NOTES FROM WOODSONG By William Samuel

1971

AFTER SURRENDER COMES EXPECTANCY!

Ultimately we are all brought to a total surrender—often in anguish from physical or emotional pain. For most of us, this appears as the relentless "march of time" and the accelerating approach of "death." It seems that most of us are unwilling to surrender the aging, dying human until we have no choice remaining.

The holy man, the prophet, the metaphysician is not exempt from the appearances of illness in his experience. As a matter of honest fact, the study of pure metaphysics may very well exacerbate the anguishes of time, if only to let us comprehend the trust we have, or don't have, in the many Truth words we've been professing to practice over the years.

In surrender, we finally see the futility of trying to change the world and all things in it. But listen. Part of the grand Mystery is this: *After* the surrender, we can then confidently <u>anticipate/expect</u> —every day, every minute—that at any moment in time we will experience another confirmation that Good is not only going to happen but is already happening somewhere in our daily human experience. The paradox is that the confirmation sometimes appears as the very change we tried to effectuate unsuccessfully before.

Good often appears "out there" as someone "else" being helped by our effort in their behalf. It may also appear "within" ourselves as the correction of our own personal problems or as the sense of our own body being brought back to vigor and happiness again. Change in the world is the delineation of changelessness, much as the darkness of night lets us see the stars and the light of day.

Change happens in (and IS) what the world calls time. The quantum human experience is the <u>delineation</u> of timelessness or Eternity. As our personal time progresses, the enduring human experience becomes a closer depiction of God's timelessness.

To say this another way: Before the surrender—that is, before the naughting of the human will and ego—we try to change things for the better. After the surrender, we discover the futility of trying to change things ourselves. Rather, we begin to understand the appearances of nature and bring ourselves to work in harmony with them. We still change the wheat into bread, but we work in harmony with the principles of chemistry and physics, mixing things properly and getting them in and out of the oven on time.

Surrendered, and working in harmony with nature—which means little more than doing whatever we can to help others in need—we can then ANTICIPATE the mysterious Good of Godhead in our human affairs, realizing It is everpresent already, only awaiting our lawful <u>expectancy</u>. How important expectancy is! In the Gospel According to Thomas we hear Jesus saying, "Let your attitude be 'On what day will the angels and prophets come to us and give us what is ours?" ..." We EXPECT inner and outer events that will confirm the presence of God's good in our experience.

On the one hand, the experience-in-time contains quantum Good <u>coming into focus</u>. On the other, quantum stupidity and evil also appear in order that GOOD might be understood and its opposing shadow world dismissed. People often appear as the instrument for this rising and falling of both extremes. The more self-surrendered we are, the more likely that the unpleasant things—war, illness, direful situations—are distanced from us so we are not disturbed, but we are still positioned to help the oppressed. Equally, the more nearly surrendered (self-understood) we are, the more often the Good, the delightful, the marvelous, happen within our inmost circles of interest.

While people appear to be the instruments for the appearance of Good, Godhead is the *Source* for all that is happening. We know that the divine Ego cannot be destroyed. I cannot be sure I've seen its shadowed opposite, the human ego, destroyed either. But I have seen ego, the me-sense, UNDERSTOOD for the PURPOSE it serves, and OVERCOME thereby. When I stopped trying to destroy "the old man," I understood the old man, the ego, and perceived God's marvelous plan.

Kind Regards, William Samuel

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