

To Ponder:

The Fire of Truth

By Adyashanti

That which is awake in you hears the sounds and notices the sights that appear when you open your eyes. Don't lose yourself to sights, sounds and feelings. Open yourself to them fully, but don't move. Stay in the silence and awaken. This moment-to-moment choice is the Fire of Truth. At any moment if you sell out this that is awake, be aware and awake to what you are selling out. Make sure the bargain is what you want it to be. Or you may, by some grace, by some good luck, realize that nothing in you wants to sell out this that is awake anymore, not even for security or for the good opinion of others. It's a real grace to realize this.

It is utterly simple. In a moment, you gain a life free of negotiation and bargaining. This is what the Fire of Truth removes: your negotiation and your bargaining with what is, the desire for anyone or anything to change. You realize that no changes, not even changes in yourself, will make you happier. To receive this gift fully, it must be given to everything and everybody everywhere. This that is awake doesn't want anybody to change or improve at all. That's the fire. That's the task of the fire. You realize, "A minute ago, I wanted you to change, but now I don't. You're fine. Everybody's fine, and everything's fine." What happened? Nobody changed and nobody conformed to your pattern, yet a happiness is there, made more beautiful because they didn't change. It is more beautiful because of the diversity of beings and life. This that's awake is the same for each of us. And everything else is a beautiful, wonderful expression of diversity.

So my invitation is to not look past the looking and not move yourself away from that which notices. Do not improve yourself past that which is already whole. And return the favor. That's the saving of the world. Return the favor and see it over there. See wholeness there. That's the transformation of everything. If you don't see wholeness in everything around you, that's the continuation of ignorance, the continuation of violence.

Reading:

The Tao — Chapter 49

The saint has no set mind,
He regards the wish of the people as his own wish.
He is kind to the kind, he is also kind to the unkind.
This is the true virtue of kindness.

The saint trusts those who are trustworthy.
He also trusts those who are not trustworthy.
This is the true virtue of trust.

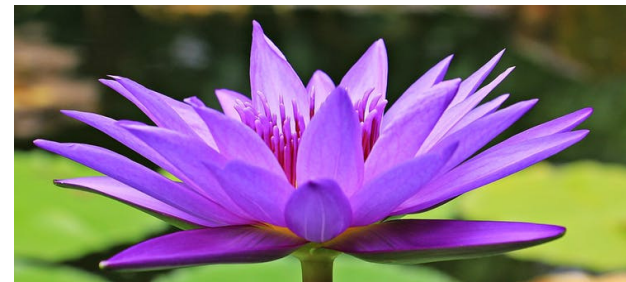
The saint conducts himself in the world by harmonizing with all beings to be at one.
The worldly people thus look up to him attentively with their eyes and ears.
And the saint treats the people like a loving mother who loves her children unconditionally.

Sharing...

a word...

a phrase...

a reflection...



Song
Rio Lucero by Robert Mirabal



*“Cool Spring
waters
carry hope
of life
for all who
are touched
by their
intention.”*

-Robert Mirabal

*a Pueblo musician and Native American flute player
from Taos Pueblo, New Mexico.*

Thank You For Joining Us!

Your Prayer Leader

Syndie Eardly

06/13/17

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See wholeness
— everywhere



Our prayer is characterized by silence
Be still and know that I am God!

In that silence we listen for a new word.
God is present in all our lives.
God cares for us, and
our life experiences are a source
of deepening knowledge of God and self.

Inspired by God's Word in the silence
we share from our hearts.