

Inspiration

For the Mystical Journey with Christ
January 2011



Change – Evolution’s Splendid Necessity

by Reverend Jonathan Wiltshire

It has often been said that change is inevitable (except from a vending machine). This is the outcome of the Divine Creator having instilled in all life the impetus to evolve. Of course, we humans aren’t always conscious of this inner current sweeping us forward. But resistance is to no avail. Writer Jim Rohn believes, “We generally change ourselves for one of two reasons: inspiration or desperation.”



We might say we have two teachers in life, suffering and the teacher within us. Suffering brings about desperation. This is not a pleasant way to learn but a very effective one if we accept that it is bringing needed change. It’s needed, not because God is punishing us but because we are out of balance, we are no longer in the flow of our own evolution. If we can accept the suffering with trust, the outcome is always a deepening of spirit, a transformation.

The easier path is taken by the awakened student of life who listens to the

inner teacher, our Soul Self within. The Christian Mystic, Flower Newhouse, said it beautifully: "All of evolution is based on the great prompting of us to discover our real or higher selves. Evolution rests on the premise that we must find our souls and live in them. It does not stop working upon us, blessing us, and feeding us until it is able to govern us in every way."

Flower exemplified one whose life is soul directed. She seemed to meet each day with inspiration and expectation of the good. If she encountered a negative situation, Flower immediately changed her outlook and searched for the positive. This was not a Pollyanna view of life, but one that knows Good lies behind everything when experienced from the soul. No wonder that waiters and waitresses, shop clerks, and cashiers at grocery stores all perked up when she came into their place of business. Her soul outlook was turned to others and that inner light drew the good from them. She expressed the life of spirit. I have no doubt that others felt more alive in her presence.

And as one who participated in our yearly retreats at Questhaven when Flower was with us, I learned that she was a highly creative person. Change was an essential part of her expression because creativity is all about change and adaptability. At dress rehearsals, two days before the performance, Flower would often sense something needed to be added or modified, and ask us to change it. Among some participants there was a good deal of silent resistance, not to mention panic. But from Flower's exemplarship I could see that she expected us to respond to life with our soul's trust. She easily accepted change with anticipation of the good that will come. Flower met all adversity with complete trust in the Higher, whether it was a challenge to Questhaven, to her health, or a loved one.



The beginning of a new year is a good time to ask ourselves, "How will I meet the change that is sure to come?" The answer depends on our chosen resolution. What came to me for 2011 is expressed in two words – GO DEEP. More time spent within, experiencing the stillness of our soul center, being filled with the peace of Divine Presence, will surely lead to an

adaptable, God-directed, fulfilling life. This will require a deepening of our faith, the certainty that God is drawing us closer, lovingly guiding us through our personal evolution, and that our Lord Christ's chief desire is to reveal Himself to us, that we may live from our immortal Self.

[Click Here to Listen to Jonathan's Complete Talk on this Subject](#)

Important Dates:

Lenten Classes begin on March 9

Easter Retreat: April 22, 23 and 24

Check our [calendar of events](#) for up-to-date information

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