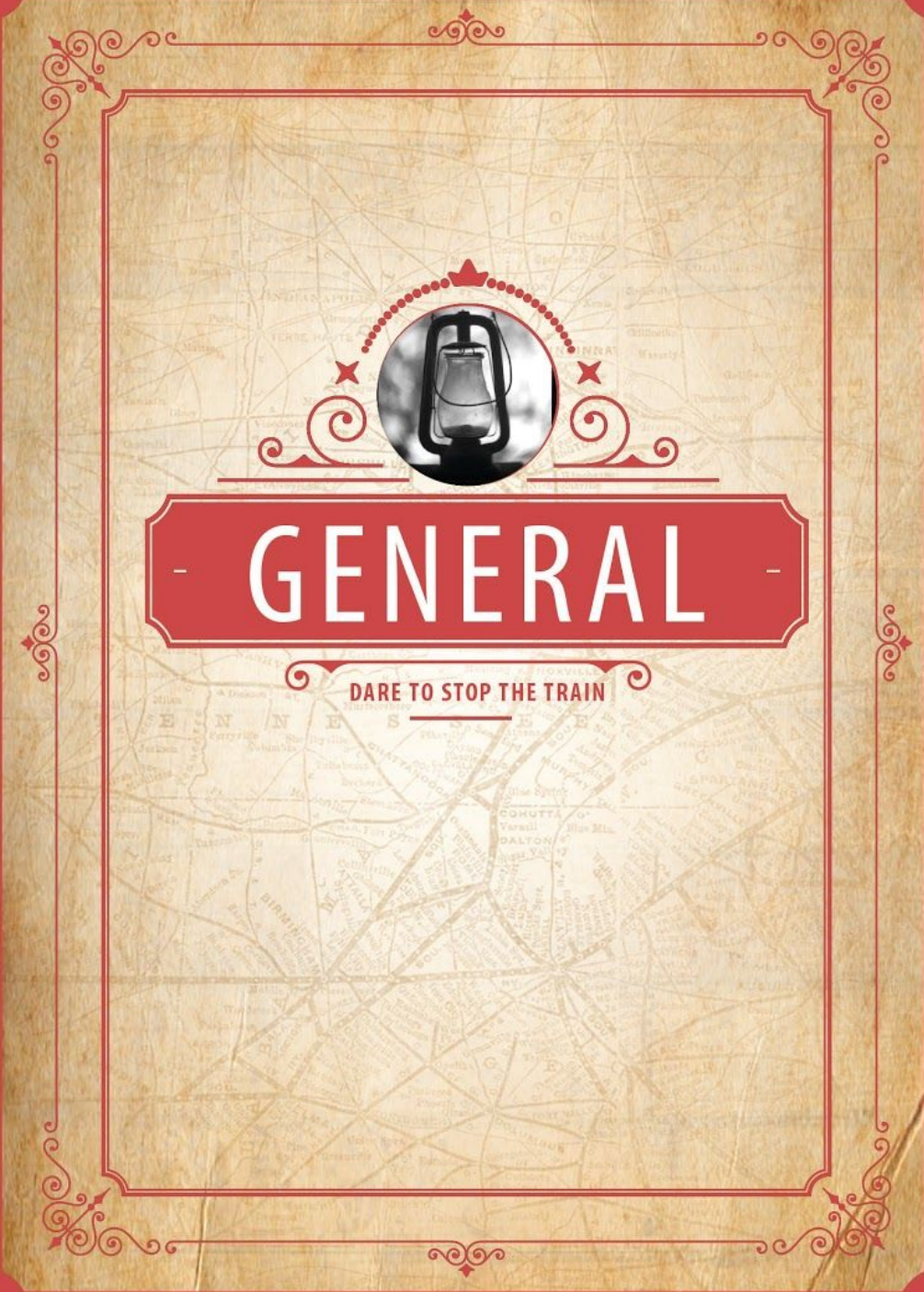




# - GENERAL -

DARE TO STOP THE TRAIN



# DARE to STOP THE TRAIN

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# A PARABLE

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 06/05/12

Once upon a time there was a very famous orchestra. This orchestra had a conductor that believed very strongly in Italian opera. Over time the individuals playing in the orchestra began to learn about Italian opera and loved it too.

There were, to be sure, some individuals in the orchestra who preferred the old kind of music --- the kind they had always played, so they moved to other orchestras where they could stay with the music they were accustomed to.

As the orchestra perfected Italian opera, the conductor found that he loved the opera so much it became important to teach others about Italian opera. He began to look for ways to spread the word. In order to do so, however, he needed to replace himself with another conductor. He looked far and wide across the land and finally identified another conductor who seemed just right.

The new conductor arrived with great expectations of this orchestra from which he had heard much and the orchestra was, likewise, pleased to have him because he had some new technical innovations that could take the renditions of these age-old dramatic operas and make them into something more that any one ever had heard before. So the new relationship began. But, much to the dismay of all concerned, it became evident that the new conductor truly loved German marches --- not Italian opera. In time, the conductor began to change the repertoire from Italian operas to German marches.

Now this parable produces several questions. For the individual musicians, there were questions of contribution to the new German marches. Were they appropriately talented for contribution? The leaders of the percussion section, violin section, etc., had questions not only about the music but also about supervision. The new conductor responded with, **“You vill do as I vish.”**

Likewise, the conductor had questioned himself. Orchestra life did not turn out to be exactly as he had personally expected. He had different leadership requirements now than he had ever had before. Lastly, the Board of Directors of the orchestra itself had questions to ask: “Is Italian opera or German marches more appropriate for our city?”

The questions grew from personal to general. That meant the resolution of the questions went from simple to complex and the timing went from short term to long term. But at some point all individuals and issues must come to equilibrium --- the musicians, the section leaders, the conductor and the Board of Directors.

Certainly this is a description of not only this particular orchestra, but also a description of our lives in totality, for the ground rules are ever changing.

# ACADEMIC BOUNDARIES

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 09/11/14

Freedom, to survive, must have boundaries.

- The Entrepreneur may spend freely, but without boundaries he will fail.
- The Extreme Sportsman may exhilarate us, but without boundaries he will die.
- So too, the Academic must have boundaries or he will succumb to the powerful.

To exercise freedom, academic or other, the Academic should define the boundaries, operate within them safely and then expand the boundaries...for more freedom.

When those threatened by the Academic understand the boundaries, they relax and allow subsequent additional freedom for the Academic.

# ACADEMIC CORRUPTION (JOURNALISM)

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 06/07/13

Academic freedom is that healthy tension inside the University between new knowledge and old knowledge. When new knowledge is discovered and tested against old knowledge that healthy tension creates an environment where the new knowledge must be proven without a doubt from the old knowledge inside the University.

New knowledge can be tainted by power or politics. If not thoroughly vetted then the University becomes suspect and loses its standing. We live in a day in which politics has invaded the University through the doorway of academic freedom, particularly in the area of journalism. Corrupt journalism denies the vitality of academic freedom and the university itself. Journalism is that body of thought that looks in-depth at issues from all sides, without ideological opinion, to provide the veracity of new ideas or thoughts.

Journalism in its purest form gives our political system safety, but in its corrupt form can destroy a nation. Since it has become obvious that the wonderful discipline of journalism has become corrupted and universities have become corrupted with politics then the country is in need of a new mechanism to develop journalists who have integrity and are not corrupted by politics.

Potentially this could be acquired by stand alone Schools of Journalism in which the old standards are applied to the new journalists and the new journalists become well known because of the excellence of the Schools of Journalism not associated with the University.

# AMERICA, A SPECIAL PLACE

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 10/31/14

America is a developing Administrative state and  
it prefers to remain oblivious to the stealth of decay.

America, home to risk takers.

Risk that promised hope and possibility,  
rather than a defined end point.

Risk that called on the latent possibility of our forebearers.

Brilliant thinkers who came to America  
to join the risk takers and deepen the gene pool.

All mixed with morality, character and sweat.

Only God could orchestrate such a demonstration of His creation.

Now, it is my turn and I hardly seem endowed.

But, an honor it is and I am indebted to my ancestry  
to fully comply and contribute to this beautiful land.

# ATTACK

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 05/31/12

Understanding, compromise and reason  
are valiant weapons in fighting the  
tyrants of greed, fear and general misery.

But, sometimes the best weapon of all  
is to let out a roar and attack!



# BELIEF

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 07/25/13

Belief is non-negotiable.

Statists Believe in the power of the state.

Capitalists Believe in the power of the Individual.

Statists would die for their Belief as would Capitalists.

The Nations of history support the Statists  
Belief with the ensuing extermination of millions.

Capitalists have only the support of  
one young country providing freedom and liberty for millions.

# BEWARE

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 02/05/13

Many (most) people will tell you  
what they think you want to hear.

The Test:

People who don't want to do as they say  
will never find a way,  
regardless of the opportunities provided.

Those who want to do as they say  
will find a way regardless of the obstacles.

Beware!

# BRILLIANCE

By: Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 10/25/16

We can exhibit Brilliance  
by possessing a wonderful intellectual capacity,

or by speaking only when conversations  
pass through our special competencies.

But, when conversation travels through areas of our relative ignorance  
exhibiting “teachability” is the ultimate in Brilliance.

# “BUT HE DID IT TO ME FIRST”

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 06/01/12

Deep in thought as I was driving to an appointment, I was suddenly jerked back into reality when an elderly man and his wife darted from a side street into the fast lane (my lane) going very slowly.

I tapped my horn as I sped around him to punctuate his idiocy and to “even the score”, while thinking of a Florida bumper sticker --- “When I get old, I’m going to move up North and drive slow, too!” Case closed, so I thought.

About five minutes later, while my lane was stopped at a traffic light, guess who rolls by in his lane, scowls at me and taps his horn? Well, you might laugh, but not me -- and for the next thirty minutes my family dealt with my rage and the embarrassment of my rage.

What’s your world like? Do people put themselves in front of you without asking? Is the place where you live full of people saying, “me first”? Do you fight for “your right” or do you silently walk away with a crummy feeling?

There is a sense of justice in all of us and when a world of selfish people invades our private space, discomfort appears. Do we have only two choices of response, fight back or slink away? It seems to me that the greatest insult of all is the insult we inflict upon ourselves. When we allow the “wrong” to become a part of our thinking process and to work on getting even, all of a sudden we are a part of the problem, not the solution. So yes, there is a third choice, the choice to not think about getting even.

Oh, I know there are occasions when certain issues must be faced (mostly with people we know), but really now, have you thought recently about your own specialness, your ability to give happiness to others? Why should you let someone you don’t know control you for even one minute?

Choose to breathe the fresh air that exists high above the world of “getting even”.

# CARING COMMUNITY

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 09/11/14

Rugged Individualists (men and women of multiple abilities)

Brilliant Generalists (idolized presently and historically)

...both necessary for conquering a new land.

But, the ever present companions of Rugged Individualists and Brilliant Generalists are loneliness and  
advancing isolation.

Isolation of place and soul. We need to look for a different kind of hero.

Caring Connectors (men and women of special abilities)

Brilliant Specialists (idolized by visionaries)

...both necessary for holding the land.

Caring Connectors must still conquer...not the land, but the promiscuous bedfellows of loneliness and  
isolation...fear, rage and depression.

The land is held only when I reach out for your special gift  
and another and another...until isolation becomes community.

It is with a sense of urgency that we must become a Caring Community.

# CONTEMPLATORS

By Jerry McIntosh  
Rev: 07/11/13

Institutions of higher learning  
allow for an accumulation of Contemplators.

There are also a few Visionaries  
which I define as  
“Dreamers with legs”.

Without Visionaries  
the milieu for the Contemplators  
will slowly erode.

# CONTROL

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 07/01/13

Control is one of the least understood issues known.

Everyone seeks control of  
themselves, others, their environment.

Ironically, those trying the most  
seem to have the least control,  
while those trying the least  
seem to have the most control.

Could it be then, that  
by helping others gain control in the present,  
we give ourselves control in the future?

# CREATIVITY

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 06/01/12

People see creativity in many ways.  
Most people see creativity as being an artistic endeavor  
like painting, music or drama.  
But, creativity can also be present in other areas of life.

We can creatively manage,  
we can creatively care for people in a hospital,  
or we can be creative survivors.  
This might be, as a matter of fact,  
one of the elements of a transcender,  
a person who has a positive life against all odds.



# DAMAGED PERCEPTIONS

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 06/08/13

Children who see unhealthy or incomplete actions can then develop misperceptions regarding these actions (i.e. being hurt/harmed and receiving no effective apology, being “disciplined” without an explanation). These misperceptions can produce unnecessary fear and worry. From childhood on into adulthood we can retain these inaccurate perceptions and subsequently could evaluate other people’s actions against these distortions of truth.

Damaged perceptions can cause the mind, emotions and/or heart of an individual to be in conflict with a world that operates without regard to that individual’s perceptions. Misperceptions may also result in a sensing of rejection, causing a “fight or flight” syndrome. With damaged perceptions we often think that personal progress must come at the expense of other individuals. An attempt at dealing with personal pain may be treated inappropriately by excessive eating, overindulgent drinking, reckless gambling, sexual promiscuity, etc.

How do we recognize misperceptions? How can we attempt to define truth when our view of reality begins with misperceptions and is constantly changing as we interact with the world? How are “rules” defined that are permanent in truth and reality?

Permit these suggestions:

1. Search out definable and immutable “laws” that have stood the test of time ... the Bible and inspirational literature.
2. Search out individuals who have spent time inspecting their lives and seem to be at peace ... people of wisdom.
3. Question uncomfortable issues in our lives, and measure that discomfort against the immutable laws and the people of wisdom.

# DISCIPLINE

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 06/03/12

I propose a new definition of the word discipline:  
an orderly progression toward achievement.

Where:

Orderly suggests a well thought plan,  
Progression demands action and  
Achievement excites ongoing character development  
(rather than seeking end goals).

What discipline should not contemplate is:

Punishment of misdeeds

(in fact, punishment is quite possibly the reverse of discipline.  
The less the discipline, the greater the punishment.)

Compulsive action resulting in mindless repetition.

The psychological illness that says one task must be performed  
before or after another and so on and so on.

Discipline is an avenue to exciting possibilities for every single person.

# DISHONESTY

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 06/01/12

We have no difficulty defining dishonesty  
as taking something from another  
without their permission.

However, there seems to be gradations of honesty  
in the minds of some.

For instance, is taking something, with permission,  
for a specific purpose and then using it  
for a different purpose dishonest?

Is not borrowing with a promised (but unmet) payback,  
considered dishonest?

Dishonesty of any grade  
creates a dissonance of character,  
a battle of values putting our internal sense  
of right and wrong in suspension.

Low level, undefined anxiety emerges.  
An ever-present discomfort, which may be eliminated  
by a single antidote --- Honesty.

# “DO IT QUICK” vs. “DO IT RIGHT”

By Jerry McIntosh  
Rev: 06/01/13

The **minimum** difference in effort between  
“Do it Quick” versus “Do it Right”  
creates a **maximum** difference in results.

# DO YOU FEEL SUCCESSFUL?

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 10/30/14

Success. How elusive. Is it only in the hands of others? Tell me about you. Do you feel successful? If you are like many others, the answer is “no”. In an age where we all set goals, small or large, have you ever wondered why so few “feel successful”? I have.

Would you accept the premise that almost no one has a clear view of what success is for him or her? Allow me to suggest that when we were kids our parents were busy suggesting a future for us, possibly a future they wished was theirs or which would have made them feel successful. Our neighborhoods made subtle suggestions about education; should we complete high school or go to college? Our churches defined success in eternal versus temporal terms. Our friends declared success to be material and helped us expand our lines of credit for the quick appearance of success. Even our business associates described success in terms that would tie us to the development of processes outside of ourselves.

Is it any wonder that we struggle, climb, crawl, fight, neglect our families and sacrifice our health to find this thing called “success”, only to feel empty, frustrated and tired? Isn't it interesting that the last person we would think to ask about success is ourselves? Maybe we should start by defining a standard of success in a way that is very personal, very special; a standard that only applies to you.

We could begin formulating our own standard of success by casting serious doubt on our present blurry view of success followed by imagining what we might be if money, time or circumstances were not a problem. Go ahead. Get wild. Envision what would be exciting for you! Next, do you have a trusted friend or two who would be willing to tell you what they think is special or unique about you? Would you be willing to invest a few dollars in tests to further validate your developing view of your own personal uniqueness? Remember, keep dreaming!

Last, and maybe most important of all, we have all been endowed with a special blend of talents and gifts that make each one of us capable of being successful in a way that no one else could ever be. If we will take the time to be quiet and thoughtful, we can be led to a level of success that not only fills and exhilarates us, but is successful beyond our wildest dreams.

Why shouldn't we feel successful early, often and continually? Hurry to find your own special unique standard of success and limitless potential. This world needs you to be successful now!

# ESCAPISM

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 03/01/11

If one contemplates the enormous urge of the American populous towards escapism; that is, men watching sporting events, women watching soaps, men and women either going to movies or renting videos in almost epidemic proportions, a dual question impacts one's thinking:

WHY ARE WE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING  
THAT ONLY RESEMBLES REALITY?

WHY ARE WE ESCAPING?

Further, if one were to understand the presence of this ESCAPIST MENTALITY as it is brought to the workplace, it would stand to reason that one would naturally avoid workplace confrontation, conflict resolution and, therefore, forego the relief resulting from resolution.

If the workplace could become a laboratory in which training for real life problem solving was available, would it not be possible to learn new skills and then transport these new skills from the workplace laboratory to the home and defeat escapism!

# FIRST YOU SEE IT --- THEN YOU DON'T

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 06/09/13

Have you ever considered how the imperceptible  
seems to manage the perceptible?

A germ strain causes sickness across the land,  
the wind comes from the left and goes to the right,  
leaving trees down and houses flattened.

Heat leaves the land scorched  
and cold freezes.

Is it not possible, then that the perceptible can  
manage the imperceptible?

A mother holds a child close to her breast  
through sickness and sorrow and  
the child grows to perform great deeds of heroism.

A teacher encourages a bright young mind  
that fashions poetry or produces grand music.

A friend is "just there" facilitating the repair of a broken marriage  
and the family is healed.

A community activist refuses to accept man's inhumanity  
and a community gains pride.

We strive to control the imperceptible  
when, in fact, we can only manage the perceptible.

One certainly leads to emptiness, frustration and a sense of the incomplete,  
while the other leads to fullness, value and the sense  
that we have "fought the good fight".

# FREEDOM

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 06/08/13

Do you remember Exhilaration  
the first time you rode a bicycle or a scooter or drove a car?

Do you remember Excitement  
with the first decision about education, direction, a job or marriage?

What is this Exhilaration/Excitement?

It is the sudden knowledge of physical or mental freedom.

To choose not to learn to ride a bicycle, a scooter or drive a car  
or not to make decisions regarding life issues  
is to leave one in the darkness of Bondage.



# HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHY ...

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 02/01/10

You can be sleepless all night,  
but when the alarm rings,  
you fall dead asleep?

When you are late to the airport,  
your flight is leaving from  
the most distant gate?

# INEQUALITY

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 07/20/12

We often think of Inequality in the generic –  
of ethnicity, region, gender, education, opportunity.

But, should we not think more deeply –  
Inequality of emotional stability, financial resources, available resources?

# INTENT

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 07/26/13

There are some who do not Intend to perform  
and no number of opportunities will convince them to perform.

There are also some who Intend to perform  
and no number of obstacles will deter them.

-----

He who does not as he says, soon will say not what he has done,  
for honesty and integrity are intricately bridged by Intentions.

# LIBERALS VS. CONSERVATIVES – MUST WE FIGHT?

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 10/30/14

It is said that Liberals want bigger government, more control of corporations and individuals. However, liberals have kind hearts and mean well.

It is also said that Conservatives want smaller government, more individual and corporate control and are mean spirited.

It is also true that Liberals, Conservatives and the main stream media are consolidating into a cadre of elites to the exclusion of the majority of Americans.

We are losing the ability to be a part of a Representative Republic with a huge increase of unnecessary suffering of the population.

Americans, in general, ignore this national demise by being sedated with movies, television and sports.

With the separation of the elites from common Americans being so bitter, is it possible to salvage our nation?

I think so.

If both political parties could focus on our serious issues, one at a time, and bring both our philosophies and skills to address the issues rather than our ideologies, listen to those in pain and create solutions and assemble support teams to assist those in pain, much positive change could be accomplished.

For example, our inner cities are painful places to live, despite billions of dollars being “invested”.

If the Liberal access to taxpayer money could be combined with the Conservatives gifts of their own money and expertise, than plans for individuals to climb out of poverty and no longer need governmental help would allow these individuals to become contributors to society.

The beta tests of these ideas are already in place and working while our political elites continue to contend for personal power.

All humans come to conclusions which then morph into belief systems. Once we become captured by a belief system we no longer accept new information that does not conform to our belief systems.

**LIBERALS VS. CONSERVATIVES- MUST WE FIGHT? (continued)**

## LIBERALS VS. CONSERVATIVES- MUST WE FIGHT? (continued)

Examples would be our system of Christian churches. All Christian churches started from a single point and bifurcated as new knowledge appeared. Some stayed with the old and others moved to the new regardless of the size of the change.

An opposite example would be politics. Those who align themselves to a particular philosophy, be it liberal, conservative, libertarian or other stay with that ideology regardless of new information that is contrary to the prior line of thinking.

Is there a solution to this kind of thinking?

I think so.

We need to focus on problem solving using the understandings of all groups rather than focusing on rigid adherence to ideology. We could then, again, become the problem solving America of old.

# PERFUME

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 04/27/10

Beware of “Conversational Perfume” ...

for as the nostrils concentrate on a  
subversively “delightful smell” ...

so also, the ears concentrate on  
the deception of “beautiful words”.

# PHILOSOPHICAL vs. SCIENTIFIC THOUGHT

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 04/04/11

In attempting to understand philosophical thought in contrast to scientific thought, it is important to follow philosophical thought as it unfolds in our mind/heart rather than reading the opinions of philosophical thought leaders. Philosophical thought is built upon an individual's changeable values, opinions and social conditions.

However, when understanding scientific thought it is important to build upon the foundation of scientific experimentation. Science ultimately builds upon the immovable laws of the universe.

Therefore, philosophical thought will experience constant flux while scientific thought will move evermore consonant with truth.

# PLEASE SHOW US THE WAY

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 02/14/10

They say America is the Land of the Brave,  
but we address fundamental problems  
with the weakness of cowards.

They say America is the Land of the Free,  
but we are increasingly bound  
by regulation and fear.

We live in a Land of Plenty,  
but many of our citizens  
feel hunger and rage.

We possess Valleys of Peace and Mountains of Grandeur,  
but we pollute our waters  
and foul our air.

This is the Land of Opportunity for all,  
but most cast away their vote with a shrug.

What can we do?  
To whom must we look?

Each day across this mighty land  
black, white, brown and yellow people  
raise their hands and Pledge Allegiance  
to the United States of America.

With tears coursing their faces  
they promise to be brave  
and rejoice to be free.

They purpose to give rather than take,  
to enjoy rather than pollute.  
But most of all they embrace the opportunity  
to teach us, the native born, the joy and the  
the splendor of our wonderful country.

PLEASE SHOW US THE WAY (continued)



**PLEASE SHOW US THE WAY (continued)**

They show us how to feed our hungry,  
how to care for our children,  
how to clean our waters, how to purify our air.

Thank you, brave immigrants, for demanding  
that we reclaim our precious jewel,  
our country, our heritage.

# PONDERER OR ACTOR

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 07/21/12

The Ponderer is quiet, thoughtful, sober and deep...  
a great friend to Clarity, if prompt action is unnecessary.

The Actor translates process into Action...  
a prompt friend to Completion, if depth of thought is unrequired.

Great change is possible when the Ponderer and Actor walk side by side.

# PRESUMPTION

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 10/31/14

Each should consider the proclivity of the human mind  
to assign motives to the actions of other humans...  
motives unknown, only assumed.

With speed, we conclude these motives  
as if derived from the action, rather than the reverse,  
and instantly declare others good or evil,  
to be embraced or rejected.

Do we not destroy the very essence  
of possibility, of growth, of joy in others  
by not understanding our own blindness, our own biases?

Should we not encourage personal experimentation  
as the primordia of new growth, new vision, new stature?

I plead for curiosity, nurture and encouragement of others.  
For human interaction, acceptance and support  
is the milieu of richness, depth and invigoration  
of society's mosaic.

# PROGRESS

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 09/11/14

I once had a business which required me to work in customer's yards during the summer until dark.

It was impressive to observe the family and neighbor interactions when providing my service to the moderately priced homes. The neighbors sat in inexpensive lawn chairs in their front yards - watching the children play, sipping tea and talking about how nice it would be to live in bigger, nicer homes. The husbands played with the children.

When my work took me to the bigger, nicer homes, there were very few children in the streets. The lawn chairs were much nicer and in the backyard around the patio or pool. The wives were talking over the fences about how nice it would be to live in really big, nice homes. The husbands were not home from work yet.

When my work took me to the very big, expensive homes, where wonderful toys were everywhere, there were almost no children to be found outside. The children were inside their homes where the air conditioning kept the temperature just right. The husbands were on extended business trips.

One day as I was finishing the yard work at one of these very big, expensive homes, the young mother of three asked to speak with me for just a moment. She began by saying, "The Lord has been good and has blessed our family with many things, including our wonderful, nice, big home, but I really miss the times when we used to sit in those old lawn chairs in the front yard, watch the children play, sip tea and talk about ..."

# SILENCE

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 06/05/12

Silence is more than the mere absence of sound,  
even as a leafless tree in the winter is not dead.

There is gathering life possessed by Silence,  
poised to burst onto the spring landscape of newness.

It is perplexing that while some  
luxuriate in the healing of Silence,  
others recoil from the noise of it.

# SOMETHING'S MISSING

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 06/26/13

Springtime in the desert is extraordinary. Splotches of gold, white, orange, blue, red and green seem to erupt with energy and brilliance ... the quiet excitement of a new start.

Children are fascinating to watch as the little ones coordinate their newfound motor skills in concert with an ever-beckoning new world. Teenagers are inspirational as they grapple with moral and ethical issues, somehow trying to fit the world they were taught with the world they see.

However, sometimes living things prematurely cease to grow. We look with curiosity at the Bonsai Tree. We agonize about "little people". Was it genetic or not? When tragedy strikes a child at a particularly vulnerable age, some children continue physical growth but forever see life from a child's eyes. Churches that possess a beautiful architecture, a wonderful pastor and an active congregation demonstrate, with God's direction, spectacular growth and then suddenly top out. Businesses explode with the fervent heat of new ideas, only to fade like a dying ember on a cold winter night.

Why? What has or has not happened? Surely something is missing. Is it the same "something"? If we are observant, could we identify critical elements of life that could restart or continue this life that we love?

The mind is a wonderful organ. The mind has been known to turn "on" or "off" hormones needed for action. The minds of scientists have synthesized growth hormones for those individuals who have ceased to grow. Every parent who has experienced the joy of renewed physical growth of their child will shout their thanks to the minds of the scientists who perfected the use of growth hormones. Tears spill down the cheeks of a graduating mother who went back to school telling of old and new dreams finally completed.

The mind can accept or reject insults...physical or emotional, real or imagined. It can turn pain into growth or death; it is ingenious and can find hidden solutions or forget terrible wrongs. The mind can produce dreams and visions of the future that supply the primordia of new ideas, new thoughts, new possibilities.

Churches that somehow re-found the fatherless and widows suddenly forget about gossip and looked forward to having double services. Energy and excitement mark the halls of a business reinvigorated with new dreams, new niches and fresh approaches.

Again, I ask "Why?" What has happened? What was found? Has your growth stopped? Have you endured an insult, real or imagined? When life is truly unfair and someone or something has clearly wronged you, does your mind become the warm fertile soil of a new beginning or the essence of a desert? With the water of wisdom, even the parched desert will produce unimaginable beauty.

# THE FOURTH DIMENSION

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 01/31/15

The period of "Reverie" -  
when one goes to sleep and again when one awakens  
has been referred to as "The Fourth Dimension".

The brain accommodates - in that the Left Brain  
(the rule maker, right and wrong, etc.)  
gains assistance from the Right Brain  
(where there are no rules, only possibilities).  
In other words, problems presented to the brain when going to sleep  
are often solved during sleep and then presented when awakening.

The solution must be written down quickly before the  
Left Brain closes access to the Right Brain.

# THE RIGHT THING

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 01/11/13

There are occasions in life  
when we must choose between  
the Right thing and the Fun thing,  
when neither would be seen  
as the Wrong thing.

Irony suggests that if life is to be Fun,  
we must choose the Right thing  
rather than the Fun thing.



# THE RIVER

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 06/05/12

The River speaks not when the water is still.

... so it is with mankind.

In order to ebb, flow, splash, sparkle,  
roar, whisper, ripple, cascade, race or dance,  
we must move.

# VIOLENCE

By Jerry McIntosh

Rev: 06/21/13

Violence is born out of weakness of spirit.

The strong will confront emotionally and intellectually  
and alone, if necessary.

The weak generate rage while gathering in numbers.

The strong will confront issues singly or in orderly groups:  
firmly, resolutely exercising no violence and leaving no trash.

The weak will demonstrate violently and  
leave trash and destruction behind.

If violence is born out of weakness of spirit,  
how do the strong strengthen the weak?