

"PSYCHIANA"

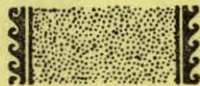
(THE NEW PSYCHOLOGICAL RELIGION)

ADVANCED COURSE

NUMBER TWO

By

Frank B. Robinson, D.D.



"PSYCHIANA"



LESSON NO. 3.

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LESSON NO. 3.

BY

DR. FRANK B. ROBINSON

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Dear Friend and Fellow-Student:

In this Lesson I want to once more carry my students quite some depth into this Great Universe around us. When we study God or when we talk about "contacting" God, we are very apt to try to measure this Great Creative Intelligence according to our own very small standard. This is quite wrong and if we attempt to conceive even faintly the magnitude of the Realm of God, we shall be very badly disappointed. We may, through earnest desire and intelligent study prove beyond any shadow of doubt that this Great God-Realm exists. We may do more than that, we may use the inconceivable power and wisdom and intelligence of this great Realm in the manifestation of things we most desire in life. That is the object of this Realm. That is what God exists for. Yet it is so hard to educate people to remove God from out of the strata of their own circumscribed intelligence and limitations and place this great Spirit where it rightfully belongs--and that is everywhere.

You cannot conceive, even faintly, of the magnitude and the Power of the Spiritual Realm, and when I say Spiritual Realm, I naturally include the visible created Realm also because you cannot separate one from the other. As a matter of fact, everything in life amounting to anything is Spiritual. The greatest forces in life are Spiritual forces. The greatest

powers are Spiritual Powers. As a matter of fact, the human brain, although marvelous in its conception, is handicapped by heredity. We are the products of Evolution. To date, we have been taught, through religious philosophies to regard the Realm of God and the Spiritual Realm as being unknowable until such time as we shuffle off this mortal coil, cross the river Styx and awaken in some region far beyond human ken. But the answer to what we choose to call the riddle of life does not lie in that direction. The secret of life is contained in life itself and the answer to the problems which perplex us so much today, lies quite close at hand if we could but grasp it.

The fact that to date, all have died doesn't mean anything to me. By no means do I reason that because all have died, all must die. If the secret of eternal life is wrapped up in some manifestation of God, then certainly a human soul may make this connection, whatever it may be and certainly, also, at the right time a human soul may demonstrate and will demonstrate the Power of God to such an extent that this enemy of the human race, which we call death, will be totally destroyed. That is the culmination of the scheme of life. That is what we were born for. The scheme is imperfect as yet and I do not know just exactly how the Law governing the Realm of God operates in order that eternal life may be a possibility to us here and now. We shall know some day and in the meantime, I do not want my students to ever get overly impressed with the sense of their own importance. It is a fact that inasmuch as they are in tune with the mighty Spirit of God, they certainly are important, but as individuals, lacking understanding, they are far from being important. We are pygmies as far as that goes and this little world of ours means practically nothing at all. At the same time, it is the habitation and the abiding place of God's greatest creation---Man.

It is advisable, when studying Spiritual Truth to try and comprehend something of the Great Universe around us as it exists and for this purpose, I would like to recommend a book written by the famous British Scientist, Jeans. The book is called "The Universe Around Us." I want to quote a little here from that book as it will give you, perhaps some faint idea of how great God is, and how small we are. Arthur Brisbane, writing about this wonderful book of Sir James Jeans says:

"If we were deep-sea fish, looking up through a mile of water, wondering at little lights shining above the water's surface, we should wonder about those lights, if we were thinking fish, and ask ourselves, 'What do we fish amount to and where are we?' As a matter of fact, we human beings ARE 'deep-sea fish' of another kind, living at the bottom of our atmosphere-

ocean hundreds of miles deep, looking up at the lights shining in the night sky, keeping track of their movements, wondering what they are, and what we are.

"In his admirable book, 'THE UNIVERSE AROUND US', published by the Macmillan Company, Sir James Jeans answers some questions asked by intelligent human beings. It is an expensive book, costing \$4.50. Perhaps Macmillan will issue a cheaper edition. That would be a public service.

"In 1608, Lippershey, Flemish spectacle-maker, invented the first 'glass that brings things nearer,' Galileo heard of it in Italy and, without seeing it, made the first real telescope. Three hundred years earlier Roger Bacon told how a telescope could be constructed 'To make stars appear as near as you please.'

"Ages before, a few men of wisdom and intelligence speculating on the construction of the universe, refused to accept the childish theory that the earth is the center of everything, and stands still, with all the suns and planets whirling around it.

"Two thousand years before Galileo Pythagoras and Philolaus had taught that the earth is not fixed in space, but rotates on its axis every twenty-four hours, causing the alternation of day and night.

"Aristarchus of Samos, greatest of all Greek mathematicians, further maintained that the 'earth not only turned on its axis, but described a yearly journey around the sun, thus causing the cycle of the seasons.'

"Copernicus, founder of modern astronomy, knew that the earth and all the planets moved around a central sun.

"Galileo did more with his telescope. He saw and showed the moons of Jupiter and the rings of Saturn.

"He showed and proved too much, for he seemed to contradict the Bible which said Joshua had caused the sun to stand still, and spoke about angels standing on the four corners of the earth. More than one hundred and fifty years before Galileo, Cardinal Nicholas of Cusa, had written, in 1440, 'I have long considered that this earth is not fixed, but moves as do the other stars. To my mind the earth turns upon its axis once every day and night.'

"Galileo had to retract on his knees, and not long before him, in 1600, Giordano Bruno was burned alive at the stake for attributing to 'the divine

goodness and power' his belief that 'there are endless particular worlds similar to this earth.'

"Slowly the earth's human 'deep-sea fish' have learned about the universe beyond their atmospheric-ocean, and the slight part that this grain of sand called the earth plays in the whole of creation. Knowledge was acquired slowly, and accepted even more slowly.

"Late in the 18th century, the University of Paris taught that the movement of the earth around the sun was a convenient, but false, hypothesis. Yale and Harvard 'taught the Ptolemaic and Copernican systems of astronomy side by side as though they were equally tenable.'

"The study of astronomy began with astrology, based on the foolish belief that lives and destinies of men might be connected with stars under which they happen to be born. To obtain the Emperor's financial support for his studies, that resulted in discovery of the law of the planets, Kepler had to 'read the stard' for his imperial master.

"It is important for us to know about that strange universe beyond our atmosphere, for all must leave this earth, and go farther, on some day soon.

"It will be a long journey. Distances that we call 'great' are not distances at all, once you leave this little family group that we call our solar system, the sun with its few planets.

"From Venus to the sun the distance is twenty-six million miles.

"From the sun to the star nearest to us, called 'Proxima Centauri,' the distance is ONE MILLION TIMES twenty-five millions miles. Man cannot imagine 'one million'. Much less can he imagine interstellar distances with BILLIONS as a unit.

"When a man speaks on the radio in New York, his voice is heard on the side of the earth one-fifteenth of a second later. Light travels as fast as the radio, both being 'electrical disturbances.'

"There are nebulae in space, other 'Universes outside our own,' so far distant that the voice of the radio speaker that travels seven times around the earth in less than one second would require MILLIONS of years to reach those distant, outlying universes. We should be grateful for these 'high speeds' of radio, light and other forces unknown to us. We

need them.

"Light travels to the nearest star in four years and thirty-one minutes, and travels 93,000,000 miles from the sun to the earth in eight minutes. Some day when we communicate by radio with other planets, there will probably be 'interplanetary time tables' telling when to 'tune in' for Jupiter, Neptune, Mars, Saturn. You will have to wait a long time for Neptune, and broadcasters on Jupiter and Neptune would require warm clothing.

"Jupiter's temperature averages 150 degrees below zero centigrade. Neptune is about 100 degrees colder, unless it has independent heat sources of its own, apart from heat sent by the sun.

"Before you read ten pages of Jeans' "The Universe Around Us" your respect for this universe in which you are one small microbe, will be greatly increased. Figures mean nothing to us, but it is worth remembering, that units of size in this universe reach from electrons, revolving inside of atoms, arch, please, try to digest this figure, 'a fraction of a millionth, of a millionth of an inch in diameter.'

"You would have to multiply that electron enormously, then multiply it by a million and multiply it again by a million to get an object one inch in diameter.

"Then compare the electron with one of the distant nebulae, and again digest these figures carefully, 'their diameters are measured in hundreds of thousands of millions of millions of miles.'

"We realize how little our brains amount to, when we try to imagine what 'hundreds of thousands of millions of millions of miles' can mean.

"As sizes in space are different, so densities are different. What we call 'matter' exists in the nebulae, with a density at least 'a million times lower than anything we can approach on earth. And in certain stars at a density of nearly a million times greater.'

"The material of a 'white' or 'dwarf' star, a sun that has thrown off the electrons from its atoms, and so consists of atomic protons, or nucleus packed close together, is incredibly dense. One cubic inch of its substance, a fragment of matter as big as the end of your thumb from the joint to the tip, would weigh two thousand pounds. No man on earth could move a piece of it half as big as a thimble.

"This earth on which you live, invest in real estate, and worry about depressions, inflation and unemployment, is at least two thousand million years old. Animal life has existed here about three hundred million years. Men going back to Ape-Man days have lives here, according to Jeans, 300,000 years; according to others much longer.

"The study of astronomy is 3000 years old. So-called 'exact astronomy,' aided by the telescope, is three hundred years old, in its infancy. We are only twelve thousand years away from the late Stone Age, and scientists agree that human life on this planet maintained by the light and warmth of the sun, will, barring accident, last for ONE MILLION MILLION YEARS LONGER.

"If human beings have accomplished so much and changed so much in the last twelve thousand years moving up from the sharp flint to the automobile, airplane and submarine, how much will they accomplish in One Million Years? Try to calculate that.

"That long lease of life MIGHT be interrupted. Any one of a number of accidents might shorten human life on earth. 'The sun may run into another star, any asteroid may hit any other asteroid, and, as a result, strike the earth, any of the stars in space may wander into the solar system and upset all the planetary orbits, making the earth impossible as an abode of life.'

"Also, our earth is gradually drifting out into space farther from the sun, as the sun loses weight and its power of attraction diminishes. Our distance from the sun increases by about one meter, 39.37 inches, in 100 years.

"If good at absorbing figures, it may interest you to know that our sun loses in actual weight, by throwing off electrons and thus creating light and heat, to the tune of two hundred and fifty million tons a minute. At this moment, for instance, the sun actually weighs one thousand million tons less than it weighed four minutes ago.

"How did the whole thing start? Jeans gives you the answer. Some great body, passing by our sun thousands of millions of years ago, tore off pieces of it, that floated around the mother sun, in their various orbits dependent on size and weight and formed the planets.

"This universe with its giant stars, nebulae, planets, moons, comets, asteroids, meteorites, and its queer little human beings owing their existence apparently to accidental circumstances on different planets, is the

one thing of importance. Read Jeans' book through once or twice, then read it again, thinking and understanding it as you go through it. You will not waste your time.

"A deep sea fish one mile down might say, 'What do I care what happens above the top of the ocean?' But the intelligent human beings are not that kind of fish.

"Everything mentioned here you will find in about ten of the 331 pages in 'The Universe Around Us'."

Not very long ago, 6000 new Nebulae were discovered in existence, countless billions of miles away from this little ball on which we live. These new Nebulae can properly be called Island Universes. In all probability, each Nebula contains billions of stars. The world's largest telescope on Mt. Wilson discovered these 6000 new Nebulae in a region of the sky which had previously been unexplored and it is believed that there are millions of these Nebulae out in space comparable in size to the giant star clusters or galaxy of celestial bodies to which this earth of ours belongs and in which our sun is only one of an estimated number of 30 billion stars. These are figures to conjure with and they are figures which it takes a mighty intelligent human mind to begin to comprehend.

If there were no physical matter in existence, it would be comparatively easy for me to grasp the scheme of Creation as it exists, for I understand something of the object and the workings of this Spiritual Realm. Being somewhat of a mystic, it comes comparatively easy for me to grasp Spiritual Truth. It is much harder for me to dispense it, although I try very hard to do that. When a person undertakes to pass on to another person, truths of the Spiritual Realm, he understands perfectly what he wants to say, but he finds himself at a loss to know how to transmit these Truths. His vocabulary is limited, there are no words in existence which effectively convey Spiritual Truth as it exists. You will remember one Bible character, while on the Island of Patmos, caught a glimpse of the Spiritual Realm. He did not know when he caught that glimpse, whether he was in the body or out of it. He did not know whether he was asleep or awake. He did not know whether he was alive or whether he was dead, but he caught a vision of sights which he said, "it wasn't lawful for a man to utter." I know what he meant and can recognize the fact that the easiest way for him to get around trying to convey Spiritual Truth was to state that "it wasn't lawful for a man to utter" the things which he saw.

We have this problem of matter to contend with though, and while the

Christian Scientists may try to explain it and say it doesn't exist, yet it does exist just the same and the intelligent researcher will recognize this fact. I will grant that all matter may be electronic in its origin. I will grant you further that the atoms in a piece of steel may be chasing themselves around with the speed of an express train. To us, matter is solid and we must deal with it and recognize it as such. In other words, deal with things physical as they really are, maybe much different from what they seem to be now. I never like to go soaring off into the hazy realm of metaphysics, for while that metaphysical realm is the greatest realm in the world, at the same time, the problems of life for you and for me are here and now and as such, we must deal with them.

The structure of matter is something which many noted astronomers and scientific writers have paid considerable attention to. Mr. Garrett P. Serviss released an article through the International Features Service, Inc., recently and as this article has considerable bearing upon my subject in this Lesson, I want to reproduce it here. It will, perhaps, help you grasp the thought I am trying to transmit to you in this Lesson.

"Professor Sheldon of New York University has not put the up-to-date guess of science concerning the ultimate nature of all things too strongly in saying, as he recently did in a lecture, that the further we delve into the structure of matter the more obvious it becomes that nothing exists except in wave form. "Electrons, long thought to be the ultimate particles of which all matter was formed, have now been shown rather conclusively to have a reality only as a wave form, and an atom consists of a bundle of such waves."

"Goodbye, then, to that beautiful picture which until a little while ago drawn in innumerable discourses, treatises and books of science, of the 'planetary atom,' consisting of a restraining nucleus like a central sun, with obedient, though somewhat capricious electrons revolving around it in orbits like planets, yet unlike planets, jumping from orbit to orbit, and starting a wave of light with every leap. Instead we are shown the atom as composed of a 'bundle' of electrons in the shape of waves. This does not please the imagination as much as the fancied electron-planets did for one can hardly make a good picture of it, but doubtless it is an advance toward the real truth.

"Thus the triumph of the atomic over the undulatory theory appears as rather a Pyrrhic victory. The 'quanta' that were supposed to be 'bullets of energy' discharged with machine gun copiousness from light-giving bodies, have got entangled somehow with wave motions of some kind, in some

thing, and a reconstruction of theories looms ahead. The 'vast emptiness' of the atom seems to be pretty well filled after all. This is the affair of 'pure science,' and the gayety of nations need not be disturbed by it.

"But although he may not altogether comprehend it, the ordinary human can not but feel a thrilling interest in the announcement that science now regards him, or is on the point of regarding him as nothing but a wave, or a 'bundle' of waves.

'As Professor Sheldon put it: "We as individuals undoubtedly have no existence in reality other than as waves--multitudinous and complicated knots, perhaps, in what we call the ether. We are analogous in a sense to the sounds which issue from a grand piano when a chord is struck, or when a symphony orchestra plays.'

"Surely, the poetry of science.

"Another feature of this wave theory of humanity of more practical interest is thus stated: 'The effect of outside radiations on us is just beginning to be understood. Ultra-violet light is coming rapidly into therapeutic use; X-rays can produce mutation of species; radium is used to control cancer. May we not look forward to the increasing use of radiation in medical treatment when we find that we ourselves are wave phenomena?'

"These things, as I have said, are up-to-date, but at bottom, the conceptions on which they rest are not new. They are very old fundamental ideas viewed in the light of new discoveries in detail. You can trace their first glimmerings in the minds of ancient thinkers and philosophers. That does not, however, make them less startling even to those who recognize their long descent. They are a sudden outburst of flowers from long-dried stems, rooted in the soil of antique thought which modern research has broken up and fertilized."

When studying such facts as these, two things become evident. The first thing we are bound to discover, if we do not know it already, is that we are very finite and small little bits of material energy in an awfully big Universe. The second thing we discover is that God or Infinity, or The Cosmic Realm, or whatever you choose to call it, is so much greater than we are that we cannot help but be awed, not so much at our smallness or the greatness of God, but by the very vast difference between us. As Ralph Waldo Emerson said:

"In many forms we try
To utter God's infinity,
But the boundless has no form,
And the universal Friend
Doth as far transcend
The angel, as a worm.

"The great Idea baffles wit,
Language falters under it:
It leaves the learned in the lurch;
Nor art, nor power, nor toil can find
The measure of the eternal mind,
Nor hymn, nor prayer, nor church."

Rene De Pender so beautifully said:

"There have been moments when the soul of me
Has touched the borders of Infinity,
Moments so rare, so subtle, and so brief;
The mind was loath to give to them belief.
Yet they have been for I have felt their power
In inspiration starting from that hour.

"High hopes and dreams were born in me anew
Strength for the conquering from the font I drew,
Joy beyond Earth's to give, my heart has known;
Moments in which my seeking soul has grown
Stronger to bear, and clearer eyed to see
The bond that binds us to infinity."

Now it is my contention and always has been my contention that if we could understand the subtle, mystic connection between the created human race and the Creator, we would inevitably be forced to the conclusion that while there is so great a distance between us, yet at the same time, there is nothing between us, as a matter of fact. I do not understand, nor do you understand just how the vital life impulse manifests in our physical bodies for a few short years and then leaves it. I can tell you physically how it is done, but the object behind it all is, perhaps, not as clear as I would like it to be, although to those knowing the present existence of God, it is perfectly clear. It is not, of course, clear to them who would clothe God with a personality, nor is it clear to them who so foolishly tell us that they and they alone have been divinely appointed agents of the great Creative Infinity. How foolish do these claims seem when viewed in

the light of the magnitude of God.

Let it be distinctly understood here that whenever I use the word God and whenever I allude to this Great Spirit as He or Him, I only do it in order that my students may understand clearly what I am trying to say. God has no gender; therefore, God being a Spirit, cannot properly be alluded to as having any gender. Many students have written in asking me why I allude to God as He or Him; this will explain that.

Now to get back. Whatever may be the purpose of creation and whatever may be the end of the human creation, we may all rest assured of one thing. We may all be sure that just as long as the Spirit of Life manifests in and through us, we are, during these years at least, placed in a position where we may draw from the Great Realm of God those things that we need. During these few moments of life, there is placed at our disposal, consciously, all the powers there are in the unseen Spiritual Realm. We can walk, we can talk, we can reason, sometimes, we can reproduce the species, and better than all, we can commune with our Creator. What happened before that, we do not know. What will come after that, we still do not know, but we do know that while here, we may be, if we care to be, in full communion with the Power that gave us life in the first place. That one fact is enough to occupy our thoughts while we are on this mundane sphere.

Now the question is going to arise in the minds of every reader at this point as to just how we may recognize the powers and the existence of the Spirit of God in our life. In my Advanced Course, I showed very clearly how this may be done, but in this Lesson, I want to go over it once more and condense it a little, for every student reading this Lesson will catch the Spiritual Vision for at least a fleeting moment. It may pass away, and probably will, for man cannot stand very much of a glimpse of the Realm of God.

Now try and follow me closely here, please, for if you can grasp one tenth of one per cent of what I am saying to you, your life will certainly be transformed and you will know that I am speaking Spiritual Truth to you in this Lesson. No matter what may be the object behind it all, you know first of all that life lives here. You know that you are living as a human being. Next, you know that whatever life you possess must of necessity come from the Author of life itself. Now this life that you enjoy is not a theoretical, mythical thing, but an actuality. You actually live as a free-will agent and every moment that you do so live, you are manifesting part of the Spirit of Life or the Spirit of God on this earth, here and

now. Now then, if this be a fact, and it certainly is a fact, do you not see that you must be in vital living contact with the Infinite Spirit of life which caused you to be and which also caused to be created (if it ever was created) this entire scheme, including all the billions of Nebulae and planets to which I have heretofore alluded in this Lesson. I know of no better way to recognize this fact than to be still and know that this great Spirit is actually responsible for your life, and furthermore, that every moment you live, you are in vital contact with this Infinite God-Law.

You must take definite periods of communion with God and while you are most actively engaged in business affairs, you must still be quiet and recognize the existence of the Spirit of God sustaining you. How could it be otherwise? I say to you that as you become acquainted with this Infinite Spirit of God, you will learn to know it. You cannot know me on first acquaintance, nor can you learn to know the Law of the Spirit of God on first acquaintance, but the continual friendship of this mighty realm will form an attachment so strong that it may be rightfully called a Love. I can't explain it, of course, but it exists just the same, and if in these quiet moments, you will take all the shackles off your imagination and let your thoughts comprehend something of the Infinity of the Spirit of God, then you will know that it exists. As these Spiritual vibrations come to you, make the most of them. When you receive these flashes, direct your thoughts and desires right into the heart of your Infinite Creator and they will be manifested sooner or later. If you will make this a habit of life, you will be amazed at what will follow, for there are no limitations to the quickening and healing power of the Realm of God, and man, by the way, is the greatest creation of the Sustainer, Author and Creator of this Universe.

I sometimes think we make a mistake in not studying and knowing ourselves as we should. Very few of us even stop and ask ourselves "What is man?" Ninety-nine per cent of us consider man even in the legal aspect to be but man's physical frame, but while man as a physical frame is certainly something to wonder at and admire, yet he who considers man physically alone, entirely limits himself and misses that great intangible, unseen, undecipherable, inexplicable "Something" that is beyond and plays upon this mechanism we call man.

I would like to have every student, until he receives the next Lesson, read this one many times and above all, set aside definite times for communing with God. Nothing is so important as this and you will have to make time if you have not got it already.

In closing this Lesson, I want to quote a thought referred to so beauti-

fully by the Russian poet, Derzhaven, as translated by Sir John Bowring.

"The chain of Being is complete in me,
For me is matter's last gradation lost,
And the next step is Spirit----Diety!
I can command the lightning and am dust!
A monarch and a slave; a worm, a god!
Whence came I here, and how? So marvellous
Constructed and conceived? Unknown, this clod
Lives surely through some higher energy,
For from itself alone it could not be.

"Creator! Yes, Thy wisdom and Thy word
Created me! Thou Source of life and good.
Thou Spirit of my spirit, and my Lord:
Thy light, Thy love, in their bright plentitude,
Filled me with an immortal soul, to spring
O'er the abyss of death, and bade it wear
The garments of eternal day, and wing
Its heavenly flight beyond this little sphere,
Even to its Source, to Thee, its Author, there.

"O thought ineffable! O visions blest!
Though worthless are conceptions all of Thee,
Yet shall Thy shadowed image fill our breast
And waft its homage to Thy Deity.
God! Thus alone my lowly thoughts can soar,
Thus seek Thy presence--Being wise and good--
'Midst Thy vast works admire, obey, adore!
And, when the tongue is eloquent no more,
The soul shall speak in tears of gratitude."

Sincerely your friend and teacher,

Frank B. Robinson

Frank B. Robinson.