

# The World's Supreme Need.

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All great things are simple in essence, but are often difficult to explain because they are manifold in expression. They are simple in principle, but infinite in detail. So is it with the question of the World's Supreme Need. What can it possibly be? There are so many needs that are pressing and important, what could the supreme need be? What does each one of you consider it to be? Evidently the answer will vary with the training, the circumstances and the viewpoint of each individual.

That pacifist cries: "Peace! Peace at any price!" But have those countries which are now at peace solved the fundamental problems of happiness, prosperity and contentment? The politician calls for either a benevolent dictatorship or a pure democracy. But has either of these forms of government produced a stabilized civilization or a contented people? The socialist calls for an equal prosperity or wealth for all. But even if the wealth of the world could be divided and distributed equally to all, how long would it be before most of it would again be in the hands of the greedy few? The educator claims that universal education is the answer. But a mere increase in knowledge without moral discipline may result in putting that knowledge to anti-social destructive ends, as witnessed in chemical warfare. The spiritualist says that universal know-

ledge of the persistence of personal life after so-called death is the world's greatest need. But are spiritualists more kind, loving, tolerant, unselfish and happy than others? What can the World's Supreme Need be?

All the above-mentioned objectives may be worthy ends in themselves, but they are not basic; only palliative. Civilization, progress and human happiness can be attained and maintained only by getting back to the fundamental principles of manifestation. Otherwise we are swept hither and yon by every tide of caprice, self-interest and aggrandizement, both personal and national, all of which work against the cohesive power of the ideal, against the manifestation of the harmony and perfection of the whole. Hence they contain the seeds of disintegration and death of the individual, the nation and of civilization itself.

What then are the basic principles of life and manifestation? What are the causes which have brought forth not only our bodies, but the planets, suns and solar systems, and which hold them in manifestation? Since all manifestation comes forth from the unseen, as a materialization of its pre-existing pattern, naturally the object of all life is the manifestation of the ideal. This is because Divine Will projects the ideal and Divine

Love nourishes and brings it forth. All evolution is therefore simply the progressive unfoldment and gradual perfection of the expression of Divine Will and Divine Love in co-operation. The Law of manifestation is that all things come into expression from the unseen, from above downward, from within outward and from centre to circumference. If this basic law is kept ever in mind it will explain many of the so-called mysteries of life.

No amount of seeming advance in outer conditions can be permanent or produce true peace, harmony and happiness unless it is the result of progress toward the expression of the ideal from above or within, *i. e.*, the greatest good to the greatest number, with justice to all. Men have sought to satisfy this instinctive craving for the inner ideal by mere development of material conditions and have failed. Why have they failed? Because they have diverted attention from the ideal to mere mechanism; because they have ignored the moral implications which improved mechanisms necessitate. That is why materialism has failed humanity in every great crisis, the World War, for example. Because it has no ideal, it fails to solve the basic problems of man's origin and destiny, of life and consciousness, and the organization of the universe. But once we understand that the giant oak is but a materialization of the ideal inherent in the tiny acorn, we have grasped the basic principle of all manifestation.

A study of the correspondences which exist on and between all worlds,

realms and planes of existence illustrates and substantiates the ancient Hermetic axiom: "As above, so below; as below, so above." A study of the laws of Nature on the higher and invisible levels of causation proves that since all humanity are one in essence, the harmony of the spheres cannot manifest on earth until mankind learns to manifest that ideal oneness on earth by following the same cosmic laws.

Everywhere we see ideals—high or low—moulding and determining our thoughts and words, and therefore our acts and their results. All our experiences of life are but the logical and even mathematical results of the *causes we set up* as an expression of the standards or ideals which rule our lives. Even our human personalities themselves are but the limited and imperfect expression of that ideal Spiritual Being which is our Ideal or Divine Self, and which is persistently striving for expression through the physical organism.

We cannot see the ideal which the flower embodies, only its manifestation. But *we know it is there* in the invisible worlds or the seed could not unfold into the perfect flower. We may dissect the form and microscopically examine every fibre; may dissolve it, extract its colouring matter and its juices, but we cannot find the ray of sunlight which gave it life, nor the ideal which gave it form. But we know they are there because *we can see the result*, the physical manifestation of their unseen pattern or ideal. And if God so

loved Nature that He provided for the highest development of every lower form of life by embodying in it a lesser ray of Himself, think you He would forget or neglect man?

The two great laws by which the ideal of the Father's Will is manifested through the Divine Mother's Love are *cohesion and co-operation*. Astronomy is a manifestation of these laws. Without the attractive force of Cosmic Love in the universe, the planets could not cohere to form a solar system, and they must co-operate harmoniously or they would invade one another's orbits. Chemistry is also a manifestation of the ultimate principle of Love; for without love as expressed in chemical affinity the electrons could not cohere to form atom or the atom cohere to form the molecules of which matter is composed. And all must co-operate harmoniously to manifest the chemical elements expressed by the molecules. In organic life, without the cohesive force of love the cells could not cohere to form tissues or the tissues to form organs, and both cells and tissues must co-operate harmoniously or the organs cannot function normally. Also the organs must co-operate harmoniously that the body as a whole may function properly. Suppose the feet should say: "I'm not going to carry this hulking body around any longer. I'm going to please myself and rest." Suppose the liver should say: "I'm no longer going to make bile for the rest of the body"; or the heart should say: "I'm no longer going to pump the blood for

the whole body, only for myself"; they would each ruin their own lives, as their lives exist only as they co-operate and contribute to the life of the body as a whole.

In man we term the expression of these same basic cosmic forces love and brotherhood. Without love man is but a human animal, unable to manifest his Real or Spiritual Self. Without some degree of brotherhood man cannot express that co-operation which alone makes civilization possible. Without the cohesive force of love in the mental world the mentoids or psychoids could not cohere to produce thought-forms, and the thought-forms must co-operate to express ideas and manifest ideals. Without the cohesive force of love in mankind, individuals could not cohere to form families, whose cohesion forms the basic unit of civilization. Without love families could not cohere to form the state, and all must co-operate to manifest the nation and the race. Without love in the realm of spiritual unfoldment the personality could not respond to the love of the Higher Self and cohere to it and co-operate with it to demonstrate the axiom of Jesus, "I and my father are one."

Because of a lack of this realization of brotherhood and co-operation between nations, the lack of a common ideal for humanity, all the advances of science and industry were used to bring on the greatest calamity to mankind that the world has ever known, the World War. That disaster could have been prevented had a majority, or even a few leaders, of

mankind held to the conception of the essential oneness of all mankind, and hence radiated the cohesive force of love, brotherhood and co-operation. And because of a lack of realization of the necessity for the sacrifice of individual selfishness and aggrandizement among nations that there might be peace and harmony in the body of humanity, strife and warfare have continued during the twenty years since that Great War. And never will strife and warfare cease until nations learn to base their relations upon the fundamental principle that Divine Love or cosmic cohesion, and its consequent co-operation, is the basic Law of Life for nations composing the body politic, as well as for the organs composing the human body. And finally, without the attractive force of unselfish love and brotherhood and co-operation, man cannot make conditions in which the Lord of Life can manifest to us in the flesh in this Aquarian Age, as He has manifested periodically in every great Age in the past.

The advanced researches of modern scientists combine to prove, "The bankruptcy of materialism when it comes to organized life on earth.... It becomes clearer and clearer that the changes in our outer life, when they come, will come *as a result of inner changes* in man; as a result of the consciousness in him of those faculties and aspects of his own being of which he was unconscious, which he did not recognize. Since it is the idea that moulds matter and gives it form and attributes before, and

without which he thought it possible to get along.... The *higher intuitive form* of consciousness (Divine Guidance) is necessary first of all for life—for the organization of life on earth," says one scientist.\*

All this but confirms from the scientific standpoint what the mystics of all ages have taught, namely, that the evolution and happiness of man depends upon his ascent from materialism to idealism, and the surest and shortest path is the Path of Love; that Divine Love is a super-physical and cosmic yet tremendously real form of radiant spiritual energy comparable on earth to the shining of the Sun. If it is necessary for our physical growth and health to seek out and bask in the physical sunlight, it is equally necessary for our spiritual growth and health to *seek out* Divine Love and bask in and absorb its Spiritual Light.

In the lower kingdoms the pressure of the ideal toward ever greater degrees of perfection, takes advantage of every favourable condition to express more and more nearly perfect types in each kingdom, much as water takes advantage of every favourable crack, leak or opportunity to escape limitation and confinement. But in the human being we find an organism which is not automatically compelled to respond to instinct, but which has an individualized Soul with free-will to respond to and be controlled by either the instincts of the animal body or the

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\* *Tertium Organum*, Ouspensky, 163.

inspiring guidance of its Ideal or Divine Self. Therefore, man must understand the laws of his being if he is to *work consciously* with them; must choose his Path; must make an individualized effort to manifest his Ideal.

How is he to do this? By following the universal Law of Growth as he sees it expressed in Nature. The seed descends from the tree above into the ground below that it may unfold its ideal. How? It must subject itself to and take on earth conditions and by the cohesive power of Love attract to itself and assimilate from its environment only those materials that are best suited to embody its Ideal, and reject and refuse to respond to all else.

Just so does the Christ Seed or the Soul of man descend from above into the soil of personality and earth conditions, and through the cohesive power of love attract to itself just those experiences that are best suited to embody its Ideal. In other words, it must make the best use of the talents it finds in the personality and the materials it finds in its environment to express the Ideal of its Spiritual Self. And through free-will and discrimination we must reject and refuse to respond to those things which are not in harmony with our ideals. Everything that is constructive, harmonious and uplifting makes for progress toward the ideal held. Everything that is separative, that works against co-operation, everything that works against life and love, is disintegrating and destructive. While it is true

that strength is gained by overcoming negative conditions, the same amount of force put to constructive ends would advance the Soul far more.

Life and love are cohesive and centripetal forces which integrate both materials and conditions, and work toward perfection in proportion to how closely we hold to the ideal. All negative emotions, such as anger, jealousy, hatred, envy, etc., and all selfishness, because they lack the cohesive power of love, are centrifugal, disintegrating and disruptive. Because of lack of love and co-operation between brothers and sisters, the disintegration of the family results. Because of lack of love and co-operation between families, feuds result. Because of lack of love and co-operation between states civil war results. Because of lack of love and co-operation between nations a world war results.

But none of these negative results are in the Divine Plan. They are all created by man through his ignorance, and affinitize him to suffering and death. Since these conditions are created by man he is responsible and answerable for them, and so by him must they be redeemed through the broadcasting of constructive forces so dynamic and powerful that they will neutralize the negative. If they are left to Nature she will make the adjustment by disintegrating the former condition through suffering, and start all over again.

The resistance of matter to the manifestation of the higher vibrations of life and form is not evil, but is

merely inertia. This is overcome by the attractive and cohesive power of the life-force by which the matter is raised into the higher kingdoms. The resistance of the personality to the higher vibrations of the Spiritual Self is not evil, but is due to the inertia and selfishness of the animal self and its desire to have its own way. Hence the latter must be trained to respond to the attractive force of the Spirit and be raised from the animal to the human and from the human to the Divine. So examine yourself and see if you are living in your animal self, in your human self or in the consciousness of your Ideal Spiritual Self.

If we would save the world from continuing to suffer from its negative creations, we must follow the Law of Growth and begin with the smallest unit, ourselves. We must train ourselves to respond more and more consciously to the ideal by giving expression to it upon every occasion. We must consciously re-create ourselves according to ever higher conceptions of the glory of God that is striving to manifest our Ideal through our personality.

As St. Paul says: "For God, who commanded the Light to shine out of darkness, hath shined into our hearts, to give us the knowledge of the glory of God." The World's Supreme Need is that we all realize that Divine Love is not a mere vague, abstract force. It is God in action, the very substance of God in expression. Therefore when we send a thought-ray of love and brotherhood

to another we do not project to him merely a thought vibration; we actually bathe him in a mist of spiritual substance which, for want of a better term, we may call spiritual ectoplasm. To the degree that this reaches its goal and is absorbed, to that degree does it dissolve out all inharmonies, impurities and misunderstanding from us both. Hence, if we have a misunderstanding with another, we should remember that he is a spiritual being who is just as dear to the Father's heart as are we, and project to him a recognition of the Divine in him and bathe him in a current of peaceful, radiant love, but with no thought of compelling him to our way of thinking. And we will be surprised at the results.

Utilizing the same law, if we think of our neighbours and of other peoples and nations in their aspects as sons and daughters of God merely manifesting through other families and races, we will generate such currents of love and dynamic brotherhood that the most unselfish and constructive co-operation will result. And as this love increases its manifestation, the very radio-activity of its constructive vibrations will destroy all vibrations of inharmony, sin or sorrow; all discouragement and pessimism; will destroy the darkness of ignorance and the clouds of misunderstanding; all sickness and disease, and thus cause the very atoms of our bodies, and the bodies of the nations to cohere in harmonious co-operation to manifest the perfect pattern of the indwelling ideal of the oneness of

mankind. Then we individually and as nations will bring forth the beauty and perfection which is our personal destiny and the destiny of humanity.

Therefore Divine Love is the most powerful force in the world. And its manifestation is the great end and aim of all evolution on all planes.

And brotherhood and co-operation are the means of its unfoldment, expression and completion. Hence Divine Love and its realization and active utilization in the daily life through tolerance, understanding, brotherhood and co-operation for the mutual good of all, is our conception of the World's Supreme Need.

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