

TOWARDS AWAKENING: A Franklin Merrell-Wolff Political Orientation MT

A focus of Franklin Merrell-Wolff's political agenda is about the need for mankind to Awaken:

Man must Awake to Know and thus to solve his really great problems... So We are not much concerned with vain social plans and programs, with the changes of governments and economic reforms, for We Know that all organizations, all institutions, all systems are sterile if they do not incarnate the Light.¹

To "incarnate the Light" suggests we are informed from a higher (deeper) Source, and this Source is fundamental and universal, as it was for Plato, Jesus, Jung, and Kant (to name a few of Franklin Merrell-Wolff's favorite people). Mystics and Realizers Know directly that Truth, Goodness, and Beauty, are Facets of the Light which Ignite the Dark. However, if humanity does not incorporate the Light then the "really great problems" are not solved.

Viewing the political scene today in 2012, there has never been a greater need for more "Light" or "Recognition" (deeper Consciousness) within citizen and government, for again, that deeper Knowing unpacks and confers a natural moral and ethical value that logic or reason cannot adequately confer:

What we have in this world is a barbarism, and at its best an intellectual barbarism, not a civilization... But being an intellectual barbarism we cannot yet dispense with the principle of coercion.²

Governments and their politics, then, are necessary evils because man has not yet evolved the capacity for self-government without the threat of force and coercion. Consequently, religious and political belief and oppressive law impose and run the constricted consciousness of Homo sapiens in a potentially deadly world-wide conflict, which is the lunatic asylum that prevails due to a limited evolutionary development, the ethical and moral Light substantially missing in government and citizen alike.

Today, politics has become the art of political-corporate extortion engineered by money elitists under the guise of democracy, free trade, and Capitalism. Increasingly politics appears as a form of economic fascism where citizens are robbed blind by a pandemic of corporate greed in alliance with political power. In America, liberty and justice for all has become a sick joke in the politicization of a Supreme Court which legally makes corporations into legal persons, a choice reflecting a decay of American ideals. Even though humanity may strive for the rule of law (reason), in America even its Supreme Court (representative of reason) can act in a retarded,

malignant, and coercive manner, giving more power to corporate rule over the People, where money buys law, politician, and police force. This is the “intellectual barbarism” of reason mentioned by Franklin Merrell-Wolff, reason not used in the service of justice but as an evil in the dark of the Light.

Again: truth, liberty, justice, and the good, are relative ideals in a conceptual world but Truth, Liberty, Justice, and the Good are *a priori*, to be actualized when Realized at a higher or deeper level of development:

...true Democracy exists only for God-Realized Men. All others, being as yet bound to the relative or subject-object world...So he who would bring about a true democracy in the world, instead of the spurious kind which alone is known to history, should work toward the spread of Recognition among men....³

A major theme, established by Jesus in the New Testament, is that the old gives way to the new. It's also a major theme in the history of evolution, science, and society. The Light that informs at the core of creative change means we become more present and conscious, awakened from the sterility of the old, not just with the tool of rational logic or reason, but with a deeper inner moment of Knowing; a discovery of Truth, Goodness, and Beauty as a Source of creative expression found in all areas of growth.

The Light, as a form of inner Knowing (source of discovery, invention, creation, ethics, higher consciousness, et al), has a long history in the literature of enlightenment. One example, not generally recognized as such, is that of Jesus. This Knowing was called “born again” by Jesus, an enlightenment reference, and conveyed more than 2000 years ago in the Bible:

“...Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”⁴

“I am telling you the truth, replied Jesus, that no one can enter the Kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.”⁵

“A person is born physically of human parents, but he is born spiritually of the Spirit. Do not be surprised because I tell you that you must all be born again....”⁶

In a more modern version of enlightenment, Franklin Merrell-Wolff calls the Light “Recognition” (to *Realize*):

It could be shown that to *Realize* the ‘pure apperception’ of Kant is to attain Recognition and Liberation.⁷

The Light has many other related names by many Realizers throughout the history of enlightenment: Satori, Enlightenment, Moksha, Sahaj Samadhi, Bhava Samadhi, Nirvana, Transcendence, Bliss, Truth, What Is, Kingdom of Heaven, Tao, Void, et al.

To open to the Light in a conscious sense (as a more focused path), often involves a practice that begins to shift, and necessarily even undermines, the compulsive grip of ego self-identity. This may involve a meditation and process of outer purification (which Jesus also meant by the symbolic use of “water” (baptism) as a purification process). Jesus elaborates a little on the nature of this process in His time and place in the *Lord’s Prayer*, which was probably originally meant to be a form of *meditation* (a preparation, quieting), in order to receive the Spirit (Higher order of Knowing).

However, the *Lord’s Prayer* is largely misinterpreted in Christianity, and the deeper sense of its purpose lost, now used more in a social context like the “Pledge of Allegiance,” which also has become as sterile as the Hebrew religious tradition was to Jesus in his time.

If one continues on a path, in the crucible of some practice, the more deeply buried ego-impurities may undergo purification by an inner fire (Spirit) which finally dissolves the identity of self-illusion and fixation (the old), Revealing a higher Knowing *within*, transforming or replacing the old, and perpetuating the Light anew.

But most Homo sapiens hang from the “Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil,” as ego-fixation, a self-identity that tenaciously, fearfully, and exclusively clings to its subject-object identity as an exclusive way of knowing:

The real sickness of humanity is a sickness that grows out of his one sided orientation to the merely mundane.⁸

Today, humans are still largely fused with their conceptual mind and materialism (the mundane) and seem almost unaware of the potential for a greater Unity of Being within, where a fundamental non-dual Consciousness (represented in the Bible as the “Tree of Life”) waits to be discovered. These Biblical metaphors, as old as Genesis, attempt to point to two levels or types of consciousness: the lower (conceptual, language – dualistic - knowing by contrast), and the deeper Ground of non-dual Being (Tree of Life), inclusive of the lower and but radically wider.

Misinterpretation is a common difficulty of communication between higher and lower levels of consciousness. The Biblical Parables are examples of higher to lower communication. Jesus attempted to convey the higher Consciousness but the Parables are not easy for most to understand, even today. In addition, the Light, generally, becomes codified and reduced into various forms: philosophy, religion, law and even as a Constitutional idealism. While the Light often provides important direction and an advance in human development when translated into many forms of cultural expression, *these copies are but dim reflections of the Fundamental applied to individuals who can neither understand nor activate the Original level of Knowing within.*

Franklin Merrell-Wolff appreciates the philosopher Kant, not only for explicating and outlining the sense of apperception but for his philosophical treatment of morality and ethics. However

both appear to be largely missing in any depth from the bulk of Homo sapiens evolutionary development:

“...Kant has made one of the most important contributions, if not the most important, to the theory of ethics in our present culture....”⁹

Even a brilliant “theory of ethics” as an evolutionary development of reason, while transcending brute force ideally, is not enough to establish a civilized humanity as Homo sapiens lack the integration required for that level of consciousness as a *behavioral development*. In fact, ethical and moral behavior is mostly codified into law which is ruled by force. The true Source of morality or ethics lingers deeper than the second-hand versions that appear on the surface as reason or as the logic of law:

Again, we’re dealing with terms that we cannot completely define. If we completely define these terms we make them only mental. They have to be used as pointers to something that lies beyond the range of conceptuality per se.¹⁰

Thus, the issues of morality and ethics are quite problematic for humans limited by fusion with their conceptual identity which cannot integrate morality at a deeper level *within*. For over 2000 years Sapiens have had the message of Jesus and Buddha attempting to convey a higher order ethic within, as a deeper Knowing of Being, but Sapiens, at best, make It into a conceptual, externally applied morality, as law or religious dogma. Few Understand the “Kingdom” is Here-Now, within. Ego-identity fixations interpret higher Knowing into cultural diversion, and the deeper Recognition and integration remains as obscure mysticism: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty remain as philosophical ideals rather than Realizations integrated *within the individual*.

In terms of evolutionary development, only a thin layer of recently developed frontal lobes attempt to control the barbaric savagery that appears just under the surface of a specious control. The relatively new flower of evolution, the human conceptual cerebral cortex, is supported by a lower earlier developed reptilian brainstem, and just above that, a higher mid-range mammalian brain. Humankind emerges from this evolutionary stem as a bud called Homo sapiens, the most sophisticated killer in the food chain. But history shows the weakness of conceptual control, as the beast’s behavior repeatedly attacks its own kind in massive and bloody wars.

Homo sapiens are only the latest in a series of evolutionary expressions, and not likely the last. Ethical and moral consciousness has not emerged equally with conceptual-consciousness (language, logic-reason). As a brief example of the moral problem in terms of consciousness, Jesus said: *love your enemy, turn the other cheek, and the pure in heart shall see God*, but most Sapiens are not *pure in heart* and cannot do any of these injunctions which have become moral injunctions *rather than understood as methods to bring greater Awareness into the beast from a deeper Source*. When, if on the Jesus path, an individual realizes the consistent failure to follow Jesus (again, as a focused path), there is then more potential for lifting the egoic barrier. If persisting on most *any awareness path*, the egoic-conceptual identity naturally falls off the vine

and is replaced (at least temporarily) by a wider, deeper Seeing, *if the path is followed to the still point beyond the conceptually controlled egoic illusion.*

The path is not then, to accept some belief, ideology, or fantasy (more conceptual noise) but to be open to Realizations at deeper levels of Being: Then one Knows, and knows why those who Know, point to Such as a resolution to the moral-ethical lack, which is also an end to the grotesque use of force at the level of barbaric-rational mind.

But the bulk of humanity today appears rather retarded within in its evolutionary development. Most appear unconscious of the degree embedded and fused within a primitive mental matrix, substituting specious mental overlays (morality, ethics, religion, law, belief, ideals), for lack of inner development. The state of world consciousness and most governments prove the case of an “intellectual barbarism” as a lack of moral and ethical development where the use of force or threat of force remains the prevailing mode of coercion for control and power.

The challenge is daunting. Jesus was hung on a cross and Buddha thrown out of India. Truth and the Good are reduced to rationalized relative knowledge, and soon decay sets in as the ideal erodes without support from the Light of Consciousness *within.*

In America, a House of Representatives recently attempted to pass laws to prosecute (persecute) journalists and whistle blowers for exposing questionable government behavior. This is another example of the malignancy of “reason.” However reason is considered an advance over force, it becomes unreasonable and destructive without an ethical or moral base. When a government (or a sycophant media – the demise of investigative journalism) attempts to protect and foster fraud and corruption, where greed and fearful authorities conspire against the public, we witness the primitive and barbaric nature of the “rational” mode of government. It’s obvious that politicians do not have sufficient ethical or moral development, and politics has wormed its way into even the Supreme Court of the Land as *high treason against the Light of Reason.*

America (and the world) is witnessing the savagery of an economic war, a rationalized, sophisticated darkness where banking, government, and the corporate mind conspire to create grotesque economic conditions: wage slavery, greed engineered medical expense and inequity of treatment, unaffordability for most in a greed-based educational system , huge national debt with infrastructure and housing collapse. The lack of ethics in American government and finance is epidemic and costs citizens billions of dollars and much hardship, yet the consciousness of most citizens hardly see this condition as a malignancy of mind (reason) engineered in epidemic proportion by a lack of moral and ethical development at the highest levels of broken government and power.

The present cultural mythology is a consciousness without sufficient inner direction or depth of being. It’s about a mythology of personal and social reality as a trance condition kept in place by a history of lies in education (brainwashing), an unnecessarily expensive military, and corrupt political machinery with a police force, and sycophant propaganda machines spewing something

called the news, doing the bidding of powers which keep in place a cultural mythology of greed and fear that inevitably brings about, historically, its own demise:

...Democracy can succeed in an effective sense when, and only when, the mass of electorate have become awakened in the real sense. Otherwise, folly has the advantage with respect to wisdom in casting the glamour that appeals to mass-consciousness.¹¹

So I place somnambulism, rather than egoism and evil, as the first among the problems that must be mastered in this humanity if it is to progress toward Liberation.¹²

So finally I must conclude that the only hope for man, taken individually or as a whole, rests upon a process of Awakening which I, together with some others, have called 'Recognition.' This is neither pure experience nor pure formal demonstration but a totally different kind of Knowledge. I have called It 'knowledge through Identity' ...Genuine Knowledge through Identity is infallible and absolute. It is substantial and not relative....¹³

The "Identity," mentioned by Franklin Merrell-Wolff, is That which Awakens. Unfortunately, that "mass of electorate" exists largely in a trance condition, bound and gagged by a primitive mental-self, hypnotized and dominated by a political, nearly fascist money-driven culture of corporate mythology, a consciousness in the dark, quite removed from the Light.

¹ Franklin Merrell-Wolff, *Pathways Through To Space*, Julian Press, 1944, 2nd Edition, (p. 90)

²Franklin Merrell-Wolff, "Federalism and the Question of Conscientious Objection," July 1970; a transcribed lecture, FMWF ©2011, (p. 3)

³Franklin Merrell-Wolff, *Pathways Through To Space*, Julian Press, 1944, 2nd Edition (P. 162.)

⁴ John, 3:3: King James, Schofield edition.

⁵ Ibid, John 3:4-5

⁶ Ibid, John 3:6-8

⁷ Franklin Merrell-Wolff, *Pathways Through To Space*, , Julian Press, 1944, 2nd Edition, (p. 9)

⁸ Franklin Merrell-Wolff, "Concerning Dr. Carl G. Jung, Part 2 of 2," May 24, 1975; a transcribed lecture, FMWF©2011, (p. 4)

⁹Franklin Merrell-Wolff, *Pathways Through To Space*, , Julian Press, 1944, 2nd Edition, (p. 37)

¹⁰Franklin Merrell-Wolff, "Federalism and the Question of Conscientious Objection," July 1970; a transcribed lecture, FMWF ©2011 (p. 5)

¹¹Franklin Merrell-Wolff, *Pathways Through To Space*, Julian Press, 1944, 2nd Edition, (P. 112)

¹²Ibid, p. 113

¹³Ibid, p. 127