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### Man Living in Harmony with Nature

#### Summary:

Creation is a gift to that which has been created.

This Earth is a gift to man, a perfect gift of harmony, peace, abundance.

Man's arrogance and stupidity of mind will remove him from this Earth.

When man alters nature to improve it, he actually causes it and himself to become less.

We each have to ask, "How do I want to live on this Earth without making it less and therefore making myself less?"

Is it not a beautiful day today, Paul? The sun is shining and the birds are singing and all is well in your world. A world of great beauty, a world of great harmony. A world that does not need to change in any way. A world that does not need to be altered or fixed or improved upon. You might say that Creation is a gift to all things or objects of Creation.

Creation works without man's interference. Man cannot make the tree grow better, bigger, faster. Man cannot make the waters move down from the mountains faster. Man cannot make the oceans larger, bigger, better. Man dreams of making this Earth better, and you might even say safer. Man wants the cities to be larger, safer. Man wishes to create a dam and hold back the river and create a lake or reservoir. Man builds dikes, levees, to hold back the ocean or the river. Man alters crops like corn to grow faster and better, brighter, with less water. Man gives chemicals, antibiotics and maybe even growth hormones to chickens so they grow bigger, faster and maybe even better tasting. The same with cows and other animals.

What we are saying, Paul, is Creation is a gift. It is in harmony with itself as nature is in harmony with itself. Nature is here for man to enjoy, to witness, to gather the fruit as it falls from the tree, to raise his chickens in a healthy environment or his cattle in a healthy environment. Man is to work with nature and not try to control nature or alter nature or to in some ways make it better for man does not have the knowledge. Man does not understand the workings of nature.

Nature and this Earth are products of God's mind, God's intelligence. It is a product of God desiring to see Himself. He says to all of Creation and nature, "Show Me the love that I am. I wish to display that which I am." And since God is of peace and harmony and love, that which you see before you, on and within this Earth is peace and harmony and love. You certainly can use nature, be within nature as you are, just as you would ride on top of a river on a raft. You are on the river, you are floating down the river. The river takes you. The boat that you are in provides the floatation for you to be on top of the river.

Nature and all of this world is a gift. A gift that is not to be altered in any way. Let us say a craftsperson presents you with a beautiful gold sculpture, beautifully designed with diamonds and precious stones embedded in this beautiful sculpture. And this craftsperson

hands you this sculpture and it is truly magnificent – outstanding. But you decide, with no experience as a craftsman, no experience as an artist, you decide to alter this gift. You decide that the shape is not quite right, that the diamond should be placed over here on this other part of the sculpture. And that maybe it's a good idea to take all the diamonds and precious stones off the sculpture and melt them down and remake it. And when you are done remaking it, it is not the same sculpture, it is not the same object from this great craftsman. You have taken something that works, that's beautiful in form and color and shape, it's beautiful, and now it is an object of confusion, an object of disharmony. You have spent time and money remaking this object, this sculpture. And it is, indeed, a disaster. You have taken something of great value and you have made it of very little value.

Your world works, Paul, through the hand of God, through the hand of Creation. Through billions, billions, billions of years of intelligence. Through millions of revolutions of the Earth. Through millions and maybe even billions, trillions of revolutions around the sun. And so your Earth has been shaped from the beginning of time. And so what you have before you is almost timeless. It has been shaped. It has been crafted. And it is, indeed, very beautiful.

And the mind of man has come forth with very few years of experience and with almost no intelligence, with almost no foreverness. And the mind of man says, "I know better than God. I know better than nature. We can change this and we can change that and we can produce a better crop, a bigger chicken, a better tomato." And the mind of man says, "If we capture this river and make a lake, build a dam, we can create hydroelectricity. We can build a bigger city. We will have electric power and we will have water. And we can build this city in the middle of the desert and all will be happy. And we will be in control of our world. We will be in charge. We will be the rulers of nature. And nature shall obey us."

Such is the folly of man's mind, or, such is the stupidity of man, the arrogance of man. And soon, man disappears from this Earth, as an alien substance, as a parasite that has moved against nature and has failed. And nature once again restores itself. Through the great harmony of peace and love the Earth restores its balance. But man is no longer upon this Earth. The trees have come back. The waters have broken through the dams. All of the altered chickens and animals have died. All of the altered corn has now disappeared and nature moves within itself to restore itself.

And so man has been given this great gift and through arrogance and stupidity has twisted this gift, altered this gift, until this gift no longer serves him. He has made his own environment unlivable. He cannot breathe the air, he cannot drink the waters. He can no longer eat for the food has been contaminated or is no longer there. And thus man blames his neighbor and his neighbor blames him. And a war begins over whose fault it is that the environment now is unlivable. And thus the arrogance and the stupidity of man.

What we are saying, Paul, is that this is the moment now. This is not about survival. This is not about saving the Earth or even saving man. This is about a way of life, a way of being, a way of waking up to God and what and who God is. This is about the discovery of self. This is about asking or even answering, and answering the question of who am I, what am I, who is God, what is God. You have been placed upon this Earth, Paul, because it is easy, it is bountiful. It is truly the Garden of Eden. Your Earth is one of the most beautiful jewels in space. Life upon your Earth is easy and bountiful. Life upon your Earth is of God. It is of discovery, it is of joy and happiness. It is of peace and harmony. It is, indeed, heaven upon Earth.

And yet as you look around you there is suffering, there is poverty. There is lack of food and water. There's war. There's unhappiness and depression. If creation has given you this beautiful gift, why is it not enjoyed? Why is man not thankful? Why is man not happy and abundant? Why is there conflict and war?

This is about a way of being. The tree outside your window does not struggle. It finds itself in the correct position, on the right spot, the right placement on this Earth. It receives the sunlight. It receives the water from the rain. Is it not beautiful and happy? The rabbits forage underneath the tree and they are abundant. The quail move within the scrub oak, protected by these little spikes on the leaves, protected from predators as little chicks dart in and out underneath these bushes. Is not this landscape perfect, beautiful?

Man rarely enters this neighborhood lot next to you. And yet it is a garden, is it not? Man does not show up early in the morning and move the trees around or tell the trees what to do. The trees certainly do not tell man what to do. The tree just is. Beautiful in its own right, in its own way. It moves with the wind. Now it is still as it receives the sunlight. What could you possibly do to this neighborhood lot that's about 80 by 100 feet? What can you possibly do to improve it? How can you, Paul, make it more beautiful? How can you make it function better?

If you decided to build a house on it you would destroy most of it, would you not? If you decided to put a garden in the middle of it, you would have to take out a few trees. You might have to dig up the rocks to create a terrace to platform and bring in soil, a drip system and seeds. Anything that you do to this lot, Paul, will make it less than it is now. Anything that you do to this lot will make it less beautiful, less perfect, less in harmony with itself. But you can sit on your balcony, can you not, and look down upon this lot and watch the animals, enjoy the beauty of these trees. You can feel its perfection, can you not? Is it not a gift, Paul, to you? Does it not improve your life? Does it not give you a sense of happiness, and joy and peace? Do you not feel the love of this land, the love of these trees?

Man's body is of nature. And it is absolutely beautiful. If you place the body of man in the center of this small neighborhood lot and he does not speak, he does not think, but he sits in the middle of this small lot, he becomes the perfection of this small lot. He becomes the undisturbed nature of nature, of Creation, and of himself. He becomes the peace and harmony and love that he is.

If he opens his eyes and begins to think that he can somehow improve his surroundings, that this particular tree is blocking his view, or this particular rock formation should be over in the other corner of the lot so he could build a garden where he is sitting, then this man has become something other than nature, something other than Creation. And he has moved himself from the arms, the heart and the mind of God. And he has placed himself above God, above Creation. And he now begins to fall into disharmony, into that which is not harmony or harmonious. He begins to fall out of love, out of peace. And thus he falls from the natural world. He falls away from this great, perfect gift. And he begins to descend into what you would call hell.

And so man has fallen in this very brief period of time. From sitting quietly without thought in the middle of this perfect, perfect small neighborhood lot of land. He has fallen from becoming part of nature, part of Creation. And he has fallen into his mind which says that it can improve upon this small lot, it can make it better. So in a very short period of time he has gone from perfection and happiness, harmony, into arrogance and stupidity.

It is difficult, is it not, for the mind of man to leave things alone, for man to look at a beautiful forest and to know that that forest sustains him, that that forest gives him life. And if he alters that forest in any way, it alters him. If he changes the forest, it changes him. He becomes less as the forest becomes less. And yet the mind of man says, "If I take from this forest, I will become more." And yet the truth of Creation, the truth of nature, is that man becomes less. So how does man live upon this Earth without taking from this Earth, without making this Earth less and therefore making himself less?

This Earth is truly a Garden of Eden. It is truly abundant. You can drink the waters from the streams. You can eat the fish from the oceans. You can pick the fruit from the trees or the seeds from the pinecones. You can live on the edge of the forest. You can walk softly on the ground. The birds will come to you and they will offer themselves. And you can take one and eat it. The forest grows the plants and you can remove one leaf at a time. You can build light and soft structures that stand lightly on the ground and do not poke holes in the soil or deep into the ground. You can live lightly upon this Earth and the quality of your life will greatly improve. For now you are becoming part of nature, part of the harmony and the love of Creation.

There are many ways to live upon this Earth without changing its perfection. Solving the problems of your Earth appear to be overwhelming, even costly and time-consuming, but they are not. The problems that man faces with his environment seem unsolvable, complex, but they are not. Man is not king and controller of his environment. Man is not the boss of his environment. He is, indeed, part of his environment. He is part of nature. He is part of the love and harmony of nature. Nature is not against man. Nature is for man.

But man sees himself as a victim of nature not a part of the abundance of nature. Man sees nature as something that he must protect himself against. If man sits quietly in nature

and listens to the wisdom of nature, the wisdom of Creation, he will learn all that he needs to know about how to live and survive and to be in abundance and happiness on this Earth. But if he comes from arrogance and stupidity and from his pretend mind and if he comes not from the mind of Creation, the mind of God, if he comes not from the mind of Creation, the mind of God, he will not live successfully on this Earth. And he will become no more.

What we are speaking of today, is a way of life, a way of being, and a way of waking up to who you are and who God is. How you live upon this Earth is how you live within yourself. And how you live within yourself is how you live on this Earth.

And so it is, Paul, on this beautiful day. The sun is shining and the birds are singing and all is well in your world. A world of great harmony. And so it is.