

“The New Man”
Reflections to Accompany Recording 491B:
1962 Manchester Closed Class, “The New Man”

Introduction

In this second session of the 1962 Manchester Closed Class, titled “The New Man,” Joel reminds us that humanity has worshipped many erroneous concepts of God that have been passed down from generation to generation. The history of the world is a testimony to the failure of these many gods. But God has not failed; mankind has failed to find the true God.

Joel teaches that there is only one true God, and Its name is “I Am.” This one true God cannot be named, visualized, or embraced in thought; it is the God of whom you can only say, “‘I Am’ is His name.” That “I Am” dwells in you; It is your very being. Therefore, in quietness and confidence, you can turn within to find Truth, spiritual wisdom, the Word of God, and the fulfillment of your every need.

Joel had the revelation that meditation is the only way to attain spiritual wisdom because it comes from within. So, to know God, we must go to the kingdom of God within us.

When we realize this “I Am” as the *I* of our very being, we begin to make the transition in consciousness from the “old man,” who “receiveth not the things of God,” to the new man, who lives, moves, and has his being in God and shows forth God’s glory.

As with our previous session, we’ve identified seven key points from this class for reflection—one for each day of the week. You may well find others that speak to you and wish to add them.

Sunday

I am turning within, seeking the kingdom of God within me, the Father within. I am seeking Truth, spiritual wisdom, the Word of God.

You are not turning to your mind. You are using your mind as an instrument to turn within to a deeper source than the mind. In other words, there is a “you” directing your mind to turn within.

You are turning to the infinite divine consciousness, the “I Am,” which constitutes your real being. You are the child of God, individual, infinite consciousness, the offspring of infinite Consciousness, which is pouring Itself through you in an individual way.

When you have realized this *I* of your being, you can draw on Its infinity to provide every form of good necessary to your experience unto eternity.

Monday

“I and the Father are one.” (John 10:30)

“The place whereon I stand is holy ground.” (Exodus 3:5)

“Before Abraham was, I am.” (John 8:58)

“I will never leave thee nor forsake thee.” (Hebrews 13:5)

“I will be with thee to the end of the world.” (Matthew 28:20)

“I am the way, the truth, and the life.” (John 14:6)

“I am come that you might have life and that you might have it more abundantly.” (John 10:10)

The Master Jesus revealed that God is “I Am,” that God is in the midst of you, and His name is *I*. You need not look for God in heaven, or in holy mountains, holy temples, or holy books. “The kingdom of God is within you.”

“Take no thought for what you shall eat, or what you shall drink, or wherewithal you shall be clothed. Seek ye first the kingdom of God.” In other words, realize the *I* that is your own being, “and all these things will be added unto you” because *I*, your true being, is infinite.

When you realize the *I*, you are free. You are no longer dependent on man, whose breath is in his nostril. You live and move and have your being in God, in “I Am,” the *I* of your being. To know God aright as *I* is not only life eternal; it is life joyous, free, and abundant.

Tuesday

I in the midst of me is God, and I am created in His image and likeness. All that God is, I am. The infinite divine life of God is the life of my individual being.

Put your faith, hope, and confidence in the truth that *I* am in the midst of you, and that *I* am God. *I* live in you, and you live in me, for we are one. *I* am you. *I* am your life eternal. *I* am the Word that becomes flesh as you. *I* am your comforter, your healer. *I* am come that you be made whole, not for three score years and ten, but now and forever.

You have access to the *I* that is within you, which is God, for *I* and the Father are one. This *I* is forever in the midst of you, that you might have life and have it more abundantly.

I is your eternal life, your eternal being, your spiritual, immortal being. You are not a man of earth as you have thought yourself to be. “Call no man on earth your father.” You are the offspring of God, the Infinite, created in His image and likeness. All that God is, *I* am. The infinite divine life of God is the life of my individual being.

Wednesday

The kingdom of God is within me and will reveal truth to me.

Father, who am I? What am I? For what purpose was I created in Thy image and likeness?

Reveal Thyself and Thy plan, Thy name and Thy nature, my relationship to Thee, and Thy relationship to me.

You have access to the entire kingdom of God, of truth, of light, within yourself, and you are not dependent on any person, teacher, or teaching. You are dependent only on **I**, who sent you into expression, the **I** within you that is closer to you than breathing and can reveal truth.

Be still and know that **I**, in the midst of you, am God. All the great revelators of truth throughout all ages have turned us to the kingdom within ourselves, where we can learn the full and complete nature of our identity.

Thursday

To have the full consciousness of God as “I Am,” I must put off the “old man”—my human, mortal sense of selfhood—so that my divine Self can be revealed.

To do this, I must constantly recognize the truth that God is in the midst of me and “open out a way for the imprisoned splendor to escape.” I must refuse to accept anything about myself that is not of a spiritual nature, for it belies the truth that my true identity, my true Self, is I.

I am life eternal. I am immortal. I am the offspring of infinite, spiritual, divine Being, and the life that is God is my life. My life is eternal, immortal, undying, unchanging, and does not age.”

You cannot make a human being spiritual or turn a human being into the Son of God. You must put off the “old man” who believes he was born on a certain day, has a certain number of years to live, and grows weaker as the years pass.

Forsake that false identity. Let it die, and be reborn as the new man by acknowledging: **I** in the midst of me is God. All that God is, **I** am. The infinite divine life of God is the life of my individual being. In this way, you die to the old man and are reborn as the new man, your true identity, the **I**, which is immortal, divine, and spiritual.

Friday

Scripture says that I am here to show forth God's glory. Just as "the heavens declare the glory of God, and the earth shows forth his handiwork," so do I glorify God by being alive—not in my humanhood, but as the I of me, my spiritual identity.

I do not testify to my greatness, wisdom, love, or benevolence, but only to God expressing through me, God revealing Himself on earth through me, that I may enjoy life and bring forth some spiritual function on earth, just as there is a spiritual function in heaven.

We die to the "old man," who "receiveth not the things of God," and we are born as the "new man," who shows forth the glory of God in proportion to the effort, time, and devotion that we give to our spiritual studies, meditations, and practice.

Am I giving sufficient time and devotion to these?

Saturday

If I witness some form of sin, disease, or false appetite and I do not correct the appearance in my mind, I lose an opportunity to develop the new man in me and let the old man die. If I accept appearances, the old man is still living in me.

But if I remember, "I must not accept appearances. I must accept God as omnipresence," some part of the old man has died. The truth is coming alive in me, but it could come only from the new man. It cannot come out of the old man because there is no truth in the old man. He "is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be."

"Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." (John 3:3)

In proportion as you no longer react to appearances, you are dying to the old man and being reborn to the new. If you react to the news of the day with fear, or if you fear the economy or the government, the old man is in charge.

But if you can say, "Yes, that is the human scene, the carnal mind, but I know that my life and all life is dependent on God, not on man; my fate depends on the degree of God-consciousness I attain," then the new man has been born in you and is being developed.