

PLEASE NOTE: Beginning in January, 2005, the *Spirit in Action* newsletter will be sent exclusively through the Internet on the Divine Science Federation International website: www.divinesciencefederation.org *unless you let us know by mail or email or by phone that you wish to continue receiving it through the mail.* This is another way that Your Federation is trying to conserve the resources that you share with us.

Due to the cost of mailing, the daily studies booklet *At-one-ment*, may also have to increase in price in the coming issues. We will keep you posted. (The Editor)

SPIRIT in ACTION

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NOVEMBER, 2004

WE WELCOME YOU!

“THE NATURE OF BEING”

“Being is Lesson Number One”

by Reverend Mary P. Rezendes

(Reverend Mary P. Rezendes opened the 2004 Biennial Conference with the topic: *The Nature of Being*. Her insight illumines us all. She was gracious enough to share her text with me so that I may share it with you. ---Editor)

Paraphrasing the September 30, 2004 *At-one-ment*: “The adventure of Being is a daily, hourly, moment-by-moment discovery of the Presence that lives you, moves you, includes you. As you are adventuring inward you are discovering the Presence of the Creator, the cosmic Parent of everyone and everything.”

It is no accident that **Being** is Lesson One in *Divine Science and Healing* by Malinda E. Cramer. To be Divine Scientists we must Be the Presence. Not merely to know it, but to become it. There is a difference between knowing the truth of Being, and personally experiencing being. Our state of being depends primarily on our awareness of this truth. Being itself---is not an intellectual concept, but an awareness in consciousness, an experience. Few take this journey of self-discovery. To seek truth we often must wrestle with mistaken beliefs and opinions buried within ourselves.

A Divine Scientist is not someone that regularly attends a Divine Science church, but one that goes into the laboratory of **Being**, and through contemplation and meditation receives an inner illumination of truth, the One Self Being.

The words: God, Truth, Omnipresence, Origin, Source, Matrix, Creator, Principle Divine Being, are all words we use to define the indefinable; but they are meaningless until we conceptualize God being one with us. We come to accept the Divine Parent being what we are not through reason, intellect, or words. We are actually taught not to trust our experience of being, but to look to the “world of experts”---parents, teachers, priests, ministers---to discover this truth. Ultimately we learn to see, taste, feel, smell, and hear what is taught, rather than to have a direct experience of Being that is uniquely our own. To sustain our society this is the perfect method, it guarantees that we will work, buy, pray, live, and die according to the society mold; but it also destroys our ability to experience Being directly.

Reason, intellect, and language can only tell us about Being, we intellectualize our experience of Being according to the dictates of our society. From birth we are taught to conform to the “Societal Model”, rather than encourage a direct experience of God-ness Being. Language is the tool we use to define this life’s experience, the sights, sounds, conditions that we perceive. Language is simply words that represent pictures or numbers, symbols stamped on the brain. We form our ideas and opinions from words that we are taught. We have learned, observed, and stored in memory these word picture symbols. If I say house, your brain has some stored picture of house that doesn’t look like an Igloo. If I say the word “me”---do you imagine the Pope? If you think of yourself, do you image God? We all have a stored sub-conscious image (picture) of God, and few of us see ourselves as that picture. Why? Because we are forever saying God is the other, “he” and not I. Society has formed a “he God” picture and tried to convince us that it really isn’t “he.” But our sub-conscious can only picture a “he,” it cannot picture a “really isn’t.”

Our language forms images or pictures that are accepted unconditionally in our sub-conscious mind. They then dictate what to think and how to behave in this life experience. **We separate ourselves from the Being we believe God to be, and continually reinforce that separation with our language.** We can use our intellect and language as tools to analyze, dissect, study and do all sorts of clever things. Unfortunately, neither can grasp reality now. Study a rose, put it to every conceivable test and still the **nature** of its beauty and life will not be revealed. Study all the books ever written about Mozart, and you will remain ignorant of music; but listen to Don Giovanni or the Magic Flute and you will know (experience) music. **The nature of its Being**

is its beauty and its life. To Be is to consciously experience life, *to know* about being is not the same as *being*.

With our words we limit and separate everything just to play in this “sandbox of 3-dimensions.” I am not trying to negate intellect or reason, simply to recognize that they are only tools for this experience of life.

Thomas Carlyle said, **“It is the heart that sees before the head can see.”** Learning to see beyond the I (head) to the I am (heart) means we have moved beyond intellect to listening to that still small voice of intuition.

D. T. Suzuki in his book, *Mysticism – Christian and Buddhist*, cautions us **“not to follow the way of letters (intellectual ideas) of any kind, let us take hold of Reality in its nakedness.”**

M. E. Cramer says, **“Intuition---the eye of knowledge---perceives but one Power, God; one Faith, Substance; and one Law, Love. ... Intellect uninformed of the Spirit will oppose this truth; but when working the Law of Spirit it will affirm them. When intellect rules, instead of Spirit, it argues in favor of observation for the purpose of sustaining differences. It places limits upon the good and doubts the power of God. “Intuition has been defined, as the highest faculty of perception” --- Intuition knows, it doesn’t think.**

To grasp the truth of Divine Science, to experience Oneness, and realize eternal life, perfection, we must go into the heart of intuition and awaken to the truth of **Being**. and a good place to begin is with our Statement of Being, (found on page 4).

Taking the first few lines into the heart of being we become Being-ness itself. I believe it was the intention of our founders that we become that statement rather than know it with the intellect. When we say God, stop and check out your image of God, is it really your being, or some learned subconscious image you have stored? God is All, do you comprehend All as only, as well as everything? Do we live as though there is only this Divine Presence both invisible and visible? How much awareness do we have of our invisible Divine-Self? We are the invisible image of perfection, Being the visible form of perfection. Are you aware of Being invisible perfection?

The invisible or unknown down through the ages has been called by various names; often we call it Spirit. 2

The Greeks called this Zoë, an invisible real matrix that transcends perceptual experience. In eastern philosophy it is called the Yin, the mysterious, dark, unknown female aspect of self that is an intuitive knowing.

That which can be seen and subsequently defined, the visible appearance, the Greeks called Bios. In the east it is known as Yang, the male, light that which can be perceived with the intellect.

They are not two different things but two aspects of the same thing. Language always makes them appear separate, but in truth they cannot be separated. They are both at once the idea and the manifestation. Perfection is forever coming into being; Spirit as flesh---one in Nature, Presence, and Consciousness, a unit complete, now.

We are that Being, All one Self-only, life individualized. We are the child of this Divine Parentage, both mother and father. Jesus tells us in the Gnostic Gospel of Thomas that **“the male and female must be made one.”** We, being raised in the Western tradition, know a lot about the outer, our Yang, or Bios but little or nothing about the Yin, Zoë. We must delve deep within ourselves to discover this hidden Divine Female Being. Like the beauty of the rose or the power of music it is hidden within itself, and must be apprehended directly.

We believe without question that our visible bodies are really here and need a lot of tending, however, the ideal perfection, that invisible pattern, hidden within, we rarely consider. The idea and the expression are always one now. Like the old song says, *“you can’t have one without the other.”* And it is the inseparable invisible/visible, matrix, partnership, principle, that exists as this body---being life. It is not my body, but the Divine Self Being, existing.

“The creator, creating creation is one, male/female, nature of being.” There is no other. This Divine Oneness may be recognized in three aspects that we call body, mind, and Spirit. They are not three different things, but a trinity perceived three ways all at once. Body, Mind, and Spirit are one in the Real, Eternal, Consciousness. Irwin Gregg, in *Daily Word* says, consciousness is (paraphrased) **“about the best word we have to describe God---as creative, omnipresent Spirit is Consciousness the only conceivable thing that could be everywhere present and fully aware of its own perfect nature within that infinity.”**

Spiritually, or intuitively we have always known there was something beyond what we called our body/self.

Humans have used names like Higher self, God or Goddess, Brahma or Atman, Christ, to describe this something. I like this quote from D. T. Suzuki.

“What ‘a baffling thing’ this ‘something’ or ‘somewhat’ is! But it is no doubt a light and if you can get a glimpse into it even ‘less than an instant’ you will be master of yourself. Plato describes the light in the following words: *It is ‘a light which is not in this world; not in the world and not out of the world; not in time nor in eternity; it has neither in nor out.’* And in Matthew 6:2, we read, *If thine eye be single thy whole body shall be full of light*” Jesus said, *You are the light of the world.*”

Spiritually we have always used two words, light and consciousness, to define our essence but the most exciting thing for me, is that now Science has begun to agree with religion. In the beginning scientists looked out into the night sky and saw a lot of empty space and some objects that appeared solid. They ignored space because they believed it was empty, and began trying to find out what the objects were made of. In the last century they came to believe space was something they called ether. They also found out that the objects, called matter couldn’t be reduced to a tiny something. They split the atom, smashed photons, squeezed quarks and tripped into tachyons, but no matter how small the piece they cut up, they found they could still cut it up some more. Objects and matter kept getting fuzzier and fuzzier the further down, or in, they went. Space became more and more something, while matter became less something. They discovered that at the microcosmic level matter and space were two aspects of the same thing. Matter was filled with space and space was filled with matter, and together they made up energy.

The universe and everything in it is energy, giant to minute, tiny fields of energy. I quote from The Field, by Lynne McTaggart **“Matter at its most fundamental level cannot be divided into independently existing units or even be fully described.”** **“What quantum calculation shows is that we and our universe live and breathe in what amounts to a sea of motion – a state of pure potential, of infinite possibility – a Quantum Sea of light. (It) is named the Zero Point Field and described as an enormous force field connecting all people, their intentions and thought, and every animate and inanimate form of matter for all time. There is no such thing as a vacuum or nothingness. What we call empty space is really a hive of activity ... The energy in a single cubic meter of space is enough to boil all the oceans of the world.”** She goes on to say: **“This coming scientific revolution** 3

heralded the end of dualism in every sense. Far from destroying God---science for the first time was proving (his) God's existence---by demonstrating that a higher, collective consciousness (existence) was out there. There need no longer be two truths, the truth of science and the truth of religion. There could be one unified vision of the world."

In the 21st Century we have come to know that time/space/matter/light/energy/consciousness is one. There is nothing *out there* that isn't *in here*. The nature of being, our essence, is pure conscious/energy/light. If you could see without your intellect you would see yourself and everyone else as light energy/ consciousness, a Zero Point Field, a Divine One Self. We, like the universe, are a sea of light made up of constantly moving, changing, waving, Fields of Energy. Your body is conscious/energy in motion forming and reforming itself always. The Body is the visible; substance formed aspect of the Divine One Parent Being, but it is not a solid object, it is not fixed into any condition or situation, it is not limited, it is subject to change as all conscious/energy continually changes. And change occurs according to the invisible, consciousness. We only see what consciousness forms. The perfect pattern of life that exists we do not perceive intellectually. The "made in God image," we all claim to be, is hidden from us in the sub-conscious not the intellect. It exists in the light/energy matrix that is everywhere, agreeing with it in consciousness takes awareness of its presence.

Long before scientists discovered Fields of Energy, Nona Brooks called it the "Stretch of Consciousness." Energy is conscious and it is everywhere, Power and Knowledge all at once. The invisible light we call illumination of wisdom does not separate itself from its form-power; it is not different from it; they are two aspects of the same thing. The perfect ideal is one with the energy of light that forms all things, including this body; but this will mean nothing to you if you hear only some intellectual words. Illumination like Intuition does not speak through our brain but comes to us as an awareness of Being. When we are "insinc" with this perfection, not doubting or questioning its perfect presence, it shines itself out as wholeness, health, and completeness. When intellectually, we interfere, doubt, or ignore this perfect pattern, what we experience is the interference. We call the interference dis-satisfaction or dis-ease.

Rainer Rilke says, "What is within surrounds you." You and I and everything in this universe are light perceived in the following two ways. Jesus called this light, *Spirit*, and John called it, *Love*. At some point all

lines of difference must drop from our consciousness. There is not body *and* mind, you *and* me, Love *and* Spirit. There is only Divine Love appearing as consciousness forming Itself as body/mind, male/female, you/me. This is the original Trinity, Divine One Self. To the degree we live this truth it becomes our experience, right now at this moment, Love/Life, out-streaming Being-ness.

If it is our desire to dispel the myth of separation, then our job is to check all language that does not reveal the truth. The last 2000 years has revealed that words become things because the sub-conscious manifests itself. *We cannot continue to use words that do not support the Only One Divine Self, if we seek only for a greater awareness of ITS presence.*

Divine Science Statement of Being (as reference in the above article)

***God is All, both Invisible and Visible.
One Presence, One Mind, One Power, is All.
This One that is All is Perfect Life, Perfect Love,
and Perfect Substance.***

***I am the individualized expression of God
and am ever One with this
Perfect Life, Perfect Love, and Perfect Substance.***

***"Oh, that I knew where I might find Him!
Then He would guide me aright.
He leaveth countless steps behind Him
Yet passeth out of sight."***

The eternal quest of man is to find God. Religions change and evolve as man's knowledge of the universe expands. When a religion fails to meet the human need; when the human mind outgrows any system of religious thought and practice---that religion begins to decline, and ultimately dies and is forgotten. . . . Wherever this has occurred, a new religion has sprung up to take the place of the old. And yet, something of the abandoned religion has been carried on into the new faith; so that an absolutely new and original religion is as impossible as a new science.

**---Harvey Hardman
Making Your Self The Master 4**

GOD AT WORK!

(A column---demonstrating through letters received and shared. The following letter was received from JC in Australia. Thank you JC ---Editor)

Dear Friends at Divine Science,

First I must thank you for sending all the information on Divine Science and I have read every bit of information it contained including all the pamphlets. I drank in this information and I shared some of the pamphlets with others.

I am wrapped in the *At-one-ment* booklet which is so deep and I can't wait for the next day to come to read its teaching, in fact, I cheat a little by allowing myself to read just one paragraph of the following day.

I want to thank the anonymous donor who so generously supplied me with same.

I have already thanked Rev. Sylvia S. Eriksson for putting forth my name to receive this parcel of goodies.

I live in a small town on the edge of the Australian Desert and known as the "outback" here in Australia. We have conventional churches here, but no one here, except myself, knows about Divine Science. I am lucky because I have known Rev. Sylvia Eriksson for many years, and she has filled me in on much of these teachings.

I try to attend many of Rev. Sylvia's Interfaith services held in Melbourne, which are held about every 6 months, in the Unity Church where Reverend Sylvia has her services every Sunday. Being so far away I cannot attend every Sunday.

I have been studying Science of Mind by Ernest Holmes and your *Divine Science-Principle and Practice*, and I am overjoyed by the freedom it gives out in comparison with other churches, so I thank you most humbly for these gifts.

It would be so wonderful to have a Divine Science church here in Australia, for the closest teachings are the Unity Church.

I know that Rev. Sylvia purchases your Divine Science books and gives them to those who have an interest, and I know she longs for a Divine Science church also.

Well, I guess I have to end this little letter to you, in order to catch the post.

So, cheerio for now and once again thankyou, thankyou, thankyou.

(Another letter from Australia comes from YP. Thank you Y.P. ---Editor)

I am writing to thank you and the anonymous donor who supported me in receiving the *At-one-ment* booklet for one year. I have also extended my warm thanks to Rev. Sylvia Eriksson for nominating me, for loving me.

Some time ago Rev. Sylvia gifted me the *Divine Science Principle and Practice* book. Now I use it every morning as a source of nourishment and guidance as I daily walk my journey of truth. And along with my new *At-one-ment* booklet, and the booklet of inspirational meditations along with *Unity's Daily Word* also, I find my meditation

time each morning a source of joy and fulfillment that sets the tone for my day.

I also thank you for the newsletter I am receiving, which has been informative and inspirational. I particularly enjoyed the front page article from this month's issue.

I commend you on the wonderful work that you are doing, and I am uplifted and renewed by the power of your interpretation and expression of truth. I regularly go online to your Minister's Association website to listen to the meditations. They are truly beautiful reflections of Spirit's blissful presence. Many thanks again.

(God is also at work in the excerpts of email messages from LG from Brazil. Thank you LG. ---Ed.)

Today is Friday, 22, and I just received the literatura you sent to me. I'll read them all along the weekend, but I already felt the feeling of read things about God that my reason accepts without fight.

Thanks for your joy in know that I'm having a good time, and being in touch again with a part of myself that was almost lost in the past. Now it's here again and you, dear Mary, were the channel for this.

(received following week) By the way, dear Mary, today we'll have a total eclipse of the moon. It will not be visible in US. In spite of this is not my area (I usually work with things outside our Galaxy), me and other colleagues will be on the beach, in a event realized by the mayor, to watch the phenomenon and explain things to the people. Even the way you look at nature and the way you explain nature things to the people changes, when you feel where God is in truth. I just had that with Dr. Murphy's books.

YOUR DIVINE SCIENCE FEDERATION OFFICERS

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The Divine Science Federation Officers wish to thank
Reverend Roma Carlisle
for her faithful service to the DSFI Board
for the past two years.

A vote by the House of Delegates, rescinding a By-law change that was voted in October 3, 2002, and which has now readmitted the Brooks Center for Spirituality to the DSFI Board, eliminated the fourth position on the Board in the 4-year elected officers, thus allowing the Board to continue at nine members.

**The DSFI Board welcomes two new Board members:
Reverend Miriam Comer Johnson---
representing the Eastern Region
and
Reverend Christine Emmerling---
representing the Brooks Center for Spirituality.**

---In Memoriam---

**Mrs. Jane Guidicini, a DSFI Life Member and member of
the First Divine Science Church, Belleville IL**

We do not believe in immortality
because we can prove it.
We try to prove it
because
we cannot help believing in it. ---Martineau

(Your Secretary's view on the
2004 DSFI Biennial Conference)

The Conference atmosphere began with adventure. Delays on the highway in getting to the airport; long-term parking lots closed due to airport construction, thus causing late arrival at airport; flight cancelled; put on flight leaving 2 hours 45 minutes later with a layover that would be 2 hours; arrived Houston, finally seated on second plane was told there was an electrical storm occurring and taxiing was stopped and delayed another 45 minutes, but I digress---

Pat Mazanec, your DSFI Board Secretary, and I arrived in time to change clothes and attend the opening night reception. The room was filled with people. Some were old and dear friends, and some faces were new. This was the true adventure---getting to meet them all.

More adventure---on a diet, I gazed longingly at the delicious desserts (chocolate, sugary, and yummy). Then---I spied the strawberries, aaahhh thank heaven for strawberries.

The evening began with everyone checking that they had signed in and received their information regarding the

events of the next four days and their name tag that was to be worn at all times and was to serve as their meal ticket. Beautiful background music was performed by Mr. Peter Miller of Rutland VT as we hugged each other and chatted about how good it was to be together. A long day was coming to a close.

The next day began with a delicious breakfast at seven and more conversation. "Getting to know you" was the theme of the hour. We shared stories and hopes and dreams.

Following breakfast each morning we had Meditation in our meeting room, some with background music and some without. Each Meditation was different with different ministers being our leader. All were inspiring and put us in contact with our Source, thus, opening our hearts and our minds.

The Theme of the Conference was "Back to the Basics" and the speakers all addressed the basics of what Divine Science believed and believes.

We heard about *Malinda E. Cramer and the 1894 Congress of Scientists*, our history.

We learned again about the *Basics of our Teaching* and the *Nature of Being* and the activity of Spirit (*Spirit in Action*).

Most of us are not new to Divine Science (although there were some who were new) and we have heard these truths for years. However, when the information comes from a different source or the approach to the same topic is shared in a different way, it all gains a new vitality, a new energy, a new beauty.

The following day we were taken into the *Metaphysics of the Bible*. We learned that words take on a different connotation when used in a different form. Words must be carefully, very carefully, used when we wish to share the Truths that are found in the Bible.

Practicing the Presence Nona L. Brooks said was the essence of Divine Science. We learned how this is being accomplished in the various Divine Science Churches and Schools

Thursday, the newer people were asked, "*Why Divine Science?*" and all who wished to respond were asked, *How (they) found Divine Science?*

The daytime inspirational, informative meetings were coming to a close with the final address, *Grace and Gratitude*.

The business meeting followed and I will not go into detail on that. I will let others advise. Some of the information that was decided has been spread throughout this issue.

The meals that were provided were so scrumptious that Mr. Wayne Gatewood, DSFI Board President, had the Chef and all his aides come out for a round of applause.

The fellowship and warmth and joy that was felt by all was only enhanced by our sharing of the atmosphere of San Antonio. We did the Alamo, the Riverwalk (several times), enjoyed the many restaurants for our evening meal, some enjoyed the boating on the water, and some the unique transportation that San Antonio provides. A good time was had by all.

The final inspiration and truly excellent refreshment was the Banquet, Thursday evening. The Keynote Speaker, Dr. Al G. Salazar spoke on *The Realization of Divine Science*.

No one wanted the evening to end, because that meant the Conference was over; a truly successful one. Some met one final time for breakfast on Friday morning.

We said good-bye to new people from Vermont; New York; Texas; London, England; and to old friends from California; Colorado; Texas; Illinois; Missouri; Virginia; Maryland; New York; New Jersey; Florida; and Washington DC. We almost had visitors from Nigeria, but they were unable to obtain a visa.

Spiritual living is a life lived by grace, not by might or by power, a life in which we find all things appearing to us in the order in which we need them, sometimes before we ourselves are aware of that need. This is living by grace, and that is attained only when things, thoughts, and desires have been overcome.

We have not overcome the world while we are trying to improve or increase our material sense of the world. Spiritual life is that state of being in which we live by grace; in which we know that, automatically, whatever the need is, the answer will appear. Everything that comes, comes as the gift of God...A path opens before us of indescribable beauty, joy, and peace.

Remember that from now on we do not live by bread alone; we do not live by money; we do not live by human rest; we live by the Word brought into our thought and into our remembrance.

---Joel S. Goldsmith---*Living the Infinite Way*

PRIME THE PUMP!

Greg Barrette

Prime the Pump! Some city folk may not know what I mean by this, but if you ever lived on a farm without running water, the above words meant the difference between quenching your thirst and remaining parched.

Prime the Pump! When I was a teenager I worked in my dad's hardware store. It was an old fashioned place, with deep wooden bins for nails and elaborate cabinets for screws and bolts. It also had large underground tanks filled with kerosene and paint thinner, which were pumped to the surface with a hand pump and sold in bulk. My job was to crank the handle of the pump around and around until it could go no further, starting over again and again until the thinner or kerosene whooshed out the mouth of the spigot into a waiting can. Sometimes it would take several times of cranking before anything happened; but always, just before the solvent flowed into the can, there were a few seconds of resistance when I had to pump harder than ever but still without result. **Did this time of resistance "test my faith?" Was this pump priming accompanied by anxiety and despair? No! It was merely the natural process of the thing. I always knew that the solvent was sure to flow.**

When you work with the laws of prosperity through affirmation and prayer there is a natural "dry" period before manifestation. There may even be a time of seeming resistance---when you seem to be working harder than ever without result---but this usually occurs just before what you need appears. It is the "darkness before the dawn" and is a signal that things are moving well. This is especially true in job-seeking. You first lay the groundwork with prayer and affirmation. Then the outer work comes, and it may seem like you are running from leads to interviews to agencies to want ads with no result, but when you hold to your faith, there comes the "gusher"---often several job offers appear seemingly out of nowhere in fast succession.

When I was a Fuller Brush salesman in college, going door to door to make sales, I always knew that the first hour would be spent "priming the pump." Sales were inevitably low. The second hour would see some improvement; but I knew that I could not miss with the third hour! And after I reached my quota---if I decided to finish up a few houses at the end of a block---I would have amazing results.

That is how the laws of prosperity work---once you align yourself with their flow, you are carried on their invisible currents with a swiftness and direction that seem miraculous, but you must not lose your persistence during the period of pump priming.

(continued on back page) 7

STUDIES IN DIVINE SCIENCE

**Mrs. C. L. Baum
(a continuation)**

VII.

THOUGHT.

We come now to one of the most important subjects that the student of Divine Science is called upon to consider. Its fundamental significance lies in its close relationship to the subject of Omnipresence, as will be seen when we define thought.

There is but one Mind filling the Universe. This is the Divine Mind, the Mind which is God. Thought is the activity of Divine Mind. Now all ideas in Divine Mind are perfect, even as It is perfect. Likewise all activity of Divine Mind is perfect. It follows then, that Divine Mind thinking, expresses Divine result that is perfect. This applies to the whole creation in its many manifested forms, for these are created only by perfect Mind, in perfect action, bringing forth perfect result everywhere. The body, therefore, is the perfect result of Divine Thought, for God created man in his own image and after his likeness. Man is therefore an expressed idea of divine Mind. There is nothing else to create the body except this perfect Cause, and no matter what the feelings and senses may indicate, the truth is that the body is of divine origin and is perfect.

Now just as there are not many minds, but one; neither is there any separation between the Universal Mind and the individual mind. They are one, although the consciousness may not be sufficiently illumined to perceive this unity. Similarly, this incomplete illumination of consciousness prevents the perception of the perfect body and of the perfect action which is keeping that body in health all the time. When we become conscious of the unity of Divine Mind and individual mind, we shall perceive the divinity of all things, including our own bodies.

There is no place where this perfect Mind is not; it is the one great, silent, eternal reality everywhere. "Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? saith the Lord."

Thought is the eternal movement; the divine action everywhere. It is God moving upon the face of the waters; God thinking; and as God thinks, this activity goes forth continuously. Thought is the commonest power we have, and it is given to all alike. It is a steady and continuous flow through us, and just as the woodland stream bestows its beneficence equally on all the forms of vegetation along its banks, so thought passing through us, offers to all alike the power which will come from its recognition and use. Thought thus becomes a great individual power; something that can not be taken away from us nor received from any other individual. It flows continuously and cannot be held, bound, or limited; it is as universal as God, which is its source; as subtle and intangible as sunshine, yet just as real.

Thought is the vital force actuating the universe and sustaining the race in its life journey. It is not generated

within, nor can it be held there any more than sunshine could be held and accumulated. So the expression "holding a thought" is in reality a misnomer. The better view is that thought is a force that flows through us continuously, and as we meditate on any subject, our beliefs or ideas are carried out by the stream of thought into the universe. Thus, while we do not create thought, we have the power to use it.

Whence comes thought? Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and since thought is a good and a perfect gift we know that it has its origin in Divine Mind and that it permeates the universe. We have many evidences of the universality of thought and of the power of the individual to color it with his mentality. Take for example, the many instances of telepathic and psychic experience. We feel the unannounced presence of a person; we instinctively become aware of the likes and dislikes of individuals; we suddenly get a thought from someone without the intervention of spoken or written words; two friends in close accord will often speak of the same thing at the same time, and letters of friends pass in the mails because the thought of one person for the other inspired each to write at the same time. Thus instances could be multiplied without end.

Thought thus becomes a universal language through which we may all understand one another when spoken words would be unintelligible. If this force were universally recognized and used we should live in a constant state of love, harmony, and peace; knowing that we send to, and receive from, one another either consciously or unconsciously, a continuous message of thought which is colored by the degree of consciousness.

Without thought we can do nothing, with it all power in heaven and earth is ours. We, then, may be moved to ask, 'If the Divine Mind is always thinking, if the activity is perfect and the result perfect, whence comes inharmony, sickness, sin, and negative conditions generally?' The answer is, through the mis-use of thought. Man sometimes applies this force to ignoble ends; instead of using it in love and co-operation, to the ends of peace, harmony, health, and happiness, he mis-uses it with the result that negative conditions appear. It is necessary to emphasize what has been stated before, viz., that thought in itself is a perfect force, impersonal, but susceptible to the coloring influence of individual belief. Not knowing the power of this divine force, we have considered ourselves wholly as matter, born of earth, subject to sin, sickness, and death; and because we have believed this and have used thought in this way, we have become subject to the belief with its resulting negative conditions. The truth is that the substance of the body is Spirit, indestructible, immortal and perfect, and in unity with all that eternally is. To know this perfectly would be to lose all conception of negative conditions.

Thought is a free force, illimitable and inexhaustible. We may use it consciously as much and as often as we will. Through it we find our unity with our Source; through it we come into direct communication with the universal, with the Infinite. It raises us out of the belief in the material and personal to a fuller conception of the spiritual and divine, and establishes the truth of what we really are.

We have seen, now, that the individual is master of the force we call thought. This brings us to a consideration of what is called mental atmosphere. We have all recognized this subtle and intangible condition in our friends and acquaintances. The presence of one person is a blessing, while the advent of another brings in the utmost confusion and discord. Now the mental atmosphere of individuals is a direct result of their use of thought. If a man color his thought with positive ideas of love, joy, cheerfulness, peace, courage, confidence, and power, his mental atmosphere will show those qualities and people will feel them when in his presence. On the other hand, if he color thought with sadness, gloom, faith in evil, fear, weakness, worry, sin and other negative beliefs, he will project them into his mental atmosphere and they will be apparent to all his associates. In the same way, the atmosphere of a home or of a gathering of people is instinctively felt, and represents the state of consciousness in that home or gathering. Plainly, then, the point to be observed is, to keep the consciousness so harmonious that thought passing through us and out into the universe will produce a mental atmosphere of unity and harmony with the Infinite and with all creation.

At this point it may be well to get a clear conception of the difference between ideas and beliefs, for the indiscriminate use of the terms leads to confusion. Ideas always come from Divine Mind; beliefs are man's conceptions. Ideas are always true; beliefs are very often false. Ideas will always produce inward harmony; beliefs often give rise to discord. Ideas are always positive; beliefs are mostly negative. Ideas are always in accord; beliefs usually result in confusion.

Now we may have faith in either ideas or beliefs, and get results according to our faith. Faith in a true idea will bring but one positive, healing, uplifting result; while faith in beliefs will bring various results as to whether the beliefs are false or true.

One of the most prevalent beliefs which is not true and which we should dismiss from the mentality, is that we are continually creating our own bodies. This is a false belief. God is the only Creator in the universe. He has created our bodies of perfect spirit substance. He has not made an imperfect creation, and we do not have to re-create anything that He has made. Let us dismiss the belief that we can create anything or that it is necessary for us to add anything to God's creation. Let us establish in our consciousness the true idea that all, which God has created, is eternally perfect. The only part necessary for the individual to play is to eliminate from the mentality every false belief, so that the truth may appear in all its beauty, and creation in all its perfection. Whatever light, life, peace, and harmony there is, is of God, eternal and changeless. No negative belief is a creation. Darkness is not a creation; it is a lack of light. Death is not a creation; it is a change. Disease is not a creation; it is a lack of consciousness of ease. Similarly, all negative things merely indicate the lack of consciousness of the positive truth.

"Come unto me (the Divine within you), and I will give you rest"---rest from all these false beliefs; rest in the divine activity which is always thinking in and through you in harmony and peace; rest in the divine idea, perfect with you.

Think with the All-good, and such peace as you have never dreamed of will enter your soul.

STATEMENTS FOR MEDITATION.

Peace, be still.
 In quiet and confidence shall be my strength.
 The fruit of the Spirit is perfect peace.
 God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, and that peace is within me now.
 Be still and know that I am Peace.

"Speak to him now, for he hears,
 And Spirit with Spirit can meet.
 Closer is He than breathing,
 And nearer than hands and feet."

LOYALTY.

When courage fails, and faith burns low,
 And men are timid grown,
 Hold fast thy loyalty, and know
 That Truth still moveth on.
 For unseen messengers she hath
 To work her will and ways,
 And even human scorn and wrath
 God turneth to her praise.
 She can both meek and lordly be,
 In heavenly might secure;
 With her is pledge of victory,
 And patience to endure.
 The race is not unto the swift,
 The battle to the strong,
 When dawn her judgment-days that sift
 The claims of right and wrong.
 And more than thou canst do for Truth
 Can she on thee confer,
 If thou, O heart, but give thy youth
 And manhood unto her.
 For She can make thee inly bright,
 Thy self-love purge away,
 And lead thee in the path whose light
 Shines to the perfect day.
 Who follow her, though men deride,
 In her strength shall be strong;
 Shall see their shame become their pride,
 And share her triumph-song!

---Frederick L. Hosmer.

**The DIVINE SCIENCE FEDERATION wishes to extend a loving welcome to our newest *Lifemember*---
 MRS. DONNA GATEWOOD**

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NOVEMBER, 2004

A Divine Science Federation International Newsletter

**L ove
I ntegrity
F reedom
E xcellence**

WE WELCOME YOU!

Charles Fillmore wrote, "...we must be persistent in making demonstrations. Spasmodic efforts count for little, and many people give up too easily. If things don't come out just right the first time they try, they say the law is wrong and make no further effort."

If I had given up with that first series of pump turns, the kerosene never would have filled those cans! If a job seeker takes the first few rejections or dead ends seriously, he will undermine his chances for employment. If a salesman allows himself to be discouraged by his first hour of selling, he never will reach his quota.

God's laws of prosperity work. Look to Him as your unfailing supply.

And prime the pump!