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COMPLETE CONSCIOUSNESS OF THE
SPIRITUAL BODY.

Luke 24, verses 36-53.

There never was a truer statement than that "spiritual things must be spiritually discerned." The whole scripture is historical and that history veils spiritual truths. Our lesson this morning, the appearance of Jesus after his crucifixion and burial, is something that takes place in the mind and in the bodies of every unfolding follower of Jesus Christ.

He said, "He that followeth me in the regeneration shall accomplish these things"; he that follows me in the regeneration. Again he said: "He that overcometh shall sit with me on my throne, judging the twelve tribes of Israel." He never did that historically, did he? There must have been that inner something, that form of dominion in the mind that has dominion and authority and control over the processes of the body temple.

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Now the lesson this morning is a study in regeneration.

This Bible is a very wonderful book read spiritually; and when we understand that man was created spiritually. We are every one of us today living in a spiritual world. We are just finding it out. We dropped from, -- well, the ether. We undoubtedly in our beginnings were spirit beings. We had bodies of ether. Where are those bodies? Well, we are told that when we develop sufficiently we shall find that we have created a spiritual body, or that we have a psychical body. "There are bodied terrestrial and bodies celestial," said

Paul. But have we that body now? If we ever had it, we have it now. Why don't we know it? Because we have not appreciated that great truth.

On every hand in the scientific world we are making new discoveries about the character of that which we have called matter. It is found that matter is made up of points of force, and that when we get at the point of force, the electron, this energy around which something appears, or in which something appears, we call that matter. When we get at the base of it,

we find that it is an electron, or if you go a little further, I would give it the name of Spirit. That is what it is. Our development is merely the recognition that, "I am Spirit", and that "I have a spiritual body"; but that is a pretty hard proposition. When Jesus Christ put that proposition up to his followers, they walked no more with him. He told them: "My body is bread, or substance, and if you eat it, you will be satisfied; and my blood is life." They could not understand that. They looked at the material thing as it appeared to

their sense consciousness. Exactly the same thing is true today. We are those some people playing another part, and we are still believing that we have material bodies. That is a great delusion. We could not have material bodies and be the offspring of a spiritual Source, or creative Mind that could create only like itself. God created in every one of us a spiritual body. Well, the next question people ask is: "Well, where did I get this material body?" You haven't got it; that is all. You haven't any material body. "But, I seem to have." Well, that is just

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a seeming. When you awake to the truth of your being, you will find that you have a real, spiritual body, and that that spiritual body can do things that you have longed to do but you have not done them because you did not understand the scientific side of the proposition, just call it the Truth. You did not know the truth about yourself and your body. You had to have somebody demonstrate it. We, as a race, sank away down into the depths of our wrong concept, and said that our bodies were material, that they were subject to material laws,

That is where we are today, but we are getting awake. We are coming to the real truth. How do we do that? We are told that Jesus, the resurrected man, the man who overcame the disintegrating processes called death, "stood in their midst" -- there is an important point for every one of us; we must stand with this Christ, or this higher spiritual man, "in the midst." And then it is necessary to follow the spirit of the Scriptures and say: "Peace be unto you. Peace be unto you." Have you learned to stand in the midst of your thought people and say;

"In the name of Christ, peace be unto you?" That is the true secret of every metaphysician's demonstration, to stand in the midst of his thought world. We are, every one of us, in a great individual universe, of which every electron--I was going to say cell, but that is not true, because every cell is really an electronic force--is an intelligent energy. You are standing in the midst and you are saying: "Thus and so, go and come. I feel this and I feel that. I think this and I think that." Every one of these little electrons is taking up the thought

and carrying it here, there, and everywhere. That is why some people, when they stand in the midst, when they try to get still in Spirit, feel such a turmoil in their thinking world. Their ears bother them and their heads grow dizzy, and all that sort of thing. Why is it? Because the great stream, the whirl of the thought entities about them is waiting for that central ego to say: "Peace be unto you." Now here is a key to a great series of movements in man's mind that will, if followed through prayer, through the elimination or crucifixion of the old states,

lead to that-well-apparently negative state for a time, but in the end a great ascension, a lifting up. That was what Jesus went through in the various symbols given us; and that is what we are going through. But we must have this open understanding. "He opened their minds that they might understand the Scriptures." What are the scriptures? They are that prophesy, that writing, or that real spiritual understanding of the mind. We all have it, but we have not listened to that inner voice sufficiently. Now is our opportunity; now is the time when we are going to "stand

in the midst" and see this wonderful resurrection and ascension. In order to really get this consciousness of our spiritual body, we must still and harmonize the thought world in which we live, that is, our thought world, these thought entities, because we are to become the controlling force in a great world. To ourselves the only world is the consciousness that we have of the world. Your world changes in accordance with the state of your consciousness.

We find it necessary to continue this casting out of fear.

every thought that we had came instantly to pass. We lost that consciousness. We might have been millions and millions of years in losing it. We do not deal with time. We drifted away from that, and like a the heavy part settled down, and here we are down in the dark, in the bottom of this great sea of life. Now let us rise out of that. We do that through our consciousness and the knowledge that there is a something in us that, if we would take hold of it, would evolve through a natural law. That is a

fulfilling of the scriptures. The scriptures, you know, are that prophecy, or that something which you see as a possibility, but you have not fulfilled it yet. You are going to fulfill that which you see as a possibility, by working at the scientific law, by coming under the law of your being. Well, do I mean the law, the natural law, as we understand nature, conforming to hygiene in its various forms, and the observance of what has been laid down as necessary to the development of a natural man? Yes, we accept all of that but there is a spiritual man to be

Most of us, when we begin the regeneration, when we begin the lifting up of the natural man to the higher spiritual consciousness, have periods of fear, as was the case with these disciples, who were terrified and frightened, and supposed that they beheld a spirit. It could not have been true to them that man was really spiritual, and that he could overcome this condition called death. How does that overcoming take place? We must put out of our mind all thought of its being out of the ordinary or supernatural. That is what spirits are sup-

posed to be. We are afraid of spirits because they are ghostly, they are unnatural; they are in an unnatural state of consciousness. Instead of dying and being spirits, we are Spirit right now, and we do not have to die. That is what Jesus Christ taught and isn't that a part of the prophecy of the scriptures? Did he not fulfill that, and yet we are not all of us sure that that can be accomplished, that it is the very foundation of christianity. This false idea is the first enemy that entered this Eden of ours in which we were etheric beings, or lived in a world in which

carried off to heaven, or the other place. Now that is all imagination, that is child's play. Let us find out the Truth. Who taught the Truth? Jesus. He was the great demonstrator. Other teachers and other great masters, soul masters, have shown in a degree, but they never really allowed themselves to be bodily killed, as we call death, and then to put the life back into that same organism, and raise it into the spiritual estate. That is what Jesus Christ did. That is why we should look to him as a teacher, not only as a teacher, but as a demonstrator.

All things must be fulfilled that are written of man. I have looked through the Bible again and again, and I cannot find where in the Old Testament the name of Christ appears. What does he mean when he says that Moses told of him, and that the prophets wrote of him, that in the Psalms he is written about? What is the Christ? Why, it is the same image and likeness of God. All of God's projections into activity in the Old Testament are under the name of Jehovah. When you read of Jehovah in the Old Testament, you are reading of the Christ of the New Testament. You are reading of that spiritual man which is in every one of us.

developed. Do you understand the spiritual law? If so, then you are following Jesus Christ. He did not break the law of nature. He ate and drank and associated with men, but he knew a higher law and he demonstrated that higher law even in the physical.

Now here is a question that theologians have discussed pro and con: What was the character of Jesus Christ's body after the ascension? They tell us that he had a pneumatic body, that he was spirit, but not in any way related to the physical any longer. Because, they said that he passed right through doors, through walls evidently. He came and went at will. How do they

account for the fact that he ate; and he said to his disciples:

"Why this is the same body of mine. Why, handle me if you want to," and they couldn't believe. They saw him crucified and put into the tomb, and they said: "O, I am sure that he is dead."

He was proving to them that he was not dead, and that it was possible for man to overcome. Overcome what? Why, that belief in death, that thought in the mind that we have to go through this negative process of losing our organism, that we have to go back to corruption, that through some miraculous way we are

upon some outside force we are falling short of the fulfillment of this Christ message. We are not following Jesus in the regeneration wholly, for we must drop ourselves and be true to that Christ in the midst of us. "He stood in the midst of them." He stands in the midst of every one of us. We know that all the life that we have is drawn from the center, then if you want to follow Jesus in the regeneration you must follow him in the Spirit, and begin right where you are. Begin to let these ideas, this opening of your mind, this forming of Christ in you, become a part of every activity, of not only the mind, but of the body, also.

That is the lesson. Every one of you who have tried this out know that you can get a definite result. What is the definite result? You say, "I was sick, and now I am well." There you are. When Jesus Christ went about preaching, what did he do? He healed, also. He said to his disciples, "Go forth, preach the Gospel and heal the sick." Now here is the proof for everyone of us that Christ is being formed in us and that we are reaping the reward of that new mind in Christ, and that is, that we shall become stabilized in the new, in the perfection, in the

When you get this key to the situation you will see that the Old Testament is full of prophecies of Jesus, of the coming forth in the consciousness of this Christ man, through a man, through all men, and that is the great lesson for us.

Are we really putting on Christ? We say, "Certainly, I am putting on Christ." But to what extent are you? What would be the best evidence that you are putting on Christ? This opening of the mind, this illumination. That is an evidence that you are beginning to see the Truth, to see the truth about

yourself. And what will be the most evidence? Why, that I get the reaction of my ideas in my body consciousness. In other words, not necessarily every one of the electrons in my body organism begins to respond at once to my ideas, but that I do get a definite response. Here is a place in which the followers of Jesus are very apt to side-step. They don't want to accept it, that Spirit is the source of all life activity inside, outside in the world about you, and in your own consciousness. But that is absolutely true and if we are in any way depending

They should rejoice, for that is the first step in the ascension.

Rejoice in what? That, "I am Spirit." In all my activities I am no longer bound by the thought that I have a material body.

My body is spirit. I am lifted up in that body and I can go through the wall right now. I am transparent. Sure, I am transparent. But you say: "I see you materially." That is not good. You have no business doing that. I remember once hearing this in a class that Mrs. Eddy, the mother of Christian Science, was teaching; she pulled off her spectacles and one of her students said: "Why Mrs. Eddy, why do you use spectacles?"

"Because of your sin, that is why," she answered. We see each other in this limited material way. We are in an atmosphere and it is awfully hard to get out of this atmosphere. If we would all agree that this individual was absolutely spiritual, that I was absolutely spiritual and that my body was spiritual; and if we would all focus our attention upon that, it would help me to come into that spiritual body which I possess and which I know I must demonstrate. You are every one of you in the same boat with me. Supposing that we all get together and "stand in the

wholeness---wholeness means health---that we shall be healthy.

If you build up that consciousness in you of health, until you are perfectly healthy, even though they might crucify you, you would still have the health idea and you would gather these electrons and form your body into harmony, and resurrect yourself, just as Jesus did.

Then there is another step in the resurrection. I might be perfectly healthy, and yet could not pass through the doors and walls, could not transport myself instantly down town, or to New York City, or to any place I wanted to go. What does

that mean? Where did Jesus get this body that was so responsive to his mind? He put out of his consciousness all thoughts of materiality. We can be perfectly healthy but we must make this ascension. Many people have allowed themselves to be crucified. They tell about their terrible crucifixions and how they have suffered. But do you hear them telling about their ascension? Very seldom. They don't ascend with Jesus. In following Jesus in the regeneration it is just as necessary to ascend with him, as it is to be crucified, or buried with him, just exactly. But even metaphysicians miss out on that.

midst" of ourselves and say to this living principle, this God within us: "I am spiritual in mind; I am spiritual in body; this is the temple of the living God and I am loyal to that; I am resurrected and I ascend to the spiritual consciousness here and now." Let us give thanks for even this concept of the spiritual body and let us be loyal to it regardless of what the world says, regardless of what we in our inner consciousness sometimes feel, regardless of what this man of sense may be telling me, telling you. I know, and you know, that a spiritual

God must make a spiritual man, that there is only that man.

Praise the Lord! Amen.

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