



The Rainbow Journal

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Website:

www.edgarcaycenewzealand.com

Link to Search for God Lessons:

www.improvetransform.com

Email:

rainbowjournal@live.com

Address:

**Brian Alderson
Auckland, New Zealand.**

Telephone:

(09) 818 9552

FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the 76th edition of the Rainbow Journal. In the issue we have submitted short articles on a variety of subjects which is hoped will stimulate your thinking and I would welcome any comments and criticisms. *Brian Alderson*

IT'S A MAD, MAD WORLD

We do not have to visit a madhouse to find disordered minds; our planet is the mental institution of the universe - Johann von Goethe

At no other period in the known history of humanity has the world changed and advanced so much technologically as in the past century. The scientists and engineers at the recent Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition conference are amongst those creating a world in which cars drive themselves, machines recognize people and 'understand' their emotions, and humanoid robots travel unattended, performing everything from mundane factory tasks to emergency rescues. "During the next decade we're going to see smarts put into everything," said Ed Lazowska, a computer scientist at the University of Washington who is a specialist in Big Data. "Smart homes, smart cars, smart health, smart robots, smart science and smart computer-human interactions."

The problem is that while we are creating smart, intelligent, machines we ourselves do not seem to be getting any smarter. In fact, when it comes to conflict with our neighbours, our behaviour can only be described as insane. We seem incapable of living harmoniously with anyone who we see as different from ourselves or has different beliefs than we hold. The only way we seem to know how to deal with conflict is through violence, destruction and killing.

It appears that the two World Wars of 1914-1918 and 1939-1945 which between them caused the deaths of some 70 to 80 million people (give or take a few million) were not enough for us lose

our taste for killing each other as there was only a short break following WW2 before major conflicts and more killing became the norm. Barely has one conflict ended before another one has erupted - in Korea, Vietnam, the killing fields of Cambodia, Bosnia, Kosovo, Afghanistan, Iraq and now in Syria, Ukraine, the Middle East as well as in a number of African states.

We, in lucky countries like New Zealand, have so far not been faced with these internal conflicts when we are killing large numbers of our near neighbours, however, at the asking of our politicians, we have been quite willing to have our fathers, brothers and sons go to many of these conflict areas to kill and be killed. Why is it that we are so easily persuaded to kill Jesus the Christ? - "I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!" (Matthew 25:40).

Part of our insane behaviour is in the varying values we place on human life. While we may do almost anything, even lay down our own lives, to save people we love and in response to calls to do our patriotic duty we put very little value on the lives of those we decide are our enemies. Furthermore we seem to consider some ways of killing others acceptable while in other cases there is a complete uproar when 'one of our own' is killed in a different way. At the time of writing I refer to the heading in a local paper "Brutal' Beheading of Journalist

James Foley Declared Terrorism". A few days before when an Israeli rocket killed a number of children leaving their body parts scattered over a wide area, it received much less coverage in the media, presumably because the children were not 'ours.'

Not only is our conduct during international conflicts often hare-brained but we do not even seem to live harmoniously with those close to us. New Zealand has the unenviable title of having one of the highest rates of family violence in the world.

A few years ago, because in two high profile court cases where the defendants were found not guilty of violent acts which caused injuries to their children, through of a loophole in the law which allowed for 'reasonable' force in child discipline, the law was changed so that smacking children became illegal. At

the recent national general elections one contesting party included in its policies one to repeal the 'anti-smacking' law. It appears this party considers it was an adult's right to inflict pain on those who are unable to defend themselves. Computer games for children are based on violence and destruction and this form of diversion carries through to adult entertainment where the world is divided into good and bad people and it is our duty, being on the side of the good, to overcome evil by destroying those who commit evil acts. So when there is conflict we can see where our thirst for blood comes from.

It is high time we resolve to turn our backs on all forms of violence and practice the commandment that Jesus gave us, that we love one another. Perhaps then sanity will return to the world. *BDA. ΩΩΩ*

PREJUDICE & PREJUDGING

To pre-judge is to come to a conclusion or make a judgement call on something before we consider all the evidence or all the facts are known. We pre-judge all the time and it is necessary to do so if we are to make timely decisions. Situations are constantly arising when we are required to make choices and it is rarely that we have all the possible evidence that could have a bearing on our decisions. Take a simple chore like shopping. We have all the choices of goods displayed in the supermarket and we have to select which items to buy. We can consider price, quality, appearance, necessity, comparative items, etc. Were we to gather all the information on all the items we require before we decide on the most suitable items to purchase we would probably spend the whole day shopping however we usually go by passed experience or perhaps by the look of the goods or packaging. No harm is

done and we can get through our shopping without too much hassle and wrong choices.

Prejudice is when we make adverse judgements and opinions which are comparatively fixed in our minds and formed without knowledge of or considering all the facts. As with pre-judgements we all have prejudices and most of these are comparatively harmless and are the result of experience as in the saying 'once bitten twice shy.' However some of our prejudices are irrational often inherited from our parents or picked up during our upbringing. I was brought up in a protestant, religious family. Our church was the 'right' church whereas Catholics were misguided and somehow 'bad.' There were Catholics – members of the Church of England and Roman Catholics who were somehow more misguided – 'more bad.' The fact that our next door neighbour was a Roman Catholic who was very close to

and on friendly terms with my mother was irrelevant so presumably she must have been 'an exception.'

We seemed to have lived in a world full of sin. Couples living together in an unmarried state were living in sin and were condemned to hell. Divorce was a sin - there was a lady living a couple of houses from us who was divorced so was somehow 'bad.' It was perfectly acceptable for men to smoke - as did my father who developed emphysema -but woman who smoked were somehow tainted. Women were also bad drivers and were not suitable for leadership roles in the church, in business and in politics. While as a boy I did not experience any racial prejudice, this was probably because Auckland was almost exclusively a European community with our Maori population living mostly in the country areas. It was only in recent years that I learnt that New Zealand imposed a pole tax on our Chinese residents. This was a prejudicial tax aimed at restricting Chinese migrants.

Not that everyone agreed with the tax for in 1881, during a debate in the Legislative Council, a speaker pointed out the hypocrisy in taxing Chinese immigrants before they were admitted to the colony: 'When we first came to New Zealand did the Maori ever impose a tax upon us? No: and I will venture to say that we have done a great deal more harm to the Maori than the Chinese are ever likely to do to us. I think the people who come after us will be thoroughly ashamed and thoroughly astonished at what their progenitors have done, for it is simply an inhuman and barbarous tax...'

¹ After sixty years in force the tax was finally repealed in 1941.

Fortunately over the years New Zealanders in general have become less

prejudiced. There is very little intolerance within the Christian sects and generally tolerance with other religions. Our migration policies have changed to the point that we now welcome people from Asia with Chinese forming one of the largest segments of our new migrant community. The prejudice against women has all but disappeared with New Zealand leading the world in having so many women in our top positions in Government and in business.

However despite this general shift in our attitudes many people still hold unreasonable prejudices which are only occasionally openly displayed. I get surprised at times with the racial comments I hear from people who I meet during the course of my activities. The remarks made are sometimes subtle but they reveal the underlying prejudice against certain groups of people. These prejudices seem to all have two sources - ignorance and fear. The fear that brought prejudicial laws against the Chinese in 1881 is the same fear expressed today which is that the Chinese will overrun the country. This could possibly eventually happen but for those that believe in reincarnation we should consider that perhaps our next reincarnation may be in the bodies of the very people we fear and condemn! Also I have observed that people who hold prejudices against other races generally know very little about the people they are judging. I saw a Dr Phil program recently where he dealt with the subject of racial prejudice between the Afro-Americans and Anglo-Americans. He got half a dozen of these racists from both sides, paired them off, and got them to have dinner together. The result of this social contact was quite remarkable and the attitudes completely changed as their ignorance was dispelled.

EDGAR CAYCE ON PREJUDICE

¹ Henry Scotland, *New Zealand Parliamentary Debates*, 28 June 1881.

Edgar Cayce consistently warned against judging other people for as he stated many times “..for with what judgement you judge, it shall be measured to you again - it is the unfailing law.” In one reading Edgar Cayce stated that in dealing with our prejudices we should “walk with Him,” that is we should emulate Jesus:

“That there are built in many an entity that innate prejudice against certain things or conditions, may be often seen manifest - but the willingness, the surrender of self that self may be a

channel of blessings, not to any force, or source, but to God! And for Creative Forces to manifest through! This is the attitude for an entity to take. Walk with Him! Talk with Him! See Him as He manifests in every form of life; for He IS Life in All its manifestations in the earth! and there will come that peace, that harmony, that understanding, that comes from humbleness in His name; humbleness of spirit, of mind, of self, that the glories that are thine own from the foundations of the earth may be manifested in you!” 488-6 BDA. ΩΩΩ

THREE WAYS OF LOVING GOD

The subject of 'love' has been raised many times in the Rainbow Journal with articles having titles like 'Love Thine Enemies', 'Defining Love', 'How Does One Love God', 'The Commandment of Love', 'Compassion and Love' and 'Love and Justice.' It is said that the reason why one will constantly talk about a particular subject is because the person does not truly know and understand the subject because once he or she does there is no need to dwell on it any further. That is certainly true in my case because I have never known how to obey the commandment, given by Jesus, that we are to love God “with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind.” How does one love some Thing that we do not know and understand? That has been the underlying question behind my writings on the subject.

Statements by others attempting to answer this question are not always helpful as expressed in the following replies, found on an internet search, to the question on how to love God: “Live for God and be willing to die for God, knowing that the goal of life is to Love God. Also, to love God, you must accept

Him, His likes and hates, and what He does.”² One may wonder what are God's like and dislikes? What does God hate? What does God do?

Other answer suggests that we should love God because he loves us, however it is suggested that God gives special favour to Christians: “God loves everyone equally in that He is merciful to all. God only loves Christians in that only Christians have His eternal grace and mercy and the promise of His forever love in heaven.”³ This still does not answer the question as to how do we honestly love Him.

So attempting to learn how to love God from the teachings of others may not lead us to the experience a loving relationship with Him that we are seeking. What, then can we humans who are earnestly 'searching for God?' do to foster this closer, loving relationship? A barrier to any relationship is our understanding of what God is, for He is a Someone, or Something, that is not physical but would perhaps be better describes as spiritual, which suggests that any relationship would then be on a

² <http://www.wikihow.com/Love-God>

³ <http://www.gotquestions.org/does-God-love-everyone.html>

spiritual level. The difficulty is that we, in our physical bodies, are living our lives on a physical level so that, most of the time at least, we can only express ourselves on this physical level. With this in mind and with the belief that God is the creator of all and is in everyone and everything then, perhaps the way we express our love for God is in the way we relate to the physical world around us. Perhaps Greg Simas in his internet blogs offers the most practical answer: "To love the Lord with all your soul means to love Him in the way we live, in the choices we make and in the behaviour and lifestyle we adopt."

Then to love God would be to love *all* His creations. And how do we do this? To my mind we love God in three ways, firstly by loving ourselves, then by loving others and following this, loving the world around us - the environment and all the creatures and life forms that are in it, for God is the life that is in every living thing.

Why should we put loving ourselves first? Because unless we earnestly love ourselves for who and what we are we cannot love others. There is not the love in us that we can share with others. By loving oneself I do not mean that we should become narcissistic in that we spend our lives in the pursuit of gratifying our egos, but rather that we show respect for what God has created - our bodies, our minds and His spirit within us.

We may be surprised to learn that few of us truly love our bodies, because if we did we would not treat our bodies the way we do and would take better care of them. Many of us seem to be taking better care of our cars than our bodies. As Neale Donald Walsch said in his book *Holistic Living*: "You take your car in for checkups more than you take your body in for checkups. And you change the oil

in your car more than you change some of your habits and some of the things you are putting into your body." Like our cars, our bodies need fuel for energy and other things to maintain them. When we are young our bodies need foods that provide the building materials for growth and all of us need food to keep our body healthy, our organs functioning properly and the material to replace cells. Yet few of us eat with these purposes in mind with the result that we most of us eat too much in quantity and too much of the wrong foods. We eat not to supply our bodies needs but to give positive stimulus to the pleasure centers of our brains. If we were to truly love our bodies much of the sickness and disease caused by our bad eating habits could be avoided.

If we loved our minds we would not allow so much negative thoughts and stimuli to dominate our thoughts. We cannot love our minds and at the same time harbour resentment, hatred, anger, bitterness and other negative thoughts which block out the ability for our minds to become a channel of love.

To love God from the spiritual side of us we need to set down our ideals. Ultimately, that which an individual dwells upon, he or she then becomes.

Since it is our ideals that shape our lives, our experiences, and even who we are becoming, then, by definition, they must be extremely important. Edgar Cayce told one person: "Then the more important, the most important experience of this or any individual entity is to first know what is the ideal—spiritually."⁴

Once we begin to love ourselves, our bodies, our minds and the spiritual of God within us we can express this love outwardly in our relationships with our fellow men and fellow creations of God.

BDA. ΩΩΩ

⁴ Reading 357-13

MYSTIC NUMBER SEVEN

“As above, so below”

Since time immemorial certain numerals had particular mystical significance. The number one represented the First Cause, Creator, God or Spirit, or as Edgar Cayce stated: “One is the beginning, to be sure. Before one is nothing. After one is nothing, if all be in one - as one God, one Son, one Spirit. This, then is the essence of all force, all manners of energies. All activities emanate from the one.” A circle or zero has been seen as the symbol of endlessness - otherwise eternity. However of all the numerals the number Seven stands out as the one that occurs the most times in religious and mystical writings. The number representative of spiritual forces and natural cycles as confirmed by Cayce: “As does seven signify the spiritual forces, as are seen in all the ritualistic orders of any nature; as seen in the dividing up of conditions, whether they be of the forces in nature or those that react to the sensual forces of man in any character.”

In the Bible the first reference to seven was in the seven days, or ages, of creation. Our bodies are constantly being renewed and according to Edgar Cayce this cycle of renewal happens over seven years: “Remember, the body rebuilds and replenishes itself continuallyso that when it is ordinarily termed that the body has changed each atom in seven years...” Seven is also a primary ‘set’ in nature as in the set of seven primary colours and the seven notes in a music scale.

In the Bible the number seven is found nearly 400 times, compared to less than 200 times number eight and 60 times for number six. We must however consider that the number seven may have been used on a number of instances to suggest ‘a few times’ rather than an exact number as in the Psalm “Seven

times a day I do praise thee...”

The number seven is made up of the union of two other symbolic numbers; namely number three, symbolising the divine, *the Holy Trinity*, and number four, which symbolises the created universe or the material. The Seven, therefore, in the highest degree symbolic, representing the union of the divine and the cosmical, and especially representing that reunion of the world with God which is the great aim and crowning consummation of all true religion.

Our ancient belief in astrology is based on the great planetary seven. Most of the heavenly bodies, though revolving daily round the earth, maintain the same position relative to each other, but there are seven which wander. These include the two greater lights that rule the day and the night, and the two stars that herald the morning and the evening and are the Moon, Mercury, Venus, the Sun, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn. From the earliest time they have been an object of wonder, of curiosity, of study, to star-gazing men. So great was the belief in the influence of the planets on our daily lives that the days of the week were named after them. We have our Saturn-day, Sun-day, our Moon-day. And if, instead of having a Mars-day, Mercury-day, Jove-day, Venus-day, like the people of France, Italy, and Spain, we speak of Tuis'-day, and Woden's-day, and Thor's-day, and Freya's-day, it is a translation of Roman names by their representatives in northern mythology.

In space we have the great planetary seven and within us we have the seven great spiritual centres. Edgar Cayce speaks of the relationship to these forces:

“Hence these correspond with the emotions and often with what may be

termed cycles of activity. It is not merely coincidental that there are seven days to the week; but the seven centers and the seven phases of experience and of reactions of sojourns of the entity in environs produce what may be termed a cycle of urge or experience." 2594-1

"How do they affect the individual? It will be found that one, then, that is of a given number - from

the name given - is under those influences that have been indicated by the influences of numbers in the forces, or among the forces, in nature itself. These may be reached by the various forces or various manners in which individuals have classified same. In applying same, use them for the benefits - and not for the destructive forces!" 5751-1. BDA

LAW & JUSTICE

What would you say if I told you that being a law abiding citizen can be one of the most despicable and horrible things a person could be. Would you call me a radical? Would you call me an insurrectionist? Revolutionary? Well, if you and I lived in Germany in the 1940's it would simply be decent to not be a law abiding citizen. Law is a peculiar thing. It is drafted by those in power and may be bended and shaped by the capricious will of those who wield institutional authority. We say that we believe in "the rule of law". But I ask the question, who rules over the law?

Today the world found out that the Obama Administration has sanctioned the assassination of American citizens suspected of terrorist connections and plots by unmanned drones. Today I listened to the news as one representative of the government said that this was lawful. And it made me think about something very important. I am speaking of the difference between law and justice. And the choice each of us must make in regards to them. What will we hold in the ascendancy? When push comes to shove which of these two will influence our actions and course in life? Sometimes laws are just and it is right to obey. But other times law and justice clash and we are left to answer the words of the old labour song, "Which side are you on, boys, which side are you

on."

In Germany in the 1940's it was legal to turn in Jews and murder them. It was illegal to hide them or protect them. Hitler came to power legally. He came to power through popular elections. But the laws he enacted, and the administration he set up, was nothing less than the arch-foe of justice. To choose justice over the law during such a time was costly. You very well could be put to death. To be a law abiding citizen, to take the road of less resistance, would have meant an utter rejection of justice. Luckily, we do not yet face such dire circumstances in this country. But when a nation turns its own military on its citizens ominous times very well may be approaching.

Howard Zinn uses the wonderful illustration of the moving train and coins that ingenious phrase, "You can't be neutral on a moving train." We live on a moving train. Our nation, our communities, our government, are all going in a certain direction. The overarching goal of the state is to make us obedient, patriotic, law-abiding citizens. And if it is unable to illicit such strong feelings then it would simply have us remain "neutral"; to take no stand one way or another; to be content with beer and cable TV. Why? Because neutrality is an illusion. In the words of the Canadian Rock band Rush, if you choose not to

decide you still have made a choice. The only right and just course is that of resistance. You and I must resist the path that is being taken. We must jump the train of law and take the train of justice which at this time is moving in a totally opposite direction.

In all spheres of life we must move against the current. When faced with unjust laws that may not hurt us, but hurt our sister or brother, we must choose justice. In the economic realm and on the job we must choose justice. In the political arena we must choose justice and resist allegiance to the entrenched powers who dictate "law". In the spiritual realm we must resist passive obedience to the beast who looks like the Lamb but speaks with the tongue of the Dragon. The spiritual beast who tempts us to passive obedience to the state and to an exploitative economic system. We must resist this present evil age and proclaim and live out a new way.

The old prophet Amos told God's people that he was sick of their worship services. Tired of their hymns and emotional songs of praise. Their patriotism and religious observances were vanity. Instead, God called for justice to roll down like a flood. God called on his people to resist the popular trends of their day and to return to justice. Not even strict, legalistic observance of the law was enough. No. Only justice would do. But if we choose justice we put ourselves in danger of having our hearts pierced along with the oppressed and marginalized. But if we choose such a path we may comfort ourselves with the fact that we are in good company. The Nazarene said, "Blessed are you when you are persecuted for justice' sake. For that's how the prophets were treated." And of course, we will find ourselves in the company of the Master Himself. -
Andrew Wehrheim

WHAT DOES CAYCE SAY ABOUT LAW AND JUSTICE?

Usually he puts the word 'justice' together with other words for virtues, particularly 'mercy' and 'love'. Here are some of his messages:

For, know - as you do it unto the least of your brethren, you do it unto your Maker. This is a law: a law of love, a law of justice, a law of mercy, a law of God.

Let the law of love, of mercy, of justice, that is shown in the law of love and mercy, be your guide day by day. For the Lord is not slack in counting His mercy as men count slackness. And be patient and be trustworthy, even to your own soul. For the brighter day dawns, and the star of hope to you rises in those that you show the way and the light. Mercy, mercy, for those that err; even as you would have mercy shown to you. 262-72

Hold fast to that thou didst gain before the altar in the temple; that God loves mercy and justice rather than ritual or might; that being patient, being kind, being gentle is more precious in the sight of Jehovah than the offering of many sacrifices or the giving of bounty, or the requiring of this or that of the law itself. For who is the law? He that loves mercy and justice, or he that rules in the thunder or in the might? God is a God of Love! 991-1

What said He? If your brother sue you and take away your coat, give him your cloak also. Have you tried that? Or have you sworn and said there is no justice, "This one has done me wrong, and that one has done another wrong"? Vengeance is mine. I will repay, said the Lord. Judge not, that you be not judged, for with what measure you mete it shall be measured unto you again - pressed down and running over. In the building then, keep those phases that would bring the elementals of that universal force

that is found in the law of recompense, ever remembering that that law of vengeance lies only with Him who has given "vengeance alone is mine," see? 262-109

See the good, then, in every experience. Condemn not if you would

not be condemned. Show mercy, patience and justice to all, if you would have your Maker, your God, show mercy and patience with you.

Nothing important is ever gained by punitive revenge. BDA. ΩΩΩ

SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES

Two more spiritual experiences. Although minor in themselves they left a lifelong impression on those that experienced them.

"My name is John and I grew up on my grandfathers farm in North Carolina. My family believes in the Christ and taught me so as well. Don't let that deter you from continuing to read. Even with that belief I was a drug addict by 12 and wishing for an end by 14.

"A close friend of mine at 14 years old shot himself in the chest with a 410 shotgun. He was pronounced dead on the scene. I stopped by with a friend but was asked to leave, due to the amount of people there. I know now it was because I had been drinking. I went home and told my family and we all were hurt and shocked, but I was selfish and wished it had been me instead. All those people who came after he died, maybe I could have that, too. WOW! I was jealous over a friends suicide.

"I came into my room, closed the door as always because my mom left the bathroom light on every night, and it shined on the hallway wall in front of my door. I went to sleep crying that night and prayed to God to take me because I couldn't do it myself. I remember crying until I fell asleep sometime later. About 12 midnight that is.

"Sometime after 3 a.m. I woke up crying saying, I don't want to die! I don't want to die! I don't want to die! Three times I said this to myself. I looked over and saw my door was open, and just inside my door was a figure that was about 7 ft. tall. I know this because it

reached our 7 ft. Ceiling. It was blacker than anything I have ever seen or imagined. It fit the grim reaper description, but that name sounds like a joke for this. Like calling Hitler, Mickey Mouse. I said to it in my loudest voice (a whisper), 'I don't want to die' I don't want to die. I don't want to die.' Three times again.

"It had started coming towards me as I said this, and I could feel something like excitement from it due to my fear. It was now 2 ft. inside my small room, and 3 ft. from me and I could see it in the darkness of my room clearly. It was 10 times darker than anything else around. This is it's description: Around 7 feet tall, 3.5 feet wide. It was solid in form yet it seemed to be almost see through, but it wasn't because I couldn't see past it's darkness. It floated and walked at the same time. If it had a face, it had lost it to darkness long, long ago. I could see no hands or arms, but as It reached for me it's arms seemed to peel off it's sides like a butterflies wings. It wasn't wings, but I feel it had wings or did before. I could not breath, it had stolen my breath, or so it seemed.

"All of a sudden it stopped, like it hear what was coming to my mind. I closed my eyes and said JESUS, I DON'T WANT TO DIE! My last hope, so I said it with all I had. It was still a whisper to reality, but probably boomed in Heaven. Right as I said this, I felt a warm flowing

liquid feeling roll over me like it was wet, but under my skin. It felt like blood. Comfort, and calmness swept over me and my whole room. Like the panelling on the wall could feel it. I knew before I opened my eyes what I would see. It was gone, just a pinch of black on the wall. The black on the wall that was dark as night, was now shining with the bathrooms light. I soon went back to sleep and slept comfortably.

"I know now that all I had to say was Jesus. It heard His name before I said it. That's why It stopped in it's tracks. But as they say, hindsight is 20/20. I can't tell you what it was or it's name, the Collector maybe, but it was not there in my best interest. That happened when I was 14, I am now 35 and that is the clearest memory I have. 21 years and it still has a clear picture in my head. To those who believe like me now, and to those who do not as I did before. Live gratefully, and give thanks for all you do in what you believe in and share with the world." - *John W.*

"In utter disillusionment with self and church, I came to the 'end of my

tether'. In a state of intense, inner wretchedness, of such intensity, that my mind seemed on the point of breaking, I got up at 4 am and began wandering aimlessly in the wooded hillside. This went on for some time until, unexpectedly, the words of Psalm 130 sounded clearly in my mind... 'And plenteous redemption is ever found in Him; and, all his iniquities, He Israel shall redeem.' With those words light seemed to envelop me, and there flowed into my desolate heart such a flood of Love and compassion that I was overwhelmed by the weight of it. It was stricken by such wonder and amazement that I burst into tears of joy; it seemed to flow through my whole being with a cleansing and healing virtue. From that moment I knew that Love was the nature of reality. I was fit and well again. The experience is as real today as it was then.....The awareness of Love fills one's being with tremendous strength. One is weak but at the same time very strong . It is a very unusual feeling." -

Anonymous. ΩΩΩ

A SEARCH FOR GOD

This is the third of articles submitted to the Journal on the Edgar Cayce 'A Search for God' series lessons.

LESSON 3 - *What is My Ideal?*

Let this mind be in you which was also in Jesus Christ - Philippians 2:5

God, be merciful to me! Help Thou my unbelief! Let me see in Him that Thou would have me see in my fellow man! Let me see in my brother that I see in Him whom I worship! 262-11

Ideals are patterns that shape our lives. The true ideal is the highest spiritual attainment to be reached on this material plane. Therefore, our ideal must be found in Christ. Who is the Way, the Truth and the Light.

Christ's teachings and life of

service to His fellow man shows us the way we too must tread in attaining the height Christ reached. My relationship to others is perfected in the Christ-Consciousness. Let each word, thought and deed bring blessings to those I contact. I am then sure that my ideal is the true one.

Here are examples of Ideals:

Example 1:

"To think, to speak, to act from the consciousness of my Divine Self that I may be like Christ, that I may do the things Christ said I could do, and help

those who have not heard Christ's voice, that is my Ideal.

Example 2:

My Ideal is spiritual in essence, regardless of where it leads me. Christ the Guide. Christ the Leader. Christ the Way. Christ ways are my ways. Christ's ambitions are my ambitions. To be Christ-like is my ideal.

Example 3:

My ideal is to be a perfect channel through which the will of the Father may be done. My hopes and desires are in the One by whom all were created.

ATTAINING THE IDEAL

The Ideal cannot be man-made, they are of a spiritual nature, so must be founded on truth and our relationship with God.

Know the first principle. The gift of God to man is an individual Soul. Which may be One with Him. And that may know itself to be One with God. And yet individual in itself. With the attributes of the Whole, Yet not the Whole.- 262-11

It takes the penetrating light of the Christ Spirit to discern the Divine Spark in fallen humanity. It takes the Mind of Christ to bless. It takes the Mind of Christ to love. It is our heritage to catch

the true concept of the Divine in all and to be in truth co-workers with God.

As I raise the Christ-Consciousness in myself I become free. With freedom comes the Awakening. The awakening to the realization of the ideal. Let me see in others what Christ sees in them. Let me strive to consecrate myself to Christ. Let my daily acts, words, and thoughts bring understanding and realization of the Ideal manifested in me as well as in others. Let me look for good in everyone. Let me do what I know to do in love and leave the results with God. Let me hold fast to the purpose I hold within myself. Let me know that no emergency may arise that cannot have a solution in spiritual inspiration. For His Promises are sure. There is within each that which will quiet the troubled mind. As we seek, we find. As we knock, we are heard.

CONCLUSION

Have we chosen the spiritual ideal? Are the things in our lives measured by that Ideal? What is my ideal? Is it the Christ-Way? Let us not be anxious, but wait on the Lord knowing that He is faithful Who promised: "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door I will come in and sup with him And He with me." (Revelations 3:20) ΩΩΩ

CHRIST IN YOU

Part 1 **Eighteenth Lesson** **Idea – The Expressed Image**

Sunday was a day of great joy to me. The seventh day has a deep meaning for your planet. There is a correspondence to your Sunday with us, for the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord. Real prayer is a great attraction to us; deep earnestness is the open door for its answer. It attracts by its magnetism, the fullness of its need. In our last lesson

I told you that the place of creation in the individual, the spiritual ground for the projection of thought from the divine innermost, was the imagination.

Our next consideration is IDEA. First, the eternal mind; secondly, the thought; thirdly and lastly, the outcome of both is the idea, that which is to become manifest in the outermost plane

of being.

What are your ideas for the most part? Are they only and entirely the outcome of divine thought? Do they express the living Christ? I want to make clear to you the omnipotence of the divine man, and the reality of the God idea. Try and stand with me as you read this, and look out upon the earth plane. You will be filled with a longing desire to fulfil all the law, even as Jesus did. The end is from the beginning – God, the end of all separation. The great love will leave the ninety and nine to bring in the remaining one, for all shall be in the kingdom of our Lord Christ.

God's idea for your world and for you is perfection and nothing less. There are many who have passed from your earth still clinging to the false idea that matter is substance, the result of long ages of sense belief. Good spirits often reverent and noble, they still live on the material plane; it is to them real. They

like to see their thoughts expressed on the material plane. This is a hindrance too them, all ignorance is, as they cannot unfold to the higher experience.

Give more time to quiet, that you may have the reflection of God upon the mirror of your imagination, that you too may become God's idea, for he has said; "Be ye holy." The growth of this perfect idea has become manifest in us. As you wait upon God a great under-work is going on, and afterwards it beareth fruit.

Close the door of your close against the suggestion of the senses, that God's idea may manifest in your body, for "if thine eyes be single, thy whole body shall be full of light." A full stream of rich life pulsates through the heart which is at one with God. This is the healing touch, no longer is the vital stream of the universe separate, it delights to pour itself out through its own God-given channels. ΩΩΩ

OUR CLOSING THOUGHT

"What is it all about then? 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, your soul, your mind, your body, and your neighbour as yourself.' The rest of all the theories that may be concocted by man are nothing, if these are just lived. Love your neighbour as yourself in the associations day by day, preferring as

did the Christ who died on the cross rather than preferring the world be His without a struggle. Know, then, that as He had His cross, so have you. May you take it with a smile. You can, if you will let Him bear it with you. Do it!" 3976-29 ΩΩΩ

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