

## Dreams In the Daytime and the Nighttime

Have you ever dreamed? If you have, you have seen people in your dream who you thought were your friends or your family. They appeared to be doing a great many things. But when you asked these people the next day if they had been in the dream, they said that they had not. Usually they had been sound asleep in their own bed, just as you had been. One boy named Mark was very much upset by a dream he had. It was a bad dream, and when he woke up, he was mad at his dad and his mother because of what he dreamed that they had done.



At breakfast, he asked his dad why he had been mean to him in his dream. Mark's dad, who was still sleepy, did not understand what Mark was talking about. He told him that he wasn't really in his dream, and never could be. He was sleeping in his own bed. Mark's mother said, "There was no reason you should get mad at us because of something you dreamed. It was all your imagination. Dreams aren't any more real than the stories you make up about your toys." She knew it was time to help Mark to see that error of any kind is always a dream, a lie about someone or something.

"You mean that I'm dreaming when my eyes are open?" asked Mark. "You are." his mother said. "When you see yourself or anyone else as sick, mean, or unhappy, you aren't seeing the real spiritual person that God made." Mark decided to try hard not to dream things during the day that were not true about him or anyone.

Soon after this, Mark started to school. He was in the first grade. Something happened to Mark the first week of school. One day, his mother asked a neighbor to bring Mark home after school. The neighbor forgot she was supposed to get Mark so no one came to school to pick him up.

Since the school was a long distance from his house and since Mark had never walked there, he could not walk home. He did not know what to do. As he stood outside the school and began looking around, he saw that everyone had gone home. There was no one there to help him. So he went inside the school and sat down on the steps in the entrance hall. He closed his eyes. He felt that if he could shut out the picture of the school, he would know better that he was in God's house. And if he was in God's house, then he was at home, and God was there to take care of him.

At about the same time, Mark's mother began to wonder why he wasn't home yet. She called the neighbor that was supposed to be bringing Mark home. When Mark's mother found out that the neighbor had not picked up Mark, she drove to the school as quickly as possible. She hoped that he had not tried to walk home because he did not know the way. When she got to the school, she was so happy to see Mark looking out the windows of the school entrance.

On the way home, Mark said, "Do you remember about that dream? This was just like it, wasn't it? It looked as if I was lost and forgotten, but that was only a dream picture. It wasn't true. Love was taking care of me all the time."

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*S&H 530: "The history of error is a dream-narrative."*

*S&H 250: "Now I ask, Is there any more reality in the waking dream of mortal existence than in the sleeping dream?"*