

Contents

- 7. Spiritual Foundations
- 31. Soul, Mind and Body
- 57. Patterns & Correspondences in the Human Body & the World of Plants
- 87. Meanings & Correspondences of the Animal Kingdom
- 115. The Starry Universe
- 143. Spiritual Law and Order
- 165. Time, State and Place
- 193. Regeneration

Extract

It is a law of life that the inner spiritual essence is prior to the outer, material form. Life is lived from within outwards and this order can never be reversed. But, from appearance alone, it often does seem that life is maintained by all that enters the body and mind from the outside world. This is a dangerous fallacy, for when we convince ourselves that we are completely maintained by the substances, forces and data from the environment we effectively close the door to our spiritual resources and deny the reality of all that cannot be discerned with the physical senses. We do this despite the fact that the very power of our thinking is made possible by an inner influx of spiritual forces. Not only our thinking but also feeling, willing, acting and all of our life processes are truly spiritual powers adjusted to the needs of the mind and body. No matter how perverse, abnormal or aberrated the contents of these processes may be, they remain spiritual and inexhaustible.

Once a man or woman begins to understand – through insight and direct experience – the motivating sources of their existence, they are empowered to regulate their behaviour and to exercise discriminative choice with regard to the infinity of influences that act upon them. Success or failure depends entirely upon the specific influences allowed to operate in and through the individual. It is not enough for them to integrate themselves with the universe at large, for they may merely affirm that natural forces and processes are the cause of human existence and progress. Such a belief destroys a person's spiritual possibilities. Recognition that Almighty God is the absolute, infinite source of all is the beginning of inner education, or spiritual rebirth, and acceptance of the ineffable ways of God is the method of receiving everything that is necessary for the complete transformation of the self. This act of recognition opens up the internal channels of communication and prepares all the inner spiritual organs for the reception of an abundant and never ending influx of life from God. Such recognition ought to be made a daily event and carried out repeatedly and sincerely until it becomes a dynamic reality for the

individual. Care must be exercised not to permit this act to degenerate into some form of autosuggestion involving the mere mechanical repetition of a verbal formula, but it should be thought about, sensed and felt with one's whole being in order to bring about a complete and harmonious inner agreement concerning this fundamental matter.

Even as an innocent child stands in awe and wonder before the many aspects of creation, so the adult should likewise innocently experience the immense impact of the truth of God's prior and central position in the total cosmos. Everything that exists - from amoeba to human, human to angel, and electron to super-galaxy - is related to God and depends utterly upon Him for continuous existence. Through the infinity of forms and functions to be seen in the whole of nature the eternal truths of God are transmitted to all sentient beings. An individual person's privilege and duty is to learn to read this universal language and profit from it.

Everyone constantly receives from God an incredible super-abundance of potentialities, capacities, energies, wisdom, and knowledge but is normally unable to make use of these things owing to complete ignorance of their presence. Because life flows from within outwards, and because an infinite array of spiritual possibilities dwell in the human soul and are incessantly being received inwardly, then whatever situation, problem, challenge or task arises in the external world, the internal capacity is present to effectively master the situation. This is what might be called 'the law of demand and supply', only in the spiritual realm the supply is present long before the demand comes into existence. There is no external situation which is so unique or odd that it can never be met and solved by an inexhaustible flux of spiritual resources. No matter how new an outer problem may be, the power of the spirit already has myriads of dynamic processes and exact details of knowledge to completely solve it and immediately open up channels for fresh advances.

Life is truly a fountain of endless spiritual possibilities that flow through a person to become established realities. Yet, because these processes are so intimate and personal to each individual it seems that they themselves solve the problems, make the discoveries, initiate new advances, and dominate the environment. Such is the order and pattern of creation that every creature has this extraordinary conviction that it lives from itself, and in the case of humans their egotism unceasingly makes the most monstrous claims for themselves when in truth the person has simply acted as an instrument for the spirit which is the wisdom, knowledge, power and competence that flow through them.

Once we recognize the truth of our own life situation and begin to understand the spiritual forces that empower and maintain us at every instant, we will begin to lead a richer, fuller and more satisfying life. We will grow in confidence when we firmly understand that so long as we remain faithful to the spiritual laws and principles of life we can never fall or suffer reversal. The coexistence in a person of an endlessness of

potentialities, powers, knowledges and wisdom is the abiding presence of God who is the absolute source and foundation of everything that exists.

Individual differences reign supreme in all existing things. No two organisms of the same species are exactly alike, and no two human beings can be completely identical down to the last cell. Endless variations within a given pattern reveal the never ending spiritual potentials that continuously flow into the natural world. Every individual human is, or should be, the focal point and channel through which a minute fraction of the Infinite is brought into expression and application. That which is actualised through one person can never be actualised in exactly the same way through another person owing to the different way in which the experience is received. From the one God of creation all things proceed into manifestation and development, and through the members of the human race the highest and best gifts of the spirit are transformed and developed. Of necessity each person must be differently endowed from the rest otherwise there would be a restriction upon the reception and unfolding of the endless forms, qualities and potentials that seek completion in humanity.