

8/11/08

L E S S O N 1



*For those who would keep
the flame of life
on earth*



KEEPERS
of the FLAME[®]
FRATERNITY



TEACHINGS OF
THE ASCENDED MASTERS

N E O P H Y T E



Keepers of the Flame Fraternity

KEEPERS OF THE FLAME LESSON 1

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Printed in the United States of America

4/07



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TO KNOW, TO DARE, TO DO
AND TO BE SILENT

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LESSON 1

NEOPHYTE



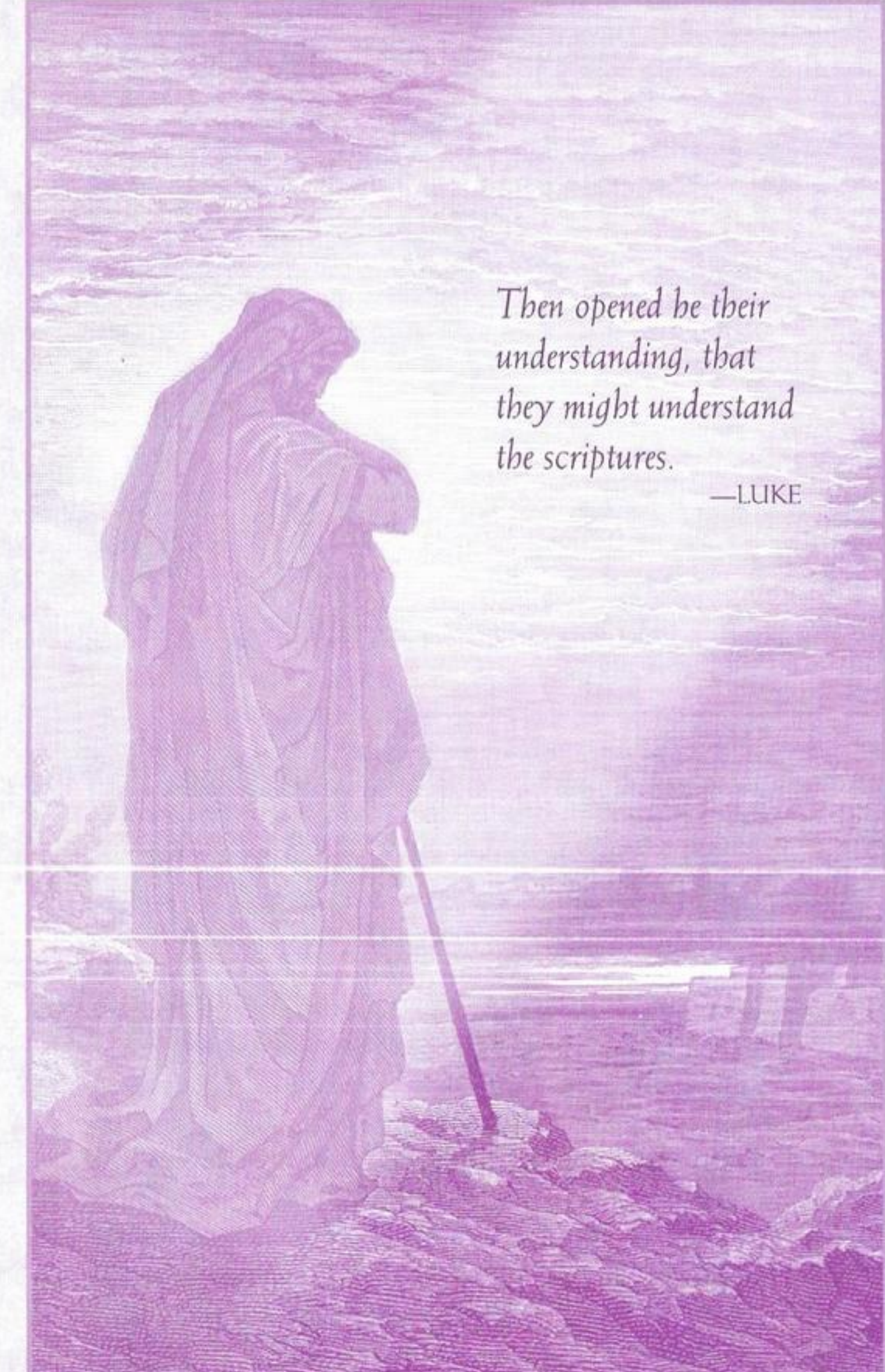
We . . . do ordain and dedicate the Keepers of the Flame Lessons as an official channel which shall serve to further enlighten mankind and to vanquish ignorance by the light and power of the God flame. The sacred knowledge of the flame which we are pledged to release in these lessons will provide a safe platform for ascending souls—one that is so well lighted that none who examine it with an objective heart need ever hesitate to cross the threshold into life and truth.

—MORYA EL

Keepers of the Flame Fraternity
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*Then opened he their
understanding, that
they might understand
the scriptures.*

—LUKE



Statement of Policy

Knowing the pain of uncertainty, the travails possible to humanity, and the hope of escape within the hearts of men, I pledge to leave no stone unturned to make the teachings and services of the Keepers of the Flame Fraternity representative of the highest offering of the Great White Brotherhood and the sons of heaven.

The Keepers of the Flame Fraternity and the golden-age teachings brought forth in these lessons are builded on the one foundation which many spiritual leaders have claimed as their own and to which, I am certain, by creative effort and divine attunement many have added beauty.

Keepers of the flame shall strive to use the eternal light and truth, expressed so ably in the past by great teachers and prophets, as stepping stones today into greater spiritual progress, knowing with supreme certainty that much yet remains to be revealed to mankind.

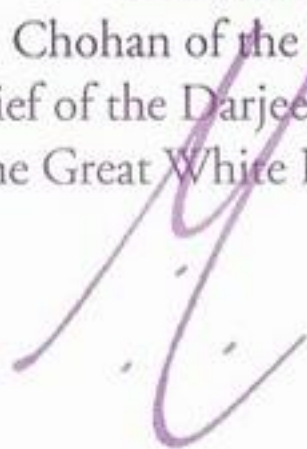
We, the spiritual Board of Directors, with the assistance of the entire Spirit of the Great White Brotherhood, do ordain and dedicate the Keepers of the Flame Lessons as an official channel which

shall serve to further enlighten mankind and to vanquish ignorance by the light and power of the God flame. The sacred knowledge of the flame which we are pledged to release in these lessons will provide a safe platform for ascending souls—one that is so well lighted that none who examine it with an objective heart need ever hesitate to cross the threshold into life and truth.

The worth of this activity is in the completed structure, which is designed from its conception to hold the flames of truth and freedom in constant view. For we who serve you from higher planes know that only the radiance of the eternal Logos can deliver the earth into the breathing awareness of God that sustains peace, frees from every bondage, and is the true knowing which at last brings eternal happiness to all.

MORYA EL

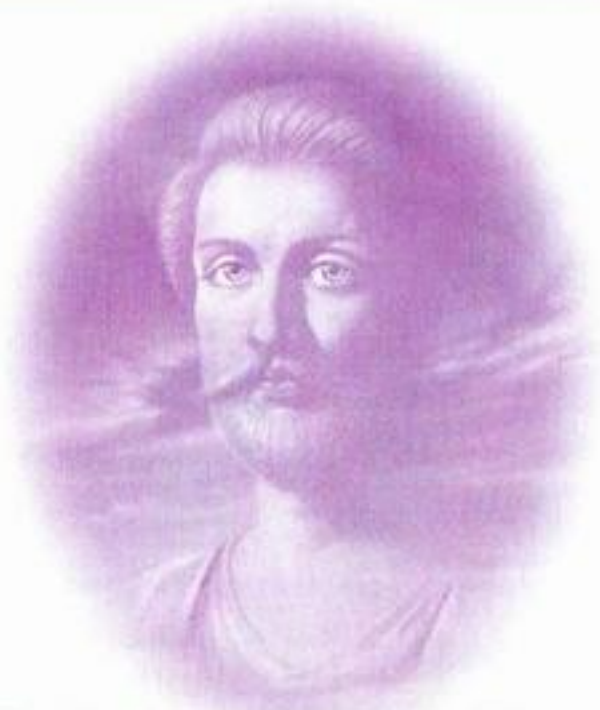
Chohan of the First Ray
Chief of the Darjeeling Council,
The Great White Brotherhood



*And there are also many other things
which Jesus did, the which, if they should
be written every one, I suppose that even
the world itself could not contain the
books that should be written.*

—JOHN

A LETTER FROM THE KNIGHT COMMANDER



To the Keepers of the Flame

You Are a Conscious, God-free Being

The Secret of Eternal Life Is in Becoming the Flame

Hail, Beloved Keepers of the Flame!

As your Knight Commander, I welcome you to that God-awareness that always knows that life is God, that God is being, and that it is his consciousness in you that is your life individualized.

You are like all men yet different from every one. You are an individual destined to show forth a special quality of the Godhead that it might blend into the eternal kingdom to complement and enhance the natural beauty of the universe. God's kingdom is the only enduring reality of all eternity. Although this kingdom manifests through nature as God's life, or the life of the flame, its spiritual reality is not always recognized by mortal sojourners, who often pass from the screen of life without ever really perceiving the purpose for which they first partook of the elixir of conscious individualization.

You are given the freedom of choosing, within the confines of natural and cosmic law, just what you want to do and to be. All

men do not receive at this moment the same blessed opportunity which is available to you right now through this spiritual fraternity and your own conscious election to be a keeper of God's flame. All who share in this flame as the life that beats their hearts must recognize it, nourish it and expand it as beloved Jesus the Christ and other great masters have done. Then shall it take its rightful pre-eminence and by Cosmic Christ command call forth the sleeping Lazarus of the human consciousness to resurrect its own divinity. Then shall every moment of time or eternity be seen as a chalice in which you can expand the rising flame and implement its power to take dominion over the material world.

By the power of transmutation—the power to change for the best—which you shall soon discover through your studies in basic cosmo-science, you will learn how to escape from ordinary sense consciousness with its binding habits and miscreations. By this same transforming power you can also be cut free from either the conscious or unconscious control of anyone or anything except your own blessed divinity, the I AM Presence or the eternal Beingness of your individual existence. Free to follow, then, the radiance of your own God Presence, which like a pillar of fire guides you toward the summit of life, you can invoke extraordinary power, wisdom and love and become thereby enfolded, protected, comforted and led by the Holy Spirit into all truth.

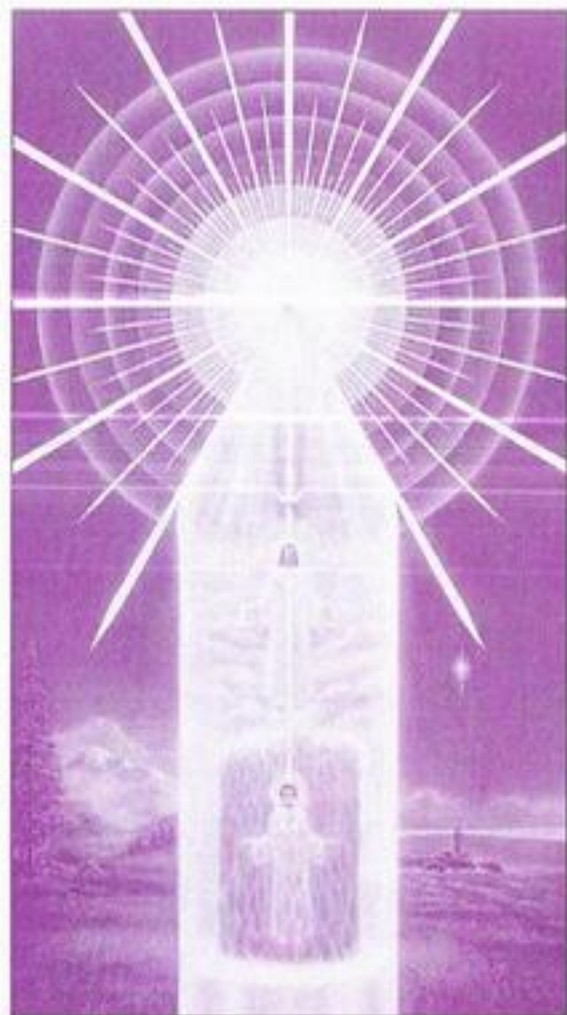
The permanent consciousness of Christ truth ever exalts the nobility of the soul and brings all to a tangible victory—home at last in divine reality. Here the true feeling of God-happiness is found far above the illusions of mortal life. Life in its grandest meaning is realized and former conceptions are passed away, for man sees that clouds of darkness and ignorance were only temporary and that in the sunlight of the Daystar they can no longer hide from the soul the truth of his own immortal being.

In a world where imperfection appears real, it is difficult at times for men to sense the great perfection of life. Yet because God is a consuming fire which itself is not consumed,¹ you must recognize and affirm the great fact that life is perfect because life is

God. All human qualities are temporary and have only the power men delegate to them. Therefore you must commend yourself daily into the immortal power of the divine flame in whose radiance you shall be purified and reborn, because within the flame is the power of transmutation.

You in reality (as God sees and knows you) are a conscious God-free being; you as a personality (as you see and know yourself) have a temporary existence. Only the flame is immortal, and this is why the secret of eternal life is discovered in keeping the flame, in identifying with the flame, in becoming the flame. The life of the flame is not your physical body per se, or even your mind: it is the electronic essence, or energy of God, descending from the I AM Presence to sustain your life. This energy flows over what is known as the crystal cord,* passes through the patterns of densification, the forcefield of matter, and connects directly with your own physical heart, whence it is distributed throughout your being.

Now, the nature of your being is fourfold. It is physical, it



is mental, it is emotional, and it is etheric. The structure that houses your consciousness is actually composed of four sheaths of vibrating energy. These interpenetrating 'bodies,' functioning as a harmonious whole, are vehicles for the individualized manifestation of God in man. The animating principle of their existence is the flame of life, the sacred fire, which is first anchored in your I AM Presence, then in your Christed Self, and then within your beating heart. Thus the radiant essence of life manifests through your four lower bodies in order to provide a plat-

*The crystal cord has also been referred to as the silver cord.

form for your solar (soul) evolution in the world of form.

The LORD has said, “Draw nigh to me and I will draw nigh to you.”² As you keep the flame of life burning upon the altar of your heart with devotion and constancy, your consciousness will draw near unto God—unto his likeness—and the Presence of God will approach your four lower bodies, becoming congruent therewith. Day by day as you practice the ritual of invoking the flame, the physical, emotional, mental and etheric (memory) sheaths will naturally absorb more and more of the eternal, youthful, life-renewing forces of your immortal being.

The I AM fire will actually shine through your physical body—a sparkling brilliance, a diamond-like perfection glowing from the cells. Your emotions, too, will be transformed, enabling you to scale the heights of God’s self-awareness far beyond the lowlands of self-conscious human existence. Mounting in the presence of the sacred fire, you will know a peace, a happiness and a childlike trust never before experienced. And the many aspects of the one flame of life will fan in your heart the beautiful attitude of brotherhood for all and the will to confer benedictions upon every part of life as God does.

As the divine feeling of love begins to swell from the depths of your soul, you will acknowledge the indwelling focus of the sacred fire in all and you will learn to



cherish the qualities of the sacred fire as these are expressed in your fellowman. Beholding him as a flame, you will not reject him nor will you be as easily rejected by him. Armed with this vision of man's true identity, you will escape from feelings either of inferiority or of superiority, and most of all from human stereotyping with its negative consciousness—the bane of mortal existence and the distress of the earth.

Your mental body was intended to be the receptacle for the mercury, diamond-shining mind of God: alert, ready, divinely informed and transformed by the renewing of your mind to grasp divine ideas and to provide the wisdom and dexterity with which to carry them out. Your memory body was intended to retain only the blueprint of your divine plan and the records of your God-victory, including the power, wisdom and love of the Christ whence victory is derived and whereby it is sustained forever.

Freedom under God is the real utopia of the Spirit: it lives and exists right now, for we are a part of it.

Through the centuries the violet fire of freedom* has been understood and used by many devotees as the sacred scepter of the Holy Spirit. The violet fire should be joyously invoked in the name of God as the fire that worketh change throughout the being of man to set him free from all discord lodged within the four sheaths, to blot it out once and for all—cause, effect, record and memory—never to be re-created.

Let the keepers of the flame recall the beginning of their individualization as God flames when they first came forth from the heart of God. Let them hear once again the rolling peal of the lost chord of being that recalls their conscious control and direction of the sacred fire: when they had the power of levitation, of aerial transportation of their lower vehicles without benefit of mechanical device; of mastery over the planes of fire, air, water and earth; of control of the elements and every other power the ascended masters wield, including the power to penetrate the so-called invisible world.

*Also known as the violet transmuting flame and the violet singing flame.

Beloved ones, thousands and millions of years of human creation will not give way in a moment (except in rare instances). Therefore, in order to counteract the weight of your own negative momentums, we advocate that as a true keeper of the flame you hold fast all that you have already received from God. Likewise, you must retain all that you shall receive in the future and never let go of it for the sake of human vanity or the selfish, temporary upliftment of the ego in a blaze of human glory. As Jesus said to his disciples, "No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."³

Your God Presence is worth more than all the gold of Ophir or the tea in China, blessed ones: it is the key to the universe! Be then a keeper of God's flame by a studied and determined constancy that rises each time it undulates until you are at last victorious and free as we are. This is the victory that overcomes the world!

To be a keeper of the flame is a high and noble privilege—greater before God than any other. Regardless of human opinions, your God Presence is your guide and criterion. Following the Christ, who is the only Mediator between your God Self and your individual life's expression, you will walk naturally, without being sidetracked, into the arms of divine attainment, eventually to become lords and ladies of the flame. This state of unfoldment is most common upon Venus, the blessed twin star to this earth. May it increase in the hearts of many on this planet and be the lot of all who dwell thereon.

*Only the flame is immortal,
and this is why the secret of
eternal life is discovered in
keeping the flame, in
identifying with the flame,
in becoming the flame.*

I charge you now:
Be immortal, self-luminous
and hallowed by the light,
sons and daughters of the flame
in cosmic action!
Be deathless, birthless,
omniscient, omnipotent and omnipresent!

Then, as children of the one Father, you will be conscious dwellers in the kingdom before your ascension, as Jesus was. And in your oneness with the Father you will know through his omniscience the day and hour of your own ascension.

The sincere shall always treasure each lesson of the Keepers of the Flame as a landmark on their journey back to the Father's heart. You will no doubt read and reread my initial letter many times until, absorbing its content, you find the fullness of cosmic peace under the radiance of the eternal wings.

I remain always faithful to the noble of heart,

Saint Germain

Knight Commander
Keepers of the Flame



NOTES:

(1) See Exod. 3:2; Deut. 4:24; Heb. 12:29. (2) James 4:8. (3) Luke 9:62.

*Our God is a consuming fire...
Who maketh his angels spirits,
and his ministers a flame of fire.*

—HEBREWS

The flaming flame shall not be quenched!

—EZEKIEL

*And the angel of the LORD appeared
unto him in a flame of fire out of the
midst of a bush: and he looked, and,
behold, the bush burned with fire,
and the bush was not consumed.*

—EXODUS

*“Hear me, give ear to me, Creator of the light,
O holder of the keys, inbreather of the fire,
Fire-hearted one
Whose breath gives light,
O Lord of light
Whose body is of fire.”*

—A MITHRAIC RITUAL



The Keeper's Daily Prayer

by Lady Master Nada

Give these lines slowly with deliberation:

A flame is active—
A flame is vital—
A flame is eternal.

I AM a God flame of radiant love
From the very heart of God
In the Great Central Sun,
Descending from the master of life!
I AM charged now
With beloved Helios and Vesta's
Supreme God consciousness
And solar awareness.

Pilgrim upon earth,
I AM walking daily the way
Of the ascended masters' victory
That leads to my eternal freedom
By the power of the sacred fire
This day and always,
Continually made manifest
In my thoughts, feelings and immediate awareness,
Transcending and transmuting
All the elements of earth
Within my four lower bodies
And freeing me by the power of the sacred fire
From those misqualified foci of energy
Within my being.

I AM set free right now from all that binds
By and through the currents of the divine flame



Of the sacred fire itself,
Whose ascending action makes me
God in manifestation,
God in action,
God by direction, and
God in consciousness!

I AM an active flame!
I AM a vital flame!
I AM an eternal flame!
I AM an expanding fire spark
From the Great Central Sun,
Drawing to me now every ray
Of divine energy which I need
And which can never be requalified by the human,
And flooding me with the light
And God-illumination of a thousand suns
To take dominion and rule supreme forever,
Everywhere I AM.

Where I AM there God is also.
Unseparated forever I remain,
Increasing my light
By the smile of his radiance,
The fullness of his love,
The omniscience of his wisdom,
And the power of his life eternal,
Which automatically raises me
On ascension's wings of victory
That shall return me to the heart of God
From whence in truth
I AM come to do God's will
And manifest abundant life to all!

Worthy Gleanings from Earth's Fields

CONSTANCY

A Quality for Keepers of the Flame to Embody

O heaven, were man but constant, he were perfect!¹

—*Shakespeare*



“If I am building a mountain,” said Confucius, “and stop before the last basketful of earth is placed on the summit, I have failed.”



It is not so much brilliancy of intellect or fertility of resource as persistency of effort and constancy of purpose that give success.



When a man has so disciplined his mind that it is proof against all distractions, when he can make himself oblivious of every sidelight which might dazzle or divert his vision and keep his eye steadily on his chosen goal, he has thoroughly learned the value of constancy.



The only place a man can ornament, the only one in which he can do himself credit is the one he conquers—the position he masters by the force of his character, that to which he has attained by his own persistent effort.



“It is a vain thought to flee from the work that God appoints us for the sake of finding a greater blessing to our own souls, as if we could choose for ourselves where we shall find the fullness of the Divine Presence . . .

“Oh, we would learn to keep constant, in loving obedience, to the promptings of the Divine within!”

—*George Eliot*



Not many things indifferently, but one thing supremely is the demand of the hour. He who scatters his efforts in this intense, concentrated age cannot hope to succeed.



Chiseled upon the tomb of a disappointed, heart-broken king, Joseph II of Austria, in the Royal Cemetery at Vienna, is this epitaph: “Here lies a monarch who, with the best of intentions, never carried out a single plan.”



In study, as in business, we must not only strike the iron while it is hot, but also strike it until it is made hot.



He who vacillates in his course, “yawing,” as sailors say, first this way then that, is almost certain to be cast away before he has half finished the voyage of life. Weathercock men are nature’s failures. No one can succeed who has not a fixed and resolute purpose in his mind and an unwavering faith that he can accomplish his purpose.



In all great successes we can trace the power of concentration, which rivets every faculty upon one unwavering aim; perseverance, which pursues an undertaking in spite of every difficulty; and constancy, which enables one to bear up under all trials, disappointments and temptations.



Failure becomes the final test of constancy and of an iron will. It either crushes life or solidifies it. The wounded oyster mends his shell with pearl.



He who first consults wisely, then resolves firmly, and finally executes his purpose with inflexible perseverance, undismayed by those petty difficulties which daunt a weaker spirit, can advance to eminence in any line.



Constancy is the diamond that scratches every other stone.



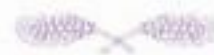
Great tenacity of purpose is the compass that will guide the keepers of the flame across uncharted wastelands to ultimate triumph. Such determination will see us through to God-success and pave the way for others to follow in our footsteps, pursuing the destiny that shapes our ends.



God knows where the richest melodies of our lives are and what drill and what discipline are necessary to bring them out.



The statue would have slept in the marble forever but for the blasting, the chiseling, and the polishing. The angel of our higher and nobler selves would remain forever unknown in the rough quarries of our lives but for the blasting of affliction, the chiseling of obstacles, and the sandpapering of a thousand annoyances.



In every well-balanced life, no matter how versatile in endowment or how broad in culture, there is one central purpose to which all of the powers of the soul are subordinate and through which they are brought into focus. In nature we see no waste of energy, no thing left to chance. Ever since the shuttle of creation shot for the first time through chaos, design has marked the course of every golden thread. Every leaf, every flower, every crystal, every atom has a purpose stamped upon it which points unmistakably to the crowning summit of all creation: man.



Constancy is the most important virtue for keepers of the flame to develop. Therefore we are including these thoughts for your blessing. They were inspired on men in the crucible of life and are born of necessity. In each lesson there will be a section of “Worthy Gleanings from Earth’s Fields” to help you prune the tree of life, spreading its branches from the center of being. “For every tree is known by his own fruit” and “every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.”² Therefore, let every ungodly quality be cast into the sacred fire, that the righteous generation of the Christ may enter in and abide with you as your true identity and divine character forevermore.

NOTES:

(1) William Shakespeare, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, act 5, scene 4, lines 111, 112. (2) Luke 6:44; Matt. 3:10.

BASIC COSMO-SCIENCE



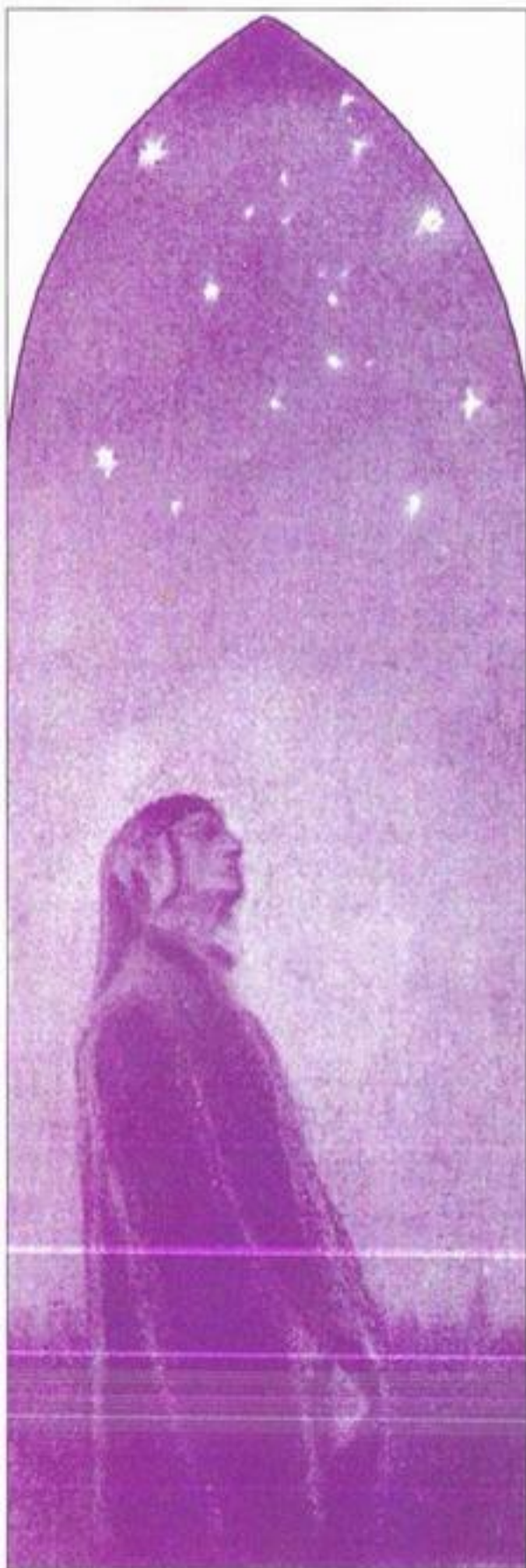
PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE ASCENDED
MASTER LANTO, CHOHAN OF THE SECOND RAY

The Wide, Wide Open Spaces

Part I

On a clear evening in the country as you thoughtfully look up at the lovely shining lamps of God scattered like seeds of light in the garden of space, ponder the immense areas of cosmos that are seemingly vacant and devoid of life. Reaching out in vast distances that stagger the mind, beyond the range of eye or instrument, stretching even the bands of the imagination, is this endless area which men call space. Inasmuch as God is everywhere, this space, truly hallowed, can be called the body of God.

The universe is an immortal tapestry upon which the LORD has woven bright stars and galaxies, suns and solar systems. The universe is the shuttle of cosmic magnetism, whose invisible ribbons of radiant energy connect all of the multifractioned parts of life into one harmonious whole. Across this Great Silence rich harmonies echo the music of the spheres, each planet and star vibrating its cosmic tone down the spiraling highways of the eternal cycles. Over these cosmic thruways (uncluttered by commercial



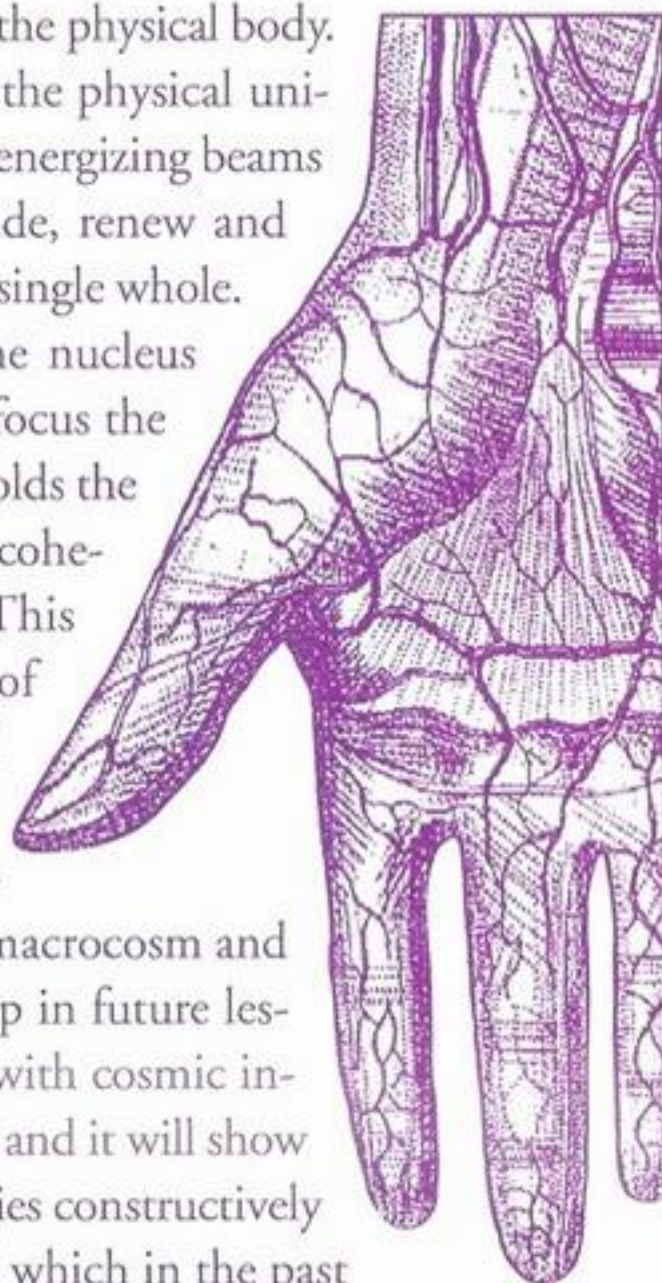
signs or human refuse) cosmic emissaries of light, magnificent angel beings, and messengers of the sacred fire travel with fantastic Godspeed, spanning eternity, joyously obeying the universal will. This vastness of infinity we shall reverently call the macrocosm.

The body of man is also fearfully and wonderfully made. From its great heart center, life pulses a constant flow of energy which descends from the Presence to sustain the consciousness, health and harmony of the physical form. While the components have a molecular structure that is fundamental to all creation, their unique organization and function is one of the grandest wonders of life. Draped over the musculoskeletal frame is the protective sheath of skin. Within the body are miles of veins, arteries and nerves; huge switchboards focused in the spine and brain and other vital centers; a digestive system more involved than

the most complex chemical laboratory; and many other marvels, including the intelligence that keeps it in perfect operation during waking and sleeping.

Both the body of man and the body of the universe are filled with vast areas of physical space—wide, wide open space, in a relative sense. Both are composed of shining orbs whirling in rapid motion. Planets, suns and galaxies form the universe; electrons,

atoms and molecules comprise the physical body. Cosmic rays serve throughout the physical universe as ribbons of connecting, energizing beams of pure intelligence which guide, renew and integrate the many parts into a single whole. Magnetic emanations from the nucleus and the electrons of the atom focus the subtle integrating power that holds the physical body together in one cohesive, working, living unit. This body of man, this vastness of finitude we shall reverently call the microcosm.



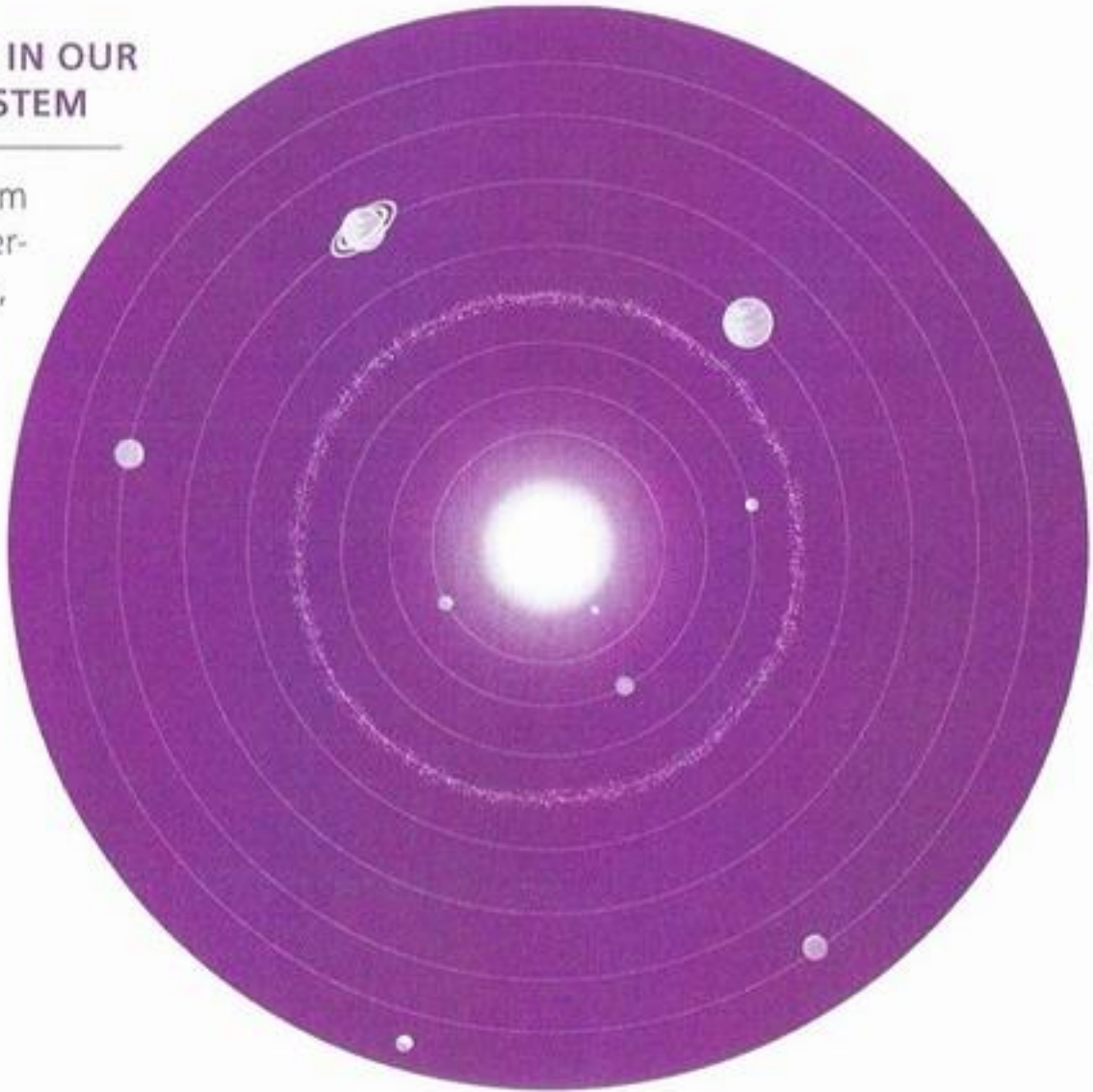
The subject of the interchange of energy between the macrocosm and the microcosm will be taken up in future lessons. It is a study which deals with cosmic influences passing through space, and it will show you how to harness these energies constructively and how to avoid those pitfalls which in the past have caused students to fall along the way. In this lesson we shall take up certain fundamental and practical points concerning the spaces or wide open regions between the electrons and atoms composing not only the physical form but also the other three bodies and their magnetic forcefield, called the aura, which emanates from the physical body.

Now because mankind have free will, they are able to choose by divine law—within a fixed latitude—just how they will use the opportunities life affords. They are also given free rein to qualify the stream of energy constantly flowing through the mold of their consciousness. These, then, are the basic functions of man's free will: (1) to take up his life-opportunity as he may choose, (2) to qualify his life-energy as he may choose, and (3) to create his life as he may choose.

Thus, at the moment energy passes from God to man

AS ABOVE IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM

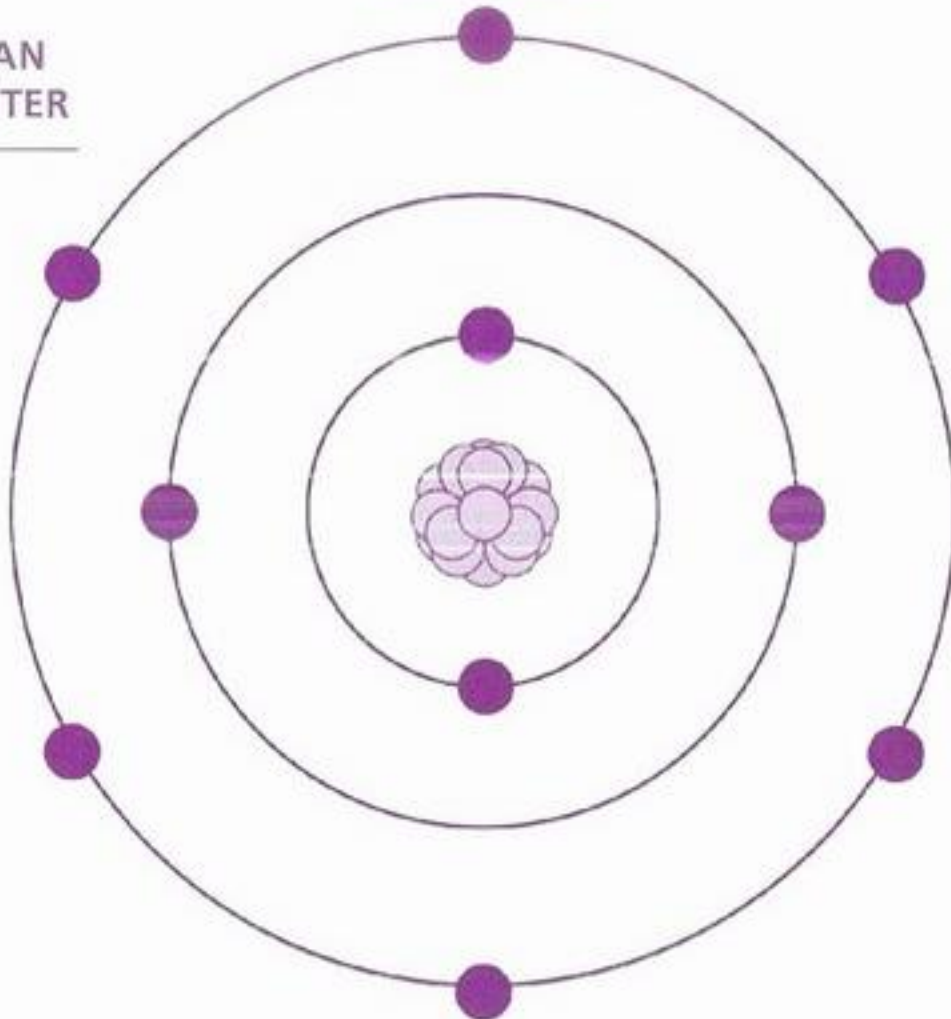
In order from the sun: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Asteroid Belt, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Pluto



SO BELOW IN AN ATOM OF MATTER

A Neon Atom

- electrons
- protons and neutrons in the nucleus



Compare the wide, wide open spaces between the sun and its planets and between the nucleus and its electrons. Clearly, the master blueprint is the same.

THE MACROCOSMIC WORLDS OF COSMOS

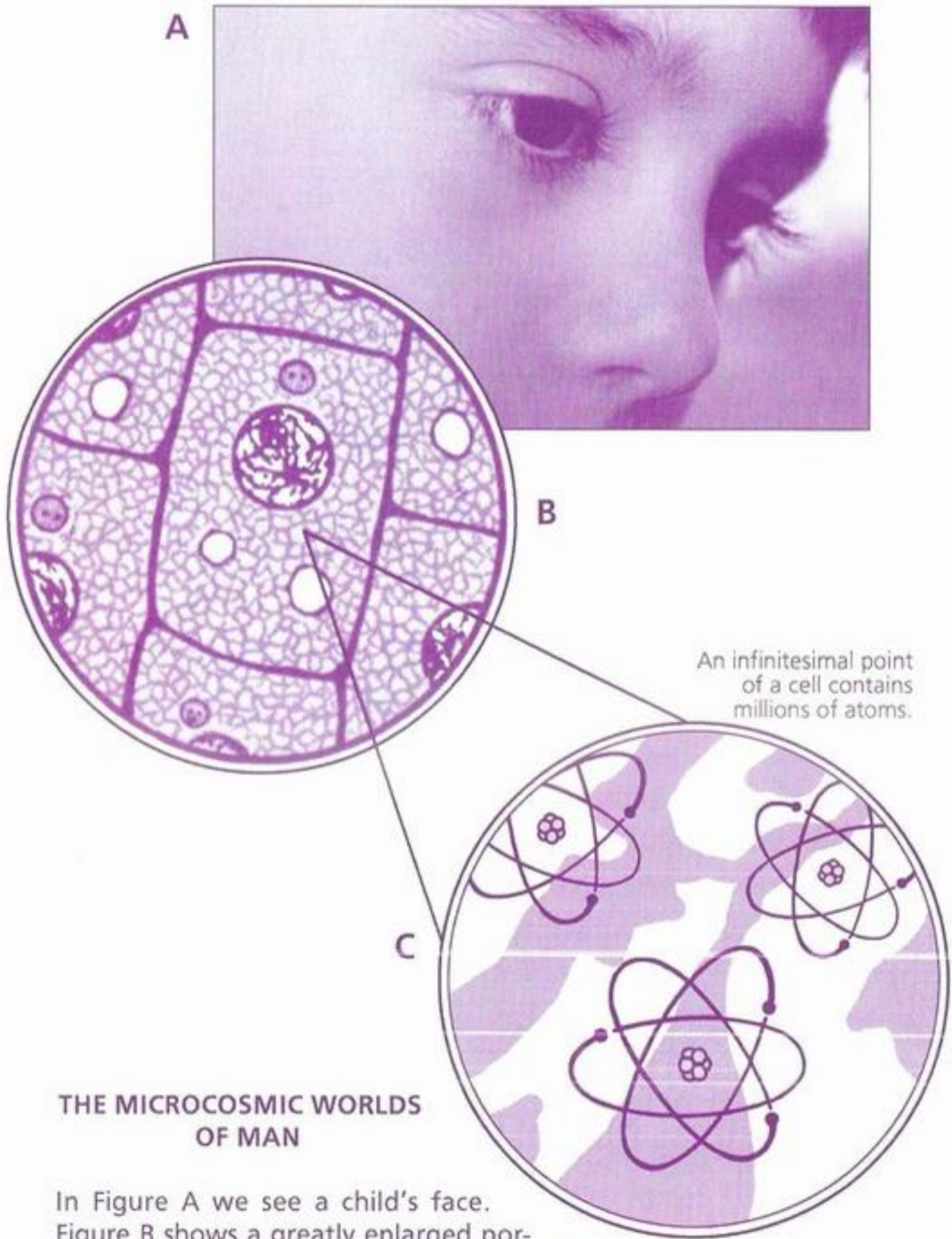


Think of the space between one solar system and another and between one galaxy and another. Note the similarity between the macrocosm and the microcosm.

through the hourglass of conscious individualization, it is stamped with both the thought and the feeling that is held as a mold in his [man's] consciousness. Since energy is flowing continuously from God to man, man is continuously qualifying energy. And whether or not he is conscious of his qualifications, waking or sleeping, he is by cosmic law held accountable for them. This law, which is inexorable, will give you an insight as to how karma is made, both good and bad. Wholly impartial, acting equally and in perfect balance for kings and beggars, rich and poor alike, this law does not yield one iota to human opinions. It is written in the Book of Proverbs, "As [a man] thinketh in his heart, so is he."¹

There is no getting around the fact that there is a constant qualification of energy by the thinking and feeling processes of man as each passing moment enters the nexus of the eternal Now. Whatever the qualification may be, the energy is immediately divided and sorted—the good from the bad, the perfect from the imperfect—just as a separating machine skims the cream from the milk or a threshing machine removes the chaff from the wheat. Jesus referred to this process as the dividing of the sheep from the goats.

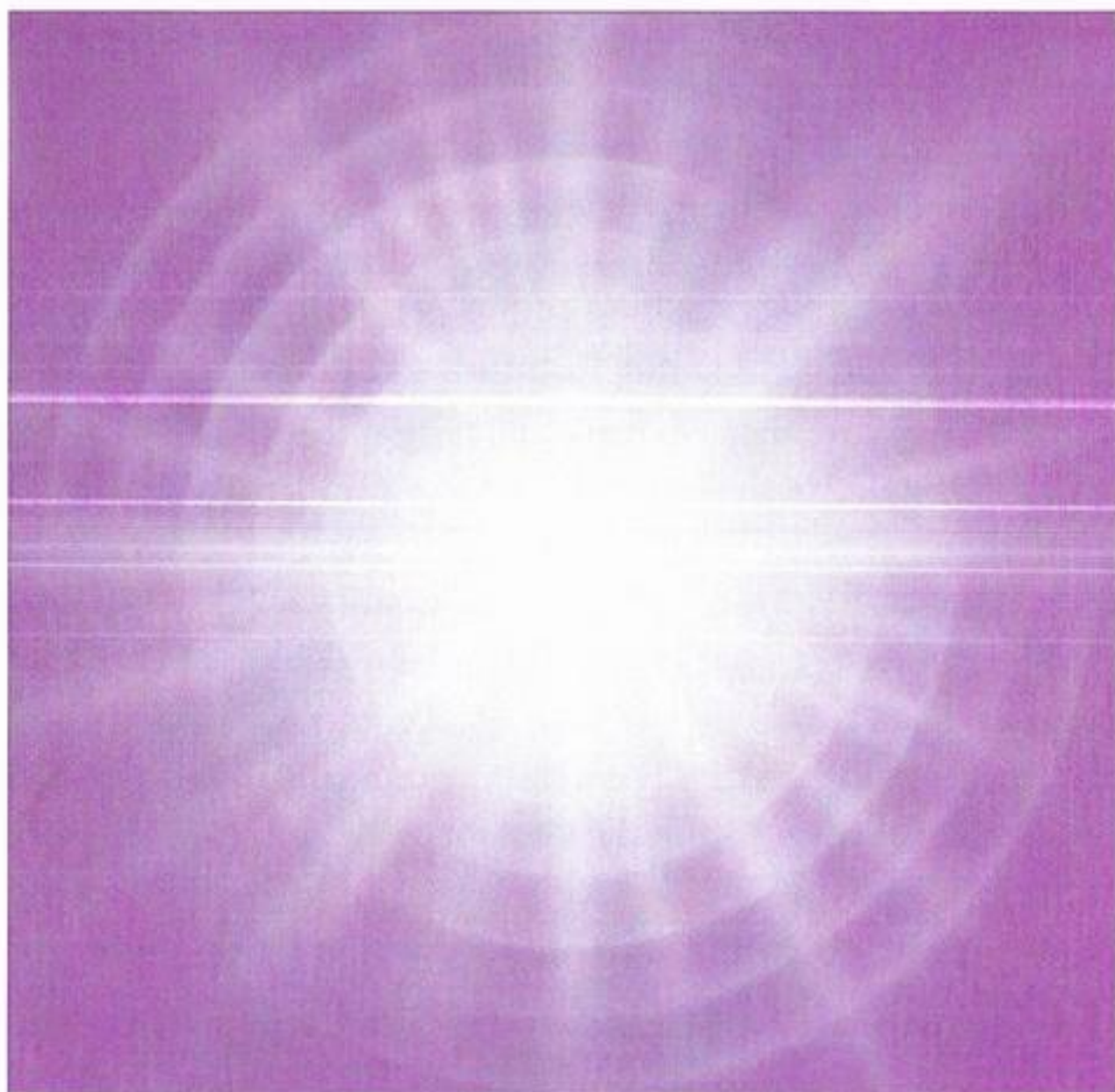
Saint Paul (now the ascended master Hilarion) stated that the



THE MICROCOSMIC WORLDS OF MAN

In Figure A we see a child's face. Figure B shows a greatly enlarged portion of the facial area, revealing the cells that compose the body tissues. Figure C is a magnification of one cell, showing the atoms with their nuclei and electrons. Note especially in Figure C the wide, wide open spaces that separate electron from electron, and electron from nucleus. It is within these spaces that misqualified energy-substance accumulates, eventually causing disease, old age, and death. This diagram gives a graphic picture of why man must be the guardian of his microcosmic worlds.

fire would try every man's work. If it should burn he would suffer loss, but if it were made of stronger fabric than straw it would endure.² Among the durable qualities of God—or life—are love, truth, wisdom, faith, purity, justice, victory, freedom and good will. During the ritual of separation, the energy that has been stamped with virtue rises (because of its affinity to the Source) and is deposited in the causal body of man, which surrounds his own individualized God Presence. The Divine Monad, the great sphere composed of the Presence and the causal body, is focused in the atmosphere above the physical form. It is in this sphere that energy is stored as his [man's] treasure in heaven,³ and there it accumulates as his personal momentum of spiritual good. Like savings in a bank, it can be drawn upon when needed for personal and universal blessing forever.



Now let us see what happens to the light that is misqualified—the energy that has been stamped with the mold of imperfection. Energy that is charged with negative thoughts and feelings cannot rise because it has a weight and a frequency, or vibration, that is not polarized to the Presence; nor can it penetrate the electron or the core of the atom, which remain inviolate focuses of light in the four lower bodies of man. Hence, the only place it can go is to the wide, wide open spaces between the atoms and electrons.

Let us, for the purpose of illustrating this law, imagine the body as a barrel of marbles, the marbles being the atoms and electrons separated by magnetic fields. We can readily see what would happen if a bucket of molasses were poured over the marbles. The results are comparable to what happens day after day as individuals pour the misqualified energies of their human desires over the marbles in the barrel of being. Whether they become angry, jealous, unhappy or dissatisfied within themselves, or actually send sharp and critical feelings towards others, they literally tar the wide open spaces with a sticky astral glue which prevents the natural flow of light between the macrocosm and the microcosm.

The energies man qualifies with human thought and feeling immediately descend to fulfill their judgments in the open spaces of the body. There they condense, layer upon layer, closing in the radiant light within the heart of the atom and densifying around the whirling energy of the electron, causing the body to become gross and aged, the mind to become slow and rigid, and the spiritual faculties to become sluggish. Eventually, this accumulation of human effluvia causes the life force to withdraw from the physical body because the density becomes so great that it shuts off the flow of the *lifestream** from the God Presence, the great Source of all life. It is then that so-called death ensues. Subsequently, through the process of decay, the atoms are released from the form and

*The term *lifestream* refers to the stream of life, or the energy flowing over the crystal cord. It is frequently used in the masters' writings to refer to man individualized, and in this usage it is synonymous with *evolving soul*.

freed from misqualification through repolarization by the sacred fire, eventually to be reused in the creations of God and man.

The gradual clogging of the arteries, veins and valves of the physical body with impure thoughts and feelings—not to mention the channels in the other vehicles which were intended to conduct the natural flow of life-energy—may be compared to the formation of a delta at the mouth of a river: only a complete dredging will make the channel navigable once again.

Each day man qualifies his energy with both perfection and imperfection, until at last he learns to qualify it with only perfection—perfect thoughts and feelings, perfect words and deeds. Only through discipline of heart and mind, motive and intent does he gradually learn the art and science of proper qualification. Both vigilance and knowledge are needed. We can provide the latter but the former is up to you.

Keepers of the flame: Unless the daily accumulation of your own misqualified energies and the debris of centuries are removed from the wide open spaces in your world—including the cause, effect, record and memory of the imperfect matrix—you and all mankind will remain in the bondage of your own karma and you will never know the freedom which God is, which you in reality are, and into which the beloved ascended masters have already entered.

In the secret place of the Most High, in the freedom and peace of the ascended masters' octave, the full glory of the softness of a sunbeam is known—the stillness of the dawn, the gentle nodding of the flowers, the movement of the waters. There man establishes communion with the beautiful guardian and nature spirits whom God has ordained to be his caretakers, he rejoices in conscious cooperation with all life as he learns the control of the elements through the application of cosmic law, and he loses himself in the bliss of victory and holiness. There, too, he finds the peace and joy that flood space within and without and with which the sincere heart is ever attuned. All of this is but a portion of the

inheritance of the elect, one for which men do not have to wait. If they will receive it, as did the prodigal son, they can have their victory here and now in this very age.

In order to properly present the great mysteries of life to the keepers of the flame, repetition will be necessary. In some cases certain aspects of the great law must be left temporarily unexplained and then returned to in advanced lessons for a more thorough study. Through this method the most important and practical truths—those which are essential to man's individual self-mastery—will be presented first in simplified form. At this juncture the understanding of the wide, wide open spaces is vital to your progress and your happiness. And as you learn through first-hand experience why this is so, nothing shall stop you (if it is your will to do so) from pressing forward with giant steps into your own God-ordained mastery over every phase of your life.

The admonishment "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth"⁴ is applicable unto this day. Those who shall study these lessons to become God-approved men and women shall learn first how to master themselves through the correct qualification of energy. They shall learn to recognize the causes of discord in their own worlds as well as how to transmute or change discordant energies and habit patterns into harmonious light energy, making it available to God and man for the blessing of all.

The Law requires that the substance of sin, solidified in the wide open spaces not only of the physical body but also within the etheric, mental and emotional sheaths, shall return for redemption, or purification, to the one who misqualified it. Most people are at a loss to know what to do when their negative karma thus descends as an avalanche of sickness, human misery, financial problems, accidents, natural disaster, and other misfortune. Some rebel against life itself, becoming angry or embittered against the god who has unjustly dealt with them, when actually they themselves are the gods who have abused the gift of free will, the right

to nobly create; and in so doing they have set up the very causes that produced the conditions that lie at their doorstep.

It is our intent to arm the keepers of the flame with the knowledge and the power of divine law that will enable them to requalify with the love of the Almighty the energy that daily comes full circle for transmutation. It is our intent to train a body of lightbearers who will be capable of meeting the challenges of their own returning karma and of summoning the will of God to fulfill the command of Christ, "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." These shall go forth to obey the divine injunction, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature . . . heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give."⁵

The law of karma taught by Paul, who said, "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap,"⁶ will be explained in future lessons. By this we know that God's bookkeeping is absolutely accurate; for the use man makes of every erg of energy he receives from the Creator is recorded electronically either as bands of light in the causal body or as deposits of shadowed substance recessed between the electrons, atoms and molecules, and even the cells of the physical body. The wide open spaces in the body of man should be hallowed highways through which the living radiance of the individual God Presence may shine in transfiguring purity, causing man's very countenance to glow with the holy light of God.

Our next lesson will deal with the initial steps that must be

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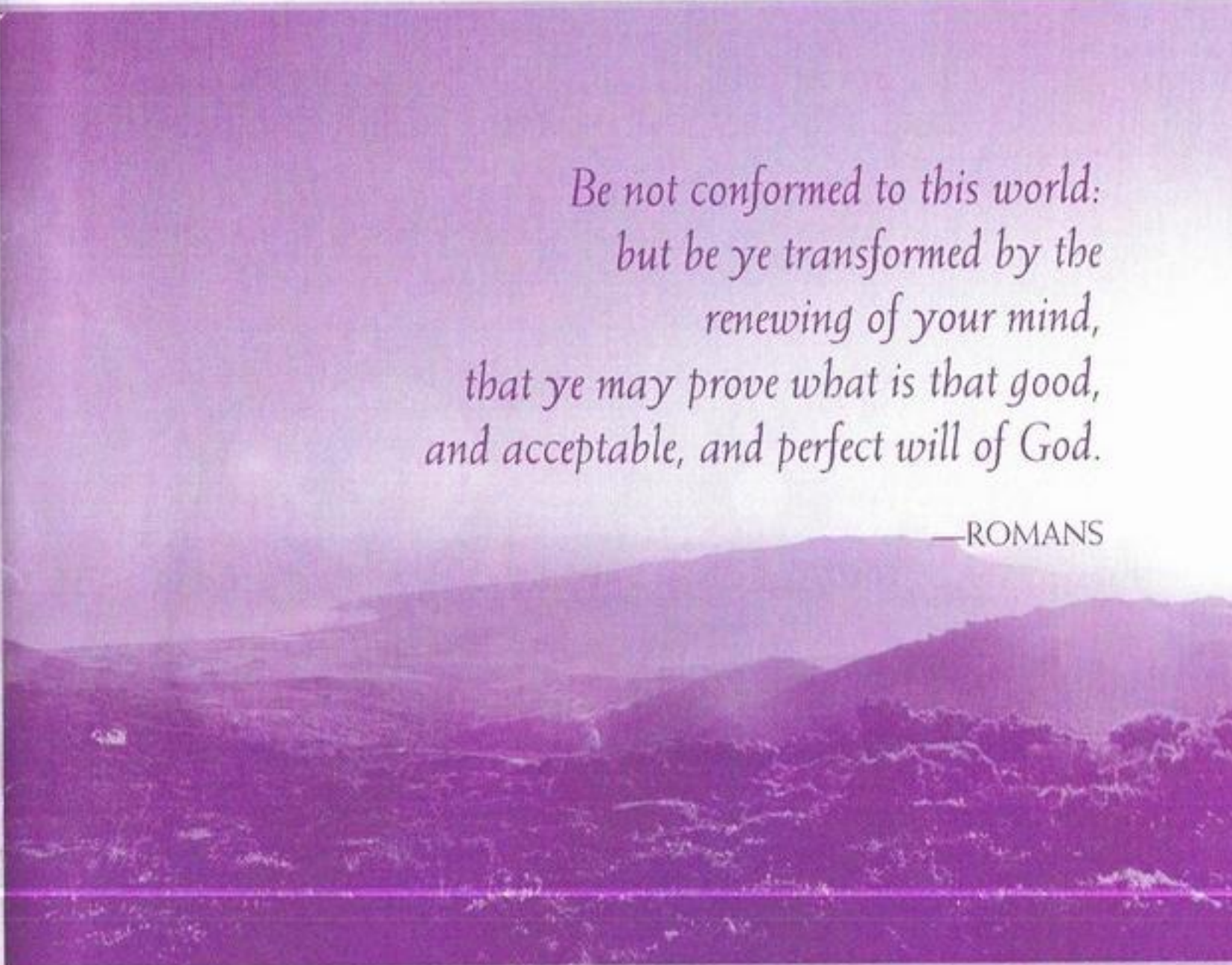
taken in order to remove from the world of man the misqualified energies accumulated through the ages as well as in this embodiment. How you can restore within the microcosm that divine harmony which was ordained by God in the first creation of man will also be explained. This instruction, when actively applied, will be a first great step toward the immortal freedom of every keeper of the flame. In preparation for this advancement, will you faithfully give the Keeper's Daily Prayer, meditating upon your true identity as a flame of God, merging your consciousness with the flame until you actually become the flame? For when you are one with the flame, you are one with the essence of all life, and one with every other keeper of the flame, worlds without end.

Peace be with thee.



NOTES:

(1) Prov. 23:7. (2) I Cor. 3:13-15. (3) Matt. 19:21; Mark 10:21; Luke 18:22.
(4) II Tim. 2:15. (5) Matt. 5:48; 10:8; Mark 16:15. (6) Gal. 6:7, 8.



*Be not conformed to this world:
but be ye transformed by the
renewing of your mind,
that ye may prove what is that good,
and acceptable, and perfect will of God.*

—ROMANS



I urge you to hold fast what thou
hast received, to make every day's experience
more masterful than yesterday's, to note thy progress
and to prepare diligently to hold the balance as
earth passes through the alchemical transition
of change mandated by the law of progress.

JOHN THE BAPTIST



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