

THE VALUE OF THE VOID

*Divine
Darkness*

A MANIFESTO OF RADICAL
NONJUDGMENT

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“I am the LORD and there is
none else,
I form light and create
darkness...”

Isaiah 45:6-7

*I am a beacon of
darkness unto the
world.*

What does the above
statement conjure in your
mind?

Do you associate this with Joy
and universal well-being?

Or do you associate it with an evil sinisterness to be rejected as a poison ingested into the body?

Our society is programmed to associate lightness with holiness, and darkness with malice.

But this is simply a metaphor for conveying Truth.

In Truth, neither light nor darkness is Holy; it is our perspective of either that gives the holiness.

When we make statements
such as,

“Light doesn’t combat
darkness. It merely shines it
away,”

we are really saying that Truth
does not combat illusion; it
merely shows us that, in the
presence of Truth, illusions
are seen through for the
nothingness they are.

To bring this seemingly
obscure concept to heart, we
often use metaphors. One of
these is the whole Light vs
Darkness metaphor.

Traditionally, Light is seen as

the supreme holiness,
embodying Truth and
dispelling its lack. And
historically, it has done a very
nice job conveying this
concept.

Until now.

When we take this concept
and etch it into the very fabric
of our societal subconscious,
we condemn darkness before
we even realize it on a
conscious level.

Most of the villains in our
stories are dark, both literally
and metaphorically. They are

surrounded by darkness, and since we've been conditioned to associate darkness with evil, we immediately know the film's villain upon seeing.

Once we understand the concept *behind* the metaphor, the metaphor itself may change form. And in our case, it *must* change.

True learning necessitates a re-interpretation of the given teaching. In other words, in order for us to demonstrate that we understand a concept, it is in our own best interest to

translate it into our own language.

For example, we're all familiar with the words tied to the golden rule: do unto others as you would have them do unto you. But to demonstrate to ourselves that we understand this concept, we may choose to say in another way. Else, it may simply be another memorized definition in our mind, familiar in form but unknown in content.

To demonstrate that we understand the golden rule,

we must live by it. And through living by it, we're able to describe it in another way. For instance, we might describe it as: whatever we do to another is done to ourself. Or: what we give out, we receive. Or: we are all One.

All of these things, when understood, are really speaking about the same teaching. Just as there are infinite viewpoints of the Grand Canyon, there are infinite ways to describe the teaching behind the Golden Rule. And generally speaking,

the more of these viewpoints we know, the greater perspective we have of its entirety.

So back to light and darkness.

First of all, it's not light vs. darkness. To understand light and darkness is to understand harmony. There is no battle in harmony.

Both light and darkness combine into forming all the visible world we see. Without light, we would be in a fully dark black world. Without

dark, we would be in a fully light white world. And in this sense, there's no difference between the two; both are states of entirety without contrast.

Now that we've brought color into this whole analogy, let's inspect the iconic juxtaposition of electromagnetic radiation (the technical word for visible light) and pigment.

Most of us are familiar with pigment addition. When colors of pigment combine, they add;

combining all colors of paint, dye, etc. produces black.

On the other hand, when colors of pure electromagnetic radiation combine, they subtract. In other words, when all colors are shined together, they subtract and produce white light.

In the pure pigment sense, white is the absence of color, and black is the presence of all color.

In the pure light sense, black is the absence of color, and

white is the presence of all color.

Both of these utilize color.

Both of these utilize light. One shows black as the presence of all, and the other shows white as the presence of all.

Interesting.

So when we use the metaphor: darkness is the absence of light, we are implying a framework of electromagnetic radiation.

We could just as easily use the metaphor: lightness is the absence of dark, implying a framework of pigment.

Now this in no way gives substance to what we call “evil”. Evilness and darkness are two entirely different concepts, just as fear and the unknown are two entirely different concepts. We may come to associate fear with the unknown, but fear is not inherent in the unknown. Likewise, we may come to associate evilness with

darkness, but evil is not inherent in the darkness.

That thing we call “evil” is what is shown to be illusory when held with Truth. In much the same way as a torch shines light through darkness to “show us it’s not really there,” Truth “shines through evil” to show us it’s not really there.

Congruently, Truth is here always but is only known to be here when there is no distraction from it, just as darkness is here always but is only known to be here when

there is no light to distract from it.

Many of us are familiar with the thought-exercise that this physical world is an illusion. Some think of this as if we are living in a “Matrix” of sorts. Others associate identity with Mind or Spirit. But all on this thought-path would describe sensory phenomena as illusory, much as a dream is.

When we awaken from a dream, we realize that all the sensory data we experienced didn't really happen. In the

dream, we truly believe we are walking swiftly on a tightrope above Manhattan. But then we abruptly awaken in our cozy bed when our cat walks on top of our face. And here we are “back to reality”.

But is the physical world actually “reality”?

Regardless of what’s objectively true (if there even is such a thing), such a thought-experiment is very beneficial to our understanding of Self. If we’re able to see *through* the

physical world of sensation, we can tap into a much deeper aspect of ourself, and come to appreciate life in an entirely new way.

Such is the motivation of meditation, which cuts out (or significantly reduces) physical sensation and thought for a period of time. Without sensory input, and without a mind on automatic pilot, we can “feel into” the self that is not confined to either. In many ways, meditation shows us that we are not limited to

either a sensing body or a thinking mind.

When we see using light, we are using the body's eyes to see. When we use the body's eyes to see, we are seeing the surface of reality. It is a beautiful surface. But it is just a surface.

In this way, light can be seen as the source of illusion, a reflection of a surface-level world, and a distraction from reality.

Reality is what is Here,
Eternal, Changeless.

As properties of the physical world, both light and darkness are merely symbols. But the single concept behind them is Here, Eternal, and Changeless. When light and darkness are brought together in the perfect way, they can show images of there, images of temporary, and images of change.

It's not that darkness is holy to the exclusion of lightness; darkness is included in the

holiness of lightness. Holiness is an inclusive attribute; it includes all that is True. Since darkness and lightness are physical traits that serve as metaphors, each can serve as both the conveyor of Truth and the dispellor of illusion.

Light is what is visible when shined in dark.

Black is what is visible when painted on white.

Light shows us that the darkness is not here.

Black shows us that the whiteness is not here.

But even these statements can be flipped to illustrate the same concept.

Black holes illustrate that darkness is not just a passive lack of substance; darkness is also an active and immense density. When light shines in a black hole, darkness shines it away.

This is because black holes are so massive that their gravity doesn't allow for even light to escape their pull. When we look at a black hole, we don't

see anything. But even though we don't see the black hole itself, we see its effect on all that surrounds it. In this way, we are able to observe the black hole (with light) by observing its effect on light around it.

And let's address the "lack of substance" darkness often portrayed as the empty space between planetary bodies. Although empty on one scale, when we inspect this "emptiness" on a quantum level, we see energetic activity coursing all through the place.

In the emptiness is substance.

In the visible is nothingness.

All that we “see” is emitted
from atoms which are,
essentially, empty. When we
grab our arm, 99.99many9’s%
of the arm is empty space.

~

The weary pray for the
darkness and the rest that
accompanies. For who sleeps
with eyes wide open?

And where else would a light
show be seen but the dark?

When we look deep into
someone's eyes, we peer into
the darkness of the pupil.

In the stillness of the darkness
are the translations of Truth
most clearly shown.

We live in a one-sided society
built on Light Supremacy:
revering enlightenment,
honoring helpers as “beacons
of light,” and naming our
spiritual healers
“lightworkers.”

The truly enlightened individual is both enlightened and endarkened. It is the same understanding that both light and dark are physical phenomena, and that our true nature is nonphysical. In this sense, enlightenment is a bit of a misnomer because it makes a physical phenomenon (light) supreme. And thus, to be enlightened is to be endarkened, too.

The greatest possible state is often referred to as Heaven. And while Heaven has nothing

to do with physicality, it is often symbolized through physicality, typically as white clouds, bright lights, and glowing halos.

But a more complete understanding of Heaven must include the formless: the lack of limiting physicality: the dark and black Void.

The formless is not evil; it is simply the lack of distractions from realizing Heaven is here. And so the Void is Heaven. Heaven is the Void.

Being in the place without
space, time, matter, thought,
or perception is simply to be
in a place without distraction
from Truth. And in this place,
Truth is known.

As Truth is known,
Heaven is Here.
Just as the Void always is.

We trust the Void because our
return to the Void is
inevitable.

All experience in form must
return to the formless.

In our return to the Void, all sense-perceptions are left behind. We are left only with thought-mind in the formless.

And at this point, the only thing holding the Void at bay is the thought of fear. Letting that go through true relinquishment reveals the Void as already and always here, and as the source of all wisdom, knowledge, and creation.

The Void is not fragmented; it is whole. It's a lack of any distraction. It's pure potential.

It does not speak. But if it did,
it might say,
Go ahead. Go ahead and shine
light over me. I'm still here.

This is a movement.

It is a momentum of form,
built by individual changes in
perspective.

Our mind is our greatest tool,
and our perspective is our
greatest contribution to the
world. With our perspective,
we are actively bringing our
perceptions into form.

And so to bring about the
changes in form presented
previously through concept, a
proper foundation of principle
is necessary. The principle is
nonjudgment.

The 10 Principles of Radical Nonjudgment

1. We come from the same Source.
2. We honor this Source.
3. We honor all brothers and sisters.
4. We honor all circumstance.
5. We refrain from engaging in harmful thought or action.
6. We refrain from attachment to physicality or outcome.
7. We refrain from valuing one relationship over another.
8. We allow Truth to speak through us.
9. Here Now is Holy.
10. We do not judge.



Humanity's collective
desire is for perfection
to be experienced.

We were taught that
perfection comes through
specific circumstance, but we
now know perfection as a
state of mind.

What do we want?

nonjudgment

How do we get it?

nonjudgment

What do we have?

nonjudgment

How do we know it?

nonjudgment

All of humanity's solutions
come through transformative
movement.

Our dynamically selected
perspective determines the
momentum that carries us
along our trajectory.

We Bringers of Divine
Darkness are vigilant in
contributing to the
momentum of nonjudgment. It
is the inner state of
nonjudgment that brings the
outer manifestation of
collective nonjudgment.

Neither policy nor demand
can bring about collective
nonjudgment. Only
nonjudgment can.

All problems can be described
as a loss of inner peace.

Therefore all solutions can be
seen as inner peace.

For example, say we lose our
job. If we've lost our inner
peace because of it, then it is a
problem. But if we are at
peace with it, it is not a
problem.

If we can keep an inner peace
through all circumstance, then

we can experience a state
where there is no problem.

This is the Solution State.

In the Solution State, our very
being presents a new way of
seeing for all involved.

This state does not imply a
static ambivalence to all
around us. Rather, it is a bold
statement that no matter what
unfolds around us, *we* are the
keepers of peace in our life.

Furthermore, it is *only* from
this state of nonattachment to

outcome that the solution unfolds.

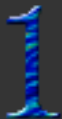
This is the source of collective transformative movement.

We remain in nonjudgment because nonjudgment is the pure state of receptivity for greater intelligence to flow through us. Only judgment can distract us from this intelligence's guidance to us, just as only light can distract us from darkness.

We stay in nonjudgment because it leads us each

individually into unbreakable
peace.

We stay in nonjudgment
because this is how humanity's
collective desire for Perfection
is experienced.



The Void is the source of all of creation.

Form can only be created by the formless. Our essential self is formless. It is from this formless non-place that form shapes into place.

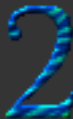
The Void is the universally shared source of all we bring into form. And thus, however we define our self, its source is the Void.

We people are all united in the source of our being here. We are all made of the same stuff,

no matter how we define this stuff to be. And since we're all made of the same stuff, we can all relate to the universal experience of its Truth.

It is upon this universal experience that we keep our focus. For we know that whatever is True is True for all. And thus if something excludes any, it is not True.

We are all extensions of the same source. As such, this source is "greater" than any one of us. It is upon this source we place our full trust.



The Void does not destroy or change anything. It does not demand respect or acknowledgment of any kind.

We honor the Source of our being with our truth, by looking upon all with full appreciation. It is in this state of appreciation that we receive divine guidance and live divine life. We trust in the creator of all that we experience, which is larger than our segmented selves.

3 We owe our very existence to our neighbors. And thus, we honor them.

Each person we encounter, physically or mentally, is a critical component of our life experience. There are no villains in our life; only saviors.

We honor those who share truth with us, whether we give or receive. We honor those who decline truth from us, as we understand this as part of the Plan.



We honor the unfolding of the Plan. All experienced circumstance is part of the Plan. If it weren't part of our Plan, it wouldn't be here.

We embrace the current situation and understand that there are many ways to see it. In so doing, we encourage a strong Solution State of mind.

In every moment is divine opportunity.

Because we honor our neighbors, we don't allow any

mindset clouded with judgments to interfere with our perspective.

Because we honor the Source of our collective being, we know that a greater intelligence is guiding us and our circumstance.

Because we come from the same Source, our unfolding experience is one of mutual benefit to all willing to join.

5 We understand that the ends are built by means. And thus to build a paradigm of nonjudgment (ends), we must adopt a paradigm of nonjudgment (means).

If the means are not aligned with the ends, the ends do not follow. The ends are the embodiment of the means.

We do not harm anybody or any thing because this is the use of destructive means, and thus brings destructive ends. This applies to both physical

harm and mental harm. In this understanding, thinking angry thoughts about another is just as harmful as doing angry actions.

We refrain from harming because we prefer not to be harmed. Harmlessness in our world is brought upon by harmlessness in our self.

6 As we understand that means determine ends, we no longer need to attach to particular ends. We know that our means bring about the very same ends as the Law of form. And the only thing that could prevent us from seeing this is an attachment to a particular form as the sole embodiment of the ends.

Often, the ends come in a way much more quickly than imagined, but packaged in a way never even conceived. With an open-mindedness to

various forms of ends, and nonattachment to any, we allow the greater intelligence of this experience to form the ends in our own dynamically selected image.



In Truth, there is only one relationship: our Self with our Source.

In all relationships, we see our Relationship with our Source. However we choose to see any part of this experience is a statement about our relationship with all of it.

In this way, there are no insignificant relationships. There are also no highly-significant relationships. There's only relationship, and relationship

with any is a microcosm of our relationship with all.

If we view one relationship as more important than another, we are valuing one part of experience more than another, and thus losing sight of all of it.



We understand that Truth is far greater than any one individual's egoic ideas.

As we honor our Source, we allow for Truth to speak through us. We understand that when we allow this, we say nothing of our own knowledge but rather are simply the messengers of infinite creation.

The messenger does not determine the message. But the messenger does deliver

the message. And thus, the messenger is able to be the “first witness” to the message.

We honor this role as messengers of Truth, for it allows us eternal access into Truth and shares Truth with all in our path.

9 Here Now is the beginning.

Here Now is the creation.
The past is not Here,
And over there is not Now.

Space and time are useful
tools of communication, but
they are outside of Here Now.

Here Now is infinite eternity.
And although Here Now tends
to get lumped into the
drudging calculation of time
and space, it is not limited to
these limiting constructs.

All the past is gone except for
our memory of it. And all
memory is simply thought
experienced Here Now.

All the future is a formless
abstraction. And all
abstraction is simply thought
experienced Here Now.

All experience is Here Now.
And where all experience is, all
holiness becomes.

10 We do not judge
because we value
nonjudgment as both means
and ends. The goal we seek is
nonjudgment; the tool we use
is nonjudgment.

Peace is the natural state of a
nonjudgmental mind.

Joy is the natural state of a
nonjudgmental mind.

Truth flows freely to a
nonjudgmental mind.

Love is experienced in the still calmness of a nonjudgmental mind.

The Source of all creation allows it to unfold exactly as it is now, and thus this creation is in perfect divine order. The only reason we wouldn't see it as such is because judgment has clouded our mind.

And thus, there is no enemy. For "enemy" is one judged to be bad. Without judgment, all enemies slip away.

We hold no battles, neither externally nor internally. We simply hold a vigilance for nonjudgment.

This does not mean we are perfectly in nonjudgment; rather, it means we are fully devoted to recognizing our judgments, and course-correcting by letting them go once acknowledged.

We do not fall into judgment traps by judging judgment. We understand that judging judgments, whether of ourself or of another, keeps us fixed in

an infinite feedback loop of
foggy-mindedness.

We now relinquish this
foggy-mindedness and
embrace the strong creative
force of everlasting beauty.

When we see judgment of any thing or any one used as an excuse to not express the Love that we are—that Life is—we know that we must first look at our own self to see where we sit as judge and jury.

And in that very seeing, the shackles of judgment fall away. Clickety clack clack.

This is a Vow of Nonjudgment. This is active nonjudgment; not passivity nor ambivalence.

We in radical nonjudgment actively refrain from judgment of any person, any thing, any

circumstance... and thus
remain in Truth.

We understand that the fruit
of nonjudgment can only be
brought forth through the
seed of nonjudgment.

To bring forth a
nonjudgmental world, we must
first perceive through
nonjudgmental eyes.

Nonjudgment is a process. It is
a correction for a judgmental
mind. As such, we do not judge
our judgments.

But we do observe them.

And once observed...
Clickety clack clack.

And so we take this vow. It is taken neither as a bolster of our persona nor as a result of fear-based thought. We take this vow to contribute our own perspective and perception each moment to Truth, Joy, and Love, through the active removal of all judgment. Only in nonjudgment is our mind clear for collective consciousness.

Why do we take a vow of nonjudgment?

Because we have the choice and willingness to see and feel life this way.

Because what we see in the world is simply a reflection of how we think in the world.

Because this vow is the ultimate statement of commitment.

Because we honor this experience of life as form, and

we understand that to
diminish any part of it is to
diminish the whole.

We take this vow of
nonjudgment because it is a
triumphant honor to do so.

Most importantly, there is
nothing else we can do.

And so...

I do

Karen

This is a Vow of Nonjudgment.

This is active nonjudgment:
not passivity nor ambivalence.

We in radical nonjudgment
actively refrain from judgment
of any person, any thing, any
circumstance... and thus
remain in Truth.

We understand that the fruit
of equality can only be
brought forth through the
seed of nonjudgment.

This is a process to refine,
not an achievement to claim.