

## God Has His Ways

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Some years back I began to receive marvelous little packages in the mail. They came from Amazon.com and did not indicate the source of the gift. The first book to arrive was *The Choice Is Always Ours* and suddenly a whole new world was opened up to me. This book, edited by Dorothy Berkley Phillips, is considered the classic anthology on the spiritual way and heavily quotes the early Christian writers as thought from all disciplines are interwoven.

Gradually others arrived and in Abandonment to Divine Providence, I finally found ME. I had never fit any place. I didn't belong in the secular world nor did I belong in the religious world. The epiphany occurred when I read "They who live in God perform countless good works for his glory, but those in whom God lives are often flung into a corner like a useless bit of broken pottery. There they lie, forsaken by everyone, but yet enjoying God's very real and active love and knowing they have to do nothing but stay in his hands and be used as he wishes." It is not particularly flattering to have oneself defined as a useless bit of broken pottery, but they always told me "if the shoe fits, wear it". I am wearing it. It is very comfortable. It appears to fit better all the time.

By the time the anonymous gifts had served God's purpose of defining me, a book returned to the donor because my address had changed brought him out into the open. I have never met Eugene B. Shea, *The Immortal "I"*, but his obedience to God's promptings has forever altered the course of my life.

It has been years since the mysterious arrival of the first book and my relationship with God has changed so much, I'm losing touch with the person I thought I was back then. I still reread the two books and continually discover new insights just as are experienced with returns to the Bible. When I sit in the silence and contemplate my life changes in these more recent years as the spirit becomes more and more vocal in my everyday affairs, I cannot thank God adequately for the way he has guided my footsteps.

Jane Mullikin

## Spirit - Finding Hope in a World of Uncertainty