

MY NEWS FOR APRIL 24, 1999

A MAN ASKED A CERTAIN EXTERMINATOR:

"I'VE HEARD YOU SPEAK ON THE MATTER OF THAT OTHER MENTAL CONDITION,  
(THAT I USED TO CALL, 'BEING AWAKE'),

AND YOU MAKE IT SOUND LIKE BEING THOUGHTLESS...WHICH I DON'T UNDERSTAND,  
'CAUSE I'VE MET PLENTY OF PEOPLE WHO DIDN'T SEEM TO HAVE A  
THOUGHT IN THEIR HEAD, AND THEY CERTAINLY WEREN'T AWAKE.",

AND THE EXTERMINATOR, (WHO SOME WOULD CALL A MYSTIC), REPLIED:

"THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BEING NATURALLY,

'THOUGHTLESS-IN-SEATTLE',

AND HAVING A HEAD CLEARED OF THE GENERAL RUBBISH THROUGH YOUR OWN DOING.

THE FIRST CONDITION ARISES IN THE WOMB,

THE SECOND, IN THE MIDST OF A MAN'S 'CONSCIOUS-ADULTHOOD'.

THE DISTINCTION AS ALWAYS IS LIKE THIS:

THE MAN NATURALLY, 'THOUGHTLESS"

CAN NEVER RECOGNIZE OR UNDERSTAND THE MAN WILFULLY SO,

WHILE THE MAN WILFULLY SO SEES THE NATURALLY THOUGHTLESS, THOROUGHLY.",

AND THE QUESTIONER PONDERED THIS RESPONSE FOR A MOMENT THEN SAID:

"BUT I'M STILL NOT SURE THAT I UNDERSTAND THIS CORRECTLY:

ARE YOU REALLY SAYING THAT A MAN WITH A NEW MENTAL CONDITION THAT HAS OFTEN  
BEEN CALLED, 'BEING ENLIGHTENED'

IS TRULY A MAN WHO HAS NO THOUGHTS?!", AND THE EXTERMINATOR REPLIED:

"FIRST, LET ME NOTE THAT I WOULD NOT DESCRIBE SUCH A MAN IN SUCH TERMS

ALTHOUGH, NOT WITHOUT REASON DO I UNDERSTAND WHY YOU DERIVED SUCH AN IDEA  
FROM MY WORDS, SO I WILL CRAWL HIGHER & DEEPER INTO THE VERBAL/MENTAL  
FRAMEWORK THAT I HAVE CONSTRUCTED ON THIS ISSE,

AND PERHAPS I CAN MAKE IT SPEAK MORE CLEARLY TO YOUR INTERESTED EARS.

MAN EMERGES FROM THE WOMB ALREADY THOUGHT FILLED,

ALTHOUGH IN THE BEGINNING IT IS ALL IN THE FORM OF, 'BODY THOUGHTS'

WHICH BY THEIR NATURE DO NOT REGISTER IN THE BRAIN AS, 'CONSCIOUS THOUGHTS'

EVEN IF THE BABY HAD THE HIGHER AREAS OF HIS BRAIN OPERATIONAL TO

PROCESS SUCH, (WHICH IT INITIALLY, DOES NOT.

BUT WHEN THE TIME COMES IN THE CHILD'S LIFE THAT HE BEGINS TO SPEAK,  
 (THAT IS, THE VERBAL, ABSTRACT-CAPABLE AREAS OF HIS BRAIN  
 BECOMES FUNCTIONAL),  
 AT THAT MOMENT WHEN HE SEEMS TO HAVE SUDDENLY ENTERED THE REALM OF  
 CONSCIOUSNESS,  
 HE IS ALREADY, 'THOUGHT-FILLED',  
 MORE SO THAN HE CAN REALIZE, AND MORE SO THAN HE CAN PUT IN PRACTICE.  
 THE BRAIN, AS WITH ALL MAJOR ORGANS, IS ALWAYS OPERATING,  
 AND PROCESSING INFORMATION,  
 AND IN THE AREAS ASSOCIATED WITH 'CONSCIOUS THOUGHT'  
 IT IS EXTREMELY ACTIVE, AND MUCH INTERESTED IN EXTRENAL EVENTS  
 THAT ARE OF NO INTEREST TO, 'BODY THOUGHTS'.

WHEN 'BODY-THOUGHTS' ARE OF MOMENTARY, PRIMARY CONCERN TO THE OVERALL BRAIN  
 'CONSCIOUS THOUGHTS' BECOME SUBORDINATE,  
 (THIS OCCURS FOR INSTANCE, WHEN A MAN IS IN PHYSICAL DANGER),

BUT DURING MOST TIMES, (WHEN A MAN IS NOT UNDER PHYSICAL THREAT),  
 HIS MENTAL AWARENESS, (HIS, 'CONSCIOUSNESS'), CENTERS AROUND HIS,  
 'CONSCIOUS THOUGHTS', HENCE THE DESCRIPTION OF MEN GENERALLY BEING IN A  
 'CONSCIOUS STATE',

BUT WHAT IS REALLY BEING IDENTIFIED BY THE TERM IS THAT A MAN,  
 AT THAT OBSERVABLE MOMENT,  
 SEEMS TO HAVE HIS MENTAL ATTENTION TAKEN UP BY THE ACTIVITY OF  
 'CONSCIOUS THOUGHTS' -- NOT SILENT, INVOLUTARY, 'BODY THOUGHTS'

TO INTELLECTUALLY FOLLOW WHAT I PERSONALLY HAVE JUST DESCRIBED  
 IS NOT AT ALL DIFFICULT, AND MAY EASILY APPEAR TO BE A FAIR DETAILING  
 OF MAN'S NORMAL MENTAL LIFE AS DIRECTED BY THE BRAIN'S  
 MULTIFACITED OPERATION,

BUT TO DEAL DIRECTLY WITH YOUR ORIGINAL QUESTION WE MUST STEP INTO,  
 NOT-QUITE-SO-SIMPLE, MENTAL TERRITORY.

NO MAN CAN SURVIVE WITHOUT THE CONSTANT PRESENCE OF THE, 'BODY THOUGHTS',  
 AND TO FIGURATIVELY, 'SURVIVE' IN A MENTALLY BASED, HUMAN ENVIORNMENT,  
 (CIVILIZED SOCIETY, AS 'TIS OFTEN CALLED),

A MAN CANNOT DO WITHOUT THE, 'CONSCIOUS THOUGHTS',

BUT HERE, MAKE YOURSELF CLEAR ON THIS:

BY, 'CONSCIOUS THOUGHTS' I MEAN THOUGHTS STREAMING THRU A MAN'S MIND  
 OFWHICH HE IS MORE-OR-LESS, CONSCIOUS OF,  
 BUT NOT THOUGHTS THAT HE HAS CONSCIOUSLY PRODUCED:

SO YOU COULD DESCRIBE THIS CONDITION AS:

'A MAN AWARE THAT HE HAS AN AWARENESS, DISTINCT FROM HIS PHYSICAL AWARENESS.

UNDER THE ROUTINE CIRCUMSTANCES OF A MAN'S LIFE,  
THESE TWO AWARENESSES, (OR TYPES OF THOUGHT: PHYSICAL & CONSCIOUS),  
WORK TOGETHER SO EFFICIENTLY THAT A MAN HAS NO NEED TO TAKE ANY  
PARTICULAR NOTE OF THEIR DUAL EXISTANCE:

EACH FORM OF AWARENESS RECEIVES & PROCESSES STIMULI & INFORMATION  
APPROPRIATE TO ITS AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY,  
AND WHEN ALL WITHIN A MAN IS OPERATING NORMALLY,  
NO COMPLAINTS WITH THE SITUATION DOES HE FIND.

BUT YOUR QUESTION CONCERNS NOT ORDINARY MEN AND THEIR ROUTINE CONDITIONS,  
YOU ASK ABOUT THOSE FEW MEN ALWAYS AMONG US WHO,  
ALSO FROM THE TIME OF THE WOMB,  
HAVE A NON-ROUTINE DISCOMFORT WITH THE NORMAL & NATURAL ARRANGEMENT  
OF THE TWO TYPES OF THOUGHTS, (OR AWARENESS), THAT I HAVE DESCRIBED,  
AND INDEED FIND THEIR ATTENTION TO BE NATURALLY TURNED TO TRYING  
IN SOME WAY TO SOME HOW, 'CHANGE' THIS INDIGENOUS, INTERNAL ARRANGEMENT.

BUT MOST OF THOSE BORN WITH SUCH A TENDENCY, (SHALL WE SAY),  
NEVER GAIN A CLEAR COMPREHENSION OF WHAT DRIVES THEIR UNCOMMON INTEREST:

MOST NEVER GET BEYOND HAVING THEIR ATTENTION AFFIXED ON, 'BODY THOUGHTS',  
AND THEY WILL SUBJECT THEMSELVES TO ALL SORTS OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES  
FORWHICH THEIR BODY HAS NO NATURAL TASTE,  
AND THRU SUCH PHYSICAL DISCOMFORT BELEIVE THAT THEY ARE INVOLVED IN  
SOME MEANINGFUL EFFORT THAT WILL ULTIMATELY RESULT IN THEM FINALLY BEING  
ACCEPTANT OF THEIR MORTAL EXISTANCE, SAME AS EVERYONE ELSE....EXCEPT  
IN THIER CASE -- EVEN MORE SO! --

FOR THEY LOOK UPON SUCH A POTENTIAL CHANGE AS BEING - EXTRAORDINARY,  
MYSTERIOUS, METAPHYSICAL EVEN, (THAT IS THAT THE IMAGINED CHANGE THEY  
HOPE FOR WILL BE ONE THAT IS LITERALLY OUTSIDE, PHYSICAL REALITY),  
BUT MUST I TELL YOU THAT THIS IS A TOTALLY MISTAKEN IDEA,  
AND EVEN THE MOST VIGOROUS PURSUIT THEREOF, LEADS NO WHERE?!

THEN AMONGST THOSE BORN WITH THE DISSATISFACTION & INTEREST I HAVE  
JUST NOTED, THERE ARE SOME WHO ARE ABLE TO MOVE THEIR ATTENTION BEYOND,  
'BODY THOUGHTS'(AND THE FUTILE ANNOYING OF THEIR PHYSIQUE),  
AND WHO SEEK A WAY TO MAKE CHANGES IN THEIR, 'CONSCIOUS THOUGHTS'  
THAT WILL RESULT IN, (FIRST): THEIR DREAMED-OF STATE OF, ,  
COMPLETE, MENTAL-SATISFACTION, FOLLOWED BY A CONDITION OF,  
SUPER-NATURAL, 'MENTAL SUPREMACY' , (WHAT YOU WERE CALLING, 'BEING AWAKE')

BUT I MUST POINT OUT TO YOU THAT EVEN THESE PEOPLE WHO,  
(COMPRABLY SPEAKING), APPEAR TO START OFF IN AN AREA OF MORE  
PROMISE THAN THOSE WHOSE ATTENTION STAYS FIXED ON, 'BODY THOUGHTS',  
THESE PEOPLE ALSO FAIL TO EVER ACHIVE WHAT THEY FEEL WAS THEIR GOAL.

SO -- WHAT IS LEFT TO DO THAT MIGHT BRING ABOUT  
SOMETHING

RESEMBLING THE AIM DESCRIBED BY PEOPLE WHOSE INTEREST IS IN A  
REAL CHANGE IN THEIR OVERALL MENTAL STATE?!

WELL, FIRST OFF YOU MUST, ON A .CONSTANT BASIS, CLEARLY SEE YOUR OWN  
VERSION & UNDERSTANDING OF THE SITUATION IN MAN THAT I HAVE JUST TALKED  
TO YOU ABOUT IN SOME DETAIL,

THEN YOU MUST ASK YOURSELF: 'WHAT IS THERE LEFT TO DO  
OTHER THAN WHAT EVERYONE ELSE WITH A SIMILAR INTEREST, ATTEMPTS TO DO?!

WHAT COULD I POSSIBLE DO REGARDING A REAL ALTERATION IN MY  
MENTAL CONDITION,

THAT I HAVE NEVER DONE?!...PERHAPS NEVER EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT?!' --

-- THIS IS WHAT YOU SHOULD BE ASKING YOURSELF --

NOT ME, OR ANYONE ELSE -- BUT: ASKING YOURSELF

BUT INASMUCH AS YOU HAVE ALREADY ASKED ME,

AND INASMUCH AS I HAVE BEGUN A RESPONSE TO YOUR ASKING,

I WILL GO ON A BIT, VERBAL-FURTHER:

REGARDING: WHAT YOU CAN DO THAT OTHERS DO NOT DO, & THAT YOU HAVE NEVER DONE,  
FIRST, RECOGNIZE THAT NOTHING IN YOUR NATURAL REPERTOIRE OF,  
'BODY THOUGHTS' CAN BE OF ASSISTANCE,

AND THAT NONE OF YOUR NATURALLY OCCURING, 'CONSCIOUS IHOUGHTS' CAN HELP EITHER:

NO, WHAT IS NEEDED IS 'SOMETHING', (AND, 'SOMETHING' IN BOLD,

AND SERIOUS QUOTATION MARKS), 'SOMETHING' ELSE,

ENTIRELY OUTSIDE WHAT WOULD SEEM TO BE THE TWO AREAS OF THOUGHTS MENTIONED.

BUT WHAT COULD THIS BE?!...SOMETHING OUSTIDE THE RANGE OF YOUR MIND'S  
NORMAL PERCEPTIONS?!...WHAT COULD SUCH A 'THING' (WITH, 'THING' ALSO UNDER  
SERIOUS, 'QUOATION-MARKS-ARREST'), WHAT COULD SUCH A 'THING' BE !?!,

THAT WOULD BE

BEYOND THE NATURAL RANGE OF YOUR MIND'S NORMAL PERCEPTION OF  
WHAT MAKES UP REALITY AND CONSTITUTES THE MENU OF WHAT'S POSSIBLE?!

WELL, OF COURSE WHAT IS ACTUALLY BEING SOUGHT IS NOT A, 'THING',

BUT UNLESS YOU UNDERSTAND IT, YOU SHOULDN'T SAY THAT IT IS,

'NOT A THING', FOR NIETHER IS IT, NOT, 'NOT-A-THING',

.....

FOR IF IT WERE EITHER A 'THING', OR, 'NOT A THING',  
 IT WOULD BE 'SOMETHING' OF WHICH THE MIND COULD NATURALLY CONCEIVE,  
 AND BE 'SOMETHING' ABOUT WHICH I COULD READILY SPEAK,  
 (WHICH AS I'VE ALREADY NOTED, I CANNOT),  
 SO EVEN THOUGH THIS 'THING' OUTSIDE OF ALL ORDINARY MENTAL CONCEPTION  
 SHOULD NOT BE CALLED OR THOUGHT OF AS EITHER A 'THING', OR,  
 'NOT A THING',  
 IT REMAINS NONETHELESS, THE GOAL OF ALL PERSONS WHO UNDERTAKE TO,  
 'WAKE UP', TO, "ACHIEVE ENLIGHTENMENT", OR TO,  
 'GAIN THE GREAT LIBERATION',  
 AND IN THAT THE HUNGER FOR SUCH AN ALTERATION TO ONE'S MENTAL CONDITION  
 IS INBORN IN SUCH PERSONS,  
 AND TO THEM,  
 THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH AN ACHIEVEMENT IS AS REAL AS THEIR BEING ALIVE,  
 THEN THIS, 'THING',  
 EVEN IF IT BE COMPLETELY BEYOND THE ABILITY OF WORDS TO IDENTIFY,  
 MUST BE A LITERAL, TANGIBLE POTENTIAL.

BUT AGAIN WE FACE THE QUESTION: JUST WHAT IS THIS,  
 IMPOSSIBLE-TO-ADEQUATELY-DESCRIBE-OR-PERCEIVE -- 'THING' FOR WHICH  
 SUCH PERSONS SO STRONGLY HUNGER?!

IF IT IS NOT TO BE FOUND IN, 'BODY THOUGHTS',  
 IS IT YET TO BE FOUND -- IN-THE-BODY? -- WHY CERTAINLY IT IS,  
 WHERE ELSE COULD IT BE LOCATED?!:  
 WELL THEN, IF THIS 'THING' IS ALSO NOT TO BE FOUND IN NORMAL,  
 'CONSCIOUS THOUGHTS' IS IT STILL TO BE FOUND SOMEWHERE IN, 'CONSCIOUSNESS'?,  
 WELL WHERE ELSE BUT IN THE REALM OF THE MIND COULD THE POTENTIAL FOR  
CHANGING THE MIND EXIST?! -- WHY NO WHERE ELSE, OF COURSE.

...BUT ARE WE NOT, (WITH A VERBAL VARIATION), COVERING GROUND I'VE  
 ALREADY TROD IN MY RESPONSE TO YOUR INQUIRY?!....WELL....NOT EXACTLY.

I AM NOW TRYING TO TURN YOUR LISTENING-ATTENTION AWAY FROM A DIRECT  
 'LOOKING-AT' THE TWO DESCRIBED AREAS OF; 'BODY THOUGHT',  
 AND, 'CONSCIOUS THOUGHT', SO THAT NORMALLY UNNOTICED PERIPHERAL AREAS  
 OF MENTAL POSSIBILITIES SLIP INTO VIEW,  
 AREAS OF POSSIBILITIES THAT TO 'BODY THOUGHTS', ARE IRRELEVANT,,  
 AND AREAS OF POSSIBILITIES THAT TO, 'CONSCIOUS THOUGHTS' ARE --  
 INCONCEIVABLE,  
 AND YET, IF YOU CAN GO INTO A SUSTAINED, SECOND-BY-SECOND, MENTAL,  
 'HOLDING-PATTERN', WHEREBY YOUR ATTENTION IS KEPT UNNATURALLY  
 CALM & QUIET, THESE NORMALLY IGNORED, PERIPHERAL AREAS OF THE MIND  
 COME QUITE CLEARLY INTO VIEW, AND THEY CANNOT BE SAID TO RESIDE IN  
 THE REALM OF EITHER, 'BODY', OR 'CONSCIOUS' THOUGHT.

NO, THIS PERIPHERAL AREA WHEREIN MAY EXIST THE UNNAMED, 'THING'  
 OUR CONVERSATION HOPES TO SOMEHOW, 'NAME',  
 IS SOMETHING DIFFERENT FROM THE, 'THOUGHTS-OF-OUR-BODY',  
 AND ALSO SOMETHING DISTINCT FROM OUR THOUGHTS OF WHICH WE ARE  
 NATURALLY CONSCIOUS.

...YES, BEYOND ANY DOUBT,  
 WHAT YOU HAVE ASKED ME ABOUT,  
 AND WHAT I AM ATTEMPTING TO SPEAK ABOUT,  
 IS TOTALLY, SOMETHING-ELSE-AGAIN  
 FROM ALL WE NORMALLY EXPERIENCE."

AND HERE THE EXTERMINATOR PAUSED FOR A MOMENT,  
 AS HE AND THE MAN LOOKED AT ONE ANOTHER, THEN CONTINUED:  
 "LET ME REMIND YOU OF YOUR ORIGINAL QUESTION TO ME:  
 YOU SAID THAT FROM MY PREVIOUS COMMENTS  
 YOU HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT I WAS SAYING THAT THE CONDITION  
 OFTEN REFERED TO AS, 'BEING AWAKE OR ENLIGHTENED'  
 WOULD BE A MENTAL STATE IN WHICH A MAN WOULD BE -- 'THOUGHTLESS',  
 AND YOU ADMITTED THAT YOU COULD NOT CONCEIVE OF HOW BEING THOUGHTLESS  
 WOULD TRANSLATE INTO A POSSIBLE MENTAL CONDITION  
 MUCH LESS A SUPERIOR ONE --

IS THAT NOT A FAIR TELLING OF WHAT YOU ASKED?! -- YES, IT IS.  
 BUT BEFORE WE FACE A POTENTIAL, UNNECESSARY WASTE-OF-FURTHER-TIME,  
 LET ME ASK YOU POINT-BLANK -- RIGHT NOW:

HAS NOT WHAT I HAVE ALREADY SAID ANSWERED, (FOR THE MOST PART), YOUR QUESTION?!",  
 AND AFTER GLANCING AWAY BRIEFLY, THE MAN LOOKED BACK AT THE EXTERMINATOR,  
 AND NODDED THAT IT HAD, A GESTURE TOWHICH THE EXTERMINATOR RESPONDED:

"IF I WERE OF A CRUDE PERSUASION, I'D TELL YOU THAT YOU ARE A FOOL.  
 IF I'VE SAID NOTHING THAT ANSWERS WHAT YOU ASKED.",

AND THE MAN'S FACE FELL SHEEPISHLY, AND AFTER A FEW MOMENTS OF SILENCE  
 BETWEEN THEM, THE MAN MEEKLY SAID: "WELL, IF YOU'D REPEAT ALL YOU SAID  
 THEN PERHAPS IN ITS SECOND TELLING I'D UNDERSTAND YOU CORRECTLY.",  
 AND SPEAKING IN A THEATRICAL, HAUGHTLY TONE, THE EXTERMINATOR REPLIED:  
 " 'REPEAT WHAT I SAID'?!.....REPEAT WHAT I SAID'?!,  
 DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND THAT I CANNOT REPEAT WHAT I SAID,  
 FOR I DON'T KNOW WHAT I SAID ....

...DON'T YOU GET IT -- I WAS SPEAKING FROM THAT PERIPHERAL AREA  
 JUST OUTSIDE THE NORMAL RANGE OF THE MIND AND LANGUAGE.  
 DON'T YOU REALIZE THAT I SAID NOTHING OF ANY OBJECTIVE IMPORTANCE?!,

NONE OF THE WORDS I UTTERED WAS OF SIGNIFICANCE IN REGARD TO THAT CERTAIN 'SUBJECT', YOUR INTEREST INWHICH MOTIVATED YOUR APPROACHING ME, AND ASKING ME THE QUESTION THAT YOU DID.

SO, I BOTH DIDN'T ANSWER YOUR QUESTION....AND YET I DID -- BELIEVE ME, I DID, BUT THE ANSWER WAS NOT IN ANY OF MY WORDS, OR DESCRIPTIONS OF MAN'S CONDITION, NO, THE 'ANSWER' WAS -- RIGHT THERE, RIGHT OUT-IN-THE-OPEN, IT WAS IN THE MIDST-OF, AND SUPPORTED THE BACKGROUND-FOR THE TOTALITY OF:

YOU ASKING ME SUCH A QUESTION, ALONG WITH WHATEVER IT WAS WITHWHICH I RESPONDED.

DON'T YOU AT LEAST BEGIN TO SUSPECT THAT SOMETHING A BIT 'PECULIAR', IS INVOLVED WITH ALL OF THIS, AND THAT SOMETHING IN THE PERIPHERAL AREA OF THE MIND IS THAT INWHICH ALL OF THIS IS INVOLVED?!

I CEASE MY COMMENTS TO YOU BY NOTING AGAIN THAT THERE IS A QUITE REAL, (THOUGH ALSO UN-REAL, AND INDESCRIBABLE), DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BEING, 'NATURALLY THOUGHTLESS', (WHICH IS BEING THOUGHTLESS-WITH-A-MODIFIER), AND BEING 'THOUGHTLESS' WITHOUT A CONDITION ATTACHED WHICH MIGHT FROM SOME VIEW APPLY TO A MAN WHO HAS ACHIEVED AN UNNATURAL STATE OF MENTAL SATISFACTION: HE IS INTERNALLY: CALM & QUIET, BUT TO ACTUALLY SAY THAT HE IS THOUGHTLESS IS A BLUNDERING COMMENT, AND IDEA IN THAT SO SAYING OR THINKING MAKES ONE ONCE AGAIN, 'THOUGHTLESS-IN-SEATTLE', AND EVERY WHERE ELSE.

DON'T YOU FINALLY BEGIN TO CATCH ON: THERE IS NO STATE OF, 'THOUGHTLESSNESS' ABOUTWHICH ANYTHING CAN BE THOUGHT,.... ...MUCH LESS QUESTIONS REGARDING WHICH, THAT CAN BE ANSWERED. BUT IF YOU WILL DO AS I SUGGESTED: DIRECT ALL SUCH QUESTIONS TO YOURSELF, WHEN THE ANSWER TO SUCH QUESTIONS SUDDENLY APPEARS WITHIN YOU -- THEN, THEN, (MY FRIEND), YOU'LL NO LONGER HAVE TO ASK ABOUT IT, THEN, THEN YOU WILL BE -- 'THOUGHTLESS' -- CONSCIOUSLY, 'THOUGHTLESS' .", THEN THE EXTERMINATOR WALKED AWAY.