

SPIRIT in ACTION

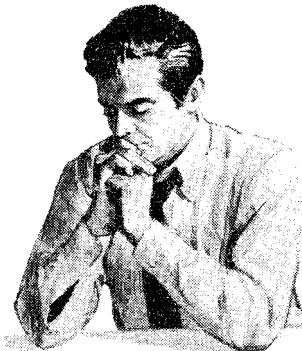
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Apply the Silence to Your Life

Ron Anjard



One of the most effective tools for spiritual growth and progression is the Silence. We can overcome any confusion in life through practice of the Silence. To mortal mind it may appear to be difficult, but we can deal with our fears and the fears of others in this "great chamber of protection," for in the Silence we come to know God.

In the Silence, as we stand alone with God, we are dealing with non-verbal communication, a type of communication which is still difficult for many. It is especially difficult for those who have become addicted to discordant sounds, for they cannot easily experience the necessary quiet and receptivity for this kind of communication.

When you stand alone in the quiet of your own soul, you find reserves of strength never before known. You lose the need for personal recognition. You know that you and God are one, and that you are a channel for the God-power. The more one grows spiritually, the more one longs to commune with God in the Silence.

Premature speech is often the cause of much tension in both the individual and in the world, and we become of real value to ourselves and others when we stand alone in the Silence. We find the right conclusion to our most serious problems and lessons in the Silence. It is at this level of understanding that our soul finds its true expression. And after all, isn't soul expression the purpose of life?

In the Silence we can find the confidence to release others and let them go. We can set them free in our thought and in our word. We can learn to allow others to shoulder their own responsibilities and to face their own lessons. The caring person has the love and wisdom to let another stand in the light of his own soul.

Every soul "on the path" at some time or other faces the test of "standing alone" silently in the strength of his own soul. Even Jesus faced this critical test. When we cease struggling with personalities and with outer decisions, and rest in the Silence, we find the strength and peace and understanding for joyful soul expression. We experience oneness with God.

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*YES, I
AM!*



*2008 Divine Science
Conference*

The 2008 Divine Science Conference will feature a variety of experiences including presentations and panel discussions as well as a “mini-retreat ” format encouraging in-depth investigation and personal understanding. Gatherings will include exploration of practical meditation, specific use of language, and forgiveness as perception. Extended sessions on Practicing the Presence, as well as meaning, interpretation and application of the Bible will be offered. Special workshops with Divine Science and New Thought leaders focusing on music and arts in ministry, church growth, inclusion and outreach as well as giving up struggle in life are sure to be stimulating and applicable to our lives as individuals and as members of a spiritual community. An inclusive discussion on our final day will explore life's “big questions” from the unfolding Divine Science

perspective. Join us in proclaiming “**Yes, I AM!**” knowing and co-creating a deeper understanding and experience of the One Life, Love, Wisdom, Power and Substance that lives in and through each of us.

Registration forms are available on our website: www.divinesciencefederation.org.

Foundational Divine Science & The Spiritual Law

Written by Rev. Dr. Stan Ousley Jr., D.D., Ph.D.

Symphony of Love

Divine Science E-Ministry

In the original Divine Science booklet “The Kingdom of Law,” Nona Brooks sketched the three levels of Law: physical, mental, and spiritual. Down the line, David Alkins, a Dean at Denver’s historic Brooks Divinity School, wrote a book entitled Jesus The Way-Shower which was the textbook in a required course offered at Brooks. In that book, Alkins showed how Jesus demonstrated mastery over all three realms of Law.

Nona Brooks emphasized that all three levels are operating simultaneously, but we may understand the realms only partially while we are growing spiritually. The first realm is the physical. We see its effects daily, and we begin to seek what is behind the laws of physical manifestation. It is at this point that one begins to grasp the next level of mental laws. Brooks points out that at this level, people “begin to use the personal power of the individual mind.” This

can be growth-fulfilling, because it moves individuals beyond the outer as they begin to understand the laws of mind science.

But Brooks cautioned that one can get stuck at this level, and many have failed to grow spiritually because of this. She states: “It is in this stage that people decide that they can get what they wish most in life by mental formulations. They form a clear mental picture of this thing, and never waver from it until they get what they desire. Childish and tragic, for by law it eventually brings confusion and unhappiness.”

Brooks added: “If we limit the power of mind to personal activity in the little self, our thought is centered upon what can I do? We achieve, it is true, but through the personal mental will. A strenuous method; and a tragic time follows, for the centering of attention upon ourselves means forgetfulness of others. This attitude fails to recognize the great principle of Unity. It produces self-centeredness and selfishness. It brings pressure from intense personal effort. If carried to the fullest outcome the rights of others are disregarded; the principle of integrity is forgotten; the entire thought and effort are concentrated on

getting the things desired. The picture of desire that we hold blots out the Universe. Individual will and desire ride rough shod over the rights of others. Personal integrity is forgotten.”

As we evolve, we move finally to the realm of Spiritual Law. In the foundational or “original” Divine Science, this state is defined as our being individually aligned with The Law of Expression. Miss Brooks observed: “As we learn to translate our perceptions into the spiritual, we stand conscious of the power of God.” She added: “Freedom comes through understanding the realm of the spiritual. Jesus gave the law in that oft-quoted statement: ‘Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.’”

In the pure and original Divine Science, we are freed from trendy and often selfish prosperity gimmicks and special outer techniques and we are liberated from intense personal effort as we discover The Kingdom Within. Meditation is a way to begin to align ourselves with the Spiritual Consciousness, but a practical way is to simply follow Jesus’ teaching regarding observing The Golden Rule and realizing that “it is not about you, it is not about me, it is about The Golden Rule.” Then, all the “laws” work together for good in our lives: the Law of Expression is actualized through the law of cause and effect, the law of reciprocity, the law of attraction, the law of mental equivalents, the law of circulation. These laws are out- pictured because of our alignment with the law of expectation or faith.

We are not passive fatalists doing nothing. We do know, it is our faith, that as we cooperate with the Highest Law of Love practiced in a Golden Rule context, our “Divine Destiny” is wholeness and the

peace that passes understanding. We don’t sit back and “do nothing” but rather we do everything as we become aligned with Consciousness expressing through us.

Nona Brooks concluded: “It is in this consciousness that we can say with Jesus: ‘I of myself can do nothing. It is the Father [Sacred Source] in me that doeth the works.’ Jesus came into the spiritual realm; and made his At-One-Ment. This is the basis of human freedom, and of human power. From the belief in the physical to the certainty of the spiritual! And then we are free! The Kingdom of Spiritual Law is the Kingdom of God and of Freedom.”

Love Thoughts

When my heart is bursting with love
I feel it reaches out for miles and miles,
Touching people and bringing forth
smiles—
Maybe mending a torn spirit,
Perhaps making some burst into song—
Just because a beautiful feeling called
love
“Turned me on”!

--Gweneth Snyder
From September 1980 ASPIRE Magazine, published by

THE ETERNAL TRUTH IN A CHANGING WORLD

by Grace L. Faus

Continued from April 2008

We will be presenting this book over a series of months for your reading pleasure. The book was originally published in 1979 and contains a compilation of her writings over the years.

Most of us have gone through some type of wilderness experience at some time in our lives.

We think of a wilderness as a wasteland that is unproductive in comparison with a field of corn or wheat. So our wilderness experiences are often looked upon as wasted time, unproductive periods, especially in connection with our spiritual unfoldment. But we need to understand them and thereby transform them into growing periods.

Truth students have sometimes been accused of turning away from all fear and suffering and unpleasantness. But actually we do not turn our backs upon our difficulties; we face them, and seek to understand them, and put the emphasis upon overcoming them quickly. In Truth we consider problems to be opportunities for training, for growing. When we can see them as such, they really become blessings to us.

We can confirm this in the Bible, for it is truly the Book of Life. Here we learn of many cases of wilderness experiences. For instance, we have the wonderful story of Moses. His life, always guided by divine wisdom, falls into three periods. The first forty years were in Egypt, where he had every opportunity and educational advantage, preparing to be-and then becoming-the prince of the realm.

The second forty years were spent in Midian, in the open, tending the sheep, thinking, meditating, working within his own soul, for the good of the work that was to come.

And his last forty years were the years spent in the wilderness. During this wilderness period, Moses developed some of the very first ideas of democracy known to man. He was the first industrial leader, the first to work out a division of labor among his people. He was a statesman and a spiritual leader. He was a lawgiver and administrator. He was an emancipator, bringing freedom to his people. And many of our modern standards of democracy and justice, right relationships, and individual recognition date from this period of the wilderness experience of Moses.

Now in many ways that wilderness experience appeared to be a tragedy. Many persons were not strong enough to survive the hardships and difficulties. Many were hungry and thirsty. They had to work for practically nothing to develop their own consciousness and to expand their understanding of the power of God.

Moses was able to help them through his education, through his meditations, and through his actions. He was able to guide them in their own experiences so they could receive the gifts of the wilderness.

What were the gifts of the wilderness? The people moved in consciousness from fear, lack, and limitation into the beginning of a new life, a new world, and a new experience. They attained a feeling of divine protection and spiritual fellowship. Above all, they realized a spiritual consciousness; this is the tremendous gift which the Hebrew people received and passed on to the world. Marvelous gifts of the wilderness!

I am sure all of you can trace with me another group of people who came out of bondage into great freedom, great liberty. They were our own ancestors, who came to America because in their hearts they longed for freedom in every way, and particularly freedom to worship God as they understood God. And so, out of this continent, which at one time was a

wilderness, has come a tremendous civilization. The wilderness has blossomed as the rose.

Man has conquered the earth, the sky, and the sea-and now, space-through courage, through daring to take the first step forward, in response to the divine urge within him.

And now, where are we going? We have worked in the outer and know that changes can take place. What next? The answer is—unfoldment in the inner life. Now we are learning to work from within, and we know there is the possibility of perfecting every expression of life. For truly, as Dr. H.B. Jeffery has said, we are now engaged in the vital spiritual endeavor of making Truth known in the world, that those who are seemingly yet in bondage to fear of their own making, to limitations of their own thinking, can be released. We must live, conscious of the reality of the Truth ourselves, so that we may more and more quickly, through our own understanding, be able to help others see the light.

So, when we have a wilderness experience in our own lives, let us learn to rejoice and know that it is a period of training. If the wilderness takes the form of illness, we can learn to transform that experience into the realization of health through the power of the healing Christ. If we experience financial limitation, that too can be changed through the recognition and acceptance of the truth of God. Jesus told us that He came so that we might have life and have it more abundantly. Our life is not to be one of poverty and limitation, but to express beauty and abundance of all good.

As to human relationships, we can learn a higher type of love than we have known

heretofore. Whatever others are expressing or manifesting, it is up to us to love them, to love them into their own divine perfection.

Above all, our wilderness period can bring us to the absolute knowledge that God will guide us patiently in our spiritual unfoldment, to our ultimate spiritual destiny.

It may not be easy, but let us be willing to walk through the wilderness and transform it into a garden of beauty. Let us use the same three steps that Moses used: education, meditation, action! Then the wilderness experiences in our lives will be transformed into the glorious goodness of God, and that which He has in mind for us shall be made manifest before us.

MEDITATION

- Father, I thank you for every experience in my life.
- I know a wilderness experience can be transformed through you into a glorious garden experience.
- I know that every experience in my life, whether pleasant or unpleasant, can be made a stepping-stone to greater heights of spiritual unfoldment.
- I am deeply grateful that I can be still and watch what God does. Even as out of the dark bark comes the blossom, so out of my dark experiences come a new beauty and a new joy for me and for everyone.
- Thank you, Father, that this is so.

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**Finding Happiness
By Dr. Vernon Shields**

“I do not know what your destiny may be but this I do know. You will always find happiness if you seek and find, HOW TO SERVE.” —Albert Schweitzer

“Happiness is a perfume you cannot pour on others without getting a few drops on yourself,” said Emerson. Today I realize that happiness eludes me when I forget myself in loving service to others, seeking to bring them happiness; then, lo, my own happiness has increased.

Service is love demonstrated. Opportunities abound in which I might help make another’s day a little brighter. A kind word may change the course of his day. A helping hand at the time it is needed may influence his whole outlook on life. I watch for the opportunity to serve and give unselfishly of myself that another’s good may be increased.

About service and happiness Henry Drummond wrote, “In the pursuit of happiness half the word is on the wrong scent. They think it consists in having and getting, and in being served by others. Happiness is really found in giving and in serving others.”