

## YOU CAN FINISH LAST...

If I could somehow come into eternal bliss, the journey of eternal life would come to a halt. Then I would have come back to the beginning which was one of boredom. The one eternal divine nature that I am is one of acclimation. The nature that I am is eternal. This nature demands change. The reason is... it acclimates to any condition after a certain amount of time.

As this happens, whatever experience I'm having will gradually become common place. If it's initially a negative experience it may seem very negative in the beginning, but given enough time my emotions will level out and what seemed like a nightmare in the beginning will eventually be something I can live with. This is "acclimation". It is an aspect of grace. It's my nature to acclimate. On a more positive note, all positive experiences also if given enough time, will gradually become common place.

As this happens the euphoria produced by the experience will fade. Eventually there is no more euphoria in the experience. This is again, because I have acclimated to the euphoria. The same is true of bliss which is produced by the presence. Guyon referred to the experience of the presence as visitations of Gods grace. I would agree also.

I buy the car of my dreams or the home of my dreams, and for awhile I am excited and I desire to share these things to all my friends. I spend lots of time washing the car, having people over to show the home etc. Given a little time however the newness wears off and now the car rarely gets a good washing and other cars perhaps newer then mine are beginning to get my attention. I can apply this principle to most things.

When just a young Christian I read Madam Guyon's auto biography. In one section of the book she says that too much grace would be detrimental to spiritual growth. I just could not agree with this at all. In the context of this she was speaking of the presence. Most, if not all of us who seek the Lord have experienced the presence. My initial entering the spiritual path was the result of the presence engulfing me one day and changing my life forever.

This experience was so profound and created such an euphoria that

from that day to this I have sought this experience again even though that initial experience was over 40 years ago. Someone once said "follow your bliss". The "presence" I speak of here, is that bliss. About a year or two prior to my initial experience of the bliss which set me forever on this search for the truth, my Christian mother once told me of a standing prayer she had with God.

It was only 6 little words... "God, guide me into all truth". After I found myself on the path I remembered her prayer and decided it would also be mine. It has been for over 40 years now. I can tell you that this heart request has revealed some wonderful things to me, one of which I'll share with you here. Some have no doubt seen it but for those who have not, I'll continue. All religion has been tampered with and because of the influence of a corrupted religion we have been led down many blind alleys only to discover the answer we sought was not at the end.

Duality has really been given a bum rap. The contrast that it provides is the reason I came here to begin with. We've fought it tooth and nail only to find out that it plays a major roll in that which we came here to do... which was to experience the contrast which is the primary ingredient that creates expansion in All That Is. When one of us expands in knowledge we all do. When anything is revealed to one of us, anyone anywhere on the globe who's reaching out and is ready will see it also.

Because of the times we live in, new light is being beamed to earth. When one person receives new light for this day it then goes into the universal mind. From that time on, anyone who's ready will get it and be able to assimilate it. In these days we're seeing many things that have not been seen before in our culture. I want to get back to bliss. Religions main objective was to blind us to why we've come here. Therefore it has given us the idea that earth life is to be looked down upon and we are to seek only "heavenly" things.

Long, long ago, I believe spirit came to a place to where it wanted to extend itself for the purpose of experiencing this flesh and blood world. Obviously I do not have full understanding concerning the ramifications that led up to the creation of the earth and all that this includes. All that I have been able to see is that Source energy at some point began travailing as a desire to experience the unknown. I believe

this travailing could have taken {who knows how many} thousands or millions of years, until eventually creation began to appear.

I believe as my full memory returns I will find that the heaven I have searched for is right here on this earth, and I am here as flesh and blood to enjoy all that physical life has to offer. I believe I will come to understand that it is the contrast that duality provides that I came here for. Contrast guarantees there will always be the challenges that provide the excitement to the game of life. this game of life is why I'm here.

Years ago when I read that Guyon stated in her book that too much grace would tend to erode my spiritual life I violently disagreed. Today I know that I cannot visit the mountaintops without going through the valleys. Oh if only we could see this in a more clear way. In my past I have known the visitations of grace. I have known times of basking in the presence. During those times no one could interest me in the greatest of revelations. This was because I had no sensation of any need whatsoever during those visits.

During these times of the visitations of divine grace all hunger subsides. I am full. During these times I feel no need of anything. My experience is that I am totally complete. My initial visitation, the one that put me on this journey lasted for three months. I was filled with joy and felt no need. Gradually however the high dissipated until I awoke one day to the stark contrast of the valley. You could say that for the best part of three months I basked in heavenly places. That was my first visitation. The valley that came after in contrast seemed like hell.

My initial high that was so very high and sublime, I attribute to the hell I had created for myself the 32 years prior to my starting the journey. It was the contrast of before and after that found me on the high mountain those first few months. Over the years I've had many visitations; yet looking back with hindsight I've noticed that they seemed to be a little less intense with each visit. Also the amount of time between the visits kept getting longer, until to my five senses they have all but stopped.

It's as though as we gradually develop the single vision which I believe is formed by gradually removing the candy from the baby. It's as

though once we have really gotten a taste of the world to come, our guide then knows that we can survive the dry times. It also knows that the dry times cause the roots to grow deep into the soil. That soil is Christ our real identity. I once heard a wise man when giving a message in reference to these things said, "God dries out the wheat". Wheat is beautiful when it is green and blowing in the breeze.

But always at a certain time the farmer shuts off the water supply. It is then the wheat turns a golden brown. After a time it is then ready to be thrashed. Then it can be made into bread to satisfy the hungry. So to wind this up, it is contrast created by duality that is responsible for all that my heart could ever desire. I cannot know the experience of high without knowing the low. One day the path levels out and but for a surprise now and then it remains so.

If today I bask in the grace I will feel no need for anything... for the presence fills me totally. I am not hungry at these times. But be very clear... this too shall pass. We all go through the seasons. So when the days turn bleak with winter clouds, remember... as sure as winter has come, spring shall follow. If your winter seems exceptionally long, the spring will no doubt be extra beautiful, and life will be abundant. And weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.

I once had a besetting sin. I prayed about it for years until I came to where it took great effort to continue to pray for it. When I first had my awakening I used to love James 4:12. "Blessed is the man who endures temptation for when he is tried he shall receive the crown of life which the Lord shall give to them that love him". I was enjoying my honeymoon with God in those days and it was my experience that all sin was under my feet. So scriptures like James 4:12 were great.

They delighted me. Sometime later I had come down from the mountain and there were a few things that had taken control of my life again. I found myself deep in the experience of Romans chapter seven. It was then that I wanted to avoid scriptures like this one in James because the more I prayed the worse things seemed to pull me down. One day after years of praying and still deep in the experience of Romans seven I got to my job early one day and I open my bible to read before work which I always did.

The bible sort of fell open and my eyes lit on James 4:12. In a flash

what came to my heart was this... "You avoid dealing with this verse because you think you are not "enduring". The temptation that this verse is speaking of here is not at all about overcoming your sin, it's about giving up the race! The temptation is to give up the race! Just stay in the race son, let me worry about the problem of your sin". What a time of rejoicing this was for me.

What emancipation. My mind immediately went to Hebrews where it says "the race is neither to the swift nor the strong, but the lame take the prey" I have learned that Gods business is to transmute curses into blessings. So remember... blessings follow curses and spring always follows winter. Just stay in the race! You can even finish last, that's ok. Just stay in the race!