

19 IN TUNE WITH THE INFINITE by Ralph Waldo Trine

¹*In Tune with the Infinite* is assuredly Trine's best book and the foremost product of the New Thought Movement. It may be said to sum up the essential ideas of the view held by that movement.

²Its attitude to the teaching of Christ is characteristic of this life view. It rejects flatly all of that theological construction in which Jeshu's simple teaching has been trapped, and accepts only what is in agreement with Jeshu's own words in the Gospels. By and large this is in agreement with the attempt at reformation of Christianity proposed by German theologian Johannes Müller (Elmau) and formulated in his books, *Die Bergpredigt* ("The Sermon on the Mount") and *Die Reden Jesu* ("The Speeches of Jesus") in five volumes.

³The following esoteric commentary on Trine's work has not been written in the intention of belittling or depreciating this wondrous book, a jewel in the treasure house of Christian literature. Even if lacking that epistemological basis which is essential to a hylozoician, it has undeniable merits, which will be indicated here in brevity.

⁴The religious world view consistently regards existence as made up of two worlds only, the sensuous world and the spiritual (infinite, cosmic) world. The fact that the so-called cosmic world is not quite that simple will probably soon be ascertained also by other people than by those who have acquired causal consciousness.

⁵Indubitably the state of a man's health is to a great extent dependent on his attitude to life. Knowing that rebirth (reincarnation) and the law of reaping (the law of cause and effect, karma) are inescapable, we realize that also other energies than emotional and mental consciousness energies are required to guarantee enduring health.

⁶Man's "contact with divinity" is simply his contact with his Augoeides, who is man's "soul", his saviour and connection with the planetary hierarchy. But our theoretical conceptions in that respect, however correct they may be, are insignificant in comparison with the contact with our superconscious, whatever name we give it. And to many people, Trine's simple attitude to divinity is closer and so more significant psychologically.

⁷The esoterician also realizes that Trine in his mental world cannot have been aware how his teaching was apprehended by his posterity. However, such little theoretical mistakes are of but little significance in comparison with the overwhelming impression his writing must make especially on a mystic in his higher emotional consciousness. Even an esoterician feels noticeably moved in his heart by these vitalizing emotional energies.

The above text constitutes the essay *In Tune with the Infinite* by Henry T. Laurency.

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