

*Freda Bingley - The World as I see it -2010*

Recently I managed a visit to the Ashmolean Museum to see part of the new layout. I saw artefacts made 3000 years ago to place in a warrior's grave, of natural materials and so beautiful that it took ones breath away. What could we bury of our generation that would give the same reaction?

Peter Abelard, the Medieval scholar, defined faith as a private view of the mysteries of the World. The coming together of men and woman to share a common faith creates stability and hope which can hopefully survive and not create doubt among its members nor in the world at large.

To me religious faith needs to be positive, enhance one's curiosity, satisfy one's consciousness and provides a degree of adventure that challenges ones intellect. In other words it is a state of receiving not an outward show of form and ritual

As a child I was aware of the constraints between of my upbringing and education and could not reconcile them with the religious instruction I received. It was the early 30's and western Canada was overwhelmed by the Great Depression - all was bewilderment. Then came our trip to Ireland where the commencement of the conflict of WWII meant no public shipping services. We were trapped in an alien sectarian environment with which I could not identify. All I had was a sense that I did not belong.

However one person shone out in this bewildering existence - my grandmother - the first person to recognise me as an individual with my own thoughts and who was prepared to listen to me - She was the grandchild of four Quakers and related to practically every Quaker family in Ireland.

I believe we are all of God's creation and have inherited from our ancestors the eternal essence of good and evil which we all have. Physically there is death for our human bodies but nothing can destroy the good and evil that has grown and endured since the conception of Man.

To many there come those periods of wonder and enlightenment – there is a sense of wellbeing when one has an acute awareness of the world around us. We have an ability to achieve, everything falls into place and one has a sense of empathy with the whole of one's world – bliss



Hell is man's creation formed from our anxieties, failings, fears and frustrations. We all need a goal to strive for- achievement is one part of Heaven. Life is about a pecking order- we all have desires and need to be a 'Somebody' We all have many talents and demonstration of those creates 'stardom' to some degree. Pain is there to notify us we are using one's 'machinery' incorrectly or abusing its' functions. Abstain from overloading, service regularly, fuel correctly and the result will be we jog along for a long long time.

Worry and frustration are with those who strive beyond the bounds of feasibility. God created us, leave him alone to get on with it and our lives will be enriched beyond the measure One is with God and God is in me. When drawing, one looks, and the movement of the hand using the instrument is guide by the brain - the eye is only the intermediary that reflects the shapes of the objects perceived.

An effort of any kind demands a moment of stillness between the achievement and the 'turning' or projection into the next effort. The ability to achieve is 'God given' be it a breakfast tray, requiem mass, a Dutch old master or a bunch of wayside flowers.

Guilt is self-inflicted often because of conflict between our instinctive set of values and those of the world around us. Observe from the edge of conflict and let instinct [God] take over and ultimate truth will prevail. Judge not- you never know all the facts- let your eyes, ears, and brain evaluate and eventually truth will prevail.

Desmond Tutu was asked how he dealt with fear. His prayer is 'Look here God if I am doing your work, Look after me and truth will prevail'

God is within and we must always guard against the outward performance of ritual equality. Even the rich need to learn how to be wealthy. It is only in single Moment that one is aware that one is Alive, Alert , Aware. Each moment impinges one the next so that like building a brick wall every component is vital to the whole structure.

A bubble's life is of short duration – we have been living in a bubble where so many have laboured at nothing and created nothing. Now the bubble has burst and must strive at reality to gain a just reward. Some cry 'It not fair' – one needs to work, and fight for a home, a job, a holiday, a second bathroom they are not our's by right.



Each of us has a mission to fulfil during our lifetime – something you love, like doing can be self liberating. Frustration can be overcome by thinking of three activities one enjoyed as a child, three things one can brag about, and three things you look towards in the future

One must always remember that to shoot an arrow one must draw the bow in the opposite direction in order to create the power that allows it to reach it's target.

*'Unborn 'tomorrow' and dead 'yesterday*

*'Why fret about them if 'today' be sweet ----Omar Khan*

*CuBingley*

*Attends Wotney Quaker Meeting  
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