

Article 162: Eyes and Ears

Two weeks ago, we were reading Discussion 3 from “Forever Living, Basic Beliefs” which reads as follows:

“God is often, or usually, considered to be a supreme being, ...so when we speak of God in a personalized way, although some would depersonalize God, or decrease the power of God, by saying, “God is a loving force “a causative force”, we will say, for the moment, “A supreme being who is, in essence, ultimately good and loving.”

You would also say, in one form or another, that God is omnipotent. Omnipotent: meaning, “Having unlimited or universal power, or all powerful.” And we are assuming in this, that God, in the sense that we are talking in terms of the ultimate, would be ultimately powerful. God would be omnipresent: meaning, “God would be present everywhere.” There would not be any part or portion of the universe in which God was not present. And God would be omniscient: meaning, “Having total knowledge; knowing everything.” This would even satisfy Aristotle’s saying that, “if God caused or created the universe, then certainly God would have total knowledge of what He has caused or created.”

Well, putting all of this together, we would say, in Forever Living, therefore, that **God is all things, ...and all things are good.** To explain that last statement, let’s go back to the beginning where we said that **God is a supreme being who is, in essence, ultimately good and loving.** Therefore, we are saying that since God is present in all things/knows all things/has unlimited power, therefore God is all things, ...and all things, being in and of the presence of God, are therefore good; ...for if evil, or non-good (let’s call it that) exists, then God, being all things, is also evil. Are you willing to accept that? In our expressions here, **are you willing to accept a good/evil God?”**

At this point, I was asked, “is that like what you were saying at the beach?”

Well, that question was so vague that I didn’t have a clue what it was about, so I was tempted to say, “No!” ...and let the questioner try to figure out my answer ...but I knew she would apply my “No!” to her concealed question ...which would then lead to further confusions and misunderstanding and probably to even greater problems in the future.

How many times have you answered someone’s question without being aware of what was actually being asked? ...and how many times have you asked a question other than the one you had in mind? It’s not a matter of speaking before your mind is engaged, it’s a matter of thinking one thing ...and asking or saying something different, ...and if you get an answer, ...how do you know which question was answered? ...or, could it be that, since your question was not clear, the answer applies to a different, third, completely unknown question in the answerer’s mind? This

may be more common and insidious in your conversations than you realize ...especially in romantic relationships where you tend to dance around “real issues” with the excuse of “protecting the relationship”. But all of that is another issue ...for another time.

After much conversation, it was determined that the “beach reference” was about my saying, at the beach, that **all things are good•evil**. Do you see the questioner’s connection here? It is **good/evil** in the Basic Belief we were discussing and my statement of **good•evil** at the beach, ...but even that connection was not the “real question” ...which seemed to be, “How can you possibly say, in one instance, that *all things are good* ...and then, at another time, declare that *all things are good•evil*? And the even more-deeply buried question was, “Isn’t that a blatant contradiction?” And we can probably say that under that question is, “Do you really know what you’re talking about?” And concealed under that is the question, “How can I possibly rely upon what you are saying as a guide to live by, with such obvious contradictions as this?” And we won’t discuss the concealed questions under these questions. Are you beginning to understand the problems~especially in relationships~in all of this? ...and in all of these concealed, unasked questions?

Don’t ask a question unless you want an answer to that question ...then ask the question you want answered!

Okay, now, let’s see where this “apparent contradiction” led us to. **You cannot discuss or properly question conclusions unless you know the premises upon which the conclusions rest.**

In the first instance, the conclusion that **all things are good** rests upon the premise that *if you except that God is good ...and all things*, then **all things are good**; ...while the second conclusion that **all things are good•evil** rests upon the premise that *if you believe something is good, ...someone, somewhere will believe it is bad or evil, and since this applies to all things in the universe*, then **all things good•evil**.

Since these are appropriate conclusions from the premises offered, each conclusion is reasonable and correct, ...but the premises may be false or contradictory ...so let’s look these.

The premise, *if you accept that God is good ...and all things* does not contradict the premise, *if you believe something is good, ...someone, somewhere will believe it is bad or evil, and since this applies to all things in the universe*, ...therefore, the conclusions, properly following the premises, are not contradictory. But, we have two different conclusions, ...so how can that possibly be? ...and not be contradictory? Obviously, this is an apparent contradiction ...which, if properly imaged, are individually correct! ...but when connected, as the questioner did, then maybe something “entirely different” or greater has emerged. Let’s see!

So, I asked, “What is common in the premises?”

The questioner said, “good” is common.

“No, ...I want a common image ...not a common word. Do these premises have a common image ...and if they do, ...what is that?”

After much discussion, it was decided that *if you accept* and *if you believe* are common, because, if you truly accept something ...you believe it, ...therefore, “your believing” is the common image. (Please consider this carefully, so that, in the future, when we ask for your image of something, that’s what we are talking about ...and asking for). Can you not see or sense that image of “your believing”?

And if we apply this image or knowing to the premises, the statement says, **if you believe that all things are good, then all things are good**, and the second says, **if you believe in good and evil, then all things are good•evil**, ...so now we have the even greater and finer understanding that **whatever you believe, that will, for you, be so!**

Of course, this could possibly be an error! ...but it can only be an error if some “infinite outside standard” declares that *something is something, regardless of what you may believe*, but for this standard to be a truth, “it must always and in all ways be true”, ...therefore, it is not a knowable or provable standard to follow or live, so...

***Whatever you believe,
that will, for you, be so!***

Are you beginning to see and understand this example? What appears to be contradictory may not be contradictory at all, and properly imaging what is declared will most certainly lead you to greater and finer connections and awarenesses. **Each time you add a new understanding to an “original image”, greater, more-expansive awarenesses will simultaneously appear.** If you fail to carry these images ...and clearly maintain them, you will not expand your understandings ...or connect to other or greater awarenesses.

Open you inner-eyes!

Now, let’s apply this to your self and life today. An illness in your body says a great deal about you, and your romantic relationship says other things, ...and while these things may seem contradictory, if correctly imaged and properly understood, like the two statements previously discussed, the illness and relationship will connect you to even greater and finer understandings of each ...and about many other aspects of your self and life as well. Judge either ...or heal the illness or destroy the relationship before understanding what is truly being imaged and revealed ...and you will lose these greater, more-expansive awarenesses ...and clear view into the self and life you are creating and living.

All of this is true of the apparent contradictions revealed in the MRI process presented in the last *Gathering*. Your tendency to heal, solve, resolve, leave or destroy, overcome more-expansive, fix or otherwise set matters as you judge they “should be” withholds all awarenesses, ...especially since, being blinded by judgments, you don't have a clear or accurate image of what is occurring.

And though, in explanation, the procedures described in this Article seem complicated, once you are willing to stay with and follow the images, and patterns being presented, you will easily connect to fine awarenesses, ...or would you rather continue living deaf and blind “as usual” ...and asking vague questions of life “as usual”? Life will faithfully answer every question you ask of it, but you must ask the question you want answered ...and listen to and image what life is revealing?

*Do you have the eyes to image clearly
and the ears to listen intently?*