

# **ERIC BUTTERWORTH PAPERS (3014)**

**BOX 20  
FOLDER 40**

**COVENANT FOR THE  
NEW YEAR**

**DECEMBER 30, 1984**



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## COVENANT FOR THE NEW YEAR

S. Dec. 30, 1994

|| 'COMMIT YOUR WAY TO THE LORD, TRUST IN HIM, AND HE WILL ACT.' PSALM 37: 5

|| 'THOU WILT KEEP HIM IN PERFECT PEACE WHOSE MIND IS STAYED ON THEE.' ISA. 26: 3

|| 'PROVE ME NOW...IF I WILL <sup>NOT</sup> OPEN YOU THE WINDOWS OF HEAVEN, AND POUR YOU OUT A BLESSING THAT THERE SHALL NOT BE ROOM ENOUGH TO RECEIVE IT' MAL. 3:10

|| 'IF YE ABIDE IN ME, AND MY WORDS ABIDE IN YOU, ASK WHATSOEVER YOU WILL, AND IT SHALL BE DONE UNTO YOU.' JOHN 1: 17

THESE SCRIPTURAL QUOTATIONS/ARE UNUSUAL/IN THAT/ THEY DEAL WITH/'THE LAW OF THE COVENANT.' IT IS A BIBLE-BASED TECHNIQUE/THAT HAS BECOME/A FUNDAMENTAL/IN OUR/NEW INSIGHT/IN TRUTH.

THE COVENANT IDEA/IS PERSISTENTLY IMBEDDED/IN THE TEACHINGS/OF THE HEBREW PROPHETS. IT REPRESENTS /A BASIC PSYCHOLOGICAL/ATTITUDE/WHICH CLEARLY SHOWS/A PROGRESSIVE STAGE/IN THE SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT OF MANKIND.



THE ASSYRIAN, /BABYLONIAN, /AND EGYPTIAN RELIGIONS/  
RESTED UPON PRIMITIVE /ANIMISTIC OR MAGIC /CONCEPTS  
OF DIVINITY. THE VERY SAME PRIESTS /WHO LAID THE  
FOUNDATIONS OF MATHEMATICS /AND ASTRONOMY, /STRANGELY  
CLUNG TO /RELIGIOUS SUPERSTITIONS. SUCH RELIGIONS  
ASSUMED A GOD OF CAPRICE /WHO MAY BE BOUGHT, /  
CAJOLED, /OR FOOLED /IF ONE HAS THE RIGHT /TECHNIQUE.  
AMULETS, /INCANTATIONS, /OMEN-TAKING, /AND BLIND  
FEAR /MAKE THE PATTERN OF SUCH A FAITH.

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THE GREAT CONTRIBUTION /OF THE HEBREW PROPHETS /TO  
MAN'S SPIRITUAL EVOLUTION /ON THIS PLANET /WAS THE  
'BERITH' /OR COVENANT. ./THE IDEA OF A PROMISE /OR  
AGREEMENT /BETWEEN MAN AND GOD, /WHERE THE CONTRACT-  
ING PARTIES /ACT NOT ON CAPRICE /BUT ON REASON AND <sup>ORDER.</sup>

THE 'BERITH', /NOT ONLY IMPLIES /AN EMBRYO SPIRITUAL  
IDEA, /BUT IT IS THE FUNDAMENTAL /LAW-AND-ORDER  
CONCEPT /OF THE UNIVERSE /THAT ULTIMATELY GAVE RISE  
/TO A WORLD OF SCIENCE AND LAW.



JEREMIAH HAD THE VISION/OF GOD MAKING/A COVENANT WITH MAN,/SAYING:/ 'I WILL PUT MY LAW/IN THEIR INWARD PARTS,/AND IN THEIR HEART/WILL I WRITE IT;/AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD,/ AND THEY SHALL BE MY <sup>PEOPLE.</sup>

THIS WAS THE FIRST AWARENESS/OF THE LAW OF CONSCIOUSNESS,/THE LAW OF MIND ACTION,/THE LAW OF CAUSE AND EFFECT. THUS, LIFE NEED NOT BE/A MATTER OF TREMBLING WITH FEAR/BEFORE THE CAPRICIOUS WILL OF GOD/WHO MAY BRING ABOUT/ALL MANNER OF PAINFUL <sup>THINGS</sup> FOR SOME INSCRUTABLE/REASON OF HIS OWN. ONE NEED ONLY <sup>TO</sup> KNOW THE TRUTH,/KEEP THE LAW,/AND ACTUALLY COMMAND THE RESULTS. YES COMMAND!

ISIAH HAS GOD SAYING TO MAN,/ 'CONCERNING THE WORK OF MY HANDS,/ COMMAND YE ME.' <sup>★ GREAT REALIZATION</sup>  
LET THERE BE!

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OF COURSE THE PROPHETS/WERE NOT REALLY HEARD,/ AND <sup>SO</sup> THE HEBREWS CARRIED OVER/MUCH OF THE OLD IDEA/AND CONTINUED TO DEAL WITH/THE CAPRICIOUS GOD OF THE SKIES. ABSENTEE LAND LORD



▶ THE MISSION OF JESUS WAS TO RECALL PEOPLE TO THE 'BERITH'. HE SAID, 'I CAME NOT TO DESTROY THE LAW BUT TO FULFILL IT.' HE STRESSED THAT THE KINGDOM OF IMPERSONAL LAW IS WITHIN EACH PERSON. AND WHEN THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS CONDEMNED HIM FOR SEEMING TO PUT HIMSELF IN THE PLACE OF GOD, HE SAID, 'I SAY YOU ARE GODS: AND ALL OF YOU ARE CHILDREN OF THE MOST HIGH.'

▶ THE GREAT TRUTH THAT JESUS STRESSED IS THAT THERE IS A DYNAMIC SPIRITUAL PROCESS WORKING WITHIN YOU CONSTANTLY, WHICH WILL WORK FOR YOU AS HEALTH FOR YOUR BODY OR PROSPERITY IN YOUR AFFAIRS, IF YOU WORK WITH IT... ~~XXXXXXX~~ IF YOU KEEP YOUR CONSCIOUSNESS CENTERED WITHIN. 'SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM...' RIGHTEOUSNESS

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JESUS SAID, 'THE FATHER WORKETH UNTIL NOW, AND I WORK.' / I HAVE LONG USED A SELF-ACTUALIZING

HUSBAND AND WIFE, HEREBY DEDICATE OURSELVES, OUR



AFFIRMATION/THAT DEALS WITH THIS IDEAL:/'GOD WORKS  
IN ME AND THROUGH ME,/AND I WORK WITH HIM/IN THE  
WISDOM AND POWER OF SPIRIT.'

MY COVENANT

THUS, IN EFFECT,/GOD HAS MADE A CONTRACT/WITH  
YOU,/TO BE THE EVER-AVAILABLE/RESOURCE OF<sup>YOUR</sup> LIFE,  
LOVE,/LIGHT,/AND SUBSTANCE./..BUT YOU MUST MAKE  
A COVENANT/TO KEEP IN TUNE,/TO BE RECEPTIVE TO  
THE FLOWING FORTH/OF GOD-ACTIVITY.

THIS IS WHAT  
PRAYER IS.

CHARLES AND MYRTLE FILLMORE<sup>CO-FOUNDERS</sup>/ONCE CAME TO A POINT  
OF DECISION/IN THEIR LIVES. OUT OF THE TURMOIL  
OF ILLNESS/AND FINANCIAL REVERSES,/THEY HAD BEEN  
SEARCHING FOR LIGHT./..AND THEY FOUND THE TRUTH.

THEY MADE A CONTRACT TOGETHER,/WHICH THEY  
CALLED 'DEDICATION AND COVENANT.' IT WAS A  
FORMAL DOCUMENT,/SIGNED ON DECEMBER 7, 1892 -/  
92 YEARS AGO. HERE IS WHAT IT SAID:

→ 'WE, CHARLES FILLMORE/AND MYRTLE FILLMORE,/HUSBAND AND WIFE,/HEREBY DEDICATE OURSELVES,/OUR



TIME,/OUR MONEY,/ALL WE HAVE/~~AND~~ ALL WE EXPECT/TO HAVE,/TO THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH...

IT BEING UNDERSTOOD/AND AGREED/THAT THE SAID SPIRIT OF TRUTH/SHALL RENDER UNTO US/OUR EQUIVALENT/FOR THIS DEDICATION,/IN PEACE OF MIND,/HEALTH OF BODY,/WISDOM,/UNDERSTANDING,/LOVE,/LIFE /AND AN ABONDANT SUPPLY/OF ALL THINGS NECESSARY/TO MEET EVERY WANT/WITHOUT OUR MAKING/ANY OF THESE THINGS/THE OBJECT OF OUR EXISTENCE.

IN THE PRESENCE OF THE CONSCIOUS MIND OF THE CHRIST THIS 7TH DAY OF DECEMBER 1892.

/S/ CHARLES FILLMORE  
MYRTLE FILLMORE

THIS AMAZING DOCUMENT IS INTERESTING,/ BOTH BECAUSE OF THE DEEP COMMITMENT,/AND ALSO THE DELIGHTFUL WAY /IN WHICH THEY FULLY EXPECTED/THE COMEBACK OF SECURITY IN THE CONTRACT.

► I SAPENT MANY TRANSCENDENT HOURS/WITH <sup>MR. FILLMORE</sup> 'PAPA CHARLIE', / AND I WAS STRONGLY INFLUENCED/ BY HIS UNIQUE IDEA OF DIVINE LAW./..AN ACTIVITY OF GOD THAT IS AS DEPENDABLE/AS THE RISING AND SETTING OF THE SUN. <sup>"GOD LOVES TO BE USED"</sup> HE WOULD SAY/ 'TRUTH DEMONSTRATES



ITSELF.' IN OTHER WORDS,/WE NEED NOT MAKE A  
DEMONSTRATION. WE NEED ONLY TO/MAKE A COVENANT/  
AND KEEP IT. *"FATHER'S GOOD PLEASURE"*

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I FIRMLY BELIEVE/THAT SOMEWHERE/IN THE DISCIPLINED  
CONSCIOUSNESS/OF EVERY GREAT ACHIEVER/IN LIFE/IS  
A PERSONAL COVENANT/MADE SOMEWHERE/ALONG HIS EARLY  
LIFE. AND THE ACHIEVEMENTS HAVE/COME ABOUT OFTEN  
IN SPITE OF HARDSHIPS/AND HANDICAPS/AND BAD BREAKS.  
//PEOPLE TALK OF 'LUCK'. IN TRUTH WE SAY IT IS  
CONSCIOUSNESS. BUT IT IS CONSCIOUSNESS/GIVEN A  
SHARP FOCUS/THROUGH A STRONG/COMMITMENT/OR COVENANT.

I HAVE LONG BEEN INSPIRED/BY THE PERSONAL COVENANT  
OF WALT WHITMAN:/ 'OH WHILE I LIVE,/TO BE THE RULER  
OF LIFE,/NOT A SLAVE. TO MEET LIFE/AS A POWERFUL  
CONQUEROR./AND NOTHING EXTERIOR/SHALL EVER TAKE  
COMMAND OF ME.'



IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT 'HIGH YEARNINGS'/ALWAYS  
SEEM TO COME FROM HIGH PLACES. JESUS GAVE HIS  
CLASSIC SERMON/ON THE MOUNT. MOSES RECEIVED THE  
TEN COMMANDMENTS/ON MT. SINAI. ABRAHAM RECEIVED  
HIS GREAT VISION/ON THE MOUNT. HE WAS TOLD TO/  
LOOK UP FROM WHERE HE WAS,/TO LOOK NORTHWARD,/  
SOUTHWARD,/EASTWARD,/AND WESTWARD,/AND THAT ALL  
HE COULD SEE/WOULD BE GIVEN TO HIM.

|| MARGARET LEE RUNBECK SAYS, / 'MAYBE WE DON'T  
LOOK FROM HIGH ENOUGH UP.'

WE NEED TO TAKE TIME OCCASIONALLY/TO LOOK UP TO  
THE HILLS OF CONSCIOUSNESS,/ IN MEDITATION,/ TO  
CONTEMPLATE THINGS/FROM THE HIGHEST POINT OF VIEW,  
AND MAKE A COMMITMENT/TO A NEW KIND OF THINKING  
AND LIVING.

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I LOVE THE STORY OF ZACCHAEUS,/ THE MAN WHO WAS  
CAUGHT IN THE CROWD/ON THE DAY JESUS PASSED HIS  
HOME. HE WAS SHORT OF STATURE/AND COULDN'T SEE.



SO HE CLIMBED A TREE. / HE HAD BEEN THE SYMBOL / OF THE MATERIAL-CENTERED PERSON / OBSCURED BY LIMITED CONSCIOUSNESS / FROM SEEING THE TRUTH.

HENRY FORD ONCE ASKED / ONE OF HIS YOUNG EXECUTIVES WHAT HE WANTED IN LIFE. / 'ALL I WANT / IS TO MAKE A MILLION DOLLARS.' / THE NEXT DAY / FORD GAVE HIM A PAIR OF SPECTACLES / WITH SILVER DOLLARS REPLACING THE LENSES. / 'PUT THEM ON.. / WHAT DO YOU SEE?' / 'I CAN'T SEE AT ALL / BECAUSE OF THOSE DOLLARS.' / 'AND THAT WILL / ALWAYS BE YOUR PROBLEM'

THERE IS A LITTLE OF ZACCHAEUS / IN ALL OF US. WE LOSE OUR PERSPECTIVE / THROUGH INVOLVEMENT WITH THINGS, / REACHING FOR WORLDLY SUCCESS / AT ANY ~~PRICE~~ PRICE - PRE-OCCUPATION WITH NON-ESSENTIALS / LEAVING US WITH LITTLE TIME / FOR IMPORTANT THINGS.

BUT <sup>you</sup> ~~we~~ HAVE TO HAND IT TO ZACCHAEUS. / HE SAW HIS PROBLEM / AND TRIED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT. AND







TELLS HOW HE /CAME OUT OF HIS HOUSE/ON THAT DAY,  
AFTER DINING WITH JESUS,/AND HUMBLY TOLD THE  
PEOPLE/HE WAS GOING TO GIVE HALF/OF ALL HE OWNED/  
TO FEED THE POOR/AND TO MAKE RESTITUTION/TO THOSE  
WHOM HE HAD DEFRAUDED. MARCELLUS: /'BUT WHAT HAD  
HAPPENED?/WHAT HAD JESUS SAID/TO HIM?' MIRIAM:  
'NOBODY KNOWS../MAYBE HE DIDN'T/SAY ANYTHING AT  
ALL. PERHAPS HE LOOKED ZACCHAEUS/SQUIRE IN THE  
EYES/UNTIL THE MAN SAW REFLECTED THERE/THE IMAGE/  
OF THE PERSON/HE WAS MEANT TO BE.'

SYMBOLICALLY:/WHEN WE LOOK AT OURSELVES/FROM  
A HIGHER LEVEL/OF CONSCIOUSNESS,/WE SEE THE  
SELF/IN THE MIRROR OF TRUTH/AND CATCH THE VISION  
OF <sup>OUR</sup> ~~THE~~ CHRIST SELF. ZACCHAEUS MADE A CONTRACT  
/IN WHICH HE DECIDED/TO REMAKE HIS LIFE/IN THE  
CONTEXT OF GIVING.

ZACCHAEUS REPRESENTS/THAT IN EACH OF US/THAT  
YEARNs TO MAKE LIFE COUNT. HE HAD ALL THAT ONE  
CAN POSSIBLE HAVE,/BUT HE KNEW HE HAD NOT



ATTAINED /ALL THAT THAT HE COULD<sup>NEW</sup> BE. SO HE  
CLIMBED A TREE. HE MADE A<sup>NEW</sup> COVENANT WITH LIFE.

NOTE: ZACCHAEUS REALIZED /HIS SMALLNESS OF  
STATURE. WITHOUT THIS SELF-HONEST ADMISSION, /  
OUR WORK WITH TRUTH /MAY WELL BE IN TERMS OF  
LITTLE AIMS, /THINKING ONLY OF DEMONSTR. THINGS.  
ZACCHAUS WANTED /TO SEE OVER THE CROWD, SO HE  
CLIMBED A TREE. HE WANTED TO TAKE HOLD /OF THE  
TRUTH FROM A HIGHER LEVEL. /. AND IT IS AT THIS  
POINT /WHERE WE SEE THAT THE ONLY TRUE HAPPINESS  
IS IN GROWING, /GIVING, /SERVING.

[SOMEONE HAS SAID: 'YOU HAVE NOT LIVED /A  
PERFECT DAY, /EVEN THOUGH /YOU HAVE EARNED /MUCH  
MONEY, /UNLESS YOU HAVE /DONE SOMETHING /FOR  
SOMEONE /WHO WILL /NEVER BE ABLE /TO REPAY YOU.'

IT IS WHEN YOU BEGIN TO 'THINK GIVE' /INSTEAD OF  
'GET', /THAT YOU GET INTO THE FLOW, /WHICH BECOMES  
A HEALING /AND RESTORING FORCE /IN YOUR LIFE.

MAKE A NEW COVENANT FOR LIVING. /. DEDICATE YOUR  
MIND, /YOUR HEART, /AND YOUR HANDS /TO A NEW KIND  
OF EXPRESSION. /. AND EXPECT A RETURN /OF ALL THAT



MAY BE REQUIRED/TO MAKE FOR A FULL/AND COMPLETE LIFE.

CLIMB YOUR OWN TREE/OF ASPIRATION/AND COMMITMENT. GOALS MORE SATISFYING/THAN MATERIAL/WILL COME TO YOU. YOU WILL/BE DIRECTED TOWARD SUCCESS/AND THINGS...BUT NONE WILL BECOME/THE OBJECT/OF YOUR QUEST. YOU WILL CLIMB/ THE HILLTOP/OF SUCCESS,/ BUT YOU WILL HAVE FOUND/A NEW AND MORE SATISFYING /HILL TO CLIMB../WITHIN. YOU WILL EXPECT TO BE PROVIDED FOR/AND RIGHTLY DIRECTED. BUT THE GREATEST GOAL/WILL BE TO KEEP PLUGGED IN/TO THE DIVINE CREATIVE FLOW../AND TO KEEP ON/WITH YOUR SPIRITUAL UNFOLDMENT.

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GIVE SOME SERIOUS THOUGHT/TO THIS COVENANT PROCESS./YOU MAY WANT TO MAKE A PERSONAL COVENANT FOR YOURSELF/AS YOU STAND AT THE GATE/OF THE YEAR. GET A HIGH PERSPECTIVE/OF YOUR LIFE../SEE YOURSELF

LIST THE CHALLENGES YOU FACE (CROWD)



IN THE MIRROR OF TRUTH. / SKETCH OUT YOUR VERY OWN / DEDICATION AND COVENANT. IT MAY BE IN THE FORM / OF SOME RESOLUTIONS, / OR IT MAY BE / A SERIES OF AFFIRMATIONS / OR A KIND OF PRAYER. ACCEPT AND EXPECT. REMEMBER GOD HAS MADE COVENANT WITH YOU.

OLGA AND I HAVE PREPARED FOR YOU / A SPECIAL COVENANT FOR PERSONAL FREEDOM. IN CASE YOU DO NOT WANT / TO CREATE YOUR OWN, / OR EVEN IF YOU DO, / THIS WILL BE FOR YOU / A POWERFUL PRAYER OF NEW COMMITMENT. WE HAVE ESPECIALLY BLESSED / THIS COVENANT, / WE HOPE YOU WILL REFLECT ON ITS MESSAGE / AT THE EVE OF THE NEW YEAR. YOU MAY ALSO WANT TO PUT IT / IN A PLACE THAT YOU WILL SEE OFTEN, / TO CONTINUOUSLY RENEW YOUR COMMITMENT. •

▶ WE HAVE A SCROLL FOR EACH OF YOU WHICH OLGA AND I WILL PERSONALLY PUT IN YOUR HAND AS YOU LEAVE. THESE ARE VERY PERSONAL, / AND ONLY FOR YOU WHO ARE HERE. / SO YOU WILL UNDERSTAND WHEN WE SAY, YOU MAY NOT HAVE ONE / FOR SOMEONE NOT HERE.



I AM GOING TO READ THE COVENANT/IN THE FIRST  
PERSON,/AS IF YOU ARE READING/IT FOR YOURSELF.  
GET VERY STILL../AND LET MY VOICE BE YOUR VOICE.

MY COVENANT FOR PERSONAL FREEDOM

IN THE YEAR OF 1985/I DECREE THAT/'OLD THOUGHTS  
AND OLD CONDITIONS/ARE AS WATERS/THAT HAVE/PASSED  
AWAY.' I LET GO/OF THE PAST/AND ALL THOUGHTS  
RELATED/TO THE PAST. JOYOUSLY/AND IN A BELIEVING  
ATTITUDE/I ACCEPT AND EXPECT/THE 'ALL THINGS//MADE  
NEW.'

EACH DAY OF THE YEAR/CARRIES WITH IT/EVERYTHING  
THAT I NEED/TO COMPLETE IT/I MOVE FREELY/ON MY  
SPIRITUAL JOURNEY/THROUGH LIFE,/CONFIDENT THAT/  
WHATEVER I OUGHT TO KNOW/I SHALL KNOW,/THAT WHAT-  
EVER I OUGHT TO DO/I SHALL DO,/AND THAT WHATEVER  
~~XXXXXXX~~ BELONGS TO ME/WILL COME TO ME. I FACE  
THE UNKNOWN/IN THE CALM FAITH/THAT THERE IS NO  
PROBLEM/THAN CANNOT BE SOLVED,/NO SITUATION/THAT  
CANNOT BE MADE RIGHT,/NO OBSTACLE/THAT CANNOT BE  
OVERCOME./AND THIS IS ~~THE~~ <sup>MY</sup> YEAR/OF FULFILLMENT.

I COMMIT MYSELF/TO KEEP THE HIGH WATCH OF TRUTH,/AND I AM HAPPILY ESTABLISHED/IN THE FLOW OF MY  
GOOD. I AM TRULY ALIVE/EVERY MINUTE OF EVERY DAY.  
I AM TRULY AWAKE,/AWARE,/AND ENTHUSIASTIC./ I MAKE



CONSTANT USE OF THE OPPORTUNITIES/THAT ARE MINE  
/IN LIFE'S CREATIVE CLASSROOM. / I LOVE LIFE/AND  
LIFE LOVES ME!❖

GOD'S POWER/STIMULATES/AND STABILIZES/ALL MY BUSI-  
NESS ENDEAVORS. DIVINE LOVE/RESOLVES ALL DIFFER-  
ENCES/AND MAKES RIGHT/EVERY RELATIONSHIP. / IF I  
SHOULD STUMBLE /I KNOW THAT I CANNOT FALL/FROM THE  
SUPPORT OF THE CREATIVE FLOW/FROM WITHIN ME. I  
MAY LOSE MY WAY,/BUT I CAN NEVER LOSE/MY STELLAR  
PLACE/IN THE UNIVERSE.

THIS IS MY YEAR/OF COMPLETE/HEALING LIFE./ I LET  
GO OF ALL/NEGATIVE PROGNOSSES/AND PATTERNS OF PAIN.  
I ACCEPT THE POSSIBILITY/OF COMPLETE REMISSION.  
DAY BY DAY,/AS THE YEAR PROGRESSES,/I EXPERIENCE  
WONDERFUL NEW LEVELS/OF WHOLENESS AND VITALITY.

1985 IS MY YEAR OF SELF-MASTERY./I AM THE MASTER  
OF MY LIFE/AND ALL ITS CIRCUMSTANCES. I CONTROL  
MY BODY❖.../IT DOES NOT CONTROL ME. I RUN MY  
AFFAIRS.../THEY DO NOT RUN ME. I RESPECT MYSELF/  
AND I TREAT MY MIND AND BODY/WITH THIS RESPECT.  
I PLEDGE/TO BEGIN/EACH DAY/OF THIS YEAR/WITH A  
TIME OF RECENTERING/IN THE DIVINE FLOW WITHIN...  
AND I EXPECT/AND ACCEPT/A CEASELESS FLOW/OF HEALTH,  
/ABUNDANCE,/FULFILLMENT.../AND A CONTINUITY OF LIFE-  
ENHANCING IDEAS.../THIS IS MY YEAR OF FREEDOM TO  
BECOME ALL THAT I REALLY AM. /S/ SIG. OF COMM.