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ALL THE WAY

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THE one all-inclusive God can never know frustration or inactivity. Deity being omniactive Life, His creation cannot become stagnant, but must be rightly active. It consists of spiritual ideas, which abide in divine Mind and are forever unfolding harmoniously according to divine law. It would be impossible for God to create ideas that were deficient or capable of functioning imperfectly. The understanding that Love constantly controls and eternally provides for its ideas can be applied daily.

More than thirty-five years ago the employees of the old Boston Elevated Railway Company were on strike. Two friends of the writer's who needed to go downtown to the courthouse started to walk in from the outskirts. On their way a chauffeur stopped his car to offer them a ride. He was not going downtown he explained— only halfway—but would be glad to take them that distance. The husband answered that they would be happy to accept.

His wife said nothing but thought: "Love never takes anyone halfway. Love takes us all the way." Immediately she recognized this as an angel message and said, "Thank You, Father; that's all I need." While she was gratefully pondering the spiritual fact that Love's purpose is always fully accomplished, that the Father glorifies the son completely, that in any situation, whatever stems from Principle is finished by Principle, the chauffeur called out, "This is halfway, but I have time to take you all the way and would be glad to do so."

Of course her demonstration was not in being taken to the courthouse, but in discerning and accepting a spiritual truth. Ever since that time she has often used the truth, "Love takes us all the way." When a case of sickness has improved, she has realized that Love not only makes one better, but also heals completely. When error has argued that retrenchment was necessary, she has known that Love does not partially meet one's needs, but bestows on man the infinite resources of Soul. When facing tasks that seemed beyond her, she has recalled that divine intelligence never furnishes the opportunity for a service without giving one the ability with which to perform it. Love supports whatever is constructive in our experience. Love never uncovers a selfish material tendency without supplying the unselfishness and spirituality which annihilate it. "Love takes us all the way."

Can anyone picture Jesus as believing in frustration? Then if we follow our Master, we shall not admit that God does things halfway. God does not give us a right desire and then fail to bring it to fruition. There is not a partially consummated or fruitless transaction in God's plan for His creation. As we read in the book of Zechariah (Zech. 8:12), "The seed shall be prosperous; the vine shall give her fruit, and the ground shall give her increase, and the heavens shall give their dew; and I will cause the remnant of this people to possess all these things."

Even when mortal mind argues retrogression in an experience or aggravation of an illness, mental chemicalization or the action of Truth in human consciousness is merely bringing evil to the surface to be destroyed. Love's law alone is operating to the end of producing harmony. Nor does Love heal for a time. Love's healing is forever. God eternally maintains man in His likeness. Therefore one can never manifest what error falsely claims he once had. Again, there will be no frustration in our experience if we become a law unto ourselves and refuse to acquiesce in evil's argument that God does things part way. Let us rather accept the law of Love as the law governing us completely.

Man, God's idea, is never separated from but abides in Mind. He is not a material personality in a discordant situation from which he needs to be extricated; his individuality is completely spiritual. Mary Baker Eddy writes (*Miscellaneous Writings*, p. 310), "To impersonalize scientifically the material sense of existence—rather than cling to personality—is the lesson of to-day." The relinquishment of the false belief that a problem, whether sickness or frustration, is personal, and the recognition that it is an illusion in an impersonal, false sense, aids in demonstrating man's flawless spiritual individuality.

The truth necessary to solve every problem is present where the problem seems to be. This truth is already known to infinite, all-knowing Mind and to man, Mind's reflection. It cannot be hidden. Moreover, Love makes it evident to our thought and in our experience. Isaiah thus portrayed God's law of inevitable fruition (65:21, 22): "They shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build, and another inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands." Fruition and accomplishment are not something outside the real man he needs to get. They are inherent in his being. He forever possesses them because he includes all the right ideas and attributes of God.

Failing to grasp the real man's spiritual nature and present perfection, mankind believes man is material, therefore subject to limitation and frustration. When a right purpose seems thwarted, it is wont to exclaim, "Another one of those things!" This expression implies that some uncontrollable evil influence exists and has acted against man's well-being. Error's false claim should be denied, not admitted. In so far as an experience is limiting or harmful it is untrue, hence not going on in God's harmonious universe.

In Science there are none of "those things," nothing that has functioned or can work against man's perfection. God's law, the law of good, alone is operating, and it forever blesses man. God's will is, has been, and always will be done. In reality the answer to every prayer and the fulfillment of every right desire are in Mind. Let us say so with no mental reservation and obtain the benison always redounding to those who completely acknowledge God.

Because human experience is entirely subjective—the externalization of human thought—it can be improved as thought is spiritualized. Mrs. Eddy declares in "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" (p. 403), "You command the situation if you understand that mortal existence is a state of self-deception and not the truth of being." What appears as failure or frustration is a state of self-deception. Only as we are willing to admit this are we in a mental position to "command the situation" and nullify mortal mind's claim to hinder any righteous endeavor.

And we shall find that a demonstration in Christian Science has a two-fold significance. It increases our gratitude for God's allness and perfection and spurs us on to greater achievements Spiritward. As Thomas Huxley wrote, "The rung of a ladder was never meant to rest upon, but only to hold a man's foot long enough to enable him to put the other somewhat higher." Problems met and

mastered enable us to rise higher in our demonstration of reality. Then we prove practical God's promise (Ex. 31:3), "And I have filled him with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship." It is the promise that we are filled "with the spirit of God, . . . in all manner of workmanship" that mankind should unfailingly appropriate.

Duties will not seem burdensome if we understandingly claim the spontaneity and joy inherent in man as the blessed child of God. Stagnation will be ruled out of our affairs as we accept, despite sense testimony, the spiritual fact that progress, God's unopposable law of the unfoldment of good, is ever operative in man's experience. Indeed, one can refuse to be deluded into believing that the expression of Principle can ever fail to be secure, joyous, rightly active, or justly rewarded.

Not only in our duties but when error suggests illness or duress, Love is present to deliver. If an individual fell over an embankment or into a deep abandoned well, his companion would not just throw him a rope. His friend would encourage him to hang on, assuring him that he would be pulled to safety. The one in need would be made to feel that behind that rope were the strength and intelligence of his rescuer.

Sometimes, during a sorrow or an illness, error may argue that there is nothing we can do. Yet we can hang on to the rope —that is, keep active in our consciousness the right idea which Love provides. It will always be our savior. Why? Because, as our Leader tells us (Science and Health, p. 6), "God is not separate from the wisdom He bestows."

The thoughts God gives are not partly effective, nor are they ever separated from Deity. On the contrary, they carry with them His intelligence, action, and power; in fact, everything necessary for their unfoldment and fruition.

The inspiration of divine Mind makes an untoward experience or illness so unreal that we see it was never any part of man. Love not only heals; it wipes out every vestige of sickness and remembrance of sin.

If we feel that a healing is delayed, or that we are up against an apparent wall of frustration, we can rejoice to find that, because of the revelation of Christian Science, God's law cannot be abrogated. Evil is forever unreal. In every situation Love is present to act quickly and conclusively, to "take us all the way."

Indeed, we have the same inspiration and conviction that enabled the Psalmist to record for humanity the complete, unassailable operation of the law of Love when he wrote, "I will cry unto God most high; unto God that performeth all things for me."