

**TRINITY SUNDAY**

**MAY 31, 2015**

**"AND BEHOLD, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, UNTIL THE END OF THE AGE"**

**I JUST FINISHED LISTENING TO ANOTHER BOOK IN MY CAR - THIS ONE ENTITLED "I CAN SEE CLEARLY NOW" BY WAYNE DYER**

**IT WAS EXCELLENT.....IT IS A MEMOIR, AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY - IT WAS WRITTEN A COUPLE YEARS AGO BY WAYNE DYER AT AROUND THE AGE OF 70 IS LOOKING BACK ON THE KEY MOMENTS, THE KEY TURNING POINTS OF HIS LIFE AND WRITES THAT "I CAN SEE CLEARLY NOW" THAT GOD WAS PRESENT IN HIS LIFE AND THAT HE IS AMAZED AND SO GRATEFUL THAT THE RIGHT TEACHER TURNED UP OR HE LEARNED THE RIGHT LESSON AT THE RIGHT TIME....**

**EVEN IF IT WAS A PAINFUL EXPERIENCE...**

**MOSTLY HE LEARNED TO TRUST HIS OWN INNER WISDOM, HIS INNER INTUITION AS GOD-GIVEN AND LEADING HIM BEYOND HIMSELF TO BE A MORE LOVING AND SERVING PERSON...**

**HE IS NOT CATHOLIC - ALTHOUGH HEAVILY INFLUENCED BY ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI AND ALSO INFLUENCED BY TAOISM ....(AN EASTERN RELIGION)**

**HE CERTAINLY BELIEVES IN GOD - AND DOESN'T BELIEVE IN**

**COINCIDENCES OR ACCIDENTS IN LIFE -**

**LOOKING BACK HE BELIEVES THERE HAS BEEN A DIVINE PURPOSE TO HIS LIFE -**

**A DIVINE FORCE OR ENERGY AT WORK - SOME DESIGN AT PLAY....**

**I KNOW I CAN LOOK BACK OVER MY LIFE AND SEE MORE AT WORK THAN**

***JUST MY OWN PERSONAL CHOICES AND DECISIONS -***

***SOME FORCE ABOVE AND BEYOND MY OWN EGO THAT SEEMS TO BE  
PURPOSEFUL ALSO***

***E.G. MY APPLICATION TO GRADUATE SCHOOL....BEING REJECTED AT  
BERKELY, MY FIRST CHOICE I THOUGHT WOULD BE BEST FOR THE  
INTEGRATION OF PSYCHOLOGY AND SPIRITUALITY AND ENDING UP IN  
SAN DIEGO - WHICH ULTIMATELY TURNED OUT TO BE PERFECT - JACK  
SANFORD AN EXPERT IN THE INTEGRATION OF SPIRITUALITY AND  
JUNGIAN PSYCHOLOGY - EXACTLY WHAT I WANTED....***

***E.G. MY HOUR ON JACKSON LAKE AT THE GRAND TETONS***

***E.G. A POSITION BEING CREATED AT MVH FOR A PSYCHOLOGIST WITH A  
RELIGIOUS BACKGROUND***

***E.G. THE REQUEST TO BE DIRECTOR OF MERCY SIENA - COMING OUT OF  
"LEFT FIELD" - ALL THE THINGS I NEEDED TO LEARN THERE AND  
INDEED DID LEARN THERE***

***E.G. THE REQUEST ONE DAY BY JERRY BOURNE THAT I CONSIDER  
JOINING A TEAM OF 3 OTHER PRIESTS TO HELP OUT AT QAC***

***CERTAINLY FORCES HAVE BEEN AT WORK BEYOND MY OWN EGO IN MY  
LIFE.....CHALLENGING ME AT VARIOUS TIMES TO GET IN TOUCH WITH MY  
OWN PASSION AND GO BEYOND MY OWN COMFORT ZONE - AND MOVE  
TOWARD BEING A MORE LOVING AND SERVING INDIVIDUAL  
ALL OF THOSE KEY TURNING POINTS, THE WONDERFUL AND THE  
PAINFUL, ENABLE ME TO PROFESS FAITH IN THAT PASSAGE....***

***"AND BEHOLD, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, UNTIL THE END OF THE AGE"  
THE SPIRIT IS WITHIN US CALLING US BEYOND OURSELVES, BEYOND OUR  
COMFORT ZONE - IF WE ARE WILLING TO TAKE THE RISK...***

***HOPEFULLY, ALL OF US - ESPECIALLY THOSE OF US WITH GREY HAIR OR  
LITTLE OR NO HAIR ARE ABLE TO PROFESS FAITH IN THAT PASSAGE...***

***"AND BEHOLD, I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, UNTIL THE END OF THE AGE"  
TODAY, TRINITY SUNDAY, I BELIEVE, COULD ALSO BE CALLED  
"RELATIONSHIP SUNDAY".....***

***AS ANGI O'GORMAN DESCRIBES THIS SUNDAY IN A RECENT EDITION OF  
NATIONAL CATHOLIC REPORTER...***

***SHE GOES ON...."RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN GOD, BETWEEN GOD AND US,  
BETWEEN OURSELVES AND OTHERS, AND WITHIN OUR INDIVIDUAL  
SELVES. ALL THOSE RELATIONSHIPS ARE IMPORTANT AREN'T THEY?  
WE CERTAINLY CELEBRATE THAT PROMISE OF JESUS TO ALWAYS BE IN A  
FAITHFUL AND CARING RELATIONSHIP WITH US ...EVEN IF HIDDEN  
WE ALSO TODAY CELEBRATE OUR GOD AS RELATIONSHIP, AS  
COMMUNITY***

***AS RICHARD ROHR SAYS WE HAVE OVEREMPHASIZED THE INDIVIDUAL  
NAMES FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT AND SKIPPED OVER THE QUALITY  
OF THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THEM - WHICH IS WHERE ALL THE  
POWER AND MEANING AND ACTION LIES...***

***AND WHEN WE TALK ABOUT THE NAMES BEING FEMININE, MASCULINE  
OR NEITHER - CREATOR, REDEEMER, SANCTIFIER OR SOURCE, SAVIOR***

***AND SPIRIT***

***WHATEVER NAME WE COME UP WITH HAS BOTH STRENGTHS AND  
LIMITATIONS BECAUSE WE ARE DEALING WITH METAPHOR AND  
UNKNOWABILITY...MYSTERY***

***SO, HOPEFULLY WE WILL NOT SPEND TOO MUCH TIME FOCUSING ON  
THE ISSUE OF GENDER BECAUSE THE MOST IMPORTANT POINT IS HOW  
THESE THREE WE CALL "PERSONS" RELATE TO ONE ANOTHER -  
INFINITE OUTPOURING AND INFINITE RECEIVING...***

***THE POURING OUT OF UNCONDITIONAL LOVE AND THE RECEIVING OF  
UNCONDITIONAL LOVE...***

***THAT'S WHAT WE CELEBRATE.....IN OUR GOD***

***SO WHEN WE SAY TRINITY WE ARE SAYING THAT GOD IS BASICALLY A  
VERB MUCH MORE THAN A NOUN....***

***THE OUTPOURING OF UNCONDITIONAL LOVE AND THE RECEIVING OF  
UNCONDITIONAL LOVE....***

***AND THE BEST PART - WE ARE BEING INVITED INTO THAT COMMUNITY  
OF UNCONDITIONAL LOVE....***

***IN FACT, WE ALREADY PARTICIPATE IN THAT COMMUNITY BECAUSE THE  
SPIRIT IS WITHIN US - EACH ONE OF US.....***

***AND WE RECEIVE THE CHRIST WITHIN US IN THIS EUCHARIST...***

***WE PARTICIPATE IN THAT INFINITE ABUNDANCE AND FLOW OF LOVE...***

***WHEN YOU GET DOWN TO IT WE CANNOT COMPREHEND THE NATURE OF  
THE UNIVERSE IN ALL ITS MAGNIFICENCE MUCH LESS BEGIN TO***

***COMPREHEND THE NATURE OF GOD...***

***AS ONE SCIENTIST, NEILS BOHR, SAYS ABOUT THE UNIVERSE - "THE UNIVERSE IS "NOT ONLY STRANGER THAN WE THINK, BUT STRANGER THAN WE CAN THINK..."***

***THE NOTION OF THE TRINITY IS SAYING THE SAME THING: GOD IS NOT ONLY STRANGER THAN WE THINK, BUT STRANGER THAN WE CAN THINK... THIS IS HOW GOD REMAINS IN CHARGE OF THE WHOLE PROCESS....***

***IN THE END, AS ROHR ALSO SAYS, ONLY LOVERS SEEM TO KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON INSIDE OF GOD.....***

***BECAUSE RELATIONSHIP IS AT THE HEART OF THINGS - BOTH IN THE MATERIAL WORLD AND THE DIVINE....***

***OUR TRIUNE GOD LOVES US BEFORE WE EVEN KNEW WHAT THE WORD MEANT AND KEEPS DRAWING US INTO THAT LOVE....***

***AND DRAWING US....AND DRAWING US....***

***LET ME END WITH THIS QUOTE - WHICH I LOVE - FROM RICHARD OF ST. VICTOR WHO DIED IN PARIS IN 1173....***

***I'M SURE THAT YOU ARE ALL ACQUAINTED WITH HIM.....***

***HE TAUGHT THAT "FOR GOD TO BE TRUTH, GOD HAD TO BE ONE, FOR GOD TO BE LOVE, GOD HAD TO BE TWO, AND FOR GOD TO BE JOY, GOD HAD TO BE THREE"***