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HOW TO ATTAIN YOUR GOOD.

There used to be a teaching believed in by a certain class of thinkers. It was that there is a fine etheric Substance pervading all the worlds of the universe. This Substance that is so fine, filling all the worlds of the universe, was believed to fill our own bodies also, and to fill all visible things, though itself was invisible. It was thought to be the formless Substance out of which all things whatsoever are made.

It can never be cognized by the senses. It is too fine to be seen or tasted or smelled or handled. It can only be cognized by the mind, and it can only be handled by the thoughts of the mind. Even finer than the thoughts of the mind must that be that handles this Substance. It must be the understanding power of mind which moulds this Substance if we would have perfect conditions in our life. This Substance they called Cosmic Substance. They also named it the Mather or Mother-Principle. It was often called the God-Substance, because it is omnipresent. To know the nature of this Substance, and how to deal with it, was felt to be the greatest knowledge possible to obtain.

You will find this formless Omnipresence taught in the ancient Brahmin and Buddhistic books, and Paracelsus also in later times found how useful is the simple knowledge that there is such an Omnipresence. The mind is made out of this omnipresent Mather. The words and thoughts of the mind take up this soft Substance, that so finely permeates all things, and make whatsoever they please. It was said that we make all our conditions in life, all our friends, all our poverty or riches, out of this life stuff by our

words and thoughts. We may not be conscious when we are handling this life Substance (some of them said) and yet we are using it by our thoughts and words, and all the time making things come to pass in our lives. Some taught that we never use this Omnipresent God-Substance except when we understand it, and think and speak goodness, love, truth.

They felt that the etheric Substance which the common thought and word use is only a rough shadowing forth of the truly Omnipresent Substance, so fine and divine out of which only the beautiful, the good, the noble, the divine, can be made. They all perceived that mankind is given a power of understanding Good, and if man will stand by the understanding of Good, he will have good experiences only in his daily life. The Good is the Real Substance; all that is not Good is but shadow. The ancient Egyptians had this Substance named. They called it the *I Am* of the world. "It is written over and around all things," they said. They never taught this to the common people though they knew *It* to be God. They felt that to speak of a substance everywhere the same, everywhere alike, whether pervading the stone or the philosopher, would make the common people feel themselves to be quite as intelligent and quite as good as their gods. So they made a great mystery of their information that one Substance pervades all things alike. It was written down by those who believed it to be true, and no man was allowed to have possession of the book that told of it until he was quite dead. It came to be called "The Book of the Dead," because it was wrapped within the folds of the cases that held the Egyptian dead. People spent all their lifetime trying to earn enough to own a "Book of the Dead." The greatest information this book contained was the statement, "*I Am* the *I Am*," or as Moses who was taught the secret doctrine of Egypt expressed it so boldly, "*I Am that I Am.*"

You can see that if the priests really wished to keep the common people in subjection it was not best to tell them that the Divine Being filled them with *Its* own Life, Substance, Intelligence and Love as full as it filled Osiris and Isis. It was supposed to be quite a safe information for the mummies. But Moses always told everything he knew. And Moses always wrought miracles by realizing the Substance filling all things, and ready to take any form that his words pleased. All forms are made by the words we use. At the understanding of how to use words in the true Substance forms will come to be changed and moved at our bidding. It is the Good-Substance, because it never makes anything but good. Whatever is not good is really a hiding of the Substance. Whenever we speak words that are not good we hide the Substance, and hide our understanding of it. We hide the light of our minds under a bushel, which is the very thing Jesus Christ taught us we must not do. Jesus Christ called the omnipresent Substance, Spirit. He called it God. He called it Father. He called it Love. He called it Holy Ghost. He called it Comforter. He knew the presence to be the Good which everybody and everything is striving to get.

You know very well that there is one conviction that fills and thrills everything that we see. Even the stones feel this, and look up at the sky and down at the earth, and around to the horizon, to have it come to them. The planet looks for the good that belongs to it to come to it. Every man, woman and child feels that there is good for him or her, which belongs to himself or herself, and he ought to have it. You cannot kill this conviction out of anybody or anything. The galley slave and the pampered prince are all equally sure there is good for them which they ought to have. No matter how nearly cut up or spoiled or broken-hearted a creature may be, you may be sure that the last piece of him is sure that there is good for him which he ought to have. This good is that Substance omnipresent that

is so full of intelligence that it is omniscience itself. It is the omniscience that convinces everybody and everything that good belongs to him. It is unkillable. It is indestructible. You may destroy forms but you cannot destroy that conviction, therefore it is omnipotence. What cannot be defeated nor destroyed is omnipotent.

There is good for me, and I ought to have it. You are sure of this. It is the foundation statement of your being. One may not admit that there is any God, or Great Being, to whom he owes allegiance, but he is always sure there is good for him which he ought to have. This good which we feel that we ought to have is our God. Every move we make we are making to get our God, to satisfy our idea of the good. This is one service of our God. Hence in all languages God is called the Good. Good is God. We seek the good. We long for the good. We expect the good. Good is God. There is no other God but Good. If everything and everybody is filled with the Good, and there is no place or space or where that this Good is not. We can speak of the Good as omnipresent, and that which is not Good as nowhere present. God is Omnipresent Good. Good has no other power to oppose it. It is omnipotent. God is Omnipotent Good. Omnipotent Good has no other intelligence but itself. God is Omniscient Good. This is striking the mind straight on to a foundation stone within itself.

The good that is for me is my God. It is the chief aim of Truth to start the mind to work from some recognized truth, and compel all its after reasoning to square itself to that truth. Why have I not realized the good which is for me, and I am so sure is for me somewhere? Why have you not realized that good that is for you and which belongs to you? For just the same reason, almost identically, that the ancient Egyptians did not realize the Substance as the rightful knowledge of every man, woman and child. Because it was supposed to belong to the dead

and not to the living. But Jesus Christ taught that God is the God of the living, not of the dead. He also taught that it was right and necessary to speak what is true out of the abundance of the heart before what is good will be manifest. "Without the word was not anything made that was made." If you have just let your life slip along without ever speaking forth boldly the strongest feeling within your mind, you may know that you have neglected the very first step toward taking possession of your birthright of good, laid up for you from the foundation of the world.

There is good for me, and I ought to have it, is the very first conscious statement you ought to make. It is the very way you must begin to work out your problem of life so as to get satisfaction. In metaphysics we are taught the very first thing about the power of the mind. We are taught that everything we see and hear and smell and taste and feel is just as it is because of our particular state of mind. We know that any particular state of mind is made by thought. To hold a set of thoughts in the mind will make a new state of mind if the thoughts are new. All your present state of body and all your affairs are made by the kinds of thoughts you formerly held which you have not yet quite got rid of. The metaphysical law of life is that thought in the mind hath made us what we are. This is ancient Buddhistic teaching, as you will find by reading Buddhism. The most important event that has come to you is the outcome of your most strongly expressed thought. There may have been one time when you said very bitterly that you felt that you had not deserved to have so much trouble come to you. Probably that which you called trouble was not a very vital or heart-breaking affair, but you made a very strong speech about it. Then you forgot all about it, but you were playing with a kind of thing you had better understand before you use it. You were playing with great words. So in after times a great affliction did come to you when it

seemed to other people as if you did not deserve such a great affliction.

In this matter of there being good for you, which is your right, you will find that the only reason the great good has not come blossoming out into your life is because you have not said vehemently and earnestly with your thoughts and lips, *There is good for me, and I ought to have it.* Keep the strongest force of your feelings on the word "*good.*" The word "good" is the white stone of revelation. As you look at this word it begins to force you to tell what and where the good is. Then as you tell what and where the good is you see all your chances for a new and lovely life beginning over again. Nobody has ever spoken this deepest certainty of his mind right out but what good things and good events began to come to him. Even when spoken without realizing the great importance of speaking out everything that is true, those people who have said, "I have a right to the good of life as well as other people," are sure to have just as good and as great blessings come to them as to others. But if you have positively said outright that you had a harder time than your sister or brother or your neighbor, you are now already to report that you have had a very hard lot in life.

We work out our problem of life with our words. We own our own problems. We own our own words. We are managers of our own destiny. There is a beautiful way our God has laid out as our law. It is that we can begin our life problem all over again, any moment, exactly as a little child may begin his example in arithmetic over again at any moment. The child erases all his figures, and states his principle over again. You are able to drop every thought you have ever thought in your life, and state the foundation principle you mean to work upon. Formerly metaphysical teachers insisted upon people, who wished to understand their teachings, dropping all their past thoughts. We are very glad to drop our past thoughts, and speak very positively the

omnipresent, omnipotent, omniscient truth that is within our minds, which cannot possibly be dropped. *There is good for me, and I ought to have it.* This is the basic principle upon which all prosperity rests. Satisfaction along every line rests upon whether you have spoken this truth.

Now, this Good is God. This Good is Life. Life is good. You do not mean that experiences with conditions is good, but that Life itself is good. This is where the statement has come from that God is life. Life is good. Good is God. As there is no slaying or ending God, so there is no slaying or ending life. There is no slaying or ending good. There is no slaying or ending the conviction in the mind that good is for us. The conviction is good itself. Conviction of good is good itself. The speaking forth of this conviction is the evolving or demonstrating of good. The good is self-increasing. The good is creative, and the good is creating as fast as the good words are spoken. Moses says in his first chapter of Genesis where he is telling about the creation of good things, that, "In the beginning God created," or "is creating." There we find that God is Good. The good is the conviction of good, which lies within your mind. That conviction of good is Almighty Jehovah — Self-creative good. Nothing is made at all except what the Good makes. The conviction is always alive. It is Life. It is Eternal Life. All Life is Good. Life is God. This God-Life is within yourself. Jesus Christ let the God-Life be expressed within himself, and forth from his lips. "I am the life," he said. Later on you will find him telling everybody else to speak the same words he spoke. He said that these words would spring up as an everlasting river of life from whomsoever would speak them. So when we begin to say, *There is good for me, and I ought to have it*, we find ourselves saying, Good is God, God is Eternal Life. God the Good is within me as Everlasting Life. We find that Truth is good. The Truth that is good is the Truth

that tells me that if I speak out my convictions that there is good for me, and I ought to have it, I shall soon have a strong, happy life, and prosperity. It is true that good health, good judgment, and prosperity are mine by divine right.

“I am the Truth,” said Jesus Christ. He said, “Keep my words.” This is the good Truth. All Truth is good. Only what will give me good health, good judgment, and prosperity is good, and only what can bring these things is true. Truth is good. Good is God. God is Truth. Here is where Plato got his immortal statement, “God is Truth.” “I am the Truth,” said Jesus Christ; “keep my words.” Plato did not know how he came to speak forth such an idea. He was not willing to say aloud what lay within his mind just as strongly as it lies within your mind, *There is good for me, and I ought to have it*, but he spoke out from the feeling of a great truth nevertheless. “God is Truth,” he said. The Truth that there is good for you, is your God. It speaks within you — I am the Truth. You are serving that God all the time when you are making any move to get your good.

“God is Love.” There is a conviction within your mind that you love the good that is for you. That love of the good that belongs to you is in itself good. Love is good itself. Now the moment you see that love itself is good and speak and think that love itself is good that belongs to you, you will begin to feel how people love you, and how you love people. You will feel that even the things you see and handle love you. Everything is really full of love for you. You love the good that is for you. The love that you feel is waiting for you to acknowledge that it is good to bring you great signs of love. You can make the connection between yourself and prosperity by saying that the good that is for you is love. Love is God. Good is God. God is Love. All things poured down blessings into the lap of Jesus Christ because he knew everything loved him. The

universal said, "This is my beloved Son." The good that is for you loves you as much as you love it.

The good that is for you seeks you and will come flying to you if you see that what you love is love itself. If you say my Good is my God, my Good is Love, why Love will come and fold you 'round and drop into your lap. Deeper than the name God is the conviction, "There is good for me," and this good you can keep your mind right on.

This is the beginning of working your problem of life right. Everything depends upon your thinking and speaking what is true. Just the moment we begin to speak and think what is true we begin to be happier. We begin to be more buoyant. Success begins to come to us. Success is made for us. We need not ever feel a pang of grief or know the loss of a single friend nor know the disappointment of a single enterprise if we are bold enough to begin down at the foundation conviction that lives within our mind and speak it boldly. The answer to our problem of life is as sure for us as for the child at the board trying to tell how many dollars a barrel of apples may be worth at so many cents per bushel.

So you may be sure exactly how much your life is worth to you if you begin this mind reading aright, for it is simply telling off what you already know when you begin to tell off that there is good for you and that that Good which belongs to you is Life, Truth, Love. You know that when you are thinking of good that ought to come to you, you wish this good to be substantial. You do not feel that you could be satisfied with air bubbles and falling leaves. You do not feel that you are willing to be put off with promises of good home, many friends, prosperous business, good health. You want those things to be real to you, you like them to be already within your grasp. But all these things are made out of the Truth. No error can make good conditions. Error hides good conditions. There is no good comes to anybody only what he made out of some

word of truth spoken and thought. If he has spoken and thought the truth intelligently, that is, well aware of what he was doing, his good that he has made will never fail him. If it was a kind of luck and chance hitting upon Truth by which to make his goods he may let go his hold of that word that made his goods and lose sight of them.

It is certain that even the gold and houses of the rich man are made by his words of Truth. It is the province of mind science to give us a hold on right words through intelligent speaking of them forth. All the substance out of which home and friends and health and prosperity are made is within our own minds; it starts from yourselves.

This substance is the good that is for us. When we know that the good that is for us by divine right is the real and true substance out of which all things are made, we speak the truth about it and declare that the Good that is for us is Substance. This substance never changes. It is indestructible. It is the original substance which if we speak the truth about it will fill our hearts and minds with satisfaction. Unchangeable, reliable, eternal, steadfast Substance! As all things disappear and fade and fail which we see with the eyes, hear with the ears, and handle with the fingers, the original Substance which is Good must be quite opposite in name and character. The opposite of material objects that change and fade so fast, is Spirit. Thus the good substance is Spirit, un failing, eternal Spirit. Spirit is Good. Good is God. God is Spirit. This is exactly what Jesus Christ called God — Spirit. To know that God is the Substance out of which all things are made is to love all things and to feel that all things love us. For God is Love, and the Substance of all things being God, all things love us. All things are made of love. They cannot help loving us. It does not make any difference how much we have thought things were not loving, the truth about all things is that they are full of love.

It makes a supreme difference to you and to me

what we believe. To believe that things are made to do harm or have any harm in their power is to see that harm comes to us which we believe is there. To know the substance of all things is God is to trust all things. The water, and mineral, and vegetable substance is God. They are full of love, full to overflowing of love. To know this is to cause the waters to show you some new power, some new qualities, some new beauty. The minerals are made of God. To know this is to see them no longer as minerals, but as love. They will all change. All people will change when you know that they are love. We shall change toward all people when we know that we ourselves are formed out of love. All is Love. There is nothing in all the universe but Love. Love is God because Love is omnipresent, omnipotent, omniscient. Love is the only substance, because God is the only substance, and God is Love. God is Spirit. There is no other substance except Spirit. If your substance is God, then your substance is Spirit. You are Spirit through and through.

All things are Spirit. There is no other substance except Spirit. If it makes such an important difference to us what we believe, how may it have affected us to believe that all things are material when the truth all the time was that they are spiritual? Spirit is the only substance. Spirit is omnipresent, omnipotent, omniscient God. No other substance except Spirit exists. No other substance except Spirit lives. No other substance except Spirit folds us round, feeds us, supplies us. To know this will make our life to begin over again. It is the first and primal duty we owe to ourselves and to God to know God. God fills us. Thus to know ourselves is to know God.

The Greeks wrote this inscription over the Delphic Temple — “Know Thyself.” In the Vedanta philosophy, which has been called the oldest religious philosophy of the world, it was written that to know the Self of ourselves is to begin to turn the key into all knowledge. To know ourselves is to know the

whole universe. If we think of ourselves as material flesh and bones there is no knowledge comes out of such study that is at all worth while. If we study ten thousand years to know the nature of matter and the laws of matter, we have only one conclusion at the last and that is that we know nothing. Why is it that so much study of matter amounts to nothing? Simply because all things are Spirit and should be studied as Spirit. This is a fundamental truth. All is Spirit.

Begin your life problem with the words, *There is good for me, and I ought to have it.* Say boldly that this Good is Life, Truth, Love, Spirit, Substance, God. God is Good. God is Life. God is Truth. God is Love. God is Spirit. God is Substance. To know that Intelligence is Good and Intelligence is Mind, makes your next description of God that one which has been known through all ages. God is Mind. There is not a single new proposition in the Science of Jesus Christ or the science mind. This is because life is not new. Life is eternal. The only power that is coming to you as a new experience is simply that you act and speak from knowledge and not from ignorance.

“All power comes and belongs to him that knows.” The people of the past undertook to work out their life problem with saying that God is All. They also said that all power comes to him who knows God. Then while saying that God is Life omnipresent they spoke of death. Death is not the right word to hold in mind. Down there in the mind where the thoughts start up you will find that your mind does not call its good death. Your mind calls its good life. To speak out boldly what is in the mind is to speak truth. Truth is not the naming of evil or death or lies; truth is written within the mind as the deepest and most vital word. It is the province of the science of mind to face you up with the truth written deeply within your own mind. Without hearing anything or anybody speak, let your own mind start to work out your own problem of life

according to your own mind just as it is given you to write it out. You are made to work out your own life to a perfectly satisfactory state for every minute. The power lies right within yourself. It is all done by reading out what is true from the pages of your own mind. The true state of joy has been called satisfaction. It is your right to be satisfied every instant. Satisfaction is peace of mind, knowledge of what is true, and health of body. It is also described as good health, good judgment and prosperity.

The true answer to your problem is satisfaction. You must be satisfied along every line. You have a right to be satisfied along every line. There is no other way given under heaven for you to work out your life problem by except by the way of Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ means the word of truth spoken. Therefore speak the truth about God. "I am the way," said Jesus Christ. There is a noble and wonderful life right here in the air and around about you. It is your life that is so noble and beautiful. By speaking the truth this life will open up. You will not mix your talk of life with words about death. Death is not a subject for the mind to think about. If ever you have supposed that in working out your life problem or getting the best out of life you must see death or hear of death, drop that idea from your mind. Erase the word out of mind as a child erases a wrong figure off his slate. In starting the mind out to think right drop the idea of evil. Think the word *Good*. You will not find the word written in the mind by the pen of truth that there is evil for you and you ought to have it. That idea is not inherent. It is a false notion to try to work out your example with. Drop it, and rejoice to speak out promptly and boldly what is true. Drop everything false. Can you not see that if your life is dependent for all its experiences upon the words you speak that true words would bring forth true experiences?

If evil is not a good true word, do not speak it;

drop it. *Good* is the true word; speak it. The word Good is a white and divine substance. It is the white stone of Revelation. To put the mind upon the word is to see God come near us and to feel the evil slip away. If you have worked out your life problem with the idea in your mind that error or lies can work anything with you, or have thought that false notions had power, drop the notion now. A lie is nothing. Do not let the word error or lie come into your mind at all. If you have thought the word hate, drop that word out of your mind. If you have thought the word ignorance, drop that word out of mind. The primal word is Good. "In the beginning was the word and the word was God (the Good)." All words that have piled themselves upon that word may now be dropped to let the lovely primal word be spoken free of all other words. It has been called the Statement of Being, this naming God the Good, as Life, dropping the word "death;" and Truth, dropping the word "lie;" Love, dropping the word "hate;" Substance, dropping the word "burden," or "matter;" Intelligence, dropping the word "ignorance;" Omnipresence, dropping the word "absence;" Omnipotence, dropping the word "weakness;" Omniscience, dropping the word "foolishness;" God, dropping the word "devil;" Good, dropping the word "evil;" Jesus Christ, dropping the word "satan."

It is the first movement of a healthy body to have a healthy mind. The mind can be white as the winds of the Shekinah of God by just dropping certain words out of its fingers. The holding of the Statement of Being very strongly in mind is the dropping of the words that are unhealthy. Hold the first words written on your mind — *There is good for me, and I ought to have it.* The good that is for me is life, truth, love, substance, intelligence, omnipotent, omnipresent, omniscient — God.

[The foregoing was found by the Editor among a quantity of manuscript. It bears no name, and the handwriting is unfamiliar, but it is evidently from notes furnished by Mrs. Hopkins. It is a splendid lesson.]