

ONE MAN, (WORKING THE SAME FIELD AS YOU), RECENTLY SAID:

"IT HAS BEGAN AT TIMES, TO STRIKE ME

A VIEW BYWHICH, IT IS NOT ACTUALLY MY 'STATE-OF-CONSCIOUSNESS' THAT BOTHERS ME, BUT RATHER THAT I JUST DON'T LIKE BEING WHAT I AM -- PERIOD!

IN OTHER WORDS, COULD IT BE THAT: :

THE CURSE OF THOSE WANTING 'TO AWAKEN, IS NOT, 'BEING ASLEEP', BUT -- 'WANTING-TO-AWAKEN'?!"

...(HE DID NOT STICK AROUND, AWAITING YOUR REPLY.)

\* \* \*

ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE DISTORTED PERCEPTIONS INHERENT TO ORDINARY MENTAL SIGHT IS FOLLOWERS OF SOME EXOTIC CULT BEING DISMISSED AS SIMPLY:

"PEOPLE WHO WANT SOMEONE ELSE TO TELL THEM WHAT TO THINK.",

WHEN THE SAME IS TRUE OF EVERYONE WHO EVER:

PICKS UP A BOO, GOES TO A MOVIE, ATTENDS A LECTURE, OR FLIPS ON THEIR P.C.

...(I DON'T THINK YOU EVEN WANT TO GET INTO THE MATTER OF, "PERSONAL CONVERSATIONS

\* \* \*

QUESTION: WHAT'S THE ONLY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN: THOSE-WANTING-TO-AWAKEN, AND: THOSE-WHO-NEVER-THINK-ABOUT-IT? --

ANSWER: THOSE WANTING TO AWAKEN -- "THINK ABOUT IT"

....A LOT...(EVEN...MAYBE).....

\* \* \*

A MAN WHO LIVES NEAR THE FIELDS YOU'VE BEEN WORKING, POPPED IN TO SAY THIS:

"THE OTHER DAY A THOUGHT SUDDENLY FLASHED THRU ME, THAT:

'TO AWAKEN, YOU HAVE GOT TO BE ONE OF THE LAZIEST PEOPLE ALIVE.' --

WHICH REALLY DELIGHTED ME AT THE MOMENT....EVEN THOUGH I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT IT MEANS.

WELL, ANYWAY -- BYE!, I'VE GOT TO GO.", HE ADDED... AS HE GO-ED.

\* \* \*

ANY TEACHING DEDICATED TO AWAKENING THAT HAS IN IT, THE WORDS:  
"ALWAYS DO THIS", AND "NEVER DO THAT",  
HAS NOTHING AT ALL TO DO WITH AWAKENING.  
..."SO WHAT DOES?", A NINCOMPOOP ASKS.

\* \* \*

QUEERY: IF THE IDEA, (AS OFT EXPRESSED), IS TO; "ENLIGHTENED THE MIND",  
AND YOU HAVE NO MIND -- THEN: WHAT'S THE POINT?  
..."NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT: WHAT IS THE POINT?", ASKS ANOTHER NINCOMPOOP.

\* \* \*

WHO IS THE ODDS ON FAVORITE TO MOST LIKELY NOT BE AWAKE:  
SOMEONE WHO CAN "TALK GOOD ABOUT IT", OR:  
SOMEONE WHO IS MOSTLY SILENT ON THE SUBJECT?  
..."I DON'T LIKE QUESTIONS LIKE THAT.", ANNOUNCES YET ANOTHER NINCOMPOOP.

\* \* \*

OKAY, ANOTHER QUESTION:  
WHO DO YOU THINK IS MORE LIKELY TO HAVE SEVERE HEADACHES:  
PEOPLE WHO "THINK A LOT", OR:  
PEOPLE WHO THINK BUT A LITTLE?  
...AND THE SON OF A NINCOMPOOP ASKS: "WHAT IS THIS, 'THINK'?"

\* \* \*

BEING "AWAKE" IS -- "STANDING STILL",  
WHILE "BEING ASLEEP" IS RIDING A VASOLINE SLED:  
ONE IS EASY -- THE OTHER, NOT.  
...AND THE FATHER OF A NINCOMPOOP SAYS:  
"WHY WOULD ANYONE 'MAKE-EFFORT' WHEN IT IS NOT....WHAT D'YA CALL IT?...NECESSARY!"  
(AND WHILE I MAY NOT QUALIFY AS A NINCOMPOOP, EVEN I CAN ANSWER THAT ONE:  
"I DON'T KNOW.")

AND A DISINTERESTED PASSER-BY STOPS LONG ENOUGH TO ADD HIS INQUIRY:  
"WHEN DOES A HUT BECOME A KIOSK" -- WHEN IT BEGINS TO: 'TURN-A-PROFIT" HE ANSWERED  
AND A FRIEND OF A NINCOMPOOP, (BUYING A PAPER NEARBY) THEN ASKED:  
... (cont) ... →

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"WHAT MEANS THIS WORD, 'DISINTERESTED'?.....  
...AND FOR WHAT REASON HAS THE IDEA OF: 'TURNING-A-PROFIT'  
TURNED UP IN A DISCUSSION REGARDING: 'AWAKENING'?"

NOTE: THERE ARE SOME WHO SAY THAT SOME QUESTIONS HAVE NO ANSWER,  
BUT THAT IS INCORRECT:  
ANY QUESTION FORMED BY THE MIND OF MAN HAS A, "FORMED-BY-MAN", ANSWER....  
...IT'S JUST THAT IN MOST POTENTIALLY "IMPORTANT" INSTANCES,  
MEN DO NOT ACTUALLY WISH TO BE ADVISED OF THE ANSWER.

SO, NOW I ASK YOU:  
WHAT IF THE ONLY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN "THOSE-WANTING-TO-AWAKEN",  
AND: "THOSE-WHO-NEVER-THINK-ABOUT-IT"  
IS THAT:  
THOSE WANTING TO AWAKEN DO -- "THINK-ABOUT-IT"  
...(JUST HOW MANY NINCOMPOOPS YOU RECKON WILL CARE FOR THAT ONE?!"

\* \* \*

AND A CHAP, PANNING THE SAME RIVER AS YOU, MUSED:  
"WHAT IF THE MYSTICS' MENTAL PICTURE OF HOW THINGS ARE IS -- UPSIDE DOWN?!?!"  
...(AND AS HE EXAMINED A NUGGET, ADDED):  
"YOU KNOW THAT'S GOT TO BE -- 'POSSIBLE'!"

\* \* \*

AND NOW FOR SOME OBSCURE "BACKGROUND" INFO:  
THE HISTORY OF ALLEGORY & METAPHOR IS NOT THAT THEY WERE  
INTENTIONAL INVENTIONS OF MAN,  
BUT RATHER WERE PERFUNCTORY RESULTS OF MEN NOT WANTING TO HEAR CERTAIN THINGS  
THAT THEY HAD HEARD.

QUEERY: HOW COMMONLY DO YOU "SPEAK TO YOURSELF" IN METAPHORICAL TERMS,  
AS OPPOSED TO DIRECT, ONES?!  
...ESPECIALLY (NEED I NOTE), AS CONCERNS THE MATTER OF "AWAKENING".

FACT: YOU CAN ONLY BE "DIRECT" WHEN -- "STANDING STILL"  
...ALL USELESS "MOVEMENT" BRINGS ON THE DREAMING  
WHICH IS THE CLOUD THAT OVERSHADOWS AND INHIBITS YOUR: "BEING DIRECT"

\* \* \*

AS HE LOOKED AT HIMSELF IN THE ONE, TRUSTWORTHY MIRROR, A MAN ASKED HIMSELF:  
"DO I TRULY WANT TO, 'AWAKEN',  
OR WILL I BE FOREVER CONTENT TO JUST -- WANT TO?!"

...AND, KIDS!, (YOU KNOW WHAT I'M GONNA SAY),  
DO NOT ATTEMPT THIS AT HOME UNTIL YOU'RE POSITIVE YOU CAN HANDLE IT.  
...AND THE PRESS AGENT FOR A NINCOMPOOP INSTANTLY CONFRONTED ME WITH THESE WORDS:  
"BUT YOU YOURSELF ONLY RECENTLY SAID THAT:  
'NO ONE CAN BE POSITIVE OF ANYTHING'!",  
AND I HAD TO SAY TO HIM THAT PERHAPS THE TIME HAD COME FOR HIM TO MOVE UP TO  
A HIGHER CLASS OF CLIENTS.

\* \* \*

ONE MAN HAD HOMES IN MINNEAPOLIS, AND IN ST. PAUL, AND  
TRIED IN VAIN, TO LIVE IN THEM BOTH --  
...THEN HE TRIED TO LIVE IN JUST ONE OF THEM, AND TO FORGET ENTIRELY ABOUT  
THE OTHER ONE -- STILL WITH NO SUCCESS:  
...SO THEN HE ATTEMPTED TO LIVE IN JUST ONE OF THEM,  
AND WHILE STILL REMEMBERING THAT HE HAD ANOTHER RESIDENCE,  
TRIED NOT TO ACTUALLY - "THINK ABOUT IT" -- STILL, NO LUCK:  
...THEN ULTIMATELY HE TRIED TO DO IT THIS WAY....UHH.....UHH....  
....WELL IT SEEMS I'VE GONE AND FORGOTTEN WHAT THAT OTHER, FINAL ATTEMPT WAS....

\* \* \*

NOTE TO THE ALERT:  
ANY MAP YOU FIND THAT PLEASES YOU AND WHICH SEEMS TO FAITHFULLY DESCRIBE & EXPLAIN,  
THE CURRENT TERRAIN,  
SHOULD BE TOSSED ASIDE AS SOON AS IS HUMANLY POSSIBLE! ....MAKE THAT, "IMMEDIATELY"  
...AND A NINCOMPOOP, (EVIDENCING SOME PROMISE), SAID:  
"BUT THAT WOULD LEAVE YOU WITH NO EXTERNAL GUIDANCE ONWHICH TO RELY.",  
...YES SIR!, THAT BUY SHOWS REAL PROMISE!....(IF HE WOULD BUT:  
"LISTEN TO HIMSELF".

...IN FACT, AS LONG AS WE'RE HERE: WANT ANOTHER DEFINITION OF AN: "AWAKENED MAN"?  
HE IS A PERSON WHO LISTENS TO NO ONE BUT HIMSELF...ONCE HE REALIZES HIS:  
ACTUAL, "SELF"

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AND A MAN ASKED A NINCOMPOOP:

"HOW IN THE WORLD DOES ANYONE -- 'GET-THE-NERVE' TO SAY WHAT IS OR IS NOT AN, 'AWAKENED MAN'?!",  
TOWHICH THE NINCOMPOOP RESPONDED: "EVEN I CAN ANSWER THAT ONE!"

....WELL?!....WHAT ARE 'YA HANGIN' AROUND FOR?! --  
YOU REALLY WAITING FOR HIM TO ACTUALLY ANSWER THE QUESTION?!....  
...HEY!, EVEN 'NINCOMPOOPNESS" HAS ITS LIMITS!

\* \* \*

A MAN STANDING BY THE ROADSIDE WITH AN IRONINGBOARD SET UP,  
AND A HOT IRON IN HIS HAND,  
WAS AKSED:,WHAT HE WAS WAITING FOR, AND HE REPLIED: "WRINKLED CLOTHES".  
..AND I ASK YOU: "IN WHAT CONDITION ARE YOUR CLOTHES?!...  
AND NO MATTER YOUR RESPONSE,  
THE QUESTION WILL FOREVER LINGER: "WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?!"

...AND THE VERY FIRST NINCOMPOOP WE ENCOUNTERED THIS EVENING  
MAKES A RETURN APPEARANCE TO SAY: :  
"TELL ME AGAIN HOW MEN PERCEIVE THERE TO BE, 'METAPHORS-AFOOT'  
WHENEVER THEY HEAR SOMETHING THAT THEY DIDN'T REALLY WANT TO HEAR."

\* \* \*

CHEW ON THIS ONE A BIT, UNTIL SWALLOWING INSTRUCTIONS ARE PROVIDED:  
"WHICH IS ACTUALLY  
THE BIGGER"CAPTIVE-OF-HABIT", IN THE SENSE MEANINGFUL TO MYSTICS:  
YOUR MIND OR YOUR BODY?,,  
AND WHILE THE ANSWER WILL SEEM INSTANTLY APPARENT TO ANY CARD-CARRYING MYSTIC,  
LOOK ON THE BACK OF YOUR CARD FOR THE "SMALL-PRINT" EXEMPTIONS AND EXCEPTIONS  
TO ALL MYSTICAL"APPEARANCES", AND ACCEPTED, CERTAINTIES.

...WANT ME TO REMIND-YOU-OF, & "RE-PHRASE" A CERTAIN DEFINITION OF "BEING AWAKE"?  
TO BE AWAKE IS TO PERSONALLY REALIZE THAT ALL EXEMPTIONS & EXCEPTIONS  
ARE THE SAME THING AS: ALL REALITIES AND CERTAINTIES.

IT IS, (IN THE END): THE CLEAR SEEING OF LIFE'S -- "VASTNESS & EMPTINESS",  
COMPARED TO THE NORMAL PERCEPTIONS OF THE HUMAN MIND.

AND WE CONCLUDE WITH THE REPEATING OF AN EARLIER INQUIRY; & A CLOSING NOTATION:  
"WHAT IF ALL OF YOUR METAPHYSICAL, MENTAL PICTURES OF, 'HOW-THINGS-ARE' -- IN YOU  
ARE -- UPSIDE DOWN?" ... (AND REMEMBER: NO, EVEN SEMI-ALERT PERSON WILL  
SAY TO THEMSELF: "THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE."  
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....(CONT):

WITHIN THE REALM OF "ENLIGHTENMENT" -- EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE.

AND A FINAL COMMENT REGARDING THE UNIVERSE BEING: "VAST AND EMPTY":

IT IS VAST ENOUGH TO HOLD EVERYTHING THAT IS,  
YET EMPTY OF ALL THAT IS NAMED.

...(AND YOU MIGHT ALSO NOTE, ON A MORE PERSONAL LEVEL THAT:  
"INSIDE THE AWAKENED MIND -- ALL IS: "VAST AND EMPTY".

AND WHAT DOES, TURN  
"WHAT MEANS THIS WORD, DISINTERESTED?"  
....(CONT);