

**ERIC BUTTERWORTH
PAPERS (3014)**

BOX 25

FOLDER 107

PROJECT 1991:

**COMMITMENT OF THE
HEART**

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"A COMMITMENT OF THE HEART"

CHRISTMAS HAS COME AND GONE, / AND MANY PERSONS MAY BE HEAVING A LONG SIGH, / AND SAYING, "It's ALL OVER UNTIL NEXT YEAR!" / IF I CAN ASK AN IMPUDENT question, / "WHAT IS IT THAT HAS COME AND GONE? / AND IS OVER UNTIL NEXT YEAR?" / IF WE CAN SO EASILY PICK IT UP AND LAY IT DOWN, / THEN CERTAINLY THE WHOLE THING / HAS LITTLE RELEVANCE IN OUR LIVES.

TODAY, IN THE AFTER-GLOW / OF WHATEVER CHRISTMAS MAY HAVE BEEN TO YOU, / I WOULD LIKE US TO THINK A LITTLE BIT / ABOUT TIME, / ABOUT A CREATIVE WAY OF TAKING INVENTORY, / AND ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMITMENT.

TOMORROW NIGHT AT THE STROKE OF MIDNIGHT / A LOT OF WILDLY HISTERICAL PEOPLE / WILL BE SLAPPING ONE ANOTHER ON THE BACK / AND SCREAMING "HAPPY NEW YEAR!" / IT IS AN INTERESTING PHENOMENON, / WITH NO TRULY LOGICAL EXPLANATION.

THOMAS MANN 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 YEAR. / EVEN WHEN A NEW CENTURY BEGINS, / IT IS ONLY WE MORTALS WHO RING BELLS / AND FIRE OFF PISTOLS."

WHAT IS IT THAT MAKES A NEW YEAR NEW? / WE MAY EXPLAIN ABOUT THE EARTH'S ROTATION AROUND THE SUN. / IN A TIME OF SPACE- CONSCIOUSNESS, / IT IS NOT TOO MUCH TO CONCEIVE OF BEING OUT IN SPACE, / AWAY FROM THE SOLAR SYSTEM, / WITH NO SUN TO ROTATE AROUND, / NO SUNSETS AND NO SUNRISES. / NOW WHAT IS A YEAR? / OBVIOUSLY IT IS MORE PSYCHOLOGICAL THAN ASTRONOMICAL.

WE TALK ABOUT BEING A YEAR OLDER. / WHAT DOES THAT MEAN? / IF ONE DIDN'T KNOW HOW "OLD" HE WAS, / WOULD HE REMAIN YOUNG? / WE SAY "TIME MARCHES ON" / but does time really march? / WHAT IS TIME? / Ouspensky, in his book, "A NEW MODEL OF THE UNIVERSE" / SAYS THAT "TIME IS NOT A PASSING PHENOMENON / BUT AN UNFOLDMENT OF THE INFINITE POSSIBILITIES / OF AN EXPANDING UNIVERSE."

~~You have all time!~~
We may say, "THERE IS NOT ENOUGH TIME!" / BUT TIME IS NOT A QUANTITY, / OF WHICH THERE CAN BE A DEFICENCY. / YOU LIVE IN THE ALLNESS OF ETERNITY. / THERE IS ALWAYS ENOUGH TIME / TO DO THE THINGS THAT YOU WANT OR NEED TO DO.

A YEAR IS TOO MUCH FOR THE HUMAN MIND TO COMPREHEND. / IT IS LIKE TRYING TO COMPREHEND A TRILLION DOLLARS, / A FIGURE THAT IS BANTERED ABOUT IN WASHINGTON / AS FLIPPANTLY AS WE COUNT OUR CHANGE IN DOLLARS AND CENTS. / A TRILLION DOLLARS IS TOO MUCH. / BUT WE CAN COMPREHEND A DOLLAR / ..AND A DAY.

THE DRAMATIC EFFECT IS...MANUFACTURERS CURTAIL EXPANSION PLANS, AND BUSINESS LARGE AND SMALL BEGIN TO SCALE BACK...AND CONSUMERS LIKE YOU AND ME STOP SPENDING. AND THE MORE THE GLOOMY FORECAST CONTINUES TO BE HEARD, THE MORE THE FLOW OF MONEY IS TIGHTENED.

WE ARE TOLD THAT IF EVERY AMERICAN WOULD JUST PROCEED TO BUY THE THINGS THAT THEY WERE READY AND FINANCIALLY ABLE TO PURCHASE, THE TV'S AND VCR'S, THE APPLIANCES AND CARS AND EVEN HOUSES...IF THEY JUST CONCENTRATED ON BUYING, EVEN WITH LEGITIMATE FINANCING AND MORTGAGES,,, THAT THE RECESSION WOULD BE REVERSED WITHIN ONE MONTH, PLANTS WOULD BE SWAMPED WITH ORDERS, HIRING BACKWORKERS, AND LO! THE RECESSION THAT WE HAD TALKED OURSELVES INTO IS OVER.

AND IN THIS SAME WAY WE HAVE BEEN TALKING OURSELVES INTO WAR...EVEN THOUGH HISTORY PROVES THAT NOTHING IS EVER REALLY SOLVED BY MILITARY COMBAT, AND THE WAR INVARIABLY BRINGS MANY MORE NEW PROBLEMS THAN WERE SOLVED BY CONFLICT.

SO...AS WE APPROACH THE DEADLINE, STANDING ON THE VERY BRINK OF THE RELEASING OF THE MOST SOPHISTICATED KILLING MACHINES THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN, WITH THE POTENTIAL TO CREATE AN ARMAGEDDON-LIKE CONFLAGRATION...TO PUT IT MILDLY...SOME PEOPLE ARE GOING TO GET HURT! WHAT LIES DOWN THIS ROAD IS CERTAINLY NOT THE FOOTBALL GAME THAT MUCH "RAH-RAH" "YEAH TEAM" DELUSION THAT MANY PEOPLE INDICATE THEY BELIEVE. PERHAPS WE, THE PEOPLE OF PLANET EARTH JUST HAVEN'T GOTTEN THE MESSAGE THAT IS DAWNING IN THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF THE RACE. IT IS THAT THE DAYS OF MILITARY ^{but our} ~~ENGAGEMENTS~~ IS PAST. THE OPTION OF WAR IS OVER CAN BE NO MORE! WHAT HAS BEEN GOING ON IN EUROPE IN THE PAST TWO YEARS IS A CLEAR INDICATION THAT THE SOUL OF PLANET EARTH IS SHAKING OUT THE PRIMITIVE POOLS OF DARKNESS, AND IS READY TO LET THE LIGHT SPRING FORTH AS THE MORNING, THAT THE HEALTH OF THE PLANET MAY SPRING FORTH SPEEDILY.

WHILE SADDAM HUSSEIN WEIGHS HIS OPTIONS, WHICH ARE ~~NEW~~^{FOR} AND WHILE THE ALLIED POLITICAL AND MILITARY ADVISORS WEIGH THEIR OPTIONS, WHICH MANY PERSONS SIMPLIFY AS BEING TWO IN NUMBER. (1) TO DO WHAT WE MUST DO, TO FORCE THE IRAQIS OUT OF KUWAIT. OR (2) To waffle out of doing our DUTY NOW WHICH MAY RETURN TO HAUNT US IN THE YEARS TO COME, AS AN UNCHASTENED IRAQI UNDERTAKES NEW ADVENTURES IN CONQUEST.

WHAT CAN WE DO? 'WE HAVE NO CHOICE'. LIKE MANY SIMILAR DEFEATIST CLICHES, THIS IS TOTALLY IN ERROR. WE DO HAVE A CHOICE...WE ALWAYS HAVE A CHOICE. THERE IS AN OPTION THAT HAS BEEN CHOSEN IN ALL THE GREAT MOMENTS OF WORLD HISTORY. THE OPTION TO LOVE.

IT SEEMS-TOO-NAIVE AND SIMPLISTIC. HOW CAN WE LOVE ONE WHO HAS UNEQUIVOCALLY ESTABLISHED HIMSELF AS OUR ENEMY. WE MIGHT RECALL THE PHAROAH OF ANCIENT EGYPT, WHAT SHOCKED AND ANGERED HIS PEOPLE, BY TAKING THE UNHARD OF COURSE OF ACTION IN A WAR, WHERE PRISONERS OF WAR WERE SUMMARILY EXECUTED. TO FORGIVE THEM AND SET THEM FREE. HIS RESPONSE, "WHAT DO I NOT DESTROY THEM WHEN I LOVE THEM?" IT IS AN IDEA THAT GOES RIGHT TO THE HEART OF OUR PREOCCUPATION WITH WAR. AND IN BACK OF OUR WAR-LIKE FACADE ARE FEELINGS OF VINDICTIVENESS, PREJUDICE, AND AN EYE-FOR-AN-EYE FORM OF RIGHTEOUSNESS. WE CANNOT ELIMINATE THE BEASTS OF THE WORLD UNTIL THE BEAST THAT RESIDES IN US IS CORALLED.

WE OFTEN CRY OUT, "BUT WE HAVE TRIED EVERYTHING TO FIND A PEACEFUL SOLUTION." BUT HAVE YOU TRIED LOVE? I AM NOT TALKING ABOUT TRYING LOVE AS THE ANSWER TO THE PERSINGULF DILEMMA. WE WILL CONTINUE TO SURROUND ALL THE LEADERS INVOLVED WITH A CIRCLE OF LIGHT AND LOVE. AND AS WE PROJECT THIS RADIANCE OF LOVE CONTINUOUSLY, IT WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

NOW/RIGHT NOW I AM TALKING ABOUT THE CONFLICTS IN YOUR LIFE, IN WHICH YOU MAY HAVE CONCLUDED THAT THERE IS NOTHING YOU CAN DO. YOU HAVE NO CHOICE. IT IS PRACTICAL TO CAREFULLY REVIEW ALL YOUR OPTIONS. SOME OF THEM MAY APPEAR GRIM, LEADING TO SCENARIOS THAT WOULD BE TRAGIC IN TERMS OF THE

THE EFFECT THEY WOULD HAVE ON YOUR LIFE-STYLE. / BUT I AM SAYING TO YOU THIS MORNING, / YOU ALWAYS HAVE THE OPTION / TO DEAL WITH THE PEOPLE / OR SITUATIONS IN LOVE. / AND DON'T WRITE IT OFF AS CLASSIC "POLLYANNISM."

AT THE CLOSE OF THE KOREAN WAR IN THE FALL OF 1953, 22,000 PRISONERS OF WAR WERE BEING HELD IN STOCKADES AT PANMUNJON, WHILE THE Neutral Nations Commission negotiated for their EXCHANGE. "THEY WERE THE CHINESE AND KOREAN SOLDIERS WHO HAD REFUSED TO BE REPATRIATED BACK TO THEIR COUNTRY AND ITS COMMUNISTS DOMINATION. THEY WERE WROUGHT UP, BITTER, SUSPICIOUS."

A CRISIS DEVELOPED WHEN A MAJOR WAS TAKEN HOSTAGE BY THE PRISONERS BY WHICH THEY HOPED TO GET THE RELEASE OF ONE OF THEIR OWN PEOPLE. One of the INDIAN GUARDS SPRANG IMMEDIATELY INTO ACTION. HE WALKED RIGHT INTO THE COMPOUND ACCOMPANIED BY ONLY 12 OF HIS MEN, CARRYING NOTHING BUT THEIR WALKING STICKS. OUTSIDE THE INDIAN GUARDS MADE READY TO FIRE - WHICH PROVOKED EVEN GREATER hostility as the hordes of prisoners were ready TO STORM THE BARBED WIRE FENCE. THE SMALL DETACHMENT OF GUARD WOULD BE UNABLE TO PREVENT A GIANT BREAK-OUT.

GENERAL THORAT HAD ONLY FEW OPTIONS. BUT HE CHOSE THE FINEST OPTION THAT IS EVER AVAILABLE. "LOVE." GOETHE SAID, If we treat people as they are, we make them worse. If we treat people as if they were what they should be, we make them what they can be." / THIS IS A DYNAMIC PRINCIPLE, EFFECTIVE FOR USE IN BOTH WAR AND PEACE. WHEN WE BEGIN TO TREAT PEOPLE, INDIVIDUALLY AND IN GROUPS, AS SPIRITUAL BEINGS, SALUTING THE DIVINITY WITHIN THEM, THEN WE WILL GIVE AND RECEIVE AND DO BUSINESS ON THE LEVEL OF LOVE AND MUTUAL TRUST. WE WILL BEGIN TO EXPECT MORE OF OURSELVES AND OTHERS. AND IN THIS WAY WE WILL INFLUENCE PEOPLE TO COME OUT OF THE DARK DUNGEONS OF THE MIND WITH ITS NEGATIVE AND DESTRUCTIVE THINKING... AND to express more of the divine potential within them. SO BACK TO GENERAL THORAT DEFENSE IN THE STOCKADE OF THOUSANDS OF ANGRY PRISONERS. HE TURNED TO THE NEAREST PRISONER AND SAID, "WHAT SORT OF CHINESE ARE YOU? WHERE IS YOUR HOSPITALITY YOU HAVE OFFERED MY MEN NEITHER TEA NOR CIGARETTES?"

THERE WAS A PAINFUL MOMENT OF HESITATION...THE CHINESE SLOWLY DROPPED THEIR MAKESHIFT WEAPONS -- AND ONE AFTER ANOTHER BROUGHT OUT CIGARETTES AND OFFERED THEM TEA. THE RIOT WAS OVER - AND SOON AFTER A WORKABLE ARRANGE WAS MADE FOR THEIR RELEASE.

A MAN-OF-WAR TOOK THE FINEST OPTION. THUS HE BECAME A PEACE-MAKER.. THE OPTION OF LOVE WAS THE ANSWER.

TAGORE:

"HE WHO COMES TO DO GOOD KNOCKS AT THE GATE.
HE WHO LOVES FINDS THE DOOR OPEN"

JESUS SAID, "LOVE YOUR ENEMIES AND PRAY FOR THOSE WHO DESPITEFULLY USE YOU, THAT YOU MAY BE SONS OF THE Father." LOVE YOUR ENEMIES, NOT BECAUSE THEY ARE DESERVING OF YOUR LOVE, BUT BECAUSE YOU ARE. WHEN YOU REACT TO ~~THEM~~ ^{THEY} WITH RESISTANCE, YOU ARE NOT ACTING THE PART OF YOUR DIVINITY...AND THE POWER THAT GOES WITH YOUR DIVINITY IS ONLY YOURS WHEN YOU ACT THE PART,

WHAT JESUS IS SAYING, EVER SO SUBTLY, IS: "THE ONLY ENEMY YOU HAVE IS YOUR OWN ENMITY." HE SAYS, "AGREE WITH YOUR ADVERSARY QUICKLY." YOUR ADVERSARY IS YOUR ADVERSE REACTION TO SOMEONE OR SOME CONDITION. TO "AGREE" MEANS TO "SETTLE WITH". YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO HOLD THOUGHTS OF LESS THAN LOVE, FOR ~~IT~~ ^{IT} IS A SURE AND CERTAIN WAY TO PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL ILLNESS.

"ON THE BRINK OF WAR" WE ARE TOLD. A WOMAN WAS TELLING OF HER EXPERIENCE ON A BUS RIDE UP THE PRECIPITOUS CLIFFS ON THE ISLE OF CAPRI IN NAPLES BAY. SHE SAID, "WHY...I WAS WITHIN AN INCH OF MY LIFE!" BUT AN UNSYMPATHETIC MAN FROM CHICAGO SAID, "AND I AM WITHIN AN INCH OF MY LIFE EVERY TIME I TRY TO CROSS THE LOOP"

ACTUALLY WE ARE ALWAYS WITHIN AN INCH OF LIFE. AND IF SO...WE ARE ON THE VERY BRINK OF WHOLENESS. WHY NOT TAKE THE ADDED INCH AND BE WHOLE. IF YOU ARE ON THE BRINK OF WAR, YOU ARE ALSO ON THE BRINK OF PEACE. / WE ALWAYS HAVE A CHOICE!

OUR FALSE ASSUMPTION IS THAT LIFE IS EVER-MOVING TOWARD TROUBLE, SICKNESS, OLD AGE, AND DEATH. ~~THE~~ THE TRUTH IS THAT THE UNIVERSAL FLOW WITHIN YOU WOULD LEAD YOU AWAY FROM TROUBLE... AND THE PHYSICAL BODY IS BIASED ON THE SIDE OF HEALTH AND RENEWAL. THIS IS WHAT I LIKE TO CALL "THE UPWARD PULL OF THE DIVINE ON US", EVER SEEKING TO LIFT US UP TO THE HEIGHTS. CATCH THE IDEA OF LIVING ON THE VERGE, AND YOU WILL OPEN UP A NEW DIMENSION IN YOUR QUEST FOR REALITY AND TRUTH. THE HEALTH YOU DESIRE IS ALREADY WITHIN YOU STRUGGLING TO ~~UP~~FOLD. ONE WHOLISTIC DOCTOR CALLS ~~HEALING~~ ^{HEALING}: "STRUGGLING HEALTH." THE TALENT YOU WISH YOU HAD, you already have in embryo form. The good you desire is already yours in potential. LIKE THE ISRAELITES OF OLD, WANDERING IN THE SAME MIDDLE-EASTERN ~~DESERT~~ FOR FORTY YEARS, YOU ARE EVER ON THE VERGE OF YOUR "promised land". The Israelites came to realize that if they were ever to get out of their wilderness, THEY MUST FIRST "ENTER IN AND POSSESS THE LAND."

THERE IS A STORY I AM GOING TO TELL YOU NOW, THAT I HAVE TOLD BEFORE... BUT IT WAS AN ~~EXPERIENCE~~ ^{EXPERIENCE} SO POIGNANT THAT IT NEEDS TO BE RETOLD AT THIS PRECISE TIME IN HISTORY,

IT WAS 1969 -- IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE CAMBODIAN INCURSION FROM VIET NAM AN THE KENT STATE SHOOTINGS, ~~THERE~~ WAS A PERIOD OF GREAT UNREST ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES ALL ACROSS THE COUNTRY. THE UNITY CENTER, at that time on 51st STREET WAS ACTUALLY ON ~~THE~~ CAMPUS OF THE MANHATTAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE. IT WAS HOUSED IN OFFICE BUILDINGS IN THE AREA... WITH THE MAIN BUILDING DIRECTLY ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE CENTER. A SERIOUS SITUATION DEVELOPED BETWEEN protesting students, THE FACULTY, AND ~~THE~~ COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION.. ADD TO THIS SOME HARD-HAT CONSTRUCTION WORKERS IN THE AREA, AND THE POLICE. IT WAS AN EXPLOSIVE SITUATION ON THE STREET THAT YOU COULD FEEL.

I SAT IN MY OFFICE PRAYING FOR GUIDANCE. WE WERE PART OF THE COMMUNITY. THERE MUST BE SOMETHING THAT I COULD DO. I DIDN'T WANT TO TRY TO DECIDE WHO WAS RIGHT AND WHO WAS WRONG... BUT AS I WEIGHED THE OPTIONS, ~~I SUDDENLY~~

I HAD A SUDDEN STRONG AWARENESS OF A TH³IRD OPTION, THE CHOICE TO LOVE, WITHOUT BEING TORN WITH DIVISIVENESS, TAKING A STAND FOR UNITY. THIS WAS MY ANSWER. I SIMPLY PRAYED, "HE~~RE~~ AM I, FATHER, USE ME."

THE ANSWER CAME ALMOST INSTANTLY. FOR THERE WAS A CALL FROM THE FRONT DESK...THE ST²UDENT LEADER WANTED ~~4~~TO TALK TO ME. HE EXPLAINED THE DILEMMA, THAT STUDENTS WERE BEING PUSHED TO TH³E VERY BRINK OF VIOLENCE. SO THE STUDENT LEADER ASKED IF THEY COULD ~~U~~SE OUR LECTURE HALL, TO GET THE STUDENTS OFF THE STREET AND TO ALLOW TH²EM TO TALK AND PLAN WHAT TO DO.

I AGREED IF THE STUDENTS WOULD POLICE THEMSELVES AND BE RESPECTFUL OF THE DIGNITY OF THE CENER. THEY AGREED AND HUNDREDS OF STUDENTS FILED IN.

THEN I HAD A CALL FROM THE POLICE PRECINCT CHIEF -- COULD THEY USE SOME OF OUR SPACE AS A BARRACKS TO HOUSE A SQUADRON OF POLICE, SO THAT THEY COULD HAVE STORNG PRE~~SEN~~CE, BUT KEEP A LOW PROFILE? I GAVE THEM TH²E FILLMORE ROOM WHICH HAD A SIDE ENTRANCE TO THE CENTER.

STILL ANOTHER FACTION, THE FACULTY OF THE COLLEGE, AT ODDS WITH THE STUDENTS AND ALSO WITH THE ADMINISTRATION.. THEY HAD HEARD THAT THE STUDENTS~~SS~~ WERE ~~USE~~ OUR HALL AS AN ASSEMBLY ROOM. COULD THEY ALSO ASSEMBLE THE TEACHERS FOR SOME TALKS? I worked out a divided ~~1~~time for the st²udent and teacher use. So for several days these factions came and went and we had sometimes even radical speakers ranting fr~~om~~ our platform. OF COURSE WE CANCELLED ALL OUR CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK.

BUT BEHIND THE SECENES WHAT ~~WAS~~ REALLY GOING ON WAS OUR PRAYER EFFORT.

WHILE WE REMAINED POSITIVE ONLOOKERS, MAKING NO JUDGMENTS OF THE FACTIONS INVOLVED...WE SURROUNDED ALL THESE PEOPLE WITH LIGHTAND LOVE. IT WAS A TRANSCENDENT AWARENESS...THAT WE DIDN'T HAVE TO TAKE SIDES. WE COULD SIMPLY STAND BACK AND BLESS THEM ALL. BUT WE WERE INVOLVED. RENDERING AN IMPORTANT COMMUNITY SERVICE. (Commissioner, citatiomn :helpng defuse

A POTOMAC EXPLOSION S. Turner

YOU MAY HAVE ~~THIS~~ EXPERIENCE IN YOUR OFFICE, AMONG MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY, OR IN SOME INVOLVEMENT WITH A COMMUNITY GROUP. SOMETIMES WE MAY BE CONFUSED AS TO WHERE WE SHOULD STAND, FEELING THE TORTUOUS PULL OF CONFLICTING LOYALTIES. AND MY DISCOVERY, THAT HAS MEANT SO MUCH TO ME, IS THAT ~~WE~~ ^{YOU} DON'T HAVE TO GET TRAPPED IN DIVISIVENESS. YOU CAN BE A PEACEMAKER... YOU CAN TAKE A STAND FOR UNITY. WHILE PEOPLE MAY BE SAYING, "WHAT SIDE ARE YOU ON? WHO ARE YOU FOR? AND WHO AGAINST?" THE ONE THING TO BE AGAINST IS ~~THE~~ TENDENCY TO REACT IN ANGER AND HOSTILITY. THE ONE THING TO BE FOR IS THE WAY OF LOVE.

YOU CAN BE A CENTER OF LOVE AND LIGHT, YOU CAN BE A POSITIVE ONLOOKER. A REFEREE OR NEGOTIATOR PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN MANY DISPUTES. IT IS NOT A PASSIVE OR WEAK-WILLED FUNCTION. HE OR SHE HAS AN IMPORTANT FUNCTION, EVEN THOUGH THEY TAKE NO POSITION FOR OR AGAINST. ANYONE CAN BECOME AN ARBITER OF GOOD FEELINGS, A CENTER OF LOVE.

WHATEVER IT IS THAT YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT: a domestic dispute between your son and daughter-IN-LAW, A STRONG DISAGREEMENT WITHIN A COMMUNITY GROUP, A SEEMINGLY UNJUST LAY-OFF IN YOUR WORK-PLACE, WHERE YOUR MIDDLE MANAGEMENT ^{JOB} ~~POSITION~~ PUTS YOU IN A POSITION OF DIVIDED LOYALTY TO THE WORKERS AND THE MANAGEMENT.

IF YOU REALLY WANT TO BE ~~HELPFUL~~ ^{HELPFUL}, DON'T RUSH PELL MELL INTO MAKING A JUDGMENT AND THEN PLUNGING INTO DEFENSE OF ONE SIDE. ^{ON THE OTHER} FOR IN THIS WAY YOU FORFEIT ~~THE~~ OBJECTIVITY IN WHICH YOU CAN BE AN ARBITER OF PEACE. YOU WANT TO BE AN ONLOOKER, A PEACEMAKER. IN YOUR QUIET TIME, DRAW A CIRCLE OF LIGHT AROUND THE WHOLE SCENE AND ALL WHO MAY BE INVOLVED. INCLUDING YOURSELF. HERE YOU CAN OVERWHELM THEM WITH A LOVE THAT CAN DISSOLVE DIFFERENCES, AND OPEN THE WAY TO POSITIVE COMMUNICATION.

AND DON'T PRESUME TO KNOW THE SOLUTION. BE WILLING TO LET THE DIVINE PROCESS WORK OUT. DON'T BE SATISFIED WITH A POINT OF VIEW, INSTEAD ENVISION ALL PERSONS DISCOVERING A POINT OF CONTACT.

THERE IS A STRANGE PARADOX IN MUCH HUMAN BEHAVIOR. WHEN YOU WALK INTO A PLACE THAT IS DARK, YOU IMMEDIATELY SEEK OUT A LIGHT SWITCH AND TURN IT ON, Voila! LET THERE BE LIGHT! BUT IF YOU WALK INTO A PLACE WHERE THERE IS GREAT HOSTILITY, AND ANGER, AND SOME OF IT DIRECTED TOWARD YOU, THE TENDENCY IS TO TURN OFF YOUR FLOW OF LOVE AND LIGHT, AND THEN TO LEAVE IMMEDIATELY. OF COURSE, YOU SAY, WHY SHOULD I REMAIN AND BE EXPOSED TO THIS KIND OF ABUSE, AND TO A ~~DEMEANING~~ ^{SALVAGING} OF YOUR CONSCIOUSNESS.

A GOOD STUDENT OF TRUTH WILL IMMEDIATELY WEIGH HIS OPTIONS. THERE SEEMS TO BE ONLY TWO: (1) REMAIN AND QUICKLY BECOME SWALLOWED UP IN THE DARKNESS AND NEGATIVITY OF THE PEOPLE. OR (2), LEAVE PROMPTLY, LEAVING BEHIND YOU THE DARKNESS OF THE SCENE...BUT EXPERIENCING A FEELING OF HAVING ABANDONED YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AS A LIGHT-BRINGER. YOU MAY SAY, "BUT I DON'T WANT TO GET INTO THEIR NEGATIVE STREAM...WHAT DOES IT HAVE TO DO WITH ME?" BUT YOU WERE THERE, THUS YOU MUST HAVE HAD SOME INVOLVEMENT IN CONSCIOUSNESS. THE VERY LEAST YOU COULD DO IS TO "TURN ON THE LIGHT" -- TO DRAW A CIRCLE OF LIGHT AROUND THEM AND MAKE YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE AND LOVE. IT IS THE FINER OPTION THAT IS ALWAYS AVAILABLE.

"If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them."

"COMMIT" has a connotation to "send forth"

Mal. 3:1 "Behold. I send my messenger to prepare the way before me..."

"Acts 17: 27 "Seek God that y might feel after him and find him.. Tet he is not far from each one of us, for in him we live and move and have our being."

A resolution should be more than a vague yearning,,,It should be s sincere commitment. Laying it on the line...sending forth messengers.

Commitment man unconditional Love...Notd I llove...but, except for... Commitment of the heart is total

Commitment - continuity of action...problem of unfinished business. Quitting jobs before completion,procrastination.

Hezekian, "In every work that he began, he did it with all his heart, and prospered.

A commitment to Truth that transcends seeming reverses. The test of your commitment is, how do you act when you have your lowest experience

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."

I am the master:

I control my body, it does not control me.

I run my business, it does not run me.

I enjoy my possessions, but I am not possed by them.

COMMITMENT TO DISCIPLINED GIVING WAY...COMMITMN TO REGULAR, SYSTEMATIC GIVING TO THAT PLACE WHERE I receive my spiritual help

MEET CHANGING EXPERIENCES, REVERSES, AND EVEN LOSSES WITH POISE AND PATIENCE AND NON_RESISTANCE...MAINTAINING THROUGHOUT A KEEN SENSE OF HUMOR

"In patience possess ye your souls." Be sure to possess your own souk so so that you will not be possessed by a host of opetty shortcomings and aggravadtions in the world around uou.

And having achieved poise and opatience, you become impervious to the challenge of change,,,and you move into the vibration of tranquillity, equanimity, and impetirbabiklity.

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"When I meet my next Waterloo, I ~~will~~ be a Wellington, not Napoleon. I will not be a victim of circumstances, but I will be their master."

I. , after a brief look backwards to see where I am in terms of the consciousness that was outformed in all that transpired for me in 1990, do hereby make a commitment of the heart to walk the new and living way of Truth in 1991.

A year is not composed of 365 days. It is one day well-lived 365 times. I resolve to live one day at a time, as if that day were the only day of my life.

The word "commit" has a connotation toward "send forth.", Malachi 3:1 "Behold, I send my messengers to prepare a way before me." My messengers are positive thoughts that I project as "missiles of power" in the faith that they will prepare my way to success, in health, with good friends. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ I may have known the Truth, saying all the right words, speaking all the right affirmations and treatments, But this year I want to add the mystical ingredient of feeling, and this to breathe life into all my images of desired good, they they may become living spirit..

Paul said, "Seek God that you might feel after him and find him. Yet he is not far from each one of us, for in him we live and move and have our being." God may have been an accurate definition, but as I feel after him he becomes a living presence.

With Walt Whitman I sing: "Oh, while I live, to be the ruler of life, not a slave, to meet life as a powerful conqueror, and nothing exterior shall overtake command of me." I meet all experiences, reverse, even losses with poise and patience, and non-resistance, maintaining throughout a keen sense of humor.

and, having achieved poise and power, I become impervious to the challenge of change...moving into the vibration of tranquillity, equanimity and imperturbability.

With faith and in deep feeling I send forth as messengers power these positive declarations:

I am the master:

I control my body, it does not control me.

I run my business, it does not run me.

I enjoy my possessions, but I am not

Possessed by them.

I resolve to give top priority to my spiritual growth in my daily meditations, arising early to listen to the Unity radio broadcast, attending the "worship service at Averu Fisher Sunday whenever I can.. And...finally getting serious about a personal plan of personal systematic giving to the person or organizations where my most important help comes from..knowing with feeling that as I give way to the divine flow of substance, my life is enriched abundantly. It is the "comeback" of the law that never fails.