

TO AWAKENING, PART 11

In the last part, we have mentioned that the hypnotized patient, Catherine, was cured of her hydrophobia after visioning her village being flooded and being drowned. She recovered after understanding the cause.

The Heart Is the Master of All Things

During another course of treatment, Catherine was cured of her claustrophobia and her fear of darkness when recalling being buried alive and dying inside a cave after being banished due to being infected with plague.

Our mind should be the master of our body and spirit, but as a mortal, our mind is dominated by delusions, so we lose our self-nature and deviate from the thusness. Cultivation is to help us understand the truth and reveal our hidden self-nature. Once we really understand this, we are awakened! Once awakened, we will then truly let go of delusion, discrimination, and attachment. In other words, we will recover to "normal"!

Destiny Makes Enemies Meet

In one of her hypnosis sessions, Catherine recalled the situation of another life when she had been a boy. She said, "I have blond hair. We are having a battle on the water. I see many warships and many of our people are holding long spears, shields, bows, and arrows; we are fighting against the enemy. But I did not go up to fight with the enemy because I did not want to kill people."

Suddenly, Catherine seemed to have difficulty breathing. After a while, she slowly said that an enemy rushed him from behind, strangled his neck, and then used a knife to slit his throat.

When dying, the boy turned around and saw the enemy who was her boyfriend in this life. She said, "His appearance was completely different, but I know it was him."

This life of Catherine reminds us of the proverb, "Destiny makes enemies meet." An invisible force of karma entwines two people together, causing mutual injuries avenged on each other life after life. The Buddha depicted the relationships among

people in our reincarnation as none other than paying the debt of gratitude, seeking revenge, collecting debt, and repaying debt.

There are so many problems in the world nowadays, they can be attributed to complex causality in past lives. We must resolve the entangled relationships in this life, otherwise, it will definitely trouble us life after life. But how?

Resolve the Grievance in Our Own Heart and Turn Past Enemies Into “Family”

To resolve an unpleasant relationship or even to turn enemies into family-like members requires some great lessons!

If we really encounter our past lives' enemies, how do we resolve their resentment toward us? According to Master Chin Kung, the contemporary mentor in Pure Land School, “To resolve others' resentments, we must first resolve our inner grievances and conflicts.” We have no idea what kind of relationship we had with the people around us in past lives, but by resolving our own inner grievances, all can be resolved no matter what relationship it was.

In Chinese history, Emperor Shun set a remarkable example for us. This legendary leader of ancient China, using his filial piety toward his stepmother who kept trying to kill him, and his sincere fraternity toward his stepbrother who played as an accomplice, along with his persistent forbearance, he not only transformed his entire family but moved the Emperor of that time, Yao, to pass down the throne to him. He became the number one example of the “Twenty four Filial Piety Stories” in Chinese history.

All beings have an inherently good nature. However, society contains so much pollution that one's little goodness will quickly wear off. Therefore, when we forsake sage education, society will remain in turmoil. The high divorce rate is a sign of social unrest—a harbinger of disasters—because families are the cells of societies and the husband-wife relationship is the pivot of all relationships. Once a husband and a wife get along harmoniously, children will then grow up happily and become healthy members of society. Healthy cells create stable societies, and the world will be in turmoil otherwise. Therefore, the core solution for the problems nowadays is clear, it is to rely on sage education.

Sadly, the world today is dominated by self-pursuing, family values are disintegrating. Our youngsters nowadays are most gravely influenced by overwhelmingly chaotic information online, many are confused and suffer from mental illness, plus with no family to rely upon, leading them to struggle to fit in with peers or society, and thus recklessly harm themselves OR others. With mass shootings becoming the new normal in America and creeping into other countries today, shouldn't we reconsider the view of the value of life and family? If we had strong life and family values in society, would our youngsters go on the rampage by ignorantly harming themselves or others?

Many years ago, Master Chin Kung said, "Two kinds of people, the state leaders and media creators, can either save or destroy the world." Today, thousands of parents in America are suing social media. We hope that their actions can help social media workers introspect their responsibility for society. But, on the other hand, parents and state leaders should also reflect on other solutions.

An old Chinese saying is worth contemplating, "Wood Must Rot Before Worms Grow." This saying implies that, when we instill our children with sage teachings from a young age, even starting from the prenatal stage like Chinese ancients did; children will then establish good values, become stronger, and not easily be influenced by overwhelmingly bad internet materials; they will feel very uncomfortable due to their energy being different from those of bad information. So, we must awaken!!!

Dr. Arnold Joseph Toynbee's Warning

Talking about causal reincarnation today is to help us recognize the problem, but to solve the problem, we must rely on sage education.

British historian Dr. Arnold Joseph Toynbee (1889-1975), an author of numerous books and a research professor in international history, is best known for his 12-volume *A Study of History* and was considered a leading specialist on international affairs. His books have been translated into many languages. By studying the rise and fall of twenty-six major civilizations, he concluded that the decline of a civilization stems from the incompetence of moral and religious challenges.

In *Choose Life: A Dialogue Between Arnold Toynbee & Daisaku Ikeda*, Dr. Toynbee said, "The Weltanschauung that follows from these more perceptive and less aggressive religious and philosophical traditions is the one that now offers the most

promising hope of salvaging mankind. The injunction to “subdue,” which modern man has taken as his directive, is immoral, impractical, and disastrous.”

He pointed out that the world nowadays is in much the same state of mind as the Chinese were in the third century B.C. But the Chinese overcame that chaotic era and succeeded for centuries in not only holding together millions of people in relatively stable domestic peace and order but in assimilating a foreign ideology, Buddhism, in a way that enriched the indigenous civilization, and retained its cultural unity.

He sighed with sentiment, “We are the prisoners of an age-old habit of political disunity and of consequent warfare between competing states. This habit has become so deeply ingrained that we are reluctant to be liberated from it; yet we now recognize that if we fail to unite politically on a global scale, the annihilation of distance may result in the annihilation of life.”

Dr. Toynbee said that the past achievements and historical experience of Chinese culture have endowed it with the qualifications that the West so conspicuously lacks. On the strength of that achievement, “Chinese culture” has a more promising chance of shepherding mankind into political unity than any other measures.

This is an analysis from a Western historian nearly a century ago when the world was not quite as turbulent as it is today. Dr. Toynbee concluded that we must find a solution from Confucianism, Daoism, and Buddhism, to save humankind.

With continuous disasters and imminent nuclear threats, the world situation is in dire straits now. We must take immediate action to recover the sage teachings of Confucianism, Daoism, and Buddhism. Please join us and work together in this meaningful undertaking by liking, subscribing, and sharing!

In the next part, we will find out why the world that accumulates evil will have many disasters, and what did the Masters in Catherine’s hypnosis say about the hypnotic method? Please stay tuned!