

SUPPLEMENTAL READING
THE ELECTRONIC SEARCH TOOL

FOR
The Government of Eden

CHAPTER 7

“When We Indulge
in Condemnation”

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SUPPLEMENTAL READING
FOR
The Government of Eden
CHAPTER 7
“When We Indulge in Condemnation”

Chapter Highlights*

... You are no longer finite. You are no longer mortal. You are no longer people who were born and will die. Now are ye children of God, if so be the Spirit of God dwell in you. How do we know when the Spirit of God dwells in us? When we can meet the world as we met each other here tonight, in a spontaneous feeling of love and joy in meeting each other, in rejoining each other, when we can wake up in the morning and feel that way to the world, then we know that the Spirit of God dwells in us when we no longer condemn the people of this world.

... When we stop our heckling of people, when we stop our fault-finding, when we acknowledge that the world is returning to us what we are sending out into the world, then is the Spirit of God dwelling in us.

Pp 123

... To obey this commandment of not bearing false witness against your neighbor, you have to stop believing that your neighbor is good or bad but understand spiritual being.

*Our Supplemental Reading Guide has a new look! We are highlighting selected passages from the chapter followed by related excerpts from Joel's books and transcripts.

... You see, if the qualities of God were good, they could lapse into bad.

Pp 124

... There's only one way that you can see me. If you can get still enough and quiet enough so that you come to a state of spiritual realization, then you can see me as I Am; that is spiritual and perfect, and that is what happens in healing work.

Pp 124-125

... In that perfect universe of God's creativeness and God's maintaining and sustaining nature, where intelligence and love are the major factors, no discord or inharmony ever appears. That world is called "Eden." That world is called "the Garden of Eden." That world is called "divine harmony," or it has another name, "spiritual consciousness."

Pp 125

...How then, into this Garden of Eden, does the serpent come? How, into this spiritual consciousness, does error eventually intrude and bring about the conditions that we know as sin, disease, death, lack, limitation, wars, depressions, accidents?

Pp 125

... from my experience, I can say to you that that is what you are going to perpetuate as long as you insist on having this belief of good and evil making up your life. And I say to you further from experience, that in proportion as you can overcome the belief in two powers, good and evil, in that proportion will the discords and inharmony be ruled out of your experience and out of the experience of all who come within range of your consciousness.

Pp 125 -126

... Watch what happens in your immediate family as you begin to unlearn what you know about your husband or your wife or your child or your parents, and begin to go back to their original Selfhood, which was created in the image and likeness of God.

... No man is good, although he may be the instrument through which God's good flows. And no man is evil, although he may be the outlet through which the world's sense of evil may flow.

Pp 126

... The overcoming begins when we realize that it is not I who am the sinner, but a sense of sin that would disturb me or take over in me. In the same way, it is not I, who am good, but I who am an instrument through which God's good will flow in proportion as I recognize God to be the source of good, instead of myself.

Pp 127

... If you are still in the state of consciousness that's blaming somebody for their particular evils or accepting the fact that they are as evil as they appear to be, you are not in that state of consciousness that can help to eliminate it, and you have to work more and more with yourself.

... If you personalize error in any form, you are making yourself a victim of it.

Pp 128

... There is no God punishing us. Do not ever believe there is. We set in motion the law. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren," ye have set the law in motion that will come back to you. "Inasmuch as ye have not done it unto the least of these my brethren," ye have set in

motion the law that is going to come back to you, you see. It is ye—"as ye sow, so shall ye reap."

Pp 128-129

... In other words, we must have a period each day of what I call "purification." Throughout the day, I am going to express human thoughts about people in the world. But at least once a day, I must sit down and purify myself by knowing that no matter what human judgment I may pass or what human correction I may give anyone, it is only on the surface and the appearance world.

.... I know that thou art spiritual. I know that I am thou and thou art me, and He is us. I know this.

Pp 129

... "I close my eyes, and I am in complete spiritual consciousness, and you are there—everyone, everyone—because God is no respecter of persons, and we are all here embodied in this divine Consciousness. There is only one great big plate of glass, and it is molded into a thousand different forms. There is one infinite Consciousness appearing as three billion people. Only when the eyes are closed, and I'm looking down here can I realize this is the divine Consciousness of every one of us. Therefore, I am in your consciousness, and you are in mine."

Pp 130

... In this moment of spiritual communion, I have no envy in my heart. I have no desires in my heart, no jealousy, no greed, no lust, no animality. I set this world free. There is nothing it has that I want. Since "I and the Father are one," I receive my good by the grace of God, and whatever good should flow into me and out from me, I freely give to all, to every neighbor, friend, or foe.

Now, if you have purged yourself to that extent and can honestly feel that you have released anyone and everyone, then you are ready for your prayers to reach the center of your being because there is no obstruction.

Pp 131

... If you only knew what it meant to come into the presence of a person who is not sitting with a mind full of criticism, judgment, or condemnation, or, more positively, to come into the consciousness of a person who understands and forgives and forgets; come into the consciousness of a person whose gentleness is such that no thought even enters their secret mind of any harsh nature. Thus do you see we become a center, and everyone who comes within range of our consciousness feels what the world calls “love” because forgiveness is an attribute of love. Understanding is an attribute of love; understanding the universal nature of these evils is love. To understand them is to forgive them. To forgive them is to “love thy neighbor as thyself.”

Pp 132

Related passages for further study, compiled using The Electronic Search Tool.

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Search: “fault-finding”

From *Leave Your Nets*

... as you begin to understand the spiritual nature of individual being, you will begin to see a change in relationships, even if in the beginning it is only on the side of the one who has caught the first glimpse of spiritual light. Then you will find less antagonism, less greed, less anger, less fault-finding, and less of the negative qualities of humanhood.

Leave Your Nets

Chapter 11 – “Awake Thou That Sleepest”

From *Living the Illumined Life*

... The old man lives in constant complaint about it, allowing himself to be influenced by the outer conditions, responding to them with fault-finding and exasperation. But in proportion as a word of truth can come into our consciousness and we say, “Ah, no, that is that little old man popping up again. Ah, no! There is an indwelling Christ in me, in him, in her,” in that degree we have shown forth the new man that is developing in us.

Living the Illumined Life

Chapter 5 – “Putting Off the Old Man and Rebirth”

Search: “no longer condemn”

From *The Heart of Mysticism, Volume III*

... One of the most difficult steps in overcoming the personal self is the conviction that we are entitled to retain our opinions and ideas. This is the last stand of the devil-self, because in the spiritual life we are not entitled to our own opinions and theories, nor are we permitted to judge. In part, this is not too difficult because, as students, we have already come to the place of withdrawing judgments of evil. Whereas, the ordinary man loves to assemble all the facts about the other fellow and from these impressions draw his own conclusions, we have arrived at the place where we no longer condemn, and therefore withhold judgment. The other part is much more difficult, however: we understand that we cannot have an opinion and that we can no longer judge; but now we must go further—we cannot even be satisfied or content or pleased with the good in the human picture. It is the degree in which you are able to overlook the good as well as the evil that determines what degree of healing work you are able to do.

Heart of Mysticism, Volume III

Chapter 4 – “Neither Good Nor Evil – The Middle Path”

Search: “can see me”

From The 1960 Washington D.C. Closed Class

... Now, when you look up here on this platform, surely you know that you can't see me—you must realize that. I am hid with Christ in God and no man can see me with his physical eyes; all that you can see is my body. And when I look out there all I can see of you is your bodies—I cannot see you. I can commune with you, but I have to close my eyes and shut out the appearance, and go deep down within my conscious-

ness. And there I find the “you” that you really are, the soul that you really are, the being that you really are, the divine child of God which you really are, the you that lives in the bosom of the Father and has never left the Father.

332A 1960 Washington D.C. Closed Class
“Contemplative Meditation and Our God-given Dominion”

Search: “good or bad”

From The 1957 Chicago Open Class

... It is true that nothing is good or bad, but thinking makes it seem so to us. Nothing is good or bad, but thinking it good makes it good to us, thinking it bad makes it bad to us. And it is for this reason that as we lift this condemnation from the world, we can't do it unless we are able to do it for ourselves.

183B 1957 Chicago Open Class
“Spiritual Healing – ‘World Wide Interest’” cont.

From *A Parenthesis in Eternity*

... It is not God who comes to the human experience: it is the human being who has to give up the human experience, exchanging it for his spiritual identity. Whether a person is good or bad is not the determining factor in the descent of Grace upon him. There have been, and are, millions of good people who have never attained their spiritual estate because human goodness does not bring it about. What really counts is the degree of devotion there is to the search for God. How much hungering and thirsting after truth is there? How much longing is there for an understanding of God, for coming face to face with God?

A Parenthesis in Eternity
Chapter 1 – “The Two Worlds”

Search: “when we stop”

From The 1961 Holland Special Class

... Now as long as we deal with persons and try to get rid of persons, we are going to be victimized. When we stop fighting persons and begin to impersonalize, and whenever we see evil coming through an individual, even if we see a man stealing on the street, don't stop there to try to punish him or call him a thief, but rather stop instantly and realize: “Thou art the son of God too. This thing you're doing is the carnal mind, not you!”

426B 1961 Holland Special Class
“The Nature of Spiritual Power”

Search: “of criticism”

From *The Foundation of Mysticism*

... Often, when we are working with our friends, our parents, or our relatives, we revert to that human sense of criticism and judgement, or the metaphysical sense of saying to them, “Well, it's your wrong thinking. There's something in your mind that has to be corrected.” Of course there is, but it is the belief in two powers. The only belief that has to be corrected in all of us is that God isn't omnipotence, God isn't omniscience, God isn't omnipresence.

The Foundation of Mysticism
Chapter 11 – “Three Principles and Their Practice”

From The 1962 Los Angeles Closed Class

... God made you in His image and likeness. God has endowed you with His qualities. The Spirit of God is upon you. God has breathed the breath of life into you, and your life is eternal and immortal and spiritual. Thy sins be forgiven thee. And you see,

in that I have released myself from the two powers, the judgment of good and the judgment of evil. I have released myself, and now part of my human consciousness has disappeared.

You would be surprised how much of human consciousness is constituted of judgment, of the judgment of good and the judgment of evil. You would be surprised how much of what is called human consciousness is just a state of criticism, and in the degree that you drop that state of criticism, you have dropped that much of human, mortal consciousness. Now I am, through this realization, this knowing the truth, I am overcoming the human traits of my consciousness, and I am developing my spiritual consciousness, that fourth dimensional, or transcendental consciousness which heals.

461B 1962 Los Angeles Closed Class
“The Name” Search “purify”

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