

48. Materialism

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It is important to live our life in an even balance

Salumet explains that materialism can happen when people become out of balance with the seeking of material things to such an extent that they neglect the spiritual aspect of themselves. (15/1/96)

I say to you, those of you who walk amongst others, go about your earthly duties, do what you must to the best of your abilities. But do not neglect that spiritual aspect of yourselves, because both are equally important. To have both sides of life on an even balance, can only be good for your development. You all are aware of these people who are seekers of material things in life, that they lose that spiritual aspect of themselves; they become seekers of material goods. This must not happen to you, you must find the balance between your earthly lives and your soul's growth.

Les: Yes, I have often said that there is nothing wrong in having money, it is the way in which it is acquired and what you *do* with it, that can be wrong.

I would say, there is no wrong in having money, it is the *lust* of money that is *wrong*, it is not having it, it is when, I think you would term it, 'when it becomes your God.' That would apply to all things in your lives. Of course, you must maintain your physical wellbeing, you *must* have these things and I say, there is nothing wrong in achieving such things, but always keep the *balance*.

Materialism in children

Graham started with the statement about poor behaviour in schools making the current teaching profession very challenging. (11/11/02)

Graham: I was going to ask a question about schools. With the changes that are occurring in schools at the moment, there is some negativity amongst the teaching profession that children these days are harder to teach, because of indiscipline and often children want to do their own thing and not necessarily follow the lesson plan. But one of the changes that has occurred in the teaching profession is that teachers these days I think are gentler and more caring and I think that the classroom atmosphere is probably more compassionate than it used to be. Yet despite these things, the children are very difficult to teach, because of the way they obstruct the lessons. I was wondering what we are doing wrong as teachers?

Firstly, let me say my dear friend that there is no fault with those who teach. The basic fault in your world today is materialism. Your children of this world, in this age, in this time lack for nothing except spiritual gifts. Very few of your children in your schools fully understand their true nature. They have been raised in a world full of what they consider to be their right—these gifts of material things; and so, do I have to say, all parents of these children, who feel that you are giving them everything that you can. The most important thing that you can give a child is love and understanding and to stop thinking of them as just children. They are people. They may be younger, they may be under your safeguard, but they are individual. There is coming a time in your world, when materialism will fall, when people will realize that the gifts of love and giving are more important. So do not feel that those teachers have fault—that is not the right approach. I would say as a teaching person, that you must look at each child individually, you must take them to your *heart*, you must look for those spiritual gifts that are there and you must help them to develop as *people*. I know when you have a number of children that this is not always possible, but if you use your spiritual eyes, you will see what gifts they have, what gifts that need to be developed.

Graham: Yes, there are new things coming in, like I think they call it PSE, where we do have an opportunity to teach spiritual messages. I think that these are very important. It's coming more and more I think (**Yes.**) and it is an opportunity to connect a bit more in a spiritual way. I found that that was very useful and valuable.

When the Spirit is touched—of course you must live in the physical world, of course you need these material things, but what you do not need is the love of material things. There is nothing wrong in having material goods, but it is the love of them which is the downfall of your young children in your world. Do you understand the difference? (*Affirmations*)

Graham: Children seem to get very competitive over what they have.

Yes. You should nurture their love of giving, their love of *liking* all others—I will not say *love* for these very young people, because love for them means something entirely different, but children have a natural instinct and children want to be loved more than any other thing. Therefore, the responsibility I would say of your schools upon this Earth, is to help to nurture these children, bring out their spiritual gifts and their capabilities of living in this most material world.

Graham: That is very interesting, thank you for that. I agree with what you are saying.

There will always be those who will disagree, there will always be those in your world who have harsh words—words of discipline. Look to your animal kingdom. Which animal treated harshly or with love responds to the human touch—and therein lies your answer. I do not say this is an easy task, because in your world today there is much that has gone in

the wrong direction, but that is no reason to be afraid for the future, because as I have told you my dear friends, there is change. That is why, as the gentleman has already discussed these light beings upon this Earth, because they will not allow this planet to be destroyed. So, I say, take these words as a message of hope to you all.

(Thanks expressed)

Manifesting wealth

Manifesting wealth, or cosmic ordering, is a popular topic amongst some self-help authors but there are dangers as explained. We are reminded that there is nothing wrong with wishing for particular things, but it is the reasoning behind the desire which is important. (22/11/04)

Graham: **Yes**, I was reading a book and it was talking about karma and the subject of manifestation came up. There's a lot of books at the moment talking about manifesting all that you desire and the book was actually urging caution against this, because if, for instance, you try to manifest £100, then in doing that you may well be successful, but it may well be at someone else's misfortune. It was saying that you have to be very careful about the karmic consequences of manifestation. Is the book really giving a true account of how things really are?

I will reply to you my dear friend in just a few of the words that I have given to you before: be careful of what you wish for. Always be cautious with your thoughts, be careful that what you think is for the very best of reasons for everyone who is attached to you. (Yes.) Again, responsibility lies with each one and of course these gifts or 'karma' as you may wish to call it, is available to all, but not necessarily for the best. So, I say only be careful of each thought. Remember the power which lies behind thinking and remember of course my words about rebounded thoughts, which could then encompass what you call karma. You understand? (Yes.) There is no harm in desiring many things, but it is the reason behind the wish that you must analyse. *(general affirmations)* You see you know already my words, because it is there within your own thinking.

Our planet is very young with such divides such as poverty, riches and greed

Gradually the lessons that material greed, corruption and inequality do not bring happiness are now becoming more accepted. Interestingly, the signs for the eventual 'credit crunch' were there well before 2008! (14/2/05)

George: There is something in the media at the moment about how we handle our finances and I would observe that the prices of commodities have steadily gone up and up and the

value of our money has gone down and down and this in itself says something of human nature. And coupled with this there are many firms that are advertising the lending of money and more and more people are getting into debt at a young age, so that they are unable to get out of it. The financial system that we have made for ourselves seems to be leading us into greater and greater difficulties, so that many people are getting into irretrievable debt. Have you any comment on this for us, or any observation that might be of value to people?

Yes. I understand your question. Let me say this to you: much of your world, although it has grown in acceptance of communication with our world, still remains very materialistic. There are many divides in your world: you have poverty, you have riches and you have greed—all of that remains. But let me say this to you, that at this time of your earthly development, especially in those countries who consider themselves to be wealthy, they have lost the basic truth of existence in believing that objects and things can bring them happiness. So often they feel that money or objects can bring happiness to them when in fact they should be finding themselves spiritually, and although much work continues from our side of life, this is a learning curve for many, many of your people on this planet. Sometimes you have to reach a peak and take a fall before realization comes that it is not what you wanted in the first place.

George: The 'realization'—that is a key word...

Realization is the key word. And many, many—in the same way as illness brings to many the realization of Spirit, so too in your world will the realization that the material things in your world is not what you need.

George: It occurs to me that the debt that people get into, especially young people, can cause stress and that again connects with the medical world and illness.

There are many aspects to life which take you on the right pathway, but there are many pathways in your world that lead to the downfall of the human being, but sometimes it is necessary for that to happen before the Spirit shows itself fully.

Sarah: We have all seen people who have had a lot of trouble and they've been changed people afterwards.

In every era of your existence upon this planet there has always been something or other to attract people to the wrong pathways, and again that is because you have freewill.

Always you must consider how strong that freewill is when you consider these matters in your world. Every individual has freewill to use for good or for negative purposes.

Sara: And often human beings won't change until it becomes too uncomfortable not to do it.

Yes. The recognition has to be there. That is not to say that all things are negative. As we have discussed before, there is nothing wrong with being comfortable or having money, it is how you view and how you desire those things.

[Materialisation and other spiritual gifts are currently being lost through materialism](#)

As awareness of our spirit returns and we move away from materialism, and other distractions, our world will become a happier place. Wealth and riches are not negative in

themselves, but it is the irrational love of them that causes the problems. Manifestation is also touched on where giving must be 'pure in motive' and not with thought of return. (9/7/07)

Lilian: Could I ask one on the same subject? Why is it that some religions or cultures have sacred animals?

It is just part of their religious beliefs and remember that because of your freewill upon this planet, each man must choose what he feels to be right. Try not to pass judgement—they will do that for themselves, because you see, they do not feel that it is wrong to placate their god. You understand? (Yes) Although it would be against what you believe, it does not necessarily make it completely wrong in their minds. You understand?

Lilian: Yes.

George: I find it easy to feel that there are others close—I sense that there are others close with eyes shut, but I think I'm right in saying that the ancients were able to see angelic beings with the *physical* eyes.

Yes, because their consciousness was such that they had developed their gifts of spirituality. Yes, beings—perhaps today you would call them materializations in that sense. But yes, your ancients were much more aware spiritually.

Lilian: Would it be possible to see one of these, but not be aware of it?

You would have to be aware if you could see.

Lilian: I see.

You could not, *not* be aware.

George: Yes, I think there have been occasions when Mary and others have materialized before many people. So I imagine the materialization can be enhanced from spirit world so that many humans can sometimes see.

Yes. There have always been occasions for these events to happen in order that there is no doubt, but of course, as you know and understand, there always has been doubt. You cannot convince everyone at the same time, but that is the responsibility of each individual. You cannot change another's thinking for them. You can try, you can encourage, but you cannot change another until such time as their heart energy is open to the truth. I am sure my dear friends that each one within this room has come upon some person who, no matter what you say, no matter what proof you give, they cannot and will not accept it. But that too is part of the spiritual pathway. That is part of learning understanding and forgiveness of others. So I say to you my dear friends, in every area of life, give thanks to the Great Creative Force for that experience.

Jan: I saw someone who had a wonderful experience talking to somebody who he'd known for a very long time, who hadn't necessarily thought about the wider picture or any spiritual thoughts at all and suddenly you see them opening like a flower. I know someone in my family at the moment who's doing just that. It's a wonderful feeling that they started to question and ask and feel so differently.

Yes, the opportunity is there for all, but again because of the freewill given to you as human beings, that knowledge and that support can be denied. There is nothing that you can do, but of course, like the flowers in your gardens to watch it grow and blossom and become strong and beautiful can only gladden your hearts.

George: Yes, it amazes me sometimes that organizations such as the Society for Psychical Research. That has been going for something like 140 years now—an enormous amount of

intellectual data has been amassed, but still, still there are doubts at every turn. The intellectual path to elucidate, or attempt to elucidate the nature of spirit is a very difficult path and very lengthy indeed!

Of course, but we are making what you would term 'inroads'. Slowly, slowly but surely and you must know my dear friends how many scientists now have turned away from the material data and have turned towards proving that spirit now exists.

George: Yes, as I see it, there's the rising spiritual awareness and there's the intellectual pathway, and the two seem to be coming together to a degree. Does that make sense?

Yes, and if you look to the wider picture—that is why I said at the beginning that humankind is on an upward pathway.

Jan: I think we've all commented that we've felt that in our daily lives, haven't we?

Yes, as spiritual beings like you within this room who have accepted that you are more than a physical being; you can only continue to grow if you so desire. But again, that is why you are so individual, because of your *free thinking*.

Rod: I'm always a little surprised when they show a film about people living in the deepest of forests in Africa and most—well not most—they are *always* very spiritual and whatever they do is based on spirit, so they're well aware of it.

As were all your ancient peoples, because materialism had not taken hold. It is as you move towards material things that mankind has gradually lost these innate gifts. That is why you will find simple-living people are more aware spiritually; whether they know that or not, they are more spiritual in their outlook.

Rod: If you hadn't said what you said, I would've thought we were on an uphill path really, because everything is going that way, isn't it, in the world?

Yes, mankind has reached a peak of materialization that has to then continue on another journey and that journey is to return to know and understand himself and what he truly is. We are making great strides my dear friends, although there is so much fear in your world at this present time. If you were to stop and consider life now and that of many years ago when mankind wanted too much for himself—that is when the gifts of spirit began to fade into the background of everyday living.

Rod: That makes sense.

Jan: I wonder though if in the future if it's possible for us to recapture those spiritual feelings with the amount of materialism around us—as a planet.

Yes. I have said in years gone by, there is no problem with the materialistic things that you *have*, it is the love of these things, it is the false love and the attachment placed upon them that creates the problems. Of course, there is a fine balance to be achieved.

George: I feel there has to be a process of devaluation of material things (**yes**) and possibly when the material things come up against floods or failures of various kinds, huge buildings falling down because they're too big really to stand up to the elements—perhaps these things assist the process of devaluing materialism.

It is a time for man to recognize past mistakes and, after all, if one man has so much money that he cannot spend it, but he gives much to others, then you cannot say he is wrong to have so much money, because he does not have the love of that money for himself—he uses that money to help his fellow man. So, you see, you must always weigh up before you criticize.

George: I think we recall the Andrew Carnegies of this world who were great public benefactors in this way—and Alfred Nobel...

And remember also my dear friend that sometimes these people are influenced in such a way as to achieve great wealth in a lifetime in order that they can be an example to others by helping others. So, you see they are a very good example to many who would not give.

George: Yes, certainly when it's like that it's a process to be much admired.

Yes. So, do not be too quick to say that all things material cannot allow you to grow spiritually—that is not the case.

Sara: Salumet, recently we've been reading a lot about manifestation—it's a subject that is quite popular at the moment—they call it cosmic ordering. Of course, it'll attract many different types probably, but we have also started tithing because we read a book which we felt made sense. And yes, we felt we would like to have more wealth, because we can do more with this wealth and I wondered if you had anything to say about tithing? People suggest that by giving away a percentage of your money to others who perhaps need it more, it just simply increases your own flow.

Yes. It is simply cause and effect.

Sara: Yes, cause and effect, give and receive.

Yes. If you truly give with your heart without looking for return, then the laws of all consciousness will return it to you. But what I would say is be careful what you ask for, because sometimes you are given and there is a much wider picture that surrounds it and may not always be what you expect.

Sara: Perhaps it is better to simply not ask, but give—give but not ask...

Yes, I would suggest that is a much better way because what you give, you will receive, not perhaps in monetary terms, but you will receive in happiness or health or in the love of a family, and after all, these are much better gifts.

Sara: Yes. Thank you.

Rod: Just one question. Millions of people on the Earth are worried about the Earth heating up and flooding and they see a lot of harm being done with CO₂, and what have you. For some reason I'm not worried about this and I don't know whether I'm right or wrong, but I'm not on that side. Am I wrong?

You cannot change what has already happened, but what can change is your awareness in order to help your planet, and that awareness is already here otherwise there would be no discussions about it. So, the awareness is there, but it needs to grow. But to you my dear friend, I say do not waste your energy in worry and fear. Part of what is happening on this planet is part of its own evolution and that you cannot change; but of course, there are many factors which all of you can help to change and to sustain.

Jan: By sending out our loving thoughts to keep everybody safe whilst this change is happening. This is what we can all do in our everyday lives, isn't it?

Yes, that is a much more productive view to the condition of this planet, rather than to be concerned and worried and fearful, because when you are fearful, when you are worried, you change that energy.

Jan: Vibration changes.

Yes. So, I say always to you: no matter how you feel, you have the power to change to love and hope and to continue with your lives in a fulfilling way.

George: Perhaps we could say that nature has the power to change if we allow her.

Of course, that has sometimes been the problem where mankind has taken upon himself the attitude that he knows better, when it has not always been that way. But be grateful that the awareness is raised and that most human beings in your world are aware of these

changes and what they can do to help. But, as I have said, part of it is an evolutionary change.

Sara: Salumet, is it reasonable to wish for things if they have an unselfish purpose behind them?

Yes of course.

Sara: Yes, because sometimes we think of future plans which would enable us to spread the word in our own particular way.

Yes. Whatever brings good that cannot be wrong, because I would say to you that you would understand immediately if the purpose of asking is not for the good of yourselves or others. There is nothing wrong in asking for help for yourselves. Do not be afraid to ask, but be careful what you ask for—that is my only caution to you.

Sara: Yes. I understand that material objects for their own sake often incite envy and don't bring happiness sometimes for that reason; but my feeling was, if you wanted a bigger house, for example, for purposes of teaching or healing, then I was thinking that presumably was a good purpose.

If it is right for you, but it may not just be given, it may be that you have to pursue in some way for this to be obtained.

Sara: Yes, I understand—dedication. Yes, I understand that. Thank you.

Is there a need to live a quiet simple life?

Valerie asks this question as many simple and remote cultures do seem happier in their daily living. Again, that question about materialism is raised. It is possible to live in a material world provided you do not seek wealth for its own sake and remain generous of spirit towards others. (3/3/08)

Valerie: Should we be living a simple life? I suppose our thought processes should be simpler and not so concerned, anxious—to achieve more within ourselves and our thoughts. Can we make our thought processing simpler to make things a lot better?

Everything that you wish to achieve, no matter what it is that you choose in this lifetime is possible when you go within. That is when changes can be made. On an intellectual level, you can, of course, make changes in the material world, but to make lasting and spiritual change, you need to go within. Do you understand?

Valerie: I do understand, yes.

Yes. But you do not need to live a completely simple life. There is nothing wrong with the material world provided you do not seek and make a great love of all material life, but accept it as just part of the life you have chosen to come to. It is the *love of* materialism that is wrong, but in itself, there is no problem with it provided you are generous of spirit with your fellow human man. Is that helpful to you?

Valerie: Yes it is very—thank you.

George: Yes, so there has to be a balance and the material consideration could stifle spirit—nearly.

Yes, only if you crave for it, and place it far above spiritual growth. It is the spiritual growth which is the important factor in your lives. When the spirit is to the fore,

materialism is less important, but it is not wrong provided all other areas within your life are good. You understand?

(Agreed)

George: Yes, because a society such as ours has to develop some complexity in order for such devices as computers to emerge **(yes)** and these, I think I would be correct in saying, are proving to be useful in connecting to spiritual development and other things.

Yes, and we are using such machinery to make contact with some. It is a new form of energy and as with all things, there is positive and negative aspects to it. But, as you know my dear friends, as I have told you often, all of life is light and darkness, but you have to have balance. That is what is important—that is important.

George: Yes, and I think we have to observe that not all roads that have been taken are light. Genetic modification work **(yes)** I think has to be seen as an area of some darkness.

Yes. There will always be light and darkness, it is the nature of your world; it is a world of learning of many things. So, accept what comes to you my dear friends, accept it with love, because you know fully well that love can dissipate all darkness.

Valerie: Yes.

Yes.

George: Yes, it could even dissipate problems that arise from genetic modification perhaps? **Yes, it has the power to do that, but it is in the recognition that that power becomes activated.**

George: Yes.

What is the purpose of 'negative' world events?

World events such as wars, devastation, credit crunches, recessions are all part of the evolution of this planet. They also bring awareness that things need to change. This is another example of the workings of light and dark. (20/10/08)

George: Yes. I'd like to refer to the TV news this morning and the stocks and shares market worldwide seems to have settled somewhat at about 2/3rds the value it had earlier this year; and secondly we seem to be heading into an industry and trade recession; and thirdly there was a very honest reference to a UFO encounter that happened in 1991 over Heathrow Airport—nice to have a really honest reference on the news media. And with those three things, it left me feeling that these are all things that the world *needs* and it seems to be in line with the teaching, and I just wondered if you would agree with that.

I, of course, cannot dispute the teaching, but, yes, when honesty and truth surface, this can only be for the betterment of mankind. Only when mankind realizes that honesty is part of the spiritual being, only then will mankind realize the true aspect of living. No matter what time in your earthly history, there has always been highs and lows of earthly living, whether it entails the many wars, the ravaging of land, or as you speak of now, the deep depression as regards trade and monies. All of these things are part of the evolution of your world. Remember, I have always said, there is positive and negative and if you wish to simplify your lives then remember those two words: positive/negative, good/bad,

dark/light. Each needs the other to survive and this crisis that you are all feeling at this time, of course will pass, but it will leave behind the recognition for change and that is the true purpose of these things: the realization and change which must take place.

George: Yes. I was wondering if it was part of a process (**yes**) of simplification of life.

Yes. It is to *help* mankind recognize what is important in your lives; that importance is not ‘gain through wealth and materialistic things’, but by going inwards and recognizing, how you say, the brotherhood of all mankind in the goodness and the love which should be extended to all peoples in your world. That, *that* is what mankind must strive for. You understand?

George: Yes, yes, thank you. That is a nice clarification for us. I know a number of people are finding it quite difficult to understand what is happening, because there’s a tendency to think of it entirely in physical terms.

It is only a physical thing—that is what you need to remember. And of course, it is important that you survive and live well. We do not mean that you should live your lives on this planet in poverty and deprivation; that is not our meaning. I have spoken in the past: you can have much wealth and still be the most spiritual of people, so do not assume that wealth is wrong—that is not so. It is the craving and greed which goes with it that is so wrong.

George: Yes, I think ‘*how it is regarded*’ were your (**yes**) words before.

To many of men in your world, it has become their god, to the neglect of all things spiritual; and I will leave you with one word again which conquers all things, and that word is ‘love’. It is small in number, in letters, but it is *huge* for your existence.

George’s Notes:

Positive / negative: Concerning the above, it is probably correct to say that both extremes of the physical condition are needed to create the REALISATION that links to spiritual pathway. So, the financial ‘crunch’ can be seen as a learning process that results in a realisation.

Could our planet exist without a monetary system?

Salumet confirms that we could exist with love alone, but our planet is a very long way from that at the moment. He also assures that money is not ‘evil’ in itself and can be extremely useful to help the world. However, an irrational love and accumulation of money is harmful. ‘Things’ do not bring happiness on their own. (19/10/09)

Paul: I was thinking a little bit about the way our work is organised. Much of our work relates to money and the jobs, so that people’s motivation is often—some people are motivated more by the work, some are motivated more by the money. I think, as we evolve, eventually, the money becomes less important, and it’s the *work* that is of the main importance, and, as this occurs, I guess a lot of jobs that are there more for the money than the actual role they play, will just disappear. Eventually probably—on a lot of planets, they don’t even have a money system anymore. They have some other system in place and that’s probably a stage that you reach where you’re much more evolved, and there’s a lot more equality between people. So, I guess the Earth is still at a very early stage on that one—

If your Planet could exist on love alone, it would not be Earth! Every being upon this Earth planet has a choice. That choice includes working and money, as you have mentioned. It is a very, very long way away from not having any monetary system! That is not about to happen. But you have to be sensible and not everyone has that drive because of the 'love of money'. But, as you say, some people do it for the love of the work that they do (yes). There is nothing wrong with money it is the *love of money*, as it is the love of anything else which becomes out of proportion with what is within. As human beings, at this moment in time, money is essential for you all to provide yourselves with food and sustenance of many kinds, and, although there is much greed in your world, it is now becoming apparent that the *awareness* of poverty and greed is high on the list of how earthly beings are living. This *awareness*, my dear friend, is what is important at this stage of evolution. It is the *raising of awareness*, and in your world, we are beginning to see this happening.

Jan: —Just as we are. The awareness of what we have done and our *ancestors* before us have done on the planet (yes). It is a privilege in a way to be here *now*, as we are, in this personality, to witness this awakening in so many ways.

Yes—as I have told you many times, my dear friends, there are so many of us from our world who have gathered, and we are endeavouring to raise the consciousness of your world, and although as I have said, there are many areas of darkness, so too do those areas of light seem ever brighter, and that gladdens us so much.

Sarah: You certainly hear a lot more of very rich people giving away an awful lot of their money to good causes.

Yes, so you must not always say that money is evil. You have to keep the balance, and in your world as it is at this stage of its evolution, money or goods are essential, yes.

Paul: Well, as you say, the important thing is that the awareness (yes) is growing steadily. **That is more important, yes. You could have someone with much, much money, but, if their awareness is one of generosity and giving, how can you judge them for having money? (Yes). In the same way, you could have someone with very little, but who is mean-spirited and selfish. Be always careful, my dear friends, about judgement.**

Paul: Yes, I had one thought. Sometimes the ones that are greedy, who perhaps take too much from the world, leave so much less for the others—not enough for others, but then they also create the opportunity for good learning, because it doesn't necessarily help to have riches—it probably doesn't at all—so it presents learning opportunities for others, who have to make do with less (yes).

Jan: It's my experience that people with great wealth have an enormous responsibility that they sometimes feel quite burdened with, but, like you say, it's the consciousness of how they behave and how they behave with that money (yes). It really doesn't matter whether you have a penny or a million pounds, it's the love behind—the person with the last penny could give it away and have a wonderful feeling of freedom and self-expression, the same as the man with the million pounds.

And, of course, freewill is always to the fore of human existence. Only when humankind finds that deep love of spirit within, will there be a change in your world—but it is happening.

Sarah: And television and the media also help, because in past times, we perhaps wouldn't have been aware of certain things, but now, especially on television, you can see what is going on in the world, which help people—it hits on their conscience and that also helps (yes).

Lilian: It shows the good side *and* the bad side.

Be aware only of your own spirit. Be an example to others. Give out that love from within, and you will see your world gradually change. It begins with small steps and grows and grows. You will be surprised when I say that the light of your Earth is brighter than you may think.

Lilian: That's nice to know.

George's notes:

Money and greed: *It is the perfect time also for this subject to be discussed; a time of starvation in the world and a time when key people who are supposedly in control of the western world's banking and finance are in receipt of huge bonuses—so staggeringly enormous that a single bonus could provide lifetime support enabling many to prosper for several of their Earth lives! But as Salumet says, much depends on what happens to that wealth. And I still rest uneasy regarding a system that declares that its own top executives should be paid that much over and above reasonable salary. Historically, some wealthy ones have been renowned public benefactors, for example Andrew Carnegie, an industrialist who endowed 2,800 public libraries in the U.S. and donated \$350,000,000 to a variety of foundations; while certain others have earned reputation as incredibly wealthy misers. Perhaps I should not judge, and anyway, it is always useful and possibly necessary for us to have yardsticks and milestones that we may observe.*