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## A MESSAGE FOR THE AGES

Chapter: Educating the Human Mind out of Itself  
Topic: *The Function Of The Practitioner Or Teacher. . .*

1963 Kailua Private Class 5:1&2  
520

Some years ago a business man who owned a half-interest in a business and wanted to sell it asked for my help. Many people came to buy and many deals came very near to being closed, but in the end, every one fell through. Nothing happened, and the sale was not made. Finally the man was convinced that my work was ineffective and asked me to stop. About a year later, he awakened one morning and asked himself, "Why should I sell my share of the business? Why don't I buy my partner out?" He did, and that became his most successful business venture. . . He acknowledged, "I should not have asked you to sell my business but to bring God and His rightness into the situation, and now it has come."

Chapter: God And Prayer  
Topic: *I reveals the secret of god*

1963 Instructions For Teaching The Infinite Way 4:1  
508

Then came the unfoldment that there is a word that is not a word in my mind. That word is *I*. *I* is not a 'word' in my mind: *I* is my being; *I* is my identity. *I* is not a word I am thinking of; *I* is the thinker, not the thought. Regardless of any thought or concept of God, it cannot be God, because greater than any thought is the thinker. Is there anything greater than the thinker? Is not the source of thought the creator of thought? Then somewhere in the word *I* lies the secret of God. . . Then as the years went on, that word *I* began to define Itself, and I saw that it was really synonymous with Consciousness, because regardless of what I am, I must be consciousness. That must be the identity of *I*. Take Consciousness away, and is there an *I*? Take Consciousness away, and is there any awareness? Take Consciousness away, and is there form? All the form there is, is Consciousness formed.

Chapter: Guidelines for Spiritual Unfoldment through The Infinite Way  
Topic: *Studying The Writings*

1964 Instructions, Tape Group Leaders, 1963  
557, 509, 511

No advanced student is going to succeed unless he keeps going back to the basic principles. It is my experience that occasionally I have to remind myself that I am not going to God to get a power. I have to remind myself once in a while that I am not seeking God to do anything to error. I do not know how anyone becomes so advanced that he can go beyond that.

I do not know when students will really understand what is in *The Thunder of Silence* or in *A Parenthesis in Eternity*. These two books are a hundred years ahead of the times, and the only way students will grow up to them will be to live with them.

Chapter: Infinite Way Pearls  
Topic: *Impersonalization, Essential To Illumination*

1963 Instructions For Teaching The Infinite Way 1:2,  
509, 511

I have many patients with whom I have been working for as long as twelve years who do not catch this principle and do not get their healing. They are holding a wall up that insists that this is a person, either the "me" of themselves or of the other person. In such a situation the practitioner may not be able to break through.

Chapter: Now I See  
Topic: *God Knows The Intents Of The Heart*

1963 Instructions For Teaching The Infinite Way 4:1  
509

It is true that a person can attain the realization of God as omnipresence by himself without any outside help from books or teachers, but he might have to take thirty-five or more years to accomplish it. From 1909 on I was searching inside myself, and twenty years later it happened. So if time is not an element, you can do it all by yourself. Remember, too, that although the kingdom of God is within you, you will find it only if your motive is pure.

[The Infinite Way practitioner] does not overcome, destroy, or get rid of evil. He drops it. That is the secret of Infinite Way. That is the secret of Infinite Way healing work. That is why my work as a Christian Science practitioner flourished for sixteen years and why later in the seventeen years of more of the Infinite Way it continues to flourish and has become known and established throughout the world.

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### A PARENTHESIS IN ETERNITY

Chapter: The Basis of Mysticism  
Topic: *The Discovery Of The Self*

When I have been able to see myself as an American, as a Hebrew of two thousand years ago, as an Arabian, or as a Chinese, it is a simple matter to see the trappings that have attached themselves to me in each of these incarnations, and to see that *I* never came down to the level of these trappings or conditionings, but remained, as It always is, the Self.

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### AWAKENING MYSTICAL CONSCIOUSNESS

Chapter: Flesh and Flesh  
Topic: *A State Of Awareness*

1954 Portland Practitioner Class  
94 & 95

In July 1946, this change of consciousness began, and. . . at the end of two months, everything was prepared for this work.

Chapter: Our Real Identity  
Topic: *Joel*

1954

After I have attained a stillness and silence, I can carry [God's presence] out into the world for a few hours, when again I must retire for renewal of the assurance.

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### BEYOND WORDS AND THOUGHTS

Chapter: His Rain Falls  
Topic: *God Neither Punishes Nor Rewards*

1963 Kailua Private Class

When *Thunder of Silence* was published, I knew that I could not expect many people in the world to understand or grasp it, not even our students. . . That is because it is a complete contradiction of every teaching that is based on God's goodness to you and God's punishment of the sinner. . . When the first unfoldment of [this] truth. . . came through my lips, it startled me as much as it did any of those who were listening and who caught it. It was not anything that I had known even five minutes before, and be assured I had to do a great deal of thinking and meditating after that message came through to realize the astounding nature of what it was.

Chapter: Incorporeality: God, Man, and Universe  
Topic: *Only Spiritual Discernment Reveals The Essential Equality Of Man*

1963 Kailua Private Class  
521:2

When this spiritual faculty was awaked in me, a very unhappy period in my life began because I was really two person: the "old man" was not completely "dead" and the "new man" not fully in control, and so there was a warfare between the two. . . I ended up as broke as anyone has ever been, for the simple reason that I was trying to live in a corporeal sense of supply and at the same time demonstrate incorporeal supply, and it cannot be done. . . It was only when I had no corporeal supply that at last I could say, "Well, now I am all right. Now I have nothing to come in conflict with." Then the flow could begin the other way.

Many persons, in moments of spiritual discernment, have witnessed the incorporeal form of man, I, too, have beheld that incorporeal form hundreds of times, because when a person is in the Spirit, that is all he can behold. Must that not be how the idea that men are equal originally developed?

My understanding has always been completely limited to whatever has come through in any given moment, and whatever I knew yesterday was yesterday's manna, and it is not doing me any good today. Only that which I know this minute represents my understanding; and it is not even mine, really: it is God's gift to me. [Communion with God] comes in moments of illumination, but for the greater part of my life I have found that it is as if there is still a Joel and he is pretty empty. . . He has no evil and he has no good: he is living always with those ears open in an expectancy, and then whatever comes through is God's presence and God's grace, and the rest, what the world calls a human personality, remains, you might almost say, a nothingness. It really is a nothingness because it has no desire: it does not want to be any place in particular; it does not want to do anything except what it is doing and what is being done through it; it has no hopes, no ambitions, and is not seeking to achieve anything.

Chapter: Rising to Mystical Consciousness in Prayer and Treatment  
Topic: *Let Your Consciousness Be Prepared To Feed A Hungry World*

1963 Kailua Private Class  
519 or 521

If you leave the world alone, it will awaken to what you have and want it; but if you try to force truth on the world, you may prevent the world from ever being receptive to it. Such is the nature of the human mind. It rejects that which it does not seek. . . I was in the same boat. I was invited to the "feast" a long, long time before I came.

When I started in the practice, I gave one hour to every patient who came to me, and at that time it probably took an hour for me to give a patient enough spiritual substance to meet his need; but later, five minutes would do, and still later three minutes. Why? Because it was not the words feeding him: it was the consciousness.

Chapter: Thou Shalt Not Make Unto Thee Any Graven Image  
Topic: *Surrender Your Mind To God*

1963 Kailua Private Class  
518:1 or 517:2

Those who have come to the point of unfoldment where they are reading this book know that I am revealing to them the fruitage of practically forty years of spiritual searching.

My own search took many, many years before the realization of this inner Presence was attained.

Chapter: Toward The Experience  
Topic: *Toward The Experience*

1963 Kailua Private Class  
516:1

The Infinite Way came into being when I realized that there is no God in the human world. . . This was the original unfoldment that was given to me some time after 1909, and this is what started me on the search.

Chapter: Truth Unveiled  
Topic:

1963 Kailua Private Class  
518:2 or 519:2

Always, since my first spiritual experience, living in two worlds has been difficult for me—living in that higher Consciousness and then coming down to earth, going back into that Consciousness and coming back down to earth—but never was it as difficult as in 1963. . . With each successive unfoldment, something was breaking through, leading to the teaching of going beyond words and thoughts, of going beyond the mind. . . beyond taking thought, beyond reasoning. This is the revelation of the nature of Sabbath and of Grace.

In all of us there remains a finite sense of self, which in the last analysis must be crucified. Moses had it in his feeling of unworthiness. Jesus had it for a great while in his feeling of "I can of mine own self do nothing." I had it definitely in this knowledge that I could not bring forth or carry on the message of The Infinite Way.

In many classes and even in some of the Writings, I have said that I did not understand the reason for the crucifixion of Jesus: why it took place, or why it had to take place if it had to. . . It was not until the year 1963, when I myself went through the experience, that the reason and need for the crucifixion of Christ Jesus was revealed to me. . . that rising above mind to Truth Itself.

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**COLLECTED ESSAYS OF JOEL S. GOLDSMITH**

The greatest lesson that I have ever learned. . . is that the place whereon I stand is hold ground.

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### CONSCIOUSNESS IN TRANSITION

1948

Never do I permit myself to think of a human being. When I go to this Christ, I shut the humans out, even those who have asked for help.

1948

I was doing healing work and was in the practice two years before I knew anything about Christian Science treatment. And then I learned about it and learned there are things in it that are necessary to know, and those things are known in all of the metaphysical movements. It so happens that I owe my debt to the Christian Science movement because I learned treatment work there.

1948

As a rule I have found it helpful to me, when I am first presented with any form of error, when a patient writes me, or telephones me or comes to the office, for me to realize quickly, "I'm not dealing with a person or a condition. I am only dealing with a suggestion that wants to get in and make me do something about it." When I've done that, I've done all that's necessary in the way of treatment. After that I can sit down, find my peace, get right to the center of God-consciousness, and go on from there.

Unless I [nothingize] first, the temptation is apt to come in, "This is a pretty kettle of fish. What am I going to do about a serious disease like this? Or what am I going to do with a person this far gone in sin? Or with this person so close to death?" And of course you know this temptation is particularly strong when elderly people come to us, because there you have the whole world's temptation to believe, "Oh, what can you expect?" It is right there that you have got to be alert to see that in the kingdom of God there are no such things as newborn babes or elderly people. Everything from the newest born babe to the oldest individual on earth is nothing but the presence of God suggesting itself in time and space.

1948

One such statement is from Jesus: "My kingdom is not of this world." I don't know how that registered with you but I can tell you that for the last five years at least, that quotation has been my life and my blood and my bones-and all that goes to make up me. "My kingdom is not of this world."

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### CONSCIOUSNESS IS WHAT I AM

1962 London Special Class  
496:1

When I am giving a class, I am not thinking nor am I using thought. I am keeping my mind a clear transparency to receive God's thoughts.

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### CONSCIOUSNESS TRANSFORMED

Topic:

When I had been in the healing practice for about five years, I was taken very ill and the practitioner who was taking care of me reached the conclusion that I was not being reached and would probably pass on that night. In the middle of the night, my mother. . . came to my bedside. . . “to make the way across an easy one.”. . . Suddenly I said, “No, Mom, I am not going. . . I must stay here and find a reason and a purpose for living.” The following morning I awakened so much better that I was able to go to my office.

Chapter: Experience God

1964

Topic:

The major problem in my personal life is that of trying to avoid any relationship between my students and myself or the students of our teachers, whereby the individual begins to believe that we are God-inspired and so “let us sit and partake of his or her light.”. . . [I am] trying to bring you to the awareness that you have just as much access to the kingdom of God as [I] have.

Chapter: Growing day by day – Attaining the transcendental consciousness

8/31/63

Topic:

The author of that passage is Isaiah, so you must turn around and say, “Isaiah, your consciousness is one of the greatest in the Bible and I rank you with Jesus and Buddha. So, Isaiah, what do you mean by ‘quietness and confidence’?” Do not think that I have not turned within and talked this way to God or to Jesus because I have, and if I want to know what Isaiah is talking about, I must do this. Whether Isaiah hears me does not matter, because I know my consciousness is hearing me and it will give the answers back to me.

Chapter: Hidden Manna – the Real Infinite Way

8/24/63

Topic:

That which started me on the spiritual path and which ultimately led to The Infinite Way, was the realization that there is no God in the human world or in any religious teaching as such.

[1963] has been a difficult year for me in which I have been going through a period of inner initiation waiting for a message. During the last two to three weeks [of August] it all came to a head, and then it became clear that we are entering the consciousness that does not need words or thoughts. We can sit down to meditate and realize: “The kingdom of God is closer than breathing. I just have to tune in and listen. I need no words and I need no thoughts. I need only receptivity and, when the Word of God comes, the earth of error melts.”

Chapter: *I - That Is All*

1963

Topic:

Whether or not you receive anything at all from the message of The Infinite Way is not up to us; it is strictly a matter of your own consciousness. You either recognize, receive, and respond to this message, or you do not. . . We have been offered a gift of ten million dollars to put this message on television across the whole of the United States, but I cannot accept the gift because I do not believe the message in and of itself has that power. Only the consciousness of the individual is power, and whether a message meets your need depends upon whether on not you are receptive or responsive to it.

Chapter: Impersonalization and Silence

1964

Topic:

I will go back to my first spiritual experience. Frankly, I contacted the practitioner only to be healed of a severe cold. . . I was sure I was going to get rid of the cold through prayer. . . When I left his office, I could no longer smoke and I could no longer drink or play cards or bet on horses. All that left me. He had been praying in the sense of wholeness and a transformation of consciousness took place. The cold was gone, but that was the smallest part of the demonstration.

Topic:

Jesus gave us the nature of God as *I*, Buddha gave us the nature of error as *maya*, or illusion, and both of these combined in me to bring forth this message.

I suppose to me the greatest passage of Scripture is “I have meat” or “I am the bread, the meat, the wine and the water.” . . . To me it means that when God made me, he incorporated in me everything I shall need unto eternity, or the power to draw it forth as in the example of the root of the tree. With every appearance of a claim, I can close my eyes and say, “I have meat,” and that breaks my attachment to this world and everyone in it. . . . It makes no difference what kind of a claim can arise of insufficiency or limitation in any area, that word *I* pops up in my consciousness and then all attachment to this world is broken.

Chapter: Omnipresence

1964

Topic:

In The Infinite Way we go a step further. We recognize divine consciousness as omnipresence, and therefore we do not set aside a specific time to unite with it. Why? Because it is *always* omnipresence. I am in meditation twenty-four hours a day, even when I am asleep.

Chapter: relationship of oneness-2

3/10/63

Topic:

If I ever claim The Infinite Way as mine, not only would I lose it, but it might be that even the world would lose it in this generation. No, it is not mine. It was God expressing Himself in the language necessary to this age, and I was fortunate enough to be the instrument that voiced it.

Hidden manna is probably one of the most important and vital realizations of my life. What does it mean? The hidden manna is the truth I know, the truth of my relationship with my source.

I prefer to talk to these small groups, rather than talk to hundreds who could not hear. I love my smaller classes.

Chapter: spiritual discernment

September 1963

Topic:

I spent the year 1959 traveling the world, giving classes everywhere on the specific healing principles of this message. In 1960, 1961, and 1962 I was given a specific subject each year, so that the students might eventually be prepared for the higher works. At the beginning of 1963. . . . I received inner instructions to cancel [January through May classes] in order to prepare the students for that which was to come.

When I was given the Message in 1946, the final words were these: “Never seek a student. Teach those who come to you.”

Chapter: The Word Becomes Flesh

1963

Topic:

I will take you back to the day that started me on the spiritual path. It was a day of threatened war that brought to my thought, “Where is God? . . . where in this danger. . . is God?” This started a trend of thought that years later ended with the realization, revelation, perhaps, that there is no God in the world and there never has been—that God is only where God is realized, and nowhere else.

Perhaps four or five years after the beginning of my healing ministry, I learned that every metaphysical healing teaching in the world is based on a misconception, the misconception that the source of whatever evil is affecting you is within yourself and that you are responsible for the errors in your experience. . . . One of the major secrets of healing work was given me then, and that was *impersonalization*. It was shown me how all error of any nature has its origin in the carnal mind or mortal mind.

I always like to think I was with Columbus in those days. While it may not be true, it is part of my inner life that I *feel* that I was with him on some of these trips, not as a man, but as a boy. It may be only that I feel his consciousness, but anyway that is why I feel I like the sea.

Topic:

I can't think of being alone for a very long period of time without a period of contemplation. When I contemplate, something is given to me—something to ponder. So it is, the source of my religion is to be found within me, but I must go in to get it. In living this life of the contemplative, you will find that you are living a life attuned to an inner rhythm, an inner grace. The more you listen, the more you contemplate within, the greater protection and guidance you have on the outer plane.

Chapter: Your Door to Infinity

1964

Topic:

Do you not see why I had to sit with this message as a practitioner in an office for sixteen years before I could teach it and before a book was written. . . Spiritually teaching comes out of an attained consciousness, not out of an intellectual knowledge.

## CONSCIOUSNESS UNFOLDING

Chapter: Freedom in Christ

1949

Topic: *Meditation As Consciousness Unfolding*

I was in this work less than two years when I discovered that the only results I had came through meditation. . . becoming receptive, and listening. Then, with a sudden rush, this feeling, this sense of the Presence would come, and the healings would take place. Or it would give me enlightenment.

Chapter: Questions and Answers

1949

Topic: *Going Into The Silence And Making Affirmations About God*

Sometimes when I am called upon for healing work, I cannot get the sense of oneness for some reason or other, and I must sit for as much as an hour, or two, or three, before achieving that sense of conscious oneness. It was through my experience working spiritually with prisoners that I discovered the foundation of all the work that I am now doing: The basic truth of any spiritual teaching is that God is the mind of the individual—God is his life, his Soul.

The only technique that works for me is to pay no attention to any thoughts that come and go [in meditation]. . . Sit with your mind centered on the question, “What is God?” and keep it there. If thoughts disturb or intrude, bring your mind gently back to your question.

It was in 1932 that I caught the vision that God is the only creative principle and that all these other ideas about wrong thinking and sin, had nothing to do with healing or supply. But it was not until 1946 that I published a book or went out to teach this truth.

## GOD FORMED US FOR HIS GLORY

Chapter: The Invisible Meat Unknown to the World

Topic: Sharing but Not Dependency

I am in this work, but I am not in this work for your sake. I am in this work because the grace of God pushed me into it to reveal God's grace and God's law on earth.

## GOD, THE SUBSTANCE OF ALL FORM

Chapter: Nature of the Individual as Consciousness

1949

Topic: *Experiencing God*

My sense of God is that of an indescribable presence and feeling. I do not know God except through “feeling.” I “feel” the Presence all through me, through my chest, through my finger tips. No matter what the external circumstances are, even when at times they might seem discordant, I am always conscious of this Presence – a sensing, a feeling, an awareness.

Every time any phase of error, or even good, presents itself to me, I consciously translate it and realize that right there is God manifest. . . The important thing as far as I am concerned, is that I have not accepted an appearance for reality.

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### LIVING BETWEEN TWO WORLDS

Chapter: The Power and Dominion  
Topic: *Conducting A Successful Spiritual Healing Ministry*

1964 Oahu/maui Series Or 1964 Portland Special

Everyone who enters my consciousness has a sign over his head saying "I," and that *I* is knocking at the door of my consciousness, begging me to recognize It, and when I do this, his mortality evaporates, and something takes place to bring harmony into his experience.

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### LIVING BY GRACE

Chapter: Freedom In God  
Topic: World Work

In the first years of my practice, I discovered that treatments do not heal and that without treatment far better healing work resulted. One day I was talking to a woman in my office when a telephone call came from a patient suffering from excruciating pains in her head. The woman in my office, having heard the urgency of the patient on the phone, said to me, "I will leave you to take care of your patient." As I was escorting her to the door, the patient called again to tell me that the pain had gone instantaneously. I had not yet even started her treatment!

The secret is that where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom, there is health, there is wholeness, there is supply, there is peace, joy, and dominion. So the secret is not to treat anyone for disease, but to attain the consciousness of God's Presence... When the Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, Divine Grace is touching you and freedom is taking place within you. If the Spirit of the Lord God is *not* upon me, nothing happens—there is a void, a vacuum! So, when you call upon me for help, I do not concern myself with your discords. I am not interested as to whether your trouble is physical, mental, moral, or financial. I concern myself only with attaining a conscious awareness, a feeling of God's' Presence. If I can attain that awareness, you feel it and it takes effect in you. Your whole nature—your body, your mind, your finances—responds.

Chapter: God, The Source and Substance  
Topic: We Are Only Instruments

A new concept came. To all appearances, I did beautifully with it, and things seemed to be working out wonderfully well. Then one day came the realization, "I've made the same mistake again! What I thought was Truth is not." I went through that process several times. The latest one was terrible. It lasted three days, and I went through about as much hell as one man can take... The thought came, "Well, God, this is a failure. No doubt about that! But look what a grand and glorious failure! I have spent thirty years getting to this point of failure. I've really given my heart, my soul, my energy, every ounce of me to this failure!" A great sense of relief and peace came to me, and with that sense of peace came this message: *You were doomed to failure from the very beginning. The more you realize that, the closer you will come to Truth.* That was astonishing! Now it was evident that my failure was in believing that I had the power to succeed or fail, when all I could ever be was an instrument for the power of the Divine. God alone is the principle of life. The only success that can come in this world is God's success.

The law is a fine thing, but it is wrong for those who come to a higher level of living by the Spirit to use man's weapons. Some years ago, I became involved in a lawsuit. I had been assured by attorneys and judges that I had a moral right to a small sum of money and that if I did not take it to court I would be very foolish and would be letting my substance be taken from me. This small sum of money was all that I had. I heard the still, small Voice say to me, "Those who live by the sword will die by the sword." It came in such a way that I understood that I had no right to go to the law. But I listened to others who convinced me that I had to defend my rights. In spite of hearing for the second time, "Those who live by the sword will die by the sword." I let my friends prevail against God and I went to court. It was a sad and pitiful experience! Not only did I lose the case and the lawyers' fees, but my reputation suffered as well. I know now that I would have suffered no injustice had I not brought it on myself by going to court. It was a hard lesson, but I learned it well!

Chapter: Living The Mystical Life

Topic: The Revelation

On the evening of Sunday September 1, [1963], a revelation poured through me for two consecutive hours. I was being led to the highest point of consciousness that the Infinite had revealed. Throughout all my talks since this unfoldment, what has broken through has led to the message of going beyond words and, thoughts—going beyond the mind.

Chapter: Message to Teachers on the Spiritual Path

Topic: Healing work

I do not have to tell you that many people cannot, even if they would, release themselves from the desire of person, place, or thing. You would have to see my mail for a few days to realize how many people are trying to either get a companion or get rid of one! You would be surprised how many people, even after reading The Infinite Way writings for years, still write to me for a healing of a physical claim. In other words, they are still approaching God from a physical standpoint, expecting God to do something on a physical level. We must stop thinking in terms of demonstration on the physical level and come into the consciousness of the Presence of God and demonstrate God's presence. When you come into the presence of God, I can assure you that you will never find lack, limitation, injustice, sin, disease, or death, because none of these things exist in the Presence of God.

Chapter: Rising Into Spiritual Consciousness

Topic:

I have found that if I have students three to five years, even six years, and if I have them enough days a week and enough hours in the day, they finally develop spiritual vision. I have never yet succeeded with any student in less time than that. True, some students became practitioners in twenty-four hours, but that was not through me. It was through their own inner development. The minute they turned to God, their souls opened and they evolved and began healing at once.

I remember sitting in meditation with one practitioner and, within three months, being healed of a disease that was supposed to have killed me within three months.

Chapter: The Infinite Way Concept of God

Topic:

When the inner unfoldment came to me that I did not know God, I remember I found it quite insulting. I thought I had a very good idea of God. When the Voice told me I did not know God, I was already in the healing ministry and was achieving some measure of success in it. But when the Voice tells you something, there is no use arguing with *It* because *It* knows best! There was only one thing to do, and that was to acknowledge that I did not know God aright.

Since [The Infinite Way] is of God, Joel is responsible only for maintaining himself as a transparency today. He is not responsible for what happens to the message today or for what happens to it when he is no longer physically present, because that which sent it into expression will continue to function.

Chapter: The Secret of Success

Topic: From the Letter of Truth to the Spirit of Truth

Most of us come to our Grace of God through our ills or discords. Mine came through illness. I was very ill with a severe cold that I could not rise above. One Saturday I sought out a practitioner whom I had never heard of previously and who usually did not see patients on Saturdays, when he devoted his time to study and prayer. But when he saw the condition I was in, he invited me into his office. Not only did I have an instantaneous healing, but also after leaving his office, I could not smoke or drink, or play cards anymore. Two days later, someone asked me for a healing, and got it. The next day someone else came to me and asked, "Will you pray for me?" and had a healing. This went on for a year and a half. By then I was in the practice of healing. That had not been my intent; I was not seeking it. It just came upon me.

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## LIVING BY THE WORD

Chapter: Easter: An Experience of Consciousness

1964 Honolulu Infinite Way Study Center 1:1

Topic: *Consciousness Is Not Limited To A Body*

537

I have had the experience of being taken into my Master's household, into my Master's consciousness, into my Master's temple, even the cave where my Master lives, *the* Master, for there is but one. This is an experience of consciousness in which the body travels just as rapidly as thought. . . This is not an experience of imagination: this is an experience of consciousness. It happens that we find this very easy to do, because we have gone only to the places with which we are familiar. But remember that just as we can move about so readily in the places with which we are familiar, so with an activity of consciousness we could move about just as freely to any part of this globe, even into the other planets, into the skies, and down beneath the waters, because everything that takes place in consciousness must take place as an activity of our consciousness. Not even our body can move without an activity of our consciousness moving it.

Chapter: Let there be Light

1961 Waikiki Infinite Way Center 2:1&2

Topic: *The Light Dissolves The Darkness*

387

Recently, something came to my attention that bore witness to the evil nature of some of the men in positions of power who are manipulating the world, and for a moment it brought a sense of inner disturbance. But almost simultaneously the Voice spoke and said, "But there are not any evil men: man is spiritual." That brought a complete release from being in and of the world, or of being under the influence of its fears and worries. Did that realization remove these evil men from the world? No, it removed them and any effect they might have from my consciousness as well as from the consciousness of those who are attuned to my consciousness.

Chapter: The Message of the Bible

1958 Second Sydney/melbourne Closed Class

Topic: *God Is Calling: Do You Hear?*

201

I wish you could see what my life is like. You would enjoy it. I sit way back inside myself looking out through my eyes. You would be surprised what I see out there in that detached sense, the funny things I see and the funny things I hear. Not knowing that I have a sense of humor, you do not know how often I chuckle inside. As I travel the world, sometimes I hear students say that they cannot afford this book or that book, this class or that class, or they cannot afford a tape recorder or a tape recording. They cannot afford this and they cannot afford that; they haven't time for this, and they haven't rime for that. I just sit back and laugh and laugh inside, and then I look around at all the beauty salons and the prices they charge and the time they consume.

Nobody can tell you whether it will take one week to receive the first intimation that something has happened [in meditation] or whether it might not be, like in my case, eight months, eight months of more than a dozen periods set aside every day for meditation. Still it took eight months before I had the first response. But then I had the second one a week later, and I had the third one probably two weeks later, and then a fourth one, one week later, and then gradually two in one week, and then eventually one every day.

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## LIVING THE ILLUMINED LIFE

Chapter: Call No Man Your Father Upon the Earth  
Topic: *A Life Of Grace Has No Needs*

"Call no man your father upon the earth." For thirty years this has been one of my great realizations in the healing work. I have been stuck and stuck hard with many cases, and usually the thing that saved me was when I could realize, " 'Call no man on earth your father,' then whoever is turning to God for help must be immortal." Knowing that set me free from my fears and doubts, and then the patient responded. "Call no man your father upon the earth." God is your Father; therefore, you are the son, and fortunately, God had all His children before they invented illegitimate ones, so God has no illegitimate children.

Chapter: The Sword of the Spirit  
Topic: *The Nagging Of The Sword Of The Spirit*

1963 London Work  
527 3:1

Probably one reason that makes me say so often that I have not fully attained is that the sword of the Spirit keeps nagging, never letting me rest for fear that I might believe sometime that I have fully attained and then miss the way. Like Jacob, I am going to say, "No, I am going to wrestle with it. I am going to stay right with these problems until this spirit of God is so clearly realized that freedom then becomes the full and complete demonstration of Christhood."

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### MAN WAS NOT BORN TO CRY

Chapter: Rising Above this World  
Topic: *Rising Above This World*

1962

Most of [the 'Wisdoms' in "The Wisdoms of The Infinite Way" came] by my being awakened in the middle of the night and having to get up and write down the particular Wisdom that revealed itself [over the course of] two years.

Chapter: The One Great demonstration  
Topic: *Infinity Is The Measure Of Our Being*

1962

I do know if I have have not seen Him face to face, I have at least felt His touch many times.

Chapter: The Prince of Peace  
Topic: *Peace Has To Begin With Us*

1962

One of the very earliest revelations given to me was that it is not necessary for me to . . . give treatments to anyone: it is only necessary for me to find my own inner peace, and then the peace that I find, the awareness of harmony, wholeness, completeness, immediately becomes the experience of those turning to me for help.

Chapter: The Truth that Makes Us Free  
Topic: *To Every Man There Openeth A Way*

1960 Kansas City Practitioner's Class  
318:2

For thirteen years before my first spiritual experience, I was seeking in ignorance, not knowing how to seek. From the moment of that experience, I literally "died" to my entire human sense of life up to that time. Every bit of yesterday disappeared, and a whole new way of life opened up. . . Eventually, I was left alone in the world without any close relatives or friends, and without a dollar.

Beginning two days after that first spiritual experience, people were drawn to me for help, and although they were healed. . . they did not know how to make it a continuing experience, and I could not teach them because I myself did not know.

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### OUR SPIRITUAL RESOURCES

Chapter: The New Life By Grace  
Topic: *Be Willing To Receive God's Grace On God's Level*

1960

I suppose I could have had my spiritual illumination twelve years before I had it—but I was not ripe, and it took thirteen years of ripening before that first experience came, and many, many years more before later ripenings came.

My entire experience has been one of beholding God, the Spirit, become flesh—harmonious, healthful flesh—and that not only as the flesh of the body, but as the flesh of the pocketbook and the flesh of the everyday relationships with human beings in the world.

A revelation was given to me late in 1929, but it was sixteen years after that before I began to teach, and those sixteen years were spent in proving in daily experience that these principles are true.

I have had to be at death's door twice, and come back, so that I could learn and teach the principles of healing. I had to demonstrate that I could put a dollar in the collection plate every Sunday, even when I did not know where that dollar was coming from, but I knew that it was God's responsibility to see that I had it.

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### SHOWING FORTH THE PRESENCE OF GOD

When I pondered the subject of what God is and what I knew about God, no answer came. I began to think about man and my idea of what man is and what I am. It was a long walk, but during that walk I realized that God is the *I* of my being, the *I Am*, not my humanhood, not my personal mind or powers of understanding, but the *I Am* of me, the very *I* or spiritual Selfhood of me. God constitutes that; God is that. God is the very life, the very soul, the very consciousness of individual man. God is the mind of individual man. If that is true, then all the intelligence God has is the intelligence of man. All that the Father has is mine. All of the God-mind is my mind; all of the God-soul is my soul; all of the God-spirit is my spirit; all of the God-supply is my supply; all of the God-love is my love, because I and the Father are one, and all that the Father has is mine. It is that oneness that constitutes the infinity of individual being. . . That immediately changed the [financial] situation; that changed my understanding; that changed my life. Now came the realization that since this allness constitutes individual being, my good does not have to come to me from outside: it has to come from inside.

When I began to teach the class which later was incorporated in the book *Conscious Union With God*, the first words out of my mouth were, "My conscious oneness with God constitutes my oneness with all spiritual being and idea." I did not know that until that very minute. In that minute, I was given the principle that when I am consciously one with God, I am one with every person. I am one with supply; I am one with home; I am one with companionship; and I am one with health. . . So it has been that, by a willingness to teach when called upon, the lessons have been given to me, the words with which to convey the lesson, and in most cases I have been taught at the same moment the students were being taught.

By the time the four weeks of Bible study were up, there were thirty two people coming to the group, meeting twice a week instead of once a week. Within four weeks more, there were fifty people meeting, and we had to meet three times a week. Later we secured a larger place which seated fifty-five, and we met six times a week, every night of the week for sixty weeks. Every one of those nights, the Father gave me a Bible story which has been included in *Spiritual Interpretation of Scripture*. There was not a single week that I knew what that lesson would be until God gave it to me. That same method of procedure has continued with every class.

A week before we were to begin, I sat down in my office, talked to God as if He were sitting at the other side of my desk, and said, "Father. look; what do these people want of me? You know that I don't know the Bible. You know that there is very little in it that I have ever understood, a few passages perhaps, but that's all. What is it that they want? I know You sent them but what for? I don't know what to give them. Now what is going to happen Friday night when we meet? Please, please tell me." And I did a little begging and pleading. In all my writings I've said that you should not do that, but this sort of begging and pleading is a little different. This is when God and I get together in what seems like a very human way, and we talk just brother to brother, man to man.

As I read from the beginning of the life of Moses and through the Ten Commandments, all of a sudden something struck me as very strange. The Ten Commandments are not spiritual. How could any person tell a spiritual man not to steal, to honor his mother and father, or not to commit adultery? That is rather nonsensical, isn't it? You do not talk that way to spiritual people. There is nothing spiritual about this at all. Then it dawned on me, "The law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ."

Chapter: The True Demonstration  
Topic: *The Invisible Meat*

1951 Second Portland Series  
601 1:1

Now we come to one of my favorite inner teachings of the Master, in which he reveals, "I have meat to eat that ye know not of." In that one statement can be found the entire secret of the Master's ministry.

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## SPIRITUAL DISCERNMENT

Chapter: God Must Be an Experience, Not a Concept  
Topic: *Across The Desk/personal Or Impersonal*

1957 Chicago Open Class

I can remember clearly those practitioners and teachers who were faithful, loving, kind, generous in their work with me. I can remember the patience that some of them had to exercise with me because I was not an easy student. Knowing what I went through to achieve even a small measure, I have that same feeling every time I see a student anywhere trying to break through this mesmeric sense, this personal sense of self.

Chapter: Immortality Unveiled  
Topic: *Living The Life Of Withinness In Time Of Lack*

1962 Los Angeles Special Class  
486: 1:2

There was a time when every human door and every human avenue of supply were closed to me, and there I was. But believe me, there *I* was, also! It was in that period that the realization was given to me of this Presence, this "I and my Father are one," here where I stand. Even in that lack and limitation, there where I stood, I and the Father were one, and the realization of that broke the spell. . . It still was very rough, because conditions did not change in a day, but within a few days they began to change very positively, but so gradually, so minutely. Although gradual, it was a steady upward and onward going, but always without looking to man, always without asking, always with the ability to rest back inside in the realization, "'I and my Father are one,' the *I* of my being is the incarnate Christ, the son of God; and It is my meat, my wine, and my water."

Chapter: Peeling Off the Onion Skins  
Topic: *Beware Of A Messianic Complex*

1955 Chicago Reading Room  
710 1:2

Since this work began, I have never gone any place until I was sent for. I have never gone any place until I was invited, In most of the cases I have had many invitations before I even went once. I am not trying to save the world, I am not going anywhere to carry the gospel. It is not my function to save you; It is not my function to convert you to God; it is not my function to mind your business: It is my function to mind my business, to go away for forty days or four hundred days and live my communion with God and then if by chance you say, "Give me some of that meat, Give me some of that drink, that wine, that water. Give me some of that spiritual food," I respond to that call and share the light with you insofar as I have received it.

So on that Saturday, convinced within myself that I had made no progress and that I wasn't any further advanced in the spiritual awareness than I had been thirteen years before, on that day of all days enough light broke through so I could do healing work. And after thirteen years of study many human traits fell away from me in that one day. All that time, however, without my knowing it or being aware of it, onion skins had been falling away, but in that one day the realization came.

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## SPIRITUAL POWER OF TRUTH

Chapter: A Great Secret

Topic:

Those who were present when the first unfoldment came through my lips witnessed the fact that what came through my lips was not anything that I had known even five minutes before. It was something that came through and startled me as much as it did any of those who were listening and caught it. Be assured, I had to do a great deal of thinking and meditating after the Message came through in order to realize the astounding nature of what it was. . . That day, the Message that came through said, "*God neither punishes nor rewards.*"

Chapter: Before Abraham

Topic:

Please believe me. I have worked so many years in this Work. I have known from the beginning that we were dealing with a spiritual universe and that the evil in it wasn't real. However, I never knew why, nor did I know how it came into this state of being out of Eden until a revelation came to me. The revelation came in those passages where God said, "*Who told you, you were naked?*" Then I knew that something was wrong. The knowledge of good and evil, Adam and Eve thrown out of Eden: that gave me the whole secret. Eden represents our spiritual domain. Eden represents a state of harmony, or Heaven. Eden represents our immortality, our state of Divine Being.

Chapter: Christ Of Being

Topic:

Not in all my years in this work have I ever permitted anyone to discuss Truth with me. I state it and there it has to be. Take it or leave it; but do not discuss it with me, do not argue it with me. I am not interested. This is it—the way it has been revealed; and I can demonstrate it. But that is the end of it!

Chapter: My True Identity

Topic:

I had spent four hours on just one subject—the illusory nature of error—and had used about every example that I know to show that what is appearing as error has no existence, no substance, no law, no cause, no reality, and can't have effect. Then someone asked, "But how do you get rid of illusion?" Well, as a matter of fact, an illusion isn't a thing; it is an appearance. Once you know that it is an appearance, you *have* gotten rid of it; it is gone. It no longer exists as wetness on the road. It exists only as an appearance without substance.

Chapter: Sin: Its Illusory Nature

Topic:

I get to a place, once in a while, where I reach out and ask for help. But heavens! I don't want anyone that I ask for help to come back at me with any metaphysical statements. . . Now there is an exception to that. Sometimes a Truth reveals itself instantly when you are asked for help; and if your patient or student happens to have some understanding, you might pass that on to them as an unfoldment that has come to you. That is quite a different thing than just making up a statement in your head, or picking one out that you can remember, and throwing it at them. There isn't anything in your mind that is going to help anyone. However, if some impartation comes to you from the Spirit, then you can give it.

I had an appointment with this practitioner for dinner, and I called him at his office and said, "I will never make that appointment unless you can give me some help. My head is pounding at me and I have a lot more appointments ahead." He said, "All right." I hung up the receiver, and *that fast* there wasn't a sign or trace of the headache. . . So I met him for dinner and I said, "That was so wonderful and so sudden; I am sure something must have revealed itself to you. What was it? What was behind that headache?" [The practitioner said reluctantly], "I'll tell you exactly what came to me when you asked for help. I said to myself, 'What does he think I can do about a headache?'" You see, there was about as complete a nonresistance, or complete a statement of "I can of my own self do nothing" as possible. There was as complete an absence of I as you can possibly get, because it wasn't thought up; it was spontaneous. Do you see? Now, you may not believe it, but very serious diseases can be healed in the self-same way if we can attain that same state of consciousness, or if we are living in that same state of consciousness.

Chapter: The Power of Truth

Topic:

Before this first experience came to me, I knew all of my faults and I also knew how I would like to be without those faults, and I knew full well how I never succeeded in overcoming them. Then, when this experience came upon me, those faults disappeared of their own. Whatever the nature of this Christ was, they disappeared—the major ones, at least. I still have plenty of faults that my family could testify to, but at least they are not the major ones, and they are sufferable anyhow.

One day when I was First Reader In the Christian Science church, I got up on the platform with two handkerchiefs in my hand. However, I was healed during that service. When I came off, I was told, "Oh, how wonderful that was; how wonderful!" I said, "If there are two hundred of you out there seeing me this way and giving me treatments, it has to work! If you were not giving me treatments, what *were* you doing out there?" You reach a place where you no longer think of praying for yourself or doing meditation or spiritual work for yourself. It just never enters your mind. Why? What is the difference between knowing the Truth about you and knowing the Truth about me? It is the same truth, and we are the same Being, the same Selfhood. Knowing the Truth is all that is necessary, regardless of whether you are knowing it about the human race or about even the animal world or the bird world or the fish world. . . In the end, I am the one who is really going to get the most benefit from it, because that knowing of the Truth is elevating me in consciousness above this picture.

Chapter: The Realm of God

Topic:

I can remember sitting in the presence of one practitioner and within three months being healed of a disease that was supposed to have killed me within those three months. I can also remember sitting in meditation with another practitioner and being so completely lifted out of my old selfhood that I never again could smoke or drink or gamble or do any of the ordinary things that were part of a businessman's life. It was this experience that led right into this spiritual work.

Chapter: Universal Hypnotism

Topic:

I have told of my struggle having five practitioners help me to increase my business. With each practitioner, my business got worse until I didn't have any. Now that surely looked like a lack of demonstration. However, you see, it was my *perfect* demonstration, because only when I had no money left did I go into this work. I suppose if my business had prospered, this work would have been delayed, or even prevented, in this lifetime.

All of this sum total of evil is now floating around right in your room. Some of it has been brought in by nothing personal other than what we call the carnal mind. Some of it is in the room by virtue of radios or televisions that may be close by. You are not aware of it, because it's not plugged in, or audible; however, it's there and it's going through your room. . . you should know that all manner of theories and beliefs are just lurking in the air, and we know nothing about them. . . it's coming out of that same area of consciousness that may be likened to the activity of subliminal perception. It is something being whispered into your consciousness or subconscious; you know nothing about it to respond to it. That is the discovery I made that started all of this work, way far back in the early nineteen-thirties. I saw that there is no personal evil. I saw that evil is never personal and that it can be separated from any individual once they themselves have realized that the time has come.

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## THE ART OF SPIRITUAL HEALING

Chapter: Spiritual Healing: The Role of Treatment  
Topic: *Treatment Is A Realization Of Omnipresence*

1956

One year I averaged 135 calls a day.

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## THE CONTEMPLATIVE LIFE

Chapter: Contemplation develops the beholder  
Topic: *It Is I; Be Not Afraid*

1961 L

“It is I; be not afraid. . . My kingdom is not of this world. . . Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be accounted of?” These are the three scriptural passages that have been the foundation of my healing work ever since the early 1930’s. . . “Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostril. . .” Do not try to change man, improve him, or heal him, and certainly do not judge or condemn him: take no account of him. In other words, be still! . . . “My kingdom is not of this world.” Do not judge by the appearances of this world, because in *My* kingdom, harmony is.

Chapter: Daily preparation for spiritual living  
Topic: *Never Believe That You Know What To Pray For*

1961 L

Many times when [students or patients] ask if I have received anything for them, my answer is, “No, I have received nothing for you. I have merely meditated, and whatever is to be known or experienced must come to you from the Father. I do not enter the picture of your life except as a transparency, nothing more, nothing less.”

Chapter: Supply and secrecy  
Topic: *Across The Desk*

1961 L

I have suggested that those new to the message begin with *Living The Infinite Way*. . . *Practicing the Presence*. . . *The Art of Meditation*. . . *The Art of Spiritual Healing*. . . *The Infinite Way*. . . *Spiritual Interpretation of Scripture*.

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## THE FOUNDATION OF MYSTICISM

Chapter: living the healing principles  
Topic: *Know The Truth*

1959

Actually, at this stage in my work, I don't go that far because it's no longer necessary. I have been doing this for thirty years so that now when I behold an appearance of error, to me it is just evidence of malpractice. That's all it is. It's just a mental imposition touching my thought, I don't accept it, and that's the end of it in ordinary cases. But if there is no response—I'm speaking now of those who appeal to me for help—if that does not result in healing and they come back again for help, then I may have to sit down, remind myself of this, get quiet and wait for that "click," the inner assurance that God is on the field.

Prayer is something I am personally doing almost all of my waking hours and many of my sleeping hours, because I know how to live inside of me and maintain a contact of prayer. But it is a mode of prayer known only to the mystics.

I had the pleasure and privilege of being with a teacher who taught me how to leave this body and how to travel to any part of the globe I wanted to see. And for many years I enjoyed that experience, wandering out into this world practically every night—not that it proved anything from a spiritual standpoint. It merely proved that the mind is not encased in the body. To me, that was only a step leading to the realization that I am not in this body, I am not in this room, I do not occupy space, I cannot be confined to either time or space. I can transcend either at any time, spiritually, but only because I learned first that the mind is not confined to this shell.

I know as well as you do, there are too many Infinite Way books. There should be only one. One is enough. But in our humanhood we cannot stay with one book and take it sentence by sentence, principle by principle, until we've demonstrated it. So we have twenty-five books, and as you read the same thing over and over, the same idea in a different context helps you to assimilate it. But one book is enough, just as one Bible is enough. One book of John is enough to save the world, if everyone would take the book of John sentence by sentence, principle by principle.

There is no part of the Infinite Way message which is mine, that I have ever thought up, or conceived in any way. Every principle that is in our writings and in our work has been given to me from an infinite source, and it does not represent my opinion, my belief, or my concept, separate and apart from the fact that it is mine because it was given to me. In the same way, every passage of scripture that has been spiritually interpreted in our writings has been given to me. Those for which I have not received spiritual interpretation, I have never included in my writings and never will until the interpretation is given to me.

One Wednesday night in Chicago, we had a beautiful meditation in our class and the voice said to me: "Open the Bible to the Sermon on the Mount." I turned around and said, "It's no use. I don't know anything about it." It came back a second time and said: "Open to chapter five, Matthew, The Sermon on the Mount." I said, "It wouldn't do any good. I don't understand it." Again, the third time it came back, so then I said, "Well, maybe I'm going to be taught." I opened the Bible to chapter five in Matthew, and the revelation of the Sermon on the Mount was given to us, and if we can ever get through with our editing work, it will be in a book.  
[Thunder of Silence]

I've told students in previous classes what my life's ambition was as a youngster. It was the same for years and years and years. All I wanted was a hundred thousand dollars, and with it I was going to buy a four-hundred-dollar-a-month annuity, and then I was going to move to California and read all the books in the library. I don't mind telling you that three times in my business experience, I came close to having that hundred thousand dollars, and each time it took wings.

The Infinite Way is not a message that turns economic lack into economic abundance. Actually, its purpose isn't even to turn physical disease into physical health. The results seem to work out that way, but our work is to surrender the physical, the material sense of existence, for the realization and demonstration of the spiritual life. Therefore, any problem that comes to an Infinite Way student is not a problem to be overcome. It is an opportunity to work through that particular facet of material life, or the material sense of life, to the spiritual. I have been through the experience of being faced with lack and limitation, and my attitude was—and it's going to stay this way—that I will not attempt a material solution until I work out of it spiritually, until I attain the secret of spiritual supply.

My attitude at that time [of lack] was to let any problem go on as long as it wanted, until I met it through understanding the spiritual law of supply, and not only understanding the law but demonstrating it. And I did. I did. I stuck with it, even to the point of having no car fare at times and walking seven miles twice a day to get to my office. I wasn't ashamed of it and I didn't hide it, and I didn't feel it was a lack of demonstration or a disgrace. I feel, as I felt then, this couldn't happen if I knew the law of God. And if I don't know the law of God, there isn't any amount of money that's going to make me happy or satisfied, because the abundance may be just as fleeting as when I experienced it before. Actually, I received my answer on the last one of those days in which I found myself without car fare walking those seven miles. It was on that walk that the revelation finally came.

In 1921, in one of the largest hospitals in New York City, a death sentence was passed on me. I was told that I could not live longer than three months, that it was time to wind up my business because there was no help for me. Now just suppose there had been help. Just suppose some doctor could have cured me. Where would I be today? Heaven only knows! But with that verdict I had to turn to spiritual teachings, and within three months I was completely healed. And I've remained healed ever since.

When my first religious experience took place [1928], it brought with it the healing gift, and healings began immediately. . . Time passed, then in 1940 an inner revelation told me that I must learn about the impersonal Christ and about impersonal healing. In 1941 I began an automobile trip around the United States, going as far north as Banff and Lake Louise, then south to New Orleans and Florida, from the East Coast to the West Coast, traveling nineteen thousand miles. The most important revelation came in the early part of the trip when it was revealed to me that all forms of metaphysics which teach that error in individual thought is responsible for illness are erroneous.

Sitting at my desk one day here in Honolulu where I had the apartment on the Ala Wai, the voice said, "Go to New York, wait the first few days of December, and then go on to London." The voice was just that clear, yet there wasn't a reason in the world to go to London that I knew about. As far as I knew there were only twelve people over there who had copies of *The Infinite Way*—at least. That's all I had ever heard from—and you wouldn't go to London to call on twelve people who hadn't sent for you. But I went to London in obedience to that voice, sat down in the hotel room and said, "Well, you said to come and I'm here, but I have nothing to do!" The voice told me each step to take. By the time I left London, two of my books were in publication, lectures and a class had been arranged, and contact had been made with Mr. Hamblin.

In one of my spiritual experiences during those early days, the voice said, "My consciousness is your consciousness, and my consciousness is doing the work as you. Never seek a student, but never refuse a student who is sent to you—for they are being sent to you."

One day a woman in San Francisco came to me and said, "The students want copies of the lectures you are giving. Please give us permission to record them and print them." My answer was, "Oh, no, I'm not saying anything important enough for that. Nobody would want these lectures printed." "Oh, yes," she said, "the students do want to have these lectures." I eventually permitted her to record a lecture one evening just to see if it were true. Well, it was true, and that's how the *First, Second, and Third San Francisco Lecture* got into print and how *Metaphysical Notes, Consciousness Unfolding* and *The Master Speaks* got into print. Just by having been taken down on a recorder and then mimeographed.

The question that came to my mind early in the work was how do these teachings come through? How can they be brought through? How can they be taught? How can I convey this spiritual message, this guidance, this protection, this direction from within? The answer given to me was meditation. . . If the kingdom of God is to be contacted, it must be contacted within. It was for that reason I could stick with it night and day for eight months in the attempt to prove this was true. And I proved it. Then began instruction in meditation, which really came to fruition in the first San Francisco lecture. This was my first writing on the subject of meditation.

A treatment is something I give myself, first of all to enlighten myself about the truth of being and secondly, to keep calling to my conscious awareness the reminder of this truth forever and forever and forever. If I went one hour without the reminder, the very next hour I'd be trying to get God to do something for one of my friends. I'd be trying to influence God—sometimes I'd even be trying to tell God. And so, I have to remind myself: No! No! No! God is. God already knows. "It is God's good pleasure to give us the kingdom." God alone is. That is treatment, that is knowing the truth—and it is knowing the truth that sets you free from appearances.

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### THE INFINITE WAY LETTERS 1956

Chapter: God is The Soul of Man  
Topic: *Spiritual Preparation*

1956

God's Grace has enabled me to speak the Word in the United States, Canada, England, Scotland, Holland, Sweden, Germany, Switzerland, Africa. . . and India.

Chapter: Scriptural Principles  
Topic: *Across The Desk*

1956

Not for a single moment would I miss the deep valley experiences that have come into my life, for. . . my mountaintop experiences are proportionate to those valley depths.

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### THE INFINITE WAY LETTERS 1957

Chapter: June: The Secret of the Healing Principle  
Topic: *Living The Christian Life*

1955 Kailua Study Group  
113:2

During a visit to the castle [in Edinburgh in 1954] the buildings and grounds became illumined and transparent. It was a vision of reality—the world of form made of the substance of Spirit.

Chapter: March: Understanding the Body  
Topic: *Across The Desk*

1955 Kailua Study Group  
113:1

The principles [of The Infinite Way] were given me in meditation; the demand to teach came from God. I was not consciously aware even of having known all the passages of Scripture that came pouring out [during a closed class].

Chapter: November: Gratitude  
Topic: *Across The Desk*

1957

For sixteen [joyous] years, my life was centered in Christian Science.

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### THE INFINITE WAY LETTERS 1958

Chapter: January: Spiritual Unfoldment through the Study of The Infinite Way  
Topic: *Class Work*

1958

My lifework is dedicated to bringing those who come into The Infinite Way to that place of consciousness where they themselves receive divine impartations and are no longer dependent upon books, teachers, or even classes.

Chapter: May: The Object of Our Search  
Topic: *Travelogue*

Sometimes there are painful moments, which may last a day, a night, or even a week, during which a new Christ-idea is being conceived or delivered to me.

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### THE INFINITE WAY LETTERS 1959

Chapter: April: Spiritual Power in Human Affairs  
Topic: *The One Essential Is Contact With God*

1958 !

It took me thirteen years to attain [contact with God] while I can often help students attain it in one year.

Chapter: February: A Lesson to Sam  
Topic: *A Lesson To Sam*

1959

I have been healed of illnesses merely by asking God's forgiveness for my sins.

God is available the very minute that I stop talking and stop thinking and turn within in humility, acknowledging God's grace, God's power, God's Spirit within me, and then relax for just a minute or two and let that Spirit take over. That really is all there is to the whole Infinite Way.

Chapter: July: Spiritual Freedom  
Topic: *God Speaks Through Individual Consciousness*

1959

During one class the Christ became so evident that out of a room of 400 people, 200 witnessed the experience. . . The other 200. . . only wondered why I had stopped talking.

Chapter: June: Specific Truth for Treatment  
Topic: *Across The Desk*

1959 Halekou Special Class  
245:2

In spite of my experience on the spiritual path and my intention always to seek God and God alone, unconsciously my aim was to be free of pain and disease and lack, to be full of health and harmony and abundance.

Chapter: March: The Secret of the Resurrection  
Topic: All Good Is Embodied In The I of individual being

1958 London Open Class  
230:1

Never do I, and never should you, make a human move without first turning within. Waking in the morning, my very first act is to meditate and to continue that process of turning within, thirty, forty, and fifty times, during the day and night, because I of myself am nothing.

Chapter: September: The Impersonalization of Good and Evil  
Topic: *Across The Desk*

1958 London Advanced Class  
233:2

At every step of the way in my work I have received specific instructions, not only as to where to travel and when—and when not to travel, too—but instructions as to the nature of the message which was to be carried.

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## THE JOURNEY BACK TO THE FATHER'S HOUSE

Chapter: Letting the seed take root  
Topic: *Unfolding Awareness*

1961 Stockholm Closed Class 1:1  
425

Many deep truths have come through me in the years that these books have been written, and yet sometimes it is two, three, or four years later that I have awakened and felt I had just discovered those truths, and then went back and found they I were already in the books. Why? Because when they first came I through, they were beautiful truths to me, but they were really only seeds planted in consciousness. It takes time for them to take root inside and later to come forth as a full blossoming tree of life. We all have that experience.

Chapter: Spiritual Preparation for Peace  
Topic: *Spiritual Maturity*

1963-64 Christmas–new Year's Message  
536

I was thrust into the healing ministry within two years after my first experience, but I was not given the teaching ministry for sixteen more years. It is very slow in developing, very slow maturing. The reason is found in the understanding of the word maturity. . . Maturity has to do only with the ability to think objectively, to see understandingly, to throw off the conditioning that has come about through birth, race, or education

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## THE MYSTICAL I

Chapter: The Temple Not Made with Hands  
Topic: *Lifting Up The Son Of God*

1962 London Special Class  
496:2

In my true identity, I am the Christ, that perfected one that you are. But if I look at myself as I appear to be, I know how far short I fall. Regardless of where I am on the spiritual path, I am very, very far short of my Christhood, and this I know better than anyone else.

The further I go, the less use I have of all this good that has come to me because I am so busy with the work, and so I know that this has not been given to me to give me leisure – which has never come, but rather to make me a light that may illumine those still in darkness and those who are still seeking.

There is an "I" called Joel and there is an "I" called you. But neither you nor Joel has fully attained: Joel is likely to make mistakes; Joel might sometime or other get very angry; Joel at times enjoys a good meal. But this is not the *I* that is the spiritual teacher or revelator. This is the part of my selfhood which is still in personal sense, and it is the one of which Jesus spoke when he said, "I of mine own self do nothing."

First came the revelation of it, which I kept locked up secretly and sacredly within me until such time as I was showing it forth in my life. Then, without any advertising or any seeking, students began coming to me. How they found me is a mystery of God.

I fed it to them a little at a time, showing by precept, example, and demonstration that it was true, and finally after ten or eleven years so much of it was absorbed that I could completely remove the veil by saying, "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father." Those who heard did not go away and misinterpret the message because. . . they have seen that I have been revealing that every truth spoken about Jesus Christ. . . is the truth to be realized about every person.

When I was given this mission, the final words given me at my initiation were these: "Never seek a student. Share freely with those who come to you."

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## THE ONLY FREEDOM

Well do I remember an experience when I was called upon to rise above a very disagreeable experience concerning one of the students. The hurt was deep for the moment, and it was bad medicine to have to take. In my meditation when the word came to forgive, I answered, "Oh, Father, that's more than I can do. I just haven't risen that high yet. I cannot be that forgiving in this case. I would like to be. Don't think I wouldn't but I'd be a hypocrite if I were to say I have achieved it. But I will tell you what You had better do, Father. You take over and do the forgiving for me because I don't seem to have the ability." And the Father did. Immediately the weight was lifted off my shoulders, and the assurance came that God's forgiveness was right there where I was. That took all the responsibility away from me.

We must not accept any part of our understanding as final. We accept our understanding of it today, but we may put an entirely different interpretation upon it next year. . . It seems that I never go along more than six months without coming to the realization that I have to start all over again, that what I knew of truth before is no longer true or helpful, and now I have to begin all over and learn from the beginning. That is exactly what happens. I have very blank periods, usually not more than six months apart, in which I get to a point of frustration, during which I know that I am going nowhere and I am getting there very rapidly. The best thing to do in such a predicament is to turn to the Father and ask for fresh manna.

"Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be accounted of" and "My kingdom is not of this world." Those two [passages] are enough for me and have been enough on which to found the entire Infinite Way work and carry it around the globe. If there were no others, those two would suffice.

My first experience with meditation came as a result of a realization that meditation was the way of life for me. I also realized I knew nothing about meditation, So I tried to meditate. It took me eight months. I practiced never less than twenty times a day, anywhere from two to five or ten minutes at a time, never less than twenty times a day and for eight months. In all that time I had no response. Nothing at all seemed to be happening. It was just as if I had wasted two, three, five, six, or seven minutes, But I was determined to keep it up. . . . At the end of eight months I had my reward in the first experience of the tiniest flash—far less than a second—of something happening. I could not tell whether it was a flash of light I had seen or the flash of the Presence going by, but something happened in that second that gave me encouragement to go on. From there on it progressed slowly, very slowly. Probably once in a day or once in three or four days, something would happen to make me feel I was on the right track. That went on for a long time until gradually the time came whenever I sat down to meditate I could be assured that before I finished the meditation there would be a feeling of the Presence. If nothing else, there might be just a deep sigh, a release from whatever was bothering me, and all was well.

To some that *I* appears all light. Often people in audience tell me that they have seen light. I do not see It as a light myself very often, but I feel It almost like a cloud, a beautiful cloud in the sky that is right around me, and I can lean back on It and feel It. It is as real and tangible to me as if It were a steel suit of armor, only It is soft and gentle, but I know that bullets or bombs cannot penetrate it.

The absolute aspect of the Infinite Way and of prayer in the healing work is that this truth is so deeply ingrained in me that if you present a problem to me I may not have to go over all that ground specifically and declare the truth every time you call or every time there are a dozen calls. Now it may be necessary only to sit down, get still, and in a minute or two or three or five, that feeling of God's presence comes and the work is done. There are times. however, when I have to sit up all night to meet a case. There are times when I may have to work for days to pull a case through that seems to be slipping out for the simple reason that the only time we meet these so-called desperate cases is when we reach an elevation of consciousness that meets the need. Our work in the Infinite Way is not an attempt to be absolute. It is not an attempt to set ourselves up on some high cloud only to be knocked off some sweet day.

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## THE THUNDER OF SILENCE

Years and years and years ago, before ever The Infinite Way was dreamed of, I saw that the solution to all human problems rested in the ability not to fight back, not to fight error, but on the ability to rest in the one Power. Once we are able to do that, we are practicing the Sermon on the Mount and living the spiritual life, because then there is no more need to seek good health than to get rid of bad health; there is no more need to seek supply than to run away from lack: We stand still in divine Being, not in human being.

I was called to my own father's side when he lay in an oxygen tent and, according to the physicians in attendance, was on his deathbed. I stood there with no words of wisdom that could change this appearance into health; I stood there just as anyone would stand in front of his own father in such a situation—but with this difference: I knew that if God uttered His voice, the earth would melt. Standing there, watching my father breathing through that apparatus, the words came, "Man does not live by breath alone." In less than five minutes, he signaled for the nurse to take the instrument away, and two days later he was out of the hospital.