

Pain

November 29, 2009

A very difficult Work teaching is that this earth is called a pain factory. Something inside us balks and objects most strenuously to this teaching. We insist, in the face of evidence to the contrary, that life doesn't kill us, can be consistently good, easy and happy, or at least *should* be. If we're not born rich, beautiful and intelligent it's up to us find the secret of how to make life the way we think it *should* be. Many read self-help books that promise to show us the secret. We spend billions of dollars on books, CD's, DVD's, seminars, retreats, workshops and lessons year after year. Most all of it wears off seventy-two hours after the end of the book or experience. Then we begin our search for the next fix that will bring us through to another disappointing end. Over the decades I've seen people try repeatedly until the majority simply give up and try to find what happiness may be found between birth and the grave. Most fall back to their original sad state or lower, ending up bitter and resentful that life didn't treat them fairly, justly. Their song becomes, *If Only. If only I'd had the same opportunities others had.* All of this acts like a poison to our system, first internally and then externally. The expectations begin to slowly spoil our inner state as they continue to be unmet by life. We follow a downward octave bringing us under more laws and making it more difficult to turn it around.

How much time we waste with questions that don't matter is another waste of force in which we indulge. *Why does it have to be this way? Why is life a pain factory? If there is a God, why does He allow all this suffering and pain? Why doesn't He do something?* These are all verses of the same song, *If Only . . . If only it was some other way.*

If only the world weren't a pain factory. If only God would change it all so we wouldn't have to suffer, make effort, develop ourselves. If only I had been born into a better family. If only I'd been born with blue eyes. The Work, all esoteric teachings, tell us the truth, but we don't accept the truth because the illusion is more familiar and appealing to us. This is one of the meanings of this esoteric truth: *This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil* (John 3:19). It's unfortunate that our attitudes and old associations will not allow us to take new meaning from these words because new meaning can give us what we need to develop and transform into a higher order of Being. The judgment is nothing more than the way it is. It could as easily read, *This is the way it is.* The darkness is the only place we can imagine because the Light reveals the truth, what's so, what's true, real, eternal. We stubbornly hang onto the way we think it should be in our ignorance and lack of understanding of how one thing connects to

another and why that is so important to the fabric of the Universe. So much we don't understand because we live in such darkness. The darkness is merely the lack of the Light of Consciousness. Our belief that darkness hides gives us a place to make our own chaotic world that soon turns evil from a lack of understanding and all that lack brings with it. Dissatisfaction from unmet requirements is a breeding ground for negative emotions which all lead down to violence. This is what we call evil because it's a descending octave that cannot be turned around without great effort on our part and help from Higher Influences.

Everyone suffers on this planet. There is no avoiding it. Call it a pain factory or whatever else you might call it. The fact remains. The only choice we have is whether we will mix the Light of Consciousness with the suffering or not. If we can manage that, through proper application of the ideas that esoteric teachings bring to us, we can turn useless, repetitive, unconscious, mechanical suffering into useful, conscious suffering that is a necessary step in the process of transforming from a broken machine into the Real Human Being we were created to become. From the broken machine to The New Man. It can be done. We know this because there is something higher, others have reached it and they hold the door open for us and constantly

send us light, love and force that will help us if we will do the work to reach the third state of consciousness where we can receive all that awaits us.