CHAPTER 8

"THE WAY OF LOVE"

It is appropriate at this time for us to enter together into an experience known as Love. In the 13th chapter of First Corinthians, we read:

If I speak with the tongues of men and angels but have not Love, I am become as sounding brass, or a clanging cymbal. And if I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not Love, I am nothing. And if I bestow all my goods to feed the poor and if I give my body to be burned, but have not Love, it profiteth me nothing. Love suffereth long and is kind; Love envieth not; Love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not its own, is not provoked, taketh not account of evil; rejoiceth not in uprighteousness, but rejoiceth in the Truth; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things. endureth all things. Love never faileth; but whether there be prophecies, they shall be done away; whether there be tongues they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall be done away. For now we know in part and we prophecy in part; but when that which is perfect is come, that which is in part shall be done away. For now we know in part and we prophecy in part; but when that which is perfect is come, that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I felt as a child, I thought as a child; now that I am become a man, I have put away childish things. For now we are in a mirror, darkly; but then face to face; now I know as part; but then shall I know fully even as also I am fully known. But now abideth faith, hope, Love, these three; and the greatest of these is Love.

All of the religions in the world come to the final teaching: Love. Yet, we discover that Love cannot be taught. Jesus said that we are to love God. He said, "The Lord our God is one Lord; and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment." (Mark12:30) To love God is to seek Him, to seek Trust within ourselves first. We know that what we love is that to which we give our attention. To what do we give our attention?

We give it to the clothes that we wear; we give it to our jobs; we give it to our responsibilties; we give our attention to the mistakes that we have made. We give it to our husbands, our wives or our children. We give it to money, vacations, achievements, success, relationships. Yet we do not seem to hear the basic message, and that is: Love God first." Let us devote our attention to God within first.

Like attracts like. Love God as God loves you. We have to reach that point in our loves where we are willing to give up excessive mental activities and simply love. We have to prepare a place in our minds for God. Is there a place in your mental activity for God? Does the Truth within you express Itself through Divine Ideas? We have to prepare a place within our hearts for the Love of God. Is there a place in your heart right now for Divine Love? Is all of your emotional nature consumed merely by the desires and passions of human need? Is there a place, a room in your heart for God's Love? All we have to do to bring Love's ideas and impulses into manifestation is to recognize them. Then we have the privilege of watching creation come forth from these ideas. When Love comes into our heart and feeling nature, we find that it is easy for us to forgive

ourselves and others. We discover, when Love enters our heart, there is no longer fear, anxiety, disease or poverty. We live with good will. Love is the dynamic, unifying Presence in our world.

When we turn within and direct our attention to Truth, Truth flows into our minds and hearts. The Truth always seeks to express Itself. It always brings great gifts to any individual who gives his attention to It. As we give our attention to God, we acknowledge the Truth within us and recognize that this Truth is the answer to everything. God becomes our Companion. Truth personifies Itself when you recognize It-as through some new friend. When you "put God first," then Love personifies Itself through all whom you meet. When you recognize Love first, then God becomes your Divine Lover. That Love may be personified in some person who comes into your life and loves you as God does, totally.

For thousand years, since the advent of Christ in Jesus, this message has been trying to penetrate human consciousness. Wise men have known this and have accepted this Truth for many thousands of years. The key is recognition. Once we know this, we begin to accept God as the answer to every need.

Thus, Spirit flows through our life until our earthly household is filled with companions who share in love, in joy and recognition. Those who belong in your spiritual house on all levels, will recognize you, and you, them. This is the joy of heaven on earth, when we love one another.

After we have undergone our inner inquiry, after we have listened and responded to our inner Voice, after we have fully utilized our basic principles and have become thoroughly self-disciplined, and after we have experienced the mystical marriage and have become, totally, disciples of the Holy Spirit, and after this entire process has completed and fulfilled Itself in us as us, then we can truly understand and embody Contemplation: The activity of Mystical Consciousness. Then we can truly love God first, and love one another.