

## **FUNDAMENTALS OF DIVINE SCIENCE**

### **LESSON VI**

#### **THE OMNIPRESENCE OF GOD**

In order that we may understand more easily, we have been dividing our discussion of God into God and man, absolute and relative, universal and individual, invisible and visible, etc. We should remember, however, that it is only in our own mental concept that such a division can be made. In Truth, God is one and cannot be divided. All that God is is inherent in His creation and cannot be separated from it.

#### **ONE OMNIPRESENT LIFE**

Our lesson on the inherencies revealed that there is one omnipresent Life in the universe, expressing through all Its myriad and diverse forms. For purposes of identification, we may talk of the animal life, insect life, or vegetable life. We may refer to the life of a tiger or a bird. We may personalize it by speaking of John Smith's life. These are only helpful ways of identifying *in thought* the various expressions of God Life, and can never divide Life itself.

#### **GOD IDEA**

The life of a rose or of a tree is the Life of God expressing. It is first of all a rose idea or a tree idea in Divine Mind. The life of a man or a woman is also the Life of God expressing. Our life inheres in the Christ Idea, the primary idea of Divine Mind. The life of you and me is the God Idea coming forth into visible expression.

We cannot divide God and man (in the generic sense). God is universal Being individualizing *as* visible man. We emphasize God *as* man, not God in man. God in man implies separate qualities. Man is an Idea in the Mind of God and can have no separate existence apart from Divine Mind.

#### **MIND IN ACTION**

Divine Mind knows Its own Idea before and after expression. God is conscious of you as His perfect child; He knows you as a channel for His nature. God knows you as His love, wisdom, knowledge, understanding, power, life, and joy *in action*. God knows you as an eternal soul made up entirely of these inherencies. You could not be otherwise, since you are an individualized center for the expression of what God is.

#### **YOUR TRUE SELF-IMAGE**

What God knows about you is the truth of you. God's idea of you is your changeless and perfect Self-Image, which is eternal. Your human concept of yourself changes as you unfold your consciousness. You are here for the purpose of becoming aware of what God knows about you. You are to realize it completely, and then let it flow out in action. God needs you as much as you need Him. Your innate goal, which God has implanted within you, is to let Him act *as* you.

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Your thought about yourself may change from day to day, or even moment by moment. Yet, as already stated, God's idea of you is eternal and changeless. When difficult experiences threaten to engulf you, train yourself to stop and say, "What does God know about me at this moment?" It will bring you back to your real Self whose good is always at hand. You will no longer view yourself in terms of your problems. You will view your problems in terms of your Christ Self, with Its unlimited resources to solve and to heal.

Since God's idea of you is true, your erroneous thoughts and beliefs about yourself must be false. You overcome these false beliefs by first recognizing them, and then letting them go and reaffirming the truth you know about yourself.

Your erroneous beliefs cannot change what you really are. What you are belongs to the realm of Spirit. However, your beliefs do determine what you experience humanly. Whatever comes to us in terms of experience, we have attracted to ourselves through our own thoughts and actions. Fortunately for us, though, no amount of wrong thinking can change or distort God's Idea in us.

### PRACTICING THE PRESENCE

Once you begin to see that you are an expression of the One Mind, and that you make your conscious contact with this Mind through your own thoughts, you will realize the importance of keeping your thinking in accord with spiritual Truth. This is thinking together with God. This is letting God Mind think *as* you.

God and God in action is all there really is. Your part is to bring your individual mentality into harmony with God Mind, present within you as the Christ Mind. "We have the mind of Christ." (I Corinthians 2:16) When you allow the Christ Mind to function through you, you will see God everywhere present at all times regardless of outer appearances.

You should use every helpful device possible to lift your thoughts to this level of mind. You have already been using the affirmations and treatments given in these lessons. There are many other ways, also, which help to release that consciousness in you which Jesus called "the pearl of great price."

At times, you may find it helpful in meditation to recall when you felt a deep mystical oneness with nature. Many people have had moments of high consciousness in the mountains, by the seashore, in the woods, or even in their back yard in the summer twilight. This feeling of unity with nature is in reality the beginning of a realization of oneness with God.

### BEAUTY IS SPIRITUAL

Pure beauty in any form is the result of Divine Love in manifestation. You have probably had many experiences of uplifted consciousness through the beauty and harmony of music, a poem that you were reading, or a lovely painting you saw. Do not hesitate to recall these moments when you were uplifted.

A Divine Scientist does not regard the physical or intellectual world as unspiritual, but rather sees it as a visible expression of the One. We are as keenly conscious of the beauties of our earth

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as were the ancient Greeks. We also appreciate the humanities with their treasures of music, art, literature, etc. We are more conscious of all these wonderful things than before, for now we look through form to Spirit. Our appreciation is twofold; we see both the outer beauty and the inner spirit.

### YOUR ETERNAL COMPANION

Perhaps you may find it helpful to think of the Christ Self within you as a companion. You may wish to personalize It as an entity separate from the everyday self that you are accustomed to think of as you. But as you contemplate the truth of yourself more and more, you will feel a deeper union with this Christ Self. Your sense of separation will lessen. Bit by bit, your concept of the little human “self” will fall away.

Giving up your personal self does not mean the kind of self-denial that leads to a dull and apathetic life. We do not lose our individuality when we become consciously one with God; we progressively awaken to it. Jesus of Nazareth was the most supremely individualistic man who ever lived. Your true individuality is the unique expression of the God Idea within you, which you were created to show forth.

### SOME HELPFUL DEFINITIONS

**Spirit:** Substance of God.

**Life:** Activity of God.

**Mind:** Intelligence of God.

**Power:** Strength of God.

**Love:** Nature of God.

**Law:** Rule of action of God.

**Joy:** Conscious unity with God.

### ASSIGNMENT FOR LESSON VI

Review Chapters 4 and 5 in *Divine Science: Its Principle and Practice*. Memorize the Statement of Being on p. 46. Know this so well that you can repeat it to yourself at any time and in any place.

**Affirmation:** I AM ONE WITH GOD’S GOOD. MY LIFE IS FILLED WITH HARMONY AND PEACE.

**Bible Quotation:** “What is born of the Spirit is spirit.” (John 3:6)

#### Questions:

1. Is God in the visible as well as in the invisible?

2. Who is the one Thinker in the universe?
3. Where does every visible thing have its source?
4. What does it mean to be “a thought in God-Mind”?
5. Why does a Divine Scientist have such a deep appreciation of the beautiful things in life?