

CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS AND
SUPPLEMENTAL READING
THE ELECTRONIC SEARCH TOOL

FOR
The Altitude of Prayer

CHAPTER 4

“This Is Immortality”

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CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL READING

FOR

The Altitude of Prayer

CHAPTER 4

“This Is Immortality”

Chapter Highlights

... Life, real life, is lived in consciousness; it is lived in the secret place within ourselves.... We are not really living if we think of life as something that exists between what is called birth and death. This is not life.

... This life is, as one of the ancient mystics called it, a parenthesis in eternity.... if we live only inside the parenthesis that begins with birth and ends at death, we are missing the greatest part of life, the eternal, infinite, and immortal structure in which we discover God’s creation.

... If we know each other only as human beings, we are cheating ourselves of a tremendous delight. We are offspring of God, filled with the love, the life, and the Spirit of God, and this we must recognize.

Pp 39

... When the Master said, “I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly,” did he mean that one man out of all the world’s history had come to earth that we might have life? No, he meant that *I* within each of one of us has come that you and I might enjoy a more abundant life with each other.

Pp 39-40

... It would be unfortunate if it were given only to a dozen mystics to know and enjoy God and the spiritual nature of mankind. But life is not like that at all.

... We were given the grace of God to share with one another. This is a universal truth and a universal relationship that everyone has with God.

... The human life we live is nothing but a dream. We are here for a span of a few years and then are gone.

Pp 40

... We could avoid all the inharmonies and discords of human experience if we knew how to pray, if we knew the function and method of prayer, because prayer is our contact with the infinite Source that maintains the harmony, the peace, the wholeness, and the completeness of mankind.

... God created you and me spiritually in His image and likeness, imbued us with His life, His nature, His character, His qualities and His quantities, and because of that this great capacity for fulfillment exists within every single one of us.

... The purpose of life on earth is to bring forth that capacity, to bring forth that beauty, harmony, and grace in lives of joy and fulfillment.

... We lost this capacity because we lost the ability to turn within, to open out a way to let beauty, harmony, and grace be expressed.

Pp 41

... when the self finds its home in God, it can travel or remain at home and find eternal bliss and eternal opportunities for service, for dedication to God and to man, in an exchange of good.

... With the practice of prayer, a measure of harmony begins to be restored in our daily life.... These are not the end and aim of prayer. The end and aim of prayer is that we discover our eternal life, the life that was lived before birth, the life that will be lived after the grave, so that we can encompass right here on earth the totality of spiritual existence, a divine and ageless existence.

... Living begins when we are able to perceive the nature of our real life, the life that we began living in the beginning when we existed in the bosom of our Father, the life that we live when we know ourselves as we really are.

... The real beauty is the Presence that formed this world, the Spirit that animates it, the divine Grace that takes a barren tree and in a short time fills it with leaves and blossoms and fruit.

Pp 42

... To be able to know the Spirit that produces these, to live with this Spirit and watch It function in our experience, watch It bring forth fruitage in our lives, this is the supreme joy.

... In my meditations and my periods of aloneness, I see the forces that operate behind the world that make you and me what we are, that make nature what it is, but then I like to go outside, too, and enjoy the fruitage of it out there.... We are now living with the whole of us, the Spirit, the Soul, and the Consciousness, and therein lies the joy.

Pp 43

... There is a *you* that I have met within myself; there is a *you* that I love to be with; there is a *you* that I have traveled all over the world to meet. This is the *you* that God made in His own image and likeness, and it is a *you* that existed before you were born.

... You must have some interest in knowing yourself as you have existed in God and as you will continue to exist in God throughout all time. It must interest you to know your parents and your children, not as they look in their physical frames, but what the Soul of them reveals, what God placed in them and what, for the most part, has been kept hidden throughout their span on earth.

... having been lifted up to that point where my heavenly Father could impart truth, I then behold you as you are, because I first beheld myself. I saw myself in the image and likeness of God; I saw myself as spiritual being existing before my birth and still living after my death. Because I saw that, I saw your identity. It was only then that I began to love people, to want to be with them, to travel to meet them, and to learn about them and from them, and share with them.

Pp 44

... God expresses Itself as individual Life from everlasting to everlasting. It never incarnates; It can never reincarnate.... Our body, the form that we use here, is but a cover for, or a hiding of, the Life that we really are.

... In our human sense, we have incarnated and we will reincarnate. It appears that we are a life within a Life. It is as if there were two of us: the one who sits here writing, and the real One, which is the intelligence, the life, and the being of my individual Self.

... That make-believe life of Joel will keep on making believe over and over again, until there is a “dying daily” leading to the final death of personal sense. What we behold with our eyes is but a form. The form changes, but the life does not change.

Pp 45

... Someday each one of you will have to realize what I am saying to you: I am *I*. I am that *I AM*, I always have been, and

I always will be. Should the time come when, instead of just sloughing off a little of this form each day, the whole thing drops away, I will still be *I*.

Pp 45-46

... So it is that what you see in the mirror is not you. You are the one who is seeing, but you are not that which is seen because you are looking out from behind your eyes and are beholding not you but your body.... Search as you will, you are not in your body, and you are not your body. Then, who are you? You are *I*, and your body is an instrument like the form of a tree—the bark, the root, the leaves—an instrument showing forth the glory of the invisible tree.

... When you see a leaf dying or withering on a tree or fruit dropping from a tree, remember that it is not the life that is dying; it is the form that is changing.

... You are Life: you are not body.

Pp 46

... when the day comes that this body drops away, you will be there forming another body, just as the life of the tree is still there ready to form the leaves, the blossoms, and the fruit of the new season. Eventually you can see that the *I* of you keeps on forming more and better bodies, more and more mature bodies unto eternity.

Pp 46-47

... Dying does not ensure immortality. Immortality is an activity of truth in your consciousness and can just as well be experienced while you are on earth as in any future lifetime.

... *The I that I am has brought this body from infancy to maturity, and It will keep right on until this body falls away and I immediately appear in my new form.*

Pp 47

... When you turn within to the God-consciousness of your being, always remember that you are uniting with everyone of spiritual light.

... So learn to set aside time for an inner communion with the Spirit of God that is always within you that It may reveal Itself to you and give you Its grace, Its truth, Its healing and freeing influence.

Pp 48

... Do not wait for immortality to come at some later time. If you are not experiencing it, retire into a meditation in which you realize the omnipresence of the life of God as your life. If you do not succeed today or tonight, go peacefully and quietly to sleep, but remember that tomorrow you owe yourself a debt, and that is to return again in meditation to the realization of the omnipresence of the life of God as your life.... Continue until the “still small voice” says to you, “I will never leave you nor forsake you, for I am come that you might have life eternal.” Then you will be living your immortality.

Pp 49

... We do not deny the fact that eventually there is a transition from the human plane. Why not begin to understand it instead of fearing it and hating it, and recognize it as merely a change of locale, a change from one state or form of life to another, but always under the government of God? Neither life nor death can separate us from the government of God, from the love, the care, and the life of God.

... in the experience of life, the experience of death, the experience before our birth, or the experience after our death, we still are one with our Source.... This, too, is prayer. This, too, is contemplation.

Pp 51

... The life of the Christ is forever. The life of the Christ is embodied in you and me. It is your very life; It is my very life. It will never leave us. It will go with us from glory to glory, from manifestation to manifestation.

... Only in meditation is this revealed, and it is in these periods of meditation that the innermost secrets of the spiritual kingdom are revealed to us.

... Through meditation, spiritual discernment is developed, and through spiritual discernment it is possible for the kingdom of God to reveal itself to you from within you. Without the capacity for spiritual discernment, be assured that the Kingdom cannot reveal itself to you.

... Someday you will have an experience and learn that you are *I*, that your Self cannot be confined in time or in space, but that you exist beyond time and beyond space. Then you will know the secret of preexistence.

Pp 51

... That *I* is the identity of those who have gone out of our physical sight; It is our identity; and It is the identity of those still unborn. And that is immortality.

Pp 52

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Search: “real life”

From The 1954 Honolulu Lecture Series

... This human sense of life isn't your real life. Your real life is the life that you're living in your Soul, in your Spirit. That's your real life.

68 B 1954 Honolulu Lecture Series
“Infinite Way Treatment”

From *The Thunder of Silence*

... When we are not thinking of food or money or climate or any effect as constituting our security and when we realize that our real life is sustained by the word of God, we are living the spiritual life with no dependence on human beings, on human investments, or human positions—not throwing them away or casting them out of our life, but realizing that they are the added things in life, part of God’s grace made manifest, and therefore there is no thought whatsoever of fear should they be taken from us.

The Thunder of Silence
Chapter 12 – “Resist Not”

Search: “parenthesis”

From *A Parenthesis in Eternity*

... One mystic described this life as “a parenthesis in eternity.” This life! Observing life objectively and using the circle as symbolic of all life, it is obvious that we have come from the past into a parenthesis in the circle, and when this parenthesis is removed—the one marking birth and the other marking death—we will be on our way into another parenthesis, or what is called the future. This should help us to understand that our present life on earth is only an interval in eternity.

A Parenthesis in Eternity
Chapter 9 – “An Interval in Eternity”

Search: “throughout all time”

From The 1962 Princess Kaiulani Open Class

... There are untold people who have gone through this last half-century peacefully, healthfully, prosperously, joyously. They are the ones who dwelt in the “secret place of the most High,” and none of these evils of the world came nigh their dwelling place. Even in war they found safety and security; even in depression they found sufficiency. It can be done. It

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is being done. It has been done throughout all time, but not by the “thousand at my left, or the ten thousand at my right,” but by the individual, or small groups of individuals, who have known enough to know that there is only one God, and that God is within you.

475 A 1962 Princess Kaiulani Open Class
“Ten Second Meditations”

Search: “a you”

From The 1960 Christchurch Closed Class

... There is a *you* that tells your feet in what direction you want them to walk; there is a *you* that tells your hands whether to give or receive; there is a *you* that decides when you will go to sleep at night or when you will get up in the morning—and you have got to learn this, for this is another of our basic principles: there is a *you*, a *you*, an individual, inextinguishable *You*, indestructible *You*, the offspring of God, the manifestation of Life Itself. As a matter of fact, all that God is, you are; and all that the Father hath is yours, because your relationship with the Father is oneness. And now remember, because of this, you have never been born; because of this, you can never die. You can come into expression on this plane and you can leave this plane, but be born—never! die—never! Because you are inextinguishable Life, indestructible Life Itself. You are the very *I* that I am...

381 A 1960 Christchurch Closed Class
“Working With Specific Principles”

Search: “is not you”

From *The Heart of Mysticism, Volume Four*

... So we look back and we see ourselves give up our dolls and toys; and, then, marbles, baseball, football, and school

books; and, finally, we leave behind parenthood. Each time, as a function of our life drops away, we leave a part of our body behind and acquire a different concept of body and with it a different role in life. You must come to the point where you understand your body and its function in your life; you must understand that you are not this body, and this body is not you: This body is an instrument through which you are functioning. You are the life of the body; you are the soul of the body; you are the intelligence of the body. You are that which uses the body as an instrument for your activities. You are that which walks or writes or paints or buys or sells, but the body is the instrument for the performance of that activity, and it is always obedient to you.

The Heart of Mysticism, Volume Four
Chapter 3 – “Understanding the Body”

Search: “drops away”

From The 1951 Second Portland Series

...And so, the word “I” is given up, more and more, and more the word “I” drops out of our vocabulary, except in those moments when we hear it spoke to us within our own being. The “I” that is Joel, that “I” drops away, and Joel becomes a beholder of the activity of God. Joel becomes a vehicle, or an instrument, through which, or as which God acts, and all responsibility is on His shoulder.

603 B 1951 Second Portland Series
“The Spiritual Life”

From *Living by Grace*

... What you see in the mirror is merely a body: it is not you. You are what is described in the word *I*. *I* is what constitutes you. It is the life of your body. It is what gives your body its direction. When your body drops away, the *I* of you does

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not drop off, for the *I* is your life force, your being. The *I* immediately takes on a new body. As you step forth from your present body, you may find yourself in a body that is a bit strange to you because the *I*, being incorporeal, spiritual life, is of no particular sex. Only the body is male or female. Then, too, your new body will be suitable to the atmosphere in which you will now function.

Living by Grace

Chapter 2 – “Rising to Spiritual Consciousness”

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