

A LONG THOUGHT ON FAITHFULNESS

The quality of faithfulness includes loyalty, reliability, steadfastness, constancy gratitude, dedication, sense of responsibility commitment to duty, and honesty.

Loyalty means to an esoterician much more than ordinary law-abidingness and uprightness. It means reliability and faithfulness. Lack of loyalty equals treachery.

Sincerity, loyalty, gratitude are noble qualities, which have in common that they require reciprocity for anybody to show them to other people. They must not be abused. Being abused they strengthen evil. To allow ruthless cynicism, daring latitude, or unscrupulous calculation to abuse noble qualities is to make goodness defenceless and contribute to its ruin.

If loyalty and solidarity are abused as means of pressure against the ideals, then loyalty can be shown to the ideals only. Dutifulness is ordinary reliability quite simply.

It is for us to refuse loyalty when injustice holds sway. It is not for us to decide whether our sacrifice "is of any use". It is our responsibility to refuse loyalty, when unbroken loyalty had entailed our contribution to, and promotion of, what we see to be unjust.

We want to be good and think good of everybody. But that must not imply that we trust their loyalty before we have made sure that they are "dependable", are truly worthy to be trusted, have passed the tests.

Lack of responsibility is akin to treachery, unreliability, faithlessness, disloyalty, and makes the individual unfit for life both to gods and men. Faithfulness in small things means a very good sowing for the next incarnation and explains many surprising phenomena in social life.

By being sincere we acquire reliability, guilelessness, firmness and we counteract self-deception.

When a man has been accepted as a disciple, he is in subsequent incarnations put to test in order to show which of his qualities are so firmly rooted that nothing can induce him to betray the ideals or principles which he has accepted. Reliability is a quality that must be acquired before there can be any question of a renewed contact with the hierarchy.

Firmness is a quality that the disciple must possess. The tests he will undergo require steadfastness when everything around him collapses.

Gratitude is a quality you must have acquired one hundred per cent. Ingratitude (absence of gratitude for everything in life) is an absolute hindrance to discipleship. Accepting things as acquired rights is a totally erroneous attitude, which is a bad sowing for the future. We are in debt to everyone who does us the least kindness. Anyone who tries to unburden himself from his debt of gratitude by fair words pays with counterfeit money. Words are vibrations in the air.

Gratitude can be felt as a debt, a duty, a benefit. Qualities have different degrees. Degree, motive, level go together.

It is a matter of enlarging the concept of qualities. Thus for example gratitude is gratitude for everything, for everything that life grants you, for the affection and understanding of others, etc.

Gratitude is no quality that you get for nothing. It must be acquired through feelings of admiration and affection.

When the individual feels grateful for the possibility of desisting from a desire, then he is ripe for this “sacrifice” of his toys.

You leave with joy and gratitude all such things as you clearly see to be obstacles to your further development. Sacrifice in the esoteric sense has nothing in common with self-denial but with gratitude for being able to renounce. Only then will you be able to “sacrifice” in the right way. You renounce a lower to receive a higher and you fully understand what you gain. Anyone who does not leave what is lower with a sense of relief and gratitude has not beheld what is higher. Life is not a constant sacrifice. It is a constant gain. Anyone who has experienced the intuition or the bliss and power of the vision does everything in his might to be able to dwell in that state.

Gratitude to life strengthens fervour and divine humility, which are such outstanding features in the great ones. Ignorance has no idea of how much is being done for the individual’s development.

The esoterician realizes that life is a gift – new opportunities of having requisite experiences and of learning from them –, that the right attitude is gratitude to life, that this also involves the joy of living, that we help our fellow wanderers by being happy ourselves, for anyone who is happy is “good” as well. That is true religion. In this lies also forgetfulness of one’s own self and its selfish demand for individual happiness and worry about individual “salvation”. He is saved who has forgotten himself. That is true religion. So simple and so apparently impossible for most people.

The essential (46) self is generally a collaborator with the teacher to whom he owes the fact that he has become a causal and essential self. It is also with a view to such service in return that the teacher selected him out of the many aspirants a 45-self can chose among. Collaboration during many incarnations in the human kingdom, gratitude for services done, and “unpaid debts” are of course factors that contribute when he makes his choice.

My Augoeides: Lead me from unreality to reality, lead me from darkness to light, lead me from death to immortality.