



## Whare Atua Temple Order

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### Purity

By Frank Salt

Perhaps because we have had unfortunate contact with 'filth', with 'Impurities' and caught a few bugs we tend to set 'Purity' on a high place, to avoid dirt, to sterilize our personal property, to display a bright and clean appearance to all we meet, to join 'clean' societies, to read edifying books on purity and wholesomeness.

But in our purity are we not sterile in ourselves? May we not fall into the trap of 'being' something elite, of kidding ourselves that 'I am special' of disdain for others who seem different, low, dirty?

As I look at the Theosophical Society, I see it as a pure crystal bowl full of ripe and dry seed, free from all contamination, sterile. None of those pristine seeds want to fall on common soil, so full of little greebies, unsanitary, and worms, dirty creatures that eat dirt. Liable to be gobbled up by terrible things like birds.

No let us stay safe in our pure crystal bowl, virgin, safe, elite, pure! But they are dead, lifeless, achieving nothing, just avoiding 'bad karma' or serving out past 'bad karma' just sitting safely in the purity of their crystal bowl, less than gold—fish!

Unless a grain of seed falls into the ground, it has no hope of growing, of putting roots down into the rich and fertile soil, of putting up branches, bearing leaves and flowers and hence Fruit.

What is Theosophy? 'Theo' - God. 'Sophy' - Wisdom. Plus a hell of a lot of other things than mere 'Sophy' plus Earth, Air, Fire and Water! But here is Danger! Water is wet! Fire is Hot, Earth is dirty and Air may be polluted; so let us stay in our nice, pure, crystal bowl. Safe from the Elements, safe from the birds of the Air, safe from the reaper's hook, from the browsing beasts, the rotting vegetation. Don't do anything, it might bring bad Karma, might pollute me, might be wrong. So Do Nothing!

Sorry, but that is my impression of the sanctimonious Society! A large group of ineffectuals.

In the Order, we were taken as such timorous little folk and planted in a rich compost soil of fertile food for the growth of Man into total Man. In that atmosphere, one just grows, as Man, into Man. From an embryo to the "Fullness of the Stature of Christ" and as in "Made in the Image of God" to become aware and to live as God wills.

So far, I have not met one Theosophist who has the slightest trace of breaking out of the shell of his seed, of putting out roots or branches that he may grow as God intends. Sure they are nice people, doing nice things, eating nice food, reading nice books! May The Lord protect me from the nice sterile people - they are so inert, so thoroughly dead.

"I aim the Way, the Truth and the Life" said Jesus, that lead I can follow, those who travel this Path I can honour and respect, but sterile seeds in a pure crystal bowl I find only boring!

I also find them totally inert to any stimulus to real things, to Living, to bearing Fruit, to Being Alive, Averse to Life, as It really is, beyond the petty confines of their theoretical "Sophy".

I find Christianity smugly smirked at, regarded as grossly inferior to us as Theosophists, far aloof from such things, totally unaware of, and afraid to ask "What is Religion?" They sit like sparrows on a telephone line, smug in their feather-lined superiority, which is devoid of any trace of substance other than their nice feeling of superiority, Pure, sublime, aloof, untouchable by mere mortals. Devoid of thought about what they so credulously and cosily feed on but never excrete, (that's dirty, impure) - but real!

Is it so perilous to think? What prevents this trace of intelligent activity? Is there some hellish danger that you might be wrong? You look at the building which once served a Holy and Sacred Purpose, but do not think of its purpose. Never suspect that in some places there is a full awareness of God's Purpose. Never imagine that it is possible, here and now, to find and to serve that Purpose? Or perhaps membership of 'The Society' is all you can take.

In that temple there were men and women who, knowing their imperfection came to the Knowledge of the Presence of God in His Glory, seeing Him face to face, but never claiming any degree of superiority, never looking down on their neighbours, never feeling relative, but related to all Mankind.

No one in the Society would know the Master if they passed Him in the street, they think they would, they never question this, but know not how to recognise Him. True, there are many who are rightly mocked for saying they are in touch with the Master. Many - But does this exclude you from real contact? Sneering is an easy habit to acquire, but it is not Life, not Real Living. Understandable, but inexcusable.

Among the members, surely we can find a few who see these limitations and seek to outgrow them? They are common human frailties, nothing to be ashamed of, but can be outgrown by those who admit them, as human. By those who respond to the Divine Impulse to become "more than Human".

I came to offer something I know to be very worth while, to re-incarnate the Holy Order [The Golden Dawn] from which I gained so much. Does anyone want it? Is its beauty and simple efficacy now to be lost? Is this Light to die for lack of people wanting to find the fullness of Life, the purpose of Life? I come, not with a heap of books to be absorbed without question, but with the actual Path of the gods, that Path of which Blavatski, Besant, Leadbetter and many others spoke so fully, but which, it seems, members refuse to seek. Smug in their membership of 'The Society' but unwilling to do anything to travel that Path?

At least let us discuss this Path, seek it out, travel it, enjoy it; Find fulfillment in traveling it. Do something!

So far, my words have been drastic, purposely so, since I cannot accept that members are spiritually sterile, rather that the first elation on joining the Society has passed for many, who thus become blasé about spiritual enlightenment, they've heard it all before, heard many talk a lot of nonsense about the so-called Light. This is fine, it is as it should be.

We cannot just throw in our hands without trying. Neither should I try to stimulate artificially any real interest and motive in the quest. If it does not arise spontaneously, it is not there. Artificial, exciting promises are

unreal, false motives. My purpose here is that if indeed a blasé attitude has overshadowed inspiration, then a hard crust or scar has formed, and it will need to be sharply penetrated to get through to the very sensitive soul.

You have now seen the pictures of the sacred Temple, do you want its heart, its light, or is it merely another tourist trap? "Seek and ye shall find", most of us, at some stages, find these words hollow. Why? Because we were hung up on some snag of our own, a bit off the beam, and could not take the frustration of trying again.

There are a great many things I could say to entice followers, many great and wondrous things to offer, but these would only attract moths. We need strong, purposeful men and women who can stand the course, which indeed is hard, so is climbing Everest, but people have done it!

Many have traveled the Path at all times. The system in itself provides much stimulation, in a mysterious way. No direct exhortations, no external propellants, but the Soul herself guides and encourages each according to the need. In fact the most that can here be said is that the system consists of stimulants at the soul-level, to feed the psyche rather than the brain or ego. It may be likened to a seed-bed where we gather maturity for the spiritual life inherent in it.

Spiritual matters must always be veiled from mortal eyes until those eyes are ready to perceive the glories of the Divine nature. Hence the true Mysteries are held by secret groups. But the veil may be lifted by reverent hands, when the time is ripe. The course is set and guided from within each, not by imposed authority.

The only loyalty required by an initiate is to his Higher Self, and to "keep silent" about the *Great Work*, conserving energy rather than dissipating it in words.

If we can find just enough people sincerely interested in fulfilling their spiritual destiny, we can fill the gap left by the dissolution of the Temple in Havelock North.

By the Divine Will, Man is called to unity in God, to represent the Divine in the flesh, on Earth. Do enough members of the Society feel this

impulse? Mature people, rather than excitable and credulous wishful-thinkers?

If so, I can provide the vehicle but not the motive. That must be genuine and personal, free and dedicated. I can supply the vehicle but not drive it. That is the onus of the group.

It is not easy to speak of this, but, perhaps selfishly, I am driven to try to continue in the Divine Will that Man and God be One; Creature and Creator united and fruitful. If it be His Will, then I am ready.