

SOUTHERN LIGHTS

Spring: '.... for Now it is High Time to Awake Out of Sleep' (Romans 13:11 KJV)



.... apply in music that which is the song of the morning sun, of the birds as they awake with the pulsing of spring, as with the pulsing of nature into its awakening from the sleep of the winter.... Thus may it bring joy, understanding, awakening; illumining the minds, hearts and souls of men. 1157-1

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Edgar Cayce Australia, Inc. A0060868C

Edgar Cayce Australia, Inc. was formed in early 2014 by members of the Melbourne Search for God Study Group and the Glad Helpers Down Under Prayer Group. We are a not-for-profit incorporated association dedicated to furthering the work started by Edgar Cayce and continued world-wide by the Association for Research and Enlightenment, founded in 1931. As well as fostering Study Groups

and Prayer Groups, we can also arrange talks on many topics from the Cayce readings such as diet and health, Atlantis, the mind, reincarnation, ideals, attitudes and emotions, meditation and dreams. If you are interested in any of our groups, or to arrange a talk on any of the above topics, please email russell@edgarcayceaustralia.org or phone us on (03) 5345 2945.

ISSUE 28, SPRING 2021

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Global Manifestation of Oneness and the Love of God and All People

Editorial - 'Thirsty in the Rain'

by Russell Bowey

I recently read about the changes that have taken place since I was a child (a very long time ago) in a book 'The Shelter of Each Other' by Mary Pipher. In a chapter titled 'Thirsty in the Rain' (we are surrounded by spirit but are not aware of it or nourished by it) she states: "Our culture is at war with families. Families in America have been invaded by technology, mocked or 'kitschified' by the media, isolated by demographic changes, pounded by economic forces and hurt by corporate values..... Parents worry about their children's physical safety and children are afraid of strangers.... A culture in which children fear adults and adults are uneasy around children is an unhealthy and dangerous place.... A frog who is dropped in a beaker of boiling water will jump out and save himself. But if he's in a beaker with water that's slowly heated, he'll stay in and cook to death. We've experienced change slowly and we haven't jumped".

The Edgar Cayce readings had much to say about the raising and caring for children which is still very relevant for this current culture. The following reading emphasises the importance of looking at the cause of conditions, not the effect:

For the study of man is Man! The study of the motivating force of Life itself, then (or the spirit and soul), is to study same; NOT the effects; not that which has been the outcome, but what has caused same.

5747-2

The parents of a two-year-old child asked: *(Q) How can the parents best guide this entity now and for the best development in the future?*

(A) First in the spiritual aspects of its relationship to Creative Forces. Then in the directing of channels in those fields in which, as indicated, the entity may excel.

2862-1

And the source of all teaching

cannot be found outside of self:

It isn't that ye learn from anyone. Ye only may have the direction. The learning, the teaching is within self. For where hath He promised to meet thee? Within the temple! Where is that temple? Within! Where is heaven or earth? Within!

2072-14

The parents of a one-year-old were told: *Don't say one thing in the presence of the child and do something else yourself. Don't give instructions or ask the child to do that which you do not do yourself, for yourself becomes a liar in the very act of same.*

5306-1

I think that the biggest change is the loss of faith in God, and this reading suggests what is needed:

.... for the best development of the human family is to give the greater increase in knowledge of the subconscious, soul or spirit world.

3744-5

Edgar Cayce on Cultivating Friendship

As has so oft been indicated here ... no associate EVER becomes a part of thine experience save as an opportunity for the developing of that thou dost hold as thy ideal.

That there may be easier ways, by taking that which is the easier way, is evident - as ye grow in experience of application of self. But rather live thine own life, and use each associate, each opportunity as the means for giving expression to that which IS thy ideal.

And then the fruits of thy activity will - even as with He - cement those friendships that may bring the greater blessing in thine OWN experience, as in the

experiences of all whom ye contact.

There is no such thing as having too many friends, or having so many that you can afford to lose a single one. This does not indicate ... that all are within the inner circle, as it were, but rather that ye will lose no opportunity - by mere acquaintance or by passing chance - of giving the opportunity for such to know what is thy ideal.

CULTIVATE those who bring thee strength in thy ideal, NOT in thy weaknesses or thy faults. For these ye know within thine own self, as ye meet them day by day. **1581-2**

‘Let Others Do as They May, But as for Me, I Will Serve the Living God’ - by Russell Bowey

In the Forward to her 1974 A.R.E. Press booklet ‘Peace by Choice’, Linda Gerber Quest states: “Two outstanding facts characterize the world today: division and interdependence. At all levels of human organization we find ourselves unable to get along with one another, and we find ourselves equally unable to get along without one another.... Tension, ambiguity, uncertainty accompany our present situation of being able neither to subsist alone nor to work together. The resultant strains give rise to two predominant moods: anxiety and discontent.... We live in a society, we live in a culture, we live in a world - none of which possesses the balance, the rhythm, the integration necessary for survival. To persist in our conventional thought patterns, to react in our accustomed ways is to assure our collective collapse.”

Forty-seven years later, the situation appears to have deteriorated further. The polarisation within many countries around the world, and the increasing divisions that are undermining what little tolerance, compassion and moderation of beliefs and attitudes remain, appear to be hastening our demise.

The Cayce readings suggest that the outer world is a reflection of our inner state of being; to change the world then we must *be* the change we desire to see manifested – fully expressing the fruits of the spirit in our relationships to others and to ourselves:

You must find harmony within self, you must find security within self, as has been indicated. Ye cannot create it about you until you have it within yourself.

2970-1

If ye would have peace it must be first within self, and ye must be peaceful and create peace wherever you go, with whomever ye contact, and not dissension.

2987-1

A house divided against itself does not stand. A doubleminded individual fails to impress anyone or to make for peace or harmony within self's expression.

1244-1

Jealousy, malice, hate, backbiting are not the fruits of the spirit of truth. That which IS of the spirit of truth is manifested in patience, love, fellowship, kindness. These cost nothing, yet make returns in dividends in peace. Remember, ye pursue peace, ye embrace peace, ye hold to peace. It is not something that descends upon thee, save as ye HAVE created and do create it in the hearts, in the minds, in the experiences of others.

3051-2

Further into her booklet, Linda Quest states: “Crisis is *not* trauma nor emotional upset, *not* stress nor strain, but a point of choice. Crises – such as war, famine, plague, and natural disaster – were regarded by the ancients of classical antiquity as revealers of men's souls, of their true characters or inner selves. Presented with a crisis, what does one choose – self or service? ... Would we be wise to face the fact that at-onement will be produced, but that it can come about either the hard way or the easy way – through reckoning and leveling [self], or through aligning and attuning? [service].”

The readings have this to say about that choice:

... let each declare Whom ye will serve: a nation, a man, a state, or thy God? For to Him ye must look for comfort that ye know that comes. All that is of a temporal nature, this - too must pass away; yet there remains the comfort for those who declare themselves, "Let others do as they may, but as for me, I will serve the living God." In the period, too, there will be the breaking of agreements, the declaring of stands by groups will be known, and bring - to some - consternation. But FEAR NOT ye that influence that may destroy the body. Rather give praise and glory to Him who may SAVE BOTH body AND soul to everlasting joy.

2976-26

We invite readers to share their thoughts on any topic, or who have their own personal story of how their lives have been touched by a book, or an event, to share it through this Newsletter.

'What Is My Soul's Purpose for This Incarnation?'

by Russell Bowey

Each of us entered this life with a work to do; known at a deep level of our being. The Creative Forces guide us as we seek to express this work, which brings us joy, fulfillment and at-onement with God. But what exactly is a Soul's Purpose?

For me, it has been a lifelong unfolding of identifying with my individuality rather than my personality, discovering and utilising my talents, uncovering my spiritual ideal, and arriving at a 'theme' that best describes my purpose. For me this theme is: 'To inspire others to grow in spiritual awareness and expression'. This has manifested through many activities - both in my career and with family and groups.

The Cayce readings covered this topic in great detail, with both specific advice, as well as general explanations, for this age-old question:

Each soul enters an experience that it may become more and more at an at-oneness with that Creative Force. And if the love of the Father, as is manifested among the children of men, is held as the ideal, more and more will there grow into the experience of this entity that which is not MERELY gratifying but harmonious in EVERY relationship of its experience.

1468-1

It is not the knowledge, then, but what one does with one's abilities, one's opportunities in relationships to others, that makes for the development or retardment of that individual.

1293-1

This reading shows that a life's purpose is not necessarily completely set when we incarnate:

Then, it is not that the entire life experience is laid out for an individual when there has been received that imprint as of the first breath ... For, again, choice is left to the individual, and the personality - as to whether it is the laudation of the ego or cooperation with its fellow men, or as a consecration to the service of the Creative Forces in its material environs.

281-49

The following reading was given to a powerful supporter of the work (Morton Blumenthal) and explains the importance of a purpose of sharing what we have worked with and understood in our own lives, to pass on to assist others, rather than being focused on the attainment of earthly possessions for ourselves:

The dreams, the visions, the consciousnesses as attained by the entity in the concentration and consecration of self to an individual work brings to the consciousness of the body many varying phases of the phenomena of experience, as well as of life, and in same the body may gain much, gaining better understanding and better ability to apply that that the body becomes conscious of. Keep the body, the mind, the being, in accord; that the greater forces, the greater powers, as has been given, would be possible through the experience of the body, that the body may use - not abuse; may give, not acquire; may gain for self that understanding in self that brings self close to that all creative energy, even as was manifested in the flesh that all men might have the greater access to that oneness of purpose as was given from the foundations of the universe; for in attainment alone is not sufficient, but in the ability to give that understood so that others may understand; for only in sacrifice is one purged of that that would so easily beset those forces as are manifest through an earthly experience. Remembering, even though He were the Son, yet learned He obedience by the things which He suffered. Not, then, in vain-glorying; not then in the amount of moneys, lands, holdings, houses, cattles, nor gold - but in that ability to serve thine brother lies strength, security, and the perfect knowledge of God.

900-370

Know what is thy ideal in the spiritual, in the mental, in the material; not as to how much others may do for thee, but as to how much you may give, may be, to bring the knowledge of the oneness of God's love into the lives of others.

2061-1

‘Balancing Desire and Will’

by Russell Bowey

The chapter ‘Desire’ in ‘A Search for God’ - Book II opens with these statements: “Desire originates in the will. It is of the earth and of the spirit. It is activated, in the realms in which it is directed by that which is the motivating force, through the will and the mental abilities and faculties of the individual.... Desire is the power which drives our physical, our spiritual self, while will is the directing force. The positions in which we find ourselves are drawn to us through our desires. Whatever we are physically, mentally or spiritually has been built through desire.”

And later in that chapter, we are advised: “Our greater soul development may be found by losing sight of ourselves, by spiritualizing our material desires, and by seeking more and more the Christ Consciousness.”

The Cayce readings describe the problem of balancing desire and will in our lives, and the difficulties caused by rampant physical desires:

What separated spirit from its first cause, or [what] causes good and evil? Desire! DESIRE! Hence Desire is the opposite of Will. Will and Desire, one with the Creative Forces of Good, brings all its influence in the realm of activity that makes for that which is constructive in the experience of the soul, the mind, the body, one with the spirit of truth.

5752-3

For, will and desire are spiritual as well as carnal, as well as mental. These are attributes both of the spiritual influences and of the carnal forces in every entity's activity.

315-3

There is ever set before this entity daily (as each entity), good and evil, life and death. Life is growth. Death is as that separation or turning about, turning away from, or the opposite of growth. Hence the entity has in itself WILL, that knowledge, that understanding, with which the entity exercises its choice, to which it adds either for the satisfying or gratifying of self's emotions or self's desires, or for the magnifying and glorifying of the spiritual sources or help.

These may be one, if the entity makes the hope, the desire of the body, the mind, the soul, in accord. Yet the soul ever seeks to magnify or glorify the divine. Hence the constant warring that one finds in its members - body, mind, soul. These are as the real of the shadows of appetites, of desires, of those things that are habits of body and that take hold as a habit. Yet who ever saw a habit? For it is a mental thing and is personal. Its individuality may be of the creative forces or of the destructive forces.

3420-1

"Let Thy will, O God, be my desire! Let the desire of my heart, my body, my mind, be Thy will, O Father, in the experiences that I may have in the earth!"

262-63

In his A.R.E. Press book ‘Paradox of Power’, Mark Thurston expresses the importance of the will in discovering your soul’s purpose (also refer to previous article in this issue):

“To fulfil your soul’s mission requires the application of your conscious will through persistence, determination, discipline, and courage. It alone allows you to meet the challenges and difficulties sure to arise over the years as you manifest what you were destined to do in this lifetime. In other words, you as a soul have chosen something very special to create and contribute to the world. This is something that shall stretch you and require the deepest kind of commitment. But it is do-able; it can be accomplished. Your will is your greatest ally in living your soul's purpose.”

And the Cayce readings insist that the will is greater than our physical desires:

For to the entity also we would give, KNOW that WILL supersedes those influences that may express themselves even as material desires; and certainly supersedes those influences that may be had from sojourns in the earth.

1210-1