

FAITH AND WORKS BY HELEN ZAGAT THE DIVINE ATTRIBUTES

Since we are trying to increase the quality of spiritual understanding in ourselves, we must establish a basis that is clear. To this end let us examine the nature of the divine attributes.

We realise from our study of Divine Science that God is Divine Mind or Living Intelligence, creating through infinite ideas. These perfect creative ideas are the basis and foundation from which the creation stems forth. The more alive and vivid that these attributes become to us, the greater is our growth and progress.

Since we understand that God is everywhere present as Mind Essence, and that God is all, there can be nothing outside of God. Therefore, we cannot consider these attributes as external gifts from a distant Being. Each attribute is God in another aspect. The One Mind, contemplating itself generates spiritual activity. The divine attributes are basic. They are God in creative activity.

For instance, when we understand Truth principles, we do not think that God gives life. We know that God is life, since we are always connected with the Source through the "breath of life," or Mind Essence, we partake of that perfect life.

The basic attributes are these. God is Life, Wisdom, Love, Substance, and Power. Since God is all, God Omnipresence, Omnipotence.

Man has the power of choice since he is made in God's image - that is, with the power to think and the power of volition. Man can choose to turn within, or to turn without; to turn in thought and feelings to the inner reality, or to turn to the changing appearance of the outer world. The inner is stable, perfect, eternal.

Let us examine the true nature of the divine attributes. Let us try to find the key that opens the way to our making them consciously ours. In this way shall we find the path to peace, safety, joy, health, prosperity and glorious unfoldment. This way leads us to unshakable faith in God.

1. God Is Life

God is Life. There is only one life, God-Life. Life is an attribute in Divine Mind. Life is the animating principle in the creation. It is the creative propelling force. It is the vital, lively essence that animates the whole creation.

All movement and animation are expressions of the idea of life in Divine Mind. This Life idea inheres in the omnipresent spiritual Substance, ever ready to come into manifestation according to the thought patterns of man.

God as the principle of orderly good is the life or vitality and activity within the creation.

Divine Life is the vital action of Divine Mind. It is the workable principle; creative activity; the full propelling force. Without life there would be no expression.

All manifest life has its first cause as an idea of life in Divine Mind. The cause is perfect. Any

imperfect or evil effects are due to man's mistaken use of the power to think. The character of the manifestation is dependent on the character of the thought and feeling patterns of man. Therefore it behoves us to make a consistent effort to change our thinking, to change our acceptance of unstable appearances to realisation of invisible Truth.

Through the ages, man has accepted appearances around him as cause. Ignorance, fears, lack or reasoning have caused man to build up a mountain of false beliefs that come into form as unhappy formations.

So, we must learn to clear out the false and to build into consciousness acceptance of the divine ideals. Then these ideals will come into form without a struggle, increasing in power as we become established in faith. Spirit fulfils.

Do not think that the only time to use the idea of Life is when one has an appearance of imperfect health. Quite the contrary, by accepting the divine attribute consciously we establish ourselves in its character, and so we do not attract the appearances of illness. The attribute of divine life, when we accept it, is the activity in our affairs as well. Thus we can see a career, a business or a profession that may seem to be stagnant, slow or failing, awakened to splendid activity. It is through divine life activity that achievement comes forth.

If we are truly desirous of finding heaven on earth, we must be willing to watch the subtle undercurrent of our thought and or our feeling, for old habits in consciousness persists. As the within so the without, is the way of manifestation.

If we wish to manifest health as we continue on our pathway of life rather than to accept the race belief of going downhill as the years of time pass, we must avoid the acceptance of thoughts that are heavy and that cramp the growth of consciousness. For instance, do not accept symptoms of illness in yourself or in others as being real. Do not give power to materiality as the cause of imperfect appearances. Substitute the idea of life, pure and perfect. Do not stay with a feeling of weariness or weakness. Immediately relax and declare: - God is Life, perfect, vital, pure. I am one with God. I am one with Divine Life. Spirit renews me.

Realise this Truth. Accept it. Practice until the truth in the statement becomes completely yours. Thus you are building into your consciousness and into your body the perfect Life attribute.

Knowing our oneness with God brings forth the divine attributes. Oneness really means likeness, sameness or identical nature. This full acceptance of oneness carries us forward on our pathway, to glorious heights of understanding and of growth.

Since God is all, there is nothing outside God. Since God is Life, there is nothing outside Life. Therefore, there is no death in reality. There are only varying aspects of life. And so, when a soul slips off the garment of this visible, manifest life, it has moved to the other side of Divine Life. To establish this understanding in our consciousness helps to release the accepted burdens of old age, weakness, sickness, death and sorrow; and to build in the qualities of life showing forth as health, vitality, strength, joy, purpose.

We learn to think of the universal oneness of the Creator and the creation. We know that there is no separation, in truth, when a loved one has gone to the other side of life. We do not mourn but

we try to realise that that one is continuing on a pathway of life, ever evolving. There is no real separation, for we are all one in Spirit.

Jesus taught: - In my Father's house are many mansions. This indicates to us the many aspects of Life.