

Selections from
The Padgett Messages

Excerpts

DIVINE LOVE *The Greatest Thing in the World*

Compiled and edited by
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Message 1

Let me teach you

Jesus – September 24, 1914

Let me teach you and give you the thoughts that He gave me while on earth. Let me show you that the things of this world are not the things that save the soul from sin and unhappiness. Be a true follower of your God.

I was the instrument in God's hands of leading men to His favor and love. When I said *I am the way, the truth and the life*, I meant that through my teachings and example men should be able to find God. I was not God and never claimed to be. The worship of me as a God is blasphemous and I did not teach it. I am a son of God as you are. Do not let the teachings of men lead you to worship me as a God; I am not.

The new birth is the flowing of the Holy Spirit into the soul of a man and the disappearing of all that tended to keep it in a condition of sin and error. It is not the workings of the man's own will but the grace of God. It is the love of God that passes all understanding....

Your will is the thing that determines whether you will become a child of God or not. Unless you are willing to let the Holy Spirit enter into your heart, it will not do so. Only the voluntary submission to, or acceptance, of the Holy Spirit will make the change.

Message 2

Tells who he really was

Jesus – September 28, 1914

I was not conceived by the Holy Spirit, as it is taught by the preachers and teachers who are now leading mankind in the doctrines of the churches. I was born as you were born, and my earthly father was Joseph. I was conceived by God's spirit in the sense that I was born free from sin and error, while all other human beings were born in sin and error. I never was a human being so far as my spiritual existence is concerned, as I was always free from sin and error, but I had all the feelings and longings of a human being which were not of sin. My love was human as well as spiritual, and I was subject to all the feelings of sympathy and love that any other human being was. Do not understand that I was with desires and longings for the pleasures of the world which the human passions created. I was not, only I was capable of deep feeling, and could feel and know the suffering and distress of humanity.

Message 3

Go to God in prayer

Jesus – October 5, 1914

You must not be too anxious for me to explain all the mysteries of God's creation. I must not teach you all of them now, but will later, when you have become purified and are at-one with Him....

Go to God in prayer and he will remove from your soul all that tends to defile it and make it an alien from Him. He is the one that will clean it from all sin and error.

Message 4

Affirmation of faith

Helen Padgett – November 16, 1914

I feel that God is filling my soul with His love. I believe that He is my Father and that I am His child. He is very near me and the Holy Spirit is coming into my soul more and more. I have commenced to have more faith in His love and grace, and I believe that He is waiting to fill my soul with His love as you have told me. I am so happy that I can realize that He is my own true Father of love. He is with me so very much now, that I know that I have been born again, as your grandmother has told me I would be if I would only believe and let His Holy Spirit enter into my soul. I will soon be in the third sphere ...

When you commence to really learn what the true meaning of God's love is you will see that all our past happiness and love are merely shadows of what the real love and happiness is that we may enjoy when the Holy Spirit takes full possession of our souls and makes us feel that the Father's love and care are only the one thing necessary for our true happiness and love.

Message 5

You can progress on earth

Helen Padgett – November 30, 1914

You can progress on earth just as rapidly as I can here, if you will let God's love come into your heart as fully and as abundantly as I do; and you can if you will only pray to the Father. He does not require the child of His care to be in the spirit world in order to develop his soul. You have the same soul now that you will have when you come here, and if you let God fill it with His love while you are on earth, why should it not progress as much as it does here?

God does not intend to wait until you come over here that He may give you the full enjoyment of His Holy Spirit; it all depends upon you. If you truly and sincerely seek His love, you will get it on earth just as easily as you can get it after you have shunned off the

body. The love of God coming into the soul of a man does not depend upon whether he is in the flesh or in the spirit.

If you seek earnestly for God's grace and love you can obtain them on earth, and I am informed that when they are obtained on earth, greater will be the progress of the spirit when it comes over.

Let your thoughts be of a pure and holy kind, and you will soon realize that God's love is in your soul to a degree that will make you feel that He is your own near and dear Father. Do not doubt His love, or that He can come to you through the Holy Spirit, for that is His messenger of love, and it will never refuse to come into a man's heart and soul, where the desire exists to have it come, by earnest sincere prayer for its inflowing.

Be true to yourself and you will soon be in God's love and favor. Do not let worries or disappointments keep you from seeking His love, and believing that He is waiting to enfold you in His arms of mercy and love, for He is not only waiting but wants you to call on Him. Do not let the thought that He is afar up in the heavens cause you to think that He is not always near you anxiously waiting your call.

He is not willing that one of His children should perish, and when they go astray His great heart of love yearns for them to return and partake of His bounties and blessings.

Message 6

Man has free will to reject the love of God
Ann Rollins – December 12, 1914

Keep praying, for that is the one great means to receive the love of God.

Without prayer men cannot reach the answering ear of the Father's grace.

He will hear the penitent only, for He will not accept anyone who is not truly and earnestly seeking Him.

Man has a will to either accept or reject the love of God, and until he exercises his will in a way to show that he wants that love, it will not be given him.

No man is ever forced to love God or to let God's love come into his heart ...

The love of God cannot be defined, for it passes all understanding, but the result of that love, when in the souls of men, can be seen and felt, in the exceeding beauty in the countenances of men, and in their wonderful happiness.

No fear of death or anything that makes afraid can possibly exist where this love is. It is not the love that permits any feelings of jealousy or envy to have an entrance, but is so perfect and all soul-filling that there cannot possibly be any room for anything but its own great self. I know that the love of God is the only thing that can make man supremely happy while on earth, and after he becomes a spirit ...

My love for Him is such that I love every one of His creatures, be they saints or sinners. And that is the difference between the love that He inspires in His children, and the love that exists among men and spirits, which has not His love for its foundation.

Message 7

A soul who receives the Divine Love

Jesus – December 17, 1914

God's love, which is all around men and angels, but not necessarily in or form a part of them.

Only when a soul is filled with the Divine Love, can it be said to be in the kingdom of God.

So do not think that because God's love is all through and around the world that every man is a partaker of it.

I tell you that only the man who has received this love into his soul and lets it fill that soul so that there is no room for anything that tends to defile it, can be said to have received salvation or to be at-one with the Father.

Message 8

Give up all your worries

Helen Padgett – December 25, 1914

You need to give up all your worries and learn to trust God for all your wants. He will take care of you in every way, and you will not lack for anything that is right for you to have.

So, do not worry anymore and you will not only be happy but will be successful in all your efforts of a material kind.

Do that and you will feel like a man out of prison, for cares and worries are the things that make a man captive.

His love will set you free indeed as Jesus says and he knows.

Be true to God and to yourself and you need not care what the future may bring, for it will bring everything which the Father knows to be for the best.

Message 9

The necessity of progressing

Jesus – December 25, 1914

I do not want you to think that you are now in a condition that leaves you free from sin or the necessity of progressing to the Father with all your heart for an inflowing of His love.

You must get all this love that is possible and that can be gotten only by prayer and faith.

So in your prayers, have faith and the time will come when you will become very close to the Father and enjoy His love to a degree that few have so far obtained.

Message 10

Love God as your Father

Helen Padgett – December 30, 1914

Your friend is not just right when he ascribes the inflowing of God's love to any vibrations of spiritual forces, other than the pure and only love of God.

His love is not a mere vibration, but an actual existing love, which has its source only in the fountainhead of His love; no other force or thing enters into it, only pure and everlasting love which emanates from the Father.

So tell him that he must believe that God is an infinite actual being who loves him as a father, and not some mere vibratory love or power moving through the universe without a fixed and predetermined plan for the happiness of mankind.

I hope he will soon see that if he wishes to obtain the greatest happiness on earth as well as in the heavens, he will come to believe that God is his real, personal Father, with all the love that a Father (the only one) can have for his child.

He can obtain the happiness, resulting from the possession of this love, only by prayer to the Father, and belief in the actual existence of the Father, and His desire to bestow this love in answer to such prayer.

He must let this love of God into his soul and believe that it is there. When he gets it though he will know it and he will not need any further proof than the happiness that will come to him by its mere possession.

Message 11

The one great thing to obtain

John Padgett – December 31, 1914

The one great thing to obtain, either while on earth, or after you come here, is this great awakening and love of God in your own heart. It is of all things necessary, the greatest. I know to a considerable degree what it means and the happiness that comes from it; but I am not satisfied and am striving to obtain more of this love, and to rise higher in the kingdom of God. So you must try also, for you need not wait until you come over.

Franklin Mackey, seeking light, writes through John Padgett:

If there be a God, and if that God has a love for me, and is ready to fill my soul with that love and make me happy and full of light, and whether I receive that love or not depends upon my will, then if this is all true, I will that God give me this love with all my strength and desire.

Hugh Taggart, also seeking light, writes through John Padgett:

*How am I to attempt to do that in which I have no faith?
So after all, I guess Mackey is not such a big fool to try the experiment. And having confidence in you as a friend that has at heart my welfare, I will do the same as Mackey has promised to do.*

So you can pray for me too, and I will pray also. But of course I will not be able to have any belief that my prayers will be answered. So you see I am not only hard headed, but hard hearted also.

If it depends on my will I am more than willing, not only that, but if there be a God and the love that you speak of, I will forever thank that God for taking me away from this condition of blindness and unhappiness. Yes, I am willing to pray to God to help me to believe, and if that will bring relief, then there will be no difficulty, for I will make such a prayer with all my heart.

Message 12

He is God of love to everyone
Ann Rollins – January 8, 1915

He is God of love to even the vilest sinner, and when such a sinner turns to Him and prays for forgiveness and love he gets them both.

Let me tell you further that the love of God, when it enters into the soul of a man is sufficient to wash away all sins, and make that soul happy and joyful.

Not even the most evil man who is guilty of the greatest sin need think that he cannot be pardoned, and made happy and brought into harmony with God.

The light that men need is not one of belief in any ordinance of the church or creed or doctrine, but simply that a belief in God's love and the exercise of the will of a man accompanied with a desire to obtain that love, with an earnest prayer to the Father, are all that is necessary to bring true happiness and salvation.

Message 13

Man does not create the Divine Love
Helen Padgett – January 9, 1915

He does not grasp the true principle of that love.

He is depending upon a love that man can create by what he calls right thinking and action – but this is not true.

Man cannot of himself create this love.

He can let it come into his heart and grow and thereby become more possessed with it; but it will not come of his own creation.

His heart is not in such a condition that this love will spring up spontaneously, nor can he by his mere effort to create it, cause its appearance.

He can obtain it only from a higher source, and that source is his Heavenly Father.

No man is so good that this love can emanate from him any-more than life can arise of his own volition or efforts.

What is the love principle, as it is called, is not the natural love of a man for God or for man, but the love that comes into the heart of a man from the Father in answer to prayer.

Message 14

You may become free from sin and error
Jesus – January 24, 1915

I am only a son of my Father as you are, and while I was always free from sin and error, as regards the true conception of my Father's true relationship to mankind, yet you are His son also. And if you will seek earnestly and pray to the Father with faith, you may become as free from sin and error as I was then, and am now.

No man can come to the Father's love, except he be born again. This is the great and fundamental truth which men must learn and believe, for without this new birth men cannot partake of the divine essence of God's love, which, when possessed by a man, makes him at-one with the Father. This love comes to man by the workings of the Holy Spirit, causing this love to flow into the heart and soul, and filling it, so that all sin and error must be eradicated.

Let not men think that by any effort of their own they can come into this union with the Father, because they cannot.

No river can rise higher than its source; and no man who has only the natural love and filled with error can of his own powers cause that natural love to partake of the divine, or his nature to be relieved of such sin and error.

Man is a mere creature and cannot create anything higher than himself; so man cannot rise to the nature of the divine, unless the divine first comes into that man and makes him a part of its own divinity.

Message 15

God is a God of Love
Jesus – March 3, 1915

God is a God of love, and no man can come to Him, unless he receives the love of the Father in his soul.

As men are inclined to error and the violation of God's laws, they can be redeemed from that sin and error only by obtaining this love; and that can be obtained only through prayer and faith in the willingness of God to bestow this love upon whomsoever may ask for it.

I do not mean that there must be formal prayers or compliance with any church creeds or dogmas; but the prayer that is efficacious is that which emanates from the soul and earnest aspirations of a man.

So let men know, that unless they have the real soul longings for this love, it will not be given to them; no mere intellectual desires will suffice. The intellect is not that faculty in man that unites him to God.

Only the soul is made in the likeness of the Father, and unless this likeness is perfected by a filling of the soul with the Divine Love of the Father, the likeness is never complete.

Love is the one great thing in God's economy of real existence. Without it, all would be chaos and unhappiness; but where it exists, harmony and happiness also exists. This I say, because I know from personal experience that it is true.

Let not men think that God is a God who wants the worship of men with the mere intellectual faculties; that is not true. His love is the one thing that can possibly unite Him and them.

This love is not the love that is a part of man's natural existence. The love that men have, who have not received a part of the Divine Love, is not sufficient to make them one with the Father; nor is that love the kind that will enable them to enter the Celestial spheres and become as the angels who are filled with this Divine Love, and who do always the will of the Father. This love is found only in the souls of those who have received it through the ministrations of the Holy Spirit, the only instrument of God's workings that is used in bringing about the salvation of men.

I have seen the operations of the Spirit upon the souls of men, and know what I tell you to be true. No man must rest in the assurance that any other instrumentality or medium than the Holy Spirit will enable him to obtain this Love. He must not rest in the thought that without this he can become a part of God's Kingdom, for no love but this Divine Love can entitle and qualify him to enter that Kingdom.

When on earth I taught the doctrine of salvation only through the workings of the Holy Spirit in fulfilling the commandments of the Father. Mere belief in me or in my name without this Love will never enable any man to become the possessor of this Love. Hence the saying; "that all sins against me or even against God's commandments may be forgiven men, but the sin against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven them, neither while on earth nor when in the spirit world." This means that so long as a man rejects the influences of the Spirit he sins against it, and such sin prevents him from receiving this Divine Love; and hence, in that state he cannot possibly be forgiven, and be permitted to enter into the Celestial Kingdom of the Father.

God's Love is not that which needs the love of man to give it a Divine Essence, but on the contrary, the love of man in order to become Divine in its nature, must be completely enveloped in or absorbed by the Divine Love of the Father. So, let man know that his love is but the mere shadow of what the Father's Love is, and that so long as he refuses to receive this Love of the Father, he will be compelled to remain apart from the Father, and enjoy only the happiness which his natural love affords him.

I am so certain that all men may receive this Love, if they will only seek for it in the true way and with earnest desire and faith, that I know it is possible for all men to be saved. But men have the great gift of free will, and the exercise of that gift towards the seeking and finding of this Love seems to be a difficulty that will prevent a large majority of the human race from receiving this great redemptive boon.

Message 16

The Influence of Divine Love is Felt over Nearly the Whole Earth
Jesus – March 6, 1915

This Divine Love is also the influence which makes men on earth think and do that which makes for peace and good will among men. It is not possessed by all men, in fact, by comparatively few, yet its influence is felt over nearly the whole earth. Even those who have never heard of my teachings, or of my Father, enjoy the benefit of its influence – in some

kind of belief or faith in an overshadowing spirit of great power and watchfulness. I know that this is true, for I have visited all parts of the earth, and have looked into men's hearts and found in them some elements of belief, which evidenced that this great love was influencing these unenlightened people. So, notwithstanding the fact that my gospel is not preached to every creature, as I commanded when on earth, yet this love of the Father is everywhere and all pervading.

Only this Divine Love can change the natural man into a man having the divine nature in love that the Father has. I do not mean that man, even though he be filled with this love to the highest degrees, will ever become a god and equal to the Father in any of his powers or attributes. This cannot be, but this love will make him like the Father in love and happiness and harmony. This love has no counterpart in all creation, and comes from the Father alone. It changes not, nor is ever bestowed on anyone who is unworthy, or refuses to seek for it in the only way provided by the Father.

My experience in these Celestial heavens is that this love has the power to change the most hardened sinner into a true child of God, if only through faith and prayer such sinner will seek for it. Let this love take possession of a man or spirit, and its power to purify and change the heart of that man or spirit never fails.

Message 17

Law of Compensation

Joseph Salyards – May 3, 1915

There is another law of the spirit world that is of vital importance to those in the mortal life, and one which they can learn, and that is, that no man can, of himself, save himself from the penalties of the law of compensation. I have written about this before, but it is of such vast importance, and affects all human beings to such an extent, that I feel justified in saying something more on the subject.

This law of compensation is as fixed as any of God's laws, and cannot be avoided under any condition or circumstances, except one, and that is: the redemption of a man's soul by the love of the Father entering into it, making it at-one with His own and like His in all the qualities that partake of the divine essence.

I know that many men do not believe that there can be any forgiveness of sin, because they say it is impossible to make clean, in a moment, the soul of a man that has been steeped in everything vile and sinful while living the life of a mortal. Well, this I believe to be true, and I do not think any of our greatest teachers of these highest truths attempt to declare the doctrine of instantaneous cleansing of a vile and sinful soul; at least, that is not the doctrine taught by the greatest of all teachers, the man of Nazareth, whom I sometimes see and converse with. And he, I believe, knows more of the laws governing the salvation of men, than any other or all other teachers combined.

His teaching here is, that while a soul is not instantaneously cleansed by receiving a portion of the Divine Love (as we have heretofore explained it to you), yet the inflowing of such love into the soul of a man starts him into the way of right thinking, and causes him to realize that his soul is open to the influence of this Divine Love. So mortals, as well as

spirits, may receive this awakening of divine grace, to a very large extent, as soon as they realize that this love is the only thing that will remove the penalties of this law of compensation.

Message 18

My birth and early life
Jesus – June 8, 1915

When I was satisfied that I was chosen by my Father to perform His work of declaring to the world the bestowal of His great gift of the Divine Love that was in His nature, and which formed the predominant principle of that nature, I commenced my ministry, and continued to work for the redemption of mankind, on earth, until my death on the cross.

I was not then as perfect as I am now, and my knowledge of the truths of the Father was not so great as it is now.

Let men know though, that what I taught was true, even though I did not teach all the truth, and they will learn that I am my Father's true son, and the special messenger by whom these great truths was to be taught to mankind.

I was not, when on earth, so filled with the love of the Father as I am now, and had not the power to make men feel that this love is the only thing that will reconcile them to the Father and make them at-one with Him, as I have now.

So men must believe that I am communicating to them the real truths which will show them the way to the Father's love and to their own salvation.

Message 19

Immortality
Henry Ward Beecher – July 5, 1915

Immortality means so much more than a mere continuation of life. It means not only a continuation of life, but a life that has in it the Divine Love or essence of the Father which makes the spirit who has that love a divinity itself, and not the subject of death of any kind. No mere spirit has this immortality just because it is continuing to live in the spirit world, and cannot conceive that by any possibility that continuity of life can ever be arrested or ended. No such spirit knows that to be true, because never has it been demonstrated, as a fact, and cannot be until eternity has come to an end. Such spirit is no different in its essence and potentialities from what it was when enfolded in the flesh, and has no greater reason for believing that it is immortal than it had when on earth.

I confess that in my life, while a great student of the Bible, I never comprehended the true meaning of how, or in what way, Jesus brought immortality to light. I thought, as many others do now that his death and resurrection were the things that showed to mankind the reality of immortality. But these things showed no more, as I now see, than did the

numerous instances recorded in the Old Testament and in the secular writings of the philosophers and adepts of India and Egypt that, there was an existence after so-called death.

Then what have I learned immortality to be since I have been in the spirit world?

Only the Father is immortal, and only those to whom He gives His attributes of immortality, can become immortal as He is. Love is the great principle of immortality, and by this I mean the Divine Love of the Father and not the natural love of the creature. And he who possesses this Divine Love becomes as it were, a part of it, or it becomes a part of him, and in its operations makes him like unto the Father. In other words, a spirit who possesses this Divine Love becomes a part of Divinity itself, and, consequently, Immortal, and there is no possibility of his ever becoming deprived of this element of Divinity.

Message 20

Mediums and soul development
Martin Luther – July 6, 1915

I was a teacher when on earth of what I thought were Bible truths, and I know that some good resulted from my teachings, although they were mixed with errors. But I have met many spirits of men who listened to my teachings, and believed many things that I taught. So you see, that even if the churches do teach many false doctrines in their creeds, yet mixed with these false doctrines are many truths, and these truths often find lodgment in the hearts of the hearers, and result in their finding the light and love of the Father.

I am still teaching mortals whenever it is possible to do. But I find that my task is a difficult one, because there are so few mediums that are capable of receiving the truths of the higher things of life, and the impressions that I make on mortals by the exercise of suggestions are not very encouraging to them or to me. Sometimes the impressions are received and understood but very often they have no effect.

If we could have more writing mediums, such as you, who are interested in these higher truths, and would believe that we could communicate such truths to them, the salvation of mankind would become much more rapid. But as Jesus said, the harvest is ripe and the laborers are few. You have a mission, which is greatly to be envied, I mean in the best sense, because you by the exercise of your duties become the medium between the Master and man. And I want to tell you that such a mission is a glorious one, and will bring to you untold blessings because you have now, and will have with increasing power the influences of the higher world of spirits and angels.

Message 21

Experience of the Divine Lover

Socrates – July 8, 1915

On one occasion I met one called John, who was a most beautiful and luminous spirit, and in our conversation he told me of this Divine Love of his God, and of the great love and mission of Jesus, and showed me some of the truths taught by Jesus, and the way to obtain this Divine Love, and urged me to seek for it. Strange to me, there were not any of the intellectual qualities required to be exercised in seeking for this love - only the longings and aspirations of my soul and the exercise of my will. It seemed so simple, so easy, that I commenced to doubt whether there was any reality in what I was told, and I hesitated to follow the advice of this spirit, John. But he was so loving and his countenance was so wonderful, that I concluded to try, and I commenced to pray to this God and tried to exercise faith as I was told.

After awhile, most surprising of all things, to me, I commenced to have new and unaccountable sensations, and with them a feeling of happiness that I had never experienced before, which made me think that there must be some truth in what I was told. And I continued to pray the harder and believe with more surety. I continued to make these efforts, until, at last, the great awakening came that I had in me a love that never before was in my soul, and a happiness that all my intellectual pursuits had never been able to supply.

Well, it is not necessary to tell you further in detail my experience in getting and developing this love. But I became filled with it, and at last entered the soul sphere, and what I saw is beyond description.

Message 22

No Divine Love until Jesus came

Samuel – July 21, 1915

How much more mankind, and spirits too, are blessed now than they were when I was a mortal, and for a long time after I became a spirit. My God then and your God now, are the same, but His great gift of Divine Love was not in existence then as it is now. And so you and all other mortals should realize the great privilege you have because of this gift and the gift of Jesus to explain, and show the way by which that love may be obtained, and that freely without mental exercise of a high order, but merely by the longings and aspirations of the soul in its desires to become a part of the Father's Divinity.

I tell you that the ways of God are wonderful and mysterious, and His plans, while to us may seem to be working slowly, yet they are working surely, and will be accomplished in His own fullness of time. I never knew when on earth, that God was such a God of love and mercy. He was our "Jehovah" and ruler. He was a God of anger and wrath and a jealous God, as I thought, ever ready to punish those whom He thought to be His enemies with massacre and death. I obeyed Him and performed His work as I understood I should, more through fear than love. In fact love was never with me a weapon or instrument to be used in bringing the disobedient Jew to a compliance with what we thought was the will of God.

Fear was the ruling sentiment that actuated the Jews in my time in their dealings with God, and when that fear was allayed or forgotten God was forgotten, and only again remembered when danger appeared.

The great essential to make them one with God by obtaining the Divine Love was missing, and never sought for, and could not then be found, for it did not then exist for mankind.

Message 23

The Reality of Change

Hugh Taggart – July 22, 1915

I will never forget our first argument after I became a spirit on this great question of how I might be rescued from my awful condition of suffering and darkness, and with what earnestness you maintained the position that you took and tried to show me that there was a way by which I could get light and happiness and relief from my torments. Mackey and I often talk about it, and we wonder that you could have had such knowledge of these spiritual matters and such faith to maintain the truth of their existence. But you were right and your faith was not misplaced. Old friend, I thank you again, and God bless you! I am now in a condition of light and suffer very little and realize to a great extent that there is such a thing as the love of the Father, and that it may be mine.

I pray and my faith is becoming stronger all the time. The great proof to me, aside from what I see in the condition of other spirits who claim to have this love, is my own change in soul happiness and in desire to progress to the higher spheres, which your band tells me exists, and that I may find my home there if I will only pray more to the Father and let my faith enlarge.

To me this love and faith is a new revelation. Of course, when on earth I heard of God's love and of faith, but to me they meant nothing more than the rhapsodies of the enthusiastic religionists, whose emotions had overcome their normal reasoning powers, a *will o' the wisp*, as it were.

But now I know the reality of these things, and I find that the emotions are in things pertaining to the soul more certain leaders than are the reasoning faculties.

I am quite happy at times, and I hope to make such progress in my soul development as to be happy all the time. You are my true friend and I love you as a brother now.

Message 24

Changed Erroneous Beliefs

George Whitefield – August 8, 1915

I was a preacher of England and a contemporary of John Wesley. I am in the Celestial spheres where are only those who have received the new birth that has been written about by other and more ancient spirits.

I am still a follower of Jesus, but a little different in my knowledge of what he was and is. I do not now look upon him as God, or a part of God, but as His true son, and the greatest of all the spirits in the spirit world. There are none to be compared to him in beauty or spirituality or in his knowledge of God's truths. I used to preach to thousands about his vicarious atonement and his blood sacrifice, but now I see his mission in a different light. It is not his death on the cross that saves men from their sins, nor his sacrifice that appeases the wrath of an angry God, but his life and teachings of the Divine Love bestowed on mankind and the way to obtain that love, that saves men from their sins. There was no need to appease the wrath of an angry God for there was no angry God, only a loving and merciful God. And when men think that unless they turn from their sins they will be forever burned in a fiery hell, they are the dupes of preachers such as I was and will never get the love of the Father by such teachings. God is love, and men must know it – and His love is for all of every race and clime.

I see now what a great mistake I made in my conception of God and of Christ's mission on earth, and how much harm I did to mortals in my preaching and how I slandered the Father of love. But I was honest in my beliefs and taught as I thought the truth to be, yet that does not alter the fact that many a mortal after he became a spirit, was retarded for a long time in his spiritual progress, because of these false beliefs, which in order to progress he had to give up and start anew in his efforts to find the truths of God. And as I worked hard and preached eloquently to make mortals believe these injurious doctrines while on earth, so now I am working hard and preaching eloquently to make spirits who come over with these beliefs, unlearn them and see the truth as it is.

Message 25

The time for soul aspirations is now

John Garner – August 8, 1915

I am here to tell you that God is love and that all mankind are His children and the object of His bounty and care. Not even the vilest sinner is beyond the boundaries of His care and love. He is not a God, who needs propitiation or sacrifice, but calls to all His children to come unto Him and partake freely of the great feast of love which He has prepared for them and enjoy the happiness which His presence gives.

So my friend, do not for a moment think that the doors of mercy or the entrance into the delights of His heavenly home is closed by the death of the body, for I tell you that the death of the body is a mere entrance into a higher life with increased opportunities. But

notwithstanding what I say, the soul that seeks to obtain this love while on earth has a great advantage in time over the one that waits until his spirit leaves the body before seeking for the Father's love. The best time for mortals to aspire to attaining this great gift is the now, and no time is so propitious. God's love is for the mortal even if he has the passions and appetites which the flesh encumbers him with, and when a mortal fights against the temptations which these burdens impose, and overcomes, he, when he enters the spirit world, is stronger and more able to progress, than when he puts off the great attempt until he becomes purely spirit.

John Garner – a Christian preacher of England in the time of the Reformation

Message 26

A harbinger of the Master

John the Baptist – August 10, 1915

I am now a harbinger of the Master as I was when on earth and that he is the true Jesus who writes to you in all the communications which you received signed by him or by his name.

I do this that you may believe and not doubt the messages that you receive. He has written you and you must rely on what he says, for what he has said to you will surely come to pass.

I am the same John who appeared in Palestine and announced his coming, and as I told them what was actually to take place, so I tell you what is actually taking place, and you will not only receive the messages of truth which he will write you, but they will also be distributed to all mankind wherever the written languages of the world exist and are spoken or written.

So you have before you a wonderful and important mission and one that will do more to make true brothers and lovers of the Father than anything that has happened since the Master was on earth and taught and preached the truths of his Father, and did good to physical man.

Message 27

True Things that Save

Jesus – August 15, 1915

When I said, *he that liveth and believeth on me shall never die*, I meant that the man whose soul was not dead to sin and believed in the truths that I had disclosed – that God's Divine Love was waiting to enter into and fill his soul with its essence and substance and that means by prayer and faith – received that Divine Love and he should never die; that is, he would become immortal as God is immortal.

No mere belief in me as Jesus the man or as the son of God, is sufficient to give a man eternal life, for while he must believe that I was sent by God to proclaim the great truth that He had again bestowed on man, the possibility of obtaining this Divine Love by his prayers and faith, yet unless he believed this and became the possessor of this Divine Love he could never claim eternal life.

I, Jesus – as the son of man or of God – do not save any man from his sins and make him one with the Father, but the truths which I taught and which were taught me by the Father are the things that save.

Message 28

Reconciliation

Paul (the Apostle) – August 20, 1915

Reconciliation can only be obtained by what is called the new birth, which comes to men not by reason of any power or effort on their part only, but by the operations of the workings of the Holy Spirit, the instrument of God in bringing about this new birth.

And yet man has his part to perform also, in this great renewal of his spiritual being. He must open his soul to the inflowing of this Divine Love, and must pray to the Father for the inflowing of the Holy Spirit, and with his prayers, must believe that the Father is waiting to bestow it.

Without the desire on the part of man to receive this Divine Love with prayer and faith, it will not come to him, for God never forces any human soul to a new birth against its will.

Message 29

The disappearance of sin and error

Paul – August 31, 1915

No man can expect to have the perfection of the Father in quantity, but he may in quality; for the spirit of truth that enters into the soul of a man in response to prayer and faith is a part of the divine nature of the Father, and the essence is the same, and the quality must be the same. But, of course, no man can obtain it to the extent of making him pure and holy as the Father is pure and holy. Even we who live in the high celestial heavens have not that perfection which the Father has.

But let men know that even while on earth they can obtain this inflowing of the Holy Spirit in their hearts to such an extent that sin and error will be entirely eradicated. This, I say, is possible, but few men attain to such a state of perfection, because the worldly affairs and natural appetites which belong to mortals are always interfering to prevent the makings of the spirit in men's souls so that perfection of this kind may take possession of them. But notwithstanding this great difficulty, and material desires of men, they should have this perfect ideal before them always, and strive to obtain the possession of it.

If the people would understand that there is only one thing that saves them from their sins and makes them at-one with the Father – and that is the inflowing of the Divine Love into their souls, which was what Jesus meant when he told Nicodemus that he must be born again – they would easily see that is in accord with the truths of God; for as this Divine Love fills their souls, all sin and error must disappear.

Of course this is a relative matter, for it depends upon how much of this Divine Love is in their souls to determine how much of sin or error exists. The more of the Divine Love, the less of sin, and on the contrary, the more of sin the less of the Divine Love. But, I want to say with all the emphasis that I am capable of, that it is possible for a human being to obtain such a quantity of this Divine Love in his soul that sin will be entirely eradicated. This was the doctrine taught by Jesus, and this is the truth of God's law of love.

Message 30

The voice of many spirits

John the Baptist – September 7, 1915

I come because I want to encourage you to pray more and to believe. The Father's Love is waiting for you to fill your soul to its utmost, and the only things required on your part are prayer and faith.

The time is now ripe when they should be given to mankind, and started on their work of redeeming men from false beliefs and erroneous doctrines and dogmas.

I, John, tell you this, for I can see that men are longing for the truths of God - such truths as will remove from the teachings of the spiritually guided all superstition and errors. Such truths as will accord with the reasoning of men who are not biased by erroneous beliefs either in matters spiritual or material.

I tell you that these truths will be easier for the mere materialist to receive and understand, than by those who are bound by the beliefs which the creeds and dogmas of the churches have inculcated. And the acceptance of this New Revelation of the truths of God will be by those who have no preconceived ideas of what the nature and relation of man to God, in the spiritual sense, is, rather than by the learned theologian and the simple worshipper at the altars of the churches, who believe whatever may be told them by the priests and preachers.

As I was, at one time, the voice of one crying in the wilderness, I am now the voice of many spirits of God, who know that the Master will teach the truths of his Father, and that these truths must be accepted by mortals on earth, and by spirits in the spirit world in order that they may receive that salvation which the Father has prepared for them, and which, when accepted and realized and possessed, will fit them to become partakers of the happiness and immortality which the Father has promised them.

Message 31

Try the Spirits

John (the Apostle) – September 12, 1915

Many spirits [will] try to communicate with man and attempt to teach false doctrines as to Jesus and his mission.

The only spirits who are capable of conveying the truth and worthy of belief are those who should acknowledge that Jesus was the son of God in the way that it has been explained to you. Not that Jesus or Jesus the Christ was God. Only those spirits that acknowledge Jesus as the son of God and have received the new birth, and know anything about the kingdom of Christ, or of the gift of the divine love of the Father, and the way to obtain it, as taught by Jesus, should be acknowledged. All other spirits who have not this knowledge, and consequently would not acknowledge Jesus as the son of God, who should hear his teachings, is not to be trusted as being true followers of Jesus.

This is nothing mysterious or contrary to the laws governing the conduct or beliefs of men. If a spirit or man either, knows nothing about a certain subject he certainly cannot teach others its qualities or merits, and, hence, I was applying an ordinary law of nature to the way in which spirits should be tried. For I must tell you now, and it is a truth, and was a truth at the time I wrote my Gospel and Epistles, just as it is a truth now, and always will remain a truth, that every spirit who acknowledges that Jesus is the son of God is a redeemed spirit, and has received a portion of the divine love, and is progressing in the kingdom which Jesus is now forming. And when I gave those instructions to my children, as I called them, I intended that their communications should be only with those spirits or men who had received this new birth.

I know that all the spirits who have received this divine love in sufficient abundance are good spirits, free from sin and error and with the power or inclination to influence mortals not to sin or to do anything which is contrary to the will of the Father, while all the other spirits may or may not exercise upon mortals the influence of evil. Hence, try the spirits, and if they do not acknowledge Jesus as the son of God, let them alone, and do not receive their communications or teachings, because they are not believers in Christ and the new birth.¹

Message 32

The soul may be starved or it may be developed

John – September 25, 1915

The soul does not merely embrace the affections and love of a spirit, but also qualities which enables it to understand and develop the qualities of knowledge at a place where the progress of the mind ceases. It is hard to explain this to you or for you to comprehend its meaning, but this you will understand that as the soul progresses in its development of its perceptions, knowledge and understanding of all things pertaining to the Celestial world

¹ On this same subject see Message 36 from Martin Luther on October 19, 1915.

increases. When you properly consider this you will find that it is a wonderful provision of the Father's love and grace.

What an important thing to both mortal and spirit is the soul. It can be starved on earth and also in the spirit world; and on the other hand, it can be developed on earth as well as in the spirit world. If mortals would only understand that as regards eternity, the soul is the great thing which they possess, and should be given more care and development than any and all other parts of man's being.

Message 33

The soul may be starved or it may be developed (continued)
James – September 25, 1915

In the several spheres below the Celestial heavens, which are seven in numbers, are many planes, inhabited by spirits of many nations and races of mankind, and these various races have to a certain extent the customs and beliefs that they had when on earth. The lines of demarcation are just as strictly drawn as are those of the several nations on earth. The result of this, that many spirits who live in this exclusive manner never learn anything other than what their own leaders tell them and what their various sacred books may teach them.

No founder of any race or sect has ever taught the new birth, or the inflowing of the Divine Love in contradistinction to that of the natural love. And the teachings of Jesus are the only ones that reveal to man the existence of this Divine Love, and how to obtain it.

The teachings of the other founders will show men the way to a life of happiness, and to what they may suppose continuous existence. But the teachings of Jesus are the only ones that declare and lead men to a realization of the true immortality of the soul.

Message 34

What is Faith?
Jesus – October 10, 1915

You have asked me *what is faith* and I will answer. Faith is that which when possessed in its real and true meaning makes the aspirations and longings of the soul a real, living existence; and one so certain and palpable that no doubt will arise as to its reality.

This faith is not the belief that arises from the mere operation of the mind, but that which comes from the opening of the perceptions of the soul, and which enables its possessor to see God in all His beauty and love. I do not mean that the possessor of this faith will actually see God in form or feature, for he has none such, but his soul perceptions will be in such condition that all the attributes of the Father will appear so plainly to him,

that they will be as real as anything that he can see with the eyes of the spirit form. Such faith comes only with constant earnest prayer and the reception into the soul of the Divine Love.

No man can be said to have faith who has not this Divine Love. Of course, faith is a progressive quality or essence of the soul, and increases as possession of this Divine Love increases, and is not dependent on anything else. Your prayers call from the Father a response that brings with it faith, and with this faith comes a knowledge of the existence of this love in your own soul.

Many persons, I know, understand this faith to be a mere belief, but it is greater than belief, and is existing in its true sense only in the soul. Belief may arise from a conviction of the mind, but faith never can. Its place of being is in the soul, and no one can possess it unless his soul is awakened by the inflowing of this love.

So that, when we pray to the Father to increase our faith it is a prayer for the increase of love. Faith is based on the possession of this love, and without it there can be no faith, because it is impossible for the soul to exercise its function when love is absent from it

Message 35

Try to get Great Faith

John – October 16, 1915

I see that you are opening up your soul to the divine influences, and that very soon you will find that through your soul perceptions, you will be enabled to see and understand many, many things which are now hidden from you. And what an opening of the soul perceptions that will prove to be!

Even the spirits who are in portions of the Celestial heavens will not have the great truths presented to them as will you, and they are seeking these truths in great earnestness.

But you are in a position that they are not, to make known to the world these great truths.

And while all this will not be done primarily for your benefits, yet you will receive such knowledge of these truths and such inflowing of the Divine Love as you write, that you will find yourself in a condition of soul development that rarely have mortals experienced.

So pray and believe, and when I say believe, try to get that great faith of which the Master wrote you – the faith that makes all the longings and aspirations of the soul realities.

Message 36

Test the Spirits

Martin Luther – October 19, 1915

I know that the passage in John [I John 4] refers to the spirits of men who once lived on earth and who communicated to the members of the early church in their places of worship,

and elsewhere John has explained to you, and what he said, I have been informed by others of the apostles, is true.

Let not the writings of old writers or of the present day writers either, cause you to hesitate to believe what the Master may write as being true.

I merely wanted to say this as I saw that you are interested in a book and I wanted to warn you against letting it influence you in any way.

Yes, I say that Jesus Christ did come in the flesh, and I know it, for he is here a spirit and once lived on earth, But that fact does not prove that any spirit who acknowledges that, is a true follower of him or a redeemed spirit of the Father.

There are many spirits in the spirit world who believe that Jesus, the spirit whom they sometimes meet, once lived as a mortal, and would, if asked, say that he lived in the flesh, but they are not believers in the divine love of the Father, or have had the benefit of his great plan of salvation or acknowledged him as the savior from sin and error.

So that the test set forth in the Bible may have been considered a true test in the days of the early church, yet it is not now a very safe one for the reason that I have mentioned.

And if a test is necessary, I think a better one would be, try the spirits and every one who does not acknowledge that Jesus is the best beloved son of God, and brought to the knowledge of mankind the rebestowal of the divine love, and declared to men the way in which that love may be obtained, is not a spirit that should be communicated with for the purpose of learning spiritual truths.

This test is better, because no spirit who has not received this divine love, or the new birth, will acknowledge the existence of these things, because it has no knowledge upon which to make the acknowledgment.²

Message 37

The resurrected body of Jesus
Luke – October 24, 1915

The body of flesh by the power which Jesus possessed became so spiritualized or etherealized that its component parts became disseminated by Jesus in the surrounding atmosphere and he retained only the spiritual body in which he afterwards appeared to the disciples and others.

When he appeared at the meeting of the apostles, where Thomas, the doubter, was present, he recalled to his form, as you will better understand by my using such expression, elements of the material, so that in appearance the body was as much like flesh and blood as when it was placed in the tomb, and before he disseminated these elements, as I have said.

The flesh and blood which encloses the spirit form of man, as you may have heard, is continually changing in obedience to the ordinary laws of nature as understood by man.

And when Jesus who understood and had power to call into operation other laws of nature, caused such other laws to operate, that the dissemination of the elements of flesh and blood took place, and he was left only with the spirit form.

² Refer to John's message on the same subject on September 12, 1915.

Message 38

The soul and its relationship to God
Matthew – November 2, 1915

The soul is an image of the great soul of the Father, and partakes of features like this great soul, except that it does not necessarily have it in the Divine Love which makes the soul of a mortal or spirit a partaker of divinity. The soul may exist in man and spirit in all receptive qualities and yet never have the divine essence to fill it, which is necessary in order to make man or spirit a new creature that is the subject of the new birth.

Only that mortal or spirit who has received this Divine Love of the Father can be said to be Immortal; all others may live or they may not.

The soul which God gave to man is just as much a part of man as is the spiritual or physical body. The soul is the highest part of man, and is the only part that in any way resembles the great Father, who is not body or spirit-body in form but is *soul*, and the man's soul, as I have said, is an image of that great soul.

Message 39

The soul and its relationship to God (continued)
Cornelius – November 2, 1915

My conception of the soul is that it is that part of the existence of man which determines for him what his destiny shall be. *The soul is the real thinking, willing and conscious part of man.*

The soul, after man has passed into the seventh sphere, is the only faculty or part of man that performs the mission of knowing, and reasoning and determining; and consequently, unless these soul qualities or perceptions are developed by obtaining into the soul the Divine Love, a man or spirit cannot get into the seventh sphere, for he would be wholly unable to live there and understand or do anything in that sphere.

Message 40

Importance of learning these truths
Moses – November 9, 1915

I have been with you on several occasions when some of the ancient spirits wrote you, and I was much interested. I am still the faithful servant of God, but in addition, a believer in Jesus, who is the greatest of all the sons of the Father, and the only one of all God's messengers who brought to light, life and immortality. I could not have said this before his coming. I mean that I could not have said that other great reformers and teachers of the truths of God had not done this, because I did not know before the coming of Jesus what life and immortality meant; and no man or spirit before that time knew this great truth.

I am now in the Celestial heavens with many of the old prophets and seers who have received this great gift of the Divine Love, and many who lived and died since Jesus' time are also Celestial spirits, partaking of immortality. I now see that many of my teachings were not true, that love did not enter into them, but rather the spirit of retaliation which is absolutely no part of the truths of the Father. The Jews still look upon me as their great teacher and law-giver, and many of them observe literally my laws.

And I want to tell you this fact, because I believe that when you publish the messages of the Master, should you publish also what I may write, many Jews will believe me, and that I and many of those who taught my teachings, are now engaged in showing the spirits of Jews who come into the spirit world the truths as taught by the Master. The Jewish nation is the strictest of all people in their beliefs in and observations of their religious doctrines as set forth in the Old Testament; and, hence, will be among the last of all men to accept the truths which I now understand and teach. But I hope that something which I may communicate to you will cause them to think and become believers and observers of this new revelation of the truth.

Message 41

My mission in writing these messages
Jesus – December 2, 1915

My new revelation of the truths of the soul is what mankind needs at this time, and what men will be in condition to accept as the real truths of God's love and of His laws.

My coming to you is really my second coming on earth, and the result of my coming in this way will satisfy and fulfill all the promises of the scriptures as to my second coming.

So let your belief in this important fact and your faith in me increase until you will have in your souls and minds no doubt as to what my present mission is, and as to what your work will be in making known to men my real purpose in revealing to them the great truths of the Father.

Message 42

A work vital to mankind
Thomas Jefferson – December 9, 1915

I am a stranger but I want to say just a word as I am so interested in the work that you have before you to do. You certainly are a favored man by having been selected to do this work. It is a stupendous work and one which is of the greatest vital importance to mankind and to the destiny of mortals. I will not write longer at this time, but would like to come again, if agreeable, and write.

Yes, I am a lover of God, and I live in the first Celestial sphere, and, as you know, I am a redeemed child of God and immortal.

Message 43

More real than anything in nature

Jesus – December 14, 1915

I am so glad that you are so longing for this Love and I will tell you that the Father loves you with all His Divine nature, and is helping you to receive this Love into your soul, and you will soon receive it in such abundance that you will find yourself happy beyond all conception. And I love you too with all my heart and soul, and am very near you and try to make you feel my presence and influence. Rest assured that I am with you in all my love and tenderness and that you are the special object of my care and keeping. I wish that you could see me as I write this for I am filled with so much love for you, that I know, if you could see the glory of the Father displayed you would never again doubt my love.

Oh, my brother, only try to get this Love by prayer and faith in such a way that it will become as real to you as anything which your natural senses show you to exist in the physical world.

It is more real than anything in all nature, and you have in you the possibilities of realizing that it is an existing thing, and is yours, if you will only pray and believe.

My dear brother, your longings tonight have been so great and so earnest that I could not stop without telling you what I have. And remember this that I, Jesus, with all the knowledge and authority that I possess, tell you that the Love of the Father shall be yours, and you will become a most happy man, and a power on earth in things spiritual and which pertain to the Father's business.

I love you as a true brother and friend, and even as a closer one to you; and you must believe, and yours will be the happiness that few on earth possess.

Message 44

Not God but and Elder Brother

Jesus – December 25, 1915

Today has been one in which the people of your land have celebrated what they suppose is my birthday, and have also worshiped me as one of the triune Godhead, as they believe. But as I have told you before, such worship is all wrong and is very distasteful to me, and only makes me the more anxious and determined that this great falsehood shall be exposed and not believed in any longer.

There is only one God and that is the Father, and He alone must be worshiped, for He alone can save mortals from the result of their sins and from the consequences of the great fall of the first parents. I do not want men to look upon me as anything more than an elder brother who is filled with the Divine Love of the Father, and very close to Him in the qualities of love and faith.

I am a spirit who is possessed of a knowledge of the attributes of the Father, that no other spirit is, and yet am only one of His children as you and the rest of mankind are, and for my own brothers to worship me as “god” makes me very unhappy, seeing that they can have such a little knowledge of the truths of the Father.

Message 45

My Object for You

Jesus – December 28, 1915

I fully realize that when you shall publish my messages the great difficulty in their being accepted will be the doubts of the people as to their source, but you will have to compile the book in such a way that the testimony of the numerous writers will be so strong that the doubts will not be able to withstand the evidence of my being the writer of the messages. And when men read the same they will realize that the truths which they contain could only come from a higher source than mortal mind and that the hand of the Father is in them.

I merely write this to show you that we will have a great difficulty to have people believe that I wrote the messages and that we will have to do everything possible to convince them of the truth of the source of the writings. But if this difficulty should appear almost insurmountable in the beginning, yet after a while when men come to appreciate the inherent truth and importance of the messages they will easily believe that I wrote them, and especially will this be the case with those men who are not orthodox in this belief.

So I will continue to write and you to receive the messages and when the time comes to publish them, I do not fear that they will not be gladly received.

If mortals would only learn of this great plan of the Father for their redemption, and then believe and try to get this great love, how much more happiness there would be, not only among spirits but among mortals also ... for this love can be possessed to a very great degree by mortals, notwithstanding that they have all the trials and temptations of the flesh.

My object is to have you obtain this great love while you are still in the flesh, for your work will require that you have this love so that you cannot only teach its existence, but by your very lives show and prove to mankind that it is a thing of reality.

Message 46

The true meaning of atonement

Luke – December 30, 1915

For nearly two thousand years this false doctrine of the atonement has been believed in and accepted by the so called Christian churches, and has been promulgated by these churches as the true doctrine of Jesus and the one upon which the salvation of man depends.

And the consequences have been that men have believed that the only things necessary to their salvation and reconciliation to God, were the death of Jesus and the washing away of their sins by the blood shed on Calvary.

Atonement, in its true meaning, never meant the payment of a debt or the appeasing of the wrath of God, but simply the becoming at-one with Him in those qualities that will insure to men the possession of His love and the immortality that Jesus brought to light.

The sacrifice of Jesus could have no possible effect upon the condition of man's soul qualities, and neither could the blood shedding make a vile and sinful soul pure and free from sin.

Message 47

No Devils and no Satan
Jesus – January 3, 1916

Never were there any angels who through ambition or any other reason revolted against the power of government of God, and thereby lost their estate as angels. Never was there any Lucifer, and never were there any angels who were thrown from the battlements of heaven into hell, as it has been written and as I told you before, there are no devils and no Satan, considered as real persons and fallen angels.

The only spirits in the spirit world are those who at one time were mortals and who lived lives on earth, shorter or longer, and whenever angels are mentioned in the Bible, or rather in the New Testament in places which contain my sayings or those of the apostles, and I mean those sayings which were actually said, the word angel always refers to the spirit of some mortal who had passed the line between life and death as commonly understood.

There are spirits of all kinds just as there are mortals of all kinds, having all the traits and characteristics of mortals, and some of these spirits may be justly called wicked or evil spirits, and even devils. But they are nothing more or less than spirits such as I describe.

I know that the belief of the majority of mankind is that there are such things as devils and that they are independent creations of God, made by Him to tempt and inflict all kind of trouble and unhappiness on mortals, and because of the great number of years that these beliefs have existed, and the fact that many of the churches still teach that such devils do exist, and are at all times trying to tempt and injure men, it is hard and will be difficult to induce men to believe that there are no such things as devils, which is the truth.

Message 48

What is meant by the new birth?
Luke – January 4, 1916

As has been told you, in the beginning God conferred upon our first parents not only the natural love but the potentiality of obtaining it the Divine Love of the Father, which,

when obtained, would make a man a part of divinity itself. And, while it would not make him a god, or the equal of the Father, yet it would give him a divinity that would cause him to receive the substance of God's great love, and not remain the mere image, and, as a consequence, man would become immortal.

God alone is immortal, and every part of Him is immortal, and when men shall obtain in their souls that part of Him which is his greatest attribute – His Divine Love – they will also become immortal, and thereafter not subject to death.

But in God's own time and in accordance with His mercy and plan, He rebestowed upon man this great potentiality of which I speak, so that men should again have the privilege of becoming at-one with Him. And to declare the rebestowal of this great gift, Jesus was sent to earth in the form of man conceived and born as other men, but without sin. It was at the time of Jesus' coming the great gift was rebestowed upon both mortals and spirits of mortals then living in the spirit world, and they all, spirits and mortals, received the privilege of becoming at-one with the Father through the plan of salvation that He had revealed to Jesus, and which Jesus taught in his ministry during the short years of his earthly life, and which he is still teaching.

There is no other way in which man can become at-one with the Father – in which the image can be transformed into the substance – than the way that Jesus taught, but which seems not to have been understood by men after the church became a church of temporal power, and after the Bible or the writings of the apostles were emasculated and the thoughts and desires of men interpolated in the place of the gospel of peace and salvation. Yet there is in the gospel of John one declaration of the true plan of salvation, though it is little understood and almost ignored in practical teachings and observances of the churches and their members, and that is: *except a man be born again he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.*

These words of the new birth are the only words that declare the true doctrine of the atonement. No death of Jesus on the cross, no shedding of blood or washing away of sins by the blood, no paying of any debt and no believing in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, will bring men into at-onement with the Father and make them partakers of His divine nature or fit them to become inhabitants of His kingdom. Only the new birth is efficacious for this purpose, and no other plan did Jesus ever teach and is not now teaching.

Then what is meant by the new birth?

The new birth is simply the effect of the flowing into the soul of a man of this Divine Love of the Father, and the disappearing of everything that tends to sin and error. As the Divine Love takes possession of the soul, sin and error disappear. The soul becomes of a quality like the great soul of the Father; and the soul of the Father in its quality of love being divine and immortal, so, when the soul of man becomes possessed of this quality of love this soul becomes divine also – and the soul is the man – and then the image becomes the substance, the mortal becomes the immortal, and the soul of man, as to love and hope, becomes a part of the Father's divinity.

Now to declare this plan of salvation and also the rebestowal of the great gift of the potentiality of the soul, Jesus came to earth. This was his mission, and none other.

Jesus not only taught the necessity for the new birth, but he also taught the way in which it could be obtained, and that way is just as simple and easily understood as the new birth itself. He taught, and is now teaching, that through earnest prayer to the Father, and faith, which makes all aspirations and soul longings things of real existence, and by the Holy Spirit (which is the Father's messenger of love to carry His Divine Love) this love will flow into the souls of men in response to such prayers; and by such faith men will realize its presence, and in this way, and this way only, men will receive the new birth.

This is wholly an individual matter, and without the personal, earnest prayer of the supplicant and faith that comes with the love, a man cannot receive the new birth.

Message 49

The importance of seeking the Divine Love – 1
Jesus – January 10, 1916

As I said when on earth, *Narrow is the way and strait is the gate which leads to life everlasting and few there be that enter therein.* I repeat now, for it is apparent from the observation of the way in which mankind from the beginning have exercised their wills, which God leaves free to their own volition, that a vast majority of men will never enter in at the strait gate, but be contented to live in the spheres and happiness which their natural love, in its perfect state and progress, will fit them for.

That all men will ultimately be brought into harmony with God, in either the natural love or in the higher one, is certain, and that all sin and error will finally be eradicated from God's universe is decreed, but the time will depend to a great extent, upon the wills and desires of men. And, hence, while my great mission in coming to earth and teaching men, was to show the way to the Celestial kingdom, yet a lesser part of my mission was to teach them a way to their redemption from sin and error that would result in the purification of the natural love. To my great regret, and to the untold injury to man, my moral teachings were more at large set forth in portions of the Bible, as now accepted, than were my teachings of the higher truths.

Message 50

The importance of seeking the Divine Love – 2
Jesus – January 11, 1916

The teachers of the church that became established, or rather controlled after the death of my followers, and those who understood the true teachings of my disciples, taught the conduct of men towards their fellowmen, and the observance of certain ceremonies and feasts were the important things for men to learn and practice in order to gain salvation, rather than the truths which made man a child of the Father and at-one with Him through the operations of the new birth.

Of course, before my coming, the Jews could not have taught the truth of the new birth, because the great gift of the rebestowal of the Divine Love had not been made, and it was not possible for that great truth, which was necessary for immortality and the possibility of man's partaking of God's Divine Love, to be known to the Jews. And hence, they could not teach it, and their teachings were limited and confined to the things which would make them purer in their natural love, and in the relation of that love to the Father.

The great gift of the Father that is the rebestowal of the Divine Love, was not known or even dreamed of by the Jews, nor conceived of nor taught by their scribes, nor even by their

great prophets, or law-givers such as Moses and Elias and others. Their conception of God was that of an exalted personal being, all powerful and all knowing, and one whom they would be able to see face to face, as they might any king or ruler, when they should come into the heavens which He had prepared for them, and where He had His habitation.

Message 51

The importance of seeking the Divine Love – 3
Jesus – January 12, 1916

The chief object of my mission on earth was to teach the rebestowal of the Divine Love upon man and the way to obtain it.

And the secondary object was to teach men those moral truths which would tend to make them better in their conduct towards their fellow-man and purer in their natural love.

And so it is, that in my teachings of these moral truths, the effect of these teachings was to bring man more in harmony with the laws of the Father which control the operations of the natural love.

I never at any time intended that men should understand that these moral truths would bring about their union with the Father in the divine sense, or that the possession of this natural love in its purest state would enable man to become a partaker of God's divine nature, or an inhabitant of His kingdom.

Message 52

The Mystery of the Birth of the Soul
Luke – January 13, 1916

I want to tell you tonight of the mystery of the birth of the soul in the human being. All souls which enter into mortal bodies are, previous to such advent, real, living existences, and made in the likeness of the Great Soul, though not having the qualities and potentialities of that Soul, and also, not having the form of individualized personality that they have after they become parts of the composition, or form, of the mortal and spiritual bodies of human beings.

The soul, in its existence prior to becoming an indweller in the mortal body, has a consciousness of its existence and of its relationship to God and to other parts of the Great Soul, and more especially of the duplex character of its being; and by this I mean the sexual differences in the two parts of the soul, which, in the way that they are united, constitutes the one complete soul.

When the time comes for this soul to become an indweller in the mortal frame, the two parts that I speak of separate, and only one of the parts enters at the same time into a mortal and never into the same mortal; and while this separation is necessary for the individualization of each part of this one complete soul, yet the two parts never lose that interrelationship, or the binding qualities that existed before their separation, and which

continue to exist thereafter, and in the great future, after the work of individualization shall be completed, will come together again and reunite in a complete one.

This separation may exist a longer or shorter time, depending upon the similar development of those similar qualities that is absolutely necessary in order that this coming together in the original one, as it were, may take place.

While, as I have said, this soul before its separation has a consciousness of its existence, and when its duplex character leaves it, or rather leaves the two separated parts, and thereafter, until its re-entrance into the spirit world, does not again return to these parts. But in order to regain this consciousness, it is not necessary that both of these parts at the same time shall come again into the spirit life, for if one part becomes a spirit, free from the physical body, and the other part remains in the mortal body, that part that comes into the spirit world may receive the awakening to this consciousness, depending upon certain conditions and developments.

It often happens that both these parts will return to the spirit world, and yet, for a long time, live as spirits without having a restoration of this consciousness, because of various reasons that may exist. The conditions of the development of the two parts may be so vastly different that the realization of this consciousness may be wholly impossible; and very often it is the case that when these two individualized parts are informed that they are the soulmates of each other, they will not believe that information, and live on in utter indifference to the fact.

But ultimately, the consciousness of their relationship will come to them, because their development, no matter whether intellectual or spiritual, will tend towards the awakening of this consciousness, which is always present with them, although dormant.

And we further understand, and such is the result of our observations, that when the soul, and keep in mind that I mean the two parts when I say soul, once becomes incarnated and assumes an individualized form, it never thereafter loses that individuality, and hence, never again returns to its condition of preexistence, and can never again become reincarnated in the existence of any human being.

There is no such thing as reincarnation, and all the theories and speculations of men upon that question, which conclude that a soul once incarnated can again become incarnated, are wrong, for the incarnation of a soul is only one step in its destined progress from an invisible formless existence to a glorious angel or to a perfected spirit.

A soul in this progress never retraces its steps - it is always progress, though sometimes stagnation takes place - but continues as an individualized spirit until it reaches its goal in fulfillment of the Father's plan for the perfecting of His universe.

This is a subject that is difficult of treatment for several reasons, among which is the fact that we spirits, no matter how high our attainments, do not have the information in order to give a full and complete description of the soul and its qualities prior to its incarnation, and you mortals are not capable of comprehending the full truth as we may try to convey it to you.

I have made this effort to give you some faint idea of the soul, as you are in good condition tonight to receive my ideas, but I realize how inadequate my attempt has proved to be. But from it, you can understand that the soul has an existence prior to its finding its home in the physical body, that it is duplex and has a consciousness of the relationship of its two parts, that after it has received the experience of the mortal life and received an individuality, it returns to the spirit world, and that at some time that consciousness will

come to it again, and the two parts will become one, unless in the development of these separate parts have arisen barriers that may prevent their reuniting. And further, that this soul will never again retrace the steps of its progression and become reincarnated.

Message 53

The true resurrection
Paul – February 8, 1916

There is a resurrection that is vital to the salvation of men, which Jesus taught, and which after the death of his followers and believers of the early centuries, the knowledge of was lost to the world and to those who assumed to teach the doctrines of the resurrection that he came to declare and teach.

The resurrection from the dead that the Master taught, and which is the one foundation of the true Christian faith, arises from the fact that God bestowed upon mankind the privilege of seeking for and receiving His Divine Love, which would make the mortal at-one with Him and immortal; and upon the further fact that man must, in order to obtain the resurrection, seek and find this Divine Love, and thereby become a child of the true resurrection – a resurrection that was never known to prophet or seer or reformer or teachers of faiths, no matter how excellent their moral teachings and private lives may have been, before the coming of Jesus.

Truly, Jesus was “the resurrection and the life.” And I, Paul, who am a recipient of this resurrection, and know whereof I speak, and have knowledge of the fact that those inhabitants of the spirit world who have never received this resurrection are still in a condition of death (so far as obtaining the Divine Love of the Father and the consciousness of immortality are concerned), declare unto you that what I have attempted to describe as the resurrection from the dead, is the true resurrection which Jesus taught.

Message 54

Who and what is God? – 1
Ann Rollins – February 18, 1916

I know now more than ever that He is a real existing God of love and power and wisdom, and that wrath, such as is taught in the Bible, is no part of His nature, and that He has for His children on earth as well as in the spirit world, only love and solicitude and sympathy.

He is not in them or in nature as some of the scientists who believe in God, say. He is not in every flower or tree or other manifestation of His creation. And, as regards His personality, He is not omnipresent, though He has knowledge of all things which He created.

When I say that God, in His personality, is not everywhere and not with men at all times forming a part of their being, I do not mean that it shall be understood that He is not the loving watchful Father, trying to make them happy and save them from the results of their own many wrong doings, for such inference would not be true.

He is with them in the sense and truth that His attributes of love and wisdom and knowledge and power are with them always.

Man does not live and move and have his being in God, but merely in the attributes of God. So you see not all these attributes together constitute God, for He is a personality from which all these attributes flow.

God is soul, and soul is God, and in this soul does His personality consist without individuality, but real and existing, and life, from which flow all these attributes of life and love, etc., of which I have spoken. God is spirit, but spirit is not God, only one of His qualities.

Message 55

Who and what is God? – 2

Ann Rollins – February 25, 1916

God is not in man or material things as regards His personality, but only those attributes of His, which men generally consider to be God, are manifested in the material things.

God is not the creator of all things that appear to have an existence, for many things which control and govern the conduct of men are entirely the creatures of man, and are not in harmony with the laws of God or with His will.

It must be understood that when I speak of the creatures of God my meaning must not be taken as including God, for He as the Creator is altogether different from His creatures; and while His creatures or certain attributes may find a lodgment and habitation in the souls of men and the minds of men and in the existence of material things, yet He, God, never finds such lodgment, and is never a part of such existences. He is as distinct from the creatures, or better probably, emanations of His, as are the thoughts and desires of man distinct from the man himself.

God is in His Heavens, and those Heavens have a locality, just as the different spheres of the spirit world, in which spirits have their homes, have localities; and His locality is way beyond the highest Celestial spheres known to the highest spirit, and towards which spirits are always progressing, and as they progress, the more and closer they come in contact with these attributes of God, which are constantly flowing from Him.

God is a being – a soul – with a personality that has a location, high up in the heavens, towards whom all spirits of the Celestial and many of the spiritual spheres are striving to approach in greater and greater nearness; and as they approach they realize and know the increased love and life and light that emanates from the fountainhead of these attributes of perfection. And so I repeat, God is not in man or beast or plant or mineral, but only are His attributes as He sees the necessity for their workings, and man does not live and move and have his being in God.

Message 56

How a soul receives the Divine Love

Jesus – February 28, 1916

It must be understood that the Divine Love of the Father is an entirely distinct kind of love from the love which the Father bestowed upon man at the time of his creation, and which man has possessed in a more or less condition of purity ever since that time.

This Divine Love was never conferred upon man as a perfect and completed gift, either at the time of his creation, or since my coming to earth, but as a gift which is waiting for man's own efforts and aspirations to obtain, and without which it can never become his, although it is always close to him, waiting to answer his call.

Then, understanding what this love is, and that man must seek for it, and what its effect upon the soul of man is, it becomes very important that man should make the obtaining of it the one great object of his aspirations and desires.

For when he possesses it to a degree that makes him at-one with the Father, he ceases to be a mere man, and becomes of a nature of soul existence that makes him divine, with many qualities of the Father – the chief of which is, of course, love. And it also causes him to absolutely realize the fact of his immortality.

Man does not have to wait to become a spirit in order to seek for and obtain this love, for the soul on earth is the same soul as when in the spirit world, and its capacity for receiving this love is just as great in one place as in the other.

Of course on earth there are many circumstances and surroundings and limitations on man that prevent the free workings of the soul, in the way of aspirations and faith, that do not exist after man becomes an inhabitant of the spirit world.

But nevertheless, and notwithstanding all these drawbacks and stumbling blocks of the earth life, the soul of man may receive this Divine Love without limitations and to an abundance that will make him a new creature.

When the way to obtain this love is so easy and the joy of its possession is so great, it is surprising that men will be satisfied with the husks of formalism and the satisfaction and delusion of mere lip worship and intellectual beliefs.

This love is waiting for every man to possess who sincerely and with true soul aspirations seeks it. It is not a part of, but surrounding and enveloping every man, but at the same time forming no part of him unless his longings and prayers have opened up his soul so that it may flow in and fill him with its presence.

Man is never compelled to receive it, as he is never compelled to do other things against his will; but as in the latter case, when in the exercise of that same will, he refuses to let the Divine Love flow into his soul, he must suffer the penalty, which is the utter and absolute deprivation of any possibility to become an inhabitant of the Kingdom of God, or Celestial kingdom, and of any consciousness of the fact of his immortality.

Let men turn their thoughts and aspirations to God, and in truth and sincerely pray to the Father for an inflowing into their souls of His Divine Love, and have faith, and they always find that the Father will bestow His love upon them, in accordance with the extent of their aspirations and longings – which are mediums of opening up their souls to the workings of the Holy Spirit, which, as I have before written, is the messenger of God for the conveying of His Divine Love from His fountainhead of love to the souls of the prayerful and aspiring men.

In no other way can the Divine Love be possessed by man; and always it is an individual matter between the particular man and the Father.

No other man or body of men or church or spirits or angels can do the work of the individual.

As to him, his soul is the only thing involved, and only his aspirations and his prayers and his will can open up his soul to the inflowing of this love which makes him a part of its own divinity.

Of course, the prayers and kind thoughts and loving influences of good men and divine spirits and angels can and do help the souls of men in turning to His Love and in progressing in its possession, but as to the question, will a man become possessor or not of this love, it depends upon the man.

Message 57

The soul must be awakened
Jesus – March 2, 1916

When the soul is in a condition of sin and error it is not responsive to the inflowing of the Holy Spirit, and in order to get into a condition of receptivity to these influences it must have an awakening as to its actual condition of enslavement by these things.

Until such an awakening comes to it there is no possibility of it receiving the love of God into it, and of turning its thoughts to the truths of God and to the practices of life that will help it in its progress towards a condition of freedom.

The awakening must come from other causes that influence the mind as well as the soul, and cause them to realize that the life man lives is not the correct life or one in accord with the demands of the laws of God, or with the real longings of their own hearts and souls.

Until this awakening comes the soul is really dead so far as its having a consciousness of the existence of the truths of its redemption is concerned, and such death means a continuance in such thoughts of sin and evil and in the life which leads only to condemnation and death for long, long years, it may be.

Message 58

Jesus is 'savior' still
John – March 18, 1916

The great gift of God to man was not Jesus, but the potentiality of obtaining the Divine Love of the Father and thus becoming divine and fitted to reside in the mansions of the *Kingdom of Heaven*.

Jesus became the “resurrection and the life” and brought immortality to light – how much greater a savior than by paying a supposed debt by his death and blood.

Jesus is the savior of man by his living and his teachings, for he was the first to receive this Divine Love and to become divine himself, and the first fruits of the resurrection.

Message 59

The disappearance of the image

Jesus – March 23, 1916

When God created man and made him in His own image as to the soul, he also gave to man the possibility of obtaining the substance of the Father – that is, of having that soul which was a mere image becomes that soul which is of the substance of the Creator.

Man, by his disobedience, lost that possibility, and for long centuries was deprived of this great privilege, and it was again restored to him at the time of my coming to earth, so that he now and for nineteen centuries past has had the possession of this great gift or privilege of partaking of the substance of the Father.

When man becomes possessed of the substance of the Father's divine nature, even in an initial degree, his soul commences to change and lose its character as a mere image, and to progress towards the attainment of that condition when this image disappears and the divine substance takes its place.

As the progress continues, he receives so much of the substance that his soul takes on the divine nature of the Father, and his at-onement with the Father becomes so perfect that he becomes an inhabitant of the Father's kingdom. This occurs when he becomes fitted to enter the first Celestial sphere.

And just here occurs another thing which may startle those who teach that the mind is the essence of God, and that is that the mind – which man, both as mortal and spirit, possesses up to that point in the progress of the soul where the transformation into the divine nature takes place – becomes a thing of naught (or rather becomes absorbed in the mind of the soul), which is the real mind of the Father.

And then and ever after, only this mind of the soul is that which enables the real divine man to understand the things of God, to help him in his progress.

Message 60

The Greatest Truth

Solomon – April 20, 1916

The greatest truth in all the world is this:

Prayer and faith on the part of mortals.

And love - the Divine Love - on the part of God.

The latter is waiting, and the former causes it to enter into the souls of men.

No other truths are so great and momentous to men.

Let what I say sink deep into your memory, and try the experiment.

I know you do try, but try and then try and never cease trying.

Love will come to you and with it faith, and then knowledge and then ownership.

Message 61

Why churches refuse to investigate these truths

John – April 23, 1916

It has been established as a fact for a long time, antedating even the Bible, that spirits or angels communicated to men. And the Bible has many instances where such occurrences were declared; but while these orthodox teachers accept all these instances as true, yet they say that the occurrences were caused by some special interposition of God. And to a certain extent this is true – but this same cause applies also to all instances of spirit communication that have taken place since these Bible manifestations.

As we have told you many times, law – unchangeable law – governs all God's universe, and nothing happens by chance. And so, *every* instance of spirit communion is the result of the operation of some law of God, working in an orderly manner. No spirit could communicate, and no mortal could receive the message, unless the law worked in such a manner as to permit or cause the same.

And here I must say that the same principle of law that enables the evil spirit to communicate or manifest enables the higher spirit to do the same. There is no special law for one and not for another.

Your land is filled with mortals who have developed in them such powers as enable the spirits to become in rapport with them, and thereby make known the fact that the supposed dead are alive, and able to declare the fact to mortals. These facts have been established to the satisfaction of men of all kinds and characters – to the scientist as well as to the man of ordinary intelligence; to the open-minded orthodox preacher as well as to the un-believer.

But these teachers³ will not seek, or if they do, and feel their hope and faith turn to knowledge, they will not declare the truth to their flock. And why not declare the truth to their flock. And why not? Because the creeds and dogmas and iron bands of erroneous beliefs forbid them doing so. They will preach of freedom of the press, and if necessary lay down their lives for such a cause; but yet when they come to deal with this question of supreme and vital fact, they are afraid to seek the truth, or, in seeking and finding, declare the freedom of their beliefs from the bondage of their creeds.

What a responsibility they have, and what an answer they will have to make! They bury the talent which is given them, and the accounting will be grievous.⁴ But some day, and soon, this truth will seek them with such overwhelming force that their erroneous creeds will crumble, and in addition to hope and faith there will come to them knowledge, and with knowledge, freedom, and with freedom, the pearl of great price which to them has so long been hidden in the shell of fear and bigotry.

³ Reference here is to leaders of the worshipers at the orthodox churches.

⁴ See the Bible, Matthew 25: 14-18.

Message 62

The Subject of Immortality

Luke – April 23, 1916

Only God is immortal.

This means that His very qualities and nature are immortal.

Among the qualities of His being is the great and important one of love. Without it, God could not be; His existence would be less than that of a God.

That being a fact, this great quality of love must be immortal; and into whatever this quality may enter and form a part, that thing is necessarily immortal as well (and in no other way could it become immortal).

Then this love of God brings immortality, in the true sense of the term, and when it enters into the soul of man and possesses it, that soul becomes immortal.

This we do know: Whatever partakes of the Divine Love has in it that which is necessarily immortal, and can no more die than can this love itself, and hence must be immortal.

So when men speak or teach that all men are immortal, they speak that which they do not know – only God Himself knows that fact.

And from the mere exercise of reason men are justified in saying that those men or souls that do not obtain the Divine Love are not immortal.

While this question of man's immortality has never been demonstrated to be a fact, yet we do know that that portion of mankind whose souls have received this Divine Love are immortal, and can never cease to exist.

The great comfort and blessing that this possession brings to these souls is that they know that they are immortal, because they know that they possess that quality or nature of God that is immortal, and that as this love can never have an ending, neither can that into which it has entered and found a lodgment.

Message 63

Worship of me is all wrong

Jesus – April 23, 1916

Today has been one when mortals – and I mean those who profess to be followers of me – have offered their worship and songs of praise to me and to God, but I am sorry to say, that He has been worshiped in a secondary sense, and I brought into prominence as the Savior of mankind, and as the important one of the three that constitutes the Godhead. How wrong and sinful this all is; and how I deplore these erroneous beliefs and understandings of men. If they would only know that I am not God, and no part of the Godhead, but only a son and spirit filled with His Divine Love, and one having knowledge of Him, and His plans for the salvation of mankind, they would get nearer to God in their worship, and receive more of His Divine Love in their souls and partake more of His divine nature.

But I realize that this belief in me as God, and that my death and sacrifice on the cross were necessary to their salvation, will be hard to eradicate, and that many who now live will pass into the spirit world before the truths which I come to teach and declare will be published to the world.

Message 64

A perfect child of God
Luke – April 27, 1916

This, I know, seems to man a thing impossible; and so thinking, he does not try to accomplish what I say he may accomplish, and become free from sins and unnatural appetites. The almost universal belief in so-called “original sin” has caused men all along the ages to think that such a task is hopeless and that they are thinking and acting only in accordance with the appetites and desires that God has implanted in their natures.

This doctrine of original sin is a mocking, damnable lie, and the sooner man realizes the fact – that it is a fraud and deceit – the sooner he will be able to get rid of those things which have placed him in his present condition and held him there bound, as it were, hand and foot. This supine submission to this old and ever recurring belief is the great thing that prevents man from starting to progress towards the attainment of that condition, which is purity and health and the perfect man. Man must decline and no longer submit to this belief, which, I am sorry to say, is fostered by the teachings of many churches, in order to sustain and make forcible their creeds and dogmas.

If men would only think, and in thinking realize that they are dear children of the Father, and His highest creation, and that He prizes them above all His creatures, and wants them to know that they are beings of such wonderful qualities and possibilities, they would then have come to them an overpowering and convincing sense of what they really are, and of how necessary it is for them to assert their rights as such exalted creatures of the Father. And they would then realize that they are masters of sin and disease, for they are the creators of the same. When they shall assume such position, and become possessed of such knowledge, they will find that they have a wonderful power as creatures of the Father, and they will realize that they are masters of sin that must be gotten rid of.

As man was, in the beginning, the perfect child of God, and by his own will created his own and only “devil,” so must he, by this same power, destroy this “devil,” and again become that perfect child. He must believe and declare, and show the sincerity of his beliefs by his acts and living, that he is a perfect child of the Father.

This I have written to show what man was in the beginning, and what he really and truly is now; although covered with sin and disease and false beliefs. To recover this lost estate or, better, condition, he will find that by searching for and learning and acting upon many of the moral precepts of the Bible and of other so called sacred writings, he will be greatly helped and strengthened in his efforts. But above all let him understand and believe with the certainty of knowledge, that he is God's highest and most perfect creation.

Now, from what I have said, it must not be inferred that man is his own God, and has not and needs not any tender, loving Father, who is interested in him and always ready to help him whenever he earnestly and in sincerity asks the help of that Father. Always is man

dependent upon God; but that dependence is not recognized by God, unless man first recognizes it, and by his longings and thoughts shows to the Father that he needs His help.

This may seem unbelievable, but man was created so independent in his great will power, as regards the dualities of thought and desire both spiritual and material, that God never interferes to compel. The principle involved in "whosoever will" must be exercised by man before the Father will intervene. But when it is exercised He does intervene, and never refuses or fails to answer the call of the sincere cry of man for help.

And God does help man in his recovery from the state of false beliefs and degradation, that I have mentioned. His love overshadows men, and His instrumentalities are always ready and waiting to answer the call upon Him for His help in assisting them out of their condition of sin, disease and false beliefs; for, as I have elsewhere written you, in God's universe there must be perfect harmony, and the present man, so far as his own creation of inharmony is concerned, is not in that harmony. Ultimately, man, all men, will become again the perfect man.

Message 65

How the Divine Love enters the soul

Jesus – May 8, 1916

The only way in which the soul may become an inhabitant of the Celestial spheres is by its obtaining of the Divine Love and thereby become a partaker of the divine nature of the Father; and this can be accomplished only by the inflowing of the Divine Love, by means of the operation of the Holy Spirit, which is the instrumentality used by God to carry this love to the souls of men.

This love never forces itself into the souls of men, and comes only when men seek for it in sincerity and with effort. It is waiting for all men to receive it, but never comes into the soul of its own initiative and without invitation.

So the important question is: How does it come into the soul, and what must men do to induce its inflowing?

There is only one way, and that is by the opening up of the soul in such a manner that this love, when it comes in response to sincere seeking, may find a condition of openness that will allow it to find lodgment and an abiding place harmonious with and satisfactory to the qualities of its own existence.

The only means by which this can be accomplished are prayer and faith.

When a human in true earnestness and sincere aspirations prays to the Father for this Divine Love, such prayer not only brings love, but causes those portions of the soul which are capable of receiving this love to open up to its coming, and to work in such a way as to attract the love.

The Holy Spirit never performs this work of preparing the soul for the reception of this love, but merely brings the love and causes its inflowing when the soul is in condition to receive it.

In answer to prayer, there are instrumentalities of the Father working to prepare the soul condition that is required, and these instrumentalities are the bright spirits of the Celestial heavens, whose duties, among others, are to answer the prayers of the penitent in the way of

influencing the soul that turn the thoughts and aspirations to this Divine Love and its operations.

The Divine Love is a thing entirely apart from the nature of man, even in its purest state, and was never conferred on man at his creation, as was the natural love; and consequently, when man obtains this Divine Love, and it becomes a part of his soul qualities, his nature changes, and he becomes a “new creature.” An additional something has been conferred upon him, and it becomes impossible for him to remain the mere man that he was (and always would be, except for this change in his nature).

I know that men do not understand the distinction between a man with only the natural love and one with the Divine Love, but the distinction is so great that the one, when possessed to a sufficient degree, makes man a part of divinity, while the other, no matter how fully possessed and how pure it may become, makes man merely man (though a perfect one).

Whosoever will pray in sincerity for the inflowing of this Divine Love will receive it.

It is not a respecter of persons, and the sincere aspirations of the soul of any human, be he prince or peasant, rich or poor, will invariably cause this love to come into his soul and change his nature so that he will become a new creature, and one not subject to death forevermore.

I have made plain how this love flows into a man’s soul, and in addition, what its effect is when possessed by man.

There is nothing in all God’s universe that can take its place for the purpose of making a man at-one with the Father, and of causing him to become divine, insofar as he possesses this love.

So I say to all men, pray and pray and never cease to pray for the inflowing of this love, for there is no limit to its abundance, or the amount which man or spirit can obtain. In the Celestial heavens we spirits continually pray for an increased bestowal, and always our prayers are answered – but always there is more to follow.

Message 66

The Journey Begins Now

John – May 26, 1916

Every man and woman should strive to obtain this Divine Love which will enable him to enter the Celestial spheres and not wait until he gets into the spirit world, as it is very much easier to start on this journey from earth than from the spirit world.

Luke – October 16, 1916 [*out of sequence*]

Life is short and time is fleeting, even though a man may live his allotted time of three score and ten years, and there is no place in all God's universe where it is so important that man should start on his way to eternal progress as in the earth life. There the soul should have its awakening and be fed with thoughts and strivings for the things spiritual.

When the start is thus made on earth, it is so much easier for the continuous progress of the soul in the spirit world, if not the awakening may be delayed for years, and the progress which follows it may be and generally is very slow.

So I say, let men not devote so much of their time to those things which are of time only, and while they remain in the world of time until the mortal becomes a spirit. Thoughts are things and when applied to man's spiritual development they are things of the most vital importance. A little thought may start a soul to a dormant, hardly living state, or cause it to grow and increase into a thing of beauty and harmony with the spiritual possibilities of its possessor.

Message 67

Background of the coming of the Divine Love

Ann Rollins – June 1, 1916

I will not write much in detail, as to what man himself should do in order to bring into operation the workings of the Holy Spirit, but merely say, that he must pray with the sincere longings of his soul for the inflowing of the Father's love, and have faith that such love is a real thing and that it comes to him in response to his prayers.

As to the truth that this love is waiting for all mankind, no matter where the individuals of the race may be, and that they can receive this love even though they have never heard of the plan of salvation as declared by Jesus.

God intended, when He rebestowed this love, that every human being as well as spirit should have the opportunity to obtain it, and that the manner in which it might be obtained should be made known to all mankind; and in carrying out this intention he specially selected Jesus for this work, who, through his own teachings to mankind, should learn of it.

Of course during the short ministry of Jesus on earth it was impossible that all men should learn this through the teachings of himself or of his disciples; and hence, the spirits of the world of spirits were permitted to hear these teachings, and come into the knowledge, and then, when they should obtain this love, to teach it to mortals and spirits, which they did, and have been doing ever since.

And just as on earth, where men have refused to listen to those in mortal life who have attempted to teach them of things religious, so in the spirit world many spirits have and are refusing to listen to the teachings of other spirits, who have the knowledge and possession of this great love. And mortals also have failed to respond to the impressions which spirits have been trying to make upon them as to this truth, and, as a consequence, were unable to open up their soul perceptions. And many mortals, as well as spirits, have never received the benefit of the great gift of rebestowal. And yet, many have responded to these impressions, and even while on earth have had the inflowing of this love to a more or less extent, although they may not have been conscious of the fact in such a definite manner as to know that what they had received was a portion of the Divine Love.

Message 68

Influence of a Little Spark

Helen Padgett – June 8, 1916

I wish to say that one of the greatest benefits or possessions that can come to a mortal is to have a mother or father or husband or wife in whose bosom glows the Divine Love of the Father, even though very faintly, for that little spark of love, to its own degree, makes that soul a part of the divine essence of the Father's love, and its influence upon the possessor causes an atmosphere of love and help to be felt by all who have the relationship to such possessor of a child or wife or husband. Christian instructions, though mixed with dogmas and creeds that may all be wrong, yet will benefit, as in them are some thoughts that may awaken the soul to a condition that will let in some portion of the higher love, which will remain, though dormant, until the time comes when something will arouse the dormant love to action and life.

And this benefit passes with mortal to spirit life, and the influence of the teachings, or rather the accompanying impressions of the Christian mother, etc., to help such a spirit to realize its true condition and to start on its progress to the attainment of the higher things of the soul. No wealth or riches or position that a mortal may inherit can possibly equal the influence of that one little spark in the Christian mother who possesses some portion of the Divine Love. And there is none so poor as the spirit who comes into the spirit world without any recollection of having, at some time in its earth life, received in its soul the influence of that little spark.

Message 69

The great law of attraction

Jesus – June 17, 1916

Among God's laws, which never change and which work impartially, is the great law of attraction – and it works in the case of all mortals and spirits, and never rests.

And the great principle of this law is, that like attracts like, and the unlike repulses the unlike.

Man must know that as he is – I mean in his state of mind and soul – so necessarily will be his companions of those who desire his association, and, hence, he should realize this important truth and all that it implies.

If his thoughts and deeds are evil, he will attract those spirits or mortals who have similar thoughts and deeds, and who will not help him to higher things, but who will retard his progress towards his first estate.

And if his thoughts and deeds are good, then his associates will only be those of like qualities, who can and will help him in his progress.

Every effort to create good thoughts strengthens the desires and will in that direction, and assists the coming of other good thoughts, for with these efforts comes the help of these unseen influences, and the repulsion of the influences of the retarding forces.

Man is a wonderful being and the highest creation of the Father, and yet his greatest master is his belief in the power and supremacy of these things of evil of his own creation.

Message 70

Transformation of the soul is gradual

John – June 19, 1916

When the Divine Love enters into the soul, it becomes permeated with the divine essence, then taking on the divine nature of the Father; and, to the extent that it receives and possesses this love, the soul becomes at-one with God and ceases to be a mere image, and becomes transformed into the substance of divinity. The soul in this condition is altogether a different entity from the soul in the condition in which it was created, and no longer is subject to the dominion of either the mind or of the animal appetites and desires. And hence, the spirit possessing such a soul is, in essence, a part of the Father – or as Jesus said, *is in the Father and the Father in it.*

Now, do not understand that such a soul is the soul that man originally possessed, only with increased development of purity and goodness or freedom from sin, because such is not the case. Such soul, by such transformation, becomes a new thing, and never again can it relapse into the soul of man's origin. Because of the qualities that it then possesses, it becomes immortal, and such immortal nature can never be taken from it. It is now a thing of love and purity, and consciousness of its true condition is always with the spirit that has such soul.

This transformation is gradual, and men must not think that by the mere act of conversion from their state of "death" they at once become possessed of the nature of the divine, for such is not the fact. The transformation is gradual, coming according to the susceptibility of the soul to receive this love of which I speak.

But when once the inflowing of the love commences, it continues eternally ... And at certain stages in its progress, the possession of this Divine Love will be so great that the original soul (or its original qualities) will entirely disappear, and leave only the new qualities which the Divine Love has implanted in it. The leaven when once deposited never ceases to work until the whole shall become leavened.

Message 71

Soul transformation – Leaven in the dough

Jesus – June 27, 1916

When man takes on the divine nature and becomes absorbed in the essence of the Father, he then becomes like the Father, and whatever his image to the Father may have been when he was mere man, now he becomes the real substance, and limitations of possibilities become removed, love sees no ending, and intellectual development no boundaries, happiness no limitations, and immortality becomes a thing of knowledge, and

the soul a new creature having the divine essence of the Father; and until this new creation has taken place, and the transformation becomes a thing of reality, and the soul be made at-one with the Father, man cannot enter into the *Kingdom of Heaven*. Then, no longer man but now an angel.

Now, all this can be accomplished only by the operation of the new birth – that is, the inflowing into the soul of man of the Divine Love of the Father. This love contains the essence of God’s divinity, and when man obtains it he is then of the same essence as the Father, and for the first time becomes a part of the divine, and fitted to inhabit the Celestial heavens.

In no other way can man partake of this nature; and it does not require much reasoning to show the logical truth of this statement, for man in his earthly affairs, and in his material experiments in producing compounds from elements, applies the same principle that I assert in my statement, *The dough cannot be leavened unless leaven is placed in the batch*.

So you see that without this Divine Love entering into the soul it will be impossible for the natural man to become the divine angel.

Beliefs and creeds and doctrines and sacrifices cannot work this transformation, and even though the beliefs may be without doubt, and the creeds and doctrines satisfactory, and the sacrifices without end, yet they will all be futile to change the soul of the mere man into the soul of the divine angel.

Message 72

Divine Love is the greatest thing in all the world

John – August 5, 1916

Divine Love is the greatest thing in all the world⁵, and the only thing that can make man at-one with the Father, and change the soul of man as it has existed since his creation into a divine substance filled with the essence of the Father.

There is nothing else in all the universe of God that can cause man to become a new creature, and an inhabitant of the Father’s kingdom; and when men possess this love, then they possess everything that will make them not only the perfect man, but the divine angel.

Then men will understand the moral precepts of brotherly love, and also the Father’s oneness, and they will not have to seek for other help in order to bring into the life of the human race those qualities that will bring to it peace and good will.

Then will every man know that every other man is his brother, and be able to *do unto each as he would have the other to do unto him*, and this without effort or sacrifice on his part. For *love worketh its own fulfillment and all its beneficence floweth towards the fellow-man as falls the dew from heaven*. Envy and hatred and strife and jealousy and all the other evil qualities of man will disappear, and only peace and joy and happiness will remain.

It is so abundant that it may be possessed by all men, by the mere seeking and the sincere longing for its inflowing. But man must understand that it is not his by matter of right, nor is it ever forced upon him, but comes only in response to the sincere earnest prayer of a soul that is filled with longings for its coming.

⁵ These words are the inspiration of the title for this book: *DIVINE LOVE Greatest Thing in the World*.

This love comes not with observation of mere moral rules, or with good deeds and the exercise of the natural love of a man towards his fellows, because no man can possibly merit it by any deeds or acts or kindness of heart that he may have. All these things are desirable, and they work out their own rewards, and bring the happiness and peace that result from good thoughts and kind deeds; but all these do not bring into the soul of man this great love.

It is the Father alone who bestows this love, and only when the soul is opened up to its reception can it possibly find its home in that soul.

It is greater than faith or hope, because it is the real substance of the Father, while faith and hope are the qualities which a man may possess by his own efforts, and which are given him that he may realize the possibility of obtaining this love. They (faith and hope) are merely means; love is the end and fullness of their exercise.

But men must not believe that all love is the Divine Love, for it is very different in its substance and qualities from all other loves.

All men have, as a part of their possessions, the natural love, and they need not pray for a bestowal of that (although since it has become defiled by sin, it needs to be purified and freed from this blight, and the Father is ever willing and ready to help men obtain this purification).

But this Divine Love is not a part of man's nature, nor can he obtain or possess it except he seek for it.

Divine Love comes from without and is not developed from within.

It is the result of individual acquirement, and not the object of universal possession.

It may be possessed by all; it can be possessed by only a few; and each man must determine for himself whether it shall be his.

With God there is no respect of persons; neither is there any royal road to the obtaining of this love. All must pursue the same way, and that way is the one that Jesus taught – the opening up of the soul to this love finding a lodgment therein, which can be brought about only by sincere prayer and longing for its inflowing.

This love is the life of the Celestial heavens, and the only key that will unlock the gates; and when the mortal enters therein, all other love is absorbed by it. It has no substitute, and is, of itself, a thing apart. It is of the essence of the divine; and the spirit which possesses it is divine itself.

It may be yours; it may be all men's – and it may not. You must decide that question for yourself ... Not even the Father can make the decision for you.

Message 73

Peace and Happiness

Samuel – September 10, 1916

I come to write you that I am with you in love and hope for your present blessing and happiness. I know that the worries of life prevent you from realizing the influence of this great love which is surrounding you and which is ready and waiting to fill your soul to its fullness. But if you will pray more to the Father and exercise your faith, you will find that your worries will lessen, and peace will come to you in such abundance and beauty that you will feel like a new man.

With this faith, love will flow into your soul, and you will realize to some extent the joys of our celestial conditions; for the love that may be yours is the same love, in its nature, that we possess, and that has made angels of us all, and inhabitants of the Father's kingdom. Only believe, and you will realize how willing this love is to take possession of your soul, and make you so happy that even the troubles that you have will not be sufficient to take from you the great peace that passes all understanding.

When this love enters the soul of man it increases like the leaven in the dough, and continues in its work until the whole soul is impregnated with it, and everything of sin or error is wholly eradicated.

Try to follow my advice and you will soon experience that peace and happiness which only this love can bring to the souls of men.

Message 74

Things that prevent soul progression

Jesus – September 17, 1916

While a man may have a great amount of the Divine Love in his soul, and is earnestly and in the right way seeking for more, yet his beliefs and teachings, as to the destiny and future condition of those who may receive this love and become at-one with the Father, are all wrong, and will tend to retard his own progress in the development of his soul and in his advancement towards the *Kingdom of God*.

Ignorance, while it will not relieve him from its consequences, and neither will it invoke the penalties of the law that apply to the willful deceiver or teacher of false doctrines, yet neither will it excuse him or relieve him from the penalties of that law which demands the truth, and only the truth, to be believed and taught.

He will have to get rid of these false beliefs, even though he may have some of the divine in his soul; for whenever there exists untruth in belief in the heart and soul of man, to that extent it interferes with the inflowing of the love into and the progress of that soul towards perfect unity with the Father.

Truth is of itself a fact. It can have no affiliation with untruth, no matter that untruth is the result of ignorance, for all untruth is the result of ignorance, and must be eradicated from the hearts of men before there can be that harmony between God and man which the very nature of truth itself requires.

Message 75

The human body is not immune to physical death

John – September 23, 1916

The body of the perfect man was in the beginning made of matter, changeable as it now is, but of a more ethereal kind, and not subject to decay and disintegration in such a short

time, as it now is, but yet, subject to this decay; and man, as regards his physical being, necessarily was compelled to die, and to have released his spirit body and his soul from this physical vesture, and thereafter exist as pure spirit.

His soul and spirit body were not subject to death in the sense of annihilation, but were given the qualities of continual existence in a pure and perfect state, and the only difference that the fall made as to these parts of his being, is that the purity and harmony that were men's are now no longer parts of his soul and spirit.

There is no fact or experience known to the spirit world that justifies the assertion that man on earth will ever be immune to physical death.

I know that some say, that in the far future men may make such progress in the development of their natural love that their condition of inner purity will be so great as to cause the physical bodies to become so etherealized as to render them free from physical death.

But that I cannot conceive will ever happen, for men were made to become inhabitants of the spiritual realms, and the short time they were decreed to live the earth life was for the purpose only of giving the soul an individualized existence.

Never was it intended that the physical form should have an eternity of existence, no matter how pure, or, as they say, etherealized it may become; for it was made of matter, of the earth, earthy, while the soul was made of that which had its origin in the spirit realm, and composed of spirit substance, so that it cannot be conceived that in the beginning man was created for an immortal earth existence.

Message 76

My Work and Mission

Jesus – November 2, 1916

My work is to change men from the fallen man to the possessor of the Divine Love.

Also, am I trying to teach men that originally they possessed a love that in its pure state would lead them from these things of hatred and war, and that their only salvation, outside of the possession of the Divine Love, is to again obtain this pure love – the purified natural love.

But strange as it may seem to some, it is more difficult for a man to regain the state of the purification of his natural love, than to obtain that greater purification which comes with the possession of the Divine Love.

I see that many centuries may pass before man will attain to this state of purification of his natural love that will enable him to say that because of his love, wars cannot come again and peace must reign.

And hence, the great necessity for him to know that only with the coming of the Divine Love will come the impossibility of war and strife – individually and nationally.

My mission is to reach the souls of men, as individuals, and turn them to the love of the Father, and my weeping or sorrow is, when men will not listen to the voice that comes to them all, as it calls them to turn to the Father and live.

Message 77

*The Battle and the Victory of the Soul*⁶

John – November 4, 1916

You have more of this love in your soul than you realize, and although at times you have some doubts, and the love seems to be dormant, yet it is there, and you must not lose faith in the fact. As long as you are a mortal these times of doubt and want of feeling of the presence of the love will come to you, but you must not let this discourage you, for as certainly as the sun shines you have fought the battle of the soul and have come out victor, and you are now an accepted son of the Father. I would not tell you this if I did not see the condition of your soul and the presence of the love resting and living in it.

We (the Celestial spirits) have all been much interested in your transformation because of the difficulty that has attended your fight – greater than you may conceive of. When you commenced to get into that condition of awakening, you had the assistance of many more of the higher spirits than you have been informed of, for we left you alone scarcely any of the time when the change was taking place. And besides, you were so unfortunate as to have around you some very evil spirits who had such a hold upon you that it was not an easy work to cause them to leave you. Of course, we could have dispersed them without any difficulty by the mere exercise of our will, but that was not the desirable or effective way of ridding you of these incubi; for whenever we should leave you they would return to you and your condition become much worse than before. And consequently, the only effective way – and the one that was pursued, and the only one that can be with certain and lasting results pursued – was to have your soul develop, so that in itself it would possess that power that would cause these spirits to leave you and render you innocuous to their influences, whether we were present or not. And in this we were successful.

And all this means that our work was simply to turn your thoughts to the Father and to cause you to have faith in prayer. For when all is said, it was the result of prayer that brought the Divine Love which made you able, because of your own soul's power, to disperse and keep from you these evil spirits.

As long as you (or any other mortal) remain mortal, you will be visited at times by some of these undesirable spirits, and will feel their influence in a spiritual sense; but they will never have any power to swerve your soul from its progression to the higher development.

The fight, of course, will continue all through the earth life, and at times the influence of these spirits upon your mental faculties and animal appetites may tend, for the time being, to retard or hold still the progress of your soul development – but directly, these evil influences can never have any effect upon the condition or qualities of your soul.

I want you to fully grasp the meaning of what I have written and in the future, no matter how discouraged you may feel or how much your mentality may suggest the existence of things in you that are injuring your soul or taking from it the presence of possession of this Divine Love, you must believe what I have told you, and that you have fought the battle of the soul and won, and that this love is yours and cannot be taken from you by the wiles of lower spirits. It may lie dormant to your consciousness, and the happiness that arises from its active existence may seem to leave you – yet the love is there and will assert itself. Temptations will come to you, and you must continue to fight – not in order to keep the love, but to prevent the love from becoming dormant, and the happiness from disappearing. You have had your resurrection from death to life, and you cannot die again.

⁶ This message is paraphrased in order to make it very personal to the reader.

Message 78

Truth about the Trinity
Luke – November 5, 1916

Nowhere, not even in the Bible, is there any saying of Jesus to the effect that God is tripartite, consisting of the “Father, Son and Holy Ghost;” and, as a fact, never did Jesus when on earth teach any such doctrine, but only this: that the Father is God and the only God, and that he, Jesus, is his son and the first fruits of the resurrection from the dead, and that the holy ghost is God’s messenger for conveying the Divine Love, and as such, the comforter.

I know that in some of the Gospels, as now contained in the Bible and adopted as canonical, it is said, in effect, that the Godhead consists of the “Father, Son and Ghost” – these three are one – but such Gospels do not contain the truth in this respect and are not the same Gospels that were originally written. These original Gospels have been added to and taken from in the passing of the years and in the copying and the recopying that occurred before the adoption of the same.

They, the adopted ones, were compiled from many writings, and as the compilers in those early times differed in their opinions as men do now respecting religious truths, the more powerful of these having authority to declare what should be accepted, according to their interpretations of those manuscripts that were being copied, directed the copies to be made in accord with their ideas, and I may say, desires, and announced and put forth such productions to be true copies of the originals. And as these copies were successively made the preceding ones were destroyed, and hence the earliest existing manuscripts of these Gospels came into being many years after the originals from which they were claimed to be compiled, were written and destroyed.

And I, Luke, who did write a gospel and who am acquainted with the present gospel ascribed to me, say that there are many vital things and declarations, that I never wrote and that are not true, contained in it; and many truths that I did write are not contained therein – and so with the other gospels.

Message 79

Divine Love never leaves a soul
Jesus – November 10, 1916

The inflowing of love is caused by its bestowal by the Holy Spirit in response to sincere prayer and longings. I mean prayer and longings for the love itself, and not prayers in general (the material benefits that men more often and more naturally, as they believe, ask for and desire). The prayers of mortals for these things that may tend to make them successful and happy in their natural love, are answered also, but these are not the prayers that bring the Divine Love or cause the Holy Spirit to work with men.

As the prayers of the sincere earnest soul ascend to the Father that soul becomes opened up to the inflowing of this love, and the soul’s perceptions enlarge and come more in rapport with the conditions or influence that always accompanies the presence of this love;

and consequently, its entrance into the soul becomes easier, and its reception more perceptible to the soul sense. The more earnest the prayer, and sincere the longings, the sooner faith comes, and with this faith, the realization that the Divine Love is permeating the soul.

When once the Divine Love finds a lodgment in the soul, it becomes as it were a changed substance, partaking of the essence of the love. And as water may become colored by an ingredient foreign to itself, and which changes not only its appearance but its qualities, so this Divine Love changes the appearance and qualities of the soul, and this change of qualities continues ever thereafter. The natural qualities of the soul and the essence of the love become one and united, and the soul is made altogether different in its constituency from what it was before the inflowing of the love – but this only to the extent of the love received. As this love increases in quantity, the change and transformation becomes correspondingly greater, until at last the transformation may and will become so great that the whole soul becomes a thing of this divine essence, and partakes of its very nature and substance – a being of divinity.

When once this Love enters and truly possesses the soul and works the change mentioned, the Divine Love never leaves nor disassociates itself from the soul. Its character of Divine Essence never changes to that of the mere natural love, and so far as It is present, sin and error have no existence, because it is just as impossible for this Essence and sin and error to occupy the same parts of the soul at the same time as it is for two material objects to occupy the same space at the same time, as your philosophers say. Divinity never gives place to that which is not of the Divine. Man is working towards the attainment of the Divine, when he pursues the way provided for obtaining the Divine Nature, and as he advances, and obtains a portion of this Divine, no matter how small, he can never retrace his steps to the extent of ridding himself of this transforming Essence, and again become without its presence.

But this does not mean that a man may not lose the consciousness of the existence of this Essence within his soul, for he frequently does. The indulgence of his carnal appetites and evil desires will place him in the condition that he may cease to have a consciousness of the existence of the Divine Love in his soul, and to himself, he will be as if he had never had any experience of the change that I speak of.

And while this Love can never be eradicated by the evils that man may indulge in or by the mental beliefs that he may acquire, yet the progress of this Love in his soul may be checked and become stagnant, as if the Love were not, and sin and error may appear to be the only dominant elements of his life and being. But yet, when once possessed, the Love cannot be crowded out of his soul by sin and error, no matter, how deep and intense they may be.

Message 80

The Prayer for the Divine Love
Jesus – December 2, 1916

I merely want to say a word for the benefit of you and your friend, and that is, that I have listened to your conversation tonight, and find that it is in accord with the truth; and

the influence of the spirit is with you both. Continue in your line of thought and in prayer to the Father, and, also, in your making known to others, whenever the opportunity arises, the importance of seeking for and getting the Divine Love.

As your friend said, the only prayer that is necessary is the prayer for the inflowing of this love. All other forms or real aspirations of prayer are secondary, and of themselves, will not tend to produce this love in the souls of men ...

Let your prayer be as follows:

Our Father, who is in heaven, we recognize that you are all holy and loving and merciful, and that we are your children, and not the subservient, sinful and depraved creatures that false teachers would have us believe. We know that we are the greatest of your creations, and the most wonderful of all your handiworks, and the objects of your great soul love and tender care.

We know that your will is that we become at-one with you and partake of the great love which you have bestowed upon us through your mercy and desire that we become, in truth, your children through love and not through the sacrifice and death of any one of your creatures – even though the world thinks one your equal and a part of your Godhead.

We pray that you will open up our souls to the inflowing of your love, and that then will come your Holy Spirit to bring into our souls this, your Divine Love, in great abundance, until our souls are transformed into the very essence of yourself, and that there will come to us faith – such faith as will cause us to realize that we are truly your children and one with you in very substance and not in image only.

Let us have such faith as will cause us to know that you are our Father, and the bestower of every good and perfect gift, and that only we ourselves can prevent your love changing us from the mortal into the immortal.

Let us never cease to realize that your love is waiting for each and all of us, and, that when we come to you with faith and earnest aspiration, your love will never be withheld from us.

Keep us in the shadow of your love every hour and moment of our lives, and help us to overcome all temptations of the flesh, and the influence of the powers of the evil ones who so constantly surround us and endeavor to turn our thoughts away from you to the pleasures and allurements of this world.

We thank you for your love, and for the privilege of receiving it, and we know that you are our Father – our loving Heavenly Father who smiles upon us in our weakness, and is always ready to help us and take us to Thy arms of love.

We pray this with all the earnestness and sincere longings of our souls, and, trusting in your love, give you all the glory and honor and love that our finite souls can give.

This is the only prayer⁷ that men need offer to the Father. It is the only one that appeals to the love of the Father, and with the answer, which will surely come, will come all the blessings that men may need, and which the Father sees are for the good of His creatures.

So, my brothers, continue to pray and have faith, and in the end will come a bestowal of the love like unto that which came to the apostles and disciples at Pentecost.

⁷ Many other teachings within these spirit communications lead us away from making this prayer a formalized or intellectual activity, or elevating it to a ritual. Without sincere longings of the soul, the words themselves are empty and go no further than our escaping breath.

Message 81

Jesus gave us the Prayer

Robert Ingersoll – December 2, 1916

I desire to say with all the emphasis of my words and soul that the Master wrote you, and gave you the prayer, which he said is the only prayer that is needful to bring into the souls of men the Divine Love.

He was glorious, and it is not surprising that you felt the influence of his presence and love, and I, who have so recently experienced what this love is, tell you that your feelings were real and that that love is present, and that we spirits feel it, as well as you two mortals.

Astonishing to us, as to you, is the power of this love and the greatness of the Master, for with him seems to come the influence of the very Father Himself.

How every thankful I am that I found the way to this love, and it found its way to my soul!

What a loving Father, and what a tender Master, to teach us of this great gift!

Message 82

Study the Prayer

Cornelius – December 3, 1916

I will write only a line or two, as I see from your condition of mind that you are anxious to study the prayer that the Master wrote you last night. Well I am not surprised, for it is a wonderful prayer, and one, that when earnestly breathed to the Father, will bring into your soul this great love, which is the only thing necessary to make you at-one with Him.

As I heretofore told you, I am in possession of this love, and know that it is real and causes the soul of the mortal and the spirit to partake of the essence of the Father, and in a manner become divine itself.

Message 83

You have the Master's Prayer

Helen Padgett – December 5, 1916

I am glad that you have the Master's prayer to help you and open up your soul to the inflowing of the love of the Father.

It is a wonderful prayer, and as you repeat it with all your sincere soul desires, you will find that peace will come to you and the very presence of the Divine Love will be felt in your soul.

Try to learn the prayer and offer it up to the Father, not only at night when you are ready to retire, but during the day, and especially when you feel gloomy and downcast, for the results will do you much good.

It will bring to you the presence of this love and, also, the higher spirits who possess so much of it, and the rapport will enable you to realize that there are spirits hovering around, and such spirits as will cause you much happiness and peace.

Remember what I advise, and give your aspirations to the offering of the prayer, and to the hope that with you may abound this love in all its fullness.

Message 84

The Remedy for Worry

Ann Rollins – January 9, 1917

I want to tell you a few things that may help you in your moments of worry. As you know, when on earth I was nearly blind and deaf, and in such condition as would naturally cause me to worry and be unhappy, but I did not worry and was not unhappy. And the secret was that I had in my soul the love of the Father, and it was so real to me that no doubt of its existence in my soul ever came to cause me unhappiness. And that love, I know, and assure you, is the same kind of love that now floods my whole being and gives me the happiness that I now possess. I remember that I did not have many material things to trouble me, for you looked after my material welfare and was always kind to me and loving, yet, nevertheless, if it had not been for the love that I speak of, I can readily see that I should have been very unhappy and worried a great deal, for my natural inclination was to worry when things did not go right, as we said.

And so I tell you from actual experience, that all your worries, and by this I mean your causes of worry, may be taken from your conscious self if you will only seek for and obtain, which you certainly can do, this love of the Father. It is astonishing how efficacious it is to cause the worries and troubles to disappear. They, as you may know, are very largely a matter of the mind; and while in a certain sense they are real, yet the mind (or its condition) is the real cause of the realization of the worries. And consider for a moment the fact, and I know that you will agree with me that it is a fact, that by indulging in these worries does not in one particular remove the material causes of the worry, and does not in any manner bring relief from the troubles. No matter how much you may allow your mind to dwell on these things, and how intensely you may worry, the cause, the material cause, remains.

You may say (and it is natural to do so), that it is easy enough to advise that you should not let these inconvenient things cause you to worry, but when you come to the practical experience and are the sufferer from these conditions, it is not so easy to throw aside the effect of the troubles on the mind. Well, there is much truth in that, but notwithstanding, this love that I tell you of, when living in the soul, will make even that effort easy to accomplish.

This love is of such real substantial essence that it takes control of the mind and eliminates the consciousness of the reality of the causes of the worry. Now I do not want to be understood as intending to convey the idea that these material causes are not real, for I am not a Christian Scientist to that extent; but what I do mean is that, notwithstanding the real existence of these causes, the effects of this love and the faith that accompanies it upon the mind – which is the real cause of the worry – as such, that forgetfulness of these causes of worry takes the place of the constant indulging in the thoughts of their existence, and the

unhappy consequence that must flow from them. The cause itself is not removed, but the consciousness of their existence, for the time being, is dissipated, and to the mind that is thus influenced by the love, these causes are, as if they were not. Of course, they are existing and facing you to some extent, but it will come to you that they are not so overwhelming and insurmountable as they would appear were this love absent from the soul and its influence from the mind. And in addition to this, love and faith create a confidence in the power of the Father and His willingness to help, that engenders courage, which enables the possessor of this confidence to overcome these causes of worry that he would not otherwise be able to do.

What I have said may be called *the philosophy of the workings of Divine Love in its effective destruction of worry*. But the great fact is that the Father does, as a truth, help the one who is in the condition of being possessed with this love. His love is real and His help is real, and the effect is to make the causes named things of unreality so far as the happiness of the object of this help is concerned. And as a truth, shown by the experience of mortals, a very large proportion of the worries and troubles that harass and cause so much unhappiness to mortals is a thing of the imagination and never realized.

So think of all that I have said and try to believe and make a practical application of my philosophy; and above all, pray to the Father for a greater inflowing of this love, and have faith to realize that it will become yours, limited only by your longings and sincerity of aspirations.

Message 85

From the vilest sinner to the divine angel

Nero – January 16, 1917

I suffered ... year after year, and century after century. I became convinced that my condition was fixed, and that for me there was no hope; that the God that I had heard of was not my God, and that the evil spirits were the only companions that I was destined to have through all eternity.

What to do, I knew not, and so I became isolated as best I could from these terrible associates, and many years of my living were spent in the darkness of lonesomeness with never a ray of hope, or the whisper of one word to tell me, that for me there might be a fairer destiny.

I suffered the tortures of the damned, and it seemed to me that I was paying the penalties for all the sins and evil deeds that had ever been committed by all the wicked kings and rulers and persecutors of earth.

I might write a volume on this suffering of mine, and yet you would not comprehend its meaning, and so I will pass it by.

In my loneliness and suffering, there came to me on an occasion a beautiful spirit, full of light and love, and all the beauty of early womanhood, as I thought, and with eyes of pity and longing.

And as I looked into the love-lit eyes of that beautiful spirit, I felt the great sins of my earth life overwhelm me, and in my anguish, I cried, "God be merciful to me, the greatest of sinners!" And for the first time in all my life in the hells, tears came to my eyes, and my heart

seemed to have a sense of living, and there came to me feelings of remorse and regret for all the evils that I had done.

It would take too long to tell what followed this breaking up of my soul, all shriveled and dead, and suffice it to say that from that time, I commenced to have hope come to me, and to get out of my awful condition of darkness. It took a long time, but at last, I got into the light, and this Love which the beautiful spirit first told me of gradually came into my soul, until, at last, I reached the condition of bliss in which I now am. And during all the time of my progress, this radiant loving spirit came to me very often with her words of love and encouragement, and prayed for me, and never left me when I became, as I did at times, doubtful and discouraged. And as my awakening continued, the Love came into my soul, and as she told me of the heavenly things that would be mine as I progressed and reached the soul spheres, where beautiful homes and pure bright spirits are, I became more and more bound by my love to her. After a while I got into the third sphere, and realized that what she had told me was true, only I had not been able to comprehend the greatness of the truth.

As I told her of these longings and hopeless feelings of my soul, she came close to me and looked into my eyes with such burning love, and threw her arms around me, and said, *"I am your soulmate, and knew the fact a short time after you came to the spirit world and entered your hells of darkness, and during all the long years I prayed and prayed for the time to come when I could go to you with my love and awaken in your dead soul the response to my great love. And when the time came that I could go, I was so thankful to the Father, that I almost flew to you, with some dread of disappointment I confess, to tell you that you were not neglected or unthought of, but that there was some love in the spirit world that was going to you. Of course, I could not tell you of my soulmate love, for you would not then have understood, but as your soul awakened and the Love of the Father came to you, I became happier and happier, and have waited so anxiously for this moment, when I could tell you that this love that had been consciously mine for so long, is all yours."*

Well, I will draw the veil here, but you can imagine what my happiness was, and as I progressed from sphere to sphere, my happiness and love for her increased and increased.

Thus I have told you the story of the life in the spirit world of the wickedest man that God ever permitted to live and gratify his feelings of hatred and revenge. And I, who have passed through this experience, and realized all that it means, say that the Divine Love of the Father is able to and does save the vilest sinner, and transforms the chief and foremost of devils into a Celestial angel of His highest spheres.

Message 86

Apply yourself to these truths

John – January 19, 1917

I see that you have been thinking a great deal lately of certain teachings and philosophies that do not lead your soul to development that is necessary in order for you to enjoy the love that may be yours and which at times you have possessed and experienced. So I want to advise you to give up the investigating or even reading of these things, and confine your thought to the teachings of truth which you have received and will receive from the spirits of the Celestial and the higher spiritual spheres.

The meat of what you read in the books that you have been reading is merely speculation, and sometimes contains the truth, and at other times errors, while what you receive from these spirits who write you of these deep truths are based on knowledge which only spirits of the development of those who write you can learn and instruct you in. The truths that you shall learn from the sources that I have mentioned will be sufficient to enlighten your mind and to develop your soul, and you will find that by learning them, great benefit will come to you. Let these unusual philosophies take care of themselves because they cannot take care of you; they only serve to distract your mind from the truths which are real and never changeable and which must determine the condition of men and spirits and movements of the universe.

Message 87

Spiritual importance of the prayer Jesus gave

John – February 6, 1917

I want to say a few words in reference to your conversation about the prayer [*see page 95*] and the importance of thoroughly understanding it, and its spiritual significance and the wonderful truths that it contains.

I heard you say that when you first received it there was in its meaning all confusion, and that you did not understand that it would convey any great truths, or help very much those who should offer it to the Father. Well, I have no doubt but what you say is true, and there is a good reason for the same, and that is that it is so full of the declarations of wonderful truths and thoughts for soul aspirations that it was difficult, and almost impossible, for your mind or soul to grasp the same, and like every other truth that men do not understand, it does not at first reception appear to be a thing of truth that men can learn, and learning make their own.

But the truths of that prayer, when rightly analyzed, will appear sufficient to meet every necessity that men need or are in want of to bring them to a perfect at-onement with the Father and assure them of eternal salvation as His Divine children and the partakers of immortality. Very soon I will come and give you a full explanation of the prayer and its deep and vital truths, so that you may become real possessors of its full meaning.

Message 88

Introducing the subject of the soul

Jesus – February 13, 1917

There are no mysteries connected with this subject – for the soul is a “creature” of God, just as is the body and spirit, and the only reason that mankind has not known of the nature and constituency of the soul is that their soul perceptions have never been developed so that they could comprehend the qualities that pertain to the soul. They have studied and

conceived of the nature of the body, and have assumed some knowledge of its wonderful construction and functions, and the purposes of its existence, and so they have some idea of what the spirit is (which is really a manifestation of the workings of the soul) and, as I have before told you, the active energies of the soul. And even as to the spirit, while they see its manifestations yet they have but a slight comprehension of what it really is, yet they necessarily have some knowledge of its workings, for the results of its activities are manifested even to their physical senses.

But as to the soul, they have but a very indefinite comprehension of what it really is, and frequently in their conception of its qualities and functions and existence, confuse it with the mind or with the spirit and hold them to be synonymous. They know nothing of its origin and of its great possibilities, and of the fact that it is the only part of man that lives forever and can become a part of the very substance of the Father Himself, and hence become immortal.

The soul is that which gives to man a creation and existence above the brute creation of earth, and that it determines the great distinction between man and the brute creation – and not reason, as men so frequently assert. For “reason” is merely a faculty of the mind, which, in the event of the soul taking on the divine substance, becomes, as it were, a thing of non-existence. For the faculties of the soul supplants reason. Soul so distinguishes man as mere man, which will continue in this spirit life to distinguish him as God’s highest creation.

Message 89

The subject of the soul - continuation
Jesus – March 2, 1917

The human soul is a “creature” of God and not an emanation from Him, as a part of His soul; and when men speak and teach that the human soul is a part of the “OverSoul,” they teach what is not true. This soul is merely a creature of the Father, just as are the other parts of man, such as the intellect and the spirit body and the material body, which, before its creation, had no existence. It has not existed from the beginning of eternity.

There was a period in eternity when the human soul did not exist, and was created by God. And when it was created by God it was made the highest and most perfect of all God’s creation, to such an extent that it was made in His image – the only thing of all His creations that was made in His image, and the only part of man that was made in His image. For the soul is the man. And all his attributes and qualities, such as his intellect and spirit body and material body and appetites and passions, are merely appendages or means of manifestation given to that soul, to be its companions while passing through its existence on earth, and also, qualifiedly, while living in eternity.

These human souls, for the indwelling of which God provided material bodies, that they might live mortal lives, were created, just as, subsequently, these material bodies were created; and this creation of the soul took place long before the appearance of man on earth as a mortal. And the soul, prior to such appearance, had its existence in the spirit world as a substantial conscious entity, although without visible form and, I may say, “individuality,” but yet having a distinct personality so that it was different and distinct from every other soul. Its existence and presence could be sensed by every other soul that came in contact with it, and yet to the spirit vision of the other soul it was not visible.

The soul, as concerning man, is a thing of itself, alone – a substance real, though invisible to mortals. The soul is the discerner and portrayer of men’s moral and spiritual condition – never dying, so far as known, and the real ego of the man. In the soul are centered the love principle, the affections, the appetites, and the passions, and possibilities of receiving and possessing and assimilating those things that will either elevate man to the state or condition of the divine angel or the perfect man, or lower him to the condition that fits him for the hells of darkness and suffering.

The soul is subject to the *will* of man, which is the greatest of all endowments that were bestowed upon him by his Maker at his creation, and is the certain index of the workings of that will, either in thought or action. In the soul, qualities of love and affection and appetites and passions are influenced by the power of the will, either for good or evil. It may be dormant and stagnate, or it may be active and progress. And so the soul’s energies may be ruled by the will for good or evil, but these energies belong to it and are no part of the will.

The soul’s home is in the spirit body, whether that body is encased in the mortal or not, and it is never without such spirit body, which in appearance and composition is determined by the condition and state of the soul.

And finally, the soul, or its condition, decides the destiny of man as he continues in his existence in the spirit world. Not a final destiny, because the condition of the soul is never fixed; and as this condition changes, man’s destiny changes. For destiny is a thing of the moment, and finality is not known to the progress of the soul (unless and until it becomes the perfect man, and, then satisfied, seeks no higher progress).

Now, in your common language, and also in your theological and philosophical terms, mortals who have passed to spirit life are said to be “spirits”. And in a certain sense this is true, but such mortals are not nebulous, unformed and invisible existences. They have a reality of substance – more real and enduring than has man as a mortal – and are, in form and features, visible, subject to touch, and the object of all the spiritual senses. So when men speak of “soul, spirit and body,” if they understood the truth of the terms, they would say: *soul, spirit-body, and material-body.*

Message 90

Authenticity of the Bible

Luke – March 12, 1917

The short period between the earliest writings of the fathers of the church, and the times of the actual occurrences of the things to which these writings are supposed to relate and correctly describe, there were many changes made in the writings that I had left, as well as in those left by the other original writers.

Even in epistles of Paul, which these theologians and Bible students claim have more authenticity and greater certainty than the Gospels or other epistles of the Bible, many changes were made between the times of their writings and the times of the execution of the manuscripts or of the sermons of the fathers of the early church.

Within that one hundred and fifty years the truths of the spiritual teachings of the Master, had become to a more or less extent, lost to the consciousness and knowledge of those who attempted to reproduce the original writings, because these men had become less

spiritual, and their thoughts and efforts had become more centered in building up the church as a church than in attempting to develop and teach and preserve the great spiritual truths. The moral precepts became the dominating objects of their writings and teachings and were more easily comprehended by them than were precepts that taught the way to the development of their souls and to a knowledge of the will of the Father, and the mission of Jesus to mankind as a way-shower and savior of souls, rather than as a Messiah to establish his kingdom on earth.

No, I declare with authority that the authenticity of the Bible cannot be established as the word of God, for in very many particulars it is not His word, but on, the contrary, contains many assertions of truth that are not truths and diametrically opposed to His truths, and to Jesus' teachings of the truth.

This Bible has changed and perverted the whole plan of God for the salvation of man, and has substituted a plan that arose from the limited wisdom of those who attempted to convince mankind that they had a knowledge of God and of His designs as to the creation and destiny of man.

Message 91

Necessity of Faith

Jesus – April 22, 1917

Remember that I love you with a very great love, and that you are my chosen one to do this work, and that to no other man has such an opportunity and privilege ever been given; and you must not become a failure. So much is dependent upon the world getting the truths at this time, for men's souls are longing for the truth, and are susceptible to receiving the same than ever in the history of mankind.

So believe in my love and anxiety and permit yourself to get in close rapport with me. I will pray with you tonight, and you will realize some response to my prayers. When you pray tonight, believe that what you ask for will come, and you will not be disappointed.

Well, as I told you when I delivered to you the prayer, if you offer that prayer with all the earnestness and longings of your soul, it will be answered; and when the answer comes these material things will come also; for when you receive what that prayer asks for, you will then be in possession of the *Kingdom of God*, and these other things will be added to you. God knows what you need, and is always ready to bestow upon you these needful things, and when you become His true child, He will not neglect to give you these other things. He is more thoughtful and careful of His children than is the earthly father, and His angels are always ready to do His bidding. So have faith, and pray and pray, and you will realize the wonderful responses that will come to you.

Message 92

Spirits Affirm that Jesus Wrote

Various – April 22, 1917

Luke –

I will say only a word, for I see how you feel and how important it is that you believe that the Master wrote you, and how certain it is that you can rely upon what he said. If you only knew how much he is interested in you, and how much love and care He is bestowing upon you, you would not for a moment doubt or lose faith in his promises. And, besides, we are all with you in love and efforts to help you.

Eight Celestial spirits –

I will say that we are all here, and heard what the Master said, and know that he wrote, and that you can rely on what he said. Let doubt leave you, and love and faith take possession of your soul.

May God bless and keep you in His love – *Paul, John, James, Luther, Barnabas, Samuel, John Wesley and John (the Baptist)*

Helen Padgett –

Well, dear, the messages have been rather unusual tonight. I mean the messages corroborating what the Master said, and they show you that you must not doubt or lose your faith in what has been written you, not only tonight but in all the past. You must also see how interested these spirits are in you, and in the work you must do, for otherwise you would never have received such messages.

Each of those whose names are subscribed, actually wrote. I know them all, and saw them sign their names, and with each signature was a prayer that God would bless you, and give you a great abundance of his love. It is all so wonderful, that I am somewhat astonished at this great display of interest in you, and desire that you shall believe.

Message 93

My progress depended on my own efforts

Julius Caesar – May 1, 1917

But as soon as I found that there was a future condition of light and happiness, I entered with all the energies of my soul to seek for that happiness.

And as I was told that my progress depended so very largely upon my own efforts, I permitted nothing to interfere with my strivings for the obtaining of this Divine Love.

And thanks to the loving Father, I at last found relief from my torments, and fullness of love that brought to me bliss and the companionship of beautiful and loving spirits.

But I must not neglect to say that in all this effort on my part, I had the help and prayers of many loving spirits who seemed so anxious that I should get this love and become in harmony with the Father and His will.

And now I am no longer the resentful and wicked Caesar, but a very humble and grateful child; for I am still but a child in the knowledge of the great truths of which I have heard so much, and in the love.

Message 94

Two Kingdoms and two Choices

Jesus – May 5, 1917

The “Kingdom of God” is more peculiarly a phrase that is found in and belongs to the Christian Bible, and to some extent in the Hebrew Scriptures.

In considering the subject of this message it is first important to understand what is meant by the phrase “Kingdom of God.” Some understand or conceive it to be a kingdom on earth in which the will and laws of God will be followed and obeyed by men in the mortal life, and others understand it to be that Kingdom of God which exists and will continue to exist in perfection in the spirit world; and some few, that kingdom which will find its home or place of existence in the Celestial spheres.

Now, the way to each of these kingdoms is not the same, although in pursuing the way to one (the *Celestial Kingdom*), the way to the other must necessarily be followed. In other words, he who follows the way to the Celestial Kingdom pursues that course which in its pursuit, will cause him to do those things and obey those laws of God that are necessary to establish the kingdoms on earth and in the spirit world. But he who pursues only the way that leads to the establishment of the kingdom on earth and in the spirit world, cannot possibly become an inhabitant of the Celestial Kingdom.

Message 95

Only one way to the Celestial kingdom

Jesus – May 15, 1917

As I have written before, when man was created, in addition to having bestowed upon him those things that made him the perfect man and in harmony with the laws and will of the Father, he also bestowed upon him the potentiality or privilege of receiving the Divine Love, provided he should seek for it in the only way that God had planned for its attainment. But instead of embracing this great privilege, man became disobedient and sought to exercise his own will, and did so in that manner that led not only to his fall from the condition and the condition of the perfect manhood in which God had created him, but also to the loss of the great privilege of receiving this Divine Love, which privilege was never rebestowed upon him until my coming and teaching that rebestowal and the true way to obtain this Love.

Now, here it had better be understood what this Divine Love was and is, for it is the same today that it was when man was created in the image of God. This love differs from

the natural love of man, with which he was endowed when created and which belongs to all men and which they all possess in a more or less perfect condition.

The Divine Love is that love which belongs to or is a part of God, possessing His Nature and composed of His Substance, and which when possessed by man to a sufficient degree, makes him Divine and of the Nature of God. This Great Love God intended should be received and possessed by all men who should desire to receive it and who would make the effort to obtain it.

It is the Divine Love that contains in itself the divine, which the natural love does not. Many, I know, write and believe that all men, irrespective of the kind of love they have in their souls, possess what they call "the divine spark," which needs only the proper development to make all men divine. But this conception of the state of man in his natural condition is all wrong, for man has not in him any part of the divine, and never can have, unless he receives and has developed in him, this Divine Love.

In all God's universe and creation of things material and spiritual the only one of His creatures who can possibly have within him anything of a divine nature is he who possesses this Divine Love. The bestowal of this love was intended, in its operation and effect, to transform man from the merely perfect man into the divine angel, and thus create a Kingdom of God in the Celestial Spheres, where only that which is divine can enter and find a habitation. And you must understand, that as it depends very largely upon man, himself, to establish the Kingdom of God on earth or in the spiritual world, so it also depends largely on man to establish the Kingdom in the Celestial Heavens. God will not and does not by any power that He may have establish this Divine Kingdom, and if man had never received this Divine Love into his soul, there never would have been any such kingdom brought into existence.

Then what is the way that leads to this Celestial Kingdom? The only way? For there is but one!

The way thereto is simple and single (singular) and men were taught that way by me when I was on earth; and could have been taught that way during all the centuries since I left the human life; and I must say that some have been so taught and have found that way, but comparatively few, for the mortals whose ostensible and claimed mission and privilege were to teach that way - I mean the priests and preachers and churches - have neglected to teach the same, but rather, though in earnestness and realizing their allegiance to God and their obligations to mankind, have taught merely the way which the observance of the moral precepts would lead men into.

And all this, notwithstanding, that in the Bible, which most of those professing to be Christians believe contains my sayings and teachings, is set forth this way to the Celestial Kingdom. The words are few and the way is plain, and no mystery prevents men from comprehending the meaning thereof. When I said, "Except a man be born again, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God," I disclosed the only and true way to this kingdom.

During my time on earth there were some who understood this great truth, and since that time, there have been some who not only understood this truth, but found the way and followed it until they reached the goal and are now inhabitants of this kingdom; but the vast majority of men - priests, teachers and people - have never understood, and have never sought to find the way. This great truth to their spiritual senses has been, as it were, a hidden thing.

This Divine Love of the Father, when possessed by the soul of man, makes him in his substance and essence Divine like unto the Divinity of the Father, and only such souls constitute and inhabit the Celestial or Divine Kingdom of God.

And this being so, it must be readily seen that *the only way to the Celestial Kingdom is that which leads to the obtaining of this Divine Love, which means the New Birth; and which New Birth is*

brought about by the flowing into the souls of men this Divine Love, whereby the very Nature and Substance of the Father, and wherefrom men cease to be the merely created beings, but become the souls of men born into the Divine reality of God.

The only way to the Celestial kingdom being by the new birth, and that birth being brought to men only by the inflowing and working of this Divine Love, and whether or not a man shall experience this birth depending in its initiative on the man himself, the question arises:

How or in what way can a man obtain this Divine Love and this new birth – and the Celestial kingdom?

The way is so easy and simple, it may be that men will doubt the truth of my explanation, and continue to believe and place all their hopes upon the doctrines of the vicarious atonement (the washing of the blood, my sufferings on the cross and bearing all the sins of the world, and my resurrection from the dead), doctrines as harmful to the salvation of mankind as they are without truth or foundation in fact or effect.

The only way then is simply this:

Man shall believe with all the sincerity of their minds and souls that this great love of the Father is waiting to be bestowed upon each and all of them, and that when they come to the Father in faith and earnest aspirations, this love will not be withheld from them. And in addition to this belief, men shall pray with all the earnestness and longings of their souls that He open up their souls to the inflowing of this love, and that then may come to them the Holy Spirit to bring this love into their souls in such abundance that their souls may be transformed into the very essence of the Father's love.

The man who will thus believe and pray will never be disappointed, and the way to the kingdom will be his as certainly as that the sun shines day by day upon the just and the unjust alike. No mediator is needed, nor are the prayers or ceremonies of priests or preachers, for God comes to man, Himself, and hears his prayers and responds thereto by sending the comforter, which is the Father's messenger for conveying into the souls of men this great Divine Love.

So, I implore men to meditate on these great truths, and in meditating believe, and when believing, pray to the Father for the inflowing into their souls of this Divine Love, and in doing so they will experience belief, faith and possession and ownership of that which can never be taken from them - no, not in all eternity. And so it is with man to choose and fix his destiny. Will that destiny be the perfect man or the Divine Angel?

Message 96

These truths will not perish

Paul – May 20, 1917

Spirits have for a long time endeavored to enlighten people and at times have been able to impress upon them some of the vital truths; but these efforts have not been very successful until now, when we are to deliver our messages through your writings.

The work is one that must become world-wide in its results, for the soul of every person on earth, no matter where he or she may be, is worthy. And as you know, if the start towards regeneration can be made on earth, the progression in the spirit world will be so much more

rapid. I know that the spread of the truth will take much time, but when the commencement is made the progress will become more rapid.

This must start very soon, and those who work – to start the truth on its way to the knowledge of men – must put all their energies and love into the work. You know that there are now very few who have any conception of the truth and what the plan is for the making known of these truths to the world. Yet Christianity was started by only one besides the Master, I mean John the Baptist, and he, as I must tell you, did not have the knowledge of the truth as you have this day, and did not have behind him the power of the Celestial heavens, as you have. His mission was performed, and Christianity would have been a success if its truths had not become lost and perished by the acts of men who did not have in their souls the love that has been given to you. The truths perished, and men perished as far as their souls' salvation was concerned, to a large extent.

But now these truths will not perish because they will be presented in living type, and no copying or recopying will be needed, and no addition will be made, or anything taken away from the writings of the spirits who are now engaged in formulating these truths. It will not be a failure this time, and the way to the *Kingdom of God* in the Celestial heavens will be made plain and no man will have an excuse for not walking therein.

Message 97

Remedy for overcoming temptation

Jesus – May 23, 1917

I know that while you are in the flesh and temptations come to you, there will be times when you will think that you are forsaken, or that the Father's love is not in and about you in all its beauty and sustaining influence, and that then thoughts will come to you, such as Job speaks of in the book that you have been reading, and God will seem a long way off.

But, my brother, let me tell you with all the knowledge and love that I have, that God is never a way off from you in His love and that He is always ready and willing to help and comfort you, if you will only have faith and let your longings go out to Him for the inflowing of this love into your soul. It is never absent from you, and awaits only your invitation for making itself real and consciously present with you. You only can prevent its coming into your soul, and, if you will believe that this is true and endeavor to realize how close this love is to you and how anxious the Father is that you receive it, you will be able to overcome these thoughts that arise from the weakness of the flesh, or rather, from the strength of the animal part of your nature.

So try to remember what I say, and whenever these thoughts come to you, look upon them as merely thoughts that come in the visions of the night and have no real foundation for their existence. As you may not know, real thoughts can arise only from that which is real, and when this love of the Father comes into your soul, appetites and passions that arise from the perversion of the animal nature of your being, cease to be real and are merely the recollections of what has been – a resultant of that perversion. This love makes that which aforesaid was perverse a genuine thing of truth, in harmony with God and goodness.

I write this to encourage your faith in the goodness of God, and in the inherent goodness of yourself, and to confirm your faith and knowledge in the truth that in God's universe all is good.

Message 98

Remedy for overcoming temptation – continuation

James – May 24, 1917

I have heard you read the Master's message, and believe that in it, you will find much truth upon which to reflect, and I desire to add a little to what has been therein said.

While that message was intended for you personally, yet the truth and advice therein given may be applied to every mortal, and the good results will follow, no matter who that mortal may be. I have, as you know, been in the spirit world a great many centuries, as you conceive of time, and have during that long period been very close to mortals in all parts of the earth and of all nationalities and beliefs and education and enlightenment; in my experiences with these mortals, I have observed the nature and temptations and the various ways in which mortals have been assailed by such temptations, and their efforts to overcome the same, together with their successes and failures.

Now, first let me say, that the nature of man is, today, the same as it was when I lived on earth, and the perversions and sins of the souls of men are just as many and of the same kind as they were in my day in the flesh; and temptations, both outward and inward, are just as hard to overcome as they were when first the glad tidings of love and redemption were proclaimed by the Master – except that prior to that time man had not the Divine Love to help him overcome and subdue these temptations as he now has.

And the regret is, that while this great helper and regenerator, and conqueror of sin and temptation, is now in the world of mortals, and subject to their call, yet so comparatively few make the call, or realize the fact that this helper is always waiting to enable them to overcome temptations.

Message 99

Who and what is God?

Jesus – May 25, 1917

You will remember that in the early stages of our writings, I communicated to you my knowledge and conception of "who and what God is," and that I have recently told you that I desired to rewrite the message, as your condition is now so much better to receive these truths than it was when the message was written.

Well, to begin, God is soul, and soul is God. Not the soul that is in the created man, but the soul that is Deity and self-existent, without beginning or ending, and whose entity is the one great fact in the universe of being.

God is without form, such as has been conceived of by man in nearly all ages, and especially by those who believe in the Bible of the Hebrews as well as in that of the Christians. But nevertheless, He is of form, which only the soul perceptions of the soul of a man which has arrived at a certain degree of development, that is taken on the divine nature of the Father and thus become a part of the soul of God, can discern and realize as an entity. There is nothing in all nature with which men are acquainted or have knowledge of, that can

be used to make a comparison, even in the spirit perceptions, with this great soul; and hence, for men to conceive of God as having a form in any manner resembling that of man, is all erroneous – and those who in their beliefs and teachings deny the anthropomorphic God are correct.

But, nevertheless, God is of form such as to give Him an entity and substance and seat of habitation, in contradistinction to that God which, in the teachings of some men, is said to be everywhere in this substance and entity – in the trees and rocks, and thunder and lightning, and in men and beasts, and in all created things, and in whom men are said to live and move and have their being. No, this concept of God is not in accord with the truth, and it is vital to the knowledge and salvation of men that such conception of God be not entertained or believed in.

God then, is soul, and that soul has its form, perceptible only to itself, or that of man, which, by reason of the sufficient possession of the very substance of the great soul has become like unto God, not in image only, but in very essence. We spirits of the highest soul progression are enabled by our soul perceptions to see God and His form. But here, I use the words “see” and “form,” as being the only words that I can use to give mortals a comparative conception of what I am endeavoring to describe.

Well, in addition to the form, God has a personality, and this is expressed and made known to man by certain attributes, which to the consciousness of man is existent in the universe. And to some philosophers and scientists and wise men, these attributes are their impersonal God himself, and to them the only God. They make the created, the Creator, not realizing that behind the expression must be the Cause, and that greater than the attribute must be That from which the expression of the attribute is projected (or, as they better like to say, evolved).

And here, I, who know, desire to say that these manifested attributes (or forces and powers and principles and laws and expressions) do not, all together, constitute or be that from which they flow, or in which they have their source. God is Himself, alone. His attributes or expressions manifested to mortals or spirits are only the results or effects of the workings of His spirit, which spirit is only the active energy of His Soul – Himself. And hence, the form of God is not distributed over the whole universe of creation where His attributes may be, or because they are everywhere manifested.

Message 100

Why some mortals will not seek the Divine Love

John – June 4, 1917

Now it may appear to you that mortals themselves could better tell the reason of this preference and their actions in carrying out their preferences, but this supposition would not be true because they do not really know.

First, they believe that the creeds of their churches contain and disclose the truths as to God and as to mortals relationship to Him, and that, if they follow these creeds they will do that which is pleasing to God and in accordance with His will. And hence, they rest satisfied

to abide in such knowledge, and seek no further to learn the truths of their being and of their salvation.

But mortals do not know that these creeds do not disclose to them the truth, and this is one reason why they prefer to follow the teachings of the creeds and believe in them. They have nothing else to which they can resort, except the many statements of truth that the Bible contains.

For long years, generation after generation, these creeds have been accepted and believed in and proclaimed to be the truths by the respective churches to which the mortals may have belonged; and they have seen their parents and grandparents believing and resting in the assurance that the creeds contained the truth, and have seen these relatives live and die apparently happy in their beliefs, and hence they become satisfied to do that which those before them did, and not question or search for the truth elsewhere, or even think that it can be found elsewhere.

Again, mortals prefer their creeds, because in the majority of the instances when a church or denomination has existed for a long time those who have, as I may say, inherited these beliefs in the creeds never consider for a moment, that they should do anything else than give an unquestioning belief to the teachings of their creeds and that in such belief they are in the truth and are not called upon to doubt or question.

Of course, there are many exceptions to this condition existing among members of the churches, for while they subscribe to the creeds, yet their souls are not satisfied and go out in longings to the Father for His Love and many who possess this Love, though intellectually they do not know what it means. But with the majority the preference is made because of the reasons that I have stated - and the difficulty will be great to cause an awakening from this satisfaction and feeling that in their beliefs lie the certainty of doing the Father's will and of their own salvation.

Now, while all this is true, yet these mortals do not realize that it is true just in the sense that I have described it, and the great work that lies before you and us is to cause the truths which you are receiving to be presented to these people in such a way that they will not be satisfied to rest in the security of their old beliefs, but be persuaded to seek for the truth outside of the teachings of their creeds. And this I can say, that if these people will have such an awakening, and seriously and honestly seek for the truth, they will not hesitate to believe that they have been mistaken in their beliefs, and will not be satisfied until they learn the truth.

I merely thought I would write this, because, while it is more of a subject pertaining to the merely living of men on earth, yet in its results and consequences, if the living be changed the things spiritual will become the things of absorbing interest. These creeds shut out the truth, and men will never be able to find the truth, until they shut out from their minds and souls the doctrines of the creeds.

Message 101

Something not everyone knows, but may know

John – July 11, 1917

You are blessed in that you have the knowledge of the existence of this love, and that it may be yours if you so will it to be, and pray with the true longings of your soul's desires.

You cannot doubt the truth of what I write, for, as in the ordinary things of life, there is nothing so convincing as personal experience, and your experience is such that there has been no room for doubt. So if you would keep the consciousness of the presence of this love continually alive, pray and pray whenever the opportunity presents itself; and by this I don't mean that you shall wait for a time when you are not engaged in your business affairs, but at moments when the mind may be free, even if only for a moment, from these business affairs.

The longings, if exercised only for a moment, will bring their results; for God's ear is always open and ready to cause the responses to such longings.

One moment of true soul-felt longings is more effective than hours of prayer where these longings are not present.

The prayers of the lip or of habit arises no higher than the escaping breath, and does not cause the love to respond and flow into the soul.

Remember this, and then realize how futile are all the prayers of preachers and ostensible worshipers when the soul's longings and desires are not present. Only soul can call to soul, and love responds only when such soul calls.

The mere desires of the mind, if I may so express my meaning, do not in the least affect the soul, and as mind can operate only on mind, there cannot possibly be any activity of the soul's faculties, when only mind is in operation. Hence, you will see that all the worship that comes merely from the mind will not effectuate the working of the love or bring into operation the spirit's work.

Message 102

The greatest creation of God, and the most fallen

Luke – July 22, 1917

When the first parents fell, they lost that which destroyed the harmony of their existence with the laws of God, and also were deprived of the great potentiality of becoming divine in their natures of love and immortality, like unto the Father – but as mere created men they fell from perfection and not from divinity.

The physical body was never created to live forever, and men were never created to live on earth forever, for a greater and larger world was provided for their eternal habitation, where things are real and only the spiritual exist. The earth is a mere image of the realities of the spirit world, and exists only as the nursery for the individualizing of the soul.

Man has never ceased to be the man of God's creation, although he has become degenerate and defiled, and at one time in the history of his existence devoluted to that degree, where, save for the essential qualities of his creation, he appeared to be lower than the brutes; but he was always the man of God's creation, and never an animal of the lower order.

The history and experience of man is this: he was created perfect ... he sinned ... he fell from the condition of his created state ... his condition at the bottom of his fall was inferior in some phases to the brute animal ... after long centuries he commenced to rise from his base condition ... had made progress when the scientists by their discoveries found evidence of his then condition ... and since then he has been the subject of their "evolution."

All mankind must know that all during these centuries of descent and ascent, man was always man, the greatest creation of God, and the most fallen.

Message 103

The world is ready for these truths
Jesus – September 17, 1917

This work is of such an exclusive nature that in order to be performed in the way that we desire, and which is necessary, that the truths which you receive shall be given to the world, all thoughts of the things that ordinarily belong to the mere human life must be eliminated and turned aside.

These truths while – when understood and applied by the individual – will not render that individual less qualified to perform the duties of life, but on the contrary, will increase these qualifications and must be so taught; yet in the case of you who are to receive and teach these truths, your interest in the world must be forgotten or submerged in these higher interests. In other words, while you are in the world you must not be of the world, as I taught my disciples when on earth.

Of course while you are mortals you will have to have these things that are necessary to sustain life and health and comfort, and your work does not require that you shall make sacrifices of these things, but that you shall have the comforts that are necessary to your enjoying the merely physical life, and this you must understand. As you have said, the work will be hard and the difficulties that you shall encounter will be great, but you will be able to do the work and overcome the difficulties.

For I desire to tell you here that never in all the history of mankind has any work had behind it the power and influence of the high spirits of the spirit world as your work will have, and your faith must be such that no possibility of failure will be permitted to enter into your conception of success.

The world is now ready for these truths, for men's souls have been and will be more opened to the possibility and necessity of seeking for and obtaining things spiritual than ever before, and mankind will (and now does) realize that man himself, notwithstanding the teachings of some of the writers that man is of the divine and of himself capable of self-regeneration, is not able to become brothers in truth and reality, and that the brotherhood of man is a mere dream when based upon the power of man because of any qualities of goodness or of the divine that he may be supposed to possess.

Time is passing, and the great conflict that has deluged the mortal world with bloodshed and hatred and vengeance will soon come to an end, and men will wander in confusion and seek that which may bring them into unison and brotherly kindness, and also into a greater knowledge of the world unknown to them – the hereafter. Faith will fail to satisfy and their souls will long for the spiritual food that will have in it the qualities of certainty and knowledge.

They will think in their hearts and in many instances declare that the Christian faith as has been taught them by the churches does not satisfy, and the creeds and dogmas of the churches have been failures, and will cry out for something that will fill their souls with spiritual food of truth and salvation.

We must work and be prepared to give to mankind the truth and this food: knowledge of the only way to the Father's Love, and of what the possession of this love in the souls of men will mean to them.

Message 104

As a still small voice in the soul
George Whitefield – October 11, 1917

There must be the true soul longings and aspirations for this love of the Father, and in such cases these longings do not arise from the emotions produced – where such emotions are the results of fear created by the picturing of an angry and revengeful God.

No, in the silence of the home chamber, where the mortal is, as it were, alone with God, and lets his longings go to the Father for the bestowal of His love, because of the love that the mortal may have for the Father, does this Divine Love come in response and regenerating power. Only the mortal and God need be alone.

Excitement or the magnetism which a preacher may give to the mortal does not create the true longings or aspirations, and for a preacher to suppose that the great teacher must be a man with this great personal magnetism or with a voice that can cause the feelings of the mortal to vibrate with emotion or excitement is a mistake.

Jesus when on earth, I am told, never tried to create emotion or excitement in this manner, but his teachings were as the still small voice that enters the soul and draws it to a contemplation of the Father's love in all the power of a soul's longings – hungry and craving.

These truths will have to be preached and taught to men, but this will not be done by any "great" teacher, but by many preachers who shall learn the truth from what the Master shall disclose; and no man of himself will be able to claim to be the great teacher.

The greatest will be those who shall have the most of the Divine Love in their souls, and the greatest knowledge of the truths.

Message 105

The law of rapport and communication – 1
John – November 2, 1917

We must have a mind that is filled with thoughts of the higher things of truth (even though we do not use those thoughts). Our thoughts are all spiritual, and our truths can be received only by the mind in a spiritual condition.

When I say "mind" I merely mean the organs of the brain as influenced by the thoughts of the mind. For I will tell you what you may not know, that these component organs of the brain are not always and under all conditions receptive of the same control by the minds of spirits. You may receive through your brain a long and profound message of things pertaining to what you may call the material, and yet under similar conditions of these

organs, not be able to receive messages of the higher truths; and the conditions of these brain organs are caused by the condition of the soul in the possession of things spiritual.

It is difficult for me to express just what I intend to convey but this you will understand, that upon the development and possession by the soul of things spiritual, depends the capacity of the human brain to receive the various kinds of messages. A medium who is merely intellectual and morally good cannot receive those messages of the highest truths, because there can be no rapport between the brain of such a medium and the mind of the higher spirit who may desire to communicate. And thus you will understand why it is that the messages from the earth-bound spirits, or from those who have merely the intellectual development, are so vastly more frequently received by mediums than messages from spirits of the soul development.

A spiritual thought – I mean a thought which can come only from a spirit who has the development of the soul that makes that soul divine – cannot possibly pass through a human brain which has never been developed by a soul in which the Divine Love has entered and worked its regenerating powers. Things of the material may be conveyed through a brain purely material; things moral through a brain which has been influenced by moral truths; and things spiritual through a brain which has assimilated those truths that come only with the development of the soul by love. This is the law of rapport and communication.⁸

Message 106

The addition of the greatest of all truths
Jesus – November 6, 1917

I noticed that some teachers and writers of essays at the great religious gathering attempted to speak of a future world religion, and their claims were divergent, but were based mostly on those foundations that will never support such a religion.

They almost entirely based their concepts on principles of morality as understood by them, and the churches based their beliefs on the teachings of the New Testament, which in many and vital particulars are erroneous, especially, the basic one that I am God the Son and that my vicarious atonement and sacrifice must be the touchstone of the future great and ultimate religion.

These and other similar claims are not true, and it is certain that any religion based upon them cannot be true or lasting.

There will be a religion of the future and a comprehensive and final one, and it will be founded upon the truths which you are now receiving.

It will be inclusive of all the other religions, so far as the truths that they contain are concerned, with the addition of *the greatest of all truths* affecting mortals: the new birth and transformation of the human soul into the divine.

When men shall come to make a comparative analysis of these existing religions and the one that I shall make known, there will be very little conflict in the vital principles, and my teachings will only add to the old teachings that which all men can accept.

⁸ This subject of the law of rapport and communication is continued in two additional messages. See Message numbers 110 and 111.

Message 107

Help yourself from the good that is within you

Helen Padgett – December 4, 1917

While, in many instances, the evil spirits influence mortals in their thoughts and actions, yet this is not always the case and it will not do for mortals to think so. Men are not the mere pliant tools (or subjects) of these evil spirits, but are persons with free wills, controlled by their own appetites, and for them to believe that all their evil acts are the results of the influence of these evil spirits would place them in a very subservient and deplorable condition, and at the same time retard the development of themselves by their own thoughts and acts. No, the evil spirits are always working evil, but all the thoughts and desires that mortals have and do, are not the results of the influence of these spirits.

Man must realize that in himself is the cause of his own evil thoughts and deeds, though increased by the influence of these spirits, and that he must master these thoughts that he be able to drive them from him and overcome them by thoughts of a different and higher nature. It will not do for men to think that they are wicked only because of the influence of the evil spirits, for to think so would retard their development and at the same time take from them a realization of their own responsibility.

And on the other hand, the source of good thoughts is within themselves, and if they will only seek for this source they will be able to progress in their moral conditions; and while the good spirits can and do help them, yet primarily men must help themselves from the good that is within them.

Remember this, that whatever of evil is displayed or gives evidence of the soul being possessed by it, yet within themselves is the power to overcome and cause its eradication. I mean that men must make the effort ... realize that they are masters of good and evil.

We can help you, if you will let us (it depends on you) – and no other can take the praise or blame of the results of your thoughts or actions.

Message 108

A great thing of Wonderment

Priscilla Stone – December 10, 1917

I desire to tell my son⁹ that I am progressing and am in a sphere that is so beautiful and full of the Father's love that for me to attempt to describe it would result only in failure. But when I tell him that my happiness is so very great that even I, at a very recent time, when in what I thought was the acme of happiness, had no conception of what happiness meant as compared to what I now possess. All this is so wonderful to me, that it is difficult even for a soul that is filled with this love to conceive what the love of the Father in its fullness can be. And the great thing of wonderment is that as we progress we realize that it is impossible to comprehend the heights and depths of this great love.

⁹ The writer is the mother of Dr. Leslie Stone, close friend of James Padgett. Dr. Stone became the caretaker and publisher of the Padgett Messages after the death of Mr. Padgett in 1923.

When on earth and I read that "God is love," I had not a faint idea even of what the expression meant, for, as you must know, my conception of love was based largely on what I knew or thought the human love was, such as my love for my children, which was to me the greatest expression of love.

But, as I say, this love is not even a faint shadow of what the love of the Father is; and the great beauty of it all is that, while this Divine Love is always the same, yet in seeking and obtaining it, I find that more and more is waiting for me. We know of no cessation of progress and are never satisfied, yet never unhappy, because we realize that we are not the possessor of it in all its fullness. No, our happiness is in proportion to the amount of love that we possess, and for the time that love is sufficient for our complete happiness. I do not know that mortals can fully understand this, because, as you may know, when mortals are seeking the natural love of another and desire more and more of it, and they are happy in its possession, yet at the same time they have some pain or unhappiness, because they do not have all the love that their desires ask for.

Well, this is not the condition of us who have and seek this Divine Love; for it, of itself, seems to have the quality of causing complete, perfect happiness, without taking from us the desire and longings for more. I doubt that any of your philosophers can explain this apparent inconsistency, because they have nothing on earth to which they can make a comparison; a mortal who is satisfied with the love that he may have on earth has not the longings for more, and when he has the longings, he is not wholly happy in the enjoyment of that which he possesses. And the same principle applies to the possession and longings of mortals for everything else of the natural or material. Ambitions for fame and power and position and the accumulation of wealth, and the love of a woman or man, are all subject to this law of the accompaniment of pain and unhappiness. So you may in a short way understand what great qualities the Divine Love has in its operations, and how it differs from the mere natural love.

Well, my boy will think I am somewhat of a philosopher and have changed from my course of thought while on earth. And so I have, but he must not be surprised to know that as I receive the great love in my soul in increased abundance there comes with it a knowledge of law and principles and the relationship of things that I have never studied or attempted to acquire by study. And this is one of the surprising results of the obtaining of this Divine Love. It seems to have in it, as a part of its qualities, knowledge and wisdom and understanding that is not dependent upon the mind or intellect of the natural man, but which is a part of the mind of the soul that is developed as the soul is developed in love.

I thought I would write in this way tonight, that my son may, in a faint way, comprehend what the progress of his mother means. With love there can be no ignorance, for love is, of itself, wisdom and knowledge and understanding. And from all this you will see that the mortals whose ambition is that when they get into the spirit world they will have the opportunity to pursue the studies which they loved on earth, and that during all the long eternity there will be no cessation of opportunity to gratify their ambition. I say, you will see that these mortals will find themselves very poor indeed as compared with those whose ambition is to obtain the Divine Love, which brings with it all these things, and others greater and beyond conception of knowledge that these mortals can possibly have.

Message 109

Do not Worship Me

Jesus – December 26, 1917

I have no vicar on earth.

In the first place, I am not God, but a mere spirit – child of God – and one that worships Him with all the devotion of my soul, praying for an increase bestowal of His love and for a complete unity with Him, and with the longings to progress eternally in the development of my soul.

In the second place, the Pope is a mere man, and he can only represent God to the extent that he has in his own soul the Divine Love and the consequent soul development. The mere fact that he is the head of the Catholic Church gives him no greater privilege, or no greater commission to represent God on earth, than is possessed by any other man with the same amount of soul development. His claimed infallibility is a delusion and a snare, and he is just as much subject to sin, and sinning, even as Pope of the Church, as is any other mortal; and this claim, which is an attribute belonging only to God, will be one of the sins for which he will suffer very much when he comes to the spirit world and has his soul opened up to the truth.

But this I will say: that the worship of me as God is a blasphemy, and a thing that is so blasphemous that I care not to remain in the earth plane and hear the prayers of these misguided Christians.

I know that this will sound surprising, and un-Christian to many.

But they will continue to believe in their faith in me as God, and also to worship me.

But it is a very harmful untruth, and these people will have to realize it sooner or later, in the spirit world.

This is one of the errors that my messages are designed to eradicate.

Message 110

The law of rapport and communication – 2

John – January 4, 1918

A medium can receive only such truths as his condition according to the nature of the truths, is susceptible to the forming of a rapport by the spirit. The possibility of rapport and the kind thereof, lie at the foundation of mediumship, and determines and limits the power of the spirit to convey its thoughts and the capacity of the mortal to receive them.

When the medium is in a certain condition of development the spirit, writing, can form the rapport according as that condition harmonizes with the condition of the spirit; and it is impossible unless the harmony exists, for the spirit to write these things which require a greater degree of development than the medium at the time possesses. Hence, you will in a way understand why so few of the higher spiritual truths have ever been delivered to the world through the mediumship of any mortal who has been possessed of gifts of either automatic writing, as it is called, or clairvoyance or inspirational powers.

As to those truths which did not require a higher degree of development than was possessed by the medium, there arose no difficulty in transmitting the same, and many mediums have been very successful in receiving the truth suited to their condition. And this fact, and law also, will explain to you why the same spirit may communicate through several mediums, and yet the communications be of a dissimilar character; that is, the communications through one medium contain higher or lower character of truth than those transmitted through some other medium; and with the result that those mortals who have heard or read these different communications, especially when critical, have been prone to believe that the same spirit was not making both communications. But this is not a just conclusion, for while the spirit was in the same condition, possessing the same knowledge at the time of both communications, yet the mediums, because of their difference in development, were unable to receive the same character of messages.

Message 111

The law of rapport and communication – 3

John – January 4, 1918

You will comprehend why so very few messages containing high spiritual truths, or even moral truths, come through mediums.

Mediums, mostly, are so developed that they can receive only messages dealing with the material affairs of life, and which kinds of messages I am compelled to and can truthfully say, are those that are largely desired by the mortals seeking information from the spirit world.

In your reading of spiritual literature you may have observed the great diversity of opinions of spirits upon the same subject, and sometimes contradictory opinions, thus causing doubt on the part of mortals, as to what are the facts existing in the spirit world as to the subject of inquiry.

This is due very largely to the condition of the mediums, and also to the knowledge of the spirits who attempt to communicate, for the knowledge of spirits is limited by the extent of their progress and development.

Many spirits believe that what they have learned is true, and so give authoritative expression to the facts of their knowledge, and often believe what they know is all that may be known of the subject on which they communicate. And these spirits are mostly honest in their beliefs and truthful, as they think, in their messages.

Thus it is well for mortals to understand that everything written or spoken by spirits, at all times, is not to be accepted as the finality of truth. And on the other hand, apparently contradictory statements should not be taken as fraudulent merely because they are contradictory. A spirit with greater knowledge using a medium in harmony with itself, can convey to men the more exact and greater extent of truth than can a spirit with less knowledge and development using a medium in harmony with itself.

Message 112

Meditate and Pray

Jesus – January 6, 1918

If you will meditate [*on the truths we have given you*] and long for and pray to the Father, your soul will soon be so filled with this love that you will receive the knowledge that you have a near at-onement with Him, and you will be conscious of the possession of a part of His divinity, of which we have written you.

The Pentecostal shower will come to you as it did to my disciples in the days that followed my departing from them; and I will be with you also just as I was with them, and power and essence divine will be bestowed upon you so that you will be able to display the marvelous presence of this love just as they were able.

So you must pray and long ... your experiences have given you some foretaste of what will come to you.

There is nothing in all the world that can take the place of this love in its power to draw you near to, and make you in at-onement with the Father.

All beliefs and faiths in any and every other thing will not suffice.

Sacrifice and sorrow on account of sin and vicarious sufferings and mediators, will not work the transformation, because it is solely a conjunction between this Divine Love and your soul, that is capable of bringing you into this relationship to the Father, and the resultant consciousness that you have partaken of and possess, to some extent, His divine nature in love.

Message 113

Face to Face

Elizabeth – January 6, 1918

For a moment, think that there is nothing between you and the Father, and that as regards your longings and His love, they are face to face, and no mediator intervenes or can intervene.

Only the Father's love, and you, alone.

Think of this.

And you will realize not only what a wonderful thing the Divine Love is, but what a wonderful thing your soul is, that it can become so in nearness through love with the Father.

Message 114

Celestial spirits are with you when you pray

Helen Padgett – January 6, 1918

Many of the *Celestial* spirits are here tonight and united with you in your prayers to the Father, and the love was bestowed in great abundance. How blessed you are and how happy you should be for you have a realization of the love in your soul. I know the Master is also pleased that the rapport is now so perfect, and you may expect a long message from him, and many of them. And so do the other spirits rejoice now that they realize that soon they will be able to write. As the Master wrote you, meditate, and long and pray.

The spirit who wrote is one that I have never seen here before, that I am aware of; and she is a most beautiful and radiant spirit, and has her home in the high spheres of the Celestial Heavens. She says her name is Elizabeth and John tells me that she is the Elizabeth of the Bible, the cousin of Mary, the mother of Jesus. She is filled with the love and seemed so anxious to write you about the Father's love and how close you are tonight to Him.

Message 115

Increased happiness may be yours

Ann Rollins – January 12, 1918

You must not think that it is possible to obtain this love in its fullness, and then permit your longings to decrease whenever you feel that the love has come to you in wonderful abundance.

For I must tell you that we in the Celestial heavens know and realize that there is always more beyond what we obtain.

The Master prays to the Father for an increase of this love in his soul. And if you could see the evidence of the love that he possesses, as we see it, you would probably think that nothing more could be obtained, or that there was any greater amount to be obtained.

And with us, this fact of the endlessness of this love is that which keeps us always striving, and consequently, happy, because in realizing our experiences in our progress, and how each successive stage of that progress has brought us greater and greater happiness, we know – I say *know* – that what is beyond must mean a greater happiness and a nearer approach to the Father, Himself.

So I say, let not your strivings in the slightest particular decrease and you will find that increased happiness will be yours.

Message 116

Have a Right Attitude
Elias – January 27, 1918

I desire to say a few words in reference to your work and the attitude that you have assumed towards it. It has been a long time since you have received any formal messages from the high spirits. This has been caused by your condition of apparent indifference and failure to place yourself in the condition of soul that is necessary to enable the spirits to make the required rapport.

You should think more seriously of what this means, and how much on you rests this great responsibility, and of the further fact that without your cooperation we cannot make the rapport, and, as a consequence, these messages cannot be delivered.

I know that in a way, I may say intellectually, you are willing and ready (as you think) to receive these messages. It is not merely a matter of having the inclination and intellectual assent to do the work, but, further, the proper condition of your soul's longings is required, and this will not come to you by a mere acquiescence and willingness to do the work, but an active exercise of the soul's longings is called for, and you must take the effort to obtain these longings, so that your soul may receive more of the Divine Love.

In messages such as I speak of, the Divine Love in the soul is the important and vital factor in your condition. You must make greater efforts to get these longings and this love, so that there will come to you the soul development that will enable the higher spirits to make the rapport. There is only one way in which you can obtain this development, and that is by turning your thoughts to the Father and His love, until they shall develop into deep, sincere longings of the soul. And with these longings you should pray with all the earnestness of your nature for the inflowing of this love.

If you will do this, the longings will come and also the love, and then you will find that your desires will go out to the spirits for communication with them. This is the only way in which you can overcome the difficulties that now prevent the writings.

Message 117

Learn by Soul Perceptions
Jesus – February 23, 1918

Men are constituted with a mind and a soul, each having its own perceptions and ability to comprehend the truth.

Sometimes it happens that the perceptions of the soul will enable them to see and reach out for this love, while they may be wholly blind in their mind perceptions, and even these latter perceptions may be in conflict with the operations of the perceptions of the soul.

Until the truths that I and the other spirits are revealing to you shall become known to the world, there will be nothing in existence or in the knowledge of men that can supply the place of these truths so much as the beliefs that have been and are being taught by the teachings of the Bible – for in it are many truths, especially those that show men the way to

attain to moral perfection. And that, as you know, was one of the objects of my teachings when on earth, but not the great object of my mission.

Nevertheless, the man who learns and applies these moral truths to his daily life and conduct comes nearer to the enjoyment of that harmony that man must obtain in order to get into unison with God's laws, that is necessary to his regeneration and to his becoming the perfect man.

And besides, as he (I mean the mortal) progresses in this regeneration, he will find it easier for him to learn by his soul perceptions the great truth of the transformation of the soul through the new birth.

Message 118

The judgment of the human soul

Jesus – February 25, 1918

The judgment of the human soul is an important accompaniment of the human life, both in the flesh and in the spirit world, and as regards the questions and punishments, hardly anything demands more of the thought and consideration of men, for it is a certainty that beliefs, true or false, he cannot avoid them. Judgment as certainly follows what men call death as does night the day, and no philosophy or theological dogmas or scientific determinations can alter the fact, or in any way change the character or exact workings of this judgment.

But judgment is not a thing belonging exclusively to the after-death period or condition, for it is present and operating with men from the time that they become incarnated in the human until they become disincarnate, and thereafter continuously until the causes of effects have been satisfied and there remains nothing to be judged, which happy ending is also a fact – for all men are dependent upon their progress towards the conditions of harmony with the laws that make effective as well as pronounce the judgments. While on earth these laws operate, and continuously man is being judged for the causes that he starts into existence, and the after-death judgment is only a continuation of the judgment received by men while on earth.

Judgments of the human soul (or the effects thereof) become more intensified after men have gotten rid of the influences of the flesh existence, and they become spirits, having only the spirit qualities. And because of this fact men must understand and try to realize that the expression “after death, the judgment” has a greater significance and is of more vital importance than the saying that “judgment is with men all during their mortal lives.”

After death the causes of the inharmony with the law becomes more pronounced, and appear in the true meaning and force, and, consequently, as this is true the effects become more intensified and understood, and men suffer more and realize the darkness, and sometimes the gross darkness, that these effects produce. The inharmony appears in its unclothed and unhidden reality, and the law's workings bring to men the exact penalties that their violations demand.

Man is his own bookkeeper, and in his memory are recorded all the thoughts and deeds of his earth life that are not in accord with the harmony of God's will, which is expressed or

manifested by His laws.

The judgment is not the thing of a day or a time, but is never ceasing so long as there exists that upon which it can operate, and it diminishes in proportion as the causes of inharmony disappear.

God is not present in wrath demanding, as does the human who believes himself to have been injured demanding reparation by the one causing the injury. No, the Father is present only in love, and as the soul of the one undergoing the penalty, which his own deeds and thoughts have imposed upon him, comes more in harmony with the Father's will, He (as you mortals say) is pleased.

Never is He an angry God, rejoicing in the satisfaction of a penalty being paid by one of His erring children, but always a loving Father rejoicing in the redemption of His children from a suffering that a violation of the laws of harmony exacts with certitude.

Message 119

As a man sows so shall he reap
Jesus – February 25, 1918

The judgment day is not a special time when all men must meet in the presence of God, and have their thoughts and deeds weighed in the balance, and then, according as they are good or evil, have the sentence of an angry (or even a just God) pronounced upon them.

The judgment day is every day, both in the earth life of man and in life in the spirit, where the law of compensation is working. In the spirit world time is not known and every breathing is a part of eternity and with every breathing so long as the law requires, comes the judgment, continued and unsatisfied, until man, as a spirit, reaches that condition of harmony, so that for him, no longer the law demands a judgment.

But from what I have written, men must not suppose, or beguile themselves into that state of belief that will cause them to think that because there is no special day of judgment when God will pronounce His sentence, the judgment, therefore, is not so much to be dreaded or shunned. No, this state of thinking will palliate only for the moment, for the judgment is certain, and is and will be no less to be dreaded, because the immutable law demands exact restoration (instead of an angry God).

No man who has lived and died has escaped, and no man who shall hereafter die can escape this judgment unless he has, in a way provided by the Father in His love, become in harmony with the laws requiring harmony. *As a man soweth so shall he reap* is as true as is the fact that the sun shines upon the just and the unjust alike.

Message 120

Christ may be in you
Jesus – March 3, 1918

Christ is not a man in the sense that he is Jesus the son of the Father, but Christ is that part of Jesus, or rather quality, that came to him after he fully received into his soul the Divine Love, and was transformed into the very essence of the Father in His love.

Christ is thus, not a man but is the manifestation of this love as bestowed upon Jesus, and made part of his very existence.

And when men use the expression, having *Christ in you*, if they could correctly understand the true purport of the same, they would know that it (the expression) means only that the Divine Love of the Father is in their souls.

The indiscriminate use of the words, “Jesus” and “Christ,” is the cause of much misunderstanding among these Christians as to a number of the sayings of the Bible.

Jesus became the Christ only because he was the first to receive into his soul this Divine Love and to manifest its existence, and this Christ principle is one that all men may possess, with the result that they will become at-one with the Father in His substance of love and immortality.

It would be impossible for Jesus (the man), to get into or become a part of any mortal, and it would be equally as impossible for Christ (as the man Jesus), even though perfect and free from sin, to become a part of anyone.

No, the meaning of having *Christ in you* is to have this love of the Father in your soul, which can only be obtained through the working of the Holy Spirit as the instrument of the Father in bringing this love into the soul.

To many, who hear preachers’ exhortations in this particular, the expression is only a mystery which they accept merely intellectually, and feel that by such acceptance they have the possession of this Christ (which is the only evidence of the truth of the Father’s love).

Message 121

Understand this working of the Divine Love

Ross Perry – April 27, 1918

I want you to remember that I am very happy now, and my sufferings have left and I know that all these blessings came to me because of the workings of the Divine Love in my soul. It is wonderful what that love can accomplish in the way of rescuing a sinful soul from its surroundings of darkness and from suffering the law of compensation, which is a great truth, does its work without hesitation or partiality, or interference by any God or angel in the way of commanding it to cease its work. But this great Divine Love is more powerful than that law, and when it enters into the soul of a man or spirit it in effect says to this law, you shall no longer operate on the soul of the sinner that was, because it will take that soul away from and outside the operations of the law.

How little men understand this working of the Divine Love. It does not set aside the law, but it merely removes the soul in which it has found a lodgment from the scope of the operation of the law. The law goes on but the objects of its operations are rescued from the same. No law is set aside which men think and argue is necessary in order for a soul to be saved from its penalties. When on earth I believed this too, and did not believe in or accept the doctrine of the special interposition of divine providence to succor men from the consequence of their sins.

But now I know that, while the law never ceases to operate until the penalties that I suffer have been paid, yet this love is above the law – but not antagonistic to it. I wish that I might write more on this subject tonight as to me, it is one of the most wonderful truths in

God's universe of spirit and I never cease to meditate upon it and thank the Father that I was made a real example of the power of this love.

Message 122

Divine Love supersedes all
Mary Kennedy – May 1, 1918

I am very happy and am progressing all the time in my soul qualities, and in my position in the soul spheres where only the Divine Love exists, except the other love which belongs only to soulmates. Since I have become an inhabitant of the Celestial spheres and realized what an absorbing thing the Divine Love is, I wonder that I can have so much of this soulmate love as I do, when I realize the fact, and know, that no other love exists in our spheres except the Divine Love and our soulmate love.

No love of mother or father, or any other love that belonged to the relationship of the human life has any place in our existence or happiness, for spirits cease to have brothers and mothers and other relations, but all are as one great brotherhood, whose nearness and unity depends upon the amount of the Divine Love that enters into the souls of the respective spirits.

And in this the Divine Love is different from our soulmate love, in that the former is of a one nature and substance, though possessed by spirits in different degrees, and is of the same quality and may be possessed by the souls of spirits alike. Soulmate love, however, belongs only to the two soulmates, and no other spirit can enter into or possess any portion of that love which belongs to the two soulmates alone.

Message 123

Pray often and meditate on these spiritual truths
John – October 22, 1918

You must not only pray to the Father for the inflowing of this Divine Love, but you must pray often, until you realize almost constantly the possession of this love in your soul.

And also, you must turn your thoughts – and I do not mean the merely intellectual thoughts, but the thoughts of the soul (which, as you have already had, you may have again) – to the spiritual truths which have been revealed to you, and to the spiritual realm where you believe other spiritual truths are waiting to be revealed.

If you will thus pray and think, you will find coming to you the desires, and expectation of the fulfillment of these desires, and the enthusiasm which will come from the development of your soul by the possession of this love, and from these soul thoughts.

This is what is meant by the condition necessary to enable the spirits to make the rapport.

Message 124

Your praying must be more frequent

Jesus – October 25, 1918

Pray often to the Father so that the love may become more abundant and your soul becomes permeated with it.

Think thoughts of spiritual things, until by such thinking your brain may become, as it were, infused with these thoughts and thereby receive those qualities that will make its conditions similar to the conditions of the minds of the spirits who may wish to form a union with your brain and convey through it the truths that are waiting to be delivered.

Your praying must be more frequent so that the soul may be freed from the condition that the existence in it, of thoughts not spiritual, be established. You need not wait for occasions or opportunities to formally pray, but all during the day and evening let your longings for the love ascend to the Father.

A long prayer, or even one formulated into words, is not necessary, as in order to have the longing it is not necessary that words should be used to give it form. The longing may be rapid as unformed thought, and as effective for the Father to catch, as I may say. The longing is quicker than the thought, and the answer to the same will come with as much certainty and love as if you were to put the longing into the most exact form.

Prayers of this kind ascend to the Father and are heard and answered, and, by a law of your relationship to the Father, affect the qualities of the brain in the way of preparing it for the union with the spiritual thoughts of the spirits who desire to write, as I have stated.

Your thoughts of spiritual things or of the truths of the spirit world, as they have already been revealed to you, and especially those which pertain to the love and mercy of the Father, and to His will, in their passing and operating, also affect the qualities of the brain so as to produce the condition which is so necessary for our rapport.

Message 125

Nothing so important as the knowledge of these truths

John Wesley – November 15, 1918

There is nothing in all your earth so important to mankind as the knowledge of these truths, for they deal with and affect that which belongs to the eternity of the hereafter and the future of the souls of men, and lead to a destiny which will be a divine existence.

Men are really more interested in their future destiny than in any or all things of earth and the life thereon, but give less attention to the ascertaining of the truths of the same than to many merely human things which exist only during the short earth life. They live more for the present and in a way let the future come, and find them in a condition that surprises and injures them, and makes for them a destiny that – were the truth known to them – need not be theirs.

When men shall be able to learn the truths that affect, or rather create, their destinies – if believed in and lived – they will not be so indifferent to the life of the future, even though they retain their interests in the life of earth.

And now, in this generation, when men are thinking for themselves and not resting satisfied with the dogmatic teachings of their supposed leaders, they are becoming incredulous and demanding more light, and are refusing to accept the teachings of the mysteries as satisfying to their feelings of want of those things which will give them an assurance of the truths of living as mortals.

But this does not imply – nor is it really true – that they are not in their souls interested in the eternity part of their lives and all that it means. But, becoming hopeless because they see no succor from their unsatisfied condition, they resort to the moral teachings and conduct for their salvation, having the hope that a right living in accordance therewith will result in a future as well as a present in which there must be some happiness, and that *all will be well*.

This, I say, is the condition of many men today, and because thereof, the ground is fallow for the planting and the nurturing of these truths.

Message 126

Soulmate Love

Helen Padgett – November 26, 1918

There is another and differing love, not of the temporal, but of the everlasting, in its nature, and all humans have it, though probably unaware of the fact, but which at some period – and this may be for some time – in eternity they will become conscious of, and then never deprived of, for it is the perfect fulfillment of this law of attraction. I mean the soulmate love, of which I have written you so often. It was born before any man appeared in the flesh, and was a part of his very soul's creation, and of which he could never be deprived, though so often does it lie dormant in the souls and consciousness of man.

I and others have written you as to how when the souls of men were created by the Father, these souls were made male and female, though constituting only the one soul – two in one, the perfect one. And with their creation was bestowed upon them a love – not two loves, but only one – which was possessed equally by each part of the complete soul, and which will always remain one in its complete workings, although these two parts of the soul have to be, and are, separated in their incarnation in the human body, which incarnation is for the purpose of giving the male and the female parts of the one soul a separate individuality, without severing or disuniting this love, which through all eternity binds together these two parts as one.

And further, I must say, as you have been told before, that this soulmate love is the only love that can have a separate and individual existence in the Celestial heaven, where the Divine Love exists to the exclusion of every other love save the soulmate love; and the more the spirits – the united two in one – possess the Divine Love, the greater will be their possession of this soulmate love.

Message 127

The way to forgetfulness and true forgiveness

Peter – November 29, 1918

As you may not know there is in our world a law which makes the soul of one who has not yet been purified suffer the penalties for the acts of sin and evil of which he may have been guilty during his earth life; and there is no forgiveness of these acts in the sense that forgiveness is taught by the theologians and churches, but the only forgiveness is the cessation of recollection of these acts so that they become as though they had never been; and, as the soul becomes naturally pure and in harmony with the laws of its creation, it then comes into its natural condition, and then, and then only, forgiveness takes place.

God does not forgive by the mere act of pronouncing forgiveness or by any arbitrary and sudden blotting out of sins, and thereby removing the condition which creates the inharmony; and so you will understand, that He cannot forgive sin in this way, neither can the popes, priests, teachers or churches, and the pronouncing of forgiveness by these men constitutes a deception of and an injury to the persons who pray and ask for forgiveness, and for such deception these men will have to answer when they come to the spirit world and realize the truth of forgiveness and the great deception that they had practiced upon those who were their followers and believers in these false doctrines. Many spirits are now living and suffering in darkness in their purgatories just because of their beliefs, and the results thereof, in these misleading teachings.

There is no forgiveness until man makes the effort by struggling and succeeding in getting rid of these recollections; and such riddance can be obtained only by men realizing the fact that sin is only the effect of their having done those things, and thought those thoughts which are out of harmony with the will of God and the laws governing the creation of man. There can be no sinning of the physical body or of the spirit body, but only of the soul caused by the exercise of the will in a manner antagonistic to the will of the Father. The body, of course, is affected by these inharmonious thoughts and impelling directions of the will, and is caused thereby to commit the act which is the external demonstrator of the inharmonious exercise of the will; and as God leaves to man the freedom of exercising his will, as such will may be influenced by the thoughts, desires and affections of his appetites and lusts, so God leaves to man the application of the remedies that will free the soul from such influence and effects as are caused by this exercise of the will; and only when these thoughts and appetites and lusts become eliminated from his soul and desires, does the soul come into its natural condition and in harmony with the will of God.

Man, himself, must be the actor and the initiating force to bring about these changes in his will, and no assurances of forgiveness by popes, priests or churches can eradicate these contaminating influences, or remove that which is the cause of the sin or the effect of the cause. You must see that there can be no relationship between the assurance of forgiveness and the sin or the cause thereof. Prayer to the Father for forgiveness or supplication to priests and church is supposed to effectuate the objects sought, but this belief is erroneous and does not bring the relief prayed for; yet prayer is a very important element in forgiveness, and while the Father does not, and the priests and church cannot, forgive sin in the manner mentioned, yet true, sincere prayer to the Father for forgiveness will bring its answer, and affect, not the sin, but the soul and state of men, so that their will and appetites and desires may be influenced in such a way that they will receive and realize the fact of a wonderful help in changing these appetites and desires, and in turning their thoughts to

those things that will enable them to remove from their recollections the acts and thoughts, which are the causes of the existence of their souls in a state of sin.

If men would only realize these truths, and, when they desire the forgiveness of their sins, pray to the Father for help in turning away from these thoughts and in exercising their will in accord with His will and not expect any arbitrary forgiveness or removal of their sins, they would find themselves on the way to this forgetfulness and the true forgiveness.

Message 128

The salvation that Jesus taught
Matthew – December 16, 1918

No man or spirit can possibly receive the full salvation that Jesus taught and exemplified in his own person, who does not become wholly possessed in his soul of this Divine Love of the Father, and becomes rid of the conditions and attributes that belong to his created soul.

This soul was not created with any of the divine attributes or qualities, but simply and merely with those which you may call human and which all men and spirits who have not experienced the transformation possess.

The “God-man,” as Jesus is sometimes designated by your religious writers and theologians, was not at the time of his creation (or appearance in the flesh) possessed of these divine attributes, which are of the nature and essence of the Father, but only of the human attributes which belonged to the perfect man – that is, the man who was the perfect creature as he existed before the fall of the first parents, when sin had not entered into their souls, and into the world of men’s existence.

Jesus was from the time of his birth, the perfect man, and consequently without sin. All his moral qualities were in complete harmony with the will of God and the laws controlling his creation; yet, he was not greater than were the first parents prior to their act of disobedience.

There was nothing of God, in the sense of the divine that entered into his nature or constituents, and if the Divine Love had not come into and transformed his soul, he would have remained only the perfect creature of a quality no higher or greater than was bestowed upon the first man.

Jesus was as regards his possibilities and privileges, like this first man prior to his fall or death of the potentiality of becoming divine, but differed from him in this: Jesus embraced and made his own these privileges and hence became divine, while the first man refused to embrace them and lost them, and remained the mere man though not the perfect man as he was created....

And while Jesus by reason of his possession of the Divine Love became divine, yet he never became the God-man, and never can, for there does not exist and never can be a God-man. God is God alone, and never has and never can become man; and Jesus is man only, and never can become God.

Jesus is preeminently the divine man, and may rightly be called the best beloved son of the Father; for he possesses more of the Divine Love and, consequently, more of the

essence and nature of the Father, than does any other spirit of the Celestial Heavens – and with this possession there comes to him greater power and glory and knowledge.

He may be described and understood as possessing and manifesting the wisdom of the Father; and we spirits of the Celestial kingdom recognize and acknowledge that superior wisdom of Jesus and are compelled by the very greatness and force of the wisdom, itself, to honor and abide in his authority.

And this transcendent and greatest possessor of the Father's wisdom is the same when he comes to you and reveals the truths of God as he is when in the highest spheres of the *Celestial Kingdom* clothed in all the glory of his nearness to the Father.

As the voice on the mount said "Hear ye him," I repeat to you and to all who may have the privilege and opportunity of reading or hearing his messages, hear ye him!

And when hearing, believe and seek.

Message 129

Importance of knowing the way

Ann Rollins – March 12, 1919

You have been told that the only way to obtain that kingdom is by the Divine Love coming into your soul and changing it into a thing divine, which partakes of the very essence of the Father Himself. Well, this is a correct explanation of the operation of this love on the soul, but in order to get this love there must be earnest supplication on the part of the seeker, and a mere mental desire for the inflowing of the love will not suffice.

This is a matter that pertains to the soul alone and the mind is not involved except, as you might say, to start the soul's longings and prayer. When you think that you are longing for this love and have a mere mental desire for its inflowing, the love will not come, because it never responds to the mere mind and must always be sought for by the soul's longings.

Many men have the intellectual desire for the love of God, and upon that desire rest, and believe that they have the love and that there is nothing further for them to do. But they will find themselves mistaken, and that instead of possessing this love they have awakened only the natural love, and in a way, started it towards its goal of the purified soul, like the first parents before the fall, and will not experience the transformation that comes with the possession of the Divine Love.

It is no easy matter to have these longings possess the soul, and men should not remain satisfied with these mere mental desires for they will not be benefited by such desires, except as I may say, in the way of having their natural love purified. The longings of the soul comes only from a realization that this love is waiting to be bestowed, and that the soul must become active and earnest in its endeavor to have this love come into it, and then the transformation takes place.

Let not your desires be only of the intellect, but try to bring into activity the longings of the soul, and do not rest satisfied until a response shall come, and it will certainly come, and you will know that the love is present working its transforming power upon the soul.

Message 130

God is the personal Father

Jesus – April 7, 1919

God is soul, and only soul, which has in it all the attributes of love and wisdom and thought for the welfare of His creatures. He is a thinking and seeing God, and all the energies of His soul are used to make men better and happier. As is the natural father of the man a personal father, so is the great soul of God, a personal Father to all His children; and men when they have the development of their souls in the Divine Love will know that God is personal – something more than an all enveloping energy or force or mere manifestation of His existence.

The source of things can never be the things themselves, although the things as they flow from the source have some of the qualities of the source itself, and so these manifestations of God's existence, while they are of His qualities, yet they are not equivalent of His presence or the source from which they flow. God is not everywhere, but in His Heavens, and all these expressions of His powers and will and energies are merely evidences that there is a source from which they all come, and they are not that source itself.

Every man has his own individual spirit and soul, and on the state or condition of that soul depends the happiness or misery of the man; and he is merely the brother of other men because he is a creature of God and made in His image, and not because he is a part of the universal spirit (which some people believe permeates everything and exists everywhere). God is the Father, because these children are His creatures, the objects of His creation, and individualized, each working out his own destiny. As we have told you, some of these children will always remain the merely created children, while others will partake of His Divine Love, and become a part of His divinity, and inhabitants of the Celestial spheres.

Message 131

Remedy for Doubt

Jesus – April 8, 1919

I see that you have been somewhat in doubt as to the reality of the truths of the messages that you have received, and the power of the Divine Love to make you a child of God, in the sense divine.

You must not let such doubts enter your soul for one moment, for they are the breeders of other things that are most harmful and tend to alienate you from the Father.

As you are aware, God's love is all around you, and may be in you, and if permitted to flow into your soul, with faith accompanying it, you will find yourself growing in at-onement with the Father, and realize that fact.

So my brother, get rid of your doubts and come to God in the faith that is childlike and dependent. He will not disappoint you. I will be with you, and try to help you in your desires.

Pray more to the Father, and believe that His love is yours – only for the longing and seeking.

I will not write more tonight. Rest assured that my love is with you in all its fullness; and believe that you have a work to do.

Message 132

A father writes a letter to his sick son

Arbuley – April 24, 1919

Oh my son, realize that the pleasures and desires and efforts of earth life are but fleeting and for a moment only, and that then comes the great problem of living in eternity, and that the thoughts and deeds of that earthly existence comes with you to condemn or make you happy.

The great law of whatsoever a man sows, that shall he reap, is in full force and exacts every part of the penalty that the life of a man for good or evil imposes upon him. There is no exception to the workings of this law and the full penalty must be paid until forgiveness comes, and then the demand ceases, and the soul emerges from its condition of suffering and darkness, a purified and redeemed soul. But forgiveness is not the mere release from or remission of these penalties, by the mere arbitrary dictum of God, as you are so often taught by the preachers, but is forgetfulness.

That is forgetfulness - oblivion as it were - of the acts and deeds that bring into operation the great law, and men when they become spirits must work into this forgetfulness in a slow and laborious manner. I say men must work, for on themselves depends to a large extent, their own redemption. No miracle will be performed, for as is said, the mills of the gods grind true but they grind exceeding small, and the spirit will have to pay the last penalty; and this must be so, as you will readily see, for the soul must in order to get into the condition of harmony with the laws of God, become purified and relieved of everything that would make it inharmonious. No soul can live in a purer state than its own qualities possess. And here let me say that no mere belief or sacraments or observance of church dogmas can bring about this purification. It is a work within the soul, and man must do the work.

Now, my son, I write all this to show you how inexorable is this great law of which the Master spoke when on earth, and which in its exactions never change. It has no mercy and admits of no shortcut to the goal of the purified soul. How few of mortals really understand the workings of this law, but in a careless and complacent manner depend upon the forgiveness of priests and preachers and the mysterious workings of some assurances of the church's dogmas.

You will see the necessity for men to commence as early as possible to practice the renunciation and turning away from these things that contaminate and defile the soul; but, alas, as their lives on earth continue, the most of men, instead of renouncing these things, accumulate and add to them and come to the spirit world all burdened and filled with thoughts and acts that defile; and as they are the accumulations of many years of earth life, so many years will be required for these men, when they become spirits, to get rid of these things and false hopes and beliefs will not help them in the slightest, but frequently seem only to retard the purification of their souls.

If this were men's destiny, implacable and irrevocable, men would be in an almost hopeless and unforgiven condition indeed. Forgetfulness would come only in a slow and sinuous way, and they would shed many tears and suffer much groaning before they could feel themselves forgiven. And this will be the lot of most men, but in the end forgetfulness will come and they will find happiness.

But my son, thanks be to God, the Father of us all, there is another provision of the Father which exists and is freely given to all men who will seek for it, and that is the Divine Love of the Father, in which are forgetfulness and mercy and oblivion of the thoughts and

acts of earth, and which is greater than the great law of compensation, of which I have just written. When this love comes into the soul of man, with it comes forgetfulness, which is the only forgiveness in the economy of God, and the demands of the law of compensation cease, and the soul becomes freed from the law.

And with this love comes a happiness and joy that no man can conceive of, and the possessor of it knows that he has become a part of God's divinity and immortality. Now, this love does not come all at once in its fullness, but as a still small voice, it tenderly and timidly answers the call of the heart that cries for it in earnestness and faith, and as it is nurtured it grows stronger and more soul-possessing, and makes its presence felt to the supplicant. Unless it is earnestly sought for it never comes into the soul but passes by unseen and in silence because the soul will not seek its possession.

You, my son, heard the way in which it may be obtained, and I urge upon you, with all your strength and longings of soul, to seek for it, and if you do, it will not refuse to enter into your soul, and you will know it, and then your start will be made not only towards forgiveness and forgetfulness – but towards the transformation of your soul into the very love and essence of the Father, and a progress that will last through all eternity.

Message 133

Importance of declaring the truth

Jesus – October 18, 1919

My disciples never taught, and never understood that their salvation, or that of any man, depended upon faith in me as the son of God, or that I, the mere Jesus, had in me any virtue to forgive sin or to insure an entrance into the true *Kingdom of God*, or that, I, as the man Jesus was a son of God in the sense that the Bible teaches. They knew that the Father had revealed to me the truth, and that I had in me that love, which to a large extent, made me like unto and at-one with the Father. They knew that my teachings of the rebestowal of the Divine Love was true, and that when they or any man should possess this love, to the extent of that possession, they would become at-one with the Father, and also with me, who possessed it to a greater degree than any man. I say, they knew this and taught it to the people as I had taught it to them; but when the compilers of the present New Testament came to declare my sayings and teachings, they knew not of this love, and hence, could not understand what many of my true expressions meant, and gave them an interpretation so far as my real sayings were concerned, that would comply with their knowledge.

No, I am not correctly quoted in many of these sayings, and I may say in the large majority of them, for when they were written, as now contained in the New Testament, men had lost the knowledge of their true meaning, and out of their own minds recorded that which they thought was what I had really said. I do not see how these false sayings can be corrected, except to take each saying and show, by its incompatibility with what I now say, its falsity. This would take too much time and expend much energy that could the better be employed in declaring what the truth actually is.

But this I will say, that whenever these sayings impart that I claim to be God, or that I could or did forgive men of their sins, or that whatsoever should be asked of the Father in my name would be received, are all untrue and has greatly misled the true seeker of

knowledge of immortality.

My disciples were close to me and understood better my sayings than all others, and yet they did not understand all the truth, and left the mortal life with many expectations that were not fulfilled and in the very nature of the same could not be fulfilled. They were in certain non-essentials influenced in their beliefs and expectations by their training in the teachings of these Old Testament manuscripts, and were very largely Jews in belief when they died. They understood the vital things that determined their relationship to God and to their existence in the future world, but as to many of the non-essentials they retained the faith of their fathers, and were not able to receive all the truth which I could have taught them.

I must not linger to correct these alleged sayings of mine, but must occupy my time and yours in declaring and revealing the truth as it exists now and existed then, and you and the world may know, that wherever and whenever these Bible sayings of mine conflict with what I have written and shall write you, they are untrue and were never said by me.

Thus, in this general way, I will make plain to men that the Bible must not in all particulars be relied on or believed in as containing the truth or my declarations of the truth.

Message 134

The real origin of the soul
Jesus – February 15, 1920

The physical part of man is really and only the result of the commingling of those forces that are contained in the two sexes, which according to the laws of nature and of man's creation, are suited to produce a body fitted for the home of the soul that may be attracted to it, and to develop its individuality as a thing of life and possible immortality.

The result of this commingling is intended only as a temporary covering or protection for the growth of the real being, and does not in any way limit or influence the continuous existence of the soul. And when this body's functions have ended, the soul, which has then become individualized, continues its life in new surroundings and in gradual progression, and the mere instrument used for its individualization is disseminated into the elements forming its appearance and substance. As this body was called from the elements for a certain purpose, when that purpose shall have been served, it returns to these elements.

This body, of itself, has neither consciousness nor sensation, and in the beginning has only the borrowed life of its parents. And then when the soul finds its lodgment, it has only the life of the soul; for the human life can exist only so long as the soul inhabits the body.

This, then, is really the true description of the physical body, and if it were all of man, he would perish with its death, and cease to exist as a part of the creation of the universe of God.

But the soul is the vital, living and never-dying part of man. It is really the man, and the only thing that was intended to continue an existence in the spirit world. It was made in the image of God, and there is no reason for its existing for the continuing companionship of the physical body. And when men say or believe that the body is all of man, and when it dies man ceases to exist, they do not understand the relationship or functioning of soul and body, and know only the half truth which is visible to their senses – that the body dies and can

never again be resuscitated.

Whence comes the soul, by whom was it created, how does it become incarnated in man, and for what purpose, and what is its destiny?

First, let me state, that man has nothing to do with the creation of the soul or its appearance in the flesh. His work is to provide a receptacle for its coming – a mere host, as it were, for its entry into the flesh and existence as a mortal (or in the appearance of a mortal). But his responsibility in this particular is very great, for man can destroy that receptacle, or care for it so that the soul may continue in earth life a longer or shorter time. And while this receptacle is the creation of man, and without him it could not be brought into existence, yet the soul is no part of his creation, and is independent of the body.

After the earth life, in the spirit world, the soul will eventually cease to remember that it was ever connected with or dependent upon the creation of its parents. The soul, in the spirit life, as a truth, is so separated from and dissociated with that body which was its home while in the earth life that it looks upon it as a mere vision of the past and not a subject for its consideration.

As has been told you, the soul was created by the Father long before its appearance in the flesh, and awaited such incarnation for the purpose only of giving it an individuality which it did not have in its preexistence (and in which it has a duplex personality – male and female – that is needed to be separated and made individual). We, who have had this preexistence and incarnation in the flesh and have obtained this individuality, know the truth of what I have here stated. There is a law of God controlling these things that renders these preexisting souls capable of knowing the desirability of incarnation, and they are always anxious and ready for the opportunity to be born in the flesh, and to assume the separate individuality that they are privileged to assume. As mortals provide the receptacle for their appearing and homing, as it were, they become aware of the fact and take advantage of the opportunity to occupy the receptacle, and become a human being, with the necessary result of individuality.

Message 135

Heaven is a place and a condition
Albert Riddle – February 27, 1920

I will say only a few words in reference to my progress and happiness in my condition as a Celestial spirit, for I am now in the Celestial heavens, and know the truth of many things that have been written you.

It is a little difficult for me to recite to you the wonders of these heavens and the perfect happiness that is enjoyed by those spirits that have found their home and abiding place in the many mansions that Jesus spoke of while in the flesh. You must know that heaven is a place as well as a condition; notwithstanding the fact that so many of the Spiritualists teach that it is only a condition or state of the soul.

No, this is not all of the truth but is a great part of the truth, for the condition of the soul determines just what heaven it shall occupy and find its harmony and happiness in; but the all loving Father has provided that the soul shall have a place, corresponding to its condition, in which it may live and progress. If heaven were only a state of the soul, then it would not be a real, existing thing, with the substance and reality that the soul, even in its state of bliss, must have as a necessary accompaniment to the enjoyment of what the Father has provided for its true condition of living.

Heaven, as a place, is real and independent of the state of the soul, though it is necessary for the soul to be in a corresponding state in order that it may enter into this heaven and fully realize that it is a home suitable for its condition and enjoyment.

Message 136

The Destiny of the Soul
Jesus – March 21, 1920

As I have before written you, there are two destinies for man in the spirit life, and the one or the other of them may be just as he desires and seeks for.

As I have told you before, man's existence in the flesh is only for the purpose of giving his soul individualization, and all other apparent objects are only secondary, as you may say, accidental accompaniments of this process of individualization.

The soul becomes individualized the moment it finds its lodgment in the receptacle prepared by the laws of nature in using the human father and mother as its instruments, and time thereafter does not influence or have any determining effect upon that soul so far as its individualization is concerned; and neither does eternity, for that condition being once fixed never can be changed nor annihilated, so far as is known to the highest spirits of God's heavens.

The object of the incarnation of the soul is to give it an individualization, and this in two appearances; first, in that of the physical form which men by their perception of their natural organs of sense can perceive, and secondly, a form that is more sublimated and generally invisible to these organs – a spiritual form.

It must be conceived that the soul has its existence in the physical body for an infinitesimal short time; that is, its life on earth is only the breath of a moment, and then it enters on its career through eternity, and after a few years, as you may say, it may cease to remember that it ever had a lodgment in the physical body.

Message 137

The Holy Spirit conveys the Divine Love
Jesus – May 10, 1920

The Holy Spirit is that part of God's spirit that manifests His presence and care in conveying to men's souls His Divine Love. This love is the highest and greatest and most holy of His possessions, and is conveyed to men only by the Holy Spirit.

And this appellation is used in contradistinction to the mere spirit, which demonstrates to men the operation of God's soul in other directions and for other purposes: His creative spirit, and His caring spirit and the spirit that makes effective His laws and designs in the governing of the universe, are not the Holy Spirit, though equally part of God's soul, and equally necessary for the manifestations of His powers and the exercise of the energies of His soul. These deal with the things of the universe that do not have interrelationship with the soul of God and the souls of men.

Whenever the Holy Spirit is spoken of, it should mean only that part of God's spirit which transforms the souls of men into the substance of the soul of God in its quality of love.

All things, mediately or immediately, have their existence and operation and growth in the spirit of God, and only in that spirit, and which spirit is evidenced in many and varied ways in men's experience. And hence, men say that they live and move and have their being in God, meaning only that they live and move and have their being in God's spirit. This spirit is the source of life and light and health and numerous other blessings that men possess and enjoy – the sinner as well as the saint, the poor man as well as the rich, the ignorant as well as the enlightened and educated – and are each and all dependent on this spirit for their being and comfort. This is the spirit that all men possess to a great or less degree, and the brilliant preacher or teacher or orator, possessing this spirit to a greater degree than his less favored brother, depends upon the same spirit. It is universal in its existence and workings, is omnipresent, and may be acquired by all men in this sense to the degree that their mental receptivity permits.

And this further demonstrates the fact that God, through and by His spirit, is with men always, in the lowest hells as well as in the highest heavens of the perfect man. It is working continuously, ceaselessly and always at the call of men, be that call mental or spiritual. It is the thing that controls the universe of which man's earth is an infinitesimal part. This is the spirit of God.

But the Holy Spirit, while a part of the spirit of God, yet is as distinctive as is the soul of man distinctive from all other creations of God. The Holy Spirit is that part of God's spirit that has to do with the relationship of God's soul and man's soul, exclusively.

The subject of its operation is the Divine Love of the Father's soul. And the object of its workings is the soul of man. And the great goal to be reached by its operations is the transforming of the soul of man into the substance of the Father's love – with immortality as a necessary accompaniment. This is the great miracle of the universe! And so high and sacred and merciful is the transformation that we call that part of God's spirit that so works – *the Holy Spirit*.

Message 138

Immortality

Jesus – June 2, 1920

I know that men have debated all down the centuries the question of man's immortality, and have attempted to prove the reality of its existence by various arguments and by reference to the analogy of the workings of God's universe in the fulfillment of His designs as displayed by the various creations of animate nature. In all these discussions they have not succeeded in definitely and satisfactorily established the fact of immortality.

And why? Because they have not, in the first place, understood what immortality means, and without a correct conception of that which it is desired to prove, it becomes very difficult to successfully prove the existence of the thing sought for.

There is a difference between the state and condition of a human soul that continues in the spirit world the life that it had when embodied in the flesh, and the state that not only continues this life but makes the extinction of this life an utter impossibility - even by God, who in the beginning of man's existence created that soul.

True Immortality then, is the state or condition of the soul that has knowledge that because of the essence and qualities of itself, it cannot ever cease to live - the impossibility of its ever ceasing to live being known to it, and a fact.

Men in their meditation, study and arguments of this question of immortality do not start from the foundation of the subject. They have no truthful premises from which they can draw a correct conclusion, and consequently their arguments fail. They reason that because of the existence of certain things in and outside of man – all things of mere creation – that tend to show God's intentions and plans as regards man, therefore, in order to carry out such intentions, man must be immortal. They do not consider or lose sight of the fact that all these things that they use as the foundation for their conclusions are things dependent and not self existing, and at one time or another objects of God's creation. What God has called into existence He can also declare shall exist no longer. And knowing this, man cannot, or spirits either, rightfully conclude that the soul is immortal.

But there is a way in which the immortality of the soul, or some souls, can be proved, and which, assuming the facts that enter into the argument to be true, necessarily establish the conclusion without possibility of refutation.

Then, in commencing the argument, what is the only reasonable way to approach the subject?

First, discover and establish that which is immortal; and next, search for and find that which though not immortal, yet by reason of certain operations and effects upon it of that which is immortal, itself becomes immortal. Only from the immortal can immortality be acquired.

Message 139

Not all the Truths of the Infinite

Jesus – June 7, 1920

There are many messages yet to be delivered, and you must get in condition to receive the same, and I now repeat this statement with emphasis.

Upon you depends the necessity of receiving the truths. No other can do this now.

And until they shall have been received our book must not be printed or circulated, for the world must have all the truth that it is now capable of receiving and assimilating. Just here I want to say that while the great vital truth of the new birth is already known to you and can be made known to men – yet, you, in your day, will not receive all the truths of the infinite.

Always new truths will come to the knowledge of men, and the revelations of truth will never have finality – and no man or spirit can ever be able to say that his knowledge is complete. Progress is the one law of the universe that exists always, and man, when he gets in condition, will always be the object and subject of that law.

You must arouse and let your longings go out to the Father for His love, and your thoughts turn more to spiritual things.

I will come soon and resume my writing of the higher truths.

Message 140

A Limited Knowledge of Truth
Jesus – September 19, 1920

I am here, Jesus.

Let me say a few words tonight as I see that you were disappointed in the sermon that the preacher delivered tonight.

Well, you must not be so disappointed because he knows only that which he could deduce from the teachings of the Bible and while what he said was true, yet it is not all of the truth for he discussed only one of the attributes of God and that is the loving care that he has for and exercises over the children of earth. To most men this view of God is satisfactory and give them much comfort and assurance in the security that arises from the knowledge that there is such a loving and caring Father; and to these men this assurance is of wonderful blessedness and comfort, and it is well that men can have this conception of God - a Father who is always solicitous for their happiness and welfare and to whom they can pray in the faith that he will hear and answer their prayers.

But as we have written you before, the things that men generally pray for and expect to receive in response thereto, are not the things that God in his own personality bestows upon men in answer to such prayers. His great gift is His Divine Love, and these things of the material - or earthly in themselves - he leaves to his ministering spirits to bestow, or, in other words, He delegates His angels to so come into contact with and influence the souls of men that they may feel that their prayers have been answered, as they have.

The preacher's conception of God does not extend beyond these attributes that in themselves are sufficient to answer men's wants and make them better and happier. I will come soon and write you of God's attributes, and hope that you will get in condition that I may make the necessary rapport.

It has been some time since I have written you of these higher truths that are so important to men, and regret that such is the fact, but now that you have had your vacation, and feel that you are willing and anxious that our communications be resumed, I will try to assist you in getting in that condition of soul that will enable the messages to be written you. But as you know, much depends upon yourself and you must try with all the energies of your soul to obtain a greater inflowing of the Father's Love, for only from it can come the condition that is necessary. Pray more and think deeply of the spiritual truths that have already been written you, and we will come together in closer communion and be able to give and you receive the messages.

I am glad that you have thought more of these things during the past few days, and hope that your thoughts will continue and that your longings will flow more to the Father. You cannot now appreciate the necessity for this condition, and if you could, I know you would give all your thoughts and longings and energy to the accomplishment of the work.

Well, I will not write more tonight, but will be with you and pray with you and try to influence you in the efforts to perform the mission that has been given you. Have more faith and believe that you will succeed and you will not be disappointed.

Your brother and friend,
Jesus

Editor's Note:

According to the personal diary of James Padgett, the above message dated September 19, 1920, is the last communication that James received from Jesus and the spirit world.

This ends the collection of excerpts from selected Padgett Messages.

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DIVINE LOVE *The Greatest Thing in the World*

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