

AM I SAVED BY GRACE OR LAW?

This was a problem to me for years. Actually, my heart was always clear once the law had done its work on me... {That however as most of us know, takes a while.} In the beginning of my walk on the “spiritual path” it was like God just came down from heaven and yanked everything out of my life that I was holding on to that was self destructive. Everything that the church, {and the law, I might add} considered sin was jerked away from me.

This was the very first thing I experienced that day in 1969 as I experienced what some call being “born again,” which to me is just the other end of Resurrection. So my beginning was totally Love and Freedom. Naturally I assumed that I had arrived. For three months I lived and walked in heavenly places. Joy and peace were the order of the day. God had breathed into me the Spirit of Zoë Life and I arose from the red clay a “living soul.”

Gradually however that wonderful experience dissipated and to make a long story short, I woke up one day and I found myself cast out of the garden and now everything came by the sweat of my brow. Needless for me to say, thus began the Christian sweat life that Adam experiences once he is forced from the Garden because of ego. *This is the stage where I struggle and strive to be that which I am and have always been.* So, what had happened to me? What had happened to me was I had been given a foretaste of living within the Garden.

Just as in the beginning allegory of Adam and Eve, their home was the Garden of Eden. There, all things were provided for them. There was no sweat life for them at all. Sweat was an unknown thing in the Garden. There was however a problem that at this time could not have been known. There was no way for Adam to know all the blessings that he had. The reason...? Adam had never known lack, he had never known anything else but grace. He couldn't know or appreciate grace either, because he had never been without it.

So... you could say that even through Adam had it all, in reality he actually had nothing, for what he had never been without, he could not know within. If I don't know something then neither do I have it. It must enter into my consciousness for me to experience it. Suppose God would have come to Adam in the garden and said, Adam, what do you think of how long suffering I am?

Adam would have batted his eyes at God and said... “long suffering...?”

Lord what is long suffering”? Suppose God would have said, Adam, do you know how patience I am? Do you know how forgiving I am? how loving I am? Etc. Adam would have said “Lord, what is patience, and what is forgiving, and what is loving”? Adam in his stage of innocence had never known any lack for this is the nature of Eden. Adam had no capacity to appreciate good, for he had not experienced its opposite evil.

When I found myself in Eden that day in 1969, I had asked for God to give me Christ. When God answered my request the following morning, the result was that all of a sudden I found myself in Eden. The presence was within me, upon me, and everywhere around me. I was baptized that day in the spirit of Christ. In this state of being, everything was provided for me, there was no lack.

“God cannot be tempted with sin” said James. I was so filled with God that this was my experience also. I recall working in the plant when sometimes an office worker would walk down through the plant wearing a mini skirt. All of a sudden you would hear all the rivet guns stop. This meant that a woman was walking through the plant with a mini skirt on, and the workers had all stopped to watch, as she walked by.

Not even these things could deter me from that which was totally enveloping me. Know how long it took me to become a Pharisee? Not very long! Know why? Because since I had been big enough and kind enough to allow Jesus to come into my heart I had no problems with those things anymore. After all... wasn't I the one who said yes to God? It was as if I almost felt that God owed me, since I had agreed to give him my life. “No Man can come unto me except the Farher which sent me draw him”.

I was very strong in those early days to support the Armenian doctrine, you know you can get saved today {whatever that means} and lose it tomorrow sort of thing. So for awhile, I rode with all the winners. I was a “victorious Christian;” I was the on fire for God sort a thing. Doing this time Grace was abounding everywhere for me. But then the grace began to sorta like... return into the heavenly realm and like... leave me here on the ground.

It was like one morning I woke up from a beautiful dream to face life such as it is. Little by little the old man began to rear its ugly head once again. All the old inklings began to return and it wasn't long before they had returned with

a vengeance. I was expecting days of wine and roses instead came the days of woe is me, who shall deliver me...? The day of being forced out of Eden was now upon me. I'll not drag this miserable horror story out much longer.

I'll just say that there were many years of confusion until one day I became clear that I had to get out of the poisoned make believe Vanity Fair thing called church. In the beginning stages of my conversion the church met my needs. The time came when this no longer applied. It was then that I left never to return. I entitled this post Am I saved by grace or law? There are so many ways that this could be answered, and all of them would be right.

I see grace and law as being two ends of the same stick. I see also that salvation is in terms of waking up from a dream that I'm having, which is to say that in reality I've never been lost, at least not in the way that is usually meant when the church declares someone lost. I have been lost in a real sense, lost in the illusion that I alone have decided to create. But I'll return to a more basic understanding of salvation.

In this dream, we have salvation by law or grace and the question is which is it? The very best answer I can come up with is that both law and grace are one and the same. Law being the first stage, and grace the second. It was fear that I might be suddenly taken off the earth by some means while not being right with God that ultimately led me to go for the prayer that resulted in my conversion the following day. The fear...? That was law!

It was grace that came down and filled me with the glory that changed my life forever, and it was grace that deserted me and left me to my own resources that led me through the wilderness for forty years to humble me. That was grace first and then law. The 40 years of wandering in the wilderness of my mind is what I call abstract grace. This experience tends to empty us of ego self so Higher Self, the one I've always been can surface. In this whole process the one that has been sleeping is in the process of awakening.

In the Old Testament, God kept the Israelites wondering around in circles in the wilderness until the whole first generation with the exception of Caleb and Joshua died off. The old man is never saved. He must decrease and only as he dies off can the man from heaven be revealed. That's you and me! Now as truth would have it, the old man was never real anyway.

He was the creation created by the concept of good and evil as I forgot who I

was, but back to the basics. I cannot know grace before law has its way with me. The law does what grace could never do. If all I ever knew was the grace of God, I would be the biggest, blindest Pharisee and hypocrite the world has ever been cursed with, but hey... give me law and eventually it will be the death of the Pharisee in me. This that I know as law is the same as the cross. The ego is the part of me that has caused me to forget my true identity.

That is the one who looks back at me from my bathroom mirror. That's the one whose breath is in his nostrils. The real me, is the breath! That's the part of me that created the one I see in the mirror. That's the eternal me, the one who's never been lost. The one in the mirror in his forgetting creates all the crosses and continues to do so. The law, the cross, they're both the same! Here is truth...! I am eternal, I am loves child, and therefore I too am love.

Love is my nature. Whenever I think thoughts that vibrate outside of love, I create crosses for me. These are seen by some as karma. Some see them as sowing and reaping, others as the law of attraction, which are all one and the same. As Love, my tendency is to do nothing in thought, word or deed that is hurtful or harmful to someone else. This means I'm free! For me to really grasp this is to come out of the wilderness, out of my old mind, and find myself back in Eden.

To be back in Eden, is to be in Christ... not in doctrine, but in experience. To be back in Eden is to at least to some degree to have awakened. This whole long wonderful journey is one that we started perhaps billions of years ago. On this journey everything happens by degrees. Evolution is a very slow process that I started when the first explosion in the Infinite began.

Biologically I have a beginning.

Know one knows when that was! Spiritually I am the one with neither beginning nor ending, for I am the Alfa and the Omega, the beginning and the ending, the first and the last. So are you! What you see is what you get! To what degree do I see the things I share...? Only God knows and he won't tell. ☺ I cannot know, for I have no reference point with which to judge. I only know I see what I see and the result in my everyday life has been encouraging.

So to me this whole thing we call salvation is of pure grace and couldn't possibly be any other way. The way many see the law to me does not exist. The principle of law is to me, also the principle of grace, and so I see them as one

principle having two aspects, and both work to awaken sleeping Adam. Grace is the dispenser of law and law is the dispenser of grace, and both work together to produce the same result, that the church calls salvation.

To me, it is the awakening out of the Divine induced dream. To me, this that we call life, is all a Wild Divine Dream, a Cosmic Game if you will, that I have decided to play, for many reasons. This "I" is what all of creation is! This is why it's all grace, because it's all formed in the Mind of God who is Love. Thoughts are things that eventually take form. We were once an idea in the heart of God. That idea eventually took form and now here I am. There are some things that God cannot do. One of them is he cannot create without becoming that which he creates.

Now creation continues to be an ongoing thing as I, the manifestation of the creative energy continue to create by my thoughts, which are also his thoughts because I and my Father are one. God continues to create through, and as his creation. The greatest, the highest, the last and most beneficial revelation for both God and man, is the revelation of the oneness of all of us with the creative intelligence. As this one final truth dawns upon the consciousness of man, this revelation will enable that intelligence to create a new heaven and earth.

Mans environment reflects his state of mind. This is law! As that Cosmic Mind surfaces in man, when the truth of oneness reaches critical mass in the minds of men and women, we will see the Garden of Eden take form here on earth before our very eyes. This will be when all the believers put up their sword and realize that it's where brethren dwell together in unity that God releases the blessing. Psalm 133 the difference from the allegory of creation in Genesis 1, 2, and 3 is then we unlike Adam will know what we have.

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