



What's Going On Here?

The law of the wise is a fountain of life, that he may decline from the ruin of death.

Letter from Rhondell

TAKING DOMINION

We read in ancient writing that man was told to take dominion over the earth, to subdue it and to make it fruitful. This probably means to take charge of things, crops, mines, animals, etc. Much of this has been done - man raises crops, domesticated many animals, built shelters, built roads, bridges, means of transportation and power, controls fire for the most part, obtains many substances from the earth, refines them for many uses of mankind; however, often without seeming to realize that when one tames anything, whether it is a plant, an energy, animal, or the earth, one is responsible for it.

Greed thus influenced mankind to merely gain dominion over these for gain and neglected the responsibility part of the transaction. All things can be dominated without injury to the environment. Of course, this may take a little from the profit; however, failure to do so results in great loss to life on earth now and in the future. This could properly be called exploitation, not dominion. So probably little consideration has been given to the meaning of dominion.

It is possible for us to start considering daily the real meaning of dominion and to practice. This will set in motion a revolution in the thinking of mankind. Please don't fall into the trap of "I can do nothing," as all real changes start very small. One real action produces more results than a hundred protest movements or thousands of letters to the editor. Do something, plenty of others are merely complaining. Complaining and blaming are just "someone else should do it, but NOT I."

This blaming leads to the greatest of misunderstanding of the commission to take dominion of the earth: To take dominion over people. The only person one has responsibility to take dominion over is self. However, all blaming and complaining say very loudly, "I'm not responsible for me but everyone else is, so I should have some institution take dominion over all people and force them to do my will, take care of me."

So now as one looks about we see that more and more there is concentrated effort to take dominion over people.

This is done by laws, by suggestion, by advertising, by example, by threats, by guns, by violence. This has been going on so long that it is merely accepted as the only way.

Possibly if one cares to really pay attention it is rather obvious that most of one's energy is spent attempting to gain control over others; and even though one gets it, control over others is very unsatisfying; so of course, the idea is that there simply isn't ENOUGH control, therefore the effort to get more control. Remember that what anyone controls, one has responsibility for. Another practice: Eliminate all conscious and unconscious attempts to control others and use that energy to take charge of self.

Understanding the idea of dominion and practicing it can bring about a new world, first for self and then it will spread. This is a Teaching idea that anyone can use daily and one that practiced will bring about transformation.

FACES OF DEATH
PERPETRATORS AND "VICTIMS"

The Rapist

Let us define rape in a broader sense than usually thought of. We could say that rape is the unasked-for, unwanted and unwelcome penetration of another, whether mental, physical or emotional. Some general synonyms could be: to intrude, to overwhelm, to shame, to humiliate, to bother, to insist, to nose in, to invade, to "give", to demand, to persist, etc.

The Rapist can be, in the realm of which we are speaking, either male or female. However, in our patriarchal society, this behavior is more or less expected and even lauded in a man, but condemned in a woman, except by some feminists, who reverse this acceptance of who is entitled to act in this manner.

Our Rapist lives in the mind. Despite the fact that the word for this act immediately brings to mind a physical confrontation, the picture is symbolic of the activity perpetuated by countless mentally-oriented persons, male and female, who would usually not so much as touch another unless invited to do so.

It is easy to picture the male Rapist, who imagines the penis as the seat of intelligence, pervading everywhere with a mental erection and his fly open, poking everything in sight. The female Rapist prides the fact that she "can think like a man" (mentally compete with the best of them); in fact, one could say she feels she has earned an honorary penis by virtue of her above-average specially-honed intellect. She is a perfectionist and demands or at least tries to extract perfection from everyone else AND HER SELF. This perfection is an illusion, of course; it is a component of the one-sided male-dominated mind and allows no room for feminine intuitive, passive, nurturing, "molding" (creative) feeling.

These persons do not "live" IN their bodies; they live in their minds, and out of necessity drag the body around with them. Their bodies are not seen by them as the vehicle to be used BY Life for the expression OF Life; they are seen as "just there" at best, or most often in the case of women, a tremendous handicap (because of its so-called imperfections) which prevents them from enjoying Life, or as a tool to be used to get their way.

The Rapist usually has boundless energy to perform. But this is mental energy and fuels no more than a set of pre-established, un-changeable, inflexible, indelible programming in the computer of the mind. Examples of these programs:

"I know what is best for him or her, and will do whatever I can to ensure that what I see as best prevails, and take the opportunity to set him or her straight."

"I know what should be and will do all in my power to change 'what is' into 'what should be.'"

"Whoever is in error according to my programming, I will HELP. If this help is resisted it is my duty to re-educate them, insist they re-evaluate their programming to understand (and agree with) mine, and to accept my help, and I will resist no opportunity to do so."

"Because of my superior perception, those who do not perform to my ideals or at least make an effort to, are missing the boat, are insensitive, stupid, self-defeating, and have no initiative, are masochistic, or, in other words, are inferior to me."

Continued next page. . .

Countless examples could be give, but it is easy to see that the rapist is constantly asserting him- or herself in the endless and unobtainable quest of assuaging an inferiority feeling. The Rapist, knowing of his or her uniqueness which encompasses both excelling qualities and COMPARATIVE inadequacies, is not free to experience the inferior feelings this knowledge may induce on occasion, and has as a PURPOSE of living constantly to prove his or her superiority by controlling everyone. The METHOD is rape.

Like all other faces of death, the Rapist is FROM the self, FOR the self, and never has the inclination to really consider another objectively, or even from the other's point of view. He or she thinks that his or her SELF has every right to penetrate wherever there is a barrier. It is never considered that the "barriers" have their own perceptions, and might be just as entitled to theirs as the Rapist is to his or hers.

The selfish perception of the Rapist will do him or her in. The helpful penetrations being "bestowed" everywhere are unasked for, unwanted, and unwelcome. The rapist is either rejected (by a strong opponent) or is allowed to penetrate and then is resented (by a weak opponent). No true intercourse ever takes place! No true union, no true integration, within or without. The Rapist sleeps alone, and dies alone, never having consummated the true spiritual union of all the functions of the human being. He or she dissipates the Life energy by the completely indiscriminate wasting of it, forcing of it where it is not wanted or accepted, and at last has spent it all, and dies.

Santa Claus

A variation of the Rapist is Santa Claus. Santa Claus (either male or female) similarly to the Rapist who is always "helping", is always running around "giving" in order to help out. (So Santa Claus thinks.) The real motive for the "giving" is to gain for Self. Santa Claus is a little brighter than the rapist. He or she has figured out a few more things about how people react, and knows that he or she can more easily con the recipient into accepting the proffered help by pretending to consider the recipient, i.e., giving something the recipient might want. (The Rapist imposes what is needed; Santa Claus gives what is wanted.) So sometimes Santa Claus puts his or her attention outward just long enough to catch a glimpse of what the recipient's desires might be and uses this information to make the gift a little more palatable. So it is not out-and-out rape, this intrusive penetration, it is more like seduction.

Santa's MOTIVE is to gain for self by pleasing. Santa gets his or her feeling from the anticipation of the approval to be gained from the giving of the gift. In true fact, usually the good feelings are contained solely in the anticipation of the event, because when the unwanted, unasked for "gift" is received, the response is not what was expected. Or, if Santa was on target and offered something the recipient actually wanted (though did not ask for), usually the recipient's valuation and Santa's are not in sync. The recipient does not usually feel he or she owes quite as much as Santa thought would be forthcoming in return.

SantaClaus, like the Rapist, never really makes a true connection. He or she goes through life feeling like a victim, misunderstood and unappreciated, and infinitely alone. The Rapist wants his or her superiority maintained by the grateful acceptance of his or her every "helpful" penetration. Santa Claus wants an infinite amount of appreciation for all the blessings he or she has bestowed. Both are controllers, both WANT for SELF, and are faces of death.

All things are lawful for me, but not all things are expedient. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of anyone.

--I Corinthians 6:12

For you have been called to liberty, brethren; only do not use liberty as an occasion for sensuality, but by charity serve one another. For the whole Law is fulfilled in our word: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. But if you bite and devour one another, take heed or you will be consumed by one another.

--Galatians 5:13

And God blessed them saying: Increase and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it, and rule over the fishes of the sea, and the fowls of the air, and all living creatures*that move upon the earth.

(*Read 'critters' --RRG) --Genesis 2:28

Your freedom of action may be forbidden, restricted, or prevented by force. . . . But the fact remains that no amount of force can make you act unless you agree - perhaps with hesitation and regret - to do so.

. . . it leads to a very important point - in fact two important points:

1. Individual freedom is the natural heritage of each living person.
2. Freedom cannot be separated from responsibility.

Your natural freedom - your control over your own life-energy - was born in you along with life itself. It is a part of life itself. No one can give it to you, nor can you give it to someone else. Nor can you hold any other person responsible for your acts. Control simply can't be separated from responsibility; control is responsibility.

--THE MAINSPRING OF HUMAN PROGRESS
Henry Grady Weaver



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Upon this a question arises: whether it be better to be loved than feared or feared than loved? It may be answered that one should wish to be both, but, because it is difficult to unite them in one person, it is much safer to be feared than loved, when, of the two, either must be dispensed with. Because this is to be asserted in general of men, that they are ungrateful, fickle, false, cowardly, covetous, and as long as you succeed they are yours entirely; they will offer you their blood, property, life, and children, as is said above, when the need is far distant; but when it approaches they turn against you. And that prince who, relying entirely on their promises, has neglected other precautions, is ruined; because friendships that are obtained by payments, and not by greatness or nobility of mind, may indeed be earned, but they are not secured, and in time of need cannot be relied upon; and men have less scruple in offending one who is beloved than one who is feared, for love is preserved by the link of obligation which, owing to the baseness of men, is broken at every opportunity for their advantage; but fear preserves you by a dread of punishment which never fails.

--From THE PRINCE, Nicolo Machiavelli's advice on how to control people.

WHAT *am I?*
WHERE *am I?*
WHAT'S *going on here?*
WHAT *can I do?*

The fact is, that civilization requires slaves. The Greeks were quite right there. Unless there are slaves to do the ugly, horrible, uninteresting work, culture and contemplation become almost impossible. Human slavery is wrong, insecure, and demoralizing. On mechanical slavery, on the slavery of the machine, the future of the world depends.

--Oscar Wilde

You don't have to preach honesty to men with a creative purpose. Let a human being throw the energies of his soul into the making of something and the instinct of workmanship will take care of his honesty. The writers who have nothing to say are the ones you can buy; the others have too high a price. A genuine craftsman will not adulterate his product. The reason isn't because duty says he shouldn't, but because passion says he couldn't.

--Walter Lippmann

WISDOM:

The knowledge that
whatever myself or anyone else
has ever done
is doing
or ever will do,
it is felt at the time of doing
to be right, or proper,
or justified.
Check it out.

Enthusiasm is the greatest asset in the world. It beats money and power and influence. Single-handed the enthusiast convinces and dominates where the wealth accumulated by a small army of workers would scarcely raise a tremor of interest. Enthusiasm tramples over prejudice and opposition, spurns inaction, storms the citadel of its object, and like an avalanche overwhelms and engulfs all obstacles. It is nothing more or less than faith in action. Faith and initiative rightly combined remove mountainous barriers and achieve the unheard of and miraculous. Set the germ of enthusiasm afloat in your plant, in your office, or on your farm; carry it in your attitude and manner; it spreads like contagion and influences every fiber of your industry before you realize it; it means increase in production and decrease in costs; it means joy, and pleasure, and satisfaction to your workers; it means life, real, virile; it means spontaneous bedrock results - the vital things that pay dividends.

--Henry Chester

Whatsoever you desire of good is yours. You have but to stretch forth your hand and take it.

Learn that the consciousness of dominant power within you is the possession of all things attainable.

Have no fear of any sort or shape, for fear is an adjunct of the minus-entity.

If you have skill, apply it; the world must profit by it, and, therefore, you.

Make a daily and nightly companion of your plus-entity; if you heed its advice, you cannot go wrong.

Remember, philosophy is an argument; the world, which is your property, is an accumulation of facts.

Go, therefore, and do that which is within you to do; take no heed of gestures which would beckon you aside; ask of no man permission to perform.

The minus-entity requests favors; the plus-entity grants them. Fortune waits upon every footstep you take; seize her, bind her, hold her, for she is yours; she belongs to you.

Start out now, with these admonitions in your mind. Stretch out your hand, and grasp the plus, which, maybe, you have never made use of, save in grave emergencies. Life is an emergency most grave.

Your plus-entity is beside you now; cleanse your brain, and strengthen your will. It will take possession. It waits upon you.

--From THE MAGIC STORY by Frederic Van Rensselaer Dey, on the advantages of controlling THINGS.

Thou thinkest that thou hast an aspiration to do good, or to benefit mankind. But all desires, ambitions and aspirations are of the personality and shall die with it. Many pray, "Lord, if Thou sendest wealth I will use most of it to benefit others to Thy glory."

Indeed, wouldst thou help Me to develop and benefit mankind? Dost thou know better than I do what others need; and wouldst thou supply unto others that which I withhold from them? This wish is simply thy personality trying to assert itself. Yet let it try and let it fail, reaping humiliation from all its efforts and bringing humiliation to others, for thus do I use it to develop thy body, and also those other bodies.

--From LIFE'S WORD, on the futility of controlling PEOPLE.