TRUE IDENTIFICATION

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We are now living in the third dispensation, or revelation, of God to His people. The first dispensation was called GOD THE FATHER. In the Old Testament, God came to His people through His prophets, presenting Truth to them: but only a few would listen. The second dispensation was called GOD THE SON. In the New Testament, we read of God coming to His people in the form of Jesus Christ, illustrating and personifying to them the real and true estate of man: but neither would humanity as a whole accept this revelation. Now, in the third and final dispensation, God comes to man as GOD THE HOLY GHOST. God as Spirit, reveals Himself in the heart of man, convincingly making known to him the absolute Truth of his Being. "The Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in his name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." John 14:26. "Look unto Me, all the ends of the earth and be ve saved, for I AM GOD, and besides Me there is none else." Is.45:22.

This is the Voice of God, eternally speaking to His own people. Right here, it needs to be shown and explained how it is that God's people went astray, and left Him, as it were: apparently they left the Kingdom of heavenly glory and abundance in which they lived, and found themselves separated from Him, - in want and in lack. This idea of "the fall of man" is not taught in Christian Science. Mrs. Eddy gives no explanation of this subject or any elucidation but states plainly:

"Mortals are not fallen children of God. They never had a perfect state of being which may subsequently be regained." - S & H page 476:13

Nevertheless this statement contradicts the Bible; contradicts also her other statements on this subject, for in the same text book she says:

"Mortals will some day assert their freedom in the name of Almighty God," Page 228:12 "Mortals must gravitate Godward." Page 265:5

Now in order to have you clearly perceive and understand what is called "the fall of Man", I will show you an illustration, for without illustrations one is left with abstract reasoning which is purely intellectual. As the Bible tells us: "It is in the Spirit that quickeneth," - it is the spirit of the thing which is the revelation, the words, of themselves, are mechanical. "The letter killeth but the Spirit giveth life." We will now take up the illustration which will show you the PERFECT STATE OF BEING as it was "in the beginning;" then how the separation began, in belief; and how finally man is to be reinstated in his original estate of Perfection.

We will take for consideration a book, its author and its characters. For instance, several years ago I wrote a novel called "GLAD TIDINGS". In this book the heroine was called "Gloria Gilman". I created her. I was her life and being. She was nothing in and or herself. Can you see this clearly? She represented me and my thoughts. When she spoke certain words in the book, it was always I, the author, speaking through her, magnifying myself. I gave her parents; I gave her opportunities wherein to enjoy herself. Everything she has of beauty, harmony, joy and delight, I, the author, furnished. She manifested me. She could do nothing herself. She was my reflection! That is, in a state of meditation this book came forth together with its characters. It was wholly my reflection. It expressed me, the author; it was one with me, verily, it was "me" - I, the author. The author was unseen, invisible, to the reader as the author, yet seen and made visible by and through characters.

It was I, the author, who created the trees, the animals, the water, the land and all the scenery in the book. It was I who did all the thinking, the planning and the feeling of everything in the book. All expression was myself expressed. I gave the characters names which I selected for them; and I brought them happiness and harmony according to my own ideas of rightness.

Now in this particular book, called GLAD TIDINGS, the heroine was called "Gloria Gilman"; but can you tell what was her real name? Can you see that her real name was "Lillian DeWaters"? It was surely none other. In the book, this character had parents, - but who really made and created her? Lillian DeWaters. Gloria had no age or parents of her own. She did not live in a certain town or city as it appeared. She lived only in the author. Thus, in this sense, she was the author! And the author, Lillian DeWaters, was Gloria Gilman! They were one, and this one was Lillian DeWaters. The author, Lillian DeWaters, was the book and all its characters, - all moving in one synchronization.

We now turn our attention to God, the real and only Creator of us and of all living things, - the First, the Original, the Supreme, verily, THE AUTHOR OF THE BOOK OF LIFE INCLUDING ALL ITS CHARACTERS. The perfect state of the Author and His characters, that is, the original state of Being and its characterization, was exactly the same as that of the author and her book as illustrated above. The characters in God's Book of Life had no mind, life, body, parents, children, age, habits or ideas of their own: they were the Author <u>reflected</u>, - or reflections of God, the Author. These characters acted, as it were, as on a stage, every one having a certain work to do, certain parts to take, yet all reflecting the Author of the Play, all operating as one Mind, one Life, one Being.

Now the Bible informs us that the Author wrote into His story: "Choose ye whom ye will serve". Jos.24:15. Why? Because He wanted His characters to worship and love Him of their own free will. He gave them the right of choice, - the freedom to love and to be, to act and to serve Him, only. The Bible tells, however, that these characters chose not to worship their Creator, nor willingly and freely by His reflection, but they partook "of the knowledge of good and evil": they began to think for themselves, to create for themselves, to have children of their own; laws of their own, schools, churches, hospitals and cemeteries of their own: and naturally they began to find themselves in all kinds of troubles, dangers and problems.

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This "mist" or separation was never a real one, but was like a sleep, wherein things appear in dreams which are not true at all; which have no substance, no body, no life, no reality, no action, no being whatsoever; nevertheless, they give the feeling of fear, suffering and disquietude. This "sleep", mentioned early in Genesis, and spoken of by Jesus and the apostles, is like the darkness which arises, naturally, where there is no light. The characters, typified by "Adam and Eve," partaking of the knowledge of both good and evil, found themselves in a darkened sense, or sleep; which darkness or sleep will never wholly vanish from man until he returns to the original state, - God's reflection, or God, Himself, in manifestation.

When we are without light, we experience what is termed "darkness". It is no substance; it is a lack of substance; it is nothing. Similarly, when the characters refused to let the Mind of their Author control and actuate them, automatically the Light or Understanding discontinued for them, and they found themselves in a state of darkness called in the Book a "sleep" or "mist" or "dream". It is nothing really. As a man on his bed, dreaming, never actually leaves his room, but only thinks he does, and experiences his false belief, so the characters, having turned from the wakeful, Christ state, or state of Light and Understanding, entered a "sleep", which, while it has no reality or truth in it, yet is of sufficient importance that God, the Author, from that time to this, has never ceased His aim to WAKEN THESE CHARACTERS AND BRING THEM BACK TO THE CONSCIOUS AWARENESS OF THEIR PERFECT STATE, and to do this through love, and love alone.

"I have loved thee with an everlasting love; therefore with loving kindness have I drawn thee". - Jer. 31:3

"They have chosen their own ways, and their soul delighteth in their abomination." - Is. 66:3

"Because when I called, ye did not answer; when I spake, ye did not hear; but evil before Mine eyes, and did choose that wherein I delighted not." - Is. 65:12

"Is not My way equal? Are not your ways unequal? Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed." - Ez. 18:25,31

Verily, the veil, or covering, or mist, or dream, means the one thing, the character turning from his Author, and thereby automatically feeling the sense of separation and darkness; and such will vanish only when the character <u>returns</u> to his Creator, willingly and lovingly letting God be his mind, his Life, his Body, verily his All-in-all.

In the metaphysical field, it would seem that the characters are trying through their own "right thoughts" to waken themselves and bring themselves into their true position through these means. The characters (called mankind, humanity, mortals) cannot in and of their personal selves ever restore their perfect state of Being. This state they have never really lost or left; they have, however, lost sight of it, and it will come again into experience as they are willing to give up believing that they have a personal mind which thinks, and LET that Mind which was in Christ Jesus, - God's Mind, or God, think for them.

Then the character shall be the reflection or expression of God, and not a prodigal, dreaming that he is living in a material world of trouble, limitation, etc.; that is, he will be the manifestation here and now on earth. The thinking of "right thoughts" no doubt helps the character to do better "dreaming," or to have a more harmonious experience in the dream: but only the <u>letting go</u> of the personal thinking so that the Mind of God may be heard and accepted will ever completely satisfy and deliver man and cause him to awaken and <u>remain</u> awake, and actually and consciously be God, in manifestation.

"Take ye no (personal) thought." and then God, the one Mind, will do the thinking for you, and you, as the character in the Book of Life, will experience and express this true thinking automatically. Characters who believe that they have a mind of their own, and that their joy consists in having "a free will," must finally be convinced either through suffering or Truth, that all such belief is futile, it has death as its objective, leading always away from God into darkness.

Who, then, is the sleeper or dreamer spoken of in the Bible and in metaphysical books of today? He may be you or I or anyone who is not aware of the real state of Being, wherein the Character is not only a Character but he is, likewise, the Author! Does the Christ-man sleep or dream? No. He is our Self in our wakeful or true-knowing state. The wakeful man is not asleep; but if man does not live or act in his wakeful or knowing state, then he automatically partakes of the "mist" and becomes, as Jesus said, a prodigal, until he is willing to leave that position and take the steps back to his original and perfect state. In fact, this was Jesus' mission here on earth, - to waken man from his dream by telling him and showing him the Truth about himself, that God and man are one! In proportion as man believes this Fact, and turns from the dream of matter and mind, sin, disease

and limitations. He will awaken and find himself in a universe of beauty and glory, of eternal love and harmony.

PART II THE LIVING PRESENCE

I AM the Light and the Truth; in Me is no darkness. I AM Spirit; in Me is no matter. I AM eternity; in Me is no age. I AM infinity; in me is no limitation. I AM Presence; in Me is no absence of the actual experience of All-Good, here and now.

What one now needs to see and emphasize is the <u>Presence</u> of God in our midst. We must advance from the <u>mental</u> position or conception of God, that is, from the viewpoint of God as invisible Mind or Spirit to the perception and conception of God as <u>Presence</u> - as a <u>living Actuality in our midst</u>.

Where God is Presence, there is plenty; there is no lack. Where God is Presence there is Health; there is no sickness or suffering. Where God is Presence, there is Happiness; there is no grief or sorrow whatsoever Therefore, bring your conscious knowing and living into subjection to the Christ, to the actual Presence of God. Consider the living of the Truth of greater importance than the mere talking it as repetition from a book. Actions speak louder than words; therefore begin to live and to act as really one with divine Love and Truth. Bringing your life, your actions and your emotions, into subjection and harmony with the Christ, or your true Self, you will naturally manifest and express loving kindness to everyone, likewise meekness, simplicity and loving understanding. Never will you feel or express criticism, dominance, condemnation or censure. Never will you uphold personality, but only the Actual Presence in your midst.

As one thus advances from the purely mental concept, the intellectual or theoretical acceptance of Truth to the practice and the <u>living</u> of it, his mind is automatically in subjection to the Christ; nay, more, he will have no mind of his own, for the Christ-Mind will operate in him, and naturally, he will spontaneously show forth the <u>very</u> Presence of God.

Besides surrendering the mind to God, one must also surrender the body to the Real and The True. He must live so that his body is kept in a state of purity and chastity; he must therefore relinquish personal worship, human love, passion and appetite.

"They that are in the flesh cannot please God." They who experience the physical reaction or emotion which resentment, criticism, hatred, jealousy, pride, passion or lust bring, are not

experiencing the divine Presence. Paul continues in his eighth chapter to the Romans: "Ye are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwells in you." This is indeed the redemption of the body; through our willingness to live the Truth in our body as well as in our thought, through our actions and emotions as well as through our thinking and speaking, we shall know that we are manifesting the Presence instead of "the flesh," or the fleshly or mortal concept of Body.

Thus as one lovingly, gladly and obediently lives the Truth in action and in expressions he will be manifesting, to some degree, the "I AM" Presence, here and now. In many books of metaphysics and psychology it is stressed that we should give consideration mainly to our thinking, or to the spiritualization of our thoughts; but I say unto you, "Take ye no thought" what ye shall think, but instead consider how you are speaking, acting and feeling, and to what extent you are bringing into outer expression and visibility the very Presence of truth. If you are honest and sincere and your aim and your intense spiritual desire is to live and act and be the Life of Spirit here and now, "I AM with you, even unto the end of the (dream) world."

We are all living, here on earth, in the very Presence of God, but not all are conscious of it. We do not need to bring God upon earth, but we do need to surrender our minds and our bodies for his divine mind and perfect Body that we shall be able to behold Him, for "when He shall appear (to us) we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is." I John 3:2. By harmonizing our lives with His Will, and by bringing our feelings and our emotions into harmony with His Law, we shall come naturally into the experience of the abundance of all good, according to His Promise: "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see (and experience) God."

Living the Life of Truth in our hearts, we gladly "renounce the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the Word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth." 2 Cor.4:2. God then rules in us and over us and our whole life is under His Care and Jurisdiction. Thus His Mind is enthroned in us and His body is expressed by us; truly we are His and He is our's and we can truthfully say, "I and my Father are one."

The <u>experience</u> of Good will come to us, and will be evidenced more and more in our body and in our affairs as we take God from the mental realm of thinking and bring Him before us as an actual Presence.

In metaphysics God is considered as Mind, or an invisible Substance; but to <u>confine</u> one's concept of God to that ofinvisible

mind or Spirit is to deprive oneself of the fuller revelation that God an <u>actual living Presence in our midst</u>, that is, God is a <u>visible</u> Reality or Presence.

It is indeed wonderful to be able to rise from the view that God is wholly Mind, or invisible Principle, to that of God as a <u>tangible</u> Presence. Holding to God as Mind or Principle tends to keep God in the mental realm, that is, tends to keep God <u>invisible</u>: but opening our vision to fuller revelation we behold that God is likewise <u>visible</u>, that God is present as manifested form.

God is in all, over all and in you all, and "By Him all things consist." Col.1:16 "What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, and ye are not your own? Glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God' s."1 Cor. 6:19-20.

Therefore, instead of believing or thinking of your body as "mortal" or "matter" or "human," one may, if he will but be receptive and open his vision, see and understand that his body is not his own but is the Body of God!

There are no individual bodies to be governed by individual minds! This is the view of those who do not or will not see beyond it; but the great Fact eternally exists to be revealed to those who are ready to accept it, that there is but one Body only, -- the Body of God, The Creator. God is here, there, everywhere. By Him all things consist. God visualizes Himself as light, air, beauty, music, as well as all the loveliness of Nature; likewise, as all formation, -- the form of bird, beast, man.

Verily, when we shall be willing to bring our hearts and our lives into harmony with God, then shall we begin to see God in manifested form before us. As our bodies are His "temple," necessarily He will be present in His temple when we make this wonder possible. In proportion as we become "pure in heart," will He reveal Himself to us; and in proportion as we live the true Life here and now will He abide within us, and no longer shall we be "mortal," "material" or "human" beings, but we shall know that God is the only Presence, - that "land my Father are one."

If one considers God only as in the mental realm, that is, if one associates God with "Mind," only, then only there can he find Him; but when one has received the fuller revelation that God is manifested as visible Presence, living Form, then he will find God manifested in body and in his affairs. We have heard it said that we should not try to "spiritualize matter." This is correct. Nor could such a thing be done, when there is no matter! When it is truly seen that "By Him all things"

consist," then one will be willing to cease believing that his body is matter; he will moreover cease thinking and speaking of "matter" altogether, and the word will become obsolete to him.

Are <u>you</u> willing to understand that "there is no matter," and hence no material body, for "by Him all things consist"? Furthermore, do you know that "By Him were all things created, that are in heaven <u>and that are in earth visible</u> and invisible, all things were created by Him and for Him?" (Col. 1:16). If so, then will you begin today to regard your body as the work of God, hence good and perfect, immutable, indestructible, immortal and incorruptible? And will you forever cease thinking of the body as a human concept, as one with mortal thought, or as material or mortal? It is indeed glorious to bring God so near to one as to see that He is not only one's Mind but that He is also one's Body! That He is actually a living present ALL - inclusive Reality!

Not only must one relinquish his belief that he has an individual mind, but moreover that he has an individual body. Such relinquishment for the actual presence of God here and now is indeed the "redemption of the body" to which Paul refers. What can redeem the body from sickness, disease, suffering and death but the Truth that God is Body as well as Mind! God is the visible as well as the Invisible! God is Here as well as the Hereafter! God is the Word made flesh, and dwells among us!

As one redeems his concept of "mind," by seeing that there is but ONE Mind, -- the Mind of God, so must one also redeem his concept of body by seeing that there is but ONE Body, -- the Body of God, -- that all forms are truly as spiritual as the God who made them. To him of spiritual vision, of receptive, willing heart, God is the Manifest as well as the Unmanifest, the Visible as well as the Invisible; God is Body as well as Soul.

Jesus who was the Word made flesh, who was verily Emmanuel, or God with us, did surely personify God, and so shall we all be able to do likewise in proportion as we are able to lose our sense of an individual mind and body, and behold God as He is, -- All-in-all! This, of course, we cannot do, nor can we see God as a living Presence among us while we think in words and ideas other than the real and true ones. With the conviction of one Mind, one Power, one Body, one Presence, and with the earnest and willing desire to live and to embody this truth here and now, we shall make great strides toward seeing Him as He is, and consequently being "like Him."

As we see God, the Word, in the flesh, or in visible form, as well as in Mind, or the mental realm, we shall be harmonizing ourselves with Him in the without as well as in the within. it should be seen and understood that an author of a book is not Only the invisible intelligence but that

he is also the tangible characters! It is truly a great light to see that God, the Author of the Book of Life, includes all His characters. They are all the offspring of His Mind, and in them He lives, moves and enacts His Presence, Power and Being. They are nothing of themselves; they are Himself. He in them, and they in Him; the Invisible made Visible, and the true Mental made an actual living Presence.

Therefore "Glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God' s." Give God not only your mind but give Him also your body, so that not only will His Mind be your Mind, but His Body will be your Body. Thus shall your "mind" and your "body" be <u>redeemed</u>, and as it reads in Isaiah, "Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the briar shall come up the myrtle tree."

Likewise, instead of the mortal, material body, -- the body representing the beliefs of birth, age, and death, there will "come up," or be seen, the Spiritual body of Life, Light and Love, -- the Body of the Resurrection. Thus shall God live with men and walk in them, and we shall not only be the Characters in the Book of Life, but we shall know that we are also the AUTHOR' .' I AM THAT I AM is the O N L Y Presence.

PART 3 TREATMENT

God's work is finished, and He pronounced it "very good." Moreover, "as it was in the beginning, it is now, and ever shall be, world without end." Nothing can be taken from nor added to God's perfect, finished work. I therefore accept it as it is, I praise and glorify God because of it; and I acknowledge His immaculately perfect Creation as existing Here and Now.

God, the I AM, is always supplying and supporting His perfect World, perfectly and abundantly. As a Character, I am included in His World. There is but one Creator, God, and but one Creation, His workmanship. This one Creation, including man, and all living things, is perfect and present now, awaiting our individual recognition and claim, in order that we, as Characters in His Book of Life, may "see Him as He is," and thus "be like Him" -even to sense and sight. God creates all forms of Reality. As these forms express Him, they necessarily must express perpetual and changeless harmony, beauty, action, order, life and health. The fullness and abundance of God's ideas and their corresponding forms is present and available for all, here and now, who acknowledge and accept them.

The body of man, beast, and every living thing, is governed and controlled by God, the one and only Maker and Creator of them. Therefore, I give unto God the glory due unto His glorious Name; I rejoice in Him, love and trust Him with all my heart, and surely He will abundantly and all-triumphantly bring all-good to pass in my experience.

God not only comprises and includes spiritual ideas, but their forms as well. And we shall see these true and perfect forms about us as we recognize and accept this Fact as true, and as we live, more and more, consistent with our spiritual vision and understanding.

"I AM the Lord; that is My Name; and My glory will I not give to another. Hear, therefore, My people, and understand' Creation is not mortal nor material, neither is the body "matter." Moreover, no mind exists but the I AM. It is for you, the Characters, to see and accept this glorious Fact of Being, and cease giving power to aught but Me. Acknowledge no Mind but My Mind. Acknowledge no Power but My Power. Acknowledge no Body but My Body. Acknowledge no Being but My Being, -the I AM THAT I AM, for I AM God; and besides Me, there is none else."

I AM all action, function and form. All things were made by Me; and without Me was not anything made that was made. My action is everpresent, constant and uninterrupted. My function is perfect, harmonious and impeccable. My form is My Body, My Universe, My Creation."

"Nothing can stop, stay or hinder My perfect action, feeling, function and form. I AM the one and only Power, Actor, and Expressor. I AM likewise the one and only Formation, Action, Body and World. Besides Me and My Power, truly there is none else."

Thus as Characters in His Book of Life, we are perfect, glorious, divine, for we have His Mind, His Life, His action, and His Body. By putting aside all opposite and contrary teaching and beliefs, and by acknowledging and claiming these absolute and true facts of Being, we shall gradually waken as from sleep, and exclaim in ecstasy as did Jesus. "I and My Father are one."

"By Grace Are Ye Saved"

"By grace are ye saved through faith; and not of yourselves. It is the gift of God; for we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus." Eph. 2:8,10.

"Grace" means the <u>act of God</u>, -- the I AM THAT I AM. Grace has nothing to do with the works of the individual, what he does or does not do in the dream. <u>Already</u>, and <u>before</u> he takes any action whatever, man (in his real position,) is God manifested, even as characters in a book of fiction are nothing of themselves but ARE the author. One has, therefore, to <u>see</u> and know this Truth.

We are not obliged to save ourselves, nor bring about by our own personal efforts peace, health, harmony and the abundance of all good on earth, as though they were not eternally existent, but we are commanded to "TURN UNTO ME! ACCEPT ME!" That is, we should stop trying to fix over and correct the world seemingly external to us, and instead we should begin to understand WHO we really are, and then consciously accept this PERFECT GOD-BEING, -- praising Him, loving Him, rejoicing in Him, and yielding ourselves entirely to Him. The redeemed world will then take place automatically.

Today, we see mankind attempting to change the world from evil to good, from lack to abundance and from war to peace, believing that this is the right way to establish peace on earth. But this act of man will never bring forth the correct Answer, nor will it ever achieve the goal he wishes, and which is rightfully his. Why? Because he is unaware of the fact that the "Kingdom of Heaven," is already "at hand" and that he is to be delivered and saved from evil, through grace, -- through and by accepting and complying with the demands of God, viz., Turn unto Me Believe in Me, Praise Me, Reduce your personal self to nothing that I may be all of you!

Man, in turning to the world and in trying to correct it, in turning to other human beings and in attempting to educate and better them, is forgetful and unmindful of the Eternal Fact that BY GRACE ARE YE SAVED.

Ye are already saved! The Kingdom of eternal wonder and glory and peace and abundance is ALREADY at hand. God has already created and finished His perfect work, including you and the world. But you, as individual being, will not fully experience and enjoy this Heaven in which you live, <u>until you become wakeful and mindful of these true facts and begin to live the life of Spirit.</u>

Man's sense of separation came about in the first placebecause he wanted to be something or somebody "of himself", and because he chose to turn from the "Garden of Eden," or the conscious state of abundance of all-Good, and taste of personality, -- personal aims, personal likes and dislikes. In this disobedient state of consciousness he found, (and still finds today), - impermanence, limitation, tribulation and defeat. His world is an imaginative world induced by his own sleep. Nor

will he be able to again experience the heavenly world in which God placed him, until he sees his mistake, turns from it and attempts to wake up. With his awakening will come the automatic restoration, the same as upon awakening from his night sleep, one is laborlessly restored to the consciousness of his bedroom. By "grace" he is already in his bedroom, safe and secure, but in his sleep he may dream that he is not in his home at all but on the contrary is living in another place where he is subjected to great fear and trouble. The perfect escape from any sleeping dream is to awaken. Likewise, in this world wherein there seem to be vicissitudes, dangers, troubles, sin, sickness and death, the perfect escape is for man to be willing to give up the struggle to create happiness, harmony and success by his own personal efforts, and have faith in God and His perfect Creation.

God came into the dream-world, where sin, sickness and all kinds of evil seem to abound; He came in the body called "Jesus Christ", to show to humanity, or the "prodigal son", his <u>true</u> estate of being, that is, man's real, genuine state when he is awake; and the Bible states that all who accept "Jesus Christ" are saved and delivered; all who see and accept that their real state is not that of a human man at all, but, instead, is God manifested, are saved from the mortal dream. This Promise is as true today as when it was uttered. Turning away from the False to the True, and holding steadfastly to what is SO, will absolutely waken us, and will automatically deliver us from the unhappy dream-conditions of limitations of every name and nature.

As we take our true position as "the Son of God", or "God, the Son," that is, <u>God manifested</u>, the false beliefs will fade away, and the "dream of material existence" will begin to vanish. When we are willing to become "pure in heart," then shall we understand that our concern is not with the "world" and its evil but with ourselves and our own beliefs; if this were not so, then indeed would man never know that "by grace are ye saved." To be spiritually minded is life eternal. To let Spirit reflect itself in us is to manifest God, or Christ, here and now; but this true state cannot be experienced while man is attempting to create a world for himself, or personally make over his body and his affairs.

The Eternal command of Jesus to us all is: "Be ye therefore perfect." How can a human being be perfect? He cannot. He cannot, of himself, be perfect, but he can accept the Perfection which has already been bestowed upon him. Human beings, or beings such as we find ourselves today, can and must eventually turn from the material sense of existence to God and accept of His perfection as our own being.

We will then find ourselves in Heaven, and the false material sense will have vanished.

In turning from the false view to the true perception, we must willingly part with sin, -- in disposition and action. We should watch well how we re-act to people, circumstances and things: for the inner emotion of resentment, confusion, disturbance, III-will, and such like, show us what work is needed to be done in our own consciousness. Paul plainly tells about the "works of the flesh," in his letter to the Galatians, 5th chapter:

"But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of the other."

When we react with inner discordant emotion to the disposition, words, or acts of another, we can feel certain that we need to bring more purity into our own consciousness. Let us ask ourself frequently, "How For if we really love God enough, we will much do I love God?" gladly and willingly turn away from the claims of personality - the purely human affections, passions, and emotions, and maintain a calm which is undisturbed by thoughts, words, or feelings of another. Such tests come to us daily, and great is our reward when we are able to say with the spiritually minded Paul, None of these things move me!" Many people find themselves suffering because of the sins of others, at least so they say and think. Yet this is never true. One suffers only for his own shortcomings, even if he allows himself to suffer, as he believes, because of the faults of another. There is scarcely a family today but what in its midst are those who grieve and suffer because certain loved ones seem to be in trouble of some kind. Such sympathetic suffering, while seemingly humanly impossible to resist, is nevertheless controllable when one turns to God. It is wrong to suffer for the sins of another. God does not ask it of us. A mother may say that because her son is not willing to live the life of temperance, "he is killing me." But such is not true. As she turns herself to God in full surrender of herself and of her son, she will find her spiritual Peace and Harmony, and the son, too, will feel the spiritual effect.

Allowing oneself to believe that his state of health or harmony is at the mercy of another is darkness. We are each, whether we know it or not, a law unto ourself. If we let others make us unhappy, then no one is to blame but ourself; for there is a way in which we can turn to God, and loving Him <u>supremely</u>, leave all with Him, and feel and experience the

rest and peace of Heaven. To help another is right; but to allow that other to darken our spiritual sense is wrong. To help another, we can say quietly and mentally to him: "Because you are the Son of God, or God manifested, then you are temperate, sincere, pure, honest and good, I praise God that this is the Way you ARE now and here, and you are no other way!" Love this fact, and believe it with your whole heart and soul. It is the Truth.

As the lesson of self-control, which is really to be God-controlled, is learned and practiced, one begins to find a lovely peace and poise which is natural and <u>unaffected</u>. Loving God supremely causes us to desire willingly and earnestly to keep His commandments. He says, "Love thy neighbor as thyself." We can surely do this, not sympathetically, or humanly, but with spiritual vision. Turning from the false presentation another is showing and exhibiting through his disposition and manner, words and actions, to the Spiritual part of him, or his real wakeful state, and rejoicing in the presence of That, we can be undisturbed by the dream he presents to us. First of all we are to <u>conquer ourself</u>, even as Paul says, and in this way only can we feel and know the love and peace, the glory and satisfaction which come to us through our obedience to the Heavenly law.

Purifying ourselves thus, our lives take on new tones and characteristics, and more and more we personify the God-Man; God, Himself, in manifested form.

Said Jesus, "The Truth shall make you free." Whom? You! Not the "human mind", but you, - God' sman. The Truth will free you from your false beliefs. The Truth will waken you from darkness and sleep, if you will let it! Nor does the Author write the "sleep" or the "dream" into His Book of Life. He writes only Reality. He does not write evil of any kind, nor sickness, sorrow or death. It is man who dreams such things because he has turned away from God, his Author. Thus, the admonition is given, "Turn every man from his evil way." Jer. 26:3. Ever calls the Author: "Come unto Me!" "Turn from your transgressions!" "Awake, thou, that sleepest!"

"You shall know the Truth! Who? You and I. We are the ones Jesus meant. Man shall know the Truth. What man? God' sman. What other man is there who could know the Truth? Strange that many have not seen this fact before, but still hold to the outgrown theory and false belief that it is some man other than God' s man who is to know the Truth and

enter into his original freedom. "Cease ye from man whose breath is in his nostrils for wherein is he to be accounted of!" Is. 2:22. The only man we can account for is God's man. He is the one Jesus came to savænd to awaken. Is this not so? Are we not God's man and are wenot the very ones who must turn to God for Revelation, Salvation and Deliverance? To be sure. "Put off the old man and put ye on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness" Eph. 4:32-34. Who is it that is to "put off the old man"? It is you and I. Who is it that is to "put on the new man"? It is you and I. We are to stop thinking, feeling contrary to the Christ; and we are to return to our Father' shouse, the Consciousness of our true being as one with God, hence inherently and innately righteous and perfect.

In knowing and accepting the Truth that God is the <u>only</u> Mind, and is therefore <u>our</u> Mind, and that God is the <u>only</u> Body, and is therefore our Body, and that we never had another, except as in a dream, which is really nothing whatever, we shall set ourselves free from the "far country" and will find ourselves reinstated in our original position of <u>man in the likeness of</u> God.

Therefore you need no longer seek into books to discover who it is that is the "false believer" or who it is that "dreams." Have not we all entertained false beliefs? Surely, we have. Very well, then, in this sense, we are the sleepers and dreamers. Have not we all believed that we were sick in pain, trouble and sorrow? Surely we have. Do you not now believe it to be impossible for you to walk on the water? to pass through closed doors? to become invisible and again visible? Certainly you do. And so do I. Well, these are false beliefs, for if we knew how, we could surely do these very things now and here: we are made capable of doing them.

Verily the sleeper is not "the human mind" nor "the race belief," nor "the universal consciousness," nor even "mortal mind;" but the sleeper is man himself. The Bible, both in the Old and the New Testament, tells us so. "Ye must be born again." Who? Man, who is really the Son of God, though unaware of it, or not fully conscious of it. Why did Jesus come on earth? To set men free "from the curse" of their false beliefs. "I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth in Me should not abide in darkness." John. 12:46. Jesus continued in the verse following: I am come to save the world." Furthermore, he said "I am come that they might have life, and have it more abundantly." Who? God's manand none other. Do you not admit that you are God's man? And do you not also admit that you

desire to be enlightened and to enjoy life more abundantly? Certainly, you do.

Turn your attention to the story of the Prodigal Son. Who was this son? He was the son of a certain rich man. Whom does this "rich man" illustrate? God, the Father of us all. Was not this "prodigal" the rich Man's son even while he lived in the "far country"? Certainly. Living in the midst of degradation and deprivation did not change whatsoever the relationship between this father and his son. No matter where the son was, nor what he was doing, all the time he was the "father's" son.And Jesus showed that all the son needed, in order to enjoy and consciously partake of the father's abundance, was to leave the far country and return home.

Verily, we are the Sons of God right here on earth today! No matter how far we have seemed to wander into the beliefs of sin and suffering, still our relationship to God, Our Father, has never changed. He loves us "with an everlasting love." Neither false beliefs, nor dreams, nor darkness, nor ignorance, nor "childish things," nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, shall be able to separate us from our Creator, nor cause us to be other than who we are, -- the reflection of our Author, or God manifested.

Jesus came into the world to free us, God' schildren, or characters in His own Book of Life. Who can doubt this to be true when he reads in John' sgospel, the first chapter: "He came unto his own, and his own received him not." It would be impossible to misinterpret these words. "Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief." Thus spoke Paul, the great Evangelist. Is a "sinner" God' s child, or character? Mostcertainly. The prodigal son typified the sinner; yet even in his sin, or mistake, he was ever the rich man' sson.

It must be seen that a dream has no truth in it! A dream is not a reality; a dream is an unreality. Man has never lost himself, nor actually separated himself from God, his Author: he has only lost sight of himself as perfect, and of his perfect world, but by knowing the Truth, he will waken from his "sleep," and find the Eternal order remaining unchanged.

The Bible is our perfect Teacher. It tells us plainly that Jesus "came unto his own ... And to as many as <u>received</u> Him, to them gave he power to become (or. earth, here and now) the Sons of God." Jesus

came to his own people because he loved them,- not that they were really "lost" or "fallen," but that they had lost sight of their own perfection as in and of God, their Creator; and because they had fallen into a "sleep" from which he could easily waken them.

Behold the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes: and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away He (God' schild, or character) that overcometh (false belief) shall inherit all things: and I will be his God, and he shall be My Son." -- Rev. 21:3,4,7.

THE TRUE CONCEPT

"God created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are." Rev. 10:6. "I have made the earth, and created man upon it; I, even My hands, have stretched out the heavens, and all their host have I commanded." Is. 45:1G. Have we not all one Father? Hath not one God created us?" Mal.2:10. "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth: and God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and the cattle after their kind: and God saw that it was good. And God said, "Let us make man in our own image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. And God created man in His own likeness; in the image of God created He him; male and female created He them. Gen. 1:1-27 "All things were made by Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made." John. 1:3.

"I AM THAT I AM" is the perfection of all things. I AMthe kingdom of Heaven,- the manifested Perfection. I AM the Substance of all formation. I AM the fullness and the abundance of all good. "This then is the Message which we have heard of Him, and declared unto you, that God is Light, and in Him is no darkness at all." 1 John. 1:5. There can be no darkness, such as sickness, disorder, or lack of Harmony in My Presence. There can be no formation of disease, nor any presence of evil in My Kingdom: besides Me, there is none else.

"I know that whatsoever God doeth, it shall be forever; nothing can

be put to it, nor anything taken from it." Ecc.3:14. Therefore, we are "saved" already because of our inherent and innate oneness with God; and nothing can keep us from the conscious realization and experience of this Perfection, Harmony and Completeness, if we turn from the false seeming to the true state, and accept and embody it.

But we must take the steps out of ignorance into understanding; out of darkness into light. "When I became a man, I put away childish things " (1 Cor.13:11) "because the <u>darkness is past</u>, and the true light <u>now</u> shineth." 1 John 2:8. Therefore, we must gladly and willingly leave the "childish" position of seeing and speaking about "mortal mind" and "the human mind" as power, or cause, of evil, and advance to the perception that God is our Mind and we never had another; God is also our Body, and we have had no other. We should not fear in letting go the "childish" notion of "matter" and "human mind," as we advance into the revelation and acknowledgment of ONE Mind and ONE Body, all-inclusive. The words "matter", "mortal mind" and "human mind" should become obsolete to us.

In metaphysics, we read much about spiritualizing, correcting and educating the human mind, or mortal mind. The time is here now to outgrow such statements and such beliefs. As understanding unfolds to us, we should advance in our language and expression. Now who stands back of the "human mind" one talks about? He does. Therefore one is himself the creator of the belief in a human mind! Surely God does not make it. Inasmuch as God is not its creator then man, in ignorance, makes and serves it by his recognition of it: but when one sees that the Divine Mind is the only Mind which is "Cause," then will he be willing to let go the "childish" belief in the human mind as causation; or as an entity which must be "corrected" or "spiritualized."

We read in Science & Health by Mrs. Eddy that "Mortal mind is the criminal in every case." Now, which is first, man, or his belief in a mortal mind? It is man, himself, who has this concept of mortal mind. Indeed, it is quite as irrelevant to place the blame of one's misfortune upon "the mortal mind" as it would be to blame one's feet should they stumble upon a stone. When man is willing to see and admit that his trouble comes from not yielding himself wholly to God, learning of and obeying His requirements of him, as well as living up to his highest inspiration and revelation, he will then be in the right position to advance into greater Light and Understanding, and consequently into greater harmony and abundance.

<u>The conceiver always precedes his conceptions.</u> Therefore man, himself, precedes his idea of "mortal mind," or "the human mind," does he not? "When that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away." 1 Cor. 13:10.

Revelation of Truth is continually coming to man on earth. It was surely a great "discovery", or revelation, to see that God is not responsible for any sickness, trouble or disaster on the face of this earth. This was truly a marvelous insight. It was also a revelation to discern that "Mortal mind is a solecism in language" (S & H Pg.114:12) and that "this so-called mind is a myth." (Pg.152:1). Therefore, to be true to this revelation we must give up the theory that we can "translate" or "educate" or "spiritualize" a "myth"! We can, however, nay, we must, educate and spiritualize our sense of things, and change our own sense from the "childish" belief in mortal mind to the ripened understanding, that there is no mind but God.

"God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions." Ecc.7:29. Whom did God make "upright"? Man. Who was responsible for the "inventions"? Man, - "they," themselves. The blame is not placed upon any thing or any one but upon man, himself. The first mistake of man has been to place the cause of evil upon some thing outside himself,- upon the "devil," or "mortal mind," or "human mind," or upon "the race consciousness," or "the universal belief." His next mistake has been in trying to change or correct the evil thing which he, himself, invented. Let man turn within, even as Jesus admonished He will then find the Kingdom of Heaven (understanding) right at hand. See, accept, acknowledge and embody it, and the false beliefs which you are entertaining will fade away. "If you believe in and practice wrong knowingly, you can at once change your course and do right." (S & H pg. 253:18). "Each individual is responsible for himself." (Misc. Writings. 119:8). "Unwittingly you sentence yourself to suffer." (S & H pg. 378: 4). These sentences correspond with Jesus' teaching that it is man, himself, verily, God's man, who must "awake," and be "redeemed"; who must leave "the far country" and take the required steps back to his Father's House.

Truly, as we turn from ignorance to Understanding, and as we accept and embody these true facts of Life and Being, we shall rise into that "new creature" which the Bible promises in such glowing terms. "Put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbor; for

ye are members one of another." Eph. 4:24-25.

"They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God." Rom. 9:8. They who believe that they are "of the flesh," rather than children of God, are in ignorance. We are never actually "mortals;" but apparently we are such. We cannot be children of Understanding and believe otherwise than this.

Is man ever actually mortal or material? No. Can he believe otherwise? Yes. When Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, for instance, and called to him, "Lazarus, come forth," did he call to the Christ-man? No. Did he call to the human mind? No. To whom did Jesus speak? He spoke to God's man who, at that instant, was entertaining a false belief. This was the Mission of Jesus, to lead or turn man back to the Truth of his being.

"He came unto his own." He came, apparently, to the children of men, who were <u>really</u> the children of God. Can the Christ-man dream or have a false belief? No. He is the man <u>awake</u>, in the conscious knowledge and expression of his genuine and true estate -- the likeness of God. Are we the Christ-man now? Yes; but as Jesus said, <u>we need to know this and to embody it.</u>

What caused a "dream" or a false belief? Ignorance, or lack of true Understanding What will restore us to the conscious expression of our inherent Perfection? The acceptance of the Truth and the living of it. Is there any growth, or translation, or change for us to acquire? "Grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. To him be glory, both now and ever." 2 Peter 3:18. According to the New Testament Jesus Christ is in us all, for Paul asked, "Know ye not that Jesus Christ is in you?" "He is our true, wakeful Self. He is the Self that we should recognize and claim as our genuine Being "on earth as in heaven." We are actually this perfect Self now, and it is the perception, acceptance, realization, acknowledgment and embodiment of this fact that will waken us, stop the dream, and set us free from the illusion.

The Kingdom of Heaven is here: we are now living in its Presence. If we are not conscious of it, then let us partake of higher understanding and more unselfish love. Light, laughter, joy, peace, and the glorious abundance and fullness of all-Good, all are here. By "grace this is so: thus, we have only to believe, accept, acknowledge and embody this wonderful and glorious Revelation, Freedom and Liberty which God continually bestows upon us.

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