

LET'S BEGIN BY COVERING TONIGHT'S: "TALE OF TRAGEDY" AND GET IT OUT OF THE WAY:
 A CERTAIN LOCAL RESIDENT WAS INVITED TO SIT IN AS AN OBSERVER AT AN ALL DAY
 MEETING CONDUCTED BY A GROUP OF PEOPLE SERIOUSLY & SINCERELY INVOLVED IN THE
 SO-CALLED, "STRUGGLE FOR ENLIGHTENMENT",
 AS THEY LISTENED TO LECTURES AND DISCUSSED AT LENGTH AND IN DETAIL
 THE VARIOUS APPROACHES, METHODS & DISCIPLINES COMMONLY BELIEVED BY SUCH PEOPLE
 TO LEAD TO THAT DESIRED, METAPHYSICAL STATE,
 AND AT THE END OF THE DAY'S ACTIVITIES,
 WHEN ASKED HIS IMPRESSION OF WHAT HE'D SEEN,
 THE VISITOR SUMMED IT UP WITH THIS TERSE OBSERVATION:
 "YOU PEOPLE -- THINK TOO MUCH."

...(YOU KNOW, IN THE CONFUSION OF ALL THE STORIES THAT LAND ON MY DESK,
 I COULD HAVE PICKED UP THE WRONG ONE, AND THIS COULD HAVE BEEN INTENDED AS THE:
 "JOKE FOR THE DAY"....WHO KNOWS?!)

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AND NOW FOR A NEW FEATURE ENTITLED: "HOW TO SAVE YOURSELF SOME GRIEF & FRUSTRATION"

CONSIDER ALL TALK THAT YOU HEAR, (BE IT ABOUT POLITICS, RELIGION, OR WHATEVER)
 TO BE ENTENDED AS NO MORE THAN MERE ENTERTAINMENT:

PEOPLE ENJOYING, HEARING THEMSELEVS TALK,
 AND OTHERS, MOMENTARILY ENTERTAINED BY THE TALK,
 AS THEY AWAIT THEIR TURN TO TALK.

THIS IS ALL THAT TALK AMOUNTS TO -- SO:"GET OVER IT" -- QUITE WORRYING ABOUT IT
 AND STOP TAKING ANY OF IT SERIOUSLY.....IT'S ALL MEANINGLESS....IT'S JUST - TALK.

FURTHERMORE: NO REASONABLE PERSON TAKES WHAT THEY SAY TO BE "MEANINGFUL":
 THERE EXISTS A TACIT UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN PEOPLE THAT ALL TALK IS JUST A
 "BULL-SHIT PASTIME"..... EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT TALK IS NOTHING MORE THAN A
 MEANINGLESS DIVERSION, AN INEXPENSIVE WAY FOR HUMANS TO PAST THE TIME BETWEEN
 MEALS, SLEEP & SEXUAL ACTIVITY -_ AND EVEN IF THIS WERE NOT TRUE,
 YOU'D STILL BE MUCH BETTER OFF TAKING IT TO BE,
 AND IN SO DOING YOU WILL CERTAINLY DO YOURSELF NO HARM,
 OR PUT YOURSELF AT ANY DISADVANTAGE.....OH NO, QUITE THE CONTRARY.

ONE MAN WROTE TO A PUBLIC OFFICAL WANTING TO KNOW IF THERE WAS A LAW THAT SAYS:
"THE DUMBER YOU ARE, THE LOUDER YOU TALK."?, AND THE OFFICIAL WROTE BACK WITH HIS
OWN POSER: "IS THERE A RULE THAT DICTATES THAT:
'THE LESS IS THE LIKELIHOOD THAT YOUR THINKING WILL, "GET-YOU-ANY-WHERE",
THE MORE THAT YOU'LL DO OF IT."?

THE HEAD OF A CERTAIN MYSTICAL MONESTARY, KNOWN FOR HIS INSISTANCE THAT IT IS:
"DEEDS, NOT WORDS" THAT ARE OF ANY IMPORTANCE,
WAS AKSED BY A NOVICE MONK HOW HE COULD, IN HIS OWN LIFE,
MAKE USE & MANISFEST THIS DIRECTIVE, AND THE LEADER REPLIED:
"BY DOING WHAT YOU'RE ALREADY DOING: SHOWING UP HERE & KEEPING YOUR MOUTH SHUT."

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TONIGHT'S: TWIN TEASER:
HOW CAN YOU TELL IF A MAN IS AWAKE? -- YOU CAN'T.
HOW CAN YOU TELL IS A MAN IS ASLEEP? -- THAT'S EASY.
...BUT THAT BEGS FOR A THIRD INQUIRY:
IF BEING "AWAKE" AND BEING "ASLEEP" ARE THE OPPOSITE OF EACH OTHER,
THEN HOW IS IT POSSIBLE THAT YOU CAN SPOT THE PRESCENCE OF ONE, BUT NOT THE OTHER?
...WELL OF COURSE THAT CANNOT BE POSSIBLE --
IT DEFIES ALL LAWS OF LOGIC, AND OVERTURNS ALL THAT THE HUMAN MIND HAS, FOR SO LONG,
DELIGENTLY STRUGGLED.

...ANY YET,.....AND BLESSED, "BLANK-MY-MIND-OUT", YET.....

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AFTER HEARING AN ITEM THAT WAS READ ON LAST FRIDAY'S PROGRAM
REGARDING A MAN WHO, WHEN YOUNG, BELIEVED THAT EVERYTHING WOULD NATURALLY,
"GO-HIS-WAY", BUT UPON GETTING OLDER, BELIEVED JUST THE OPPOSITE, AND THEN,
AFTER DYING -- DIDN'T BELIEVE ANYTHING.". A LISTENER WROTE IN AND ASKED HOW HE
MIGHT USE THIS IN HIS EVERYDAY LIFE,
AND I AM PROUD TO TELL YOU SIR -- IN REPLY -- THAT:
IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY -- TOO SOON -- TO DIE.

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A MAN WHO WILL TELL YOU ANYTHING ABOUT HIS PAST IS NOTHING BUT -- "HIS PAST" -- ...THAT IS TO SAY THAT: ALL HE WILL EVER BE -- HE'S ALREADY BEEN. ... (DAMN NEAR -- A SIN.)

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WHAT CAN IT POSSIBLY REALLY MEAN WHEN IT IS SAID THAT: "THE MIND NEITHER GAINS NOR LOSES.", WHEN OBVIOUSLY THIS IS NOT SO, FOR THE MIND DOES SURELY "GAIN" WHEN WE LEARN SOMETHING NEW, AND IT MOST SURELY "LOSES" WHEN WE FORGET SOMETHING WE ONCE KNEW -- SO: WHAT CAN IT MEAN, THAT: "THE MIND NEITHER GAINS NOR LOSES.", WHAT THESE WORDS PLAINLY POINT TO IS THE REALITY THAT, EVEN IF THE MIND DOES GAIN AND LOSE STUFF, ("FACTS & KNOWLEDGE"), THESE "FACTS & KNOWLEDGE" NEITHER TAKE A MAN CLOSER TO ENLIGHTENEMENT. NOR DRIVE HIM AWAY:

ANYTHING, EVERYTHING, WHAT EVER "OCCURS IN THE MIND" IS IRRELEVANT TO AWAKENING, THUS NOT MATTER WHAT THEREIN TAKES PLACE, A MAN SEEKING ENLIGHTENMENT NEITHER "GAINS NOR LOSES" THEREFROM.

A MAN WITH A DOG SHOULD "ENJOY" THE DOG'S CANNINE COMPANY -- BUT, HE INVITES FRUSTRATION IF HE EXPECTS THE POOCH TO PLAY CHOPIN ON HIS STEINWAY.

TO BE "ENLIGHTENED" IS TO SEE EVERYTHING FOR EXACTLY WHAT IT LITERALLY IS, AND TO BE "AWAKE" IS TO EXPECT NOTHING MORE FROM IT, ... (AND TO BE "CLEAR-HEADED" IS TO FIND THE DESCRIPTIONS I JUST GAVE OF "BEING AWAKE AND ENLIGHTENED" TO BE SO PLAINLY OBVIOUS AS TO HOW A REGULAR PERSON SHOULD LIVE, AS TO BE SILLY & UNNECESSARY IN THEIR EVEN BEING MENTIONED.

TRULY -- JUST ASK YOURSELF IN AN ORDINARY KIND OF WAY: WHO BUT A COMPLETE FOOL WOULD EXPECT HIS DOG - NO MATTER HOW SMART THE BEAST BE - TO EVER PLAY THE PIANO?!...AND YET, (A SIMILAR QUESTION NO ONE SEEMS VERY ANXIOUS TO PONDER IS THIS):

WHAT KIND OF HUMAN-PERSON, BEING, ANIMAL WITH ANY INTELLIGENCE, BASED ON HIS OWN EXPERIENCE OF BEING HERE ON THIS PLANET, ALIVE, VAN REALLY BELIEVE THAT HE OR ANYONE ELSE CAN BE ANYTHING OTHER THAN WHAT THEY NATURALLY ARE?!

BASED ON THE WORDS USED IN THE QUESTION, ANY REASONABLE REPLY MUST BE THAT: NO SANE, INTELLIGENT PERSON CAN BELIEVE THAT CREATURES, (INCLUDING MAN) CAN BE ANYTHING OTHER THAN WHAT THEY, "NATURALLY ARE". (THIS IS TRICKY FOR THE FEW: THE "TRICK" BEING IN YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT, "NATURALLY" ACTUALLY MEANS.)

COROLLARY TO EARLIER NOTED ITEM:

ONLY A COMPLETE & TOTAL IDIOT - "BELIEVES" -- WHAT HE SAYS.

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GLANCING BACK AT THE RECORDED HISTORY OF MYSTICISM
IT WOULD BE EASY FOR A MODERN PROPONENT THEREOF
TO DISMISS THE ANCIENT PRACTICE OF, "PHYSICALL FLAGELLATION"
AS A MEANS TO ACHIEVE THE STATE OF "DEVINE ECSTACY",
(OR WHAT WOULD BE BETTER KNOWN NOW AS, "AWAKENING OR ENLIGHTENMENT")
AND YET.....

....DO NOT EVEN THE MOST UP-TO-DATE PARTICIPANTS IN THE STRUGGLE TO AWAKEN
MENTALLY FLAGELLATE THEMSELVES FOR "BEING ASLEEP",
OBVIOUSLY IN THE BELIEF THAT SUCH AN APPROACH WILL FACILITATE THAT DESIRED STATE.

IT IS ONE THING TO "SEE" PROGRESS AS IT EXISTS,
AND QUITE ANOTHER TO "SAY" THAT YOU DO,
FOR IN SAYING THAT YOU DO, YOU DENY IT, AND MAKE A FOOL OF YOURSELF.

OVERALL LAW: ANYTHING THAT YOU SAY -- AND SERIOUSLY BELIEVE TO BE TRUE --
MAKES YOU A FOOL.

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AND NOW AN EXAMPLE THAT MIGHT HELP YOU PLACE "TALK" IN ITS MORE PROPER POSITION:

AFTER YOUR HOME TEAM HAS LOST THE WORLD SERIES & THE SEASON IS FINITELY FINSHED,
NO FAN CARES WHAT THE PLAYERS MAY HAVE TO SAY IN A POST MORTUM:

THE ONLY THING THAT HAS ANY SIGNIFICANCE IS THE "DEED" OF THEIR LOSING --
-- NOT THEIR "WORDS" AS TO WHY IT HAPPENED.

(SEE, YOU CAN LEARN FROM SPORTS AS WELL AS FROM ANYTHING ELSE --
..."AND WHERE WE ARE, LATE IN THE FOURTH QUARTER, AS THE PRIME MINISTER DROPS BACK
DEEP IN THE POCKET AND LETS FLY A SOARING 'BOMB' TO THE POPE
WHO IS OPEN AND WELL DOWN FIELD,
HAVING DEFTLY ESCAPED THE COVERAGE OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD."

SO REMEMBER: A MAN WHO CAN'T "LEARN" FROM EVERYTHING --WILL NEVER LEARN
AND ALSO: A MAN WHO BELIEVES THAT THERE IS ANYTHING TO BE LEARNED FROM EVERYTHING,
WILL NEVER LEARN -- TIMES SEVEN.

ONE MAN'S MOTTO:

"TALK IS CHEAP....AND IS IN FACT, "TOO CHEAP" -- IN THAT: I CAN STILL AFFORD IT!"
... (ISN'T IT NICE THAT PERSONAL MOTTOS, SAYINGS & SLOGANS
HAVE BEEN ON SALE THIS CENTURY?!.....
.....OF COURSE COMBINED WITH THE RECENT DISCOVERY THAT:
"ALL TALK IS NOTHING MORE THAN A MEANINGLESS PASTIME FOR MAN".
...YE GADS!, BUT WHAT A GREAT TIME TO BE A...(WHAT D'YA CALL IT?), OH YEAH: A-LIVE

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AS HE PONDERED MAN'S EVER-PRESENT QUANDRY AS TO WHAT IS:"TRUE AND WHAT IS FALSE",
AND WHAT IS "REAL AND WHAT IS UN-REAL", ONE CHAP HAD THIS FLASH THRU HIS HEAD:
"WHAT IF -- A REALLY GOOD 'METAPHOR'
IS THE SAME AS, 'THE TRUTH'?!",
THIS SUDDENLY POSSIBILITY, PRESENTED TO HIS MIND
OFFERED UP THE OPPORTUNITY THAT DAY TO PERHAPS ACCOMPLISH MORE THAN HIS SCHEDULED:
"SOCK WASHING"

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AND ANOTHER LISTENER TO OUR LAST BROADCAST, (WHEREIN WE TOUCHED ON THE SUBJECT OF:
"SUCCESS & FAILURE"), WRITES TO BRING UP THIS MATTER:
(HE QUOTES A QUITE OLD AND HONORED MYSTICAL DICTUM THAT SAYS):
"SUCCESS & FAILURE ARE ENTIRELY DEPENDENT ON TOTALLY --
--- UNCONTROLLABLE -'CIRCUMSTANCES',
WHILE A MAN'S MIND IS NOT DEPENDENT ON ANYTHING."
THE WRITER ASKS:"HOW CAN THIS BE?!", AND ALTHOUGH I NORMALLY TRY AND RESPOND TO
ALL OF OUR LISTENERS' QUESTIONS, THE ANSWER TO THIS ONE IS TOO PLAIN & OBVIOUS
FOR ME TO INSULT YOUR INTELLIGENCE BY NOTING.
...(BUT STILL: ISN'T THAT A TOTALLY DELIGHTFUL "STRINGING-TOGETHER-OF-WORDS"?! --
"SUCCESS & FAILURE ARE ENTIRELY DEPENDENT ON: UNCONTROLLABLE 'CIRCUMSTANCES',
WHILE A MAN'S MIND IS NOT DEPENDENT ON ANYTHING." -- DOES THAT TELL YOU
ALL THAT YOU'LL EVER NEED TO KNOW, OR WHAT?!