

THE NEWS FOR DECEMBER 23, 1998

AS HE WAS RECOVERING FROM THE SURGICAL REMOVAL OF A
SIZABLE SECTION OF HIS DIGESTIVE SYSTEM AND ITS TUMULTUOUS CONSEQUENCES
SOMEONE PROFFERED SOLACE TO THE RECUPERATOR WITH THE COMMENT:

"I'M SURE YOU'LL SOON BE BACK TO YOUR NORMAL SELF.",
TOWHICH THE MAN RESPONDED:

"NOW THAT YOU SAY THAT AND CAUSE ME TO CONSIDER THE MATTER,
IT IS OBVIOUSLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO EVER RETURN TO BEING WHAT WAS PREVIOUSLY MY
'NORMAL SELF';--

DUE TO A CHANGE IN LITERAL CIRCUMSTANCES, I AM FACED WITH THE NEED TO DEVELOP
AN ENTIRELY NEW PERSONAL DEFINITION OF WHAT NOW IS MY NEW, 'NORMAL SELF'.",
AND A MAN WHO HAD LONG BEEN STRUGGLING FOR CLEAR-HEADEDNESS OVERHEARD THIS
COMMENT AND SAID TO HIMSELF:

"THERE IS AN UNINTENDED LESSON IN THE MAN'S WORDS -- FOR
WHAT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE AND BENEFICAL TO ME NOW
WOULD BE FOR ME TO TOTALLY AND PERMANENTLY REVISE MY CONCEPTION OF WHAT IS MY,
'NORMAL SELF'.

CONTINUED INVOLVEMENT IN THE SPECIAL EFFORTS APPROPRIATE TO MY SPECIAL AIM
SHOULD CONTINUALLY INVOLVE THE INTRODUCTION OF AMENDED MENTAL MAPS & BLUE PRINTS
WHICH MORE FAITHFULLY REPRESENT THE PRESENT
LAY-OF-THE-LAND, & STATE OF THE WORK-IN-PROGRESS.

FOR TRUE IT IS:

NO MATTER HOW FAR I MAY INSTANTLY BE FROM THE FULL & PERMANENT
REALIZATION OF THE GOAL,
AT LEAST I HAVE REACHED A CONDITION WHEREBY I CAN NEVER ACTUALLY RETURN TO BEING
MY OLD, 'NORMAL SELF'.

WHAT ONCE SEEMED TO BE MY NORMAL SELF --
-- AND WHICH I ACCEPTED AS SUCH -- WITH A REPROACHFUL ATTITUDE -- NO LONGER EXISTS
AND I DO MY GOAL ILL SHOULD I NOT TAKE DUE NOTICE OF THIS CHANGE IN CIRCUMSTANCES."

OF WHAT GOOD CAN COME OF THE ATTEMPTED TREATMENT OF A MIS-DIAGNOSED ILL
IF THE ORIGINAL ERROR IS NEVER RECOGNIZED?!

WHAT IS NEEDED IS A NEW, PERSONAL PERCEPTION OF WHAT IS NOW YOUR, 'NORMAL SELF',
SO THAT YOU DO NOT FOOLISHLY AND FUTILELY STRUGGLE AGAINST RETURNING TO
A PLACE THAT NO LONGER EXISTS.

MAKE NO MISTAKE: EVEN A SMART MAN CAN STILL BE PARTIALLY HELD BY THE STATE OF,
"BUSY-HEADEDNESS" IF HE CONTINUES TO FIGHT BATTLES THAT ARE ALREADY CONCLUDED.

...TAKE A SECRET "DEEP BREATH" AND SMILE.

THOSE WISHING FOR CLEAR-HEADEDNESS SHOULD NEVER, IN ANY MANNER WHATEVER, THINK OF THERE BEING ANY SORT OF "PROBLEM" EXTANT IN THEIR LIFE:

SUPERIOR IS TO MERELY TAKE NOTE THAT AT THIS VERY INSTANT YOU MAY NOT BE IN THE BEST MENTAL CONDITION POSSIBLE FOR YOU.

SEE IT NOT AS A "PROBLEM", BUT AS A POSSIBILITY, MOMENTARILY NEGLECTED.

EVEN THOUGH IN TRUTH YOU HAVE NO "PROBLEM", USELESS SELF-REPROACH CAN TURN INTO ONE.

ALL THAT IS NEEDED IS TO SEE LIFE THRU UNCLOUDED EYES, AND -- ALL IS WELL.

ONE MAN SUDDENLY SAW IT THIS WAY:

"THE CAUSE OF ALL THAT 'TROUBLES' ME IS THAT I AM - TOO BUSY:
INSIDE OF MY OWN SWEET HEAD AM I
TOO, MEANINGLESSLY -- BUSY."

I REMIND YOU: THE INTERNAL, SECRET SIGN OF A MAN MORE AWAKE IS THAT HE HAS -- NOTHING TO DO.

(FOR IN LITERAL FACT):

MEN HAVE NOTHING TO COMPULSORILY DO, BUT PHYSICALLY SURVIVE: EVERYTHING ELSE, OF WHATEVER APPEARANCE, ARE PRODUCTS OF THE MIND'S IMAGINATION.

SO,
SINCE YOU HAVE NO BUSINESS BEING,
"MENTALLY BUSY"

CONFINE YOURSELF AT THE LEAST TO BEING BUSY IN AREAS OF CONSCIOUSNESS WHEREIN SOME PROFIT IS POSSIBLE.....(TO WIT:
IN ACTIVITY WHEREBY YOU CONTINUALLY ATTEMPT TO MAKE THE MIND SUDDENLY TURN AND CONFRONT THE NATURE OF ITS OWN REALITY:

ONLY AFTER THAT CAN YOU BE CLEAR-HEADED,
AND FREE OF THE NORMAL, THOUGH POINTLESS, "BUSYNESS" OF THE MIND.

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AFTER COMPLETING SOME FRESH CONSTRUCTION AROUND HIS HOUSE, ONE MAN DISCOVERED, IN HIS YARD, A LARGE POOL OF STANDING WATER WHERE NONE HAD BEEN BEFORE, AND UPON PONDERING THE SITUATION FOR A BIT, SAID TO HIMSELF: "WHAT A DELIGHTFULLY, 'SELF-ABSORBED' PLANET ONWHICH WE LIVE: IT WILL ALWAYS DO WHAT IT WANTS TO DO REGARDLESS OF WHAT WE MAY HAVE PLANNED." HE INSTANTLY REALIZED AN APPLICATION OF THIS CONCERNING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HIS OWN NATURE AND HIS THINKING.

AS PER HIS INTENTION TO, (AT THE VERY LEAST),
DIRECT HIS THOUGHTS TO ACTIVITY WHICH, (AT LEAST FOR HIM), WAS UNCONVENTIONAL,
ONE MAN ATTEMPTED TO KEEP HIS MIND ENGAGED IN NOTHING BUT THE SINGING OF SONGS,
AND PREFERABLY -- ONES HE'D NEVER HEARD BEFORE.

FOR THE FEW,
(YOU KNOW IT'S TRUE),
THERE IS NO VIEW
LIKE ONE THAT'S NEW.

...COURSE THE CLINCHER, YOU ALL
IS NONE AT ALL