

The Clarion

April 1, 2021 - Easter Issue



Christ is risen!

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Colossians 1:13-14:

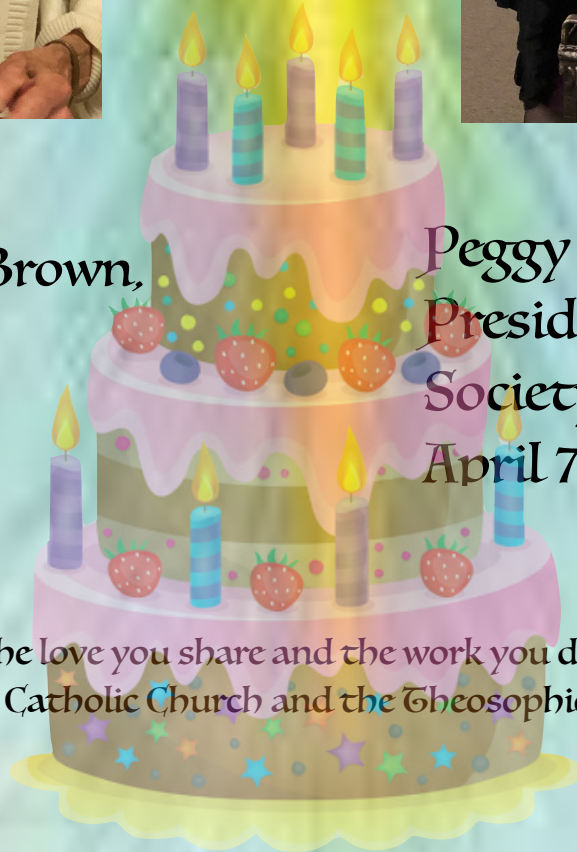
Happy Birthday

To two Angels



Deaconess Imelda Brown,
LCC, TS
April 18

Peggy Heubel, LCC, TS
President, Theosophical
Society of the East Bay
April 7



With deep gratitude for all the love you share and the work you do. Happy Birthday from all of us at St. Raphael's Liberal Catholic Church and the Theosophical Society of the East Bay

The Three Objects of the Theosophical Society

By Peggy Heubel, President of the Theosophical Society of the East Bay, LCC

The three declared Objects of the Theosophical Society are:

- To form a nucleus of the universal brotherhood of humanity, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or color.
- To encourage the comparative study of religion, philosophy, and science.
- To investigate unexplained laws of nature and the powers latent in humanity

For those who are students of the ageless wisdom known as Theosophy and know well the history of the Theosophical Society, I pause to mention that the word “humanity” is used here in place of the original word, “Man” because of the objections raised that it seemingly referred only to the masculine gender. In rebuttal, this is not and was not the case but the arguments against its usage even now pervades the societal atmosphere and is an unnecessary distraction.

To continue: in an effort to clarify in the simplest terms what we mean by the declared “objects” of the Theosophical Society, we look first at the word. By “objects” is meant the objectives of the Society; the word formally defined as “a thing aimed at or sought; a goal”. Therefore, in shorthand, the Society intends, as its objectives, “to form...”, “to encourage...”, “to investigate...”.

The most important objective is succinctly stated in the First Object. As a platform for the broadcasting of theosophical concepts based on the ageless wisdom, presented in this day and age as Theosophy, we state clearly and unambiguously that the Society would become only another philosophical organization—having lost its heart and soul should we cease to honor in fullness the concept, and the need, for its realization in today’s demeaning world. Now, more than ever, effluent inhumanity floats to the surface for all to see; no longer hidden in the shadows. Real and obvious danger insults and even outrages those who value unity of purpose and inclusivity in human society. Yet, what is insult and outrage if there is no action to destroy the causes? That is our task: to strive for the realization of universal brotherhood without any distinction tending toward bias, prejudice, partiality, favoritism, or unfairness...to name only a few. Consequently, why is universal brotherhood so vital to the theosophical cause?

For us, humanity, the ageless wisdom exists as differentiations of the *truth of existence*, which no person may know in its fullness. Yet, these partial expressions have been insinuated into human society for untold ages; subtly tending toward what may be termed emotional, intellectual, and spiritual growth. “Eternal truth needs human language that alters with the spirit of the times. The primordial images undergo ceaseless transformation and yet remain ever the same but only in new form can they be understood anew. Always they require a new conception.” [H. P. Blavatsky]

While it is not the intention of this post to speak of organized religion specifically (as old transformations), even so let us consider the fact that this country was founded on Christian ideals, at its core—*one* of the partial (religious) expressions of what is termed universal truth. Keeping in mind that this view is not the sole tenet of Christianity, consider the following two excerpts from the Bible:

Acts 17:24-28 [KJV] “²⁴God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; ²⁵Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed anything, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things; ²⁶And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation; ²⁷That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: ²⁸For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, for we are also his offspring.”

And, too:

John 3:34 [KJV] “³⁴A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.”

Throughout millennium, we have been taught and directed toward the realization of universal brotherhood...not toward a *religious* truth *per se* but toward *the universal truth*. We can speak equally of the esoteric meaning of the Vedas and other sacred books of the East, of the core truths of Gnosticism, Hermetics, of Freemasonry, and all the so-called secret societies throughout world—and here, for those who study ageless wisdom, most especially what HPB means by *Budh-ism* “whether called *Budh* or *Budhi*.” *Budh* refers to “Wisdom,” or knowledge (*Vidya*) and is the faculty of cognizing coming from the Sanskrit root “*Budh*,” to know; of which so much more could be said.

All, and more, can be considered “harbingers” of the absolute universal necessity of developing the already-existing universal brotherhood—the foundational basis of ALL LIFE—entailing the growth of wisdom, the actuality of enlightenment, and the “re-awakening into the divine Science” known as THEOSOPHY.

Future of Esoterics: The Magnificent, Magical Mystery of Color

By Barbara Penninton, LCC, TS

Color is a power that directly influences the Soul.

Wassily Kandinsky

Color is truly a glorious, spectacular power that reveals stunning facets of primordial light. The one true pure light transports us to source; brilliant colors inspire us to dance with rainbows and generate immortal art. From a place of higher consciousness, we live in the oneness of divine radiant light and the full spectrum of prismatic colors

Color has a synergistic relationship with sound, geometry and patterns of energy flow. These creative forces work together to generate the archetypal blueprints for manifest life.

Color as a qualitative principle has been recognized for thousands of years, as a force central to esoteric systems. Color, because of its primal significance has been researched from an amazing array of viewpoints, yet it remains illusive and mysterious. In recent scientific and philosophic articles, the question is posed:

Is color real?

or

Does color even exist?

A companion question might be: Why exactly can't we capture a rainbow?

Ancient Wisdom about Color

Even though metaphysicians, scientists and philosophers make breakthroughs in deep understanding of color, the spirit of color veils its secrets and even very precise theories are disrupted. Color goes through strange transformation in various contexts. Even the color of the sun is a mystery. Madame Blavatsky explains:

The true color of the Sun is blue and it appears yellow only owing to the effect of absorption of vapors (chiefly metallic) by its atmosphere.

Yet with all the confusion, color is a primal force in our lives. Color holds the power of its true heritage in primordial light. Even people who have been blind all their lives, are able to feel color and recognize differences in the color spectrum. Color has the power to heal, to uplift energies and to energize transformation.

Three Views of Color: Esoteric, Scientific and Philosophical

Madame Blavatsky presents an esoteric, cosmic viewpoint of color.
(Blavatsky on Color: Blavatsky Collected Writings 542-545)

White is the absence of all colors, and therefore no color; black is simply the absence of light and therefore the negative aspect of white. The seven prismatic colors are direct emanations from the Seven Hierarchies of Being, each of which has a direct bearing upon and relation to one of the human principles, since each of these hierarchies is, in fact the creator and source of the corresponding human principle.

...

Indigo is the intensified color of the heaven or sky to denote the upward tendency of Manas toward Buddhi, or the heavenly spiritual soul.

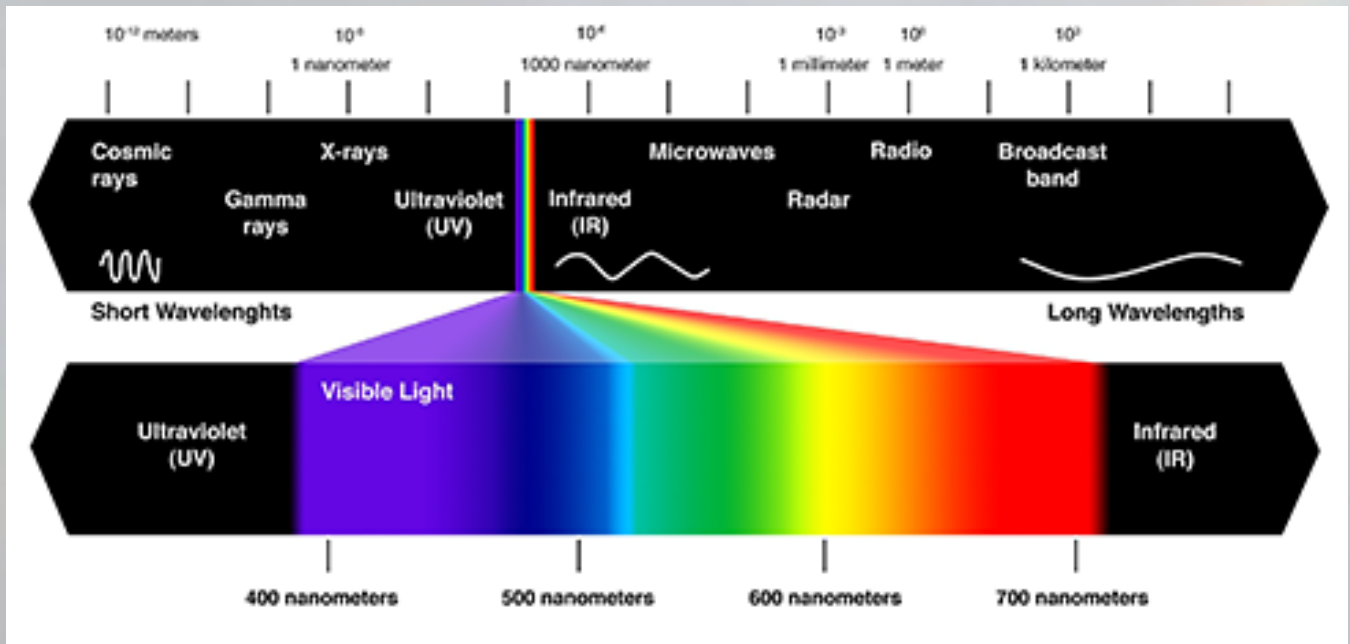
The esoteric literature reflects the chameleon aspect of color. The first ray, will and power, is often presented as the color red. Because each ray has an outward form, a subtle or esoteric aspect and a hidden aspect, there may be more than one color quality associated with it. The exoteric aspect of the first ray may be red, the esoteric aspect and electric blue and the hidden aspect the color of diamond. The exoteric aspects of the rays are often presented according to their vibrational pattern in the rainbow.

Even as metaphysicians are learning more about the mysterious qualities of color, scientists are hoping to reduce or eliminate confusion with a precise system of color based on electromagnetic frequencies of visible and invisible light.

The soul becomes colored with the dyes of its thoughts
Marcus Aurelius

The following description of the electromagnetics of color is provided by ColorMatters.com

ElectroMagnetic Color



The Electromagnetic Spectrum

Wavelength in meters	Name	Uses
10 ⁻¹⁵ (size of a nucleus) 10 ⁻¹¹	Gamma Rays	Cancer Treatment
10 ⁻¹⁰ (size of an atom)	X-Rays	Materials testing Medical x-rays
10 ⁻⁸	Ultraviolet	Germicidal, "black light", suntan
10 ⁻⁶ (diameter of a bacteria)	Visible Colors	Optics
10 ⁻⁵ - 10 ⁻³	Infrared	Human body radiation
10 ⁻² (size of a mouse)	Microwave	Microwave ovens, atomic clocks
10 ⁰ (one meter, the size of a man)	.	Radar, Television, F.M. Radio, International Short-wave
10 ³ (size of a village)	Radio frequency (RF)	A.M. Radio
10 ⁶ (distance from Washington D.C. to Chicago)	Audio frequency	Long-wave broadcast
10 ⁸ (distance to the moon)	.	Brain waves

Visible Color Spectrum

Note: Ultraviolet and infrared are not visible colors. They are given as a point of reference.

Color	Wavelength mμ (billionths of a meter)	Explanation
<i>Ultraviolet</i>	<i>380-280</i>	The smaller the wavelength, the smaller the structures with which they interact and the more powerful the energy. Gamma rays (the size of a nucleus) are more powerful than A.M. radio waves (the size of a village) Violet at 400 mμ is stronger than red at 700 mμ. mμ =nanometers
Violet	430-390	
Indigo	450-440	
Blue	480-460	
Green	530-490	
Yellow	580-550	
Orange	640-590	
Red	750-650	
<i>Infrared</i>	<i>1000-750</i>	

Even Even though the electromagnetic spectrum seems scientifically precise and determined, there is evidence that the context in which color is viewed and brain patterns determine how color is perceived. The color of the light that is illuminating objects will affect color that is perceived. The light that illumines dolor is termed, “surface spectral light (SSR).” Color when pinned down in determined measurement reveals a new charm and flits away. Even scientists studying channels of color perception of the brain are discovering that older models of color perceptiонт are complicated by a new factor of a pattern called “color constancy.”

In her new book, *Outside Color*, University of Pittsburgh professor M. Chirimuuta writes:

Of all the properties that objects appear to have, color hovers uneasily between the subjective world of sensation and the objective world of fact.

She challenges us to see color as a process, almost an interactive dance of perceptual function and the environment. In this model color is an adverb. She wants us to see a brown dog as “brown-erly.” For Chirimuuti, “Color is not an object of sight but a way of seeing things.”

Esotericists consistently throughout all history proclaim the primacy of color in creation. Ye most all will differ in the exact color of a ray, a chakra, a plane and a transformational process.

Perhaps we can agree:

I love color

I love flaming reds

And vivid greens
And royal flaunting purple
I love the startled rose of the sun at dawning
And the blazing orange of it at twilight

Margaret E. Sanster

Color has not yet revealed all of her mysteries and what appear as contradictions now will emerge as new sophisticated subtle energy systems. It may be as we move to higher realms of consciousness we will see colors are not contradictory but is complementary in subtle, extraordinary, magical ways.

A world of black and white, shades of grey, can have strong effects, yet it is the lure of color with increasing pixels that open up a world of imagination and expansive joy. The following poem honors the sacred essence of color.

Color my deeds with kindness.
Color my mind with ideas and creativity
Color my soul with humility and fill it with hope and prayer
...
Color it with bright and eternal colors
Color it beautiful!

(Excerpts of a prayer poem by Hussein Dekinak)

<https://www.shutterstock.com/image-vector/spring-landscape-poppies-rainbow-vector-background-380528236>



THOUGHT EXPERIMENT RESULTS

By Peggy Heubel, LCC, President of the TSEB, LCC

The experiment:

Let's say you are traveling. Perhaps you are in an airport between flights. You strike up a conversation with a person sitting across from you and during the conversation it is revealed that you believe in God. The person with whom you are speaking emphatically does not.

But, as your boarding is called and you are leaving the other person behind, that person suddenly asks you, "If God exists, what is the most important thing to know about God?"

You have the merest moment to reply. What is your answer?

The results (in alphabetical order by first name):

Alex: "I love the awesome mystery called God by some that is beyond the understanding of the cognitive mind."

Anthony: "Try to look around you and humbly open your eyes, heart and mind to the endless movement happening right before your eyes. Perhaps, it will give you clues about your question."

Dennis: "The most important thing to know about God (regardless of how you define God) is that in the Grand Cosmic Plan of that God lies IMMORTALITY. The metaphysical and immortal YOU always did (in a receding past that extends to infinity) and YOU always will (in an approaching future that extends from infinity) EXIST. There is no greater gift bestowed by the Cosmos and YOU already have it-- forever!"

David: "There is nothing that I know about God for sure, for absolute certain, beyond a shadow of a doubt."

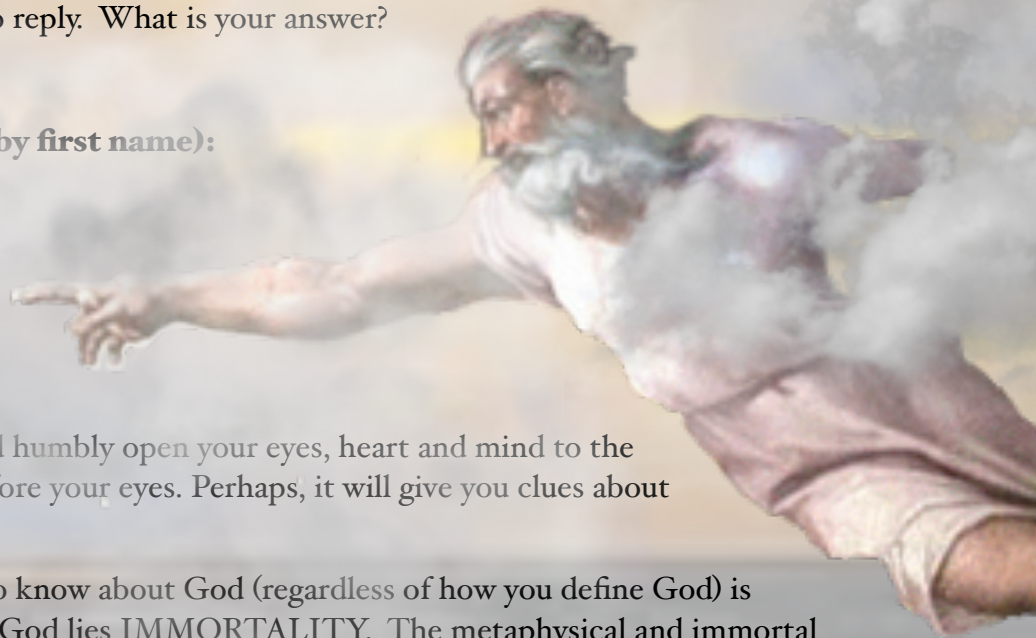
John: "God abides; the Cosmos proceeds; Man returns."

Juanita: "The most important thing to know about God is what you believe God is."

Nicole: "The omniscient, omnipresent, omnipotent One is love eternal."

Odette: "Love."

Peggy: "God exists."



EARTH DAY – APRIL 22

BY Peggy Heubel, LCC, TSEB



Earth Day is a 50-year-old tradition, established in 1970, and dedicated to bringing the environment to the forefront. Each year, communities network around the world in a huge campaign to tackle modern-day environmental problems in effort to continue the Earth Day tradition.

QUESTION: What was the first book to set the stage for society to change in becoming more environmentally aware? Published in 1962, *Silent Spring* was an extraordinary book that opened the public's eyes to the dangers of DDT, the first broadly-used synthesized pesticide, to wildlife and human health. Due to the public outcry raised by *Silent Spring*, DDT was banned in 1972, but the impacts of Carson's book did not end there. For the first time, the environment became a part of the public consciousness, and more than 50 years later, we see the effects of that as people across the world take up Carson's banner in the modern-day environmental movement.

The idea for a national day to focus on the environment came to U.S. Senator, Gaylord Nelson, after witnessing the ravages of the 1969 massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California. Inspired by the student anti-war movement, Senator Nelson announced the idea for a “national teach-in on the environment” to the national media. Hayes built a national staff of 85 to promote events across the land, and April 22, falling between Spring Break and Final Exams, was selected as the date. Support for the environment has never been just a partisan effort. In fact, the first Earth Day in 1970 was created as a bipartisan effort and the co-chair of the original teach-in was Pete McCloskey, a Republican congressman. We should always care about the environment and act to protect it. Earth Day just brings together people from across the world in a huge effort to do so.

FACT: On Earth Day 2016, 174 countries and the European Union signed the Paris Agreement at the opening ceremony at United Nations Headquarters in New York. The Conference of Parties (COP) is an international political response to climate change which began in 1992. COP21, also known as the Paris Climate Conference, brought parties together to achieve a universal goal on climate: keeping global warming below 2° C.

QUESTION: What was the purpose of the National Environmental Education Act passed by Congress in 1990? To require that the United States Environmental Protection Agency be a leader in promoting environmental literacy.


Change starts with action, and better yet, an action that affects the world around us. For example: *A Billion Acts of Green* are happening across the planet. From students in classrooms to organizers in their communities to officials in government, there are ways for anyone of any background to make a difference. Start small and go big — or start big and stay big. Either way, keep coming back, keep taking action and join the movement to change the world. **HONOR THE EARTH NOT ONLY ON THIS DAY BUT EVERY DAY.**

Remember
Mother Earth!




Peanuts Conjectures on Karma, Forgiveness, Redemption, Salvation, Liberty, & Determinism


By Peggy Heubel and Odette Lard




How can one escape one's own karma?




That's absurd Linus! The whole purpose of Easter is to save us from the effects of original sin! If you think you're stuck and can't progress because of sins from your past lives, you'd better realize that there are whole ways you can change that karma. The psychologist is In and I can help you! 5¢, please!




Hogwash! You can burn your karma through meditation!




Yes, but only through new, modified, actions. Previous actions, no, because real justice is said to relate to the cause. Remember the old adages: "an eye for an eye; a tooth for a tooth", "what goes around, comes around", and "as one sows, so shall one reap"? All refer to God's justice—the Law of Cause and Effect; change the cause and the future effect of it will change.




Free will is like traveling through life on a Bart car, and you are free to do anything you like within that car, but you're not free to do anything outside the car, which means we have free will but only within a limit. We're not free to change karma beyond that!




Sin is like an arrow in your flesh. You can pull the arrow out, but the wound remains. That's karma!



You can burn your Karma through meditation!



Muktananda used to transform people's karma! It's the whole meaning of Easter and Redemption!



Oh, Charlie Brown! One cannot, ever, escape one's own karma! As sure as we react to anything, we cause an effect to reverberate throughout the unseen universe just as a rock creates concentric circles when thrown into a pond. Karma is the Great Law of Cause and Effect. As such, no bad deed goes unpunished; no good deed goes unrewarded. The Law of the Universe is to maintain harmony/balance. When disturbed, it will always find the perfect method, through karmic adjustments, to reestablish it. When we have matured spiritually, there comes a time when we learn to work in peace and harmony with God. This is why, Charlie Brown, it is said in Matthew 7:1 "judge not that ye not be judged". Judgment is the prerogative of God. 1 Peter 4:5 states "But they will have to answer to God, who judges the living and the dead." [CEB-Common English Bible]. No, Charlie Brown, God is not mocked. The only way to escape karma's judgment is to become perfect 'even as God in Heaven is perfect.

Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead and said that someday we'd be able to do even greater things! We'd be able to transform karma!

Don't try to accrue either good karma or bad karma. Basically you want to be in causeless happiness. If you let God be the doer through us you are not accruing good karma. Causes don't lead to real happiness. Happiness is causeless. On a lower level, doing good is better than doing evil, but its much more fulfilling to go beyond good and evil and let the ground of Being be the doer through us. Surrender to the Doer and your actions will be causeless and the fruits will be causeless.

Mon petit chou! Do you believe in God's grace?

Pema Chödrön in Spirit Rock teaches the Tonglen technique whereby you can absorb into yourself someone else's karma and then you can process it, transform it, and heal it by sending out love!