

#### Comments On Spirituality

William Allen LePar

#### Wealth and Gifts

here did the year go, we ask ourselves, as we remove a page from the calendar, revealing the first day of the last month of the year. December. Oh. God. Christmas shopping, Christmas decorating, making extra efforts to visit people. It seems as though just the thought of the coming holidays is enough to exhaust me at times. At this moment I think, "Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could just eliminate the month of December?" It seems as though it would make life a lot easier. No maddening crowds to deal with, no big dinners to cook, just quiet evenings enjoying the cold nights of winter, maybe enjoying a little television, maybe reading a book, or maybe just sitting quietly and contemplating.

Since we can't eliminate the

month of December, that means we must learn to deal with all its activities in a proper frame of mind, one of a joyful

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celebration. It is the traditional season of giving gifts. It is funny, once a year, some strange cloud descends on mankind and seems to impart in him the desire to give gifts,

to give presents to loved ones, family, and friends. With some people it seems as though they no sooner get out of debt paying last year's Christmas debts than it is time to get out the plastic charge and shackle themselves again to exorbitant credit charges and monthly payments for gifts given the next Christmas. Why is it we haven't learned the lesson to give within the boundaries of what we can afford instead of giving gifts that are given more to impress than to please or make happy?

It's interesting, after the holidays and the credit card accounts come in, we begin to realize to one degree or another how limited our wealth really is. In the frenzy of Christmas shopping, we buy,

## Y2K Y Worry?

Y2K! Everyone knows what that stands for even if you have never sat in front of a computer or signed up for the internet. We know that the coming date change for the year two thousand on January

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First, asking The Council to talk directly about the future or a specific future event brings the concept of free will verses predestination into play. The Council says that nothing is predestined. Therefore, any discussion of future events is just speculation to one degree or another. Second, and most important, The Council is concerned primarily about our spiritual well-being not our physical. It is true that they have in the past and will continue in the future to advise us on physical matters when they relate to a spiritual principle, but in the case of the Y2K question we did not pay close enough attention to that concept when forming our question.

The way the Research Group forms its questions requires active participation from all. The researchers review the most recent trance

to see if there are any questions that need further clarification or additional follow-up. They must also ask themselves: Do The Council's answers to the questions in this trance bring up new areas that need questioning? Many times they will give us hints that thought out properly will open new avenues of discovery. One such hint concerns those who are retarded and their purpose (This will be the subject of an up coming article.) Once new questions are formulated and submitted by the researchers, all members vote to determine which should be given priority at the next trance. Nearly three decades ago when the Research group was formed, these were the guidelines that The Council gave us. The only requirement from us was that we use some intelligence in forming the questions. They must be presented in a manner that will

the first has everyone's interest. The Research Group in its desire to know more about this future event decided to ask The Council what it thought. Bad idea! "Why?" you ask. Let's examine how SOL's Research and Study Group operates and how questions are developed.

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The Council. . . a gathering of twelve souls who once occupied physical bodies on earth but who have since forever left the physical world. In their final act of love for humanity they teach us to regain control of our lives and reunite with our Divine Source.

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allow future generations that may not have the opportunity to be personally present at such an event, to clearly understand what is being asked.

We formulated our question on Y2K along with several other questions relating to The Council's answers from the previous trance. Of course the Y2K question received the most votes and was to be the first one asked at the next trance. When a question is asked I'm sure that many at the trance attempt to anticipate The Council's reply. We were not prepared for the answer that we received to our Y2K question. Their reply struck like a bolt of lightning, jolting us out of our complacency and re-focusing our attention on why we are involved as researchers and why we spirit beings are involved in physical creation. They showed us how they view Y2K, but more importantly how they view life and our involvement in it.

Question: "There is a lot of media bedlam over the Y2K computer problem for the year 2000. I am concerned about the unknown factor of people panicking. The media does its negative best to promote chaos so they have a better story. Is

there anything that we should be prepared for or forewarned about concerning this?"

The Council: "What makes the difference what would happen? How does that effect your spirituality? May it pose

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an inconvenience where your true spirituality will be tested, taken from the thought, the word, into action? Or is it simply a fear that you are not ready? Certainly there will be problems. Some areas will have more difficulty than others. But the general interest is not so much what negative effects it may have on spirituality but what negative effects it may

have on one's comfort and financial stability. If that is what an individual hungers for, that security, then take measures to know exactly what your financial standing is, so that if in your area there should be a problem you have documentation as to what you own.

"It is sad that man worries more about his materialistic possessions than possessing a soul that represents the god within him, but isn't that why man is here now because his priorities are not in line with Divine Presence."

Sometimes it is necessary for us to be clearly reminded of our true purpose for living. So much of our time is spent raising families, paying bills, avoiding stress and worry, trying to survive, that there is little time for peace and quiet, for reflection on what is really important. The Council reminded us that surviving Y2K is about physical survival. They are concerned about our spiritual survival and from their perspective that is infinitely more important. That is timeless.

### The Search and Discovery Game

#### Points to Ponder

Dr. James Ridzon

Due to my association with Mr. William Allen LePar, I have attended countless New Age Conferences over more than a twenty year period. At these various meetings I couldn't help noticing many of the same faces year after year after year. I assumed these individuals were extremely serious about spirituality, but I had to wonder why, after twenty years, why were they still searching? Perhaps they never found the answers they needed. It puzzled me. Then at one of the LePar Trances I got a new perspective on the situation. A quote from the Trance reads; "Those who only think thoughts of spirituality must question their own sincerity. Are they more interested in the search or in the discovery?" (4th Research Trance, 99-05-08, ll.37-40.)

The learning process is composed of two elements: the search portion and the discovery portion. In the search phase one gathers information and considers all possible solutions to the problem. These are sorted, weighed and sifted, discarding the impossible, useless and unworkable. The remaining contenders are analyzed and

considered and hopefully some useful insight or truth emerges which can be fitted into one's life plan and acted upon. Notice that the final step of the discovery process implies action. Therein lies the rub! Action brings with it responsibility and the notion of responsibility terrifies people. In our present culture "responsibility" is almost a dirty word. How many times have you heard someone say: "I would be a much better father. mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, worker, person (choose one); if it were not for the abuse I get from my father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, worker, person (choose one). You see, it's not my fault!"? It seems that nobody wants to be responsible for anything; it's always somebody else's fault. Of course, it never occurs to them that by this line of reasoning it's probably not the abuser's fault either. The chain leads all the way back to Adam and Eve. It must be their fault.

The search portion of the process is the fun part. You go to lectures and learn a lot of neat stuff. You get readings about your life as Alexander the Great or Cleopatra. You

learn about crystals that emanate vibes to help you do whatever it is that you haven't started doing yet. It is a great adventure and all in the name of spirituality. The problem is that all this searching will inevitably lead to discovery. Discovery is the tough part. Now you have the responsibility of getting down to the actual work of loving your neighbor, heaven forbid. The career spiritual seeker is very skilled at keeping the quest in the search phase without actually crossing over into the discovery phase. All fun, no responsibility and yet so spiritual. To continue the quote from the LePar trance: "There are many who want the search but not the discovery. The search poses no responsibility. The discovery engulfs one in responsibility, in commitment, in the doing." (4th Research Trance, 99-05-08, ll.40-44.)

I'm not at all sure I like what I heard but I am convinced it is true. All I can say is; "See you at the next conference!"

# Merchip Files for the Year 2000

#### **PRAYER**

Soul Power No. 00-71

We have all said prayers that we thought were never answered; perhaps we prayed for a healing and the healing never came, and we reasoned it was just not meant to be. In this file you will discover what was meant to be, and why prayers

seemingly go
unanswered.
You will also
discover
what elements are
needed for a
powerful
prayer,
including the
role of the

heart and emotions. You will see how activities and good deeds can be a true form of prayer, why meditation should always be preceded by prayer, and how praying for others adds to your own soul. Prayer takes many forms and no prayer is ever wasted but always does some good, somewhere. Don't hesitate to pray often; it is the most powerful thing you can do.

#### WAR

Politics and Profit No. 00-72

War is the result of government and big business. The reason is the huge profit to be made from war. Governments and big business seek complete control of the people; mind, body, and soul.

What right does anyone have to cause pain, suffering, and even death to another individual? When mankind realizes that no government or corporation has this right, then we will have a much better world.



# THE CHILDREN'S/ FAMILY TRANCE

Questions of Innocence No. 00-73

What would the children say when they had a chance to question The Council? Unburdened by guilt or a need to be "proper," the children of the SOL Associates ask questions with a freshness that is missing from the adult Trances. Do you know the answer to God's favorite job, the smartest animal, if dragons were real, or how Mary got pregnant? The children do. In the second Trance, the Family Trance, the adult members of the SOL Associates' families are given a chance to talk with The Council on such subjects as the reason for the Trances, parenting, discipline, and diet. This is a file that will uplift the heart of even the most serious spiritual

seeker.

### **Bitter Harvest**

The Crow's Nest

Bigger is better; mass

production lowers costs; economy of scale; yada yada yada... We know the song and all its verses about profitability. But we also know the reality of it does not always manifest the way we've been taught. Recently, a study brought light to the fact the American people were being tricked by many companies because we believe that concept. In some grocery stores, for example, the bigger cans of tuna actually cost more than two of the smaller cans. "Economy Size" didn't mean economy for the consumer. We are thus often hoodwinked.

That study was publicized just a few months ago. But fifteen years ago, The Council gave a stern warning dealing with the same issues. It bears repeating today:

"Pray diligently that this

destruction of the small farmer ceases and ceases quickly, because if it does not, you will be entrapped only one more way and in a very strong and devastating way."

What has been happening, as we all know, is that the family farm has been disappearing from the landscape at an accelerated rate. The statistics supporting this trend are numbing. In 1980, there were 119,000 farms in the United States. In 1998, that number had plummeted to just 97,000. That is a loss of 22,000 farms. Look at it on a daily basis, for a clearer picture. In that 18-year span, we've lost more than three farms every day.

As would be expected, the size of remaining farms has increased. In 1980, the average size of a farm was 284 acres. In 1998, the average size had increased to 340 acres. Fewer farms, larger farms. Bigger is better?

No. For in agriculture as well as many other arenas of public endeavor, the fewer the people in control means the more control they have. And this is not simply a matter of the blind evolution of society. Some in our world are too crafty and greedy to let something so important occur at the whim of fate. The Council:

"It is a definite plan afoot in your country to destroy the

small farmer so that his land and his productivity falls into the hand of conglomerate farming or agri-business corporations. Once they gain that control, you will have no way of defending yourself from starvation. This deliberate financial raping of your farmers must cease and cease quickly because once the big corporations gain the control THEY WANT (emphasis added) over your food supplies, you might as well start wearing the bands of slavery."

It sounds almost like a conspiracy, right? Right. Read on:

"Why do you think financial support was given to your farmers in the first place? So they would become enslaved to the financial institutions and the governments that were involved. Why do you think there is mass foreclosing on your small farmers today? Think, think. Look at the picture. Look beyond what you hear and read. Project such activities down the road and see the potential for where they may be leading to..."

Is it too late to correct this problem, or at least slow down the hemorrhaging? There is no honest way to answer that, except to repeat what The Council said: Pray, and pray diligently.

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buy, buy, for the most part not to please the receiver but to impress the receiver, only to realize that the only person that we have impressed is ourselves and only to this degree, how stupid we are in going into debt so deeply. We quickly discover how limited our personal wealth is.

Without a doubt Christmas is the time of the giving of gifts. Because of the materialistic world we live in, we have lost sight of the real gifts that can be and should be given. Our whole being is bombarded by the commercialism of Christmas. The toy manufacturers bombard our children

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with toys that they must have. Our children then bombard us with the toys they have been told they want. The clothes manufacturers tell us that we must wear certain types of clothing so that we are unique and individual.

Every place we turn we are told that we must have this or we must have that for happiness, and in turn if we want to impress someone we must give them a gift of this or that, regardless of what our finances will allow us to spend. Who really cares; there is always the plastic and we can worry about that after Christmas.

This is what Christmas is like for most people, but is this the way it should be or was intended to be? I think it is easy for us to realize that this wasn't the purpose of Christmas.

The purpose of Christmas was to receive a gift that would open a door to a whole new way of life to us. The Divine Presence, some two thousand years ago, gave us the gift of the Christ Consciousness in the form of a newborn baby. We discovered something about God that He already knew about Himself, and that was the wealth of His Love. This precious gift that was worth so much to Him, was given to us free. It was given to us with a joyful heart and a wish that all men would partake of this gift and in so doing find their way back into the Loving Arms of this Divine Presence.

What does the acceptance of this gift cost us, this gift of the Christ Consciousness in the form of this child? Cost? God doesn't charge, the Divine Presence doesn't charge. In fact, what we should ask is

what do we actually discover when we accept this present from God? We can only answer this question when we

T his precious gift that was worth so much to Him, was given to us free. It was given to us with a joyful heart and a wish that all men would partake of this gift and in so doing find their way back into the Loving Arms of this Divine Presence.

understand what is the real gift, when we accept this Christ Consciousness. Is it simply a gift of words, of wonderful thoughts, beautiful dreams, that are full of compassion and caring and love? The answer to this is no. When we accept this gift, it is a gift of action and becoming. And through this process the real gift that is not obvious is the discovery of self and one's own worth.

When we truly accept the Christ Consciousness, we are accepting a way of life and an attitude towards life. It is the emulation of a God Consciousness, that is giving gifts of great wealth, beauty and meaning. Rabindranath Tagore,

Indian poet and philosopher, said this: "Man discovers his own wealth when God comes and asks gifts of him." Is this

W ill the day ever come when we as a society will really begin to understand the purpose of Christmas? Will we ever begin to realize that the reason why we have Christmas is so that God can come to us and ask us for gifts, not for Himself, but gifts for those that our lives touch.

what Christmas is all about? When we accept the Christ Consciousness, do we open the door to this Divine Presence so that He can come in and ask of us to give to others who are in need? Does He ask us to give to others the love, care, and compassion, just to give us something to do, just to in some small way act like Him, or does He ask us to give the gifts of love, care, and compassion so that in a given time we can discover just how wealthy we truly are, to discover just how greatly this Divine Presence has blessed us with more

than a bountiful storehouse of love, caring, and compassion for those around us. Will the day ever come when we as a society will really begin to understand the purpose of Christmas? Will we ever begin to realize that the reason why we have Christmas is so that God can come to us and ask us for gifts, not for Himself, but gifts for those that our lives touch. Again, the gifts that are most precious, that are most valuable, the gifts of love, caring, compassion, will we understand that giving these gifts is God's way of allowing us to realize how wealthy we truly are and how generous He is to us, how He has supplied us so abundantly with love that that source will never, never be depleted. Man discovers his own wealth when God comes to ask gifts of him. God provides us with the opportunity to share the wealth He has given us with those around us who need. This type of giving, these kinds of gifts, are of greater value than any gift purchased with money could ever be. These are the gifts that were first given to us from the

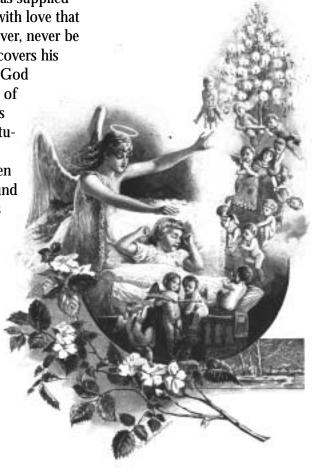
**Divine Presence** 

hearts so that we

placed in our

in turn can give them to others who are in need, thereby being instrumental in the flow of God's love to us, from us to others, and in so doing discover our own true wealth, our own true being, our emulation of the God within.

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gain you come into the time of the year when things begin to slow down, where man celebrates the symbol of renewal, birth, life, beginning. Certainly, at the holiday seasons, you find yourself extra busy with all the extra little things that you feel are important to celebrate the season. But isn't there more to celebration than all the external trimmings and all the external activities? Take time and think about yourself and what you have done. Do it on a day-to-day basis, just a few minutes. Ask yourself a couple questions. Did you get anything accomplished today? Because that is the first thing you are going to think is important, so get the trivial out of the way. Then go for the real thing: Did you do anything nice for anybody today? Did you put yourself out for anybody today? Did you think about anybody else or were you too involved with your own self-importance? It only takes a few minutes but you can discover a great deal about yourself. Particularly at this time of the year it is important to take time to think about where you are really going, what is really important to you, what do you really want out of life. And then when the holidays do come upon you, be prepared to give birth to a new you. Don't allow yourself the foolishness of simply allowing the old you to pass through this holiday season with no change but a new shirt or a new blouse or a new pair of pants or a new skirt. Love yourself enough to allow yourself to move to the other side of the holidays becoming a new person inside.

The Council



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