Book Review

The Miracles of Forgiveness, Prophecy & Free Will

Kurt Dressler*

ABSTRACT

These are my short reviews of four books listed in the references. I ask the readers to be open minded and relinquish judgment when reading these reviews. Should these reviews be trying on your nerves, then simply look at it as "jafo" (just another forgiveness opportunity).

Key Words: miracle, forgiveness, prophecy, free will.

The Miracles of Forgiveness

"The Disappearance of the Universe: Straight Talk about Illusions, Past Lives, Religion, Sex, Politics, and the Miracles of Forgiveness" and "Your Immortal Reality: How to Break the Circle of Birth and Death" are two books written by Gary R. Renard [1 & 2]. These are the most extraordinary, mind-boggling, upsetting, authentic, convincing, deep, life saving and at the same time humorously written books I have ever read.

Read these books in the order in which they were published. Learn to relinquish judgment, to forgive others, to forgive yourself, to forgive the world, to undo your ego. Accept the help of the Divine Spirit to undo your unconscious guilt and let It help you to radically change your way of thinking. Practising this teaching can end your sufferings, make you healthier and appear younger. After overcoming your initial scepticism and non-amusement, your serenity level will likely go off the charts. This will benefit not only yourself but also those around you. And on top of it all, these books are not only captivatingly interesting but funny. Often I had to suppress my urge to laugh out loudly. These books might save you years towards more fully understanding and truly practicing the principles of *A Course in Miracles* and might save you hundreds of years towards breaking the circle of birth and death, i.e. towards becoming an ascended Master, enlightened, One with Spirit, experiencing pure non-duality.

These books will teach you that only spirit is real, matter is illusion, in agreement with quantum physics. Let me quote from astrophysicist and quantum physicist Bernard Haisch's book "The God Theory. - Universes, Zero-Point Fields, and What's Behind It All" (Red Wheel / Weiser, 2006). Note the central sentence in this book: "It is not matter that creates an illusion of consciousness, but consciousness that creates an illusion of matter." In his review of that book in the Journal of Scientific Exploration, astrophysicist and quantum physicist Richard Conn Henry comments: "That is correct physics: it is not controversial in the slightest degree that there is no reality; this has been demonstrated in both theory and experiment." Elsewhere Henry writes:

^{*} Correspondence: Kurt Dressler, Ph.D., retired Professor at Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, http://www.kurtdressler.ch
E-Mail: dressler@ggaweb.ch

"Galileo was able to educate the world to understand that the Earth goes around the Sun ... yet physicists today have utterly failed to inform the public to understanding the purely mental nature of the universe, with all that that implies for the meaning of human existence. That is a tragedy, and it should be rectified. I wish I knew how."

Well, for those who are not into quantum physics, Gary Renard's books offer a practicable spiritual approach. Renard is no academic. His message may be hard to swallow but not impossible to understand. He wouldn't have been able to come up with any of this himself. His Source is two ascended Masters who projected themselves bodily into his living room, seventeen times from 1992 to 2001, and their conversations with Gary are the substance of his first book, referred to by his readers as "D.U." (*Disappearance of the Universe*). Then they continued to visit Gary eleven more times between 2003 and 2005 as reported in his second book, *Your Immortal Reality*.

The two ascended masters appear to Gary as a modern looking young couple. They appear on Gary's sofa out of the Reality which is pure spirit, beyond time and space. They come simultaneously out of our future and out of our past. Two thousand years ago they were friends of the teacher Y'shua, called Jesus in the bible, and simply called "J" by his close friends: they were the disciples Thomas and Thaddeus. Within our linear understanding of time they will be living on earth (again) in our future. Thanks to their knowledge of past and future they have some most interesting information to pass on.

Examples concerning the future: Gary's visitors give him some very impressive demonstrations of the timeless nature of reality and offer him various glimpses into the future, some incredibly surprising ones (like teleportation of humans), some encouraging ones (like technical and economic advances), and some too unpleasant to be spelled out here.

Examples from the past: Mary Magdalene and J were actually married for the last 15 years of J's life. (They had no children.) This illustrates just how much censorship had been applied, up to the 4th century, to the scriptures which finally became accepted by the church. Some of J's original teachings were recorded by Thomas in his "Gospel" as well as by a group around Stephen in "Words of the Master", a source used later by two of the authors of the canonical gospels and referred to as "Q" by biblical scholars. We learn what distinguishes these early original, genuine sources from the gospels written later under the influence of the apostle Paul. At the core of J's original teachings is that if you forgive, you experience forgiveness yourself (Matthew 6, 14-15). This is what the group around Thomas, Thaddeus, Stephen, and Mary Magdalene taught, while Paul and conservative Christians taught that forgiveness of sins depended on belief in the credos formulated by them, i.e. Christ having suffered on the cross for everyone's sins.

J said: Whoever drinks from my mouth shall become like me; I myself shall become that person and the hidden things will be revealed to that person (Gospel of Thomas, logion 108). The hidden things are explained by Gary's visitors, but they are most difficult to accept at first. The world of matter and bodies is a projection of the mind. It is an illusion, a dream. The only reality

is spirit. In Reality there is only oneness. There is only one mind. All separation is illusion. This much mystics have experienced and known.

But J's teaching goes beyond that. In order to be enlightened and saved from future attachment to the world (i.e. from reincarnation, if you so believe), it is necessary to undo your ego, wake up from the dream of separation, and become radically forgiving in a new, advanced, "quantum" sense, rather than in the old-fashioned, Newtonian, subject-object way of forgiving. The old way of forgiving went like that: "o.k., I'm forgiving you, because I am better than you are, you're really guilty, but I forgive you, except you're still going to hell."

J, on the other hand, knew a different kind of forgiveness that's the fastest way to undo the ego. If the world isn't real then there's nothing to forgive. You're not forgiving something that has really been done. You recognize that nothing has been done. You actually forgive *yourself* for dreaming that something seems to have been done. That is vitally important towards undoing the ego. I found this difficult to accept at first. The universe doesn't really exist. The outside world is a projection of my mind. The standard model of particle physics and cosmology with all its convincing beauty: a grand illusion? Gary's books will help you get used to the idea. Through practice of this advanced way of thinking you experience the truth of this teaching.

Gary's visitors know not only the histories of those times they themselves witnessed on earth. They seem to have all-encompassing, complete knowledge. Any way, they pass on many interesting historical details. Who really wrote the Shakespeare material? What about the Roswell incident? Life from Mars? What almost precipitated a Soviet all-out attack on the U.S. September 26th 1983, and who stopped it? How did the pyramids in Egypt look originally? What about past technologically advanced civilizations on our planet? I could go on and on. These are just fringe benefits of reading these books. The essentials are the miracles of forgiveness.

Finally, should this review have been trying on your nerves, then simply look at it as "jafo" (just another forgiveness opportunity).

Prophecy and Free Will

"Proving Shakespeare" and "Nostradamus – The Truth: Five Centuries of Prophecies Validated" are two books written by David L Roper [3, 4]. The book in Reference 3 caught my attention after I have read the book in Reference 1 from which I quote (pp.330-331):

The gentleman who wrote the Shakespeare material was an Earl whose family's crest bore the image of a lion shaking a spear. To honor his family he was sometimes toasted at Court with the phrase, "Your countenance shakes a spear!" But this Earl was forbidden by Queen Elizabeth the First, who was a political genius and very controlling, from putting his name on his work. There was a social stigma attached to the stage at that time. Plays, especially comedies, were not considered to be serious literature and were beneath the dignity of royalty. It turns out there was an actor by the name of William Shake-

speare. When Edward de Vere, the seventeenth Earl of Oxford, found out about this man, he thought it was almost too good to be true. Here was de Vere being toasted at Court with the phrase related to his family crest, a lion shaking a spear, and here's a man in the business named Shakespeare! Edward struck a deal with William to put his name on the work and have the plays presented to the public with the actor playing the part of author. It was a sly way for Edward to get some credit for his work without actually putting his name on it. The plan succeeded very nicely, although Shakespeare wasn't really paid that much, and many of the plays were published all at once as a catalog *after* the actor named Shakespeare passed away.

What you have just read is a "clear vision" given to Gary Renard by an ascended master in 1997, as reported in Renard's book [1], i.e., five years before Roper's *Proving Shakespeare* [3]. In his book Roper presents scholarly, definitive, convincing evidence that E De Vere, Earl of Oxford, was the man hiding with pseudonym "William Shakespeare" behind an actor conveniently called Will Shaxspere, from Stratford-upon-Avon, to act as author of his work.

I learned about Roper's book via a review in the Fall 2009 issue of the Journal of Scientific Exploration. I then sent him the passage quoted above from Renard's book [1]. His response:

I was most intrigued to discover that Gary Renard had published an almost identical account to my own, describing how the name Shakespeare came into existence. As far as I was aware, no one but I had drawn this conclusion, and I am familiar with most literature on this subject.

Roper's is undoubtedly the most thorough, scholarly and definitive study of de Vere as author of the Shakespeare material [3]. He uses and interprets numerous documents of the period and he breaks a code which was hidden in a text on a historic plaque by people who knew Shakespeare's true identity. *Proving Shakespeare* is a most impressive and fascinating piece of work [3].

Now to *Nostradamus* [4]: Roper informed me about this book prior to its publication. He wrote:

... upon reading your review [of Renard's two books*], I found that you were repeating so much that I am already familiar with, and which I have put into the final chapter, the Afterword, of my new book, which is published next month. With regard to this book, were you to follow through all the links concerning this publication, which are to be found on my website, there is one in particular concerning a quite devastating future for those living in Geneva. I do not think bad news such as this can ever be welcome, but in my defence, I can only say that my interpretations have never failed in the past.

The relevant links in Roper's website <u>www.davidroper.eu</u> are: <u>Nostradamus The Truth</u> / <u>www.nostradamus.org.uk</u> / <u>A Look Into the Future</u> This leads you to the following prophecy (in its original ancient French as well as) in modern English translation:

Migrate, migrate from Geneva, absolutely everyone! Saturn will change itself: made of gold out of iron, The opposite positive beam will exterminate all: Before the violent issue, the heavens will give signs.

The website explains that this must be understood as a reference to the presently ongoing experiments in CERN's Large Hadron Collider (LHC) in which positively charged atomic nuclei are brought into violent collisions with a positive beam of nuclei travelling in the opposite direction. A strange form of matter is thus created, a so called quark-gluon plasma, which requires such immense energies that the likes of it haven't existed since the first instants of the Big Bang. In 2000, CERN announced compelling evidence that this exotic form of matter had finally been created by colliding high energy lead ions into gold and lead targets. The discovery was confirmed in 2005 elsewhere and will be a major area of research at the LHC. Roper's comment at the end of his website:

Because of the similarities that exist between what Nostradamus predicted for Geneva and the activities intended for the LHC, also at Geneva, it is fair comment and a matter of public interest to draw attention to the relevant similarities that exist.

That urgent call to leave Geneva before it becomes exterminated is certainly an unwelcome message and one that is unlikely to be taken seriously there. So we are left to helplessly stand by and observe the future inevitable course of predetermined history or, if not, then wonder why in this first instance in 450 years, the predicted calamity refuses to happen.

Roper's book [4] presents some 200 prophecies, out of a total of 945 published by Nostradamus 1555 - 1558. Those 200 cover the period from 1557 to 2009, while the remainder was said by Nostradamus to extend as far as the year 3797. The 200 represent an impressively complete record of the major historical events in the history of France and beyond, including such recent examples as 9/11, the war in Iraq, and the prediction that great clarity will come in our times concerning the meaning of Nostradamus' work.

Roper has enriched his Nostradamus book with an Afterword in which he presents a careful analysis of the apparent conflict between predetermination of future events in prophetic revelations, on the one hand, and free will that might be exercised to prevent the predicted events from happening, on the other hand. Nostradamus has carefully worded his prophecies such that, although they can quite clearly be identified with past events, they can not accurately be assigned to future dates or places in advance. That renders it impossible to change the course of predetermined events and it thus guarantees free will. Furthermore, our experience of the flow of time and of separation between past, present and future is a product of our normal state of consciousness. The entire outer world of matter, space and time is generated by our consciousness. It is not matter that generates an illusion of consciousness, but consciousness that generates an illusion of matter and of spatial and temporal separations (read again my review of Gary Renard's books [1, 2]).

Renard is told by an ascended master: "Don't take the tricks of time seriously. What you think of as the past is an illusory happening that is taking place right now. The future is happening right now, but your mind has divided these images up to make them look like time. Yet the whole thing happened all at once and is already over." Within this worldview there is a Knowledge who knows everything. In Heaven, the future is already present. It is us who believe that the future is still open. Roper calls this a block universe which contains it all, past, future, the whole works. It is us who move through this block universe with the illusion of an open future. And yet we really do have free will, except that what my free will is going to decide tomorrow is known already today to the Knowledge who knows all. Roper calls this Knowledge God and he suggests that the existence of accurate prophecies can be taken as a proof of an all-knowing God. If you don't like that you still must acknowledge the existence of a body of information about events which for us lie in the future, i.e., information that is apparently accessible to ascended masters as well as to earth bound people with access to prophetic vision like, some 450 years ago, that French physician Michel de Nostredame.

It is reasonable to expect the prophecies of Nostradamus continuing to reveal major events in the world on a regular basis. The implications are therefore profound, and these will be a major source of contention for very many years to come.

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