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## A PARENTHESIS IN ETERNITY

Chapter: Living The Mystical Life

Topic: *Beyond Time And Space*

As we become beholders and watch each hour unfold to see what God does with it, we overcome the egotistic belief that this is our world and that we are responsible for it. . . This is being a witness. A witness is not an active participant: a witness is one who bears witness, who sees and beholds. That is what we are: God's witnesses. At first this principle is difficult to practice.

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## BEYOND WORDS AND THOUGHTS

Chapter: His Rain Falls

Topic: *Recognizing The Invisible*

1963 Kailua Private Class

When you partake of any food that is set before you, do so in the conscious realization of the Source, so that you do not fall into the trap of believing that it is your money that buys that food for you, or your position. . . You must constantly know that there is an Invisible, and that it is this Invisible within you that produces your daily bread. This takes egotism away, and with it the pride of possession.

Chapter: Measuring Spiritual Progress

Topic: *Signs Of Spiritual Progress*

1963 Kailua Private Class

518:1 or 517:2

There is only one way to pray for your enemies, and that is to understand that God is individual being. The more you realize that, the fewer mistakes they can make, and the fewer sins they can commit. But the more you look upon them as human beings who are sinning and whom you in your generosity are going to forgive, the more egotistical you are, and the more you bind them.

Only in the degree that you can. . . live in the constant atmosphere of "Thank You, Father! You are my very being. You live my life," and keep yourself sufficiently clear so that you are always the transparency through which God's grace flows, is there no ego, no personal self, and no attempt at personal attainment.

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## CONSCIOUSNESS IN TRANSITION

Chapter: Opening Consciousness to Truth

Topic:

1948

Above all we want to give up our egotistic belief that we have personal powers as practitioners.

Chapter: Ordination

Topic:

1948

Friends, to overcome the world means to overcome or rise above all sense of desire; to be free of world attraction; to achieve being in the world but not of it to attain freedom from bondage to personal ego; to understand the spiritual world and thus gain freedom from the false sense of God's universe. To overcome this world means to rise above the human, finite, erroneous sense of this world, and see it as it is.

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## CONSCIOUSNESS TRANSFORMED

Chapter: Beyond Metaphysics—*I AM*

Topic:

1964

Eventually you must understand what the Master was revealing: "I and my Father are one, not two, and I am that one." Remember this: If I were to say that Joel is that one, I would be leaving you all out and as an egotist I would probably burn in front of you. No! I am God, and every I in this room or in a gambling house or in a brothel.

Chapter: Meditation: God fulfilling God

Topic:

1964

Deny thyself. This does not mean to deny that there is a "you." Just deny your own desire and your own way and let God have its way.

We are looking to consciousness to live our lives, not in a personal way but in an individual way, and show forth its qualities. You would be surprised how different you are from the mask you wanted the world to believe was you. . . If I know that whatever I am, I am because of my relationship to God, that I am heir of God to all of its character and qualities, then I am not building up my personal ego but I am deflating it.

If I am in meditation and a truth unfolds in my consciousness, I could not possibly be so egotistical as to believe that it was given to *me*. It was given to human consciousness through me.

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## CONSCIOUSNESS UNFOLDING

In looking at people as they appear to be, we are dealing with a selfish sense of self, an egotistic sense of self, which is always saying, "I need this, and you have that."

That same consciousness of truth can go on and write hundreds, thousands of books, if egotism does not enter in to make the writer think that he is doing it of himself.

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## LIVING BY GRACE

The ministry of Truth tempts many to enter the path to gratify their ego in being known as a practitioner or teacher or lecturer or leader or for some other desire for personal gratification. Be sure you have received the signal within, which is your passport on the journey. The greatest temptation above all others is having one's own concept of Truth. Complete discipleship comes only when all sense of personal knowledge of Truth disappears.

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## SPIRITUAL POWER OF TRUTH

The religious literature of the world is in agreement that the only devil there is, is ourselves. By "ourselves" I mean my Joel self, your Bill self, your Mary self. It is that part of you or me which insists on being catered to, that part of us which can have hurt feelings or hurt bodies, that part of us which can have fears one day and joys another day.

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## THE ART OF MEDITATION

There is that in human nature which does not wish to be destroyed, and it knows that the one Power that can annihilate human wickedness, arrogance, and egotism is the presence and the power of the Christ realized. Any temptation that a human being has ever had is multiplied many times as soon as he obtains even a degree of spiritual illumination. As he goes on to greater illumination, however, these temptations fall away one by one until only one temptation remains—egotism, the temptation to believe that "I" of my own self can do something or be something. That, too, must finally yield to the risen Christ.

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## THE INFINITE WAY LETTERS 1956

Give up the sense of personal possession as indicated by the words I, me, mine.

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### THE INFINITE WAY LETTERS 1959

It is a form of egotism to believe that you or I have the power to benefit anyone of ourselves or by our understanding of what is in books.

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### THE THUNDER OF SILENCE

Only by abiding in the inner sanctuary can the return to Father's house be accomplished, because in mediation the ego or personal sense of "I" —that Adam who lives by the sweat of his brow—is still. It is not claiming power, understanding, or wisdom. On the contrary, it is taking an attitude of humility, as if to say, "I am insufficient, incomplete, inharmonious; and so now I turn to the Source of my being, to That which is greater than I." By our stillness, we indicate our humility.

Our purpose is to be the transparency through which the Light—not we—performs Its mighty works to be the instrument through which the Divine can manifest and express Itself on earth as It does in heaven. We are never the doer; we are never the actor: We are always the vacuum through which Spirit flows. Let us never for a moment believe that by our spiritual endowments we will ever attain personal or spiritual power. There is no room in spiritual living for egotism or for the exercise of personal power. God does not give His power to another. God does give His glory to another. The power, the glory, and the dominion always remain in God; and we are but instruments, humble servants or transparencies, through which that Light may shine.