

On, The real World in which we “Live and Move and Have Our Being
and
How to rise above it

It is a common religious belief, that it is through God that we “Live and move and have our being.” Another view may be taken.

Namely, that we live, move and have our being through, a universal Predatory System in which we are all participants

This very day, at every meal, every human being will survive by killing; plants, animals and fish. If we do not kill them ourselves, others will do it on our behalf. It happens every day.

On our behalf the Farmer in his field has killed the plants, the Butcher in his abattoir has killed the animals, and the Fisherman in his boat has killed the fish.

It is through their activities that we live and move and have our being. The amount of killing that is done on our behalf every day is unimaginable. We live by killing: we have no choice; kill we must. There is no escape, no, not even for vegetarians!

Yet, this terrible system, of which we are an inescapable part, and which makes killers of us all, produces creatures that are capable of acts of heroism, compassion and altruism which take our breath away:-.

The Soldier on the peace line, lays down his life for the society he is protecting. Out of compassion for their fellow man the Doctor, Nurse and the Teacher, leave the cosy comfort of the western world to work in places of unbelievable squalor and danger. Such folk can be found all over our world: -

- There is Student, who dares to take a stand for democracy and is beaten with in an inch of his life ,
- There is the Lawyer, who Mandela like, speaks out against injustice and is imprisoned,
- There is the investigative Journalist, who dares to speak up for the crushed, the bowed down and downtrodden, who is assassinated.

These men and women; of all creeds, classes, colours, conditions and countries, take our breath away. We are left speechless, at their courage their bravery and their self-sacrifice. Yet we find that even they, who are capable moral magnificence, must kill something every day of their lives.

Here we are at the heart of the human situation: we find ourselves born into the midst of a Predatory System of biological carnage on the one hand, and human heroism on the other.

The biological carnage is the only means through which we can live, move, and have our being. Our heroism is the only means by which we can lift ourselves to higher and better things and better lives.

At the same time there is that in us which screams out against Nature’s system that makes Human kind, Killers and Predators for millennia to come.

The ugly rotten truth, is that it is not through God that we live and move and have our being; it is through the killing fauna and flora on an unimaginable scale.

The question is what are we to do?

On the one hand; we have to accept life as it really is. The Predatory System of which we are part is a “given”. We cannot change it.

On the other; we can look up to the Human Spirit at its noblest, and giving two fingers to the horror and the carnage of the Predatory system that lies in plain sight, and give our utmost for or its highest, rise above it and go forward, to move with compassion through our age and time..

In the midst of a horrific world, the supreme act of heroism that is called forth from each one of us is to rise above the horrors of our current reality and leave our world the better of our being in it. For each one of us; that something it is entirely possible!

While the Predatory System in which we all live is one which is self-evidently “red in tooth and claw” there are dimensions in it which have a positive aspect enabling Humankind to rise above it and “come to terms” with reality.

It quite literally provides the physical energy to fuel the existence of all species enabling their positive evolution. The system provides a context which ensures the positive, progressive, evolutionary development of all species. Nowhere is this more evident than in Homo Sapiens.

While acknowledging the System’s evolutionary role in Human evolution; it also opened the way for the evolution of:-

Language, Literature and Laughter.

Music, Art, Science and the Spirit of Enquiry

Medicine, Social ethics, Politics,

Not forgetting Religious progress; we can now speak with Don Cupitt of Mankind “Taking leave of God”.

We need to note that Spirituality is also an evolutionary process! Like Lloyd Geering and the Dalai Lama, some of us see a “World to Come” which is moving “Beyond Religion” and slowly moving toward the Globalisation of Spiritual and Ethical Secularism.

Human kind is out growing religion. Thankfully evolution is not done with us! Another thousand years should do it nicely!.

Some among us say that “death and decay in all around” is all that they see. The Biologists take a different view. While, they see the death and decay that is associated with the Predatory System, they also see the continual renewal, evolution, and progression of all species everywhere.

The Predatory System bestows life on the next generation of all Fauna Flora. While some species will become extinct, it none the less ensures, not our eternity as individuals, but rather the relative “eternity” of the great majority of all Species for millennia to come and thus provides a future historical context for Evolution. Human kind has a future!

In a sentence, the Predatory System is a Creative Process which has seen the emergence of a Species of Homo Sapiens which, in terms of consciousness, is at the leading edge of the evolutionary process. We live and move its midst!

The Predatory System is the real context in which we live and move and have our being. Being mortal, the best we can do for ourselves, our grandchildren, and future generations, is and take care of the Planet. It is our only home; It is our sole and only means of survival; only devotion to it and to Nature will save us. We need to get on with Job

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