Some Essays on Karma

by Steve Beckow

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Karmic Knots and Soul Assignments

Originally posted to Galactic Roundtable, Jan. 19, 2009.

Dare I post the night before the inauguration of the first African-American President of the United States?

I'm sure we're all glued to the screen and bawling our eyes out at what is happening. Three-hundred years of history about to be effaced. Speak of erasing timelines.

But I am very moved by Susan's share and wanted to respond. Susan and others are talking about a special set of events in their lives. I call it the "karmic knot."

In my view, we are all of us given a karmic knot. The karmic knot is a troublesome situation that contains a lesson for us. Our "karmic knot" is usually triggered by events that happen fairly early in life.

Susan's was triggered by the nun's harsh treatment in response to an important and innocent question, plus the events that followed all the way up to her mother's reprimand.

Mine was by triggered by my Dad socking my Mother and knocking her unconscious when I was around eight. I swore I would make it up to Mom some day. (I later became an adjudicator of refugee claims – speak of standing up to bullies. I specialized in gender claims).

We are also given a "soul assignment." Matthew Ward (author of *Matthew's Messages*) calls it the "soul contract" and another writer calls it the "blueprint."

It is a socially-useful accomplishment we agree with ourselves, prior to being born, to carry out in this lifetime. It seldom is accomplished as long as we are tied up in our karmic knot. Observe Barrack Obama.

What we notice, if we look hard enough, is that the karmic knot usually propels us in the direction of accomplishing our soul assignment.

Susan's karmic knot galvanized her to know what God was and she got: "I AM THAT I AM." That was probably what she agreed with herself, before she was born, to accomplish in this lifetime.

My karmic knot propelled me to shake off personal fear so that I could stand up to bullies like President Bush and Vice-President Cheney and tell them publicly that they were mass murderers and high traitors, no matter what the risk was for me. Once I had shaken myself free of fear, I could be socially useful.

If we try to accomplish our soul assignment without untying our karmic knot, we can come across as ungrounded, divided, squeaky. I certainly did for many years. It took a lot of growth work to emerge from the hole I was in.

We untie the karmic knot by telling the truth.

That's why it's so important to speak the truth here, to tell it like it is, as deeply as you can. Tell the truth until it hurts.

I have an invisible friend. I talk to animals. I am a telepath. I have been chipped. That is the truth that we've been withholding all these years which, as long as it is held back, has power over us.

Tell the truth in here and the truth will set you free. That's the idea behind all this communicating for people slated to be tomorrow's leaders.

A few of you may not take yourselves that seriously now, but I guarantee that you will one day. And the more work we do together here and now, the more use we will be to others when events unfold.

Namaste.

Steve

Karma and Issues Are Not the Same



Bernadette Roberts, Knower of the No-Self

I've been laboring over what was becoming a rather large article on what I believe is the work we need to do to ascend, as far as I can see it from my limited perch. But rather than publish a very large article, I decided to break it down into bits.

The first bit I want to publish is one which draws a distinction between our karma and our issues.

You remember that Jesus said that, "till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." (1) Well, in my opinion, heaven and Earth are about to pass. Yes, think of it: the Earth is about to ascend to the Fifth Dimension and the whole universe is doing the same. Is that not heaven and Earth passing?

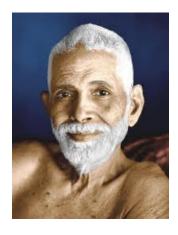
Until this time, our karma has been recorded and remained something that we needed to attend to. But the celestial, galactic and spiritual masters say that our karma will be forgiven us to allow us to ascend. If it weren't, we couldn't possibly ascend because our karma would be too vast to erase. In my opinion, with each new life, we create more karma than we eradicate.

Atmos of Sirius tells us that God will remove the karma of people who are of the Light "With the closing of the cycle the Law of Grace comes into operation, and the Creator has decreed that those who are of the Light shall be released from their remaining karma." (2)

SaLuSa agrees: "The Law of Grace will ensure that no karmic residue will travel with you." (3)

In another passage, he says: "Karma is being rapidly cleared to ensure the highest levels of Light are reached upon Earth. The lower energies are being transmuted, as much due to your application of the Light as well as ours." (4)

Karma is being cleared through the law of Grace but the transmuting of the lower energies that is taking place is happening, I think, because we are clearing our issues. In my opinion, that is the manner in which we apply the Light that SaLuSa refers to.



Sri Ramana Maharshi: look in the face of sahaja samadhi

Supposing we are on a trip and carrying a large amount of baggage. We have asthma and are exhausted and may not be able to complete the trip unless help is found.

Suddenly someone tells us that we can ship much of our baggage on ahead. That is a great help.

But we must still manage our asthma and carry ourselves through the remainder of the trip. Our baggage is our karma. Our asthma is our issues. Though relieved of our baggage (our karma), we still have to manage our asthma (our issues) to complete the trip.

The challenging times we are going through are allowing those old issues to be raised so that they can be cleared.

Another way of saying this is that God will forgive us, but we must forgive ourselves and others. Forgiving us clears us of our karma; forgiving ourselves and others, in the last analysis, clears us of our issues.

In case we think that the extension of God's Grace at this time is unusual, it isn't. It's quite common for spiritual aspirants and sages to remark on the fact that we could not possibly close the distance between ourselves and God if we relied on solely our own efforts. That is, we could not possibly attain enlightenment if God did not step in and make the task manageable.

Hindus say that, when we take one step towards God, God takes ten steps towards us. What is more required than covering the whole distance is exhausting our efforts.

Bernadette Roberts says as much when she observes that "at a certain point, when we have done all we can [to bring about an abiding union with the divine], the divine steps in and takes over." (5) Sri Ramana Maharshi echoes her when he tells us: "Your efforts can extend only [so] far. Then the Beyond will take care of itself. You are helpless there. No effort can reach it." (6)

So, far from being unheard of, divine intervention is necessary to the process of enlightenment. Without it, we could not cover the distance between us and God. After we have done all we can, the Divine steps in and covers the remaining distance.

But, apparently, the same does not apply to issues. Apparently, we are required to clear them ourselves and, as the energy rises, we are given the opportunity to do so. Yes, we will be given help, but clearing the issues themselves remains something we must do alone.

Rather than going on and showing where the masters say this, I think I'll stop here and leave that demonstration to a future article.

Why do I point out that our karma is something we're going to be relieved of and only our issues are left? To give us hope. To show us that a divine dispensation is shortening the distance we have to travel. To allow us not to feel despondent and overwhelmed by the task ahead. We have only to master ourselves, not to clear off our old, accumulated debts. The distance we have to cross to ascend is manageable.

Footnotes

- (1) Jesus in Matthew 5:18.
- (2) Atmos, Jan. 28, 2009, at http://www.treeofthegoldenlight.com/First_Contact/Channeled_Messages_by_Mike_Quinsey.htm
- (3) SaLuSa, March 17, 2010, at http://www.treeofthegoldenlight.com/First_Contact/Channeled_Messages_by_Mike_Quinsey.htm
- (4) SaLuSa, Feb. 17, 2010.
- (5) Bernadette Roberts in The Path to No-Self" in Stephan Bodian, ed. Timeless Visions, Healing Voices. Freedom, CA: Crossing Press, 1991, 131.
- (6) Sri Ramana Maharshi in Munagala Venkatramiah, Talks with Sri Ramana Maharshi. Question 197. Downloaded from http://www.ramana-maharshi.org/books.htm, 31 August 2005

What the Dark Ones Face



We've entered the period of accountability and many of us have heard that arrest warrants are being issued for some of the Illuminati. Many of them are allegedly fleeing the sinking ship, others looking for safe haven, and still others being removed and kept in isolation.

This is a time when many of us could feel vengeful and think that we need to bring the dark ones to justice. What are the grounds for saying that we don't need to seek vengeance on the dark ones?

One ground is the legal process that has been planned to bring the Illuminati before the International Court at the Hague. And I may look at that in another article.

But here I wish to examine a second process and that is the afterlife event known as the "Judgment." Because everyone must go through the Judgment, the galactics are not concerned about their future and can remain equanimous over the question of the dark ones' fate.

The Judgment has nothing to do with the Christian notion of "Judgment Day." We don't find ourselves at the Throne of God. SaLuSa tells us that "all souls are equal and loved by the Creator, who does not punish the errant ones as some believe." (1) It is nonetheless a process that occurs after we transition.

Not all the dark ones will transition to the Astral Planes, Some will be removed to other dimensions. But here I wish to focus on what awaits the dark ones on the other side of life.

When the appropriate time arrives, which may be quite a while after we pass over, we sit down with our spiritual directors, our soul contract in one hand as it were and the records of our life in the other. (2) Together we review all the events of our life, a process that can often take quite a bit of time. SaLuSa refers to the Judgment here:

"Be assured that when you pass over and return to the astral planes, you will clearly understand all facets of your life. You will review your life, and this can be a sobering time when you find out how well you have done where your life plan was concerned." (3)

Because the galactics know about the Judgment, the fate of the dark ones is of no concern to them.

"We may frequently refer to the Dark Ones but we do not judge them, and that will be left for their own self-Judgment when their time is also finished in this cycle." (4)

"Making them responsible for their acts against Humanity is not directly our concern, because there is no escape from eventually having to answer to the higher spiritual hierarchy that oversees your evolution." (5)

We'll see later that what SaLuSa means by "having to answer to the higher spiritual hierarchy that oversees your evolution" does not mean in a spiritual court of law, but via our spiritual directors who work with us to assist us through the Judgment process.

No one escapes the Judgment, SaLuSa advises us.

"Each and every soul will at some stage face their past actions, and judge their own degree of responsibility for them. You will find that it cannot be excused because it was authorized or ordered by someone else." (6)

On another occasion he tells us that "absolutely no one gets away with a single act that causes any harm to another." (7) Like everyone else, the dark ones "will one day judge themselves" (8) and "you will be the sternest judge of your own misdemeanors." (9)

We have two accounts of the Judgment that I'd like to look at – one from Frances Banks contained in *New Maps of Heaven* and the second from Matthew Ward. Frances Banks gives a description of what the records that the Judgment depend on are like:

"Somewhere in the deeps of my mind, two 'blueprints' are brought forward into my consciousness. These are so clear that I can (literally) take them out, materialize them and study them. One is the Perfect Idea with which my spirit went bravely into incarnation. The other is the resultant of only a partially-understood Plan ... in fact my life as it was actually lived. ...

"In a way the blueprints resemble maps, with coloured places, and light and dark patches, and a kind of glowing 'sun' for the high-lights." (10)

She tells us how the Judgment proceeds. The first stage may be an overview of one's life, as she describes here:

"First of all the mind looks at the whole comparison, and sets the blueprints side by side. This is the first shock: a true humbling of yourself to find that you did so little when you would have done so much; that you went wrong so often when you were sure that you were right.

"During this experience the whole cycle of your life-term unfolds before you in a kaleidoscopic series of pictures. During this crisis one seems to be entirely *alone*. Yours is the judgment. You stand at your own bar of judgment. You make your own decisions. You take your own blame.... You are the accused, the judge and the jury." (11)

Many people are seared by this initial look and must rest before continuing to the second stage. Notice Frances' mention of our own "High Spirit or a Great Helper," the spiritual director(s) who will help us through the experience.

"The second stage of this recapitulation starts when the soul feels strong enough and calmed sufficiently to take the earth life, round by round (so to speak). Then

the blueprints are brought into the mind again; only this time the start is made from the moment of departure from the body. The mind works slowly, oh! so slowly, backwards through one's experiences. (I am not confessing where I have reached in this exercise!) But I will tell you that now you seem *no longer alone*.

"'Someone' is beside you. Whether it is your own High Spirit or a Great Helper I have yet to discover. Only now, as you ponder, work out, go over, tabulate and judge what you did *and why and what were the results* (good or bad) you are gloriously 'aware' of this great Being beside you, giving strength, peace, tranquility, and helping with constructive criticism. This is a wonderful experience, though harrowing at times. But very cleansing and bringing new hope." (12)

The second account comes from Matthew Ward and is much more substantial than Frances' account. Matthew by the way served as a transition guide (13) and probably would have helped many people through the intense experience of the Judgment.

Matthew describes the process in the case of dark ones.

"Individuals acting with dark intent don't remember that when Earth life ends, every soul will have to review every minute of it—not only watching everything they did throughout the lifetime, but feeling every emotion exactly as it was felt by every person whose life they touched in any way." (14)

He sets out to explain the Judgment by first discussing the Akashic Records which provide us with the view of our life.

"Akashic Records contain complete, accurate, trustworthy accounts of all universe-wide happenings within eternity and All That Is. Lifeprints, which are as unique as your fingerprints and more impervious to alteration, form each soul's records, and each lifeprint is a separate file in the Akashic Records.

"A lifeprint is like a lifelong movie, omitting not a single aspect or instant. The information it contains, which automatically and indelibly is registered in energy

form, is every thought, every action, and the consequences of every action throughout the lifetime of the person.

"Every action is registered as the deed itself plus the intent and all feelings associated with it. Not only are the person's feelings about every action and its results recorded, but the feelings of all the people whose lives were affected by those actions." (15)

He then tells us how the Judgment comes about.

"After the soul has recovered stability from the previous lifetime and is nourished spiritually and psychically, it is completely aware of its cumulative soul. It is this cumulative soul, with its collective wisdom and knowledge and spiritual growth of all personage lifetimes, that reviews the lifeprint.

"The reviewing process is *felt* exactly as those feelings were experienced not only by the person, but all the people who were affected by his every action. So you can see that it is quite an experience! ...

"In this intimate review the soul evaluates how well it learned the lessons presented during the previous lifetime. A lax assessment of which lessons were thoroughly learned and which were not may be addressed by the Council or other highly evolved beings whose recommendations are meant to assist that soul's preparation for the next incarnation." (16)

The Judgment – or lifeprint review – also identifies what remaining lessons we need to learn.

"The lifeprint review also identifies lessons remaining, thus enabling the soul to choose those it wishes to experience in its next lifetime. This entails examining karmic connections and selecting a family to be born into for the genetic and beginning environmental influences." (17)

Our Akashic Records or lifeprints permit alteration if other people we interacted with impact our chosen path unduly.

"There is another aspect of the lifeprint records that is relevant when the soul discusses the next life and lessons with advisers. Lifeprints are not cast in marble by the physical death of the individual. Their elastic form permits alteration of the record if another soul interfered with the soul's chosen experiencing.

"If that interference seriously diverted the soul from its chosen pathway, by divine grace the lifeprint may be altered to reflect that. The affected soul may incur 'positive' karma or may pass altogether if remaining lessons do not include that unplanned experiencing. The soul who caused the diversion incurs 'negative' karma, which is registered in his lifeprint." (18)

We can see that nowhere in this process does God figure, except as the God within each of us, as Matthew tells us.

"The cumulative soul's judgment of its previous lifetime is the ONLY judgment of it. You have heard that only God is your judge and you have heard that even God does not judge. Either way, this refers to the lifeprint review.

"Because we all are fragments of God and therefore inextricably connected, it is accurate to say that only God, in each personage, judges. And it is just as accurate to say that He doesn't judge at all, because only the cumulative soul whose last personage lifetime is under review judges it." (19)

Apparently the Judgment is a universal experience. SaLuSa, who will probably not have experienced the afterlife world connected to Earth, can still describe the Judgment that awaits the dark ones, which suggests that these matters are not unique to Earth.

"[The dark ones] will have to experience the effects of their deeds and fully understand the outcome. We can tell you that once you return to the higher

dimensions, and know the truth about life and its purpose you are more than eager to atone for your mistakes." (20)

The Judgment does not involve punishment or criticism, SaLuSa tells us.

"We must stress again that there is no punishment as you understand it, and no judgment [that is, no one looking down on a soul] and the final outcome is in the hands of the soul concerned." (21)

Following the Judgment, we set for ourselves a program of retribution on the other side of life, which SaLuSa refers to here.

"Whilst you are not punished for your "sins" you do make reparations so that you fully understand the effect of them on other souls. This can be very deep and heart wrenching, but it is the only way to learn your lessons. You have all to some degree had such experiences, so now you can understand why it is essential you are non-judgmental where other souls are concerned." (22)

The fact that our program of retribution is decided upon by us is what leads SaLuSa to say that "what you refer to as Karma is self imposed at such times as you review each lifetime." (23)

As Matthew referred to earlier, the Judgment does no occur until the soul reaches at least the higher planes of the Astral. As long as an exceptionally evil spirit remains on the Dark Planes, they suffer a different fate. Matthew Ward describes their situation.

"The souls whose lifetime energy registration was of the basest density—what some would call 'pure evil'—automatically will be drawn to the only part of Nirvana that is separate from the flexible layers, the tiny orb near your moon where the density is so great that it holds those souls captive.

"They are aware of where they are and what they did that led them to that densest part of Earth's spirit world because it is there that they review their entire past lifetime moment by moment and feel their every emotion along with the

emotions of everyone whose lives they touched in any way. This review process is the hell of some religious concepts." (24)

We should note that the review that the dark are said to experience in the lower realms is not the same as the review on the higher planes. The dark are required to relive their experiences continually, hearing the cries of their victims, etc. The life review on the higher planes does not occur continually, but has a beginning and an end. While the individual experiences the feelings of the other person, the situations are not usually as intense as those the dark experience.

Matthew gives another description of these nether worlds on another occasion.

"The next lifetime [i.e., the life after death] of those ones who are lost in darkness will be a hell of their own creation—a punishment, if you will, that is far more severe than any you could ever conceive—and until they accept the light constantly beamed into those dense placements where their lifetime energy output consigned them, there they will remain. (25)

The dark ones will not get away with anything, even if they managed to cheat human justice, SaLuSa tells us.

"There is no such thing as getting away with misdeeds, although you may have escaped punishment under Man's Laws. We talk of your life review when your physical life has ended, when each thought and action is examined with a view to determining how much interference or harm it may have caused another soul."

(26)

Thus the galactics know what the dark ones face on the other side of life. This knowledge allows them not to judge the dark ones themselves and not to seek vengeance. They know that each soul is loved by God and each soul is seeking its way on a never-ending journey back to God. They also know that the natural law can be relied on to teach the dark ones the lessons they need to learn and that everyone has all of eternity to learn those lessons. They leave to the Judgment the time when the dark

ones will have to confront and judge themselves and set the conditions of their reparations.

Footnotes

- (1) SaLuSa, Nov. 6, 2009, at http://www.treeofthegoldenlight.com/First_Contact/Channeled_Messages_by_Mike_Quinsey.htm
- (2) The Judgment differs from the full-life review that occurs immediately after death. The full life review happens in a matter of seconds or minutes and does not see us feeling the emotions of others. The Judgment happens over an extended period and sees us experience the emotions of everyone we've ever interacted with. The Judgment is a much more intense and prolonged experience.
- (3) SaLuSa, Apr. 3, 2009.
- (4) SaLuSa, Nov. 6, 2009.
- (5) SaLuSa, Apr. 4, 2011.
- (6) SaLuSa, Feb. 24, 2010.
- (7) SaLuSa, Jan. 5, 2011
- (8) SaLuSa, April 14, 2010.
- (9) SaLuSa, Jan. 5, 2011.
- (10) Frances Banks, Testimony of Light. London: St Mary Abchuch, 1975; c1969, 34. [Hereafter TOL.]
- (11) Frances Banks, TOL, 34.
- (12) Frances Banks, TOL, 34-5.
- (13) "As a transition assister, I have valid reason for entering the records of the souls whose lifetime information I need for maximum help to them." (Matthew Ward, *Matthew, Tell Me About Heaven*. Camus, WA: Matthew Books, 2002; c2011,191-4. [Hereafter MTMAH.]
- (14) Matthew's Message, Feb. 14, 2010, at http://www.matthewbooks.com/mattsmessage.htm
- (15) Matthew Ward, MTMAH,191.

- (16) Matthew Ward, MTMAH,191-2.
- (17) Matthew Ward, MTMAH,192.
- (18) Matthew Ward, MTMAH,192.
- (19) Matthew Ward, MTMAH, 191-2.
- (20) SaLuSa, Apr. 4, 2011.
- (21) SaLuSa, Apr. 4, 2011.
- (22) SaLuSa, Oct. 28, 2011.
- (23) SaLuSa, Dec. 5, 2008.
- (24) Matthew's Message, March 29, 2010.
- (25) Matthew's Message, Feb. 14, 2010.
- (26) SaLuSa, Dec. 16, 2009.

The Difficulty of Commenting on Karma



A reader has asked whether the victims of serial killers and the serial killers themselves choose these roles in their pre-birth agreements.

It would be very easy to come up with an easy answer to that question but I've learned over the years that answering it raises issues that are more important than the answer itself would be.

Let me see if I can work my way up to an adequate statement of why I say that. Let me begin by offering a comment that the Master Hilarion made in the 19th Century about whether we mortals could ever understand the workings of the law of karma. This statement has always guided me on the subject:

"The operations of the actual laws of karma are not to be studied until the disciple has reached the point at which they no longer affect himself. The initiate has a right to demand the secrets of Nature and to know the rules which govern human life. He attains this right by having escaped himself from the limits of Nature and by having freed himself from the rules which govern human life. He has become a recognized portion of the divine element and is no longer affected by that which is temporary. He then obtains the knowledge of the laws which govern temporary conditions.

"Therefore, you who desire to understand the laws of karma, attempt first to free yourself from these laws; and this can only be done by fixing your attention on that which is unaffected by those laws." (1)

SaLuSa says: "Life seems complicated but in reality it is quite simple, as you will always find yourself to be in the right place. It is much the same with the people that enter your life, as that is also by arrangement and agreement." (2)

Life may appear simple to an ascended master, but the workings of the law of karma have always seemed to me to be the most complicated circumstances I can imagine. If I were to comment on karma, I would run a much greater chance of being wrong, I believe, than of being right.

That's completely aside from the fact that I would not know what the answer was anyways because I have no special insight into the workings of karma, no ability to read the akashic records, and no knowledge of the soul's life contract.

Added to the great chance of my being wrong is the tremendous heartache that the survivor might go through who, having lost one to, say, a serial killer, now must endure the suggestion that the dead friend or relative in fact signed up for the experience.

I would imagine that it would be crazy-making to hear that your baby signed up for the experience of being horribly maimed by depleted-uranium poisoning. I resolved long ago not to be the one to make such a suggestion, whether it may be true or not. To do so would be to risk re-traumatizing the already-traumatized.

In saying this I'm guided by Gandhi's statement that ahimsa (harmlessness) comes before truth. It does for us mortals who have a tendency to be harmful at times. As long as I have the ability and the desire to harm, I put harmlessness before truth.

For me, it works that I study karma so that I conduct my own life wisely and prudently. I'm eager to know about my own karma. But it doesn't work for me to comment on the karma of another and it's something I don't do – except in the case of, say, Nazi butcher Irma Grese who murdered and maimed countless people and is said to be headed for liquidation. (3) Apart from so obvious and reprehensible a situation, my contribution is to stay away from potentially-damaging statements.

Having said that, I am hard at work on the next instalment of the series on soul contracts and in it the galactic and spirit teachers comment on karma. I *will* reproduce their comments. I just won't make them on my own authority.

I regard karma as a situation around which it's necessary to operate with perhaps the most ... what is the word? ... delicacy of perhaps any subject I can think of without somehow lying down before evil or sacrificing the need to oppose it where I see it.

The question is a very good one and the answer to it, for me anyways, is not an easy one to formulate.

Footnotes

- (1) Ascended Master Hilarion, speaking through Mabel Collins, *Light on the Path and an Essay on Karma*. Wheaton, IL: Theosophical Publishing House, 1974, 38-9.
- (2) SaLuSa, Oct. 4, 2010, at http://www.treeofthegoldenlight.com/First_Contact/Channeled_Messages_by_Mike_Quinsey.htm
- (3) See "The Suggestion that Some Spirits May Eventually Disintegrate or are 'Liquidated'" at http://www.angelfire.com/space2/light11/nmh/dark1.html#LIQ