• Towards a unified understanding of philosophy, science, religion, and the arts •

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All things arise and cease due to interdependent causes and conditions

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The Ageless Prayer

by
Bing Escudero
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Summa Sophia 1175 Harrington Place NE #212 Renton WA 98056 U.S.A. Phone (425) 227-6979

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Summa Sophia: Questions for further study and for group discussion What do you think? What does it mean? What ought to be done?

The Ageless Prayer

By Bing Escudero @ 2003 v1.1

The Our Father otherwise known as The Lord's Prayer* is widely known and accepted in the Christian world. It has given a feeling of

security and solace to those in stress and distress.

This version of *The Ageless Prayer* (See box) appears very much like a modern adaptation of the *Our Father*, as both touch upon the same ageless truths. For those who may find themselves ready for the deeper significance of these ageless truths, this *Ageless Prayer* expands into the higher aspects of spirituality.

(From hereon, words in italics are from The Ageless Prayer)

The Ageless Prayer begins with Eternal Parent, and refers to that Ultimate Reality, the Supreme Singularity or Universal Unipole, the source of all polarities that emanate trinities and multiplicities in the universe. Thus polarities and gender implications as implied in the Lord's Prayer are also transcended and resolved.

The whole reality although ineffable, dwells within us, awaiting to come into our realization through *Enlightenment*. In this higher state of consciousness, one perceives how the reality of the *Will permeates*

the earth, the ordering inner drive expressed in nature as-

• valency in the mineral kingdom

tropisms of the plant kingdominstinct of the animal kingdom

self-consciousness at the human level, and
universal consciousness at spiritual levels.

The same universal Will also sustains the universe, being the creative

energy that gives life to all or the manifest order.

As humans, from the *Eternal Parent* as the supreme source of existence, we are provided with the *bread of consciousness in all our days*. In the Lord's Prayer, the words, *our daily bread*, is commonly taken literally as the daily food that we need for survival. In a much deeper sense, any survival implies the continuance of consciousness. In fact, we can have all the food we need, but without having any consciousness, we really are not alive at all.

* The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.

Amen. —Holy Bible, Matt. 6: 9-13

The Ageless Prayer

Eternal Parent that is in all, Your whole reality is ineffable. Yet comes Enlightenment. Your Will permeates the earth Even as it sustains the universe. You provide us with the bread Of consciousness in all our days. And you forgive us our delusions As we forgive those who delude us. You free us from our attachments As you uplift us, from ignorance into The Wisdom of your Light and Power, in silence and meditation. In the testament of enlightened faith, trustworthiness and truth. Since ageless time throughout the ages.

> However, the moment we have human consciousness, we become subject to *delusions*, as well from others who delude us. When the unity of all life is not understood, delusions arise. We feel separate from one another. In such delusions humans harm and stress each other.

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> In our unity with each other, every person's pain and sorrow are also our own. Likewise, when others are happy, our own happiness increases. No one can be truly happy unless all are happy. The happier others are, so are we in our altogetherness.

Whatever we do requiring forgiveness is done out of *delusions*. We either *delude* ourselves or *delude* others, intentionally or unintentionally. In these cases, forgiveness becomes possible when

we are able to sort out our own delusions.

Forgiveness becomes difficult when we think more of ourselves without considering the weaknesses, limitations and conditions that overcome people. We all are subject to the same imperfections. Thus will we find the sympathy that makes forgiveness possible. As we have forgiven, so do we deserve forgiveness. In resolving our delusions, the call for forgiveness is answered.

We begin to see how delusions bring about our attachments to material things over spiritual realities. Attachments arise out or our conditionings, desires, and sensations that we experience.

compromising our self-control.

Every prayer is an aspiration for upliftment, and, the highest upliftment is from ignorance into the Wisdom of Light and Power from our Eternal Parent. How? None other than by entering in silence and meditation . . . a state of consciousness in oneness with that reality of the Eternal Parent in all its ineffable qualities.

In the Lord's Prayer, temptations (provocations) lead us to evil. But in our human conflicts, evil is usually attributed to something

we detest or oppose. When exacerbated, wars arise.

The question of good and evil has been rationalized from sententious beliefs to sophisticated ethical elaborations in philosophy and religion. Suffice it to say, evil is anything that causes pain and suffering, and, good is that which brings comfort

and happiness.

On the whole, this Ageless Prayer draws our aspiration towards Wisdom, Light, and Power, the highest good. This Wisdom includes the reality of the spiritual virtues and ideals that guide our decision-making. This Light is the Enlightenment of our universal understanding. This Power is that inner strength that brings us to the realization of truth.

As we persevere in silence and meditation, enlightened faith is awakened, our trustworthiness is in accord with the truth of the eternal virtues and ideals, the redeeming qualities of our original spiritual nature, ever since ageless time throughout the ages.