



The
**NEW
THOUGHT
CHRISTIAN**

William Warch

AN INTRODUCTION TO
THE LIFE-CHANGING CONCEPTS
OF NEW THOUGHT



CHAPTER 1

What is God?

PREVIEW

1. GOD IS NEITHER PERSON, PLACE, NOR THING.
2. GOD IS EVERYONE'S POTENTIAL.
3. GOD IS INVISIBLE ENERGY-INTELLIGENCE.
4. NEW THOUGHT IS A SCIENTIFIC APPROACH TO GOD.
5. CONSCIOUSNESS IS THE DEGREE OF YOUR GOD-AWARENESS.
6. GOD IS OMNISCIENCE, OMNIPRESENCE, AND OMNIPOTENCE.

The first page of this chapter is the best possible description one can give of God. Any further explanation reduces and distorts the vastness and purity of God. The following pages will be filled with words and ideas and descriptions which are an

honest attempt to describe the nature and character of God. For the best possible description of God, return to page 2.

GOD IS NEITHER PERSON, PLACE, NOR THING. People have always tried to identify God because that's how the human mind operates. The human brain is a fabulous device, but it is limited in its present stage of development. No matter what level of development you are in, this is where you must begin in your search for Truth and for your understanding of what God is.

God is absolute and therefore can bear no descriptions. It is erroneous to describe God as strong or loving or wise. God is actually Strength, Love, and Wisdom. God is every good attribute you can name and much more. Using adjectives to describe God is how people personalize and identify God in their attempt to comprehend God's nature.

God is invisible energy which permeates all that is. This energy is also intelligence and power. It is the absolute which underlies all creation. However, it does not create. It does not need to create, therefore it does not create. People have needs so they create things and ideas with thoughts and feelings. But God does not.

GOD IS EVERYONE'S POTENTIAL. The great breakthrough for an individual is when they realize that God is all potential. God is your potential and is the source of everything you need. If you need power, you draw it from absolute power, God. If you need love, you draw it from absolute love, God. There it is, simply waiting as potential for you to draw upon.

Any concept of God that separates you from seeing God as your invisible source of good separates you from your good. Some people have worshiped rocks. Some have worshiped idols while others have worshiped the weather. Some think of God as a large human-like figure in the sky, far removed from the world. The idea that God is invisible intelligence, energy, and love, could shake a person to the core. It may be too elusive to comprehend, and people are sometimes more comfortable with tangibles. It is for selfish convenience that people worship objects or other people. Usually the motive is for ego reassurance, not the desire to grow in the comprehension of the character and nature of God.

If you were to take a table and crush it to pulp and finally reduce it down to its molecular structure, you would see that atoms are at the base of its makeup. But to take it a step further, if you could smash the atom, releasing and converting it back to pure energy, it would be once more in that raw state of energy-intelligence. So it is with all things.

GOD IS INVISIBLE ENERGY-INTELLIGENCE. Everything you know of in your manifest world is derived from God as energy-intelligence. God is everyone's potential just waiting to take shape and form according to what they think they need. In this invisible state of all potential, there are twelve characteristics that best describe the nature of God.

Faith
Strength
Judgment
Love
Understanding
Will

Imagination
Power
Order
Zeal
Renunciation
Life

* For more in-depth study on these twelve characteristics, read *How To Use YOUR TWELVE GIFTS FROM GOD* by William A. Warch, DeVorss Publications, 1976

NEW THOUGHT IS A SCIENTIFIC APPROACH TO GOD. The term "New Thought" comes from the courageous view that one should constantly be receptive to new thoughts of God. You do not understand God fully, and certainly literal biblical descriptions do nothing but terrorize the soul. It is time to combine science with your personal intuition and willingly accept new mind-expanding ideas about the true character of God. If you are willing to free yourself from the idea of a vengeful scorekeeper in the sky, you are a likely candidate to be a New Thought Christian. If you are willing to eliminate any idea from your mind that separates you from your invisible source, you are becoming a New Thought Christian. If you are willing to get rid of the idea that it is God's will that you should be poor and miserable, you are just on the verge of becoming a New Thought Christian.

A New Thought Christian is truly willing to look at modern day science and see that religion and science are merging into the same study and will ultimately come up with the one answer that God is the cause of all things.

Since "God" is a word which is usually thought of as the name of a superior somebody in the sky, other alternatives should be considered. Such words as Father, Divine Mind, Being, Creator, Higher Power, Source, Jehovah, Elohim and Absolute Good have been used to name God. Many are now finding that the word "Spirit" best embraces that which is invisible

energy-intelligence. You must come to terms with your own concept of God, but be sure you do not impose a limiting name or else you could lock yourself into a fixed position. The New Thought Christian must be willing to grow in consciousness, and words and concepts have a great deal to do with your consciousness development.

CONSCIOUSNESS IS THE DEGREE OF YOUR GOD-AWARENESS, the extent to which you think and feel God. It does not refer to how much you know about God. Truth students know about God, but the New Thought Christian *thinks* and *feels* God, Spirit, through their entire being. The more you express (press out) God-like characteristics through your consciousness, the more highly developed your conscious becomes. You are a point of awareness in the mind of God. You are part of the only species on earth that has self-awareness. You are the only type of animal on earth that is aware that it is really spiritual in nature. You are part of the only species that has attempted and succeeded in lifting its level of awareness over a past level of consciousness. You are becoming aware of the fact that this is the greatest goal possible — to grow in spiritual awareness. No wonder that during your spiritual pursuit you ask, "What is God?" As you'll find, the answer to that question unlocks the door to yourself, reality, fulfillment, and the kingdom of heaven.

GOD IS OMNISCIENCE, OMNIPRESENCE, AND OMNIPOTENCE. *Omniscience* means all knowledge. All knowledge is the Truth that we all seek. Therefore, it is God that we seek in our quest for Truth. *Omnipresence* means everywhere present. This too is God. God is neither here nor there, but everywhere. There is no space in between molecular

structure where God is not. So "everywhere" is not where God is, it is what God is. God is beyond time, space, or place. God is. God is omnipotence. *Omnipotence* means all power. There is no energy or inertia that is not of God. Even though these descriptions seem to divide God into categories they are all the same. Omniscience is omnipresence and omnipresence is omnipotence. It is all one. It is all God and God is all (refer to page 2).

How does the New Thought Christian comprehend this allness in developing conscious awareness of God? Through study, prayer, meditation, and life experiences. These techniques will awaken an inner activity that will draw your focus of attention inward to God and away from outer things.

Your questions about God will launch you on an inner journey that will take you through every stage of development necessary to find the answer. The best manual possible to assist you on this journey is the *Holy Bible*, metaphysically interpreted.

If someone asks you, "Are you a Christian? Do you believe Jesus died for your sins? Are you born again? Do you know that you are a sinner and live with a good deal of guilt and shame?" you can honestly answer, "Even though I may not believe in those humiliating details, I am a Christian. I am a New Thought Christian because I am developing an awareness of God and my true nature."

SCRIPTURE

"The Lord your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords." (De. 10:17)

"The people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits." (Da. 11:32)

"Hold thy peace at the presence of the Lord God." (Zph. 1:7)

"The Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." (1 Co. 2:10)

"There is one body, and one Spirit." (Ep. 4:4)

QUESTIONS

1. Is God a superior being?
2. Is God strong and loving?
3. Does God create?
4. What is our potential?
5. What does "New Thought" mean?
6. What is meant by "consciousness"?
7. What is omniscience?
8. What is omnipresence?
9. What is omnipotence?
10. Are you a Christian? Explain.

DENIAL

There is no void in my life.

AFFIRMATION

God is, I AM.

Alternatives

*New Approaches to
Traditional Christian
Beliefs*



William L. Fischer



Most of us, from our earliest learning experiences, have been taught that God is a supreme “man.” We have been told that “God created man in his own image” (Gen. 1:27), and we have not realized that this image is male and female. Not fully understanding our own origin, we have easily decided to create God in man’s image.

Consequently, we have made of God a “superman.” Inasmuch as God has been around since the beginning of time, “He” would naturally have to be a very old man; so, we have given “Him” a flowing beard. Since the Judeo-Christian concept of God came out of a patriarchal (male-dominated) society, we have learned to always refer to God with male pronouns: He, Him, His.

Our teaching further told us that the abode of God is the kingdom of heaven. When we speak of heaven, we think of it as being “up.” Therefore, we have assumed that heaven is in the sky, that perhaps God dwells somewhere on the periphery of our universe.

Some early cultures were multigod oriented. These gods were usually made visible through carved or sculpted “idols,” and they often were related to everyday living. Some societies worshiped the elements of nature as their gods. Elaborate rituals were established in order to appease these gods and, consequently, to control the elements. Other societies worshiped female deities, undoubtedly because of woman’s ability to give birth, which was tremendously awe-inspiring to primitive people. The worship of these gods and goddesses became the way of “pagans” with the advent of the one Hebrew God, Father of all.

There are places on this earth where it is thought that God can be contacted more easily and more readily than others. These have been designated as “sacred” places, and shrines have been built on many of them. Many persons have made long and difficult pilgrimages to such places in an effort to find and draw near to the presence of God.

All in all, we have made God most inaccessible. We have made “Him” into a “Man” with human attitudes and emotions magnified to supernatural proportions. We have placed the kingdom of God so far away that we do not really know how to “get there.” We have made of God one whose love is to be greatly desired and whose wrath is to be feared. We have given God a whimsical personality: sometimes “He” answers our prayers and

sometimes “He” does not. We have made God one who seems most pleased when we come to “Him” as praying beggars and sinners.

Can this truly be God ... the God of all creation? Can this be the God who spoke to the heart of Jesus Christ and said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased” (Mt. 3:17)? Can this be the God, represented by Jesus Christ, who healed the minds and bodies of people, who provided them with food when they were hungry, and who has blessed and inspired so many people down through the centuries? Can this be the God who said, “Before they call I will answer” (Is. 65:24)?

Perhaps we need to take a look at this concept of God, to determine if this is really the God we worship. Is there an alternative to this concept, one that we can relate to in our daily life, in a contemporary sense? I believe there is.

When Jesus Christ spoke of God, He did not speak of a distant God; He said, “The Father is in me” (Jn. 10:38). Could God be any closer than that? If God was in Jesus Christ, is this same God in all persons? The argument against believing that God indwells each of us is that Jesus Christ was singled out by God for a special spiritual destiny. And so He was.

Still, the Bible clearly states that in the beginning God created all people—“man, male and female”—in the divine image and likeness. It is also written, “God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good” (Gen. 1:31). In Genesis, we learn two very important things: God created us in the likeness of divinity and pronounced that creation good.

The Spirit, the breath of God, is in us. We do not have to put in a long-distance call to God every time we pray. We are not called upon to make long pilgrimages to sacred places. God is within us, completely accessible to us. We may contact God by turning quietly within ourselves. This is what Jesus Christ meant when He said, “But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you” (Mt. 6:6).

Since this is what Jesus Christ taught about God, it is difficult to understand how Christians have taken an indwelling Spirit of goodness and shaped it into a supreme “Man” in a distant kingdom.

Does this mean that God is found *only* within people? Not at all. As Creator, God is imbued in all creation. The presence of God is not limited to people, but the presence of God finds aware and refined expression through people. “God slumbers in the rocks. God stirs in the flowers. God awakens in Man.” The mountains reflect the majesty of God. A calm lake carries the message of the serenity of God. A sleeping infant reminds us of the uniqueness of God. The flaming red of a full-blown rose tells us of the beauty of God.

We could well say that God is where we find God. God is the principle responsible for all creation, The Principle cannot abandon the creation, without the creation ceasing to be. So, truly, God is in all things. There is no situation or thing on earth so mundane that it does not bear witness to the presence of God. There is no darkness so dark that the light of understanding cannot shine in it. There is no experience so critical that an activity of this all-pervading Spirit cannot harmonize it.

This, then, is your alternative: Instead of a distant, inaccessible, hard-to-please God, the God really represented by Jesus Christ is a God of healing and prosperity—an accommodating God, a God for whom no task is either too large or too small, a God who is “nearer than hands and feet, closer than breathing.” This God is not a temperamental old man, but an indwelling Spirit, ever eager to find expression through creation—through you.