

METAPHYSICAL BIBLE INTERPRETATION

Being All I Am Created To Be:

Gospels Interpretation

Part 7

THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

A foundational teaching of Unity and New Thought encompasses the concepts of Heaven and Hell. Where or what is Heaven? Traditional Christian teaching is that heaven is a place in the sky where our souls go to after death, if we are good and/or chosen. This doctrine arises from extra-biblical or non-biblical writings that contradict Jesus' message of Love and Truth. It is not supported by the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth.

Jesus mentioned the Kingdom of Heaven many times and described it mostly in parables: "it is like" or "may be compared to". Nearly a dozen parables describe the Kingdom and never does he refer to it as a place in the sky or to be experienced after death.

Jesus teaches us that Heaven is an activity in consciousness that we can choose to participate in right here and now. See Matthew chapter 13. He likens it to sowing seeds that grow to maturity, to leaven that leavens flour, and to treasures that are hidden but when found are worth releasing all else to obtain.

The seeds are our thoughts and feelings that we plant in the soil of our subconscious. The leaven is the Spirit of Truth that when realized brings all of life into perspective. The treasure is the kingdom which when we find it we realize that it is all that we need for a happy, success-filled life.

His parables also refer to the negative aspects of thoughts and feelings as weeds to be gently removed when they make themselves plain and the positive are strong. The process requires forgiveness, see Matthew 18:23-35. When we begin the work is not as important as the fact that we enter into this work, see Matthew 20:1-16. All of our parts of self are called to be lifted into spiritual awareness, but must be in harmony with Spirit to enter in, Matthew 22:1-14.

Heaven and Hell are states of consciousness that we chose to participate in. Jesus clearly located the Kingdom of Heaven as "at hand", Matthew 4:17. It is "within" or "in our midst", Luke 17:21. It is here and now, within our reach, within our ability to recognize as our operational reality.