LESSON TWO

A Spiritual Relationship

“When I was ten years of age
I looked at the land and the rivers,
the sky above, and the animals around me
and could not fail to realize
that they were made by some great power.”

Tatanka-Ohitaka or Brave Buffalo, Sioux (1911, 73 years old)
(Densmore, p. 207) (Qtd. in McLuhan, p. 16)

1. All tribes and nations at all times and in all places have had the innate basic knowledge or feeling that there is some great spiritual or mental power or person greater than mere human beings. People have always felt that this power is somehow related to their own spiritual nature.

2. The Good Medicine teaches that there is a common spiritual Father for all people of all nations, races, and colors. Thus all people are spiritual children — brothers and sisters having the same spiritual Father.

3. If we are children, then we will someday grow to be adults. This is seen in all of creation. Young saplings grow into mature trees; puppies grow into adult dogs; the offspring of all living things grow into the likeness of their parents.

4. It would then follow that the children of the Great Spirit Father will grow into the same adult status that He possesses, and will someday become spiritual adults in their own right.

5. Following this way of thinking, the Great Spirit Father must have been a child before He became an adult.

6. Eli taught that the Great Spirit Father must have been human before He became “God.” And since He is perfect as compared to His “children,” we can say that the Great Spirit Father is a perfected man.
7. Therefore, the most likely reason for our existence is that we are growing into this perfection.

8. All Truth can be found in Nature. In all of Nature, each species carries within it a duality of genders or polarities which act together in the reproduction of their offspring or in the germination of seeds. If humans have a spiritual Father, then they must also have a spiritual Mother. Even though the Great Spirit is a perfected Being, He could not become “Father” without a female spirit to act as “Mother” to accomplish the miracle of creation.

“Great were the descriptions and the account of how all the sky and earth were formed...as told by the Creator and the Maker, the Mother and the Father of Life, of all created things, he who gives breath and thought, she who gives birth to the children, he who watches over the happiness of the people, the happiness of the human race, the wise man, he who meditates on the goodness of all that exists in the sky, on the earth, in the lakes and in the sea.”

from Popal Vuh, the Sacred Book of the Ancient Quiche Maya, translation of Adrian Recinos, Guatemala, 1950 (Recinos, Goetz, and Morley, University of Oklahoma Press, 1975, p. 80)

9. You are a spiritual being — a child of this celestial family — a god in the making.

10. As a child has a part of the powers and abilities of its parents, you carry inside you a part of the power of the Great Spirit, your Father.

11. A mere realization of this fact will release a part of this power for your use. Someday you will grow into an adult spiritually, and have all the powers of an adult.

12. No one can stop your progress. You WILL be like your spiritual Father, the Great Chief of the Spirit World — a creator in your own right.

The Worlds of the Great Spirit

13. Eli taught that there are three basic types of planets or worlds in our solar system: “celestial” or star-like; “terrestrial” or earth-like; and “telestial” or distant-from-the-sun type.

14. All worlds — celestial, terrestrial, and telestial — are inhabited by beings with physical bodies suited for their worlds.

15. The sun is the celestial world in our solar system.

16. The Great Spirit, and those with sufficiently high vibrations to live there, dwell in the celestial world.
17. Traditional Hopi stories say that God looks through the face of the sun

“With the pristine wisdom granted them, they understood that the earth was a living entity like themselves. She was their mother; they were made from her flesh; they suckled at her breasts. For her milk was the grass upon which all animals grazed and the corn which had been created specially to supply food for mankind.

“In their wisdom they also knew their father in two aspects. He was the Sun, the solar God of their universe. Not until he first appeared to them at the time of the red light, Talawva, had they been fully firmed and formed. Yet his was but the face through which looked Taiowa, their Creator.

“These universal entities were their real parents, their human parents being but the instruments through which their power was made manifest.”

*Book of the Hopi* (Frank Waters, 1963, pp. 8-9).

18. Eli taught that the sun is the body of the Great Spirit Father, and the earth is the body for the spirit of our Holy Mother.

“All living creatures and all plants derive their life from the sun. If it were not for the sun, there would be darkness and nothing could grow — the earth would be without life. Yet the sun must have the help of the earth. If the sun alone were to act upon the animals and plants, the heat would be so great that they would die, but there are clouds that bring rain, and the action of the sun and earth together supply the moisture that is needed for life. The roots of a plant go down, and the deeper they go the more moisture they find. This is according to the laws of nature and is one of the evidences of the wisdom of Wakan Tanka.”

*Okute* or *Shooter*, Teton Sioux (1911) (Densmore, p. 172) (Qtd. in McLuhan, p. 18)

“*The earth [is] a body, a gigantic body of conscious, struggling, living being. The body belongs to a being, an individual with an identity and purpose. That being exists here now. We have to be within it — like cells. It’s very important for people to realize this. The earth is a living organism, the body of a higher individual who has a will and wants to be well, who is at times less healthy or more healthy, physically and mentally.”


“All living creatures and all plants derive their life from the sun. If it were not for the sun, there would be darkness and nothing could grow — the earth would be without life. Yet the sun must have the help of the earth. If the sun alone were to act upon the animals and plants, the heat would be so great that they would die, but there are clouds that bring rain, and the action of the sun and earth together supply the moisture that is needed for life. The roots of a plant go down, and the deeper they go the more moisture they find. This is according to the laws of nature and is one of the evidences of the wisdom of Wakan Tanka.”

*Bedagi* or *Big Thunder*, Wabanakis Nation (circa 1900) (*The Indian’s Book*, Natalie Curtis, 1907, p. 11) (Qtd. in McLuhan, p. 22)
“Holy Mother Earth, the trees and all nature are witnesses of your thoughts and deeds.”

Winnebago wise saying (Prairie Smoke, Melvin Randolph Gilmore, 1921, p. 9) (Qtd. in McLuhan, p. 5)

19. The body of the Mother comprises the terrestrial world.

20. Humans dwell in this terrestrial world and have bodies which are designed for the ecology of their planet, or plane of existence, being lower in vibration than those spirits with celestial bodies.

21. The telestial “worlds” are inhabited by beings with bodies of very low, coarse vibrations as necessary for their worlds of darkness and cold. Although these beings may indeed live in our terrestrial world (in the form of rocks and crystals, for example), only they can live on the worlds that are at the greatest distance from the sun.
TEXT: The Philosophy of Good Medicine, Lesson Two
A Spiritual Relationship / The Worlds of the Great Spirit

SECOND WEEK ASSIGNMENT:

Day One: Please read A Spiritual Relationship and answer the following discussion questions:

1. How do the Indians regard the supreme spiritual power?
   a. Do they feel it is related to their own spiritual nature?
   b. If so, in what way?

2. What is our relationship to the Great Spirit Father?

3. What evidence is there in Nature for humans to observe and thereby understand their spiritual relationship to the Great Father?

4. What is the most likely reason for our existence?

Day Two: Re-read A Spiritual Relationship and discuss the following:

5. If a person has a Spiritual Father, does he or she also have a Spiritual Mother?

6. What evidence in Nature proves this?

7. Is there anything that could stop you from someday gaining spiritual maturity? Please discuss.

8. Realizing that you will someday gain spiritual maturity and be like your Creator releases creative energy for your use. Why do you think this is so?

Day Three: Please read The Worlds of the Great Spirit and answer the discussion questions that follow:

9. What are the three basic types of planets or worlds in our solar system? Give an example of each type.
10. What evidence in Nature indicates that the Father must dwell in the Sun?

11. Where is it considered that the Great Mother dwells?

12. What evidence is there in Nature of this Truth?

Day Four: Read The Worlds of the Great Spirit again and answer the following questions:

13. Which of the three worlds does the body of the Mother comprise?

14. What kind of beings live in the terrestrial world?

15. Describe how the Holy Mother and Great Spirit Father work together to bring up their children.

Day Five: Please review the entire lesson, and consider and answer the following discussion question:

16. Which of the beings on the three different worlds do you think are the children of the Holy Mother and the Great Spirit Father? Please explain.

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