

CHAPTER 18

Life Is For Enjoying

God: Isn't life wonderful, Peniel?

Me: It is. It has been for me ever since I found the truth.

And what did you find to be the truth?

You! You are the only truth. Not only did I find the truth, I accepted the truth just as it is. I accept You just as You are. I love You.

And I feel naturally toward you also.

Sometimes life is so great that I can hardly contain myself. I just want to grab someone and kiss them. I wish that You and I could be in more intimate contact. I wish to hold You tightly and allow You to hug me. And I know that I can do this through holding those who love me—such as my sweet wife or wonderful daughter.

And I wish to be close to you. What father does not wish these things about his beloved children? And, in time, all things will be as you wish them—so long as you maintain your present love for Me. I have big plans for you.

What shall we talk about today?

Life. Tell Me, Peniel, what do you think life's purpose is?

I have an analogy for it that is one of the workshops titles. It is: **Life Is For Enjoying!**

Very good. That is a good analogy. Why is life for enjoying?

Because You are the life that we refer to when we say life. And You wish for us to enjoy You!

Why am I enjoyable?

Because You alone are truly good. Only what is good can be really enjoyed—and You are all that is good. Everything that is good is contained within You, created by You, and sustained by You.

Why have I created, contained, and sustained what I have?

Because it was your choice. You needed no reasons to do as You chose. It was good that You did it, and so You did it. You did it out of love—out of yourself, being that You **are** love.

What benefits or results come from the creation and sustaining of what was made?

You created the universe and sustain it. It is good and it is greatly enjoyed by mankind. It serves all our needs and gives us pleasure. It is held in existence for us to use and enjoy by You out of Your love for us. There is nothing that is good for us that You would not do, therefore You have done all the good that could be done for us.

Then why is mankind and the world in such a pitiful and troubled state?

Because, like spoiled and immature children, mankind in general has wasted, abused, misused, and maltreated the wonderful gifts of love that You provided for us. You do not force us to accept the wonderful love gifts that You have for us; we are free to refuse You and Your love. It is as if we were the children of a rich and powerful king who loved us completely.

Due to man's Fall, we seldom appreciate, use wisely, or enjoy all of the bountiful tools and gifts that You have provided for us. The good and the gifts remain unused, because of our stubborn refusal to accept them from You. If we are not filled with joy and excitement and all manner of good and positive emotions, it is not because You are unable or unwilling to give them to us. Rather it is due to our obstinate refusal to accept these wonderful treasures.

Why would one of you refuse My gifts of love or tools for your improvement?

Because our nature has been corrupted—we have become base and vain. We would rather rule in hell than serve or accept charity in heaven. These false beliefs have been with man since the Fall.

Why are such false beliefs so widespread among all people in the world?

Because we refuse to accept reason when it comes to us. And we refuse to look for wisdom where we know that it is. We become complacent and believe that the state that we are in is the best state that we could be in.

Do you not realize that things could be better? Do you not understand that there are things that you want and things about your life that you would change if you had the chance?

Yes, deep down we know all this. Yet we deny the fact to our conscious mind most of the time. And in an unguarded moment when these possibilities do surface within the confines of our conscious mind, we tell ourselves that this is just the way things are—it is the will of God that it be this way, it is our lot in life to suffer, we don't deserve any better—or some other such justification.

Why do you have to justify the way your life is at these times?

Because our lives are not as we should like to have them. And since they are not, we make excuses to ourselves so that we will believe that there is nothing that can be done to change the way things are.

And why do you need to believe there is nothing that can be done to improve your situation?

Because if we allowed the possibility that something could be done to improve our life, why aren't we doing it? We should have to justify our own inactivity and refusal to learn to ourselves. Better to stick our head in the sands of I don't want to discuss this stuff than to admit that we were mistaken in our beliefs.

Why is it so important that you believe your beliefs are correct?

Because most of us do not think that it is a matter of being correct or incorrect, which is the true case. Rather, we think it is a

matter of being right or wrong. We will never, ever, admit that we are wrong, even if we really know that we are mistaken!

What then is the difference between being correct and being right?

In truth—and not as most people use the words—to be correct means to be in agreement with reality. If you have the answer “7” for the question “What is 2 X 3?” then your answer is incorrect—not wrong. If you slap an innocent child for no reason, you are **WRONG**, not incorrect. Correct and incorrect are not moral issues; they deal only with being in agreement with reality (what works). If what you believe is correct, then it will work. Correct and incorrect NEVER have to do with things of emotions or spirit (personality). Right and wrong have to do with moral or personal issues. Being right or wrong always has to do with emotional and spiritual things.

Here are some examples to illustrate the proper way that I believe these words should be used: It is correct that 2 X 3 equals 6. It is right to love your neighbor. It is incorrect to clean your car with sandpaper. It is wrong to take it out on your family because someone at work upset you. It is incorrect to believe that God is dead. It is wrong to refuse to accept God’s loving gifts for us.

Basically, if it deals only with reason or reasonableness and has little or nothing to do with emotions or morality, then it is a question of correct or incorrect. If it has to do with morality, strong emotions, or what God likes or dislikes, then it is a question of right and wrong. It is right to love. It is wrong to be proud (except for holy pride in God and what good God has done in and through us; pride in God is good—pride in self is not). It is correct to be in agreement with the natural course and laws of the universe. It is incorrect to be out of harmony with the laws and ways of the universe. What is correct will work in the world. What is incorrect will not work in the world. Neither brings God’s approval or disapproval upon you.

What is right is in agreement with the laws and desires of God. What is right will bring you well being in some form or another when it is adhered to or followed. (Such as the precept that giving your hat to someone that steals your coat, when followed because

of the love for Christ, shall make you feel extremely good inside.) What is wrong is only that which goes against your conscience. It is against your true nature and brings with it guilt.

Guilt is the thing that causes us the most trouble and is most disturbing to our inner peace and calmness. We will do virtually anything to avoid guilt. This is why we have such a difficult time with accepting the truth when it seems to disagree with what is already within our belief system. We think that to see some new truth is to admit that our former beliefs (and therefore the life that we were living as a result of accepting these beliefs) are **WRONG!** In truth, it is not a question of being right or wrong, it is a question of being correct or incorrect. If the beliefs that you are operating from now are not in agreement with truth, then they are merely **INCORRECT**, not wrong. Yet, when they are questioned, we think that the other person is attempting to prove us wrong. And for us to admit that we were wrong would insinuate that we should have to feel guilty over having believed what was not in agreement with the truth. Therefore we are usually unwilling to see that our currently held beliefs are false. It is not that they are **WRONG** beliefs; it is just that they are **FALSE** beliefs. If they were truly wrong, then we should have to feel guilty over having lived by them. Since they are just false—incorrect, not in agreement with what is true, not in agreement with our own reason—it would be very easy to change them just as we do dirty socks that no longer are appealing to us.

If reason shows you that your current beliefs do not agree with your own reason, please do not think that you are **WRONG**, for you are not! You are only mistaken, as you have been mistaken when taking a math test in the past. There is no guilt involved in admitting that the answer that we had was not the true answer; we can correct it with easy grace. It doesn't cause us a conflict with our conscience or ego, for it is not an issue of emotions or guilt. There is no fear of making another error in math later, and we are fairly sure that we shall probably make other mistakes in the future regarding math. The important thing is to learn from our current mistake where we erred and strayed away from the reasonable path—or where the flaw in our logic was that led us to this incorrect

answer. We wish to learn from this incorrectness how to be more consistently correct in the future—nothing more. There is no fear of being incorrect or making mistakes, for that will cause us no shame or guilt.

This is the way we must understand our belief system is, and accept and treat it in this way. If we continue to believe that our beliefs—if proved incorrect by reason or another person’s logic—make us WRONG, then what chance have we given ourselves to find the real truth?

Imagine that if, in school, every time the teacher pointed out an error on your test answers (to help you to think more reasonably in the future) you took this as a personal insult and felt guilty about being WRONG. I don’t think it would be long before you started having great difficulty. You would probably rather not discuss math at all and say, “I do not like to discuss math (religion, philosophy, morality, God, sin, theology, Satan, angels, love, personality... Take your pick!), because it usually leads to an argument.” What you probably would mean instead is that you feared discussing anything because you were afraid that someone would prove you wrong (as they had done in the past) about this subject, and then you would feel guilty again. In order to keep them from winning (where you would have to accept their point of view over your own), you would probably have to resort to ignoring reason and allow your emotions to run your mouth and mind. That is why the discussion would turn into an argument. You would be unwilling to accept your own reason; to retain your own self-righteousness you would probably talk loud and become angry. You would feel like you were being attacked. You would run for the hills! You would far rather be RIGHT than to learn any truth!

Why?

Most people would rather be RIGHT than anything else. We would rather believe that we are Right than to learn the truth. We would rather be Right than to enjoy life and have all manner of good things. For some, being Right is even chosen over being alive!

How do you mean?

There are many people that commit suicide just to prove to everyone else that they were RIGHT! They leave a suicide note that says something like, “I told you guys how messed up my life was and what terrible suffering I had to endure. I told you that my life wasn’t even worth living, and see—I was right. What a sacrifice I have made—JUST TO SHOW YOU ALL HOW RIGHT I WAS!” I believe that most suicides are the ultimate statement of, “See, I was RIGHT!”

This is a terrible thing, is it not?

Yes, the dire need to believe that we are in the Right—no matter what—is one reason so many of us will not learn. We do not change—our lives do not improve—because we refuse to admit that what we now believe is in error!

Surely a man who thinks that his life could be made richer and happier would be willing to change his beliefs if they were not true.

Yes, you would think that this would be the case for all men. Yet we have this terrible disease that prevents most of us from seeing the light.

And what is this disease called?

Pride. Pride is the only sin. All other sins are a result of this sin. It was the first sin, is now the biggest sin, and shall be our last sin.

Why?

Pride is why Lucifer became Satan. Pride is what instilled greed in Eve and pride is what led man to follow where the woman had gone. Pride is why we are taught so insistently that it is far better to be in the right (in our own minds) than to enjoy life or anything else. “TO BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE RIGHT is more important than all else—this is the secret to life!” This is what many of us are taught. This is why we can stand obstinately in tunnel #4 forever, without any cheese, ignoring anyone that might come along and say, “You know—I was just in tunnel #2 and there was quite a lot of cheese in that tunnel. It was delicious and I think maybe you ought to at least check it out.” We will say, “I know that I am in the **right** tunnel. That is all that is important to me. I can do without

cheese. SO LONG AS I KNOW THAT THIS IS THE RIGHT TUNNEL!”

So pride is man's greatest evil?

Yes. It is the root beneath the tree of evil. It supports the trunk of false beliefs and the giant limbs of Self-righteousness, Greed, Fear, and all manner of other evils that we have accepted.

And is it this way for all men?

No. There are those of us who have either been given the light or have had it shown to us. We may have been raised in darkness, and are not even aware that we are in the dark. If we have never experienced the light, we would not know that we were in the dark. Yet, we can always come to the light.

And what is the light?

Truth!

And what is the truth?

You are!

And where is the truth to be found?

Within ourselves. This is where You reside most intensely.

Can I be found in others also?

Your presence may be recognized in others—if we will allow ourselves to lower the walls of fear to look out of our fort of self-righteousness. We will recognize Your intense presence in others because they have lots of cheese. They are happy and fun-loving, enjoying life tremendously. And they have that one big hunk of cheese that we really hunger for more than all things.

And what is that?

Peace of mind. It is also called by many other names, such as fulfillment and tranquility.

And is this the best of things to have as a human being?

There is no better thing. For if you are rich, and have no peace of mind, you will detest yourself and your life, and you will want

rather things to be different. If you are beautiful, and have no peace of mind, you will not allow yourself to really enjoy the compliments of others, and you will want things to be different. If you are healthy and strong, and you have no peace of mind, you will not be content and you want things to be different.

How can peace of mind be acquired?

It cannot be bought or purchased, or stolen or found.

Then where can a person get it?

He may only receive it from You, if You are willing to give it to him.

And what would make Me willing to give it to a person?

If that person was to dedicate himself to the truth and sincerely seek the truth, then You would show him the truth; and if he accepts all of the truth that You wish to send to him, You will also give him the peace of mind that comes from wisdom.

And what wisdom brings this peace of mind?

The wisdom that You are who You are, and that we are Your beloved children. The wisdom that we have done all that we should do and that we are now pleasing to You.

How can a person be sure of this?

Because of the sign of fulfillment in his life.

And what is the sign of fulfillment?

That a person has qualities very similar to You, Yourself. If they have become their natural self, and they were created in Your image, then when they once again become their true self, many of Your attributes will be apparent in their personalities.

And what are some of these attributes?

They are without want. They do not want for anything because there is nothing that they lack for their complete perfection. There is nothing about themselves or their lives that they would change because it is as it was intended by You to be, so they would not change anything even if they could. This is called fulfillment.

They are very happy and they truly enjoy life as is natural for a person. They are like a little kid in this respect. They are full of the sense of wonder over the universe and all of its mysteries. They have achieved perfection. They are as they were intended to be. They have achieved Nirvana, which is characterized by success, well-being, and good fortune (as was discussed earlier). All that Nirvana brings, they have.

Their life is a life virtually free of sin and guilt. They are honest with themselves and others. They have no need to feel that they are RIGHT because they now have so much cheese! LIFE BECOMES AS LIFE WAS INTENDED TO BE FOR THEM—they really start to enjoy it.

Life Is For Enjoying! And only our own pride and refusal to accept the truth and live our lives with truth is stopping most of us from enjoying life!

Very good. All that you have stated here is good and useful to those of My children who shall read this with an open mind and thirst for truth.

And now let us speak of life as it is for those who have accepted Me and have accepted all the truth as it is. Tell Me of life lived naturally in this perfected state.

Oh, sweet Jesus, my life—as it has been for some time now—is beyond description! Words cannot possibly convey the depth of peace and joy that You have allowed me to share with You. You have done things for me that only You can understand. Yet I feel that it is good that I attempt to describe, in whatever words that I may find to fit, this wondrous state that my soul is in.

Understand two things, reader: One, this life is an interior life in general, so many who see me in the world will see only a fraction of these wonderful things that are here inside of my interior castles. What they will see is only the slight reflection of the joy and peace that is within. And two, attempting to describe these things to someone who is not enlightened is like attempting to describe the feelings and emotions of making love to a person who has not experienced it for themselves. Life is marvelous!

Describe, as best you can, how the natural life is. Describe to them the way that your life has been since you came to know Me well and accepted Me just as I am. Tell how you think and feel; perhaps this will draw some towards this life.

I shall do my best.

Reader, remember back to the life you had as a child. Think of all of the joy that you had and the excitement that pervaded Your life. You had this excited joy because you were always anticipating some new goal that you thought was wonderful and enjoyable. You'd say, "I just can't wait until 3 P.M., because then school will be out and I can run and play baseball. I just can't wait until Saturday because I'm going fishing with dad. I just can't wait until next month because school will be out and we will go on our vacation to the mountains. I just can't wait..." And as a happy and excited-over-life child there was always another "I just can't wait..."

What is there in your life now that you have this eager and excited anticipation over? If you are like most of the unenlightened people I know, there is very little—if anything—that you are excitedly awaiting in your life.

Your life can be changed, I assure you. But only through accepting and applying of truth can you again return to your natural state. The natural life is a most wondrous life. What joy to love God purely, to love yourself and everything about yourself and your life! What ecstasy to know Jesus as a real and alive person in your everyday life. What a pleasure to walk casually with Him in all things and to speak with Him at will!

The natural life is much like the life that a happy child enjoys. It is full of wonder and excitement, joy and peace. Contentment and the absence of worry are two of the hallmarks of this type of life. What did you worry about when you were out playing in the mud? What disturbed your peace when you were fishing for perch on the boat? The reason that your life was so carefree is that you knew that dad was there to take care of all of the problems that might arise. If your line got caught in a tree, he'd stop fishing and get it for you. You knew that he cared more about assisting you to have a good time than catching a lot of fish.

This is just as it is in the natural life that I keep speaking of. You have returned to the natural qualities that an innocent child has. Qualities such as peace, joy, excitement in everyday life, and enjoyment of even the simplest of things. And your true Father, the perfect loving Father, will be as close and as present in your life as you will allow Him to be. If you allow Him to walk with you each step of the way, each moment of the day, then this He will do. What more could a loving father want than to be by the side of his beloved and loving child all day long as his sweet child goes about his everyday business.

To be there and to share all of the joy—that is what fellowship with the Father is really about. To allow Him into your life to walk beside you—that is the height of joy in life. For if He be beside you, what would you fear? If He holds you near and dear to Him, what evil may befall you? If your Father was right there at all times, what beauty that He has made for you would He not point out to you and say, “See how much I love you! I have even made this for your pleasure and enjoyment.” If He stood beside you in the times of trouble what enemy would you fear? If He stood beside you in all things, your joy would be doubled for it would be shared with Him. Your sorrow would be halved, for your understanding Father would bear you through it with tender mercy. Your way would be made clear, for He is the true way.

There would be no dark in your soul, for He would reside there; and where He is, there also is the true light that lights the minds of men. There would be no distress, for He is the comforter. There would be no desiring, for He is the object of man’s desiring. There would be no trouble, for He is our refuge. There would be no problems, for He is the solver of tribulations. There would be no pain, for He is the healer. There would be no discord, for He is the bringer of harmony. There would be no guilt, for He is the forgiver of sins. There would be no evil, for He is the only good and all good. There would be no distress, for He is the prince of peace. There would be no incompetence, for He is the giver of power. There would be no death, for He is the very life that we have.

There would be no bad or evil or negative thing, for these things are all in opposition to Him. If the light comes into the room, shall the darkness say, "I shall stick around and visit for a while?" No, for there can be no darkness where there is pure light. And Jesus is the purest of all light. Shall the weak throw the strong out of their own house? No, and all power in heaven and on earth has been given to Him. Shall the evil destroy or defeat the good? No, for even though evil sometimes appears to have gotten the better of you, it is not possible so long as you persist to remain true to God and in His favor. Evil may torment you when he thinks that he has won and has the upper hand (such as when Satan succeeded in having the Son Of God murdered by the leaders of God's own chosen people).

Yet He that is perfectly good shall turn others' evil plans to good for you. Evil shall laugh and say, "I have won!" and he may dance around at your trouble and suffering, but very soon the almighty Father shall turn it to your advantage. And then you shall say, "Oh, evil, where is your laughter? Why do you weep and gnash your teeth? Where is the evil that you thought you were doing to me?"

And God shall reward you mightily for all that you willingly endured at the hands of those that saw not the light. You shall rejoice in your troubles and tribulations as well as the pleasure and good times. If your life be such, what could stop you from accomplishing anything? All that you must do is to accept that you are not now as you wish to be, and then find the way to return to yourself.

If you do not know the way and if it be your wish, **I shall assist you in any way that I can, for this is my mission in life.** If you choose not to be led by me, then I beg of you, find some good spiritual director to lead you in your beginning steps. Please do not follow the dangerous path that I did through my ignorance. I decided to do it all on my own for I was too proud to accept the advice of any spiritual counselor for a long while. I did not realize then that the evil forces know full well who might become a serious threat to them in the near future. They will set many traps to destroy you before you achieve the necessary wisdom to defend

yourself from them. It is not enough to trust in God and then jump off a cliff simply because you are looking for the fastest way down the mountain. God may not be amused at your testing of Him. He does not appreciate it when one of His children jumps out of a tree just to see if He will catch them.

These are just a few of the terrible mistakes I made when I first started my pilgrimage inward. If it were not for the tender mercy and grace of God towards someone as foolish as myself, the evil that befell me would surely have overcome me and I would have wound up with ten times the troubles as I previously had. The trickery of Satan and his demons is very powerful and appealing to an innocent babe in Christ, and anyone who is just staring a serious calling to a devout life runs the terrible risk of being trampled by the mobs of demons that shall be sent to destroy or turn them away. It is far better to not start upon this journey than to start upon it insincerely or without the proper guidance to prevent being overwhelmed by the evil that shall surely be thrown at you.

Satan is little concerned with most people in their normal lives, for they do not seriously threaten his concerns. Yet one who receives a serious calling to the life of love and service to God he sees as a tremendous threat and one who may do him much damage. He will attack relentlessly and skillfully in the bewildering array of manifest tricks that he is allowed to utilize.

Please do not risk it. Find some dedicated servant of God, and ask him to be your spiritual adviser and guide along your path. But be cautious in selecting your guide. He or she should be a person with great love for God. Do not find someone who just appeals to your ego and tickles your ears. Rather, find the wisest person you can that is willing to assist you. Detachment and an objective mind are important qualities in a spiritual advisor. Test them by asking them about a difficult matter concerning spiritual things to assure yourself that they are wise in the ways of the spirit. Any wise man will understand that you should test his wisdom before submitting to his instructions.

And once you have accepted a counselor, be fully prepared to act according to his guidance rather than upon your own judgment.

Very, very good.

This is plenty for now. I am sure that many shall read this and come to understand that there may be a better life awaiting them when they seriously decide to accept it from Me. I am deeply pleased at your ability to express the joy that life with Me can bring. You are getting much better at conveying these things, My son. I love you more than you can know!

And I love You with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength—
Dad.