

QUESTIONS ON EQUALITY

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Bulletin of the Assembly of Man, No. 3
October 1960

Q.: Are all people really created equal?

A.: That may depend on one's perspective. If we consider all beings as springing from the same primordial source, or pure spirit, before there appeared any separation of spirit and matter, or any concentration of matter, then all are equal, all are One. In this case we must understand the journey of the Pilgrim Soul, beginning as pure spirit, falling into constantly denser matter and as it becomes involved, forgetting its Divine origin. There must be involution before there can be evolution, for by its very definition, evolution is an unfolding of what is already there. Evolution proceeds through long cycles of time and eventually memory of Divine origin returns until finally the Pilgrim Soul is home again, except that it may not be exactly as before, but on a higher plane, for the cycle is more of a spiral. The spiral, in turn, indicates still greater cycles, beyond our comprehension.

Not all souls appear to start at the same time, or else there are laggards, and some arrive at a certain point in evolution earlier than others. Also, an individual can be advanced in some ways and backward in others. Hence it appears that on this earth plane of existence, which is only the beginning of the long climb back, there is a great unevenness in people. Some, such as the Australian and African Bushmen, are not only "uncivilized," they cannot be taught some of the simplest things. Perhaps the souls which occupy these bodies are "new" ones, inexperienced, and it would take long ages for them to catch up to where we now stand. At the other extreme of this plane exist Beings who are actually more than human. They have broken through our ceiling of consciousness to become as Gods, having, to all practical purposes, All-Knowledge. It has been said that the difference in consciousness between primitive man and the most highly evolved is greater than that between the average man and the vegetable.

Subconsciously perhaps, the question of equality is a basic factor in political parties or ideologies, with one insisting no one person is any better than any other, hence all should be treated alike regardless of any circumstances. The opposing party just as strongly insists all are not equally evolved, and each should be considered according to his merit, or state of evolution. It assumed that he has won this station through past training.

An extreme of the ideology of equality might be to pay equally all men for not producing as those are paid who produce most. Ultimately our economy under such a system must break down, for it goes against the laws of nature. Perhaps mankind could find a better incentive to work, or may find some means to make all work henceforth unnecessary. Earth man would hail that day! Until then, it appears that work is necessary. It is even most probable that we are on this Earth plane because the experience of work is necessary to our evolution.

In a not-so-extreme ideology there may be the entrance of compassion which ordains that man shall work if he is able, but will be helped if he is unable. Society would not let these creatures die.

It may be argued that many do not get what they justly deserve, but there is an immutable law of action and reaction which has a balancing effect, usually bringing about justice within the same life span but sometimes delayed. This law of cause and effect, or "Karma," may explain why one's fortunes are different from another's, why each is born in different circumstances. The law works on the unseen, or subtle, as well as on the seen, or gross, planes. If we say, then, one is deserving or undeserving, do we have all the facts?