

February 18— SUBJECT: Mind

DEAR FRIENDS: We plan to use this spot on our web page to bring you a different set of citations each week—expanding on specific citations from the “Weekly Lesson.” A paraphrase can so often open thought to new insights of familiar statements. In this way we hope to share with you some of the wonderful work that has been done in Christian Science over the past fifty years and in to the present by authors you may or may not have yet met.

Our selection this week is from Peggy Brook’s booklet — GOD’S NATURE AS MIND.

A SUMMARY

Let us end by going through this sevenfold reflection of Mind as a whole, together with the extracts from the days of creation that we have taken to illustrate it:

Mind as Mind is the divine intelligence of all creation.

“And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.”

Mind as Spirit is the allness of Mind, and therefore the only Mind, entirely spiritual.

“And God said, Let there be a firmament let it divide the waters from the waters.”

Mind as Soul is the definiteness of idea which precludes mere thought or belief.

“And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered unto one place, and let the dry land appear: and it was so.”

Mind as Principle is the one control governing all.

“And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years.”

Mind as Life is the activity of ideas that is spontaneous and eternal.

“And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven.”

Mind as Truth is the unerring and whole nature of consciousness, which is health.

“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.”

Mind as Love is the ever-fulfilled and restful activity of Mind as All-in-all.

“Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.”

Let us always remember that in taking a subject like the seven synonymous terms for God one has, of necessity, to use words and with them to analyze each term and consider it separately, but the truth is that the divine nature is one infinite and is always in operation. For instance, Love does not come into operation at the end of six periods of unfolding thought, nor is it operating only when we are thinking about it, nor solely as Love. The infinite is omnipresent and omni-active, and each facet reflects every other, so that every operation of Being from the infinitesimal to the infinite has the nature of Mind, Spirit, Soul, Principle, Life, Truth, Love. Moreover the nature of the infinite Being is beyond words. We use words as symbols, but “as we rise, the symbols disappear” and we “see him as he is,” as the apostle John declared.

THE SYNONYMOUS TERMS FOR GOD ARE LIFE

One feels more than ever the wonder of the divine nature as defined through these synonymous terms for God. They express pure reality, natural power, and in dwelling with them, one is aware of touching the fundamental values or all life. Today, in understanding these truths, thought is getting away more and more from mere words. In initial research into the meaning of these synonymous terms for God, although being fundamentally interested in ideas, the temptation is often to get involved with words.

In their original study it is perhaps a temporary help to make lists of words which characterize the nature of Mind, Spirit, Soul, and so on, but there comes a time when, even if one is tempted to have merely an intellectual sense of Science, one is impelled to move on into the consciousness of living, flexible ideas, aware of the infinite power and presence behind the mere terms. Then one finds quite naturally that these ideas are no longer objective and outside of one in the limited sense of looking up to reality and out to an objective universe, but that man is these ideas in operation and they constitute his universe. Man is idea and nothing is going on outside of all-inclusive infinity where “all is infinite Mind and its infinite manifestation.”

Terms are useful, but all terms, as well as books and teaching, are merely ladders to the innate spiritual consciousness that is man's birthright. (See *Ret.* 85: 9-12.) To think behind mere terms to the reality of the activity or Mind, Spirit, Soul, Principle, Life, Truth, and Love is to find the kingdom of heaven within, and when we have found the kingdom of heaven within, we find it in the so-called "without;" we can discern the operation of divine facts all around us, however unfamiliar the symbols may be to us. It is only as we rise beyond the confines of mere words that we can discern specifically where and how the Christ is at work in the many outstanding ways in which Christ, Truth, is leavening thought in the world today. The "signs of the times" in the fields of science, theology, medicine are truly wonderful. One feels Isaiah's prophecy coming to fulfilment, that "the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." In what terms will this "knowledge of the Lord" be couched? We may not be able to say, and indeed it may not be necessary even to know. All we do know is that if we allow the spirit always to guide us, we shall experience the common unity of divine idea expressing itself, so that *every* man will hear the voice of Truth speaking in his own tongue, as on the day of Pentecost, and thus experience the omnipotence, omniscience, omnipresence, and omni-action of one Mind, one Spirit, one Soul, one Principle, one Life, Truth, and Love.

