



TURN ON THE **LIGHT**

THE TIMELESS WISDOM
OF ERIC BUTTERWORTH

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Eric Butterworth is best known for his brilliant yet readable bestsellers that extended the teachings of New Thought far beyond the Unity audience. His classic book *Discover the Power Within You*, which reinterprets the teachings of Jesus, is one that Oprah Winfrey said changed her view of life and religion.

Butterworth's primary teaching was that every human being is fully divine. Our work is to learn to live from that higher consciousness—to get out of our own way and let our spiritual nature shine through. His books apply that central idea to prosperity, prayer, and living in the abundant flow of life.

Whether or not you are familiar with Butterworth, you will find the writings collected here a crystal-clear explanation of the spiritual principles taught in Unity. Even though decades have passed since Butterworth's writing heyday, his books still bring spiritual ideas alive and relate them to the world we live in.

In this booklet, excerpts from Butterworth's prolific writing career are paired with new essays from today's Unity ministers and New Thought writers addressing the same topics.

Our booklet begins with a brief biography of Butterworth's magnificent life and ends with a guide to reading Butterworth's books for yourself. One thing to keep in mind is that he was writing in the 1960s, '70s, and '80s. He refers to God as *Him* and humanity as *man*. But spiritual principles are unchanging, and his teachings are as valid as ever today.

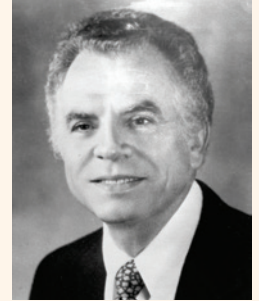
Revisit this booklet often to absorb and understand these profound ideas. We know you will enjoy reading and hope you feel inspired on your spiritual journey.

Your Friends in Unity

Eric Butterworth: A Life Dedicated to Teaching

Sara Crawford

Eric Butterworth was a leading figure in the Unity movement, known for his gift of rendering complex metaphysical teachings into simple statements of truth. Born on September 12, 1916, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, he was raised in Southern California by his mother, who was a Unity minister. Butterworth grew up with the philosophies of New Thought, initially drawn from the writings of Ralph Waldo Emerson, with an individual approach to spiritual awareness.



Eric Butterworth

Butterworth established Unity ministries in several cities, including Pittsburgh, Detroit, and New York City. Detroit Unity Temple became the largest Unity church in the world while he was serving there, with more than 2,000 people attending his Sunday services each week. In 1961, Butterworth began four decades of ministry in New York City, where he lectured each Sunday at such prestigious venues as Carnegie Hall, Town Hall, and finally Avery Fisher Hall, where the weekly attendance grew to several thousand.

THE IMPACT OF BUTTERWORTH'S TEACHINGS

Butterworth was a gifted theologian, philosopher, and lecturer who authored 16 best-selling books on spirituality, including *Discover the Power Within You* and *Spiritual Economics*. His powerful message inspired hundreds of thousands of people from various religious backgrounds. Dr. Maya Angelou called Butterworth her “teacher.” He was the first Unity minister to appear on *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, and his teachings continue to impact people around the world today.

Butterworth focused on the divinity of all people, and his desire was that everyone would know their oneness with God. His message emphasized the power of positive thinking and the importance of utilizing universal law to manifest prosperity, healing, and all good things.

REMEMBERING ERIC BUTTERWORTH


Butterworth made his transition April 17, 2003, at the age of 86, leaving a legacy of practical mysticism, metaphysical teachings, and positive thinking. Olga, his wife, delivered the last sermon he wrote on Easter Sunday, just days before his passing.

Butterworth's life was dedicated to spreading the message of personal renewal through changes in attitude. He remains a historic leader in the Unity movement, and his contributions to the field of metaphysical teachings have had a profound impact on spiritual seekers around the world.

Sara Crawford is a writer for Unity World Headquarters.

The Art of Getting Along: Turn on the Light

Eric Butterworth



Life is lived from within-out. If you look for security or harmony or cooperation on the outside, you become quickly irritated with coworkers who do not cooperate, with employers who are too demanding, and with employees who are careless and indifferent. What can be done? Get into the flow ... turn on more light. "It is better to bring a light than to curse the darkness." You may wonder why you are there. The important thing is that, at the moment, *you are* there. And *wherever* you are, God is. Wherever you are, there is a flow of light and love.

A person in a dark room may be bumping into obstacles everywhere as he or she fumbles for the light switch. Suddenly he or she touches the switch, and the room is flooded with



How to Turn Your Life Around

Eric Butterworth

If you are not happy with the things that are repeatedly happening in your life, or with the direction in which you seem to be moving, you can turn it around ...

Life is consciousness. You stand where you do today, wherever that is, because of your consciousness. And there is only one way you can come to stand anywhere else—by changing your consciousness. If you wish to go up higher, you can do so, and there is no limit to the heights to which you can climb. But you must “repent,” which means to be ... *transformed by the renewal of your mind* (Romans 12:2).

Jesus said, “*In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world*” (John 16:33). There is a level of life where states of consciousness give rise to limited conditions, and where a cycle of causation flows in a kind of negative momentum. “*I have overcome the world*” means getting into a higher level of consciousness, experiencing freedom from the limited cycle of causation.

Get the feeling that it is a part of
your nature, that work comes
through you and not to you.

If you are unemployed, you may feel “out of it.” To turn this experience around, you must get out of the “out of it” consciousness and get into the “with it” and “in it” feeling. You may pray for work and get another job, but unless you have reversed the patterns of consciousness that led to unemployment, you have only temporarily solved the problem ...

You see, these are simply abstract generalizations until we know that whatever else God is, God is me. Does that surprise you a little bit? Whatever else God is, God is me. I am the activity of God expressing itself as me. God is life, and I am life manifesting as my body temple. God is intelligence, and I am that intelligence in the form of the wisdom of my mind. God is power, and I am that power in the form of my strength and my creativity, my ability to form and shape and build. God is love, and I am that love expressing in and through and as my loving heart ...

Love is to touch the deep spring of our own nature, turn our own lights on, and be love.

Be what we really are, which was Meister Eckhart's thought when he said, "Let God be God in you. Let love be love at the root of your being."

Excerpted from Practical Metaphysics: A New Insight in Truth by Eric Butterworth.

The Deep Spring of Our Own Nature

Rev. Lauri Boyd

