

**LIFE IN THE
KINGDOM
OF HEAVEN
ON EARTH**

an informal interview with
FATHER DIVINE



FATHER DIVINE & MOTHER DIVINE

*This extended interview with FATHER DIVINE
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LIFE IN THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN ON EARTH

An Informal Group Interview Granted By
FATHER DIVINE

on tour of
**UNITY MISSION CHURCH, HOME and
TRAINING SCHOOL, BIBLE INSTITUTE,
INC.**

**1530 NORTH SIXTEENTH STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA.**

-and-

**NAZARETH MISSION CHURCH, HOME and
TRAINING SCHOOL, INC.**

**1600-1614 OXFORD STREET
PHILADELPHIA. PA.**

**FRIDAY EVENING and
SATURDAY MORNING
APRIL 10 & 11, 1953 A.D.F.D.
TIME: 1:44 A.M.**

*Originally published in The NEW DAY, July 10,
1971 A.D.F.D., pages 13-17.*

After attending Holy Communion Services at the Bible Institute as FATHER'S and MOTHER'S Guests, the group, conducted upstairs by Mr. Germain, was awaiting FATHER'S Presence in the beautiful Tea-Room just off the Office Study, in preparation to going over to the Nazareth Mission Church next door. Thus it was here that this informal group interview had its beginning, in which many profound thoughts and deep mysteries are revealed unto the children of men direct from the Holy Lips of our Beloved LORD and SAVIOR, the DEAN of ALL WISDOM, KNOWLEDGE and UNDERSTANDING! It is through HIS Condescension, Supreme Love, Mercy and Tender Compassion unto those seeking to learn, that the world is enriched by this beautiful Masterpiece!

THANK YOU. GOD ALMIGHTY, FOR YOUR HOLY DIVINE GUIDANCE AND LOVE UNTO THE CHILDREN OF MEN!

The foregoing statements are those of the transcriber and the discussion is opened by FATHER, as HE enters the Tea-Room, speaking to Mr. Germain as follows:

Mr. Germain, I was thinking you had taken them through the building.

Mr. Germain: I had not gotten any further than the library.

Rev. MacLachlan (*with a smile*): They had been asking some questions.

FATHER: I see. This is a little Office Tea Room for the Office Staff.

Rev. MacLachlan: It is beautiful! We had not quite got the story of what this building was, FATHER, before YOU took it over.

FATHER: This was the Bible Institute before we took it over. I never got the definite history of it, but it is something like a good many of the older buildings in this City – quite substantially built with good material in the building. But it is quite appropriate for our purpose.

Rev. MacLachlan: I don't know whether YOU would like to answer this question, FATHER, but we would like to know YOUR Schedule. How many times do YOU have Communion with YOUR People and how much of YOUR Day is spent in interviews with those that come seeking YOUR Counsel?

FATHER: Well, I don't have any special set schedule but we customarily serve at different intervals – I mean, the regular Banquets.

Rev. MacLachlan: At Communion do YOU have Banquet with YOUR People?

FATHER: Oh yes we do, but yet it is open for those of the public who desire to dine; and when it is not convenient for MOTHER DIVINE and MYSELF to be there in Person, it goes on Just the same.

Now at Broad and Catharine Streets, that is where We reside, and of course, in the morning at seven o'clock all of the Tables there are set up in the private Banquet Hall and in the public dining room. Seven

o'clock. And then it is reset and served if there are any who have not been served. And at eight o'clock it is the same – set and served and re-served; and at twelve o'clock it is set and served and re-served.

Rev. MacLachlan: My!

FATHER: But around two o'clock they customarily – once upon a time they customarily expected ME to be there to serve the two o'clock Banquet, the first Table, when they start to serve; but quite often we do not get to serve even the two o'clock Table.

Rev. MacLachlan: YOUR Correspondence is quite heavy, I suppose. Keeps YOU busy.

FATHER: That's right. Busy interviewing, collectively and organizationally interviewing all day and practically all night! (*FATHER smiles as HE says:*) When I go back to Broad and Catharine Streets, we call home, where I reside, we will be met with many lists to interview individually. It would not be so much or take so much time if it was a group, no

doubt, where I could speak to all at once. But hundreds of people coming in individually, desiring to present their problems, desiring to have ME give them counsel, as you can see in *The New Day*; and they feel they get results, and, of course, I feel the same.

Rev. MacLachlan: How much sleep do YOU get?

FATHER (*smiling*): Well, sleep is not all. I heard Mr. Edison say three hours, even as a scientific genius – a genius of science, considered scientifically from a personal point of view – considered three hours was enough for him to sleep. And even MY Followers individually consider it would be enough to sleep, if you are busy otherwise!

Now you can come on this way. This is going into the other part.

(And with this, FATHER escorted the group into the Office – whereupon, noticing a stack of New Days on the desk, Rev. MacLachlan says:)

FATHER, YOU made a very generous offer a little while ago concerning The New Days, but they were all consumed downstairs. There weren't enough for the visitors. They are willing to buy some, but maybe –

FATHER: No? Well, it is a pleasure for ME. This is the latest issue. April the eleventh, and then there is the December twenty-seventh issue, of course.

Rev. MacLachlan: It wouldn't matter as far as the date is concerned. They all have the Supplementary copy which YOU so kindly passed around downstairs, but they did not all get a sample copy of The New Day, and that they were interested in getting as well.

MOTHER DIVINE: The latest one?

Rev. MacLachlan: Any one.

(Let us say here that a number of the young student ministers proceeded to ask questions of FATHER, and as all of their names were not immediately known by the

transcriber, therefore, their names will not appear.)

Minister: FATHER, who publishes this
(holding up a New Day)?

FATHER: The New Day Publishing
Company.

Rev. MacLachlan: Are they actually printed
in the next building?

FATHER: Not actually printed in the next
building – no. It is merely the office.

Minister: Just for the editorial staff?

FATHER: The editorial staff works there.

Another Minister: About how many
Followers do YOU have altogether!

FATHER: I have no record. You see, it has
been our custom – at least, it has been MY
Custom to try to refuse to count or to
calculate the Blessings! I often think of Ali
Baba who tried to count the blessings and
then lost them. So I consider every

Follower, Believer, Sympathizer or Friend, they are all Blessings to ME, and I hold that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

I have not as yet taken up a collection in a public meeting – auditorium. We have held meetings in New York City and other places, with large auditoriums, such as the St. Nicholas Palace and other large auditoriums, with thousands and thousands attending, and we refused to accept of a donation, a love offering or anything of that sort from the public. And I have proven conclusively, once and forever, “The Spirit of the Consciousness of the Presence of GOD is the Source of all Supply!” And I have proven the quotation mentioned in the composition, “Behold, the people is ONE and they all have ONE LANGUAGE, and this they begin to do. Now nothing can be restrained from them to do, that which they have imagined to do!”

It is a privilege to realize it and emphasize it and visualize it and materialize it and convey it and reproduce it by inculcation and by impregnating those thoughts in the minds of others! They carry them forth.

(FATHER turned to MOTHER, asking:)

Someone went for some more of the latest papers?

MOTHER DIVINE: Yes, Miss Peaceful went.

FATHER *(picking up one of the latest issues and turning to some pictures of some of the places overseas)*: You see, in The New Day, at times, they carry a number of pictures of the different places in other countries where I have not gone Personally.

Minister: Do YOU ever intend to go?

FATHER: I need not go any place, especially Personally, since it is not ME as a Person doing anything. Jesus said. "I can of Mine own Self do nothing." I AM not denying the Reality of the ALLNESS of GOD and the nothingness of matter and I AM not denying the testimony and the convictions of MILLIONS, but I AM declaring, "I AM THAT I AM" – not by Personality nor by Individuality. I can of MINE Own Self do nothing! *(FATHER*

shows them a picture in The New Day as HE says:) Now this happens to be – of course, no doubt Dr. MacLachlan has seen some of the pictures of the different places before. This is Switzerland on page twelve, you see, and England. There is a few of the group. That is the Banquet Table being served there, the same as here! That Is the Sixth Marriage Anniversary Review, you see.

Minister: Yes.

FATHER: Now we will have the Seventh Anniversary the twenty-ninth of this month. Almost time for it. And from there and then, we will have Reviews all over the different countries!

(Turning another page) This is Germany, and Old Glory flies there the same as here!

Minister: I notice, pretty nearly everything YOU say and do is patriotic; I mean, it has to center around patriotism.

FATHER: Yes, that is what I believe in.

Another Minister: FATHER, may I ask one other question that is on my mind? YOU have said a statement, here, about that YOU can do nothing of YOURSELF. I notice that YOUR Followers claim that YOU are GOD.

FATHER (*softly but firmly*): I do not deny it.

Minister: YOU do not deny It but YOU do not actually claim it – is that right?

FATHER: I need not claim anything for MYSELF. I do what I AM and express it in the Actuated Words of Expression.

Minister: I see.

FATHER: I said a little while ago, Jesus said, “I can of Mine own Self do nothing.” And Jesus said, “The flesh profiteth nothing.” I have striven through all of MY Correspondence and in all of MY Writings to get individuals to TRANSCEND the PERSONALITY and TRANSCEND ALL PERSONALITIES – even the PERSONALITY of JESUS – for the PERSON was

not It that did the Work but It was His **SPIRIT** that did it, you see! So then I say, I do not claim to do anything according to the Flesh! That is why I would rather stay away from these places and prove to all humanity conclusively, **GOD IS IMPERSONAL** and is just as **OPERATIVE** and **EXPRESSIVE** **without** HIS **PERSONAGE!** You see the Mystery?

They recognize MY DEITY there, and I do not deny it. I do not dispute it, I say. But yet, it is not a **PERSONAL DEITY** from a physiological point of view, for it is not **that** I AM speaking of, or else I would try to be a great big man! See the mystery! (*At this wonderful explanation the young ministers laugh and shake their heads in amazement. FATHER continues:*) “But because it is as one writer predicted, and you have read it, “It is not by power nor by might but by MY SPIRIT, says the **LORD GOD of Hosts!**”

Now since **GOD** says it is by MY SPIRIT, **then let HIM do it by HIS SPIRIT!** You see the mystery? And then you are out of the picture as a Person! But yet they

continue to run after ME and call on ME – and I tell them even MY immediate staff, “TRANSCEND MY PERSONALITY! TRANSCEND MY INDIVIDUALITY!”

(FATHER sweetly laughs and says:) It is Wonderful!

Minister: I appreciate YOUR Answer there!

FATHER: But whether you do it or not, I relax your conscious mentality, I still yourself mentally and spiritually so that you might observe ME IMPERSONALLY and UNINDIVIDUALLY, for it is an IMPERSONAL ISSUE.

Another minister: Is there actual death at all for YOU or for any of YOUR Followers?

FATHER: Well, those who will not live according to the Doctrine of CHRIST, they may die. Jesus said, “If a man keeps MY Saying he shall never see death!”

Minister: That is spiritual death.

FATHER (*smiling*): Well, He did not say, St. John 8:51 tells us here. (*FATHER picking up the Holy Bible and opening it to that quotation shows it to the minister as HE reads it:*)

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.”

(*FATHER then says:*) He did not say he shall never spiritually die! I doubt whether Jesse James died spiritually or not! I doubt whether Ingersoll died spiritually or not, because, look like he has been reincarnated in a whole nation I – especially In Russia, commonly known as the Communists! They are INFIDELS, supposed to be, and it is the same spirit developed in them, even as we are a supposition, to have the Spirit of CHRIST! You see the mystery?

Minister: Paul said these bodies would put off corruption and put on incorruption.

FATHER: That's right. These old bodies shall put off.

Miss Lingham: FATHER, about what time do YOU date YOUR Movement? I mean, YOUR Movement that YOU have amassed has always been popular, but what time in modern times do YOU date it?

FATHER: Well, I do not date it, although a good many of the people do.

(At this point several bundles of New Days are brought in and they are eagerly accepted as they are distributed by one of the Secretaries. Reverend MacLachlan laughs as he says to the group:)

This is just a “sample,” you know! You ask for two or three and you get a **hundred**, or **two**, or **three**!

FATHER *(with a sweet smile)*: Well, we get so **many** Blessings, we want others to enjoy them too!

Rev. MacLachlan: That's what I mean – they are pouring over!

Miss Lingham *(persistently)*: Well, would YOU say, FATHER, that since the great

depression the popular Movement – YOUR Movement – gained impetus?

FATHER: Well, I will say as I said, in part a little while ago in the dining room: because of the Righteousness exemplified and because we know this Righteousness is actually SAVING our nation from invasion and from destruction, we know as it was in the days of Lot, so it is now! But we do not mean to let this go by – that we will allow wickedness to overcome the Righteousness! We do not mean to allow our nation to go down like other nations, for the lack of the Recognition of GOD! See the mystery? That's MY Conviction!

So Sodom and Gomorrah, the two great Cities, were destroyed because they did not have enough RIGHTEOUS in that City, nor in those Cities, to SAVE THEM! Lot's two Virtuous daughters – it's Wonderful! -Now if I could make **plenty** HOLY and VIRTUOUS MEN and WOMEN to live RIGHTEOUSLY, SOBERLY and GODLY In this country, as I have done, you need not fear this Country being invaded: not only invaded by the aggressor nations but

even by the savagery and violence of the Cosmic Forces of Nature!

The Cosmic Forces of Nature, they work havocly and destructively among those who are wicked and violent!

Miss Lingham: Well, FATHER DIVINE, the question has been on my mind a long time. I have heard many references to It. If you look far enough ahead from the theory emphasized, there would be no families. How would YOU populate the earth, or is there to be a Resurrection and no population to be expected?

FATHER: Well, it is written in the Gospel and it is recorded as that of what Jesus said – the Wayshower for all Christianity: “I AM the Resurrection and the Life. He that believeth on Me, though he were dead, yet shall be live! And whosoever liveth and believeth on Me shall never die!” Now that is what we have a record of Jesus saying, according to the King James Version of the Holy Bible! So then I believe, as afore said, if we live this Life of CELIBACY, of HOLINESS, of CONSECRATION, of

SELF-DENIAL, and be as Jesus was AFTER His Birth, and be as Mary was BEFORE Jesus was born, then, WHY SHOULD WE DIE? (*FATHER again turns the pages of the Holy Bible and as one of the ministers looks at the quotation to which FATHER points, the minister reads it aloud:*)

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.”

(The minister nods his head and says:)
That's right!

FATHER: He did not say if the **spirit** of a man keeps MY Sayings, or if the **soul** of a man keeps MY Sayings. I take Him at His Word and believe it sincerely! Then I act upon the impulse of the moment. As I say in regards to the Supply: You can see the Mastery I have over the ECONOMIC Situation! You can see I have the Mastery over those limitations that are demonstrated among a good **many** of the people. We DO have the Mastery over the ECONOMIC Situation mentally, I mean, materially and morally as well! So therefore,

“If a man keeps My Sayings he shall never see death!”

Of course, the versions of men have tried and striven constantly to put their construction on GOD'S Word according to their interpretation, but WE KNOW WE GET RESULTS! WE KNOW WE ACTUALLY GET RESULTS! I KNOW I DO!

Miss Lingham: I understand about death, but aren't there supposed to be any new people?

FATHER (*with a smile*): Well, why would there be any occasion for any **new** people?

Miss Lingham: That's what I want to understand. Will there be any new people?

FATHER: Oh yes, they will be born dally!

Miss Lingham: Well, that's what I mean. How would they be born? YOU don't recognize the sacrament of marriage, do YOU?

FATHER: Oh sure, if they are born and married In keeping with the Life of CHRIST JESUS, as Jesus said:

“For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother and shall be joined unto his wife, And they two shall be one flesh.”

“This is a great mystery: but I speak,” said the Apostle, “concerning Christ and the church!”

CHRIST is married to EVERY TRUE CHRISTIAN! If HE is not married to them yet. HE will be married to them! Yet, in the KINGDOM of GOD they neither marry nor are given in marriage!

(At this point all join in, as FATHER laughs merrily.)

Minister: Well, FATHER, can YOU explain this A.D.F.D. here, please?

FATHER: In the year of our LORD, FATHER DIVINE. That is what that means.

Minister: I thought maybe that was “after death, FATHER DIVINE!”

(Again there is hearty laughter, then FATHER says:)

Oh no, that means HERE and NOW! – and as I said, it's a Blessing to be in this number. As I said concerning the quotation, “If a man keeps MY Savings he shall never see death!” – and also it is written,

Minister *(interposing)*: “Though he be dead, yet shall he live”?

FATHER: Yes. *(With a twinkle in HIS Eye)*: And so those of you who are dead, you have a chance! *(Again all join in the merriment; then FATHER says:)* The same as I brought out in a Message the other day concerning the people going to Church. I said. “Go to any of your Churches!” We do not tell the people to come to our Church, especially, and it is Immaterial to ME if they do or if they do not. Of course, we always like to be friendly, and I want to be the Expresser of hospitality and would like to be hospitable when it is convenient to do

so. Nevertheless, MY Thought is that we should be as kind to everybody as we desire others to be kind to us – and LIVE IT and EXPRESS IT! And upon this Foundation we should STAND.

Now as far as the propagation is concerned, if anyone in this audience here – I might say, if you are ninety-five or one hundred – any of you – it looks like it would not have been needful for either of you to propagate to have any one to replace you. I mean, it would not be necessary for any of you to become to be fathers and mothers, to have someone to replace you!

(Another lady in the group): Jesus said, “Suffer the little children to come unto Me, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven!” – what is YOUR Interpretation of **that**?

FATHER *(laughing merrily)*: That's what I AM doing now! – I AM suffering you as little children to come unto ME! “Except ye be converted and become as this little child, ye can in no case enter the Kingdom of Heaven!”

Miss Lingham: So then, YOUR Marriage, then, is a Spiritual Marriage with the Christ?

FATHER: Positively!

Miss Lingham (*quickly*): No, I don't mean that directly; I mean. YOU don't believe in YOUR Followers marrying?

FATHER: Well, if they care to marry, that would be up to them. I do not tell them, “Thou shalt not gamble!” I do not tell them, “Thou shalt not drink liquor!” But if I was a betting Person, no doubt I could bet you that not a True Follower of MINE drinks any intoxicating liquor! They do not smoke a cigarette! Although I do not tell them not to do it – because **I PUT MY SPIRIT IN THEM AND CAUSE THEM TO WALK IN MY STATUTES!**

It is written of ME, as I declared by composition,

“I will preach CHRIST in Words but more so in DEEDS and in ACTIONS, and I will put MY SPIRIT In the people and

cause them to walk in MY Statutes!”

Now those of MY Following, I have no record of how many there are, but you can see the dally correspondence and see just a **few** of the places in other countries, all over, as well as in this one; NOT A ONE WOULD SMOKE A CIGARETTE! NOT A ONE WOULD DRINK A GLASS OF INTOXICATING LIQUORS! THEY DO NOT INDULGE IN HUMAN AFFECTION! **THEY SACRIFICE THOSE THINGS FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS!** So it's a Wonderful, **Wonderful**, and WONDERFUL BLESSING!

Rev. MacLachlan: We have taken a good bit more of YOUR Time than we have a right to, FATHER, and I believe YOU have other obligations this evening.

(FATHER, at this instance, offers one and all ice water from the pitchers that have just been brought in. Offering a glass to Rev. MacLachlan, the Reverend says:)

No thank YOU. YOU help YOURSELF. YOU have been doing the talking!

FATHER (*taking up a glass*): Well, I AM quite a water drinker anyway, but maybe somebody else. MOTHER does not drink as much water as I do.

(Merry laughter resounds with our Beloved MOTHER joining in. Then Rev. MacLachlan says to FATHER:)

We do appreciate greatly YOUR Time, YOUR Courtesy, YOUR Kindness in permitting us to be with YOU this evening, and this Fellowship in answering the questions.

(At this point other issues of The New Day are looked over with interest by the guests, and as some make their request known to one of the secretaries that they would like some of these issues, this is relayed to FATHER, our Gracious Host, Who, in turn says:)

Well, we do not wish to burden our guests, but you are welcome to read after ME, and any copy of The New Day, from any of the issues, from back as far as nineteen – well, twenty years ago – we would be glad to let

You have them. No doubt it may be some reprints in some of these that were some of MY Messages given then.

MOTHER DIVINE (*Indicating a picture of Sayville over a reprint of a Message*): That is Sayville. That is a Message given by YOU in 1932, FATHER – a reprint.

FATHER: Yes, that Message was given some twenty years ago; just as Dr. MacLachlan said, when I was preaching before his son was born,

Rev. MacLachlan: That's right.

FATHER: he was visiting our meetings, or something of that sort: and here we stand!

Rev. MacLachlan (*with a merry laugh*): YOU have not sent me to Purgatory for getting married, have YOU!

FATHER (*joining in the merriment*): Why, certainly not! It is wonderful! The same as I was telling a lady the other day – she wanted to get married, and I said, “If YOU

really want to get married, that is up to you,” or words to that effect.

MOTHER DIVINE: You helped her on her way, didn't YOU?

FATHER: Of course, it is written: “Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of Heaven!” We must be born out of that Adamic state of consciousness, whatsoever that means; in other words, out of that Adam-ic state of consciousness: for “As in Adam all die; so shall in Jesus Christ all be made alive!” And as you are made alive in CHRIST JESUS, you become to have NEW CHARACTERISTICS and you become to be NEW CREATURES! You put off the OLD MAN and put on the NEW MAN, CHRIST JESUS!

I have a brother here who has been with ME a great number of years. Of course, he is doing his dally occupation the same as all others. Of course, some say he is one hundred and twenty-five!

Rev. MacLachlan: That is remarkable!

FATHER: I AM not speaking of MYSELF, I AM speaking of a brother that follows ME.

Rev. MacLachlan: The fellow that used to be a minister?

FATHER: Yes.

Secretary: He was waiting on the Tables, FATHER, tonight.

FATHER: Sure: *(Turning to the group)* He is a Crusader. Works all day and then serves the Table whenever he wishes, the same as the other young boys I So I AM saying that for the benefit of those who think you should continue to live in mortal consciousness. I use such terms in that thought I do not customarily use, but it's enough to convey information as to what I AM speaking.

Live in “mortal consciousness”; in other words, in the Adam-ic state of consciousness. Why should we live in that state of consciousness if we expect to live in the CHRIST Consciousness? “In Adam

all die but so shall in JESUS CHRIST all be made alive! You should never grow older!

Rev. MacLachlan: Amen!

FATHER: I don't think even Dr. MacLachlan thinks I look

Rev. MacLachlan (*interposing, says emphatically*): No older than the first day I met YOU! That's true enough! And I thank YOU, very much, FATHER DIVINE!

FATHER: Thank you!

(At this point the conversation is temporarily terminated as the group is escorted into an adjoining beautifully-appointed bedroom with bath and FATHER says:)

This is MY little bath and shower in here. Large enough for ME, though, if I AM here – but we never stay here, because, “No man has left all these things lest he gain an hundredfold more in this present time!” An HUNDREDFOLD MORE! An hundredfold more automobiles, more land, in this

present time! – “and in the world to come life everlasting!” Therefore, we have an HUNDRED TIMES MORE than we sacrifice. It just automatically comes!

Minister (*looking around*): My, my!

Lady: I wish I had these closets!

FATHER: MOTHER'S Apartment is up on the next floor.

MOTHER DIVINE: Would YOU care to take them up, FATHER?

FATHER: Yes, You could take them up, if You like.

MOTHER DIVINE: Yes. I thought YOU were going to take them next door.

FATHER (*taking HIS Coat out of the closet*):

Yes. I will not be coming back here. I thought I would take MY Coat down as I go. I AM quite sure the chauffeur has the car at the door for me, but I will walk

around with MY Guests. In the meantime I think we will be happy too, if they care to go up to see MOTHER'S Suite.

(As FATHER and MOTHER walk upstairs with the guests and escort them into MOTHER'S Suite, Rev. MacLachlan says:)

This Is Wonderful. It is very generous of YOU to take this time and show us around. We appreciate it.

FATHER: Well, I would like to have you to see and know and get first-hand information. This is MOTHER'S Room and MOTHER'S Personal Maid, Miss Peaceful.

MOTHER DIVINE *(indicating Miss Peaceful standing with the rest of the Staff nearby)*: Miss Peaceful Love over here, she enjoys the room with Me.

FATHER: She enjoys the room with MOTHER everywhere She goes – in all of the places, all over. It is Wonderful! Some places they have twin beds: some places they just have double beds just like this. Behold, the people are ONE!

Miss Lingham: It will be impossible, I suppose for visitors to see the estate at Woodmont? I meant, will it be possible?

FATHER: Oh yes, when we have the opening, no doubt, we will invite the public. They are renovating it now and building a new swimming pool, and all such as that.

Miss Lingham: Oh, I would like to see that!

Minister (*to MOTHER*): We certainly appreciate this very much.

MOTHER DIVINE: We are only too glad to have those who are sincerely seeking, first-hand information about FATHER and HIS Work.

Minister: Well, you all are certainly gracious all the way around. We can't get over Your taking us all around!

MOTHER DIVINE: Well, we really know we have found Heaven here on earth and we have no occasion to feel we have to die and go somewhere else!

(As the group again makes their way to the main floor and into the Gold Room, FATHER indicates a large picture on the wall, of HIMSELF and three gentlemen, saying:)

I suppose you know who those are!

Rev. MacLachlan: Yes, that one is the former Mayor – Mayor Samuel of Philadelphia.

Minister: Yes, and the other is Senator Francis Myers and the other is a Senator now also.

FATHER: Yes, the former Governor Martin – now Senator Martin.

Rev. MacLachlan: That's a good picture – a fine one.

(The guests are then escorted by FATHER and MOTHER over to Nazareth Mission Church just a short walk down the block and around the corner as this building is on the adjoining property. We firstly go downstairs to the Holy Communion Hall,

where FATHER gives the final dismissal to the Services, then we go upstairs to the vast high-ceilinged auditorium. While in the auditorium, looking around, Miss Lingham says to FATHER:)

I don't suppose YOU have a record of the number of buildings that YOU have throughout the world.

FATHER: Well, I do not claim any building – any personal nor real property.

Miss Lingham: I see.

MOTHER DIVINE: I was thinking that the lady, no doubt, doesn't realize that the Peace Mission Movement is the same as the Christian Movement, and all the Churches throughout the world are independent of each other, yet they embrace the same doctrine held under the Jurisdiction of FATHER DIVINE.

Miss Lingham: I was having reference to the Tracy and the Lorraine Hotels, and was wondering just how many YOU do have.

FATHER: Well, I do not know how many are attached to MY Name, even though I do not claim or own anything. I do not own an automobile to drive in, but I have fleets of them at MY Disposal, without soliciting or asking anyone to give ME the privilege to ride in one!

Rev. MacLachlan's son: FATHER, besides embracing the Faith, what else is required to become a Follower?

FATHER: To live the Life of CHRIST as exemplified In the New Testament. We might say, the Modest Code. The Modest Code is given In the Supplement.

Miss Lingham (*interposing*): Yes, it is in the Supplement and YOU also have it up in YOUR Buildings, or **the** buildings, I might say (*referring to some signs on the walls of the Tracy where she is presently residing*):

Minister: FATHER, if a man or a woman does not abide by the Code and should by that disobedience sin, does the Crucifixion of Jesus upon the Cross atone for that sin? Do YOU still hold to that now?

FATHER: We believe that if a person sins, GOD is Faithful and Just to forgive him for his sins and to cleanse him from all unrighteousness, if he will but CONFESS and FORSAKE THEM.

Minister: In other words, YOU do believe, then, that Jesus upon Calvary's Cross made atonement for the sins of the world, and, as Paul said, "For the wages of sin is death but the Gift of GOD is Eternal Life through Jesus Christ!"

FATHER: Positively! – and that is through the Life you exemplify. You see, it was not and it is not confined to that Body called Jesus. That is why it is UNIVERSAL and INFINITE, because it is the REDEEMING GRACE of CHRIST and the Life in Him Is sufficient to be visioned and made the Redemption of the sins or for the sins of man.

Miss Lingham: Well, FATHER DIVINE, I would like to say this before we part this evening. Of course, there are many factors to remember that may be a little new to us, or mysterious, but I think YOUR **greatest**,

in my small mind, is YOUR Contribution to America! I am a native American, Indian descent, Rhode Island red and all of that; been called everything; and I notice in YOUR Teachings YOU say, America! America! Be Americans! And I say in teaching and talking to my little children, I teach them to say Americans, not N-s. And I think to America the **Oneness** that YOU teach is a great Contribution, and I, for one, appreciate it!

FATHER: Well, I appreciate your appreciation, because it means something for you! Even as I was saying just today, there are people here in this City, there are **many** places, where mankind, both men and women of dark complexion, could not live. They could not go before I came! But I have **broken** that line of demarcation and I have brought an **end** to localization as far as I AM concerned!

(Minister surveying the crowd which has assembled around): YOUR People certainly have smiles on their faces!

FATHER: Thank you. So it is a privilege to live in such a Recognition!

This building was once, to those who may not know – this was once the Odd Fellows' Home, and it was purchased for the purpose of our Church. We could not have a larger auditorium than this here, but we have auditoriums elsewhere, at the Lorraine and at the Bible Institute and also at Forty-First Street, here in this City, and at Broad and Catharine Streets. And we also have another place on North Broad Street that was purchased, now owned and operated by our Church for worship. And all of our places are INDEPENDENT: Therefore, we can be happy to live independently and be a means to help **all** people! It is Wonderful!

Rev. MacLachlan: FATHER, YOU will never let us come back again if these people don't find their way home!

FATHER (*smiling*): I AM accustomed of staying up all night!

(At this point FATHER escorts the guests across the foyer to HIS spacious private

Office Study, and as we enter, one of the ministers asks:)

This is the sanctum sanctorum?

FATHER *(with a smile)*: This could be deemed as our consultation room!

Rev. MacLachlan *(with admiration)*: YOU certainly know YOUR Way around very well! Are there any sleeping quarters in this building for any of the Followers?

FATHER: Sure. There are dormitories for sisters, and MOTHER'S Suite is also upstairs. *(As FATHER enters an adjoining bedroom and study, HE says:)* This is set apart for ME.

Rev. MacLachlan *(with a twinkle in his eye)*: In case we keep YOU up all night and YOU are too tired to go down to Broad and Catharine, YOU can stay here.

FATHER: Yes, I could if I desired to, but I never even stay at Forty-first Street at the big Church we have there, or at the Divine Lorraine Hotel at Broad and Ridge and

Fairmount Avenues. We have a whole floor there, and yet I never stayed overnight.

Rev. MacLachlan (*smiling*): Well, home is home!

FATHER (*also smiling*): That's right. I AM something like a chicken. I often say, "Chickens come home to roost!" (*FATHER then escorts them through several other rooms and then into a tiny kitchenette and also a Tea-Room, as HE explains:*) This Is the Tea-Room.

MOTHER DIVINE (*with: a smile*): This Tea-Room is very limited in size, compared to the size of FATHER'S Staff that would usually dine here.

(At this juncture a number of the guests accompany MOTHER and Miss Peaceful upstairs to see the Suite which MOTHER and Miss Peaceful Love share. The remaining guests follow FATHER again Into the Office Study, and FATHER, picking up a Calendar from HIS Desk, asks:)

Who was the gentleman that desired to have a Calendar! (*The minister in question steps forward to receive a Calendar, and several others also make it known they would like to have one. FATHER says in explanation:*) This in itself will give you a lot of first-hand information. We don't like to burden you down, but if any more of you gentlemen care to take one along for something as food for thought.

Minister (*accepting a calendar from FATHER*): Well, YOU certainly have been very generous with us this evening, with YOUR Time and YOUR Patience!

FATHER: Thank you. You ladies and gentlemen may take seats, if you wish to — those who did not go up.

Rev. MacLachlan's son: I suppose they will be down shortly.

FATHER: It is Wonderful.

Minister: “Let there be a Secretary of Peace in the Cabinet!” (*reading a motto from the Calendar*).

FATHER: That's right. I called for that many years ago, and now I believe they are trying to bring it about. Many points of view, there, you will see on the Calendar that are food for thought. And we really appreciate the cooperation of any of you that will endeavor to bring about Equity and Justice more effectively in Government! It is Wonderful! The time is out for division and divisibility among this nation: It is written. "We are ONE NATION, INDIVISIBLE, with LIBERTY and JUSTICE for ALL!" – and we shall not be discouraged neither shall we be disturbed until ALL PEOPLES under this Democracy shall not only have EQUAL RIGHTS but shall have the SAME RIGHTS! Then we will be able to say, "Behold, the PEOPLE is ONE in REALITY!"

(At this juncture MOTHER and the guests return, and MOTHER sweetly says:) We went upstairs and looked around in MY apartment, and back.

FATHER: I suppose some had already retired in the dormitory.

MOTHER DIVINE: Yes – that's why we did not go in. I showed them and told them how it was partitioned off in reservation for MY Suite.

Rev. MacLachlan: Well, I think we must get on, FATHER. We have a long trip ahead of up to Chester.

Another Minister: We have to go to Atlantic City yet!

(As the ministers make their way, one by one, to FATHER and MOTHER to pay their respects before leaving, one of them says to FATHER as FATHER shakes hands with him:)

Thank YOU again, very, very much. I don't know whether YOU do this for everybody, but we are certainly grateful! Thank YOU again! Thank YOU, MOTHER!

FATHER: You are welcome.

Rev. MacLachlan *(as FATHER shakes hands with him)*: Goodnight and thank YOU again, many times!

FATHER: Peace, and many Blessings!

Rev. MacLachlan: Peace to YOU!

FATHER: according to our salutation!

(As Rev. MacLachlan and party made their way out and downstairs, the young minister who had spoken his thanks to FATHER and MOTHER just prior to Rev. MacLachlan, seemed to linger behind the rest. At this point the recording Secretary started to ask a question, and FATHER addressed the young gentleman, speaking as follows:)

Pardon ME. We do not like to Intrude, but I was thinking or questioning, would you like to have an invitation to come to our Anniversary on the twenty-ninth and thirtieth, if you have nothing else in advance? It is listed in *The New Day* now. I believe – yes, it is – but the Personal Invitations are not out as yet.

(The Reverend. who had been giving his name and address to the secretary, said to FATHER with a pleasant smile:)

Well, that is very, very nice of YOU, FATHER, Let's see. That's Wednesday, isn't it? – the twenty-ninth?

FATHER: Yes, I believe it is – Wednesday and Thursday, the twenty-ninth and thirtieth.

MOTHER DIVINE (*indicating a page in The New Day*): And these are the schedules of the Banquets, whatever any one is convenient for you to attend.

Rev. Ogden: Yes, I think I have that particular issue.

FATHER: It will be a public invitation not only in our paper, but it will also be a public invitation by the A.P. and the U.P.

Rev. Owen: Well, I think that is very, very nice of YOU to extend it to me, and will YOU be at each of these?

FATHER: We will be at each of these places at intervals, between the two days.

Secretary: People come from all over the world to attend the Anniversary.

FATHER: Yes, we have airplanes coming in from California and from Canada and Florida and elsewhere.

Rev. Ogden: Is that so?

MOTHER DIVINE: You are privileged to come and bring whosoever you desire.

Rev. Ogden: Well, I think that is very, very gracious of YOU. YOU certainly have been more than kind to us!

FATHER (*referring to the Supplement which the Reverend is holding carefully in his hand*): You will find right in there, that the Federal Government has instituted No Tips or Gifts in Government. That is somewhat cross-grained! Jesus wore the thing, wore the thing that was cross-grained to the minds of the people. So we do today, and yet we do not lack for anything! I shut off the act, In the Kingdom, of giving. No Anniversary Presents, No Gifts and No Tips or anything of that sort. Of course, we can donate for meals, for the Banquet meals and for refreshments, and for the use of Church Cars. That's only a donation of whatsoever

anyone wishes to donate; it's no price set for the meals, or anything of that sort.

Rev. Ogden: YOU do have actual donations, though, given to YOU to carry on YOUR Work, but no solicitation!

FATHER: We have donations for meals and for the use of Church Cars, to take people places, wheresoever they want to go, and we have donations for sleeping accommodations in our Hotels, and places.

Rev. Ogden: Oh, is that so? YOU know, that's interesting! FATHER, I want to say, I met YOU, probably, about fifteen years ago down on Broad Street in a group that came in from Overbrook Presbyterian Church.

FATHER: I see.

Rev. Ogden: And then I came with another group two years ago, with Dr. D. from Temple School of Theology, And YOUR Group purchased my grandmother's house up on Allegheny Ave., which I believe YOU are using as a Nursing Home, next to

the apartment house on that block; and I used to play as a boy in that home!

FATHER (*smiling*): The world isn't so large after all!

Rev. Ogden: It's true. YOU have been most gracious to us, FATHER. I know YOU have many places yet to go. I think YOU have done more than YOUR Share for us!

FATHER: Well, I regret I had to be held up for the Banquet tonight and was not able to meet Dr. MacLachlan's party at the time he desired to meet us. That's why I sent him a telegram or wrote, I believe, and asked him to meet us at eleven o'clock and I would be free to take up that time, from then on, and happy to do it!

Rev. Ogden: Well, I know there isn't a one here tonight that has not felt graciously received, and I have no hesitation in telling YOU that for a minute!

MOTHER DIVINE: Just exactly what is that group?

Rev. Ogden: We are all Theological Students. Well, I shouldn't say that. Dr. MacLachlan brought seven with him that are from his group In Chester, or possibly from Mt. Airy. He just moved to that charge out there. But there were nine of us and two of the wives that are seminar[ian]s at Temple University.

MOTHER DIVINE: Oh, Temple.

Rev. Ogden: Most of us are in the seminary at third year. We are graduates. Almost every one there has a Church somewhere in the City. So we are doing the Work of the LORD.

FATHER: We are very happy to intermingle with you, and as the old-fashioned Methodists used to say, "Let us mingle our voices together and change thoughts!" Maybe you may help ME and I may help you!

Rev. Ogden: I think that YOU have given us quite fine insight, really!

FATHER: Thank you. Ministers of the Gospel and Students of Philosophy, I believe, through our cooperation, automatically we can be of mutual benefit to those concerned.

Rev. Ogden: Well, I want to say this. FATHER: YOU have impressed me with YOUR Kindness which is written across YOUR Face, and that's a compliment that I can give most sincerely!

FATHER: Thank you.

Rev. Ogden: Because I feel YOU have done as tremendous a piece of Work as I have witnessed! I remember the first time I came to YOUR Mission at Broad Street, I just walked up and shook YOUR Hand, but I did not have the extended pleasure of walking around with YOU, from room to room, and boring YOU, more or less, with my questions. And a man said to me that day, "You know, I am a murderer and FATHER came to my rescue and since that, I am going straight!" So YOU are doing something for humanity!

FATHER (*With a sweet smile*): I hope so. And I believe you heard a lady testify tonight.

Rev. Ogden (*enthusiastically*): I did! I did!

FATHER: How she was a murderer. Murdered her common-law husband in Georgia when Governor Talmadge was Governor, before his death; and I think she said she served fourteen years of a life term! She called on ME, and Supernaturally, unbelievably, I went to her rescue! And then I went to the Governor intuitively and inspirationally, and we said, "Let that woman out!" Governor Talmadge, the present Governor's father! – that's what she declares. And she came up here and found ME I She had not seen ME Personally at that time!

So that is something to consider; and she was actually a murderess, she declares, and even killed a woman in prison, and beat up some of the guards in prison! It Is Wonderful!

MOTHER DIVINE: She was what they would call a tough character.

Rev. Ogden: Yes, I would say!

FATHER: And there have been a number of habitual thieves and other murderers and gangsters who have been saved from vice and crime and sin and debauchery of every kind!

Rev. Owen: It Is Wonderful!

MOTHER DIVINE: It is Wonderful! And the thing of it is, it is so Impersonal and Universal that anyone, just by sincerely calling on FATHER'S Name can get results! **You** try it sometime!

FATHER: Sure – in any emergency! You need not see ME Personally, you need not contact ME Personally, but contact this **PRINCIPLE** for which I STAND and you will GET RESULTS, in EUROPE, ASIA and AFRICA and ALL OVER. Even in far-away AUSTRALIA, as you can see in the pages of The New Day and the pictures thereof, I AM reaching those! And not only

so, but I AM SAVING THE PEOPLE OF WHOM HAVE BEEN ECONOMICALLY UNDER-PRIVILEGED and DOWN-TRODDEN!

Rev. Ogden: I have often been confused, but hearing YOU talk tonight has helped to clear me, tonight, of many things! I have often heard YOUR Followers speak of YOU, as claiming YOU as the Son of GOD, and the like, but I have never heard YOU YOURSELF claim it. Of course, YOU YOURSELF realize we preach to win the souls to CHRIST.

FATHER: That's right.

Rev. Ogden: and calling out in His Name for all things to come to pass: and through Him we know the FATHER. And I have been particularly enlightened in hearing YOU!

MOTHER DIVINE: Well, as FATHER said tonight concerning the necessity of taking on CHRIST'S Nature and Characteristics – and by taking them on, you will know HIM!

FATHER: Yes, as it is written “Ye shall know the Truth and the Truth shall set you free!”

Rev. Ogden: That's a great verse, is it not!

FATHER: Yes – free from all human superstition and free from all adverse and undesirable conditions!

Rev. Ogden: FATHER, I know I am taking YOUR Time, but YOU have got me going in a fascinating sense! I noticed a picture on the wall in one of the rooms and I asked one of YOUR Followers –

Secretary: He asked me, FATHER.

Rev. Ogden: Yes, it was you, wasn't it? (*Turning to FATHER*) I assume that was YOUR Mother and YOUR Dad, is that correct?

FATHER: Oh, that was MOTHER in the other Body, commonly known as MY first Wife.

Rev. Ogden: I see, I see.

FATHER: and ME: I think it's the one – of course, I come here so little I hardly keep up. (*FATHER escorts Rev. Ogden into the bedroom where the picture is hanging on the wall.*)

Rev. Ogden: Yes, that's the one.

FATHER: Yes, that was MOTHER In the other Body and that was ME.

Rev. Ogden: Is that right? Now do YOU have – I mean, YOU have a Mother and Father Personally, don't YOU?

FATHER: I said MOTHER In the first Body, just like this is MOTHER (*indicating MOTHER standing nearby*).

Rev. Ogden: Well now, I am a little confused. I would like to ask YOU to explain to me.

FATHER: It is from a Spiritual point of view. Like we use the term “MOTHER,” we do not speak of MOTHER from a **Personal** point of view. Just like MOTHER



FATHER DIVINE & MOTHER DIVINE
(Photograph by Addison Scurlock, 1932)

here. You would not think MOTHER was all of, or is all of these Followers Mother from a PERSONAL point of view!

Rev. Ogden: I see what YOU mean. The Spiritual MOTHER. I guess where we would make the difference is that we would say, is my mother and my dad in the physical sense, and they would say my MOTHER and FATHER In the spiritual sense – is that right?

Secretary: But when FATHER is Speaking, it is HIS Wife.

Rev. Ogden: Yes, I see what you mean – but we would still interpret that as our actual mother and father.

FATHER: The reincarnation of the Spiritual MOTHER took place in this Body, (*indicating MOTHER*) as some have been made Saints in the Catholic Church. When they pass they are recognized as Saints. MOTHER'S Body, here, ceased to function; in other words, She passed on.

Rev. Ogden: Yes.

FATHER: But GOD GAVE IT A BODY AS IT PLEASSED HIM!

Rev. Ogden: And the same YOU believe, then, happens to YOU? – YOUR Spirit passes on to another Spirit beyond YOUR Life?

FATHER: Well, we do not emphasize or advocate, necessarily, the passing on. This Body that was called MOTHER and still is called MOTHER in another,

Rev. Ogden (*catching the mystery, says quickly*): I see what YOU mean. It is the spiritual passing from one to the next and the next!

FATHER: That's right. And She is recognized as the reincarnated MOTHER, not only of MOTHER DIVINE of a few years ago, but She is recognized to be the REINCARNATION and REPRODUCTION of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY!

Rev. Ogden: Yes.

FATHER: Now there are those of the Catholic Faith, ordinarily they could not or would not believe that; but since the Spirit is EVER PRESENT and as you can read in your Scripture, yea, the Gospel Epistle of the Apostle, he said, "GOD giveth it a Body as it pleases HIM! It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power!" And we are happy and fortunate to have it raised, as it has been in this, MY Present Experience! But we do not emphasize or advocate the passing of another; but because MOTHER – this Body – had a concept that She desired to enter a younger Body so She could be just what She desired to be –

Rev. Ogden (*interposing*): She has never died, then, actually – because the carry-over of the Spirit is now In MOTHER DIVINE here.

FATHER: Yes, that's right.

Rev. Ogden: The Body has died but the Spirit yet lives in another!

FATHER: That's right – just like the average person believes when one dies and

goes to Heaven, the body is the only thing that is dead, or dies.

Rev. Ogden: I see.

FATHER: So it was with MOTHER. She wanted to have a **new** Body! We have many children, the same as these around now;

Rev. Ogden: I see.

FATHER: but She wanted a **NEW ROSEBUD BODY!**

Rev. Ogden: Right.

FATHER: And **GOD** prepared One that was very **YOUNG** and **BEAUTIFUL**,

Rev. Ogden (*sincerely and emphatically*):
And She is!

FATHER: filled with **VIRGINITY** and **HOLINESS!** And I hold Her just as **VIRTUOUS TODAY** and **TONIGHT, NOW**, as when She first stood by **MY Side!**

Rev. Ogden: Yes, Sir.

FATHER: We have private rooms wheresoever We may be. Even if it happens to be on the same floor, it's in a different apartment. It is not connected together. And even at that, We customarily live or reside in Philadelphia at Broad and Catharine Streets. We do not seek the best for Ourselves or anything of that sort; but we have accommodations In the Riviera Hotel! We have the whole eighth floor of the Riviera Hotel in Newark!

Rev. Ogden: Yea, I know where it is now. I was trying to think. I thought of it first as being in Philadelphia. It is in Newark.

FATHER: Yes, it is in Newark. That is a three-hundred-room Hotel, like the Lorraine, only more modern.

Rev. Ogden: FATHER, I think I have this clear now – this reincarnation clear. One question I still was wondering, when it came to YOU: Will YOU someday give up **this Body** and have a new Spiritual Body in someone else?

FATHER (*smiling*): Did you hear ME call Dr. MacLachlan's attention to the fact that as he spoke in his speech tonight, how he attended our meetings In New York City,

Rev. Ogden: Yes, yes.

FATHER: before his boy, who is now a preacher, was born?

Rev. Ogden: Yes.

FATHER: And he said right away, he said I looked just as **young** as I did then!

Rev. Ogden (*agreeing emphatically, says quickly*): Yes, I see the significance of those remarks!

FATHER (*dynamically*): We do not believe in dying, we do believe in living a Life of CELIBACY and **conserving** our **Energy** and **increasing** our **Strength** and **Ability to live!**

Rev. Ogden (*gratefully*): Well, thanks, very, very much!

(As FATHER escorts the guest back into the Office and we all prepare to make our departure, Rev. Ogden says to FATHER:)

Well, I deeply appreciate this! It is quite an experience!

FATHER *(shaking hands with him)*: You are welcome, I AM sure. You are driving alone?

Rev. Ogden: Yes, I am.

FATHER: I see.

Rev. Ogden: I again thank YOU all. Goodnight now, and thank YOU so much!

FATHER: Peace, and many Blessings! *(Rev. Ogden, who has accompanied FATHER and MOTHER downstairs, waits until They are in the car, then says:)* Peace to you all!

FATHER: Peace, Reverend!

Rev. Ogden (*tipping his hat to FATHER*):
Goodnight and GOD bless YOU! Goodbye,
MOTHER!

MOTHER DIVINE: Peace!

Rev. Ogden: Peace!