

Intentionality: Your Great Creative Power

by Rev. Arthur W. Chang

Your life is a creative enterprise. It is teeming with limitless creativity the way a rain forest teems with life. Surprised? You won't be for long when you become aware of the mystical insight that your life is a microcosm of what the universe itself is. If I say, "Like mother, like child!" you would say, "Got it!" That's the way mystics see our universal relationship. Like poet Elizabeth Barrett Browning, they can simply count the ways in which we are made in the image and likeness of our Great Cosmic Parent.

One way of thinking of how you are immensely creative is to imagine yourself hardwired into a ubiquitous Creative Power Center that turns out designer galaxies (the Magellanic Clouds, the Milky Way, the Andromeda, etc.) the way Tommy Hilfiger turns out fashion. Yet, astonishingly, this Creative Center works with equal diligence at the micro-cosmic level of Creation where it picks up, instantly, communications (intentions really) from each infinitesimally small particle. Contemporary scientific findings such as this were revealed by ancient mystics in such statements as, "What is known in one part of the universe is known in all parts of the universe." Since this knowing includes human thoughts, then our intentions are instantly received by this Creative Center, which, like a silk worm, spins silk-the things of all creation-out of its innards. The Creative Center fashions out of itself the things we desire in everyday life from our thoughts-our intentions.

If previously you thought fairy tales were the ground-less musings of folks badly in need of a reality check by a psychiatrist, and further, that religion is a cultural fossil of an uninformed and superstitious past generation, think again! These ancient arts are metaphoric of the Great Transcendent Mystery that is responsive to our thoughts and through which we can create the life we desire. Today, ancient mystical insights and cutting-edge Quantum Physics are beginning to dance the love tango of oneness.

Elite quantum physicist David Bohm tells us in his book, *Wholeness and the Implicate Order*, that one particle can communicate with any other particle anywhere in the universe. What Bohm does not say is equally important; that such communications imply intelligence and power operating through a timeless, non-local medium which philosophy calls "Mind," and religions call "Soul" or "a Universal Spiritual Law."

Since particles comprise the generic, microcosmic resource from the parts bin of the created order, they may be regarded as the stem cells of Creation. This

makes them perfect examples of how the one (pure energy) becomes the many (the things of the world) by means of nothing more than the information provided, the intentions set, the Word spoken, as it is stated in the Gospel of John.

Every thought we entertain is a unit of communication designed to magnify or diminish our creative power. In general, negative thoughts siphon off your creative power while positive thoughts magnify it.

As a rule we should start each creative venture with a clearly established intention. The Universe can create from a clear vision lacking details, but not from confusion and ambiguity of vision or details.

Admittedly, intention has been scoffed at by some who say, "The path to hell is lined with good intentions." Of course the same could be said of the path to heaven. Here, wishes are thrown carelessly in the same pigeon-hole of meaning as intention. Intentionality is thinking consciously, purposively about your desires and allowing your actions to spontaneously be in the image and likeness of that intention throughout your day.

Sometimes things may happen in your life that cause you to wonder, why is this happening to me? I am a good person! Why do other people's lives seem smooth when mine is not? Did I really create this?

At such times we must remember, "Salvation lies on the spot where you have fallen"; a new liberated level of living lies just beyond your obstacle. Our intentions will facilitate our quick learning of the truth about our situation and as we apply our new truth-insight it will power us up creatively to the Sun Door of a new illuminated life, opening up wondrous vistas for us to experience.

A Law of Unfoldment

Your life is an amazing event in the universe. There is nothing like it-never has been and never will be. The universe celebrates you as a unique happening. Though you may not know it, at the mythic dimension, there were angels and shepherds and kings and gifts when you were born to celebrate your life. It is all happening in Divine Awareness. Establishing your true intention is the way you can celebrate the gift of your life every day.

As Jacob's true intention was known even while he was in Rebecca's womb, so does Life know we are born for a great purpose that is not contingent on robbing an Esau, or any other person, of what is rightly his. No one is cosmically disenfranchised simply because someone got here first, or got "theirs" before you did. Though Esau was the first born, Jacob was the one who went on to achieve cosmic significance. Jacob's profound transformation did

not happen when he stole his father's blessing from Esau, but when he engaged God directly with his own request for a cosmic blessing.

"Jacob" means heel grasper, that is, one who seeks to benefit by thwarting someone else's power. His story indicates we don't have to remain a heel grasper even if we seem to start out that way. If we notice we are displaying a victim mentality, we must shift from that limit-bound consciousness of Jacob and become our true, liberated self-Israel.

"Israel" means one who struggles with God. In other words, this is one who makes the inward journey back to Causation to intuit a cosmic, rather than, a local meaning of what is important in his life. Thereafter, one understands how to unfold through the spontaneous, limit-free creative Power at our disposal. To struggle with the angel, means to work out our right grasp, alignment or relationship with the Creative Power, and thereby be transformed by it into our powerful, creative and liberated self.

This process is a realigning of our intentions with God's, who is the Source of our freedom, ingenuity and power. When the liberated consciousness of Israel comes into our lives we will come to realize that local issues are mere metaphors, pointers to our greater life, telling us of our deepest spiritual level. We cannot be victimized, or diminished in any way by anyone. Our initial disquieting sense of limitation is a cosmic elbow nudging us out of our state of spiritual stupor and into a bright-eyed awareness of that part of ourselves to which all things are possible.

Life doesn't merely celebrate what you are. It takes great joy in what you can become and are, in fact, becoming. It celebrates your potential to be courageously wonderful, i.e., wonder-filled, and not depressed, despite the challenges of your life. For this is the reason you can decide on where you are going and the universe will bend its mighty forces, like a laser beam, to get you there. Socrates said, "The unexamined life is not worth living." I say, "The unfocussed life is not real living."

Life is forever nudging us from the inside to unfold from within as its highest and best expression. Ernest Holmes calls this "the Will of God" and says of it "the Will of God is always GOOD."

Change Is Creative Process

Life, then, is a process of unfoldment. It is a journey from wherever you were to where you are now, and further, it is a journey from where you are to where you want to be. This creative process of life is what we call "change." Change is the Law of Mind in Action, and therefore we can with our mind or our thoughts guide that change.

Change is not a random event; it is the logical unfoldment of an intelligent Law that is impersonal. Nor is change negative or positive. As Shakespeare says, "There's nothing either good nor bad but thinking makes it so." If we decide positively on where we are going and head there, we will find what we are seeking. What have these sayings in common?

- 1) There is a law that honors our decision or thought;
- 2) that the onus of control for our lives lies with us;
- 3) that a decision is a decisive thought, a thought that has become a sacred contract or agreement with God [Our action has gone from a local to a universal activity];
- 4) that a covenant with God becomes an empowerment in our world that lets us seem to act with a seeming miraculous flare.

Dr. Holmes states the following: "There is a law of unfoldment in man, which says he can advance only by going from where he is to the place where he would like to be . . . As man unfolds in his mentality [Process], the Law automatically reacts to him [Cause and Effect]. The way to work is to begin right where we are and, through constantly applying ourselves to the Truth, we gradually increase in wisdom and understanding, for in this way alone will good results be obtained [Process as right evolution]. If day by day we have a greater understanding and a clearer concept, if daily we are realizing more of Truth and applying It in our actions, then we are on the right path and eventually we shall be made free. It is a wonderful experiment and a great adventure to make conscious use of the Law; to feel that we can plant an idea in Mind and see it gradually take form." The Law of Unfoldment is Process.

Decision as Covenant

Decide on where you are going because decision is a covenant. This doesn't mean you can't change your mind for something higher and better. To change your mind for something lower and worse is to attract universal "wrath" that will see your life burned to cinders like the twin Cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. Evolution is upward and onward, never downward.

Covenant is sacred contract. If we look at the contract between God and Noah, Abraham, Jacob, and Moses, we will notice that the Divine guarantees to provide all resources essential for the completion of their task, as it will ours. Thus, Jesus says, "Fear not!" With God all things are possible. God is awesome!

If you feel a little lost, say to yourself: I am not lost. I am gathering my Divine Power. This too shall pass. I affirm my clear vision, my sacred contract, my covenant.

Contract is a commitment to a definite action with another. Our contract is with God to bring about the life for which we were created. Is this not worth your highest commitment?

Your covenant is with your highest self, your spiritual nature. Here you can say to the storms in your life, "Peace be still." Here you can walk on water and feed the multitude. You can raise the dead of negative thinking and live positively and well.

There is no one more irresistible than one whose intention is pure, clear, unadulterated, and sure. Do not contaminate your seed of greatness with such trivial ideas as "People may not like me if I am successful," or "I don't want to attract so much attention to myself." Nor should you attempt to be what everyone wants you to be. Don't say, "Let me be what everyone wants me to be, so I will not be criticized."

There is no one more powerful than a person who knows where he or she is going. It is said, "The world stands aside for the one who knows where he is going." Decide on where you are going. The choice is yours!