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Spirit in Action

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***July 2021
Spiritual Reflection edition***

OMNIPRESENCE

“Divine Science teaches that God is universal Being,
above all, through all, in us all, equally present everywhere.”

Nona Brooks

“I believe in a very active, living, omnipresent Creator.”

Irwin Gregg

“...God acting as Energy becomes what we know as the physical world
but God being Infinite could never be depleted by what is created...”

’God is everywhere’ ...Therefore [God] is within us!”

Ernest Holmes

“...I realize that God is the ONLY PRESENCE and the ONLY POWER there
is...God indwells me. God’s wisdom is with me...and guides me...”

Vernon Shields

“My belief, my faith in the Omnipresence of God – all Power and
all Wisdom – gives me the courage to meet every challenge.”

Martha Dawson

“Spirit is at the root of all things, and...its
operation is guided by unfailing intelligence...”

Thomas Troward

“God is. God is Good. God is omnipresent.”

Annie Rix Miltz

“Where we are, God is...”

Joel Goldsmith

From the Office of the DSFI President Daily Reflection & Prayer

July 1 – Mind power
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

St. Paul wrote, "Faith comes by hearing." What I say and think and hear over and over is what I come to believe, and my beliefs take root in my deeper mind and influence my daily life. I can change my beliefs by thinking new thoughts that bring new hope and new joy. I can rehearse these new thoughts until they become my deeply rooted, guiding ideas. I have great power and I choose to use it wisely and well. Amen.

"The subconscious mind is ruled by suggestion, it accepts all suggestions – it does not argue with you – it fulfils your wishes." Joseph Murphy

July 2 – Spiritual vision
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

When driving, we keep our eyes on the road because our vision is dictating our direction. When bowling, we learn to focus on where we want the ball to go. When gardening, we usually have a clear idea of how we want things to look before we even start planting. Actually, in every part of life, vision sets our direction. If we can see it in our mind, we will create it, attract it, or start moving toward it. God give me beautiful visions and the will and wisdom to follow them faithfully. Amen.

"We go where our vision is." Joseph Murphy

July 3 – A thankful heart
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

I live in an abundant Universe, and so I am thankful. Omnipresent, eternal Life individuates as my life, and so I am thankful. I am creative and wise, and within me are endless reserves of joy and peace, and so I am thankful. All things are working together for my good, and so I am thankful. Amen.

"Remember that the thankful heart is always close to the riches of the universe."
Joseph Murphy

July 4 – Prayer for the U.S.

Dr. Ernest Holmes

...I offer this, my prayer for my country:

I know that Divine Intelligence governs the destiny of the United States of America, directing the thought and the activity of all who guide its affairs.

I know that success, prosperity, and happiness are the gifts of freedom, and are the Divine heritage of everyone in this country.

I know that success, prosperity, and happiness are now operating in the affairs of every individual in this country.

I know that Divine guidance enlightens the collective mind of the people of this country, causing it to know that economic security may come to all without the loss of either personal freedom or individual self-expression.

I know that no one can believe or be led to believe that freedom must be surrendered in order to ensure economic security for all.

The All-Knowing Mind of God contains the answer to every problem which confronts this country.

I know that every leader in this country is now directed to this All-Knowing Mind and has the knowledge of a complete solution to every problem, and each is compelled to act upon this knowledge to the end that abundance, security, and peace shall come to all.

And I know that this spiritual democracy shall endure, guaranteeing to everyone in this country personal liberty, happiness, and self-expression. And so it is. Amen.

July 5 – Divine grandeur

Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

God, you are All; how in my present form and understanding can I adequately grasp “all”? I can, however, know and trust that I am part of the “All” and that all that you are is available to me. In your presence I am guided, guarded, and continually blessed. And so it is that I am very thankful!

“Far be it from [God’s] glory that human tongue should adequately recount [God’s] praise, or that human heart comprehend [God’s] fathomless mystery.” Bahauallah

July 6 – My divine attributes

Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

Wisdom. Knowledge. Light. These are divine attributes, and they are true of my innermost, highest, and truest Self. I Am a ray of divine light shining in the world, leading others in the paths of hope and joy. And so it is.

“I am the Sun of Wisdom and the Ocean of Knowledge...
I am the guiding Light that illumineth the way.” Bahauallah

July 7 – Better days ahead
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

Storms, recessions, pandemics, political strife, personal challenges and losses...we've lived through all of it, and what we've learned is that there is a Power that sustains us in uncertain times, there is a Presence from which disappointments cannot separate us, and there lies before us a future which is ours to create. I give thanks for the ability to see and seize possibilities. In Truth, all is well. Amen.

“The season of failure is the best time for sowing the seeds of success.”
Paramahansa Yogananda

July 8 – Truth
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

The Truth of our wholeness, of our innate goodness, of Life's infinite possibilities, of our interconnectedness with all that is...the Truth comes to us in art, poetry, scripture, music, nature, imagination, dreams, intuition, the wisdom of enlightened teachers...the Truth will be known and is not limited to any one tradition or vocabulary. For Truth, however I may receive it, I am grateful. Amen.

“You must accept the truth from whatever source it comes.” Maimonides

July 9 – God is my source
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

In this moment, I turn away from anxieties and concerns, I reject fear, I know that bad news is never the whole story, and I remember that there is one Presence, It is all Power, and It is All Good. I am part and parcel of this divine Power and I trust that every problem has a solution, every loss leaves a seed of opportunity, and every difficulty offers a blessing as well. I can never be without the grace of God. I rise above despair and embrace the joy of knowing that in Truth, all is well. Thank you, God, for being all that I need. Amen.

“God is the source of my supply...All my financial and other needs are met...there is always a surplus.”
Joseph Murphy

July 10 – Vitality
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

Divine Life is my life. I Am an experience, an expression, an incarnation of God. God is energy, power, vitality, perfection, and so these qualities are meant to be expressed in and as my life. I allow it to be so. I give thanks for my blessed life. Amen.

“...God is health.” Nona Brooks

July 11 – My body
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

I bless my body. I give thanks for the way my body serves me. I know my body to be Spirit expressing, energy taking form, eternity experiencing time, universal Life individualized. My body is meant to thrive. Every cell and tissue of my body is now filled with divine light and love, and so it is.

“The Substance of the body is Spirit; there is nothing else for it to be...
We see it as...an expression of Universal Life. We reap the fruits
of our thoughts; for we begin to see the true state of the body.”
Nona Brooks

July 12 – God is here
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

God is divine omnipresence. God is everywhere fully present. God is the only Presence. I am, therefore, and must be, in God and part of God. God is here, with me, in me, even as me. God is Love and Love casts out fear. There is nothing to fear; for I Am forever one with Universal, everlasting Love. Alleluia!

“God is everywhere. God is here.” Fannie B. James

July 13 – Joy from love
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

Highest and innermost God, I know you as Love – unconditional, all-inclusive, everlasting Love. Knowing myself to be one with and part of divine Love, my heart is glad and grateful. My joy grows daily. And as I live in the power of joy and love, I am honoring the Source of joy which is the presence of pure Love. And so it is.

“The greatest honor we can give Almighty God is to live gladly
because of the knowledge of [divine] love.” Julian of Norwich

July 14 – God is in our hearts
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

I rejoice to consider and remember that God is in my heart, and in every life, and in all that is. God is our Source, the Substance of our lives, the Life of all life. I bow before this beautiful Mystery. I give thanks for all that is possible because of God's omnipresence. Amen.

“Where can we go to find God if we cannot see [God] in our own hearts and in every living being?”
Swami Vivekananda

July 15 – Believe in yourself
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

Dear God, in your Names I affirm that I Am good, holy, blessed, filled with potential, and capable of achieving my heart's good desires. When I remember that I Am good, I allow my goodness to show. When I remember that I Am divine, I express joy, compassion, generosity, and healing love. As I believe in myself as a child of the Most High God, I become a beacon of hope to the world. And so it is.

“If faith in ourselves had been more extensively taught and practiced, I am sure a very large portion of the evils and miseries that we have would have vanished.” Swami Vivekananda

July 16 – God's will
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

Omnipresent God – your will must be for each of us to thrive, to be truly happy, to be kind and generous and loving. Dear God, thy will be done! Amen.

“The simple utterance of 'Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven' continued faithfully from day to day will cleanse us from every unheavenly thought, and bring forward that One in us who is the everlasting habitant of the divine regions.” **Annie Rix Miltz**

July 17 – God is all
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

I am one with God, the All Good, and so it is that my good comes to me easily and in abundance.

“God is all, both invisible and visible. One Presence, One Mind, One Power is all. This One that is all is perfect life, perfect love, and perfect substance. We are the individualized expressions of God and are ever one with this perfect life, perfect love, and perfect substance.”
Divine Science Statement of Being

July 18 – Praying for others
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

I pray for myself, for my loved ones, for my neighborhood, my community, my city, state, nation, and for the community of nations. I pray for those who seem to have pain. I pray for those who have asked me to hold them in my loving thoughts. I give my blessing of love to all. I know that God, omnipresent Love, enfolds us all and offers each of us grace equal to every need. And so it is.

“I send out thoughts of love and peace and healing to the whole universe...
to every man, woman and child on earth...” Emmet Fox

July 19 – Our world of thoughts
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

May I choose to see the good, the beautiful, the optimistic, the possible, the loving, the life-giving, the worthy...may I see the blessings which abound in life. I wish for my experience of the world to be as it is in Truth – good and very good. Amen.

"What we experience is our own concept of things. That is why no two people see quite the same world, and why, in many cases, different people see such different worlds...we really do live in a world of our own thoughts." Emmet Fox

July 20 – Healing
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

Thank you, God, divine Life, healing Power, for flowing through me and expressing as me now. You are leading me in the ways of fulfillment. You are strengthening and renewing me. You give me joy. And what you do for me, you'll do for others. Amen.

"Healing is taking place all the time, and we know it is God who is doing the work."
Malinda Cramer

July 21 – I bless others freely
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

Every person I encounter or think of today is a child of the Universe and deserves to be happy and well. I give my blessing of love freely. And so it is.

"Teach only love, for that is what you are." A Course in Miracles

July 22 – God is my life
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

The Sacred is everywhere. It is the substance of all that is. The Sacred is my life, my joy, my hope. It is the Source of all Good. I rest in the loving embrace of the Sacred. And so it is.

"Do I not fill the heavens and the earth?" declares the Lord."
Jeremiah 23.24

July 23 – The religion of kindness
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

God is Love - omnipresent, unconditional, never-ending Love. If love is divine, then showing love is true religion. Today, I will be loving, kind, generous, and encouraging. I will be love in action, and what I give, I will also receive. Amen.

“My religion is very simple. My religion is kindness.”
The Dalai Lama

July 24 – God is good
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

Is there a Power for good that is available to me and mine today? Yes! It is God, omnipresent Love, universal Life, perfect Substance. I deserve, expect, accept, and rejoice in abundant blessings. I am one with the very Source of blessings. Amen.

“Taste and see that God is good.” Psalm 34

July 25 – Focus on the good
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

I choose, today, to focus on what I want rather than on what I don't want. I choose, today, to focus on what I find good. In truth, Good is the Substance of all that is; so, today I remember this and let my thoughts dwell on the beautiful, the hopeful, the joyous, the vibrant, the wonderful. Blessings abound! And so it is.

“Whenever you are presented with a problem of lack, in anything, simply select the good or positive factor which before was lacking and center your mind on that to the exclusion of everything else.”
Fenwicke Holmes

July 26 – All in all
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

God, you are creator, you are creative action, and you are the stuff from which creation is made. You are All-in-all. This is my constant hope and joy! I cannot be apart from you; I am forever a part of you. And so it is that all is well. Alleluia.

“God dwells in and composes all things.” W. John Murray

July 27 - Good
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

God is good because God is goodness itself. Goodness can only offer goodness. As I turn inwardly to God, I am turning toward infinite goodness. As I ask for wisdom, guidance, comfort, strength or supply, I am asking Good to give of Itself, which It delights to do. Thank you, God, the Good, for your abundant gifts. I accept them with deep gratitude. And so it is.

“...[God] is best expressed as ‘Good.’” W. John Murray

July 28 – Law of supply
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

With joy, I share my Good. I gladly participate in the circulation of divine supply. I give lovingly and I receive gratefully. Thank you, God, for all that I have, all that I give, and all that I receive. Amen.

“Supply operates according to a very simple law – the law of co-operation. It is to be found in circulation and not in accumulation...It is only through co-operation that you can demonstrate supply. The freedom with which you can look at your manifest supply and put it into circulation, with the conscious recognition of the fullness of the omnipresent supply from which to draw, is the law by which great success is attained... It may be conceived that, to the omnipresent Spirit, there is no difference between giving and receiving...” Daisy Baum

July 29 – Divine glory
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

God in me, I ask and allow you to express through me in marvelous, glorious, beautiful ways. I am blessed to bless others. As I am uplifted, I lift up others. As I experience joy, I have joy to share. As I know peace, I sow seeds of peace in the world. As I prosper, I contribute to the well-being of others. Yes, God in me, let your light shine through me. Amen.

“We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us.”
Marianne Williamson

July 30 – Self realization
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

My truest, highest Self is divine, perfect, kind, loving, generous, vibrant, abundantly blessed, and one with All Good. I allow the I Am that I am to express beautifully in, through, and as my life experience. Let it be so!

“Your real self is never sick, never afraid, never selfish.”

H. Emilie Cady

July 31 – Affirmative prayer
Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins

God’s presence comforts me. With God’s power, all things are possible. God’s wisdom guides me toward my highest good. God’s love is experienced and expressed in my love. God’s life is individualized as my life. God is All Good and divine blessings flow to me without ceasing. Thanks be to God!

“Prayer is the divine method of opening the soul upward to receive what God is more than willing to give.” Warren F. Evans

Honoring Some of History’s Divine Scientists

(taken from Sunshine Cathedral’s “Spiritual Heroes”: The following are featured Jan-July at Sunshine Cathedral, Aug-Dec will be shared in future SIA editions)

Alethea Brooks Small (1848 – 1906) – sister of Nona Brooks and Fannie Brooks James (early pioneers in the Divine Science movement). She encouraged Nona in her early leadership of Divine Science. Her husband was a business partner of Charles Fillmore before Charles & Myrtle founded Silent Unity.

Nona Brooks (1861 – 1945) – a major figure in the New Thought movement and one of the pioneers of Divine Science. Nona taught, “We no longer feel that we must overcome God’s reluctance, but rather that we are to lay hold of [God’s] willingness. More willing is [God] to give than we are to receive.”

She also stressed divine Omnipresence: “...let us turn to our Basis, Omnipresence. This means God everywhere; therefore God includes me.”

Fenwicke Holmes (1883 – 1973) - earned a B.A. from Colby College and attended Hartford Seminary and was ordained a Congregationalist minister (and later, a Divine Science minister). In addition to assisting his brother (Ernest Holmes) in the Science of Mind movement, he also served as the pastor of a Divine Science church. He was helpful in spreading New Thought philosophy in Japan through his collaboration with Seicho-No-Ie’s founder, Masaharu Taniguchi. Fenwicke’s books include: *Being & Becoming* (1925), *The Law of Mind in Action* (1926), and *The Truth About Matter* (1944). He wrote a poem in the divine voice: “I am thy life within thee, I am thy health; I am thy choicest treasure, I am thy wealth. I am thy deepest wisdom, I am thy light; I am thy power within thee, I am thy might. I am thy warm emotion, I am thy truth; I am thy ageless heritage, I am thy youth. I am thy hope of heaven, I am the way; I am the light eternal, I am the day. I am

thy will-to-conquer, I am thy sword; I am the peace thou cravest, I am thy word...I am the Inner Presence, Forever nigh – Whenever thou dost say, ‘I am’: I AM *That I.*”

David S. Alkins (1922 – 2015) – was an Episcopal priest (graduate of both New England Conservatory of Music and Berkeley Divinity School at Yale University) who served parishes in Texas and Washington state as well as working with various non-profit agencies. In 1979 he became the Dean of Brooks Divinity School (named for Nona Brooks, it was a Divine Science ministry school in Denver) and received an honorary doctorate in 1987. His two small publications were “Bridge Builders of Truth” and *Jesus the Way Shower*.

W. Frederic Keeler (1874 - 1943) - Noted healer and metaphysician (Divine Science minister). Most of his work was published posthumously. Of the power of prayer, Keeler said, “We drop our worldly worries in prayer. They do not exist in prayer...To face the facts of one’s life without worry while being in the consciousness of God is to solve every problem, and to heal.”

Agnes Galer (1860-1939)—ordained a Divine Science minister by New Thought pioneer Nona Brooks (c. 1907) and established a church in Seattle. Galer is known for being the minister who ordained Ernest Holmes (Holmes was a Divine Science minister before starting the Religious Science movement).

Kathleen Besly (1858 – 1946) – Divine Science minister who wrote the classic, *The Divine Art of Living*, in which she writes, “We cannot fear anything or anybody if we have the full realization that God is everywhere, that God is Love and that Love is the great power of life.”

Honoring Other Metaphysicians from History

(taken from Sunshine Cathedral’s “Spiritual Heroes”: The following are featured Jan-July at Sunshine Cathedral, Aug-Dec will be shared in future SIA editions)

George Berkeley (1685 – 1753) - an Irish philosopher and Anglican bishop. He believed that God is spiritual substance, and everything that is must be made of the same spiritual substance. He wrote, “What [humans] thought to be substance is actually an idea in the mind of God.”

Phineas Quimby (1802 – 1866) - generally considered the father of the New Thought movement. He spoke of the “Christ Principle” and considered Jesus to be an inspired soul. He said that mind as matter and mind as invisible essence (or solution) are controlled by a Superior Wisdom, which Jesus understood. Long before Einstein discovered that energy and mass are equal, identical and interchangeable, Quimby was saying that mind as form and mind as solution (or essence) was the same thing. Quimby was known as a healer. He reasoned that dis-ease is really a belief and beliefs can be changed. To change the underlying thought is to change the condition.

H. B. Jeffery (1872 – 1954) - Studied with Malinda E. Cramer, Emma Curtis Hopkins and Thomas Troward. He worked with Emma Curtis Hopkins on High Mysticism, and taught courses based on Hopkins’ work. His own books include *Spirit of Prayer, Fruit of the Spirit, and Coordination*. Jeffery taught, “God is the One Good. Thus goodwill is the Will of God manifest in [us].”

Helen Schucman (1909 – 1981) – a professor of clinical psychology at Columbia University in NYC for 18 years (retiring in 1976). Helen started receiving “inner dictation” (which she believed was coming from Jesus himself) and she started writing it down. The result is *A Course in Miracles*. The Course encourages

people to love, forgive, believe in the absolute goodness and lovingness of God, and to release fear. By following the Course's guidelines, students of the Course believe that inner peace and lasting joy are possible. One ACIM's most famous quotes is: "Nothing real can be threatened. Nothing unreal exists. Herein lies the peace of God."

Giordano Bruno (1548 – 1600) - taught that God is everywhere imminent throughout the universe. Bruno was an Italian poet and philosopher who wrote, "God is the Principle of unity in all activity and is the Principle of Oneness..." Referring to divine Mind, he held that Mind and matter are one.

Paramahansa Yogananda (1883 – 1952) – a spiritual teacher who emphasized each individual's ability to experience Truth for herself or himself rather than relying on inherited or "blind" belief. He believed every individual has the ability to experience the Divine directly and should rely on that experience more than on religious dogma. Yogananda wrote, "As long as you are making the effort, God will never let you down!"

Annie Rix Miltz (1856 – 1924) - was the founder of both the New Thought publication *Master Mind* magazine and the Homes of Truth. Miltz wrote, "We trust God not only as our physician, but as our banker, our defender, as our [spouse], our [parent], our all in all..."

Mikao Usui (1865 – 1926) - the founder of the complementary healing technique known as "Reiki" (universal life-force energy). Reiki practitioners allow themselves to be a channel of Universal Life-force Energy, imagining symbols as they place hands on or near certain spots of a person's body (they also give "distant treatments" for people far away). Practitioners share the energy but remain detached from the outcome. They trust the energy will flow freely to accomplish whatever is most needed. The principles Reiki practitioners try to live by are simply: "Do not be angry. Do not worry. Be grateful. Work with diligence. Be kind to people." Reiki is not a religion and can be practiced by people of any or no faith tradition.

A.K. Mozumdar (1864 – 1953) - Born in India, Mozumdar came to the U.S. to teach his understanding of spiritual principles. Mozumdar's beliefs about the connection between the mind and the body are now widely shared by both religious and secular thinkers. Mozumdar taught that God is within us, inseparable from us. Mozumdar's wrote: "That which you imagine with a positive assurance becomes a reality to you" and "Convince yourself that you have the ability to do a certain thing, and you will have the ability." Ernest Holmes was a friend and admirer of Mozumdar.

Horatio W. Dresser (1866-1954) - His parents were students of Quimby. He was graduated from Harvard and later became a Swedenborgian minister. He compiled and edited a selection of Phineas Quimby's works: *The Quimby Manuscripts*.

Ernest Holmes (1887-1960) – Founder of Religious Science. After studying philosophy and world religions independently, working with his brother who was a Congregational minister, and becoming ordained in the Divine Science movement, Holmes wrote *The Science of Mind* (among several books) and started the Religious Science Church. In his *The Art of Life*, Holmes instructed, "When you pray or affirm your good, close the door of your consciousness to everything which denies this good and state your needs, not as a supplication but as an affirmation of acceptance... We shall not gain happiness by continuing to repeat mental patterns of unhappiness... Can we, in the midst of negative conditions, accept a great good? If we can we shall be complying with the Law of Life. We shall be giving Life a chance to work for us."

James Dillet Freeman (1912-2003) – the “Poet Laureate” of the Unity School of Christianity. He composed the prayer: “The Light of God surrounds us; the love of God enfolds us. The power of God protects us; the presence of God watches over us. Wherever we are, God is!” That prayer was taken to the moon in 1969!

Frederick Bailes (1889-1970) - Was a medical student from New Zealand. He had to drop out of medical school because he was diagnosed with diabetes (at the time considered to be untreatable). He found the writings of Thomas Troward and with the help of spiritual principles, found himself cured of his diabetes. He returned to medical school. He found that encouraging his patients made a noticeable difference in their recovery. He went on to become a Religious Science minister and writer. He wrote, “Our world will change as our ideas concerning ourselves change. So never be afraid to think highly of your value.”

Rabbi Morris Lichtenstein (1889 – 1938) – building on the ideas of Rabbi A. G. Moses (who believed the healing philosophy of Christian Science was compatible with Judaism and could be offered in a Jewish context), Lichtenstein and his wife Tehilla co-founded the Society for Jewish Science. Jewish Science sees God as a “force” or “energy”, practices visualization and affirmations in its healing work, and believes religion has a role to play in healing of mind and body. Unlike Christian Science, Jewish Science does not oppose the use of medicine when it is needed. Some of the Jewish Science beliefs were, overtime, embraced by other branches of Judaism. The Society for Jewish Science still offers services in their own building in NYC.

Thomas Parker Boyd (1864 – 1936) – Episcopal priest and psychologist. Founded the Society of the Healing Christ. Believed healing was part of the gospel message and should be practiced by the Church. Throughout his life he prayed for the sick and they would often recover. He was a member of the International New Thought Alliance.

Thomas Troward (1847-1916) – Judge (in India) and New Thought pioneer, Troward influenced such thinkers as Emmet Fox and Religious Science founder Ernest Holmes. Troward believed that “Belief in limitation is the one and only thing that causes limitation.”

Tehilla Lichtenstein (1893 – 1973) – co-founder with her husband, Morris, of the Society for Jewish Science (a metaphysical interpretation and application of Judaism). She was born in Jerusalem and immigrated to the U.S. when she was eleven. After her husband, a rabbi, died, Tehilla took over the leadership of the Society for Jewish Science, making her the first Jewish woman in the U.S. with her own pulpit, even though she was never ordained a rabbi.

Julia Seton Sears (1862-1950) - Founder of the New Civilization Church. She was a metaphysical teacher known to both Ernest and Fenwicke Holmes. She was both a metaphysical healer and also a medical doctor. She stated, “There is nothing in all the world but life! Even Death itself is only life acting inversely.”

Prentice Mulford (1834 - 1891) - Author of *Thoughts Are Things*. One of the earliest New Thought pioneers (if not one of the better known). Mulford was a mystic who believed each person must discover Truth for himself or herself. His insights came more from reflection than from study. Some of his insights include: “To say a thing ‘must be’ is the very power that makes it” and “Every thought of yours is a real thing - a force.” At only 57 he died peacefully without any apparent illness or pain.

Joel Goldsmith (1892 – 1964) – Goldsmith was reared in a secular Jewish family, but both he and his father (at different times) experienced healing with the aid of Christian Science practitioners. Goldsmith discovered that he seemed to have a gift for spiritual healing. He became a Christian Scientist and later started

the Infinite Way movement. He stressed the practice of contemplative meditation. Goldsmith believed healing occurred from conscious contact with God. Goldsmith wrote, "God is felt as a divine Presence or Influence within."

Masaharu Taniguchi (1893 – 1985) - founded Seicho-No-Ie in Japan where it has over 5 million members. SNI has become a world-wide New Thought movement. SNI doesn't ask people to give up any religious affiliation to be part of their system; in that way, they are inter-religious and transdenominational. Taniguchi came to realize: "All evil things are nothingness. They could never be the product of Divine Will but of [the human] deluded mind", "The Phenomena are non-existent. That which is truly real and eternal is only God and [God's] manifestations. [The human-being] is truly a child of God [and] is already immaculate and redeemed." People claimed to be healed of diseases simply by listening to Taniguchi lecture. SNI calls the impermanent and ever-changing world of appearances the "phenomenal world." Shinsokan is the meditation technique taught to help people experience the Universal Reality commonly called "God." "True Image" is what SNI calls one's true Self, the harmonious and divine essence of All That Is.

Charles Fillmore – Co-founder of the Unity School of Christianity. Known for his allegorical interpretations and practical application of scripture, Charles was called an "American mystic." After attributing a physical healing to spiritual practices, Charles (with his wife Myrtle) co-founded the Unity Church and movement. He believed forgiveness was healing: "Here is a mental treatment guaranteed to cure every ill that flesh is heir to - sit for half an hour every night and mentally forgive everyone against whom you have any ill will or antipathy." Fillmore was also a proponent of positive thinking: "Deny that lack has any place or reality in your thought or your affairs and affirm plenty as the only appearance. Praise what you have, be it ever so little, and insist that it is constantly growing larger."

H. Emilie Cady (1848 – 1941) – author of spiritual texts, including *Lessons in Truth*, one of the most widely read books in New Thought spirituality. She was a homeopathic physician. In one of her books she declared, "I AM'...is God's name...I AM cannot be weary, or faint, or powerless; for I AM is all-life, all-power, All-Good... 'I AM' spoken upward, toward the good, the true, is sure to out-picture in visible good, in success, in happiness."

Frederick J. Eikerenkoetter II "Rev. Ike" (1935 – 2009) – a prosperity preacher who taught that health, wealth, good luck, harmonious relationships, and protection from adversaries could all be achieved and experienced by those who practiced his system of metaphysics. His seminary taught the "Science of Living" and his business institute was the home of "Thinkonomics." His church was a large, remodeled theatre in Washington Heights (NYC) and he believed that combining affirmative prayer with generous giving could result in an empowered, joyous, and even opulent life. Rev. Ike taught, "Acknowledge the God in you and ask for guidance" and "Your mind will work what seems like miracles to accomplish the good purpose you give it." He used such affirmations as "Nothing is too good for me" and "Good health is my divine right." He liked the bible verse, "According to your faith shall it be done to you."

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