

FUNDAMENTALS OF DIVINE SCIENCE

LESSON XVI

THE HARMONY OF OUR UNIVERSE

It is essential to remember that we live in a universe of mind. As modern physics has demonstrated, the very fact of observation changes the thing that is observed. Werner Heisenberg noted: "The scientific method of analyzing, explaining and classifying has become conscious of its limitations, which arise out of the fact that by its intervention science alters and refashions the object of its investigation. In other words, method and object can no longer be separated. The scientific worldview has ceased to be a scientific view in the true sense of the word."

Everything in our outer environment, no matter how solid it may appear to be, responds to our thoughts. The healing of conditions and situations, then, rests on the same basis as the healing of our bodies. When we speak of healing, we mean to bring into harmony all that is discordant in our lives.

HARMONY

We noted in Lesson IV that Spirit, or Substance, is the very stuff of God and is pure, whole, and perfect, regardless of its appearance. A deep consciousness of this intelligent, living Spirit or Substance, coming forth as everyone and everything, will help us to redeem our thought, and bring us into harmony with the universe. Thus we can see peace where confusion seems to reign in the world. We can bring order out of chaos around us. We can bring light into darkness of human experience.

The Omnipresence of God includes you, your family and home, your neighbors and friends, your business and co-workers, your food and clothing, and all your possessions. God is not only within you; He is also around you. Why, then, should you experience inharmony in any way?

The 113th Saying of the Gospel of Thomas reads:

His disciples said to him, "When will the kingdom come?"

Jesus said, "It will not come by waiting for it. It will not be a matter of saying 'here it is' or 'there it is.' Rather, the kingdom of the Father is spread out upon the earth, and men do not see it."

THE CHOICE IS YOURS

What determines the kind or quality of response that you get back from the universe? It depends upon what you are sending forth, because everything answers you in kind. A good example of this is your television set. The response that you see on your screen is determined by the channel you have selected. You have tuned your set to a certain wave length, and this is the program you will receive.

In a similar way, you choose the level of response that you get back from the world. If you wish to meet others on the level of Spirit, the response will be in kind. If you choose to meet others on

the human level, they will answer from their personal degree of unfoldment, which may be much or little. Even inanimate objects respond to your praise or blame. The choice is yours.

HEAVEN

People have always intuitively felt that there is a realm of perfection somewhere. They have often located it afar, both in place and time. Jesus however, proclaimed that this perfect realm, the *Kingdom of God* or *Kingdom of Heaven*, is at hand and within. It is not a place, but a state of consciousness.

To be in the Kingdom of God, i.e., in Heaven, is to be aware of the Presence of God. It is to realize that “The Father and I are one.” (John 10:30) The Kingdom of Heaven is the Kingdom of Harmony, and we all want to enter into its joys. But it does not come *to* us; it can only come *through* us. No one can give it to us, nor can anyone take it from us. We are in the Kingdom when we have realized our oneness with God.

We should not think of Heaven as “merely” a state of consciousness. We know that whatever is realized in consciousness takes form and is manifested in the world. We may say that Heaven comes first in consciousness, and then in expression. In this way, we bring about a state of Heaven on earth.

HOW TO LIVE HARMONIOUSLY WITH OTHERS

In reality, deep within yourself, you do love your neighbor as yourself, because you know that each person is a part of the great Self. If you quarrel with your neighbor, if you hold a resentful or unfriendly attitude toward him for any reason, it is because you are not letting that inner sense of unity flow into expression. Love is conscious unity; it fills your Christ Mind at all times, but you have not opened your conscious and subconscious levels to receive it.

What should you do when you find yourself reacting negatively to another? You do not want to repress these feelings, only to have them surface in an unguarded moment. You want to transmute them by prayer and spiritual treatment.

First, you must give up any attitude of fault-finding or criticism toward this person. Love has been well defined as “looking for the good.” It is useless to try to will a sense of love toward someone if your attention is centered on his seeming lack of good. We are all on the path of spiritual unfoldment; to condemn others because they are not yet demonstrating perfection is to condemn ourselves.

In order to heal an inharmonious relationship, turn in prayer with a sincere desire to be healed. Treat for a realization that you are one in Spirit. Become aware of the love that is already within each of you, awaiting your recognition. Affirm persistently the spiritual truth that you know about each of you as children of God. Forgive any wrong that this one may have done to you knowingly or unknowingly. Then release him (or her) to the Father.

Whenever you see this person, affirm silently your love for him; send him your blessing. Look for all the good that he is expressing at this very moment, and acknowledge it to him and to

others. Even though at first you may not feel loving toward him, persist in knowing the Truth, and the day will come when you feel it and so will he.

Many an incident of lack of harmony between persons has been healed in this simple way. You unfold through love; you grow by looking for the good; you unfold by seeing the Christ in all. It is wonderful to know that we cannot call forth the Christ in another without bringing it forth in some degree within ourselves.

Of course, we must not assume that others lack the freedom of will that we ourselves possess. Sometimes people act out their own misperceptions, neuroses or psychoses, regardless of what we may do. Nevertheless, we share the responsibility for our neighbor's attitude toward us. We must be able to control our temper, and also avoid hostile words and acts which might arouse anger in another. If you do and say irritating things, you must accept part of the blame if that one reacts with antagonism. Learn to be patient, for God is supremely patient with you.

HOW TO GET ALONG IN YOUR WORK

Our established attitude toward work is extremely important in keeping harmony at home and in our business environment. Work is a blessing when rightly understood. When we work in a spirit of love, putting God in charge to work through us, we can perform our tasks with ease, and in cooperation with those around us.

Whatever ministers to the comfort, peace, and happiness of your home is healing work. Whatever fills a need, or brings forth a helpful product, is healing work. Thus, the seemingly small, drab, everyday tasks, even the "drudgery", is God's work. There is no chore so trivial that it does not belong in the great and beautiful pattern of Omnipresence. When you reach this realization, you can perform tasks that you had once thought unpleasant with joy and enthusiasm. You will be amazed at the change in your attitude, and in the attitude of those around you.

HELPS IN HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS

In addition to the basic ones given by Jesus, we have a set of beatitudes which you will find helpful in human relationships:

Blessed are the truly kind.
Blessed are those who do not find fault.
Blessed are those who do not lose their inward peace.
Blessed are the cheerful.
Blessed are those unaffected by wealth.
Blessed are the patient.
Blessed are the soft-spoken.
Blessed are the happiness makers.

ASSIGNMENT FOR LESSON XVI

Study Chapter 10 of *Divine Science: Its Principle and Practice*.

Affirmation: DIVINE LOVE, THROUGH ME, FLOWS OUT TO BLESS AND HARMONIZE MY WORLD.

Bible Quotation: Read and meditate upon the Hymn to Love in I Corinthians 13. We recommend that you use a modern version, such as the New RSV or the Moffatt Translation. The King James Version was translated into Elizabethan English; at the time, the word “charity” was correct as a translation of Greek “agape.” However, the word “charity” has greatly changed its meaning since then, so that “love” is currently the best translation.

Questions:

1. What does the Omnipresence of God include?
2. What determines the kind of response that you get back from the universe?
3. Explain what is meant by “Heaven.”
4. What is your responsibility in healing an inharmonious relationship between yourself and another?
5. How can we promote harmony (Heaven) in our homes and business environment?
6. Often we wish a loved one to accept the Truth we have come to understand, but meet with resistance. What is the wise procedure on our part?