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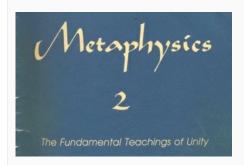
Unity Metaphysics 2: 08 Developing a Prosperity Consciousness



Unity Metaphysics 2 (Blue Book) Lesson 08 Developing a Prosperity Consciousness



INTRODUCTION TO CHAPTER



8A THE FIRST PRINCIPLE OF DEMONSTRATION:

"The secret of demonstration is to conceive what is true in Being and to carry out the concept in thought, word, and act. If I can conceive a truth, there must be a way by which I can make that truth apparent. If I can conceive of an inexhaustible supply existing in the omnipresent ethers, then there is a way by which I can make that supply manifest. Once your mind accepts this as an axiomatic truth it has arrived at the place where the question of 'processes begins to be considered' (P/37).

"The first step, then, in the manifesting of supply is to establish faith in omnipresent spiritual substance as the source of all that is. We reason after this fashion: God is my supply. God is spiritual substance everywhere present; therefore my supply is everywhere present. My acknowledgment of God's omnipresent spiritual substance delivers it into my life as the fulfillment of my needs" (PTC/13).

Faith is an essential factor in the metaphysical approach to prosperity. It is the great affirmative power of the universe working in and through us. With the assurance that God is our supply we recognize our ability to be enriched and prospered in all ways.

8B OVERCOMING FEAR OF LACK:

"There is no lack of anything anywhere in reality. The only lack is the fear of lack in the mind of man. We do not need to overcome any lack, but we must overcome the fear of lack". (P/52)

"Do not believe that prosperity and success are not for you, that others get all the breaks and advantages. You are endowed with powers and abilities. You have the gift of God's own Spirit within you" (LB/58).

A fear of lack does not arise from a lack of things but from a lack of faith in the reality of God as our Infinite Supply. We must release

and overcome this unnecessary and destructive attitude of fear, so that we will be able to focus confidently upon the truth of abundance.

8C CONCENTRATION:

"Every thought that goes forth from the brain sends vibrations into the surrounding atmosphere and moves the realm of things to action. The effect is in proportion to the ability of the thinker to concentrate his mental forces. The average thought vibration produces but temporary results, but under intense mind activity conditions more or less permanent are impressed upon the sensitive plate of the universal ether, and through this activity they are brought into physical manifestation" (CH/63).

"Concentrate thoughts, feelings, words, actions on constructive projects. What you can conceive, you can achieve. When desire becomes conviction, results are well on the way" (ES/122).

We should be careful not to confuse true concentration with strained attention. True concentration can be quite relaxed. It simply has to be genuine. True concentration means that we keep an idea or a goal secure in mind. Frivolous or erratic changes of mind can interfere with concentration; but intelligent changes of mind can actually be part of real concentration. It only has to be genuine and it will bring about good results.

8D MEDITATION:

"In true meditation one becomes joined with the Giver, contact is made with the Source of all good, and such faith, harmony, and peace are established in mind that through it the body and affairs are opened to receive" (EP/78).

"When we are endeavoring to listen, to understand, and to follow our divine guidance from the spiritual center of our own soul, we find that . . . God's ideas and substance, and plenty is the one reality" (HLG/142).

The need for daily meditation is imperative for our spiritual growth. Therefore, we continue to emphasize this practice in all our studies. Investing our time and attention in meditation will keep us in a state of receptivity to the prospering ideas of Spirit.

8E CREATIVE POWER OF THOUGHT:

"Thoughts are seeds that, when dropped or planted in the subconscious mind, germinate, grow, and bring forth their fruit in due season. The more clearly this truth the greater will be our ability to plant the seeds that bring forth desirable fruits. After sowing the plants must be tended. After using the law we must hold to its fulfillment. This is our part, but God gives the increase . . . Change your thought seeds and reap what you desire. Some bring forth very quickly, others more slowly, but all in divine order" (JC/112).

"We hear a great deal about the creative power of thought. Correctly speaking, it is mind that is creative and thought is jts action. Thought is the use we make of mind with its vast creative power . . . (we should) practice using the creative power of mind to construct only the images of the good we desire to see made manifest in our lives" (PTC/24).

In many of His parables Jesus used the illustration of seeds to represent the creative power of thought. Thoughts and words of Truth are seeds and must go through a process before becoming a harvested crop. It is during this time of process that impatience is most dangerous. The thing to remember is that the more patient we become during processing time, the shorter the time element becomes. The chances are that if we could totally overcome impatience our demonstrations might become quick enough to be called instantaneous.

8F THE LAW OF VISUALIZATION:

"When something in your world is awry ... normally the first concern is to set things right. However, when you understand the law of visualization, you will realize that the greatest need is not to set it right but to see it rightly. Right seeing is one of the most important keys to the effective demonstration of Truth. More important than changing things "out there" is changing the way you see them" (SE/39)

"We are not talking about seeing things (cars, houses, jobs, jewels, etc.), but rather seeing from a consciousness of ever-present substance, which will become the magnetic force that draws the things to you but without any of them ever becoming the object of your life" (SE/43).

Calmly and consistently focusing upon the reality of abundant good is an all-important key to demonstrating true and lasting prosperity. No matter how the outer appearance presents itself, our attention is not to become focused upon it or anxiety and lack will result. Our attention is to be focused upon our inner knowing that there is an all-sufficiency of good, so we will then draw that abundance into manifestation.

8G PATIENCE AND TRUST:

"You will become more prosperous and successful so gradually, simply, and naturally that you will not realize that it derives from a divine source and in answer to your prayers. We must realize all the while however that whatever we put as seed into the subconscious soil will eventually bring forth after its kind and we must exercise the greatest caution so that we do not think or talk about . . . it. As we sow in mind, so shall we reap in manifestation" (P/67).

As Truth students we are so accustomed to hearing or reading about demonstrations of an amazing kind, especially in regard to prosperity, that we tend to feel inadequate when our own prosperity prayers are answered in a gradual but sensible way. This should not be. No one is inadequate who is trusting God and affirming the Truth. Success will come just as surely as day follows night. Patience, trust, and inner gratitude will ease whatever waiting period there may be. To be at peace with the process is the key to patience and trust.

8H MEDITATION:

"You should expect prosperity when you keep the prosperity law. Therefore, be thankful for every blessing that you gain and as deeply grateful for every demonstration as for an unexpected treasure dropped into your lap. This will keep your heart fresh; for true thanksgiving may be likened to rain falling on ready soul, refreshing it and increasing its productiveness." (P/105)

"... the grateful heart is a dynamic key to personal prosperity ... as you feel grateful you become attractive, not only in your beauty and radiance, but in your relationships with people. More importantly you release a vital energy that draws to you opportunities, employment, and secure flow of substance" (SE/80, 89).

Thanksgiving for all of the prospering ideas we receive is a spiritual practice we are to invest in wholeheartedly. We also need to remember to express gratitude for every demonstration of abundant good which occurs in our lives. In other words, thanksgiving is to be a perpetual attitude of mind.

8I TRUE PROSPERITY:

"True riches and real prosperity are in the understanding that there is an omnipresent substance from which all things come and that by the action of our mind we can unify ourselves with that substance so that the manifestations that come from it will be in line with our desires and needs" (P/167).

"When we look to God alone of our supply there is no limit to the wealth of good things that can be manifested in our life" (PTC/17).

The one Source of all abundance is God. When we willingly receive and use divine ideas of good from God, our consciousness and our lives will be greatly enriched.

SUMMARY STATEMENTS

- FAITH IS OUR GREAT AFFIRMATIVE POWER. IN DEVELOPING A PROSPERITY CONSCIOUSNESS WE MUST ESTABLISH FAITH IN OMNIPRESENT SPIRITUAL SUBSTANCE. REMEMBER, THE ONLY LACK IS THE FEAR OF LACK.
- OUR THOUGHTS ARE CREATIVE; THEREFORE, WE MUST CALMLY AND CONSISTENTLY FOCUS OUR ATTENTION ON THE REALITY OF ABUNDANT GOOD.
- A GRATEFUL HEART AND AN ATTITUDE OF JOYOUS THANKSGIVING ENHANCE AND ENRICH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PROSPERITY CONSCIOUSNESS.
- TRUE PROSPERITY IS A CONSCIOUSNESS OF GOD AS OUR UNFAILING SUPPLY AND THE SOURCE OF ALL-GOOD.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

- 1. What does it mean to "see things rightly?"
- 2. What steps are you taking to develop a prosperity consciousness?

THOUGHTS FOR REFLECTION AND MEDITATION

"Be still. Be still. Be still God in the midst of you is substance. God in the midst of you is love. God in the midst of you is wisdom. Let not your thoughts be given over to lack, but let wisdom fill them with the substance and faith of God. Let not your heart be a center of resentment and fear and doubt. Be still and know that at this moment it is the altar of God, of love; love so sure and unfailing, Love so irresistible and magnetic that it draws your supply to you from the great storehouse of the universe. Trust God, use His wisdom, prove and express His love" (HL/49).

SUPPLEMENTARY READING

Butterworth, Eric, Spiritual Economics, chapters 3, 4 and 5, "The Law of Visualization," "If You Can Believe," and "Grateful Heart."

Fillmore, Charles, Prosperity, chapter 3 and 12, "Faith," and "Overcoming the Thought of Lack."

West, Georgiana Tree, Prosperity's Ten Commandments, chapter 2, "Thou Shalt Make No Mental Images of Lack."

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