

Friends, this afternoon I am going to speak to you on the living, actual demonstrations of the Power of the Spirit of God. As I have told you previously, God is manifested and is manifesting in every living thing.

Here, take these beautiful flowers for instance. This one is a living demonstration of the plant life of the existing Spirit of Infinite Life manifesting in plant form, in flower form. For, were there no Creative Intelligence at all, that beautiful thing couldn't bloom.

Now, to go down to the roots of this flower, let me see, we'll say that this is the root and it grows in the earth. That root is unseen--it's below the ground, yet that root is absorbing and pulling moisture from the ground and enters the flower as sap does in a tree. As a result of this phenomenon, we see here a flower which no scientific laboratory could ever duplicate and I say to you that this beautiful thing is God in operation in the flower phase of the eternal Realm of God.

Now here's a few petals from that flower that have no thinking ability. They have not, in themselves, the ability to grow--I think you will see that. This little root here, this little stem compound, has no intelligence. It's a perfectly inanimate, unintelligent, piece of flower life. The root of the plant, the unseen part below the ground has no intelligence of any sort either. It cannot possibly have intelligence if the ground in which it grows has no intelligence of any sort.

But, someone dropped a seed into that soil but neither the seed Beloved, nor the soil have thinking ability, remember that please. Neither the seed nor the soil in themselves have thinking ability and certainly they know nothing about the laws governing growth. That seed could not change itself into a zinnia by its own efforts ~~because~~ or cause a zinnia to grow so then if the seed and the soil, both absolutely inert things possessing no ability or intelligence, and yet after a period of weeks

and perhaps months there has been brought into existence a beautiful flower---where did it come from and what is that flower?

This is a little illustration--just a little bunch of flowers someone has brought up and I am trying to show you how you can prove the existence of the Spirit of God all about and around you and if you think for one second that the Invisible Power of the Spirit of God cannot manifest all a round and in you, you make a mistake. I say to you that this flower has been brought into existence by the Power of the Creative Spirit of God operating in this plant Realm.

Now that's a white zinnia and here's a red one. Now were the operations required to grow that red zinnia different from those required to grow this white one? No, they probably came from the same root, the same buried root, and yet this one is red and this one is white. Did the flower have anything to say about whether it should be red or white? I don't think so. Then what was it? In the infinite wisdom and Power of this Invisible Realm which is God, lies the answer to why this one is red and this one white.

Now in the growth of these things from a seed, buried in the soil, to its present state, is one of the most amazing transformations it's possible to witness and yet we think nothing of it.

I take two barrels. One of soil and one of sawdust, and I drop in each one a seed of grain. Very soon in the barrel containing the soil, little green shoots appear but do they appear in the barrel of sawdust? No. Why? The Law of God governing the growth of wheat has been complied with in that barrel and so in the growth of this flower, which is God in operation. In the plant Realm we have, I repeat, the same Law which brought the little green shoots in the soil barrel, operating here and now.

Now someone has removed this flower from its stem environment

and in that moment they cut off the roots, the hidden, invisible source of life, and in a few days the flower will die. Had it been left in its ground environment and surroundings, the flower would have continued to live. Now we have seen that the Law or Power, governing the growth of the flower and the grain of wheat, is being manifested in its creative ability of the invisible Realm of the Spirit of God. Now, shall we go a little farther?

In my back yard in Moscow, on the top of a clothes-line post, for many years has been a bluebird's nest in a bird house Alf built and nailed on top of the post five or six years ago. Every Spring at the same time, on the same day, these same two bluebirds come back to that nest. Now in due season they mate and a little while later little bluebird eggs appear and in still further due season, more little bluebirds. Now may I ask you why four little scorpions don't come from those eggs? You say, "Well, they couldn't, Dr. Robinson." But why not? The egg has no thinking ability of any sort and yet from the eggs of bluebirds will not come scorpions but more bluebirds. Haphazard? No, not haphazard, but God in active operation on the part of the bluebirds. Do you see that? God in active operation first in the flower, second in the wheat seed and third in the bluebirds, and you can carry that on indefinitely for wherever you have life you have God. No life, Beloved, ever came from any other source than that source which is God.

I think that last night or the night before, I said that God was **Life** capable of existence without physical form. A Realm of Invisible Spirit-Life capable of producing more life in a million different forms according to every phase of life we are dealing with.

From these little flowers will be derived seeds which, in themselves, planted in the proper surroundings, can produce more zinnias, and yet we saw that the soil has no intelligence and the seed has ~~no~~ none and

yet what happens? The conditions are right and proper for the Law of God, the invisible Life-Spirit which is God, to operate to create this flower and the same identical thing with the life of the bluebird.

The creation story in the Bible says, "Without Him was not anything made that was made." The sacred writings of other religions tell us the same thing and more than that, your common sense tells you the same thing. You need no mythical revelation from heaven to make you understand the logic of what I have just said to you because in accordance with the Law of cause and effect, here we have the flower, a beautiful thing. It cannot be duplicated by any, and no scientist can reproduce it. We cover them with wax to preserve their beauty but there is only one way by which they can be recreated and that's by putting the seed in the ground.

Now, let's carry that into a human life and see if we can't see how human lives can be and are far more beautiful than these flowers. What do we see first? That the roots of the flower are out of sight. They are buried but yet it's through the roots, Beloved, that the life comes to the flower. The nourishment comes up from the unseen part of it, the part that's buried and the physical flower is apparent that comes above the ground. But the important part is below the ground and I want to liken human lives to this flower.

Well, are there two parts to a human life? Very much so, very much so--an invisible, buried source of Life and the physical manifestation. The most powerful of those two is the hidden, unseen source of Life which may be likened to the root of the flower, but it's hidden. Now the unseen part of a man or woman, the life-giving element, is also unseen and hidden. Where is it hidden? Not where can it be hidden, but where does it come from? What is the Power which fills your human body and makes it a living thing? You can't see that Power operating but it is still the most vital part of you. Where does it come from? God in actual operation

in flower form, but man is so infinitely far beyond a flower that there is no comparison. This thing blooms, grows, gives pleasure to us whenever we see it, and we drive past hillsides of them in admiration of their beauty but they grow for that express purpose and not for any other purpose and yet they cannot think and cannot originate. They bloom and beautify the spot where they reside.

Would you compare that to a human life? This flower draws its life, unhampered and unhindered from the invisible source of all life which is God. Do you? I wonder. This root is buried in the ground and the hidden, unseen Power which motivates you is also hidden, but nevertheless, that is a God-Power, that is God just as much so as God is the Life-Impulse in this and every other flower which ever grew.

I take five acorns and I plant one in Portland, Oregon, and I send another to South America and I plant it. Another I send to Eastern Canada and two more across the Atlantic, and plant them all and what find I? Five blueberry bushes, or a blueberry bush in one country and another in the third? No, for the God-Law, or the Realm of the Spirit which is God, operates with remarkable precision in any country, wherever the conditions are complied with, and you can't get away from that, and it means an oak wherever these conditions are complied with. So then, God responds to that phase and we have an oak, to the flower phase and we have a flower, to wheat, and we have wheat, and so to the human phase and we have what? Remember the hidden part of you brings the effect and you are just the physical effect of God in operation the same as the flower and yet man is the only creation which God did not complete the job on, when he created man? There is nothing, Beloved, that you can do to add to the beauty of that flower. No scientist could duplicate the wonderful work of nature. Yet when we come to the human picture, it's

all wrong. Oh my, God made an awful mistake and regretted the entire human race and drowned them and said, "I'll have to do the job all over again.."? Oh such a philosophy, hiding and keeping from men and women the plain and simple, untarnished Truths of God.

I said last night and night before that when God created you he did a finished job. He did not start a job here and agree to finish somewhere else but he gave you life and its completeness and fullness here and now. Had man realized, as the flower, that the Infinite Source of all life, or the Spirit of God, is still the motivating impulse behind man, we wouldn't have the failures we have today. If men and women realized that, there wouldn't be need for this Movement or for any other movement either. So then let us examine a little further.

We have seen that the unseen, hidden part of us is the Life-giving element which is God in human form, God in flower form, God in oak form, God in a million different forms but there can be no life without God giving it and Beloved, if we could see the Light as it exists in the human race, we could grasp the picture of the absolute presence and existence of God in human lives and this world would be a far brighter spot than it is now.

Well, I think we are pretty well agreed that some way or another the Realm of the Spirit of God does give us life. No one can gainsay that. There are many who would have us believe that he gave us life and then turned us loose, in a haphazard sort of way.

I go out into the woods and take an axe and cut down a tree and what happens? I won't be doing that very long until callouses begin to form on my hands. Why? The intelligent Life-Impulse says I need a protection in that part of my body, so it grows a thicker skin, which we call a callous. Now from whence came the intelligence to know that, and the Power to grow the thicker skin? From God a million miles away, or from an Intelligence which exists in you?

Since little Florence was cut open and the drains taken out, those scars are now all healing. Why? Through the Power of God which is coming back to this earth sometime in the future, or through the Power of a self-existing God, here and now? Then, there must be, Beloved, operating in and through you, the Power which is God and there is no other answer to it.

Some who would have you believe in their philosophy of God say, "Well, that's nature." Perhaps so, but when you try to separate God from any created thing, you are up against a job because, I repeat, that every living soul in this hall has within himself the potentialities of the Realm of God and I mean just that. And in the recognition of that presence, which is God, lies the answer to all your problems as well as mine.

The root is buried--your root is the unseen Life-giving Impulse which is God. It's out of sight and you can't see it but don't think because it's invisible that it doesn't exist, for it's there just the same.

The flower grows, the tree grows. You don't see the sap being drawn up to supply life, you don't see the little breathing spaces on the back of the leaves yet they absorb oxygen just the same. You can't see it, neither can I see the Life of God which is in you. I can see the effect of that Life-Spirit operating in a physical form, in a physical body, but I cannot see God in operation in you. I can know myself, that the Power of God operates in my life, but I cannot see that Power operate.

I have a magnet at home, just an ordinary two-pole magnet and to look at it you can't of course, see any Power, but it is there just the same. I touch the rod with a knife blade but I get no sensation--there can't be any power in that magnet--but if I take a few iron filings and put them close to the poles of the magnet there is energy there, but still you can't see it.

Now I want Beloved, to prove to you that there is God in your life if you will recognize it. For the sake of orthodoxy, we will say God close to a human life, but God available to man, let me say that, that's better because if God is in you he is available to you. So with God available to you and with your life being the highest creation of the only Creator this world has ever known, may I ask you what troubles there possibly can be, what circumstances there possibly can be, great enough and big enough that the Power of that God-Law can't overcome them? Financial reverses, and is the Power which created you able to overcome that? Is there not enough ability and Power, intelligence and wisdom in the invisible Realm of God to point to you the way out? Of course there is. What circumstances can life confront you with that the Power, which is God, the invisible Life-Impulse in you, cannot override? And Beloved, there is no set of circumstances which cannot respond to it and which will not respond to God's efforts. Let me repeat that for I want you to catch it. Not your efforts alone, because if you operate alone you are operating mechanically as a physical body--but, your efforts, backed up by the Power of the Realm of the Spirit of God, that's what does the business, and why not?

Some years ago in Los Angeles, just more to test it out than anything else, I walked to the Second Trust and Savings Bank. The intuitions I get from God, I absolutely follow, and one came to me--I walked into the bank and I saw the name of the man on the wicket, I think his name was Kerr. He had never seen me before but I said, "Hello, I want to get \$1500.00 and if you will make out the note, I'll sign it ." So he did and I started to leave but I turned around and said, "Do you know who I am?" And he grabbed me back and said, "No, I don't--" That's a crude illustration but Dr. Tenney will tell you that we see every day in Moscow far more amazing demonstrations of the Power of God than that. I only

mentioned that to show you what can be accomplished through the ever-present Power of God and Beloved, if this Power does exist in you, then what is there to prevent you from being what God wants you to be.

What does God want you to be? Don't look upon God as a person. When I say God, I mean the invisible Creative Spirit behind every physical manifestation of life. Now what would you be, what could you be to come up to God's highest expectations of you? How much changing would you have to do? Well, you perhaps think that God knows more about that than you know. Would you suggest to God any changes in the flower? Would you suggest that God do this or that thing or would you prefer to leave it as it is? Would you do that? Well, it's the same thing in human lives. The Intelligence, which is God, knows far more about you and what you should be and what you are than what you know and if he has put you on this earth as Mr. Smith or C. W. Tenney or May Wilkinson, etc., that's what God wanted you to be. Just be May Wilkinson, just be C. W. Tenney, but recognizing what C. W. Tenney and May Wilkinson are, not a half life, operating as a physical automaton as most of us operate, but operate as God's highest creation with the Power of God available for every circumstance, and it will raise you as high as you want to go.

Away with any doctrine or dogma which tells you that you are living this curse from God and that you have to kill God in order to save yourself from that curse--I say away with that sort of thing. It's an untrue philosophy and I'll tell you why. It interposes something between God and man and any philosophy which does that, is not true. The most sound philosophy ~~which-dee-~~ and the truest religious philosophy on this earth today is, and can be only the philosophy which brings man and God together, not helps to separate them.

When I had graduated from Theological Seminary, the deans called me into their office--that's a long time ago and I am getting to be a real old man now, but that was more than thirty years ago--anyway, they said,

"We want you to be careful in your life." I asked them why, and they said, "Well, God has a wonderful work for you." I told them I thought so too and they said, "We want you to stay right by this Institution and we will look after you because God is going to do a remarkable work through you." I had known that some while though and I had obtained that knowledge from the God in me. I said, "Well Dr. McNicholl, what do you suggest I do?" "Well," he said, "There is a telegram here which just came in and I want you to read it." So I read it and it was from a church from the northern part of the state asking that they secure someone to drive the devil out of that town. So they wished that job on me and I said, "Well, I don't know about this business--who is the devil?"

Well, we had quite an argument and it ended up by my going up there. It wasn't a very big town and I was met by an old fellow, driving a wagon and I don't know if I looked it but he said, "Are you the preacher?" I told him that I was supposed to be and he said I was going to stay at his house, so we started off. We hadn't gone very far until we drove past a blacksmith shop and he said, "See that man? He's a deacon of our church and you want to burn him up first." It wasn't long until we passed a flour mill and he said, "You see that man? He's a deacon of our church, be sure and give him what's coming to him."

Before we got home we passed perhaps five different deacons and they all needed something done to them. All this was new to me and I spent more time on my knees than all the rest, trying to find God. I meant business just like now, and I don't believe that I have ever been accused of not being in earnest. They will, some day though. But anyway, it was new to me and I spent the rest of that afternoon trying to get the picture of this church.

I asked them where their regular pastor was and they said he was off in the next town. I asked them what for and they informed me that

he was holding revival meetings. So I asked, "Don't you think this would have been a good place to begin revivals? How long since his salary was paid?" And they said there hadn't been much salary lately. So I went around and asked the rest of the people about him, where he was and what he was doing and they said that he was trying to get enough money to eat on, for they hadn't been able to pay his salary---and yet, this man had sent down for a man to drive the devil out of that city!

I laugh every time I think of this and of course I was young and didn't have as good judgment as I have now. Anyway, we had a meeting and the church was packed and after they were all in I got down to the front door and got the key, put it in the lock, turned it and put the key in my pocket. I walked up to the pulpit, laid the key down and started in at 7:30. Well, at 11:00 I was still preaching and they were still locked in that church.

When we got home that night this elder, or whatever he was, who had driven me past all these other houses, came to my door, knocked and asked if I were asleep yet. I asked him what ~~it~~ was he wanted, and he said he was going to slip something under my door. It was an envelope and in it was a check for \$10.00 and a return ticket to the city of Toronto, where I had come from.

I went to sleep and in the morning I got up and went into the kitchen for breakfast. His wife came over and said, "Well, Brother Robinson, I don't know what we are going to do with you--" and I said, "With me, that isn't the question. It's what I am going to do with you folks."

Well, the preacher was recalled, his salary paid and instead of those other fellows needing a lacing, it was this fellow where I stayed. Anyhow, what I am trying to make is this, that that situation was created as a result of an attempt to put something between God and man and the

whole secret of this doctrine of ours is that you can't put anything between God and man because the combination is too close. You could not separate the sap from the flower and you cannot separate life, the Spirit of Life, from you. If you cut off the sap supply, the flower dies. If you take the life of God out of you, you will die for you can't separate man from God because God and man must go together as long as you live. So your life and every movement of it is in direct contact with the Power which gave you that life in the first place and don't be foolish enough to think that you ever were separated from God.

Now what does that do to the picture? If I could put into the minds of every man and woman in Portland tonight the fact that God is closer to them, as close as life itself, and drive that home and make them see it, we could start a movement this night in Portland, which would sweep America and drive war from off the face of this earth. That's all it takes to end all these labor troubles, to end war, Beloved, and the only thing necessary is to recognize the Spirit of God and you, the one motivating the other and the other allowing itself to be motivated by the great Spirit of all Life.

Is that a hard thing to accomplish? No. One of the greatest spiritual teachers of all ages accepting this religious tradition was the Carpenter of Galilee--and what was the secret? Not of getting the Power but of being able to accept it. What was his secret, his recipe? "Go into your closet and when you have shut the door---" remember that? Now, he didn't allude to a closet in a house but he meant get into the closet of your own nature and make that secret contact--talk with God in secret and what happens? The open reward comes.

When my advertisement appears all over the United States--"Man Can Talk With God"-- little do they realize that it is an absolute reality. But Beloved, get into that closet, the closet of your own life and you can find only one thing and that is God and finding God, you find all. You

find peace if peace is needed. You find Power, if Power is the thing you need to straighten your life. You find ineffable joy and a love beyond compare when you find God--and all these things for you here and now.

Think that over!

(End)