

Purpose and Will: The Relationship

By Brian Arrowsmith

Relationship underlies everything. "Things" are simply processes of relations. "To be" is to relate; being is relating. The theme of all existence is relationship, the relationship of the duality of positive and negative, the complementing quality of physics, the two great lines of force. The duality of these two great forces manifests everywhere in nature as the Universal Life Principle. We see that all existence is a network of relations, a relationship with Reality. This duality of the two polarities, the balance of forces, the relativity and coherence between positive and negative vibrations, is the basic pattern that lies back of our evolutionary process and the outer structure of our world.

The relationship, the duality of purpose and will, is the basis of our planetary manifestation. Will is the active, positive force and purpose is passive, the negative force waiting for the results of the activity of the will. A fundamental tenet of the Ageless Wisdom is that the will ever implements the purpose. The relationship of the duality of the pairs of opposites, the positive polarity of the will and the passive aspect of purpose, causes manifestation.

We are aware of the popular saying: "Where there's a will, there's a way". Will has been defined as the power of determining and directing the activities of mind, the faculty of controlling our thoughts and thereby controlling our actions. The Tibetan has said that the will is an expression of the Law of Sacrifice and that it involves the astral plane, relates to the second initiation, and concerns the heart center, the "advancing point of Light."¹ A human being uses self-will to carry out plans and attain a fixed purpose. A

purpose externalizes itself through a plan. On a higher turn of the spiral, world servers use their will when working in accordance with the hierarchical Plan and it is this Plan that incorporates divine Purpose. The nature of this "divine intention" remains an obscure mystery.

Purpose

The teachings of the Ageless Wisdom state that there is a definite but subtle distinction between the divine Purpose and the Will of God, and that this distinction is born out by the dualistic nature of our planetary manifestation. The Teachings go on to say that the focused will of God, in its immediate implication and application, constitutes a point of tension which activates Shamballa to bring about the eventual fruition of the divine Purpose. Shamballa has been called the "Place of Purpose."²

The Members of the Council of Shamballa recognize the distinction between Purpose and Will, and therefore divide themselves into two groups. The members who deal with the divine Purpose are called Registrants of the Purpose, and the other group who are responsible for divine Will are the Custodians of the Will.

The function of the Custodians of the Will is to relate Shamballa, Hierarchy, and humanity, thus creating a relationship, a basic triangle of force between the three major centers of the planetary Life--the Members of the Council at Shamballa, Hierarchy and humanity. When the three divine centers are linked, the flow of divine energy is unimpeded; Purpose, Plan and their precipitation upon the physical plane is facilitated. The function of the Registrants of the Purpose is to keep the

channel open between our Earth, the planet Venus, and the Central Spiritual Sun. These two interlaced triangles can be viewed as a higher, symbolic expression of the six-pointed star.³

There is also a distinction between purpose and plan. Plans are fallible, tentative, and serve a temporary need whereas purpose is permanent, farsighted, and serves the Eternal Idea. We can say that when goodwill expands into the will-to-good it is an example of plan and quality being replaced by purpose and method.

The Old Commentary states: "He stands in strength who sees the Will of God behind the Plan. The will-to-good sub-stands all true goodwill. That will is he." The Plan for this cycle of the sixth objective crisis is goodwill for all men, and ⁴ through all men, goodwill. That Plan starts now.

We appreciate that the divine Purpose is wrought out through the medium of the Plan. The Purpose of God externalizes itself through the hierarchical Plan.⁵ This Purpose is the motivating life behind all that emanates from Shamballa and it is that which impulses all the activities of the Hierarchy, whose task is to formulate the Plan for all forms of life in the three worlds and the four kingdoms of nature. It is through the right use of the mind to the organized planning of an individual's life in the three worlds that eventually relates that person's will to the Will of God.

The creative process is the working out into progressive demonstration of the divine intention as it assumes form. This intention is a fully comprehended scheme in the Universal Mind; we call it Purpose when considering the grasp by Shamballa of the synthesis of this comprehensive intention, and we call it the Plan when considering the work of the Hierarchy in bringing this purpose as fully as possible into expression.

This Plan, emanating from the Hierarchy, has to be implemented by mankind.⁶ What an inspiring thought it is, that you and I can be the instigators of divine Purpose. We should ponder on the Word of Power: "Purpose Itself

Am I." ⁷ This is the Third Ray's Word of Power. The Third Ray of active intelligence is concerned with mind and expression. It is the ray which formulates and utilizes energy and can be used by humanity in the implementation of the Plan. When we have comprehended the concept that spirit-matter are one reality, then through uttering the Word of Power there can be a complete identification with spirit via the antahkarana.

It can be understood that the Plan is as much of the divine Purpose as can be brought into expression upon our planet. It is the blueprint of that part of the Purpose. The divine intention may perhaps be considered as the fire of divine impulse permeating all forms and driving those forms to certain action and achievement. Before we give our attention to the "will" aspect of our subject, we should perhaps consider some further and basic traits of "purpose."

We may like to define purpose as something intended or proposed to be done; an intention, determination, design, an aim. Purpose is the objective of one's endeavors, a goal, a direction, a result or effect that is desired. On a higher plane of thought, purpose is said to be an all-inclusive, motivating principle emanating from the cosmic mental plane and expressing itself as the divine Will upon the cosmic physical plane. The Ageless Wisdom states that Purpose itself (the reference is to divine Purpose) is only an energy, released within the confines of the Council Chamber of Shamballa; there it must take shape, and behind it looms that which has brought it into being.⁸

Purpose may be considered as the dynamic focus of all planetary energizing, development and evolutionary growth. The endeavor is to achieve some understanding of that which through the medium of form is seeking to embody the high purpose at any particular point in the evolutionary cycle and come to an awareness of the potency of Purpose as it is expressed in creation.

Hierarchy, which may be considered as the world of souls, is sensitive to the Purpose and

can transmit the Purpose as the Plan with the aim in view of creatively impressing humanity and expanding human consciousness. It is only when the Son of Mind (the soul), the abstract mind, and the Universal Mind are brought into a vital interrelationship forming an esoteric triangle that the divine Plan can, to some degree in accordance with the divine Purpose in relation to the planet, be sensed and precipitated into the outer field of manifestation.

We now consider the third verse of The Great Invocation:

*From the center where the Will of God
is known
Let purpose guide the little wills of
men
The purpose which the Masters know
and serve.*

The meaning of this third verse, as used by the Hierarchy, is that it will assist in bringing about the evocation of the spiritual will in humanity and the recognition of the divine Will by the Hierarchy. The "purpose" referred to in the last line of this verse, "The purpose which the Masters know and serve," is that aspect of the divine Will which seeks immediate expression on Earth. In relation to the Hierarchy, this aspect of the Will is expressed as the will-to-good and in reference to humanity as goodwill, as loving determination or as a fixed intention to bring about right human relations.

Will

A definition of will is that of deliberate and definite intention or wish, a determined course of action. It is the faculty of controlling our thoughts and actions, of determining and directing the activities of mind or body. Will is the power that produces action, plan, and purpose. It is the process or force of manifestation. We "will" it to be. The use of the lower aspect of will, the human self-will, enables the carrying out of plans and the

achievement of a fixed purpose.

Will is the conscious process involved in effecting an intention or the power of choosing according to certain principles or ideas. Willpower is a dynamic energy, an electric fire, a propelling expulsive force as well as a clarifying, purifying agent. The will aspect or initiatory impulse is that which produces cause. As will is the initiating power behind all action and manifestation, willpower may be thought of as energy directed to a particular purpose. The repository of the will aspect of mankind's innate divinity is to be found at the base of the spine; this can only function correctly and be the agent of the divine will after the third initiation. The head center is the custodian of the purpose; the center at the base of the spine indicates the will as it implements the purpose.¹⁰ The energy of the will is the most potent energy in the whole scheme of planetary existence. It is called the "Shamballa Force" and is that which holds all things together in life and it is, in reality, life itself.¹¹ The whole story of life can be described by the few words: purpose, divine will, and absolute determination. It can be further contended that will is "the first of all powers" and the cause behind all creation and manifestation; it is that which directs the manifested universe in eternity.

As an eternal principle, will may be considered as neither spirit nor substance, but everlasting ideation. There is an ancient belief that any idea will manifest itself externally if sufficient willpower is deeply concentrated upon the desired objective. We are aware of the power of the mind in interpreting our sensations, its power of recalling past ideas (memory), and the raising of the association of ideas. However, we have yet to fully understand the mystery of the power of thought which enables it to produce external results through its own inherent energy.

It may be said that will is that divine aspect in mankind that puts him en rapport with divine Purpose and then he is controlled by divine Purpose that is implemented by the soul as the expression of loving application. We

see that will is the energy of the soul, expressing itself as direction, progress, and conformity to the Plan. It is also said that the mode par excellence by which the will can be developed is the cultivation of the recognition of the divine Plan.

We have said that will is the power of purpose--a compelling purpose that energizes life. Humanity, as yet, does not know how to handle wisely the energy of the will-to-power. The secret of the will lies in the recognition of the divine nature of the human being and the recognition of the unconquerable nature of goodness and the inevitability of the ultimate triumph of good. Visualization is a powerful tool to accomplish a purpose. The endeavor is to also vitalize the thought form with the power of our will to seek to make it be. For example, a vision of an image of right relationship as having been achieved between people can assist the purpose of making our world a better place in which to live.

Will comes into action when the focus of consciousness shifts from the desire nature to the mental plane, where pure thought carries the dynamic energy of Will. Desire works from and through the material form upwards: Will works downwards into form, bending form consciously to divine Purpose. The one is invocative and the other is evocative. Desire, when massed and focused, can invoke will; will, when evoked, ends desire.¹²

We may consider the energy of desire as the reflection or distortion of love. Desire is attachment, usually to objects of pleasure. Desire is the force of the form nature; will is the energy of the soul expressing itself as direction, progress, and conformity to the Plan. This Plan is as much of the sensed will of God as mankind, at any particular stage of development, can grasp and understand. Will-desire is the cause of incarnation; the will-to-be reacting on substance (whose main quality is desire or responsiveness to sensation) produces the forms through which the central Life or Existence seek expression.¹³

There is one Will, and we exist as one Will to the degree that we renounce our self-will

and fuse with the one Will. In the words of the Christ: "Not My will but Thine be done"¹⁴

Christ anchored on Earth a tenuous thread of the divine Will as it issued from the Father's House (Shamballa) and it was brought to the attention of mankind. In the final hours in the Garden of Gethsemane, Christ's will was submerged in that of the Father.

Is the granting of free will a great testing issue for mankind? Will the purpose of this testing eventually work out successfully, through mankind's use of his freed will, to fuse his will with the will of God, an aspect of divine Purpose?

Spiritual Will is a unifying, synthetic force which can be aroused by the act of invocation; it can be invoked and evoked. We have already referred to the third verse of The Great Invocation, which invokes and calls forth the energy of Shamballa (the center where the Will of God is focused) and from which God's divine purposes are directed. It is the main distributing point for energy held ready for creative purposes.

This energy of divine will (implementing divine intention) is called the "Shamballa Force." It will be appreciated that this energy is the agent for the revelation of the divine Purpose, which we are told is "to bring about a planetary synthesis and an integrated system whereby a tremendous solar revelation can be seen."

Shamballa is a state of consciousness wherein there is acute and dynamic response to Purpose, a response that is made possible by the synthesis of purpose and of spiritual relationship by Members of this Council Chamber.

Each time the energy of the Will strikes into the human consciousness, some fuller aspect of the divine Plan appears. This "Shamballa Force" is the agent for the revelation of the divine Purpose. We can appreciate that Purpose is wrought out through the medium of the Plan--in other words, the Plan is the expression of the Purpose and the Will of God.

The connection, the relationship between

Purpose and Will, is the Plan. Through relationship, the duality becomes a triplicity. This union of the negative and positive aspect, resulting in a third line of force, is the principle of creativity. The Plan is the dynamic substance, providing the content of the reservoir upon which the impressing agent can draw and to which the recipient of the impression must become sensitive. We see that the Plan is substance or energy impregnated with the energy of Will and embodying divine Purpose. The hierarchical Plan can be thought of as an effect of the Purpose. Members of the Hierarchy consistently work with this substantial energy.

The cosmic Consciousness to whom we give the name Sanat Kumara, impresses Shamballa with the next phase of Purpose. This aspect of His Intention is stepped down and modified until it emerges as the hierarchical Plan. The plan for humanity is as much of the hierarchical intent as we can grasp, plus an understanding of the part we, as individual servers, must play.

We have already said that it is through the interrelationship of the Son of Mind (the soul), the abstract mind, and the Universal Mind that the work is carried out. The endeavor is to create a magnetic aura that will invoke spiritual ideas and concepts and attract them into the recipient's field of consciousness. In this way, we become impressed by and aware of the hierarchical Plan, followed by a consequent cooperation with some aspect of that Plan, and so a small part of divine Purpose may become a fact in conditioning world affairs. In some small way we may assist in bringing the developing world into line with the divine Will as divine ideas, fragments of the plan, work out as intuitions.

Through correct meditation, we realize that there is a Plan, catch visions of and ideas from the Plan, eventually harmonize with the Plan, adapt to the Plan, and consciously express the Plan. We should endeavor to come to an understanding of the relationship between the Plan and emerging world events. The fourth verse of The Great Invocation is

relative:

*From the center which we call the race of
men
Let the Plan of Love and Light work out.
And may it seal the door where evil
dwells.*

The Plan for humanity is not a fixed blueprint but is ever-developing, unfolding, and expanding as it seeks to express divine Purpose. It appears that without a blueprint of a plan there would be chaos.

We are told in the teachings of the Ageless Wisdom that only twice before in human history has the Shamballa energy (the Will of God) made its presence felt through the tremendous changes that were brought about:

1. When the first great human crisis occurred at the time of the individualization of man in ancient Lemuria.

2. At the time of the great struggle in Atlantean days between the "Lords of Light and the Lords of Material Expression".¹⁶

The Shamballa energy of the First Ray of Will and Power is the most obvious and powerful force in the world today, and we are aware of the increasing tension in world affairs and that we may be approaching a world crisis. We may also recognize that the First Ray of Will is steadily increasing in power. The inflow of this ray energy pouring into the world causes the destruction of that which is undesirable and a hindrance to correct government and to society. It is also a synthesizing force that binds together that which has hitherto been separated. This Shamballa force is stimulating the free will of the masses. There was no free will in Atlantean days.

The way in which humanity is affected by this ray energy produces a twofold result: first by an emergence of certain powerful and dominating first ray personalities into the theatre of world activity. The second way in which this dominant will impulse makes itself felt is through the voice of the great masses of the people throughout the world. The voice of

humanity is today being heard as a mass sound for the first time and is demanding a better world. This "voice of the people" or public opinion is being determined by the Will of God.

It is the Will of God to produce certain racial and momentous changes in the consciousness of humanity which will lead to a different attitude to life and the subjective essentials of living. During World War II, the forces of hate, of cruelty, and of darkness were driven back by the Forces of Light. There was an elimination of undesirable elements. A correct world lesson was learned leading to a refocusing and reorienting of purpose. Was the closing stage of the World War the beginning of the third period of input of the divine Will from Shamballa? Were the great changes of this input, the result of the "third time" of direct impulse of Shamballa energy upon humanity? Are we today, through our free will, putting to right use this increasing supply of Shamballa energy? Is war gradually being discarded as a means of obtaining a desire? Is this the beginning of an enlightened fusion of the individual will with the great divine Will?

All religions seek to discover the great purpose of human existence; with what success is debatable. Our quest is based on the teachings of the Ageless Wisdom as presented in the books of Alice A. Bailey and the Tibetan Teacher Djwhal Khul, (Lucis Publishing Co., New York., Lucis Press Ltd., London.)

In closing we submit that the controlling factor of the relationship between purpose and will is the degree of intent. Intention can be thought of as the pattern, as the design and, when focused, as the plan of action governing the energy of direction. The power of "massed intent" is the mental intention of many united and focused minds.

The principle of directed purpose involves the factor of focused intention, emphasizing an aspect of the will. By intention, we mean that unbreakable, immovable determination that a situation shall be handled. Intensity of purpose or working from a point of tension, when focused rightly, is the great releasing power

that can bring in a floodtide of revelation.

We see that purpose leads to action and is passive, waiting for the results of the activity of the will. Will is active. Will is the application of intelligent purpose. Purpose eventuates through the power of the Will. We can appreciate that the intent of the will is more powerful than the intention of purpose.

The Ageless Wisdom states that the dynamic electrical energy of Life itself, or divine potency of embodied Purpose, expresses through evolutionary manifestation the divine Will. It might be well to realize that purpose emanates from the cosmic mental plane and is the all-inclusive synthetic, motivating principle that expresses itself as the divine will upon the cosmic physical plane--the seven planes of our planetary Life.¹⁷

Due to rapidly evolving human mentality, there is emerging a group of thinkers and knowers who, working in mental matter, can assist in the emergence of the Plan and the manifestation of divine Purpose.

The will-to-good via the medium of a plan can implement the purpose of establishing right human relations. Have we the desire and the willpower to invoke the power of the dynamic electrical energy of Life itself, the intelligent life-force of embodied Purpose, with the intention of causing the energy of goodwill to manifest as right human relations? Is our free will producing goodwill?

Are our purpose and will in correct relationship, in harmony with the greater Purpose and Will?

References

All references are from the books of Alice A. Bailey: Lucis Publishing Co., 120 Wall St., New York, NY 10005, U.S.A. Lucis Press Ltd., Suite 54, 3 Whitehall Court, London, SW1A 2EF, U.K.

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