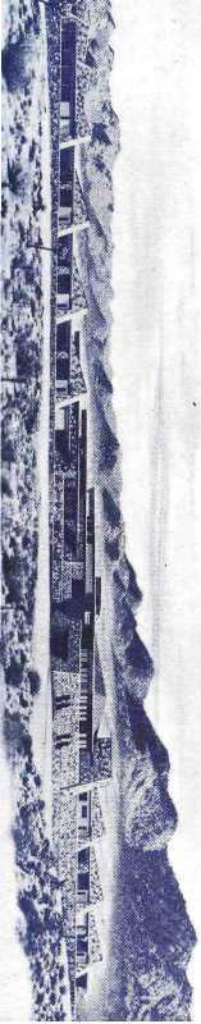

Top: Our Church in Los Angeles, Calif. Below: Caravansary of Joy at Our New City.

LIGHTING HUMAN LAMPS

LIBRARY OF VICTORIOUS LIVING

VOLUME 4

Evolution Series No. 4

The Vegetable Kingdom

Eternal Symbol of Human Evolution

By

Rev. Edwin J. Dingle

Ding Le Mei

(Founder of the Science of Mentalphysics)

LIBRARY OF VICTORIOUS LIVING

The purpose of the 50 little volumes that will make up the "Library of Victorious Living" is to present to you who read a perfectly simple and ultimate plan for living a highly successful life from every point of view. Each volume is *on* invitation to learn—as practically as you may learn anything whatever if you put your effort into it—how to discover your own true nature and your own illimitable powers.

Throughout your life, most likely, with much running to and fro, you may have been (as I was) eagerly seeking in books and teaching, in religion and philosophy, for Truth, for Happiness, for Freedom, for God —or for you knew not what. You may today be weary, fatigued, discouraged, almost destitute of hope. Many times you may have glimpsed the Truth, and then it disappeared, and left you still hungering. Hungry, you sought in vain the Bread of Life—thirsty, you sought but could not find The Stream. Your search, my friend, is now at an end, if you have eyes to see and ears to hear.

No matter what your religious beliefs—indeed, no matter what!—that which you have always sought IS WITHIN YOU. This is Life's most sacred secret. From a careful study of these little books, it is given to me to know, you will gain immeasurable spiritual benefit. As you read, it will be to your Higher Self that you will listen.

If you are ready, as you read and study you will hear the voice of your Higher Self speaking forth from your own heart the secret of Health and Happiness, Success and Abundance, Freedom and that Peace that passes knowledge. Be patient. Be zealous. Learn to surrender into the Joy of your own LORD within you.

THE AUTHOR.

The Science of Mentalphysics was founded in 1927

THIS IS THE FOURTH OF THE "FIFTY LITTLE BOOKS"

Eternal Symbol of Human Evolution

By Edwin John Dingle
Founder of the Science of Mentalphysics

INTRODUCTION

If you will turn back to the second page of the cover of this little book, you will find the order of the Seven Kingdoms of which, you may say, the Universe is constituted. They are the seven ascending steps in the whole of God's expression in the Macrocosm. They are also symbolical of God's Nature embodied in Man (the Microcosm). You will notice that each kingdom evolves into the next higher kingdom, all being subject to and governed and ordered by the One Eternal Principle, the LAW, of Life.

PART I: LESSON FROM THE VEGETABLE KINGDOM, THE FIRST SACRIFICE

So far in these Little Books, I have sketched the nature, purpose, and evolutionary unfoldment of

THE ETHEREAL.....Corresponding to "Right
(The Kingdom of Silence) Understanding" in Man.

THE SIDEREAL ..... Corresponding to "Right
(The Kingdom of Light and Resolution" in Man.
Wisdom)

THE MINERAL ..... Corresponding to "Right
(The Womb of Nature) Speech" in Man.

and in the present volume we shall interpret the VEGETABLE KINGDOM, the First Sacrifice. Studying all the Kingdoms (the Macrocosm), you see how, beginning with the Ethereal (stillness, silence, non-action), each following kingdom leads into higher expression and consciousness; just as Man's evolution (in the Microcosm) leads him perpetually into higher and higher consciousness, until he reaches the CELESTIAL KINGDOM . . . Heaven, the Abode of the Blessed, God's center of Wisdom . . . the Consciousness of God, the Christ Consciousness.

(a) The First Sacrifice—What Is Its Meaning?

The VEGETABLE Kingdom, in the teaching of the Science of Mentalphysics, is the animating kingdom, and in all high occult circles is known as the "first sacrifice." The very word "sacrifice" has a meaning infinitely more beautiful than is generally accepted. One may define the word as follows:

> **Sacrifice—**From the Latin "sacrificium," a rendering sacred. From "sacer," sacred; and "facere," to make. The offering of anything to God or to a deity or divinity; a consecratory rite; that which religiously is presented in the way of thanksgiving, atonement or conciliation. An oblation, an offering, atonement, expiation, surrender, propitiation. But the foundational meaning of "sacrifice" is to **make sacred.**

That is the thought I would like you to hold as we think together—"Sacrifice" **to make sacred.** It may be a new idea, but it is a true idea.

The "first sacrifice" is, of course, Man's own regeneration, his crucifixion that leads to his resurrection. This subject is essentially a deep one. But if by contemplating it we learn the awakening of Man, his animation, his quickening into spiritual life, the reverencing and **making sacred** of every living thing, and the sacrifice by ourselves on behalf of all Life forms, we shall be enriched. You know that only as you give up something, even to giving up your life for the greater good, can all that is yours come unto you. And in the Vegetable Kingdom, the symbol exists to teach Man the wisdom of "living for others" and "sacrificing for others" **(making sacred)** which every philosopher who ever lived has emphasized.

(b) Man's Evolving Ideas of Sacrifice

If you care to investigate sacrifice among ancient peoples there is an abundance of literature you may consult; but I fancy that you intuitionally understand the symbology. In the Encyclopedia Britannica sacrifice is described as "a religious act, which, by the consecration of a victim, modifies the moral state of the sacrificer or of certain material

objects which he has in view"—in other words, it either confers sanctity or removes it and its analogue, impurity. Then it goes on to say that "it is a procedure whereby communication is established between the sacred and profane spheres by a victim, that is to say, by an object destroyed in the course of the ceremony." Though our knowledge of primitive forms of sacrifice is meager, and we cannot determine its origin or origins, due to the fact that no ritual has necessarily survived unchanged in form and meaning, a perusal of the many varying forms of sacrifice proves clearly how Man's understanding of the fundamental Truth of Life has evolved over the centuries. It is a far cry from the gross superstition of the sacrifice to the gods of animals and human beings to the transcendental beauty of the symbology of the Vegetable Kingdom, as the universal sacrifice for the benefit of all forms of animal and human life. Even in the American continent, sacrifice was common among the Indians, and the writer from whom I have quoted says that, even in Mexico, "human sacrifices were very common." The victims "were often feted for a whole year and treated as divine; the Heart was an offering to the god, the body was eaten by the priests and nobles, and the head was preserved with those of previous victims"—and the number reached, by lowest estimate, "20,000 annually."

(c) Man's Regeneration Through Sacrifice

Man has before him, in the seven kingdoms, in the unfolding plan of what seems to be the **outer** Universe, the example of how he finally must enter upon his own regeneration, how he must finally, through the unchanging evolutionary principle of Life, come into his own true divinity.

To the uninitiated mind it is simply ridiculous to say that there is a close association between, we will say, a carrot or a piece of garlic and you and me; but the wise man knows that there is literally no difference at all in the basic meaning—indeed, substance—of Life, for the simple reason that the Life that causes the carrot and the garlic to become what they are causes you and me to become what we are—the Life is the One Life of All.

Moreover, to the uninitiated mind, it would be equally ridiculous to believe that the carrot or the garlic in their essential life and destiny, can teach you a lesson as to your own conduct and destiny. Yet this is the living truth.

As the **Vegetable** Kingdom in God's Universe is symbolic of sacrifice (it is clear to see that all vegetable life **sacrifices itself** to all higher animal life), so it teaches Man that he cannot progress or win in the race of his life without sacrifice . . . without the **making sacred** of all Life forms and Life action that combine with what he considers to be his own* life. No man can win Life's race within himself without sacrifice. Who lives for humanity must be content to lose himself, and, as Shakespeare said, "upon such sacrifices the gods themselves throw incense." "Teach self-denial," wrote Sir Walter Scott in one of his philosophical novels, "and make its practice pleasurable, and

you create for the world a destiny more sublime than ever issued from the brain of the wildest dreamer."

And you must agree with him. All profound affection, as a matter of fact, admits a sacrifice—even good manners, as I believe Emerson said, are made up of petty sacrifices—the **making sacred** and reverencing of all things.

Can even the worst among us . . . he who feels that he is "up against" Life . . . he who feels that Life is fighting him . . . even he, if there be such a person, can **imagine a world in which every man and woman "made sacred" every person and everything that touched his life?** What a picture! This is what the Vegetable Kingdom teaches us, if we have eyes to see and ears to hear.

When living becomes holy, then men will not only not desecrate what is sacred, but will consecrate and make sacred whatever is secular—all things great and small in business and commerce and industry, in governments, trade unions and all else—living always in the recognition of a present and presiding deity and divinity in all things. Then will Heaven truly have come down and earth be transmuted into Heaven.

(d) Vegetable Kingdom Grandest Chemical Laboratory

This, I say, is the lesson of the **Vegetable Kingdom,** for from the meanest blade of grass supplying a banquet to a myriad of invisible insects to the stateliest grove of redwoods which shelter Man from the midday sun and supply him with his mansions on the earth, or the grandest foods

which come free to Man and beast from the mystic vaults of the earth's energy, we read the story of never-ceasing sacrifice. And in it all we find God's unspeakably holy and irrevocable order. In its sacrifice the **Vegetable** Kingdom and all that is in it are unceasingly occupied in preparing in most mysterious ways nourishment for the Animal and Human Kingdoms. The foodstuffs required by the Animal Kingdom are composed of elaborate compounds of carbon, oxygen, hydrogen and nitrogen, elements that the plant procures from the air, the soil and water—every molecule of the self-propelling earth having within itself the WISDOM which knows how and what to do.

The Vegetable Kingdom is the world's grandest transformer of energy, the grandest chemical laboratory in the world—if we except Man, all the triumphs of whose modern chemistry have their symbolic origin in the Vegetable Kingdom.

I am sure you will agree with me that Man should bow his head in shame for his ignorance of the earth which is his home. We pay almost no attention whatever to the fascinating mysteries of the Vegetable Kingdom. Yes, we may like flowers . . . to look at them, to idly pluck them off from their original root, and see them die in the vases in our living rooms. Our liking may go to that degree. We like the Vegetable Kingdom because we like flowers, and like to destroy them and kill them. But think Year by year the wheat bears its golden grain, the trees their fruits, the vine its grapes, and in a divine medley of infinite profusion Man and beast gather their food from the eter-

rial larder, but to the average man this mystery of God is callously passed by. In no other one of the kingdoms does Life assert itself as in the Vegetable Kingdom. An incessant urge and struggle everywhere—in ice-bound Alaska as in tropical jungles, at the bottom of seas and lakes, on the frozen banks of glaciers, in hot springs and dark caverns, under blistering suns, wherever there is a pinch of earth the inhabitants of the **Vegetable Kingdom** struggle into hundreds of thousands of different and profoundly interesting forms.

And for what purpose? Always for self-sacrifice to higher Life forms. And in what number? In botany there are, I believe, no less than 200,000 definite species in the Vegetable Kingdom.

(e) Regeneration Alone Through Sacrifice

I like to feel that the self-sacrifice of the Vegetable Kingdom, so evident to whomsoever has eyes to see, is the correct lesson that all thinking people should learn in our relation to our fellow man. Through sacrifice alone—"making all sacred"—can we reach regeneration. To the undeveloped man it is, of course, useless to speak of regeneration. No man, however, can attain spiritual self-knowledge without being spiritual, because it is not intellectual man that knows the Spirit, but Divine Spirit that attains self-knowledge in Man . . . **"Unless ye become as little children ye cannot enter the kingdom of heaven."**

"Except a man is born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God; for that which is born of the flesh is flesh and that which is born of the Spirit is Spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, 'Ye must be born again.' "*

Now, then, that which is born of the Spirit is sacrifice, the reverencing and the "making sacred" of all that Life Itself embodies—and that, of course, is All.

(f) Let Us "Make Sacred" All Things

We have a very wonderful subject here; that is, if we are not too lazy to think. Lots of people are too lazy to think. Have you ever noticed that? They simply cannot keep still for even half a minute to think, and the consequence is, though they do not recognize it, they are pushed around willy-nilly from pillar to post and they never learn much. But have you also noticed that that class of person usually thinks he knows a great deal? **Let us be humble!** If we can learn from this little book just one idea and get it **rooted** in our minds . . . just as if you would plant a seed in the Vegetable Kingdom and let it rest and find that it will root itself—we shall be blessed. If we can get just that one idea rooted in our minds, that the holiest, highest, most glorious thing that we can ever attain to is the **making sacred** of everything that touches us and that we touch, we shall find great enlightenment.

If I had the time I would write a book upon that one idea . . . **the "making sacred" of everything in Life.** Now think! You may be in your own business. You may be in a

***St. John 3, 5-7**

job. You may have your home to look after. You may be a student. You may be doing all sorts and conditions of things. We all seem to be different. We are basically, of course, **The One and The Same Thing.** Imagine, then, in your own life—no matter where you are or what you are doing—if everybody with whom you spoke, everybody with whom you work, everybody's action of life harmoniously contacted and affected your action of life, what peace would be established on this earth! If all men were in all that they do and say and think and feel constantly in the consciousness of **making everything sacred** . . . what a world this would be!

(g) Grandeur and Beauty of the Earth

Have you ever tried to lay cement? As an amateur you lay it, and then you take the trowel, and go over it and over it, and the more you go over it the more uneven it seems to get? Have you ever been like that? That, it seems to me, is a simple and crude illustration of how most people live. They recognize Life to be a grand and beautiful state or quality. Surely there is not a man alive who does not think of the grandeur and beauty and all the wonders and mysteries and miracles of the very earth which is his home. According to his knowledge he stands in reverence, surely, before the WISDOM that is contained in every living thing.

But I wonder if you, my dear reader, are merely reading this and considering that it is rather pretty philosophy; or whether you feel that you have discovered a great universal secret whose lesson may be of intense usefulness to you in learning the Secret of Victorious Living. I would not criticize you if your mind and heart do **not** see this eternal symbol in the Vegetable Kingdom within yourself and your own life. On the other hand, I shall greatly rejoice with you if, in one supreme flash of intuition, it is borne triumphantly into your consciousness that the Wisdom of all that you see around you actually exists in you. Whether you see it or not, however, it is the TRUTH; and anyone may learn this secret, for the Truth is written in your heart.

(h) Scientific Knowledge Not the Finality

I remember so well how difficult it was for me to accept this Truth. When, at the turn of this century, I found my way to Tibet, unconsciously seeking a solution to all my own life's problems, aching to find the solution to the riddle of my universe, I had but little knowledge of TRUTH, though I thought I was scientifically educated. But please understand me. Scientific knowledge is **not an evil in itself.** The fault lies with **ourselves alone.** We become blown up with **conceit** in this new-found information, think we know it all, we rely upon material facts **alone** for our guidance, when such knowledge is incomplete, and is not likely to be complete for another ten thousand years.

This conceit, this reliance upon UNRIPE materialistic knowledge, has become an almost universal habit with us. We have, most of us, forgotten how to rely upon the Great Power within. We have forgotten how to use this power. We no longer can hear the Inner Voice, which

can make our homes happy as the Garden of Eden, which can make us veritable gods among men—irresistible, unconquerable, victorious in all our endeavors, magnificent in our strength, sublime in our wisdom.

I had lived in Singapore, a busy journalist. I had always, from early boyhood been (or thought I was) interested in the Higher Things of Life. In that then thriving British colony I came into close touch with different forms of Oriental philosophy, and very soon found myself receiving instruction from a simple, humble man who was generally called the Sage of Singapore. He was a great teacher, but I would not learn—I knew too much; yet his influence has never left me. He told me, with great calmness, that I was to leave Singapore and go to Tibet, where I would meet my real teacher. I had no intention whatever of doing so, but in a short time found that Life had arranged it all, so that I was on my way to China, having, in apparently a wild flash of enthusiasm, made up my mind to do something that had never been done before—to walk across China. The adventure of it appealed to me. I planned to walk across that then almost unknown wide area of Asia, come down the Irrawaddy, and take a ship to Europe, where I would sell my wares to publishers—and possibly become an authority on the then slowly awakening China and the Far East. The time this would take, I thought, would be in the neighborhood of six months, or a year at most; the result was I spent over 20 years in the Orient, and about ten months in a Tibetan temple under the tutelage of the greatest man I have met on this earth.

My experiences of travel were put into book form—published in 1911—and thirty years afterward I added the second part of the volume, "My Life in Tibet."*

(i) Difficulty of Accepting TRUTH

Well, as I was saying, it was most difficult for me to accept TRUTH.

I was, as perhaps you may be, filled with all kinds of information about the Universe, which passes itself off as knowledge. I was intellectually proud. I had read books. I had written a great deal. I was quite convinced that my approach to Life was the scientific approach. I knew that I lived in a wonderful world, but all that was wrong with me was that the TRUTH was not in me. Of course, religion? Yes, I had been brought up, as perhaps you too may have been, in a close religious atmosphere—singing in the choir, taking shorthand notes and making transcriptions of sermons for the pastor, attending enthusiastically many apparently important activities in and around the church. Oh yes, I knew a great deal about religion . . . but as I look back, how ignorant, how conceited, how simply silly I was. Indeed, I knew very little indeed, thinking, however, that I knew so much.

Can you imagine, then, how I felt as my pride was gradually broken down by the perspicacity, forbearance and love of my Master as he patiently taught me to slowly

*The reader is referred to "Borderlands of Eternity," embracing "Across China On Foot" and "My Life in Tibet;" $5.00; 58 illustrations, '560 pp. Obtainable from The Institute of Mentalphysics, 213 So. Hobart Blvd., Los Angeles 4, California.

and gradually supplant my intellectual information with Absolute Truth.

(j) The Truth Is Written in Thine Heart

One day he asked me to speak—an invitation he rarely extended, and I remember I told him that there still existed for me a mystery about these words of his—"Man Is God in Human Form." He listened in abounding sympathy, and in reply this is what he said:

> "My son, the Truth is written in thine heart; but thou hast to be reminded of Life's Truth. It is easy of conception. Be attentive, and thou shalt retain all that thou knowest. When thou goest again to thine own dwelling, thou wilt think of all things, or of one thing—this blade of grass, this tree, this spring which gives us drink. Contemplate anything that lives and thou wilt find the never-changing Principle. The tree yonder—see'st thou the tree? No, what thou lookest upon is solid substance made into a form which we call a tree. We feel it, and are not deceived—it is of substance. The seasons pass, bringing changed appearance to its outward form, so that we see, going on within the tree, great activity, causing it to be the form of the universal substance in which it lives. That which goes on within the tree we see not, though the effect of the energy which does the work is seen in the form of what we call the tree. Like all things in Nature, the tree has its work to do—to make its fruit and bring it gratefully fit the fall of the year to harvest—and it errs not. What made the fruit—the leaves, the blossom and finally the fruit? What is within the tree carrying out the work through the energy of Life? Thou see'st that within the form there is great energy, doing the work and having all necessary power to do . . . that there is great Wisdom directing the energy, knowing how to do so without error, effects of both of which are seen in the substance of the tree. The substance of the tree is from the substance universal. So of thy body. The difference between the substance of thine own body and that of the tree is purely one of differing vibration. The energy that does the work is from the Energy Universal. The Wisdom that directs the Energy is from the Wisdom Universal. Thus we may know of: first, Omnipresence—everywhere present, no place where It is not; second, Omnipotence—all energy, all power, every embodiment having within its substance all necessary power to do The Will; third—Omniscience, the All Wisdom of Life, directing all energy in all substance, knowing how and never erring in its wisdom. . . ."

Thus did my Master expound to me the very kernel of the Living Truth of Life Itself, which we see in the Vegetable Kingdom and all the Kingdoms.

(k) Symbology of the Vegetable Kingdom

Making an epitome of what we have read, we may conclude that the Vegetable Kingdom—

(a) Is the origin and eternal symbol of sacrifice.

(b) Asserts itself always for sacrifice to Life higher than itself.

(c) Causes you to see that the laws and activity going on in the Vegetable Kingdom are going on in Man's body.

(d) Shows the eternal struggle of its inhabitants into thousands of different forms for self-sacrifice to forms of Life higher than themselves; that which is born of its spirit is symbolic of sacrifice, the "making sacred" of all that Life Itself' embodies. The Vegetable Kingdom is the world's grandest transformer of energy, and the greatest chemical laboratory in the world.

(e) Is the animating Kingdom—in occult circles it is known as The First Sacrifice.

(f) Teaches Man to understand the hidden meaning of the First Sacrifice as seen in the Vegetable Kingdom; learning this lesson, Man grows to love every Living Thing with his whole heart fervently.

(g) Obeys God's Law of growth throughout the Universe.

(h) Is the carpet of the earth.

(i) Presents a subtle sensitiveness, an intelligence, a devotion, a divine harmony which is its own being in its own magnetic attraction.

(j) Is the fourth of the Seven Expressions of God.

(l) Now—How About YOU Who Read?

You have honored me (and I hope yourself) by reading thus far in this fourth of the "Fifty Little Books." How you feel about what you have read, I, of course, do not know. You will, however, agree with me that true education is the weapon of progress. True education, in your hands and mine, is an important weapon of human evolution.

I am sure, too, you will agree with me that Man is infinitely greater than to the average man he seems to be. Take yourself. YOU are greater than you seem to yourself to be, but you do not know **how** great. This little book (and the ones that come before and after it) will teach you how great you are, if you will to learn. No matter

who you are, you desire to escape lack and unhappiness and disappointment. You desire happiness, comfort, plenty, success. Of course, you do! Do you believe—ask yourself as you read—that you may learn how to take yourself ten times as far in the accomplishment of your hopes and ambitions as you have ever before gone? Whether you believe it, or not—you may learn if you will!

That is an astounding declaration, I know. Especially when I say that these things can happen here and now, in the year in which you are living, not in some dim and distant future, or in the next life. Especially when I say that they can happen to YOU, easily and naturally, as well as quickly. I do not ask you to accept this staggering declaration now. **I ask only that you keep an open mind,** that you read these "Little Books," and then ask for further information from The Institute of Mentalphysics. What you are reading is t**rue!**

My hope is that you will do so. If you do not I shall not, as I have said, criticize you. From experience, I KNOW how skeptical the human being is; but skepticism is simply foolish, because in that way we keep from us the best things in life.

(m) 3000-Year-Old Legacy for You!

I, of course, take no credit, personally, for discovering these truths. I was as amazed as you will be when they were first disclosed to me. I am merely the instrument through which they are passed along from far wiser and better men than I am—men whom I believe to be the

wisest on earth today—the latest of a three-thousand-year-old unbroken chain of wise men.

When I say, therefore, that for three thousand years this message of Mentalphysics has been on its way to you, relayed from generation to generation, carefully guarded and cherished in the hands of a select few, refined and simplified and added to by the great spirits of their time, you should, it seems to me, give it serious consideration. For it is all true, as you will discover later on; and no sensible man or woman should refuse to investigate such priceless knowledge when it is offered.

My further hope is that, in considering this "Eternal Symbol of Human Evolution," you have intellectually concluded that you have within you the great wisdom and power of God Himself—the Creator, the Supreme Intelligence, or whatever you wish to call Him. Of course, most religions recognize this—we have no quarrel with any religious belief, but honor and respect all sincere faiths. **But the staggering revelation made to me by my Master in the Orient was how to USE this vast power in our daily affairs, to help bring about our plans, fulfill our prayers—on earth, here and now.**

PART II: RESTORATION OF MAN AND HIS ENVIRONMENT CAN COME ONLY BY TRANSFORMATION OF HIS THOUGHT

From what we read and observe everywhere, it is obvious to the thinking person that Man cannot undertake the restoration of himself and his environment without

having transformed his habits of thought. In reading these "Little Books," I hope you can see that your world is made what it is by your own thought, as mine is made by my own thought. As with individuals, so with nations.

In the first little volume—"The Secret of Victorious Living"—you were led into the deepest secret of Man's life. Many are not ready for such transcendental knowledge. They feel perhaps that they would like to believe it. Their imagination and their hope cause them to recognize, through feeling, an affinity between this holiest secret and what they consider to be themselves. But traditional ideas and their own dull experience in life are too great, and they usually turn aside and refuse to learn. What is this secret of secrets?

(n) Man Is the Creator in Human Form

My friend, **this is the secret**—that Man is infinitely greater than he seems to be; that MAN, IN FACT, IS GOD IN HUMAN FORM.

If you have read and digested the contents of the little volume above referred to, you will be able the better to reason out what I shall now bring to your attention. If you are interested you will read what this little book represents—you will re-read, you will ponder these new ideas, and you will I hope in deep intuition realize as the TRUTH ITSELF what you may learn from these pages.* Of course,

***You are advised to acquire the preceding volumes in this Library of Victorious Living. Address the Institute of Mentalphysics, 213 So. Hobart Blvd., Los Angeles 4, California, U.S.A.**

I assume that you desire to make of your life what you feel it is your right it should be—on the physical as well as on the mental and spiritual planes. You wish to live a completely successful and abundant life. You desire success, no matter what your idea of success may be. Possibly you have not so far been very successful in life. You may be downhearted and disappointed with the world and with yourself. You may, indeed, feel that you are a square peg in a round hole, and be inclined, as many are, to "give up." If so, read these pages.

Let us go along in faith together.

In the first of these "Little Books," then, you were introduced to the Truth that Man is God in Human Form. Let us now continue to consider this great secret together.

You will readily agree, I am sure, that the Universe and what men call God are not separate. Also that Created Man and the Creator are not detached—God is IN MAN and Man is IN GOD for evermore. They are not separate entities. That which is called God (that which men have many names for) is WITHIN YOU—God, the Creative Spirit, the Infinite Wisdom, the First Cause, the Supreme Architect, Parabrahm, the Father in Heaven . . . the ONE . . . Omniscience, Omnipresence, Omnipotence . . . is WITHIN YOU.

(o) You Are the Center of Your Universe

You will also readily agree that you are a part of the Universe, and that without you the Universe cannot be complete, and that its completeness literally depends upon

you. And, because of this fact, you can further agree that you stand to the Universe as a center stands to a circle. You are the center; the circumference is everywhere; without a center, no circumference can exist.

This is true, is it not? It is important for you to see the truth of this statement before you go on.

Now, everyone who can think—and if you were not a thinker, you would not be reading these lines—must agree that—

The Creator is FIRST—All the Knowledge There Is (Omniscience).

The Creator is SECOND—All the Presence There Is (Omnipresence).

The Creator is THIRD—All the Power (Force) There Is (Omnipotence).

As nothing can exist outside of the "ALL," you arrive quite logically, do you not, at the wonderful knowledge that THE CREATOR IS ALL THAT THERE IS. Go one step further! Since the Creator is ALL THAT THERE IS, and since you are the center of your own world and its circumference is everywhere, YOU ARE THE CREATOR. How can that possibly be? Well, my friend, think. You make you own world by what you think. Your world is the result of your own thought, and you are not conscious of anything whatever outside your own consciousness. True? Then, you are the Creator of all that your Universe is—you are actually the Creator DIFFERENTIATED INTO THE HUMAN FORM. This is true, is it not? Be quite sure that it is true, and then

you will be ready for Life's final secret of secrets. What is that?

"WHATEVER THE CREATOR IS, I AM."

Be very reverent about this. Read it carefully and in deep silence—praise the wondrous Spirit within you **for** the revelation.

(p) The Substance of Thought—The Chemistry of Life

According to your power to think will the information contained here appeal to you. If you have little power to think, this beautiful Truth may pass you by, but if you are intuitive enough to sense the very "presence of God" in these pages your own thought will lead you on and up into holier understanding. Think long upon these words:

"I AM THE SUM-TOTALITY OF MY THOUGHT.
"WHAT I AM IS THE RESULT OF MY THOUGHT."

All that you and I ever really do is contributory to our finding out what Life is, what the Origin of Life is . . . to find out what causes it all. We may reason in this way: I see that there is One Organizing Center of Life, and all comes from It—everything in the seven Kingdoms of the Universe. It is easy to see that every living thing lives by its **breath.** I do, **YOU do.**

You can see that your Breath IS your life. If we understand our breath, then, we shall understand ourselves.

You can see, also, that the atmosphere in which all Life

forms move and have their being is **chemical activity**—or CHEMICAL SUBSTANCE.

You can see that every part of this substance contains within itself some degree of intelligence.

You can see, moreover, bearing in mind what you have learned from the last little book ("Mysteries of the Life-Giving Principle") and this present one, that that **Intelligence** is what the world calls GOD. **This Chemical Substance is indestructible.**

(u) You Are Today What You Have Always Thought

Rest upon these words:

"THE UNIVERSE IS SIMPLY ONE GREAT WONDERFUL VIBRATING THINKING THING."

Think. Be Quiet and Still. There is no need for me to use many WORDS to explain—you have to FEEL this Truth. You and I are in a **sea of Thought.** You—in your Consciousness, that which you have built into your Consciousness, for your Consciousness IS you—are the sum total of everything that you have ever thought. This "sea of Thought" is the **Father,** the Spirit. We understand anything by contemplation upon it. So you will understand the Father through Meditation, and "the disciple, when he is perfected, shall be as his Master."

A very well-known philosopher has said: "All that hinders the individual from exercising the full power of the Infinite for any purpose whatever is his **lack of Faith,** his inability to realize to the full the stupendous truth that he himself is the very power that he seeks." This was the

teaching of Jesus, and this truth of the Divine Sonship of Man once taken as the great foundation, a magnificent edifice of possibilities which "eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath entered into the heart of man to conceive" grows up logically upon it—a glorious heritage which each one may legitimately claim in right of his common humanity. But HE HAS TO LEARN THE WAY!

(v) Can You Take Sincere Advice?

Now, you may be fully aware that what you have read in this little book is the TRUTH. You may "know all about it." If you are satisfied with the conditions of your life and the part you are playing in the world, there is no need for me to offer in any way to help you. But if your heart still aches because you cannot find the way to what you hope to be your own self-unfoldment, then, dear reader, I solemnly urge you to send for literature upon the Science of Mentalphysics, which is the ultimate, philosophy of Life. I solemnly urge you to seek, for if you seek you must find as you seek.* Begin this very day! Begin by DECLARING the **Truth of your Own Life** all the time, no matter what you may be doing. In everything that you do and say and feel, know that you are placing yourself in that happy, reverential attitude of mind, **KNOWING** that the All-Wise Father, **the Spirit of Wisdom,** is directing your every step and act and breath—all that you are and do—

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so that you may look forward to complete self-mastery.

Every atom in the Universe possesses in itself power of attraction and repulsion, and it is only because of this balance of power that perfect harmony can be established throughout all space. You should repulse all that is undesirable. Begin with your body, for you can see that until your body is a perfect receiving and perfect registering instrument, you will not be able to make the perfect progress that you desire. Your body is chemistry in action. Your body is a chemical thing, both in its very substance and in how it acts and what if does.

You are invited to contemplate the truths disclosed in previous "Little Books" with this idea of Mind-substance. You will see that the mind of each one of us represents so much Mind-Substance, **apparently** separated from other Mind-substance; yet in reality (though we cannot yet realize it) each Mind is in touch with other separated Minds—and with the UNIVERSAL MIND, of which it forms a part. You can see, then, that the **WHOLE UNIVERSE IS SIMPLY ONE GREAT, WONDERFUL, VIBRATING THINKING THING.** Thinking may vary, as it does in all embodiments from the atom to the Sun, but there is a universality of Mind-Substance, of which you may use and control just as much as you desire—**when you know the way.**

What is the amount of that Thought substance, Thought power, that YOU control?

The highest form of Thought that you are conscious of is that of Man. But you know—or believe—that there are beings much higher than Man. We are all climbing in

Mentalphysics up to that state—climbing consciously and more rapidly by sincere learning and research, climbing unconsciously and more slowly through the principles of Evolution.

(s) Mind Substance Is Everywhere

Occultists teach, however, that Mind-substance is universal and omnipresent. You already have your idea of Prana. Well, **Mind-substance** may be likened to Prana in the sense that it is found in every place in the Universe. **Its sum total is fixed and cannot be added to or taken from, and therefore it is unchangeable. Mind-substance** can be **regarded, as a matter of fact, as a higher phase of Energy or Matter, just as Matter may be considered as a grosser form of Mind-Substance or Energy.**

Ancient Oriental scientists claim to have proved that Mind-substance was the first Manifestation, and from it emanated Energy, and from Energy emanated Matter—so that all form parts of the One Real Substance—**the ALL THAT THERE IS**—God, the Father, the Universal Spirit, Divine Wisdom, Creative Force, Divine Mind, or any name which you may care to call THE ONE SOURCE and THE ONE LIFE. One may say that there are three manifestations of our emanations from the Absolute, (which is saying in a different manner what has already been said in previous volumes of this Library of Victorious Living, and which is taught in the documentary lessons of the Science of Mentalphysics).

CONCLUSION: READ THIS CAREFULLY

My task in the writing of another of these "Fifty Little Books" which form the Library of Victorious Living is now finished. You who read wish, do you not, to attain to a way of Life higher than you now know, and to a consciousness greater than you now enjoy? Though I admit that you may not yet fully comprehend the Eternal Law and how you have the power to make It work in your life, **as you seek** so will you find It.

You must begin to learn, as we all must, to hold everything and everybody in reverence.

You have to see that you are a part of the Body of God! You have to see that in the material realm of Life the same Life that runs through an oak or through a simple chrysanthemum is the same Life that runs through you!

Your Spiritual Exercise for This Week

(to be memorized)

If I were you, no matter what your opinion may be of this little Library of Victorious Living, I would begin to practice. Each evening, just before retiring, I would sit in a comfortable chair, and declare audibly these words, feeling, if you can, that they are true, and that as you say them you are telling yourself the TRUTH:

"THE CREATOR IS RIGHT HERE—Right in the Heart of Me, Right in the Mind of Me, Right in the Being of Me, Right in the Substance of Me . . . Making Itself Known.

"REVEAL THYSELF, O LORD OF MY LIFE, O LORD OF THE ETERNAL—THAT IN WHICH I LIVE AND MOVE AND HAVE MY BEING.

"COME! . . . I WAIT, . . . I LISTEN, . . . I AM STILL, . . . I LOOK WITHIN ME . . . COME!"

I would also read the above at intervals in order that the thought may penetrate to the subconscious mind, to be absorbed and established. Say it to yourself many times a day, whenever you are free. **And listen:** It is not necessary for you to see the sense of it. That will come later. All that you do now is as a child does when it sets out to learn the alphabet. It does not ask **why** B comes after A, C after B; it accepts the teacher's word. Do thou likewise, and the day will come when you will praise the wondrous Spirit within you for the inspiration thus to test your own faith.

Desiring to start, you must first reverence your own Life. You must reverence your own body. You must reverence every embodiment of Life that you can see anywhere in the visible or the invisible realms. And at night, after the day has brought you all its blessings and its success, the best thing that you can do is to stand in reverence, looking out on the whole Universe. The whole Universe is my body! The whole Universe is your body! There is no difference between what seems to be "me" and what seems to be "you." I am you! You are me! There is no difference . . . as there is no difference in God!

Imagine if even once a day every thinking, believing, sincere soul, irrespective of what is called his religion, were to stand and declare in the beauty and love of his own heart,

> **"I thank Thee, Lord! I thank Thee, Lord, for my body. My body—the transcendentally beautiful, the infinitely intricate, but the most gloriously accurate instrument in this Universe. I pledge myself, I vow, that from this moment henceforward nothing that I shall say or think, nothing that I shall eat or drink, shall injure or abuse this Temple of the Living God, my Body!"**

And then, if people would go on declaring from their hearts that they see everything sacred, from the very breath that they breathe to the very highest thought they are able to contemplate . . . **"Whatever the Creator is, I am."**

If that could be, how soon we would be able to make the proper use of all power in this Universe!

How soon we would be able to feel in our hearts, not the constant fear that another war may come, not that your sons and daughters now being born may still have to carry whatever implements of war will be necessary—No! —but that the dawn of the Eternal Spirit of Love in Man has come to the whole human race!

Then how wonderful it would be—how wonderful it WILL BE!

My one thought then—for myself particularly, and I invite you, my friend, to listen—is let us make everything sacred! Let us look upon everything and everybody forgivingly, forbearingly, in reverence! Because if I look upon you and see any evil, or any aspect of evil what-

soever, where does that evil exist? It exists alone within me! Why? Because, by the Divinity of the Eternal Wisdom within me, I alone create my own world, and if I see naught but the "Father" within me, and if I see myself not as perfect as the "Father within me is perfect," then, indeed, I am undone! And that is Man's only Hell, which we must all encounter until we awake to the unspeakable grandeur of the whole Eternal Truth that is Truth. . . .

> **"Whatever the Creator is, I am! I am the Creator in human form! The Creator is right here . . . right in the Heart of Me . . . right in the Mind of Me . . . right in the Being of Me . . . right in the Substance of Me."**
>
> **"Reveal Thyself, O Lord of My Life! Reveal Thyself, Thy Way, Thy Law, Thy Substance, Thine Energy, Thine All! Reveal Thyself! Come. I wait! I wait patiently! I will wait again and again and again! . . . Reveal Thyself within Me, within that which I feel."**

In leaving you again, dear reader, I wish you Peace upon thy way.

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