



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2024

In Search of the Pearl of Great Price

Key Lesson #1: The growth of our soul rarely unfolds in a light that we recognize as such. Many times darkness is the medium, sorrow the seed, and the subsequent humility conceived in these trials...is the divine garden in which flowers our soul.

Key Lesson #2: Awareness of the opposites reveals higher possibilities that don't even exist to our lower level of self whose imagined sense of individuality is but a fleeting dream, an illusion born of being identified with one or the other of the opposites.

Key Lesson #3: There are no political parties in Heaven. It is hell where duality thrives; its inhabitants driven mad by a self-created pain born of hating anyone who refuses to recognize, let alone worship the gods they've made in their own image.

Key Lesson #4: There can be little doubt about it; the evidence of prolonged experience proves it true of all human beings: given enough time, whatever we turn to in times of trouble is...exactly what we ourselves turn into.

Talk Takeaways

- "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it." -- New Testament

- What if you understood that there is no future in what you are identified with?
- Everything about interior work comes down to seeing that you have been blind. The pearl of great price is the capacity to see life through new eyes.
- The blind old man in the story was able to discern a true pearl from a false one because he had learned how to see with his senses. Our senses have been dulled to the point that they cannot discern true from false.
- You live from a consciousness that only knows to be for something or against something. That consciousness is satisfied with its pain, which it blames on exterior conditions.
- What is at the root of the troublesome moment that you are in? One way or the other, the root is fear that you are going to lose something that you are identified with.
- We have a thousand different gods because we have a thousand different ways to deal with pain, to find security.
- Freedom is not something you acquire. Freedom is born out of seeing with greater and greater clarity.
- What we call a moment of darkness is a moment in which who we think we are has been challenged.
- You see monsters where there are none because the mind negatively interprets the shadows it sees according to its past.
- Darkness is a necessary counterpart to light. Like the Yin-Yang symbol. One is always in an interplay with the other. There is no end to the relationship between Yin and Yang, which means that there is no end to who you really are.
- "From unreality lead me to the real, from darkness to the light, from death to immortality." – Upanishads

- You do not have to be afraid of your own ignorance. Ignorance is not a hindrance to understanding. Ignorance is a precursor to understanding. Confusion is a necessary precursor to clarity.
- Darkness is not something to avoid or be afraid of. Rather, it is something to be engaged with so that you can discover for yourself that "the light shineth in darkness, and the darkness comprehends it not."
- Ignorance is identification with the consciousness that believes it knows the purpose of life.
- You cannot learn how to live lightly until you have seen the heaviness that you currently carry around.