



The Rainbow Journal

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Website:

www.edgarcayceaustralia.com

Email:

rainbowjournal@live.com

Mail Address:

Brian Alderson
24 Peterswool Road,
Elizabeth Park,
Adelaide,
South Australia, 5113.

To Our Readers

Welcome to all of you to our Rainbow Journal, September edition. Probably the most difficult element in our search for God is to find out what is our relationship to our creator. In this and the next few issues we will

investigate this relationship as well as the part God plays in our everyday lives and how we are to deal with the concept of good and evil. As always your comments would be welcome.
Brian Alderson ☺☺☺

Evil and Oneness

There is often confusion over the theory of oneness and its relation to the source of evil. Furthermore it is often questioned why God allows so much evil to go on, seemingly unchecked, in the world. For us to obtain some understanding of this we should first consider what we mean by evil.

While we all may have a general concept of what it is, such as 'the opposite of good' it can become a bit more complex when one attempts to describe it. The definitions of evil from an on-line dictionary offer four alternatives. They are:

- A human quality – being morally bad, wrong or wicked.
- An act – such as murder, rape, physical violence, etc
- A force – a power that is evil.
- A cause or source of suffering, injury, or destruction – war, injustice, poverty, etc.

Let us examine these one by one. The first definition is a human quality, so that we may describe a person as being 'evil.' The belief that someone is evil is just that, a belief, which is not necessarily universally accepted. A classic current example of difference in beliefs is in the case of the Serbian, Radovan Karadzic who was recently indicted for crimes against humanity and genocide, horrible crimes that we would call 'evil', yet he is regarded by many of his countrymen as a hero.

There are many infamous figures in history who have been responsible for horrific acts and been deemed evil by many yet who have had followers who saw them as brave and noble people. Hitler, regarded by some as the anti-Christ, had supporters who loved and admired him.

We may question as to what point do acts of evil make a person evil. All of us, at some point in our lives, have done something that is morally bad, wrong or wicked yet we do not consider that we are evil people as a result. It would take more than a single, or even a few, evil acts to change

the character of a person so that it becomes evil.

There is the theory that some people are born evil and are constantly doing evil things as a result. Modern psychology seems to back up this theory in that certain people seem to be prone to criminal and antisocial acts however it is a matter of debate whether these people as such are evil.

So as regard to evil being a human quality we can conclude that it is an individual judgment that depends on the viewpoints of the individuals making the judgement, which decides if a person is evil.

The second definition is that evil is certain acts such as murder, rape and physical violence. We would all probably agree that these acts are indeed evil, but are we all clear on what is meant by 'murder' for instance? The general definition of murder is 'unlawful killing.' If that is the case then we must decide as to what makes a killing lawful or unlawful. If a law is introduced tomorrow that allows one to kill a trespasser will that make the killing of trespassers lawful and therefore not evil?

There are many reasons why people kill other people. The explanation may be an innocent cause such as by accident, or in response to an order, such as on a battlefield, or a deliberate act of revenge or malice. So we would probably agree that it is neither the act itself nor any particular law that determines whether it is evil or not but the motive behind the killing.

To deem an act evil then we would need to know the full circumstances and the motive behind the act and with respect to the motive it is the perpetrator of the act is usually the only one that knows this motive.

The third definition is a force and no doubt for those who believe, this would be the devil, also known as Satan and the anti-Christ. For those who do not accept the existence of the devil, evil could be explained by the building up of negative energy, vibrations or emotions to a point where it effects those that come in contact with it. This

energy may be witnessed in events such as where people get caught up in a riot and go on a destructive rampage or when a mob gets so emotionally stirred up that they lynch someone. Many people have described how they have walked into a room and 'felt an evil presence.'

The other dictionary definition of evil is that is a cause or source of suffering, injury, or destruction – war, injustice, poverty, etc. When someone deliberately causes another to suffer or to be injured then we may concur that this is an evil act but we cannot say that all causes of suffering and injuries are necessarily evil. Often our acts or personal neglect are the causes. Nature itself, through hurricanes, tsunamis, floods, earthquakes, droughts, etc can cause massive suffering, death and destruction which are not considered evil. Furthermore many would argue that suffering is an aid in our spiritual development therefore it is not in itself bad or evil.

War holds a special place in being evil. It embraces all the elements of evil - the people that instigate the war, the horrible acts committed in the name of warfare, the building up of a massive amount of negative energy and resulting death suffering, injury and destruction.

The word 'evil' becomes dangerous when politicians use it to persuade their countrymen to wage war against perceived enemies. With the support of religious fundamentalists they attempt to seduce people into believing that wars can be morally justified. They claim that the people with whom they wish to wage war against, 'our enemies', are evil and as God hates evil we are doing His work by destroying this evil. Consequently dropping bombs on people, using cluster bombs, land mines, chemical warfare, atomic bombs, suicide bombing, etc, can all be justified if it is in the destruction of these evil enemies. The irony is that the enemy uses exactly the same tactic, claiming that God is on their side and that they are fighting against evil – us!

How does all the above relate to evil and its relation to oneness? Firstly when it comes to evil as being a force or energy we understand that all energy is from the one source and it is not the energy as such that is the problem but the way it is used. Just as atomic energy is extremely powerful and can be used for constructive purposes such as a tool in fighting cancer and for creating electricity it can also be used for destructive purposes such as to make atomic bombs. We have been given the power to create and we have been given the freedom of choice so we should blame ourselves when we create and use the tools for death and destruction.

Secondly we note that evil is an abstract reality for it only exists in the mind, although as stated we may be able to sense negative vibrations which we may call 'evil.' The so-called evil is outside of us in the form of actions and a perceived quality in others. As Cayce put it: "Evil only has its appearance in the mind, in the shadows, in the fears of those that know not the light in its entirety."

Therefore in our journey along the spiritual path we should not be concerned in what is outside of us but concentrate on what is within us. Our own evil thoughts and acts should be the main concern for us. This is the message that Cayce repeated many times: "This day, now, there is set before you good and evil, life and death. Choose." "There is constantly before us, day by day, good and evil, life and death. And the choice is to be made by self. Good and life represent creative forces, evil and death represent selfish motives, selfish desires, a lack of incentive for creative influences."

What do we do when we confront what we consider as evil? Acts of retaliation and revenge only add to the evil. "It is never right to do that which is evil that good may come." The secret of dealing with evil is to respond with good. Certainly not an easy path to follow at times but that is what is meant by the destruction of evil. It is not by the physical acts of death and destruction that evil is destroyed but by the acts of love and kindness.

Cayce also pointed out that evil was a necessity at this stage of our evolution. In the book "Christ Within" evil is likened to the dark soil in which a seed is sown: "The great master, Jesus, unfolded this aspect in His parables dealing with the kingdom of heaven. The little brown seed sown in the earth is unaware of the sun, until it comes through the darkness of matter, by its own inherent activity, unfolding to receive consciously that which has always been influencing its growth in the darkness; and yet I say that even the sun would have no power, were it not for the central attraction within the seed. Now we understand something of the meaning of evil and its friendly uses, that the dark earth is the medium for growth; and I can best liken it to the creation of God, which is called evil, always pressing into activity the hidden force within the seed covering. The so-called evil has caused the seed to quicken, to bring forth by its very opposition. Evil is friendly and has a beneficent purpose. Man becomes godlike because he rises through and out of evil, just as the plants emerge from the soil."

FROM THE EDGAR CAYCE READINGS

"Evil is only evil to him, who thinks it

evil or to what sense it has become applied. All is good as used to the developing of any force under which its law applies." 3744-1

"Too much emphasis has been put on the wrong instead of the right and the evil instead of the good. This entity should try looking for good in evil and it will be surprised when it really can see clearly the necessity of evil, at this stage of our evolution, so that the path of good can be seen

and easily followed." 2072-16

"There is none so bad nor yet so good that any can afford to judge or speak evil of the other. You may speak evil of evil things, but not of man. For he is in the image of his God and his God is eternal. The man's soul is eternal. Then speak not evil of thy brother, lest you condemn thine own self." 3509-1 BDA 000v

Postscript – On Oneness and Evil

Was it coincidence?

On the day that I had finished the above article in *Evil and Oneness* my daughter hired a few DVDs from the local video outlet. Although I normally do not watch her movie picks I was intrigued by the title of one of them – "The Second Coming"¹ – so I watched it that evening.

The story was about a very ordinary man living a very ordinary life in Birmingham, England. He disappeared one day to return 40 days later when he claimed that he was the Son of God and had a message for humanity. The message was that there was to be a Third Testament, which he was not going to announce but had to be written by the people on Earth themselves. He performed two miracles that persuaded the people that there must have been something in what he was saying.

The completed testament had to be in his hands within five days, otherwise the fifth day would be the day of Armageddon. During the next few days he received great numbers of documents offered as the testament but was unable to pick the one he was looking for. On the fifth day his girlfriend called him and said she knew what the third testament was and invited him to dinner when she would disclose it to him. She then prepared a pasta dish heavily laced with rat poison. At the dinner she told him of the poisoned dish and that he was to eat it and die. With that act God would also die, all religions would disappear and there would be no more heaven or hell and no good and evil. This was the third testament.

I will not disclose the final acts in the

movie as that may spoil it for readers who wish to view it.

While the story was a fantasy the scenario posed of a world without God or religion was quite intriguing. Consider just a few of the positive consequences:

No more God:

- We could not blame God for all the bad things in the world.
- We would no longer pray to God to give us things we want and change circumstances we do not like.
- When we go to war we could not claim that God was on our side or look to Him to give us victory.
- We could not look to God for forgiveness when we do things we consider is wrong – we would have to learn to forgive ourselves.
- People would have to look to other ways of finding meaning in life

No more Religion:

- Religion would no longer be an obstacle in human relations.
- There would be no more conflicts and wars over religion.
- Religion would no longer block the progress of science.
- We would need to base our laws on what is appropriate for our society without the influence of religious law.

No more good and evil:

- We could no longer claim that our enemies are evil and that we, in contrast, are good. So when we kill them we would just be killing other people, not destroying evil.

No more heaven or hell:

¹ The Second Coming - Director : Adrian Shergold,
Starring : Christopher Eccleston,

- We could no longer kill ourselves with suicide bombings in the belief that we would be treated as heroes in paradise.
- Others could no longer instill fear in us that we would be condemned to hell for eternity if we did not obey them or certain

laws.

But then of course there is the other side of the picture. BDA OOOÇ

Love God?

The commandment that was given by Jesus and repeated many times in the Cayce readings was that we are to love God. While those of us who call ourselves 'Christians' may accept that we should obey this commandment, do we really know how to go about loving God?

Do we really understand and comprehend what or who God is to the degree that we can love Him (or Her) "with all our heart, with all our mind and with all our soul?" There are many definitions of God, one of which is a popular portrayal of Him as an old man with a beard who, as the popular song goes, is "watching from a distance". Perhaps viewing us from some distant galaxy with telescopic eyes that can see what we are doing on earth.

One of the attributes given to God is that He is infinite, but infinity is beyond the grasp of the human mind. In one reading Cayce described God as being law and love: "What is truth? Law! What is Law? Love. What is love? God. What is God? Law and love." ² If that is the case then how do we go about loving the law? Or, of as greater dilemma, how do we love love?

I had pondered over this predicament for some time until the answer came to me one day while I was watching two TV programs. The first program was a documentary concerning animal life in Australia and the second was one of those regular garden shows. The documentary featured a woman who had devoted the last thirty years of her life living in the forest caring for birds and animals. She had a particular sense of duty for the care of young

gliding possums whose numbers were in decline and in danger of becoming extinct.

One could not help but admire the passion she showed as she lovingly nursed these tiny creatures and other wildlife. Also covered in the documentary was the work of the SPCA in its care for abused, abandoned and sick animals. The dedication of the society's workers was obvious as they provided for the animals under their protection.

The gardening program had all the usual pieces on wonderful display gardens and tips on growing vegetables, herbs, native shrubs, etc. Again one could not help but notice the enthusiasm and devotion of the gardeners as they lovingly tended their great varieties of vegetation. Many gardening devotees spent the greater part of their lives creating home gardens that were beautiful sites to behold.

While watching these programs the answer to my dilemma dawned on me. We may not be able to worship a God that is unseen and supernatural but we can love Him through His creation, in particular the wonderful world of nature. It is through the birds and animals, the flowers and trees, the rivers and lakes and sunsets that we can see God's handiwork which He created "and saw that it was good." Nature is part of the oneness that is of God and we are part of that oneness. We can express this oneness, this love of God, through our loving relationship with the world and life around us. We may need to kill animals and vegetation to provide food for sustenance for ourselves but we must respect all life for what it is – God manifested.

The biblical God that we are to love is

² 3754-2.

a spiritual God and we are to love Him through our own spirituality, however in our day to day lives we can express our love for God through our love of all the living things in the world around us. Laws rule all of nature. These laws are from God, for God is the law – the God of law and love. Thus we show love for God when we care for animals, create a garden and help to protect the environment. Then we are acknowledging our partnership, our unity or oneness, with all life and we are expressing our respect for the creator of it all.

Furthermore serious scientific investigation into the workings of nature is a way of leading us to the Lawmaker. As Einstein stated “Scientific research is based on the idea that everything that takes place is determined by laws of nature, and therefore this holds for the actions of people.... it must

be admitted that our actual knowledge of these laws is only imperfect and fragmentary, so that, actually, the belief in the existence of basic all-embracing laws in Nature also rests on a sort of faith.

All the same this faith has been largely justified so far by the success of scientific research...Every one who is seriously involved in the pursuit of science becomes convinced that a spirit is manifest in the laws of the Universe - a spirit vastly superior to that of man, and one in the face of which we with our modest powers must feel humble. In this way the pursuit of science leads to a religious feeling of a special sort, which is indeed quite different from the religiosity of someone more naive.”

BDA ODBB

Ideas and Ideals

Someone recently asked what was the difference between ideas and ideals. Both these words are used to express commonplace things in everyday conversations. For instance we might say “I have an idea how to fix the car” or “This is ideal weather to go fishing.” However both these words have special meanings in the spiritual context.

Beginning with the spiritual concept of ideas, and where can we find a better place to start than in the story of creation as found in the first book of the Bible. According to the book ‘Christ in You’ the seven days of creation described in Genesis were God’s expression of His ideas. To quote from the book:

“The seven creative days are experiences within yourself. God speaks the word of power when he says, ‘Let there be light, and the light shines from within.’ The dividing of the waters is the separation of the divine and the human, the firmament symbolising the Heavenly-Divine, and the seas the Earthly-Human. The separation of the seas and land means the first state of receptivity, to express clearly that land (mind) is free and awaiting God’s manifestation. And God said, Let the earth (mind) bring forth, and God says within you, to your soul: bring forth, manifest, express My thought.

“Then you read: God gave the two lights, the greater and the lesser. These symbolise the

lights of the two understandings – human and divine. The seas are fruitful on the fifth day, thus proving the creativeness of mind and the birth of **ideas**. Then we read of larger growth, larger **ideas**, until we come finally to ourselves – man in the image of God, **God’s idea**.”

So even God, when He wanted to create, first needed ideas, and we are the result of one of his ideas. And so it is with us. We need ideas before we can create because ideas are the forerunner of creation. Here we should remember that ideas come from the mind and that the brain is not the mind. As Cayce put it: “Your brain is not your mind, it is that which is used by your mind!” 826-11 The mind is a function of the soul and uses the brain to express itself. First, the eternal mind; secondly, the thought; thirdly and lastly, the outcome of both is the idea, that which is to become manifest in the physical plane. We are all the results of our own ideas.

An ideal is a person or something conceived as embodying a standard of perfection, and taken as a model for imitation. To many Christians that standard or ideal would be Jesus and Cayce many times stated Him to be the ideal which we should follow:

“Study then to show yourself approved in your own conscience, to your own ideal. And know that ideal is in HIM - Jesus; who became the Christ by overcoming the world!” 1608-1.

Our ideals are things we aim to emulate or achieve, but unlike goals and targets the journey towards these ideals is a lifelong one and as they are standards of perfection or excellence. It is unlikely that we would achieve them for, as Carl Schuz stated, "Ideals are like stars: you will not succeed in touching them with your hands, but like the seafaring man on the desert of waters, you choose them as your guides, and following them you reach your destiny."

Once we have set our ideals it is up to us each day to choose whether we will work towards attaining our ideals or follow our impulses of the moment. Thus our ideas are a reflection of the

direction we have chosen.

FROM THE EDGAR CAYCE READINGS

Study to show yourself approved unto God, taking the whole truth, and keeping yourself unspotted from the world. That's a very large field, but is covered in every phase of one's experience. Do not accept or take any one idea and think that is the whole, for every expression is a manifestation of the Creative Forces as are manifest, and have their part in the Whole. Then, as given, study to show yourself approved unto God; not unto any individual, not unto an idea, but unto an IDEAL.
5481-1 BDA OOO

Christ In You

Seventh Lesson

Get Understanding

The more we know of God, the greater becomes our reverence and humility. The infinite and eternal Wisdom has such exquisite order for every created being; the very stones and rocks are marvels of His goodness. Even the dewdrop obeys a law and fulfils the eternal purpose.

As you evolve, you discern these higher laws and become in harmony with them. It is one of our most interesting studies to discover the wonderful and perfect laws of living in each plane. If you would see the great interior worlds, you would almost worship your fellow-beings.

God has endowed you richly. You have made mistakes because you have not known yourselves. The mighty eternal love is seeking expression everywhere.

You ask: "What is the most practical method of healing the body?" Our great teacher Jesus Christ always met the need of the people at their exact degree of unfoldment. Thus, some would need the clay, or bathing; others the spoken word only.

Jesus never failed to help in whatsoever condition or circumstance; that they came to Him was enough. This is where so many of your healers fail: either because they offer something beyond their power to realise or because they employ methods that have become words devoid of life. The great healer, by reason of the greatness of His love, could meet every need. And only as you love

can you really help.

Love perceives as never man sees, suggesting with infinite variety the exact method. We are anxious that you should not spoil the great and beautiful work by following any known method, but always by following your own loving spiritual instinct, taking "no thought what ye shall say. It shall be given you in that hour."

Love with all your heart, soul, mind and strength, and nothing is impossible to you. Jesus never failed to understand and recognise the perfect spiritual body in all men. Your body is perfect in spirit (substance), and every part of the material body should act in obedience to the spiritual, the only real.

When the sense would indicate pain and disorder, remember your spiritual body, and call it into the manifestation by the word of power. The body should manifest wholeness, or you are surely making God seem a failure. Later on, when your body functions only from the plane of spirit, its uses will be finer, its obedience immediate.

The positive spiritual man will assert himself, refusing to recognise the suggestions of the sense man, and will become ruler. Christ shall reign in you, and Satan will be under His feet.

Fill the house every day with strong, positive health vibrations, lifting the very atmosphere into purity and truth. Growth into good is so simple, so natural, for God is working in your midst and cannot fail. **OOO**

Laughter – The Best Medicine

Student bloopers. It is truly astonishing what happens to Bible stories when they are retold by young scholars around the world.

- In the first book of the Bible, GUNINESSIS, God got tired of creating the world so he took the Sabbath off.
- Adam & Eve were created from an apple tree.
- Noah's wife was called Joan of Ark.
- Lot's wife was a pillar of salt by day, but a ball of fire by night.
- Moses led the Hebrews to the Red Sea, where they made unleavened bread, which is bread made without any ingredients. The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the Ten Amendments.
- The 1st Commandment was when Eve told Adam to eat the apple.
- The 7th Commandment is thou shall not admit adultery.
- The greatest miracle in the Bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still and he obeyed him.
- David was a Hebrew king skilled at playing the liar.
- Solomon, one of David's sons, had 300 wives

and 700 porcupines.

- When Mary heard that she was the Mother of Jesus, she sang the Magna Carta.
- Jesus was born because Mary had an immaculate contraption. St. John, the Blacksmith, dumped water on his head.
- Jesus enunciated the Golden Rule, which says to do one to others before they do one to you. He also explained, "Man doth not live by sweat alone."
- It was a miracle when Jesus rose from the dead and managed to get the tomb stone off the entrance.
- The epistles were the wives of the apostles.
- One of the opossums was St. Matthew, who was by profession a taximan.
- St. Paul cavorted to Christianity. He preached holy acrimony, which is another name for marriage.
- A Christian should have only one wife. This is called monotony. **ODÄÄ**

Our Closing Thought

“What is it all about then? ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, your soul, your mind, your body, and your neighbour as yourself.’ The rest of all the theories that may be concocted by man are nothing, if these are just lived. Love your neighbour as yourself in the associations day

by day, preferring as did the Christ who died on the cross rather than preferring the world be his without a struggle. Know, then, that as He had His cross, so have you. May you take it with a smile. You can, if you will let Him bear it with you. Do it!”

3976-29 **ODDD**