

Article 179: Is Life Just a Game? part 2

Suppose some life players gather together, contrive methods of cooperating with believers against non-believers ...or cooperators against cheaters, what do you believe will happen?

“Well, if there are enough of them doing this, then, in this worldly tournament, they are likely to WIN BIG ...while other’s LOSE BIG ...or are forced to cheat against those people.”

So ...it seems then that this form of cooperation is truly wise, for if you can get such cooperation happening on a large enough scale, those individuals with their self-centered rules will certainly come out ahead, ...right?

“That’s logical! Maybe life is a game after all, because that certainly describes matters in life ...at least in my life; ...we do gather together in different groups or countries ...living by different rules, and since we can only win within our particular groups, each person must find the right group.”

But, is that really winning in life? Doesn’t that merely continue the competitive game?

“I suppose so, but what other choice is there? ...for living life as a rule-player or a cheater doesn’t seem to work either, ...does it?”

Are there no other choices?

“Well, each person can live by his or her own rules ...and be a *real player* in that personal life, but is that at all possible? Everything else seems like a foolish game, ...doesn’t it?”

The problem is that the first person to step away from the rules of the game as established by most players ...or by a strong group of players, even to introduce new rules of understanding and cooperation, instead of being “a cooperator”, will be considered a fool for leaving the safety and winning of the majority ...and will be treated as a cheater and a competitor.

“Is that really true? If that player is introducing understanding and cooperation, won’t that person and his ideas be welcomed and embraced?”

The belief is that you, the first person to step away from the traditional longstanding rules, such as, judging good and evil ...and seeing the causes of all things, are either insane or foolish or a real loser ...because, by not “judgin’ and causin’” you cannot determine who or what is competing against you ...which you must win against or protect yourself from. And if the dangers are not in people ...they are in the events, conditions, circumstances, and situations in life which are acting against you.

“But everyone won’t be against me, ...will they?”

In this example, others will loudly and frequently call you a fool for even considering that *all things are good ...and nothing is evil*, for evil forces do exist, they cheat big, and they will soon overwhelm you.

“So what? ...that’s their own foolishness talking, ...that doesn’t have to affect me, ...does it?”

No, it doesn’t, ...but after enough of your being *all alone in the cold*, you, like many others will go right back into the competitive game of life ...and play by the safety of the majority’s rules. After all, you will rationalize, these traditional rules have been around for centuries, ...they certainly can’t be all wrong. Besides, you will declare, no one can truly say what the outcome will be, so I might as well play to win as...

“As either a cooperator or a cheater, ...right? Sure, I can understand that, soo...”

Random acts to change the rules are futile!

“Are they really futile?”

It seems that someone has to step out and begin rewriting the traditional rules of life which haven’t worked for centuries, ...and why shouldn’t it be you?

“Because its cold and lonely being alone ...that’s why!”

Remember, though it seems cold and lonely at first, you can gather together with others of like mind, cooperate with and support each person living as he or she truly desires ...and never compete against others, ...and, in that, live and secure a joyously happy life ...instead of continuing the same game over and over again.

After all, do you really believe you will be happy and fulfilled merely by being happier and more fulfilled than others? Winning in this way through competition, or by comparing your life against any other, though you seem to win the game, the competition, the recognition, or the judgment, for you, this will be a tremendous loss ...and you will discover that you have LOST BIG TIME!

“So, we must gather in groups of like-kind to protect ourselves against others ...so we can live as we truly desire, ...right?”

What you struggle against, or compete against, for whatever reason, controls you, ...so, gathering in groups to protect yourself from others will actually control you, ...is that the self and life you truly desire?

“No, of course not, ... but you said to *gather together with others of like mind ...and cooperate with and support each other*, ...didn’t you say that?”

Yes, of course, ...but we also said “...and never compete against others.” Protecting yourself IS competing against others and events, ...do you understand that?

“I suppose. Sure! I see that, ...but we can’t always live as we truly desire, ...that isn’t possible, is it?”

It’s not possible if you think it’s not possible. When people divide themselves into diverse groups competing against one another, the individuals of one group will find their own beliefs, assets, understandings,

and abilities to be wise, right, and commendable, ...and they will see a great lack of these “good” traits in other groups; and they will find others’ beliefs and ways offensive and threatening ...which must be defended against ...or even attacked.

By continuing to live by the rules of judging and causing, you make life a useless game of competing with and against others. By refusing to play, you are stuck in the game, even if you don’t realize it ...or if you deny it, for you do not know any other way of life ...and the first step out of the game is fearful and lonely. No matter how many times you’ve tried to get out of the game, ...didn’t you quickly return to your game of life “as usual”?

“Of course! ...so how can I possibly live as I truly desire?”

The only thing that keeps you from living as you truly desire is your constant struggle against what you believe are “the rules of life”.

“And if I live life by a different set of rules, people will consider me a cheater, ...and one thing I do know is that everyone loves to judge and punish cheaters ...if only because such actions make them feel *good and right*, ...so I hafta protect myself, ...don’t I?”

Protecting yourself against others, or against events and circumstances, creates and strengthens and justifies that those things are enemies or competitors which must be competed against, ...and this forms your rules of life ...and prevents your living as you truly desire. It seems that if you don’t have enough competitors, you create more ...and more. This is no way to live as you desire, for in this you are your own worst enemy ...or greatest competitor.

People will pay dearly with their life to compete and win~without knowing what they’re doing or even if they’re winning, ...or, if they’re winning, without knowing what they’re winning~just to struggle against and punish cheaters ...even of their own creation, and will lose BIG ...over and over again, ...but will seldom use their life to live as they truly desire ...and be a huge winner.

Isn't that weird?