
TO: ALL PROCESSEANS EVERYWHERE,
JULY 1974

FROM: ROBERT DE GRIMSTON

Brethren, As it is,

I know that many of you have experienced a great deal of mystery and confusion since I became separated from the Process organisation. And this has intensified since that organisation ceased to be a part of The Process and became the Foundation Church. Perhaps now I can at least dispel some of the mystery, and clarify part of the confusion. It's hard to know which to tackle first, the Game level or the down-to-earth level. But perhaps the most intense feelings are related to the immediacies rather than the basics, so let's begin there.

What happened?

How come that after ten years, the Masters of The Process suddenly decided to dismiss the Teacher of The Process? And then abandoned all his teachings?

Well I'm hardly in a position to give the down-to-earth answer to that. I have my own opinions naturally, but they're not important in this context. Only the Masters themselves can answer the question. They've said publicly that there's been a growing doctrinal and personal conflict between the Council of Masters and myself, and that they disagree with my doctrine of the Unity of Christ and Satan, which according to them, proved misleading and doctrinaire, and undermined the Church's basic message. Now this may well be true. Every Processean must judge for himself. But I know nothing of any growing conflict between me and the Masters, nor of their disagreement with the concept of the Unity. The first I heard of it was in their press release, which is perhaps a sad, though significant, comment on contact at the higher levels of the old organisation for which I take full responsibility. But what do I feel about all this ?

Frankly relieved. Although the separation may have been a painful shock for many people, it's nevertheless far better that it's now in the open. It was clearly there all the time, lurking beneath the surface, unvoiced and unexpressed. Now it's manifested. That's at least a step out of unreality into reality. The reality may not be comfortable - indeed it was extremely painful when it happened - but a hidden conflict is much more destructive than a revealed conflict. Suppressed rejection is

Page 2 of 4

far more lethal than outward rejection. For me to have been their Teacher in name only was worse than not being their Teacher at all. Conflict itself may be a lie, because awareness of the fundamental unity has been lost, but the lie is compounded when the conflict goes unrecognised. And to recognise it, and manifest it openly, is at least a step TOWARDS the truth. Just as the only road

to Life passes through the Valley of the Shadow of Death. So that's a little bit of what I feel, but it takes us already into the realms of the Game and the cycles of the Game. The sadness of losing contact with my friends is real, but it pales beside the knowledge of another major stride taken by all of us through the Valley of the Shadow. Because every death leads to another rebirth, and every harmonic of rebirth carries us closer and closer to the New Age that has to come. Separation is the prelude to Unity. Hell is only the threshold of Heaven. And the ultimate pain must come before the ultimate satisfaction. But back onto a down-to-earth level again. What now? And what for the future?

Well, the new Foundation Church must speak for itself. I'm not a part of it - except inasmuch as we're all parts of one another - but I wish it well. There've been rumours that I'm setting out to destroy it, that I hate it, that I blame it, and so on. But those of you who've spoken with me know that I still teach what I've always taught; that the greatest wisdom is to love your enemies as well as your friends, to give no credence to blame or hatred even if you feel them, to remain aware of the fundamental rightness and validity of all things, and always to bear in mind that if you want to know what you consider to be your own faults, look at what you complain about in others!

And whatever happens, I shall go on teaching and writing for those who want to know more and learn more and absorb more. The Process never ceases to exist. It can't, because it's much more than a church, or an organization or a group of people, or even a doctrine. It's a cycle of cosmic evolution, in which every human being is inescapably involved. Processes are the agents, but all of us are the instruments, and the choice of what part we play isn't ours.

But many of you have asked: Is there going to be a new Process organisation, Rituals, baptisms, ranks, uniforms, centers, and so on? The answer - for the time being anyway, and as far as I personally am concerned - is no. Even if I had the resources to set up a new organisation right now - which I don't - I wouldn't do it. The Process isn't dependent for its existence or validity on an organisation, and nor are Processes. And this is a testing time for all of us. How free are we of the need for the security of a human structure? How real is our faith and belief in Process teachings? How capable are we of

Page 3 of 4

using them to give ourselves a TRUE security - the security of knowledge learned and absorbed?

Now this doesn't mean that you shouldn't form and establish your own local groups, as many of you are already doing. Any group or organisation that's formed on the basis of Process teachings has my wholehearted blessing and support. But the initiative on that level must be yours, the policy must be yours, the incentive must be yours, the decisions must be yours, the direction must be yours, the authority must be yours, with no pressure or demand from me. That

means The Process, on an organisational level, will evolve naturally and spontaneously according to the needs and desires of Processeans, rather than being imposed and directed from above. And that's how I want it, because then I know it's real

Perhaps, if this kind of evolution does take place, one day an effective vehicle for teaching what The Process has revealed will be set up in the form of a college, where anyone may come and stay and learn, and then take his knowledge away with him, and do with it whatever his instincts tell him he must do in order to play his role. THAT would be an organisation linked, not by ties of commitment or baptism or fear of losing touch with GOD, but by knowledge and understanding, and a desire to learn and discover more.

But meanwhile we must be practical and immediate. Viva - my only follower from the higher echelons of the church at the time of my dismissal - and myself are based in New Orleans. We would like to be able to work full time at completing the final revisions of my Commentaries on Matthew's Gospel, and various other things that are close to being ready for publication; also to visit all the cities in the U.S. and Canada where there are groups of Processeans, and talk to them. But at the moment our practical circumstances preclude it.

Many of you have offered material help, as well as support and encouragement, and for that we're grateful. Some of you have even suggested donating for us on the streets. Well, that's a really generous offer, which we sincerely appreciate, but it no longer feels appropriate to propagate Process teachings by this method. So, many thanks, but please, no donating!

Apart from this, many of you want to be active again for The Process. And that's good. But one thing I beg of you. Remember that if you're a Processean, you're not in any way, or on any level, an enemy of the Foundation.

Founders are as much your brothers and sisters as other Processeans - and all other human beings for that matter. The most real and effective Process activity is learning, absorbing and following Process teachings, which includes at least attempting not to give credence to your negative attitudes.

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As for the future, it's in the capable hands of the Game - I'm glad to say - not ours. But be reassured: the Game is heading towards Life, and we're all going with it, whatever faith we belong to, or way of life we follow. The Unity is real, whatever the apparancy. I'm here. I'm available. I'm with you. I'm part of you. And I love you all.

So be it,

(Robert)

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