

ALONG THE WAY: I know that whatever myself or anyone else has ever done, is doing or ever will do, it is felt at the time of doing to be right or proper or justified.
(AGAPE)

THIS MONTH'S THOUGHT: Am I capable of AGAPE?

SCIENCE OF MAN: (Excerpts from Lesson Forty-four)

One of the subjects that most people seem to, sooner or later, develop a problem over and so, thus, speak to some of us about these problems that they have, is sex. Seemingly, it is something that most people have much, much problem over because they don't understand the very nature of sex.

Sex is a symbol of union within man. Without it, no one would ever consider the union of spirit and awareness. In much symbology, awareness is the female and the Spirit is the male. And until there is the union of this, there is no new man. Now, of course, in the physical aspect of sex, the urge to union results in a new man. Now, the union of many things produces a new substance. The union of sodium and chloride produces an entirely new substance called salt. And this goes on in many ways. A union of a resistance or a passive agent and an initiative agent will result in a new pot, for instance, or a new casting of some sort or other. Before one can make a cast iron pot one has to have the initiative of the molten metal. And then one has the resistance of the passive agent of a mold. One pours it in it, one brings about an entirely new object that has a certain duration. And the new object has a use and there is a result from it.

But sex has been misunderstood for many ages and it is a powerful force. And being a force it has many taboos built up around it, much as lightning has had taboos built around it. And about any other force that man does not understand. So, many people cannot see it as an aspect of union. And they see it as something that is dangerous. It leads people, when it is in control without the aid of intellect, into many species of violence, many species of other unusual behavior. Now, of course, today we see that man is totally occupied with sex, practically. You can barely go through any village that one doesn't see eros theaters, one doesn't see innumerable magazines and books that are all telling how to gain more pleasure from sex. Now the fact that there is pleasure in sex is only a by-product.—a symbol again of the union of awareness and Spirit which is a very ecstatic experience. But any union that man can achieve always has a pleasurable or joyful or ecstatic experiencing along with it. And this is what man, in his urge to gain pleasure and escape pain, has misunderstood sex. He has seen it as a source of pleasure. And mammon, of course, puts forth great effort to have man gain all the pleasure that one can. Sex being, practically, the ultimate pleasure that man can experience, has been pursued as a source of pleasure. And it's whole aspect as the symbol of the union of Spirit and awareness has been totally forgotten.

Now eros, as experience in the human being, is simply a force. And, like any force, it is blind. All forces are blind. Electricity is a force and it is blind and must be used with intelligence or else it will be very destructive. When used with intelligence it is a great source of value to mankind. Eros is selective but it is not exclusive. And it has been called love for many long years. It was one aspect of love in that it was an attraction between people. In the ancient Greece anything that had an attraction was considered to be love. But they at least divided it up into the kinds of attraction. The attraction between a parent and a child was called pia. The attraction between male and female that appealed to each other was called eros. The attraction between friends and

the attraction to objects and the attraction to tastes and situations was called philo. And, of course, the attraction of Spirit for awareness was called agape. And the attraction of man for understanding was called agape. So eros is simply a force. And without the use of intelligence with it, one is led into many blind paths. Now many people have just turned their life over to eros thinking that it is an infallible guide to mating, to what they call love, and etc. So a person meets another, a male meets a female and they are attracted. Eros is active. You know, formerly eros was considered to be a funny looking little creature called Cupid with a bow and arrow. And it shot the arrows indiscriminately sometimes. So there is an attraction and they call this love. And on the basis of this love and without any philo, without any agape, many times what is called a marriage takes place. Now the word marriage symbolizes union. And unless it is a union of more than eros, it really shouldn't be called marriage because that is only a mating. Once eros, the force, is gratified, it ceases to be an attraction. However, when eros is used and each person feels that eros is the infallible guide to mating, to union, then there is a marriage and as soon as eros is gratified they find they are utterly bored with each other. One says I no longer love the other person. They never did love. They were only attracted by something that eros demands which is to bring new people on the face of the earth, new bodies, not human beings, but the bodies, which are instruments for X. And, seemingly, there is little regard as to how the body is brought about. But man has built up a society in which he considers mating to be permanent and he has made the marriage ceremony, which is the union, which is very fitting, into something very beautiful and, quite possibly, one of the most outstanding events of many peoples lives, is the marriage ceremony and all the attendant pomp and ceremony that goes with it. It comes from the idea that there is great joy in heaven over the union of awareness and X. It is much like the story of the prodigal son. There was a great feast made when he, that had been dead, returned to the Father. The union took place. There were many gifts exchanged or given when that which was lost was found.

So man is looking for union. He has lost union with Spirit. And it is very fitting that there would be the great celebration of the union. However, when this is only based on eros, it is doomed to early chaotic conditions. (To be continued)

A STORY: How do I deal with disappointment? Slowly I am learning to NOT EVER be disappointed because I cannot see the broader picture.

Many, many years ago I had been hired by the Rocky Flats Atomic Energy plant near Boulder, Colorado as a Medical Technologist. This was an exceptional opportunity, plus the advantage of living in beautiful mountains. It seemed like a dream come true. A few weeks before the time I was to start this new job they wrote me and said they had reconsidered and did not think I would be physically able to handle the ice and snow. I was shattered. This was a tremendous blow, because I thought I knew what ought to be! Besides, my ego decided it was unfair for them to decide what I could or could not do.

Now, with a different understanding, the broader picture emerges. Would this path that I so desperately wanted, have lead me to the Teachings? Who knows? Everything would have been different.

When I take a look at the times when things didn't go my way, I can see that Life loves me so much that it brings into my experience the exact situation that will develop consciousness. So, I have quit screaming and kicking to have my own way, no matter how perfect it may seem. 'What is' today is mighty wonderful, far greater than the puny self could have imagined.

When I cease to think that I know what ought to be, (which is surrender) there is no disappointment. There is no ideal to compare 'what is' to. I am then free to experience 'what is' without conflict, struggle or resistance.

Eureka!

THE RULES FOR BEING HUMAN

1. **You will receive a body.** You may like it or hate it, but it will be yours for the entire period this time around.
2. **You will learn lessons.** You are enrolled in a full-time informal school called life. Each day in this school you will have the opportunity to learn lessons. You may like the lessons or think them irrelevant and stupid.
3. **There are no mistakes, only lessons.** Growth is a process of trial and error: experimentation. The "failed" experiments are as much a part of the process as the experiment that ultimately "works".
4. **A lesson is repeated until learned.** A Lesson will be presented to you in various forms until you have learned it. When you have learned it, you can then go on to the next lesson.
5. **Learning lessons does not end.** There is no part of life that does not contain its lessons. If you are alive, there are lessons to be learned.
6. **"There" is no better than "here".** When your "there" has become a "here", you will simply obtain another "there" that will again look better than "here".
7. **Others are merely mirrors of you.** You cannot love or hate something about another person unless it reflects to you something you love or hate about yourself.
8. **What you make of your life is up to you.** You have all the tools and resources you need. What you do with them is up to you. The choice is yours.
9. **You answers lie inside you.** The answers to life's questions lie inside you. All you need do is look, listen and trust.
10. **YOU WILL FORGET ALL THIS.**