of against them. It is just as easy for you to build a healthy body and a happy individual life as it is to build a successful business organization. Both are founded upon immutable law.

The ability to accomplish self-mastery lies within yourself. Every thought you think becomes an outward manifestation in your life. Therefore, if you desire to master self, assert your own will power and control destructive thinking. In the silence of your chamber, alone with God, seek the solution of your own problems. The administration of your own life is your greatest responsibility. No one can live your life for you, and no one is responsible for your errors but yourself. A blood-sacrifice and a vicarious atonement were man's ideas, not God's. God is just, but love lies very close to His justice.

You will always find those who think they know your duty better than you know it, but the man who is truly master of himself does his duty as he sees it and not as others dictate.

There is perfect realization for all individuals if they will but realize their own power. There is nothing impossible of attainment or realization, and you hold the key that unlocks the doorway to your health, happiness and success. May yours be the joy of a perfect realization.

MEDITATION THOUGHT

The vital principle of my life is the Spirit within. There is nothing higher than Spirit.



Every goal attained by another is within range of my own possibilities.



I can be what I will to be.

LESSON TWENTY



THE TEXT

Acts 10: 34. Then Peter opened his mouth and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons.

THE SUBJECT

Our Source of Supply

Of all sins, poverty is the most destructive. Perhaps you will differ with us in the above statement. Nevertheless, poverty is a transgression of the law and therefore a sin. Let us turn to the first chapter of Genesis and read from the 26th to the 30th verses. There we will learn that God gave man dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. He also gave him dominion over everything that grew upon the earth and it was to be used for his sustenance that he might multiply and replenish the earth. God's laws do not change and He who gave man life also gave him material things to sustain that life. Therefore it is logical for us to believe that if we do our part and obey the law, the needed material things shall be ours. Ask the Father for that which you have need of and know that because of that need it shall be yours. There is no depression with God, for that is a man-made idea. Do not recognize lack but know that your source of supply is ever-lasting. The law does not permit you to be greedy with material however for you will find no happiness in treasures that should be shared with others and not selfishly held for yourself alone. The Spiritual counterpart of the Law of Supply teaches us that we must not be selfish but must share one with the other. There is enough for all and God is no respecter of persons.

Jesus knew and demonstrated this Law of Supply and he proved it to be true when He fed the four thousand with seven loaves and two fishes. While this seems a miracle to the uninitiated to those who understand, it is but the demonstration of God's law of increase.

Material things meant little to Jesus because he knew that his obedience to the law would bring his supply. Spiritual growth was his goal and not material riches, else he would have accepted a material kingdom when it was offered to him. He knew that Spiritual Riches were the only kind that would endure and the only treasures that he could take with him into his next phase of existence. In the Sermon on the Mount, St. Matthew 6: 19, 20, he is quoted as saying,

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

While the Nazarene knew the material law of supply he also counselled his disciples against seeking material gain alone when he warned them,

For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

MEDITATION THOUGHT

The Law of Abundance manifests in my life and that which is needed for my sustenance will come unto me through the operation of Divine Love and Law.



MY TASK

A blue bird sang in the maple tree,
His wings were blue as blue could be;
His song so sweet as it caroled forth
Brought joy to hearts of earth.
A rose bud grew on a little bush
Close by the garden path,
The fragrance sweet from its petals fair,
It perfumed all the air.
Its beauty, too, as it blossomed there,
Brought gladness to my soul.
A sun-beam danced on the garden wall
In its airy-fairy way—
And a sick child lying near
Was happy for the day.
It makes no odds how small you are,
How humble be your birth,
You each have a certain task to do,
Some mission here on earth.
It may be just a smile to give,
To help some wearied soul to live,
What e'er God's work for you may be,
As the bluebird—the rose—and the sunbeam—see
Your task as a part of the Infinite plan
And give to the world, the best you can.

Peggy Barnes.

LESSON TWENTY-ONE



THE TEXT

St. John 10: 10. I am come that they might have life and have it more abundantly.

THE SUBJECT

Abundant Life

We have endeavored, in the foregoing lessons, to bring out the golden thread of continuity that binds the religions of yesterday to those of our present day and age. We have striven to prove to you that the laws of right living, as taught by the Nazarene, were fundamentally the same as those taught in our more modern conception of religion.

Because science has proven to us that all the phenomena of nature must operate in accordance with the law of God we realize that much of our religious understanding of yesterday must have been symbolical rather than literal, but never the less invaluable to the progression of the human race. Miracles were only so-called because of our ignorance of the governing law.

At different intervals, all down through the ages, God has sent a Master Teacher to point us the Way of Life. Each time there have been a few who have followed the gleam, but the masses have refused to see the light and this soul, sent upon the earth for the purpose of enlightening mankind, has been misunderstood, betrayed and put to death by those whom he came to help. Did we say the soul was put to death? Not so. The soul and the Spirit were immortal and they found their way back to the Father, more radiant because of their earthly experience. It was only the human body that was crucified and it was useless after the Master Teacher had delivered his message to the children of God. Abundant life and spiritual growth have ever been the urge of the Master Teachers of all ages.

These lessons are based upon the words of the Master Teacher of our era, Jesus the Nazarene, but we would have you understand that there are other lessons based upon the message of other Master Teachers that are just as important as these. Say not that the Christian Bible is the only Holy Book. The record of all Holy Messages sent by God is important to the evolution of the race. Say not that your particular creed shall save, and all others lead to death and destruction. Religion has divers paths, according to man's needs but all will eventually lead us back to God.

A life of abundance is yours to live if you but have the desire within your own soul. You will find your chart in the im-

mutable laws of nature and your guidance shall come in the silent hours when you commune with the Father God. Confine not your life's plan to a day, a year, a score of years or a century, for all eternity is yours in which to grow. In closing, let us repeat once again the illuminating words:

There is nothing higher than Spirit.

And now, may the peace that passeth all understanding be yours now and for evermore.

Amen.



WHAT IS DYING

I am standing upon the seashore,
A ship at my side spreads out her white sails to the morning breeze

And starts for the blue ocean.

She is an object of beauty and strength

And I stand and watch her until at length,

She hangs like a speck of white cloud

Just where the sea and sky come down to mingle with each other.

Then someone at my side says:

There! She's gone.

Gone where? Gone out of my sight and that is all.

She is just as large in mast and hull and spar,

As she was when she left my side,

Just as able to bear her load of living freight to the place of destination.

Her diminished size is in me, not in her;

And just at that moment, when someone at my side says:

There! She's gone.

There are other eyes watching her coming,

And other voices ready to take up the glad shout:

There! She comes.

And that is dying.

Anonymous.

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