



The Voice Box

Seeking to Establish Knowledge and Understanding

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White Feather Speaks about Symbolism and Language

“You know a young pupil once asked a great teacher ‘where do I find the path of illumination?’ The teacher looked at him deeply before uttering the words ‘son, you are already standing upon it’. You know every pathway however humble, however great, and however complex or simple, however diverse, is a pathway of illumination. And even though you think at times that life has dealt you a cruel hand or that you are in the midst of turmoil, suffering or difficulty, never lose sight of the fact that you are spiritual beings upon a spiritual pathway and that every lesson in life has something of value. Every experience has something of worth to offer. And the true acolyte is one who accepts every life experience as one form from which wisdom can be gleaned. In my view there is no bad experience. There is only experience and from that the soul can equip itself for its eternal journey to illumination.

I thought I would say a few words however, concerning some aspects of that journey, regarding in particular what I refer to as symbolism. Because you know, symbols take many forms, not merely pictorial. Not merely the more recognisable forms with which you are familiar but also words can be regarded as symbolic. Shapes, colours, they each have their own energy. But what is important is not the symbol itself but the meaning attached to it and the intention residing within it and around it. Symbols you know are often regarded with great awe and just as some individuals are unwittingly and even purposely placed upon pedestals that they may be worshipped, so symbols can also be addressed in this way and in my view whilst they have their role to play one should not become so attached to them that one cannot move beyond and see anything else.

Symbology has always played a role in humanity’s development, but what has to be recognised is that they are only there to facilitate, not to be assimilated within the understanding to such a point that they become irrevocably apart of that individual’s philosophy, Let me give you an example of what I mean. There are some in your world who place great adherence to the cross. Particularly those within organized religion. Those of the Christian belief for example place great homage and adherence to the symbol of the cross. That is as it may be if they choose that they gain something from it. Simply by viewing the cross or thinking of it or linking with it they have a certain awareness and understanding attached to that symbol. But in another culture, in another time, another age, the same symbol may mean something completely different. Because a different meaning and intent is attached.

For example, in your last great conflict there was the sign that was referred to as the Swastika, which was employed by certain factions of humanity that were warring against others and that symbol became recognised and adhered to something of a negative nature. Yet you know, that the symbol is far more ancient than those who adopted it during that conflict and it once held a different meaning than it did during that time.

If we extend this teaching beyond the boundaries of your world you can understand perhaps that what is symbolic in your culture now, to an alien race upon another world may have no meaning whatsoever. The reason I am telling you this is that truth is beyond symbolism. Truth is beyond culture. Truth is beyond language. Truth 'is'. It has always been and always will be. And yet, truth needs to find an expression. It needs to have a vehicle to express itself. In the case of humanity that vehicle by the large, although not exclusively, is language. When we speak to you, we can do so in thought, which is beyond language and yet to communicate with many we choose to employ language. We work through a language of the modern age, which you can understand, hopefully in terms with which you are familiar. But the language of the world is not the truth. Just as the cross or any other symbol is not the truth. It is a means of expressing a facet of truth that is eternal. Truth is thread that is universal. There are those on other worlds, in other universes that appreciate and imbibe the same truth of the spirit as you do and yet you are poles apart in your use of language and symbolism. And yet the truth is constant because the truth is the truth. What is true today was true yesterday and will be tomorrow. It does not alter. What alters is the manner to convey it. The messenger if you like, may change, the language employed may alter but the essence is infinite. And when you can go beyond and simply be one with what is, then you have transcended all boundaries, all barriers, all languages, all symbols and you have become one with the infinite. That truly is the spiritual pathway to which you should all aspire.

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