

Man: Master or Slave.

- I. The deeply rooted tendency on part of mankind to see itself as victim of circumstance
 - A. For pain, misfortune, etc., we blame luck, the other fellow, Providence, but rarely ourselves.
 - B. 1. This is negative and is path of weakness or slave consciousness
 - B. Point of view of materialistic socialists and other materialistic reformers.
 2. Involves slave-consciousness and is self-contradictory.
- II. That men can rise above circumstance is shown by history.
 - A. Examples: Napoleon, Lincoln, numbers of our wealthiest men and public figures.
 - B. If one man can rise above circumstance that is sufficient to prove that man is not mere creature of circumstance.
Illustration of great art being due to artist rather than his materials.
- III. Basic reason of slave consciousness is materialistic outlook generally held.
 - A. We regard ourselves as body or mind hence see ourselves limited by the laws governing body and mind.
 1. Influence of mechanistic determinism characteristic of classical physical science.
 2. The breaking down of this concept at present time, i.e., in the "Theory of Uncertainty".
- IV. Realization that the Self is not any form on any plane is key to breaking away from enthrallment to matter.
- V. The Will is an universal Soul Energy not dependent upon any vehicle for its action.
 - A. In other words action of Will is not restricted by circumstance of any kind.
 - B. For this reason the Self acting thru Will Power can rise superior to all circumstance.
 - C. This is not a matter of psychologising, but by action thru a power superior to mind.
- VI. Question of the circumstances into which man is born.
 - A. Generally though that man is not master of these.
 - B. Wisdom Religion teaches that man is master even of the circumstances of birth.
 1. Fundamental tenet that Law is universal applying to moral, mental and spiritual as well as physical worlds.
 2. Hence conditions of man's birth are due to Law which does not violate justice.
 - a. If arbitrary then justice would be violated.
 - b. Hence justice and law demands that man has produced environment of his birth.
 - c. This implies that man lives before he is born.

VII. Continue with No. IV second page.

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 - B. Point of view of materialistic socialists and other materialistic reformers.
 1. Involves slave consciousness and is self-contradictory.
- II. That men can rise above circumstance is shown by history.
 - A. Examples; Napoleon, Lincoln, numbers of our wealthiest men and public figures.
 - B. If one man can rise above circumstance that is sufficient to prove that man is not mere creature of environment.
- III. Question of the circumstances into which man is born.
 - A. Generally thought that man is not master of these.
 - B. Wisdom Religion, however, teaches that man is master of even the circumstances of his birth.
 1. Fundamental tenet that Law is universal applying to moral, spiritual, and mental as well as physical worlds.
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 - a. If arbitrary then justice would be violated.
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 - c. This implies that man lives before he is born.
- IV. Doctrine of previous living and reincarnation only adequately reasonable one.
 - A. According to science no matter or energy is ever lost.
 1. Body does not die but changes form.
 2. Inconceivable that feeling, desiring and thinking nature should pass into nothing.
 3. Inconceivable that equipment of talent of new-born children should come from nothing.
 4. Balance maintained if we conceive of that disappearing at death being reincarnated at the new birth.
 5. There are many lines of evidence showing the truth of this proposition.
- V. Desire is the force with which man builds his world.

The Path to Yoga is the Path to Mastery.

It is not a miracle but a conscious direction of the slow processes of Nature.