

Goldsmith Global

1963 Kailua Private Class

Joel S. Goldsmith

Summary of Recording 516A: “Teaching the Nature of God, Error, Prayer”

In this class, Joel begins by explaining that The Infinite Way is an experience of God, and he talks about how he himself came to that experience. He says that one cannot heal without such an experience, but also that the experience will not come without the proper motive, or without study, practice, and listening, which are the steps that break down mortal sense. Joel goes on to say that revelations were given to him that make it easier for others to have the experience of God. These are the foundational principles of The Infinite Way: the nature of God, the nature of error, and the nature of prayer.

He talks about the nature of God, and then about how an individual who has the God experience can be a healing agency. Joel explains that this experience does not come through the mind, but through the spiritual faculty when the mind is still. He emphasizes that the Spirit of God in you is “always in full bloom,” and you must awaken to it—but not through the mind. He explains the mystical life, and notes that in the mystical life, you surrender your personal will to the will of God and then relax and rest as a beholder.

Joel points out that the activity of God is like light touching darkness. Light doesn’t heal, correct, or remove darkness; it simply reveals that there is no darkness. In the same way, the activity of God does not heal a disease. It reveals that there is none. He goes on to teach that the human being has no real existence; a human only has an existence in the universal mind. When the spirit of God is realized, the human is no longer there; he is just as absent as the darkness is when it is touched by the light. The old man is dead, and the new man is present. But this truth can be realized only when you are lifted in consciousness.

Joel also talks about the nature of error as the “arm of flesh” or nothingness, and points out that the nature of error is the mystery of the healing ministry—you do not battle appearances or try to correct conditions, but instead rest in inner quiet and peace, in the assurance that there is only spiritual law. Many good students of truth cannot heal, he says, because they have only the letter of truth in their minds. But to heal, you must transcend the mind. He finishes the class by talking about the nature of prayer as a state of silence and receptivity to God, in an attitude of humility, recognizing that you are the instrument of God’s grace.