

Article 156: Righteousness Is Not Right.

A pure heart and moral uprightness cannot be achieved, possessed or attained to, nor are they to be applied to your life, ...purity and moral uprightness must be lived. Righteousness is considered, by many, to be a divine attribute of God's essential nature ...which of course means that righteousness is a divine attribute of your essential nature as well. Righteousness is frequently defined as "perfect obedience to the law" ...or suffering the penalty, ...and the "first law" of God, given to Adam and Eve at Eden, was "of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it..." Do you live by the fruits of your judgments? In this law, there are no exceptions. For instance, there are no exceptions for any person or reason, for any word or action, for any belief or thought, for any faith or attitude, for any worshiping or sacrificing, and not even for living your free will. This law states that, under no condition and for no reason, no matter how seemingly well-intentioned those situations or moral the circumstances may be, are you to judge anyone or anything ...ever! You are to live your free will as you truly desire without any judgments, ...for as righteousness is an attribute of God's essential nature, it is an attribute of your essential nature as well, ...therefore, when living "without judgments", you are living righteously. (For additional information, see Articles 1-7 on Forever Living website.)

All of "God's laws", as indicated in the Bible, after Adam and Eve (mankind) had chosen to live by the fruits of "good and evil", were given to mankind to lessen or end his/her continuous struggle against this self-chosen, self-destructive, judgmental way of life ...and have no meaning or purpose for those who are willing to live without judgments, ...in fact, for those who live without judgments, though the Bible after the third chapter of Genesis has historical interest and significance, it serves no real or moral purpose, ...but remember, this is only true for those who righteously live without any judgments of others or self, of conditions and circumstances, of events, or of "moral rightness". Does this seem too difficult? ...maybe because you feel left without a sense of right and righteousness? ...and wonder how to guide your self and life?

Since nothing can be created which is not endowed with its creator's essential nature, and since righteousness is the essential nature of God ...and God (according to the Bible) created all things, in doing so, God endowed all things with his essential nature of perfection and righteousness. Therefore, contrary to traditional beliefs, righteousness has nothing to do with doing "right" or living "morally right", righteousness is living without any judgment of "right/wrong or good/evil"; ...only that is righteousness ...and all attempts to live righteously or do what is right continues your right/wrong judgments and withholds your essential righteousness. Be very, very careful about judging what is and what is not

morally “right and correct”, for all such judgments, no matter how moral and pure of heart you are in this, will withhold your conscious righteousness, ...though, since all of your beliefs, thoughts, attitudes, emotions, words, and actions are completely endowed with your essential nature of righteousness, and judgments serve no useful purpose anyway.

Do you still want to live righteously? ...or attain to a state or condition of moral righteousness? Will you continue judging self-righteously or offer righteousness and create and live in an environment (state and condition) of righteousness by self-evidencing your essential nature of righteousness **without any judgments**? ...for that alone is righteousness.

Righteousness on a worldly or more mundane level is a state of being right or vindicated; meeting the standards of what is morally right and just. Are you beginning to understand how seeking righteousness traps you in endless judgments and binds you irrevocably to those judgments, such that the righteousness you seek completely eludes your awareness and life? Will you choose righteousness or judgments? Until now, you felt it *absolutely necessary* to judge in order to live a morally righteous self and life, ...do you still feel the same way?

Are you still wondering how a “moral right” can be determined without judging? Well, let’s see. When judging, supposedly to discover a moral right, in that, your focus is upon the assumed or perceived unrighteousness of the person or thing you are judging, for, after all, if you felt that what you were judging was righteous, you would not continue judging, ...therefore, what you judge in this way, you have already judged to be unrighteous ...and have blinded yourself to its essential nature of righteousness. Do you understand that judgments cannot help you determine a moral right? ...and they keep you from seeing and understanding *the essential righteousness inherent in all things*?

Do you tend to live your righteous indignation at the injustice or lack of fairness imposed on people by others ...or by the universe? Do you feel that “bad things happen to good people”? Is there any righteousness in such judgments? And isn’t such righteous indignation only narrow-mindedness and intolerance? Righteous indignation is self-righteousness in action ...and only indicates your own sense of moral superiority over ...others and your assumptions about events and conditions. Are you so unwilling to release and live your own inherent righteousness without judging that you must judge, and in that condemn, in order to seemingly raise yourself? Are self-righteously committed to your judgments? Is that morally or ethically right?

All moral-righteousness is temporary and elusive, for it remains “righteous” only as it conforms to what is judged to be “right”, ...is that what you want to continue? ...conditional righteousness “as usual”? Is that acceptable for you? If you want more, you must live more: **live without**

judgments, ...for only that righteousness, flowing from your essential nature ...not from your judgments, is genuine ...and will truly serve and enhance you. And, in that, you inherit the awareness of, and the privilege to live, the wholeness of the universe and yourself, ...while, through judgments and not seeing the goodness and benevolence of all things, you deny and withhold half of the universe and your self from yourself, ...does that seem righteous or wise? Righteousness is not reserved for a privileged few, nor is it conferred upon you as a reward for faithfulness or as a prerequisite of your rank or status. You carry righteousness as an unreserved attribute of your essential nature ...and, as such, you are righteousness itself ...which you enliven to consciousness as you embody your self and life and environment without judgments ...and convey that to others. **Are you up to the joy and excitement and enriching satisfaction of living and offering your righteousness?**