

## Lesson 1

### The Path of Initiation

#### The Initial Step Positive Thinking

This series of instruction is being written for all those who wish to enter into a study of metaphysics but have not sufficient knowledge of terminology and basic concepts to profit by such a study.

You will note that our title of the series has to do with the Path of Initiation; I should like to explain what is meant by that particular term in order for you to understand our realized goal and purpose of the presentation of this teaching.

In our introduction, we stated that the next evolutionary step for humanity is its entry into the Fifth Kingdom in nature, the Conscious Soul Incarnate. Man is differentiated from the animal by his ability to realize self-consciousness. The Conscious Soul Incarnate is differentiated from average man by his ability to realize Soul consciousness.

Initiation means a new beginning, in one sense, a birth. A path is the way of least resistance for the one who is traveling from one place to another.

The Path of Initiation is then the Path or Way of least resistance for the birth of the Soul within the conscious awareness of man.

Our many series of lessons are designed to show man step by step the way into this new awareness.

The initial step upon the Path consists in right thinking, and so we have subtitled our first series, "Corrective Thinking."

Thought is the cause of all manifestation. A manifestation is the appearance of a material form, whether it be that of a child, a circumstance or situation, or a realized condition.

Each thought we think will take material form in our affairs eventually, depending upon the clarity and strength of that thought.

This may seem difficult to accept at first, for when you consider the many undesirable things that have happened to you, you wonder how you could have thought them into existence. To prove the truth of the statement, you only need to think back to those little everyday annoyances you constantly

meet, and then remember how you think in regards to them. As an experiment do this:

Consider something troublesome that is an almost everyday occurrence and then write down every thought you can remember thinking about it; as you catch yourself thinking about it at odd times, jot down those thoughts too. You will soon realize that where this subject is concerned, you are extremely negative in your thinking.

Do not try to trace the big things, the really painful ones yet, for you are not ready to discover their cause. It lies buried in your subconscious and takes a different method of discovery.

After you feel you have pretty well dug up the negative thoughts in regard to this annoyance, deliberately counteract them with positive thinking. The first step is to stop feeling annoyance and meet the manifestation with interest. What is it trying to teach you? What lesson does it contain? Why have you considered it an annoyance in the first place?

The next and hardest step of all is to love it. Does this surprise you? Love is the Law of the Universe. It heals, soothes, and makes right. Nothing can stand against love, for love changes the character of that which we think of as bad to good. Out of bad will come good if it is met with love.

Then, regardless of how undesirable a thing is or even how evil it appears, learn to love it, and remember that one of the basic concepts of metaphysics is: There is no such thing as evil — it is only apparent evil and has behind it the purpose of God. “God works in mysterious ways His wonders to perform,” and who can fathom His plan or call His manifestation’s evil? Many may create apparent evil out of the error in his thinking, but even that is only apparent and done with the permission of God. God created man and gave him will. He gave him a right to exercise that will, knowing that sooner or later man would understand God’s Will and It would become his own.

The last step is not so difficult after the second one has been taken. It just takes a little discipline. With love in your heart, replace the negative thoughts with positive ones. Write down all of the opposites to your negative thoughts and think them every time the subject comes to mind.