EDITORIAL

The Anti-Christ and the Human Genome

F WE ARE MATERIALISTIC, we might tend to see the anti-christ as some chimeric beast like one finds in the Revelation of St. John. If we are insecure or hateful, we tend to see the Anti-Christ xenophobically as the person or people that most represent the part of our inner being with which we most need to come to terms, which we fear because we have not shined the light of love-wisdom upon it.

Both cases are examples of psychological projection, externalizations of unredeemed soul content or unprocessed soul power in the making at which we are balking and which will stand before us until we transform it.

The Anti-Christ may be in the external world but, more importantly, it is also within us. It is, as Max Heindel liked to say of God, "nearer than hands and feet." Also, like God, the Anti-Christ is a spirit, an attitude of consciousness. The spirit of the Anti-Christ is the antithesis of Christ and the Life Spirit, whose attributes are life, light and love.

As we work on soul growth we become progressively more capable of externalizing everything within us until we reach the point where we are ready to enter the inner worlds consciously. At that time we see the composite of all of our unredeemed sins as the Dweller on the Threshold and we see our compounded good deeds as a "guardian angel," an alchemical mate from heaven whose wedding garment is the vehicle of consciousness of our divine being.

If we merely see the Dweller as a being outside of us instead as an objectification of our previously hidden, unregenerate character, we are also being materialistic. We are seeing the form and not the content and we are failing our trial. We will be trapped in this materialistic illusion until we look at every feature of the Dweller and see the sin, the misapplied principle, the unredeemed soul power locked up within and behind it and begin to tame and transform it through the Christ within.

Actually, one needn't even see the Dweller as a form to participate in this activity. Every time we see through our sins and the psychological machinations that conceal and facilitate them, we are dealing with the Dweller, which is a facet of our very life and being. This redemption can be done in retrospection and in our ongoing daily lives. Every time we apply love where we have previously sinned, we are taming and transforming the Dweller. Initiation is not some wondrous process foreign to our lives, it is the ongoing deepening, intensification and vivification of our now relatively dull and numb lives.

The process of seeing through the Dweller and transforming it into the Guardian Angel also takes place collectively in humanity as a whole and in our work in the world. Not surprisingly, the collective Dweller, sometimes thought of as the Anti-Christ (which may well also be the embodiment of a higher malignant being), is also not alien to our everyday experience. A good example of its spirit is found in the genome project, the project to painstakingly explore and map the DNA genetic code.

The DNA is the gateway from the ethers through which the forces of the archetype and seed atoms form dense physical bodies. The folly of materialism in thinking that all life and consciousness is a product of chemical interactions in the chemical region of the physical world is forgivable, as is the absurd materialistic notion that materialism will be able to create life from chemicals alone without the ethers and the oceanic thinking necessary to do so. But the deathly aspects of the genome project are more immediate and alarming. The deathly outlook of the

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"fall" has been sophisticated and elaborated in ways that could inhibit or cripple our material evolution, if given free reign.

The very manner in which the cataloging of the genome is being accomplished is materialistic. Some of the work is being done in academic institutions. There scientists publish their findings and the knowledge is in the public domain. However, a good deal of the research is being done in private biotechnology laboratories and as soon as a segment of the genetic code is deciphered, the results are patented!

This means that the knowledge and application of the genetic basis for all human bodies throughout all rebirths is the property of an individual or corporate entity. This is equivalent to an initiate discovering the scheme of the divine spiral of evolution (which spiral is reflected microcosmically in the DNA spiral) and claiming ownership of it so that everyone else who traverses the evolutionary spiral must pay toll. This is cosmic possessiveness, possessiveness of the Anti-Christ that is the antithesis of the free flowing life of the Life Spirit. This attitude has so invaded science that plants are patented straight out of nature with disregard for the common good and the unified nature of reality.

This fallen, deathly outlook also permeates the applications of biotechnology. Since material scientists are not aware of working creatively with life or even of vital life itself, they cannot be faulted for not doing so. However, their inability to create and evolve life does not prevent them from meddling with the evolutionary materials in a manner which demands correction.

Not realizing that illness is a consequence of misattitudes of the past and that it is now a correcting, learning and growing experience for the future, a redemption of past causes, there is a vain hope of removing illness without fulfilling its purpose—an attempted end run around destiny. The plan is to clip the genetic material responsible for predispositions to a given illnesses or condition. This is a permanent deathly, eliminative act, a reduction of opportunities instead of a progressive, growing, evolving and creative process.

Eliminating genetic material not only decreases evolutionary options, it can also take away protections: The same gene that is associated with sickle cell anemia is responsible for resistance to malaria. The destructive attitude of material science has proceeded so far that plant seeds are designed to produce plants whose seeds are sterile. This, now common, practice ensures that agriculturists will have to purchase new seed annually. This is a giant step in the same direction as birth control whereby people surfeit themselves in vain pleasure without the consequences intended for the generative function. It deprives the plant kingdom, and the group spirit behind it, of evolutionary growth and progress by making it impossible to pass experience on to future generations to build on.

These practices of hiding the light of understanding behind property rights, of reducing, inhibiting and nullifying progress, and the lack of concern for other living beings except as they serve our selfish ends, are clearly counter to the life, light and love of Christ. They are outright anti-Christian.

What can we as aspirants to Christian enlightenment do about it?

As students we can inform ourselves about these issues and see them in terms of the Christ light of spiritual intelligence instead of materialistic ignorance and selfish propaganda. As citizens we can always take social and political action since we are the source of social self-governance in a democratic society. Probably the most effective thing we can do is what Max Heindel called "occult service." We can think right thoughts. Thinking is the most important service of our humanity in the Earth Period. One skilled, intense thinker focussing on the truth is more powerful and effective than millions of untrained individuals enshrouded in the confusion of materialistic darkness.

Prayer is one of the best and most transformative forms of thinking. If we take the spiritual truths pointed out in the Rosicrucian philosophy and evolve them to apply to current issues in our thoughts and prayers with sustained intensity of feeling, we are broadcasting the truth to fellow humans in a manner that exceeds the broadcast media.

Writing, speaking and other means of direct communication such as our daily conversations augment this occult service, but our personal participation is not necessary to change the psychic atmosphere. All that is required is clear, true, loving thought emanated into the cosmos with the compassion and intense feeling we use in healing prayers. This is occult service, participation without egoistic display.

—S.R.