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From the Monthly Letter March 1956:

ONENESS by A Student

The Master, Christ Jesus, said: “Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? . . . I and my Father are one. . . . The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.” Just as the ocean is the essence of its waves, so your consciousness is the essence of your experience. The ocean is salty: therefore, the waves are salty. In the understanding that the ocean and the waves are of one essence, one is enabled to say, “I and my Father are one (of one essence)—yet the Father (the ocean) is greater than the wave (the Son). The wave (the Son) of itself can do nothing: it is the Father (the ocean) that doeth the works. If the Father is eternal, the Son must be eternal, for what power could ever separate the wave from the ocean, or the love of the Father from the Son? “Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine.” If the essence, the Father, is Love, Intelligence, Spirit, the Son must be of the same essence. Right where the wave is, the ocean is. Consciousness appears as waves—waves of infinite form and variety, such as people, trees, mountains, rivers, animals, etc. In our ignorance, we believe that we can separate the waves from the consciousness that formed them, and give them entity and identity by judging some good, some evil, some sick, some well—while, in reality, the only true Being is one ocean of consciousness, showing forth Its characteristics through each wave. In our erroneous state of consciousness, we single out one wave and say, “This is I,” and our lives are spent busily attending to its

wants and desires, until, finally, it passes out of existence by dying. Consciousness is the substance, form, and activity of every wave: and if the consciousness is salty, the wave must be salty, for they are one. Jesus illustrated this when he stated, “. . . he that seeth me seeth him that sent me.” All life, love, strength, and activity reside in our consciousness. The wave is but the instrument through which these qualities are expressed, and which shows forth the glory of the consciousness. Each of us must become a beholder of the activity of consciousness—not an isolated wave with a life and mind of its own, but we must realize we are the ocean itself in manifestation. As we look out upon the ocean with its billowy waves, we are never tempted to give power or activity to the wave. We merely think of it as the activity of the ocean—the whole containing all the waves. If we could look out upon life in the same fashion, we would see all as the activity of God, Consciousness. The moment we think of the small ego, we are separating the wave from the ocean, and delusion is piled upon delusion. We would not pray God to remove the mirage in the desert, or to change the snake into a rope, and yet we pray God to remove sickness, sin, and death, which are just as much of a delusion as the mirage or the snake. Whenever we believe that we are separate waves with qualities of our own, we are in trouble, beset with inharmonies and discords. In singing “Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there,” the Psalmist realized that regardless of the human appearances of heaven or hell, the wave could never be separated from the ocean—the consciousness that formed it.

When the Master taught, “Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect,” he knew that the wave was as perfect as the ocean. There is only one Being, God, appearing in infinite form and variety, and It is always the substance and activity of Its expression. If you think of yourself as a separate wave, having a life and mind of your own, you wear out; your strength becomes exhausted and your life ends in death. But when you, as a wave, know that the ocean is your life, your

strength, your being, you are then as eternal as the ocean, and your life, strength, and being are infinite. Jesus did not heal the blind, the leper, the palsied—he simply removed the delusion that made them exist as separate waves—as separate human beings; and he taught that we would remain in the delusion as long as we had a life of our own, a supply of our own, a mind of our own. When you set about to cure and reform the world, you are saying, in effect, that God’s universe is not perfect, and you are trying to change or correct the waves. What you think you are doing to the waves, you are doing to God—for God is the allness of each wave. All bodies and forms that we behold are the waves of consciousness, and wherever there is a wave there is the allness of God, since God, Consciousness, cannot be separated or divided. When we realize God as our consciousness, we behold the perfect activity of Christ consciousness. When we think we have a consciousness of our own, the waves appear to take on the nature and character of this false consciousness, and the essence of the waves is the essence of this false consciousness. This false consciousness places power in effect, calling some effects good, some evil, some sick, some well. We must always remember that the good appearance is as much of a decoy as the bad appearance. Jesus discovered the truth and taught that we must be born anew of the Christ consciousness. Paul said we must die daily to this false consciousness and let Christ consciousness be our only consciousness. And further, Jesus says that if we “bind the strong man” then we must destroy his effects. We must always remember that we never deal with the waves, whether the waves appear as patients, unemployment, lack, inharmony, etc. The only truth is the truth about God—God appearing as——: in other words, we do not have an ocean and waves, but ocean appearing as waves. Since there is only one God, there can be but one Being appearing in infinite form; and what is true about one wave is true about all waves, since God is the substance and activity of all form. No wave can have any qualities of its own: always it is God’s love, God’s intelligence, God’s power, showing through each wave. Giving supposed power to waves, separate and apart from the

ocean, is the cause of all delusion. God is all alone in the world. He is the only Being. There is no other entity to oppose or challenge Him. Jesus realized this and admonished us to agree with our adversaries—resist not evil—love our neighbor as ourself. We bear false witness against our neighbor when we call him either a good human being or a bad one, since, actually, he is the Christ of God, and is a spiritual being. Jesus told his disciples not to rejoice that they had power over evil, but to rejoice “because your names are written in heaven”—rejoice that you know your spiritual identity. Would it affect the ocean if one wave were to give a treatment to another wave? No! Both the patient and the practitioner are false appearances. All that the wave has is given it by Grace; and when we go into an inner stillness we are flooded by Grace, which announces, “This is my beloved Son”—without beginning, without end, since, again, what is true of one wave is true of all waves. This realization will dispel the illusion instantly if the realization of the truth of being is vivid enough; or we may have to go back into the closet and “shut the door” many times to the material appearances. We must learn to let the ocean take care of the waves without feeling called upon to correct or reform them, because the ocean and the waves are one, whether we give them a treatment or not. We may give ourselves a treatment so that we may be in a more receptive state of consciousness to realize that perfection is the reality of all that exists, but the fact remains that God’s universe is the same, both before and after a treatment. Humanhood is that state of false existence in which we believe we have a consciousness of our own, and it is this consciousness which shows forth the false human picture which Jesus called “this world” and which, in the last months of his ministry, he stated he had overcome. Our true consciousness is Christ consciousness, and until we come to its realization we will be continually tossed back and forth in the illusory sea of human existence. The Master realized that the discords of the world—sin, sickness, death, etc., existed only as a false appearance, and he realized that the Father of this universe was Satan, whom he called a liar and the father of lies, or illusions. This devil, or

liar, would make us believe that we have an existence separate and apart from God—an illusory human being who appears to be born, lives a limited existence of sorrows and very few joys, and then dies. The folly of this human existence should bring us to the recognition that with an infinite Good—God—these experiences could never be based on reality. How could a wave be both salty and fresh? How could God's universe be both good and evil, sick and well? In Genesis, we are cautioned in allegorical style that we must not eat of the tree of good and evil, because the moment we have a tree of opposites, we have a false state of existence. We must lay the axe to the root of that tree!