

Spiritual Evolution is the Divine Plan for Life



by
Steve Beckow

Edited & Compiled
by **Julie Reiner**

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What is the Divine Plan for Life? - Part 1/2



I think it helps to have a grasp of the fundamentals of life, especially at a time when we know that all aspects of our understanding are going to be called into question, renovated, added onto, as soon as the galactics can walk freely among us.

I've already gone over the purpose of life at some length, both from God's standpoint and from ours. (1)

God created forms from His/Her/Its own Being, placed a spark of Its Divinity in them, and sent them on a path of spiritual evolution so that these sparks could one day realize their true identity as Him and in that moment God would meet God. At that moment, God, for His own enjoyment, would experience His own bliss.

Here is Sri Ramakrishna, himself an Incarnation of God, putting out this view: "It is the Godhead that has become these two [that is, God and the devotee] to enjoy Its [own] bliss." (2) And here is Hazrat Inayat Khan:

"The purpose of life ... is that the only Being makes his oneness intelligible to Himself. He goes through different planes of evolution ... to make clear to Himself His

oneness. And as long as this purpose is not accomplished, the one and only Being has not reached His ultimate satisfaction, in which lies His divine perfection.” (3)

You can read more about the purpose of life in the articles mentioned in footnote 1. Now I’d like to turn to discussions of the Divine Plan created to fulfill the purpose of life.

That Divine Plan can be put in two words: spiritual evolution.

The first part of this article looks at short references to spiritual evolution in the various spiritual traditions and the second part (to be published later) looks at what certain teachers have said in more detail about it.

Spiritual Evolution in the Great Spiritual Traditions

Terrestrial Spiritual Teachers

We know about the Divine Plan from the testimony of saints and sages who have seen it in a moment of enlightenment. Here Krishnamurti, from the standpoint of Theosophy, which he later left to emerge from the shackles of all religions, describes his vision of it.

“The really important thing is ... the knowledge of God’s plan for men. For God has a plan, and that plan is evolution. When once a man has seen that and really knows it, he cannot help working for it and making himself one with it, because it is so glorious, so beautiful, so, because he knows, he is on God’s side, standing for good and resisting evil, working for evolution and not for selfishness.” (4)

White Brotherhood master Omraam Mikhael Aivanhov described it, saying “the law of life is evolution, that is, development all the way to perfection.” (5)

Theosophist Madame Blavatsky, channeling the ascended masters, used a mixture of Hindu, Buddhist, and Christian terms to describe it.

“No purely spiritual Buddhi (Divine Soul) can have an independent (conscious) existence before the spark which issued from the pure Essence of the ... OVER-SOUL ... has (a) passed through every elemental form of the phenomenal world of that Manvantara [round of life], and (b) acquired individuality, first by natural impulse, and then by self-induced and self-devised efforts (checked by its Karma), thus ascending through all the degrees of intelligence, from the lowest to the highest Manas, from mineral and plant, up to the holiest archangel (Dhyani-Buddha). (6)

We can go back through the ages and hear whispers of it in the teachings of numerous great masters.

Here Jacob describes a vision he had of an evolutionary ladder that reached to heaven.

“And [Jacob] dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it.

“And behold, the Lord stood above it.” (7)

Jesus hints at spiritual evolution when he tells his listeners: “God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.” (8) After all, God has already raised stones to be children of Abraham and we are they, as St. Peter suggests: “Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house.” (9) The spiritual house we are build up is probably all the bodies we have as part of our entire makeup.

If we evolve, then at some point, having gone beyond mineral, plant and animal inheritance, we should also go beyond the human. Here is St. Paul implying that Jesus has gone beyond the human and entered the angelic realm.

“For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve,

“Saying, Fear not, Paul: thou must be brought before Caesar.” (10)

The wonderful Christian non-dualist, Pseudo-Dionysius, agreed with St. Paul that Jesus had become an angel:

“I do not need to remind you ... of the fact that because of [Jesus'] generous work for salvation he himself entered the order of revealers and is called the ‘angel of great counsel.’ Indeed, when he announced what he knew of the Father, was it not as an angel?” (11)

Whether or not Jesus actually did become an angel, the remarks of St. Paul and Pseudo-Dionysius show that they believed in notions of spiritual evolution.

Beinsa Douno, a Christian master of the White Brotherhood and teacher to Omraam Michael Aivanhov, suggests how the process may work:

“If this tree ... understood the Law of Cosmic Love..., it would gradually be transformed into an animal; and if the animal ... applied Cosmic Love, it would be transformed into a human being and the human being - into an angel.” (12)

These more modern masters, even Krishnamurti, could loosely be described as part of the western intellectual tradition. If we look to the east, we find a similar assortment of masters who describe the Divine Plan of spiritual evolution.

From antiquity, Zarathustra captured spiritual evolution in a phrase when he said that “Ahuramazda ... created the creatures for progress, which is His desire.” (13) Paramahansa Yogananda, speaking after death, held that “life is but an opportunity to develop along certain lines.” (14) The Sufi sage Al-Ghazzali, also sees life as the journey of a soul through successive stages of evolution:

“Level after level he traverses the seven spheres and comes down into the Globe of Fire, then Air, then Water, then falls on earth; after that to the Minerals, Plants, Angels, then visits Mankind and the Jinn.

“Until he reaches the degree of human being he passes through many tribulations at every level of his descent; he meets with difficulties. Sometimes he rises; sometimes he goes low; and half a circle is completed till he is lodged with ... mankind.” (15)

Al-Ghazzali speculates that the realm of angels lies beyond the human: “By means of the ‘alchemy of happiness,’ [man] rises from the rank of beasts to that of angels.” (16) Here Rumi talks about his own evolution as a soul. In his review of the stages, he includes the angels, above humanity.

Notice he says “I died as mineral.” Does that not support Jesus and Paul in suggesting that we pass through a stage of consciousness as a stone?

“I died as mineral and became a plant.
I died as plant and rose to animal.
I died as animal and I was man. ...
Yet once more I shall die as man, to soar
With angels blest; but even from angelhood
I must pass on: all except God doth perish.
When I have sacrificed my angel soul,
I shall become what no mind e’er conceived.
Oh, let me not exist! For Non-existence
Proclaims in organ tones, ‘To Him we shall return.’” (17)

Reaching the degree of human being adds to our understanding of something David Wilcock said when he speculated about souls throughout the universe that:

“The human body shows up in the galaxy on every planet where life can form. It’s a

natural evolution. Some might get there by an insect; some might get there by a lizard; some might get there by mammals like we do; some might get there by cetaceans; some might get there even by vegetation, apparently.” (18.)

So all is evolution: not just physical evolution, as Darwin suspected, but spiritual evolution as well.

Terrestrial Post-Mortem Spirit Teachers

Notice that life does not skip a beat with death. The Divine Plan for life carries on; we continue to evolve on the spirit planes.

It’s easier to learn and evolve on Earth than it is on spirit planes exactly because of the hardships we encounter here, as the unnamed spirit teacher of Betty Bethards makes clear.

“It takes many, many hundreds of years on the other side to gain ... knowledge [of God and the nature of existence]. Men must gain it in the body to be open to it from the other side.” (19)

“This is why many souls will incarnate when they really don’t need to, because it would take a thousand years out of the body to do what you could do in one short sixty- or eighty-year life period on the earth plane. So many will choose to incarnate to speed it up, but it is more difficult because you don’t have the awareness you have when you are on the other side.” (20)

There are many great teachers who have left the body and communicate back to us from spirit realms. White Eagle and Silver Birch are two well-loved British spiritual teachers who assume the purpose of educating us on the Divine Plan of spiritual evolution.

White Eagle describes the total process as the evolution of consciousness: “The whole

purpose of incarnation is this slow evolution of the spirit, its awakening in matter, to self-consciousness and God consciousness.” (21) He says it is the duty of each of us “to help forward the spiritual evolution of all life. “ (22)

Silver Birch put the process of spiritual evolution this way:

“You are forever climbing a mountain, ascending one peak, only to behold another to be scaled. Knowledge, progress, development, unfoldment, advancement, all these are eternal processes.” (23)

“It is an infinite evolution,” he says. “There is no summit to be attained. As the spirit unfolds, so it is realized there is more to be achieved. It is like knowledge. The more you have, the more you realize there is further knowledge to be gained.” (24)

South African Clifford McLean describes life as “a process of gradual refinement.” (25) His relative Jim McLean thinks that “Divine Mind has conceived of a perfect plan of gradual advancement, a plan that banishes all conceit.” (26) He amplifies:

“Divine Mind has perceived the necessity for a gradual awakening of the soul in diverse schools of experience, the rate of progress of which is controlled by the individual, according to his desires. In this sphere, the crystal clarity of thought penetrates the darkest recesses of the mind, revealing all hidden faults, coupled with an overwhelming desire to atone for one’s shortcomings.” (27)

American Judge David P. Hatch says that “wisdom is a tree of slow growth; the rings around its trunk are earthly lives, and the grooves between are the periods between the lives.”

“Who grieves that an acorn is slow in becoming an oak? It is equally unphilosophical to feel that the truth which I have endeavoured to make you understand—the truth of the soul’s great leisure—is necessarily sad. If a man were to become an archangel in a few years’ time, he would suffer terribly from growing-pains. The Law is implacable, but it often seems to be kind.” (28)

We can see, so far then, that disembodied spirits share the same point of view on the Divine Plan for life that embodied spirits do. Now let's look at celestials and galactics.

Celestial and Extraterrestrial Teachers

Archangel Michael calls Ascension “an ever-evolving, continuous, on-going evolutionary process and not a destination.” (29) He tells us that there are many levels and stages of evolution.

“There are many levels and stages of ascension: personal earthly ascension, whereby you gradually balance and harmonize your chakra centers which in turn triggers the process of clearing your physical vessel and your auric field of discordant energies. ...

“Ultimately, we will experience the universal ascension process together. This phase of ascension will take place in the far-distant future; however, we in the higher realms of existence have had glimpses of this prodigious cosmic event and, we assure you, it is so magnificently complex and awe-inspiring that it is beyond your present comprehension.” (30)

SaLuSa, a spokesman for the Galactic Federation who hails from Sirius, informs us that “life is infinite... It is part of your spiritual evolution.”(31) This evolution will “never cease until you return to the absolute Source.” (32)

He reveals that everything is “mystically attracted to the Source, where you will finally reach the ultimate completion of the return journey. The Creator draws all back into its Being, only to again commence further great cycles of experience.” (33)

However “there is far to go and many experiences to be had, before you reach the ultimate goal.” (34) Ascension, his Sirian colleague Atmos tells us, “ is but a step towards achieving full consciousness, and taking your place with the Masters.” (35)

SaLuSa agrees: Evolution is “a never-ending journey.” (36) The object of working our ascending in 2012,” SaLuSa tells us, “is to move into a state of enlightenment and continue to evolve.” (37) “The purpose of living many lives,” SaLuSa says, “is to follow an overall plan that leads to your spiritual evolution. It is the only way to advance and leave the cycle of re-birth behind.” (38)

Ascension “is simply the commencement of another journey that will open up the Cosmos to you.” (39)

So the celestials and galactics agree with the great spiritual teachers of Earth, whether embodied or disembodied. Spiritual evolution is the Divine Plan for all life, to work out the purpose that God should meet God.

Footnotes

(1) John Smallman’s Saul put the purpose of life this way: “The sublime Intelligence ... created you in Love to experience eternal bliss.” (Saul, Oct. 2, 2010, at <http://johnsmallman.wordpress.com>.)

For more on the purpose of life, see [SaLuSa and the "Greater Picture"](#), [Life No Matter Where, No Matter When](#), [To Know God is the Purpose of Life](#), [The Purpose of Life is Enlightenment](#), [Ch. 3 The Purpose of Life is Enlightenment](#) For more on the Divine Plan for life, see [Ch. 2 Is There a Plan to Life?](#), at <http://stevebeckow.com/16244-2/the-purpose-of-life-is-enlightenment/ch-2-is-there-a-plan-to-life/>.

(2) PR in Nikhilananda, Swami, trans., *The Gospel of Sri Ramakrishna*. New York: Ramakrishna-Vivekananda Center, 1978; c1942, 305.

(3) Hazrat Inayat Khan, *Way of Illumination*. Delhi, etc.: Motilal Banarsidass, 1988, 237.

(4) J. Krishnamurti, *At the Feet of the Master*. Adyar: Theosophical Publishing House, 1974; c1910, 17.

(5) Omraam Mikhael Aivanhov. *Aquarius. Herald of the Golden Age*. Part 1. Vol. 25 of the

Complete Works. Freju: Editions Prosveta, 1981, 19.

(6) Blavatsky, Helena P. *An Abridgement of the Secret Doctrine*. Ed. Elizabeth Preston and Christmas Humphreys. Wheaton, Ill: Theosophical Publishing House, 1968, 13.

(7) Genesis 28:12-14.

(8) Jesus in Matthew 3:9.

(9) I Peter 2:5.

(10) Acts 27:23-4.

(11) Pseudo-Dionysius in Luibheid, Cohn, trans., *Pseudo-Dionysus, His Complete Works*. New York and Mahwah: Paulist Press, 1989, 159.

(12) Beinsa Douno, "The Cosmic Love," *Lectures*, 24 August 1919.

(13) Zarathustra in Duncan Greenlees, trans. *The Gospel of Zarathushtra*. Adyar: Theosophical Publishing House, 1978, 141.

(14) Paramahansa Yogananda in Robert Leichtman, *Priests of God*. Atlanta, GA: Ariel Press, 1997; c1980, 120.

(15) Muhyidden Ibn Arabi, *Kernel of the Kernel*. trans. Ismail Hakki Bursevi. Sherborne: Beshara, n.d., 20.

(16) Al-Ghazzali, *The Alchemy of Happiness*. trans. Claud Field. Lahore: ASHRAF, 1971; c1964, 32.

(17) Rumi in Anne Fremantle and Christopher. *In Love with Love. 100 of the Greatest Mystical Poems*. New York, etc.: Paulist Press, 1978, 58.

(18) *Project Camelot Interviews David Wilcock*, Part 2 of 4, at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Bz9YPriDLo&feature=channel>

(19) Unnamed spiritual teacher to Betty Bethards, medium, *There is No Death*. Novato, CA: Inner Light Foundation, 1976; c1975, 11-2. John Heslop, resident of the Christ Sphere, agrees:

"It is far easier to acquire this knowledge [of lessons unlearned] in the earth surroundings than on this side, just as it is easier for a child to receive the groundwork of education, than for a man, when he tries to learn what was taught him vainly in his youth." (John Heslop through F. Heslop, medium, *Further Messages Across the Border-Line. A Continuation of "Speaking Across the Border-Line."* London: Charles Taylor, n.d., 28-9.)

(20) Ibid., 9.

(21) White Eagle, White Eagle, *Wisdom from White Eagle*. Liss: White Eagle Publishing Trust, 1983, 49.

(22) Ibid., 80.

(23) Silver Birch, *Silver Birch's Teachings*. Located at <http://www.angelfire.com/ok/SilverBirch/Tcon.html>, n.p.

(24) Silver Birch, *Light from Silver Birch*. Comp. Pam Riva. London: Psychic Press, 1983, 19.

(25) Clifford McLean in Lesley May, med., *Letters from Mother. A Family Biography in Two Worlds*. Ed. Edmund Bentley. London: Psychic Press, 1964, 100.

(26) Jim McLean in *ibid.*, 112.

(27) Ibid., 113.

(28) Judge David Patterson Hatch ("X"), *Letters from a Living Dead Man*. Elsa Barker, med. New York: Mitchell Kennerly, 1914. Ebook downloaded from <http://www.earthlypursuits.com/LtrLDMan/LtrLDMan.htm>, 28 August 2008. Letter XXXVIII.

(29) Archangel Michael, May 2010, through Ronna Herman, at <http://www.ronnastar.com/latest.html>.

(30) Archangel Michael, May 2009, through Ronna Herman, at <http://www.ronnastar.com/latest.html>.

(31) SaLuSa, Nov. 24, 2008 at http://www.treeofthegoldenlight.com/First_Contact/Channeled_Messages_by_Mike_Quinsey.htm.

(32) SaLuSa, March 26, 2010.

(33) SaLuSa, Feb. 26, 2010.

(34) SaLuSa, Sept. 18, 2009.

(35) Atmos of Sirius, May 18, 2009, at http://www.treeofthegoldenlight.com/First_Contact/Channeled_Messages_by_Mike_Quinsey.htm.

(36) SaLuSa, April 20, 2009.

(37) SaLuSa, April 6, 2009.

(38) SaLuSa, Oct. 4, 2010.

(39) SaLuSa, Feb. 23, 2009.

What is the Divine Plan for Life? - Part 2/2



The Process of Spiritual Evolution in Detail

Now that we've established that terrestrial and extraterrestrial, embodied and disembodied sources recognize the Divine Plan of spiritual evolution, let's look at that plan in more detail.

First of all, the process of creation, preservation, and transformation that serves the Divine Plan is infinite and eternal. Silver Birch says:

“The Great Spirit is infinite, and so the process of creation is infinite, progressing always in its multitudinous expressions from imperfection to perfection, from immaturity to maturity, through all the countless grades of evolution.

“That process is timeless. It had no beginning, it has no end, for it belongs to infinity. It is part of the infinite Great Spirit, and that self-same spirit finds its expression in human life at varying stages of unfoldment.” (1)

Moreover, Silver Birch continues, nothing stands still in life but all is in constant motion away from or towards the Divine.

“Life, because it is life, cannot ever be static, for that way lies stagnation. Life is rhythm, motion, progress, unfoldment, development, the reaching out towards perfection all the time. Unless there were constant gradations of life, unless there was a constant pilgrimage on the rungs of the ladder of progress, life would not be life. It is in the variety of evolution, with its multitudinous stages of development, that life becomes life.

“If all were at the same stage, if perfection were attained, if there were no necessity for further striving, no need for new attainments, no need for still greater expression, then the incentive to live, to achieve, would gradually become extinct. The motivation of life is always onward, striving to reach out to clasp that which is at present beyond its grasp. And it is always in the striving, in the attempt to conquer, seeking to triumph over difficulty, that the spirit finds itself and God is at work amongst you. (2)

Third, from the evolutionary point of view, according to spirit leader “Imperator” (the pseudonym adopted by the prophet Malachi), we come to recognize Earth life “as a school of training.” (3)

“Ye are spirits placed for a while in a garb of flesh to get training for an advanced spirit-life, where the seeds sown in the past bear their fruit, and the spirit reaps the crop which it has prepared.” (4)

Psychic Researcher Frederic Myers extends that by telling us, from his vantage point in the astral planes, that education and evolution are the reasons for the creation of all worlds, both physical and spiritual:

“The reason, therefore, for the universe and for all appearances, for even the little mundane joys and sorrows of human beings, is to be found in the term “evolution of spirit,” the need for complete fulfillment which can be obtained through limitation, through the expression of the spirit in form. For only through that expression can

spirit grow, developing from the embryo, only through manifestation in appearance can spirit obtain fulfillment.

“For this purpose were we born, for this purpose we enter and pass through myriad worlds or states, and always the material universe is growing, expanding, giving fuller and fuller expression to mind. The purpose of existence may be summed up in a phrase—the evolution of mind in matter that varies in degree and kind—so that mind develops through manifestation, and in an ever-expanding universe ever increases in power and gains thereby the true conception of reality.

“The myriad thoughts of God, those spirits which inform with life all material forms, are the lowest manifestation of God, and must thus learn to become God-like – to become an effective part of the Whole.” (5)

In the Earth school, we learn by experiencing, as Betty Bethards’s teacher tells us. Knowing the Self is the object of all lessons.

“[Earth] is nothing more than a school which we go through, each incarnation [being] like a grade. Many times we don’t ‘pass,’ but we aren’t going to fail either. We just may remain on a particular level without progressing. In time, we begin to progress at our own rate of speed.

“And, of course, the more you change inwardly, the more you can comprehend. The more clarity and understanding you have and the more love you are able to bring into your aura, the faster your tests can come. You can be allowed three grades or three lifetimes in one incarnation if your soul is truly advancing and learning.

“To know Self is to know all things. If you watch how you handle things, how you are working with others around and about you, you are given more clarity, more tests, more obstacles. But there are more opportunities for growth so that you can speed things up, too. This is the soul’s choice.” (6)

We heard Betty Bethards's teacher and John Heslop say in the first article that much more can be learned on Earth than in Heaven. Here T.E. Lawrence, known to Earth-dwellers as Lawrence of Arabia, explains why:

“There is ... a reason for stressing the importance of the earth experience. It seems that in the cycle of growth [earth life] is the formative stage when alone any real growth in essence takes place. When the earth life is over and one comes here, the law of affinity takes one into congenial conditions and the general alleviation of circumstances removes all outer sources of conflict. There is no more struggle for existence. Our work here is a kind of mopping-up operation.

“We can, in fact we must, graduate from regions where our faults and temper and our sense of guilt are tolerated to those where we have to clear ourselves of these stains of earth. But although we may clear ourselves and in the ascent of the planes gradually purify our being until we are again essential spirit, still no actual growth in this spirit will have been made here.

“What we bring from earth remains our all, so our fate is bound up with our earth experiences; only in the struggle and turmoil of life there are we able to make any real difference to our spiritual stature. So, although this in-between period is a wonderful interlude, the real work has to be done on earth.” (7)

Fourth, spiritual evolution features more than one movement. We have now heard several people say that, in life, to quote Ibn Arabi, “sometimes [man] rises; sometimes he goes low.” (8) In fact, if we remember that Ibn Arabi described life as an arc in the first part of this article, away from and back to God, we see that he has in fact been describing two movements –a sacred arc and a spiritual spiral. The rising and falling in the course of the arc is the spiral.

The sacred arc is the overall parabolic descent into matter and ascent into spirit over

countless lifetimes. The spiritual spiral is a periodic rising and falling in any one lifetime as the being responds to its “many tribulations” due to karma. Sage Vasistha, millennia ago, referred to this second movement as the “rise and fall in evolution” that is brought about by “the law of cause and effect.” (9)

Twentieth-century Christian Master Beinsa Douno described this arc as a “partial rise and descent in an oscillating curve.” (10)

Let us now combine the two movements—the sacred arc and the spiritual spiral. As we travel through the sacred arc over evolutionary periods of time, we follow a spiritual spiral on a day-to-day basis. While the movement of the arc may be away from and back to God, the movement of the spiral is through the same situations again and again until we learn our lessons. In the course of this parabolic and spiral journey of many lifetimes, says Al Ghazzali, the individual being “rises from the rank of beasts to that of angels.” (11)

We’ll find the use of this combined metaphor of arc and spiral common in the literature on the divine plan. South African Mike Swain uses the image of a spiral staircase to convey it: spiritual evolution is “a circular staircase of ever-evolving self-perception.” (12)

Englishwoman Frances Banks also offers it when she says “consciousness is on an upward spiral and progresses onward.” (13) Silver Birch also uses the image. “Evolution is not in a straight line,” he says. “It is a spiral. At the top, things look beautiful; at the bottom they don’t look so beautiful.’ (14)

Another thing about spiritual evolution is, as Silver Birch says, the more we learn, the more we see there is to learn:

“The higher your soul evolves the greater is the progress it has made—but the more it knows there is to be evolved. That is its disadvantage, it is more dissatisfied. The more sensitive you become to beauty, the more sensitive you are to ugliness. The higher you rise, the lower you can sink.” (15)

Moreover, simply passing over into the spirit world widens the horizon, as Betty's teacher says.

"Here we know better the meaning that lies behind it all, and realize that it is a small matter as compared with the wonderful scheme that lies behind all effort, all evolution. ... When all is known it will be seen that the evils of the earth life are for one purpose only, to train humans in the way to understand right from wrong, and to educate them to choose the right.

"In the process of evolution many fall by the wayside, many strive and fail, many endeavors are frustrated. But the lesson remains, and the individual has grown to a slight extent. Life may be lost, time may be wasted, apparently, but the end has been achieved in some fashion." (16)

We've discussed in other articles the few souls who do not succeed at all in evolution. Betty's teacher also refers to them:

"There are cases where evolution has failed in some individuals, and the result is downward instead, because of some perverse trait that turned the effort in the wrong direction. But this is far less than is generally believed. All failures, so-called, are not failures. Many prove to be the greatest successes; for an impress has been made on the soul that will last through eternity." (17)

Philosopher William James reveals that our view of life changes dramatically once we free ourselves from the body and enter the afterlife.

"We get different viewpoints on many of these [matters] because of our ability to understand some things that were beyond our grasp there. We see that many things which we looked upon as evils there, appear to us now as problems that were placed in our path for us to solve. We find that many things which we considered blessings were only some of the more cheerful events of our life. The real evils we did not

fully understand, the real blessings have been left for this life.” (18)

Thus we can see that the Divine Plan of spiritual evolution can be described in the long term as a sacred arc as it moves away from and returns to God, and in the short term as a spiral motion which sees life rise and fall in response to karma. In the course of this journey, we pass through infinite experiences that school us in righteousness, maturity, and self-identity, until we find ourselves in a position to fulfill the purpose of life, which is to realize ourselves as God.

This is the grand design of life, the Divine Plan, the architecture of spiritual evolution, one step of which is now about to be realized in the process of Ascension on Dec. 21, 2012.

Footnotes

(1) Silver Birch, *Silver Birch's Teachings*. Located at <http://www.angelfire.com/ok/SilverBirch/Tcon.html>, n.p.

(2) Loc. cit.

(3) “Imperator” (Malachi) speaking through Stainton Moses. *Spirit Teachings*. London: Spiritualist Press, n.d. (Prior to 1883), 52.

(4) Spirit leader Imperator in Moses, ST, *ibid.*, 65-6. Scot John Heslop: “Earth is the training ground of the spirit.” (John Heslop through F. Heslop, medium, *Speaking Across the Border-Line. Being Letters from a Husband in Spirit Life to His Wife on Earth*. London: Charles Taylor, 9th ed., n.d. , 22.) American journalist Julia Ames agrees that physical life is an essential part of the process of spiritual evolution.

“For reasons known to Him who is over all, it is deemed essential that the soul should be passed through the training of physical life. It is part of the process by which the soul attains its ultimate evolution.” (Julia [Julia T. Ames] through W.T. Stead, medium, *After Death. A Personal Narrative*. New York: George H. Doran, n.d.; c. 1914. , 156.)

(5) Frederick W.H. Myers through Geraldine Cummins, medium. *The Road to Immortality. Being a description of the after-life purporting to be communicated by the late F. W. H. Myers [Frederick William Henry Myers, 1843-1901]*. Located at

<http://www.trans4mind.com/spiritual/cummins/cummins1.html>. , n.p.

(6) Unnamed spirit teacher through Betty Bethards, medium, *There is No Death*. Novato, CA: Inner Light Foundation, 1976; c1975. , 8-9.

(7) T.E. Lawrence through Jane Sherwood, medium, *Post-Mortem Journal. Communications from T.E. Lawrence*. London: Spearman, 1964., 91.

(8) Muhyiddin Ibn Arabi, *Kernel of the Kernel*. trans. Ismail Hakki Bursevi. Sherborne: Beshara, n.d., 20.

(9) Venkatesananda, Swami, ed., *The Concise Yoga Vasistha*. Albany: State University of New York, 1984, 94.

(10) “Brother of the Smallest One,” *Lectures*, 1 January 1917, www.beinsadouno.org., downloaded 7 March 2005.

(11) Al-Ghazzali, *The Alchemy of Happiness*. trans. Claude Field. Lahore: ASHRAF, 1971; c1964, 32.

(12) Mike Swain in Jasper Swain, *From My World to Yours: A Young Man’s Account of the Afterlife*. New York: Walker, 1977, 86.

(13) Frances Banks in Helen Graves, *Testimony of Light*. London: Churches Fellowship for Psychical & Spiritual Studies, 1975; c1969, 40.

(14) Silver Birch, *Light from Silver Birch*. Comp. Pam Riva. London: Psychic Press, 1983, 19.

(15) Silver Birch, SBT, *ibid.*, n.p.

(16) Unnamed spiritual teacher to Betty Bethards, medium, *There is No Death*. Novato, CA: Inner Light Foundation, 1976; c1975, 11-2, 264.

(17) *Ibid.*, 264-5. On Irma Grese, who was liquidated after descending too far, see [“Verifying SaLuSa on the Dark Planes,”](#) at <http://stevebeckow.com/2010/09/15/verifying-salusa-on-the-dark-planes/>

(18) Philosopher William James in Fred Rafferty, ed., Charlotte E. Dresser, medium, *Life Here and Hereafter*. Author’s edition. Downloaded from <http://www.harvestfields.ca/ebook/02/001/00.htm>, 2 Feb. 2008, 107-8.

The Divine Plan for Life is Spiritual Evolution



Spiritual Evolution is the Divine Plan for Life

As they awaken to the special nature of these times, I think that many people will ask what the point of life is. There will be so much occurring and what occurs will be of such consequence that some will ask us to start at the beginning.

And where is that beginning? That beginning is the Divine Plan for life. And that Plan can be summarized in two words: spiritual evolution. We move from God to God in quest of conscious awareness of our identity as God. We do that so that God may meet God in a moment of our enlightenment.

Let's focus in on the messages of SaLuSa to hear his consistent explanation of the Divine Plan for life.

“Some [people] will ... ask what the point of [life] is,” SaLuSa says, “and, Dear Ones, wherever you are and whatever you are doing it is for your growth and evolution.” (1) All of life, he says, is “a continuous round of experiences that you have all set in place to further

your spiritual evolution.” (2) Life everywhere in the Universe “is continually evolving,” he continues; “it is a natural condition that forever impels you forward.” (3)

The impact of the Plan extends to every aspect of our lives: “Whatever you are involved in including your family and friends, the object is to apply yourself to situations in such a way that it will further your spiritual evolution.” (4)

But life is not only purposeful; it is also expansive. All our lives, SaLuSa tells us, “lead you ever onwards in your evolutionary search for upliftment.” (5) It was the desire to progress that led us to descend into duality in the first place: “The upliftment in your spiritual evolution is the whole purpose and outcome of your time in duality.” (6)

In terms of planning our next incarnation, we are never made to do something and our journey into duality is no exception. “The Creator did not force you into the cycle of duality,” SaLuSa says, “as you eagerly volunteered knowing you would one day return to your home in the higher dimensions.” (7) In our long journey into duality, we played both light and dark roles to enhance our learning.

“Each of you has had experiences of the dark and Light, because that is the reason you entered this cycle. Experience means progress and is your pathway back to the Light that knows no equal.” (8)

Eventually we'll transcend the human condition and go on to greater destinies. “It must not be forgotten that you are all potential gods in the making. Your lives are infinite.” (9)

Human beings now, we'll eventually assume roles that are at present beyond our imagining. “Knowing that your present life is just but one of many that will continue ad infinitum, you will realize that it is all for your experience as you grow in consciousness. It will gradually expand so that eventually it could embrace a whole planet, and way into your future some of you may chose to experience being a planetary logos.” (10)

But what end does all this tend towards? The same distant future is sought and shared by everyone and everything. As SaLuSa phrases it, “everything that exists is moving back to the Source.” To merge again with the same Source from which we came is the goal of everything that lives. Because this is our common destiny, “we join hands and help each other.” (11)

Some Design Elements of Life

One of the shared features or design elements present in all of life is the desire to evolve and progress.

“Evolution is quite natural and the desire to do so remains with you forever. It is fun and rewarding, particularly once you graduate to the higher dimensions. Heavenly might be a word that would convey what we mean, but your memories of such times are clouded by the amount of time you have already spent in duality.” (12)

There isn't a life form that doesn't feel the desire to evolve: “You ... like every other soul [have] an innate urge to rise up higher and higher, and not even the lowest of the low completely lose it.” (13)

Another design element found in the plan for life is the feature of reincarnation. Its purpose too is to promote our spiritual evolution.

“The purpose of living many lives is to follow an overall plan that leads to your spiritual evolution. It is the only way to advance and leave the cycle of re-birth behind.” (14)

Our lives have often seen us suffer, SaLuSa tells us, because “it is through such experiences

that you grow spiritually.” (15) However, none of these experiences is likely random; all are planned, he tells us. “Your existence is not some freak accident, but of a careful design intended to give you every opportunity to move off the wheel of rebirth.” (16)

“Remember that you have most likely had hundreds of lives in all manner of roles and situations. These have been carefully planned to give you suitable experiences that will advance your evolution. There is no experience that is truly a random event, and certainly each one is an important step on your path.” (17)

Evolution is independent of all situations and beliefs. Even if we choose to remain on the same dimension rather than to ascend, we still progress.

“No matter who you are or how you view life, or what your beliefs are you will still evolve through the experiences each life provides you. You may go in all directions at various times, but the fact is that the net result will see you progress towards the Light.

“You may choose to stay in your present dimension, and that does not mean you are not evolving. You can return to any level you desire in the interests of gaining the experience you need. It is not usually a decision you make alone, and your mentors and Guides will assist you in making it.” (18)

No one is hurried on his or her journey: “You have a lot to learn about so many things but have as much time as you need, because life is infinite and you have the freedom to choose your own experiences.” (19) This may sound contradictory to the earlier statement that all was planned. What SaLuSa means here is that we choose our life plan before birth and then follow it as closely as we can during our lives.

To some souls it would appear that there is no impetus or movement in their lives, but,

SaLuSa reminds us, “be assured they are planned with growth in mind.” (20)

Spiritual laws are another design element of life that exist to see that we learn our lessons well before we finally leave them.

“Spiritual laws are defined by God and apply to all living forms that have the gift of freewill, and when these are not followed the experiences will be repeated until you overcome them. That is spiritual evolution and your consciousness will not be lifted to higher levels until the lessons have been learnt.” (21)

We receive guidance throughout our lives to help us make wise choices: “Your progress is not taken lightly and is carefully considered for each soul, and you are guided to experience that offers you the best opportunity to evolve.” (22) Although our lives are planned before birth, we may not stick to our life plan and therefore our guides are here to remind us and help us make the best choices.

Some souls may go through the same experiences many times, he adds, but “there is always something to be learnt.” (23) Because higher beings understand the manner in which life works, they have no judgments towards us, no matter what we do or how long we take.

“There is no judgment at the higher levels, and we simply see beautiful souls making their way back to the Light. The whole purpose of being in duality is to grow through experience, so why indeed should anyone’s choice be looked upon as different to anyone else’s.

“Your lives all carry responsibility and your actions are accountable for by you, but once cleared karmically there are no recriminations. Remember that experiences are set up with souls that have all agreed to play out their respective roles. Someone has to take the part of the dark Ones, and believe us, Dear Ones - you have all acted on both sides.” (24)

What Experiences Await Us in the Cosmos

Even the galactics, who are ascended beings, continue to evolve.

“You might ask where do we stand as far as evolution is concerned, and we would reply that we as member civilizations of the Galactic Federation have already ascended. We continue to evolve, and will do so until we find ourselves at One with the Source of All That Is.” (25)

The galactic nations now here around the Earth played a role in our early evolution, he informs us.

“You will find that Galactic Federation members are no strangers to your early evolution, and in fact have had more than a hand in it. There is more of a connection between us than you might imagine, and we have had a part to play in your genetic engineering resulting in what you are today. When you get to see the various types of Beings in our Federation, you will marvel at how many have a close resemblance to how you look now.” (26)

They take particular care when intervening not to interfere with our choices around evolution: “When an advanced civilization intervenes with one that is still evolving, much care is necessary to ensure that it does not interfere with their path of evolution.” (27)

We have no idea of the variety of life out there in the universe: “Whatever you can imagine already exists somewhere in the Cosmos, and there is nothing that you cannot experience to fulfill your desires.” (28)

Moreover, whomever we meet, we can take it for granted that they too are experiencing in

order to evolve: “When you meet with Beings from another civilization, know that they too are carrying out a life plan to move further ahead in their evolution.” (29)

Ascension is the doorway that will lead us into a wonderful new world of experience.

“You have so much to learn, and Ascension will be your first major step towards a true understanding of your purpose for being here.

“You will also learn of the continuing plan for your greater evolution in the higher realms. You are not afloat like a cork aimlessly bobbing up and down in the sea, but have a clear course mapped out ahead of you and we shall steer you towards it.”
(30)

“Ascension will lift you up to levels that you passed through on your downward path into duality,” he tells us. (31) Eventually the new journey that begins with Ascension will lead us Home.

“You are due to start a new journey that will take you back to Source.

“What the next few years will do is to offer you the opportunity to lift up your sights, and set them upon the most lighted expression you can achieve. After all, the object of working your way to Ascension is to move into a state of enlightenment, and continue to evolve. You will ever move onwards.” (32)

Therefore all life follows a Divine Plan of spiritual evolution. Repeated lifetimes present us with situations that were planned before birth and that help us to grow as spiritual beings on our journey from God to God. We've descended into duality for our spiritual growth and experience and now ascend to begin a journey in the higher dimensions, that will see us

pass through many exalted roles before finally merging again with the Source, which for all of us is the end of the journey and the object of spiritual evolution.

Footnotes

- (1) SaLuSa, March 31, 2010, at http://www.treeofthegoldenlight.com/First_Contact/Channeled_Messages_by_Mike_Quinsey.htm
- (2) SaLuSa, Feb. 1, 2010.
- (3) SaLuSa, May 4, 2009.
- (4) SaLuSa, April 20, 2009.
- (5) SaLuSa, Dec. 16, 2009.
- (6) SaLuSa, June 15, 2009.
- (7) SaLuSa, Oct. 7, 2009.
- (8) SaLuSa, Oct. 7, 2009.
- (9) SaLuSa, Dec. 30, 2008.
- (10) SaLuSa, Oct. 31, 2011.
- (11) SaLuSa, May 20, 2011.
- (12) SaLuSa, Feb. 8, 2010.
- (13) SaLuSa, Oct. 7, 2009.
- (14) SaLuSa, Oct. 4, 2010.
- (15) SaLuSa, Sept. 13, 2010.
- (16) SaLuSa, Dec. 16, 2009.
- (17) SaLuSa, May 19, 2010.
- (18) SaLuSa, July 14, 2010.
- (19) SaLuSa, March 31, 2010.
- (20) SaLuSa, May 4, 2009.

- (21) SaLuSa, Feb. 5, 2010.
- (22) SaLuSa, Feb. 8, 2010.
- (23) SaLuSa, April 9, 2010.
- (24) SaLuSa, Aug. 27, 2010.
- (25) SaLuSa, July 14, 2010.
- (26) SaLuSa, May 5, 2010.
- (27) SaLuSa, Apr. 16, 2010.
- (28) SaLuSa, Feb. 8, 2010.
- (29) SaLuSa, Jan. 13, 2010.
- (30) SaLuSa, Oct. 7, 2009.
- (31) SaLuSa, Nov. 24, 2008.
- (32) SaLuSa, April 6, 2009.

Spiritual Evolution: The Divine Plan for Life



Life has meaning. It has order. It has a purpose and a process.

That purpose and process can be, and have been, known to all of Earth's sages and to the galactic ascended beings here to help us with our Ascension.

The Divine Plan for life can be expressed in words, though it is very unlikely that those words actually can or do capture it in very much of its original and total glory. Our explanations will be biased and partial. But it may be better to have rough approximate statements and keep improving them than to have no idea whatsoever and wander in the dark.

So here is a rough approximation of it, which I expect to have a very short shelf life and to be soon replaced by a better expression of it. This statement of it draws heavily on what I learned from a vision in 1987 and from subsequent research, described here:

<http://www.angelfire.com/space2/light11/epilog.html> . These points also summarize what is said in the book, [*The Purpose of Life is Enlightenment*](#) .

Spiritual Evolution: The Divine Plan for Life

1. Every man, woman, and child on this planet is God. Every man, woman, and child lives forever, through countless physical lives.

Everything known and unknown, everything that is and is not is God. There is nothing that we can see or not see that is not Him (Her, It - God has no gender. I'll follow the conventional use of sages here and refer to God as a "He"). That being the case you are God and I am God and everyone else is as well. Being God, we're not capable of being destroyed or ceasing to exist. We're therefore eternal, though our physical bodies are not.

The "immortality" that such teachers as Jesus speak of is not immortality of the soul, which is already immortal, but the cessation of the need to be born into a physical body again. As it happens we reincarnate endless times until we reach the point of needing no more to be reborn physically. But that is not the end of spiritual evolution, which continues until we return to God, whence we came, through a virtually endless process of successive enlightenments.

Spiritual evolution means that, not simply the physical body evolves as Darwin said it does, but the spiritual bodies that we also inhabit do as well. We journey through lifetime after lifetime, learning, discriminating, improving our ability to discern the Real from the unreal, until finally we realize the One fully. We have then progressed from unconscious awareness to conscious awareness of our nature as God.

2. The purpose of life is enlightenment. The purpose of life is that God should meet God and, in that meeting, taste His own bliss. For that purpose was all of life made.

God is One without a second. In His highest expression, God is formless and thus encounters

no forms and can draw on no tools or technologies. God is alone in the universe of form and beyond. There being no other, there is no one to know God and no means for God to know God. In light of this, to satisfy a desire to know Himself and taste His own bliss, God created life forms and assigned them the task of knowing their true nature, their original identity.

He implanted in them a longing that can only be satisfied by the realization of their identity as God. He created universal laws that aid the individual being in the journey from God into the world and from the world back to God again. Each time a life form realizes its true identity as God, God meets God, and for this meeting was all of life created.

3. All of us have journeyed out from God, by His command, and will be liberated from the cycle of physical birth and death the moment we know that everything in this world, including us, is God. Hindu sages call this level of enlightenment *vijnana* (perfect wisdom) and *sahaja* (or natural, permanent) *nirvikalpa samadhi*.

When all movement in the mind stops, when the spiritual heart (or hridayam) opens and never shuts again, the individual being realizes God in sahaja nirvikalpa samadhi, the stage of liberation from the need to be physically reborn (or mukti). This level has been called vijnana (or perfect wisdom) by some and nirvana (or cessation of movement). But spiritual evolution does not cease here. Only the need to be reborn in this Third Dimension stops. Orders of existence stretch on in an endless vista, through dimension after dimension, universe after universe.

4. The Father created the domain of the Mother (*mater*, matter) as the setting for our spiritual journey and education. We wander in this material realm lifetime after lifetime, constantly learning.

The first creations in life were what Christians call the Holy Spirit and the Christ or Son and

what Hindus call the Divine Mother or Shakti and the Atman. The first is a primal universal creative vibration known as Aum/Amen, the Logos or Word. Known to Solomon as "Wisdom" or Sophia, to Lao-Tzu as the Mother, this level of reality is the Phenomenal world whereas the Father or Brahman is the Formless Transcendental, beyond the Phenomenal world.

The Christ or Atman is "the Father in me" or "Brahman-within-the-individual," a "fragment" or "spark," metaphorically speaking, lodged within the body (or bodies), which are created by the Mother. One cannot know the Father without first knowing the Son in a moment of enlightenment. This first sight of the Light grows, with meditation, till one day it becomes the sight of the Father's Light. The Son is the Father but the Father is greater than the Son. The Father is in me (in the heart of the individual) and I am in the Father (as are all things).

Neither is the Father male nor the Mother female. These designations were conventional teaching devices used by sages of old. There is no cosmic male, strictly speaking, and no cosmic female. The difference being pointed at is the same as the difference between movement (Mother) and rest (Father), sound and silence. Only the Father is not physical or material; everything else, no matter at how sublime or refined a level it exists, can be said to be physical or material when compared to the Father.

5. The Father made the material domain lawful. The most important law for us to know is the Law of Karma, which requires that what we do unto others shall be done unto us.

The material domain is the only domain in which law applies. Law does not apply to the Maker of the law, although He may submit to be governed by the law as in the case of an Avatar. The Mother is the "Voice crying in the Wilderness," the sound of Aum/Amen echoing throughout the Phenomenal domain as the music of the spheres, which creates, preserves, and transforms all things. The Father is the Wilderness in that no law can bind Him.

The most important law for us to attend to as Third-Dimensional beings is the Law of

Karma. The Law of Karma is like guardrails which prevent a vehicle from leaving the road. It keeps the individual soul from going too far to the left or right and ensures that the individual keeps moving forward towards the destined return of the Prodigal Child to God, once it tires of all experiences in the material world.

6. The form of our total journey is a sacred arc, like Jacob's Ladder, away from and back to God. But, day by day, we also follow a spiritual spiral, returning to the same karmic lessons repeatedly until we learn them.

As Jesus said, we come out from the Father into the world, remain for a while, and then return to the Father in what can be conceived of as an arc. When I had my vision of the purpose of life, in 1987, the form of the individual's journey out from God and back to God again formed this wide circle.

Nonetheless, the Law of Karma ensures that we return to the same lessons again and again until at last we learn them and this return through successive lifetimes can be seen as a spiral. Thus the shape of life, if you will, can be visualized as a spiraling arc or circular coil. This virtually endless journey is depicted in many religions as a ladder of consciousness or a stairway of existence which we travel down and then up.

7. From one day to the next, we may expand or contract, but all the while we are cosmically drawn back to Him by a sub-sensible, eternal longing, planted there by Him, for Him: a longing for liberation (for more on this, see ["The Longing for Liberation"](#)).

The longing for liberation is just one of the design elements built or hardwired into life forms. Most people, experiencing this subsensible tidal yearning, try to fill it with possessions, experiences, relationships, and so on. But God so designed life that nothing will satisfy it except the return to God. We go through life endlessly acquiring, enjoying and casting aside, ever unsatisfied, in an endless cycle of desire. This develops discrimination in

us. Gradually we are made aware that nothing but God will satisfy our ineffable thirst and hunger. Then we develop detachment. At that point we cease to be prodigal children and begin our return to the Father, who welcomes us with open arms.

This longing then acts as a homing beacon or magnet on all life forms, no matter how exalted, drawing them ever onwards until they merge again with God. Hence the love in the eyes of saints towards God and the deep devotion of exalted beings, in whom the longing for liberation acts more strongly than in us.

8. In the cosmic Drama, there are three Actors we must realize: God the Father, God the Mother, and God the Child. These are the Transcendental, the Phenomenal, and the Transcendental in the Phenomenal. Christians call them (note the change in order) the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Hindus call them Brahman, Atman, and Shakti. The Formless became two Forms. The One made trillions of forms through the agency of the Two and then mysteriously entered into them. We are required to know that Trinity.

The "Holy Persons" are not persons, but levels of reality. They can be described as the Transcendental, the Phenomenal, and the Transcendental in the Phenomenal. We are the Transcendental in the Phenomenal, sparks of divinity who reside in the womb of the Mother until our divine birth. The Mother educates her children in the school of life until they are ready to be brought to meet the Father.

All religions have a conception of this Holy Trinity, though it may take some digging to correlate terms. We "know" the three levels in successively-higher experiences of enlightenment. We know the Son, Christ, or Atman in the experience of "stream entering" or "spiritual awakening" when the kundalini reaches the fourth or heart chakra.

We know the Mother in an experience of savikalpa samadhi or cosmic consciousness when the kundalini reaches the sixth or brow chakra (and the Third eye opens).

We know the Father first in an experience of kevalya nirvikalpa samadhi when the kundalini reaches the seventh or crown chakra and permanently in an experience of sahaja nirvikalpa samadhi when the energy reaches the spiritual heart or hridayam.

The Christ or Atman is often called the "Self," which leads us to say that we cannot know God until we become knowers of the Self. Translated that means we cannot have the experience of seventh-chakra enlightenment until we have the experience of fourth-chakra enlightenment. Therefore know Thyself. Meditate on the Self that is known and it will become the knowledge of God. All of Jesus's parables about the treasure buried in a field, the pearl of great price, the mustard seed, and the measure of meal concern this journey of enlightenment.

Knowledge of these three levels of Reality is required of all beings before they graduate from humanness.. Their knowledge represents a progressive accomplishment. There is not simply one enlightenment or one level of enlightenment, but many. And beyond humanness there are also many further gradations of life.

9. Everyone will reach Him - some in the morning; some in the afternoon; and some in the evening. Experiences will vary, but all will eventually know God.

No one will fail to return to God. Even the very small number who choose such evil that they are liquidated can be said to return to God. For all the rest, they journey at varying speeds to enlightenment. I'm led to believe that God does not worry about the time it takes us to return. There is no dishonor at taking more time than our neighbor. Moreover, different beings are created at different times. Those who are reaching enlightenment when we do not may have been created earlier than we. Those people who reach enlightenment without rigorous discipline probably practiced rigorous discipline in other lives. Others are already enlightened and return in an unenlightened condition to serve by demonstrating what spiritual practice looks like.

10. Every genuine path will work. God plays all roles and observes all actions. He has become many; next to Him, there is none.

There is no religion or spiritual practice that is invalid, if genuine and sincerely followed. Some cults and orders may have dark purposes but the spiritual experiences of all genuine masters, translated into religious teachings (if rendered and maintained purely) are all acceptable in God's eyes. There is only one God. The God of the Christians is the God of the Muslims and God of the Hindus, Buddhists, Jews, Taoists, Sufis, etc. God is One but His names are many. Hear, O Israel, the Lord thy God. The Lord is One, without a second. There is none else besides God.

Some will see Light; others will see a "form" of God; still others may have an intuitive sense of knowing. All genuine paths sincerely followed lead to God. God, through the Mother, designed the many paths to suit the various tastes of seekers, but all are efficacious. There is no ground to say that one religion or path is superior to another. There is nothing that supports the belief that the earnest followers of one religion will reach God and the earnest followers of another will not. God is on no side and on all sides.

11. In His love, He is universal, impartial, and supreme. What He wills must happen. He decreed this Drama for His own Pleasure. Each time someone knows its Self -- "Oh Thou I!" -- God meets God!

God loves all life forms - human, non-human, subhuman, superhuman. He makes no distinction among life forms. His Will must prevail. All is happening within His Being. He created the drama or lila for His own pleasure, a game of blind man's bluff (or buff), in which God plays all roles and is the object of the search as well as the searcher and the search itself. Only God can realize God. Whenever anyone realizes God, that one simply realizes itself and the Self that it realizes is God.

It All Works Out in the Final Reel



In a reading I requested from Archangel Michael, through Linda Dillon, on April 26, 2011, the Spirit whom I serve said something that surprised me:

"We do not ask you to veer away from being a writer but we want you to write what you feel moved to and it is also more dabbling into what you have thought of as the sacred truths.

"And people, humans, hybrids [Starseeds], and beyond, are prepared to receive those [writings] as well. In a fuller and perhaps may we say more profound way than previously. ...

"... In the human element their hearts are yearning for more. So you are going to do more writing in that vein."

I expressed surprise because I'm not an enlightened being but the Boss said that nonetheless that's what I'd feel drawn to.

And I confess that the desire to turn to spiritual topics is arising in me. There's a desire to write about enlightenment, the design elements of the human being and life, the natural laws, the Trinity of God the Father, God the Mother, and God the Child. (1) I could have said God the All, since there is nothing that isn't God. But nonetheless to create this lila or drama called life, God did, as far as I'm aware, step down His (Her, Its) powers in a mysterious way that it's difficult for us to understand to assume other roles in the play.

I feel a strong desire to begin by sharing something that tells us why life was created and a little bit about how it was designed.

Back in 1987, while I was driving my car, I had an experience which changed my life. I was in my doctoral years at the University of B.C., studying to be a counsellor. I had been practicing listening therapy, the incredible impact that deep listening could have in the processing of major upsets. I had noticed that when a person was listened to for a very long time, they reached a point where the puzzle they were faced with became a picture.

I should add that I had also attended a rebirthing workshop in Seattle the previous weekend and had what rebirthers call a "full-breath release." I can't describe what that feels like. The breath, instead of being a country road, becomes an eight-lane highway. I felt altogether cleaned out and purified. I had broken through the "character armoring" or "pain body." So I was in a remarkable space to begin with.

But the thought arose in my mind and I expressed it this way: "If our early life is a puzzle, which, when solved, becomes a picture, could it be that life itself was a puzzle and, if so, what's the picture that life is?"

Back then, this question and what happened after was all marvellous to me. But now I see it as simply one act in the unfolding drama that our lives are. It was my time to have this information downloaded and I now see it was brought to me for a purpose. What occurred

after was that everything turned black and I forgot that I was behind the wheel of a car.

For the next eight seconds, I was shown a living tableau, a 3D movie, that revealed the entire journey of an individual soul, through lifetime after lifetime - from God, as Jesus said, out into the world (that is, the Holy Spirit or Mother, *mater*, matter), and back to God again.

This experience was attended by bliss, which lasted three days and the bliss made knowing easy. I won't describe what I saw because I have in the conclusion to this book. (2) But I emerged knowing for certain, and I want to emphasize that certainty, like I could bank on it and risk my life on it, that enlightenment was the purpose for which each one of us is born, lives our lives, and "dies."

That experience lasted eight seconds and, when it finished and the black disappeared, my car had not moved an inch. I was removed from time. I emerged knowing that it all works out in the final reel. I knew what the Trinity was. I knew what our task was. But none of this was explained in words. I saw only pictures. And it took twenty years of research to find the words that would explain what I saw that day.

That explanation is contained in the dictionary, *From Darkness Unto Light*, (3) and I took a section of that dictionary and converted it into a book called *The Purpose of Life is Enlightenment*. I found that what I saw was known to countless sages through enlightenment. I discovered that life was designed, that that design was benevolent, that design elements operate on us to keep us moving towards our final rendezvous with destiny, and that God does not create sorrow and pain - we do.

I learned that enlightenment itself goes on so far that for us to call one stage of it that we reach in our human lives "complete" or "final" is humorous. None of our enlightenments can possibly be seen as any more "final" than a drive from Vancouver to Seattle can be called a

drive through North America. There is a long, long way to go before we know and merge again with God.

I obtained a glimpse of how wonderful God is that so many ineffable, majestic views of Him (Her, It) cannot slake our thirst for Him or exhaust what there is to be known. Even Seraphim, who stand in the face of God, don't know God completely. No one knows God but God. I'm not sure if I'm capable of communicating the eyes-wide-open amazement I felt upon realizing the vastness of God's Being. To this day I can't express it. One could exhaust one's life trying to express that one thing.

This was not enlightenment. It was a vision.

Any knowledge of God, whether a peak experience, an enlightenment, or anything else, repays years and years of spiritual effort and struggle. I used to say to myself that one spiritual experience - a transformational moment, a vision - repaid a decade of labor for it. (And I know that a moment comes when we must not struggle or exert ourselves.) There came a time when I was having one spiritual experience after another and none of it slaked my thirst.

Here I am twenty-four years after that experience, feeling as fresh with the topic as I did then, feeling no diminution of enthusiasm for an eight-second tableau. That's because, when I get in touch with it, when I breathe into it, I'm breathing into a truth. And so I feel joy or bliss.

After the vision, I insisted that my doctoral dissertation be about enlightenment and my thesis adviser refused. No other department of the university, including religious studies (!!), would agree to my doing one on such a topic. So I kicked the dust of the university off my feet, left an institution that was then wedded to empirical materialism and never cast a backward glance. Goodbye to Ph.Ds. Goodbye to an elephant line, each one's trunk holding

the tail of the one in front. Goodbye to a world bounded by what could be seen and heard and touched.

I'm sure the university has changed by now. But I have no more use for degrees. I only want to know what God is. I've been smitten by love's arrow and I cannot see, hear or want anything else but God. And so it has been for everyone who was ever contacted or awakened by the Divine in any way. So powerful is the touch of God that it rearranges lives, smashes plans, and totally converts the soul. It divides father from son and mother from daughter. I am, we all are, God's playthings, His puppets, His fools. And rage against it as we might, nothing can change that situation.

Footnotes

(1) For an introduction to these subjects, see <http://stevebeckow.com/16244-2/the-purpose-of-life-is-enlightenment/ch-1-introduction/>; on this site and here <http://www.angelfire.com/space2/light11/index1.html> on another site.

(2) Available here (<http://stevebeckow.com/16244-2/the-purpose-of-life-is-enlightenment/ch-12-epilogue/>) and here (<http://www.angelfire.com/space2/light11/epilog.html>).

(3) At <http://www.angelfire.com/space2/light11/fdl/index100.html>