

The Immortal Within

"The Modern Gnostic Philosophy"

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Foreword

When Searching For Truth

Searching for truth is not an easy proposition. It is a journey whose path is full of twists and turns. There are many paths, but only one destination. Perhaps these words can guide you along your journey.

Take a lamp and shine it toward the wall. A bright spot will shine on the wall. The lamp is our search for truth and understanding. Too often we assume that the light on the wall is God. But the light is not the goal of the search. It is the result of the search. The more intense the search, the brighter the spot on the wall. The greater the light on the wall, the greater the sense of revelation upon seeing it. Similarly one who does not search, and does not bring a lantern with him sees nothing.

Along the path to find the truth, we might be tempted to take a short-cut. It is always easier to take a path toward someone or something more powerful and more omnipotent than we are. If we choose that path we might encounter God. However, what we perceive as God is the by product of our search. It may simply be an appreciation of the light, pure and unblemished, not understanding that it comes from us. Sometimes we stand in front of the light, and assume that we are the center of the universe. God looks astonishingly like we do. We could even turn and look at our shadow and assume that all is darkness. If we allow ourselves to get in the way, we defeat the purpose, that is, to use the light of our search to illuminate the wall in all its beauty and all its flaws, and in so doing better understand the world around us.