

Article 418: Good and Evil Revisited.

Do you remember the story of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden? ...in which “God commanded the man [Adam], saying, ‘Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it, for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die’.

“Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made, and he said unto the woman [Eve], ‘Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?’ And the woman said unto the serpent, ‘We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden, but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden,’ God hath said, ‘Ye shall not eat it, neither shall ye touch it, lest you die.’

“And the serpent said unto the woman, ‘Ye shall not surely die, for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and you shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.’

“And when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, and that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make *one* wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband [Adam] with her, and he did eat.

“And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

“And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.”

Well, of course God found Adam and Eve, and “the Lord God said, ‘Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil, and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever; therefore the Lord God sent [them] forth from the Garden of Eden, to till the ground from where he was taken.

“So he drove out the man [and woman], and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.”

Of course, you knew all of this, ...didn't you? ...but did you ever ask, “If God didn't want mankind to eat the fruits from the tree of good and evil, why did he create such a tree of knowledge? ...and how does *knowing* good and evil possibly make you *one of the Gods*?”

The *fruits of good and evil* are judgments, which Adam and Eve were living when they judged their actions ...and their nakedness. Is there a difference between living by the *judgments* of good and evil ...and using the *knowing* of good and evil to live as a God? Can you live in a world of good and evil and not judge? Can you be *in* the world of good and evil ...and not be *of*

the world of good and evil? Does the knowledge of good and evil always lead to judgments? Is it possible to live by good and evil and not judge? ...if so, how? ...and do not distort *not judge* into *not being judgmental* so you can continue judging ...and deny you are judging.

Adam and Eve were privilegedbeings in the Garden of Eden who were empowered to choose how they will be alive ...and always and only live that choice, ...unfortunately, following the pattern of language to *become* seemingly as Gods, they chose to be alive and empowered through judgments ...which destroyed their living in *heaven on earth*. To help keep you from making the same mistake ...so you can live in a languaged world of good and evil without succumbing to judgments, it is necessary to use your *knowledge of good and evil* to benefit you ...not to trap you in judgments.

If you are interested in renewing or expanding your knowledge of seemingly contradictory aspects of yourself and life, such as good and evil, without judging, re-read Articles 167-175.

Waiting for you to read the Articles.

You ignored our request to re-read Articles 167-175, ...didn't you? ...you are more like Adam and Eve than you believe, so now we must dig you out of your judgments ...so you can live the *knowledge of good and evil* without succumbing to the fruits of judgment.

Let's assume that as a privilegedbeing you have chosen you will be alive as an *intimate being* ...and always and only be and live as an intimate being, ...do you see that determining what *for you* is intimate and what is not ...and what you will do or not do to live intimately will keep you in judgments, the fruits of good/evil at every moment? ...but there is an alternative.

Let's assume that, for you, knowing good and evil intimately is *good* ...only because that is how, as a privilegedbeing, you have chosen you will be alive, ...and everything other than that is something else, ...do you understand this? (if not, maybe you should consider re-reading Articles 167-175). You are not living by the fruits of good/evil or the judgments of good/bad, you have declared how you will be alive ...which guides you at every moment in every situation throughout life. How?

Live! Choose what, following your choice of how you will be alive, seems self-evident for you to "do", but before acting or reacting ask yourself whether there is an issue of *bad or evil* in what you are trying to overcome or responding to, because if there is, you are not living self-evidently as you declare you will be alive, such that only problems and difficulties will result. Do you see in this that you are not choosing *what to do*, as in judging, you are, through the knowledge of good and evil, made aware of when you are not living as an intimate being as you have declared? ...and do you see that instead of living by judgments, which create disappointment and unhappiness

...and illness and lack of wellbeing, you are able to always be and live as you have declared? ...and if you are true to your choice, the world around you will follow your guidance and be for you as you direct, ...such that you are showing the world what it can be. Of course, this all beings with you, as a privilegedbeing, declaring how you will be alive!

Let's take our illustration of declaring how you will be alive as an intimate being ...and always and only living that one step further. Intimacy is truly knowing others, events, actions, and matters in life as they truly are ...not as you or others judge them to be, ...in living as an intimate being as we have described, everything in life is intimately revealed to you, ...and judgments only cloud and distort matters ...and everything in the universe.

Do you see in this that judgments are destroyed, not by judging and living only superlatives ...but by eliminating the lesser ...of never living any less than you have declared you will be alive? In living this way, there is never a *dark time* in your life ...nor a failure, for no matter the events or circumstances, you are always living as you have chosen you will be alive ...and that is exhilarating! How do I know? ...because that is the way I live ...and I never tell you anything I am not living.

This is one way of living *the knowledge of good and evil* without destroying your self and life in the judgments of good and evil!

This sounds all right, doesn't it? ...but you're probably not sure about all of this because it seems too simple and theoretical ...and not practical, and you're certain there must be a practical reason for judgments ...right? Well then the first thing you must understand is that *all judgments are theoretical* ...and have no practical application in your life, because you only judge the consequences of actions, not the actions themselves ...and the consequences are your *assumptions*, therefore, you are always and only judging your assumptions.

All judgments are based on control and maintaining social order, ...however, living only as you have declared you will be alive ...and living only as you would be and do forever without good or evil in any form ...and have done to you forever, you are an empowered•eternal•privilegedbeing living as you truly choose and desire. You are as a God, knowing of good and evil ...not living by judgments, ...is there any greater truth of self and happiness that you would rather be and live?

What are you willing to show the universe it can be?
...and in that be yourself?