

INTERPRETING THE THINGS OF GOD

There was a great pianist by the name of Vladimir de Pachman, who came from Poland to this country on a concert tour. He created quite a furor while here on this tour. Then he returned to Europe, and after many years had elapsed, he came to this country again. This time he was an old man in point of years.

He appeared in Carnegie Hall and played before an immense audience. His technique, his ability, everything that goes to make up a wonderful musician and pianist, was beyond criticism; but as he played, he talked incessantly, he laughed, chuckled, crooned, and apparently was having "the time of his life," as, in fact, he was.

He was glorying in his music, reveling in the kingdom of Music, for, though he was bodily in Carnegie Hall, he was actually in the kingdom of Music. As he played, he would say in his native language, "Now listen to this; listen to the twittering of the birds, to the rushing of the swift mountain stream, to the patter of the rain on the leaves, to the rippling brook, to the storm," whatever it might be, keeping up a constant running fire of words. As he uttered these words, there was a something which told the listeners that he perceived these things.

There was no music before him. A sound had not yet been uttered. The notes on the piano had not yet been struck. Nevertheless, he was conscious of the kingdom of Music and the harmony thereof. The kingdom of Music was apparent to him before it was made evident to the senses material; he saw the things of this kingdom of Music, and reveled in them, gloried in them.

Those who heard him say these things, listened for them, cocked their ears, as it were, and listened carefully and attentively to the music which would express the patter of the rain, the twitter of the birds, the running stream, or the babbling brook, and they who listened, heard.

Jesus appeared in this world some 1900 years ago. He did not appear in Carnegie Hall, or in any place other than the ordinary places in the country in which he lived. As de Pachman appeared in Carnegie Hall and yet was in the kingdom of Music, so Jesus walked about the shores of the Sea of Galilee, sailed on its stormy or placid surface; but wherever he was, he was nevertheless in the Kingdom of God, and being in it, he reveled in it, gloried in it. Jesus saw the things of the Kingdom of God, and de Pachman heard the things of the kingdom of Music, both while sojourning in the material body.

And as de Pachman came to this country from his native country, a son of Poland, so Jesus came here as the Son of his native country, the Kingdom of God, and those who listened, heard of this kingdom. The man with the withered hand of spiritual vision listened to what Jesus had to say, and he, too, "saw" the things of that kingdom, and therefore could and did obey the command from that native Son of

God's country, to stretch forth the hand of spiritual sense, manifested as a perfect hand, or a witness to the truth of being that there is such a kingdom as the Kingdom of God.

The kingdom which Jesus talked about all the time that he was appearing on the stage of the world, was the Kingdom of God; and he, too, reveled and gloried in this kingdom, and refused to cognize any other, or to live in any other.

Jesus told us how we, too, could live in that Kingdom of God, our native country, which is at hand here and now for all to use and to live in. He told us plainly that to live in this kingdom, or our native country, we should keep the commandments and the New Covenant, for these were the things which he knew were in his Father's Kingdom. He commanded us to obey these rules of his Father, even as de Pachman had to obey certain rules of the kingdom of Music.

To carry the simile further, when Jesus appeared on the stage of this world, he found the whole world listening to the wrong tunes, as it were. The instrument (God) was not being used correctly, and the interpretation of the great masters, or the early prophets, was not what he knew was in his native country. So he began patiently, persistently and perseveringly to show us how to hear and to see what that native country of his had to give, and how to use the things of God as they should be used.

Because Jesus, too, saw the joy, the happiness, the gentleness, the love, the kindness, the consideration, the tolerance, the great forgiveness, the great benevolence of his native country, the Kingdom of God, he was always talking about these fruits of his country and the glories of that Kingdom of God, even as de Pachman talked of the kingdom of Music with those in the audience.

On the road to Emmaus, the two men with whom Jesus talked, said, "Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?" Although it appeared that he lived and walked in this world, this world of matter, this world of human consciousness, of flesh, of corporeality, yet he recognized only that world of which he taught, that world of Spirit, or that world of God, or His Kingdom, which is at hand today, the native country of Jesus, and ours also.

Christianity, or Christian Science, interprets the Word of God to mortals, even as Jesus interpreted that Kingdom of God to the world, and as de Pachman interpreted the kingdom of Music to mortals. And those who listen carefully for the voice of Spirit, God in the native country of Jesus, do hear and recognize the things of the Kingdom of God, and are assured that it is possible to live in that Kingdom NOW. That that Kingdom is cognizable is a present actuality.