

**ERIC BUTTERWORTH  
PAPERS (3014)**

**BOX 15  
FOLDER 23**

**INTO THE EIGHTIES  
WITH FAITH  
DECEMBER 30, 1979**

## INTO THE EIGHTIES WITH FAITH

5 Dec 30, 1979

Looking Toward 1983

Wrote This Dec 30, 1979

WE ARE COMING TO THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR 1979, AND ALSO OF THE DECADE OF THE SEVENTIES. TOMORROW NIGHT THERE WILL BE THE USUAL CELEBRATION AND THE CONSTANT CRY OF 'HAPPY NEW YEAR!'. BUT THEN <sup>Saturday</sup> ~~TUESDAY~~ MORNING WILL DAWN AS USUAL AND LIFE WILL GO ON ABOUT THE SAME. A YEAR, OR A DECADE, OR EVEN A MILLENIUM, THESE ARE MORE PSYCHOLOGICAL THAN ASTRONOMICAL THINGS.

AS THOMAS MANN SO APTLY SAYS: 'TIME HAS NO DIVISIONS TO MARK ITS PASSAGE. THERE IS NEVER A THUNDERSTORM OR BLARE OF TRUMPETS TO ANNOUNCE THE BEGINNING OF A NEW MONTH OR A NEW YEAR. EVEN WHEN A NEW CENTURY BEGINS IT IS ONLY WE MORTALS WHO RING BELLS AND FIRE OFF POSTOLS.'

HOWEVER, AS STUDENTS OF TRUTH, IT BEHOOVES US TO SEE EVERY CHANGE IN LIFE AS AN OPPORTUNITY GAIN NEW INSIGHTS INTO OURSELVES, TO LOOK FOR WAYS TO GROW AND UNFOLD.



SO I WANT TO CHALLENGE YOU TO REFLECT ON THE SYMBOLOGY OF THE BIRTH OF THE YEAR 1980 AND THE ENTRANCE INTO THE DECADE OF THE EIGHTIES! ??

AS CARLYLE SAYS: 'EVERY DAY THAT IS BORN INTO THE WORLD COMES LIKE A BURST OF MUSIC, AND RINGS ITSELF ALL THE DAY THROUGH: AND THOU SHALT MAKE OF IT A DANCE, A DIRGE, OR A LIFE MARCH, AS THOU WILT.'

SO TUESDAY MORNING WILL DAWN AS ALWAYS, AND THINGS WILL UNFOLD AS WE EXPECT THEM, AND AS WE CREATE THEM THROUGH OUR LEVELS OF CONSCIOUSNESS!

THIS IS A TIME WHEN MANY FORECASTERS AND SEERS AND PROPHETS ARE SURFACING TO GIVE ALL KINDS LURID PREVIEWS OF THE FUTURE! THEY SEEM TO VIE WITH ONE ANOTHER IN PREDICTING TRAGEDIES AND ASSASSINATIONS AND CATAclysms OF ONE KIND OR ANOTHER! ACTUALLY, ALL SUCH GLIMPSES INTO THE FUTURE ARE REALLY INTERPRETATIONS OF THE PRESENT, TELLING MORE ABOUT THE ATTITUDES OF THE FORECASTER THAN ABOUT THE TIMES FORECASTED!



IN DEALING WITH SUCH THINGS IT IS IMPORTANT TO KEEP THE PERSPECTIVE OF CONSCIOUSNESS. NOTHING IS EVER PREDESTINED - THOUGH THERE MAY BE A PREDISPOSITION OF CONSCIOUSNESS. A SENSITIVE MAY READ THIS 'STREAM OF CONSCIOUSNESS' AND FORECAST OCCURRENCES. BUT THESE THINGS CAN BE CHANGED IF WE ALTER OUR THOUGHTS.

DON'T BE LURED AWAY FROM THE CENTER OF YOUR OWN BEING, THE CONTROLLING POINT OF YOUR OWN DESTINY. CONSIDER WELL THE WORDS OF PAUL:

"DON'T LET THE WORLD AROUND YOU SQUEEZE YOU INTO ITS OWN MOLD, BUT LET GOD REMOLD YOUR MIND FROM WITHIN, SO THAT YOU MAY PROVE IN PRACTICE THAT THE PLAN FOR YOU IS GOOD, MEETS ALL HIS DEMANDS, AND MOVES TOWARD THE GOALS OF TRUE MATURITY."

BE A TREND-SETTER. LEADERSHIP

STANDING AT THE GATE OF THE YEAR, THE DAWN OF A NEW DECADE, PERHAPS WE MAY BE PERMITTED TO TAKE A BRIEF LOOK BACKWARD. IT HAS BEEN A STRANGE PERIOD, THE SEVENTIES, WITH A RISING AND FALLING OF HOPES AND PROMISES, AND OF CHALLENGES AND CRISES.



BUT AS WE FACE FORWARD INTO THE PERIOD OF TIME THAT UNFOLDS FROM HERE, WE HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE THAN TO SAY THERE WILL BE MORE OF THE SAME. NOT IN THE KIND OF CHANGES, BUT IN THE CONTINUANCE OF CHANGE.

→ MAN HAS ALWAYS ENTERTAINED THE HOPE AND DREAM THAT SOMEDAY THINGS WOULD GET 'BACK TO NORMAL' AND RETURN TO THE WAY THINGS WERE IN THE 'GOOD OLD DAYS.' OF COURSE THIS IS AN ILLUSION. WE NEED TO GET IT FIXED IN CONSCIOUSNESS THAT CHANGE IS THE LAW OF LIFE. THE GOAL OF THE TRUTH-SEEKER SHOULD NOT BE TO FIND THE WAY TO <sup>FORN</sup> ~~FIND~~ A SHIELD FROM CHANGE, BUT TO FIND THE CONSCIOUSNESS THRU WHICH TO MEET RAPID AND ACCELERATING CHANGE WITH POISE AND EQUANIMITY. TO SURVIVE AS HEALTHY AND VITAL CREATURES IN THE YEARS AHEAD WE NEED TO ACHIEVE A PERSONAL PHILOSOPHY THAT IS 'SHOCK PROOF'

IN THE YEARS AFTER WORLD WAR II THERE WAS A GREAT  
EMPHASIS



ON SECURITY! THE GOAL OF LIFE WAS SEEN AS BEING ALL WRAPPED UP IN RETIREMENT PROGRAMS, SOCIAL SECURITY, INSURANCE PROGRAMS AND PENSIONS, ETC! NOW, WITH THE WILD FLUCTUATIONS OF THE ECONOMY AND THE RAVAGES OF INFLATION, WE ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY AWARE THAT THERE IS NO REAL SECURITY IN FIXED THINGS! THE IDEA OF GUARANTEED SECURITY WILL HAVE TO BE REPLACED WITH 'PERSONAL ADEQUACY' TO MEET CHALLENGE! MORE THAN EVER BEFORE THE NEED IS TO DEVELOP MENTAL AND SPIRITUAL ABILITY TO FACE THE UNKNOWN WITH INTELLIGENCE AND FAITH!

---

HERE IS AN EXCITING REALIZATION: TODAY AND EVERY DAY IS THE MID-POINT OF ETERNITY! IT IS A GOOD REFLECTION FOR MIDNIGHT TOMORROW NIGHT! WE ARE RIGHT AT THE VERY CENTER OF ALL HISTORY, PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE! YOU CAN START AT THIS POINT AND GO BACK INTO THE DIM PAST, OR FORWARD INTO THE LIMITLESS FUTURE! YOU CAN START WHERE YOU



ARE AND, BUILDING ON THE 'ALL THINGS WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD' OF YOUR PAST EXPERIENCES, AND REACHING FORWARD INTO THE FUTURE IN FAITH AND VISION, YOU CAN GO ON TO ANYTHING YOU CAN CONCEIVE AND BELIEVE!

IT IS A MATTER OF FAITH, BELIEVING IN THE UNFOLDING PROCESS OF GOD IN YOU, BELIEVING IN THE STABILITY OF A SUPPORTIVE UNIVERSE, KNOWING THAT 'IN ALL THINGS WE ARE MORE THAN CONQUERORS'.

IT IS GOING FORWARD IN FAITH THAT EVERY DAY YOU WILL ALWAYS BE AT THE CENTER OF LIFE, OF THE UNIVERSE, OF GOD -- AND YOU CAN NEVER GET OUTSIDE OF THE CIRCLE IN WHICH THE WHOLE OF GOD RUSHES AND STREAMS AND POURS INTO YOU! <sup>NOT PAST</sup>  
<sup>NOT FUTURE</sup>  
IN THIS AWARENESS YOU PRESS ON, WALKING NOT BY SIGHT BUT BY FAITH! NOT WORKING PASSIVELY IN THE THOUGHT OF 'QUE SERA SERA', BUT CONFIDENTLY AND ENTHUSIASTICALLY IN THE BELIEF THAT 'LIFE IS CONSCIOUSNESS'!



IT MEANS WORKING WITH SKILL AND WITH KNOWLEDGE  
AND WITH FORESIGHT AND FAITH, AND GOING AS FAR  
AS YOU CAN GO AND DOING ALL THAT YOU CAN DO --  
AND THEN TAKING THE ADDED STEP INTO THE UNKNOWN,  
SO BEAUTIFULLY SUGGESTED BY M. LOUISE HASKINGS:

'I SAID TO A MAN WHO STOOD AT THE GATE OF THE  
YEAR, 'GIVE ME A LIGHT THAT I MAY TREAD SAFELY  
INTO THE UNKNOWN.' AND HE SAID UNTO ME, 'GO  
OUT INTO THE DARKNESS AND PUT YOUR HAND INTO  
THE HAND OF GOD. IT SHALL BE TO YOU BETTER  
THAN LIGHT, AND SAFER THAN A KNOWN WAY.'

THE THING THAT COUNTS MORE THAN ANYTHING IN  
PLANNING THE JOURNEY INTO THE EIGHTIES, IS THAT  
YOU ARE A SPIRITUAL BEING WITH THE POWER TO THINK  
AND ASSESS AND PLAN, THUS HISTORY IS IN YOUR  
HANDS. ALL THAT HAS HAPPENED IN THE PAST DECADE,  
EVEN IN THE PAST 5,000 YEARS, HAS SIMPLY BEEN  
PROVISIONAL AND PREPARATORY. THE BALL HAS NOW  
BEEN PASSED TO YOU AND ME. WE CAN MAKE OUT OF  
THE TIME AHEAD WHAT WE WILL.



THERE NEVER HAS BEEN AND THERE NEVER CAN BE AN ABROGATION OF THE LAW OF CONSCIOUSNESS:

'AS YOU THINK YOU TRAVEL! YOU ARE TODAY WHERE YOUR THOUGHTS HAVE BROUGHT YOU! YOU WILL BE TOMORROW WHERE YOUR THOUGHTS TAKE YOU! YOU CANNOT ESCAPE THE RESULTS OF YOUR THOUGHTS! IN YOUR HANDS WILL BE PLACED THE EXACT RESULT OF YOUR THINKING! YOU WILL RECEIVE THAT WHICH YOU EARN: NO MORE AND NO LESS.'

▶ QUITE OFTEN, IN ESSAYS ABOUT THE COMING NEW YEAR AND THE COMING DECADE, WE ARE TREATED TO A LOT OF FLATTERY ABOUT THE MARVELS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY THAT HAVE COME FROM THE INTELLECT OF MAN! WE STILL FEEL THAT 'IF WE CAN PUT A MAN ON THE MOON WE CAN FIND ANSWERS TO WAR AND HUMAN RELATIONS, POVERTY, POLLUTION, AND THE ENERGY 'CRUNCH'!

KRISHNAMURTI MAKES A GOOD POINT WHEN HE SAYS THAT THOUGHT HAS NOT SOLVED OUR PROBLEMS AND NEVER WILL! WE HAVE RELIED ON THE INTELLECT TO SHOW US ~~ONX~~ THE WAY OUT OF OUR COMPLEXITY! THE



MORE CUNNING, THE MORE SUBTLE THE INTELLECT IS,  
THE GREATER THE VARIETY OF SYSTEMS AND THEORIES  
AND IDEAS. ~~BUT THE MIND IS NOT THE SOLUTION:~~

THE WAY OF THOUGHT IS NOT THE WAY OUT! THE MORE  
WE THINK ABOUT A PROBLEM, THE MORE COMPLEX AND  
UNCERTAIN IT BECOMES - UNLESS AND UNTIL THE  
LIGHT COMES! AND WHERE DID THAT LIGHT COME FROM?

GEORGE SANTAYANA HAS A POETIC THOUGHT THAT GIVES  
LIGHT ON THIS QUESTION:

'O WORLD, THOU CHOOSEST NOT THE BETTER PART!  
IT IS NOT WISDOM TO BE ONLY WISE,  
AND ON THE INWARD VISION CLOSE THE EYES:  
BUT IT IS WISDOM TO BELIEVE THE HEART!  
COLUMBUS FOUND A WORLD, AND HAD NO CHART  
SAVE ONE THAT FAITH DECIPHERED IN THE SKIES:  
TO TRUST THE SOUL'S INVINCIBLE SURMISE  
WAS ALL HIS SCIENCE AND HIS ONLY ART!  
OUR KNOWLEDGE IS A TORCH OF SMOKY PINE  
THAT LIGHTS THE PATHWAY BUT ONE STEP AHEAD  
ACROSS A VOID OF MYSTERY AND DREAD!  
BID, THEN, THE TENDER LIGHT OF FAITH TO SHINE  
BY WHICH ALONE THE MORTAL HEART IS LED  
UNTO THE THINKING OF THE THOUGHT DIVINE.'

IT COULD WELL BE THAT THE GREAT PROBLEM IN THE  
WORLD TODAY IS THAT WE HAVE TRIED TO DEAL WITH



LIFE WITHOUT A VALID INSIGHT INTO OUR OWN NATURE, WE MAY HAVE BASED OUR LIVES ON INADEQUATE PREMISES, INADEQUATE VALUES, AND INADEQUATE GOALS. THUS WE COMPOUND THE PROBLEMS OF THE WORLD BY DEALING WITH THINGS IN THIS SAME LIMITED VIEW.

IN THE PAST GENERATION WE HAVE TAKEN A STEP UPWARD IN HUMAN EVOLUTION BEYOND THE LIMITATIONS OF MATERIALISM AND DETERMINISM. BUT NOW WE ARE ENMESHED IN THE PROBLEM OF INTELLECTUALISM.

BUT WE MAY BE ON THE VERGE OF A NEW BREAKTHROUGH. THE DAY OF INTELLECTUALISM IS PASSING, AND THE DAWN OF AN ERA OF TRANSCENDENCE, OF INTUITION, OF THE WISDOM THAT COMES FROM THE HEART - IS UPON US.

**EMERSON** SAYS: 'THERE IS ONE MIND COMMON TO ALL INDIVIDUAL MEN, AND BY LOWLY LISTENING WE SHALL HEAR THE RIGHT WORD.' IN THE EIGHTIES THERE MUST BE MORE TRAINING IN THE ART OF 'LOWLY LISTENING.'



THIS HAS BEEN A 'NO-NO' IN EDUCATION BECAUSE IT SOUNDS LIKE 'RELIGION'. BUT THIS IS A HANG-UP THAT WE MUST OUTGROW IN SOCIETY. WE CANNOT GO ON PERPETUATING THE DELUSION THAT EVERYTHING TRANSCENDENT TO THE FIVE SENSE PERSON IS RELIGIOUS AND THUS OFF-LIMITS. BIOLOGY, AND PHYSICS, AND SOCIOLOGY, AND PARAPSYCHOLOGY ARE ALREADY GOING BEYOND THIS LIMITATION. WE NEED TO AWAKEN TO THE REALIZATION THAT IT IS ONLY IN THE DEEPER TRANSCENDENT NATURE OF MAN AND THE UNIVERSE THAT WE WILL FIND THE KEY TO SURVIVAL.

H. G. WELLS, IN HIS NOVEL, 'MEN LIKE GODS', SO PROPHETIC IN SO MANY FIELDS, VISIONED TIME WHEN SCHOOLS AND TEACHERS WILL NO LONGER BE NECESSARY EXCEPT TO SHOW US HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH THE INFINITE KNOWLEDGE THAT INDWELLS US IN THE MIND OF MINDS.

THIS DOES NOT MEAN SUBMISSION TO THE ANEMIC CONCEPT OF FAITH.



ALL TOO OFTEN FAITH HAS MEANT 'BELIEVING WHAT AIN'T SO'. FAITH IS NOT A REJECTION OF THE INTELLECT. IT IS BUILDING ON INFORMATION, USING IT WITHOUT THE SELF-LIMITATION OF WHAT IS CALLED 'A-PRIORI LOGIC'. IT IS A POSITION OF CONSCIOUSNESS, A REACHING BEYOND THE KNOWN, BEYOND THE LIMITATIONS IMPOSED BY REASON. AND OUT OF THIS CONSCIOUSNESS, AMAZING THINGS BEGIN TO HAPPEN... 'ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE'.

THE IMPORTANT THING IS -- THE AMAZING THINGS ARE WITHIN THE POTENTIAL WITHIN MAN, WAITING RELEASEMENT. WHEN WE HAVE A NEED, THE ANSWER TO THE NEED IS ALREADY MOVING TOWARD US: 'BEFORE THEY CALL I WILL ANSWER'.

THE GREAT NEED IN THIS TIME IS THE BELIEF IN THE DEPTH OF MAN, THE TRANSCENDENCE OF LIFE, THE UNIVERSALITY OF MIND, AND THE WISDOM TO BELIEVE THE HEART.



WE ARE ABOUT TO ENTER A NEW ERA. LOOK FOWARD  
IN FAITH IN A WHOLE NEW DIRECTION FOR YOUR LIFE  
AND A WHOLE NEW UNFOLDMENT IN OUR WORLD. AND  
AS THE YEAR WINDS DOWN AND EVERYONE IS EXCITEDLY  
AND PERFUNCTARILY CRYING 'HAPPY NEW YEAR' --

YOU CAN ADD A DIMENSION OF CONCIIOUSNESS, AS  
YOU DECLARE: 'HAPPY NEW ERA' AND OF COURSE,  
THE BLESSING: 'HAPPY NEW YOU'

LET US HAVE AN EXERCISE IN IMAGING, USING MY  
TECHNIQUE OF THE PROJECTED DIARY. PROJECT YOUR-  
SELF FORWARD IN THOUGHT TO THE END OF 1989, SEE  
YOURSELF SITTING AT YOUR DESK IN THE QUIET OF  
YOUR ROOM, REFLECTING BACK ON THE DECADE THAT IS  
COMING TO A CLOSE. WRITE A TEN-YEAR SUMMARY OF  
ALL THE GOOD THINGS THAT HAVE COME TO YOU AND  
INTO YOUR WORLD -- WRITING THEM AS IF THEY HAVE  
ALREADY HAPPENED. THIS IS ONE OF THE FINEST WAYS  
TO SET SOME GOALS FOR THE YEARS TO COME - AND



IN THE FAITH THAT BELIEVES THEY ARE ALREADY DONE!  
YOU MAY WANT TO INCLUDE YOUR VISION FOR YOUR  
FAMILY, YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD, YOUR COUNTRY, AND THE  
WORLD AS A WHOLE.

HAPPY NEW ERA

HAPPY NEW YOU!

SINAP FINGERS

-1980-

-1981-

-1982-

-1983-

etc -