

"Gone into the neant! Gone into the nothingness of existence for all eternity! Never to return again; never to see the light of the sun, the beauty of the sky and the beauty of nature in general. Gone into the blackness!" Oh how sad! Because it isn't true, that's whay it is so sad.

I have gone nowhere because I never was anywhere but in consciousness. Time and place are concoctions of the mind, concoctions of the creator -- just like this! (hitting on table) This, you call matter, is a creation of the mind, for this dimension, for this dream in which you live.

Then you have a dream within a dream - it is called night dreaming. I go to sleep - what is sleep? A change of consciousness, a change of self-awareness. Au-kee? In my language: yes? That's what death is - a change of consciousness. No more than that.

If the individual has led a hurtful life, if they have been living in the slums of life, they will go on living in a slum of life and hurting We are what we are. Is this person punished by finding himself in the slums? No. He had a slum mind while he was living and he was very comfortable in it. He was doing, what the hippies call, "his thing." I love those expressions by those young people.

My friends, I am speaking to you of reality, which is called life. You need not pray to any "god" to save you from hell or put you in heaven. Believe me, you will put yourself there and do a very good job of it. What is hell? Hell is something that I do not understand. That is why it is such a pain - it is the pain of misconception.

Now, if you are a man or woman of great wealth, you will continue to be a man or woman of great wealth. But there is something about wealth, and about poverty, that can poison us. It is not the money, or the lack of it; it is misconceptions about what to do with ourselves in these different states.

Many people, greatly wealthy, are very unhappy--not because of the money, but because they do not know what to do with themselves. They have an itch they cannot scratch. They have a hunger that cannot be satisfied. And all their money cannot buy it - nor can all their money, give it to one who is poverty-stricken.

There is no glory in being poverty-stricken. There was a man in your world called Abraham Lincoln. It is said that this man said: "God must have loved the poor for he made so many of them." That is ridiculous! He didn't say anything of the kind. This man was very alert, very smart. This statement was made up by his managers, promoters. But he knew better.

When we are poor in physical things, it shows that our creator within us is not awake. It does not love us. It has withdrawn from us. It is no use to beseech him to give it to us when we do not have it; but we have to gain its wakeful attention again by effort, by wanting to by realizing that we have life in our hands - not in his hands - in our hands.

Be alive! Act! Do! Ha-ha sounds like I am giving you a pep talk. And I am. But a real one. I speak no fairy stories. What is the use of this temple if you come to it and go away acting the same way you have been acting yesterday and the day before. It is a vanity! You are wasting the time of your teachers here, and your own time, by coming here. Go away from your teachers with strength that you have gained by listening to their assuring words that you have reason and purpose to life. It is of no value to sing hallelujahs to your god unless you act that way also. Be alive. Act like you are the creator. Act in love and in kindness.

I know people who want to be mediums. They have come to me when I have been speaking through Mark, as I am now, and asked me to help them become mediums. I cannot do that. A person is either sensitive to the creative vibrations of life or he is not. And no one can make him so. And, when people try to teach other people how to become mediums, they are making trouble for them.

If you are a sensitive, you will be so. The light will come to you. It took us - we of the Circle - forty years to condition Mark so that we could use his physical structure with the least harm to his physical self. Forty years! And many people want to have this overnight!

People try to hypnotize people to make them mediums. You will make them mediums - mediums of insanity! You are not dolls, mechanical dolls manipulated by one another. We are our own master, our own teacher, our own student. We must learn. We must condition ourselves. And we start the conditioning by having love for ourselves.

Then we look around at our fellow men and we understand them, as we understand ourselves. And because we understand ourselves we can understand others. I know my weakness. I understand, so I know yours. I know your strength because I know my strength. I know what I am.

And I wait. And I seek better - not more, but better understanding of my own being. In it, I find the truth to survival of my body. I find the truth, and in knowing the truth, death vanishes.

It is said somewhere in your Bible that death is the last enemy to be conquered. Yes, conquered by the sleeping mind. There is no death. The body goes through a natural deterioration - a chemical breakdown. So, no matter what you do, this body will not live forever. And you should be glad that it can't, for the real in-dweller does not dwell in the body. It is everywhere present; so that the moment the physical body dies, this spirit self can be anywhere in a tick of time.

But do you have to wait until your body dies, to perform this seeming magic? Of course not. You are, right now, just as free as you will ever be in your spirit self; just as free. You can move to any part of the universe you wish to go to, in a tick of time. Because why? Because it is all here in consciousness.

We love him - as we do you - but no better. He must do what he must do, in his own way and his own time. If he dies from his doing, he dies. That's his life. I think we talked something about this the other night - with me keeping quiet for a change. Mark and you and - Oh yes! - you sound surprised -

(Comment: We didn't get anywhere!)

No, and neither did he.

(Comment:)

No, I appreciated what you were doing. I understood it and I understood what he was doing.

(C: I wish I did!)

You do, but you have not thought about it as we have. That was one of the few times that you discussed the same subject with him - but you haven't thought of it as we have, and as he has. He's lived with it. Do any of us have to defend ourselves? Of course not. I am me. Do I need to defend that? Do you? Of course not.

The biggest difficulty man has, is to be himself. He is always worried about what someone else is going to say about him, or think about him. Now if you, as an individual, feel that you are doing what is right, what is good to do, do it. Do not wait for your neighbor to nod his head in approval - because you may not live that long! Do whatever it is you feel you must do, and then forget it. Because if you do not, most likely you will make guilt feeling for yourself. Forget it. You did it. You cannot undo it, so forget it.

Do you know what brings people back into the world? What is the main cause of it? It is regrets over past doings - regrets and guilt - "Oh, I must get back and rectify that condition! Oh, I'm sorry I did that! Ohhhh -"

Ka-sida!! In my language, that's a mild oath.

Who was it that said - "The moving finger writes, and having writ, moves on."? Moves on. There is no way you can go back and blot it out, rub it out. The writing has been done. Live it.

(Q: -Do you mean it's only the attitude that needs to be changed?) ←
- That is all. That is all. Thank you very much.

(Comment: re meditation in connection with daily behavior.....)

That is right. You cannot go back to yesterday. Think about it, find it, and then do what you can - but only what you can, and that is all. But in most cases, when we start to think about what we did yesterday, it mostly comes up as a pain - right there!

Often that pain turns out to be a stiff neck. Ha. You have heard people say - "You give me a pain in the neck!" And they do get it! They cannot turn - it is like a board. Ask yourself if you haven't been delving into somebody else's business when you are getting a stiff neck.

You caused them to think against you; and their thoughts, thrown at you in anger and irritation, can make you sick. This is called Black Magic. The black man does Black Magic and the white man does White Magic - ha ha -

No! Our negative thoughts cause us to do Black Magic - without even realizing we are doing it. In your modern world, you hear - "Tch-tch! Black Magic! That's superstition! There's no such thing!"

8/20/68 - p5

So, all you do is lose a skin when you die. The skin died not you. You will make another skin to live in. There is no strangeness about your life after the skin life. There is nothing unusual or frightening. It is a very normal natural feeling. Your body self goes to sleep and you become more acutely aware of you - sometimes.

Other times, you stay sleeping until (the mental you - the mind you - washes out all memory of having lived in the physical world.) And then you wake up and you feel greatly refreshed, and you cannot think of the physical world - and that would make anybody feel refreshed!

Theosophy teaches that when one dies, the spark of life goes straight to nirvana; and there it luxuriates in the memories of its life on earth. Ka-sida! Ha ha. Now, do you think you could luxuriate in comfort, remembering your life? That would be the real Christian hell - hot-hot-hot on the nervous system. So, that does not happen.

It is said that a person who commits suicide, goes right to hell. But, if he is lucky - so much depends on luck, doesn't it - if he is lucky, he goes to the place between heaven and hell. It is not so hot there - it is called purgatory. Oh yes, you'll find out when you die - and then it will either be too late or too early to take any attitude to it.

I say to you, nothing strange will happen to you. Mostly, your life after this is beautiful - beautiful, but more especially so, if you do not have guilt feelings. That is what makes this life hell.

Think of what you are going to do, before you do it. Think about the possible results. What am I doing!

Now I am a human being. This is a marvelous title for man as he climbs up to his god-head. We have to become humans. We're not born that way; we're born animals. We become human by thinking, by listening, by feeling. We should know, that if we do things that are not according to our feeling-self, eventually - if not now - we get the hot stick - the hot stick of regrets, of anxiety, of guilt. And we do not have to wait to die, to suffer. We'll suffer now - here. Here.

If you say you have an enemy, it is saying you are an enemy to yourself. You will keep that person uppermost in your mind; you will immortalize them in your thoughts, by thinking about them. Now if you really feel you have an enemy, don't think about them. Forget them. Turn to other things. Wash them out of your consciousness if you feel that angry about them.

Otherwise, the best approach is to turn your anger and your hate to understanding as to why that person did what they did. This is called loving them. Understanding is to give love. To give love, is to give understanding.

No one can hurt me, but me - and sometimes I do an exceedingly good job of it - and then blame someone else - "He did it to me. I wasn't looking". And if I was looking, I wasn't seeing; I was just seeing the red, the blood in my eyes, the blood of anger.

Lois: How could you force someone back into this physical world? By not releasing them?

Yada: Yes, by taking over their consciousness.

Joe: Would that take occult knowledge or is this just an accident, or sheer will power?

Yada: Sometimes, not an accident. Sometimes produced by willing and sometimes done unconsciously due to our attachments for another.

Lois: A desire for them to be with you?

Yada: That is right.

Joe: If the other is not strong enough to resist or if he is, but if he or she is a free individual or entity, then they could break away?

Yada: That is right. That is why I say it is a very smart person, very fortunate person, that knows themselves so they know what they fight against. Knowing what they are, they naturally know what they are not. and so they cannot be possessed by another.

"That's not me! I know what is not me because I know what is me!"

Joe: This possession is mainly a force that is built up by emotions?

Yada: That is right. Many parents do this to their children, forcing them to live the way they have had to live. Very seldom are we, as individuals, content with ourselves, so how can we be content with others? How can we stop obstructing others in their growth when we do not know how to stop ourselves?

This is the importance of that ancient saying for man to know yourself. There are millions of beings, in other states of consciousness, who roam idly. They are the true spooks of the afterlife and they go in and out of your world, unrecognized.

I'm going to step aside and let my colleague, Professor Alfred Luntz come. He does not have too much time to come. He is going to have to stop coming here soon, for it takes a measurable time to forget, so he can be a new personality. Forget the old, wake up from the old dream to the new one.

TIME, in your world, IS IMPORTANT TO YOU and tonight a little of it was misused or not used. I know you do not have much of it sleep in so we will not keep you too much longer. Because I am not coming back, I wish to bid you good night and to leave you with my love and Light go with you.

Group: Thank you, Yada.

Yada: Grati ya. A Notchi.

Prof. Luntz: How do you do! It is a pleasure to be here. It is, as my colleague, Yada, has said, my time is dwindling away. And, in a manner of speaking, it makes me sad.

Comment: You have a new venture coming up.

Prof. L: Thank you my dear for forgiving me a bit of cheer. A new venture. Yet I regret losing contact with you whom I have come to love, to know. But you know in these many years that I have used Mark's body to communicate with you here

Annie: Have you picked your parents yet or is that in the distant future?

Prof. L. That is still in the future and I am in a very strange position. I'm not quite certain whether I should be glad or sad.

Comment: A little of both.

Prof. L. Yes, mixed feelings, with rather mixed blessings. I will not know what it is like to be reborn until I take that path, and then once on it, I will not know until I am born and then it will be too late. Isn't that a rather mixed up affair? And it has its stresses.

Lois: You should have come last Friday. My daughter just had a baby boy.

Prof. L: Well it wasn't me! LAUGHTER No, I really shan't get here until the complete 20 years is up. It is a mark in time, a mark in consciousness. Things on earth will be considerably different by then, that man is not going to destroy himself from the earth. He has been trying this a long time, in fact almost since he first got here.

He has had a rage against life, against the physical world. And I can understand that because so much of the physical world is pain, anxiety, is suffering by its nature, by the mixing of consciousness with matter; by consciousness becoming aware of matter, of chemistry.

Lady: It hasn't been quite that long, but it has been several months or so.

Yada: Oh, how much is several?

Lady: Several is as much as seven, or maybe four or five.

Yada: Several centuries, several ticks, ha ha.

Lady: You have certainly been in my mind.

Yada: E gratia. And I know that both of you have been very busy with your own lives. That's the only life for an individual to live, their own life. When we step out too often into the life of others, we are getting into the business called, "mind-ing", and that's always someone else's business. LAUGHTER Andre?

Man: Yes, I'm here.

Yada: You are a very busy man, heh?

Man: That's right.

Yada: That's the way to be. Keep so busy that you have no awareness of the passage of time, so that when you die, you carry no awareness of time with you, and you have a wider life. Man confines himself with time. But last night (I can hear Annie thinking on it now!) - last night, I talked on the necessity of paying attention to time, because time is your life. Many people do twice as much, ten times as much work as other people, because they know how to move in the allotted time they have for each project. Otherwise, the majority of people find themselves on a constant run. They never seem to catch up with it. And in fact, you never do. Lost time is lost time, and is also lost life. Before I go on, do you want to say something to me please? Any one of you?

Lady: To begin with, Yada, you are on a very interesting subject.

Yada: Thank you. Now I think it is important because it leads us into what seems to be another subject that again is to do with time. It is called incarnation. Now if you are going to say reincarnation, that gives (you) the impression of coming and going, which you do not do. Re - is to do again - to act again, act again. The word "again" means there was a pause or a break in the action. In that break where incarnation is concerned, you think of it as an after-death state. But there is no after death, there is only life; changes in consciousness, a shifting of one's awareness. Do I make this clear, please?

Aud: Yes you do.

Yada: It is very important. You see, if we do not feel life in this way, we are constantly breaking everything up, we are constantly creating states of duality for ourselves, so that often the personality gets caught in that sort of thing and suffers from what you call schizophrenia. I'm one person today and someone else tomorrow; and something else again the next day; until after a time I do not know who I am or what I am. Try to keep steady consciousness going in you.

Do not permit yourself to suffer from guilt feelings or frustrations or anxieties. These things all help to break up your personality, why? Because they say to you, "Run, run, the bogeymen are chasing you, go, go, go." "Hurry up, run, but don't look where you are running, because you may find yourself." You had better look where you are running or you will never find yourself!

You look at a person asleep. They look very innocent. It appears they are not doing a thing, but behind this mask a great deal is going on. Lives are being lived in fractions of what you call time, because the unconscious self has no awareness of time. It's awareness is only in action and this is the same thing that happens when you go to sleep, or change consciousness in what you call death. And this is one marvelous thing that happens to the human being when they die, they do not have to look at the clock again!

What a relief that is, because in the clock world we are trying to catch up with the clock. The clock is always saying, "tick, tick, tick, going, going, going." And then - - GONE. Shut down the drain of time. Isn't that a little distressing? Must I go already?" "Is the time up already?" "Can I not have a few more minutes, please?" Sorry, time's up. Some people let go and move their consciousness smoothly, quietly into this other state of being. Other people are frantic with fear. You will find

Lady: Corny.

Prof. L: It is a good thing I blame it on him isn't it? You know I had such a kind of palpitation of the heart, I am in such a state of anticipation in coming here.

Lady: Maybe you are hurrying it up a little?

Prof. L: Well, that may be. As I said earlier, I may skip a few grades and get here somewhat more quickly than otherwise. But I am going to have a long life when I get here into your world, I know this already.

Lady: Do you have any idea what part of the country you will come into?

Prof. L: At present, I'm told somewhere around the borders of Canada. Perhaps that is because there are so many Englishmen there and I will feel somewhat more at home until I get a little more conditioned to the American way. I hope to be in New York and Chicago. I hope to get about. The saving of souls doesn't give one much of a chance to get about, to really get about. I will not be concerned with souls, I hope.

Lady: This is just a little joke - Joyce and I would love to be the ones to first spank your bottom when you get here. LAUGHTER

Prof. L: The pleasures you will give a child!

Lady: That was only a joke.

Prof. L: Of course, my dear, but life sometimes does some very amazing things and when we least expect it. Imagine two persons, one here in California and one in New York or South America somewhere. As time passes, if you could watch from this side, you would see each following an orbit that would make you certain that they were going to meet and when they were going to meet.

Lady: Have you picked out your parents?

Prof. L: Not yet. I asked one of my teachers if I could go ahead and do that right now. He said, "What is your hurry?" Teachers sometimes are a little irritating, aren't they? LAUGHTER But you know, I didn't believe in reincarnation when I lived in my last life as a clergyman. Yet the story of rebirth was in some of the bibles and has been left, but was that bad? I do not think so. It gives those of us who want to learn a little more desire to seek, to hunt, to get into things, and to actively move instead of listening to what someone else has to say. It makes us active, makes us seek.

Lady: It also gives us a choice.

Prof. L: It does indeed. Does that appeal to you? Then do it. What do you sincerely feel? Live it. Too often we are more false to ourselves than to others. When you close your eyes for the last time on this earth, do you want to go out with regrets? Do what you feel, what is you. Do what is you. I do not care, I am not concerned about what somebody else thinks about it. It's you. Many people throttle themselves, throttle their desires because someone else doesn't like what they want to do. Isn't it a little foolish, if nothing else? What do you love to do? Many people suffer from sickness, because they try to stop their desires or to alter them to please someone else. Some people are fire balls of desire. You can't stop them. Some are tepid. But you know, we all find our own in due course, tepid or fire.

Do any of you sitting here remember any part of a past existence? Past life?

Aud: No.

Prof. L: No?

Aud: No.

Prof. L: Believers in rebirth find it difficult to believe because they have no memory. They want to believe. Many of us confess with our mouth that we think this is a law - rebirth, but we really can't know it by remembered experiences.

Now when I say we can't, many people do. But if you are seeking to believe in it by someone else telling you, you are wasting your time. You must have a feeling for it. You must see all around you everything is rising and falling, being born and reborn, born and dying. Everything. The whole vast universe is a living being, a living entity going through changes, carrying over memory patterns. That's what man did in what is called the evolution process.

I do not believe, although I can't say I know by fact, by observation, by study, but I do not believe that all species that are on the earth today started here. I think

That is why education begins with a few. And then each person as they wake up and come to understand, then they begin to convert a few others. Even with your marvelous communication systems today, in reaching of life, you still can only reach a few

Remembering that there are some three billion, perhaps more, on your earth, and the greater, think of this my friends, the greater majority of these are totally ignorant as to their own nature.

Your scientists give you the idea that they already know it all. No true scientist does this, but the pseudo ones are enough to give this impression that they are the last word in authority. But you know, very few of these know the nature of this physical self, to say nothing of the mental self.

That is why, in the field of medicine and surgery, so little can be accomplished in bringing back health to people. They do not understand the nature of the body in regard to the mind, and not even the body alone. Body chemistry is a total mystery as to how it works, to the best of your scientists. They know something, to be sure, but some things are not enough.

Annie: May I ask a question? Why is it that when someone has the disease you mentioned, or any other one, that even if it is staved off and the patient it has claimed is called benign, why does he always have it? What is it that has not been removed?

Yada: Cancer has a way of building up in certain centers of the body, then spitting off in minute pieces and floating around in the blood stream until they find a weaker spot in some other tissue of the body.

Now, one of the reasons for cancer is that almost the whole human race, the body, the blood, is poisoned by the germ called syphilis. Today you know how to stop syphilis in its rampage through the body, but when you do, you still have it, because it breaks off into tiny particles. This causes a change in the electrical quantity of the electrical system, the nervous system. The whole body is an electrical body. These syphilis pieces work on cells, eating the energy they find there. It eventually causes cancer growth in the body. Any of you sitting here wish to debate that with me?

Annie: I don't want to debate, but I'd like to add, since you say we all carry some of this syphilitic virocyt sporocyst....

Yada: That is right.

Annie: Since we all carry this, inherited from what?

Yada: Inherited from centuries of man's sexual attraction with animals. ←

Annie: Is the reason some manifest it and others do not, is it that the ones who have this are subject to this disease and those who have not, have a better flow?

Yada: That is right. The moment something happens, in anyway, to stem the normal flow of the electrical current, a disease is most certain to take place.

Now, what is called "faith healing", whether it is done with the laying on of hands or simply by the presence of the healer, whether it is done with drugs or in any other kind of treatment, if the individual who is being treated has been living a life of negation, he will not want to give up his sickness. He is using it as a defense mechanism.

Sometimes in healing, as has happened with me and other healers, when you start to treat the sick person they faint. They pass out, they lose consciousness, or if they do not do that, they get a feeling of sickness that is overwhelming. And so they may come to resent the healer and say that he caused them to be sicker instead of better. But the psychology of that lies with the sick person who does not want to give up his sickness.

Now this is not done consciously; it is done very much unconsciously. So to negate that kind of thinking, the healer should first have a little talking with the sick person to try to find out from them, when the sickness first started with them; what they were doing at the time; what was their emotional condition when they first felt the sickness coming on. In other words, find out the mental and emotional nature of the sickness before you try to heal the physical side of it. And in Concept Therapy this is an exceedingly good thing for that. It causes people to reason with themselves; "Why do you think what you think?"

It doesn't matter what you think, it matters why. What brought on that kind of thinking? What made you think that way? What caused you to take this or that attitude to an experience or experiences? Why? When you can know this, you can rid the person

And if you cut one of these things open, all you will find in it is a little liquid. There is no sign whatsoever, there is no substance there that has the remotest resemblance to a butterfly. But there is something there in thought, in feeling of butterfly-ness. That's where it is in the cocoon and also in the caterpillar.

Harry: The reason they use this butterfly and caterpillar and little worm, is this symbolic of the stages man has to go through?

P.L.: Oh yes. Yes. You first are truly a caterpillar. You have a caterpillar consciousness - it is the lower consciousness. It has no awareness of its higher self at all. And then, little by little, as time and environment necessitate it becomes that called a cocoon.

This is the first step to the higher mind, the higher consciousness, the greater reality. This is moving toward the center of our being. As a caterpillar we have found our sought after freedom. (But the creator doesn't take away from the caterpillar the joy of being a caterpillar by forcing upon him the thought of what he is going to be at some future time.) It's a blasted waste of time! You can't do anything about it anyway.

Q: Does a butterfly ever want to be a cocoon again or is it ever a cocoon again?

P.L.: Yes it is. That's why it must die as a butterfly so it may return the proper substance to become a caterpillar again. Observe the fact that the cells of the body, have you ever heard of a liver cell wanting or trying to become a kidney cell? Things would get glastedly mixed up, eh what?

No, but just think of that, the beauty of it. Every cell knows what it is going to become, knows what it is to be, meaning it knows what it is. Its a liver cell, its a kidney cell; its a cell at the tip of the finger here, of which there are many, many millions.

The brain has billions of cells and it uses only a very few or relatively few CC's of brain substance to do all of its work, all the body work. Isn't that remarkable! This leaves the greater amount waiting to be awakened, so that in due course, man will become that which he already is. Inside there, among those vast numbers of cells, is the secret of what you and I will be in due course. How long is the butterfly's life?

Harry: Two days.

P.L.: Yes. Think of that. But two days to a butterfly is time enough to be what it is, to feel the marvelous pleasure of that butterfly nature.

Harry: It has all the consciousness it needs ←

P.L.: That is right. And so do you and so do I. We are missing nothing that we need.

Everything is here, waiting for the proper time, the proper environment for it to manifest. I do wish I had understood life that well when I lived in the physical world, instead of leaving everything to the Christian God.

Louise: You say you are going to be born again soon and you are going to be an architect?

P.L.: Yes.

Louise: On earth?

P.L.: Yes. So I'm going to be a caterpillar again.

Louise: Why did you choose earth?

P.L.: Because that is where I got my growth. That is where I became, to some extent, self-aware. I know nothing about Mars or Venus. I have no interest there. There's nothing familiar to my feelings on those planets or any other planets in space and time as I know it.

Why should I go to Mars? What has it to give me that I haven't already got? Would you go to New York if you had no reason to go there, no purpose? Just to be there? What is New York? Where is New York? Is New York one city block? Is it not made up of many conditions, many different environments? You have the slums - that's New York. So when you say you are going to New York, where? Where in New York, for New York is not one single thing, it is made up of many things, like the atom.

You want to go down into an atom, but where? What body do you want to land on? What is the environment like? Have you experienced any part of the atom before, so that you have some familiar feelings to hold you there? Wouldn't you say that is true my dear?

So you see that I would have no reason for going to Venus. I couldn't care less about Venus or about Mars or about any of the other planets. That is not in my consciousness. Earth is in my consciousness and I love the earth.

Excellent! You are still in your early teens?
(I dropped out for awhile and then I decided to finish.)

You look very young.

(I am 19.)

Well, you are at the tail end of those rather difficult years. Now, you will have some more difficult years called the twenties. All years have their difficulties.

I enjoyed the physical world. Of course, I lived in the Victorian Age and parents were considerably more strict with their children than they are today. But altogether, I had a happy youthful life; and then all through my adulthood, I enjoyed my life.

At first, spending some time in my father's office - he was a barrister and I thought I would become one also. But when I was just a bit of a lad, I was attracted to men of the cloth, and I wanted to become a clergyman. And, the want to be a clergyman, was much greater than the one to be a barrister - and so I was one, for 50 years. And I really believed in what I taught.

So, you can at least imagine my shock in dying, and finding myself not in Christian 'Hell'. I remained myself. I didn't feel like I'd gotten to be what one thinks of as a ghost, a spook or a spirit. I felt like I always did - a healthy, physical being.

I had the experience of watching my own funeral; of listening to one of my colleagues give the eulogy - and I thought he was very good! He didn't tell the entire truth about me, and he gave me quite a boost in my moral outlook - even though I didn't believe what he was saying. I knew better, I should say, but I couldn't stop him. I had to listen. I do not think that many of those who attended - those who really loved me and would miss me - I do not think they heard very much of what he said. They were cuddled in their own grief, their own sadness.

In some ways, that gave me a good feeling. It appealed to my ego. I had no way of comforting them and saying that Alfred Luntz is feeling wonderful; that he feels better than he has in years. If those who pass, could only be given a little better chance to say a few words to those they leave behind, words they couldn't say when they were alive because they didn't know.

And most of us who care for one another, we are very reticent about speaking of death - especially our own. The majority of humans suffer, I think this is the basic fear from which all other fears stem - is the fear of dying. There is something - or seems to be, so beastly final about it! But if we could, if we could just for a moment step back in through the door and say, "Fear not for me, dear friend. I am in a fine world. I will await your coming. You will have a good friend here when it comes your time. Go on and live your life to the best of your ability. Be sincere with what you do and what you feel. Forget the idea that you are a sinner or sinning against one called 'God!'"

I would say, we can only sin against ourselves and we do this when we do not think about what we are doing. If man commits sin at all, he commits it against himself. That is the worst kind, because we infect others with it. Whatever happens to me, in some way affects another human being, and infects them.

As a clergyman, I wish I had known what I came to know, in passing. For then, and only then, could I give real comfort to those I leave behind - to live their lives; feel what they are doing; enjoy themselves. Eternity is where we are and never where we are going to be.

NOW