

October 29, 2005

PROPHETIC TOPIC

LOVE THE WORLD AS YOUR SELF

FORMAT

OPENING REMARKS AND INTRODUCE GUEST

**LOVE AND LIGHT, I'M REV. PHIL AND I'M YOUR HOST FOR "WORDS OF THE PROPHETS." TODAY'S SHOW IS ANOTHER IN A SERIES OF SHOWS BEING DONE WITH THE INTENT OF INTRODUCING YOU, THE LISTENING AUDIENCE, TO A SET OF SPIRITUAL TOOLS THAT COULD BE UTILIZED IN YOUR DAILY LIFE. THIS MORNING I WILL BE DISCUSSING THE ANCIENT TEXT, THE "TAO TE CHING" (THE BOOK OF THE WAY). MY MAIN SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON THE "TAO TE CHING" IS THE TRANSLATION DONE BY STEPHEN MITCHELL, HARPER COLLINS PUBLISHERS INC., NY, NY, 1988 AND THE WEBSITE [HTTP://ENCYCLOPEDIA.LABORLAWTALK.COM/TAO_TE_CHING](http://encyclopedia.laborlawtalk.com/TAO_TE_CHING). THIS MORNING'S PROPHETIC TOPIC IS "LOVE THE WORLD AS YOUR SELF". THIS LINE APPEARS IN CHAPTER 13 OF THE "TAO TE CHING". THE CHAPTER READS AS FOLLOWS:
"SUCCESS IS AS DANGEROUS AS FAILURE.
HOPE IS AS HOLLOW AS FEAR.
WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT SUCCESS IS AS DANGEROUS AS FAILURE?
WHETHER YOU GO UP THE LADDER OR DOWN IT, YOUR POSITION IS SHAKY.
WHEN YOU STAND WITH YOUR TWO FEET ON THE GROUND, YOU WILL ALWAYS KEEP YOUR BALANCE.**

WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT HOPE IS AS HOLLOW AS FEAR?

HOPE AND FEAR ARE BOTH PHANTOMS THAT ARISE FROM THINKING OF SELF.

WHEN WE DON'T SEE THE SELF AS SELF, WHAT DO WE HAVE TO FEAR?

SEE THE WORLD AS YOUR SELF.

HAVE FAITH IN THE WAY THINGS ARE.

LOVE THE WORLD AS YOUR SELF; THEN YOU CAN CARE FOR ALL THINGS."

BEFORE WE GET STARTED WITH OUR DISCUSSION LET ME REMIND YOU THAT WE WANT AND NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU. PLEASE CALL US AT 428-1382.

1. THE TAO TE CHING IS TRADITIONALLY SAID TO HAVE BEEN PENNED ABOUT 600 BC BY THE FAMOUS SAGE CALLED LAO TZU ("OLD MASTER"), WHO IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN A RECORD-KEEPER OF THE EMPEROR'S COURT OF THE CHOU DYNASTY. THE AUTHENTICITY, DATES AND AUTHORSHIP ARE STILL DEBATED. THIS SHORT, 81 CHAPTERS, AND OBSCURE BOOK IS ONE OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL ON CHINESE PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION, ESPECIALLY THROUGH TAOISM, BUT ALSO THROUGH BUDDHISM, BECAUSE THIS INDIAN RELIGION SHARED MANY TAOIST WORDS AND CONCEPTS BEFORE DEVELOPING INTO CHINESE BUDDHISM. INDEED, UPON FIRST ENCOUNTERING IT, CHINESE SCHOLARS REGARDED BUDDHISM AS MERELY A FOREIGN EQUIVALENT OF TAOISM.

2. FIRST CHAPTER

**THE TAO THAT CAN BE TOLD
IS NOT THE ETERNAL TAO.
THE NAME THAT CAN BE NAMED
IS NOT THE ETERNAL NAME.
THE UNNAMABLE IS THE ETERNALLY REAL.
NAMING IS THE ORIGIN OF ALL PARTICULAR
THINGS.**

**FREE FROM DESIRE, YOU REALIZE THE MYSTERY.
CAUGHT IN DESIRE, YOU SEE ONLY THE
MANIFESTATIONS.**

**YET MYSTERY AND MANIFESTATIONS ARISE
FROM THE SAME SOURCE.
THIS SOURCE IS CALLED DARKNESS.**

**DARKNESS WITHIN DARKNESS.
THE GATEWAY TO ALL UNDERSTANDING.**

3. TEACHINGS

1st. FORCE BEGETS FORCE.

A. CHAPTER 30

**2nd. ONE WHOSE NEEDS ARE SIMPLE WILL
FIND THEM FULFILLED.**

A. CHAPTER 8

B. CHAPTER 57

C. CHAPTER 58

3rd. WEALTH DOES NOT ENRICH THE SPIRIT.

A. CHAPTER 44

B. CHAPTER 53

**4th. SELF-ABSORPTION AND SELF-
IMPORTANCE ARE VAIN AND SELF-
DESTRUCTIVE.**

A. CHAPTER 17

B. CHAPTER 56

- 5th. VICTORY IN WAR IS NOT GLORIOUS AND NOT TO BE CELEBRATED, BUT STEMS FROM DEVASTATION, AND IS TO BE MOURNED.**
A. CHAPTER 31
- 6th. THE HARDER ONE TRIES, THE MORE RESISTANCE ONE WILL CREATE FOR ONESELF.**
A. CHAPTER 36
B. CHAPTER 38
C. CHAPTER 48
- 7th. THE MORE ONE ACTS IN HARMONY WITH THE UNIVERSE (THE MOTHER OF THE TEN THOUSAND THINGS), THE MORE ONE WILL ACHIEVE, WITH LESS EFFORT.**
A. CHAPTER 16
B. CHAPTER 49
C. CHAPTER 67
- 8th. THE TRULY WISE MAKE LITTLE OF THEIR OWN WISDOM – FOR THE MORE THEY KNOW, THE MORE THEY REALIZE HOW LITTLE THEY KNOW.**
A. CHAPTER 47
- 9th. WHEN WE LOSE THE FUNDAMENTALS, WE SUPPLANT THEM WITH INCREASINGLY INFERIOR VALUES WHICH WE PRETEND ARE THE TRUE VALUES.**
A. CHAPTER 39
- 10th. STUPIDITY LEADS TO FORCE.**
A. CHAPTER 46
- 11th. THE WISE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FOOLISH.**
A. CHAPTER 72

12th. THE HONEST ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DISHONEST.

A. CHAPTER 27

13th. GLORIFICATION OF WEALTH, POWER AND BEAUTY BEGET CRIME, ENVY AND SHAME.

A. CHAPTER 3

B. CHAPTER 19

14th. THE QUALITIES OF FLEXIBILITY AND SUPPLENESS ARE OFTEN SUPERIOR TO RIGIDITY AND STRENGTH.

A. CHAPTER 61

B. CHAPTER 69

C. CHAPTER 76

D. CHAPTER 78

15th. EVERYTHING IN ITS OWN TIME AND PLACE.

A. CHAPTER 29

16th. THE CONTRAST OF OPPOSITION — I.E. THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN MALE AND FEMALE, LIGHT AND DARK, STRONG AND WEAK, ETC. — HELPS US UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE THE UNIVERSE.

A. CHAPTER 2

B. CHAPTER 28

4. LAST CHAPTER

TRUE WORDS AREN'T ELOQUENT;

ELOQUENT WORDS AREN'T TRUE.

WISE MEN DON'T NEED TO PROVE THEIR POINT;

MEN WHO NEED TO PROVE THEIR POINT AREN'T

WISE.

THE MASTER HAS NO POSSESSIONS.

**THE MORE THE MASTER DOES FOR OTHERS,
THE HAPPIER THE MASTER IS.
THE MORE THE MASTER GIVES TO OTHERS,
THE WEALTHIER THE MASTER IS.
THE TAO NOURISHES BY NOT FORCING.
BY NOT DOMINATING, THE MASTER LEADS.**