ERIC BUTTERWORTH PAPERS (3014)

BOX 16 FOLDER 29 A MASTER PLAN FOR 1981

DECEMBER 28, 1980

WHAT IS IT THAT MAKES A NEW YEAR NEW? WHAT IS A YEAR?
WHAT IF THERE WERE NO CALENDAR, NO DASS, WEEKS,
MONTHS, AND YEARS? HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT THAT?
WE TALK ABOUT BEING/A YEAR OLDER. WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
IF ONE DIDN'ET KNOW HOW "OLD" HE WAS, WOULD HE REMAIN
YOUNG? WE SAY, "TIME MARCHES ON", BUT DOES TIME
REALLY MARCH? WHAT IS TIME?

CUSPENSKY, IN HIS "NEW MODEL OF THE UNIVERSE",

SAYS: "THE WORLD/IS A WORLD OF INFINITE POSSIBILITIES

AND ALL OF THEM ARE ACTUALIZED, ONLY WE DO NOT SEE

IT AND DO NOT KNOW IT. WE ALWAYS SEE ONLY ONE OF THE

ACTUALIZATIONS, BAND IN THIS LIE THE POVERTY AND

LIMITATION OF THE HUMAN MIND. "TIME IS NOT A PASSING

PHENOMENON, BUT AN UNFOLDMENT OF THE INFINITE

POSSIBILITIES OF AN EXPANDING UNIVERSE."

A YEAR IS TOO MUCH FOR THE HUMAN MIND TO COMPOREHEND.

IT IS LIKE TRYING TO COMPREHEND A BELLETON DOLLARS

IT IS TOO MUCH BUT WE CAN COMPREHEND A DOLLAR...

AND A DAY.

A DAY IS THE EXPERIENCE THAT IS FRAMED BETWEEN WAKING WITH WITH MORNING AND DROPPING OFF TO SLEEP AT NIGHT. IT IS "NEW" ONLY TO THE EXTENT THAT WITH NEW VIGOR AND FRESH ENTHUSIASM WE CAN LAUNCH INTO THE ACTIVITY OF LIVING. THE ONLY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THIS SDAY AND YESTERDAY IS THE STATE OF MY MINDS.

TODAY I MAY FEEL GOOD, SO THIS IS AS GOOD DAY. PERHAPS YESTERDAY I WAS DEPRESSED, SO IT WAS AS TERRIBLE DAY.

IN EVERY DAY WE UNFOLD MEMANY OF THE INFINITE POSSIBILITIES OF LIFE. ONLY A FEW OF THEM DO WE SEE, AND A SMALLER PERCENTAGE OF THEM ARE ACTUALLY REALIZED. BUT A POSSIBILITY CAN NEVER BE LESS THAN A POSSIBILIT THUS IN TOMORROW AND TOMORROW IT CONTINUES TO UNFOLD.

THIS MEANS THAT A NEW DAY IS REALLY A FRESH.

OPPORTUNITY TO MOVE IN THE FIELD OF POSSIBILITIES

WHICH ARE CONTANT! IT IS ALMOST AS IF WE WERE MOVING

IN A SPIRAL. WE CONTINUE TO GO OVER THE SAME GROUND,

BUT EACH TIME AT A HIGHER LEVEL -- THUS A NEW DAY.

AND WHAT IS A YEAR BUT AN EVEN LARGER SPIRAL OF THE NOW? AN OLD YEAR DOES NOT REALLY COME TO AN END.

NOR DOES A NEW YEAR ACTUALLY BEGIN. A YEAR IS A CONVENIENT DEVICE FOR KEEPING TRACK OF THINGS HISTORICALLY AND ECONOMICALLY, AND IN IS AN AMAZINGLY HELPFUL DEVICE FOR SELF-EVALUATION. BUT A YEAR IS NOT A THING... AND 1983 MOST CERTAINLY WILL MAKE NO AUTOMATIC COLLECTION OF TOLL ON LIFE AND LIVING.

YOU WILL REALLY BE NO OLDER IN 1981 THAN YOU ARE IN 1982, BUT YOU WILL BE A LITTLE WISER, OR YOU SHOULD BE. TIME IS NOT A TOXIC POISON EXERTING A MYSTERIOUS CUMULATIVE ACTION ON THE TISSUES. IT IS SIMPLY THE BELIEF IN THE EFFECTS OF TIME THAT ACTS AS THE POISON.

BUT EACH TIME AROUND YOU HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO DRAW MORE UPON TIME'S INFINITE POSSIBILITIES.

IE YOU NUMBER THE TIMES AROUND THE SPIRAL, YOU ARE

AN THE RUT OF THE REPETITION OF ATTITUDES - AND IHLS

IS AGE. BUT IF EACH TIME AROUND YOU SEE WITH A

PERCEPTION THAT IS EVER FRESH AND INTERESTED, THEN A

YOU GAN FORULY ENJOY AS NEW YEAR, AND THIS IS YOUTH.

AGAIN ANYWAY, FOR MOST OF US FORGET -- 1981 WILL
BE NO DIFFERENT FROM 1982 UNLESS YOU ARE DIFFERENT.
IT WILL CONTAINALL THE SAME POSSIBILITIES, BUT
WILL YOU REALIZE THEM? OF COURSE, THE POSSIBILITIES
ARE NOT IN THE YEAR, BUT IN YOU.

TO DO BY WAY OF HOLDING A NEW VISION "THIS TIME AROUND" THE SPIRAL THAT WE CALL THE NEW YEAR.

A LITTLE PRESENT FOR YOU." THE YOUNG MAN OPENED IT AND FORD AND FORD AND OPENED IT AND THE BRASH FOR YOU." THE BRASH FOR YOUNG MAN OPENED IT AND THE BRASH YOUNG MAN OPENED IT AND FORD ASKING A WORKER WHAT HIS AMBITION IN LIFE WAS. THE YOUNG MAN SAID, "MR. FORD, I WANT TO MAKE A MILLION BIG. ROUND DOLLARS!" (THAT WAS A DAY WHEN DOLLARS WERE VERY BIG AND ROUND A BEW DAYS LATER MR. FORD WALKED INTO THE OFFICE OF THE BRASH YOUNG MAN WITHA PACKAGE: "HERE IS A LITTLE PRESENT FOR YOU." THE YOUNG MAN OPENED IT AND FOUND A PAIR OF SPECTACLES WITH THE LENSES REMOVED AND TWO SILVER DOLLARS IN THEIR PLACE.

"PUT THEM ON. WHAT DO YOU SEE?" "CAN'T SEE A THING BUT THE SILVER DOLLARS" "AND THAT WILL ALWAYS BE YOUR PROBLEM!"

JESUS SAID, "SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM...AND THE THINGS SHALL BE ADDED". HE WAS REFERRING TO A LEVEL OF CONSCIOUSNESS. IN OTHER WORDS, IF YOU WANT TO EXPERIENCE A PROSPEROUS AND FULFILLING YEAR 1981, IT WILL DEPEND ON HOW HIGH YOU CAN GET IN SPIRITUAL AWARENESS.

MARGARET LEE RUNBECK ONCE WROTE, COMMENTING ON OUR TENDENCY TO KEEP MOVING IN RUTS OF LIMITATION: "MAYBE WE DON'T LOOK FROM HIGHENOUGH UP!"

US THAT THE REASON FOR THE LIMITATIONS OF HIS LIFE OR AFFAIRS IN THE PAST YEAR IS THAT HE HAS NOT BEEN RELEASING HIS GOD-POSSIBILITIES, HE WOULD PROBABLY SAY: "I JUST CAN'T SEE IT!"

WHAT ABOUT YOU? CAN YOU LOOK FORWARD TO AND SEE THE GOD-POSSIBILITIES OF YOUR LIFE IN 1983?

ONE OF MY FAVORITE BIBLE STORIES CONCERNS THE MAN WHO WAS CAUGHT IN THE THRONGS WHEN JESUS WAS PASSING BY ONE DAY, SO HE COULDN'T SEE. HE WAS SMALL OF STATURE AND THE CROWDS WERE GREAT. THE NAME OF THE MAN WAS ZACCHAEUS, WHO IS A SYMBOL OF THE MATERIAL-CENTERED PERSON WHO CANNOT SEE THE GOD-POSSIBILITIES OF LIFE BECAUSE OF THE SILVER DOLLARS.

THERE IS A ZACCHAEUS FACTOR IN ALL OF US. SO OFTEN WE FIND OURSELVES SHORT OF STATURE SO WE CANNOT SEE THE SPRRITUAL SIDE OF LIFE: WE MAY BE TOO BUSY TO PRAY, WE REALLY DON'T HAVE SUFFICIENT MONEY TO MAY KE THE GIVING COMMITMENT THAT THE HEART SUGGESTS.

WE FALL DOWN ON OUR COMMITTMENT TO ATTEND THE LECTURE OR THE SUNDAY EXPERIENCE OF "CREATIVE WORTHSHIP" BECAUSE WE NEED THE REST, OR IT IS TOO FAR TO RIDE, OR IT IS TOO COLD OR TOO HOT OR TOO RAINY, OR WE HAVE SOME THINGS TO GET CAUGHT UP WITH AT HOME.

(C) KEDURANTE SAYS ABOUT JOKES, "I HAVE A MILLION OF THEM)

HOWEVER, WE CATCH TACCHAFUS AT AN UNUSUAL MOMENT.
HE WANTRED TO SEE JESUS SO MUCH TO HAT HE CLIMBED A
TREE. AND IT MADE ALL THE DIFFERENCE. JESUS CACCED DEM
HOWEVER, WE CATCH TACCHAFUS AT AN UNUSUAL MOMENT.

SOME TREES TO CLIMB, SO THATT YOU CAN SEE OVER THE LIMITING THOUGHTS OF HUMAN CONSCIOUSNESS, SO THAT YOU CAN LOOK OUT OVER THE POSSIBILITIES OF THE NEW YEARR FROM HIGH ENOUGH UP.

1/ THE TREE OF ASPIRATION:

WE ALL START LIFE WITH HOPES AND DREAMS...BUT AS THE YEARS ROLL ON LIKE FALLING LEAVES, WE BECOME SETTLED AND CYNICAL, AND LIFE BECOMES PROSAIC AND ROUTINE.. IN HIS NOVEL, "THE RETURN OF THE NATIVE," THOMAS HARDY REFERS TO THE TYPICAL CONFORMITY
RIDDEN CONSCIOUSNESS OF PEOPLE AS THE WELL-PROPORTIONED MIND.

HE SAYS THE "WELL-PROPORTIONED MIND" AS ONE THAT SHOWS NO PARTICULAR BLAS; ONE OF WHICH WE MAY SAFELY SAY THAT IT WILL NEVER CAUSE ITS OWNER TO BE CONFINED AS AS MADMAN, TORTURED AS A HERETIC, OR CRUCIFIED AS A BLASPHEMER. ALSO, ON THE OTHER

AS A PROPHET, REVERED AS A PRIEST, OR EXALTED AS A KING. ITS USUAS BLESSINGS ABE HAPPINESS AND MEDIOCRITY."

THIS MAY BE A PROBLEM FOR ALL OF US -- THE WELLPROPORTIONED MIND.* LIKE THE PIONEER WHO BECOMES
TOO SETTLED IN ONE ENCAMPMENT, AND THEN LOSES HIS
DESIRE TO PRESS ON IN HIS DISCOVERY.

WE MAY BE A LITTLE LIKE THE YOUNGSTER WHO DECIDED TO RUN AWAY FROM HOME. WHEN HE TOLD HIS MOTHER OF HIS INTENTIONS, SHE HELPED HIM PACK A BAG AND FIXED A LUNCH FOR HIM. HE STARTED OUT BRAVELY BUT WHEN NIGHT FELL HE CAME HOME. HE CARRIED AN ARMLOAD OF WOOD TO THE KITCHEN STOVE. NO ONE PAID ANY ATTENTION TO HIM. HE HELPED SET THE TABLE FOR SUPPER - DID SEVERAL CHORES -- AND WHEN NO COMMENT WAS MAD ABOUT HIS ABSENCE, HE LOOKED AT TABBY ASLEEP BY THE FIRE AND SASD, "WELL, I SEE YOU STILL HAVE THE SAME OLD CAT!"

AND EVENTURE FORTH IN OUR SEARCH FOR LIFE'S RAINBOWS AND EVENTUALLY RETURNTO FIND THE "SAME OLD CAT" OF WISHING AND WANTING FOR THINGS. WHY? BECAUSE WE HAVE BECOME SHORT OF STARTURE AND CANNOT SEE OVER THE CROWDS OF LIMITING THOUGHTS.

SO THE FIRST PART OF OUR MASTER PLAN FOR THE YEAR
IS TO HEIGHTEN OUR ASPIRATION, NOT JUST WISHING FOR
THANGS OR EXPERIENCES, FOR SEEKING A HIGHER AWARENES:
OF TRUTH, NOT JUST HERALING BUT A HEALTH-CONSCIOUSNESS.

NOT JUST MONEY BEUT A PROSPERITY CONSCIOUSNESS.
NOT JUST MORE YEARS TO OUR LIFE BUT MORE LIFE TO OUR YEARS.

REMEMBER ABBRAHAM, FEELING LOW, SITTING IN HIS
TENT WITHTHE FLAP DOWN, SECLUDED IN GLOOM, FEELING
SORRY FOR HIMSELF, THINKING HE WAS AT THE END OBT
LIFE'S OPPORTUNITIES.

SUDDENLY GOD INVADED THE GLOOM AND BADETHE OLD
MAN COME OUTSIDE. GOD SAID: "LIFT UP NOW THINE
EYES, AND LOOK FROM THE PLACE WHERE THOU ART,
NORTHWARD AND SOUTWARD AND EASTWARD AND WESTWARD:
FOR ALL THE LAND WHICH THOU SEEST, TO THEE WILL I
GIVE IT, AND TO THY SEED FOREVER."

SUDDENLY HIS MANHOOD RETURNED. HE SAW THAT THE SKY WAS HUGHER THAN HIS RIDGEPOLE. HE GOT A SENSE OF FAR-HORIZONS. #HIS SOUL WAS REVIVED, HE TURNED HIS BACK ON THE GRAVE, AND WENT FORTH TO FOUND A NEW NATION.

KNOW THAT YOU ARE NOW ON THE THRESHHOLD OF ADNEW LIFE SO THE FIRST PART OF THE PLAN IS TO LOOK UP, TO REACH FOR THE HIGHEST -- NOT IN ENVY OR COVETOUSNESS BUT IN ACCEPTANCE OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD-POSSIBI-TIES "PREPARED FOR YOU FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD."

TREE OF DEDICATION: ZXCCHAEUS REPRESENTS THAS IN MAN THAT EVENTUALLY RECOGNIZES THE NEED TO MAKE LIFE COUNT. HE WAS RICH IN WORLDLY WEALTH. HE HAND JUST ABOUT ALL ONE COULD POSSIBLY HAVE; BUT HEE KNEW THAT HE HAD NOT ATTAINED ALL THE ONE COULD BET. SO HE CLIMBED A TREE.

MANY PERSONS BECOME WHAT WE CALL "GOOD CHRISTIANS" OR "GOOD JEWS", (OR GOOD TRUTH STUDENTS) -- BUT ZACCHAEUS SPIRIT REALIZED THAT IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO BET GOOD, ONE MUST BE GOOD FOR SOME THING.

WORLDLY SEEKING AND FULFILLMENT IS ONLY A MEANS
TO AN END - NOT THE END OF WORLDLY REWARD AND ITS
SUPPOSED HAPPINESS, BUTTHE END OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH

EVERY PERSON NEEDS TO CLIMB THE TREE OF DEDICATION, TO SEE OVER THE CROWD OF WORLDLY SUCCESS AND RECOGNITION, OR GOOD JOBS AND GOOD INCOME AND GOOD HOMES AND GOOD THINGS.

THE TREE OF DEDICATION HELPS US TO SEE THE TRUTH, TO SEE THAT THE ONLY HAPPINESS WE EVER KNOW IS WHEN WE ARE GROWING, WHEN WE ARE GIVING, WHEN WE ARE SERVING.

ZACHEOUS CAUGHT THIS VISION FROM HIS TREE TOP PERCH.
HE SAW THAT HIS LIFE HAD BEEN DEVOTED TO SELFISHLY
ACCUMULATING MONEY AND POWER -- AND SO HE DEDICATED
HIMSELF RIGHT THEN AND THERE TO GIVING, TO JUSTICE.
HE HAD NOT REALLY DONE WROOMG. HE WAS LIVING IN A
TIME WHEN HIS POSITION WAS AN ACCEPTED PART OF

THE SPOILS SYSTEM. BUT HE COULD SSEE THAT THE LACK

IN HIS LIFE WAS THAT HE WAS NOT MAKING ANY POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION.

EVERY LIFE IS A USELESS LIFE UNLESS IT BECOMES THE CHANNEL THROUGH WHICH SOME GOOD FLOWS. ONE MAY REDEDICATE HIMSELF TO GREATER GIVINGNESS IN HIS WORK. OR HE MAY COMMIT SOME OF HIS TIME TO VOLUNTEERS SERVICE OF SOME KIND. OR HE MAY GIVE TANGIBLESUPPORT TO SOME ACTIVITY THAT HE BELIEVES IS HELPING TO MAKE THE WORLD BETTER PLACE.

YOU HAVE NEVER LIVED A PERFECT DAY, EVEN THOUGH YOU HAVE EARNED MUCH MONEY AND ACHIEVED GREAT GOALS, JUNLESS YOU HAVE DONE SOMETHING FOR SOMEONE WHO WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO REPAY YOU.

NO MATTER HOW SMALL YOUR LOT IN LIFE, THERE'S ROOM ON IT FOR A SERVICE STATION."

TREE OF DISCIPLINE: IT IS A WORD FEW PEOPLE LIKE

(AS WE REMEMBER TIMES WHEN WE WERE "DISCIPLINED"

IN CHILDHOOD) DISCIPLINE DOES NOT MEAN SUPPRESSION

BUT CHANNELED EXPRESSION. IT MEANS COMMITMENT

TO A GREAT IDEA -- THE LOVE OF TRUTH, AND COMMITMENT

TO THE PERSISTENT EFFORT TO UNFOLD YOUR GOD-POSS-BILITIES.

THE CROWD THAT OBSCURED ZACCHAEUS VIEW WAS ALSO A MATTER OF HIS SELF-INDULDGENCE. WE ARE TOO EASY ON OURSELVES, WE GIVE UP TOO READILY WHEN CONCENTRATION AND MORE DRIVE ARE CALLED FOR.

SWE MUSTER REALIZE MATEPROGRESS IS NOT ALWAYS A
STRAIGHT LINE GOING UPWARD WITHOUT BREAK. THERE
MAY WELL BE UPS AND DOWNS. NEED PATIENCE WITH SELF.

Discipline is chiefly mental -- THE COMMITMENT TO OCCASIONALLY SAY "NO!" TO THE NEGATIVES AROUND YOU, AND THE INERTIAL PULL OF THE HUMAN IN YOU.

THOUGHT & CONTROL IS NOT SUPPRESSION OF THOUGHT -BUT COMMITMENT OF THOUGHT TO HIGHER VALUES...
NOT REACTIVE BUT CREATIVE...NOT/THINKING ABOUT
THINGS "OUT/THERE"...BUT THINKING THE KIND OF
THOUGHTS THAS LEAD TO THINGS AS YOU WANT THEM TO
MANIFEST IN YOUR LIFE.

GRAVUM & WHERE OOM under

RIGHT SIDE UP WHEN THE PORLD IS UPSIDE DOWN."
BUT THIS TAKES PRACTICE.

OF REMARKABLE/THINGS THAT HAVE OCCURRED IN THEIR LIVES BECAUSE OF RADIO... USED TO BE WORRIERS MATERIALISTIC, ALCOHOLIC, ETC

TEMPTASTION TO GIVE/IN, TO STARK WORRYING, TO GET EMOTIONAL, OR TO REACH FOR ASPIRIN OR STIMULANT... SAY "NO!" ("I HAVE A CHOICE, AND I CHOOSE TO BE STRONG!")

THIS TAKES PRACTICE...AND A DISCIPLINE OF INVOLVE-MENT. A GOOD SYMBOL OF THIS MIGHT BE THE COMMINTMENT TOWARD REGULAR SUNDAY ATTENDANCE HERE EVERY—SINGLE SUNDAY DURING 1983. SET A GOAL AND HOLDS TO IT!

SO ZACCHAEUS CLIMBED A TREE AND GOT A GOOD GLIMPSE OF JESUS PASSING BY. THE ACCOUNT OF THIS REVEALS A GREAT PLUS THAST COMES THROUGH OUR COMMITMENT.

JESUS LOOKED UP AND SAID, "COME DOWN, I WANT TO HAVE LUNCH WITCH YOU IN YOUR HOUSE." IN OTHER WORDS THE COSMIC FLOW IS ALWAYS PRESENT, WAITING ONLY FOR OUR MOVE OF COMMITMENT: OF ASPIRATION, DEDICATION, AND DISCIPLINE.

WHEN HE CAME OUT HE ANNOUNCED THAT HE WAS GOING TO GIVE HALF OF HIS FORTUNE TO FEED THE POOR AND TO MAKE RESTITUTION TO THOSE HE HAD DEFRAUDED. THIS SIMPLY MEANS THAT HE WAS CHANGED.

IN LLOYD C. DOUGLAS'S BOOK "THE ROBE", MARCELLUS IS ASKING MIRIAM WHAT HAPPENED, WHAT JESUS HAD SAID TO ZACCHAEUS. MIRIAM SHOOK HER HEAD. "NOBODY KNOWS...MAYBE HE DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING AT ALL. PERHAPS HE LOOKED ZACCHAEUS SQUASRE IN THE IDEAS UNTIL THE MAN SAW REFLECTED THERE THE IMAGE OF THE PERSON HE WAS MEANT TO BE."

POEM BY AN UNKNOWN AUTHOR:

"I KNEW HIS FACE THE MOMENT THAT HE PASSED TRIUMPHANT IN THE THOUGHTLESS, CRUEL THRONG - I GENTLY TOUCHED HIS JARM - HE SMILED AT ME - HE WAS THE PERSON THAT ONCE I MEANT TO BE!

WHERE I HAD FAILED, HE'D WON FROM LIFE, SUCCESS; WHERE I HAD STUMBLED, WITH SURE FEET HE STOOD; ALIKE - YET UNALIKE, - WE FACED THE WORLD, AND THROUGH THE STRESS HE FOUND THAT LIFE WAS GOOD. AND I? THE BITTER WORMWOOD IN THE GLASS, THE SHADOWED WAY ALONG WHICH FAILURES PASS!

YET AS I SAW HIM THUS, JOY CAME TO ME - HE WAS THE PERSON THAS ONCE I MEANT TO BE!

WE DID NOT SPEAK. BUT IN HIS SAPIENT EYES
I SAW THE SPIRIT THAT HAD URGED HIM ON,
THE COURAGET THAT HAD HELD HIM THROUGH THE FLIGHT
HAD ONCE BEEN MINE . I THOUGHT, "CAN IT BE GONE?"
HE FELT THAT UNASKED QUESTION - FELTLIT SO
HIS PALE LIPS FORMED THE ONE-WORD ANSWER, 'No!'

TOO LATE TO WIN? NO! NOT TOO LATE FOR ME - HE IS THE NOW PERSON THAT STILL I MEAN TO BE!"

AND AS YOU SET YOUR MASTER PLAN, YOU WHENE FIND AND FOLLOW THAT PERSON... AND YOU HELD BECOME THAT PERSON IN 1981.