

"MONEY--TO HAVE OR HAVE NOT?"

01/17/2017

Most all of us have heard the saying, "money is the root of all evil". The actual quote is--"The love of money is the root of all evil". Money, in and of itself, is not evil---BUT it can become like an idol when people begin to "worship it" and fall into the trap of equating money with true self happiness. When someone becomes consumed with amassing more and more money the things that bring us true happiness are, many times, forgotten.

Many of us have read and heard about how the Christian saints lived lives devoid of the comforts of life. Jesus of Nazareth and his apostles and followers spent many nights outside sleeping in gardens or on the outskirts of villages. The prophet, Mohammed, lived most of his life in caves. Siddhartha Gautama, who became the Buddha, was born a prince and lived in the luxury of a palace until he began his Spiritual quest and gave up all the fineries of life. Even today there are Christian and Buddhist monks who have devoted their lives to their Spiritual quests by disavowing all "worldly comforts". So, are we to follow in their footsteps and "live poor as church mice" in order to lead Spiritual lives?

I believe it is important for us to remember that those Spiritual leaders and personages mentioned above were born to enlighten humanity and that their missions here were different from ours today. Jesus, Mohammed, the Buddha and the Christian saints would not have been able to accomplish their Spiritual goals if they had lived lives of comfort and/or luxury. To fulfill their missions it was necessary for them to have lived their lives in the manner they did.

We, too, have Spiritual missions to accomplish while we are here but I doubt that any of us will be commissioned with trying to enlighten the whole of humanity. Nevertheless, our existence here is extremely important and our Spiritual responsibilities to ourselves and others should be the focal points of our lives. God, or The Creative Power & Presence of the Universe, wants us to lead happy, loving and prosperous lives! And money is a part of that existence!

Our prosperity and abundance comes to us through "right of consciousness". If our consciousness is focused on living lives of love, compassion and a willingness to help others then we WILL have all of our needs supplied. For some of us that will mean more ample supplies of money and earthly wealth than others. BUT, for all of us using the blessings God has given us to better our lives and the lives of others is the reason we are here--no matter how much or how little money or possessions we accrue.

It is NOT wrong to be wealthy and no one should feel guilty for having more than someone else. There will always be people who have less than we have and, unfortunately, some who will not even have the necessities of life. If we have been blessed with the gift of prosperity it is our duty to use a portion of that prosperity to minister to those less fortunate. Using the blessings God has given us to help others and make this world a better place is the simple mission for us all!

All my best--

Chip

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "Money often costs too much." Ralph Waldo

Emerson