

Repairing the Broken World

You have stated that you have deep concerns about the current state of our world. You see problems everywhere—social, political and religious. You cry that it is unjust and corrupt. You are convinced that if something isn't done, it will continue to get worse. You have made a personal commitment to changing it.

It is unfortunate that you don't take such concern with yourself.

You see, what is wrong with the world is what is wrong with you, but you don't see that. These very problems are your problems too. And you, like every other madman on the planet, believe that you know what is best for the world. You are sure you know the cause of its problems and the general solution.

When placed in a spiritual setting, however, you readily admit that you have much work to do on yourself. You agree that you have not gotten past living from Ego. You nod your head when spiritual truths are presented, even if you cannot grasp them yet. You speak of wanting humility and inner peace. (Again, you nod.)

But in your life you press on with your activism anyway, determined to make a difference. You look for causes to support—causes that in turn support you and your identity. You have exciting discussions with those who agree with you and are incensed at those who do not. You readily call out the villains and idiots who have created the problem. You call this “doing the right thing.”

You may even join groups or committees for your cause. This merely quiets your own doubt and perpetuates the illusion that your cause is worthy.

Let it be said that no set of sleeping individuals, no matter the count, can truly make a difference in any real way whatsoever. The best they can do is exchange one problem with a different problem that is more preferable to them. This is the reality of what you call politics and social awareness.

And dare you make the error of connecting the word *spiritual* to any of this. This may be the greatest infraction of Truth to ever occur. In trying to shake the guilt of self-righteousness you search for a connection between your cause and spiritual values. Let this serve as solid proof that your mission is truly a false one.

Until you are awake and can see clearly, you risk doing far more damage than good to yourself and the world with your vain activism. Inner work must come first if you are to be of any true help whatsoever. Only when you are awake, will you see the real problem and have any affect upon solving it.

So why do you insist on doing outer work while ignoring your inner work?

For one, you believe you *are* doing inner work. You think that reading books and discussing inner work *is* the work. You also believe that identifying your shortcomings is working on yourself. But what you call *identifying* your shortcomings is really just identifying *with* your shortcomings—evidenced by the fact that you will not let go of them. This simply makes your shortcomings more food for the Ego.

You believe that your outside work is really inner work. You are convinced that giving of yourself is a precursor to inner growth. You fail to see, however, that if you give something that is not authentic, you have given nothing. And what can you expect in return? You can expect the same.

Mostly, you choose to work on outer problems because they are the perfect distraction from working on yourself. The fact is that the idea of working on *you* frightens you to no end. So you take the easier path, which, you incorrectly believe, is the more difficult one.

In working on yourself you find difficulty and pain. You must endure loneliness and give up the illusions you love most. In working on yourself there is no recognition for your efforts. You must face your shortcomings and be willing to let them go. No wonder you run toward outer work.

If you truly want to make a worldwide difference, drop your activism and dive headlong into working on you. Changing the world is impossible if you do not change you. And conversely, changing *you* will have the most profound effect on changing the world. This is a lesson that few will heed—it is simply too much for them to understand; too much for them to give up.

When you are truly awake you will see that the world is not troubled in the way you believe it is. You will then be able to help in a way that can truly make a difference. It will not be in any way you can imagine, however, and it will come without personal recognition. Can you accept that?

Most will secretly answer, “No.”

Others will justify their continued involvement by convincing themselves that both inner and outer work can be done simultaneously, and in an ironic twist they will be correct. Their error will be in understanding where they must start.

You can continue with your activism if you choose, but it will never fulfill you as you wish. It will be burdened with the same confusion, anxiety and false pleasure the rest of your life has. It will never be the escape you long for. Only a deep inner journey can provide that for you.

Inner work is the only work that God is requesting of you. Truth knows that inner work is the way to worldwide healing. You can know this for yourself if you open your eyes and your heart to the Truth. Investigation is free and you can begin now.

If you are sincerely interested in knowing what will heal the world, ask Truth—and then allow Truth to answer.

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