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SURROUNDED BY GOD

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You have seen a bowl of gold-fish, haven't you? Probably you have one in your home now. Well the next time you look at those little fish swimming round in the clear water, consider yourself to be one of them. For in reality those fish and you exist in the same identical manner. The fish are swimming round in an ocean of life. To them, the water they swim in is the life. It is life for them, for, without the water they would die in a few minutes. These little fish, in all probability do not know what water is. They know they are moving and swimming round in something which to them seems to be a natural environment. It is. It gives them life. Yet these little fishes have not the faculty to stop and consider the fact that it is the water they swim in which does keep them alive. They just take it as a matter of course. They came into being in the water. They have life through the water. Therefore, they see no need to worry about their natural environment, even if they could.

The Lesson to be drawn from these fishes is that you and I and the rest of the human race are swimming round or moving round in an element which gives us all life. We were born in that element. We, however, have the faculty with which to reason this out. Very few of us do that. Yet the fact remains that we live in an ocean of invisible life, exactly as those gold-fish do. We take our natural environment for granted. We never question it.

Now that natural element in which you and I live, and move, and have our being, is a great invisible Spirit which we will call God. It made us. We were born in that natural environment, and if we were taken out of it, we should, like the fish, die in a very few minutes. The environment of the fish would not give life to us. If you think it will, try holding your head in water for three minutes and see what happens. Then try taking a fish out of its natural environment for three minutes and see what happens to that fish. Each was born in an environment peculiar to its own type of life. The environment in which mankind lives, is, as I say, the invisible Realm of Power which is known as the invisible Spirit of God.

We, however, are quite different from those little fishes. We can know, and comprehend, and use the Life-Spirit in which we live, and we can use it without limit. That is something few of us have learned as yet. But as this great "PSYCHIANA" Movement brings this amazing truth to the world, more and more are grasping it, and more and more, every day, are realizing that their whole life is wrapped up in an invisible element of spiritual Power, and through this realization their whole lives are being transformed. Even if the fish in the bowl realized the qualities of the water they live in, there is nothing they could do about it. But we are different. The trouble with the world today lies in the fact that men and women are perfectly oblivious of the fact that they do live in such a great ocean of invisible life and Power. This is not exactly their fault. The fault lies with others. It lies with those who have taught the human race that it was "born in sin and shapen in iniquity". And the human race, believing they knew what they were talking about, has believed them. More's the pity.



Well meaning preachers and priests have told the human race that it can never know the great invisible Power of God until it dies. Then, according to some religions, the "soul" has to go through an experience in "purgatory" or "hell-fire" or something or other on that order. Many, we have been told, are absolutely lost. There is no hope of any sort either here or hereafter. Unless, of course, they believe what the religious organization which is speaking, tells them to believe. There is always both hope and "salvation" in their respective beliefs.

It is, I repeat, a pity such philosophies ever got a foothold. For they are not true. And as a result of them, we find the entire human race existing in utter and complete ignorance of the staggering Spirit of invisible Life in which it exists. As a matter of fact, none could exist one moment without that Spirit of invisible Life. Yet, it would seem, according to religionists, that we live our life unsupported by any Power whatsoever. We just are here. We just came here. When we die, we go to hell or purgatory unless we have believed what some church organization or other has asked us to believe. Fortunately, few of us do. Some of us have had the courage to become Spiritual pioneers, and we have had the temerity to doubt and question what these organizations have asked us to believe. They have come to us as agents of God, and, until recent years, we have given them credit for being just what they claimed to be.

But of recent years, there have been those daring souls, of which I am one, who have taken issue with these so-called "religious" philosophies. We have investigated for ourselves. And we have discovered solid grounds for believing these theories and stories to be completely untrue. And we have had the courage to say so in face of the fact that for us to say so incurred the hate, the enmity, and the threats of those organizations which would have all the world follow their leadings. But we have stood firm. And, standing firm, there has been revealed to us other truths which really are truths of God.

We have seen how very foolish is the statement that this human race lives, moves, and has its being entirely outside of the life giving element which is God. We have seen that, like the little goldfish, instead of being far removed from God, we live, move and derive our very life from God, and that, not in the future, but in the here and now. We have discovered that the answer to all of life's secrets and mysteries lies close at hand, in the great ocean of invisible Life in which we live, and through which we derive our very existence every second of the day.

This, of course, changes the entire picture of the human race. It brings hope where despair was before. It brings peace, where tumult was before. It brings health and happiness where disease and sorrow were before. For to those who have realized the fact that we all do live in the very center of this great God-Power, the way has opened up for the answer to their every problem. And truly this staggering illumination and discovery shall, ere long, bring the whole world into this same consciousness which but few of us now enjoy. For is not the wide world dying for this true picture of God? I think it is. For ten years the picture has been bitterly fought by organized religionists. The Founder of this new faith and experience has been bitterly maligned. But the truth he is teaching has lived, and forever will live on and on and on, until every living creature has learned the Lesson that he or she is surrounded by the vast ocean of invisible Spirit, which is God.



And tis a nobler picture surely. Tis the answer to the problem which has puzzled humanity for thousands of years--"WHO AND WHAT AND WHERE IS GOD". Few realized that we lived in the very middle of the ocean of Power which is God. Following the dictates of those who told us "God is above the sky", honest God-fearing and God-seeking souls looked away up yonder for God. But they did not find God# up there. They turned their eyes towards the heavens as they poured their souls out in agony, seeking God. But their prayers were unanswered. God, "up there" did not respond. Nor, indeed could He respond. For He was NOT "up there". He was "down here".

We followed blidly the hopes and aspirations of those who told us that "if we confess our sins he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins", only to find that after all, we did not know what "sin" was, nor had we found God as a result of the "sawdust trail" or the "penitent form". God still was a stranger to us. Then came the great illumination. From this little City in Idaho went forth the glad tidings of the New Day. Hope again sprang into being in hundreds of thousands of human souls, as men and women began to discover that GOD IS THE VERY LIFE THEY LIVE. They discovered that God, the Great Invisible Spirit of God, gave them life in the first place, and moment by moment sustains that life.

They found out that if poverty, or disease, or sorrow manifested, it only manifested because they did not know where to look for the remedy. They found out that the answer to life's every problem lay close at hand, in the Presence in which they live---the Presence which is God. And happiness and rejoicing at once began to replace the sorrow and care and doubt which heretofore had manifested in their lives. Add as tjis ~~great~~ great work grows, and as more and more men and women find themselves living in the element which is God, of course a new day is being ushered in. War, murder, drunkenness, immorality--all these things and more, banish themselves before the all-illuminating Light which daily shines wherever and whenever there is one who desires it to shine.

And as the great Light shines, it is leading us all forward and onward unto the "perfect day" which shall dawn on this old world just as surely as this new conception of God is grasped. This day had to come. It has been delayed far too long. Old religious superstitions are fast fading away. And, replacing them with their "God at a distance" is a consciousness of "GOD IN A HUMAN LIFE". Realize then that Great Spirit, IN YOU, and your troubles are all over, simply because if you draw your very life from God, you can draw everything else from God also. And that answers life's problems completely.