



Mystics have been given a precious gift, the gift of silence. It is our gift to the world to live in a state of receptivity, with a silent mind, one attuned to hear the inaudible and see the invisible. A silent mind carries with it peace, not the peace of this world, but My Peace, the peace that passes all understanding. All of us have been given this gift, but it takes a stepping away from our human conditioning to experience it. Our human conditioning, religious and otherwise, combined with the activity of the carnal mind, which Mrs. Eddy said was a term denoting nothingness, can be barriers to realizing the presence of God.

Let me break that down.

The carnal mind, a phenomenon Carl Jung termed the collective unconscious, works subconsciously to reinforce the sense of power that material cause and effect display. We suffer from a belief that there is a power other than God. Even the Master had to deal with this belief. When he lay in the tomb, and when that part of his human consciousness lay dormant in him, his spiritual consciousness - the Christ - nullified the sense of power in material cause and effect to the point that Jesus rose up and lived among his disciples for a time. Every moment we enter the deep silence of My peace we bring into our experience Christ consciousness and with it the Divine presence of wholeness and harmony.

Our religious and social conditioning puts God out there, in the heavens somewhere, and tells us that if we have the right words, or the right prayers, or suffer and sacrifice enough, we might be blessed by God's grace. Nothing could be further from the truth. God's grace is an ever-present state of consciousness. All we need to do is reject that human conditioning to the same degree as we know  $2 + 2$  isn't 5.

Joel tells us that there is no God in the human scene. So, if we try to bring God into our world to correct human problems, we end up frustrated and dissatisfied. To get out of that funk, the metaphysical tool we use is "letting go." Let go of expecting God to do anything. Let go of trying to come up with a solution. Let go of expecting God to change anything. God's creation is perfect, right now.

The second tool we have to use is more mystical. Contemplate the truth you know about God, not in relation to any problem or orthodox creed, but just to feel the peace. This activity will still your mind so that you can experience the Presence. The next step is to acknowledge and realize the Presence, the Peace, in the comprehension that in your moment of realization you are truly knowing the truth. The truth is, God is. Then relax and be alert. Whatever answers and solutions to your problems that arise from this state of consciousness will seemingly come out of nowhere. It is the way omniscience works. It's not related to any mental rationale or conventional thinking.

The secret to walking in the Light is to let go of all desire to solve a problem, to change a condition, or make the world a better place to live. Creation, devoid of material conditioning and human thought, is already perfect. It is paradise! To make that paradise a reality in our experience requires a death to the personal ego. It is actually a shift from living in the "flesh" to being in the Christ, knowing no person after the flesh, but seeing everyone as the Christ. Old concepts pass away to reveal the peace and harmony of the earth unfettered by human concept and personal behavior.