

THE GURU WITH A LAPTOP WORKING IN A GOLD SHOP (The 'Thing' Theory)

– B.K. David, Paignton, England.

The Guru's role is like that of a school teacher, holding a highly responsible position and worthy of praise and respect as he is the one who has studied much and renounced much in order to be what he wanted to be, to be able to give service to the community.

Yet when one looks at the way life has slowly gone downhill during the last 100 years, one really has to ask the questions: why, with so many Gurus, spiritual leaders and teachers and laws and restrictions in the world, our lifestyles are growing worse and world troubles are increasing everyday? Why has no answer or solution been put in place by these people with high positions in society to counteract the constant and endless decline in moral values and 'sincere devotion' within religion and its accurate practice? Why have the governments not stepped in, to stop the widespread increase in corruption, greed and continual degradation we see all around us?

I guess it's because the

Gurus, the teachers and the reformers in life, are caught up in the turmoil just like the rest of us and are actually powerless to act and solve such a worldly problem that affects every family and every person on the planet. As for the governments' acting and reforming, they need great wisdom and an in-depth knowledge of the root cause of all this chaos, which they do not have, and so simply, they cannot cure a problem that they do not know how it came about. These people have no cure for the illness which they are also caught up in and infected by. Can a leper cure a leper?

Today people tend to listen more to 'rock-music' than they do to their Guru or teacher. Gone are the wisdom and discipline of the past in favour of the now fashionable 'enlightenment by computer'. The drawbacks with this method are too endless to mention except to say that a computer cannot touch your heart the way a Guru does in person. Before computers there was a much greater sense of peace of mind in the minds of people.

Computers have brought great discontentment to all that use them. The price of going online is that we go offline and off course to being happy in real life.

BIKE, CAR, HEART, WALLET

Wealth and its accumulation are also now fashionable and accepted by many, even by those on spiritual paths, and in some cases, especially by those on spiritual paths. The love for God has diminished in people's eyes that can be seen more turning the pages of the financial newspapers for share increases, gold drops and alike, than on God and His wonder. Many have swapped a share of God's heart for shares on the stock market and for a barrel or two of crude oil. A good deal? I don't think so. To me, it all feels like swapping a bike for a car: you might get there quicker but your stress levels rise enormously, you become unfit, lazy, dependant, poorer, less in touch with life and yourself, less friendly, more stressed, more irritable, more angry, more out of control and further removed from a peaceful lifestyle based on nature and a calm order of events.

The end result:

Welcome to our World

It appears and feels to me that with all our technology and advancements we have made in life over recent years, we are

now moving down life's super highway at incredible speeds – but in the wrong direction. Today we move at super speed in the direction that takes us away from happiness at the same super-fast speed. The end result of all this speed: welcome to our world. The human race, with all its ground-breaking advancements is indeed, taking us backwards. Disease, poverty, unhappiness, stress, ill-health, heart attacks, diabetes, obesity and blood pressure are all on the rise. Should there be any doubt in your mind about this statement, you only have to look at the unhappiness on the face of any person in any bus or street to see how unhappy and stressful everyone has now become. So how can we ever class the human race as progressing when so many are so unhappy? I truly believe that it is far better to be poor and happy than to be rich and sad. A diamond ring will not make you smile after you have worn it rather will only increase your false social standing, ego and the severity of your headaches. Wealth actually diminishes your smile and feeling of contentment. It will never increase the amount of your happiness and laughter that actually nourish your heart and soul.

Materialism Vs. happiness: materialism will always be the winner today

The *sanyasis* with their renunciation are to be admired as materialism places very complicated and difficult handcuffs on us which for most are impossible to escape from. Materialism greatly restricts anyone who is caught up in it to the point of not really having free hands to live. They have arms but which are constantly pulled and swayed by their strings of habits, comfort ego and ignorance. Materialism will never allow you to have true happiness in your life as by its very nature, it takes you away from your inner self and tries to give you satisfaction and meaning with outer plastic, metal, rubber, technical gadgets, things that shine, glow and sparkle and which lure the customer into thinking there is joy and benefit in owning such an item. The further one is pulled and driven away from their own self, unhappier they end up. One of the greatest secrets of life hidden from man is that true and lasting happiness that resides in each and every person and is there for the taking. But you will need **three eyes and one of them must be filled with wisdom, the other with love and the third eye with dedication and**

caution. When you have these three eyes constantly with you, wide open, only then will you be able to unlock the secrets of life each day and lead a life as it should be led. Each day is a new day and you'll need to unlock this secret treasure chest of love, wisdom and dedication for yourself first and each morning start afresh, as yesterday, you might have passed many tests successfully but yesterday has gone and today is a new day.

Are you chasing the pleasures that cause you sufferings? Are your intellect and wisdom only equal to that of a kangaroo on a sunny day?

Only discontentment, unhappiness and a life devoid of peace can ever be had and found in objects through living life externally in which you forget your inner self and get caught up in a never-ending chase after your outer pleasure and gratification either through the senses or pursuing those endless 'things' to be had and acquired in life. Everyone is guilty of this game of chasing rubbish and letting go of the precious and valuable in order to play this game in which one will only catch hold of shiny barbed wire at best and at worst, a gun that will shoot one in the foot – or may be in the head.

THE 'THING' THEORY

If you do not believe in this wealth, materialism and 'thing' theory, all you need to do is, just look at all the wealth and possessions in most people's houses today and the endless comforts they have accumulated and placed around them which they have slowly amassed for themselves in their desire to live a life of luxury. Yet when you look at them and their lifestyles, they seem excessively removed from their aim as they look so stressful, worried and unhappy. No home in any country is free from worry and tension.

By understanding this important fact of life and by implementing it, you can change your attitude, thoughts and actions very quickly, and thus alter your future destiny and outlook on life, and ultimately, change your luck. So this fact of materialism is worth remembering when next time you feel yourself getting drawn and sucked into the sticky web of possessing and owning more and more comforts and pleasures.

Jump ship now in the dead of night to live a life in true and lasting sunshine

Godly wisdom alone is the only plug to this sinking ship. This Godly wisdom says 'Jump ship on to My ship as this old rusting human 'leaking bucket'

of a ship is soon to sink without trace. You'll need to let go of your materialism if you are to fit into God's Lifeboat and go to a new world with its true wonder and beauty. There is just enough room in God's Boat for His real children who are the lovers of truth. God's Lifeboat does not accommodate materialism in any shape or form, so free your mind from this if you want to jump onto the Godly ship. God likes only hands that are spiritually busy and not lazy. So if you want to ascend God's Lifeboat that is heading to the new world, you know what you have to do: let go of your material rubbish that makes you heavy and sad and hold only God's hand. You cannot hold the hand of materialism and God's hand at the same time. Many have tried this like alchemy to turn objects into gold. The result? They live with wood, metal and plastic – and a headache.

ICEBERG DEAD AHEAD

You either choose between materialism, body-consciousness, unhappiness and the sinking boat of sorrow, or God's hand, divine boat and pleasant voyage to the approaching shore of the new world. Most of us, of course, will stay with their old sinking boat out of habit thinking it safe and unsinkable; after all, it has been sailing OK for thousands of years. Yet we

all know what happens to ships we think unsinkable. People will clutch this anchor of the present boat (world) with all the power and force (vice, ignorance and bad habits) they can muster and with this tight grip of theirs; they will go down with this ship of today. I can think of many people who would NOT dream of letting go of their vices and bad habits and be prepared to give up and leave this old world in order to pursue a new world and enlightened way of life; such are their blinkers of ignorance that do not allow them to see beyond their TV, bank or mirror.

In whose boat do you have faith and consequently book your seat? What is given as the final destination in your ticket?

It's the mirror, body-consciousness, selfishness and greed that are keeping souls away from seeing God's moored Lifeboat and the state of the ship they are aboard. For the masses, God's Lifeboat will remain invisible and will only be seen when it is too late and has set sail for the new world. Yet this is the way it has to be; with only a certain amount of room and seats available on God's boat; not everyone is going to open his or her eyes to God's creation, possibilities and realities of living in a new world with endless splendour, love and happiness.