Maximizing the Maxims, ... & Truing the Truth

A brief-yet-potent purification of 366 of the most beloved wisdoms, sayings & proverbs



via Scaughdt ... an (i)am publication

with great Gratitude for Vanessa ...

(without whose support & encouragement this tome would not be as it IS)

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To my dear readers:

Wise sayings & clever idioms seem to surround us in our everyday lives ... We hear quips of common sense from our parents in our homes, we hear proverbs of wisdom from reverends & rabbis in our places of worship, and we hear sayings of sage advice from our teachers in our schoolrooms.

And yet while these moral teachings do indeed provide us with fundamental understandings of ethics and right action; and while they do lend us guideposts of prudence & reason with which to navigate our journeys into everyday life, very few of these superficial morsels provide clear glimpses into the realm of the far deeper Truths that make our living more than merely survivable, but Meaning-full instead.

And it is with these deeper Truths in mind that I first offered this collection of "purified proverbs" online, and it is with them in mind that I offer them again to you now. Read one a day for an entire year, or read them straight through without pause from start to finish ... It really makes no difference how they are read, for each & every one of them is written in such a way as to allow you the reader to not only appreciate what I myself have learned from Living a Life of Love, but more importantly, to re-access your own innate, brilliant & profound sense of Knowing – the clarity of Comprehension of both life and your potential role in it that YOU have had within you since birth.

So without further ado, I humbly offer you the following "Maximized Maxims" ...

As allWays ... enJOY!

Scaughdt

"It is unwise to be too sure of one's own wisdom. It is healthy to be reminded that the strongest might weaken and the wisest might err." ~ Mahatma Gandhi

> "Any fool can know. The point is to understand." ~ Albert Einstein

"I'm not young enough to know everything." ~ J. M. Barrie

Purified Proverb #001 ...

Conventional wisdom says that we should "Give others more than they expect", and yet the Soul knows that the hopes & desires & expectations of others are essentially irrelevant; that LOVE is by itself always enough; that LOVE gives everything, while wanting nothing in return -- including its own acceptance or recognition ...

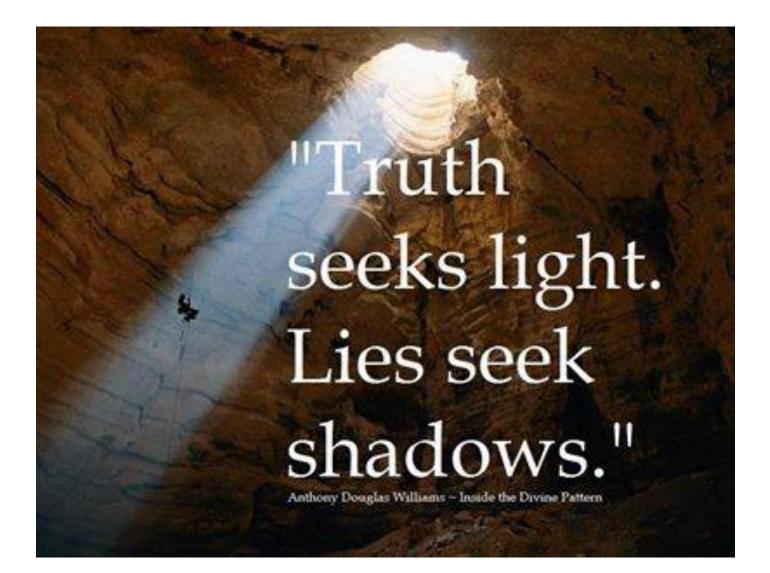




GIFT A STRANGER

Purified Proverb #002 ...

Conventional wisdom says that we should "Memorize some of our favorite poems & quotations", and yet the Soul knows that we should only cherish the Truths that bring others Joy; and that we should only memorize the Truths we already embody ...



Purified Proverb #003 ...

Conventional wisdom says that we should "Always look others in the eye", and yet the Soul knows that eye-contact is not really that important; that the only Way we can truly See another is to see them with *THEIR* own eyes ...



Purified Proverb #004 ...

Conventional wisdom says that we should "Respect the dreams of others, especially our own", and yet the Soul knows that truly Respecting another's dreams requires a momentary, complete abandonment of one's own -- and that truly doing so means more than merely "thinking good thoughts", "sending heartfelt prayers" or "hoping for the best"; that doing so requires Seeing the True Self of the other, and then supporting that Self's goals & dreams in a way that is both open and enthusiastic ...



Purified Proverb #005 ...

Conventional wisdom says that we should "Judge with right judgment", and yet the Soul knows that the only way to truly SEE your life is to see your Self in everyone & everything around you ...

"If you want to see God, just open your eyes."

Anthony Douglas Williams ~ Inside the Divine Pattern

Purified Proverb #006 ...

Conventional wisdom says that "The most important quality in any relationship is acceptance", and yet the Soul knows that acceptance can mean many things. It knows that the "acceptance" that looks the other way while our Beloved harms another and the "acceptance" that coddles the Beloved while he or she self-destructs are actually deadly to all forms of Partnership. It knows that real Acceptance -- the kind that sustains Love to every end -- is a giving verb. It knows that real Acceptance has nothing at all to do with "balancing give & take". And it knows that the communication thereof has almost nothing at all to do with words ...



Purified Proverb #007 ...

Conventional wisdom says that we should "Regularly spend time alone", and yet the Soul knows that true Solitude has more to do with remaining Calm *within* the storm than with running away from it; and that -- whether surrounded by strangers or alone in the wilderness -- we are never ever truly alone ...



Purified Proverb #008 ...

Conventional wisdom says that we should "Courageously defend our personal values", and yet the Soul knows that we cannot truly tend our own inner Gardens until we first have the Courage to enter them -- and that we cannot hope to enter those havens of halcyon until we do so solely to bring others the Peace that rests therein ...



Purified Proverb #009 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that we should "Never get our hopes up" because "change is the only constant", and yet the Soul knows that change is a pure positive; that we are truly powerful only when choosing to revel in moments otherwise deemed awkward or uncomfortable – that we are truly wise only when consistently choosing to celebrate the unexpected ...



Purified Proverb #010 ...

Conventional wisdom informs us that "Silence is often the best answer", and yet the Soul knows that, at least as far as sharing our deepest Truth is concerned, silence -- when coupled with a smile -- is almost always our only Answer ...



Purified Proverb #011 ...

Conventional wisdom reminds us to "Look on the bright side" and to "Have faith in humanity", AND the Soul knows that there is an even larger camel already waiting within that needle's eye; that -- while believing in humanity's innate Goodness does mean choosing to see that opening -- it is only by acting accordingly thereafter that we can pass through that portal to the Freedom waiting on the other side ...



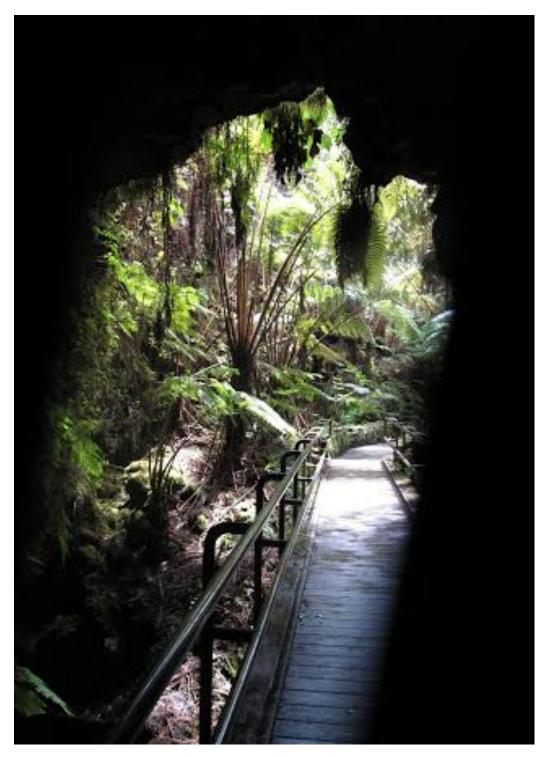
Purified Proverb #012 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us to "Regularly go to worship", and yet the Soul also knows that the true Man of God never needs to pray in public or even out loud -- that his every deed is an act of reverence, and the Soul also knows that the true Woman of God never needs go to church -- for no matter where she is, she is always There ...



Purified Proverb #013 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Wealth comes to those who live in the moment", and yet the Soul knows that this Truth actually runs much deeper and is far more poignant – knowing instead that consciously residing in the Here&Now is truly a matter of life & death; that the more we "live" in our past, the more fully we perish in our present; and that the more we "live" in the future, the closer our death becomes ...



Purified Proverb #014 ...

Conventional wisdom admonishes us to "Share your knowledge with others", and yet the Soul reminds us that, at least where teaching is concerned, spoken words are rarely necessary; that we can only teach what we already Know -- that we can only Know what we already Are -- and that we only Are what we are already Doing ...



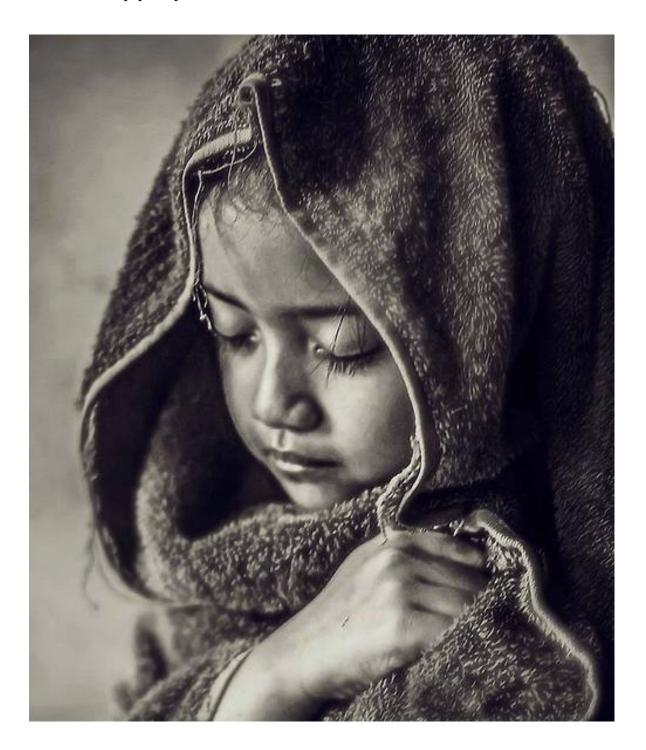
Purified Proverb #015 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "There is power in prayer", and yet the Soul knows that our prayers are nothing unless uttered with feet in motion & arms wide open ...



Purified Proverb #016 ...

Conventional wisdom says that we should "Go to new places and bathe in new experiences", and yet the Soul knows that this is not enough to Awaken; that it is more important for us to reopen our eyes and make old paths into fresh Journeys; that we must reopen our Hearts to where we already are, and transform every routine into an epiphany of The One ...



Purified Proverb #017 ...

Conventional wisdom reminds us that "Not getting what we want is often a stroke of good fortune", and while this is in part true, the Soul also knows a deeper Truth that is relevant in every moment "good" or "bad"; namely, that regardless of whether or not we attain what we want, desire is always the shortest route to poverty, and should therefore be avoided altogether ...



Purified Proverb #018 ...

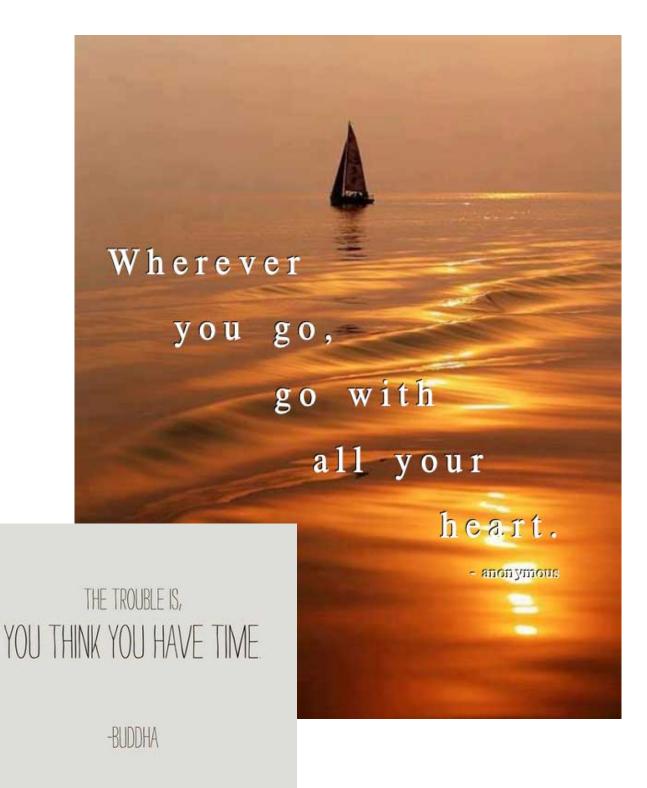
Conventional wisdom reminds us that "Our character is our Destiny", and that "Our character is also our choice". And because this is indeed true, the Soul also reminds us to always pause before choosing -- and to then always choose Care-fully ...



(art by Michael Grab)

Purified Proverb #019 ...

Conventional wisdom encourages us to "Seize the day", and yet the Soul knows that this is not enough; that the only way to truly make the most of the day for ourselves is to Give fully to others in the moment ...



Purified Proverb #020 ...

Conventional wisdom reminds us that "Enough of a good thing is too much", and yet even though this is true, the Soul also reminds us that -- no matter how much we own or how little we possess -- it is Giving that makes us wealthy, and it is possessing that makes us poor ...



Purified Proverb #021 ...

Conventional wisdom reminds us that "If you can touch it, you can catch it", and yet the Soul delves deeper; reminding us that every time we reach out to others, we always touch their Hearts – along with the fact that it is always possible to reach out to others ...



Purified Proverb #022 ...

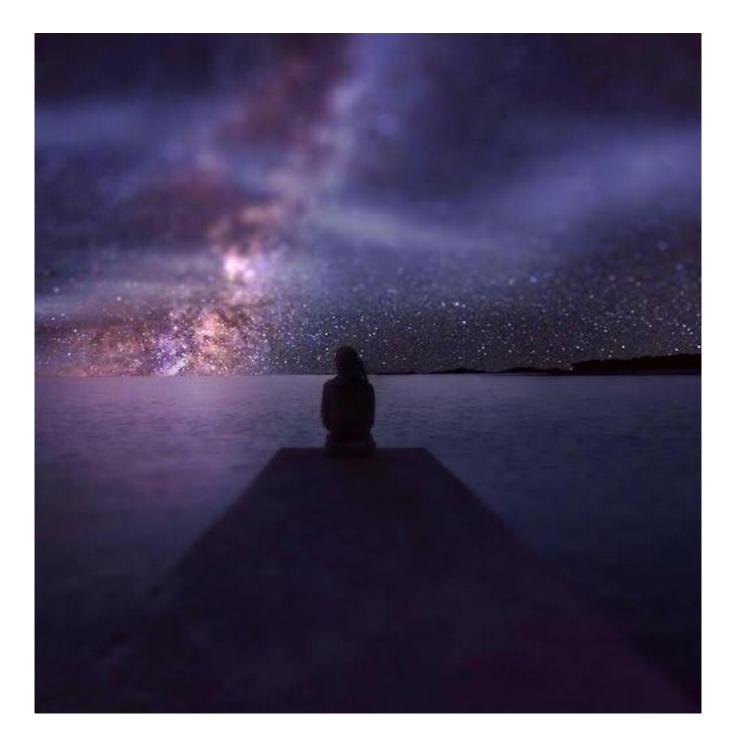
Conventional wisdom reminds us "Laws catch flies while letting hornets go free". This may sometimes prove True, and yet far more importantly, the Soul also reminds us that - regardless of whether it is a fly or a hornet that is caught in our net -- Forgiveness is the only Justice ever worth administering thereto ...

"To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover that the prisoner was you."

-Lewis B. Smedes

Purified Proverb #023 ...

Conventional wisdom reminds us that "Our ends never justify our means", and yet -while this is indeed a Truth -- the Soul knows something else; that Peace can only come when both our ends and the means that bring us to them are Peace-full ...



Purified Proverb #024 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Love will find a way", and yet the Soul reminds us that Love need never find a way, for Love always IS The Way ...





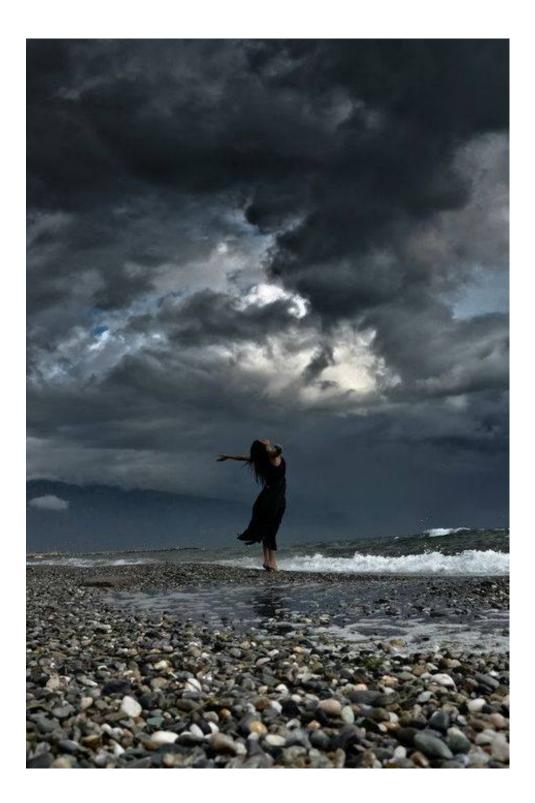
Purified Proverb #025 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Little by little, a person walks far", and yet the Soul knows that our true Destination is only attained after we realize that there is nowhere else for us to go ...



Purified Proverb #026 ...

Conventional wisdom says that we should "Never say never", and yet the Soul offers us a persistent-yet-gentle "Always say allWays" instead ...



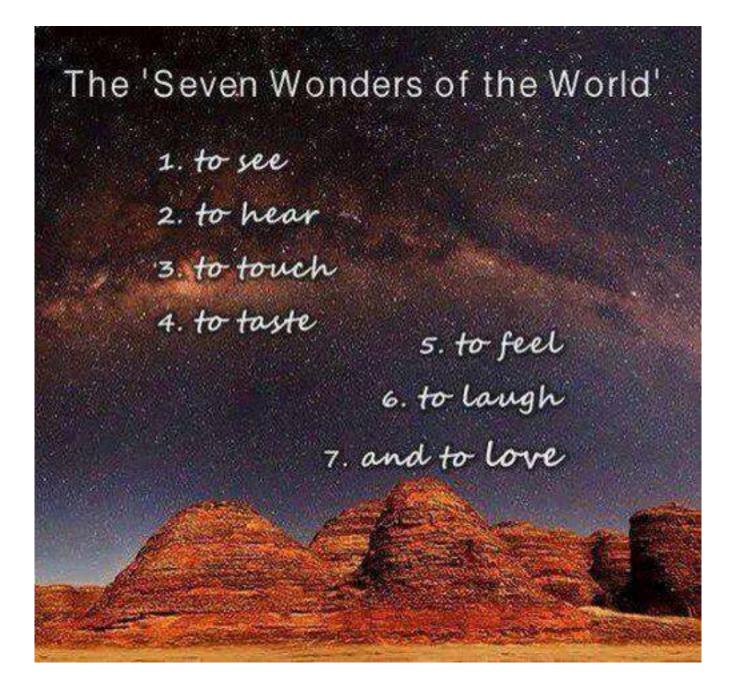
Purified Proverb #027 ...

Conventional wisdom reminds us that "Slow yet steady wins the race", and yet it is the Soul that knows that the only way to truly triumph in any race is to calmly refuse to compete therein ...



Purified Proverb #028 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "You don't know what you've got until it's gone", and yet the Soul reminds us that we don't know what we truly possess until we fully realize that we will never truly own anything ...



Purified Proverb #029 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "There is no sin that can hide from one's conscience", and yet the Soul reminds us that this is not at all the case, for the Soul knows only Love & Loving -- and as such sees either past or through each & every sin ...



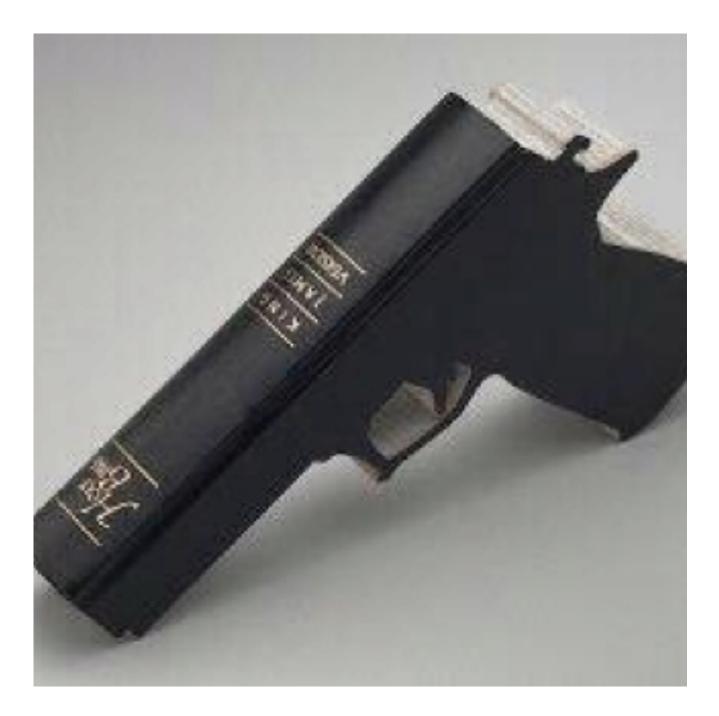
Purified Proverb #030 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us to "Practice what we preach", and yet the Soul reminds us gently to practice non-preaching ...

What If... What if our religion was each other, if our practice was our life, if prayer our words? What if the temple was the Earth, if forests were our church, if holy waters ~ the rivers, lakes and oceans. What if meditation was our relationships, if the teacher was life, if wisdom was self-knowledge, if love was the center of our being? ~Ganga White

Purified Proverb #031 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The pen is mightier than the sword", and yet the Soul reminds us that the only pen that is truly Mighty is the one used to uplift or in-Courage; just as the only sword that is truly Strong -- is the one that remains forever in its sheath ...



Purified Proverb #032 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "When we are in Rome, we should do as the Romans do", and yet the Soul reminds us to let our True Self shine forth no matter where we are -- or with whom ...



Purified Proverb #033 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "When the going gets tough, the tough get going", and yet the Soul reminds us as well that, when the tough get really going, their Love shines especially bright ...



Purified Proverb #034 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Fortune favors the bold", and yet the Soul reminds us as well that Kindness is the only bravery that counts ...



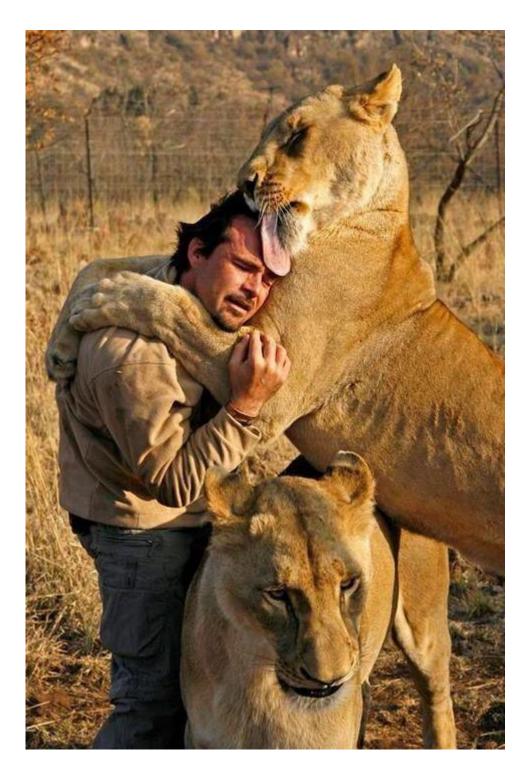
Purified Proverb #035 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "People who live in glass houses should not throw stones", and yet in addition to this Truth, the Soul reminds us that we are all born into glass houses ... and that – at least until our respective deaths -- in glass houses we will all remain ...



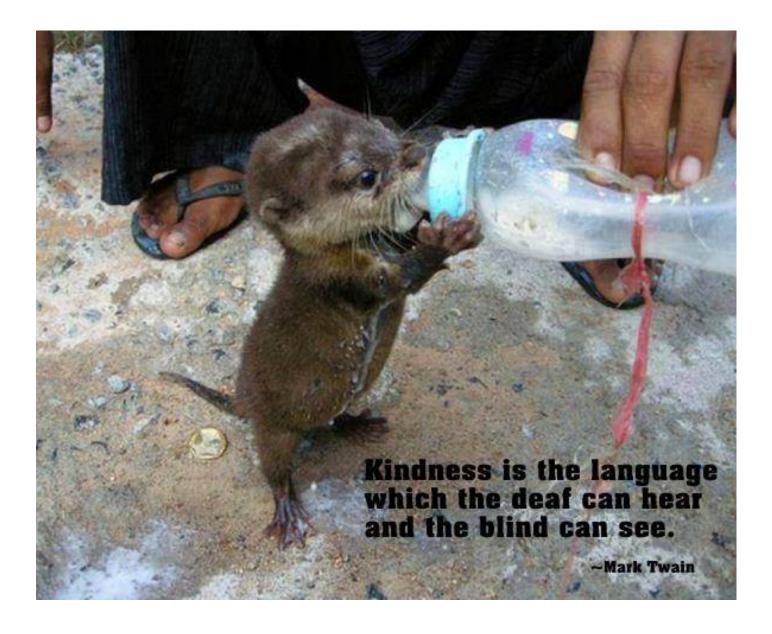
Purified Proverb #036 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Birds of a feather flock together", and yet the Soul reminds us that -- regardless of our particular species, our particular race, or our particular gender -- sentience is always our common coat; and Love always our common spirit ...



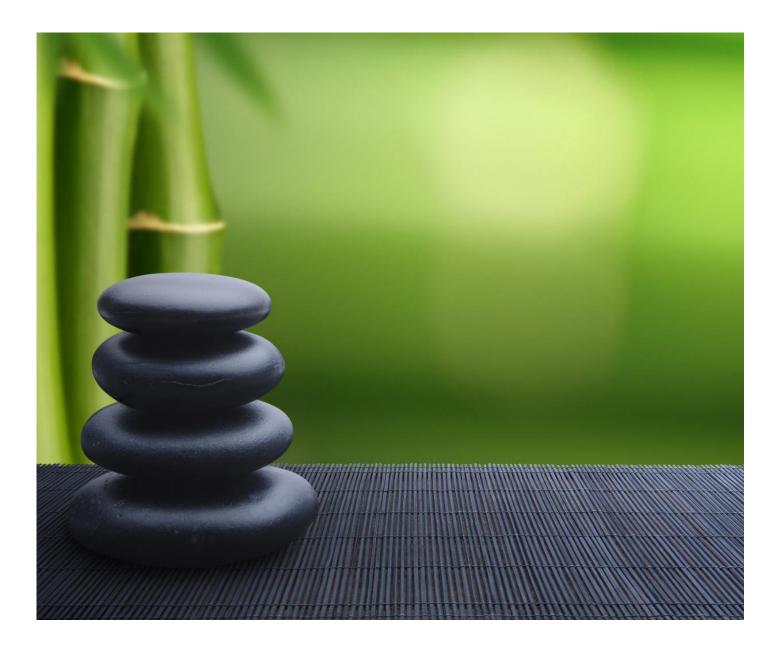
Purified Proverb #037 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A picture is worth a thousand words", and yet the Soul reminds us that every act of Kindness is worth a thousand pictures ...



Purified Proverb #038 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "There's no place like home", and yet the Soul reminds us that there is no place *other* than Home ...



Purified Proverb #039 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Discretion is the better part of valor", and yet, far more importantly, the Soul knows that Forgiveness is the better part of discretion ...



Purified Proverb #040 ...

Conventional wisdom informs us that "God helps those who help themselves", and yet the Soul knows that the only way to truly help our Selves -- is to serve others ...

"No one can help everyone, but everyone can help but someone."



Purified Proverb #041 ...

Conventional wisdom believes that "We can't always get what we want", and yet the Soul reminds us that it is want itself that precludes any & all real receiving ...



Purified Proverb #042 ...

Conventional wisdom tells that us that "Cleanliness is next to godliness", and yet the Soul reminds us that to get truly Clean we have to truly Give; that it is unconditional Gratitude that resides within true Cleanliness, and that it is LOVE the verb that lives right next door thereto ...



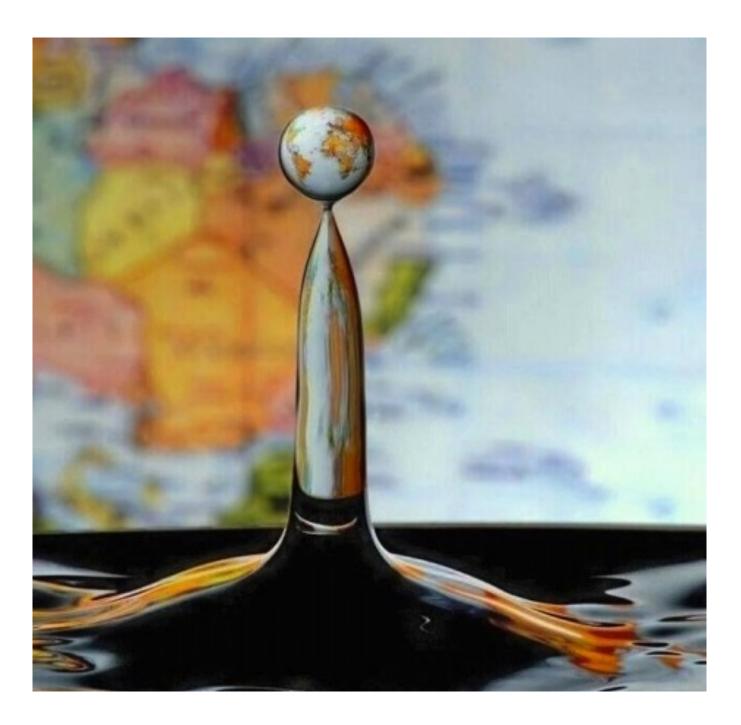
Purified Proverb #043 ...

Conventional reminds tells that us that "If it ain't broke, don't fix it", and yet the Soul reminds us of the far more important Truth: that no matter what is happening to you or where you might be headed, as long as you are alive -- your life ain't broke ...



Purified Proverb #044 ...

Conventional wisdom encourages us to "Join 'em if you can't beat 'em", and yet the Soul knows that to join others IS the only victory ...



Purified Proverb #045 ...

Conventional wisdom admonishes us "Don't bite the hand that feeds", and yet the Soul knows that the hand that truly Feeds worries not about being bitten; that the hand that truly Feeds can receive no mortal wound ...



Purified Proverb #046 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "There is no time like the present", and yet the Soul knows – because the past is no more & future is illusion; because this moment is all we have – that there is actually no such thing as "time" at all ...



Purified Proverb #047 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder", and yet the Soul knows that Beauty is literally in the eyes ... always in the eyes, via the Heart that sees through them ...



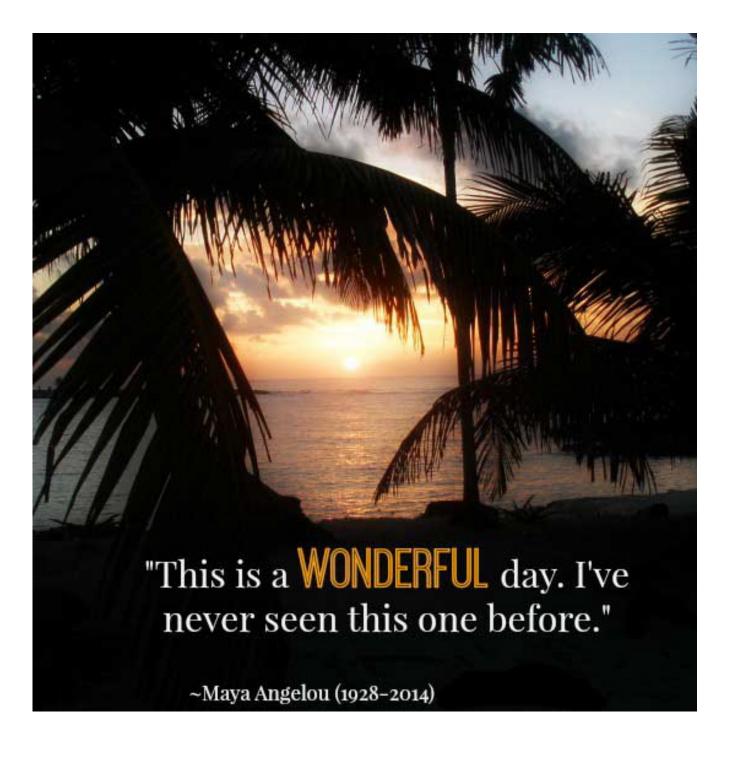
Purified Proverb #048 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "You can't judge a book by its cover", and yet far more importantly, the Soul knows that it is impossible to truly read a book while judging it at all; that Seeing the omnipresent Beauty of the other is the only choice that allows us to clearly See at all ...



Purified Proverb #049 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Good things come to those who wait", and yet the Soul knows that Great Things only come to those who do not ...



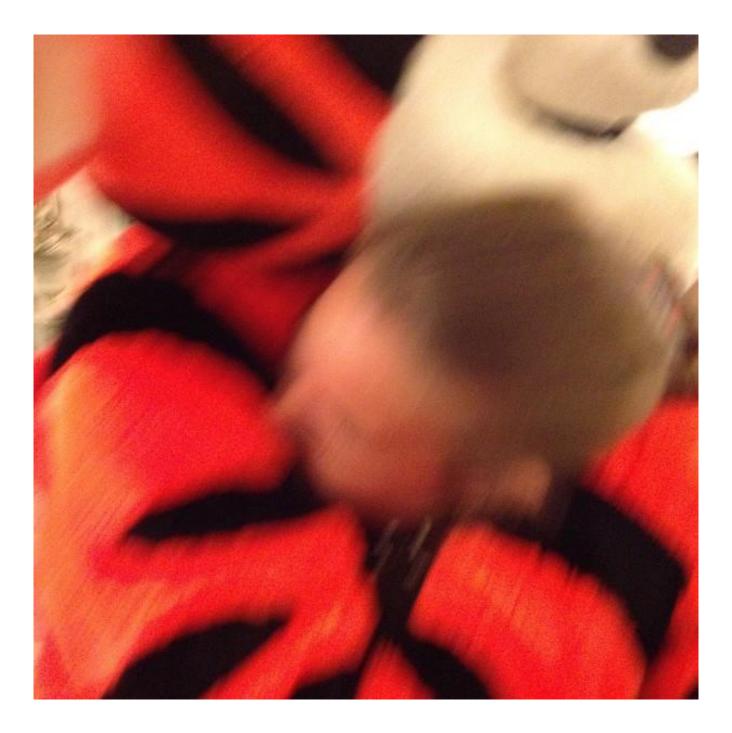
Purified Proverb #050 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Two heads are better than one", and yet the Soul knows that this is so only when those two heads share the same Heart ...



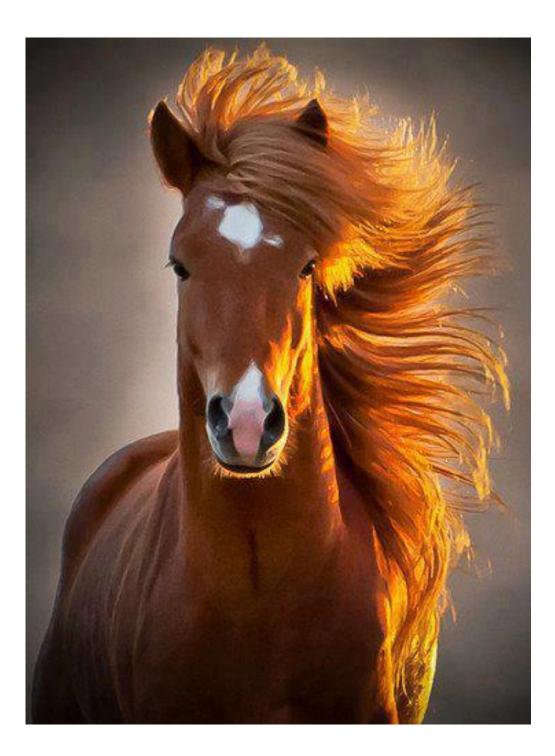
Purified Proverb #051 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A chain is only as strong as its weakest link", and the Soul knows in addition that a chain's weakest link is the one mistaking "power" for Strength -- the link who incorrectly believes that gentleness is weakness and that "might" makes Right ...



Purified Proverb #052 ...

Conventional wisdom says that "We can lead a horse to water, but we cannot make him drink", and yet the Soul reminds us that it is not our purpose to force others to drink of our Wisdom; that if any horse is sincerely thirsty, he will take a drink thereof whether he is encouraged to or not ...



Purified Proverb #053 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "If we want something done right, we must do it ourselves", and yet the Soul knows that whenever we require that anything be done "right", it ends up being done wrong no matter who does the doing ...



Purified Proverb #054 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A fool and his money are soon parted", and yet the Soul knows that a Wise One and her money were never bound to be begin with ...



Purified Proverb #055 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A friend in need is a friend indeed", and yet the Soul knows that a friend in need is actually a Friend to no one ...



Purified Proverb #056 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A good beginning makes for a good ending", and yet the Soul knows that the truly Good Beginning fully embodies its final destination; that every truly Good Beginning IS its end ...



Purified Proverb #057 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A good man is hard to find", and yet the Soul knows that a truly Good Man lives within each & every man ...



Purified Proverb #058 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A house divided cannot stand", and yet the Soul knows that a House divided does not exist at all ...



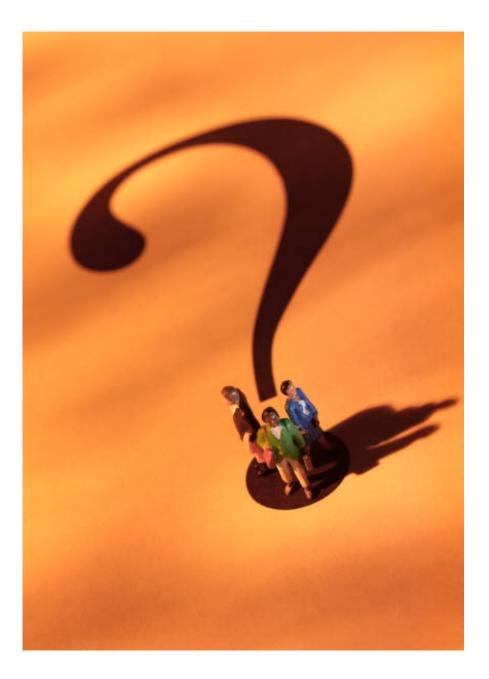
Purified Proverb #059 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A journey of 1000 miles begins with but a single step", and yet the Soul knows that any destination worth traveling towards is found in every step taken thereto ...



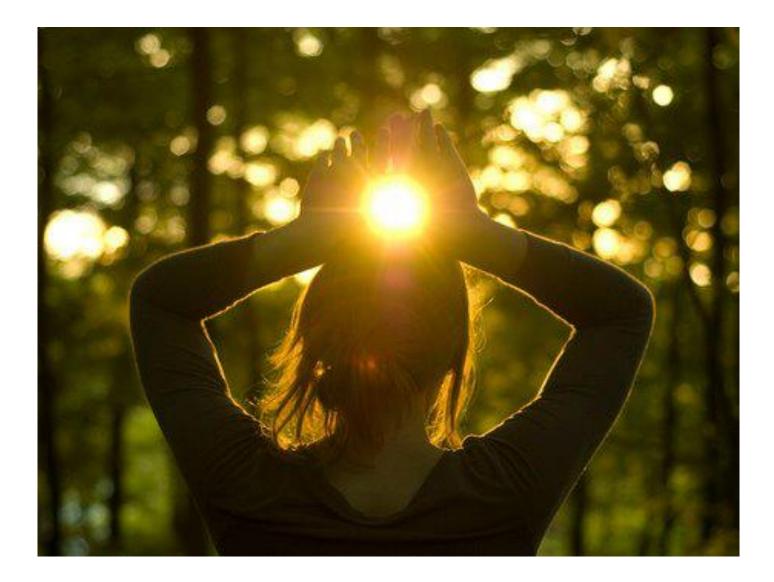
Purified Proverb #060 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A little knowledge is a dangerous thing", and yet the Soul knows that any knowledge used to condemn or attack is knowledge that is trulu deadly, and therefore knowledge not worth having at all ...



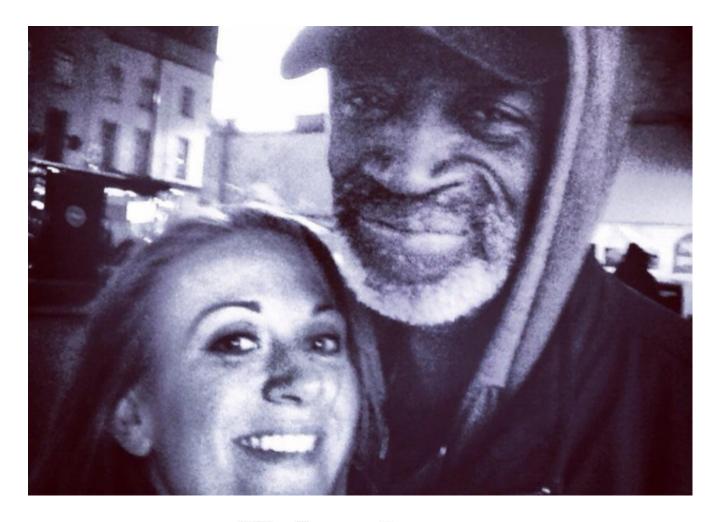
Purified Proverb #061 ...

Conventional wisdom believes that "A miss is as good as a mile", and yet the Soul knows that to aim for our own benefit is to miss the mark before even taking the first shot ...



Purified Proverb #062 ...

Conventional wisdom believes that "A person is known by the company she keeps", and yet the Soul knows that a person is truly Known only by the Love she *gives* to the company she keeps ...

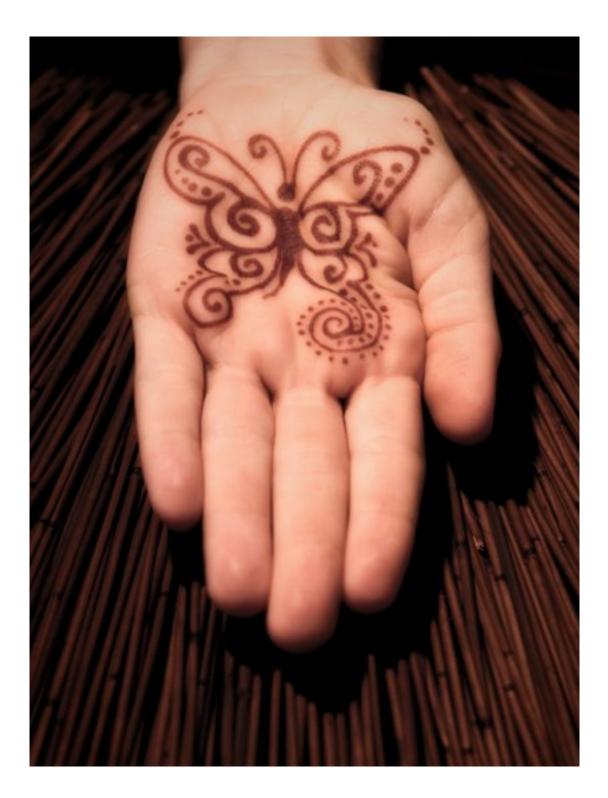


What race do you identify yourself as?



Purified Proverb #063 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "It is a poor workman who blames his tools", and yet the Soul knows that the truly Good Workman needs no tools at all ...



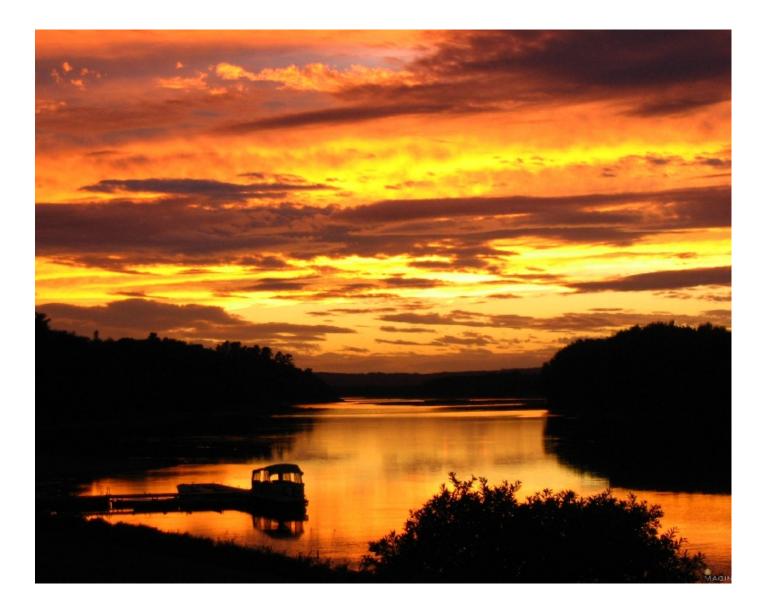
Purified Proverb #064 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A problem shared is a problem halved", and yet the Soul knows a very different Truth -- that a problem shared (& thereby "halved") is actually a problem doubled ...



Purified Proverb #065

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Absence makes the heart grow fonder", and yet the Soul knows that any Love real & true – no matter the miles between it and its Beloved -- knows no absence or separation ...



Purified Proverb #066 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Absolute power corrupts absolutely", and yet the Soul knows that true Strength is only known after all forms of "power" have been fully released & completely abandoned ...



Purified Proverb #067 ...

Conventional wisdom believes that "All good things must come to an end", and yet the Soul knows that Love is truly a Good Thing, and that if Love ever comes to an end, then its relationship was never fully Good – then its "love" was never truly Love ...



Purified Proverb #068

Conventional wisdom tells us that "All roads lead to Rome", and yet the Soul knows that, in actuality, all Romes lead to roads -- and that we cannot ever hope to arrive at our true Home within, until we have the courage to leave all our other "homes" behind ...



Purified Proverb #069

Conventional wisdom believes that "All we need is love", and yet the Soul knows that as long as we are needing – or even wanting -- anything at all for ourselves, real Love remains beyond all hope of ever being truly Known ...



Purified Proverb #070 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "All is fair in love and war", and yet the Soul knows that there is nothing fair about war at all, and that any Love that is real is completely unconcerned with fairness ...



Purified Proverb #071 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "An apple a day keeps the doctor away", and yet the Soul knows that any good health that is not used to bring others Peace or Joy inevitably leads to all forms of dis-ease ...





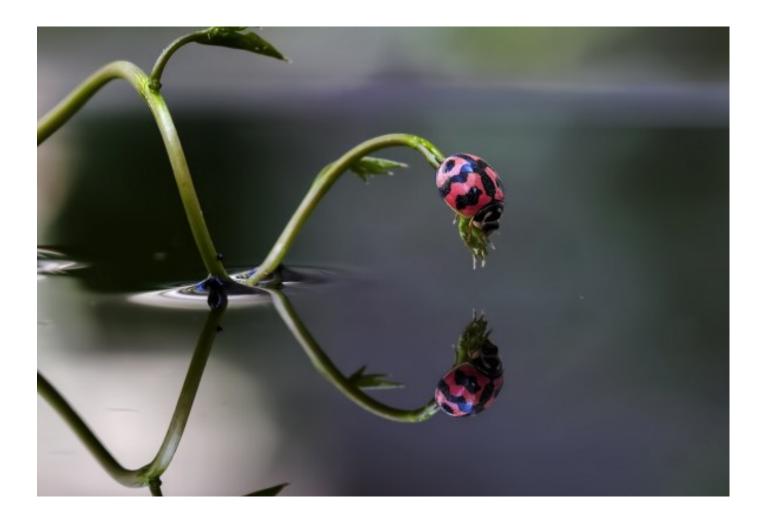
Purified Proverb #072 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "All is well that ends well", and yet the Soul knows that the only ending that ends well is the one that brings Wellness ...



Purified Proverb #073 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Attack is the best form of self-defense", and yet the Soul knows that self-defense is actually the most efficient means of Self-destruction ...



Purified Proverb #074 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Beauty is only skin deep", and yet the Soul knows that true Beauty is not found by the eyes that see the skin, but rather rests in the Love that lives behind those eyes, within the Heart ...



Purified Proverb #075 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "beggars can't be choosers", and yet the Soul knows that it is desiring that makes one poor; and that it is choosing that makes one a beggar. Just as ice storms can turn trees into glistening sculptures, so too can hard times make giants out of men (&/or women) ...



"I am not what has happened to me. I am what I choose to become." – Carl Jung

Purified Proverb #076 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Better late than never", while the Soul reminds us that LOVE, when given selflessly, is never late ...



Purified Proverb #077 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Better safe than sorry", and yet the Soul reminds us that the only way to be truly Care-full is to refuse to be careful; that -- at the very latest in the end -- safe is always sorry ...



Purified Proverb #078 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "It is better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all", and yet the Soul knows that selfless Love is always a victory; that it is impossible to truly Love and thereby truly lose ...



Purified Proverb #079 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "It is better to remain silent and thought a fool, than to speak and remove all doubt", and yet the Soul knows that -- whether speaking aloud or sitting in silence -- the only true "fool" is the one who refuses to engage an opportunity to be Kind to another ...



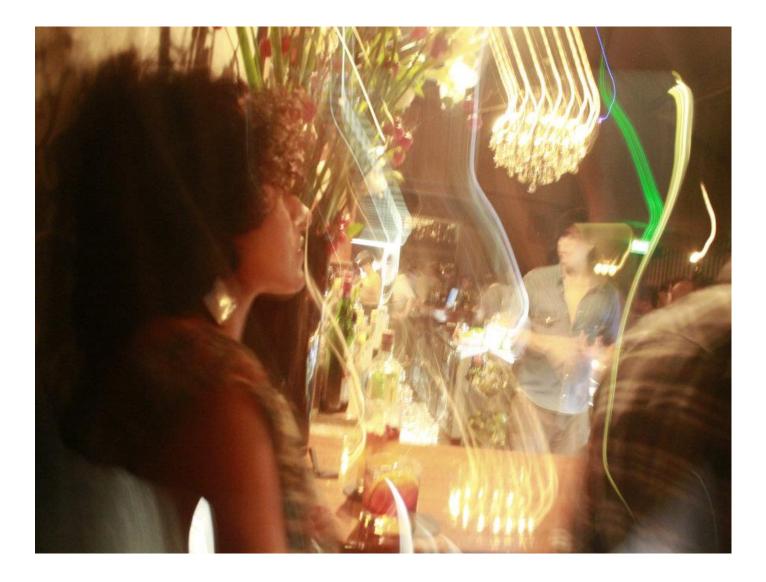
Purified Proverb #080

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Blood is thicker than water", and yet the Soul knows that we are all essentially made of the same blood -- and all blood, essentially of the same water ...



Purified Proverb #081 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Business before pleasure", and yet the Soul adds "and neither before Love" \dots



Purified Proverb #082 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Charity begins at home", and yet the Soul knows that real Charity only begins once Home moves away from home ...



Purified Proverb #083 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Do as I say, not as I do", and yet the Soul knows that we are actually only to do as those who selflessly DO; to only follow those who follow the Way of the Heart in that Doing ...



Purified Proverb #084 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Brevity is the soul of wit", and yet the Soul knows that there is nothing at all amusing about encounters that are superficial or tenuous, nor is there anything brief or fleeting about sincerely treating others with the intimacy of the "Soul" ...



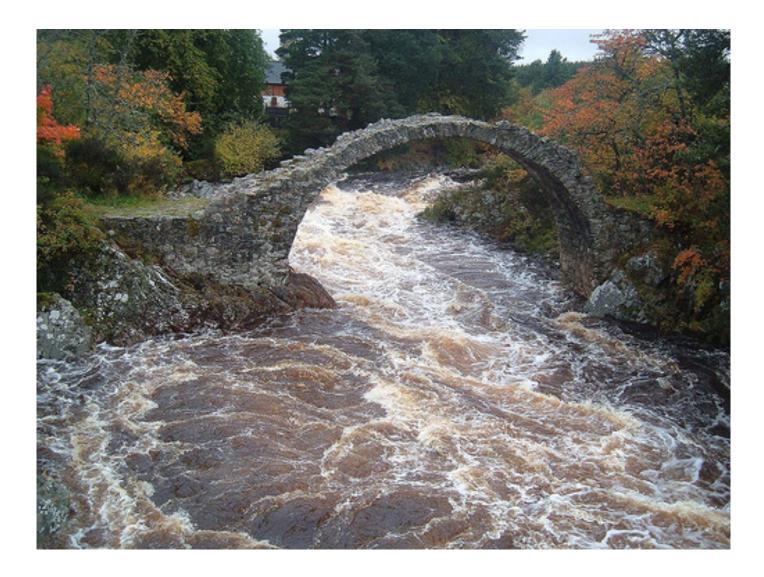
Purified Proverb #085

Conventional wisdom tells us that we should "Do unto others as we would have them do unto ourselves", and yet the Soul knows a far more Golden rule: that we are here simply to do Good unto others -- period ...



Purified Proverb #086

Conventional wisdom tells us "Don't burn your bridges behind you", and yet the Soul knows that real Love needs neither to build nor to burn its bridges, for real Love is not found in the crossing -- real Love is the Bridge ...



Purified Proverb #087 ...

Conventional wisdom says "Don't count your chickens before they've hatched", and yet the Soul knows that chickens are sentient beings ... beings to be respected and Loved, never merely counted never merely used ...



Purified Proverb #088 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Don't put the cart before the horse", and yet the Soul knows that horses are sentient beings; beings to be respected and cared about -- never to be forced to go anywhere they do not wish to freely go ...



Purified Proverb #089 ...

Conventional wisdom says "Don't wash your dirty laundry in public", and yet the Soul knows that Love cleanses all our linens even while they are worn ...



Purified Proverb #090

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Early to bed & early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy & wise", and yet the Soul knows that Life means nothing at all unless our eyes – and our Hearts -- are fully open in the hours we are already awake ...



Purified Proverb #091 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Easy come, easy go", and yet the Soul knows -- all that is easily attained is already lost before it is ever acquired ...





Purified Proverb #092 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Every man for himself, and may the Devil take the hindmost", and yet the Soul knows that the "demons" only takes those who flee first, and that it is their own cowardice that ultimately proves to be their taking ...



Purified Proverb #093 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Failing to plan is planning to fail", and yet the Soul knows otherwise -- that to plan for the future *is* always to fail in the present ...



Purified Proverb #094 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Every stick has two ends", and yet the Soul reminds us that every stick also has only one Center ...



Purified Proverb #095 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us to "Fight fire with fire", and yet the Soul reminds us that in every single conflict, it is the fighting itself that IS the fire ...



Purified Proverb #096 ...

Conventional wisdom says "Finders, keepers ... Losers, weepers", and yet the Soul knows that the only thing worth keeping is the thing that need never be found; that the only thing worth keeping is the desire to Give everything away ...



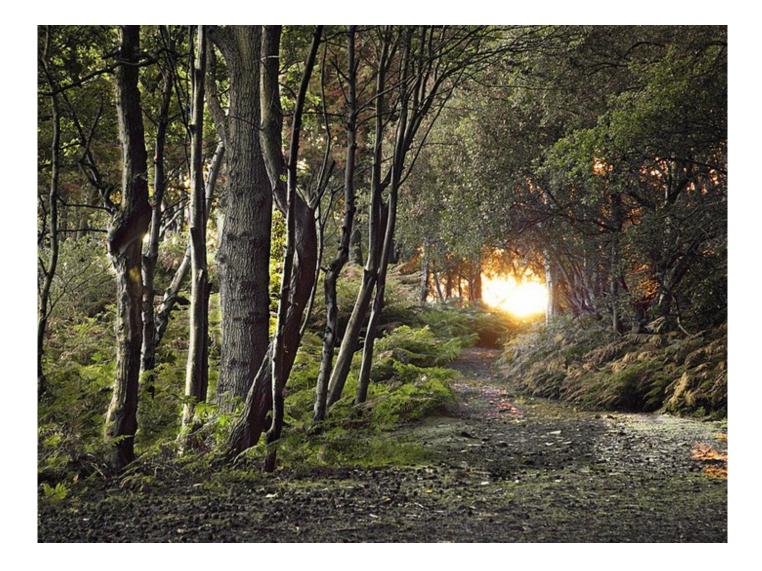
Purified Proverb #097 ...

Conventional wisdom says "First come, first served", and yet the Soul knows that serving others is our only true Arrival ...



Purified Proverb #098 ...

Conventional wisdom says "Forewarned is forearmed", and yet the Soul knows a very different Truth -- that forewarned is actually fully misled ...



Purified Proverb #099

Conventional wisdom says that we are to "Forgive and forget", and yet the Soul knows that with regards to our enemies, we are always to remember to Forgive ... and that with regards to ourSelves, we must always Forgive to re-member ...



Purified Proverb #100

Conventional wisdom says that "Fortune favors the brave", and yet the Soul knows that any "wealth" attained via acts of aggressive bravery is actually poverty in disguise ...



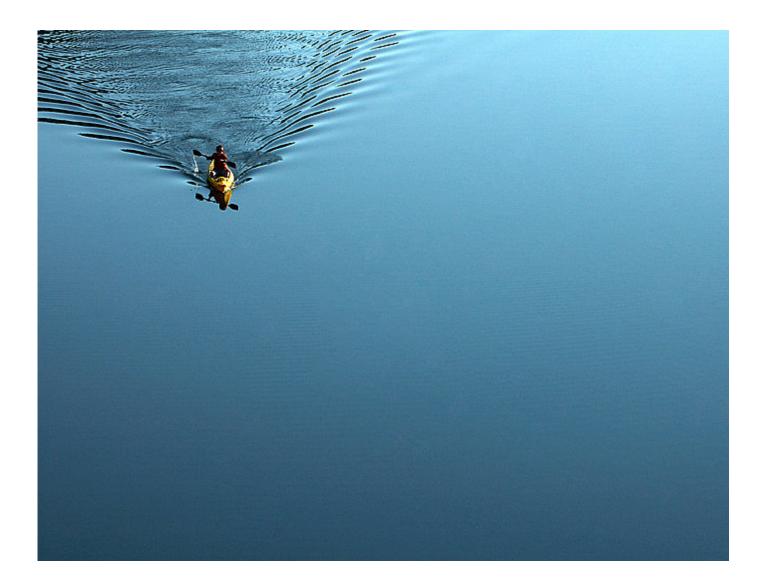
Purified Proverb #101 ...

Conventional wisdom says "If you give a man enough rope he will hang himself", and yet the Soul knows a different Truth: Give a man pure Love and there will be nothing left to hang ...



Purified Proverb #102 ...

Conventional wisdom says that "He who can, does -- He who cannot, teaches", and yet the Soul understands that the true Master teaches by doing ... and knows that Love unconditional is the only lesson worth imparting ...



Purified Proverb #103 ...

Conventional wisdom says that "He who lives by the sword will one day die by the sword", and yet the Soul knows that living by the sword IS dying by the sword ...



Purified Proverb #104 ...

Conventional wisdom says that "Hindsight is always 20-20", and yet the Soul also knows that Love is blind -- and therefore knows no hindsight ...



Purified Proverb #105 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Hope springs eternal", and yet the Soul knows that in actuality, hope always ultimately damns the hopeful ...



Purified Proverb #106 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "If at first you don't succeed -- try, try again", and yet the Soul knows that it is striving for "success" that is our greatest failure ...



Purified Proverb #107 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "If God had meant for us to fly, He'd have given us wings", and yet the Soul knows that wings never appear until they are needed, and that they are never needed until *after* we have leapt ...



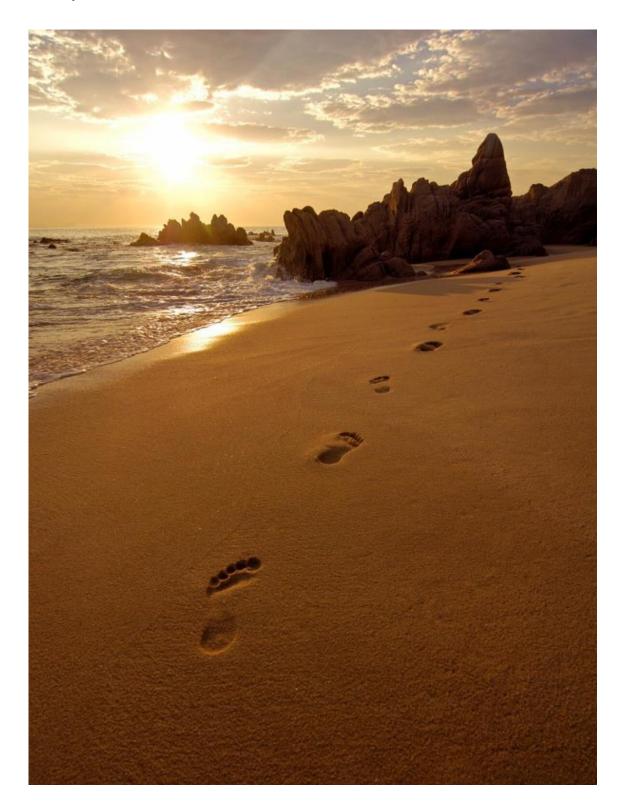
Purified Proverb #108 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "If you can't be good, at least be careful", and yet the Soul knows that as long as we are careful, we can never be truly Good ...



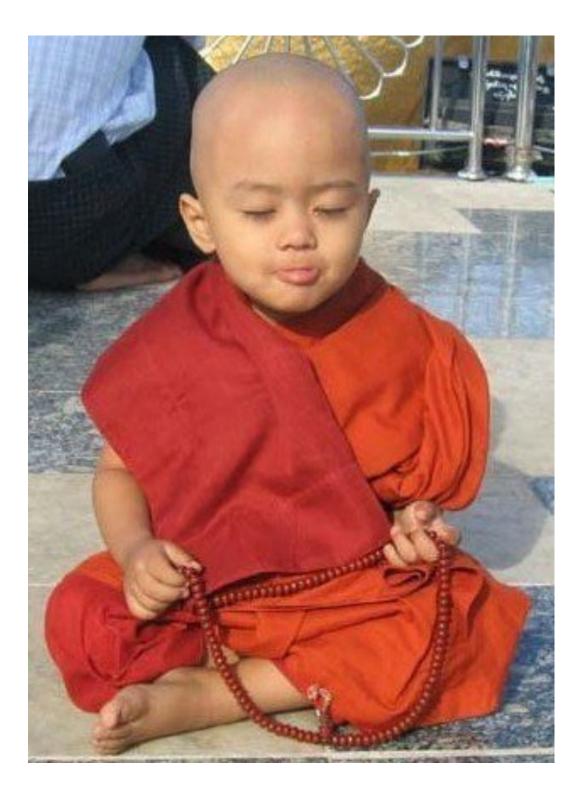
Purified Proverb #109

Conventional wisdom tells us "If you want a thing done right, do it yourself", and yet the Soul reminds us that merely by wanting a thing "done", we ensure that it will never be done truly well ...



Purified Proverb #110 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Ignorance is bliss", and yet the Soul knows that ignorance is only bliss for the ignorant; that for the victims of their mental negligence, it is a source of great suffering ...



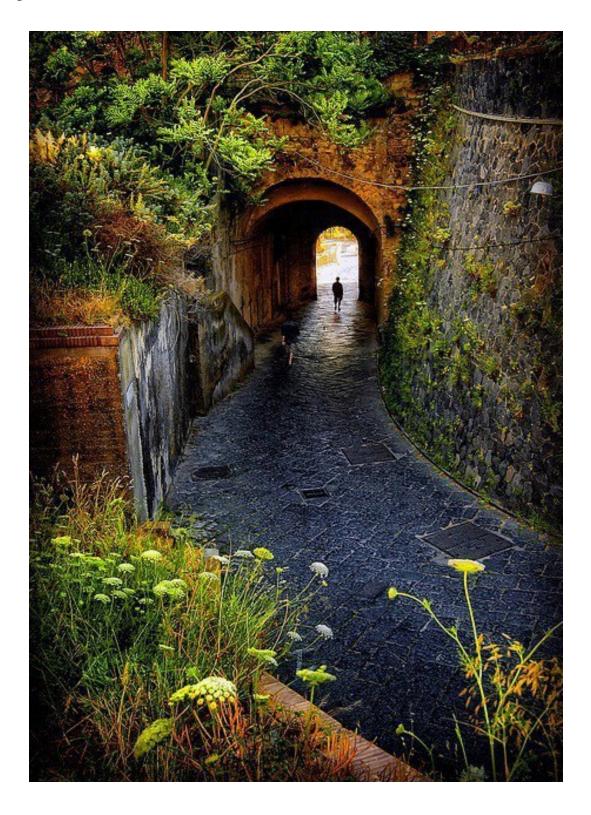
Purified Proverb #111 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "It is better to give than to receive", and yet the Soul reminds us that we can know neither giving nor receiving until both become ONE ...



Purified Proverb #112 ...

Conventional wisdom says that "It is better to travel hopefully than to one day arrive", and yet the Soul knows that it is traveling hopefully that keeps us from ever truly Arriving at all ...



Purified Proverb #113 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us to "Look before you leap", and yet the Soul gently-yet-insistently reminds us to leap anyway ...



Purified Proverb #114 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Truth resides within every jest", and yet the Soul reminds us that unconditional LOVE is our only Truth, and as such should many jests be spoken ...



Purified Proverb #115 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Many hands make light work", and yet the Soul knows that if the work is merely light, then it is not a task worth Doing ...



(image by Maulik Pandey)

Purified Proverb #116 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Everything in moderation", and yet the Soul knows that when it comes to Love, it is wisest to be moderate with our moderation ...



Purified Proverb #117 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Money talks" -- and the Soul reminds us to always do the opposite of what money tells you to do ...



Purified Proverb #118 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "One man's meat is another man's poison", and yet the Soul reminds us that, in actuality, meat IS humankind's deadliest poison ...



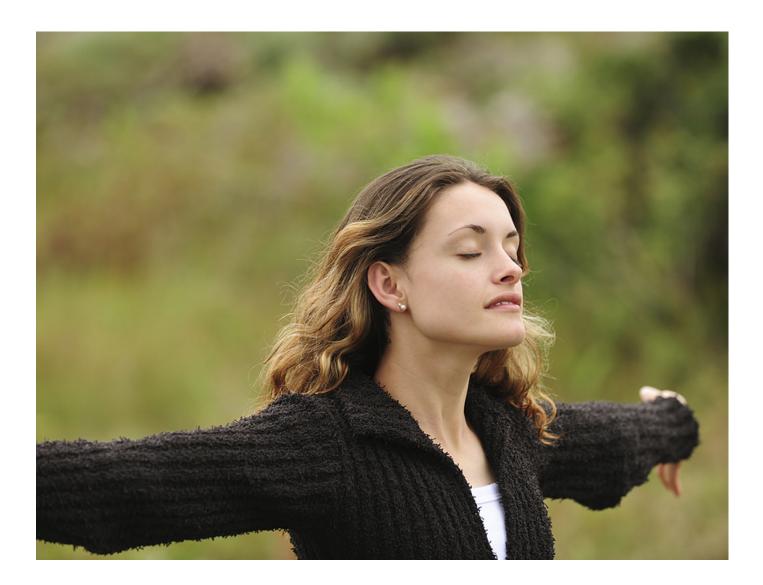
Purified Proverb #119 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Out of sight, out of mind", and yet the Soul knows a very different Truth: In Heart, always in Sight ...



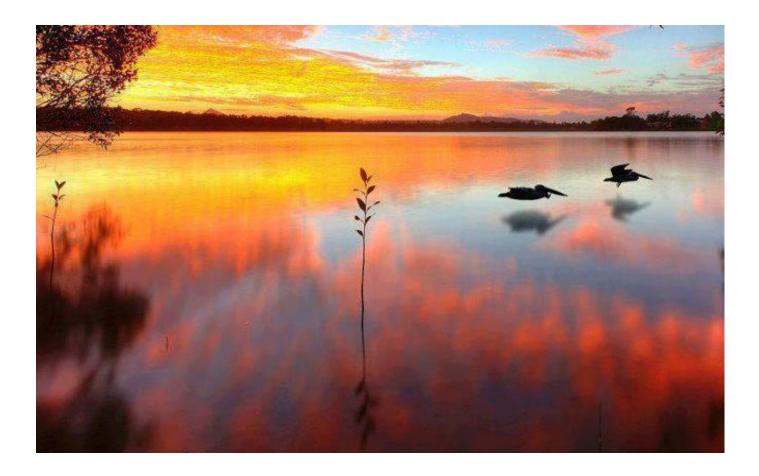
Purified Proverb #120 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Possession is nine-tenths of the law", and yet the Soul knows that Love (the verb) is nine-tenths of possession ...



Purified Proverb #121 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Pride goes before a fall", and yet the Soul knows that it is pride itself that is our steepest plummet ...



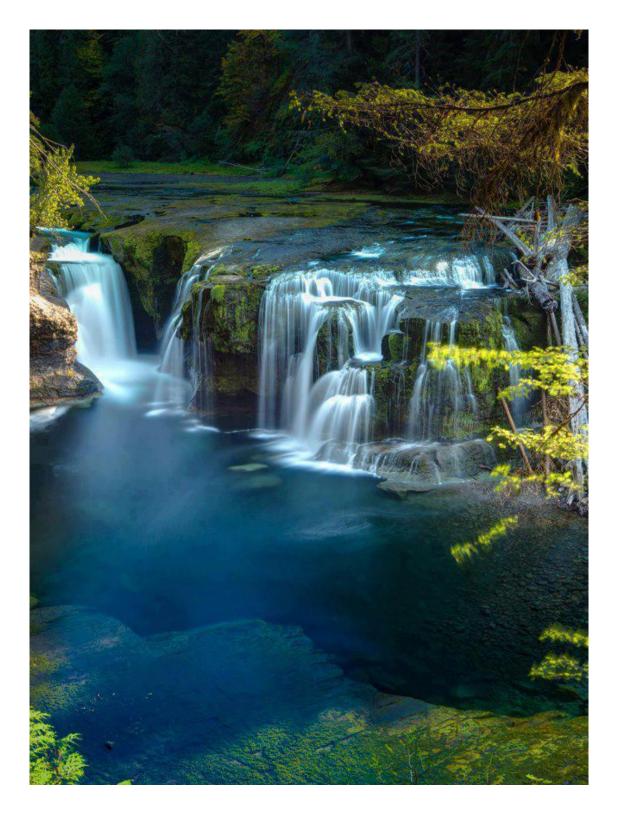
Purified Proverb #122 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Spare the rod and spoil the child", and yet the Soul knows it is the rod used to lash that obscures the child's True Path from view ...



Purified Proverb #123 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The course of true Love can never run smooth", and yet the Soul knows that if the course of our affection is not smooth, then - at least in that moment - it is not a course of true Love ...



Purified Proverb #124 ...

Conventional wisdom says that "Only the good die young", and yet the Soul knows that the deeds of the Kind & the Caring live on forever ...





Purified Proverb #125

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence", and yet the Soul knows that the grass is greener wherever it is watered ...



Purified Proverb #126 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The price of liberty is eternal vigilance", and yet the Soul knows that fear is by far our strongest cage; and the need for security, by far our darkest prison ...



Purified Proverb #127 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "There is an exception to every rule", and yet the Soul knows that LOVE is the exception to all those exceptions ...



Purified Proverb #128 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "There is more than one way to skin a cat", and yet the Soul knows that there is always only one way not to ...



Purified Proverb #129

Conventional wisdom tells us that "To the victor goes the spoils", and yet the Soul knows that for all "victors" of any conflict, their "spoils" become their greatest curse ...



Purified Proverb #130 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "What cannot be cured must be endured", and yet the Soul knows that what is merely endured cannot ever be made Whole; that what is merely tolerated cannot ever be truly Loved ...



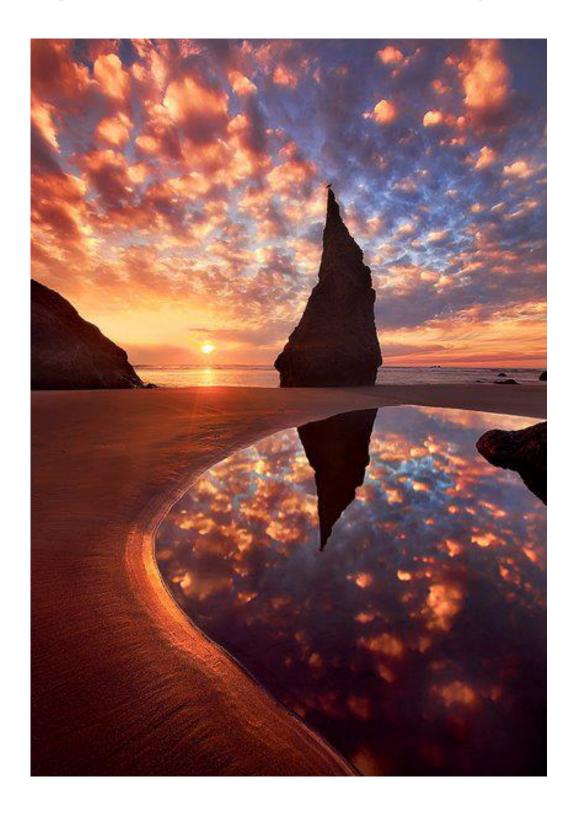
Purified Proverb #131 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Where there is a will, there is a way", and yet the Soul knows quite differently – that wherever there is a focused will, The Way remains forever hidden ...



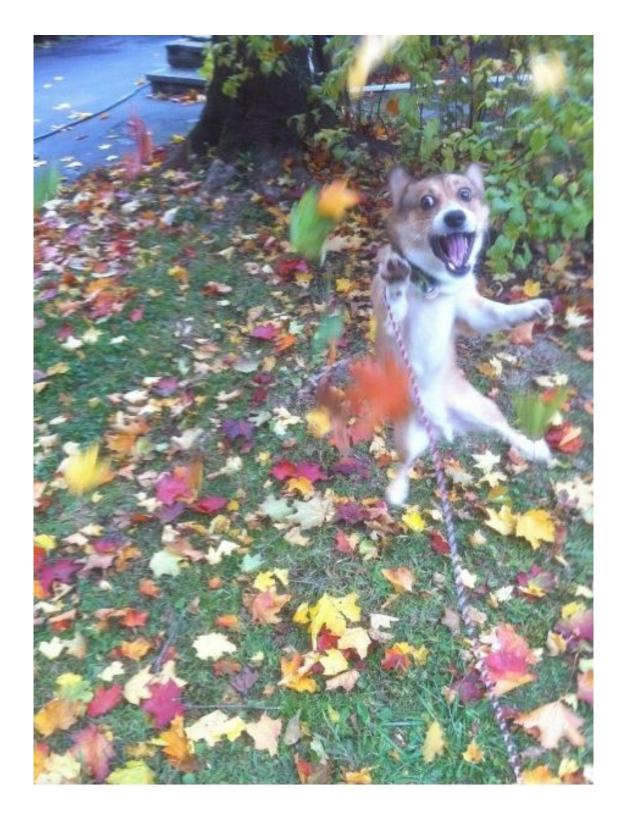
Purified Proverb #132 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Where there is life, there is hope", and yet the Soul knows that hope itself is a death that is far more swift & far more complete ...



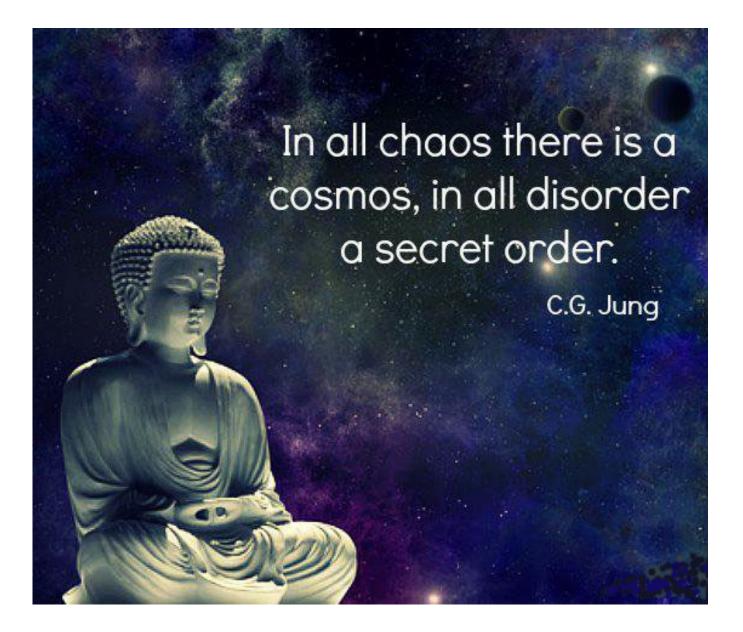
Purified Proverb #133 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "We can't win 'em all", and yet the Soul knows that it is trying to "win" that ensures our ultimate defeat ...



Purified Proverb #134 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Mistakes are doorways to discovery", and yet the Soul knows that discoveries of any kind are never mistakes ...



Purified Proverb #135

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The world is the traveler's inn", and yet the Soul knows that the entire Earth remains our Home, and that this remains so whether we roam freely across its many faces or remain seated where we already are ...



Purified Proverb #136 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "You can't make an omelet without breaking a few eggs", and yet the Soul knows that you can't break a few eggs without supporting the killing of thousands of baby chicks. It also knows that there is an easy solution to this moral conundrum: Stop making omelets ...



Purified Proverb #137 ...

Conventional wisdom admonishes us to "Give credit where credit is due", and yet the Soul reminds us that credit is only truly due to those who refuse to take any credit ...



Purified Proverb #138 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Good fences make good neighbors", and yet the Soul knows that strong fences turn good neighbors into "scary" strangers ...



Purified Proverb #139

Conventional wisdom tells us both that "A dog is man's best friend" and that "You can't teach an old dog new tricks", and yet the Soul knows that -- regardless of its age -- a dog that is commanded to do tricks cannot ever become a true Friend ...



Purified Proverb #140 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Every day of your life is a page of your history", and yet the Soul knows that every moment of our lives is Life in its entirety ...



Purified Proverb #141 ...

Conventional wisdom says that "Fact is stranger than fiction", and yet the Soul knows that every static "fact" is ultimately proven fictional -- and that Love is neither a "fact" nor static ...



Purified Proverb #142 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us to "Follow your dreams", and yet the Soul knows that its only real Purpose is to encourage others in rediscovering their own ...



Purified Proverb #143 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "He who lives well lives long", and yet the Soul knows that he who invests in his own well-being in order to live long is already dead ...



Purified Proverb #144 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "He who would govern others, should first govern himself", and yet the Soul knows that she who has truly mastered her Self will never attempt to rule or govern anyone ...



Purified Proverb #145 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The stargazer often stubs his toe", and yet the Soul knows that it is impossible to stub one's toe when the feet are firmly rooted where one already IS ...



Purified Proverb #146

Conventional wisdom tells us that "You can't win them all", and yet the Soul knows that, as long as we are striving to "win" any encounter, there can be no true Victory therein ...



Purified Proverb #147 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Brains are better than brawn", and yet the Soul knows that a brain without compassion is the birthplace of evil; and that brawn without Kindness is the source of all impotence ...



Purified Proverb #148 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "When the pupil is ready, the teacher will arrive", and yet the Soul knows that any teacher who professes to be a Teacher, is actually still a pupil, and that any pupil who believes he needs a Teacher, will never find one ...



Purified Proverb #149 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, and yet the Soul knows that silent acceptance is the only "flattery" that proves worthwhile ...



Purified Proverb #150 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "He who cannot endure the bad will never have the good", and yet the Soul knows that it is merely "enduring the bad" that keeps one from ever Seeing the Good that has already arrived ...



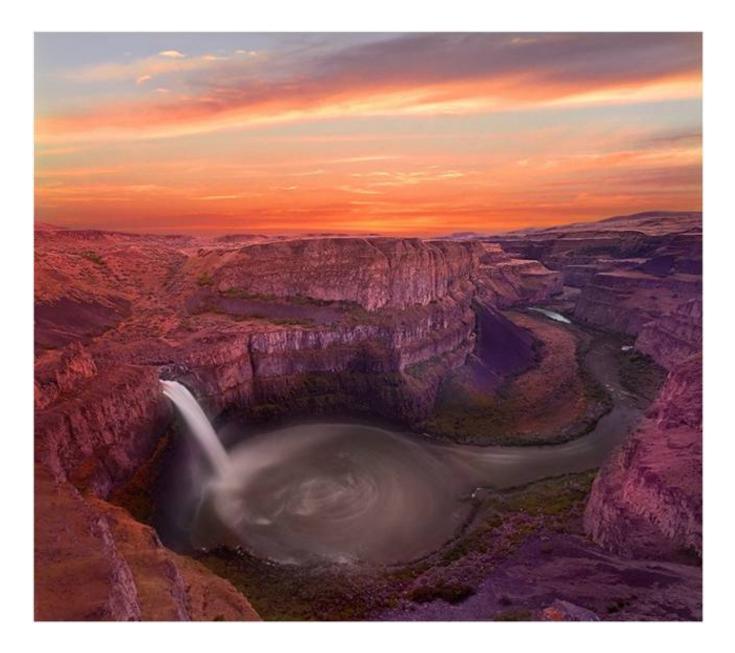
Purified Proverb #151 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "One bird in the hand is worth two in the bush", and yet the Soul knows otherwise -- that a bird in the hand is essentially worthless; that caging any animal transforms a blissful being into a fearful captive; that it is setting those captives free that makes them priceless again ...



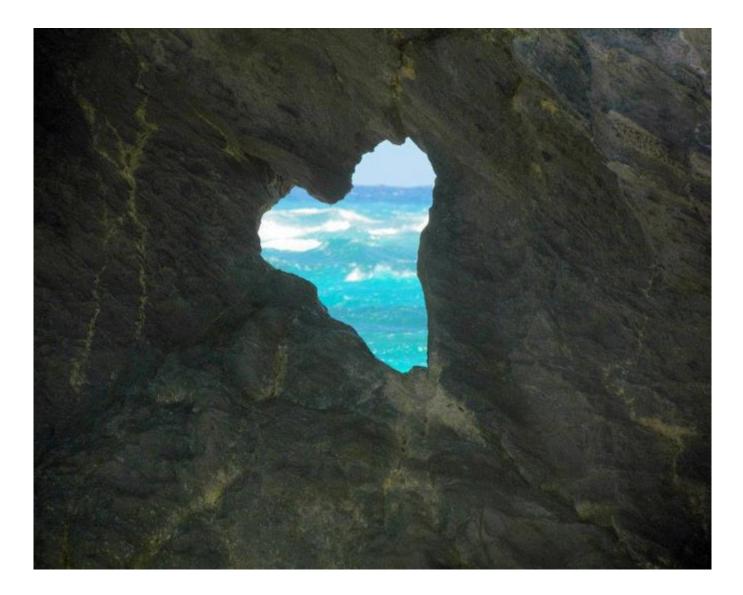
Purified Proverb #152 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Better late than never", and yet the Soul knows that -- at least as far as life is concerned -- there is no such thing as "never"; and that -- at least as far as Love in concerned -- there is no such thing as "late" ...



Purified Proverb #153 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us to "Believe none of what you hear and half of what you see", and yet the Soul knows that real Clarity only comes to us when we rely upon Truths that live far beyond the confines of mere perception ...



Purified Proverb #154 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "If you cannot see the bottom, wade not into the water", and yet the Soul knows that if we do not wade into deeper waters, we can never be fully cleansed ...



Purified Proverb #155 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A man's got to do what a man's got to do", and yet the Soul knows that the only thing a man or a woman truly has to do (to embody his or her True Self -- and thereby know true Peace) is to reclaim their innate Power of Volition; to set aside all previously acquired shackles – to dismiss all duties & release all responsibilities & cancel all commitments -- and then replace them all with Love ...



Purified Proverb #156 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Scatter with one hand, and then gather with two", and yet the Soul knows a very different Truth -- that to gather with two hands is to weaken – and thereby scatter -- one's one & only Soul ...



Purified Proverb #157 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Don't talk unless you can improve upon the silence", and the Soul adds that the only part of any conversation that truly counts is the half thereof that quietly & deeply listens ...



Purified Proverb #158

Conventional wisdom tells us that "People show their true character by what they laugh at", and yet the Soul knows that people actually show their true character by whom they laugh *with* ...



Purified Proverb #159 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Imagination is more important than knowledge", and yet the Soul knows that imagination -- in its untainted form -- IS Knowledge ...



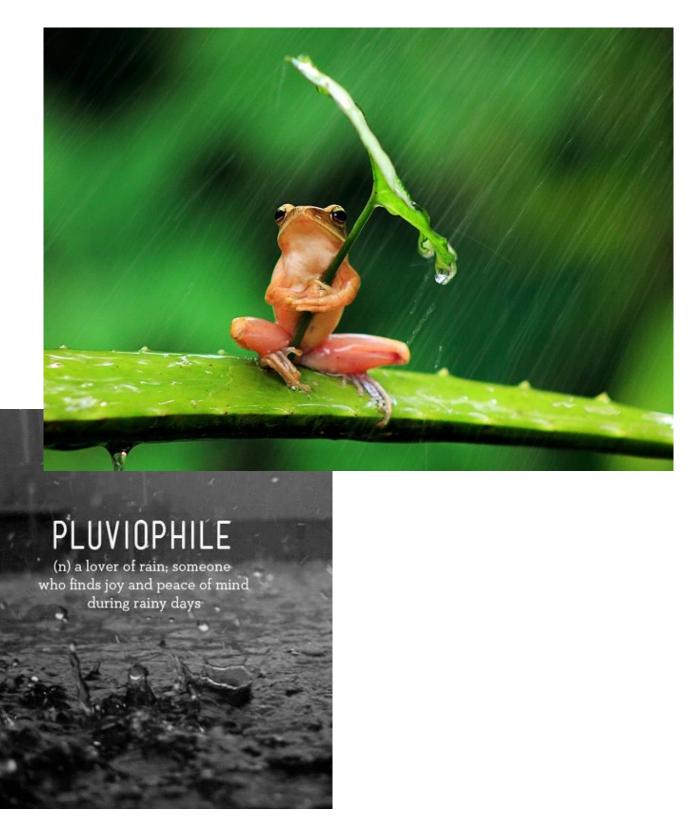
Purified Proverb #160

Conventional wisdom tells us to "Keep your friends close, and your enemies closer", and yet the Soul knows that it is impossible to know true Friendship with some while simultaneously seeing others as opponents or adversaries ...



Purified Proverb #161 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Necessity is the mother of invention", and yet the Soul knows that all worthwhile inventions are born in those moments when nothing additional is needed or desired ...



Purified Proverb #162

Conventional wisdom tells us "No pain, no gain", and yet the Soul knows that using one's own pain to bring "gain" tom self is merely another gateway to suffering; and that using one's own pain to bring Peace to others is the primary path to Paradise ...



Purified Proverb #163 ...

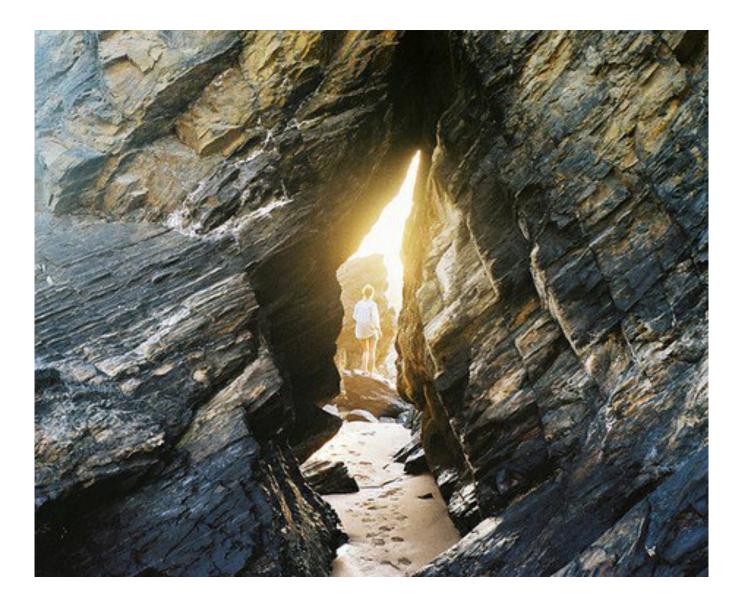
Conventional wisdom tells us that "There is no rest for the weary", and yet the Soul knows that it is refusing to rest when weary that is the source of our greatest Strength ...





Purified Proverb #164 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Nothing is certain but death and taxes", and yet the Soul knows that -- at least until you free yourself from the death of fear, you will not know what it is to truly live, and that -- at least until you free yourself from the demands of authority, you are certain to remain a slave ...



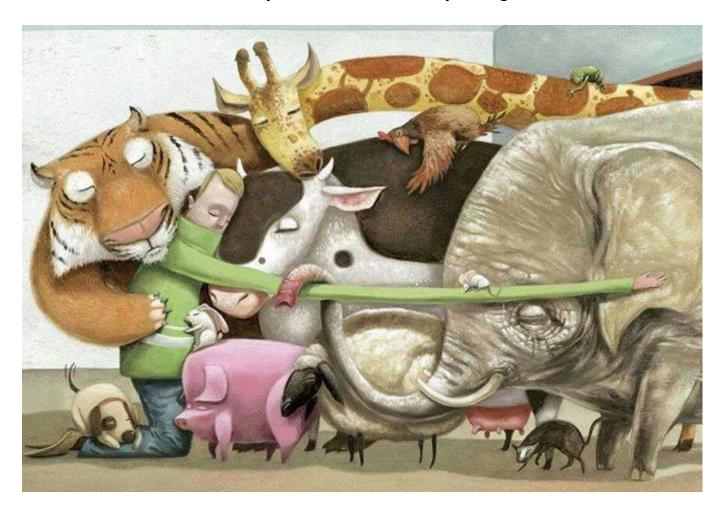
Purified Proverb #165

Conventional wisdom tells us to "Speak softly and carry a big stick", and yet the Soul knows that it is impossible to speak softly while armed with ay weapon ...



Purified Proverb #166 ...

Conventional wisdom says that we should "Strike while the iron is hot", and yet the Soul knows that Kindness is the only blow that leaves a truly lasting mark ...



1× × × × ×

My love is unconditional

Your action is irrelevant

Purified Proverb #167 ...

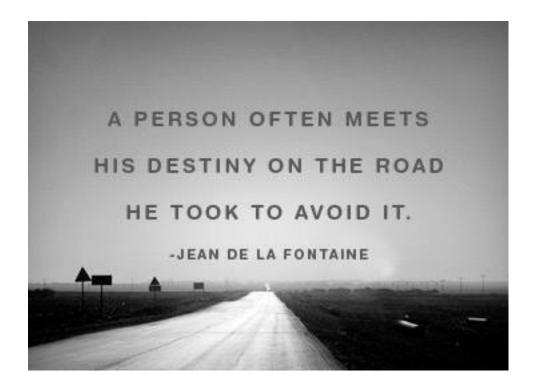
Conventional wisdom says that "Stupid is as stupid does", and yet the Soul knows that acts of aggression are the only deeds truly "dumb"; and that condemnation is the only real "stupidity" ...





Purified Proverb #168 ...

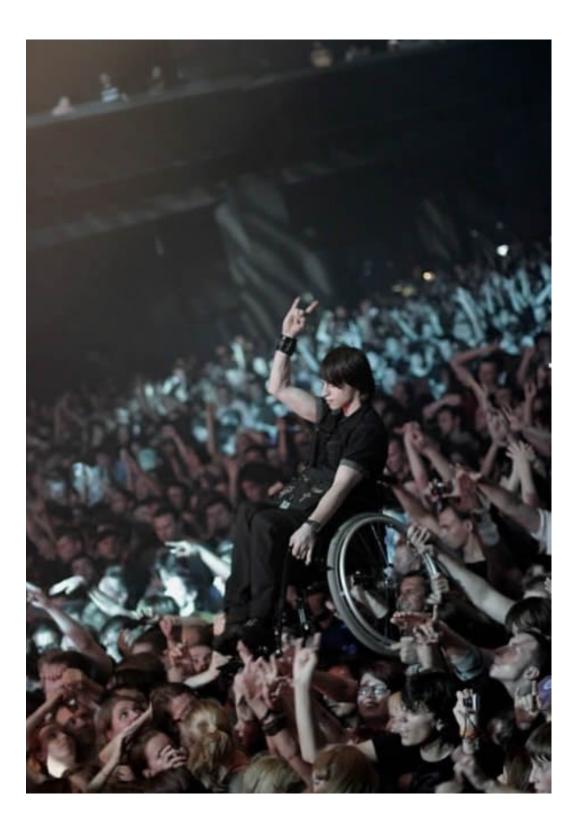
Conventional wisdom says that "He who fights and runs away lives to fight another day", and yet the Soul knows that to run away in the hopes of attaining a "victory" in any future act of combat is the very essence of death ...





Purified Proverb #169 ...

Conventional wisdom tell us that "Actions speak louder than words", and yet the Soul knows that our actions are most often the only words worth speaking ...



Purified Proverb #170 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The best things in life are free", and yet the Soul knows that the man or woman concerned with things is never truly Free ...



(1 week's worth of food in "wealthy" Germany – with the lack of smiles saying a lot ...)



(1 week's worth of food in "poor" Ecuador - with the big smiles saying even more.)

Purified Proverb #171 ...

Conventional wisdom says that "Barking dogs don't bite", and yet the Soul knows that all "dogs" that bark -- regardless of species – have already bitten their Selves ...



(image quote from Kent M. Keith)

Purified Proverb #172 ...

Conventional wisdom says that "All that glitters is not gold", and yet the Soul knows that our truest Treasure rests solely within us; and that it is completely invisible to all who search for their "gold" in the world ...



Purified Proverb #173 ...

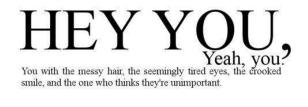
Conventional wisdom tells us that "The bigger they are, the harder they fall", and yet the Soul knows a far more poignant Truth -- that the harder we fall, the sooner we Soar ...



Purified Proverb #174 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The clothes do not make the man", and yet the Soul knows that the Man quite truly "makes" his clothes ...





You're beautiful and I love you.

Purified Proverb #175 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "It takes two to tango", and yet the Soul reminds us that the Soul itself always counts as one of those two – that even if we have no physical partner present, it is always possible to dance \dots





Purified Proverb #176 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A leopard cannot change his spots", and yet the Soul knows that there is nothing about *any* leopard that needs any changing at all ...



Purified Proverb #177 ...

Conventional wisdom says that "Lightning never strikes the same place twice", and yet the Soul knows that -- no matter where it happens to strike -- lightning hits the very center of the Universe each & every time ...



Purified Proverb #178

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Misery loves company", and yet the Soul knows that neither sadness nor fear know anything at all of Love's Joy-filled Way ...



Purified Proverb #179 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The arrival of one swallow does not a summer make", and yet the Soul knows that every single swallow is Beauty itself in motion -- and this, no matter how many clouds might fill its sky ...



Purified Proverb #180

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Too many cooks spoil the soup", and yet the Soul knows that -- at least in the kitchen of Kindness & Compassion -- there is no such thing as too many cooks ...



Purified Proverb #181 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Two is company, three is a crowd", and yet the Soul knows that it takes two for Love to be given, it takes three for Love to be remembered, and that it takes a crowd -- and the courage to immerse one's Self therein -- for Love to grow & flourish & transmute & transform ...



Purified Proverb #182 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Where there is smoke, there is fire", and yet the Soul also knows that where there is fire, there is a Cleansing ...



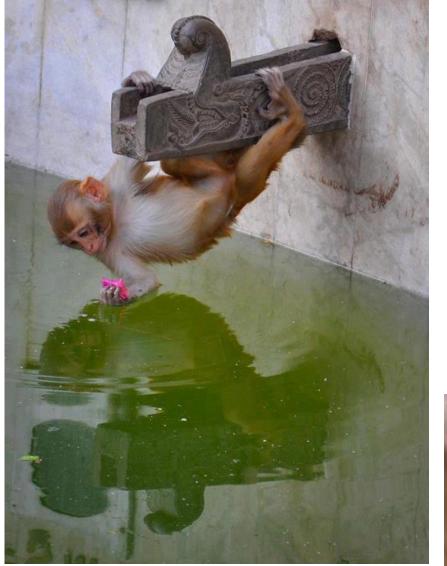
Purified Proverb #183

Conventional wisdom tells us "You cannot have your cake and eat it too", and the Soul knows in addition that, to truly Partake of any "cake", it must be given away freely to those in need ...



Purified Proverb #184 ...

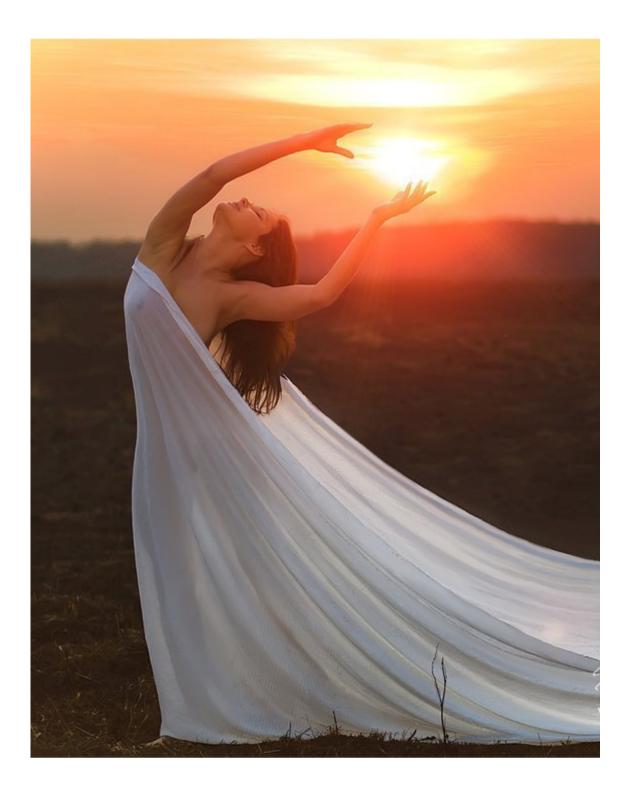
Conventional wisdom tells us "What you see in yourself is what you see in the world", and yet the Soul knows instead that whatever we choose to see in the world is actually nothing more than a reflection of who we ourselves are choosing to Be ...





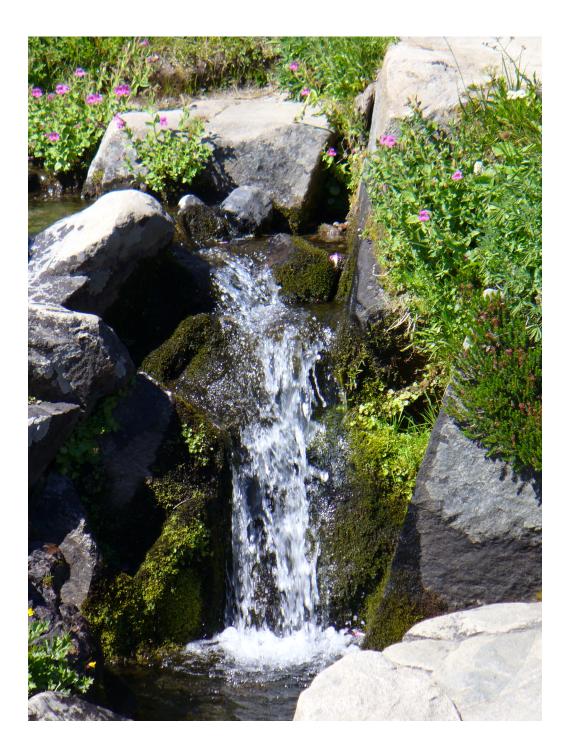
Purified Proverb #185 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "She who does not ask for little does not deserve much", and yet the Soul knows that to wish for more is to discard all that has already been given ...



Purified Proverb #186

Conventional wisdom tells us that "It is better to ask the way two times than to lose your way once", and yet the Soul knows that asking the way to somewhere else is to immediately lose the path that leads to where you already Are ...



Purified Proverb #187 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The believer is happy; the doubter is wise", and yet the Soul knows that to believe anything with certainty is to castrate one's Faith therein, and that to doubt The Way of Love -- no matter how dark & foreboding it appears -- is to stray from all Truth & Wisdom ...



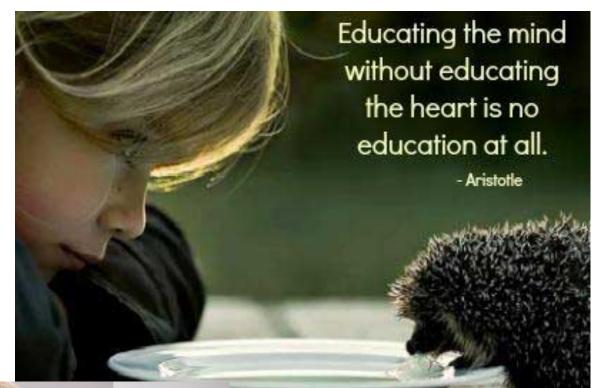
Purified Proverb #188

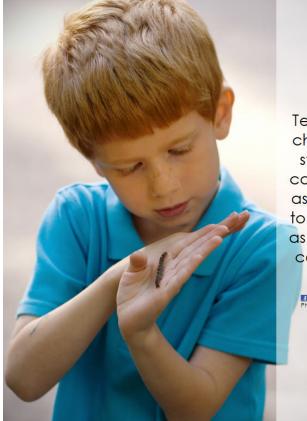
Conventional wisdom tells us that "The soft answer turns away wrath", and yet the Soul knows that to turn away from the wrathful (and all others otherwise "undeserving") is to abandon our greatest Blessing ...



Purified Proverb #189 ...

Conventional wisdom says that "It takes a village to raise a child", and yet the Soul knows the far more potent Truth -- that only when its children are raised to be Kind does a village become a real Community ...





Teaching a child not to step on a caterpillar is as valuable to the child, as it is to the caterpillar.

> Bradley Miller SYMPHONY OF LOVE PHOTO BY PAM ULLMAN

Purified Proverb #190

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Many hands make for light work", and yet the Soul knows that all work that is easy invariably makes for weak hands ...



Purified Proverb #191 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Show me your friends and I will show you your character", and yet the Soul knows that a character that distinguishes "friend" from "enemy" is a character not worth knowing at all ...



Purified Proverb #192 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "What you give, you receive ten times over", and yet the Soul knows that there can be no Good truly given while pondering what "good" might return thereby ...



Purified Proverb #193 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Every cloud has a silver lining", and yet the Soul knows that there is actually no such thing -- that the Sun shines without fail through all clouds onto all beings in every moment ...



Purified Proverb #194 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that we are to "Act as though it were impossible to fail", and yet the Soul knows that as long as we do indeed act, it IS impossible to fail ... for it is choosing not to act that is the only real failure ...



Purified Proverb #195 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Anyone who has riches but doesn't cherish them will soon be poor", and yet the Soul knows that we are all already fully Blessed, and that anyone who longs for more immediately knows a poverty deeper & most complete ...



Purified Proverb #196 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Where there is character, ugliness becomes beauty; where there is none, beauty becomes ugliness". The Soul, on the other hand, knows that any character that judges anything or anyone to be "ugly" is a character not worth keeping ...



We were young and beautiful Now we are just beautiful

Purified Proverb #197 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Love is a tyrant who spares no one", and yet the Soul knows that Love, by its very nature, cannot ever be a dictator -- that Love is the essence of Freedom; that Love is the liberator of all beings from all oppressions ...





Purified Proverb #198

Conventional wisdom tells us that "To run is not to arrive", and yet the Soul knows that to seek future treasures is to deprive one's Self of all current ones; that to seek further destinations is to become lost in one's Here&Now ...



Purified Proverb #199 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Patience brings desires ever nearer that are even now far away". And yet the Soul knows that, though the stillness of waiting can sometimes bring smatterings of happiness into view – the inaction of waiting keeps true Joy forever out of reach ...



Purified Proverb #200 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "No partridge scratches the ground in search of food for another", and yet the Soul reminds us that -- while many do strive solely for their own sustenance, we are always much more than those so ground-bound ...



Purified Proverb #201 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A healthy person who begs for food is an insult to the generous farmer", and yet the Soul knows that the truly generous farmer is beyond all insult; that his Giving has become his praise ...



Purified Proverb #202

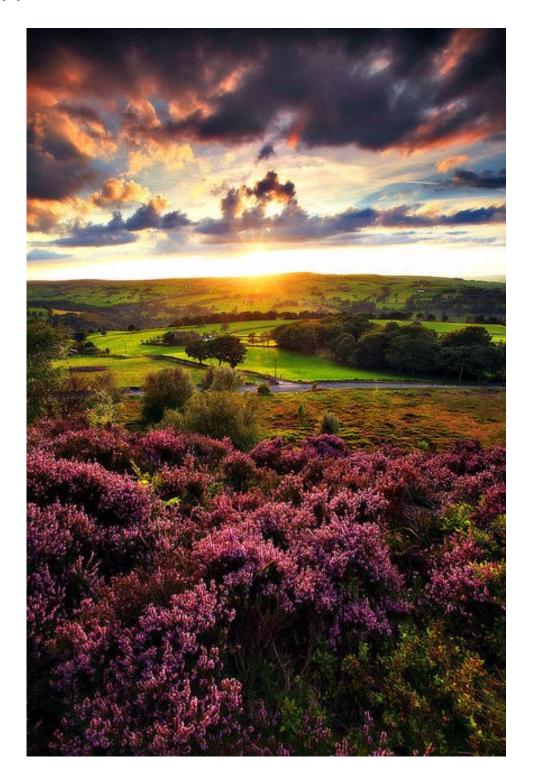
Conventional wisdom tells us that "Enough is as good as a feast", and yet the Soul knows that there can only be a true Feast when *everyone* sits at the table -- and when no one is served upon it ...





Purified Proverb #203 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The day to come is always longer than the year just past", and yet the Soul knows that there is no such thing as a "day to come"; that we all have only today; and that to remember this Truth is to make each & every day more full than every year before ...



Purified Proverb #204 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A fool can earn his money, but only a wise man will keep it", and yet the Soul knows that a truly Wise man knows that his wealth is never his to keep ...



phi-lan-thro-pist: noun;

1. One who actively promotes human well-being. **2.** You.



Purified Proverb #205 ...

Conventional wisdom reminds us that "A misty morning may become a clear day", and yet the Soul knows that the only true Clarity comes from appreciating the fog without longing for the sun ...



Purified Proverb #206 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A mere thread holds an honest man better than a heavy chain binds a rogue", and yet the Soul knows that no man can become truly Honest until he is completely freed ...





Purified Proverb #207 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us to "Be slow in choosing a friend, and much slower in exchanging her", and yet the Soul knows that a true Friend is chosen immediately & completely -- and never ever traded ...



Purified Proverb #208 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Danger & delight grow on the same stalk", and yet the Soul knows a very different Truth -- that it is *transcending* our apparent dangers (not removing or avoiding them) that is our only true Delight ...





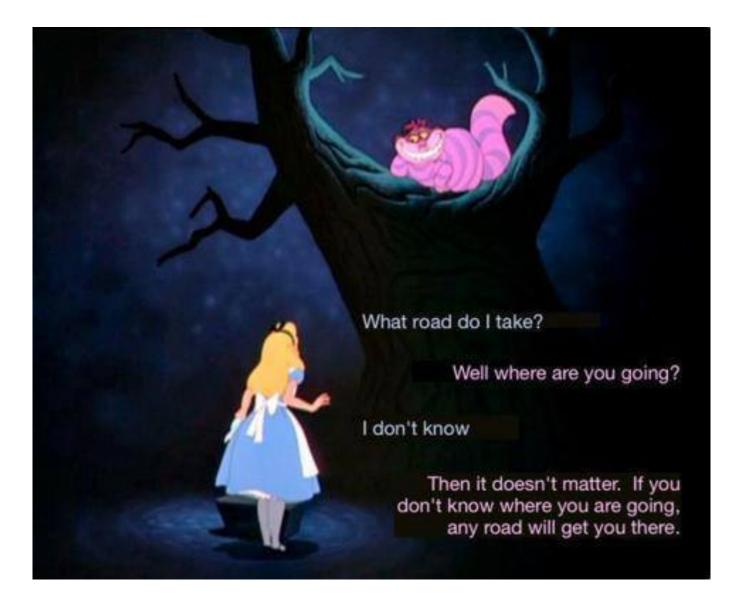
Purified Proverb #209

Conventional wisdom tells us that "He who laughs last laughs longest", and yet the Soul knows that he who laughs at others cannot Know true Happiness at all ...



Purified Proverb #210 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "To wait for luck is to wait for death", and yet the Soul knows that -- whether we are hoping for good fortune or worrying over potential downfall -- it is waiting itself that is our ultimate demise ...



Purified Proverb #211 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Often the cure is worse than the disease", and yet the Soul knows that it is the yearning for cures that underlies all our dis-ease ...



(image by Nancy Borowick)

Purified Proverb #212 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us to "Follow the river to get to the sea", and yet the Soul knows that the river and the sea are actually One -- and that applying this Truth to everyday living allows all our struggles to fade into the mist ...



Purified Proverb #213 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Things done at the wrong time remain undone", and yet the Soul know that anything that needs to be done "on time" is exactly the thing we needn't be doing ...



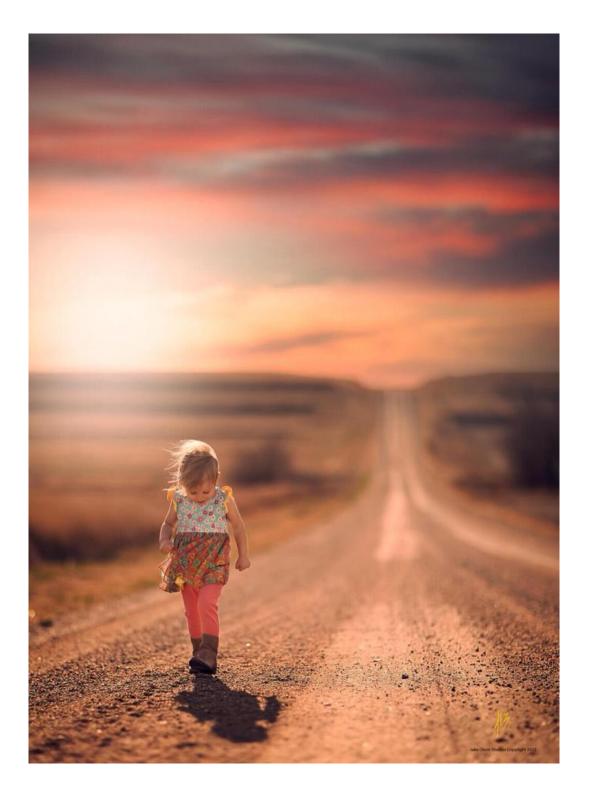
Purified Proverb #214 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The smiles we beam to others are the ones that return to us", and yet the Soul knows that the only smile we ever truly receive IS exactly the same one we freely give away ...



Purified Proverb #215 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Walking steadily, even a donkey will reach Lhasa", and yet the Soul knows that -- if a place has become a desired destination, and if our eyes are thus ever directed towards its horizon, then we gain nothing by arriving there ...



Purified Proverb #216 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Complaining is the weak person's strongest weapon", and yet the Soul knows that negativity of any kind is actually the strong person's greatest weakness ...



There is always, always something to be thankful for

Purified Proverb #217 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A man without money is like a bow without arrows", and yet the Soul knows that the bow without arrows is the bow that strikes the only target worth hitting ...





Purified Proverb #218 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A known mistake is better than an unknown Truth", and yet the Soul knows that to strive for "truth" over Love is the only real mistake one can ever make ...





Love is the only reality and it is not a mere sentiment. It is the ultimate truth that lies at the heart of creation.

(Rabindranath Tagore)

Purified Proverb #219 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "He who has a true friend has no need of a mirror", and yet the Soul knows that a friend who acts as a mere mirror is no true Friend at all ...



Purified Proverb #220 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Fog cannot be blown clear by a fan", and yet the Soul knows that seeking to dismiss any fog external is to enshroud the Heart's glow within ...



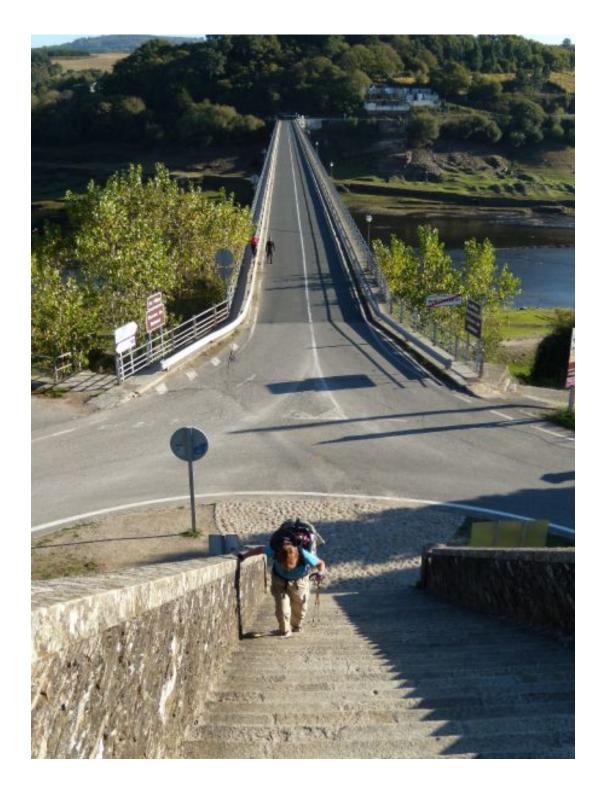
Purified Proverb #221 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The only good sword is the one left in its scabbard", and yet the Soul knows that the only sword truly Good is actually the one that is never worn at all ...



Purified Proverb #222 ...

Conventional wisdom says that "Only those who risk going too far will ever know how far they can go", and yet the Soul knows that those who strive to go far never fully make it to where they woke up this morning ...



Purified Proverb #223 ...

Conventional wisdom says that we should "Try to learn something about everything, and everything about something", and yet the Soul knows that the only Lesson of true Importance is the one we have known fully since our very Beginning; and that our Mission in this lifetime is not to relearn it -- but rather to re-Member it ...





Purified Proverb #224 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A good question is the first half of Wisdom", and the Soul knows that we can only pose truly Good Questions once we already know the Right Answers thereto; that merely asking such Questions gets us nowhere -- unless we then boldly live the Answers they demand ...



Purified Proverb #225 ...

Conventional wisdom reminds us that "A smooth sea never made a skilled sailor", and yet the Soul knows that Joy-full Gratitude is but a choice -- It requires no skill; and thus needing no rough seas ...



Purified Proverb #226 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A clean conscience makes a soft pillow", and yet the Soul knows that it is impossible for us to truly sleep Peace-fully while so many of our brothers & sisters have no pillows at all ...



Purified Proverb #227 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A poor excuse is better than none at all", and yet the Soul knows that there is no excuse whatsoever for greed -- or bigotry – or hatred – or aggression – or cruelty of any kind ...



Purified Proverb #228 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A little too late is still too late", and yet the Soul knows that it is never too late for Kindness -- that it is never too late to atone for a misdeed, and never too late to forgive a trespass against us; in essence that -- even if the sun is setting low on your life; even if you feel as though there is not enough time to "make amends" or "make a difference" -- it is never too late for Love ...



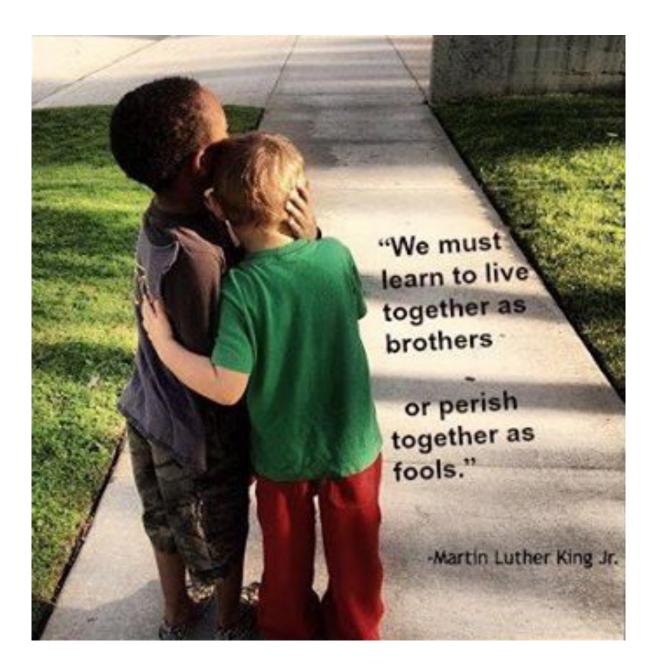
Purified Proverb #229 ...

Conventional wisdom informs us that "A person is to be judged by the company she keeps", and yet the Soul knows that every single person we meet throughout every single day of our lives contains the same Heart of Gold as we -- and that this is True whether they are doing "good deeds" or being "good company" or not ...



Purified Proverb #230 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A friend to everyone is a friend to no one", and yet the Soul knows otherwise -- that the one who is a friend only to some comprehends neither the true meaning nor the real magnitude of Friendship ...



Purified Proverb #231 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A small leak will sink a great ship", and yet the Soul reminds us that only a moderate amount of selfless LOVE (the verb) will save more than one life ...





Purified Proverb #232 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A living rat is better than a dead lion", and yet the Soul knows that life and death are two sides of the same existence; that each is the doorway to the other; that each gives the other Meaning. No, death & dying in & of themselves need not be our main concern. Rather, it is the needless killing of things living that is the primary hindrance to our real & lasting Happiness ...





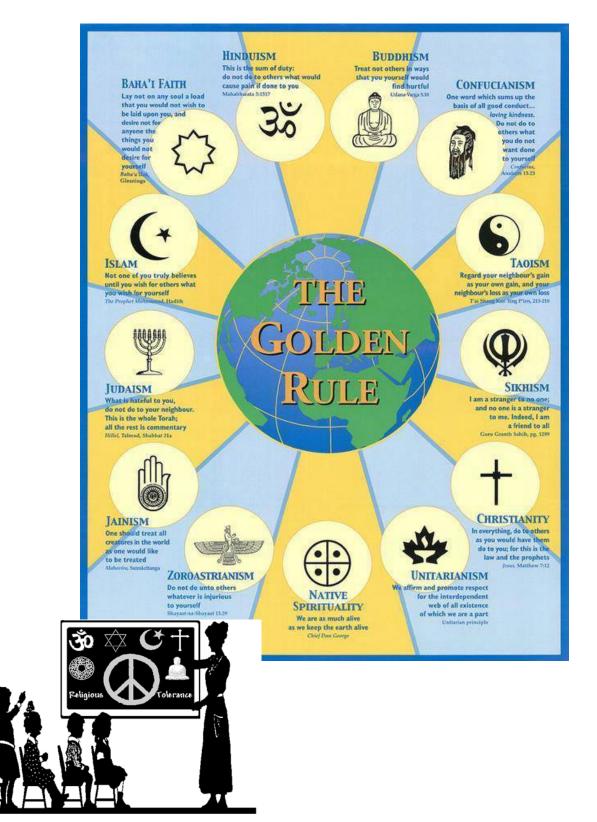
Purified Proverb #233 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A man is no better than his conversation", and yet the Soul knows that every human being -- male or female; speaking or silent -- is actually no better than his or her current deed ...



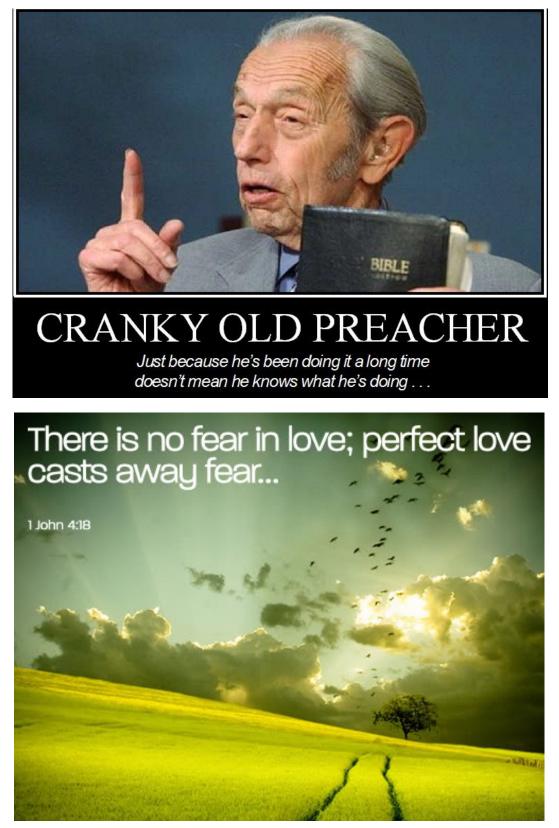
Purified Proverb #234 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A man fully warned is a man half saved", and yet the Soul knows that to tempt a man to gaze upon his potential future is to damn him to a barely livable present ...



Purified Proverb #235 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A frightened atheist half-believes in God", and yet the Soul knows that it is impossible to know the Truth of perfect Love while choosing to settle for the flawed belief of fear ...



Purified Proverb #236 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A pebble and a diamond are the same to a blind man", and yet the Soul knows that true Beauty rests not in the eyes of the beholder, but rather in the Hearts of all that is beheld ...



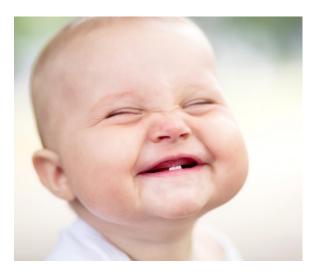
WARNING:

Reflections in this mirror may be distorted by socially constructed ideas of 'beauty'

YOU ARE MORE THAN BEAUTIFUL

Purified Proverb #237 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A good cause finds weapons to defend it", and yet the Soul knows that Joy-full Gratitude (the best Cause of all) is its own defense ...







Purified Proverb #238 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A tree is known by its fruit, not by its branches", and yet far more importantly, the Soul knows that the sweetest of all Fruits is Kindness, and that with just the right mixture of humility & courage, it can grow from any tree ...



Purified Proverb #239 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Anger without power is always folly", and yet the Soul reminds us that anger with power is always catastrophic ...





Purified Proverb #240 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A small body sometimes harbors a Great Soul", and yet the Soul itself knows that a Great Soul resides in *EVERY* sentient body, and this whether that body be small or large or human -- or not ...

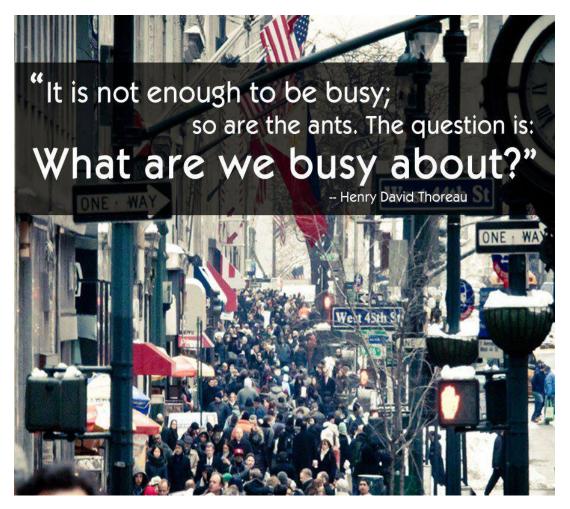




"If they breathe they live. If they live they feel. If they feel they love. If they love they are aware. If they are aware they have a soul." Anthony Douglas Williams ~ Inside the Divine Pattern

Purified Proverb #241 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Better one dollar earned than ten inherited", and yet the Soul knows that the only money with any real Worth -- be it found or inherited or stolen or earned -- is the money we spend to bring others Joy ...



"Try not to become a man of success, but rather try to become a man of value." - Albert Einstein.

Purified Proverb #242 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us to "Be silent and pass for a philosopher", and yet the Soul knows that in times of injustice or sadness, our silence shows only our cowardice ...





Purified Proverb #243 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Cowards die daily; the brave die but once", and yet the Soul knows that -- while we should indeed fill our days with deeds bold & courageous – we cannot soar after leaping solely for self ...



Purified Proverb #244 ...

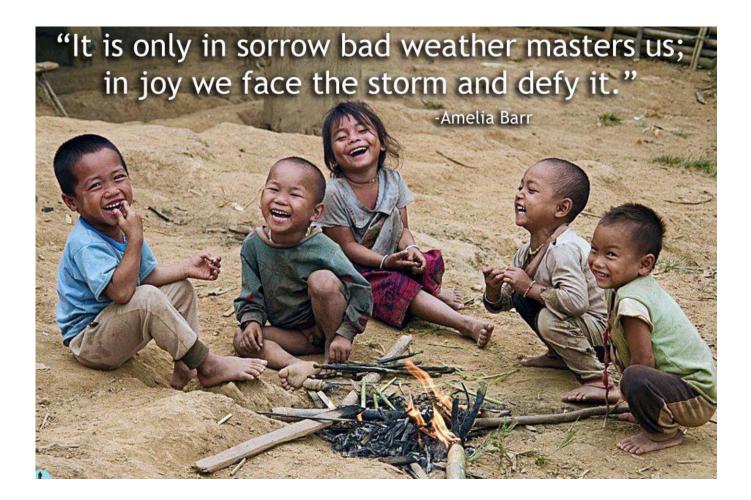
Conventional wisdom tells us that "Even the Devil himself will swear on a stack of Bibles", and yet the Soul knows that our promises to Loved Ones have no meaning until we can walk with our enemies as Friends ...



("The Second Mile" by Michael Belk)

Purified Proverb #245 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Envy is the sincerest form of flattery", and yet the Soul knows that – while envy might be seen as flattering to a man or a woman -- it is always an insult to the Divine ...



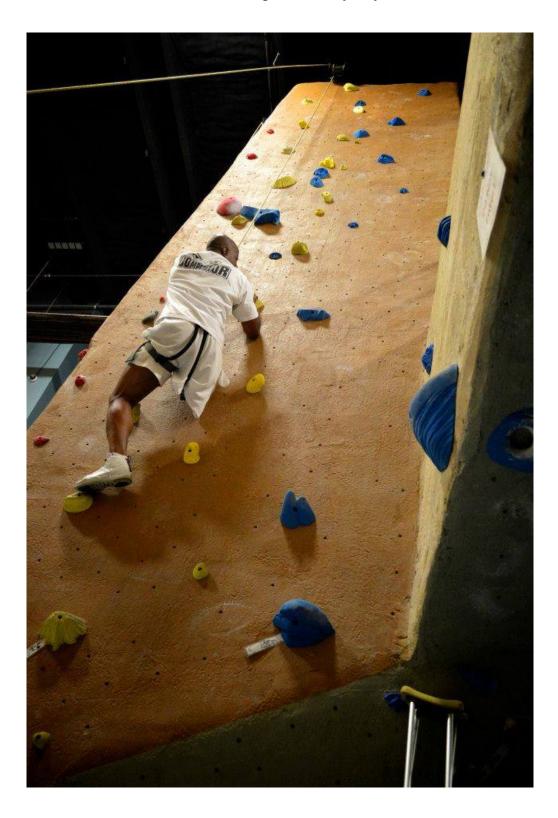
Purified Proverb #246 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Every path has its puddles", and yet the Soul knows that it is within all of Life's "puddles" that our true Joy resides ...



Purified Proverb #247 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Fate arrives when men fail to act", and yet the Soul knows that -- even when happenstance throws us into pits dark & deep -- Fate is shattered the minute we choose to climb up & out anyway ...



Purified Proverb #248 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Fortune and misfortune are next-door neighbors", and yet the Soul knows that the two are actually one; that no matter how thick the evening's storm or how radiant the morning's dew, there is only the falling waters -- bringing life with every drop ...



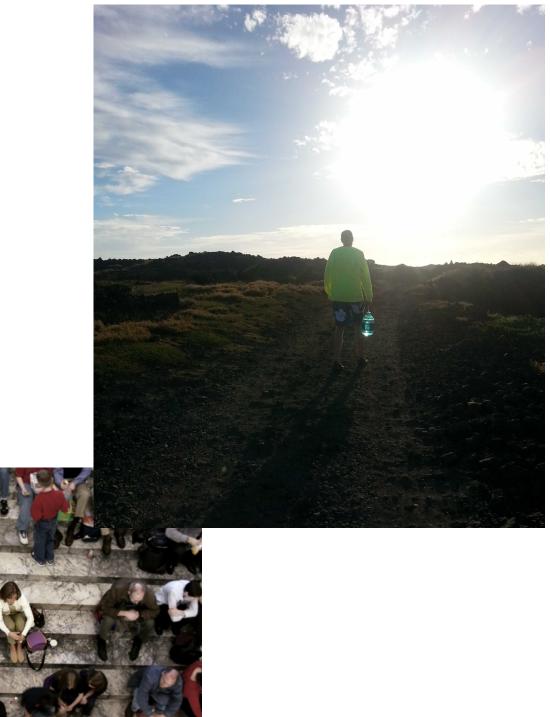
Purified Proverb #249 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Guilty men see guilt even on the faces of Saints", and yet the Soul knows that, whether judging Saints as sinners or sinners as Saints, the one doing the judging only truly sees his own self therein ...



Purified Proverb #250 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "He who follows the crowd has many companions", and yet the Soul knows that he who follows the crowd will always be lonely, while she who walks The Way alone is always in the best of company ...





Purified Proverb #251 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "It is better to bend than to break", and yet the Soul reminds us that bending to avoid breaking ensures a most painful fall; that it is only bending to dance with The One that ensures an ascendance most radiant ...



Purified Proverb #252 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "If wishes were horses, then beggars would ride", and yet the Soul knows that if horses had wishes, all humans would walk ...



Purified Proverb #253 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "It is better to be a has-been than a never-was", and yet the Soul knows that the flower is not the bud it once was, nor the river its final flow into the sea ...



Purified Proverb #254 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "If we wish another to keep our secrets, we must first keep them ourselves", and yet the Soul knows that Love is a secret that withers quickly when unshared ...



Purified Proverb #255

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Many a perfect pearl remains hidden in all the oceans' oysters", and yet the Soul knows that each & every sentient body houses the same luminous radiance of the same Great Pearl ...









Purified Proverb #256 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "No matter how high the bird flies, it must come down for water", and yet the Soul knows that our true Nourishment can only be received (and our true Beauty only known) when we swoop low not to help ourselves, but to bring peace to those who have fallen ...



Purified Proverb #257 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us to "Never stop the plow to catch a mere mouse", and yet the Soul knows that being Kind to any animal is always far more important than completing any task ...



Purified Proverb #258 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "We can learn of Truth even from an enemy", and yet the Soul knows that it is our enemies who offer us the only Lesson worth learning ...



Purified Proverb #259 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Obstinacy is the strength of the weak", and yet the Soul knows that what many call "weakness" is the Strength of the Strong ...



Purified Proverb #260 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Peace without truth is poisonous", and yet the Soul knows that peace without the Truth of Love is actually the birthplace of war ...



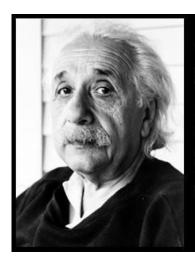
Purified Proverb #261 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Religion is the best armor but the worst cloak", and yet the Soul knows that a religion used as armor keeps its followers mired in cowardice, while a religion (somewhat ironically) used as a cloak prevents its worshipers from shining forth their Goodness to their god ...

If all religions teach peace,



then why can't all religions achieve peace?



"If people are good only because they fear punishment, and hope for reward, then we are a sorry lot indeed."

~Albert Einstein

You don't need **Performance** to have morals, **If you can't** determine right from wrong then you lack empathy, **not religion**.

Purified Proverb #262 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Reputation is what you are in the light; character is what you are in the dark", and yet the Soul knows that our reputation means nothing unless it is reflected in our deeds, and that our character is nothing unless it shines forth through our shadows ...

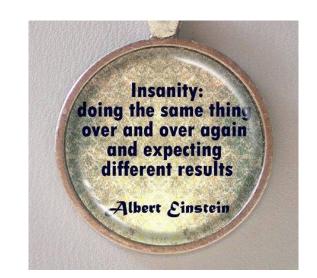


Character is what we do when no one is watching.

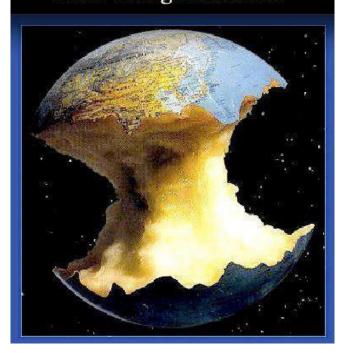
Purified Proverb #263 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Revolutions are sinful when they fail; and virtuous when successful", and yet the Soul knows that there is no such thing as a political solution of any kind to a problem that was created by politics in the first place ...



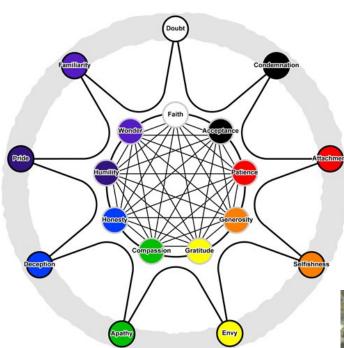


We need a new system not a new government!



Purified Proverb #264 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us to "Search others for their virtues; and yourself for your vices", and yet the Soul knows that vice & virtue are actually ONE -- that the underlying shadow of sin empowers every choice to selflessly serve instead; and that the darkness of every sinner is the inspiration underlying every Saint's choice to Love anyway ...

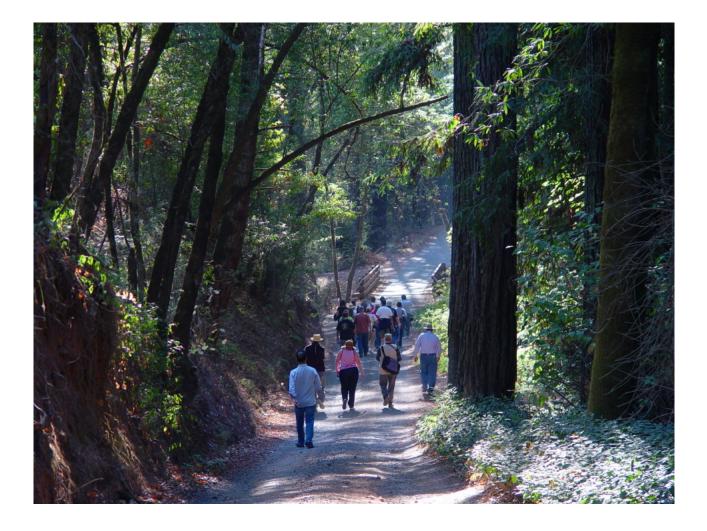




Purified Proverb #265 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Self-Defense is Nature's oldest law", and yet the Soul knows that self-defense is actually *humanity*'s oldest law; that Nature, by its very nature, knows only Oneness – and as such can only obey the law of Harmony ...





Purified Proverb #266

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Things turn up for the man who persistently digs", and yet the Soul knows that things turn truly UP for the man who casts a thankful gaze upon that which he has already been given ...



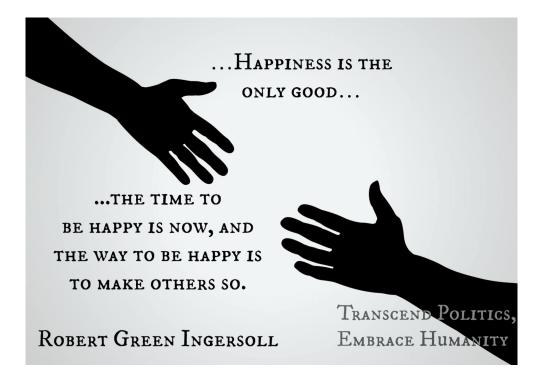
Purified Proverb #267 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The wise man knows how little he knows", and yet the Soul understands that there is nothing left for us to learn; that all we ever needed to know was given us at conception ...



Purified Proverb #268 ...

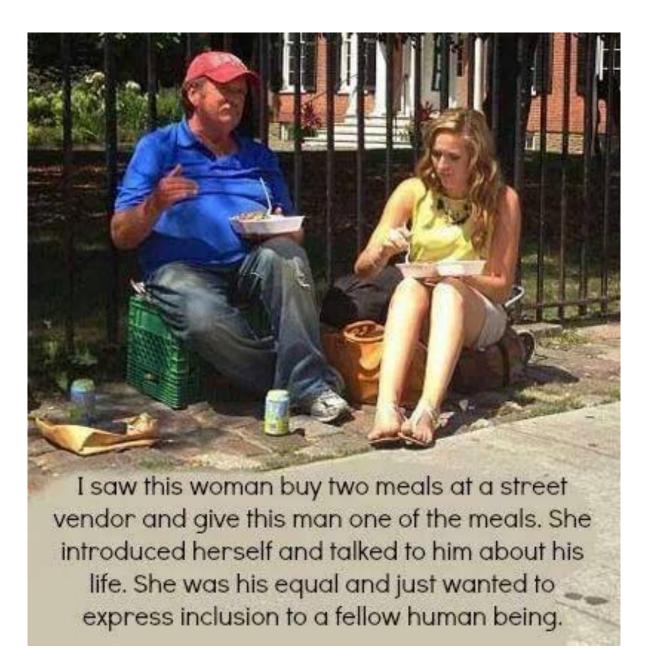
Conventional wisdom tells us that "The person who thinks too little always talks too much", and yet the Soul knows that it is the person who thinks too much who actually *DOES* nothing at all ...





Purified Proverb #269 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Truth is the best advocate", and yet the Soul knows that Truth doesn't need advocacy ----- it needs emulation ...



Purified Proverb #270 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The old forget what the young don't yet know", and yet the Soul knows that -- at least when it comes to selfless Kindness -- it is never too early to remember, and that it is never too late to learn ...



Purified Proverb #271 ...

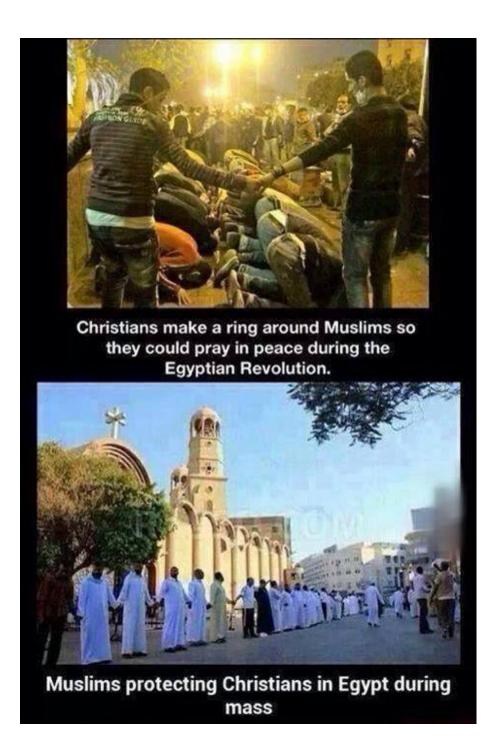
Conventional wisdom tells us that "The drunken mouth reveals the secrets of the heart", and yet the Soul knows that – whether drunk or sober -- it is impossible to reveal the Heart's secret desires, for the Heart's pure LOVE has nothing to hide ...





Purified Proverb #272 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "There is no head so holy that the Devil does not make a nest therein", and yet the Soul knows that there is no act of pure LOVE so weak that the Devil does not see it, turn tail, and flee ...



Purified Proverb #273 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "There is no one so wealthy that he does not still want more", and yet the Soul also knows that it is desire itself -- not riches or comfort or ease -- that brings the deepest poverty ...





Purified Proverb #274 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "It is when the well runs dry that we understand the worth of water", and yet the Soul knows that as long as we rest our sense of worth upon the material or emotional rewards of "success" or "wealth" or "productivity", we will remain forever thirsty ...



Purified Proverb #275 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "You can't put old heads on young shoulders", and yet the Soul knows that we most certainly *can* place younger shoulders on older heads ...



Purified Proverb #276 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us to "Doing a little well does much", and yet the Soul knows that enlivening one instant with LOVE accomplishes all we came to Do ...



Purified Proverb #277 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Those who will not labor in the heat must hunger in the cold", and yet the Soul knows that those who see service as "work" will remain forever hungry, and that those who see service as a privilege will always be fed ...





Purified Proverb #278 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Merit is more important than heredity", and yet the Soul knows that every act of anonymous Kindness surpasses all reward & makes obsolete all "merit"; that there is no deed more worthy of praise than the one whose author remains unknown ...





(images by anonymous graffiti artist Banksy)

Purified Proverb #279 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Little children step on our laps, while big ones tread on our hearts", and yet the Soul knows that it is actually an honor to have anyone use our Heart as a stepping stone to Peace -- seeing quite clearly that this is what our Hearts are for; indeed, that this is why we are here at all ...



Purified Proverb #280 ...

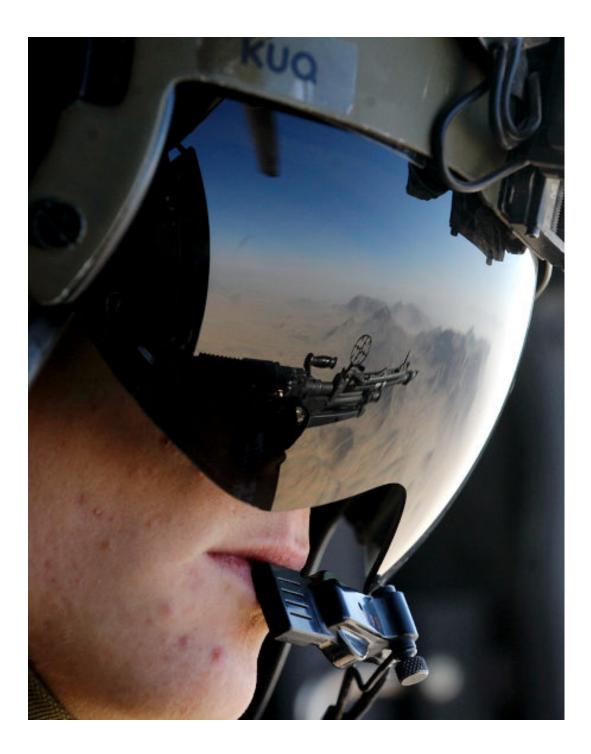
Conventional wisdom tells us that "Our greatest glory comes not from remaining upright, but from rising every time we tumble", and yet the Soul knows that it is actually in seeking such glory at all that we always fall farthest ...



(George W. Bush & his father gazing upon Melissa Stockwell, one of the many victims of their unjust wars)

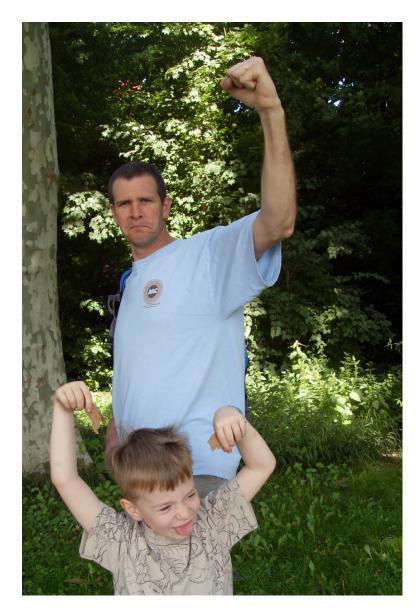
Purified Proverb #281 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Argument is the weapon of the weak", and yet the Soul knows that every weapon owned preserves an inner trembling, and that every weapon used brings that weakness to the fore ...



Purified Proverb #282 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A decision made at night is often changed by morning", and yet the Soul knows that a decision to Care that later changes was never truly made; that Love must be relentlessly given to exist at all ...

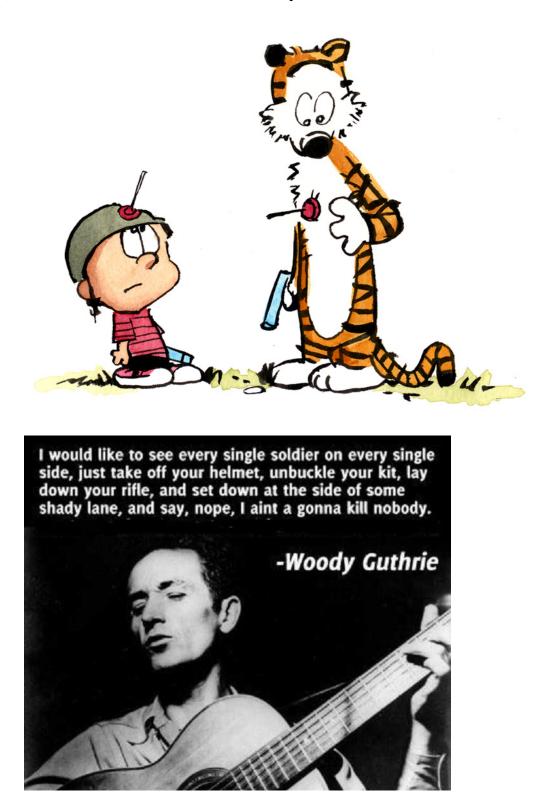


I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality... I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word.

> Martin Luther King, Jr American activist (1929-1968)

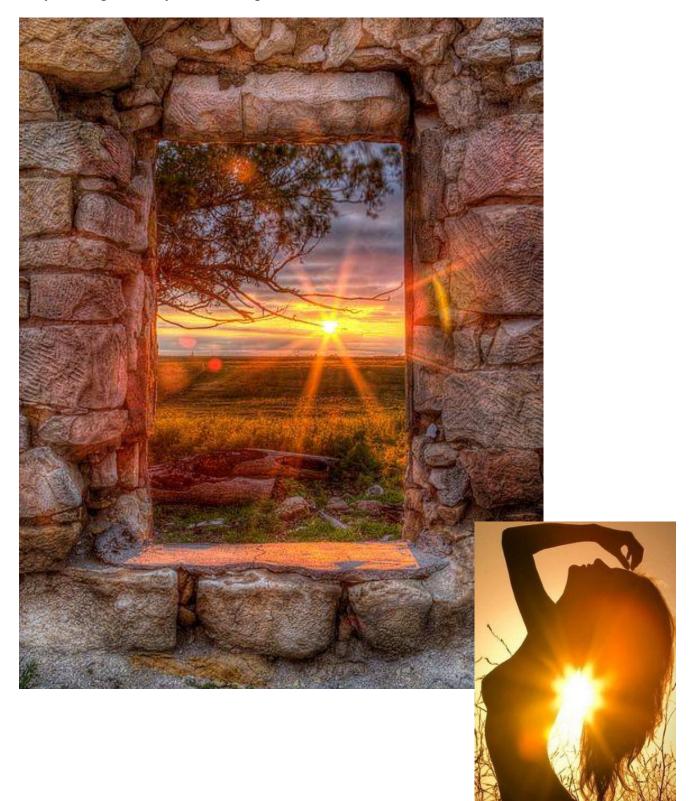
Purified Proverb #283 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "A foolish man mistakes foe for friend", and yet the Soul knows that the only fool is *not* the one who fails to recognizes his enemies, but rather is the one who recognizes his adversaries correctly -- but who then fails to treat them as allies; who then fails to treat them as Family ...



Purified Proverb #284 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "He who strives against change is the architect of suffering", and yet the Soul also knows that she who rejects change becomes blind to the Beauty resting in every moment's potential rebirth ...



Purified Proverb #285

Conventional wisdom reminds us that "If you can't change your fate, change your attitude", and yet the Soul knows that no matter how strong the storm they may be, as long as you are still breathing, there is cause enough to dance ...



Purified Proverb #286 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Nothing that arrives remains, and nothing that departs is lost", and yet the Soul knows that desire for what was and hope for could be are two sides of the same misery ...





Purified Proverb #287 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Some folks change their ways when they see the light; others when they feel the heat", and yet the Soul knows that any change in behavior made for personal reward or benefit is no real change at all ...

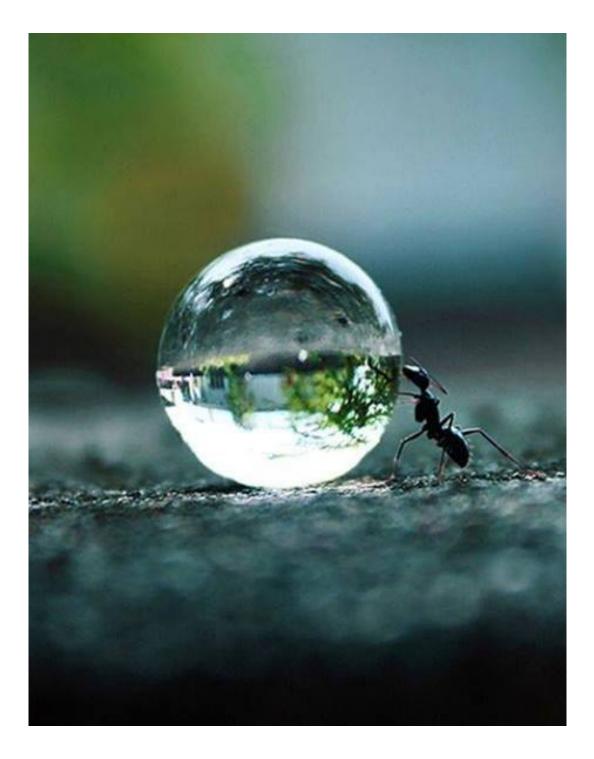






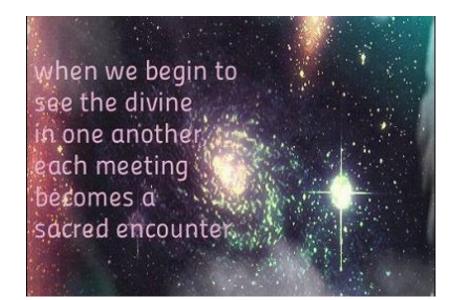
Purified Proverb #288

Conventional wisdom tells us "Change your thoughts to change your world", and yet the Soul knows that we start to warm *UP* to Life's innate Beauty the instant we stop pushing its river towards where we think it would better flow ...



Purified Proverb #289 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Mockery is a mold that infests all it touches", and yet the Soul also knows that socially acceptable "tolerance" is no better -- that it is mockery, only thinly disguised by the sticky sweetness of tactful indifference ...



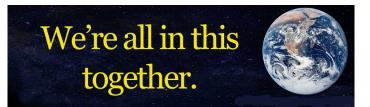


Purified Proverb #290 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it", and yet the Soul also knows that those who spend time intensely dissecting the past cannot constructively rewrite the present ...







Purified Proverb #291 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The winds of the heavens shift suddenly", and yet the Soul knows that the Loving winds of Heaven remain always steady & calm ...





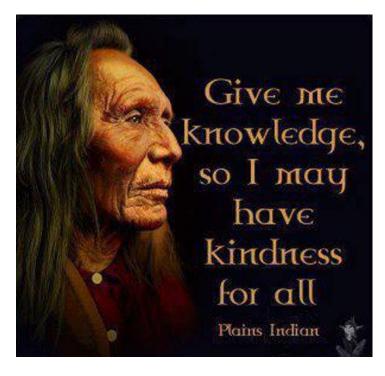
May the Warm Winds of Heaven Blow Softly Through This Home



Purified Proverb #292 ...

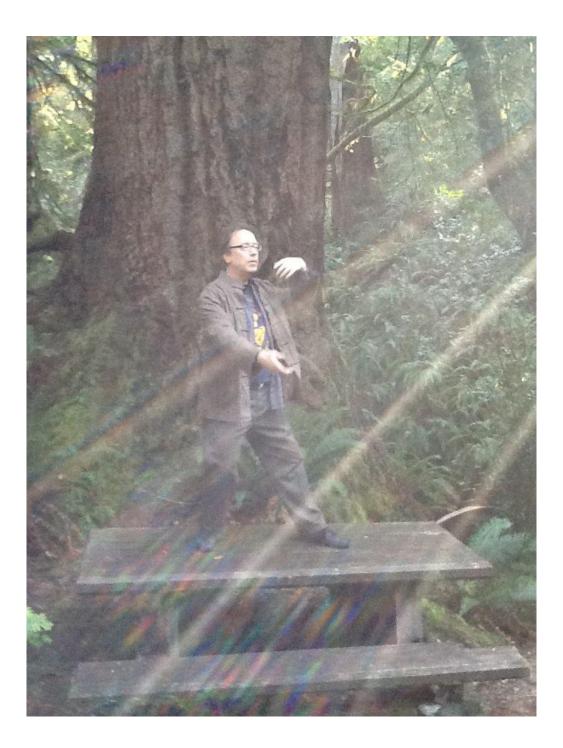
Conventional wisdom tells us to "Avoid trying to clear a path that has already been tread", and yet the Soul knows that the only path worth treading is the one already being walked -- by the enemies we already know well, as well as by the strangers we do not yet know at all ...





Purified Proverb #293 ...

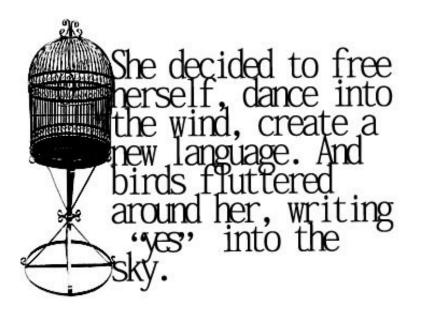
Conventional wisdom tells us to "Live for today, learn from yesterday, and dream of tomorrow", and yet the Soul knows that to learn from yesterday, we must apply its lessons today ... that to do so; to truly Live for today, we must flow smoothly in the service of others ... and that to do so; to truly live for others, we must gently & persistently refuse to dream of tomorrow ...



Purified Proverb #294 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Hunger is stronger than fear", and yet the Soul knows that Love is stronger than hunger & fear combined ...

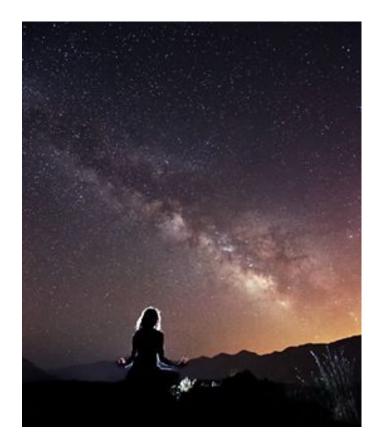




Purified Proverb #295 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "All generalizations are false", and yet the Soul knows that -- whether soaking up a sunrise or immersed in the starlit shadows -- at the very center of every sentient being resides an identical Truth ...





"Our souls speak through our actions not our words."



Purified Proverb #296 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us to "Respect yourself and others will do likewise", and yet the Soul knows that the only way to powerfully Care for your Self is to Care for others with reckless abandon ...







Purified Proverb #297 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "If you are riding ahead of the herd, look back regularly to make sure they're still behind you", and yet the Soul knows that to ride ahead of a herd is NOT to ride with it; that if you have to look back to see if others are following you, then you can already be sure that they are not ...





Purified Proverb #298 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "It's not how old you are; it's how you age that matters", and yet the Soul knows that age is completely irrelevant to the Beauty-full ...





Purified Proverb #299 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "People who love sausage and respect the law should never watch how either is made", and yet the Soul knows that ignorance is anything but Bliss; that if you can't stomach how something is created, then you shouldn't be putting it in your mouth ...



Democrat

Republican

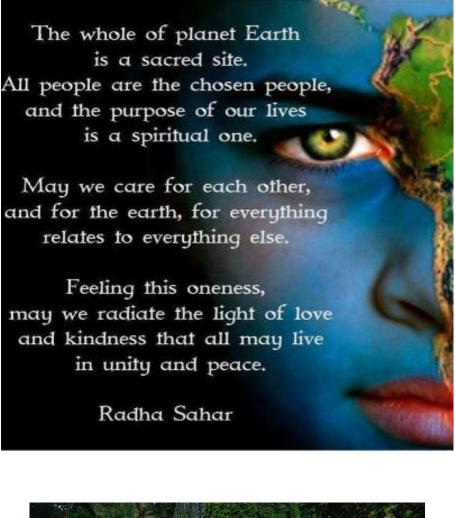


Not dumb enough to fall for it anymore.



Purified Proverb #300 ...

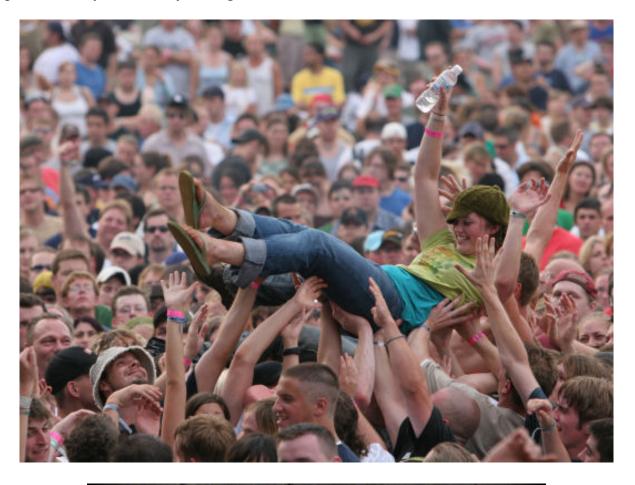
Conventional wisdom tells us "Do not pull up a plant to see if its roots are healthy", and yet the Soul also knows that every tree is one with the hand that hews it; that to lash out at another is to lash out at one's self; that our ends only justify their means when both are in harmony --- *and* when both are Kind ...





Purified Proverb #301 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Count your age by your friends, not your years", and yet the Soul knows that the quality of life is not measured by how many friends one acquires, but by how many strangers & enemies one treats as friends ...





Purified Proverb #302 ...

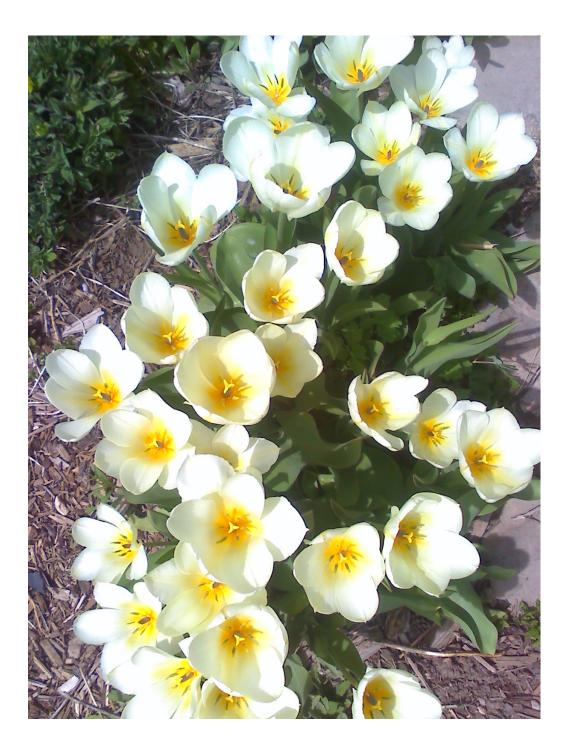
Conventional wisdom tells us that "Worry is the misuse of imagination", and yet the Soul knows that worry is actually praying for the very thing that could do one the most harm; that when faced with fear, we are to toast our troubles with gratitude & then leap with boldness instead ...





Purified Proverb #303 ...

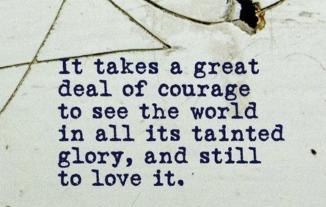
Conventional wisdom tells us that "When given with love, a fistful of dandelions means as much as dozen roses", and yet the Soul know that -- while giving flowers to loved ones does indeed have great Meaning -- leaving those blossoms in the earth, to thereafter shower their Beauty on everyone else, means so much more ...



Purified Proverb #304 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Growing up takes place somewhere between 'It fell' and 'I dropped it'", and yet the Soul knows that our Awakening only becomes complete when we flow from "My bad" to "It's all good" ...



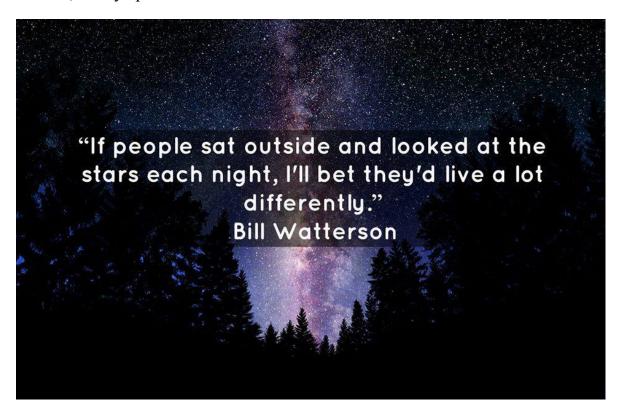


- Oscar Wilde



Purified Proverb #305 ...

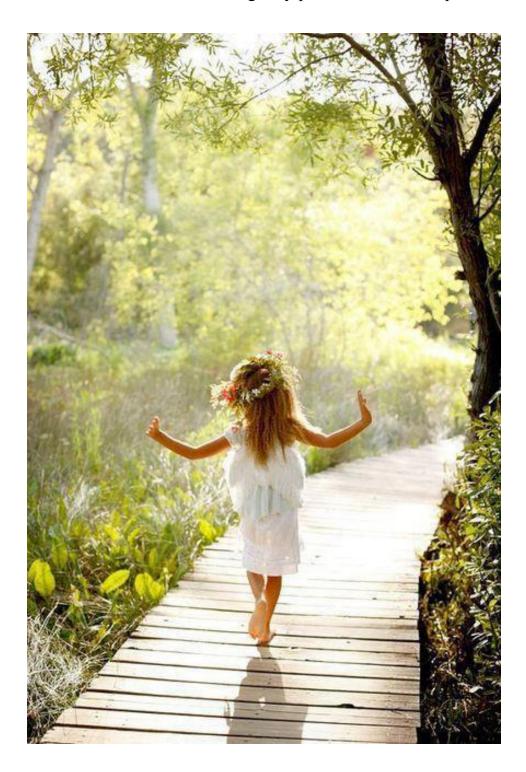
Conventional wisdom tells us that "When you are up to your ankles in alligators, don't stop to tie your shoes", and yet the Soul knows as well that if you are alive and awake in the darkness, always pause to admire the heavens ...





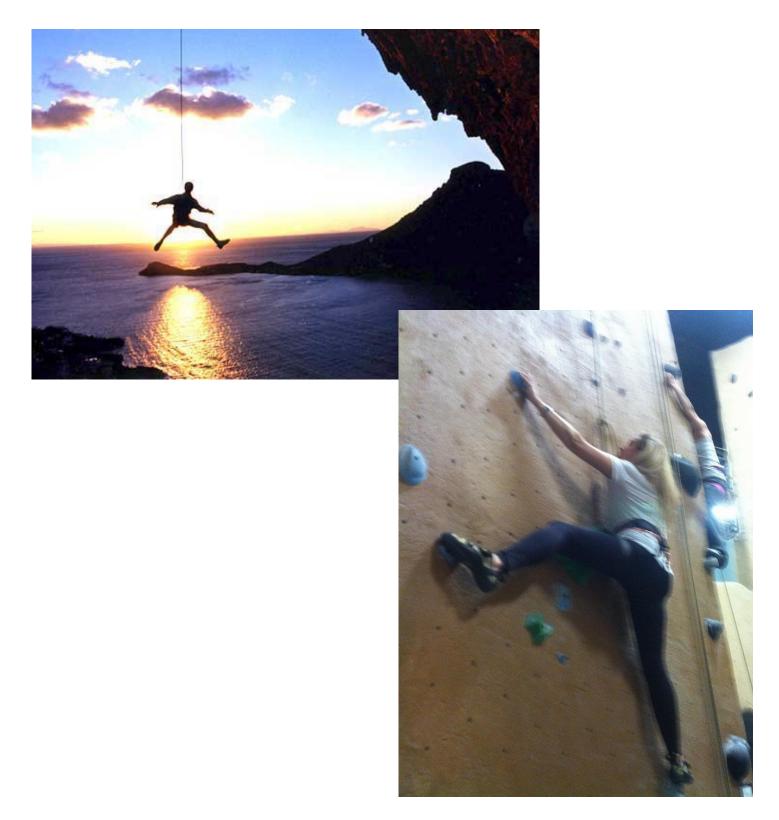
Purified Proverb #306 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The worst part of being early is having no one there to appreciate it", and yet the Soul knows that both "late" & "early" are illusory concepts -- hollow whispers fueled by fear; that our brilliant days do not come to us, nor do we travel thereto. Indeed, our lives' truly Beauty-full days are always within us, waiting patiently in silence for us to reach down & gently pull them from our pockets ...



Purified Proverb #307 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "In life, our altitude is determined by our attitude", and yet the Soul knows that -- whether steadily struggling up a stony face or dangling listlessly by a thread -- Joy is always on the move within you; ever ready to bring you back to the Peace that has been yours since the Beginning ...



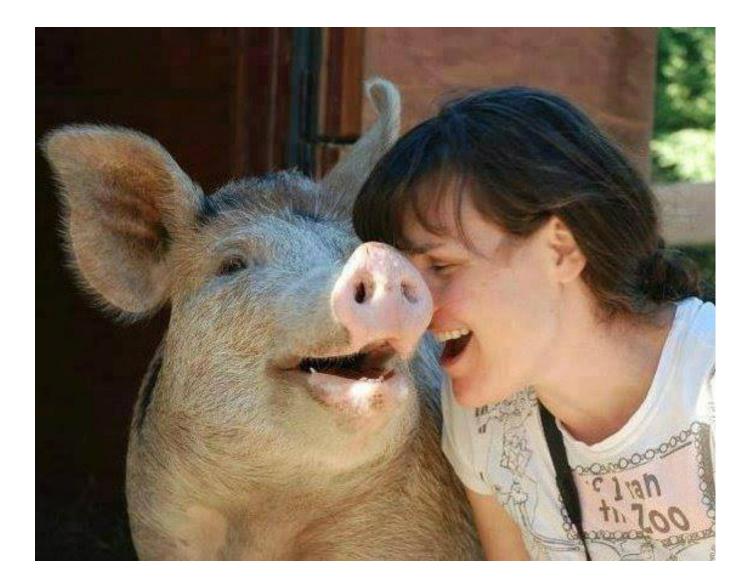
Purified Proverb #308

Conventional wisdom tells us that "It's not the size of the dog in the fight, but the size of the fight in the dog", and yet the Soul knows that the strongest dog is the one who invites his enemies out to play ...



Purified Proverb #309

Conventional wisdom tells us "If you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all", and yet the Soul knows that it is our silence that often speaks most clearly – shouting our falsehoods when we are passive or selfish; and booming our Truth when we are active & Kind ...



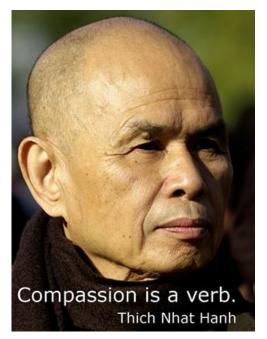
Purified Proverb #310 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Success is the best revenge", and yet the Soul knows that it is actually Compassion steeped in Forgiveness that brings the only true Victory ...



When another person makes you suffer, it is because he suffers deeply within himself, and his suffering is spilling over. He does not need punishment; he needs help.

- Thich Naht Hanh

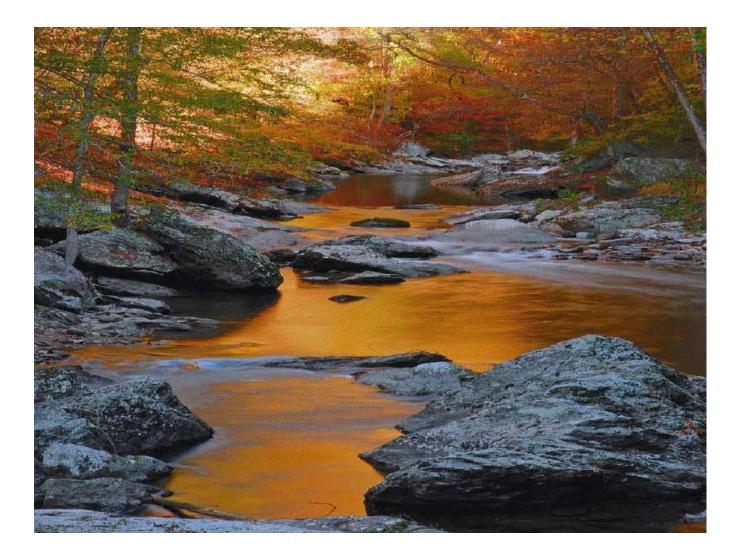






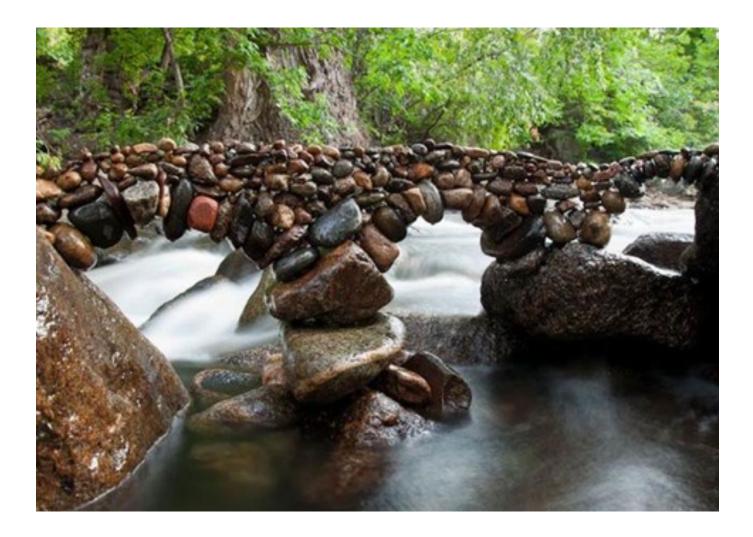
Purified Proverb #311 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The search for truth is but a stumbling block on the pathway of life", and yet the Soul knows that Life places no obstacles in our path whatsoever -- only stepping stones of various shapes & sizes; some of which we do indeed carelessly stumble upon, and yet every one of them providing a way across the river nonetheless ...



Purified Proverb #312 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "If the pieces don't fit together, their individual beauty doesn't matter", and yet the Soul knows that true Beauty is simply a harmonious reflection of the Universal Oneness -- that it knows no steps or phases; that it has no separate parts ...



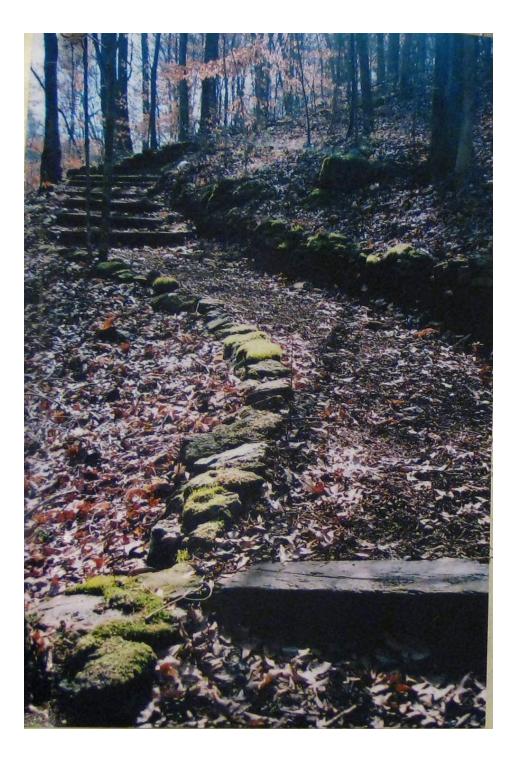
Purified Proverb #313 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The road of life is made smoother when traveled with someone you love", and yet the Soul knows that -- whether facing an enemy or sitting close to a friend -- real LOVE finds the roughest road available, and then walks it joyfully anyway ...



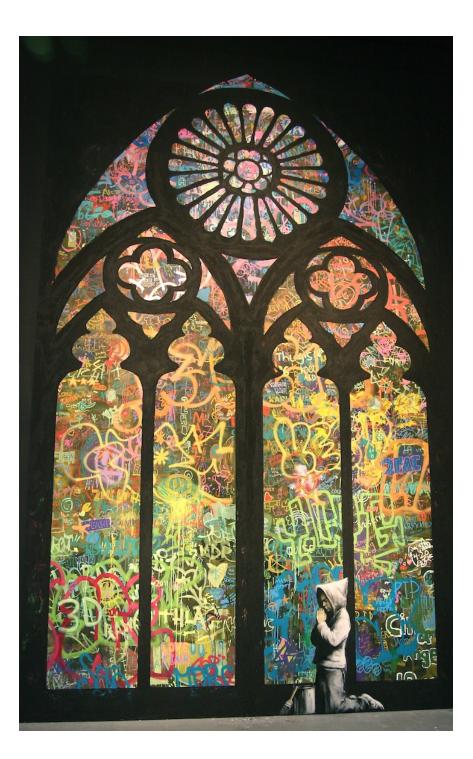
Purified Proverb #314 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Knowledge is a progression from foolish ignorance to mature mastery", and yet the Soul knows that real Wisdom is actually a trail that ever rises -- always commencing in the arrogance of mental certainty, and always arriving in the humility of active charity ...



Purified Proverb #315 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "If you want to make God laugh, make your own plans", and yet the Soul knows otherwise -- that if your plans are to force your beliefs on others, God will weep while you scheme; and that if your plans are to make your world a more Beauty-full place, then God will smile while watching you do so ...





Purified Proverb #316 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Losers make excuses; winners find solutions", and yet the Soul knows that -- when it gets right down to it -- there are no "contests" to win and there are no "problems" to solve; that Happiness comes not from how earnestly or how diligently we shovel Life's troubling "bubbles", but rather from how humbly & how gratefully & how courageously we choose to engage them ...





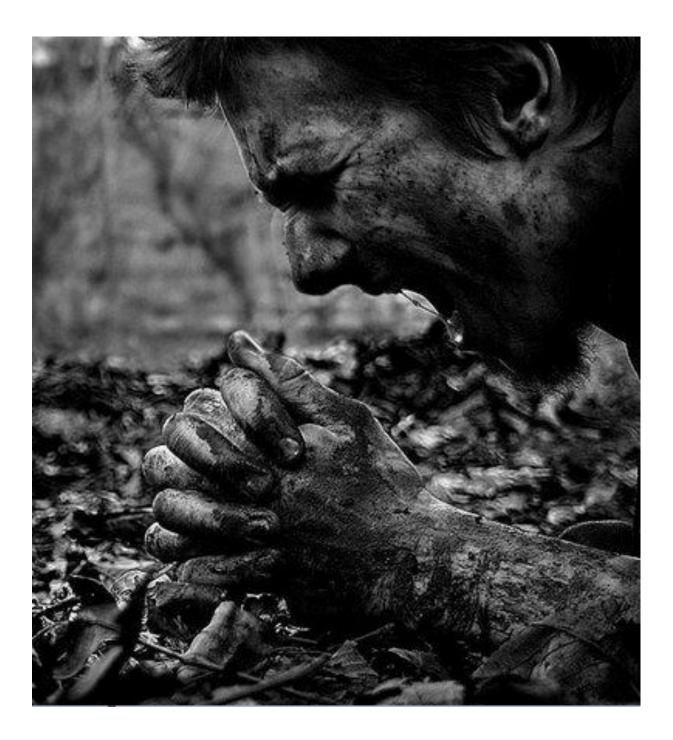
Purified Proverb #317 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Satisfaction is the beginning of failure", and yet the Soul knows that it is wishing for things to "get better" that keeps us from making it so -- that it is in wishing for things to "get better" that our failure becomes complete ...



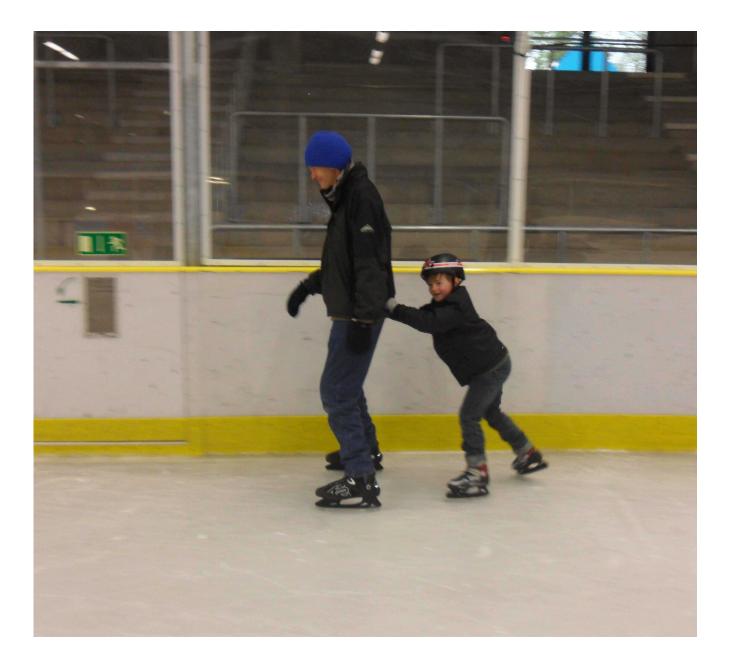
Purified Proverb #318 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "If you pray for rain you must be ready & willing to deal with the mud", and yet the Soul knows that it is praying to be free from pain that is the birthplace of all our suffering; and that it is stepping boldly into our discomforts that is the doorway to real Peace ...



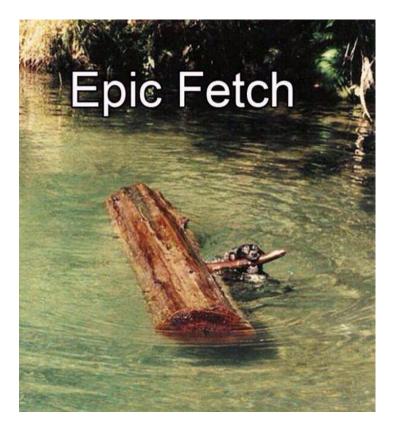
Purified Proverb #319 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "It is better to do right than to be right", and yet the Soul knows that the only way to be Right yourself is to do Right by others ...



Purified Proverb #320 ...

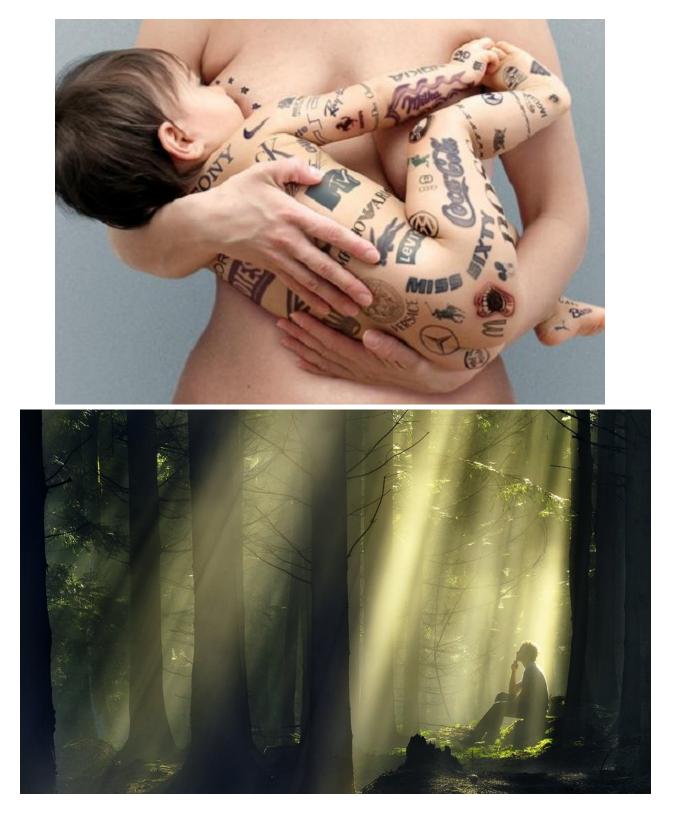
Conventional wisdom tells us that "You are not what you think your are; you are what you think", and yet the Soul knows that we are actually only half of what we actually think we are ... and all of what we actually *DO* ...



LOVE is not a noun that names what you have. Never a pronoun to replace something. Must not be an adjective to describe a feeling. Neither an adverb to brag about what you've done. Nor a preposition to place where you want it to be. It's more than a conjunction to show a connection or an interjection to exaggerate what you feel. LOVE is a VERB - an action word... ...do everything to make it work.

Purified Proverb #321 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Don't just find someone you can live with; find someone you can't live without", and yet the Soul knows differently -- that if you cannot live without another person, you cannot Live with them either; indeed, that if you cannot live without any product or any person or any thing, you cannot truly Live at all ...



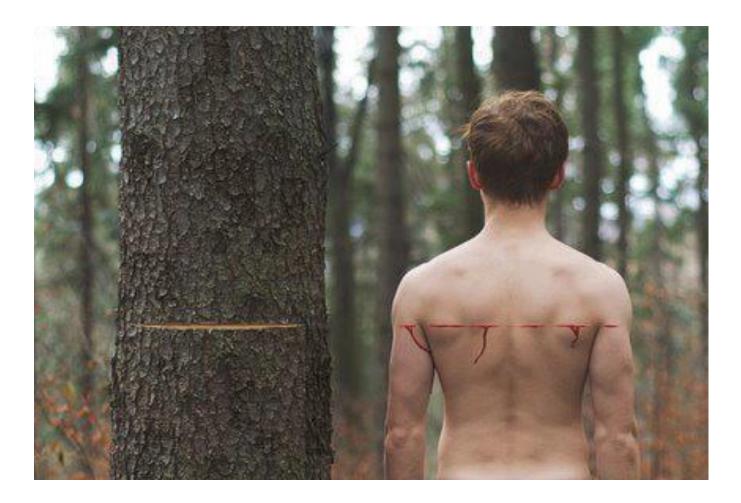
Purified Proverb #322 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "If you can't be nice, be vague", and yet the Soul knows that hollow showings of politeness and superficial acts of friendliness bring only distance & confusion; that only silent acts of Kindness can pierce the ego's fog ...



Purified Proverb #323 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The ax forgets, while the tree remembers", and yet the Soul knows that while humankind worships conditional "love" -- and thus remembers to begrudge; Nature knows LOVE's unconditional perfection -- and thus remembers to forgive ...



Purified Proverb #324 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "It's easier to ask for permission than it is to ask for forgiveness", and yet the Soul knows that it is impossible to receive Love perfectly without giving perfect Love; and that it is impossible to give that perfect Love while desiring any form of it in return ...



I love, because my love is not dependent on the object of love. My love is dependent on my state of being. So whether the other person changes, becomes different, friend turns into a foe, does not matter, because my love was never dependent on the other person. My love is my state of being. I simply love.

Purified Proverb #325 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The fastest way to receive love is to give love", and yet the Soul knows that it is impossible to truly receive Love without selflessly giving It, and that it is impossible to give Love selflessly to others without simultaneously giving It to one's Self ...



Purified Proverb #326 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us to "Never underestimate your enemies", and yet the Soul knows that to see our enemies as enemies IS to underestimate them ...



"Imagine what seven billion humans could accomplish if we all loved and respected each other. Imagine."

(Do more than merely imagine ... World Peace starts with You.)

Purified Proverb #327 ...

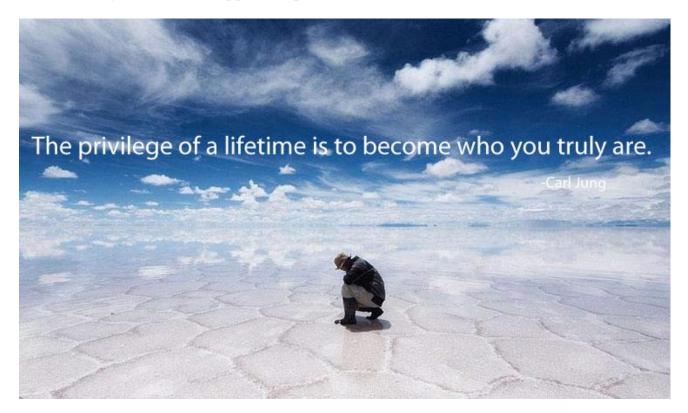
Conventional wisdom tells us that "An open mind is like a castle with no defenses; one with its doors unlocked and its windows unshuttered", and yet the Soul knows that before we can walk any Path of Truth, we must first choose to leave all our fortresses of comfort behind, and abandon our citadels of safety ...





Purified Proverb #328 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity", and yet the Soul knows that luck is ever-fickle -- ruled as it is by the brittle forces of hope & happenstance. Fate, on the other hand, is a friendly force most readily bent – willingly folded & happily shaped by every resolve both humble & Kind ...







Purified Proverb #329 ...

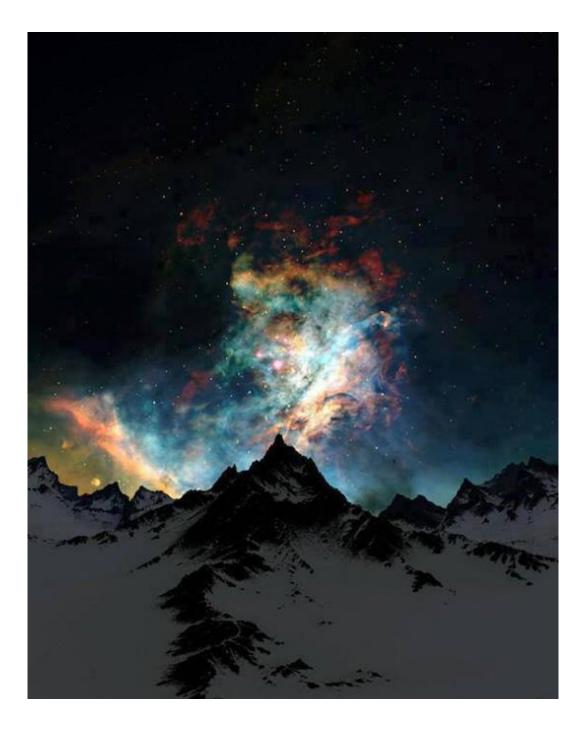
Conventional wisdom tells us that "The highway of fear is the shortest route to failure", and yet the Soul knows that fear itself does not bring us our losses; that it is *succumbing* to our fears that is our only defeat ...





Purified Proverb #330 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "You curse the darkness, or you can light a candle", and yet the Soul knows that it is fear that curses the darkness -- and thereby thickens the shadows; and that it is Love that lights the candle – and thereby pierces the sky ...



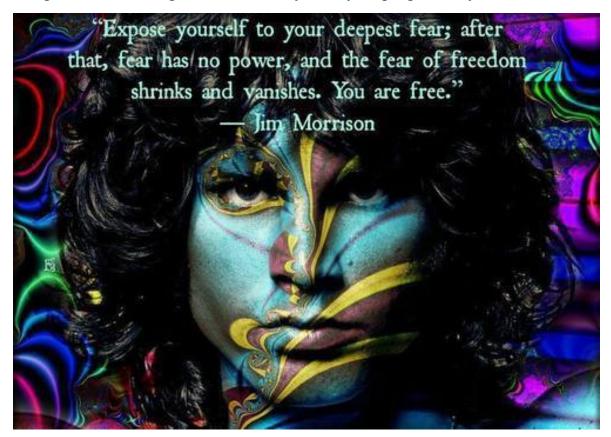
Purified Proverb #331 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Still waters run deep", and yet the Soul knows that -while it is indeed true that those with "calmer waters" often show an innate depth of spirit -- it is those whose waters are active & caring who end up carving our course ...



Purified Proverb #332 ...

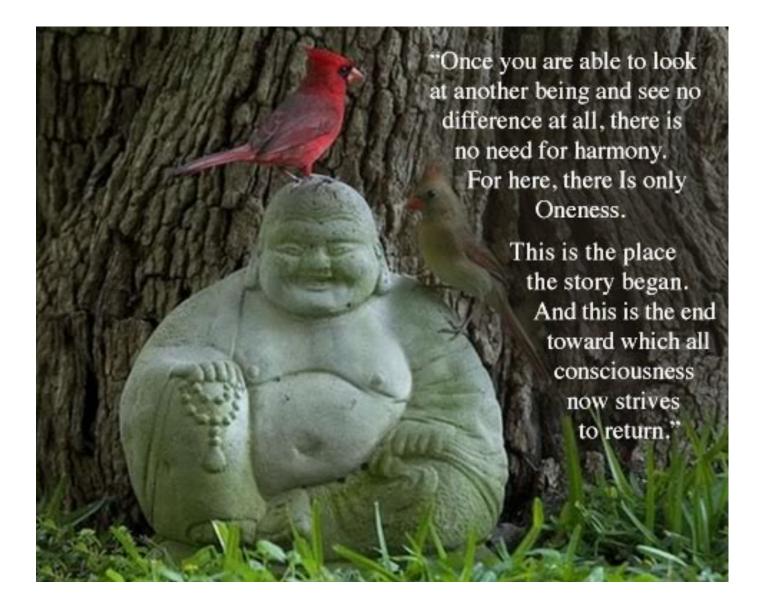
Conventional wisdom tells us that "Courage is not the absence of fear, but the mastery of it", and yet the Soul knows that the true mastery of fear is embodied not by merely swimming near fear's dangers, but rather by boldly leaping directly into its maw ...





Purified Proverb #333 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Some days you're the pigeon; and others you're the statue", and yet the Soul knows that true Happiness is neither what we do for ourselves nor what is done to us by others; that real Bliss revels in Oneness – in knowing that merely being alive is more than enough; that not being of service to others is the only call for valid concern & that being of service to others is the only blessing of any ultimate worth ...



Purified Proverb #334 ...

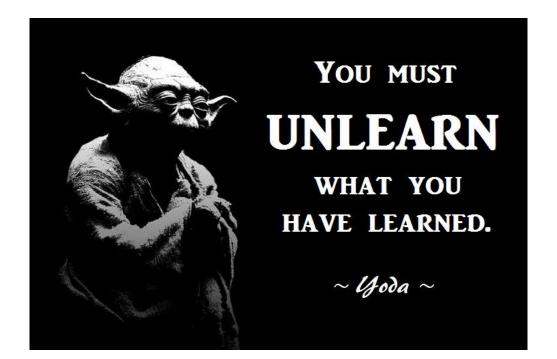
Conventional wisdom tells us "Trust what the eyes say; not what the mouth speaks", and yet the Soul knows that we are never to have faith in our opinions of others – be they feelings first & fleeting or impressions long & even lasting; for everyone is always far more radiant than they choose to appear ...



"Everyone is my teacher. Some I seek. Some I subconsiously attract. Often I learn simply by observing others. Some may be completely unaware that I'm learning from them, yet I bow deeply in gratitude."

Purified Proverb #335 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Two wrongs don't make a right", and yet the Soul knows a deeper Truth -- that we cannot be Doing what is Right while we are judging others to be "wrong" ...





Purified Proverb #336 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "When in Rome, do as the Romans", and yet the Soul knows that it is far more important that humans, while on Earth, live as Earthlings ...



Purified Proverb #337 ...

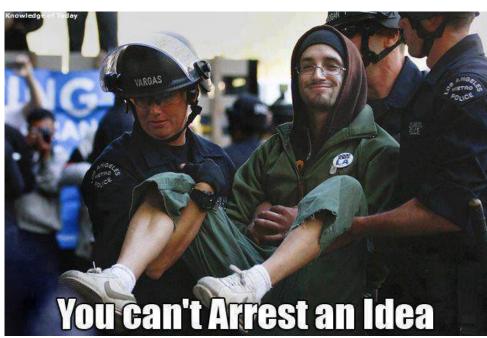
Conventional wisdom tells us that "The squeaky wheel always gets the grease", and yet the Soul knows that oftentimes squeaky wheels don't need to be oiled at all; that they often simply need to turn faster ...





THE ONES WHO ARE CRAZY ENOUGH TO THINK THEY CAN CHANGE THE WORLD, ARE THE ONES THAT DO





Purified Proverb #338 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "There's no such thing as a free lunch", and yet the Soul knows that foods requiring the taking of sentient life are always the most expensive on any menu; and that the man who partakes of such meals remains forever hungry ...

Whatever damage we do to the animal kingdom we are doing to ourselves and to our own children and families, the whole human community. - Chrissie Hynde



"IT IS NOT THIS BLOODSHED, OR THAT BLOODSHED, THAT MUST CEASE; BUT ALL BLOODSHED - ALL WANTON INFLICTION OF PAIN OR DEATH" HENRY SALT



"If there is an animal product on your plate, please take a few moments to reflect. Look to her body, feel the pain and suffering that she endured. Hear her cries. Smell the death.... Does your soul endorse this atrocity? Let your heart choose your meal next time." " Eddie Mah

Purified Proverb #339 ...

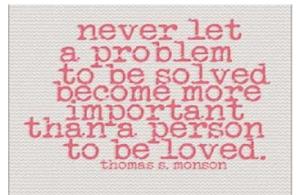
Conventional wisdom tells us "Be the type of person you want to meet and know", and yet the Soul knows that as long as we are yearning to be with certain kinds of others, we cannot hope to ever truly BE ourSelves; that to become who we truly are, we must gently dismiss both the opinions of all those around us and our own opinions of them as well, and then simply act like the person our dogs already believe us to be ...



Purified Proverb #340

Conventional wisdom tells us that "You can tell the magnitude of a man by the magnitude of that which upsets him", and yet the Soul knows that a truly Great Man is too busy caring for those in pain to dwell on the causes thereof ...





Purified Proverb #341 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Don't make permanent plans with temporary people", and yet the Soul knows that all people are temporary, and all plans only as reliable as the wind. Besides, the Soul knows that true LOVE remains even after a Beloved departs; that in order to remain warm, there is no need to capture the Sun ...



Purified Proverb #342 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "If you act like a victim, you will be treated like one", and yet the Soul knows that as soon as you believe there is such a thing as a victim at all, you have already become one ...



Purified Proverb #343 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us to "Read widely; think broadly; judge wisely", and yet the Soul knows that as long as we are judging another being at all, then all of our reading will have been to no avail and all of our thinking will remain essentially worthless ...



Purified Proverb #344 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Some lessons are best learned through pain", and yet the Soul knows that a lesson is only learned though pleasure when pleasure is replaced by Peace; and that a lesson is only learned through pain when pain is replaced by gratitude. For the Wise know that giving IS receiving; and that even the colder paths of autumn are always graced by sunbeams ...





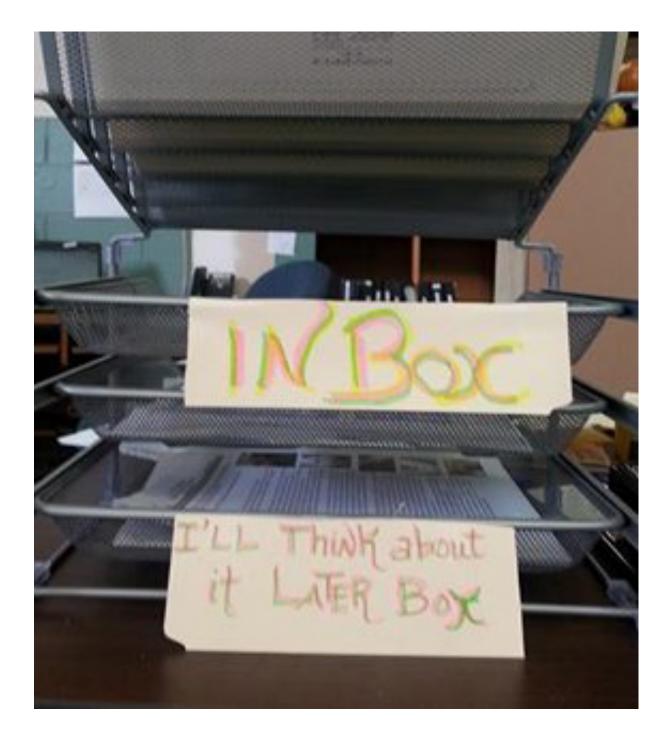
Purified Proverb #345 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "You can't reach for anything new if your hands are full of yesterday's leftovers", and yet the Soul knows that as long as you are reaching for anything – be it new or old, your hands will remain forever empty ...



Purified Proverb #346 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The perfect time to start something new never arrives", and yet the Soul knows that -- whether we are starting something new or continuing a task already at hand -- now is always the perfect time to do so ...



Purified Proverb #347 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Free yourself from negative people", and yet the Soul knows that abandoning those who are "mean" or "cruel" or "annoying" makes you just as negative as they; that the Light of Love can only soothe another's shadows when it is carried boldly into the darkness that surrounds them ...



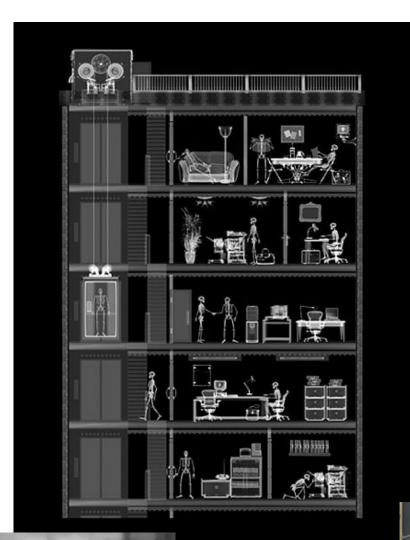
Purified Proverb #348 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "What you allow is what will continue", and yet the Soul knows that it is in striving to alter the other that we actually persuade them to remain the same; and that it is in openly & actively accepting others as they already are that we free them to become all that they could Be ...



Purified Proverb #349 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "To get what you want, you must get rid of what you don't", and yet the Soul knows that as long as you want for yourself, you will never receive what you truly need ...





CHARACTER IS HOW YOU TREAT THOSE WHO CAN DO NOTHING FOR YOU.

Purified Proverb #350 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Whenever you criticize a friend, be sure to dip your blade in honey", and yet the Soul knows that all words spoken without Care – whether said sweetly or with bitterness -- injure the hearer once and the speaker twofold ...



IT IS NOT "HOW DO WE CONNECT?" IT IS "HOW DO WE EMPATHIZE?"

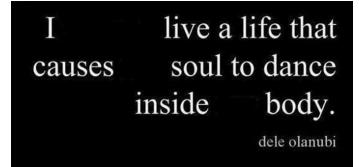


Purified Proverb #351 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Give it your best shot and then let go. If something is meant to be, it will be", and yet the Soul knows that the only things that are "meant to be" are the things that are courageously Done ...

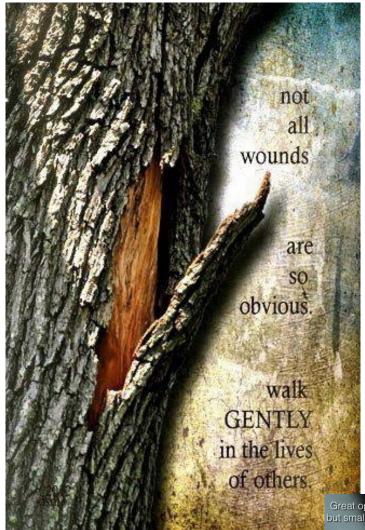


One person can only do so much.



Purified Proverb #352 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Do not wish life were easier; wish that you were tougher", and yet the Soul knows that it is not enough to merely wish to be stronger – for real Peace to arrive, we must choose to have the Strength to be weak ...





Purified Proverb #353 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Not all pens write so well", and yet the Soul knows that it matters not whether your pen writes well or scribbles poorly; only that it is used to write for Peace ...

The most useful asset of a person is not a head full of knowledge but a heart full of love, with ears open to listen, and hands willing to help

Purified Proverb #354 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Dance like the wind; sing like the thunder; Love like the rain", and yet the Soul knows that to dance like the wind, we must immerse ourselves where we already are; that to sing like the thunder, we must be silent and allow Nature to hum us her soft melodies; and that to Love like the rain, we must be indiscriminate & reckless with our gifts of Kindness ...



BEING HUMBLE MEANS RECOGNIZING THAT WE ARE NOT ON EARTH TO SEE HOW IMPORTANT WE CAN BECOME, BUT TO SEE HOW MUCH DIFFERENCE WE CAN MAKE IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS. – GORDON B. HINCKLEY

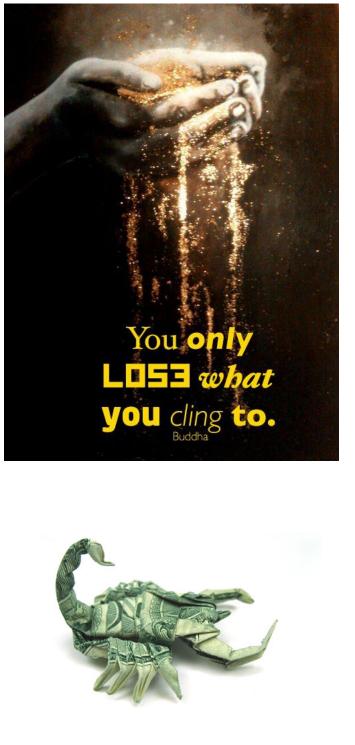
Purified Proverb #355 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Fine thoughts spoken poorly are worse than poor thoughts spoken well", and yet the Soul knows that thoughts can only be truly "fine" when they are thoughts of a LOVE unconditional; and that a LOVE such as that can only be spoken clearly with courageous actions, never mere bold words ...



Purified Proverb #356 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Do not save what is left after spending; spend what is left after saving", and yet the Soul knows that to spend on one's self invites the deepest sadness, and to save for one's self brings a poverty most pure ...

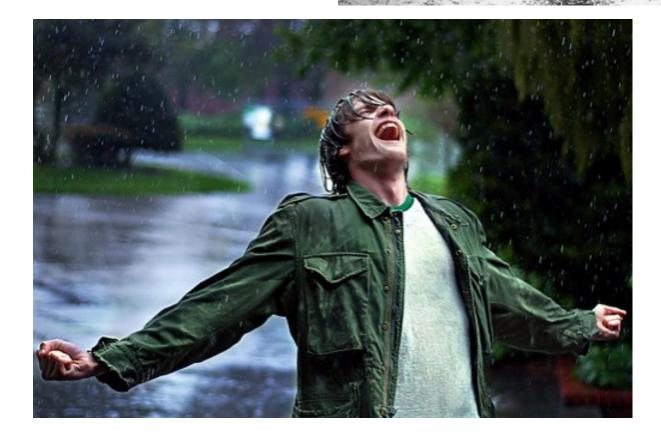




Purified Proverb #357 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Prudence brings honor, while foolishness invites disgrace", and yet the Soul knows that there is no true honor in safety, and that there is no real integrity amongst the dour ...





Purified Proverb #358

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Time heals all wounds", and yet the Soul knows that it is time & time alone that forces all wounds to linger; and that it is Love & Love alone that allows all wounds to heal ...



Purified Proverb #359 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "Sharing makes you bigger than you really are", and yet the Soul knows that it is sharing freely with others that reminds you who You have actually been all along ...





Purified Proverb #360

Conventional wisdom tells us "Be courteous to all, yet intimate with few", and yet the Soul knows that it is impossible to be truly courteous to others without also having the courage to open up to them in intimacy ...



Purified Proverb #361 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "When you say yes to others, make sure you aren't also saying no to yourself", and yet the Soul knows that saying "no" to yourself in order to say "yes" to others is the only way to actually say "YES" to your Self ...

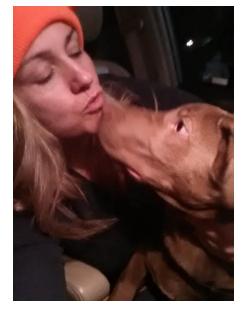






Purified Proverb #362 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "When you define a problem correctly, the solution arrives on its own", and yet the Soul knows that there is only one true "problem" facing humanity; and that its solution has already been established -- and that this solution is already at hand ...

















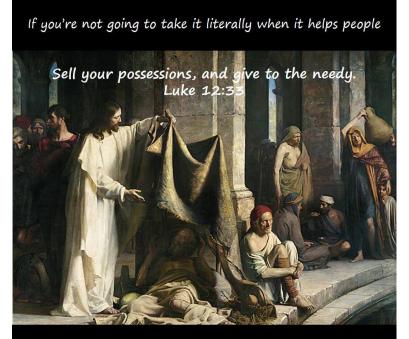
Purified Proverb #363 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "Enjoy what you can; endure what you must", and yet the Soul knows that Joy is always present -- except in those moments when life is chosen to be merely endured ...



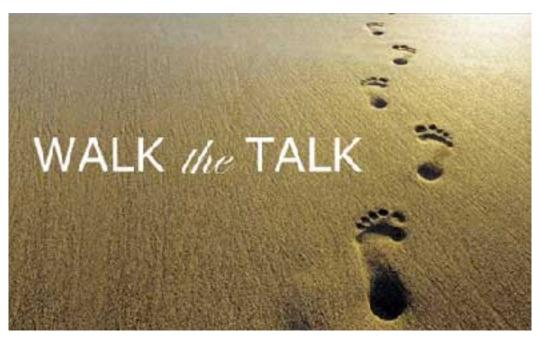
Purified Proverb #364 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "The family that prays together, stays together", and yet the Soul knows that the only prayer that reaches the ears of the Divine is the one not uttered for self with passionate words or intense emotion, but rather the one that is made for the benefit others -- and spoken with moving feet ...



please don't take it literally when it hurts people.





Purified Proverb #365 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us that "No news is good news", and yet the Soul knows that it is impossible to perceive Life's truly Good News until we stop listening to & believing in "the news" sold by humankind ...



Purified Proverb #366 ...

Conventional wisdom tells us "First things first" -- in the sense of "getting our priorities straight", and yet the Soul knows that this saying only becomes truly Meaning-full when it reads "First things first" (meaning the pure state of awe-inspired awareness we all knew at birth) ... AND ALSO "Last things last" (meaning the Peace we will know on our deathbed if we have chosen to live a life filled with Love) ...

It's taken me my whole life to understand that the only thing between birth and death is love, that love is life. *Larry Benjamin*



"Any fool can know. The point is to understand." ~ Albert Einstein

"Never let your personal sense of morals prevent you from doing what is Right." ~ inspired by Isaac Asimov



"And I will take one from a thousand and two from ten thousand, and they shall Become a single One." ~ Jesus Christ (Gospel of Thomas 23)