

life and teaching of the masters far east baird t spalding

Life and Teaching of the Masters Far East Baird T Spalding: Exploring Spiritual Wisdom and Mystical Journeys

life and teaching of the masters far east baird t spalding has fascinated spiritual seekers and readers worldwide for nearly a century. This captivating phrase refers to the profound experiences and wisdom shared by Baird T. Spalding in his series of books titled **Life and Teaching of the Masters of the Far East**. These works chronicle a mystical journey into the realms of higher consciousness, revealing the teachings of enlightened beings who embody spiritual mastery. For those interested in metaphysics, spiritual awakening, and ancient wisdom, Spalding's writings offer a remarkable glimpse into the hidden mysteries of life.

Who Was Baird T. Spalding?

Before diving into the essence of the life and teaching of the masters far east baird t spalding, it's important to understand the man behind the narrative. Baird Thomas Spalding was an American writer and spiritual seeker who claimed to have traveled to the Far East in the early 20th century. His experiences there led him to document encounters with ascended masters—beings who had achieved extraordinary spiritual development and were said to possess miraculous powers.

Spalding's books emerged during a time when Western audiences were becoming increasingly curious about Eastern philosophies and mystical traditions. His unique blend of storytelling, spiritual insight, and metaphysical concepts helped popularize ideas surrounding consciousness, healing, and the nature of reality.

The Core Themes in Life and Teaching of the Masters Far East Baird T Spalding

The writings of Spalding revolve around several key themes that continue to resonate with readers today:

1. The Existence of Ascended Masters

Central to Spalding's narrative is the idea that there are enlightened beings—masters—who have transcended ordinary human limitations. These masters live in higher dimensions and possess profound knowledge about the universe, healing, and the spiritual path. They are not gods, but highly evolved humans who serve as guides and teachers.

2. Spiritual Healing and Miracles

Throughout Spalding's accounts, the masters demonstrate astonishing healing abilities and perform miracles that defy conventional explanations. These acts serve to illustrate the power of faith, thought, and spiritual attunement. The books suggest that by aligning with higher consciousness, individuals can overcome physical and mental challenges.

3. The Unity of All Life

One of the recurring teachings in the series is the interconnectedness of all beings. Spalding emphasizes that everything in existence is part of a vast, unified whole. Recognizing this unity is essential for spiritual growth and compassionate living.

4. The Power of Thought and Consciousness

The masters teach that thought is a creative force capable of shaping reality. Through focused intention and understanding, humans can influence their lives and environments. This concept aligns with modern ideas about the law of attraction and positive thinking.

Exploring the Journey: Spalding's Experience in the Far East

Spalding recounts a remarkable expedition with a group of colleagues into remote regions of India and Tibet. During this journey, they encounter the masters and engage in profound dialogues about existence, spirituality, and the laws governing the cosmos. These episodes are rich with symbolism and metaphysical insights.

The Setting and Context

The Far East, with its ancient temples, sacred mountains, and spiritual traditions, serves as the perfect backdrop for these revelations. The book's vivid descriptions transport readers into a timeless world where the boundaries between the physical and spiritual blur.

Lessons from the Masters

Some of the practical teachings the masters share include:

- The importance of meditation and mindfulness in accessing higher states of awareness.

- Detachment from material concerns as a pathway to inner peace.
- Understanding the cyclical nature of life, death, and rebirth.
- The cultivation of love, compassion, and forgiveness as transformative forces.

Why the Life and Teaching of the Masters Far East Baird T Spalding Remains Relevant

In today's fast-paced and often turbulent world, the wisdom contained in Spalding's works offers a refreshing perspective. The teachings encourage readers to look beyond surface realities and explore deeper spiritual truths. Here's why these writings continue to captivate:

Bridging East and West

Spalding's narrative serves as a bridge between Western rationalism and Eastern mysticism. By presenting spiritual concepts in a relatable storytelling format, he made ancient wisdom accessible to broader audiences.

Encouraging Personal Transformation

The life and teaching of the masters far east baird t spalding inspire individuals to embark on their own inner journeys. The message that spiritual mastery is attainable resonates with anyone seeking meaning, healing, or purpose.

Influencing Modern Spiritual Thought

Many contemporary spiritual movements and New Age philosophies draw from ideas popularized by Spalding. Concepts like energy healing, ascended masters, and the power of thought have roots traceable to his writings.

Practical Insights from the Masters for Everyday Life

While the masters' teachings might seem esoteric, they offer tangible guidance for daily living. Here are some tips inspired by the life and teaching of the masters far east baird t spalding:

1. **Practice Daily Meditation:** Even a few minutes of quiet reflection can help cultivate inner peace and awareness.

2. **Focus on Positive Thoughts:** Monitor your mental dialogue and nurture constructive, loving intentions.
3. **Embrace Compassion:** Strive to understand others' perspectives and respond with kindness.
4. **Let Go of Attachments:** Recognize that material possessions and ego-driven desires are impermanent.
5. **Stay Open to Spiritual Experiences:** Be receptive to signs, synchronicities, and intuition.

Common Misunderstandings and Clarifications

Given the mystical nature of Spalding's books, some readers question their authenticity or interpret the stories literally. It's important to approach the life and teaching of the masters far east baird t spalding with an open but discerning mind.

- The works are often seen as a blend of spiritual allegory and metaphysical exploration rather than strict historical documentation.
- The "masters" can be understood both as actual beings and as symbolic representations of higher states of consciousness.
- The miraculous events serve to inspire faith in human potential rather than focus on supernatural spectacle alone.

Where to Start Reading Spalding's Works

For those intrigued by the life and teaching of the masters far east baird t spalding, the natural starting point is the first volume, **Life and Teaching of the Masters of the Far East**, published in 1924. Subsequent volumes expand on the initial themes and delve deeper into the metaphysical realms.

Additionally, many modern editions include helpful introductions and commentaries that place Spalding's work in historical and spiritual context.

Final Reflections on the Enduring Appeal

The life and teaching of the masters far east baird t spalding continues to inspire spiritual adventurers to explore the mysteries beyond ordinary perception. Whether one reads the books as metaphysical fiction, spiritual guidebooks, or historical accounts, the core message remains powerful: human beings have limitless potential when aligned with higher consciousness.

Spalding's portrayal of the Far East masters invites us to consider life as a sacred journey filled with wonder, possibility, and profound wisdom waiting to be uncovered. This invitation to awaken to the unseen dimensions of existence remains as compelling today as it was nearly a century ago.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who was Baird T. Spalding and what is he known for?

Baird T. Spalding was an American author known for his book series 'Life and Teaching of the Masters of the Far East,' which chronicles his spiritual journeys and encounters with enlightened masters in the East.

What is the central theme of 'Life and Teaching of the Masters of the Far East'?

The central theme is spiritual enlightenment and the teachings of ascended masters who demonstrate higher levels of consciousness, healing, and wisdom beyond ordinary human experience.

How many volumes are there in Baird T. Spalding's 'Life and Teaching of the Masters of the Far East' series?

The original series consists of six volumes, each detailing different aspects of spiritual teachings and experiences with the masters in the Far East.

Are the events described in 'Life and Teaching of the Masters of the Far East' considered factual or allegorical?

The events are presented as real experiences by Spalding, but many readers and scholars view them as allegorical or metaphysical narratives intended to convey spiritual truths rather than literal historical accounts.

What spiritual principles are emphasized in the teachings of the masters in Spalding's works?

The teachings emphasize principles such as the power of thought, the law of attraction, healing through mental and spiritual means, and the unity of all life.

How has 'Life and Teaching of the Masters of the Far East' influenced modern spirituality?

The series has influenced New Age thought by promoting ideas of ascended masters, spiritual healing, and the potential for humans to attain higher consciousness and miracles through spiritual practice.

Is 'Life and Teaching of the Masters of the Far East' recommended for beginners in spiritual study?

Yes, many consider it accessible for beginners due to its narrative style and practical spiritual insights, though some concepts may require reflection and further study.

Where can readers find authentic editions of Baird T. Spalding's 'Life and Teaching of the Masters of the Far East'?

Authentic editions are available through major bookstores, online retailers, and some spiritual bookstores, as well as digital formats on various eBook platforms.

Additional Resources

****Exploring the Life and Teachings of "The Masters of the Far East" by Baird T. Spalding****

life and teaching of the masters far east baird t spalding stands as a compelling exploration into mystical spirituality and metaphysical wisdom as documented in early 20th-century literature. This intriguing body of work presents narratives detailing encounters with enlightened beings, often referred to as "Masters," whose teachings purportedly transcend conventional religious doctrine and delve into universal truths. Baird T. Spalding's writings, particularly "The Life and Teaching of the Masters in the Far East," have captivated spiritual seekers and scholars alike, prompting investigations into their authenticity, philosophical depth, and lasting influence.

Understanding the Context of Baird T. Spalding's Work

Spalding's "Life and Teaching of the Masters in the Far East" emerged during a period marked by Western fascination with Eastern mysticism. Published initially in the 1920s, the series chronicles Spalding's alleged travels across the Far East, where he claims to have met ascended spiritual guides. These Masters are presented as paragons of wisdom, offering insights into healing, consciousness, and the nature of reality. The text blends narrative storytelling with spiritual teachings, creating a hybrid genre that blurs lines between biography, travelogue, and metaphysical treatise.

This context is crucial for appreciating the work's reception. The early 20th century witnessed a surge in interest in Eastern philosophies, theosophy, and alternative spiritualities, as many Westerners sought answers beyond traditional religious frameworks. Spalding's books thus fit into a broader cultural trend, but what sets them apart is the claimed eyewitness testimony of mystical experiences, which invites both intrigue and skepticism.

The Core Teachings of the Masters

The Nature of the Masters

The Masters depicted by Spalding are more than mere teachers; they embody an ideal of spiritual evolution. According to the text, these beings have transcended ordinary human limitations, mastering physical, mental, and spiritual realms. Their existence serves as a testament to the potential of human consciousness to evolve beyond material constraints.

Key Philosophical Themes

Among the central teachings explored in "Life and Teaching of the Masters in the Far East" are concepts such as:

- **Universal Oneness:** The Masters emphasize that all life is interconnected, a foundational principle in many Eastern philosophies. This oneness implies that individual separation is illusory.
- **Power of Thought:** A recurring motif is the creative power of human thought. The Masters teach that thoughts shape reality, a precursor concept to what modern self-help philosophies might call manifestation.
- **Healing and Energy:** Spiritual healing, involving the manipulation of subtle energies, features prominently. The Masters demonstrate extraordinary healing abilities, suggesting that health transcends physical medicine.
- **Immortality and Reincarnation:** The texts delve into the concepts of eternal life and the soul's journey through multiple lifetimes, aligning with both Hindu and Buddhist doctrines.

These themes resonate with various spiritual traditions but are presented with a unique narrative flair that emphasizes personal experience and direct knowledge rather than dogma.

Investigating the Authenticity and Impact

Debates Over Historical Accuracy

One of the most contentious aspects surrounding Spalding's work concerns the factual accuracy of his accounts. Skeptics argue that the lack of verifiable evidence and the mystical tone suggest fictionalization or allegory. Supporters, however, view the books as metaphysical truths conveyed through narrative, emphasizing the experiential rather than empirical validity.

Influence on Modern Spirituality

Regardless of their factual basis, the spiritual teachings in "Life and Teaching of the Masters in the Far East" have influenced many modern New Age movements and holistic healing practices. The emphasis on mind-body connection, vibrational energy, and spiritual masters echoes through contemporary metaphysical literature and workshops.

Comparative Analysis with Other Spiritual Texts

When juxtaposed with contemporaneous works like Helena Blavatsky's Theosophical writings or Paramahansa Yogananda's "Autobiography of a Yogi," Spalding's books occupy a distinctive niche. Unlike the more doctrinal theosophical texts, Spalding's narrative style personalizes the mystical experience, making the spiritual masters appear accessible and relatable. Compared to Yogananda's deeply personal spiritual memoir, Spalding's accounts read more like exploratory journalism, blending

investigative curiosity with reverence.

The Structure and Style of Spalding's Writing

Narrative Approach

Spalding employs a first-person narrative that gives the impression of an eyewitness recounting. This style invites readers into a journey through the Far East's spiritual landscape, enhancing engagement and plausibility. The storytelling is interspersed with direct dialogues and teaching sessions with the Masters, which serve both as exposition and philosophical discourse.

Accessibility and Language

The language used is relatively straightforward, avoiding overly technical jargon, thus appealing to a broad audience interested in spirituality without specialized training. This accessibility has contributed to the books' enduring popularity among readers seeking practical spiritual insights.

Practical Applications of the Masters' Teachings

The life and teaching of the masters far east baird t spalding articulate principles that many practitioners find applicable in everyday life. These include:

- **Mental Discipline:** Cultivating positive and focused thought patterns as a means of influencing personal reality.
- **Healing Practices:** Utilizing meditation, visualization, and energy work to promote physical and emotional well-being.
- **Ethical Living:** Emphasizing compassion, humility, and service as pathways to spiritual growth.
- **Self-Realization:** Encouraging the pursuit of inner knowledge and awakening beyond external religious forms.

Such applications align with holistic wellness trends and spiritual self-help frameworks prevalent in the 21st century.

Critiques and Limitations

While the teachings offer valuable insights, some criticisms are worth noting:

- **Lack of Verifiable Evidence:** The anecdotal nature of Spalding's accounts raises questions about historical authenticity.
- **Cultural Appropriation Concerns:** The portrayal of Eastern spirituality through a Western lens may oversimplify or misrepresent complex traditions.
- **Potential for Misinterpretation:** The emphasis on mental power and manifestation can be misconstrued as promoting magical thinking absent critical grounding.

These limitations suggest that readers should approach Spalding's work as inspirational rather than literal historical documentation.

Legacy and Continued Relevance

The enduring interest in "Life and Teaching of the Masters in the Far East" underscores a persistent human quest for meaning beyond material existence. Spalding's portrayal of the Masters continues to inspire those drawn to spiritual exploration, self-healing, and metaphysical philosophy. The work's integration of narrative and teaching has paved the way for numerous spiritual authors and teachers who emphasize experiential knowledge over dogmatic belief systems.

In synthesizing ancient wisdom with modern spiritual curiosity, Baird T. Spalding's writings remain a fascinating study in the cross-cultural transmission of mystical ideas. Whether approached as historical inquiry, spiritual inspiration, or literary curiosity, the life and teaching of the masters far east baird t spalding offers a unique window into the mystical imagination of the early twentieth century and its ongoing influence today.

[Life And Teaching Of The Masters Far East Baird T Spalding](#)

life and teaching of the masters far east baird t spalding: *The Journey* Baird T. Spalding, 2021-11-25 Baird Spalding played a ground-breaking role when he introduced the Western world to the wonders of a Far East expedition in 1894. The knowledge of Masters assisting and guiding humanity in the classic book LIFE AND TEACHING OF THE MASTERS OF THE FAR EAST became legend in metaphysical circles during the first half of the 20th century and continues today as a source of spiritual enlightenment. Spalding and the others were practical in nature and the thought of spiritual masters performing miracles seemed impossible. Despite these suspect thoughts, something compelled them to move onward. So they did. Originally published as 3 separate volumes, DeVorss Publications is proud to release these historic books in one edition titled: THE JOURNEY: Life and Teaching of the Masters of the Far East Volumes 1-3 (A Single Edition) with a NEW INTRODUCTION by MITCH HOROWITZ, author of OCCULT AMERICA. It is within these 3 volumes that Spalding details an expedition that lasted 3 years and covered the mountainous landscape of Nepal and India near the close of the 19th century.

life and teaching of the masters far east baird t spalding: *Life and Teaching of the Masters of the Far East, Vol. 1* Baird T. Spalding, 1924-06-01 ELEVEN MEN embarked upon a journey in

1894 with one objective: ...to find the great spiritual teachers of the Far East and witness their uncommon abilities. Since these Masters were scattered over a wide territory that covered a large portion of India, Tibet, China, and Persia, they knew it could take years of searching many secluded villages and hidden mountain communes. Planning each step of the journey became a challenge knowing that countless miles of rugged terrain separated the remote and isolate locations that were imperative to the exploration. Even though they could plot their route on a map and see where they were headed, the destination deep within the souls of eleven scientifically trained men remained uncertain. Baird T. Spalding and the others were practical in nature and the thought of spiritual masters performing miracles seemed impossible. Despite these suspect thoughts, something compelled them to move onward. So they did. Volume 1: Introduction of the Master Emil. Visit to the Temple of Silence. Astral Projection. Walking on Water. Visit to the Healing Temple. Emil Talks about America. The Snowmen of the Himalayas. New Light on the Teachings of Jesus. ISBN# 9780875163635 Volume 2: Visit to the Temple of the Great Tau Cross. Visit with the Master Jesus. Jesus discussed the nature of hell; the nature of God. The Mystery of thought vibrations. Jesus feeds the multitude. An account of a healing experience. Jesus and Buddha visit the group. ISBN# 9780875163642 Volume 3: One of the masters speaks of the Christ consciousness. The nature of cosmic energy. The creation of the planets and the worlds. The trip to Lhasa. Visit at the Temple Pora-tat-sanga. Explaining the mystery of levitation. A doubtless convinced of the existence of Jesus. ISBN# 9780875163659 Volume 4: First presented as The India Tour Lessons. Each chapter has text for study as well as guides to teachers for developing and interpreting the material. Among subjects covered: The White Brotherhood, The One Mind Basis of coming social reorganization Prana. ISBN# 9780875163666 Volume 5: Lectures and articles by Spalding; also a brief biographical sketch. Partial contents: Camera of past events. Is there a God. The divine pattern. The reality. Mastery over death. The law of supply. ISBN# 9780875163673 Volume 6: Thirty-five years after the appearance of Volume 5 of Life & Teaching of the Masters of the Far East, ten dusty cartons were discovered in the DeVorss warehouse, some of which held Spalding manuscripts, paper, letters, photographs, and other materials related to this man whose name has been a legend in metaphysical and truth circles. The New Volume 6 includes: Articles previously omitted from Vol.5, Photographs, The 1935 India Tour and correspondence, Rare letters, Personal recollections of BTS, Spalding's last days, Spalding biography and memorabilia. ISBN# 978087516988 SET 6 volumes: Handsomely boxed in their own sleeves: Since 1924, when these writings first appeared, they have influenced and inspired generations of seekers. Astonished at the interest in his discoveries and experiences, he wrote Volume 2 (1927). Volume 3 (1935) followed along with a 30 city tour. Volume 4 (1948) and Volume 5 (1955) were compiled from his question and answer material and Volume 6 (1996) contains historical reference to his articles for the Mind Magazine 1935-37. ISBN# 9780875165387 Audio 3CD SET (169 min) The content of this CD is an abridged version of the expedition which takes place in the first three volumes. ISBN# 9780875168180

life and teaching of the masters far east baird t spalding: Life and Teaching of the Masters of the Far East, Vol. 2 Baird T. Spalding, 1927-06-01 ELEVEN MEN embarked upon a journey in 1894 with one objective: ...to find the great spiritual teachers of the Far East and witness their uncommon abilities. Since these Masters were scattered over a wide territory that covered a large portion of India, Tibet, China, and Persia, they knew it could take years of searching many secluded villages and hidden mountain communes. Planning each step of the journey became a challenge knowing that countless miles of rugged terrain separated the remote and isolate locations that were imperative to the exploration. Even though they could plot their route on a map and see where they were headed, the destination deep within the souls of eleven scientifically trained men remained uncertain. Baird T. Spalding and the others were practical in nature and the thought of spiritual masters performing miracles seemed impossible. Despite these suspect thoughts, something compelled them to move onward. So they did. Volume 1: Introduction of the Master Emil. Visit to the Temple of Silence. Astral Projection. Walking on Water. Visit to the Healing Temple. Emil Talks about America. The Snowmen of the Himalayas. New Light on the Teachings of Jesus. ISBN#

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life and teaching of the masters far east baird t spalding: *Life and Teaching of the Masters of the Far East (6 Volume Set)* Baird Thomas Spalding, 1948-12 2010 Reprint of 1924 Edition. In 1924 Spalding published this first and most important volume of Life and Teaching of the Masters of the Far East. It describes the travels to India and Tibet of a research party of eleven scientists in 1894. During their trip they claim to have made contact with the Great Masters of the Himalayas, immortal beings with whom they lived and studied, gaining a fascinating insight into their lives and spiritual message. This close contact enabled them to witness many of the spiritual principles evinced by these Great Masters translated into their everyday lives, which could be described as 'miracles'. Such examples are walking on water, or manifesting bread to feed the hungry party. These books have remained consistently popular with spiritual seekers, those interested in the philosophy of the East and those who enjoy a good story because of their accessible nature and easy-to-follow format. However, despite most of the action taking place in India, the Great Masters make it clear that the greatest embodiment of the Enlightened state is that of the Christ (as personified by Jesus): The Masters accept that Buddha represents the Way to Enlightenment, but they clearly set forth that Christ IS Enlightenment, or a state of consciousness for which we are all seeking - the Christ light of every individual; therefore, the light of every child born into the world.

life and teaching of the masters far east baird t spalding: The Journey Baird T. Spalding, 2021 Baird Spalding played a ground-breaking role when he introduced the Western world to the wonders of a Far East expedition in 1894. The knowledge of Masters assisting and guiding humanity in the classic book LIFE AND TEACHING OF THE MASTERS OF THE FAR EAST became legend in metaphysical circles during the first half of the 20th century and continues today as a source of spiritual enlightenment. Originally published as 3 separate volumes, DeVorss Publications is proud to release these historic books in one edition titled THE JOURNEY. It is within these 3 volumes that Spalding details an expedition that lasted 3 years and covered the mountainous landscape of Nepal and India near the close of the 19th century. There is no question, but these people have brought the Light through the long ages and they prove by their daily life and works that this Light does exist

just as it did thousands of years ago. -- Baird T. Spalding--

life and teaching of the masters far east baird t spalding: *Life And Teaching of Masters from Far East* Baird T Spalding, 2024-12-27 *Life and Teaching of the Masters of the Far East* by Baird T. Spalding is a six-volume series first published in 1924. The work claims to document Spalding's travels with a group of scientists through the Himalayan region in the late 19th century, where they encountered enlightened masters who demonstrated profound spiritual abilities. The series blends mystical teachings, spiritual philosophy, and accounts of miraculous events, presenting the masters as examples of humanity's potential to embody divine consciousness. The series is centered on the spiritual insights and abilities of the Masters, individuals said to have achieved higher states of consciousness and mastery over physical reality. It describes their teachings on universal laws, the nature of divinity, and the potential for humans to transcend limitations through understanding and aligning with spiritual truths.

life and teaching of the masters far east baird t spalding: *Life and Teaching of the Masters of the Far East* Baird Thomas Spalding, 1955 Baird Spalding's Far East travels in 1894 have played a ground-breaking role in introducing to the Western world the knowledge that there are Masters assisting and guiding humanity... Eleven men embarked upon a journey in 1894 with one objective: ...to find the great spiritual teachers of the Far East and witness their uncommon abilities.

life and teaching of the masters far east baird t spalding: *Life and Teaching of the Masters of the Far East (Volume One)* Baird Spalding, 2023-03-21 *Life and Teaching of the Masters of the Far East (Volume One)* (1924) is the first in a six-volume work of New Thought and mysticism by writer and lecturer Baird T. Spalding. Purporting to share the life and lessons of Great Masters of the Himalayas, the work uses a fictional trip to India as a means to share the great laws of the spiritual world. The life of Baird T. Spalding (b. 1872 - d. 1953) is one of many questions. Even the most basic of facts are debated. Spalding claimed to have been born in England in 1857. But records indicate that he was in fact born Bayard Spaulding in 1872, in Cohocton, New York. Spalding also said he had family in India, and that he had studied at Berkeley, Stanford, and Columbia. Yet there are no records to support any of these assertions. So what is the truth? Certainly, he made a living as a mining engineer in Alaska, Montana, and California's Yukon Territory during the 1890s. And in 1924, he published the first of a six-part series, *Life and Teaching of the Masters of the Far East*. According to the book's introduction, this work is an account of an 1894 expedition to India, Tibet, and China to meet with the Great Masters of the Himalayas. Over the course of three and a half years, Spalding and ten other researchers traveled the land, living and conversing with these great masters to learn the great Law. The first volume (included here) is a record of their first year's experience. Is this a true account of a trip to the Far East? The other members of the team are not identified, nor are the Great Masters by their true names. There are no maps or photographs from the trip, despite the note in the forward that Records and manuscripts...were preserved. The general consensus is that Spalding did not go to India in 1894, and there was no such research expedition. The fictional account of a spiritual journey was a popular genre at the time, so it's highly probable that Spalding's work was an invention. In truth, it appears that Spalding's first trip to India was not until 1935, after the release of Volume 3 of *Life and Teaching of the Masters*. In spite of this fiction-or perhaps because of the tall tales told by its author-*Life and Teaching of the Masters of the Far East* was a massive success. With four volumes released during his life, and the last two published posthumously, this series was influenced by and later contributed to New Thought circles in the 1920s and 1930s. In this volume, Spalding describes events that would be considered miraculous-communion with plants and animals, astral projection, the manifestation of 40 loaves of bread to feed the party, and walking on water, among others. Much of this is explained by Emil, a Great Master whom the expedition encounters repeatedly throughout their journey. According to Spalding, The Masters accept that Buddha represents the way to Enlightenment, but they clearly set forth that Christ is Enlightenment, or a state of consciousness for which we are all seeking-the Christ Consciousness. This Christ Consciousness is displayed by the Masters. It is the state of enlightenment, of love, and of ultimate understanding that was embodied in Jesus, the Christ made

manifest, or God manifesting through the flesh man. For those who wish to follow, they must ...let love flow forth to balance all, and when this is done, the Christ is revealed. The fictional approach to this work does not mean that the spiritual content is not valuable. Presented as a series of personal stories and anecdotes, the book presents New Thought ideas in an approachable way that proved incredibly popular with spiritual thinkers. Life and Teaching sold over two million copies in the first half of the 20th century and is still read widely today.

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