

CO-CREATING A FULFILLED LIFE WITH THE DIVINE

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Jan Brueghel the Younger, The Divine creating the Sun, the Moon, and the Stars (seventeenth century).

Introduction: Biblical Creation Story

In this article, we'll be discussing co-creating with the Divine. As I thought about the topic, I was reminded of a version of the creation story in some Bibles, which begins like this: "In the beginning, when the Divine created the world, the universe was in chaos. The waters were all over the place, and there was darkness. Darkness prevented all before light came." Some versions of the Bible state that a wind from the Divine swept over the face of the waters. As Rosicrucians, we know that when we hear something like that, something about the wind of the Divine, it is really the breath of the Divine, the very essence of the Divine moving over the universe. Some versions of the Bible go on to say there was a command: "Then the Divine said, 'let there be light,' and there was light." This light is the representation

of the Divine. As Rosicrucians, we think of it as the greater light, the very essence of the Divine.

The Bible says the Divine created the world as we know it over the next five days, except for two kinds of beings. On the sixth day, the Divine created land animals and said, "Let us make humankind in our image and after our likeness." Then, the Divine created humankind, male and female. In the second chapter of the Book of Genesis, it states that the Divine breathed into Adam's nostril the breath of life, and he became a living soul.

Now, let's look at the phrase "in the image and likeness of the Divine." Does this refer to our image when we look in the mirror? Of course not. It refers to humankind being given the Divine qualities of the Divine, the creative powers of the Divine. When we look at the idea of the



living soul, that soul incarnated into the human being is a soul directly connected with the Universal Soul.

Creation Process

Let's look at the creation process. How did the Divine create? First, through Divine thought or vision, the understanding that everything that is brought forth into manifestation was created first in mind as a thought. Second, with action animation, the breath of the essence of the Divine comes into contact with the unified field pregnant with all possibilities. Third, through word, the Divine created by fiat: "let there be light," and when those words went out, the manifestation was made.

Rosicrucian Ontology

Let's take a moment to look at our Rosicrucian ontology. We won't look at all of the principles, but we will look at a few of them. The first and most important one is that the Divine is the Universal Intelligence that thought, manifested, and animated all creation. As Rosicrucians, we say the God of our Heart, the God of our Realization. Why? Because each of us may have a different conception of what the Divine is according to our level, but the Divine has been called the Grand Architect of the Universe, Divine Mind, Creator, God, Allah, or whatever you want to call It: It is Divine Intelligence.

For Rosicrucians, the eye of Horus, or the wadjet, is a very important symbol. It is an ancient Egyptian symbol that represents the omniscience, the omnipotence, and the omnipresence of the Divine. Omnipresence is equally

present everywhere. There is no place, there is nothing, where the Divine is not. Omnipotence is all power, and omniscience is all knowledge. This is the Universal Intelligence that is equally present everywhere and establishes order in all.



Wadjet Ring, undated, from the collection of the Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum.

All creation is permeated by a Universal Soul that evolves toward the perfection of its own nature. Think about that. We call this vibratory energy "Spirit." Matter owes its existence to a vibratory energy, which extends throughout the universe and permeates every atom. Everything in the material world vibrates, including us,

including thoughts. The rate of vibration is what makes one item different from another. Thoughts are vibratory impulses of the human mind.

A person is dual in nature and triple in manifestation, so a person is both a physical being and a spiritual being having a living soul. One also has a body, a mind, and a soul. As stated earlier, the soul is an attribute of Universal Soul, containing all of the attributes of Universal Soul, just like a drop of ocean water contains all that is in the ocean. The soul incarnates in the infant's body at the moment they take their first breath, making them a living and conscious being. As the creation story in the Bible states, the Divine breathed into his nostril the breath of life. We know that happens at the moment of the child's birth. The destiny of every person is determined by the manner in which they exercise their free will and by the karma which results from the choices that they make. From the beginning, humankind was given the

ability to properly judge, the reason to decide, and the power to make choices; therefore, each one of us is responsible for the result of our actions or non-action.

Who Are We?

“Who are we?” we might ask. I am going to ask all of us to take a moment. Close your eyes, go within, and ask yourself, “Who do you think you are?” Do you know it for real? Think back to the adage: know thyself. This is an adage that Rosicrucians are well aware of. It is an adage that was written at the entrance to the Temple of Apollo in Delphi, Greece. But what is it really saying to us? It is telling us that we must know ourselves. We must know who and what we can do. We must know who the source is. We must know what action drives us. It is said that to know ourselves is to know the Divine and acknowledge our divinity and that of others. As we do that, we put ourselves in harmony with all that is. And then the question becomes this: Do we believe that we can create as the Divine did?

And so, let us now look at what others have said about “who we are.” H. Emily Cady, one of the first female doctors in the U.S. and a Christian metaphysician writer, said in her seminal book *Lessons*



H. Emily Cady.

in Truth, “We suffer because we have forgotten who we are and whose we are!” Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, a French Jesuit priest who was not at all appreciated by his community of faith, said, “We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience.” Ponder that for a second: we are spiritual beings having a human experience.

H. Spencer Lewis said, “Man [a person] is, essentially, a counterpart of God [the Divine]. Created in God’s [the Divine’s] spiritual and divine likeness, God [the Divine] gave unto men [people] the directive, creative power, to a degree, that God [the Divine] possessed.” If we accept his statement as true, which it is, what are the prerequisites that will enable us to co-create with the Divine? The answer is an understanding and working in harmony with natural and universal laws, the first of which is the Law of Thought.

The Law of Thought

Many of us knew, know, loved, and love Dr. Lonnie Edwards, and we’re familiar with his book *Spiritual Laws that Govern Humanity and the Universe*. On the Law of Thought, he said, “It is the most fundamental, for it connects with other laws and influences all of human activities and experiences. This law functions through universal mind, which flows in, through, and about everyone. It is a creative intelligent power. Whenever we use our mind, we are setting into motion the creative power and energy of universal mind.”

Our teachings tell us that thoughts are an expression of the Cosmic Consciousness that resides within us. We say further that a thought is the result of the interaction of the vibrations of Spirit and the vibrations of the soul that are within us. So, you’re seeing that everything



is within us, in potential waiting, for us to bring them into manifestation.

I'm sure we all agree and understand, though we may not like it, that we create our lives by our thoughts and are creating all the time. Such creation may be conscious or unconscious. We must ever be mindful of the Law of Karma and our conscious and unconscious intentions. When we have a thought, we must ask ourselves, "From what space is the thought coming? Is it coming from a space of love, compassion, or understanding, or a space of anger, rage, or spite?" We've already said that we're endowed with free will, and the choices we make about the thoughts we entertain have karmic consequences. If we're coming from a space of love and compassion, whatever we create, the thought will bring forth something good. If we're thinking from a space of anger, we will have an experience that is angry. This is the law. It's as if we were to plant an apple; we would have an apple tree that yields apples. It would not yield oranges.

Around twenty to twenty-five years ago, the Order had a bumper sticker that said, "Thoughts have wings." I'm sure you've heard that expression. Sometimes people will say, "Thoughts are things." Why? Because thoughts reproduce after themselves. We're not talking about a passing thought. We're talking about

the kind of thought that we entertain in mind, that we give life to, that we feel with vibrations. The thoughts turning into thought forms will go out and bring forth that which is like them.

The Law of Karma

We talked a little bit about the Law of Karma, the law of cause and action. Every single action has a reaction. The universe is orderly. It will not stay out of balance and will always strive to be in balance. Karma is neither positive nor negative. Again, it is a balancing act. It is as if you've got a scale. If one side of the scale goes down a little bit, there has to be an adjustment. It's got to come back and be balanced.

I found an image many, many years ago that speaks to my heart because it says, "Stand guard at the door of your mind." In our Rosicrucian studies, we always look at spending time with things that are constructive. The mind, one often says, is like a garden. What do you allow to grow in it? Do you make sure that the soil is properly maintained, giving it the nutrients and water it needs? It works the same way with our mind. What do we allow to stay? What do we entertain in mind? Whatever is in our mind, whatever we focus on, is what we bring into our lives. If we entertain negative thoughts all the time, the universe has no choice but to bring us negative results. If we entertain positive thoughts,





then our experiences will be positive. We have to be very careful about what we are creating with the thoughts we entertain in mind. “Stand guard at the door of your mind.”

The Eternal Quest

From time immemorial, humankind, you and I, have wondered about the meaning of life, the purpose of life. There is always a soul impulse ever-pushing us to grow, evolve, and be that which we were meant to be, to do that which we were here to do, to fulfill Divine will, and to be of service. And sometimes we're not paying attention. We go on, and the impulse feels like dissatisfaction, and what do we do? We pursue material possessions. We want to get a house, a car, maybe a particular relationship, but it still leaves us dissatisfied. It leaves us unfulfilled because the pursuit of material possessions will not fulfill or satisfy the urges of the soul.

I know that all of us are on a spiritual path, on a mystical path, to grow and evolve spiritually. Although we may have begun it, sometimes life happens, and we may stop or not do as much as we can. Let's look at what is necessary for us to have a transformational journey toward a fulfilled life. A fulfilled life is a life of contentment, a life where we are satisfied with what is. It may not necessarily be what we want,

but we have accepted the present. We can always work toward a better future today. But where do we begin? We begin with a burning desire, a vision, or a passion for something.

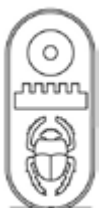
Steps to Creating a Fulfilled Life

So, what are the steps to creating a fulfilled life?

Commitment

Many years ago, I found a definition of commitment. In his book, *The Scottish Himalayan Expedition*, published in 1951, the Scottish mountaineer and writer, William Hutchinson Murray, said,

Until one is committed, there is hesitancy, the chance to draw back, always ineffectiveness. Concerning all acts of initiative (and creation), there is one elementary truth, the ignorance of which kills countless ideas and splendid plans: [and this is the truth] that the moment one definitely commits oneself, then Providence moves too [And we will say the Cosmic mind moves too]. All sorts of things occur to help one that would never otherwise have occurred. A whole stream of events issues from the decision, raising in one's favor all manner of unforeseen incidents and meetings and material assistance,



which no man [person] could have dreamt would have come his way...

I have learned a deep respect for one of Goethe's couplets: "Whatever you can do, or dream you can, begin it."

And I would say, begin it now. "Boldness has a genius power and magic in it!" It reminds me of the scriptures that say, "The Divine did not give us a spirit of fear but a spirit of boldness and courage." Be bold and creative as you pursue your dream to have a fulfilled life.

Studying

We must study some of the steps that are needed for a fulfilled life. We study to acquire knowledge regarding natural laws and divine laws and how they operate in this world. Then, we put into practice what is learned. Knowledge is meaningless unless we put it into practice and go a step further; we don't just put it into practice but lift it. Through its teachings, the Rosicrucian Order has provided knowledge and tools from ancient times that will help us to live in harmony with ourselves, others, and all that exists.

Meditation

Meditation is a spiritual practice that enables us to go beyond our physical sense to commune with the Master Within. The Master Within is that Divine part of us that

is connected to Divine Mind, to Universal Mind. As we meditate and attune with the Cosmic, we are able to access Divine Wisdom, where guidance, inspiration, instruction, and whatever else we might need is obtained. Throughout history, we have seen the genius of humankind. We have invented and created thousands and thousands of things that have never existed before, that we have never seen before. And they've been inspired by Divine Intelligence.

Self-Assessment and Transformation

Another step toward a fulfilled life involves honest self-assessment and a willingness to be transformed in depth. Yes, we have a human body with an ego, and we're not always listening to the whispering of the Inner Self. Many times, we're listening to the ego. Sometimes, we know better, and it's okay, but when we honestly assess ourselves, we can see where changes are needed. If we are committed and willing to make those changes, then, yes, it is time to make them in a gentle way. We don't focus on our weaknesses; we focus on our strengths. Instead of looking at the weaknesses, we look at the opposite.

For example, if we are frequently impatient, we should watch ourselves when the opportunities arise. Again, be a deity and watch what's going on in your mind. Then, say to yourself, "Let me be patient, let



me be patient,” and practice your patience. This is how we can transform ourselves, and that goes for everything. We must understand and accept the limitations of the outer self and bring the ego under the control of the Inner Self. The Inner Self knows exactly what is proper for us and what is for our highest good. It will always guide you properly in the right direction.

Imagination

Imagination is an attribute of the Divine, a spiritual faculty. It is the formative power of thought, the molding power of the mind. It is the ability to create in our minds something that has never existed before. We must use imagination to create the images that correspond to our desire. Imagination is unlimited.

Mental creation or visualization is a process by which we create in our minds that which we have imagined, and the steps are as follows: Choose a desire that is in harmony with the good, something that will benefit you and others. Reflect on your desire and determine if you're worthy of it. You must take the necessary action to fulfill your desire; the Divine helps those who help themselves. Then close your eyes. Go within and mentally see your desire taking shape. Put yourself in the picture, and see yourself engaged in the activity. Engage all your senses. What does it look like? What does it taste like? What does it feel like? Know that your dream is taking shape and form in the Cosmic world. Know it for certain. Know that it is coming to you. Know it and feel it. Experience the feeling you would feel when it comes. For example, if you are about to take an exam that would allow you to work in your desired profession, you want to visualize yourself taking the exam, being able to be knowledgeable, taking the exam, and being able to go into the computer if it is online and look for the result and see your name there. Feel the feeling that you would feel when it, in fact, happens. Then, slowly



release the picture. Release it to Cosmic mind. Cosmic law is being fulfilled, and you end your visualization with the following invocation, “If it pleases the Cosmic, it is done.” You can repeat this visualization at a later date.

Master of Our Destiny or Victim of Circumstances

In *Self-Mastery and Fate with the Cycles of Life*, H. Spencer Lewis says, “There are individuals who are masters and creators of their destinies and innocent or despondent victims of fate at other times. The lives of such persons simply prove the fact that man [a person] can be master or slave as he [they] chooses.” And William Ernest Henley wrote, “I am the master of my fate, I am the captain of my soul.”

I leave you with a question: Are you the master of your fate? You can be. You have all of the faculties, all of the gifts, to be able to do exactly what the Divine meant for you to do, to be of service to humanity.

Video

<https://youtu.be/stBZXmHoois>

