

CHAPTER I

THE KEY TO GOD

To live Spiritually out (the Inner Presence guiding the Outer Self) is to live successfully. And this is the only measure of true success and purpose. And until that is the standard of your life – something: Truth, Peace and Joy will be missing from your life - and you will have a void, an emptiness, an incompleteness and certainly an anxiousness. And this is the bottom line.

Sure, you may lose yourself in your various daily activities and find some solace in your family, lover, job, possessions, entertainment or other outer escape. But you can only find home, fulfillment, and rest when you've learned to live Spiritually out (the Inner Presence guiding the Outer Self).

And lo, in discovering God, within, I've found, **THERE IS A PERFECT PEACE AND A GREAT JOY** - Yes, I'm here to bear witness, to you, that there's certainly a true Peace and Joy. Even if most will never know it, it's a reality. And this fulfillment, for the finder, makes this life a beautiful and most wonderful experience, even as the world tumbles about. And that's ok (that the world's in turmoil), just perfect, because such is the nature of the world. But as for you, if you diligently seek Spirit and Truth, and if you let Spirit guide and live your life, then, you too, no matter of your past or path, you can surely know His *goodness and mercy all the days of (your) life!*

Now, this Peace and Joy, *that man knows not of*, is at the very door of the Heavens, the perfection of your Being. Yes, this Spiritual Presence is the very Consciousness of God. So, accept now, that this presence of eternity and divinity is within you (man) and also that it loves and desires to fulfill you. And know also that, it's ever available to commune with you and guide you – just as this Holy Presence was available at the beginning of time (with Adam, the first man). And it will be with the last man, ever to be born; because, it's (the Holy Spirit is) without a doubt, our true and perfect nature.

BLESSED ARE THE BABES IN ARM

Now, **should we all possess this peace and joy**, of which we speak?

Yes absolutely, for, to know the peace and joy of the Spirit is indeed the Father's will and design for each of us. And this was also, once our natural state of expression. See, we were born in this way. And such was still our reality, in our early months of life. Ok, let's examine Jesus' teaching here.

“Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones;
For I say unto you, that in heaven their angels
do always behold the face of my Father, which is in heaven.”

Matthew 18:10

And “verily I say unto you,
whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child,
he shall not enter therein.”

Mark 10:15

Just, look into an infant's face – and see his total contentment and oneness with his universe. And, maybe you've also known a person or two, that always carried a smile and a detachment from the appearances around them. And yes, you've watched how these seem to have a *peace not of this world*.

Yet, Jesus wasn't inferring that we must become innocent as the little babes, as many might think, but that we should have the same peace, joy and freedom from judgement. Yes, that we would experience our true and glorious nature is what this Christ, this Master Teacher, through the leading of the Holy Spirit, strived to unveil from our being, our inner face. And this is that, which the angels of God do behold in the babes in arm, as their angels (the Father's loving and glorious Spirit), likewise behold His truth.

Now, **if we were born into this divine state, what happened?** Well, by and by, we were trained to separate our physical selves from our environment, as we adapted to it. So, we began to think that, 'this is me, and that is that'; which is perhaps necessary for existing here, but it would, as well, allow for the gradual cover-up of our peace and joy, inherent in the Oneness of All. Yet also, understand, that God shows up as much more than a smile. See, he lifts up an inner joy that makes it's way from within to without, into contentment. *I have learned in all things to be content*.

Using the Divine Keys

Now, the most important feat that man may accomplish, in this life, is to maintain a connection with the Spiritual Self - to be a true witness to the Truth of God. And possibly the best practice we have to facilitate this divine connection is through meditation and prayer. Though, the understanding of meditation and prayer is often intertwined, Meditation is commonly referred to as listening for, or to, God or Spirit. And Prayer refers to speaking to God. Yet, it's not what one says, in this expansive state of being, that's key, but your connection – *the power and the glory* of just being in His oneness.

And how can man know this God, within, to love him, which, by the way, is the first and great commandment, without finding this kingdom of God – this connection? No, such is impossible! Also, how will men truly *love one another*, as Jesus commanded, without knowing their own God nature, and thereby discovering his oneness with all men? Now, that too is impossible, for, it's the oneness that elevates brotherly love to godly love.

Another master key, to making, or rather remembering and maintaining, our spiritual connection can be the Holy Bible. But, to uncover it's truths, therein, we need to accept that it's the revealed word of God, written by men operating in Holy Consciousness. So yes, if one recognizes this and uses it, as, just what it is, a tool to higher reality, it can be a sure transformation agent. Now, to best gain and utilize the Bible, read the Scriptures, seeking divine revelation, understanding and Truth, above the doctrines of men (religious tradition); then yes, the Bible can be a mighty key to God's grace.

Here are three understandings that can aid one in seeking awareness of HIS presence. And, if you can hold to these truths *all things are possible*.

One - Accept that there's a perfect, unlimited and loving UNIVERSAL PRESENCE, that can be called 'God' or even 'Tree', which man is from and is an eternal part of, and that this presence is also the cause and Creator of all.

Two - Accept that Man's true being is spiritual, unseen and unlimited. Know also, that it's one with the perfect Universal Energy and Presence. So, man's Reality is always the image of this Divinity: perfect, whole and complete.

And three - Understand that Spiritual Healing, Blessings and Grace happen when our Spirit-Awareness, our Truth, is present in this realm, of the Father's perfect spiritual energy and presence – when we *touch the hem of his garment* – when we recognize no other reality or self.

Now, the following story is from scripture - a certain young man came to Jesus, stating, Good Master, I have followed all of the laws and the Ten Commandments from my youth,

“What (more) shall I do (to be saved), to inherit eternal life?” Luke 18:18

Now, this question is significant for each of us today, except the few of full spiritual realization. And it's not just the question that's necessary, to face, but the soul realization that you're empty - the awareness that something's missing. So, what exactly is he asking? He's saying, hey what's up? Cause, I'm following my religion: all the practices, all the tradition, the doctrines and I also give my tithes – still, I know in my heart, in my spirit, that I'm not full, that, no, I'm not in the Joy and the Peace of the Lord!

“Jesus saith unto him, one thing thou lacketh, if thou wilt **be perfect**,”

“Go thy way”, Go back to your own: neighborhood, family, and environment. No, you need not join me nor become a monk.

“Sell your possessions” Get rid of all your excess baggage (fears and beliefs) that's holding you back and down.

“Give to the poor” “this is in my commandment to “Love one another.” Yes, give richly, from your reality of oneness and abundance.

“And take up thy cross” You must arise over your sense of materiality, your limitations and the world (bondage) by supping in the Father's oneness and greatness.

“And follow me” Now, the Master Teacher had already told the youth, to go back home, right! So, what he meant here, was to follow his lead, his example (in following Spirit) – and you, follow your own Christ Presence, within.

“Good Master, what more must I do, to inherit eternal life...?”
“And Jesus saith unto him, one thing thou lacketh, if thou will be perfect:
Go thy way, sell your possessions, give to the poor
and take up thy cross and follow me”

Mark 10:17, 21

Wow, yes, this one short verse is potent and chock-full of revelation and transformation power. Now, we’ve just ran through it rather rapidly, but there’s really so much here, so much more of importance. Truly, there are so many teachings packed here, on so many levels - that with the Holy Spirit’s light, we could’ve stayed here a dozen pages more. But, let’s just look at a few more of it’s hidden pearls and we’ll need to push on. And know this, that Scriptures are like that, they’re, consolidated, condensed, but full of the Holy Spirit and it’s Truths. So, let’s dig deeper that we may touch and gather a few more of its most precious of jewels.

Now, back to the story. Ok, it’s often assumed that our young man, here, was rich, but it doesn’t say that in either scripture of which it’s found in - neither in Mathew 19:16 or Mark 10:17. Both only mentioned that he held ‘great possessions’. Great possessions don’t necessarily make one rich, because, let’s say he had more liabilities than assets - then, he wouldn’t be rich, would he? Now, if the writers of the story wanted to refer that he was rich, they simply could’ve said it, ‘a certain rich young man’ just as scripture had done all along, concerning others. But here, it seems that they went to a certain extent not to say this.

This is my point, I believe that it was written this way purposeful. Perhaps, it was written thusly to convey a deeper meaning. So, it was written that he’d ‘great possessions’. And, I received in Spirit that the real message is that the possessions had him more than he had them. This is saying, he was bound to his things (whether many or few), he identified himself in his possessions. So, he was not free, but his self-worth and trust was tied up in his things, not in God. Do you see, he believed his things were great – of undue value and importance? So, this is the message,

It’s not your possessions that bind and blind you,
it’s your obsessions.

LIMITED INTERPRETATION, LIMITED DEMONSTRATION

And Jesus said unto him “sell your possessions!” Now, do you see, to *sell your possessions* really means to sell (to dispose of or to overcome) all that possess you, in your life! See, it’s not what you possess but that which possess’ and holds you down. It’s the same with a second popular scriptural passage about possessions - that “money is the root of all evil!” And, you’ve heard that one, right? But, that’s a misquote! See, actually that’s only part of the relevant passage, of which it’s from. Yes, if one just considers this half, alone, it proves to be a most untruthful misquote.

And this same, out of context, quote you’ll hear on Sundays, coming right from the pulpit. And sure, the difference might seem subtle, or small, but the actual scriptural teaching is something diabolically different, when understood correctly. Here’s the entire relevant passage, “**The love of** money is the root of all evil.” I Tim 6:10. See, it’s “the **love of**...” It’s your affection towards it, for, there’s no life in ‘the thing’, or any mindless object.

A special note:

Now, in addressing the above misquote, I’m certainly not inferring that we can’t break scriptures up to study, to make more relevant or meditate on. Quite the contrary – the Scriptures, just as the Sabbath, were made for man, not vice versa, so, that’s all good. But, what I’m saying is, that by dividing or expanding upon a scripture if the end goes against the Truth, or if it doesn’t assist one in finding God, within, then the activity is fruitless and confusion – and it isn’t the way of Spirit. But know, if the Spirit opens up a scripture to you - this is the measure, that it’s (the revelations are) always the Truth and it will always assist one in finding God - his oneness and purpose.

I will pray with the Spirit
And I will pray with the understanding also...

I Corinthians 14:15

Ok, back to our message of importance. Know that, things are always pure, always neutral - neither good nor bad. It’s always the attachment that we hold to things that might soil us, by blocking our receptivity to Truth. Money and things are never evil or negative, for, possessions have no life or power, themselves, unless we misplace our beliefs in them. So, the former understanding, that money is evil, is certainly a misquote and baseless in Truth. *Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.* Luke 12:34

THE FIRST MIND

What is following the Spirit - following God, within, and what does it mean? It's often said that following God is following the first mind, the first voice that we hear, in our heads. And sure, it could be, and it often is. But, sometimes this voice can come very quietly, subtly. Yes, it can come as a nudge, an inkling, something even less than a whisper. And if one isn't practiced in his receptivity - in listening and receiving of Spirit, he could miss it. Yes, one might pick up one of his own later thoughts (in the world) and wrongly believe that they're of his first mind - which is indeed of the Spirit-self.

But, I'm given that, our first thoughts come to the heart – from your Truth to your being - and not to the head, the intellect. This (in the mind) though, is often where we try to comprehend them. And this is where you'll probably get it wrong, in trying to reason out God's thoughts. Because, remember what Jesus taught, that the Holy Spirit is the only presenter and teacher of Truth. And more - the Holy Spirit will not only present Truth, but, if you're open and ask (*what do these things mean*), it will reveal it as well! It only needs your permission. And your receptivity and request is your permission.

Truly, as Jesus taught, the glory of God is within you and this Holy Spirit stands ready to reveal itself, and to teach you all things. So, yes the voice of God is in your heart, ready to make itself known, as your Truth, and secondly, to provide you the perfect guidance in your every life experience!

Again, understand now, the Holy Spirit has two teaching duties in your life. The first teaching duty is to reveal its presence and the Truth of being in all. The second duty is (as a perfect overseer) to daily, perfectly guide your life.

Now, the same voice (of God) that comes to you, to guide in your daily, earthly, walk is the same voice that speaks to you in the spiritual walk – which reveals Truth. **And this mean exactly what?** It means the more, the greater, that you draw upon and from this source in your daily living, the more receptive you'll also be to hear its spiritual guidance. See, because, it's the same act – drawing from and trusting in Spirit! Yes, using this source, increases your receptivity, of being able to draw from this perfect, all-knowing, all-powerful and loving presence. Try God, you'll like it!

Note: Chapter 5, 'God Speaks to You' is a complete chapter on following the 'first mind'.

You meet God, SPIRIT TO SPIRIT

Yes, there are many that claim to have a personal relationship with God. But, since all men are one, who's this person, who's this self – that's having this personal relationship. We have to understand that God only has spiritual relationships, with his own – with his Spirit. All God's relationships are Spirit meeting Spirit - the whole universal Spirit of God, meeting the whole Spirit of God, in man. And, when one speaks of a personal relationship with God, this much needs to be understood, when man shows up, God disappears. There's ever only one, you or God! Still, of course, you can be a witness to God (within), to Truth. And that's all, but that's enough, perfect.

Now, it matters not to Truth, but, a lot of these whom profess to have a private relationship with God also confess to be outside of the mainstream of religion. Ok, *what have you seen since you believed...* yes, what have you witnessed? **What are the signs that accompanied your God relationship?** And have you discovered that there's a perfect peace and great joy - have you found it? If not what do you celebrate over religion? Yet, I judge none, for, every path is legitimate, because every path is needed. And I'm given that, it's not that we need paths in common, only the end goal and like commitment. And the goal must be, the same as Jesus' goal - to be a witness to Truth. And we must seek this Truth with a total and selfless commitment!

Now, when these speak of a personal relationship with God, what do they mean, do they each mean something different? Do they mean that God has a secret only for them, or that only they can understand his message - I don't know? But, God doesn't have any secret agents (smile). *Let your light shine that men might see your good works.* Yet, think not that I'm being led against such ideas of personal / god relationships. My joy is only in your joy and in your overcoming. So, I desire, only that you're prayerful and that you might measure all things (and gods) with His Truth. (smile).

See, I believe that I have a relationship with the Father, within, as well. And I believe that everybody that says 'yes' to God, has this relationship. That is, everybody that says 'Yes' to God, to Spirit and 'No' to the ego, to self. Yes, once you began living by the Spirit and Spirit began living through your life. Yes, that's a relationship, but, it's without you! It's Spirit meeting Spirit.

"I and my Father are one" John 10:30

Finding God, Loving God

I SEEK,
I LISTEN,
I OBEY,
I BELIEVE,
I LOVE,
And I HAVE FOUND

What does this above riddle-like declaration mean?

I SEEK Truth with a total commitment; Scripture: “Seek ye first the kingdom of God.” Matthew 6:32

I LISTEN to the ‘still small voice’; Scripture: “He whom hath ears to hear let him hear.” Matthew 13:43

I OBEY, I follow the guidance of Spirit; Scripture: “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.” John 10:27

I LOVE God and also my fellow man; Scripture: “Love God with all thy heart and soul.” Deut. 30:6 “Love one another as I have loved you.” John 13:34

I BELIEVE in the absolute oneness of God and man; Scripture: “One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.” Ephesians 4:4

I HAVE FOUND there is a Peace and a Great Joy; Scripture: “My Peace I give unto you: not as this world giveth, give I unto you.” John 14:27.
“In thy Presence is fullness of Joy.” Psalm 16:11