

There is No Happiness in This World

By A. Ramana

Everything that has happened in your life up to now has brought you to this point, to this place, to right here, right now. Really, get that! Can you recognize what's going on here, in the message that we in AHAM are sharing? If you *really* get this teaching and the Conscious Process we share, you've reached the end of your spiritual journey. You've completed it; and this is your final lifetime. This is your last incarnation; but *only* if you *get* it. If you do, you may get off the wheel, the unending wheel of karma.

How long have you been on the wheel? I'll tell you. About fifty million lifetimes, give or take a million or two. So, are you ready yet to complete the cycle? The fun house of this amusement park called "worldly life" is still going on, you know. You can still ride all the rides. It's still going full speed, and you can stay in the park and indulge in it as long as you want to. Yes, the house of horrors is still open. Do you want to go through the house of horrors again? Is that what interests you?

Did you ever take a child to the amusement park, like to Disneyworld? The kid doesn't want to leave does he? "Just one more ride Mama." "Please Daddy, one more time." "One more visit to the scary house, Uncle Bill or Aunt Susie." Isn't that right? Pretty soon, your feet are really hurting, you're getting tired, and you say, "No, it's time to go home."

Well, in my own case, I've ridden about every ride in the park, have you? I'm ready to go home. As far as I'm concerned, they can close the park. Are you yet ready for the amusement park to close? Are you beginning to get it, is it time to stop for you?

Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world." Have you gotten that yet? Or, what it means? That this is one of the lesser hells. A beautiful lady, named Corrie Ten Boom, wrote a book entitled, "The Hiding Place." She and her sister were both prisoners together at Auschwitz in Poland, the Nazi concentration camp for Jews. They were actually Christians, but because their family helped Jews, by hiding them from the Nazis, the family was found out and sent to Auschwitz. Her sister died in the concentration camp. The book contained the story of their terrible ordeal.

They were very spiritual people. Her sister became enlightened just before her death in the concentration camp. Even with all the ill treatment she endured, she died with a beautiful smile on her face. She was absolutely tranquil at her death. Her body radiated pure peace. What she realized, before her death, was, "This is hell, I *just* got it; I don't have to worry about *going* to hell, I am already in it now. *This life is hell*, we're *ALL* in hell, not just those here in the concentration camp, *but all of us in this world.*"

Her enlightenment came with that, and so she was able to transcend it. This world is a house of horror; it is one of the lesser hells. It seems beautiful doesn't it? That is its *apparent* nature. Watch a sunset. Watch the sun rise. Go into the woods and listen to the animals, and the birds chirping. It seems so beautiful; so we philosophize how beautiful it is, saying, "Oh life is so beautiful." But is that really true? No. It's an absolute lie, a misconception. Tell the earthquake victims in Turkey who are under those buildings that life is beautiful. (This was written in 1999). Tell the people in Kosovo that life is beautiful. (This was after the war there). Or, more currently, tell the victims of Iraq or Afghanistan the world is beautiful, or tell the starving people of Darfur in Africa, or those in Rwanda, or Zimbabwe. Is settling disputes by war, reasonable? Is genocide reasonable? No, it is absolute insanity!

Are you getting what I'm saying? Human life *in itself* is NOT beautiful. You must Awaken to the true Self, and realize the nature of Pure Being; then you can yourself see the world *does not* have solid objective reality independent of your consciousness of it. It is then seen as an expression or out picturing of mind; your own mind. Understand where I'm coming from; hear what I'm saying. This is NOT philosophy, I'm not talking about philosophy here; I'm talking about the realization and abidance in the true Self.

Just as Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world." Understand what he was saying, what He meant! Live *in* the world *but not of the world!* That's what enlightenment is about. If you're trying to *make* your life happy, trying to *make* it better, while living *in* and *from* the world and its principle of duality, or separateness, then you're just throwing a bucket of shit water against the wind. It will fly right back upon you. See and understand what I'm talking about. I am speaking candidly, telling it like it is, I say it straight. I've lived a full life, and experienced about everything worth experiencing in this life; and, I assure you there is NO happiness in this world. *None whatsoever!* Yes, there's *much* pleasure in the world, but that's NOT happiness! Pleasure will quickly turn into pain. If you happen to have good Karma, and have good life experiences, that's wonderful! You may think there's happiness *and* heaven on earth. However, pretty soon, it can easily turn back again into the usual conflict, confusion, contradiction, and chaos of this world. You had better understand what I'm saying, even if you don't believe me – for your sake, *understand it!*

I'm not saying you can't be happy, that your life can't be beautiful; but not if you're expecting it from the world, and its things. If you're expecting it from the world, you're looking in the wrong place, and you're not going to receive it from there. I'm telling you the Truth. Again, I'm not saying you can't be happy, I'm saying Happiness is *your true nature*, which is seen *only* when you Awaken. You *must* Awaken to *realize* your truth nature. Then you may live *in* the Self *as* the Self. This is living *in God* – who lives *in* you, *as* you. So, by practicing Self-Inquiry, the most direct way for Awakening to pure Self-awareness, taught at AHAM, you can make rapid progress in Awakening, and thereby live in *true* Happiness.

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