

The Power of Awareness

NEVILLE

Chapter Three
POWER OF ASSUMPTION

MAN'S CHIEF delusion is his conviction that there are *causes other than his own state of consciousness* . All that befalls a man -all that is done by him - all that comes from him - happens as a result of his state of consciousness. A man's consciousness is all that he thinks and desires and loves, all that he believes is true and consents to . That is why a change of consciousness is necessary before you can change your outer world. Rain falls as a result of a change in the temperature in the higher regions of the atmosphere, so, in like manner, a change of circumstance happens as a result of a change in your state of consciousness. "Be ye transformed by the renewing of your Mind"

To be transformed, the whole basis of your thoughts must change. But your thoughts cannot change unless you have *new ideas*, for you think from your ideas. All transformation begins with an intense, burning desire to be transformed. The first step in the "renewing of the mind" is *desire*. You must want to be different [*and intend to be*] before you can begin to change yourself.

Then you must

make your future dream a present fact. You do this by assuming the feeling of your wish. fulfilled.

By desiring to be other than what you are, you can create an ideal of the person you want to be and ***assume that you are already that person.***

If this assumption is persisted in until it becomes your dominant feeling, the attainment of your ideal is inevitable. The ideal you hope to achieve is always ready for an incarnation, but unless you yourself offer it human parentage, it is incapable of birth. Therefore, your attitude should be one in which having desired to express a higher state - you alone accept the task of incarnating this new and greater value of yourself. .

In giving birth to your ideal you must bear in mind that the methods of mental and spiritual

knowledge are entirely different. This is a point that is truly understood by probably not more than one person in a million. You know a thing mentally by looking at it from the outside, by comparing it with other things, by analyzing it and defining it; [*by thinking of it:*] whereas **you can know a thing spiritually only by becoming it.** [*by thinking from it*]. You must be the thing Itself and not merely talk about it or look at it.

Just as the moth in his desire to know the flame ^{is} willing to destroy himself, so must you ^{becoming} a new person be willing to die to your present self.

You must be conscious of *being* healthy if you are to know what health is. You must be conscious of *being* secure if you are to know what security is. Therefore, to incarnate a new and greater value of yourself, you must assume that you are what you want to be and then live by faith by this assumption - which is not yet incarnate in the body of your life - in confidence that this value or state of consciousness will become incarnated through your absolute faith to the assumption that you are that which you desire to be.

There is no order in Nature corresponding to this willing submission of the self to the ideal beyond the self. Therefore, it is the height of folly to expect the incarnation of a new and greater concept of self to come about by natural evolutionary process. That which requires a state of consciousness to produce its effect obviously cannot be effected without such a state of consciousness, and in your ability to assume the feeling of a greater life, to assume a new concept of yourself, *you possess what the rest of Nature does not possess - imagination - the instrument by which you create your world.*

Your imagination is the instrument, the means, whereby your redemption from slavery, sickness, and poverty is effected. If you refuse to assume the responsibility of the incarnation of a new and higher concept of yourself, then you *reject the means, the only means, whereby your redemption - that is, the attainment of your ideal - can be effected.* Imagination is the only redemptive power in the universe. However, your nature is such that it is optional to you whether you remain in your present concept of yourself or choose to become, imagining yourself as that which you want to be,