

Chapter One

IN SEARCH OF TRUTH

Looking for answers in your search for spiritual Truth? Tired of hitting dead ends? Exhausted in following this road and that road only to be disappointed at what you found or didn't find? Are you worn out from seeking philosophies, religions or courses of study that don't measure up to spiritual, ethical or moral ideals, that violate spiritual laws, that leave you with more questions than answers, more distrust than trust? Are you feeling that there's more to life than what you currently know but you don't know where to look or with whom to talk to find the answers you seek? Are you tired of the nonsense going on in the world? Perhaps even fed up with it? Are you disillusioned with life in general, feeling an emptiness and longing for something you know exists but which you can't put your finger on? Are you tired of transient relationships that leave you spent, betrayed, angry, lost, confused? Are you lonely for spiritual nectar? Are you just plain lonely? Need peace,

happiness and tranquility in your life? Have you heard about vegetarianism, karma, reincarnation, meditation and want to know more about these concepts and why they are such an intricate and critical aspect of the spiritual path and lifestyle? Or do you simply feel a pull, a tugging at your soul, a restless, pressing, impatient urging to seek God?

These are some of the reasons leading people to the Spiritual Path. Something is definitely missing in their lives, and though they may not know what it is, they search, sometimes for years, sometimes for decades, sometimes even for an entire lifetime. Then, through some quirk of fate, they bump into a person who says something or does something that strikes a chord in them, a chord of truth, a chord which excites them, a chord whose mellifluous melodies they want to hear again, a chord which resonates deeply in the very center of their soul, a chord which, like a powerful magnet, draws them helplessly closer to the source, a chord which makes them want to know more, a chord that tells them instinctively they've found what they've been looking and longing for, an irresistible chord so powerfully real they begin to tear up with joy for this is the chord of the Lord. He has come for them to take them Home, and deep in their psyches they know it. If any of this rings true with you, read on. If not, you probably won't be reading this sentence anyway.

Truth

There is truth and then there is Truth. There are teachers and then there are Teachers. There are masters and then there are Masters. This book is about spiritual Masters and the messages they share with humanity; the Truth they bring to the world and to those who have ears to *hear*, eyes to *see* and hearts filled with genuine longing for what is real and eternal.

Masters are the Sons of God. Obviously this is hard to believe, and I'm not asking you to believe it. In fact, you shouldn't. Take nothing for granted just because it's written in a book. Put it to the test. Prove it for yourself. However, if your search has been fair, true and unbiased; if your search has led you to conclusions based, not on someone else's opinions, philosophies and experiences but your own; if you have devoted enough time, effort, energy, thought and concentration upon this matter and given one-hundred percent to actually following the teachings of Masters and living the lifestyle they suggest, then you will, indeed, come to the same conclusion. It would be impossible not to. Masters are the Sons of God incarnate.

Spiritual Truth endures. It doesn't change. It carries the same message from millennia to millennia, civilization to civilization, culture to culture, nation to nation. Truth has no alliance with fads or fashions, kings or queens, presidents or paupers, nations or nabobs, celebrities or cosmopolites, or special interest groups with self-serving, worldly agendas. Truth is the same

today as it was yesterday and will be tomorrow. From time immemorial, truth is truth and does not change.

Because of their divine status and nexus, it is Masters who bring spiritual Truth to the world. Regardless of their nationality, their worldly occupation or their language, the Truth they espouse is always the same: God is real. He exists. Man, who is the highest form of creation, can know Him, realize Him, be one with Him if he makes himself worthy of Him, and he can do all of this while he is alive. In fact, the only time man can know God, be one with Him and thereby gain his Salvation, is when he occupies the human form, the penultimate gift of God. The ultimate gift is Initiation by a Perfect Master into the mysteries of life.

The Truths Masters bring are profound. In fact, some of these truths may shock the individual, giving him great pause to ponder. These Truths will often revolutionize a person's life, sometimes shaking it to the core in order to make the person wake up so that his illusions of the world are shattered and he can be freed from this negative dark dimension of duality, destruction, decay and death where souls circle and cycle in endless turmoil and tears for endless years and lives.

Masters, also called Saints and/or Perfect Saints, pull no punches. They tell it like it is, often shooting straight from the hip and taking no prisoners because, in fact, their job is to free prisoners from this world, liberate them from ignorance, illusion, delusion and humiliating captivity, thus reinstating them on the altar

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of their divine heritage. The only way to do this is to teach and tell the Truth of life from their exalted palace of absolute spirituality.

Perfect Masters simply elucidate the Truth - dispassionately, calmly, lovingly. Even though they often pull no punches, they do not coerce or force. They simply share. Their job is to save souls from the clutches of this world, sever them from their attachments so they can be finally free from eons of bondage in this dark and nether dungeon we call the earth. Their compassion knows no bounds and their power knows no equal. They are the apotheosis of living perfection and embodiment of God.

Masters are not politicians. Nor do they concern themselves with that which is politically correct or passingly popular. Nor do they involve themselves with worldly affairs. Their only business is the spiritual business of soul salvation. They are universal by nature. They love all, favor none, play no games, seek no empires, cherish no celebrity, claim no status, never blow their own horn and walk upon the earth as if they were the greatest of sinners, all the time saving sinners from the nefarious clutches of this nether world.

Masters are the true givers of the universe, never holding their palms up or begging from others. They dedicate their lives to humanity. They do their own work, never take charity and demand their disciples do the same.

These Perfect Masters do not care about making the world a paradise or bringing peace to the world. The world is not supposed to be a paradise, will never be a paradise, nor will it ever have peace. Such is not the Creator's plan for this world. As Christ said in St. Matthew (10:34) - *Think not that I am come to bring peace on earth; I came not to send peace but a sword.* This is the same spiritual truth echoed by all perfect mystics. Their job, their assignment from God, is to sever the cords of attachment which bind souls to this world. Saints' swords sever cords saving souls from slavery.

Because Masters care about saving souls, they bring the sword of knowledge with them and sever the roots of those whose time it is to return Home. Ignorance, it has been said, is the root cause of the downfall of the soul. Unless that ignorance is destroyed, unless the soul is severed from its ignorance, it will continue to be enslaved for eons of time in a prison of profound suffering and sorrow. Man doesn't know this. Saints do, and that's why they exist on the earth. It's all about Salvation.

A Time for Saints

If ever there were a time for Saints to be in the world (and there is always, fortunately, at least one Saint present on the earth at all times), it is now. The world is degenerating and degrading at a rapid pace. The signs of this degeneration are universally extant and multiplying

at ferocious speed. All it takes is a little spiritual sentience, a little awareness and a casual look 'round at the earth, its collective consciousness, its activities, its consumptions, its ideals, and its gross lack of spirituality to see that the world is, indeed, in great decay.

For example, take the number of laws on the books today. Can they all be counted? There are so many laws one wonders how our culture is not drowned under the sheer weight of their collective mass. What do these laws say about our civilization? They say it is not very civil at all. The number of laws on our books today is not a reflection of how civilized we are but how *uncivilized* we are.

Spiritually, there is only one law and that is the law of love. This is the operative law in God's upper kingdoms. It is the only law needed for a truly civilized society. When the law of love is embedded in the minds and hearts of all souls, there is no need for any other law whatsoever. Love only loves. Love only does good. When love is the only law on the books, no one would ever think, dream or take any action to hurt, harm, maim, injure, deceive or destroy another living soul in the most minute of ways. Therefore, dishonesty, anger, hatred, selfishness, theft, adultery, betrayal, greed, usury, duplicity, deceit, prevarication, vilification, denigration, misrepresentation, manipulation, and a million and one other forms of evil would not, could not, exist. Period. Hence, the number of laws in a society is directly proportional to the lack of spirituality in that society.

The more laws, the less love, and the less a society is civilized. The number of laws on our cultural books today is a clear indication of how uncivilized we are, not how civilized.

Another clear indication of the rapid degradation of the world is the amount of violence, especially killings, and more especially the killing of kids by kids! How unbelievably insane and inane is it for young children to walk into a school toting firearms of all makes and sizes and begin opening fire on other children and taking, nay, destroying, lives upon lives? What kind of maniacal madness is this? How embarrassingly ludicrous is this also for any civilization, any culture, any country, any establishment, any body to allow this type of vicious and murderous predation to not only occur but continue? Is this the school's problem? No. It's society's problem. These children have been fed, by 'adults,' enormous masses of rich and varied violence throughout their lives in the forms of movies, television shows, video games, magazines, books, and a whole host of people who believe it's acceptable to promote this banal and baneful barbarism. It's no wonder these kids, *kids*, are coming unglued at the seams and going absolutely ballistic. They're doing so because society is coming unglued at its seams and is literally going ballistic itself. The behavior of these children is nothing but a mirror of adult mores and values. Unspeakable.

The incredulously sad part of this violence is the lack of accountability and responsibility on the part of

the 'adults' creating, marketing, promoting and selling such horrific ideas, products and services as if indulgence in such things were fun and pleasurable! Kids copy adults. If adults think and conduct themselves in such a way as to not only accept violence but promote and glorify it, the kids will follow suit. This is not rocket science. This is life science, and it's pretty simple. Good begets good. Evil begets evil. Kindness begets kindness. Peace begets peace. Love begets love. Hate begets hate, and violence surely and most painfully and sorrowfully, begets violence and all of the tragedy, turmoil, tribulation, tears, suffering, sorrow and agonizing pain associated with it. Yet, 'adults' continue to promote this barbaric insanity in the form of entertainment, arguing that it serves as a release from the craziness of the world. If this kind of pernicious activity were not promoted in the first place, there would be no craziness in the world. Whatever happened to good wholesome fun?

The prolific and unrestrained usage and indulgence of recreational drugs and alcohol in our world is yet another indication of the world's degeneracy. Life is hard enough without complicating it with a plethora of provocative poisons and destructive delights. Yet, that's what's happening. Again, one of the empty and indefensible arguments for the ingestion of such devious and demonic substances is the escape from reality they presumably offer. Such malevolent machinations. These poisons obliterate reality, imbed and inculcate illusion and simply ruin lives, often destroying them in the

process. How can these diabolical contaminants bring pleasure when the end result of their use is addiction, pain, sorrow, suffering, turmoil, tragedy, tears, decay, disease, destruction and death? People say they want peace and happiness in their lives and yet they freely ingest themselves with the pestilential poisons insuring and guaranteeing their sorrow, suffering, misery and madness. Where is the common sense in this behavior?

Deceit is a main contributor to our society's decay. Who can be trusted anymore? Who doesn't have some hidden agenda to promote and fulfill? Who is not so saturated with money, lust, power, fame, name and celebrity that they'll do anything to get it, even sacrifice their ethics or other people's reputations or lives in the process? In fact, do people have a code of ethics to live by anymore? Codes of ethics, it seems, have found their way into museums, taking their place along side the latest dinosaur exhibit. And what contract is so clear and simple that one doesn't need a lawyer to interpret it? How small does small print have to be? And how hidden? And what about that huge bag of potato chips on the counter? It looks great, right? Until you open it. Then you can almost count the number of chips in the bag on one hand while having to have a hand full of money in the other hand to pay for it.

Thankfully, Masters do not deceive. They're straight shooters. Deceit is foreign to who they are. One may take issue with what they say (an unfortunate mishap) and not like what they say but one can never

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question the ethics of Saints, of Perfect Masters. They're
impeccable - both the Saint and his ethics. You can take
that to the bank, hopefully the bank of your soul.

Another redline indicator of our degenerating earth
is the rampant and rabid explosion of sexual indulgence,
indulgence which has lost all sight and understanding of
spiritual law, violating it without a breath of conscience
or a concern for its consequences. One of the Saints
quoted in this work is Kabir, a Perfect Master of the 15th
and 16th Centuries. He said,

*Sex indulgence is the lowest of human
activities. That men should be at all proud of it
surpasses understanding. Do not all the
animals indulge in it? Sex indulgence saps our
physical vitality, weakens our mental power,
and above all, it seriously hampers our
spiritual progress. For spiritual progress one
has to travel upwards. Sex indulgence does the
opposite. It uses the power of the Word (God's
Energy) in the lowest of human activities.*

Yet, our culture not only regards sexuality as a
thing of which to be proud, but it also rewards, promotes
and glorifies it as though to be a sex symbol were the
apotheosis of achievement in this world. The promotion
and glorification of sex is everywhere you look: movies,
magazines, television, books, billboards, advertisements,
award shows, social celebrations and on and on and on.
It is a truth that in our society sex sells. What does that
say about us? It is also no less a truth that in our society

sex destroys, but seldom is this aspect of sexuality ever mentioned. If it were, it wouldn't sell. How many individual's lives, well-beings, families, children, careers and reputations have been diseased, destroyed, ruined, shamed, dismantled, lost and besieged with turmoil and despair because of sex being out of control - physically, emotionally, psychologically, financially, socially? This is not to say sex is bad. Saints acknowledge it is a natural aspect of this creation. But its immense over-indulgence, glorification, consumption and inappropriate use is bad, at least for the soul as it strives to make headway on the spiritual path.

It is no mistake that halos have always been pictured throughout history around the heads of mystics, not their genitalia. Halos represent the purity of one's energy and connection with the God force which is manifested in man at the head level. As long as the soul is chained to the lower sexual outlets of his being, man's consciousness will never be able to rise to that level which is both hallowed and haloed. And since, as Saint Ravidas declares, *True happiness lies in realizing true holiness*, man will never find true happiness because he chooses not to lead a holy (pure) life but rather indulge in an unholy and impure one.

Another reason why the Messages from the Masters are so very needed today is the general gloom of the mass consciousness. Ever take a good hard look at the faces of models on magazine covers for instance? They're not happy faces, that's for sure. They're stern,

dark, gloomy, lost, foreboding, almost lifeless. There is no vibrancy in them. No joy. No happiness. It's sad.

Yet, isn't that where the general mindset of our culture is these days? Lost? Confused? Bewildered? Distraught? Agonized? Disturbed? Angry? Unhappy? There are, of course, exceptions, but on the whole it would be a hard sell to make a case for our society being a happy, content and spiritual lot. Fortunately, Mystics bring messages of happiness and show people how to find that happiness. They realize more than anyone the absolute negativity of this dimension and the sad plight of the souls in it. That's why they come to save souls. It is solely out of their undying compassion for the suffering of humanity. If one follows their teachings and lives the life they recommend, any soul will not only gain happiness but also liberation from its enslavement in this dark and foreboding world. In Chapter Two we'll take a closer look at these Masters and the messages they bring to all of us who have ears to *hear*.

A Thousand Mile Journey

© Richard Andrew King

A thousand mile journey
begins with step the first,
but victory in the journey
is reflected in our thirst
to keep on taking steps,
even crawling in the dirt
when the sorrow of the journey
engulfs our heart with hurt.

One thousand miles of little steps
is a sojourn of travail.
Thunderstorms and hurricanes
as well as maelstroms prevail.
If this thousand mile journey
were easy, light and fun,
there would be more travelers
in this thousand mile run.

But few there are to dare the race.
Myopic comfort kills the dream.
Too long, too hard, too full of plight,
too many fears extreme

kill the hoping heart
and the will with little grit;
so this thousand mile journey
is challenged only by the fit.

So should it be, and rightly so--
for those who win the Prize
should be the ones undaunted
and full of triumph in their eyes.
Laurels only should be showered
on those within the field
with courage strong and vision long,
and spirits which never yield!

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