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1. On **Daniel** the Prophet

G.: Mother, I have noticed that quite often the people we meet do not greet us with the usual “How are you?”

G. G.: No, they do not; because they understand that we do not have any problems. And, indeed, a man of God has no problems. He cannot have problems. Truly, if you were to ask me now to tell you things are with me, I wouldn't have anything to say. I do not have anything that is mine to tell you. What I think about is: “What does God want me to say? What does He wish me to do”? I tell Him: “Take yes and make them Yours. Take my hands. Take my feet”. You know, yesterday I had to walk a long distance – from a clinic in Alexandra's Avenue, I walked the uphill road to Kallidromiou Street, the Skoufa Street to Kolonaki. But I did not feel tired, because all the time my mind was of the sick lady I was going to visit next. As the Psalm says, “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path” (PS. 119:105). When your mind is on God and His Words, you don't realize distances. “Aren't you tired”? they asked me. “No”. And when my day is over, I can start again from the beginning, without a break. I do not feel tired. This happens gradually though, when you come to realize that His Hand protects you at every step and guards you even against the least things, the very least things. This is how it is. The Spirit of God guides you. Why, if you ask a man which way you should take, he will tell you. All the more so God, for Whom we are His “spoiled children”! This is how used to call me in India: “the spoiled child of God”. For keep saying to friends: “Do you know what I am? I am the spoiled child of God!” and they reprove me. “Shame of you. Such pride.! Then I tell them, “Do you know what a spoiled child is? To begin with, a naughty child; yet one that is loved and spoiled by its parents. This is what I am. And God loves me”! This is my attitude towards life, my child. Since I know how much God loves me, I cannot help but love in turn, all His creatures and the Angels do. One day, Father Lev Gillet gave us a fine lecture on the Prophet Daniel, to whom an angel came and said, Daniel ... this I have come to pass on to you, for you are a man greatly loved by the Lord” ... And Father Lev Gillet added, “Have you ever thought of that? God sends to us also with His Angel, every day, that same message that He sent to the Prophet Daniel”. This is why we should not walk in low spirits. We should not be anxious about anything. We should walk and dance! And if asked, “Why do you dance”? we should answer, “Because we are the spoiled children of God”! I remember that, when I was in London, I was teaching French to some children whose father was a rather pessimistic person. Whenever he saw me arriving at their house, he would ask< “What up? Why so cheerful”? And I would answer, “Because it is the 20th of May and I am alive. That's all”! That is enough. This gift of life is a great gift if we only knew how to make the best of it.

2. On **Divine Dispensation**

K.: You speak quite often about Divine Dispensation.

G.G.: Yes, I believe that nothing can happen without the Will of God or His Permission ... For His is Almighty. This is why I am never anxious, in spite of all the terrible things that go on around us. I do not feel any stress or strain, because I am always submitted to God's Will.

K. Indeed ... Do you consider then, that anxiety is the result of human pride and lack of faith?

G.G.: Yes... lack of absolute confidence. The same is true of human worries. Worrying is really saying to God: "You didn't do things as they should be, as I would like them to be"...Who am I to say that? Or again: "Why did they tell me this? Why did they do that to me"? Yet, could these things happen without Him, without His "Permitting" them to happen? No! So, we can be at peace... We can have inward tranquility permanently. Without this permanent tranquility God cannot send His Holy Spirit to help us. The Holy Spirit comes and gives guidance only when man is at peace. Christ has said: "I will send the Comforter unto you, and He will guide you, and He will show you things to come"... This is why, at times, He tells us: "Do not go there". Why? Because it would not be to His Glory...

3. on the hundred **Dollars** in India

G.G.: I had already spent several months in the Himalayas. Great joy ... Grateful thanks... How well everything had turned out! I was without money and all was going according to God's Plan... Back home in Greece, though, my family had different thoughts... So, they managed somehow to send me one hundred dollars! The moment I received the money, I proudly said to myself: "Well, well! I will send the whole sum back"! "Now, really," came the suggestion of the Evil One, "it won't be the end of the world if you were to return ninety dollars and keep ten"... And this is exactly what I did... In those days, the Ashram was invaded by bugs (note: the small Dispensary of G. Sivananda's Ashram, where she was working at the time). They were climbing up my wooden bed and giving me no respite all night long. Besides, the weather was very hot and damp – so much so, that my back was covered with a prickly-heat inflammation causing me pain day and night. Well, I thought, let me go to the nearest village and buy with these ten dollars some DDT powder for the bugs, and also a little talcum powder for my back. And...would it matter if I were to treat myself to a small can of marmalade, which I have not tasted for a whole year? (For I had vowed, long ago, never to buy anything of the things I liked. With God's help, I have kept this promise to this day. I may see something in a shop window, a sweet or an object I'd like to have, but the idea that I could own them never crosses my mind ... I look at them just as things on display). So, with the money in my pocket, I started towards the village, thinking that it would be nice to buy also a dozen ripe bananas for the yogi who was living in a cave and was such a good old man. I arrived at the village, made my purchases, and returned. As I was going up the large marble stairway of the Ashram, a whole swarm of monkeys came at me. They grabbed the tin of talc. They grabbed the can of marmalade. They grabbed the DDT. And they ran off! What do you think they left me with? The only thing they could eat: the bananas! Because the bananas were not intended for me but for the good old man ... Isn't it astonishing? The tins were of no use to the monkeys. They could not have opened the marmalade can. ... I went to my room and sat pondering over the meaning of the incident... And then I realized that when we don't think of our little self, everything goes well. I also started thinking of what I would have done if I didn't have the ten dollars. Instead of talcum powder, I could have used a solution of salt and water. Good. Instead of DDT powder for the bugs, I could have placed the legs of my bed in cans filled with water, as people used to do in the villages. Fine. As for the marmalade... well I could do without that. In this way I gave no more thought to these things... Shortly thereafter, they called me to help a lady with a stiff neck. I gave her a massage and the pain passed. "Oh, my

good sister," she said, "you don't know how grateful I am! I have nothing else to give you, so please accept some home-made jam". And she offered me an enormous jar, which put my lost little can to shame. I accepted the offer, but after the shock I had from that experience, I took as many spoons as I could and went around giving everyone, without exception, a share of the jam. This is what happened to me with the ten dollars I kept out of the hundred.