

What Did Jesus Really Mean?*

A Refreshing Rearticulation of
Honest to God Truth

(edited 7/2022)

by

David Sundaram



* The Jesus-said quotes are from the King James translation of The Bible; quotes from *The Bhagavad Gita* are from the translation by Shri Purohit Swami; text that is dot-underlined is hyperlinked to a relevant source on the world-wide web.

PERTINENT INFO

This Treatise (last edited in 2022 and published online) is not copyrighted. Readers are welcome to download and save as well as share part or whole copies of it (as long as the text therein isn't altered) with anyone who they think may be interested in and appreciate its contents.

The document is designed to read on PCs or tablets that have a **pdf** reader or app installed. It contains formatting attributes that will not convert properly to **epub** or similar text-flow requiring e-reader formats.

(Adobe Acrobat's Reader* has a feature – other pdf readers may or may not have this feature, I don't know – which can be set so you will be taken back to whatever page you were last on when you reopen it, which is a great convenience when reading long documents, such as this. *Be sure to uncheck the prechecked boxes for the McAfee software if you decide to download and install it (it is free). To set Adobe Acrobat Reader's Preferences to activate the above-mentioned feature: Select 'Preferences' from the 'Edit' dropdown menu. Choose the 'Document' tab and check the "Restore last view setting when reopening documents" box. That's it.)

Text that is dot-underscored herein is hyperlinked to a relevant source on internet. The Jesus-said quotes are from the King James translation of The Bible. The quotes from *The Bhagavad Gita* are from the translation by Shri Purohit Swami.

Home Page: <https://davidsundom.weebly.com>

Email: davidsundaram42 (at) gmail (dot) com

1

From his saying “This is *my* body” when breaking bread and “This is *my* blood” when pouring wine at what has since been referenced as The Last Supper with his disciples (see Matthew 26), it is clear that Jesus rationally grasped as well as mystically (that is, *transpersonally*) identified with the Oneness of Creation. If what he meant to communicate by way of such sayings had been truly apprehended, such utterances may indeed have been foundational in establishing an ecologically sane, *holistically* Life-augmentative civilization.

That was not to be the case, however. Because the beliefs of most if not all of those around him at the time were hypnotically rooted in projections that *God* (to wit, the progenitive Source and Sustainer of Life) was a singular, supremely dictatorial ruler who had especially favored mankind by ‘giving’ them ‘dominion’ over all other earthly creatures (see [Genesis 1:26-28](#)), analogous to the way kings of old ‘granted’ lords of old the right to govern less powerful folk living in their territories (as long as said lords remained loyally subservient in relation to said kings, of course), the people around

him simply did not register and so could not even begin to comprehend the implications of the fact that such sayings by Jesus actually referenced the matrixial interconnectedness and interdependency of all being.

Making matters worse, as they then also construed his references to being “the Son of God” literally, instead of ‘remembering’ the factuality of above-referenced Oneness of Being as they were directed to (in Luke 22), when would-be followers subsequently gathered together for a ceremonial meal of bread and wine (which observance later became ritualized as The Sacrament of Holy Communion), they just imagined and believed the bread and wine to be miraculously transformed (literally transubstantiated!) into the flesh and blood of Jesus *himself** who they *idolized* and proceeded to worship and pledge allegiance to as the “King of kings, and Lord of lords” (I Timothy 6:15-16) heir of said ‘supreme’ God.

*Though such belief and practice is generally, presently at least, simply accepted without significant thought, question or discussion as ‘normal’, it generated quite a bit of controversy when the movement now known as ‘Christianity’ was just getting started as a result of its connoting a kind of cannibalism. Presumably, what is called ‘magical thinking’ (nowadays) led members of the movement to suppose that such ingestion would result in their physically ‘absorbing’ Jesus’ spiritual characteristics and thereby attain personal ‘communion’ with him.

What anyone thinks Jesus really meant when he used such and related phrases and why he or she imagines he chose to speak of God as ‘the Father’ and himself as ‘the Son’ (of said Father) will, of course, depend on his or her personal apprehension and understanding of metaphysical realities and ‘sense’ of what the mind-and-heart sets of the people around Jesus were like at the time. My own conclusions in this regard, which I proffer for consideration and contemplation, are that he used ‘the Father’ to reference the progenitive Source (hence, ‘the Creator’) of all existential being, and ‘the Son’ to reference the totality of said Creator’s Creation (d/b/a Creativity), in other words *The Entity* of Life as It exists and continues to express Itself in Being.

Why did he choose to do so? I think because the people around him were much more likely to meaningfully and emotionally relate to what such Father and Son ‘figures’ symbolically represented and, consequently, pragmatically understand the nature of the relationship between said existential realities to functionally be as a result of having personally experienced parents and the blessings as well as the vicissitudes of being familial offspring themselves, more so at least than if he had referenced and spoken about such realities in abstract philosophical terms.

Just imagine the silently questioning, “What the heck is this guy talking about?” blank stares that would be on the faces of people in a (hypothetical) movie crowd-scene wherein Deepak Chopra (one of today’s preeminent metaphysicians), after being science-fictionally whisked back to Jesus’ time and setting, verbalized the same sorts of things that folks presently throng around him to hear: “Pure consciousness is your ground state and it is a field of infinite possibilities!” and “The field is organizing everything in creation: the movement of galaxies, the movement of stars, the rotation of the earth, the cycles of the seasons, the biological rhythms of our bodies, birds migrating at the right season to the right place, fish returning to their spawning grounds, the biological rhythms of nature as found in flowers, vegetation, and animals. It is literally a field of infinite organizing power. It can do an infinite number of things all at the same time and then correlate them with each other;” for instance.

And contrast this with what you imagine the people who were actually there (around Jesus) then must have thought and felt on hearing him preach things like: “Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?” (Matthew 7:7-11)

Even in today's world, I submit, those who haven't intelligently grasped the implications of the postulates and research findings of Quantum Physics to the degree necessary to meaningfully comprehend the way in which such particle-wave, vibrating matter-energy concept based reality-paradigm 'explains' why and how and things 'manifest'—and, because only a small fraction of our population is capable of appreciating such abstractions, this references most folks on the planet at present—are much more likely to mentally and emotionally 'groove' with and consequently behaviorally operate in a positively functional, *holistically* co-relative manner using Jesus' archetypal parent↔offspring schemata.

Holistically co-relative insofar as they may personally be so oriented and inclined, that is. As I'm sure you know, the choices people make tend to be unsalutary and counterproductive to whatever degree their thoughts and emotions continue, as a result of conditioning and habituation, to stem from immediate personal-gratification seeking *selfishness*. This applies, to one degree or another, to every soul that is still in the process of maturing (spiritually speaking), which pretty much references everyone born on the planet, while still biologically young at least, because souls that have already matured, or 'ripened', to the point of becoming 'perfectly' (so to speak) *holistic* really have nothing more to learn and developmentally accomplish by way of incarnating as a personal-*self* locus in the context of a world comprised of sensorially separate nodes of Life, such as ours—except perhaps in exceptional cases, to munificently articulate the range of choices at hand and alert audiences to the consequences thereof as well as, by leading exemplary lives in said regards themselves, to catalytically spark the maturational 'fruition' of others at critical, 'make or break' junctures in history wherein those involved must either participatorily move 'forward' (in the context of Life's dynamically evolutionary stream) by choosing to transcend *selfish* instincts and become more integrally related to others or spiritually regress and possibly completely *disintegrate* (i.e., lose soulful coherency in relation to Life) if and as they 'fail' to do so.

Whatever the paradigmatic scheme of Reality (Life, Creation, God, Self-Realization, Being-Becoming, Evolution, etc.) one subscribes to, the fact is that personal functionality and development may be ‘for better or for worse’ (relatively speaking) *in* It. From what Jesus said in response to his disciples’ asking him about his method of communication: “Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand ... for this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear. For verily I say unto you, that many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them.” (Matthew 13:13-17), it is clear he was well aware of and, because he understood the Life-Force in everyone to be *self*-determining, completely accepted as a given the fact that people who remained cold-heartedly ensconced in narrow-minded *self*ishness would not intelligently ‘groove’ with the universality of the truth which the familial Father↔Son metaphor he used representationally illustrated in any event.

Whether or not he foresaw the ways in which what he said would be misinterpreted and how such interpretation would be abusively wielded and what might therefore result is questionable, however. Quite unfortunate consequences historically stemmed from and repercussively still continue to deleteriously affect and detract from the quality of the Life-experience and Life-expression of huge numbers of people because of the degree to which personal neediness and greediness and other *self*ish tendencies, which typically govern the thoughts, feelings and behaviors of social-fad and gang-mentality inclined ‘groupies’, resulted in absurdly rationalized misconstruals and grossly unconscionable misapplications of what he said cascading and running rampant.*

* What have been called The Holy Wars and The Inquisition are just a couple of the more glaring examples of said ‘happening’!

Not that there haven't also been many enlightened interpretations and applications of the truth pertaining to Life by altruistically oriented souls who've independently digested and chosen to proceed on the basis of the *holistic* knowledge and *self-transcendent* wisdom they've garnered from what Jesus and his more exemplary followers said and did, mind you. But the historical fact most relevant to the point I am attempting to make regarding the 'mainstream' obfuscation of what Jesus actually meant to communicate is that, in the early days of Christianity, when it became established as a sociopolitical movement, people were so prone to being seduced and captivated by, and consequently zealously serving to bolster and promulgate, personal and group *self-interest* reifying rationalizations (to an even greater degree than they are nowadays, if you can imagine!) that, co-optimely declaring themselves to be 'true' followers *en masse*, flag-waving 'Christians' passionately embraced and vociferously promoted literal interpretations of Jesus' "Son of God", "I and my Father are One" (John 10:31) and similar pronouncements.* More sensible, potentially truly enlightening interpretations and understandings of what he actually meant by them consequently got little or no 'air time' and even as of this writing are given little or no thoughtful consideration.

* Readers may wish to review what I said (on page 2) earlier about Jesus being proclaimed to be a 'Lord of lords' and 'King of kings' to more fully appreciate the sociopolitical power-grab aspects of this gambit.

In complete disregard and, in effect, eclipse of:

- the fact that there are numerous references to "the *sons* of God" (in the plural!) in the texts of both The Old Testament and The New Testament, as in: "The *sons* of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose" (Genesis 6:2); "When the morning stars sang together, and all the *sons* of God shouted for joy?" (Job 38:7), and "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the *sons* of God" (Romans 8:14);

- and the fact that Jesus himself argued that others could be legitimately described as having a *godly* ‘identity’ as well: “Jesus answered them, Many good works have I showed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me? [They] answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God. Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods? If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken; say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God?” (John 10:31-36);
- and the fact that Jesus (the gestalt of his spiritual consciousness, really) was also referenced as “the Son of *man*”, in many cases by Jesus himself, as, for instance, in: “He asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of *man* am?” (Matthew 16:13), and “For as the lightning, that lighteneth out of the one part under heaven, shineth unto the other part under heaven; so shall also the Son of *man* be in his day.” (Luke 17:24) (by the way, as a matter of record, a perfunctory text-search on my computer identified about 88 “Son of *man*” references in The New Testament, in contrast to which I found less than 50 references to “the Son of *God*” in it, of which only a handful can possibly be read as having been said by Jesus in reference to himself, the rest clearly being attributions made by others);

in C.E. 325 leading ‘Church Fathers’, summoned to a council meeting in Nicaea to iron out their ideological differences and then conjointly backed up as a group by the governing Roman rulers, consolidated their ideological, mass-hypnotic group-think *coup* of Christianity with what has since become known as the Nicene Creed, which all would-be ‘Christians’ were thereafter required to publicly embrace and pledge allegiance to (they’d be summarily excommunicated if they didn’t!) which read: “We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, begotten [a later revision changed this word to the phrase ‘the only-begotten’] of the Father; Light of Light, very God of

very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; By whom all things were made; Who for us men, and for our salvation, came down and was incarnate and was made man; He suffered, and the third day he rose again, ascended into heaven; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. ...”

As is true of any amalgam of logically interwoven conceptual statements, this creedal declaration has many possible implications and so may be differently understood, of course. Undeniable, however, is the fact that it literally excludes any and all possible metaphorical interpretations of the Father↔Son paradigm for Creation, such as the one I proffer, which is that the *entirety* of Creation as an existential Entity, not the *personage* of Jesus himself, is what he referenced as ‘the Son’ when and as he spoke for said Creation—when and as he ‘channeled’* Its spirit, one might say—as a result of his personally, mentally and emotionally, choosing to completely ‘identify’ with It (i.e., with said Living Entity). I submit, this is the only way in which his saying “This is *my* body” when sharing bread and “This is *my* blood” when dispensing wine may be regarded as making real sense.

* Others have also spoken in similar fashion mind you, as they ‘channeled’ the spirit of *Life Itself*, variously referenced as *God*, the Self, the Creator, the Prime Cause, and the Father (the latter in the context of the above-mentioned paradigm). In Chapter 7 of *The Bhagavad Gita*, for example, *It* is recorded as having ‘said’:

“Earth, water, fire, air, ether, mind, intellect and personality; this is the eightfold division of My Manifested Nature. This is My inferior Nature; but distinct from this, O Valiant One, know thou that my Superior Nature is the very Life which sustains the universe. It is the womb of all being; for I am He by Whom the worlds were created and shall be dissolved.

“O Arjuna! There is nothing higher than Me; all is strung upon Me as rows of pearls upon a thread: I am the Fluidity in water, the Light in the sun and in the moon. I am the mystic syllable Om in the Vedic scriptures, the Sound in ether, the Virility in man. I am the Fragrance of earth, the Brilliance of fire. I am the Life Force in all beings, and I am the Austerity of the ascetics. ... I am the eternal Seed of being; I am the Intelligence of the intelligent, the Splendor of the resplendent. I am the Strength of the strong, of them who are free from attachment and desire; and ... I am the Desire for righteousness. Whatever be the nature of their life, whether it be pure or passionate or ignorant, they are all derived from Me.”

Alas, the organically interleaved nature of the Creator↔Creation dynamic we are involved in (yet to be elucidated herein) which Jesus metaphorically addressed using the Father↔Son paradigm remained beyond the comprehension of the majority of his would-be followers and adherents. Pretentiously ‘righteous’ proclamations pompously made on the basis of literal interpretations of his Father-and-Son relationship statements by ‘leaders’ among them pretty much ensured that there would be a complete black out of genuine sensibility in this regard in their ranks. And, as these interpretations became the only ones socially ratified and sanctioned, in due course the *personalized*, “sole Father-God and ‘His’ only begotten Son-Heir” narrative enabled those purporting to be their ordained ‘ministers’ and the ‘rulers’ whose power to impose their will on others said ministers ‘officially’ legitimized, in cahoots together claiming to act in said Father & Son’s ‘family’ name (i.e., on behalf of ‘Christianity’), to impose a system of totalitarian imperialism wherein any and all beliefs and values deriving from other interpretations and conceptualizations pertaining to the Reality of Life were declared to be anathema and banished from consideration as entire populations were then doctrinally brainwashed and militarily subjugated, in effect turned into and treated like ‘sheep’. (I can just imagine Jesus jumping off of his metaphorical ‘seat’ in ‘heaven’ shouting a resounding “No!” upon seeing how his bucolic ‘good shepherd’ analogy (John 10:11) was connivingly co-opted and cunningly exploited for grotesquely *selfish* purposes by priestly and ruling class members over the course of history!)

The only stoppages in the above regard being by populations which were militarily powerful enough to successfully resist and repel, or culturally sophisticated enough to otherwise neutralize,* any such attempt at subversive infiltration and domination, as was true, for example, in the case of Arabic speaking peoples who cohesively coalesced around the conceptual formulations and ideological principles articulated in the ‘messages’ of an alternative Godly-Spirit ‘channeling’ prophet, namely Muhammad, who righteously criticized and rejected the above-referenced form of Christianity

(which preached and promulgated *Jesus-as-the*-Son-of-God ‘worship’ and ‘obedience’) as just being another abominable instance of adulterous (for the purpose of *selfish* gratification) *idolatry* which *insubordinately* disrespected and betrayed spiritual values deriving from the ‘dictates’ of pertaining-to-any-and-every-one-without-special-consideration-or-exception *holistic* Truth.

* Hinduism simply ‘absorbed’ the character of Jesus as just being another *avatar* of Vishnu, thereby blowing the idea that he was the only begotten Son of God, as well as the claim that ‘Christian’ church and governmental authorities were said Father & Son duo’s only legitimate earthly functionaries, right out of the water (so to speak) without engaging in any ‘argument’ or consequent ‘fight’ in said regard whatsoever.

Unfortunately – albeit this characterization bears qualification because of the fact that there were and continue to be notable improvements in the quality of people’s relational awareness and consequent behavior and experience in many cases as a result of the growth and spread of the core teachings of both ‘Christianity’ and ‘*Islam*’, and the reasonableness of the hypothesis that, given the primitiveness of the instinctual desire-systems that people were generally rooted in when these were promulgated, what historically happened was probably the best that could happen under the circumstances – paralleling what happened in the case of *ego-bound* ‘Christians’ who therefore couldn’t truly relate to what Jesus’s *holistic* sayings really meant, passionately *self-righteous* ‘Muslims’ co-opted Islam, blind to the fact they were just as selfishly biased as said ‘Christians’ inasmuch as they followed suit by *idolatrously* sanctifying *Muhammad* as being more ‘god-connected’ than any other *Prophet* and adamantly asserting that their group-think interpretations and applications of his channeled messages (which were compiled into *The Quran*) and judgmental pronouncements (as compiled in *The Hadith*) were absolutely correct and final in relation to everyone everywhere for all time, in a similar (actually, in many cases I would say even more rabid), “*If you don’t embrace and support exactly what we believe and dictate, you are not a true Muslim and so deserve to be berated and punished and, if you continue to believe and do some-*

thing other than what we say is ‘right’, executed as an *infidel*,” sectarian fashion! Among other things, this set the stage for the historically brutally bloody clash between the two totalitarian-dogma embracing culture streams (namely ‘Christianity’ and ‘Islam’) which, despite the advent and influx of what’s been called the *Age of Reason*, wherein more salubriously functional philosophies and endeavors such as *Modern Science** and *Social Democracy** took root and spread, still continues to negatively impact the life-experience and life-expression of a great many people, often spawning a great deal of vilification and dysfunctional scape-goating in the process, all over the world.

* I will get back to discussing Jesus’ understanding of the nature of the relationship between *That* which creates and *That* which is created, between *God* and *Man* or ‘the Father’ and ‘the Son’ in other words. In this sidebar, to further stimulate and engage the attention of readers who may not have appreciated the caliber of his genius as yet, relating to what I mentioned in the preceding paragraph, I submit that:

Modern Science, though it only blossomed as a philosophy and endeavor relatively recently, historically speaking, sprouted from his having seeded sayings like: “Seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto *you*,” (Matthew 7:7) and

Social Democracy, though it too only blossomed relatively recently, sprouted from his parable-izing: “Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these *my brethren*, ye have done it unto *me*.” (Matthew 25:34-40).

(That being said, please note I don’t mean to provide anyone waving the ‘flags’ of *Reason*, *Science*, and/or *Democracy* with a ‘free pass’ of any kind either. Ideational concepts and constructs are just mental devices which, as in the case of physical tools, may be used for good or ill, or both. And the fact remains that we, as a species, still have a long way to go in terms of embracing *holistic* purpose and developing integrity in relation thereto. So watch that you aren’t seduced by highfalutin rationalizations in these regards. Because most individuals and groups are still primarily *selfishly* motivated, just as in the cases of ‘Christianity’ and ‘Islam’, these designations are also often co-opted and used to white-wash particular belief and value sets as being ‘right’ or ‘best’, as well as to discredit and dismiss differing others as being ‘faulty’ or ‘deficient’, in *self-serving* fashion.)

Now, returning to the main purpose of this treatise, let's set the record straight by specifically focusing on and contemplating what Jesus actually said about his relationship with 'the Father' (i.e., the Spirit of our creative Source, a/k/a *God*, as in "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth," John 4:24) when and as he transpersonally identified with and so assumed – one might say, he 'became' – the 'character' of 'the Son' (i.e., the Spirit of The Entity of all created Being, a/k/a *Christ*, as in "The woman saith unto him, 'I know that Messiah cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things.' Jesus saith unto her, 'I that speak unto thee am *he*.'" John 4:25-26):

Many would rather simply believe that by saying "I and my Father are one" (John 10:30) Jesus unequivocally asserted that the gestalts of his and his/our Father's spirits were absolutely identical, that they were literally one and the same aspect of Life in action; case closed. Such statement may certainly be read that way and, taken by itself, used to support God-concept co-opting narratives such as the one presented in the Nicene Creed which proclaims that the personage of Jesus was "begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;" etc. But it may also be taken to mean that Jesus thought and felt that his and said Father-God's spirits were dynamically integrated and functionally co-operational, and so united as 'one', metaphorically speaking, in terms of purpose and consequence – analogous to the way in which partners who aren't identical may accomplish something they both desire when and as they work together in a complementary manner, which they couldn't and so wouldn't be able to creatively accomplish if each worked alone. (This is what holism really means, by the way: "Holism is based upon idea that: the whole is more than the sum of its constitutive parts, so reduction of the whole to its constitutive elements eliminates some factors which are present only when a being is seen as a whole. For example, synergy is generated through the interaction of parts but it does not exist if we take parts alone.")

For those who have reached the point where they are capable of dispassionately pondering such matters, I submit that "The Father is *in* me,

and I *in* him” (John 10:38) which Jesus added in the same speech-sequence (as “I and my Father are one”) clearly shows the latter understanding to be what he actually meant to communicate. Notwithstanding the meta-truth that every ‘feature’ of Creativity (Life, God, Reality, Being – however you wish to view and reference It) is an inseparably integral aspect of one all-inclusive phenomenon, in light of which any and all *conceptual* ‘divisions’ which distinguish aspects of It one from another may be seen to really just be navigational aides at best, this saying indicates that Jesus ‘saw’ that there was a dynamic, two-way flow-connection between the primally progenitive soul of ‘the Father’ and the consequentially co-generative soul-constellation of ‘the Son’, such that the *outflow* from one functions as *inflow* in relation to the other in continuously ongoing outflow→inflow→*ad infinitum* fashion. Readers capable of engaging in abstract thought experiments may appreciate the kind of experience an observer walking lengthwise along the seemingly two-sided ‘surface’ of a möbius...strip would have and, if reasonably intelligent, sooner or later grok as analogically explaining the never-ending ‘story’ of ever-ongoing Father↔Son Creation.

Actually, Jesus’ vision was even more penetrating and far-seeing than even the statement “The Father is *in* me, and I *in* him” implies. Presaging that wave-ripples of awareness and spiritual espousal of what he ‘saw’ and articulated would spread and become so mutually validating and reinforcing as to eventually peak in a worldwide crescendo, continuing to identify with and so speak in the ‘persona’ of The Entity of all Creation, he then went on to say, “At that day ye shall know that I am *in* my Father, and ye *in* me, and I *in* you.” (John 14:20) Such statement cannot possibly be made sense of using simple, linear A→B→C logic, of course, but how aspects of the identities of personal and transpersonal beings (*beingnesses*, really) can operationally be ‘in’ one another becomes readily understandable when and as one *realizes*, as more and more people are now doing, that our existential reality is a *matrixially interwoven*, dynamically *living* (that is, creatively growing, developing, evolving, etc.) *system* wherein the *output* of every personal and transpersonal component of said system functions as *input* in

relation to any and all other components which, because of constitutional similarities and/or complementary affiliations, are vibrationally ‘attuned’ thereto, such that the process of every singular or compound element thereof, ‘from the least to the greatest’, ultimately directly or indirectly affects and is affected by the process of every other aspect of Life.

Whether or not you find what’s just been said fully comprehensible or believable right now, I hope you at least register and contemplatively entertain the implications of the fact that, if and as the above-quoted words (i.e., “I am *in* my Father, and ye *in* me, and I *in* you”), whereby Jesus shared his understanding of the way in which the spiritual constellations of our all-pervasive ‘Father’, all-inclusive ‘Son’, and each and every one of their expressive constituents creatively interfuse and commingle with one another, are regarded as being truly descriptive of the nature and dynamic of existential Being and Becoming, historically embraced views of God and/or Nature as being completely superordinate and so absolutely ‘ruling’ nexi of power, and consequently of the process of Creation as being either ‘designed’ or ‘destined’ to unfold and play out in accordance with His or Its ‘laws’ in totally subordinate ways, are seen for what they are: personal validity and significance disbelieving and (so) denying distortions of what is really the (universal!) case.

I addressed the same truth analogically in the book, titled *Godspeak 2000*, which I completed in 1999 by way of saying: “Your life is a part of all Life, much the way the movement of a molecule in its membrane is an integral component of a drum’s total excitation. What you know as Life-on-Earth is the conjoint response of our global ‘drumhead’ to a cosmic ‘drumbeat’, partly a function of activity stemming from the sun itself and partly a function of planetary movements. Like a tuning fork, but with much greater complexity because of the tremendous multiplicity and mutuality of our involvement, we all ‘vibrate’ together in reflexive co-motion.” Beware, however, as in the case of any purely mechanical analogy, this too may be misleading: The ‘drummer’ in our case is actually the Spirit which lives in and animates everything and everyone everywhere everywhen at once. It’s

not like our sun and/or our planetary configurations are especially causal, in other words. Every aspect of Being, including ‘you’, is an *influenced* and *influential*, hence functionally integral, aspect of *The Flow** of *Creativity**, without exception.

* Note: these asterisked words reference the same features of Life that Jesus metaphorically alluded to as ‘the Son’ and ‘the Father’ (which many also think and speak of as *Christ* and *God*, respectively), just in more action-descriptive terms I think.

That being said, it has more recently struck me that developments in the field of modern computer systems may provide us with an even more illustrative model for the universally creative, feedback-loop based interfusion of The Essence of Creativity and the Life of every individual and amalgamated aspect of Its expression. To explore this proposition, imagine if you will that the main aim or goal of said Essence’s ‘program’—the primary motive (i.e. *desire*) ensconced in its ‘source code’—is to maximally express and thereby experience Love and Joy, to Joyfully express and experience Love and Lovingly express and experience Joy to the greatest possible degree in every possible way, or something like that.*

* Not that this is the only available supposition, mind you. Many, for example, think and feel that the expression and experience of Power and Success is Life’s prime imperative and so believe that maximal actualization and experience of these (i.e., of Power and Success) must be The Cat’s Meow (idiomatically speaking). However, since I myself most keenly enjoy recalling and vicariously reliving the loving and joyful times I had as a child, and as I continue to spontaneously resonate with the ‘Spirit’ exuberantly displayed in the antics of the (unadulterated by *conditioning*) young of many species including ours, also having deeply appreciated ‘returning’ to expressing and experiencing Love and Joy after sometimes lengthy dry-spell detours and digressions therefrom, and having gradually become more and more thoughtfully impressed by Jesus’ saying things like: “Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 18:3); “Because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall endure [i.e., that keeps on being loving] unto the end, the same shall be saved.” (Matthew 24:12-13); and “Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.” (Matthew 25:34), the proposition pertaining to the expression and experience of Love and Joy which I put forward in the preceding paragraph is the one I *believe* to be and so suggest is both the most pertinent and the most propitious in the long term.

Next, to picture the activity of the Living Entity of our Creation (i.e., of ‘the Son’), imagine a universe-sized network made up of an infinite array of banks upon banks of computers matrixially web-strung together by way of both parallel and series connections, all simultaneously, individually and together, multi-processing the above referenced Love and Joy ‘program’, with each processor and every amalgamation thereof functionally *outputting* the ‘solution’ it ‘calculates’ will most probably yield the greatest possible Love and Joy ‘result’ in its case (as far as it can prognostically project, that is), which ‘solution’ then operationally functions as *input* in relation to any and all associated processors to whatever extent they ‘calculate’ it to be relevant to their own Love and Joy process, such that said *output-n-input* data-packet sequences co-actively ripple and reverberate around the network, sparking Love and Joy focused perceptions and decisions (i.e., experiences and expressions) which conjointly determine what takes place here, there and everywhere in ‘the body’ of said Entity* over the course of time.

* “In *him* we live, and move, and have our being” (Acts 17:28) is how this was articulated by one who conceptualized said Entity as being the (male) ‘Son’ of the Spirit of the universal (male) ‘Father’ of Being, two millennia ago.

As it ties many otherwise disparate, often apparently functionally contradictory aspects of Life’s process together in ways which make sense to me, I proffer this Love and Joy ‘program’ being universally, round-after-round multiprocessed on a network of ‘computers’ model as potentially being of significant navigational assistance to others who also aim to *holistically* optimize the progression of Life in and around themselves, as I do. Before I get back to focusing on and discussing what I think the true meaning of others of Jesus’ sayings relating to this is, however, it strikes me that some caveats pertaining to its use may be in order:

It is important that one remain aware of the fact that the terms Love and Joy, both individually and together, designate *spiritual* phenomena. Different kinds and degrees of Love and Joy can’t actually be quantitatively measured

and compared, as may be done when dealing with different frequencies and intensities of electromagnetic waves, for instance. Love and Joy related experiences and expressions therefore can't really be processed in either simple ($2x+2x=4x$ or $8x-5x=3x$, for example) or complex ($\sum f(x) \rightarrow X$, for example) mathematical terms. Subjective discernment and contextual decision-making as to what will and won't serve to optimize and augment your and/or others' experience and expression of Love and Joy is always necessary. As in the case of Jesus' Father \leftrightarrow Son paradigm, this multi-modal 'computer' platform running a Love and Joy 'program' model is only an ideational device which, by prompting you to pay attention to and continue to learn more about the determinative aspects of the flow of various kinds of Love and Joy, may help you to personally become more aware of and so be able to more functionally 'surf' what's going on in and around you at any given point in Life augmenting directions.

Besides, a formulaic approach to issues pertaining to Love and Joy won't work even as a means of approximation because the human condition is complicated to the point of convolution by the fact that we are all born into and so naturally identify with bodies which are biologically geared to experience Love and Joy in *selfish* (i.e., *personal*-gratification focused) ways. As anyone who has personally dealt with 'problematic' people has had ample occasion to intimately know, those so enthralled not only don't see and appreciate the possibility and value of qualitatively *better* kinds of experiences and expressions of Love and Joy (i.e., of Life Itself) which would accrue if they chose to accept, embrace and act 'in accord' with the Love and Joy requirements of other co-related aspects of Life, but also often delusionally rationalize doing the very opposite of that as being the most Love and Joy enhancing (in their case, that is) way to go. To mention some of the more common, ultimately disaster-spawning emotional 'sinks' which such folks are prone to getting sucked into: *fear*, *greed*, and *hate* are essentially just demoniacally warped (by *selfishness*!) gestalts of *insecure*, *dissatisfied* and *disappointed* Love.

People who thus, more or less ‘blindly’, not only fail to beneficially seed and nurture but also unduly detract from and unconscionably degrade the quality of Life’s Love and Joy flow present those of us who wish to *holistically* optimize and augment said process with troublesome issues to philosophically diagnose and situationally resolve (to whatever extent we may be able to pragmatically do so) as well as with potential impediments to circumnavigate (to whatever extent said issues remain intractable). In either case, the ‘task’ at hand—opportunity for soul maturation, really—being to develop and implement the wisdom (*self-mastery*, really) necessary to do so without getting side-tracked (by the temptations of *selfishness*) from and losing sight of (hence the idea of ‘lost’ souls) Life’s indigenous* goal, which is to maximally experience and express Love and Joy in the context of worldly, i.e. multi-nodal, existence.

* “Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.” (Matthew 25:34)

I highlight the complexity of the workings of our universal program so readers (or hearers) of this Love and Joy ‘message’ don’t naively think that just sharing whatever means and avenues to ‘greater’ Love and Joy they and/or others have personally discovered with everyone will result in the establishment of some kind of utopia. It won’t, anymore, say, than simply ensuring that everyone has a well-paying job or a livable income without one, or similar ‘equal opportunity’ measures, will in and of themselves result in the creation of a harmonious, environmentally sound, ‘heaven on earth’ kind of society. The fact is that souls have to ultimately *learn for themselves*, by considering the possible relevance (or irrelevance) of their own and others’ observations and experiences and ideational constructions relating thereto, as well as experimentally exploring various hypotheses in said regards, what will and what won’t serve to optimize and augment their and others’ Love and Joy experience and expression in co-relation to and with one another. Our multiprocessor system set-up is such that, though one may certainly transmit information pertaining to the merits and demerits of various ‘ways’ as well as, to some degree at least, help to open ‘avenues’

whereby others may move ahead and close others whereby they may regress in this regard, and though one may experience spiritual fulfillment oneself in the process of doing so, no one can ever actually ‘see’ or ‘walk’ someone else’s Love and Joy path for him or her!

The ideational finger-point here being that, though remnants of *selfishness* and empathy with others stemming therefrom may incline one to wish, and if such wish is strong enough even believe, that the domain of Love and Joy could or should be otherwise, the truth is that in order to become truly *holistic* one must (first) integrally grasp, (then) wholeheartedly accept and embrace, and (finally) uncompromisingly choose to act ‘in accord’ with the fact that, because *selfishness* is skewed toward *partiality*, those who succumb to the gravitational pull of *selfish* gratification, as they end up either just remaining so fixated or, worse, spiraling ‘down’ into the ‘black hole’ of insatiety, actually preclude the transcendental possibility of their butterfly-emerging out of the confines of their *selfish* (i.e., their *personal*-‘i’identity) ‘cocoon’ by way of completely synergic, because spiritually *impartial*, experience and expression of Love and Joy in communion with the Totality of Life, which is the only way a soul may do so—in any given lifetime, that is: “Other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.” (John 10:16) was Jesus’ way of saying that such spiritual ‘calling’ to transcend *selfishness* and enter into *communion* with Life Itself, which souls may ‘get on board’ with or ‘miss the boat’ in relation to, is repeatedly wave-transmitted and wave-received from age to age.

Jesus’ prescient depiction of the next such ‘coming’ event, wherein those who are prepared to do so soulfully ‘wake up’ to the Whole Truth and therefore enter into and thereafter continue to consciously live in *communion* with the Totality of Life while others ‘fall’ by the wayside and get recycled (so to speak), to wit: “As the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. ...they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.” (Matthew 24:27-30), does not mean that he will then

literally flash across the sky and be seen everywhere as he ‘gloriously’ orbits the planet in person. People who are emotionally invested in worshiping Jesus himself as a super-magical genie kind of God will undoubtedly regard the explanation that follows as being unacceptably heretical, but assuming you are not one such—why would you still be engaged in exploring this thesis otherwise?—let me submit that the above-quoted statement only makes real sense if one interprets it metaphorically, with “heaven” being understood as referencing the realm of consciousness and (so) “the clouds” as referencing the particularities of ideological constellations, or philosophies, within it.

“The Son of man” alludes to the corpus of human apprehension, or ‘knowing’ (often spoken of as Cosmic Consciousness) pertaining to Life as a Whole; that is, to the entirety of the living system composed by and of our creative Source (i.e. *God*, ‘*the Father*’), All That Is (i.e., The Entity of Creation, ‘*the Son*’, a/k/a *Christ*), **and** everyone’s relationally interfused interaction(s) therewith and therein, as postulated and discussed hitherto herein. The “lightning” that shines “out of the east ... even unto the west” analogically dramatizes the way in which powerfully functional thoughts, i.e. ‘knowings’, are psychically transmitted and received and (so) spread throughout our noosphere.^{*} The overall implication, of course, being that consciousness of what the words “I am *in* my Father, and ye *in* me, and I *in* you” (John 14:20) super-succinctly signify will illuminatingly permeate the thinking of *holistically* inclined people wherever they may be located all over the world.

^{*} A noteworthy example of *noospheric* knowledge-gestalt transmission-and-reception phenomenon, well documented by clearly consequent changes in course of human history, is how Martin Luther’s *knowing* that the Pope wasn’t the sole, or ‘central’, interpreter and transmitter of godly truth showed up in Copernicus’ *knowing* that the earth wasn’t the ‘center’ of the universe and that it and the other planets in our solar system all similarly revolved around our sun, which *knowings* eventually ‘blossomed’ in the enterprise now labeled Modern Science, the entirety of which grew out of the *knowing* that the ‘laws’ or ‘principles’ of Creation were not ‘centrally’ dictated but ‘universally’ pervasive, i.e. the *knowing* that Nature operates the same way in relation to any and all ‘participant-observers’ regardless of their relative space-time location or energy condition.

Many speak of such prophesied ‘happening’, wherein those who have developed to the point where they are ‘ripe’ in said regard become aware of the *confluence* of all Life and consequently choose to participate in *Its* Flow by whole-mind-n-heart-edly enjoying and devoting themselves to enriching and augmenting *Its* Love and Joy process, as the ‘*Second Coming*’ (of *Christ*, i.e. *Cosmic*-‘I’*dent*ity, Consciousness), which they project as being yet to happen. Connoisseurs of the history of ideas and cultural evolution, however, recognize that this, slowly evolving at first but now exponentially rapidly accelerating, phenomenon has been underway for quite a while now, though the visibility of such trend is often clouded by the fact that the greater part of our population, even of those who proclaim themselves to be ‘Christians’, has not been and still isn’t spiritually in synch with it. I suggest keeping “Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few [relatively speaking] there be that find it.” (Matthew 7:13) in mind when viewing and contemplating the lay of the land in this regard.

Also, regarding how they conceptualize and (so) label it, bear in mind the fact that most of those who *self*-identify as ‘Christian’ have no meaningful acquaintance with other inspired wisdom traditions, and, even when they do, tend to simply dismiss the value of, or worse, project the darkness of their own psychologically unrecognized ‘shadow’ onto what these proclaim and teach. Idolatrous adulation of and devotion to Jesus *himself* is often so emotionally ingrained that many think *he* was the very first person to ever attain and *self*-transcendentally act and speak from an ‘identity’ of *Cosmic Consciousness*, so they believe and proclaim the flowering and fruition of the movement he instrumentally spearheaded (i.e. seeded) to be the second ‘coming’ (or ‘manifestation’) of *his* presence. But, while I too confess to holding Jesus in the highest regard because I have not come across any set of teachings which have struck me as being as penetratingly perspicacious and Love-and-Joy propagating as his, the fact is that there have clearly been

others who have also knowingly spoken and acted ‘in the name’ of said Consciousness (albeit using different labels for It) when and as exigencies related to ‘the human condition’ stimulated It to ‘rise and shine’ (so to speak) in and through them in response to the needs and requirements of humanity at critical junctures in history. Here, for instance, is a well-known (outside of strictly ‘Christian’ circles, that is) passage from Chapter 13 of *The Bhagavad Gita* (the title translates as *The Song of God*, by the way) which was composed several centuries before Jesus appeared on the world stage:

“Constant yearning for the knowledge of Self, and pondering over the lessons of the great Truth—this is Wisdom, all else ignorance. I will speak to thee now of that great Truth which man ought to know, since by its means he will win immortal bliss—that which is without beginning, the Eternal Spirit which dwells in Me, neither with form, nor yet without it. Everywhere are Its hands and Its feet; everywhere It has eyes that see, heads that think and mouths that speak; everywhere It listens; It dwells in all the worlds; It envelops them all. Beyond the senses, It yet shines through every sense perception. Bound to nothing, It yet sustains everything. Unaffected by the Qualities, It still enjoys them all. It is within all beings, yet outside; motionless yet moving; too subtle to be perceived; far away yet always near. In all beings undivided, yet living in division, It is the upholder of all, Creator and Destroyer alike; It is the Light of lights, beyond the reach of darkness; the Wisdom, the only thing that is worth knowing or that wisdom can teach; the Presence in the hearts of all. Thus I have told thee in brief what Matter is, and the Self worth realizing and what is Wisdom. He who is devoted to Me knows; and assuredly he will enter into Me.”

All that being said and, I hope, substantively comprehended, I wish you well as such *realization* proceeds to unfold in and around you. “Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken.” (Matthew 24:29), metaphorically references the disintegration and demise of established sociopolitical frameworks and value hierarchies as widespread system failures result from unholistic selfishness running wild. Everyone will then just have to rely on whatever ‘inner’

understanding-and-wisdom guidance system they have personally developed prior to that point (see [Matthew 25:1-13](#)) to maximally actualize Love and Joy in the context of the every-which-way-whipping spirit-winds and horizon occluding event-waves which, till a more *holistic* civilization is able to take root and become established enough to hold sway (which, of course, assumes that human excesses won't render our planet uninhabitable before then), will make even the best of 'plans' in any regard completely unreliable. Take heart, however: *The Essence of Life is Spiritual* (see [John 4:23-24](#)). So no matter what does or doesn't transpire in terms of the material details of your and/or others' history, the experience and expression of sublime Love and Joy will always be flow-actualizable by those who faithfully focus on doing so. ☺

2

Many think and speak of Jesus as a ‘savior’ of souls. He said things like “Whosoever will *save* his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?” (Matthew 16:25-26) But if (as propositionally presented in Chapter 1) everything that happens ‘in’ the *field* of existence ☺ is really the worldly *outflow*, or actualization, of an Eternally Creative, OmniPresently Active Dynamism (Source, God, Father↔Son combo, multiprocessor-run Love and Joy ‘program’...however and whatever you think of It as Being-n-Doing) just what did Jesus think there was to ‘save’ from (possibly) being ‘lost’ and, in that case, how might such result accrue from ‘losing’ one’s life for *his*, meaning for *The Entity* (which he personally completely ‘i’dentified with) of Life’s, sake? Talk about a logic-challenging conundrum!

Let me preface my attempt to de-esotericize some of the complexities of this subject by repeating the caveat from the...book I completed in 1999 to wit: “Life’s multidimensionality and the multimodality of our interconnectedness and interdependence make it such that [even] the best of descriptions will

not fully inform you, and [even] the best of guidelines will not indicate exactly what will and what won't be constructive in relation to others around you, at least not for certain." In other words, it's fine and dandy to subscribe to and rely on the process whereby one's own and/or others' Intelligence perceives, appreciates the value of, and becomes adept at navigating the world of meaningful significances, but don't ever think there's nothing beyond what you or someone else sees or values at any given point in any specific regard (which, of course, includes the 'knowledge' I present here) that is yet to be seen or more creatively related to. Trusting you will keep this in mind, let me share what I think Jesus meant and did not mean when he spoke of someone possibly 'losing' (or alternatively 'finding') his or her *soul*'s 'life' in the context of his also having said things like "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6) and "He that believeth on *me* hath everlasting life." (John 6:47), in the former case at least clearly implying that one couldn't and so wouldn't attain such (kind of) 'life' otherwise.

Many, interpreting the latter statements literally, imagine that just believing (without any doubt!) that Jesus was/is (literally!) the singularly *Godly* 'Son' of our singularly *Godly* 'Father' and (so) unreservedly accepting and embracing him as (literally!) being their 'Lord and Master'* and (so) faithfully thinking and obediently doing as he instructed (including asking for and receiving his 'forgiveness' whenever they didn't), will surely result in their (literally!) being *personally* 'resurrected' after their bodies die and then forevermore ecstatically living in such form alongside said Father-God and Son-Jesus in an absolutely blissful, completely suffering-free heavenly locale where they project said duo eternally reside, and wherefrom a crowned and enthroned King-Jesus *personally* judges and decides who will and who won't be admitted and allowed to join them therein on the basis of how well 'candidates' in said regard had followed their 'commandments' in the course of their earthly lives.

* Jesus did indeed express himself by way of referencing such kind of 'Lord and Master' social persona which those around him were experientially familiar with and (so) could readily relate to (as in the case of his 'Father' and 'Son' references), but his intent in doing so was always to educate people about what were and weren't desirable

Love and Joy augmenting attitudes and service-functions between people regardless of any differences in social status and power roles, as for instance is clearly indicated by his behaviorally modeling as well as saying: “Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet.” (John 13:13-16)

Now, while I fully acknowledge and myself frequently extol the often amazing to the point of seeming miraculous operational power of one's *beliefs* (i.e one's thoughts about and expectations relating to *Reality*), and notwithstanding the huge number of promoters and guarantors and consequently socially amassed potency of the above-referenced belief-and-expectation scheme, let me submit the contrasting proposition that the *probability* that anyone can and so may thereby ensure experience of such (sort of) 'heavenly' forever after can really be no greater than the *probability* that believing and expecting (even without any doubt whatsoever!) that any personally subscribed to belief-and-expectation constellation and talisman, mantra, prayer, concordant behavior or combination thereof relating thereto can and will operationally *ensure* that any of one's desires will be fulfilled as desired, or that one will thereby be 'saved' (in this case, meaning precluded) from experiencing anything one wishes not to experience as wished (not to).

Why? Because, though the matrixial 'fabric' of Life which one's (that is, everyone's!) living experience and expression is an integral part of is indeed amazingly 'elastic' (in the sense of Its being able to simultaneously accommodate a wide range of alternative probabilities), such that it indeed can and may be locally patterned-shifted by belief-and-expectation related thoughts, emotions and actions for periods of time, said 'fabric' is actually 'threaded' together by much more than the power of any single person or group's 'effect' generating belief-and-expectation 'weavings'. Besides, the above-referenced postmortem 'salvation' and heavenly 'reward' and their oppositely contrasting, hellish separation-from-God 'punishment' and 'perdition' *scenarios* can and may only be experienced as envisioned in the

context of a personally encapsulating astral realm projected movie-script production, not in across-the-board, co-related to and with all others *Reality*. Why? (1) Because, as I hope I convincingly sussed out in the preceding chapter, our *Source* (i.e. ‘the Father’), which creatively generates and sustains all Being, and *The Entity* of Creation (i.e. ‘the Son’ that Jesus mentally and emotionally completely ‘i’dentified with), which is the Totality of said Being’s Doing, are actually *transpersonal* features of Life, not ‘persons’ as such to begin with; (2) because ‘heaven’ and ‘hell’ reference *psychospiritual* states of mind and heart, not actual *spatiotemporal* environments; and (3) because the The Flow of Creation, a/k/a *Life*, is such that It is ever-evolving: no gestalt of Its Being-n-Doing lasts in the same ‘form’ or ‘state’ (*in or out* of this or any other ‘worldly’ context) forever!*

* As succinctly articulated in Heraclitus’ wisdom-saying: “No man ever steps into the same river twice, for it’s not the same river and he’s not the same man!”

What else could the truth alluded to by Jesus’ various statements: “Whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it”, “*I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by *me**” and “He that believeth on *me* hath everlasting life” possibly mean then? This is something you may well ask, especially if you’ve been indoctrinated by literal interpretations of such sayings. Comprehension in this regard requires that one appreciate what Jesus himself understood the earthly dynamic of our Life-Source and, consequently, what he grokked the nature of his and everyone else’s personal Life (which are expressions of and so only exist as a function of said Life-Source’s Flow) to transcendently be.

What follows should come as ‘good news’ to anyone who has been disillusioned by growing awareness of the many ways in which the ‘app’ ☺ of rational logic is making it clear that literal interpretations of what’s said in *The Bible* are actually nonsensical. This doesn’t mean that *real* truth isn’t figuratively referenced by Jesus’ statements, however.

Though the ins and outs of Life's ongoing Flow are so circuitously interwoven that the exact parameters and trajectory of any particular aspect of It's movement indeed defy completely specific explanation by way of said logic,* macroscopic analysis logically leads to the conclusion that whatever participates in and so is a component of said Flow will continue to *be* a part of It—that is, it will naturally continue to live, evolve and express itself as a *beingness* related to and with other *beingnesses* 'in' said Flow, and that whatever stops being a functional element thereof, from then on, of course, will just cease to exist.

* "That which is born of the Spirit is spirit ... the wind [of Spirit] bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth." (John 3:6-8) is how Jesus stated such impossibility.

As logically argued in the preceding chapter, The Entity of Life (which is The Flow of Creation), of which you and I and everyone else 'in' existence is a 'vital' part, is the *outworking* and feedback-*infusing* dynamic of The omnipresent, Love and Joy focused Essence of Life (which is *Creativity Itself!*), such that said living Essence and living Entity operationally ex·press and (thereby) ex·peer·ience Love and Joy (which is the 'nature' of said Essence) in every possible way to the utmost possible degree together. Here now, in order to begin explicating the true meaning of Jesus' otherwise esoterically mystical statements, let me infuse what the words '*being*' and '*doing*' seminally denote with what the words '*mind*' and '*spirit*' nominally represent:

Every aspect of Life (i.e. of Being-n-Doing) is an emanation of Life's omnipresent Essence (d/b/a Source) that, by virtue of Its Power, is endowed with (1) the *capacity* to be *conscious* to some degree, which consciousness, or presence of '*mind*', enables 'it' to ex·peer·ience whatever vibrations (occurrences, data-packets, etc.) 'it' is therefore *capable* of perceiving (i.e. registering) and so possibly responding to, and (2) the *motive·ation*, or '*spirit*', to ex·press 'itself' by way of *causing*, (generating, transmitting,

propagating, etc.) whatever vibrations (occurrences, data-packets, etc.) ‘it’ is thereby motivated to ‘make’ in response thereto. In full-zoom perspective, every nodal and multi-nodal feature of Life may be ‘seen’ to be a *subsidiary soul*, or gestalt of Life, which is facultatively imbued with ‘mind’ and ‘spirit’ **by**, and consequently both experiences and expresses ‘itself’ in relationship to and with other nodes of Life ‘in’ the matrixial framework* **of**, a (*supranodal!*) *Soul*, which is the *Mind-n-Spirit* constellation (which many regard and relate to as having *personal* attributes, though all *personal* attributes actually derive from *It***) of **That** which is All That Is.

* “In *him* we live, and move, and have our being” (Acts 17:28)

** As channel-spoken and recorded in Ch.10 of *The Bhagavad Gita*: “I am the Seed of all being, ...no creature moving or unmoving can live without *Me*.”

Orthodox materialists dismiss such idea as being no more than an example of wishful-thinking because they *believe* that consciousness (i.e. ‘mind’) and motivation (i.e. intention, will, or ‘spirit’) are just epiphenomena which derive from the electro-chemical activity of molecular-chain linked ‘neural’ circuits, and that any differential discernment and directional movement must therefore simply be the result of innately *unconscious* and *involitional* matter-energy configurations (such as photons, atomic particles, molecules, DNA gene sequences and amalgams thereof) all just *auto-mechanistically* responding to the influence of equally mindless and innately purposeless tempero-spatial (nuclear, electromagnetic, and gravitational) power-‘fields’. They therefore ‘see’ what we know as Life as being no more than the composite cause-effect result of everything and everyone in the Universe just ‘acting out’ essentially soulless, theoretically completely mathematically delineable scripts. Embedded in the above-articulated soulfull ☺ model of Life, however, is the *possibility* that, when and as the fantastically complex aggregation of associated beings which constitute the vehicular platform for one’s earthly experience and expression eventually *disintegrates* (in other words, when one’s *body* ‘dies’), the gestalt of one’s *mind-n-spirit* characterized soul-constellation may nevertheless continue to function

as a disembodied psychospiritual entity which ‘lives on’ in the ‘bosom’ (idiomatically speaking ☺) of the *superordinate*, eternally-ongoing because *supraphysical* (i.e. not temperospatial) *Mind-n-Spirit* composed Matrix of All That Is. This is the logic that gives rise to otherwise nonsensical scriptural exhortations such as “Labor not for the ‘meat’ which perisheth, but for that ‘meat’ which endureth unto everlasting life” (John 6:27), for instance.

Accounts of (so-called) ‘out of body’ and ‘near death’ experiences provide evidence that, though souls generally don’t wander away from the bodies they are ‘attached’ to (i.e. ‘associated’ with) while one is in a ‘normal’ waking state, they can, and in certain circumstances indeed do, operationally range well beyond the parameters of said bodies and therefore, arguably at least, aren’t just a function of said bodies’ beingnesses. Transcripts of hypnotic regression sessions wherein subjects coherently recall and report past-life and between-life experiences (those documented in Michael Newton, Ph.D.’s books, for example) also lend credence to the *metaphysical* proposition that personal *psychospiritual* gestalts, or vital aspects thereof, ‘survive’ the ‘death’ of one’s body and continue to live on in a non-physical realm and may ‘reincarnationally’ enter into partnership-associations with ‘new’ bodies from ‘there’ in order to programmatically execute their ‘innate’ Love and Joy maximization imperative and complete their maturational journey in said regard by way of so doing. For anyone wishing to investigate and contemplate the phenomenon of reincarnation further, the reports and commentary contained in Brian Weiss, M.D.’s various books are additionally corroborative and explanatory.

[Note: Unlike instrumentally measurable and mathematically describable, hence ‘reliably replicable’, phenomena stemming from what are regarded as being *physical* ‘laws’, there is much confusion and unresolvable speculation pertaining to *psychospiritual* (hence *metaphysical*) phenomena which are subjectively actualized happenings that can’t simply be replicated at will – ‘higher order’ *mental* focus and *spiritual* motivation are not amenable

to ‘exact’ description or ‘precise’ experimental control. I must therefore leave it to readers to consider and sort out what strikes them as being relevant data and reasonable explanations pertaining to (what is called) ‘reincarnation’ with the caveat that a great deal of what has been bandied about in connection with the subject strikes me as just being ‘loose’ gossip and speculation which, to the degree it is seriously entertained, may wastefully divert attention and energy away from the goal of actualizing the best possible Love and Joy experience and expression in the ‘framework’ of one’s present *physiosocial* context. I only reference the above sources of information to introduce readers who may not be familiar with the subject to reports and analyses thereof which fairly convincingly support the proposition that souls (i.e. *psychospiritual* gestalts) can and do ‘transmigrate’ because I think Jesus’ statements referencing ‘the way’ to ‘the Father’, ‘everlasting life’, etc. must be interpreted with such and related *ideas* in mind for what he meant thereby to be meaningfully understood and wisely utilized.]

The truth (which I just present as a *hypothesis* to anyone who is presently still agnostic in this regard) that one may potentially either integrally actualize the condition that Jesus referenced as ‘everlasting life’ as a coherent soul or irretrievably ‘lose’ one’s beingness and potential to do so as such as a result of what one believes and so thinks, feels and does or doesn’t think, feel and do (as suggested in statements like “He that believeth on *me* hath everlasting life” and “Whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it,” for instance) may, I think, be functionally comprehended and profitably applied if and as one thoughtfully considers and contemplates the implications of the following *reincarnational*-possibility related propositions:

Unlike those soul configurations which *inhabit* and pursue Life’s objectives using more constitutionally ‘hard-wired’ (and therefore less capable of elective information processing) bodies, we (*we*, in this case, referencing

souls ensconced in more advanced kinds of physiological platforms; and *advanced*, in this case, referencing greater ‘bandwidth’ accommodating information-reception, information-processing and information-transmission capabilities) can and so may cognitively appreciate and apprehend the functional significance(s) of and so operationally elect to relate to the constellational configurations of our own and others’ existential gestalts (or aspects thereof) in ways of our own choosing (hence the phenomenon known as ‘free will’).

We have the potential to *learn* from and choose to *change* the patterns of our thoughts, feelings and behaviors based on the ‘feedback’ of personal experience so as to become more knowing and *adept* at creatively executing Life’s Love and Joy maximization aimed Source-code, which (as postulated and argued in Chapter 1) is the imperative that ubiquitously operates within all Being. Hence our development of keener discernment and the capacity to be more functionally discriminating (I don’t mean by way of stereotyping, of course!) and, consequently, our increasingly selective execution of possible choices such as *acceptance, trust, devotion, wariness, rejection, banishment,** etc. in relation to others and increasing degrees of *wisdom* in terms of the ways in which we choose to deploy our ‘will’ in such regards.

* Note: This is just a categorical list of conceptually black-and-white thought-feeling-and-behavior options which I have compiled to illustrate the point I am making. The ways which *Mind* and *Spirit* may choose to flow, and consequently ‘act’, in are spectrally infinite, both in terms of variety and admixtural combination.

The learning and consequent wisdom-development I speak of is in the ‘direction’ of more fully appreciating the functional commonalities and connections between one’s ‘self’ and other ‘selves’ and so of relationally engaging with others as well as Life-at-Large in ways which, more and more so in the long term, synergically augment and improve the quality of both our own and others’ experiences and expressions of Love and Joy, thereby increasing the likelihood that not just our own but others’ wishes and desires

to experience and express Love and Joy will be optimally fulfilled as well in the process (except of course if, when and as said others are so other-exploitive and self-aggrandizing that they sully and diminish the potential for conjoint experience and expression of Love and Joy, in which case *non-cooperation* and *counteraction* may be our choice, for the same aiming-to-maximize the experience and expression of Love and Joy in relation to and with others in Life's Flow 'reason').

All of which explains our gradual *progression* (albeit, as a result of their still *selfishly* biased calculus in the foregoing regards, not in every soul's case, and, even in the cases of those who do progress in this regard, often in periodically regressive, learning the 'hard' way, fashion!) from completely *selfish*, to familial, to clannish, to tribal, to ethnographic, to anthropocentric, and, finally, to cosmically all-inclusive, completely *self-transcendent psychospiritual* 'i'dentifications and corollary allegiances, meaning that, with experience and education, over the course of time, folks increasingly think, feel and believe and so more and more conscientiously act *knowing* that, though each and every individual and group is unique and so differs from others in significant ways, one's '*self*' and all other '*selves*' are really integral aspects of Life's Flow and so, despite apparent differences, we are all relationally connected aspects of the same (pertaining to the Universe we are in, at least) *Cosmic Being-Doing*, which is Life Itself in action!*

* Hence the historically resonant, exhortative declarations by 'fully awakened' souls, such as: "Put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond [i.e. an 'owned' slave or 'indentured' servant] nor free: but *Christ* is all, and in all." (Colossians 3:10-11); "As the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is *Christ*. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." (I Corinthians 12:12-13); and "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in *Christ*." (Galatians 3:28).

To the degree that, as a result of continuing to mentally and emotionally process our personal experiences, we become *aware* of (i.e. *consciously* ‘awaken’ to) the fact that all our lives are (in other words, all Life is) basically coextant, the ‘sense’ we have of our own ‘i’identity expands to become *other-inclusive*. And, as we then *realize* that just focusing on things by and for the benefit of our ‘own’ *selves* simply results in our (delusionally!) living in personally ‘i’solating thought-and-feeling ‘bubbles’, we may (logically then) choose to *transcend* (i.e., rise ‘above’ and evolve ‘beyond’) the limitations of whatever *selfish* perceptions and tendencies at that point, as a result of past personal and social conditioning, continue to ‘govern’ and (so, in effect) ‘imprison’ us, and then more and more ‘freely’ *grow* to become more and more loving and enjoying of our ‘neighbors’ as our ‘selves’ (as advocated in Mark 12:31) in ever-widening, more and more Life-embracing circles, and therefore and thereby (in due course) fully execute our innate Source-code ‘program’ to maximally experience and express Love and Joy in relationship to and with others. This, instead of just partially doing so by way of continuing to operate as the same ‘old’ *ego*-‘i’identity configurations focused on reaping and dispensing whatever Love and Joy ‘perks’ we (as a result of prior personal conditioning) happen to at any given point especially value in relation to particular others, for however long we may continue to live (as such ☺ that is!).

Not that the kind of growth and development I speak of is just possible (and so only evident) in *humankind*, mind you! Do a search for ‘animal friendships’ or ‘interspecies friendships’ or similar phrases on the internet, or just type these phrases or the like into YouTube’s search box and sample the video links that then come up, if you wish to educate yourself in this regard. Though, because of the huge variety and range of *possible* kinds of ‘relational’ experiences and the immense amount mental and emotional data-processing power necessary to collate (i.e. co-relate) them all, the above-referenced *process* of ‘i’identity expansion in pursuit of ‘greater’ experience and expression of Love and Joy may only reach its culmination in *human* body-contexts (on Earth ☺ that is), its operability is abundantly

evident in the behaviors of members of species with the requisite degree of data-processing capacity (hence social intelligence) which act in a loving way, not just in relation to and with immediate personal family members but also in relation to and with members of other families in their social groups and, beyond that even (in cases of species with the highest degrees of social intelligence), in relation to members of other species as well. The latter phenomenon, of course, being most evident in cases where the psychospiritual learning and development of creatures has been accelerated by their having come into contact and consciously shared Love and Joy with more expansively loving being-doings, as some of us are. (I say some because many *human* souls clearly aren't functioning at a very 'friendly' level of development presently, albeit you already know this to be the 'sad' truth or you wouldn't even begin to be interested in and receptive of the kind of information shared in a communication such as this.)

'Awakenings' or 'emergences' of sentience, and hence the 'expansion' of a soul's Love and Joy expression and experience process, from the confines of more *selfish* into a more *other*-inclusive Life-'space', may of course be the result of more or less independent (that is, not immediately prompted or elicited by the actions of others) personal realizations, analogous to the way baby birds generally crack and emerge from within the confines of their egg 'shells' by themselves. More often than not, however, these occur in a multi-processing context, with *helpful* input and feedback from *positively* intentioned others, as any mentor, parent, spouse, sibling or other kind of social associate who has functionally befriended anyone, as well as anyone who has been so befriended, well knows. Impressively (albeit 'expressively' might be an even more appropriate word here) entire *civilizations* rise and fall as a result of the cumulative flow and ebb of such befriendments!

The point I most wish to get across by way of saying all this is that it is by individually and collectively *choosing* to augment and enhance the quality not just of their own but of others' Love and Joy experience and expression as well in ways which contribute to the 'richness' of the mix of Love and Joy which Life's matrix is composed of that folks *grow* in terms of

Love and Joy appreciation and capability and so *developmentally evolve* into more ‘advanced’ (in other words, more relationally *engaged* and socially *responsive*) Love and Joy expressing and experiencing beings (the alternative* as already mentioned, of course, being that they just continue to execute the same old ‘i’identity based programs in relative ‘i’solation and, as a result of such *choice*, become even more *selfishly* reified, and so may even *devolve* ‘backward’ in said regard).

* The same *either/or* option is alluded to in “No man can serve two masters: ... Ye cannot serve God and mammon.” (Matthew 6:24) (Note: ‘Mammon’ is presently generally thought of as referencing *worldly wealth*, but *worldly* assets may in fact be functionally deployed in ways which help optimize and augment relationally shared expression and experience of Love and Joy – it is *selfishness itself* which you really don’t want tail-wagging your *psychospiritual* ‘dog’. ☺)

It is the process of *soul* growth (development, expansion, evolution, remembering—there are any number of ways of conceptualizing and referencing the phenom) which I have just sketched out that “Whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it” aphoristically references. The Life that is thereby ‘found’ (i.e. experientially realized) is of the *Cosmically* omnipresent, transcendently expansive kind (as differentiated from the *selfish*, hence ‘mortal’, kind which materialists mistakenly believe to be the only meaning of the word). It is one’s *selfishness* which must be *subordinated*—in other words, one has to devotionally ‘give’ and, therefore, in that sense ‘lose’, one’s *self*, in service of said time-space-and-matter-transcending Life—if one is to soulfully splice into and dovetail one’s existential expression with our Entity’s (i.e. with *Christ*’s) Being-n-Doing and live on as a functionally integrated aspect thereof thereafter. Comprehensively grokking how coherently individuating souls operationally learn and manage to develop to the point where they fully align their existential expressions with and devote themselves to further augmenting The Flow of Life Itself and so become ‘everlasting’ components of Its Being-n-Doing, as well as how they may irretrievably ‘lose’ the possibility of ever doing and becoming so,

requires that the entire process be placed and viewed in the context of a *reincarnational* idea-scheme, however (as suggested earlier).

In case (maybe as a result of your being closely associated with people who interpret and explain Jesus' aphorisms in single lifetime terms) you are one who presently balks at the thought, let me begin by explaining why, though he and many prominent early church leaders believed reincarnational process to be a 'built in' feature of the progression of Life (his own included!), that fact has generally not been acknowledged in and promulgated by 'Christian' cultures. Because of emotional *desires* (stemming from *ego*-insecurity based *needs*) to be 'accepted' and 'embraced' by an established group, instead of critically thinking about and, when and where appropriate, challenging and refusing to go along with theological assertions that are at odds with what Jesus himself thought and said in said regard, rank and file 'Christians' historically just subscribed to and loyally embraced whatever the most politically dominant 'figureheads' of the organizational entourage of their denominations chose to doctrinally proscribe and teach.

Even in the case of relatively educated populations today, because of *self-imposed* 'blindness' stemming from their desire to belong to a *group-sponsored tradition* and corollary wish to not 'rock the boat' in this regard, the vast majority of self-identified 'Christians' still don't 'see' that the passage: "His disciples asked him, saying, Why then say the scribes that Elias [the Greek transliteration of the name *Elijah*] must first come? And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things. But I say unto you, That Elias is come already, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they listed. Likewise shall also the Son of man suffer of them. Then the disciples understood that he spake unto them of John the Baptist." (Matthew 17:10-13) clearly indicates that Jesus personally 'saw' John the Baptist as having been the (prophesied) reincarnation of Elias. And, because they haven't read and so haven't thought about what's been clearly stated in historical accounts pertaining to early developments in Christianity as a social movement for the same

reason, said ‘Christians’ remain unaware of the fact that, like Jesus, many of early Christianity’s members (Origen being just one prominent example) also embraced the idea of reincarnation and understood it to reference a phenomenal aspect of Life’s process. So ‘Christians’ generally still continue to ignore and dismiss the implications of the fact that belief in reincarnation was only declared to be anathema by the Fifth General Council of the Church in 553 C.E. in the course of the Roman Catholic Church Hierarchy’s ongoing quest to establish itself as a centralized, “*Souls have only one ‘chance’ of getting into ‘Heaven’ and that is by way of giving absolute credence to what we say the truth pertaining to Jesus and his teachings is and unquestioningly obeying our edicts in said regard during their (presumptively, then) one and only earthly life*” dictatorial authority.

Also, in case vestiges of such cultural allegiance still incline you to continue to be averse to contemplating possibilities in this light, let me point out that the idea of reincarnation really doesn’t differ all that much from the idea that one’s soul (i.e. the *psychospiritual gestalt* of one’s being) may coherently live on in the domain of Mind-and-Spirit after one’s body dies, which you already accept and embrace as ‘gospel truth’ if you are a ‘Christian’ as a result of your believing the accounts of Jesus’ ‘resurrection’ in *The New Testament*. It just includes the possibility (which, as I have pointed out, Jesus himself believed was the case) that ‘departed’ souls may reengage with the exigencies of physical existence by way of association with additional ‘host’ bodies in order to continue and complete their *psychospiritual* learning-and-development-leading-to-soul-maturation process (that is, assuming they didn’t manage to fully do so in the context of their ‘last’ incarnation).

What this means is that, analogous to the way it takes many years of ‘schooling’ wherein initially ignorant and unskilled novices are tasked with learning and given the opportunity to master increasingly complex ‘lessons’ and thereby, upon ‘passing’ greater adeptitude-demanding ‘tests’, progress through a series of ‘grade’ levels to the point where they finally ‘graduate’ from vocational training programs and schools of knowledge, it takes numerous physical lifetimes for ‘young’ souls to become masterfully adept

at deploying their ‘inner’ Love and Joy ‘program’ in relation to Life and others in it in the context of the infinite psychospiritual possibility containing ‘stream’ of sometimes mind-n-spirit sparking opportunities and sometimes mind-n-spirit daunting challenges that are encountered in the course of living in a matrixially multi-layered, complexly interwoven physiosocial system such as ours.

The alternative in relation to any particular challenge and/or opportunity, of course, being to ‘fail’ to do so, though, as you probably know if you are experienced enough, such ‘failure’ does not in and of itself preclude anyone from progressing in the above regard because one may often learn even more by reviewing and learning ‘lessons’ from one’s ‘failures’ than one’s ‘successes’. Indeed, the *possibility* of ‘failure’, and so ‘failures’ themselves, are crucial components of a soul’s developmental process. A string of ‘successes’ alone will not result in one’s developing the degree of mental acuity and emotional resilience required to recognize, wisely navigate, and functionally emancipate oneself from being subject to the pulls and pushes of immediate *selfish*-gratification affording ‘temptations’ which, besides often leading one in a ‘wrong’ (short-term-gain-long-term-cost) direction, divert precious attention and energy away from the goal of maximally actualizing one’s Love and Joy potential in relation to and with other aspects of Life’s Presence and Flow Process. As in the case of a child’s learning to stand up, walk, run, etc., experiences of ‘failure’ resulting from one’s being short-sighted, careless, uncoordinated, etc. and (so) losing one’s balance, tripping and falling, bumping into walls, etc. in relation to others actually pave the way for ‘success’ in this regard.

The short version of ‘the full story’ is that, with the benefit of having both (‘unsuccessful’ and ‘successful’) kinds of experiences, souls may incrementally become aware of the ins and outs of the multivarious kinds of liabilities that attend ‘petty’ *selfishness* and (so) in due course choose as well as ultimately manage to transcend any and all *selfish*-‘i’*identity* based inclinations, such that they eventually become fully functionally capable of and completely devoted to optimizing and augmenting The Entity of Life’s

Love and Joy Flow (beyond the scope of their ‘own’ *selfish* one) and from then on live in a state of ‘at oneness’ (i.e. in conjunction) with said ever-ongoing process forever (i.e. ‘eternally’) thereafter. The alternative possibility in this ‘ultimate’ regard, of course, being that souls may completely capital ‘F’(!) Fail to do and be so.

The latter *possibility* derives from the fact that, if and as a soul reacts, as all *selfish-ego* ensconced (hence ‘immature’ in *psychospiritual* terms) souls are prone to at least sometimes do, to the frustration(s) and disappointment(s) of personal wishes, hopes, and expectations by becoming even more *selfish*-gratification oriented (the idea that Life presents us with a series of ‘tests’ which we may either ‘pass’ or ‘fail’ pertains here), and if such all too human reactional tendency isn’t somehow ‘disarmed’ and ‘neutralized’,* such that a soul persists in becoming more so, it may eventually become so mentally and emotionally ‘isolated in the ‘bubble’ of its own ‘petty’ *selfishness* that whatever inclination and capacity it may have had to experience and express Love and Joy in relation to and with others shrinks and shrivels (i.e. *devolves*) to the point where it finally becomes completely unloving and unjoyful in relation to Life. What then ‘happens’ (since the Essence of Life is Love and Joy and that is what our Entity is actually the living expression of) is that such soul just ‘blinks *out*’ and ‘vanishes’ as a *psychospiritual* pattern (or ‘entity’) from the ‘field’ of Life and therefore completely ‘loses’ the *possibility* of ever incarnating again as a unit. There is no Love and Joy ‘kernel’ left which can then possibly (re)incarnate and thereby learn and ‘grow’ to the point where it nodally integrates with and thereafter ‘eternally’ lives on as a full-fledged ‘member’ of the ‘Body’ of Life.

* Note if your experience is presently *hellish*: horrible -to-go-through experiences, variously described as ‘dark nights of the soul’, ‘hitting bottom’ and ‘ego-death’, will in retrospect be seen as having actually been *selfishness* ‘disarming’ and ‘neutralizing’ *boons* in the above regard. Hence the *wisdom* of Jesus’ regarding and speaking of being ‘poor in spirit’, ‘mourning’ and becoming ‘meek’ as psychospiritually propitious (see Matthew.5:3-5).

This final, because then absolutely irremediable, ‘loss’ is what is referenced as the ‘second death’ in *The Book of Revelation*, which, notwithstanding the fact that the author distorts the truth by conflating the *personage* of Jesus with *The Entity* of Life (a/k/a *Christ*) as well as by projecting all anti-Christ ‘wrongdoing’ to be the work of a singularly evil, mythological *Satan*—alas, ‘channeled’ material cannot help but be *conceptually* ‘shaped’ and *emotionally* ‘colored’ by the *belief*-set of the ‘channeler’!—nevertheless appropriately, I think, places the phenomenon referenced in *reincarnational* perspective, to wit: “I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast [the ‘beast’, of course, just being gross *selfishness*], neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand [obviously, designating more than a single lifetime of] years. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the ‘second death’ hath no power, but they shall be [i.e., they shall reincarnate as] priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years. And when the thousand years are expired, *Satan* [to wit: the ‘spirit’ of unmitigated *selfishness*] shall be loosed out of his prison, and shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth ...to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they [the huge number of grossly *selfish* people you see running rampant all over the world today!] went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city.” (Revelation 20:4-9)

While I’m at it, in relation to the eschatological ‘vision’ described in said book, let me also add that, given the horribleness of the horrors and the miserableness of the miseries that ‘deceived’ (by *selfishness*) people spawn, it is more than understandable why folks would reactively feel and fantasize that perpetrators in said regards should and will not just be annihilated but additionally *suffer* the most *hellish* kinds of *torture* imaginable in

retribution, by way of the above-referenced ‘second death’ (following their bodies’ physical one), as grimly portrayed for instance in: “And fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. . . . And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.” (Revelation 20:9-15)

An equally grotesque, clearly *retribution*-projecting fantasy that grossly *selfish* and consequently hateful deniers of their and others’ *communality* with all Life will *suffer* the *worst* imaginable fate—albeit in this case, with said ‘fate’ continuing to spiral ‘downward’ *without end*, which leaves the issue of what ultimately ‘happens’ to such souls schematically unresolved—is documented in Ch.16 of *The Bhagavad Gita*, to wit: “Puffed up by power and inordinate conceit, swayed by lust and wrath, these wicked people hate Me Who am within them, as I am within all. Those who thus hate Me, who are cruel, the dregs of mankind, I condemn them to a continuous, miserable and godless rebirth. So reborn, they spend life after life, enveloped in delusion. And they never reach Me, . . .but degenerate into still lower forms of life.” Both this and the above-described ‘final judgment’ scenario are clearly *negative*-emotion ‘loaded’ and thematically *vengeful*. Such negativity and punitiveness are not ‘in accord’ with Jesus’ vision and teaching (presented and discussed in the preceding chapter) that Love and Joy constitute Life’s universal Source ‘code’, to wit, that ‘God’ is a *beneficently*-inclined ‘Father’, from which all Life springs, however.

This is not to say that The Flow of Life’s Love and Joy experience and expression doesn’t ‘fork’ *negatively* (that is, relatively speaking) in the case of folks whose attitudes, intentions and behaviors in relation to other aspects of Life and/or Life Itself are value-negating, mind you. Universally operative psychospiritual dynamics, often referenced as ‘*The Law of Attraction*’ and/or ‘*The Law of Karma*’, ensure that “With what measure

ye mete, it shall be measured to you” (Mark 4:24) and “God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap” (Galatians 6:7), as Jesus and the apostle Paul more colloquially stated. But the dissolution of a soul that has become unloving and unjoyful in relation to others and Life-at-Large is just that: an ‘i’dentity-dissipating ‘happening’ wherein and whereby the ‘elements’ that comprise a psychospiritual entity are dispersed and recombiantly recycled. In effect, said soul’s components get ‘dissolved’ and ‘absorbed’ back into and so become a part of the beingnesses of other aspects of Life in the context of the absolutely positive Flow of the capital ‘E’ Entity of our Life-Matrix, wherein everyone and everything in existence derives from the same Source and so is given the same ‘blessing’: “Ye [are all] the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust” (Matthew 5:45) is how Jesus put it.

There is no ‘zero’ in this regard, let alone something *negative* relative to that, in other words! Analogous to what physicists believe to be the case with physical matter-n-energy, soulful *beingness* can never really be ‘lost’ (although, as just explained, a psychospiritual constellation may [simply] stop experiencing and expressing Love and Joy and so ‘cease’ to continue as such, so thinking and speaking, as Jesus did, about the possibility of ‘losing’ one’s *soul* or others ‘losing’ theirs—in this case meaning the coherency of your or their psychospiritual being and relatedness to others—may nevertheless be a functional way of considering options in face of the dissolution and recycling dynamic* that is an operationally built-in feature of Earthly-life’s ‘evolutionary’ transmigrational *process*, which, like an oceanward flowing river, ever-proceeds towards more and more comprehensively integrated Love and Joy experience and expression, albeit not in everyone’s case, as just spoken of here).

* I refer anyone interested in exploring this subject further to Chapter 4 of Michael Newton, Ph.D.’s research-based book, *Destiny of Souls*, titled ‘Spiritual Energy Restoration’, where details pertaining to this and related matters are presented in a

way that is not ‘negatively’ skewed. What’s said in Ch.2 of *The Bhagavad Gita*: “That which is not, shall never be; that which is, shall never cease to be. To the wise, these truths are self-evident. The Spirit, which pervades all that we see, is imperishable. Nothing can destroy the Spirit. The material bodies which this Eternal, Indestructible, Immeasurable Spirit inhabits are all finite....He who thinks that the Spirit kills, and he who thinks of It as killed, are both ignorant. The Spirit kills not, nor is It killed. It was not born; It will never die, nor once having been, can It cease to be. Unborn, Eternal, Ever-enduring, yet Most Ancient, the Spirit dies not when the body is dead.... As a man discards his threadbare robes and puts on new, so the Spirit throws off Its worn-out bodies and takes fresh ones. Weapons cleave It not, fire burns It not, water drenches It not, and wind dries It not. It is impenetrable; It can be neither drowned nor scorched nor dried. It is Eternal...” is corroborative, but the transcripts in Michael Newton’s book are more specifically explanatory in this regard, I think.

Now, although the alternative possibilities that a soul may psychospiritually develop to the point where it ‘finally’ fully acknowledges and embraces the fact that it is not a separate self in its own right but a *subsidiary* expression of Life Itself and therefore chooses to mentally, emotionally and behaviorally devote itself to living, and consequently thereafter lives on in conjunction with others, for the ‘sake’ (as Jesus put it) of Life’s Flow or that it may, as a result of volitionally or otherwise getting caught up in thinking, feeling and believing that its personal being and doing derive from its own (*selfish*) power, become so psychospiritually disconnected from and out of synch with others around it that it ‘finally’ ends up no longer being a part of said conjoint[!] Flow are ever-present, in other words though either of such ‘finalities’ are, theoretically at least, actualizable at any point in the course of a soul’s journey, and though a soul may reverse its direction in either of the foregoing regards at any time, such ‘final’ happenings are generally the cumulative result of a succession of choices which corroborate and reinforce ‘the net sum’ of choices made over multiple lifetimes (*ipso facto*, of course, no single-lifetime choice or trajectory, again, in either regard should ever be regarded as being absolutely soul-*destiny* determining).

There are, however, macroscopic patterns in history wherein developmental sequences pertaining to the above-referenced alternative possibilities, to the

point of near certainty at least, probabilistically peak. Since the *selfish* versus *self*-transcendental personal-inclination tendencies ☺ I speak of are generally sparked and reinforced by interrelating others who are also in the process of acting out such bifurcating inclinations themselves, said ‘forevermore’ and ‘nevermore’ alternatives tend to be ‘finalized’ in the context of mass events wherein great ‘waves’, in terms of the numbers of individuals involved, of both kinds of happenings cyclically crest on a seasonal basis (as reflected in Jesus’ harvest-time allegories: “Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: [so] both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together.” John 4:35-36; and “I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.” John 15:5-6).

All of us are now facing ‘make...or...break’ (in terms of ongoing soul-development) choices in the above regards, as anyone who even halfway appreciates such matters can readily see. We live at a time of intensifying trial and tribulation in the context of an all-encompassing systemic socio-ecological recalibration process wherein, having received and positively responded to a fair amount of Love and Joy support and stimulation when and where things in general were still going along fairly well, some souls are blossoming, blooming, fructifying and going to seed in spectacular fashion, thereby instrumentally setting the stage for the next round of planetary Love and Joy developments, while others (who may be thought of as being relative newbies in terms of experiencing and responding to the inner urge for spiritual ‘ascension’, which is perhaps a *Cosmic* ‘call’ from their ‘future’) are more or less just managing to keep the ‘door’ to ‘higher’ post-incarnational and reincarnational Love and Joy development ‘open’ by conscientiously resisting and rejecting the centripetal pull of *selfishness* and steadfastly persisting in Love and Joy embracingly relating

to contiguous others and Life-at-Large, *self-transcendentally* serving to optimize and augment Life's Love and Joy Flow in and around them in the process, to whatever extent they may have the wherewithal to do so. This, despite whatever personal loss and hardship they may have experienced or continue to experience, even if, when and as they are unconscionably abandoned, exploited and/or abused by others who have been so seduced by the temptations of *selfishness* that they just seek to gratify their own immediate desires without regard for the Love and Joy experience and expression of neighboring or future others.

Hence the *wisdom* of the advice, to anyone capable of grasping its full significance, contained in: "Ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places. All these are the beginning of sorrows. Then shall...many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold. But he that shall *endure* [by keeping on keeping on being loving in relation to Life's Flow and others in it!] unto the end, the same shall be *saved*." (Matthew 24:6-13); the implication here clearly also being that those who don't 'endure' (so) won't be 'saved' in this regard. 'Saved', as used here, meaning *psychospiritually* sustained and retained as *soulful* components of Life's Flow despite the complete reshuffling of all of the physiosocial 'cards' in Life's worldly 'deck' taking place as a historically 'old' Way of Life 'dies', i.e. disintegrates, in stages and a 'new' one, in fits and starts, is constitutionally 'born'.

There you have it, in more explanatory detail. This, I submit, is The Cat's Meow ☺ with regards to what "Whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

means in full. Things in this regard are not an all-or-nothing-determined-in-a-single-lifetime soul-fate proposition as many have presumed. The terseness of this and others of Jesus' sayings wasn't just a function of his having to communicate succinctly with local audiences while he was on the move, but also because he was doing so in the context of a socio-ecological crisis that had pretty much reached a 'boiling point' where he was, whereat many of those he was then and there speaking to were already having to make critical fork-in-the-road choices which, depending on which fork they took, could 'seal' their destiny, one way or the other, with regards the possibility of 'eternal' Life, forever thereafter!

If one takes all of the various things Jesus said into account, however, the fact that his understanding of the dynamics involved in Life's larger, often reverse-motion-eddy accommodating Flow was much more comprehensive and nuanced becomes apparent: Among other things, his saying: "Behold... Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: [so] both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth. I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labor: other men labored, and ye are entered into their labors." (John 4:35-38) clearly indicates he knew that a soul's maturation process was not only multi-personally determined but multi-generational as well. And his saying "Other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd." (John 10:16) equally clearly indicates he knew that said evolutionary process, wherein and whereby Love and Joy infused Spirit eventually breaks out of and e·merges from 'cocoons' of *selfishness* and proceeds to blossom and fructify, does so seasonally, and that, though many around him were indeed then and there 'ripe' and 'ready' to mature in said regards, others who weren't so at the time would (only) become so, and so resonate with and respond to the 'call' of *Cosmic* (a/k/a *Christ*) Consciousness, in the context of a future soul-ascension 'wave' scenario.

Those of us who are in the know in this regard have much cause to celebrate because, for many, the ‘future’ that he referenced is happening now. And we may celebrate without reservation even though an even greater number clearly aren’t presently willing or able to partake of the ‘event’, because we know that there will be additional seasonal harvests and thanksgivings in the same regard in future futures, wherein and whereby souls that have not yet evolved to the point where they are whole-mind-n-heart-edly desirous of and so choose to completely commit themselves to being self-transcendentally aligned with Life Itself will then also have the opportunity to likewise *holistically* mature.

Personal experiences of such ‘happenings’ have been variously described: Some allegorically speak of their having been ‘hooked’ or ‘netted’ (in many cases, even against their ‘will’!) by a superordinately powerful ‘fisherman’ and, now that they have stopped (egotistically) struggling and trying to ‘get away’ from being so ‘caught’, finally, with great ‘relief’, living in a glorious state of *self*-‘surrender’. Others frame their experience in terms of their having been ‘wooed’ and ‘embraced’ by, and so ‘yielded’ themselves to, an irresistibly desirable ‘lover’. The amorous lyrics of the Jewish Song of Solomon, Christian extolations of being a ‘bride’ of Christ, and the ecstatic writings of Islamic mystics such as Rumi and Hafez all come to mind in this regard. Still others describe it as a ‘dawning’ of crystal clear awareness, whereby and wherein they *realize* that the choices they had made stemming from the *selfish* ideology they previously embraced just led to their continuing to experience bouts of disappointment, dissatisfaction and ennui, and their consequently becoming and continuing to be deeply appreciative of and grateful for the opportunity to soulfully return ‘home’ and become a ‘member’ of the ‘family’ of Life Itself, where they then see and feel that they really ‘belong’. The story of *The Prodigal Son* (Luke.15:11-24) comes most to mind in this regard. And others still, perhaps because they are more mentally (i.e., less emotionally) oriented, simply envision and more or less prosaically describe such happening as just being the logical outcome of

their learning from what others have articulated about their observations, deductions, choices and consequent experiences, as well as from their own observations, deductions, choices and consequent experiences in said regards, how to fully engage in loving and joyful relationship to and with others around them as well as Life-at-Large in *salutary* ways.

Caveat, in all of the foregoing regards, as well as others not categorically mentioned: It may take quite a while (possibly more than a lifetime even) for all of the implications of what is thereby realized to be fully absorbed, integrated and functionally implemented in soulful terms. Breakthrough insights along such lines may be extremely impressive, *light bulb getting turned on in a previously dark room with the flip of a switch* kinds of events, so impressive that said ‘room’ itself, as then seen, may become a “nothing could possibly be ‘better’ than this” kind of logistically *self-reifying*, hence soul-growth confining and further spiritual-evolution stopping, *belief* ‘box’, which not infrequently leads to folks becoming ensconced in grotesquely demoniacal (as seen by anyone who isn’t similarly deluded, that is) *box-smugness* ☺ wherefrom they regard and relate to others who don’t live in the same ‘box’ in condescending (hence ultimately Love-and-Joy-in-relation-to-and-with-others diminishing!) ways. To make sure such an attitude doesn’t ‘infect’ you, especially when and as you hear others reinforcingly describing ‘enlightenment’ experiences similar to yours in ‘glowing’ terms, be sure to always remind yourself of the fact that every soul’s ‘journey’ is unique and that said evolutionary journey never ends. Infinity extends in every direction. The projection that there is some kind of ‘ultimate’, or ‘greatest’ possible, *realization* beyond which there is nothing more or different to *realize* is delusional!

Any and every soul’s developmental ‘journey’ merits ongoing introspective review and reevaluation and, when and where appropriate, the refinement – this is what *conscious evolution* is all about! – not just of the ‘content’ of what one personally thinks, feels, believes and does in relation to others

and Life-at-Large, but also of the ‘significance’ one places on and so ‘ascribes’ to one’s *self* and other *selves*, in your case the very ‘*self*’ that thinks, feels, believes and does so. To possibly help expedite such process, here’s a discussion of some often overlooked (because of ‘innocent’ ignorance) but just about as often (for personal expediency) swept under the rug details and issues which, when and as overlooked and/or ignored, often result in folks who don’t yet fully grok what actually happens when a soul transcends *selfhood* (by whole-mind-n-heart-edly acknowledging and embracing the fact that it and others are *integral* aspects of The Entity of Life’s, i.e. of *Christ*’s, Being-n-Doing) being bamboozled by as well as bamboozling others.

For one thing, one’s *selfhood* doesn’t then just evaporate into insubstantiality or dissolve into inconsequentiality as many have historically, apparently *self-effacingly* and seemingly humbly, for supposedly *unselfish* reasons, *self-deludingly* imagined and *other-misleadingly* proclaimed. Take the words of anyone who speaks, preaches, or acts in ways which imply that he or she (or his or her ‘kind’) is so *self-abnegating* as to therefore be especially *holy* and (so) especially *worthy* of devotion, reverence, obedience, generosity, etc. with a grain of salt. A posture of personal insignificance may indeed be adopted as a result of a person’s genuinely loving and enjoying and so wishing not to in any way detract from the glorious Magnificence and mind-boggling Grandeur of Life-at-Large, in contrast to which the gestalt of his or her present *self* as well as the gestalts of other *selves* may indeed appear—to him or her, that is—to be relatively unimportant. But obsequious, *Cosmic* Presence or Persona ‘adoring’ stances and corollary behaviors may also be consciously or unconsciously coat-tail-rider ‘gain’ motivated, and sometimes even downright wolves-in-sheep’s-clothing predatory in relation to unwitting others!

To put any *self* or *other* generated razzle-dazzle that may presently be interfering with your clearly seeing what’s really what in this regard

into perspective, let me point to and emphasize the implications of the obvious fact that genuinely devoted husbands and wives—‘lovers’ of all kinds, really!—recognize that their lives are far from being insignificant in relation to those they love and ‘espouse’. They live and act with consummate awareness of the fact, as well as experience and evince a certain degree of self-appreciation as a result of knowing, that their *personal* presence and relational engagement functionally complements and enriches their spouse’s lives in ways which they could not and would not be otherwise. This, even as they acknowledge and are deeply grateful for the fact that their own lives are also complemented and enriched in ways that they otherwise would not be by virtue of their having been ‘espoused’ (as a self) themselves. Similarly, *Cosmically* ‘awakened’ souls continue to live and make choices as personally response-able, choice-implementing *selves* who are well worth every ‘bit’ of their ‘salt’, albeit they do so so ‘sacrally’, without putting themselves on any kind of ‘pedestal’, knowing that they are vital components of Life’s Grand Being-n-Doing, in other words knowing that they are Love and Joy experiencing and expressing ‘buds’, ‘leaves’, ‘flowers’ and potentially ‘seed’ bearing ‘fruit’ on ‘the Tree’ of Life Itself!*

* Note: the applicability of any and all analogies is limited by the *partiality* of the signifiers they contain. If what’s said in the above paragraph is still fairly new news to you, watch that you don’t consequently just go off on a *Pollyanna*-ish ☺ Love and Joy dispensing ‘ride’ in a *naive* attempt to unreservedly welcome and be supportive of anything and everything about yourself and/or others just as they are. Unconditional Love is often extolled as being the most ‘perfect’ kind of ‘love’. But the fact is that maximal experience and expression of Love and Joy cannot always be so simply actualized in the context of a multiplistically complex world such as ours. (This, notwithstanding the fact that many of Jesus’ exhortations which focused on promoting brotherly love {see Matthew 5:43-48 for example} may be read to support such ‘unconditional’ proposition. The way in which he addressed establishment Scribes and Pharisees stands in sharp contrast to these, however.)

The relevant bit of information in this case is that, despite the fact that each and every soul and personality aspect thereof really derives from and so may truly be regarded as being an expression of Life Itself, some configurations thereof are more conducive of experience and further expression of Love and Joy while others are not only less so

but may even be counterproductive in said regard. As the apostle Paul put it: “In a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honor, and some to dishonor.” (II Timothy 2:20) So embracing and supporting everyone and everything equally, without reservation in any regard, will not serve to operationally maximize the flowering and fructification of Love and Joy in The Flow-Field of Life.

Among other things, as I will further speak of later, because of the fact that still incarnating souls are often, in one way or another, still fairly *selfishly* motivated, they may also (in many cases quite unconsciously!) in effect function (sometimes quite ‘poisonously’ even) as ‘parasites’ and ‘thorns’ in relation to others. Would-be *Cosmic (Life-Tree hugging! ☺)* souls may therefore be *purposed* (by Love and Joy, the imperative of Life Itself!) to learn to recognize as well as then devise and implement ways of deflecting and educationally redirecting or, such measures possibly failing, even counteracting such tendencies in oneself and/or others so as to stop these from being harmfully ‘acted out’, if, when and in whatever ways and to whatever extent one may have the capacity to so do.

The point being made here is that, to become and synergically function as a *self-transcendentally wholesome* agent of Life, one must both learn to perceptively discern what sorts of things will and what sorts of things won’t really serve to optimize and augment the experience and expression of Love and Joy in the *selfish-temptation* filled context of Life’s *earthly* matrix, as well as then act *wisely* (i.e. judiciously) on the basis of such knowledge. As the Biblical story of Solomon’s most famous ‘judgment’ clearly illustrates, there is much more to serving the cause of Life than ‘unconditionally’ embracing and/or supporting every aspect of one’s own or others’ being-n-doing processes.

When a soul reaches the point where it truly grasps and fully embraces the fact that it really is an integral aspect of The Entity of (all!) Life, as Jesus (clearly!) did, it just ceases to psychospiritually ‘identify with the physio-social constellation of its *personal self* and/or whatever galaxy of affiliated *selves* (or philosophical constructs pertaining thereto) it may currently have the most immediately consequential involvement with and affinity to, and so (logically then) stops being *egotistical* (i.e. *selfish* in the ‘petty’ sense of the word) and commits itself to living with the aim of maximally fulfilling its Love and Joy imperative in relation to others in the context of The Flow of Life-at-Large, doing whatever it can (given its present situational context as a *self*) to optimize and augment not just its own or any particular set of associates’ immediate Love and Joy processes, but environmentally (hence

ethically in the most comprehensive sense of the word) taking into account any and all ‘ripple effects’ which might conceivably stem from its ‘doings’ in ways that (ultimately) impact the Love and Joy processes of everyone around, the well-being of future generations also being included in said calculus of course!

Souls ‘graduate’ from Earthly-life’s ‘school’ when their reincarnational learning and development ‘curriculum’ has thus been completed. Having *realized* their *Cosmic* ‘I’-identity (termed ‘Christhood’ by some and spoken of as [every]one’s ‘Buddha Nature’ by others) to be The Spirit of Life Itself, such souls operationally function as full-fledged colleagues of what Jesus referenced as ‘the Father’ from then on. Those who have grasped the fact that the pronouns *I* and *me* as used in Jesus’ statements actually reference *The Entity* (i.e., the entirety) of Life’s Flow—Why? Because, as elucidated in Chapter 1, he personally completely ‘i’-identified with *It!*—who now also grok the fact that the above-described reincarnational learning-and-development-leading-to-graduation process is what ‘leads’ to such collegial recombination, will have no trouble recognizing that it is said *all-encompassing Flow-phenom*, and not himself personally, that Jesus was referencing when he emphatically declared: “*I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me!”* (John 14:6)

Now, everything and so everyone in existence (i.e. ‘in’ the realm of Creation) is an expression and so an extension of said Father’s (i.e., The Creator’s) Being. So nothing and no one can ever really be separate from ‘*Him*’ in the first place. What the idea that one may ‘come unto’ ‘the Father’ as a *soul* stems from is the ‘higher order’ exponential (as in $f(x)=x^n$) growth-capacity referencing *matrixial truth* that one may, by (way of) participating in said *reincarnational* learning and development *process* (eventually) become aware of one’s ‘Oneness’ with ‘the Father’ and so, possibly, electively choose to refine one’s motivation and improve the quality of one’s engagement with Life and others in It with the aim of becoming, and thereby actually (eventually) ‘grow’ into being, a full-fledged

partner in said “Father’s” Love and Joy ‘business’* venture. It is (only!) by repeatedly incarnating as (student) ‘drivers’ in Love and Joy experience-and-expression-capable (body) ‘vehicles’, learning from their successes as well as their failures and consequently becoming more expansively aware and broadly capable along said ‘way’, that *souls* may (eventually) reach the point where they meaningfully comprehend, integrally embrace and consciously choose to act in accord with the fact that the gestalts of their and others’ *selfhoods* are really subsidiary ‘i’dentities spawned and animated by *our* ‘Father’ for the purpose of effectuating and further exploring (as yet) *unrealized* Love and Joy experience↔expression *possibilities*. They thereby enter ‘into’ conscious *communion* with The Life of said Father and then, assuming they continue to function in such ‘unified’ mode (this always remains a matter of choice), ‘eternally’ live so thereafter.

* Speaking of said ‘business’ (see [Luke 2:48-49](#) for context): I necessarily reference and utilize Jesus’ archetypal Father↔Son relationship based concepts when discussing what he meant. I trust that readers will see past the ‘male’ bias that was built into said schematization by virtue of the culture which his earthly life was embedded in, however. The *overarching fact* is that there cannot be a ‘giver’ without a ‘receiver’, so in *reality* a ‘male’ and a ‘female’ *dynamic* (I am not referencing *anatomy* now!) have to simultaneously both be present and actively co-involved for there to be any sort of Life expression-and-experience. I therefore recommend familiarizing yourself with and contemplating the implications of [Yin-Yang](#), [Ardhanarishvara](#) and similar Male↔Female dynamic based concepts and philosophies if these are still ‘foreign’ to you. Understanding(s) deriving therefrom should be integrated with everything discussed herein.

As to the reason for the extreme emphasis on believing in ‘*him*’ in statements such as “He that believeth on *me* hath everlasting life.” (John 6:47) and “*I* am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in *me*, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in *me* shall never die.” (John 11:25-26)–again, before I go on, let me once more remind you that his ‘*me*’ referenced the Living Entity of Life because Jesus personally completely ‘i’dentified with *It!*–my guess is that he figured that if folks didn’t at least *believe* that they had potentially ‘immortal’ (because existentially ‘rooted’ in said Entity) souls, such that they could

(and would, if they lived ‘in accord’ with what he taught) continue to be functionally operational as coherent psychospiritual gestalts in the context of the ever-ongoing Flow of Creation after their physical body ‘died’, still ‘petty’ *self* ‘i’dentifying folks (which most of those around him then were) wouldn’t have sufficient ‘reason’ to choose to make the kinds of *self-subordinating* choices that are necessary for a soul to *psychospiritually transcend* the parameters of its ‘natural’ (while bodily ensconced, that is) constellation of *selfishness*. The ‘promise’* that the souls of those who *believe* that they have a *Cosmic* ‘I’ntity will (in due course) be ‘freed’ from having to suffer the many kinds of naturally unwanted experiences (such as frustration, pain, loss, and death) which are unavoidably part and parcel of existence in a physiosocial context and live in a state of unadulterated Love and Joy forevermore thereafter may indeed function as a *self-transcendence* motivating ‘pitch’ in relation to those who are still myopically entranced, and so essentially ‘enslaved’, by their own *selfishness*.

* As also ‘promisingly’ conveyed by other scripture-embedded statements, such as: “I will speak to thee now of that great Truth which man ought to know, since by its means he will win immortal bliss –that which is without beginning, the Eternal Spirit...” (*The Bhagavad Gita*, Ch.13); and “There shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more *pain*: for the former things are passed away.” (Revelation 21:4)

Such kind of *belief* is a double-edged sword, however, because ‘negative’ effects may and often do accrue as a result of the *self*-reifying motivation which often ‘greedily’, in such regards at least, hitches a ride on it. As many have over the course of time since become aware, it is important that those who presently aren’t (so aware) be educated to the point where they also appreciate the fact that, notwithstanding the many ‘positive’ results that are clearly attributable to the kinds of Life-embracing attitudes and intentions which logically derive from people embracing said *belief*, a whole slew of negatively consequential errors in judgment and consequent malfeasance (‘*sins*’ if you will) have historically not only gone unrecognized as being such, but even been paraded and lauded as ‘holy’ as a result of

over-simplistic interpretation and propagandizement of the ‘assurances’ and ‘guarantees’ pertaining to the futures which such kinds of ‘promises’ advertise.

Why? Because simply ‘thinking the thought’ and ‘talking the talk’, i.e. just believing and socially affiliating with others who ‘confess’ and ‘proclaim’ their *belief* that what Jesus and others have stated in similar regards is absolutely true, won’t result in a soul’s psychospiritually *realizing* the ‘eternally’ ongoing Life he referenced. One has to actually ‘walk the walk’ of *self-transcendence* by really considering and intelligently (one might say, *Solomonically* ☺) evaluating what most likely will and what most likely won’t serve to maximize the experience and expression of Love and Joy in The Flow of Life and then really (i.e. conscientiously!) choosing to do what(ever!) one consequently thinks and feels has the best chance of so serving—in other words, not just for one’s own *self*’s or any other particular *self*’s or set of *selves*’ Love and Joy ‘sakes’—as one goes along, for the kind of Life Jesus spoke of to be ‘entered into’ and soulfully ‘lived’ thereafter.

This of course (as previously cautioned) requires that one not become smugly self-assured, by way of thinking and feeling that what(ever) one presently believes encapsulates the totality of the truth in said (or, for that matter, any other) regard, but rather that one tolerate and embrace the kind of uncertainty that accompanies awareness of the fact that there may well be more for one to learn and know and consequently do (or know and do ‘better’!), and hence that one always continue to open-mind-n-heart-edly consider, evaluate and garner wisdom from what may—based on my own experience, I say will!—in retrospect be seen as having been ‘errors’ of omission and/or commission stemming from one’s not having been completely aware of the relevance of dynamically operational situational factors, which *process* of learning and development of greater awareness and adeptitude will only continue (over the course of one’s incarnational involvement) if one doesn’t sabotage its potential ever-ongoingness by presumptuously concluding that there is nothing ‘more’ for one to know or that there is no ‘better’ way for one to proceed in order to fully become and

completely be *self*-transcendentally, i.e. *holistically*, *Cosmic*-Spirit aligned. It is only by virtue of proceeding humbly in said regard that further experience of incarnational embodiment (wherein the exigencies of personal limitation and corollary experiences of frustration, pain, loss, etc. associated with *self*hood serve as ‘task-masters’ and so, in effect, as ‘teachers’ of *self*-transcendence) are eventually rendered *passé*.*

* Some postulate there may be circumstantially demanding reasons why fully ‘mature’ souls may choose to incarnate (again), however. Those ‘seen’ as being and doing so are often proclaimed to be ‘avatars’ of *The Entity* of Life Itself, which is believed to make a ‘personal’ stage ‘appearance’ when and as there is a sufficiently pressing ‘need’ for what is thought of as ‘divine’ intervention. Be that as it may or may not be, my (logical, I think) supposition is that, having become *Cosmically* ‘enlightened’ and ‘adept’ by way of learning their soul-educating ‘lessons’ and accomplishing their soul-developing ‘tasks’, the souls of Earth-school ‘graduates’ just embark on one of any number of possible post-incarnational ‘careers’. (To anyone who thinks otherwise, I ask: What is the logic of a fully matured soul ‘returning’ to ‘do’ what some other soul(s) may beneficially *learn* and consequently *mature* by way of ‘doing’ and leading-n-teaching others to also ‘do’?)

Speaking of post-incarnational ‘careers’, I will give readers who may presently feel so ‘burned-out’ by having to face and endure Earthly-life’s often stressful exigencies that the thought of being on permanent ‘holiday’ in some kind of completely ‘care-free’ environment, without any more ‘lessons’ to learn or ‘tasks’ to tackle, appeals to them as being supremely desirable some additional possibilities to ponder in this regard. Not that a period of R&R (i.e. rest and relaxation) isn’t ‘in the cards’ in such cases mind you, but here, in keeping with what I’ve been talking about, let me bring attention to the (logical, I think) fact that, since Life is Creativity and Creativity is *causal* purpose in action, if that (i.e. if R&R) were all that souls went on to experience, they wouldn’t develop and grow further. Instead of really Living then, they would just end up *stagnating* and *atrophying* in boredom!

One of the ironies pertaining to statements of *truth*—note: as in the case of your or anyone else’s ‘name’, these just refer to something or other; they themselves do not ‘contain’ the Reality that is alluded to—is that even the most comprehensive descriptions of and sayings relating to *Cosmic* truth often end up ‘leading’ people who are still emotionally biased by *selfishness* astray (without their knowing it!) as a result of their thinking, feeling and believing that they truly *know* what said descriptions and statements actually mean. A widely recognizable boomerang effect in the case of people who naively *believe* and aim to implement Jesus’ (or any other postulatory set of)

statements and advice for selfish reasons (which many presently do in relation to Jesus mostly because they personally wish to ‘happily’ live as their present self forever!) is that their Life-Force is then channeled in ways which result in their psychospiritual constellations becoming even more self-reified and self-reifying. Instead of their sense of their personal ‘i’identity expanding in ways which result in their progressively becoming more keenly aware of and resonantly aligned with The Flow of Life and all others in It, because of such self-reification, their souls then just eddy about in a state of ‘arrested development’ and often end up regressing (I spoke of this in terms of souls potentially ‘devolving’ earlier) in ways which result in their moving further away from ‘coming unto the Father’ and living the kind of ‘everlasting life’ which Jesus taught was/is possible and advocated. After they leave this world, instead of being in the communion-with-the-Spirit-of-Life-forever-thereafter association with said Spirit they projected they would be, they discover (one can imagine, in many cases at least, with considerable dismay!) that, in order to really progress in terms of actualizing such mode of being-n-doing, they have to incarnationally repeat the ‘grade level’ they were previously on, with some additional, potentially more ego-shattering trials and tribulations thrown into the mix * this time around to (hopefully!) spur them into not simply interpreting and axiomatically applying belief, faith, and hope related teachings for selfish reasons and purposes, at least not to the same degree again!

* The same kind of ‘repeat the same lesson’ consequences, of course, also accrue in the case of non-‘Christians’ whose understanding of how ‘karmic’ patterns develop and propagate is so shallow that they simply believe that self-abnegation, personal sacrifice, giving what they ‘have’ to or ‘for’ others, etc. will automatically result in their personally ‘getting’ to ‘have’ a more propitious future-life and/or eternally blissful after-life and therefore do so for such reason.

Related caveat: To induce folks to ‘serve’ to further their particular group’s interests, seemingly unselfish and so thought-to-be holy advocates thereof often persuasively ‘guarantee’ that those who perform self-sacrificial and/or generous acts in furtherance of said group’s ethos will be more than compensatorily ‘rewarded’ in a future- and/or after-life context (in the best of such cases, with said advocates honestly believing such benefits will indeed accrue). Beware the seductions of such, painted as ‘noble’, group-selfishness.

This (still fairly common nowadays) ‘blind spot’ having been highlighted for eye-opening purposes, let me get back to informing readers about the kinds of post-incarnational ways in which ‘ascended’ souls may continue to engage in the process of optimizing and augmenting the experience and expression of Love and Joy in the Flow of Life, which I mentioned I would touch on. Many haven’t even begun to be aware of possibilities in this regard, which there are undoubtedly more of as well as more fantastic ones than we who are still embodied can even imagine (as stated by the apostle Paul: “For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.” I Corinthians 13:12). Just on the basis of personal experiences and, even if one isn’t aware of having had any such experiences oneself, based on the reports of cognizant others, however, one may reasonably conclude that some souls at least go on to function as ‘Guardian Angels’ and ‘Spirit Guides’ in order to support and facilitate the Love and Joy actualizations and ongoing developmental journey of still incarnating associates (albeit orthodox materialists, of course, will never reason so because they are bound by their belief-sets to dismiss any and all presentations of evidence in said regards as just being hallucinatory constructions which completely unrealistically, as far as they can see, co-relate inherently meaningless co-incidences).

Another Love and Joy experiencing and expressing ‘career’ which souls that have developed an interest in and aptitude for doing so may post-incarnationally embark on is that of being a mind-over-matter *Master of Design** (which kind of engagement I didn’t appreciate the implications of until I happened to read accounts relating to such a ‘specialization’ in the Chapter 8 of Michael Newton’s book, *Destiny of Souls*, titled The Advancing Soul). Such souls co-operatively (this is a multi-soulular ☺ enterprise, mind you!) help to mind-n-spirit-over-matter ‘engineer’ selected aspects of planetary environments as well as of the genetic constellations of various lifeforms which populate them so as to make them conjointly (i.e. *matrixially*) capable of sustaining living *bodies*

which, among other things, can effectively host and support the psycho-spiritual growth of Love and Joy experiencing and expressing souls such as ours. One might say they thereby help to establish ‘rookeries’ for the ‘hatching’ and ‘fledging’ of *Cosmic* Consciousness, whereby souls may operationally develop to the point where they consciously apprehend their *Cosmic* ‘I’dentity and, as a result of appreciating the fact of their *self*’s Kinship and Oneness with (all) Life, eventually fully execute their *own* (because it is universal) imperative to maximally (i.e. as fully as *possible*) actualize the experience and expression of Life’s Flow of Love and Joy in relation to and with co-extant others, as spoken of in this chapter.

* Speaking of said (plural!) ‘designers’, arguments between traditional Christian-Theology indoctrinated Creationists and traditional Material-Science indoctrinated Darwinians are unresolvable because said ‘doctrines’ derive from incompatible sets of premises (each set being deficient in its own way at that!). As I propositionally presented and hopefully convincingly pleaded in relation to Jesus’ Father↔Son paradigm in the preceding chapter, the process of Creation is a multiplistically determined phenom wherein every part dynamically affects The Whole. Every aspect of – i.e. every ‘element’, ‘column’, ‘row’ and ‘plane’ in – the Matrix (i.e. the Matriarch) of Life is a functional Love-and-Joy program-code ‘executive’ in its own right! And, although particular co-motional co-incidences may indeed be random (in the sense of not being determined in advance) and so reasonably regarded as being more or less ‘accidental’, the fact is that purely *numbers*-based ‘natural selection’ deductions deriving from *mathematical* calculations (that this or that feature of Life had or has a greater probability of contextually ‘surviving’ and ‘propagating’) fall far short of accounting for the obviously intelligent (to say the very least!) beauty and whimsy that are gobsmackingly evident in the ‘designs’ of a great many lifeforms, this even in ‘lightless’ and ‘sightless’ contexts!

Mind you, this is not to say that lifeforms don’t also have many features that are obviously utilitarian, which features therefore may well have been *probabilistically* ‘selected for’ in the ‘scheme’ of *species* survival and propagation. But, especially if you are one who is presently so orthodoxly Darwinian that you only see and make sense of things using that particular ideational ‘lens’, I suggest you do an internet search for and then watch videos pertaining to butterflies, unusual flowers, unusual insects, sea slugs, sea bunnies, unusual animals, etc. The shapes and colors of the creatures visible therein will make it strikingly clear to you that simple ‘survival’ and ‘propagation’ value based *selection* from among a bunch of randomly generated possibilities could not have been the cause of the clearly artistically composed patterns displayed therein.

I mention the above kinds of carryings on (the accounts contained in Michael Newton's books suggest there's no end to the range of *possible* post-incarnational 'careers', by the way!) so readers may place what's going on in our Earthly-life 'school' in *superordinate* perspective. Notwithstanding the apparently be-all-and-end-all nature of our periodically heart-filling and heart-rending personal and collective 'dramas' here, the fact is that everything that happens in our personal lives is just an intermediate 'act' in a much greater creative 'production'. My hope is that understanding this will lead to more folks more fully appreciating and so sooner rather than later 'grooving' with the intent and potential (for *further and furthering* Life's experience and expression of Love and Joy!) which infuse and permeate our incarnational 'stage setting', which 'stage' may otherwise (i.e., without such understanding) simply be viewed and so experienced as just being a playground for vanity wherein some more so than others just 'happen' to be 'dealt' (as in a 'game' of cards) a certain degree of power and privilege, which 'deal' enables them to access and savor (as well as, should they personally 'happen' be inclined to do so, to share, trade, dispense, etc.) *physiosocial* benefits and *worldly* pleasures, but which 'game' ultimately just amounts to nothing more than a dead-ended loss of everyone and everything ever loved and enjoyed 'story' in every case. Why? Because, like it or not, everything 'in' the *world*, great civilizations included, is existentially transitory!

It is because they don't understand what Life is really time-n-space transcendentally about that so many folks myopically focus most, if not all, of their Love and Joy attention and energy in pursuit of *physiosocial* gain and advantage and corollary experience of pleasure and comfort and avoidance or minimization of experience of difficulty, frustration, pain, loss, defeat, etc., in the majority of such cases by compulsively engaging in fantasies and activities whose sole function is to momentarily turn them 'on' and get them 'high' in the former, gain and pleasure regards and distract or

relieve them from suffering existential angst, depression and despair in regards the latter. As a result of their ‘sense’ of their lives and the lives of their loved ones being completely body-ego based, those who don’t *believe* in the transcendancy of Spirit are prone to becoming demoralized and liable to sink into a state of alienation and anomie* when and as, as sooner or later will be the case because there is a ‘down’ for every ‘up’ and an ‘end’ to every ‘beginning’ in the physical world, such self as well as *other* gratification and relief efforts eventually fail!

* Unbelievers cannot positively contextualize ego-threatening and/or ego-defeating circumstances using the perspective of Reality presented in statements such as: “If our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.” (*II Corinthians*, 5:1); “The Spirit, which pervades all that we see, is imperishable.... Weapons cleave It not, fire burns It not, water drenches It not, and wind dries It not. It is impenetrable; It can be neither drowned nor scorched nor dried. It is Eternal.” (*The Bhagavad Gita*, Ch.2); and “The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for [He is] with me.” (Psalms 23:1-4).

Those who already *believe* that their and others’ soul constellations derive from and so are (potentially) ‘immortal’ aspects of the ever-ongoing Flow of Life Itself will also be able to more meaningfully consider what ‘steps’ towards becoming more expansively loving and joyful in relation to and with others it may be most appropriate for them to (next) take by framing and viewing what’s going on in and around them in the reincarnational and post-incarnational perspective presented herein. In particular, folks may thereby just matter-of-factly engage with Life in ways that lead to their experiencing an *ongrowing* Flow of Love and Joy in relation to and with others around them simply by paying attention to, learning from and constructively responding to whatever is happening (or not, which they think and feel it would ‘better’ if it was) in their lives at any given point, without their feeling any existential ‘need’ or being in any particular ‘hurry’ to go ‘all the way’ in any regard in the context of their present Life-situation.

Their assigning secondary status to pleasure-and-gain (and associated comfort-and-security) seeking *desires* and pain-and-loss (and associated stress-and-uncertainty) avoidance-motivating *aversions* when considering possible, and possibly competing, Love and Joy options (because such desires and aversions will then, of course, be ‘seen’ to just be the momentary pull and push corollates of one’s ‘local’ temperospatial ‘carnality’) will be sufficient to ‘guide’ their progression in this regard. The process spoken of herein as self-transcendence (which requires that one embrace and choose, insofar as one is at any point able to, to do whatever one thinks will serve to optimize and augment The Flow of Love and Joy above and beyond considerations pertaining to any particular temperospatial ‘body’ or cohort of ‘bodies’) will, in due course, thus optimally ☺ proceed to completion.

To reinforce the logic of this, let me first emphasize the significance of something which tends to be underappreciated by still psychospiritually immature Love and Joy seekers, sharers and bequeathers as a result of their continuing to be susceptible to being ‘tempted’ by and (so) over-subscribing to a ‘carnal’, i.e, body based, pleasure-desirous and pain-averse calculus. ‘Succeeding’ (in the sense of experiencing what one ‘likes’ and not experiencing what one ‘dislikes’) in said regard does not (not in and of itself at least) lead to folks becoming unselfishly (and hence *holistically*, or *Cosmically*) loving and joyful or incline them to synergically engage with and creatively augment such sort of soul development in others. I’m sure you see this to be true in the cases of many ‘successful’ (in ‘*worldly*’ terms, that is) people around you. What’s more – and this is something that merits even greater concern because of the ‘negative’ consequences that stem from people *en masse* aiming to ‘succeed’ so – those who primarily seek and support others’ seeking to maximize personal pleasure-n-gain and corollarily minimize personal pain-and-loss experience(s) actually end up diminishing the chances that they and those they thus support will develop in a *communion-with-Life* actualizing direction. Why? Because such ‘focus’ leads to them and such others being ‘blindly’ negligent and unconscionably

usurpatory in relation to other co-related aspects of The Flow of Life which are therefore not appropriately recognized as also being important and so not befittingly (in terms of what is necessary and desirable for said other concomitants to be co-functional) related to.

There have been countless major and minor instances of such negligence and usurpation by temperospatially oriented, immediate-local pleasure and pain ‘geared’ folks (*believers* in ‘eternal life’ included!) over the course of history which you have probably heard and read about, as well as many I’m sure you’ve personally experienced or at least witnessed in the context of your present lifetime, some (because of your own psychospiritual immaturities) undoubtedly even perpetrated by yourself. In macroscopic consequence, as a result of large and increasing numbers of people and the organizations they subscribe to basically being pleasure-pain...principle driven to feed off of and serve to amplify the growth of unsustainable (because conglomerately *selfish!*) socioeconomic pyramid...schemes which consume and pollute more than they contribute to and nurture, they cumulatively end up drastically degrading and disrupting, the systemic health and well-functioning of the Living Matrix, which they for the most part just give ‘lip service’ to, that is *our* physiosocial ‘home’. As is clearly the case confronting us here now, notwithstanding the inherent munificence of Life’s Flow and the generous contributions and services which have historically been made and provided and continue to be made and provided by a growing number of *holistically* Love and Joy oriented people in It, waves of social and ecosystemic decay and destruction then metastatically ripple and ricochet around our planet and climax in devastating catastrophes as the ‘negative’ effects of such mainly pleasure-desirous-n-pain-averse choices repercussively reinforce one another in exponential escalation.

Such denouements, which periodically decimate the ranks of a dominant but still mostly *selfishly* motivated species, have historically often been projected to be expressions of the ‘wrath’ of a *God* who ‘judges’ the bulk of humanity to be inexcusably ‘sinful’ and ‘deserving’ of severe ‘punishment’

because of its, for the most part, not appropriately ‘heeding’ and ‘obeying’ *His* ‘edicts’ and ‘commandments’, not ‘paying’ sufficient ‘homage’ to *Him*, etc. But, as what I’ve said in this chapter should make clear, such devastation is just the cumulative result of many souls collectively ‘losing their balance’ and so ‘stumbling’ and ‘falling’, and (so) ‘hurting’ themselves and others around them as a group, because they haven’t yet developed to the point where they *holistically* understand and embrace, and so don’t conscientiously act ‘in accord’ with, the fact that they and others, including every aspect of their planetary environment, are not really ‘individually’ separate aspects of Life, but integral part-expressions of *The* Life of a *Cosmically* Unitary, *self-and-other* inclusive Being!

The second point I want to be sure I get across in this regard (because it is counterintuitive to those who are still philosophically wrapped up in a body-ego based, and hence physiosocially focused, calculus) is that the pains and losses (etc.) that are suffered and shared in the course of incarnational Life, even as horrific as these will undoubtedly be experienced as being in the course of the apocalypse that is presently unfolding, are not something to be either feared or lamented (not really, that is). It is the very unavoidability of such experience that motivates souls to break out of and jettison the *ego*-shells which they would otherwise ‘naturally’ not be inclined to do, because it then becomes unmistakably clear that personal pleasure-maximizing and pain-minimizing schemes and strategies amount to no more than vain attempts to climb and/or carry others up to a higher deck on a sinking physiosocial ‘ship’.

Though *self*-gratifying physiological and social support systems as well as imaginative projections which lead people to hope and emotionally anticipate that they will, even if not right away, at least experience relief, ease, fulfillment, happiness, etc. in the future may indeed be Love and Joy sustaining up to a point, the fact remains that soulfully encountering and experiencing the kinds of ‘troubles’ that are, in the final analysis,

inescapable* aspects of being ensconced ‘in’ a physically limited, temporally transient personal body that is subject to frustration, pain, loss, ego-defeat, death, etc. is necessary for the kind of *self*-transcendental ‘i’identity expansion and psychospiritual growth spoken of in this chapter to be situationally ‘called’ for and stimulated to ‘come’ forth.** A soul’s capacity for psychospiritual fortitude and interpersonal empathy (stemming from cognition and appreciation of the ubiquitousness and transcendence of the Presence and Power of Life Itself), for instance, would never develop otherwise; albeit these are just a couple of a whole host of psychospiritual awareness and adeptitude based capabilities which must be conscientiously directed and devotionally deployed in service of Life Itself for a nodal soul to transcendently e-merge from the ‘womb’ of its embryonic *other*-dependency and infantile *self*ishness (note: I use the word *must* here only to state what is functionally necessary for such outcome, not to assert any kind of moralistic ‘should’ in this completely *free*-choice regard.)

* “In the *world* ye shall have tribulation!” (John 16:33)

** Here’s a ‘fable’ worth contemplating in the above regard: “God ‘gives’ people every (kind of) thing they could *possibly* love and enjoy or *imagine* loving and enjoying and then, one by one, takes these away from them and/or places the possibility of their ‘having’ them (again, in the former case) out of reach, such that all they are then left with (that is, should they then *choose* to themselves be and continue so) is the Love and Joy they were thereby soulfully introduced to, which Love and Joy is Life Itself!”

As always, beware over-simplistic interpretation: don’t take what I’ve just said to mean it would therefore be ‘good’ for you to preemptively eschew and deny your *self* or others the enjoyment of physiosocial pleasures (benefits, comforts, etc.) or, worse, to counterphobically ‘mortify’ your *self* by way of ‘sacrificially’ suffering pain (deprivation, difficulty, etc.) as many have historically done for supposedly *God* (i.e. *Spirit* of Life) ‘loving’ reasons, and many, seeking relief from feelings of guilt and associated anxieties by way of ‘penalizing’ themselves ‘in advance’, still neurotically do. There is really nothing ‘wrong’ with choosing to augment The Flow of Love and Joy either by and for oneself or in relation to and association

with others by way of experiencing and sharing personal and social pleasures (etc.) and/or by way of ameliorating or avoiding personal and social experience of pain (etc.). As a matter of fact, souls may indeed ‘awaken’ as well as ‘awaken others’ to the *delights* and *blessings* of Love-and-Joy-fully participating in The Flow of Life in such fashion. Among other things, one may thereby *realize* that shared Love and Joy of any kind—just eating a meal together with someone else, for example—is much more *psychospiritually* ‘fulfilling’ than what may be experienced in ‘i’solation along the same lines. Some even go so far as to postulate this—‘this’ being the *possibility* of sharing Love and Joy in relation to and with others in a *physiosocial* context—to be the reason why (what they call) *God* created our world in the first place!

Consequences boomerang and problems in this regard only become Sisyphean if and when *physiosocial* pleasure-gain-comfort-n-security seeking and pain-loss-difficulty-n-uncertainty avoidance become people’s main focus and motivation such that these are overly, or worse solely, depended on and indulged in for purposes of Love and Joy experience and expression. In which case, folks just end up being completely addicted to such modes of gratification pursuit. Awareness and consideration of factors that affect as well as possibilities which stem from *psychospiritual development*—the consequent actualization of increasingly loving and joyful *integration and communion* with The Flow of Life Itself (not just some others ‘in’ It) whereby and wherein one may eventually whole-mind-n-heart-edly ‘groove’ with Life’s ever-ongoing Being-n-Doing process—are then given short shrift. Vital choices are consequently not made in relation to such most soul-fulfilling, because ever-ongrowing, Love and Joy experience and expression prospect in their cases.

To proceed judiciously in this regard, one has to not only consciously recognize the fact that *physiosocial* desire-n-aversion activated objectives, if and as perseveratively pursued, eventually just lead to one’s getting entangled in competitive, and hence ultimately conflictual, win-or-lose

relationships with others who are similarly motivated, as well as emotionally register the implications of the fact that the ‘fruits’ thereof are evanescent (they are ‘here today and gone tomorrow’, so ‘you’ can’t ‘take’ them with ‘you’ in any case!), one has to also appreciate the fact that even the ‘greatest’ Love and Joy which one may thereby (i.e. by way of ‘successes’ in said *physiosocial* desire-fulfillment and aversion-avoidance regards) experience and possibly share with others will never be completely psychospiritually fulfilling, not just because of their limited duration mind you, but because such kinds of gratification don’t result in your experiencing and expressing what you *soulfully*(!) are (‘above and beyond’ the parameters of your ‘carnality’) which is what one experiences and expresses when and as one expands the sense of one’s ‘i’identity to include all others and therefore and thereby *psychospiritually* ‘unites’ with *The Entity* of The Flow of Love and Joy of *Life Itself* and creatively ‘devotes’ one’s *self* in service therewith and thereto.

To the degree that one has done that, in other words to the degree that one has, as the apostle Paul put it, “put off the *old* man...and put on the *new* man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of *him* that created him” (Colossians 3:9-10), one naturally (quite logically) assigns secondary status to one’s own as well as others’ *physiosocial* desire-n-aversion based impulses and (so) chooses not to ‘act’ on them if and when doing so would detract from or sully possibilities for optimal and incremental experience and expression of Love and Joy in said *self-transcendental*, all-inclusive sense. One therefore (also quite logically) naturally becomes more environmentally responsible and pragmatically ethical, more conscientiously *self-disciplined* (i.e. less shortsightedly *self* and/or *other-self* ‘indulgent’) in relation to every aspect of The Flow of Life one becomes aware of.

Such kind of *psychospiritual development* results in one’s acting to *salutarily enhance* the creative functionality of whoever or whatever one may singularly or plurally be relationally involved with, which of course means doing whatever one can to *help* as well as assistively *support* others

who help to *protect* those that are vulnerable, *heal* those that are sick or injured, *nurture* those who are immature and *educate* those who are unaware of the nature and extent of their connection to and with others in context of Life's Matrixial Flow. There may therefore indeed be times and circumstances when and where desisting from seeking as well as foregoing available pleasures, comforts, gains, etc. and risking as well as voluntarily accepting consequent stresses, pains, losses, etc., even to the point of incurring significant *physiosocial* liabilities, is what one thinks and feels is the most Love and Joy augmenting choice one can make, and therefore elects to do with such goals in mind and heart. What devoted parents, friends, teachers, care-providers and public servants of all kinds often do as a matter of course provides exemplary illustration in this regard.*

* Not that one has the power to do everything one might wish to along such lines, mind you: "It is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not." (II Corinthians 8:12) Making the most of what one is capable of at any given point is the best anyone can aim for.

That being said, in the interests of promoting a more nuanced understanding and interpretation of Jesus' curt (to the point of possibly being misunderstood) "Whosoever will lose his life for *my* (i.e. for capital 'L' Life's) sake shall find it" statement, let me also point out that it doesn't really make sense for a nodal soul to only be devoted to the welfare of others. Why? Because one's *worldly* being—any *being*, really!—requires a degree of *self*-sustenance if it is to continue to function and pragmatically serve in a co-creative capacity in any given context. The 'best' one can generally do in the context of The Flow of Life, therefore, is to aim to 'enrich' the Love and Joy processes and potentials of others by first optimally utilizing whatever opportunities may be available to operationally develop one's *self* in ways which lead to one's becoming and being more able to 'give back' and then 'giving back', the intent in said regard being to become and thereby be as Love and Joy augmenting as possible, with an eye towards maximally facilitating others' psychospiritual development and consequently increasing

the scope and improving the quality of Life's Love and Joy Flow (one's own soul-*'flow'* included) over the course of time, hopefully more than creatively compensating for what one *'receives'* or *'takes'* for one's *self* (again, over the course of time) in the process.*

* The sentiments of people who subscribe to *'right-wing'* or *'left-wing'* *ideologies* tend to become grossly unbalanced because collective selfishness biases their understanding of the Big Picture in the above regard. One has to judiciously integrate the sometimes contradictory Life-values illustrated in Jesus' Parable of the Talents and his Parable of the Sheep and Goats on a situational basis as one goes along, since there is always a dynamic *'tension'* which requires a *'balancing act'* between what *individuals* *'need'* for them to personally grow and flourish and what is necessary for the healthy functioning of *societies* and *biosystems* at large. The operative truth being that individuals cannot exist, let alone flourish, without being nurtured and supported by a biosystem and society, and societies and biosystems cannot continue to function, let alone flourish, without their being nurtured and supported by contributions from their constituent members.

So, though it makes sense that one has to be willing to and sometimes may even have to actually do so for Love and Joy maximizing reasons, *'losing'* one's *self* (in the sense of being completely selfless) is not an absolute requirement for a soul to become operationally *'aligned'* with and thereby and thereafter live *'in conjunction'* with The Flow of Life. As stated in the opening paragraph of this chapter, in the final analysis, every aspect of Life (and this includes any and every *'self'* as well!) is a vital part-expression of said (One!) Life's Being-n-Doing. Let me reiterate what I mean so there's no confusion in this regard: domination by and slavery to one's *physiosocially* instilled pleasure-comfort-n-security seeking and pain-stress-n-uncertainty avoiding *'instincts'* and *'drives'* is the kind—i.e., the type or character—of Life which one must *'lose'* (in the sense that it has to be left *'behind'* in one's *'past'*) if one is to enter *'into'* and proceed to actually *'live'* the Cosmic kind of Life Jesus spoke of, wherein one soulfully (i.e. whole-mind-n-heart-edly) experiences and participates in the expression of Love and Joy in free-willed embrace of and association with The Flow of Life Itself, no longer *'governed'* by biological instincts and/or derivative social conditioning, and wherein, though still acknowledging and taking *physiosocial*

considerations (including one's own as well as others' personal 'i'dentities as *selves*) into account, one relates to these as just being the sometimes and in some ways pertinent (for Love and Joy experience-n-expression and consequent *soul* growth-n-development purposes) incarnational-stage 'props' and 'costumes' that they actually are.

I could go on and on in relation to this subject without ever stopping. But this chapter is already much longer than planned, so let me begin winding it down by reminding readers that, because everything that 'happens' in The Flow of Life is dynamically network-related to everything else that 'happens' in It, any presentation and discussion of the topic soul growth and development (hence this one as well) is necessarily 'reductionist'. What we are ensconced in and living parts of is an infinitely co-related *matrixial* (i.e. not 'single' causes string-leading to 'singular' effects *linear*) process. In particular, so you don't mistakenly extrapolate what I've said oversimplistically, let me point out that a soul doesn't just move on from whatever 'state' it was 'in' at the end of its prior *self*'s life and continue developing from 'there' in its next one, because it necessarily re-encounters and so has to re-transcend the pulls and pushes of the same set of instincts and kinds of conditioning that, albeit with some degree of viscissitudinal variation, are physiosocially 'wired into' every body-'member' of our species in the context of its 'new' environment. A still reincarnating soul which may have overcome (i.e. transcended) its 'fear of death', say, in a prior life will therefore have to do so again, for instance—and, should it 'fail' to do so, might even regress in this regard!—in its next lifetime; albeit subconscious (in terms of its 'new' brain) time-space spanning psycho-spiritual 'memories' stemming from its having done so (in the context of said prior life) will give it a kind of advantage, making it more likely that it will 'succeed' (again) in this regard, so it may do so at a younger biological age and possibly do so even more resolutely in face of more severe threats this (next) time around.

There are many physiosocial-*ego* associated sets of thoughts and feelings ('fear of death' is just one such syndrome) that one must, at some point, or at

multiple points as stated above, disentangle one's *self* from and transcend if one is to eventually comprehensively actualize the Life that Jesus spoke of. There is a whole range of *knowledge-and-wisdom* related 'lessons' that have to be mastered by way of resolving dilemmas, overcoming difficulties and becoming relationally proficient in the course of a soul's developing to the point where it operationally grooves with the Totality of the Presence and Power of The Flow of Life Itself. To that end, advancing souls often incarnate in problematic bodies and stressful environments because greater challenges provide greater stimulus and (consequently) more fecund opportunities for *psychospiritual* (awareness) growth and (adeptitude) development. Conversely, though there may of course also be significant benefits in terms of Love and Joy experience and opportunity to augment expression thereof which accrue in the context of 'easy' (generally regarded as being more fortunate and serendipitous) incarnational lives, said 'ease' may also seduce souls into being 'contented' in ways which result in their not rigorously exercising and deploying their Love and Joy capabilities, and their consequently languishing and atrophying (in one way or another) instead of growing and developing as much as they otherwise could and would. All of which explains what Jesus enigmatically alluded to when he said: "There are last which shall be first, and there are first which shall be last." (Luke 13:30)

The latter statement just hints at the often mind-boggling complexity which, because of the number of possible permutations and consequent range and variety of convolutions that every 'vector element' in Life's fluid Flow is potentially capable of and subject to, typifies any and every soul's developmental sequence. I once again remind you of Jesus' (previously quoted herein) statement, "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit" (John 3:8), in this regard. I know I am repeating myself here, but this point merits hammering home: One should therefore not jump to any conclusions regarding the status or degree of one's own or any other soul's development based on apparent *physiosocial*

attributes and circumstances or degree of skill relating to any venue or mode of expression. at any given point, in any particular lifetime. So, even though reincarnation and post-incarnation related information may be of considerable orientational value (which is the reason why I have collated and presented so much of it here), I reiterate my earlier caution to *psycho-spiritually* oriented teachers and students not to get caught up in extensive speculation and talk about such matters. More often than not, such activity is little more than pretentious, ‘I am concerned with and involved in exploring matters of *great* importance’ grandstanding, which distracts *self*-absorbed folks and gives them cover and excuse for not attentively focusing on, thinking about and creatively discharging their response-abilities in relation to what are consequently (mistakenly!) regarded as being less important personal and interpersonal goings on in the context of their current situational lives.

It is therefore really (always, in my opinion) most important that *you* maintain awareness of and make decisions on the basis of the fact that your *soul* is a *mind-n-spirit* ‘spring’ through which Life Itself continually ‘streams’ and that the *potential* and *venue* for *you* to engage in *psycho-spiritually* sustaining and augmenting experiences and expressions of Love and Joy in relation to and with others is ubiquitously present and always available to be tapped into* at any given point, should *you* wish and choose to do so. This, no matter what *your* past history, present situation and future prospects may be, reincarnationally or otherwise. This is also true in everyone else’s case, of course.

* “If any man thirst, let him come unto *me*, and drink. He that believeth on *me*, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.” (John 7:37-38)

Among other things, those who grasp the implications of what I am saying here in the context of everything else I have said will know that there’s really no point in feeling ‘sorry’ for and/or ‘pitying’ either yourself or others, no matter what has happened or happens, or hasn’t happened, or

can't or just doesn't happen, in the course of your or anyone else's life or lives. Also that feeling either 'smug' or 'envious' in relation to anyone else based on your apparently being in a 'better' (i.e. 'ahead' or 'winning') or 'worse' (i.e. 'behind' or 'losing') *physiosocial* position or condition at the moment is equally inane. (Albeit such attitudes on the part of those who haven't yet grokked what the process of soul-development is actually all about should never be regarded as just being their row to hoe because such folks are both "*There but for the grace of 'God' go I*" empathetically relatable to and "*Everything affects everything*" consequential!)

It will also become clear to those who adopt this perspective, that what makes the most sense (because this is how *soul*-growth 'dividends' are in fact generated) is for one to just whole-mind-n-heart-edly focus on 'playing' Life's *experience and expression of Love and Joy in relation to and with others* 'game' for all one is worth no matter what one's strengths and/or weaknesses may be, analogous to the way dedicated athletic team members mentally and emotionally concentrate on 'playing' their 'positions' in coordination with their teammates to the best of their ability in pursuance of the shared goals of their chosen sport. Deploying whatever talents and assets one may have been 'gifted' with for Love and Joy augmenting purpose(s) to whatever degree one is capable of doing so at any given place and point in time, always seeking and open to becoming *wiser* and more creatively *adept* in the process *by* learning from one's 'successes' and 'failures' in said regard, is what results in a soul blossoming and fructifying as a Love-and-Joy-full component of Life.

Said seeking and learning, of course, requires that one pay close attention to and shrewdly contemplate what's actually going on in the 'stream' of one's thoughts, moods, e-motions, expectations, etc. with the aim of seeing whether and to what degree these are (or aren't, as the case may be) characterized by a Flow-of-Life connecting and other co-relating 'sense' of Love and Joy, and considering whether and how improvements (if any) may be made in said regards. Always be wary of what is *habitual*: Seemingly reasonable predilections and disinclinations and rationalizations pertaining

to them are often mistakenly believed to be and so naturally embraced and subscribed to as being maximally Love and Joy enhancing instrumentalities, instead of their being questioningly examined and critically assessed and *possibly* better options being conceived of and explored, simply because of of one's having been *physiosocially* conditioned (i.e. programmatically 'imprinted') by pleasure and/or pain and success and/or failure related experiences to think and feel so.

To progress in the 'direction' of soul growth, development and maturation, or 'ascension' as some think of it (albeit, in the latter figurative case, it is important that one bear in mind the fact that thinking or feeling that any aspect of Life is actually 'higher' or 'lower', in the sense of being 'better' or 'worse' in terms of inherent potential and/or *value*, than any other may cloud one's perception and diminish one's appreciation of the universality of Life's Presence, so beware any 'snobbish' or 'pauperish' ☺ prejudices you may harbor along such lines!), one must discern and discriminately only continue to embrace and act on the basis of those thoughts, feelings, beliefs, etc. which, after critical examination and open-minded review of the results of having done so, one concludes or at least has some reason to believe have *really* led to one's more deeply immersing oneself in The Flow of Life and (corollarily) more Love-and-Joy-fully co-relating with and to others therein. This, of course, also entails choosing, at least provisionally till one collects and collates enough data to warrant making a firm decision in said regard, to 'let go' of whatever thoughts, feelings, beliefs, expectations, etc. one concludes, or has some reason to suspect, do not yield such result, especially any that strike one as being counterproductive in said (Flow of Love and Joy in relationship to and with others and Life Itself) regard. Repeating and refining such critical examination and selective choice operation on the basis of what one 'sees' and/or 'senses' at any given awareness-point in the course of one's *psychospiritual* journey is essential for one's 'evolutionary' process to move 'forward'. (Using the analogy of gemstone cutting, some speak of this as getting 'rid' of one's 'rough' edges or as 'perfecting' one's Love and Joy constellation. Such model isn't *fluid* enough to completely suit

my sensibilities, but I do find it positively evocative and (so) sometimes use it to advocate what I regard to be *supremely* desirable, as here.)

Now, whether they present themselves as being ‘religious’, ‘spiritual’, ‘philosophical’ or just plain ‘psychological’, all *psychospiritually*-oriented *wisdom* schools and teachers list a hierarchy of goals to aim for as well as advocate specific approaches or methods whereby aspirations in said regards may be functionally actualized as part of their curriculum. Which is all well and good for beginning student-learners, but the fact is that the *superordinate Realm* (i.e. *Reality*) of Love and Joy’s Being-n-Doing is far too extensive (besides being ever-expanding!) for there to be an ‘ultimate’ Love and Joy destiny or ‘best’ Love and Joy path (or set of paths) whereby one may get to any such imagined Love and Joy ‘mountain tops’. Though many have historically (often quite productively!) ‘dutifully’ focused on and committed themselves to following leader-promulgated guidelines and implementing teacher-provided instructions as well as devoted themselves to supporting group-movements stemming therefrom with Love and Joy related objectives in mind and heart, the *iconoclastic* truth is that thinking, feeling, believing and acting on such basis, if such *modus operandi* is strictly persisted in, is bound to end up being just as limiting of the experience and expression of Love and Joy as the ‘artistic’ experience and expression of a would-be artist would be (limited) if s/he were to persist in thinking, feeling, believing and operating on the premise that there was a ‘better than all others’ kind of art and, in that case, just one ‘best’ method or ‘best set’ of methods wherewith and whereby s/he could (or, worse, should! ☹️) relate to and engage with creative Life-possibilities in any topical regard.

My hope is that the time-space transcendental perspective and associated commentaries pertaining to Life’s *worldly* Flow presented here will facilitate folks more wittingly deploying their Love and Joy capabilities in creative conjunction with others around them, whatever their present *physiosocial* (including any school, line of teachers and/or group tradition)

context may be, by utilizing their own soul's awareness-and-motive constellation as currently constituted to further their personal Love and Joy growth-venture aspirations, whatever the parameters and aim-focus of these may then and there be. Even so, however, the specifics of any and everyone's *psychospiritual* process being so multi-factor determined and fluidly moment-to-moment variable as to only be approximately knowable, and what one thinks and feels in relation and response to any given stimulus at any given point pretty much just being a function of one's *history prior* to one's getting to such point in any case, I **more than anything else** recommend that you (anyone!) primarily rely on the results of your *earnestly praying* (that is, of your intentionally desiring and attitudinally expecting) to be 'shown' (by capital 'M' Mind) whatever you may (presently) not be seeing which it might be better for you to *clearly* see ('better' in terms of enabling you to move in a 'greater' Love and Joy actualization direction), and that you also be 'sparked' and 'spurred' (by capital 'S' Spirit) to functionally implement whatever would be best in that case ('best' by virtue of your consequently becoming as Love and Joy Flow-augmenting as you can possibly be in such context).^{*} The rationale here being (1) that the Reality, or Nature, of (all!) Being-n-Doing is such that every soul ultimately has to 'find' its own way to grow and continue to flourish—that is if it is to continue to grow and flourish;^{**} and (2) that mentally and emotionally tapping into the capital 'P' Power of your (it is everyone's, really!) *supranodal* capital 'S' Soul is your (anyone's!) 'best bet' in this regard.

^{*} It is in relation to actualizing such maximum possible Love and Joy experience and expression that the advice, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you," (Matthew 7:7) may be put to the most 'profitable' use, because it is then focused on 'activating' the primary 'program' of Life Itself!

^{**} As stated in Chapter 1, no one can ever actually 'see' or 'walk' someone else's Love and Joy path for him or her! "Every man shall bear his own burden" (Galatians 6:5) is how the apostle Paul conveyed the same message in the context of his hierarchical-power structured culture, wherein children, wives and servants (often under threat of punishment if they didn't do so) had to dutifully *obey* their parents, husbands and masters (see [Colossians 3:18-23](#)).

Said emphasis on *personal*-locus based *discernment*, *response-ability* and *choice* hopefully having been duly registered and axiomatically embraced, such that nothing else is ever thereafter even close to being thought to be as causally relevant to one's ongoing soul development and expression, I proffer what's said in this chapter as being an incontrovertible rationale for aiming to **cooperatively** engage in optimizing and augmenting Life's Love and Joy Flow in relation to and with salutary and reciprocally responsive others, as well as to **unilaterally** *discipline* or, such attempt failing, to *distance* oneself and other potentially positively productive aspects of Life from, as well as to whatever extent may be feasible *counteract* (psychospiritually at least, if one doesn't have the wherewithal to do so physiosocially at any given point*) presently *nonreciprocal* and *unsalutary* others (previously analogized as being like 'parasites' and 'thorns') when and where doing so may be necessary and desirable to sustain and further the growth of *healthy* 'leaves', blossoming of *creative-possibility laden* 'flowers', and ripening of *nutritious* 'fruit' on the Love and Joy generated 'tree' of Life.

* Many, thinking that being *unconditionally* 'kind' and/or *unreservedly* 'generous' in relation to others was what Jesus advocated in the 'name' of *Universal Love*, don't realize that his 'turn the other cheek', 'give him your shirt also' and 'walk an extra mile if and when compelled to walk' statements (see [Mathew...5:39-41](#)) shrewdly coached *physiosocially* 'powerless' people to *psychospiritually* embarrass and thereby (hopefully, at least) prick the conscience of those who were being unconscionably coercive and exploitative, because of the fact that they would invite and likely incur further abuse if they overtly attempted to 'resist' such treatment. His endorsement of the use of 'embarrassment' and 'showing.people.up' (for the abusers that they are!) as tactics in service of the cause of All-encompassing Love is especially apparent in his suggestion that folks take off and give their shirts (also!) to anyone who sued them for and were being awarded their coats (for non-payment of debt, etc.), because men in his culture just wore (long) shirts, without any other 'underwear', beneath their (long) coats, such that they would 'flash' and 'moon' (i.e. expose their genitals and asses to) their persecutors by so doing!

In the above-mentioned aiming to *counteract* cases especially, so as to preclude anyone's 'parasitical' and/or 'thorny' tendencies (to be unduly usurpatory, uncooperative, antithetical, etc.) from 'baiting' you into becoming involved in *blame* and *recrimination* (which, if and as indulged in, will

just operationally serve to propel such others as well as drag you ‘down’ into *negatively* spiraling whirlpools of *resentment* and *rancor*) and be able to personally proceed *soul-salutarily* (i.e. in ‘good’ *conscience*), it is very important that you maintain awareness of the facts that ‘incarnation’ as a self is what provides ‘nascent’ souls with the *opportunity* to ‘grow’ to the point where they can (eventually fully intimately, because then no longer *self-confined*) engage and cooperatively participate in Love and Joy augmenting experience and expression with co-related aspects of The Flow of Life’s Being-n-Doing, and that because of said *selfishness*, we all (and this includes you!) *initially* have a propensity to function as ‘parasites’ and ‘thorns’ to some degree, at the very least in relation to some (the latter *truth* is what is embedded in the *myth* of humankind’s ‘original’ *sin*!) So anyone who you may be inclined to ‘judge’ as being inexcusably ‘recalcitrant’ or unforgivably ‘guilty’ of ‘wrong’-doing in any (‘parasitic’ and/or ‘thorny’) regards is, at most, *just* more connection-ignorant and ego-enmeshed than you are, or were at some etiologically significant soul-development point!

Therefore, as in the case of immature children who are often ‘errant’ simply because they haven’t yet learned to do ‘better’, it is fitting (for the ‘sake’ of maximally augmenting the Love and Joy Flow of Life Itself!) that *forgiveness* and *mercy* be generously dispensed in relation to problematic others (as well as yourself, as may of course also be necessary for the same reason) as you go about sometimes deciding to *discipline* (and thereby, hopefully *educationally*, inhibit, guide, govern, etc.) their desire constellations, and sometimes, because such course of action may be impracticable, deciding to *distance* yourself from (and thus more or less just ‘abandon’) them, which choices you undoubtedly, for unduly *selfish* reasons or just out of ignorance because you yourself haven’t yet learned ‘better’, will at least sometimes ‘wrongfully’* make (and hence be ‘guilty’ of), when it would be more Love and Joy optimizing and augmenting if you were more tolerant and didn’t do so, or at least did so more kindly, with more benevolent motivation.

* Note: no one leads a completely ‘error’-free Earthly Life in the above Love and Joy optimizing and augmenting regard from beginning to end. We are all here to experience and expressively exercise Love and Joy and thereby learn and grow to be more Love and Joy productive as souls. And that involves learning from not just others’ mistakes but also our own. *Forgiveness* and *mercy* will facilitate your moving past nagging ‘what-ifs’ and *self-* or *other-*deprecatory ‘should-haves’ which you may, and in the course of your psychospiritual development undoubtedly many a time will, think and feel in response to pain-causing and Love and Joy dissipative choices made by others as well as yourself. I offer the ‘teaching’ a wise grandmother gave to an unfairly treated friend of mine when he was young: “Honey Chile, if they *knew* better, they’d *do* better!” as being profoundly wise and psychospiritually rebalancing in this regard – that is, if and as its across-the-board pertinence is taken to heart!

It will also help you to maintain your Love and Joy focus and balance, as well as to recover your equanimity (I mean the *positively smooth-flowing*, Love and Joy characterized, not the *neutral* kind, now!) when you ‘lose’ it as a result of encountering folks who are, or yourself being, emotionally disturbed by Life-Flow upsetting experiences or memories thereof and/or projecting the *possibility* of upsetting future ones, if you *faithfully* remind yourself of the invisible but nevertheless quite *real facts* that psychospiritual gestalts only appear to ‘evaporate’ and ‘disappear’ into ‘nothingness’ upon the bodies they are associated with disintegrating, and that every soul that doesn’t manage to transcendently ‘graduate’ into a state of unadulterated Love and Joy experience and expression in the course of any given lifetime will simply ‘refall’ as a freshly condensed ‘raindrop’ which will then recombine and flow along with similar (in the sense of their also having not ‘graduated’) others in Life’s incarnational Love and Joy ‘river’, and therein and thereby continue venturing towards its ‘oceanic’ *Love and Joy in communion with others and Life Itself destiny* – that is, if it doesn’t just decide to ‘throw in the towel’ and opt out of reincarnating altogether at some point, as some who ‘fail’ badly sadly do.

What *physiosocially* happens (or doesn’t) to you or others along the way in any given lifetime is far from being the whole story of your or their soul’s journey. Not only that, said *worldly* happenings (or non-happenings) themselves neither limit the ‘parameters’ nor determine the ‘shape’ of The Flow of (any)one’s *psychospiritual* being, which Soul-Flow is always

open to being mentally and emotionally expanded and reconfigured. Why? Because, as the statement “My ‘kingdom’ is not of this world” (John 18:36) indicates, it is not *physical-world based* in the first place! And though a nodal soul that becomes completely *unloving* and *unjoyful* may indeed lose its ‘i’dentity as such (as previously explained), the *superordinate* fact is that no ‘quantum’ of *psychospiritual* progress or potential, no ‘increment’ in Love and Joy engagement in and corollary capacity for further Love and Joy experience and expression, is ever really ‘lost’ in the sense of being existentially ‘nullified’ or ‘negated’ (as also previously explained). Hence the relatively recently (in his lifetime) ‘awakened’ in this regard, Apostle Paul’s exultantly defiant proclamation: “O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?” (I Corinthians 15:55) It isn’t just *physical* ‘death’ that doesn’t have the power to ‘nullify’ or ‘negate’ one’s *psychospiritual* development and ongoing Love and Joy experience and expression, however. Let me reiterate what I mean referencing situational conditions to get this point across:

A soul’s being and becoming Flow-*process* does not depend on any external event-factor—on whether one is *physiosocially* handicapped or empowered, for instance; or on how biologically young or old one is when he, she or it ‘dies’; or the relative degree of personal pleasure or pain, success or failure, affirmation or rejection, welcome or persecution, etc. one experiences while one is still ‘alive’, etc. Any and all *worldly* events and conditions are just ‘fodder’ for a nascent soul’s development, ‘grist’ for its *psychospiritual* ‘mill’, to make what it chooses to become out of. As already suggested, ‘predicaments’ and ‘occurrences’ are just incarnational stage-prop ‘set-ups’ which provide souls with challenges and opportunities whereby they may be stimulated and enabled to ‘grow’ to become more Love and Joy capable and adept—that is, if and as these are responded to and utilized with such purpose in mind and heart. This statement pertains no matter how daunting, in terms of what one thinks and feels one can possibly manage to cope with, or how unjust, in terms of what one thinks and feels and so ‘judges’ to be unacceptable, an event or condition may *initially* be experienced as being!

I dare say, framing what's going on in your and others' Earthly lives in this soul-development-scheme perspective will be necessary for anyone to make 'the best' (in terms of Love and Joy experience and actualization) of The Flow of Life in the context of the world-wide *physiosocial* (ecosystemic and socioeconomic) stability-breakdown period we are now entering. As perturbed and perturbing as what's already happening in many locales already is, our Mother-Earth 'ship' will be enveloped from stem to stern by much more catastrophic 'storms' fairly soon. All of us, individually and collectively, must now 'navigate' (or fail to!), not just in the context of a broiling 'sea' of increasing system-wide decay and disorder but, what with the degree to which we have disrupted our planet's climatic stability and depleted its natural resources and the huge amount of undisposable, toxic chemical and nuclear 'waste' we have generated, also in face of the future-occluding *possibility* (which some reputable science-versed academics even project as being probable) that our entire species may go the way of the dinosaurs as the presently building 'wave' of extinction runs its course.

Only those with a transcendental perspective such as the one shared herein will be able to 'see' such 'house of horrors' as *really* being not just the 'earthly' *challenge* but the 'heavenly' *opportunity* it is for them and others to *soulfully* 'grow' to the point where they become fully capable of and committed to executing their 'innate' (because, as said before, it is *ubiquitously* operational!) Essence-of-Life imperative to maximize the experience and expression of Love and Joy in relation to and with others and Life-at-Large. They, analogous to those with sufficient oil in their lamps in Jesus' Parable of the Ten Virgins, will be able to cognizantly access the ever-onflowing *beneficence* of Life's Love and Joy Flow in even the darkest and potentially emotionally terrifying (for anyone who doesn't have such 'vision', that is) of times and places, and so manage to 'float' and 'steer' their soul 'boats' around and past whatever *psychospiritual* 'rocks' and 'whirlpools' accost them in the course of their 'white-water river-rapids' run, both glorying in the fact of Life's eternal indomitability and jubilantly sharing and celebrating The Flow of Love and Joy with others as they do so. As the vagaries of their and others' *physiosocial* circumstances will then

be ‘seen’ to be of secondary (because transitory) importance, these will not being taken *superseriously*, which *unseriousness* will (“The Truth shall make you free” John 8:32) ‘free’ them to primarily focus on *psychospiritually* engaging in and participating in The Flow of Love and Joy alongside others ‘in’ It in *light* (meaning both *un*‘dark’ and *un*‘heavy’ ☺) mind-n-heart-ed fashion.*

* “The *light* of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of *light*.” (Matthew 6:22) In this regard, it is worth noting that, it is because this is their preference and choice (in terms of its being the kind of Life they regard as being not just most desirable but possible as well), and because they do so completely voluntarily, on their own terms, that those who live this way don’t subjectively experience, and so don’t characterize, whatever pains and stresses (etc.) they may corollarily suffer as being ‘hardships’, or whatever pleasures and comforts (etc.) they may consequently forego as being ‘sacrifices’. Though, of course, those who haven’t yet developed to the point of having such preference and making such choice will continue to imagine (i.e. *image-in* ☺) and so experience (i.e. *ex·peer·ience* ☺) ‘hardship’ and ‘sacrifice’ as unavoidably being the case in their case. Sayings such as “My ‘yoke’ is *easy*, and my ‘burden’ is *light*” (Matthew 11:30) consequently strike them as just being unbelievable propaganda.

Psychospiritual communion in a *Spirit* of Love and Joy is what is most relevant to actualizing the kind of Life Jesus spoke of: mental and emotional *affirmation* and *appreciation* of *intimately* (via mutual *recognition* and *empathy*) shared thoughts and feelings, whereby and wherein one whole-mind-n-heartedly embraces and revels in the fact that whoever or whatever one is in the presence of is a wonderfully familial being-doing aspect of The Flow of Life Itself,* any and all differences between one’s own and others’ *worldly* situations and/or conditions notwithstanding!

* It is because they have spousally embraced The Flow of Life Itself that *Cosmically* oriented and committed individuals don’t think of themselves as being ‘alone’ and no longer feel ‘i’solated, even when they aren’t with others who are especially in synch with them, the way people who haven’t yet done so naturally do. As the Apostle Paul testified: “I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from [The Love and Joy Flow of Life Itself].” (Romans 8:39); albeit, instead of the words I placed in brackets, he said “the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” because of the way in which he *conceptually* ‘framed’ what said [bracketed] words reference.

Think about all that this actually means: Among other things, it means that even if you or others who you are presently mentally and emotionally engaged with were to physically ‘die’ the very next instant, or even if you or they were to go on to ‘live’ and possibly ‘die’ dreadful (in terms of being difficult, painful and/or, in some way or other, deprived) ‘lives’ and ‘deaths’, your *souls* could and would either:

(a) continue your relational association by reincarnating together (in different ‘forms’, of course), if not on this planet (let’s say, in the extreme case, because it becomes uninhabitable), then in the context of some other planet’s Life-matrix, if you and they so choose—that is, assuming you and they didn’t complete your incarnational ‘school’ curriculum and ‘graduate’ herefrom by fully realizing your *Cosmic* ‘I’dentity this time around; or

(b) continue your association in purely *psychospiritual* realms—that is, assuming you and they did ‘graduate’ and so had no further ‘I’dentity development purpose to fulfill by incarnating again, together or not; or

(c) assuming you ‘graduate’ and they don’t (such that they continue to reincarnate) or vice versa, because what are thought of as *physical* realms are really just structurally ‘latticed’ *psychospiritual* ones, just proceed to relationally engage across the *seeming* ‘boundaries’ between these, if, when and as you and they are reciprocally so inclined.

In the latter case, disincarnate souls inhabiting purely *psychospiritual* realms (note: this also references those that are presently just ‘between’ incarnations) may interactively communicate with currently incarnated folks in undetected ways (i.e. not ‘registered’ by physically focused brains), and incarnated souls may ‘trip out’ ☺ and engage with disincarnate souls they have an affiliational affinity with in their ‘dreams’; albeit, even when ‘registered’, such realm-spanning interactions and communications are often not recognized for what they are because these tend to be automatically ‘translated’ into the ‘language’ of ‘symbolic’ words and images by physically ensconced minds, and lack of biosensory impression usually results in them quickly fading from brain-based memory upon one’s bodily ‘waking up’ in any event.

Those who ‘see’ what’s happening in this light will *know* that they as well as others don’t *really* ‘need’ to grasp for or hold onto anyone or anything in their *physiosocial* here-and-nows in order to become and/or continue to experience being completely happy (that is, fully Love and Joy related) *souls*; and that there’s no *really* compelling ‘reason’ for them to lament the *worldly* destruction, loss or inaccessibility of anyone or anything either, not to the point where the quality of their experience and expression of Love and Joy is ‘spoiled’, at least. They will live *knowing* that they ever-continue to be munificently ‘gifted’ *by*, and (though there may of course be momentary lapses in this regard as a result of their bodily experiencing physical pain and biochemical malaise*) generally be very appreciative of and feel enormous gratitude for being included *in*, Life’s ever-ongoing Love and Joy *Flow Process*, and therefore, generally at least, whole-mind-n-heart-edly engage in generous sharing and unabashed celebration thereof no matter what!**

* “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?” (Mark 15:34) was Jesus’ quite understandable ‘cry’ when suffering on the cross, for example.

** It is lust for and clinging to *worldly* ‘power’ and derivative *worldly* ‘riches’ that, especially in the context of *worldly* trouble and uncertainty, precludes folks from *ecstatically* experiencing and sharing The Flow of Love and Joy, which (Flow) is what Jesus referenced as ‘the kingdom’ of God in his statement, “It is easier for a *rope* to go through the eye of a needle, than for a ‘rich’ man to enter into the kingdom of God.” (Matthew 19:24; note: the word for ‘rope’ was historically mistranslated as ‘camel’ because the Aramaic versions of these are very similar looking and sounding). Hindu-Buddhist recommendations of emotional ‘detachment’ from any and all *selfish desires* also derive from the same fact-set, with Siddharta Gautama most famously declaring that ‘attachments’ in such regard were the root-cause of all psychospiritual angst, and corollarily advocating ‘renunciation’ and ‘relinquishment’ thereof and consequent ‘liberation’ therefrom therefore.

Such *realizations* (which logically attend conscious integration of facts pertaining to ‘reincarnation’, ‘soul development’, ‘eternal life’, etc. into one’s ‘view’ of Earthly goings on) will be especially important if and when the *possibility* that our ecosystem might end up being so disrupted that our planet becomes, for the most part at least, inhospitable to all ‘advanced’ forms of Life in the near future strikes one as being more likely than not!

Foreseeing (in such regards) folks will only be able to focus on and devote themselves to serving to maximize the experience and expression of Love and Joy in relation to and with others they cross paths with in their immediate here-and-nows (instead of becoming preoccupied with and depressed by the thought of billions of wonderful creatures therefore dying *en masse* and entire lineages of them historically ending), if they also ‘see’ that, should such mass-extinction event transpire here, those of our soul-constellations which (for whatever reason) aren’t up to ‘graduating’ into completely *self-transcendent psychospirituality* in the context of their present series of Love and Joy challenges and opportunities will (should they so choose) continue their soul-growth experience and expression process *by* reincarnating in the context of another planetary system in this *much more fantastic than most people have yet imagined* universe of ours!

I don’t mean to be dismissive of the gravity of our *worldly* situation. The fact that the *superordinate* Flow of Life (i.e. of Love and Joy) will ever-continue to be ever-accessible by any soul that opts to be a part of It by, despite trial and tribulation, psychospiritually electing to remain and aspiring to become more Loving and Joyful in relation to and with others doesn’t mean that what happens (or doesn’t) to those presently on our *world* stage or said stage itself is not important and (so) not worth caring about in their own right. (Sad to say, as a result of being ‘shocked’ and ‘turned off’ by the degree and intensity of the pain and distress they have personally experienced and/or witnessed being suffered by others here, in pursuit of ‘liberation’ from being affected thereby, a sizable number of folks have historically just *dissociated* from and so stopped being *soulfully engaged* with others in the context of the Flow of Love and Joy on Earth, for their present at least just ‘numbing’ out. I only wish to emphasize the fact that, regardless of how troubled and troubling and possibly near-term terminal the particular segment of history one may be in, it is the Love and Joy developments which take place ‘in’ the *souls* of the ‘actors’ involved (including oneself) as they ‘play’ their ‘parts’ on the world’s ‘stage’ which, because of the ever-*ongoingness* of said developments, are more Love-and-

Joy-Flow consequential than what happens in terms of the story-line of ‘the play’ or to ‘the stage’ itself. In other words, it is the *psychospiritual*, not the *physiosocial* aspects of one’s and others’ contextual experience and expression that are most Flow-of-Life (d/b/a ☺ Love and Joy) determinative, and so most *worth* focusing on and engaging with. Periodically looking at and contemplating the ‘skeletal’ remnants of no longer existing species and civilizations will remind you of this: All personal and collective *physiosocial* ‘i’identity related features of Life’s Being-Doing eventually disintegrate and dissolve in any and every case, no matter what!

The analogy of a sporting game or contest pertains. What matters most is the ‘state’ or ‘condition’ (for want of a better words) of one’s *soul* and so what it goes on to ‘be’ and ‘do’ after ‘the clock’ (of the body *it* was in) ‘runs out’, which *soulular* being-doing will have little, if anything at all, to do with the particular hit-or-miss ‘goals’ one aimed at or the ‘scores’ one rang up (or didn’t) in any given lifetime. Rather, it will be a function of the *character* and *integrity* of one’s intersoulular engagements – take a moment here to contemplate what becoming ‘engaged’ to be ‘married’ customarily entails – in the course of said life, as it was lived in relationship to and with others. Who knows? If theories postulating the possibility of ‘parallel universes’ which have recently gained traction in the field of Quantum Physics are correct, the Love and Joy based interests and capabilities you are developing here now (including the *wisdom* you are garnering and collating from what you are presently relationally ‘learning’) may even be reincarnationally or, if you ‘graduate’ this time around, post-incarnationally deployed (as a ‘spirit guide’ or ‘muse’, maybe), in the matrixial framework of another ‘world’ which is presently proving itself to be even more Love-and-Joy-generative in temperospatial dimensions ‘paralleling’ ours. Whatever the case turns out be, I hope you are now more able to whole-mind-n-heart-edly live *knowing* (that is, thinking, feeling, experiencing, and revelling! in the fact) that there is no end or limit to Life’s possibilities as a result of the perspective I have introduced you to here!

Finally, as you may well appreciate based on what you have had to ideationally grapple with and collate to get to this point, it is with a welcome sense of (task-completed, whew!) relief that I close this exposition by wishing that you and others around you fare well whatever your and their future ventures. If you've found any of what I've said illuminating and/or inspirational and think there's a chance that others you know or know of might also, since my wish is to share what I 'see' as being most relevant to *positively* creative Love and Joy involvement in our conjoint context as widely as possible, by any and all means please do pass copies of this on. Also please consider printing one or more copies of this treatise out on acid-free paper and storing these in a safe dry place for others' future use just in case the electric 'grid' and cybernetic 'web', which presently make dissemination of documents such as this easy-peasy, breaks down in your locale at some point. That such may even be case worldwide in the not too distant future also strikes me as being within the realm of possibility; though, so this may reach as many as possible in the meantime, if it is going to happen, my hope is it doesn't soon.

Shalom!

