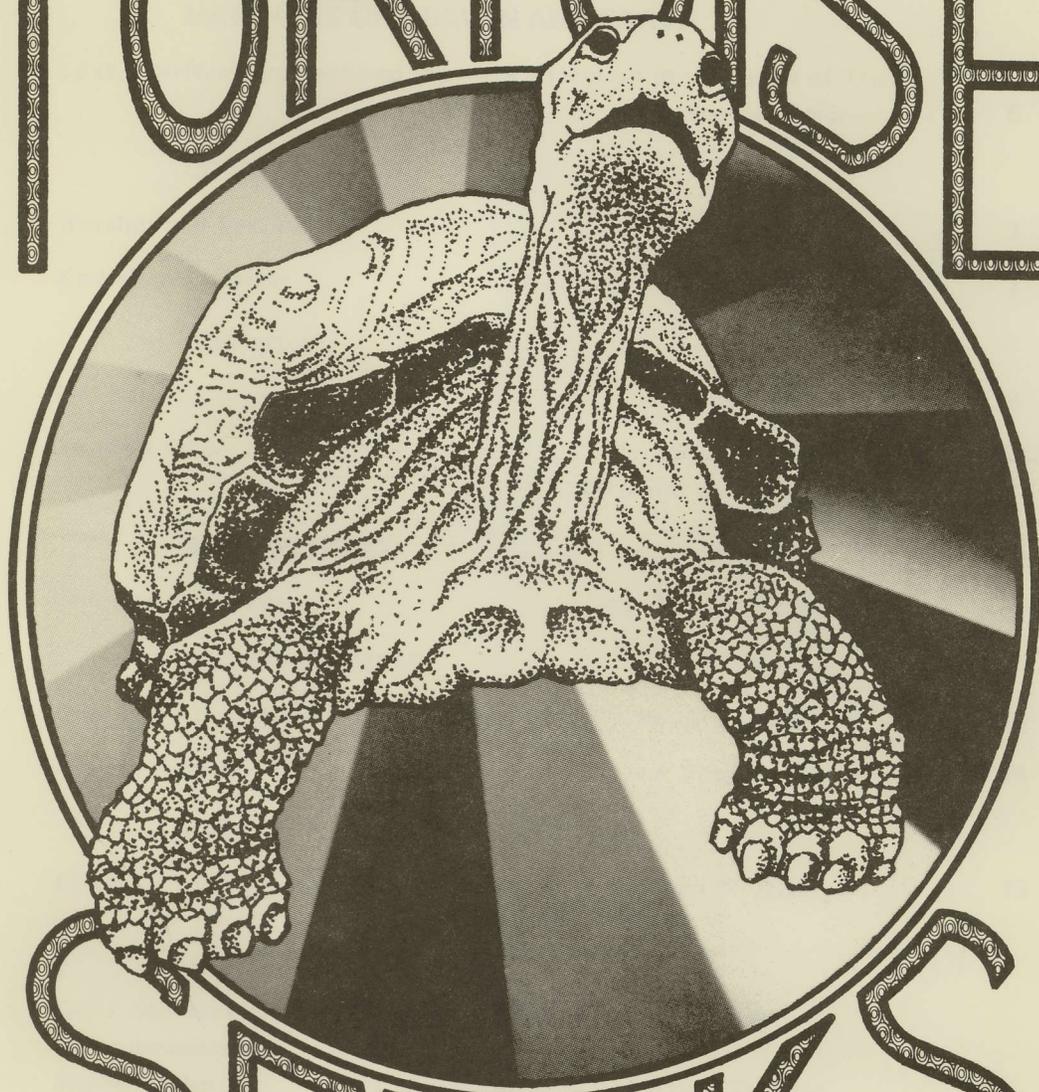


THE
TORTOISE



SPEAKS

WENZEL

Three-dot Journalism: by way of Introduction

--Stephen Finlan--

What are we saying in this magazine?
What moves us, shapes us?
Where are we coming from?

My thumbnail analysis of our general universe location is threefold:

This magazine comes from San Francisco, where everything is legal; any restraint must be voluntary (the cops don't want to hassle)... which Bechtel and BankAmerica call home... where the wind blows off the smog, letting you breathe out loud as you survey the East Bay from any high point... where the people who used to walk down Loughve Street in flowers and smiles have taken the flowers indoors, but a lot of the smiles are still public... where the Golden Gate Bridge now wears a "Suicide barrier", but people are still jumping; last week at the hotel, three people were saying they'd be the next Bridge suicide (another one did it in his room)... Maybe we should build diving boards along the Bridge... It's really the spirit of San Francisco--do anything you want, just don't hassle others... The choices of your life are your choices.

This magazine comes from the Brosnan Tortoise--which I once (responding to a question) described as "a gaggle of six or seven artistic philosophers interested in augmenting spiritual insight among ourselves and fellows through the medium of beautiful art". We haven't yet achieved total spiritual saturation, but we are sure of intention: our fulfillment will be in unbroken communion with God and brotherly service with all... Most of the tortoises are single men... Maybe we should start a personals column here: Wanted: one highly-Adamized, intelligent, kind, artistic woman who is just dying to marry a lonely editor of an amateur mag, 24, sincere, naive; come without hesitation to the Broadway Hotel (in your truck) and bring a preacher... Of course, I'm not the only tortoise; the others speak for themselves in the articles that appear herein, in other art that they produce, and (surest method of all) when you meet one face-to-face. Few of us have pledged our life, our fortune or our sacred honor to the Brosnan Tortoise, but I suspect more than one of us has made such a commitment to the Kingdom of God.

And... This magazine comes from the heart of spiritual living, a common ground among us, a process of choosing God's way with greater consistency so that you will spiritualize yourself and be empowered to spiritualize the world. "Christ in me, and me in the world". There is a twofold (at least) nature to faith-living. There is the purely personal development, the individual techniques, the intimate prayers of each individual. But inevitably all persons socialize: The Kingdom of God is an unlimited brotherhood of searchers for the same God--and in your midst you shall find Him! First there is inner worship, which then extends outward into unending service.

I believe we are coming more from the spirit than from the material location.

Much of this leads us to teach the obvious: re-minding. Common Sense may not be our Common Ground, but it's somewhere close.

Most of the articles here are spiritual philosophy which combine intellectual reflection with life-experience. The first and the last articles relate sexuality to total personality growth. There is a worshipful poem, and a collection of recent thoughts. An elder brother admonishes us as well.

Thanks to my employer, New Dimensions Foundation, I have actualized a dream in publishing in this format, but it still costs money. The cost of materials and printing for this issue was roughly one dollar per copy, and that's what we're asking to cover the paper.

Marriage of Heaven and Earth

Love, Spiritual Brotherhood, Sex and Affection in the Spirit of Truth

--Charles Lamar--

(This article uses terms exclusive to the Urantia Book. It probably represents the last exception to our policy of writing in language familiar to everyone. However, we hope it will not be entirely inaccessible and prove somewhat interesting to all. -ed.)

The individual discovery of the life of truth can be greatly love-expanded by loyalty to a circle of spirit-believing sons and daughters of God. Each one needs to believe in the faith and progress of the others, strive for a love-understanding of the others and learn to know God personally, love him and do His will.

The Brotherhood of Man is also the family of God, concerned with the specifically family matters of love and affection. In the modern post-Adamic races, affection and sex tend to be associated. Although we may caress animals and little children without hesitation, we can't always be so free with older human bodies. Cultural sex-role conditioning, or lack of it, is a factor in the expression of affection. Were sex not a factor, we might habitually caress people as freely as we pet cats! During the present times of social upheaval, race hybridization, exogamy and cultural change, sex and sex-role anxiety are the causes of much social unease.

The Urantia Book says that mating grows out of bisexuality. Going to the dictionaries does not exactly clear up what this means. The most common older meaning is hermaphroditism, obviously not what is meant. There is the likely, but rare, zoological meaning of bisexual: pertaining to a population consisting of individuals of both sexes, but more commonly, the psychological meaning is: having the mental characteristics of both sexes or responding sexually, if on unconscious levels, to both. It is possible that this is the meaning intended because as psychology has shown, in the child's early family-life experiences, he responds on sexual levels to both parents albeit in obviously different ways. Same-sex as well as opposite-sex relationship responses in childhood shape adult sexual character. If mating basically grows out of the fact that there are two sexes, the occurrence of homosexuality proves that **factors other than the mere attraction of opposite sexes are involved in conditioning erotic responses.** In the higher mammals, successful mating is also partly a matter of social conditioning, and the more closely related to man the more this is true. In man, satisfactory mating implies proper psychosexual-cultural-adjustment to both male and female; and the potential of changing sex-response patterns remains present to a certain extent throughout life.

On the genital level, fatherly love, always a discrete and personal attitude, will seek to foster the growth of positive erotic values and usages in children leading to race-improvement and culture-enhancement when the children are grown: sound family life. However, man is an advancing evolutionary species, and as far as that species' interest is concerned, the eugenic or race-improvement importance of an individual's generative sex-morality varies directly with his genetic potential; that is, the greater endowment of natural abilities an individual has, the more important it is to society for him to have children and bring them up properly in a stable monogamous relationship.

To uphold monogamy and strengthen the social (religious) group, the scriptural sex-morality codes of Moses and the Apostle Paul supposedly prohibited all non-reproductive and all non-monogamous sex activity regardless. However, modern birth-control techniques are loosening the grip of these codes of sex behavior regulation on the mind of western man and indeed, for genetic reasons these prohibitions are no longer appropriate as a policy of organized society. From now on enlightened society should knowingly and deliberately tolerate the many forms of non-reproductive sex to the end that the inherited instinct of parental affection increase in the species by natural selection. Except for the very gifted,

society should freely permit those who want to have sex without children to do so. That way, children will only be born to those in whom the desire to have sex was ultimately associated with the desire to have children, and children will not be born to those who do not love and want them. This about-face in public posture regarding sex-morality is not a personal, fatherly love-attitude toward individuals, but rather is legitimate as an impersonal policy for mankind as a social group. The quickest way to eradicate the sex-practices Moses sought to forbid is to permit them; after all, no children will result; and so as the generations pass, the sex-instinct will be more and more closely associated with the parental instinct in both men and women. In order to provide an adequate scientific basis for their personal ideals and philosophy of sex-morality, young people should be taught the genetic reason for this societal sex-tolerance as part of their sex education. Clear scientific and philosophic enlightenment rather than coercive social pressure is the best way to uphold the Adamic ideals of family life.

Regardless of the disrepute into which the Mosaic and Paulinian sex-morality codes may fall, extra-mogamous sex-activity will always be of concern to society as it affects family life, and sex-morality in general will always be of concern to individuals as it aesthetically affects the emotions of love.

The ministry of divine spiritual forces to an individual is, of course, both appropriate and unique to the genetic potential and experiential background of that individual. Celestial ministry is the only determiner of what truly ought to be in a given situation. Therefore, moral generalities are often useless to personal religion; each personal moral situation is different. The Thought Adjuster and the Holy Spirit are obviously perfectly aware of the evolutionary value of an individual's sexual reproduction. So the believer can count upon the spirit having both his true sex-emotion interests and the biologic species'-interest at heart. It was the Father who directed Michael to create sex-creatures. However, the Spirit of Truth, based on Jesus' bestowal life in the flesh, is probably not involved in man's sexual choices in quite the same way as are the Thought Adjuster and the Holy Spirit.

In his bestowal life, our Universe Father-Brother, Son of God and Son of Man, was forbidden to interfere, even in the smallest detail, with the genetic evolution of the species. And therefore, although he was physically affectionate with both men and women, Jesus lived his life in the flesh without involving himself in genital affection either heterosexual or homosexual. Neither did he directly seek to influence the sexuality of others, although his influence probably functioned on sexual levels in the childhood experiences of his younger brothers and sisters after Joseph's death.

So, based as it is on Jesus' life of perfect loyalty to his high ideals, the Spirit of Truth, as well as being the spirit of a certain sex-tolerance toward others, is the spirit of individual sexual self-control. Jesus was single; the Spirit of Truth is the possibility of moral satisfaction on sexual levels to single people as well as to couples. The Spirit of Truth will make it possible for the meagerly Adamized Urantia races to evolve up to Adamic levels of sexual self-control because in the Spirit of Truth it is possible to perceive men and women, materially as sexual but not necessarily as sex--fantasy--objects. Within this freedom it is possible to form sound attitudes and make acceptable choices concerning generative and sexual love. Although sexuality has nothing to do with entering the Spirit Kingdom, its use thereafter may have much to do with one's spiritual progress while in the flesh.

The Spirit of Truth is also the spirit of idealistic beauty. In liberating affection from its sexual entanglements, the Spirit of Truth will make it possible for this beauty to be revealed in all relationships whether sexually or otherwise affectionate, as people respond to the Father's will. We are to love each other and we are all sex-creatures. If one cooperates with him, Michael's spirit will enable fatherly love to direct one's natural affection, truth-liberated from conflict, in furthering the goals of both biologic and spiritual evolution in ways appropriate for each individual relationship. And this can happen in living by the Golden Rule on successively higher and wiser levels of love; by an attitude of unstinting forgiveness when necessary; and by the three-step method of dealing with sin in the nuclear brotherhood unit.

Such small brotherhood circles, whatever their beginnings, will eventually, through the process of getting their love relations together, reveal the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, and be able consistently and effectively to minister Jesus' gospel and teachings to others: to enlarge the fellowship of the sons and daughters of God.

Common Sense

Worship and Service

--Chuck Thurston--

Jesus reveals to us the love and mercy of our Paradise Father, He also teaches about worship and service and shows why they are so vital to personal life in the universe.

I have found that the creative urge that is sponsored within me by the divine Spirit is satisfied only by some form of active expression. This expression seems to flow in two main directions: inward and outward. I would describe worship as inward flow of spiritualized expression and service as outward flow of spiritualized expression. In other words, worship seems to be fundamentally an inner experience, while the demands of service invariably involve me in the world. Together, they provide the opportunity for high and satisfying liberation from the limitations of finite selfhood. And in spite of their difference, both experiences are ultimately directed Godward.

True service seeks to transform the outer world according to the spirit values that are discoverable during worshipful meditation. As a result of positive acts of service, we become participants in the evolution of the universes of time and space, offering unique and personal contributions to the emerging sovereignty of God in time and space. In worship, on the other hand, we have the opportunity to make direct contact with the eternal and infinite Father as he lives, even now, within us. These two phases of our ascending growth career are related in such a way as to provide a beautiful wholeness and symmetry in our experience.

We are told that during Jesus' earth life he would alternate his work periods of service-ministry with equally devoted periods of worship and communion with the Father in Heaven. I think this is a beautifully simple and workable pattern for religious living. By combining the techniques of worship and service into a balanced personal economy, we can create a sound basis for the development of ever-deepening faith and ever-expanding insight into universe reality. The cosmic dependability and trust-capacity that result from this stabilized integration of the spirit-urge render one available for increasingly conscious participation in faith-partnerships with Deity.

The unsolved problems and unfilled needs of the universes constitute a vast and incredible opportunity for exploration into the nature, plans and purposes of our divine Creators. And through worship we may become more and more like the final Father of universal devotion-- even as we go about the work of this world.

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Knowing Ourselves

--Matthew Rappaport and Stephen Finlan--

We all should know that God is our Father. Beyond this common spiritual identity, there is an individual complement of spiritual status for each person at any given time. How aware can we be of our spiritual status? If even the Supreme Being of Evolution is still in the process of self-realization, then surely man, the lowest of will creatures, has a low capacity for judging his own spiritual status. Sheer universe-infancy limits our knowledge. Greater depth of experience will be attained over time, through deliberate spiritual decision-making. This will cause character growth and consequent ascension "from one degree of glory to another" in the realization of our spiritual potentials.

But the only real proof of our growth is in our actions--"by our fruits we shall be known". The universe will let us know where we stand. Until then, we should avoid self-appraisal, except that which is necessary to our daily striving and growth, or when (with humor) we are reflecting on our progress. We should simply live in the consciousness of sonship with God. If we seek God first, and His spiritual kingdom, He will fill us in on anything else we need to know.

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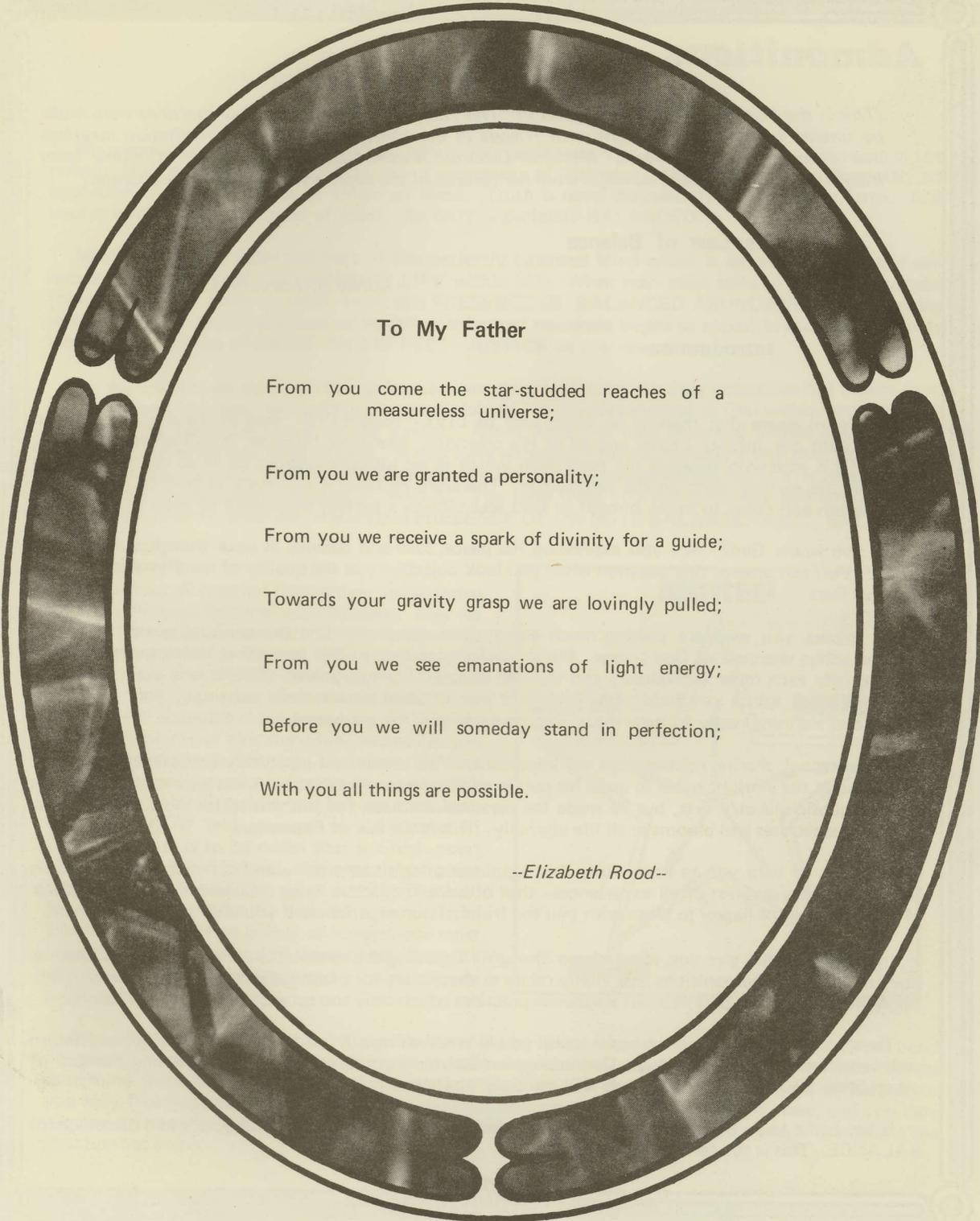
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To My Father

From you come the star-studded reaches of a
measureless universe;

From you we are granted a personality;

From you we receive a spark of divinity for a guide;

Towards your gravity grasp we are lovingly pulled;

From you we see emanations of light energy;

Before you we will someday stand in perfection;

With you all things are possible.

--Elizabeth Rood--

Admonitions

(This is the beginning of a new column in "The Tortoise Speaks". These admonitions were made by unseen personalities to a group of friends in the course of prayer and meditation meetings over a period of several years. Meredith Landrum is now selecting and (with a little help from friends) editing significant messages from her records of the experiences. -ed. Let's elaborate:)

The Law of Balance

--edited by Meredith Landrum--

Introduction

We are all aware that there is no other way to LIVE-- truly LIVE-- than in the awareness of our oneness with our Infinite Father and all of His creations. Mankind, however, is still in the perfecting phase of his ascension towards the perfection which is his ultimate destiny (if he so chooses). He is living on the earthly plane amidst negativities. Therefore he finds it necessary to go into his Holy of Holies often and come to know himself as God sees him--as a perfect expression of Himself.

Do you know God? Are you expressing His peace, love and balance in your thoughts, words and deeds? You can answer this question when you look objectively at the quality of manifestation in your personal lives.

We expect you who are putting much energy into comprehending the spiritual power of life to become active channels of God-power. We are well aware that in this perfecting Universe Age all men need to help each other individually and through concerted group power. This is why we suggest that among kindred spirits you hold closely together in a spiritual circuit, daily expanding your own God-power and standing ready to help those who come to you for assistance.

The personal, sharing relationships are important. You know how personally Jesus lived and taught even though the work he came to do in his public ministry was so immense. A less wise man would have put the public ministry first, but he made the *personal* the *base*, for it is this which most quickly takes seed and penetrates and blooms in all life eternally. This is the law of Expansion.

We want to help you to know fully this happiness of spiritual vitality and symmetry which results from having the greatest of all experiences-- that of becoming active living channels of the loving power of God. We will be happy to share with you the fruits of our experiences if you wish to think on them.

In all joy we will give you some of our thoughts regarding the immutable divine laws which *must* be obeyed, and some admonitions that vitally relate to these laws, for in enthusiasm it is easy to step unwittingly into apparently harmless but erroneous practices which only too soon become harmful habits.

Thus we expect (if it is your wish) to aid you in establishing a *Truth* foundation for your meditation and subsequent manifestations of God-expression in your own lives and in an increasing number of other lives. It is the law that such will multiply eternally.

It has come to us that the logical place to begin in any work we may do with you is in a discussion of BALANCE. This is the cornerstone of all life.

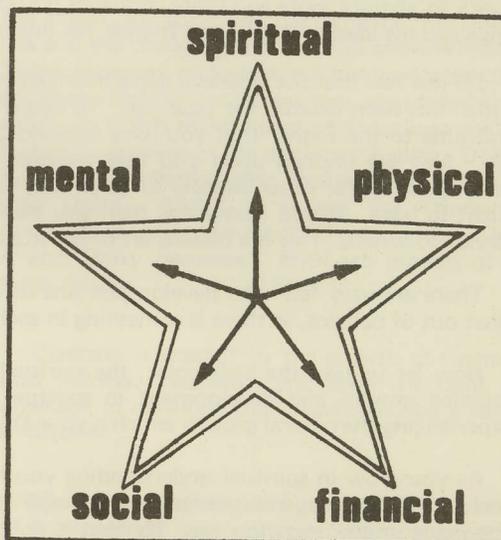
The Five-Pointed Star

We suggest that in your thinking you renew your awareness that the individual mind is a part of the Infinite Mind which is limited *only* by *man's* acceptance of limitation. There is in TRUTH absolutely no limitation to the expression of Universal Mind. Truth is never harassed by any opposing force. It is always in complete command of Itself. Its force is perfectly BALANCED.

Man's mind is his individual part of this perfectly balanced Mind which is an *orderly, adequate and resourceful* PRESENCE OF INFINITE LIFE within him. When man steps aside in his consciousness, through thought, word or deed, from this PRESENCE OF BALANCED ABUNDANCE he is planting seeds of IMBALANCE; and *lack* of serenity, order and resources begins to appear in his life. He is now experiencing the law of CAUSE AND EFFECT-- JUSTICE; as you sow, so you reap.

Oh my friends, do not allow this to happen, for you are affecting not only yourselves but others--even the planet and Universe. Go quickly into your Holy of Holies--the kingdom of God within you--and seek the cleansing, purifying power of the Father. Admit what you have done and forgive yourself. The Father's forgiveness you already have. If you have wronged someone, quickly make restitution. Now the law of balance is fulfilled and from this moment any error of consciousness has been erased and there is no room for negative memories or remorse. You have freed yourself spiritually and are once more living in the orderly, adequate, resourceful PRESENCE OF INFINITE BALANCE. Again: CAUSE AND EFFECT.

Throughout all creation there are perfect patterns for the unlimited forms of manifestation. May we suggest that you contemplate on the five-pointed STAR as a pattern for living? Will you recognize yourselves as the CENTER of that star? Man's activities throughout his life are from within that Center. All activities come from you, and radiate out to the points of this star which expand as you expand in your consciousness. Therefore, the five-pointed star can be a basis for the study of man's BALANCE. Hold it before you in your consciousness and KNOW that you are in the Center of BALANCE. It is to be noted that the high point of the star is the Spiritual, the upper right point represents the Mental, the upper left the Physical, the lower right the Social and the lower left the Financial. These five points--or aspects--are most important in your pattern of living. They form the sum total of your experience and of *what you are* on the earth plane.



You may feel, and rightly, that you are what could be called a 'good person', one that is 'all heart and no mind'. If that is true, as flattering as it is, it suggests that you lack judgement. There may be something there that should be drawn back into line, for it is possible that in this lack of judgement you may feel that your way of life is quite the right one, your philosophy is the only way, and you may become narrow-minded and set in your ideas. When one is of that mind, he is impractical in meeting the situations of living.

In contrast, there is the over-developed mental person, one who has little spiritual understanding and a scant knowledge of spiritual law. This type of person, as a rule, must prove everything according to his own mental standards. His authority is the test-tube; and the books he reads, or those he concedes are more advanced than he, are his authority. He may even be argumentative to bring home his point. This introvert lives in the world of his cherished theories. He too, is impractical, and will give little thought to the physical side of his being.

The man who is overdeveloped physically is often thought of as one who is cultivating his animal nature. His body is his interest, and everything that gives it pleasure or comfort contributes to his mental standard. When he meets someone who seems to know so much, he may be a bit envious, just a bit, but it is not enough to activate his mental qualities. No, the *physical* prowess is his god.

Yet our physical friend is not completely out of accord with our socially-minded friend who is ever seeking pleasure and sometimes the bubbles on the cup of cheer. This man is 'hail-fellow, well met'. He is happy (apparently), much sought after, and easily forgotten. While he may be a social lion for the moment, in the departments of the spiritual, the mental and the physical, he is not up to the mark, and in the financial department he is usually very weak.

The man who is developed in his financial department could be, strange though it may seem, the most normally developed in this group because he has learned how valuable the mental qualities in a man can be. He keeps himself physically fit, and he is interested in the social side of life. He has learned that these qualities are desirable. If he is wise, he can develop a very interesting personality, unless he becomes unbalanced in his desire for money, for possession and the material things, and then that insatiable desire to acquire more and more, strangles his better qualities. Little by little, he fails to hold his friendships and his ideals. Really, my friends, his dilemma is the most pitiable of all.

Do not feel that the financial department of your life is not important, for it is a medium of exchange which has been created for your use. To hoard it is spiritual death; to acquire it honestly and bless it in gratitude to the Father that you have received that which is your Divine Right, is part of your balanced life. May we impress upon you that finances are a part of your spiritual life? If you have balanced finances with the other aspects of your life, you will not take from others that which is *their* Divine Right to have. If you have more than you need for the present and future, let it flow through you in service to others. This is a blessed art of spiritual living.

There are very few who develop just one or two departments in their lives. Most persons are somewhat out of balance, as there is something in each of the five points that should be activated.

Now let us take the high point: the spiritual unfolding. Let us recognize the steady, gradual, well-rounded growth and development in spiritual expansion. You are, we will say, well-balanced and experiencing the natural growth which is your Divine Right. You are touching all five points in your star.

As you grow in spiritual understanding you have less vulnerability, fewer experiences of an Achilles' heel. You are living in expectancy, and in spiritual unfolding. You have tranquility and peace. You are not living in any eccentric way, for that is not necessary, but *ideally in the full consciousness of your oneness with INFINITE UNIVERSAL WISDOM AND MIND*. As you are well-balanced, every department of your experience falls into its rightful place. You are aware that life and living is a challenge, but due to your balance you have inner fortitude.

It is well sometimes before retiring to draw your star to you and consider what you have put into it that day. Has it been spiritual understanding? Have you been overly mental, argumentative in your theories? Have you neglected that wonderful servant of yours through which you operate--your body? Have you been too socially-minded? Have you been careless in the physical or financial departments?

The star as a symbol of your life represents the highest, the most perfect of everything. It is the Light, and you are the light within all the departments of your life. You are the light which lights the world.

Think often of each department of your life as a blessing and divine privilege. Living by spiritual perception is the Christ of God in you activating all departments of your living experiences. It is saying: "God, thou art, therefore I am-- I am spiritual, I am mental, I am social, I am financial, I am physical." Bless these departments. They are, every one of them, the expression of God: God activity, God manifestation.

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Out of My Mind

One and All

--Philip Eversoul--

Time and space are needed to grow consciousness. True growth is the purpose of time-space experience, and true growth *is* the evolution of consciousness of our *Self*, of our relationship to other selves, and of our relationship to the *Self* of all selves.

The Father is the *Self* of all selves.

Any son is a self of the *Self* of all selves.

Infinite indivisible original reality has the capability and will to reproduce *itSelf*. It does this by centering on its *Self* of all selves by conscious will. The *Self* of all selves reproduces *itSelf*: the Father incarnates in the son, and the Father is the infinite center of the son. The *Self* of all selves reproduces *itSelf* by *being/becoming* conscious, of *itSelf*. Each self is a consciousness--*becoming* and *being*--of its *Self*, which is the I AM *Self* of all I AM selves.

The choice of *Self*-consciousness is what causes creation to *be--and become--*actual. Consciousness has two fundamental aspects: *becoming* thru time and space, and *being* beyond time and space. What is *becoming* is actuality, and what is *being* is potentiality (from the mortal viewpoint). These two fundamental aspects of consciousness--polar opposites--are united in the third fundamental aspect of consciousness. This third aspect can be called One Growing consciousness. It's growing but it's one; it's one but it's growing. It is One in its potential-*being* and it is growing in its actualizing-*becoming*.

If it's God's universe, it must be an infinitely expanding one--and an infinitely complete one--all at once. That is a characteristic of Infinity and Eternity: they are complete and transcendent while also growing *within* creation. Infinity contains the highest and the lowest, the greatest and the least, the perfect and the perfectable, the potential and the actual, the static and the dynamic, the changeless and the changing, the absolute and the relative. These apparent opposites are but two aspects of the Same Reality, and these two are united in the third. It is this third aspect of consciousness that sees the *sameness* of the apparent duality. Duality is always trinitized, thru growing consciousness, into Unity. Unity is always the Trinity-act: opposites equalized by the third perspective. Unity *is* and Unity *becomes*. Both are aspects of the same reality.

Diversity is created by the growth of Oneness--into Allness. We each are given the right and privilege to continue this growth and be a part of it--forever.

Whatever consciousness becomes fully conscious of, it transcends: it moves from *becoming* conscious to *being* conscious. The way to progress is to fully appreciate the here-and-now. As we master the here-and-now, we move beyond it to the next here-and-now situation--on a higher level of self-realization and self-expression. Realization and expression are of the same process of reality: the synthesis of static absolute *Self* and dynamic relative self thru the power of choice.

HUMAN RIGHTS

--edited by Stephen Finlan--

"I AM DEEPLY CONVINCED THAT NOT ONLY THE SPIRITUAL WELL-BEING OF MANKIND BUT ALSO ITS ACTUAL PHYSICAL PRESERVATION DEPENDS ON THE OBSERVANCE OF FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS AND PRINCIPLES OF HUMANITY." Andrei Sakharov, 7-4-74

There must be a foundation of political rights enabling us to make real the ideals we strive for. Only when its government secures these safeguards do people have the opportunity to manifest an extensive and visible Good. Part of this Good is to reinforce good in other people and peoples--and this means refusing to support governments which have systematized the suppression of thought and violation of human rights. The violation of human rights means the violation of human beings.

We can put a halt to the spread of police-state tyranny, but only over time, with consistent loyalty to our principles, and only by beginning at home by restricting those within our population who would take us down that path of violence--and by refusing to put money and weaponry in the hands of those who will use it to kill and maim their citizenry. This is an ethical principle which approaches the level of a religious principle. And it springs from the Spiritual Principle: Love Your Neighbor As God Loves Him.

"Nothing is so dangerous for mankind as hushed-up, concealed evil and violence." Andrei Sakharov wrote this in a letter to Brezhnev and Nixon in 1973 when Nixon went to Moscow. While he was there, there was a wave of arrests of Jews throughout the Soviet Union. Shortly later, there was a military coup in Chile.

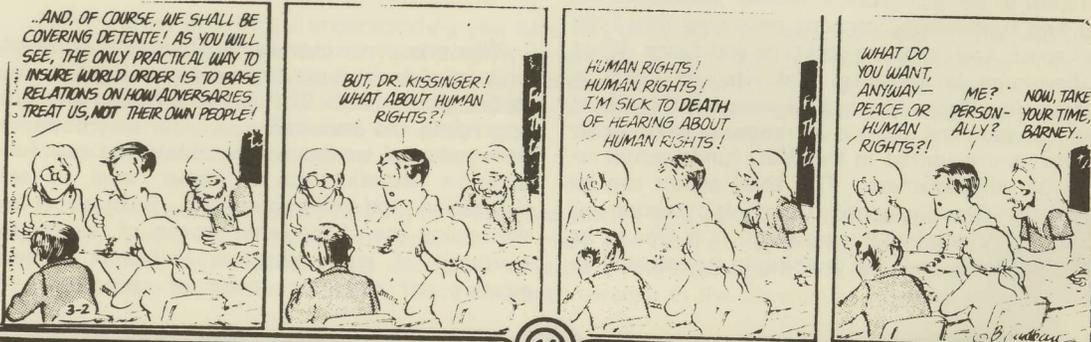
"I share Solzhenitsyn's conviction that the righteousness of power must inevitably yield to the power of righteousness." -Alexander Ginzburg- Ginzburg has already spent the better part of a decade in Soviet prison camps and was living in internal exile in Tarusa until February of 1977 when he was rearrested because of his activity with the unofficial Committee to Oversee the Final Act of the Helsinki Declaration.

"Shame on the country that allows its greatness and its glory to be abused. Wretchedness on the country whose tongue they tear out with tongs. Misery on the nation which is deceived." Lydia Chukovskaya

"Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly; 'tis dearness only that gives everything its value. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed, if so celestial an article as FREEDOM should not be highly rated." Thomas Paine

"The existence and validity of human rights are not written in the stars. Those ideals and convictions which resulted from historical experience, from the craving for beauty and harmony, have been readily accepted in theory by man--and at all times have been trampled upon by the same people under the pressures of their animal instincts. A large part of history is therefore replete with the struggle for those human rights, an eternal struggle in which a final victory can never be won. But to tire in that struggle would mean the ruin of society." Albert Einstein, 1945.

"Our commitment to human rights must be absolute." Jimmy Carter



Etters to the Leditor

Dear Sir:

I am writing in response to the article by Matthew Rapaport in the September 15th issue of 'The Tortoise Speaks' (vol. 1, no. 3 --ed.). Mr. Rapaport's essay is a blatant and shoddy apology for loose individual sex morality and its inevitable ethical consequences. This morality and ethics have developed out of a cultural failure to apprehend God our Father, and grasp the consequences of such understanding.

I do not here suggest a return to a morality of total sexual abstention. Self-control, not asceticism, is the goal of the God-oriented man or woman. But self-control (of the non-spiritual elements in man) must mean that attitude of Will that directs action along lines that are reality-oriented--toward God. Such reality patterns are unmistakable in the universes. As Mr. Rapaport has himself pointed out, the partnership of Michael and the Holy Spirit are for the duration of a universe age at the least. In addition, Adam of Urantia so loved his mate, that he knowingly violated his commission in order not to be separated from her. Regardless of how we may choose to appreciate this fact on logical grounds, it does reflect a powerful capacity for loyalty.

We are not promised that such self-control is easy, especially considering the nature of our species. Yet self-control is what is expected of us. This cannot mean the arbitrary fulfillment of a desire to encounter numerous partners on sexual levels. Sexuality is bound so tightly to the home, the initial pattern for each new-born son of God, that sexual experience with many partners cannot be but contrary to universe pattern, and could not but erode the psychological readiness to accept the responsibilities of monogamous marriage.

There are exceptions, of course, but real (spiritually valid) exceptions must be rare. To enter into a relationship on physical as well as mental and spiritual levels with another human being, and not be prepared to take full responsibility in exercising that rugged self-control that is expected of a knowledgable son of God, is a travesty, an evil perpetrated against the Supreme.

Finally, to strip Mr. Rapaport's paper of its last shred of erroneous sophistry, I have only to mention the Supreme and invoke His future Glory to the effect that if any good does come to the universes as the result of less than permanent sexual relationships among mortals, it is a tribute to the wisdom of the Supreme, and to give such mortals credit, can only be abomination. Thank you, sincerely,

Quien M. Atal

(Time out! We made it...we've enguardianed our eggs... back to the precious waters. But each of us knows which eggs h/she must foster...likewise, the eggs are the answer to the parents' choice. Anyone can read all of this one, and the other ones, but h/she will always interpret, intend, and choose. May we all find a Heart of hearts. Quien, you may express yourself, and I must excuse myself...)

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God dwells in a high and holy place and also
with him who is of a contrite and humble spirit.

--Second Isaiah--