CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL READING

THE ELECTRONIC SEARCH TOOL

FOR

The Art of Meditation

PART 2: THE EXPERIENCE

CHAPTER 15

"The Beauty of Holiness"

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CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS AND
SUPPLEMENTAL READING

FOR

The Art of Meditation

CHAPTER 15

"The Beauty of Holiness"

Chapter Highlights

… "O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."

Psalms 96:8, 9

…Meditation is not an end in itself.

…We do not want God *and me*: we want *God alone*. That is the final step on the spiritual Path.

Pp 133

…Even a little understanding of God enables us to discern, in a measure, God's life, love, and joy embodied in man and the universe. In this understanding, our life and love expand and become more pure, joyous, and free, leading us into a higher dimension of life.

…The more understanding we have of Cause, God, the greater is our enjoyment of all persons and things….Only through penetrating the realm of the Invisible, this higher or fourth dimension of life, do we begin to perceive the law of love at work.

…What miracle of invisible activity has transformed a dry seed, a handful of earth, and a little water into a flower! The invisible life, operating through the moisture in the ground,

touched the seed, broke it open, and caused little shoots to take root.

…What marvel, what wonder, what miracle is this unfolding before our very eyes, unseen, unknown, inexplicable! Only God, the Infinite Invisible, could produce such beauty and grace.

Pp 134

…Because the form is inseparable and indivisible from its source, even the form is eternal.

…On the table before us is a tiny ivory representation of the Buddha. Let us try to visualize the artist seated before the piece of ivory, which he has painstakingly selected for its beauty and purity of color. Can you imagine how lovingly he fondled this inert mass as its ultimate form began to take shape in his mind? Can you see beyond the man, himself, and discern the beauty of soul, the purity of mind, the divine Intelligence which guided and gave skill to his fingers?

…Just as the artist has poured himself out as this little figure or as nature has poured itself out as a beautiful flower; so do we live by the grace of an invisible Presence and Power, which is forever pouring Itself out as creation.

Pp 135

…Meditation on the activity of God appearing as natural phenomena or as any other form of beauty will teach us to look through man to his divine origin, taking no cognizance of his failures or successes.

…All the forces of the Invisible unite to form the visible expression of intelligence, life love, and joy. This is not discernible through a cursory observation of a person, any more than is the invisible cause of a plant or work of art perceptible to the senses.

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…In the light of such perception, every individual is recognized as an expression of the infinite divine Being pouring Itself into manifestation.

…Only in the degree that we understand the nature of God can we understand the nature of individual being.

…Meditation must always have God as its subject and God as its object, because subject and object are one, not two.

Pp 136

…Those who live in a three-dimensional world live only in the world of height, width, and depth; in other words, they live in a world of form, completely separated from the essence of that which appears outwardly as the form. In the fourth dimension, in which God is the cause, substance, and the reality of life, all effect, whether appearing as thing or man, is revealed as but the showing forth of the infinite Being, God.

…How can we be separated from God?

…Can the love of the artist ever be separated and apart from that which it has created? We see the ivory figure; we see the state of consciousness that evolved it. How can the greatness or grandeur of the invisible life force of nature ever be separate from its form? We see the plant, we see the divine life force which formed it—they are one, inseparable, and indivisible. In the fourth-dimensional world, cause and effect, subject and object are one.

…Gradually we go deeper and deeper until we find ourselves centered in God. We are not thinking any more: thoughts are being thought for us, ideas are being crystallized through us, impartations of the Soul become apparent to our awareness.

Pp 137

…Meditation is the art of divine appreciation…

…Meditation develops the insight which carries us from the object to its creative principle, and then, with this new insight, the world is revealed as it really is.

…Through meditation, a new dimension of life will unfold. No longer will we be limited to time or space, to height, width, or depth, because instantly the mind will leap from the three-dimensional form to the fourth dimension, which is its origin, cause, and source.

…That which formed us will never leave us nor forsake us. Its essence is our very being.

Pp 138

…Meditation on God's handiwork is one way of bringing the Soul-faculties into active expression and of understanding the higher wisdom.

…We must learn to look not only at sunsets, gardens, or any beautiful appearance, but to look beyond them and catch a glimpse of that which brought them into expression. Then we shall always have permanent forms of beauty and permanent forms of harmony, because we shall have that perfect divine Essence which is ever forming Itself anew.

…The object of our work is to elevate ourselves to that divine apprehension where we see God appearing in all of God's glory—not in man's glory, but God's glory as the glory of man—showing forth the infinite perfection of God's handiwork. We are lifted into a state of divine illumination in which we behold God's world already perfect and complete, God manifesting Itself in all Its glory.

Pp 139

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Search: "joyous"

From *The Only Freedom*

…Our function is to attain more and more of this Christ-realization, for that is our particular contribution. First of all, it is our particular contribution to our own life. To live in constant and conscious God-realization is to live a joyous, satisfied, and satisfying life, for ourselves individually, but beyond that, it becomes our contribution to the world. Our ultimate destiny is not a material but a spiritual destiny, and we can fulfill it only as we begin to fulfill our function in the place where we are now.

The Only Freedom
Chapter 8 – "God Realized"

From *Leave Your Nets*

…Go to this pool, this infinite pool of joyous substance; commune; feel it as it fills your consciousness, as it circulates within your being.

Leave Your Nets
Chapter 10 – "Inasmuch as Ye Have
Done It Unto One of the Least of These"

Search: "meditation is not"

From *The Contemplative Life*

…Meditation is not a means to an end. Meditation is a contemplation of the deep things of spiritual reality, of the

rhythm of the universe, a dwelling in the Kingdom within, and then as its climax, an inner communion with the Spirit of man, a contact with his Soul, a revelation of the truth behind the mysteries of life.

The Contemplative Life
Chapter 5 – "Steps on the Path of Illumination"

Search: "is inseparable"

From The 1962 Chicago Closed Class

…Do you remember Paul saying, "neither life nor death can separate me from the love of God." Do you see that there is a "me"; there is a "me" which is inseparable from God; there is a "me" that is inseparable from the love of God; there is a "me" that is inseparable from the life of God?

468A 1962 Chicago Closed Class
"Discovery of My Self"

Search: "visible expression"

From *The Heart of Mysticism, Volume Six*

… Our relationship to the one Life is much the same as that of an individual tree to the earth. Each one of us is an individual, the visible expression of an invisible Life. When we know this and consciously make contact with It, we no longer have a life of our own: It is Its life that flows out into expression as our experience; and our Source being infinite, our demonstration is as infinite as we are able to accept.

The Heart of Mysticism, Volume Six
Chapter 11 – "Prayer and Treatment Through the Spirit"

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Search "world of form"

From The 1952 Honolulu Closed Class

…when you have the awareness, the consciousness of God's presence, you have all there is in this world of form and activity. To pray for a thing separate and apart from God would almost be like praying for a branch of the tree, whereas to pray for the tree would include the branches, the flowers, the fruits.

18A 1952 Honolulu Closed Class –
How to Pray"

From *Living Now*

… If you live and move and have your being in the realization of God as Consciousness, you will be living in heaven. Heaven will be your earth, and the laws of heaven will function as the laws of your earth. If you accept good and evil, however, or if you believe for a moment that God has any chosen people, you have lost it all. You must see that behind this world of form there is an invisible Consciousness out of which all that exists is formed. God is the universal, divine Consciousness, and there can be no exceptions.

Living Now
Chapter 8 – "Beyond Words and Thoughts"

Search: "how can we be separated"

From The 1951 Second Portland Series

…Now that we've touched the invisible realm, we can understand: why, how true! How could the love of that artist ever be separate and apart from that which it created? How can the skill, how can the purity of soul and mind of that artist, ever be separate from the form it created? How can the

greatness, the grandeur of nature ever be separate or apart from this form, and how can God, the Father and Mother principle of our being, ever be separate and apart from our individual being? How can we be separated from God? How can we be separated from good?

604A 1951 Second Portland Series
"A Higher Meditation"

Search: "a new dimension of life"

From *A Parenthesis in Eternity*

…How different life is now when we travel easily and comfortably four, five, or six hundred miles a day in an automobile! Almost simultaneously with the increased mobility made possible by the automobile came the day of the airplane which took us completely above the earth, and made our travels and our experience almost limitless. We were no longer earthbound. We had entered a new dimension of life. But those who have experienced the limitlessness and boundlessness of the Spirit have gone far beyond the new dimension of the automobile and the airplane into still another dimension of life—unbelievably higher and wider.

A Parenthesis in Eternity
Chapter 12 – "The Discovery of the Self"

From The 1951 Second Portland Series

…Oh, if we could only know God! Oh, if we could only taste or touch one drop of God! If we could have an infinitesimal grasp on the divine reality we call God, how wonderful all creation would appear to be! And it is meditation that carries us back; meditation that permits us to go right through the object, or person, back to its creative source, or principle, and

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then knowing it, come back to the world again. The Infinite Way will open to you a new dimension of life, because no longer will you be limited to time or space, to height, width, or depth, because instantly your mind, your soul will jump from the appearance, from the three-dimensional form to the fourth dimension of its origin, of its cause, of its source. That's the fourth dimension.

604A 1951 Second Portland Series
"A Higher Meditation"

Search: "the object of our work"

From *A Message for the Ages*

…The object of the spiritual life is to be fulfilled. We want only to be filled full of God. That is the object of our work—to live and move and have our being in God, of God, and through God. The whole function of the Infinite Way is fulfillment: fulfilling ourselves with the truth of God, with the love of God, the life of God, the spirit of God, and then letting all the other things and conditions be added unto us.

A Message for the Ages
Chapter 1 – "The Need for Religion"

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