

READERS' QUESTIONS

Birth Control, Clairvoyance of Children, “Pearls are not Whiter”

QUESTION: The campaign concerning “The Population Explosion” and birth control seems to be gaining momentum. What do the Rosicrucian Teachings have to say about this matter?

Answer: Max Heindel states in Volume 2 of *Questions and Answers*: “The matter of population is not entirely governed by individuals, or by man-made laws. The divine Hierarchs who guide our evolution arrange the matter as required for the highest good of all concerned, and the number of the population is in their hands rather than in our own.

“This does not mean that we cannot or should not exercise birth control in some degree as suggested by those who are responsible for that movement. It is also true that one must help people where they are and not where they ought to be. The Rosicrucian Teachings emphasize the fact that like attracts like, and therefore it is a duty on the part of those who are well developed physically, morally, and mentally to provide an environment for as many incoming Spirits as their physical and financial circumstances will permit. This duty is still more binding upon those who are also spiritually developed, for a high spiritual entity cannot enter into physical existence through a vile parentage. But when a couple has reached the point where it is deemed either dangerous to the health of the mother to bear more children, or where the financial burden would be above their means, then they should live a life of continence, not indulging the passional nature and seeking by artificial means to bar the way for incoming Egos to take advantage of the opportunity for rebirth offered them by the



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sexual indulgence of such a couple.

“This naturally requires considerable spiritual advancement and self-control. There are few who are capable of living such a life, and one might as well preach continence to a stone wall as to the average specimen of humanity. He even believes that it would interfere with his health, for false statements about the necessity of exercising the natural function has led to many deplorable results. Even if he could be persuaded that he ought to deny himself for the good of his mate and the children he has already brought into the world, he would probably be utterly unable to restrain himself, particularly because people in such moderate circumstances can usually not afford to have separate sleeping quarters. Therefore it may be necessary to teach these people birth control by scientific means.

“However, we submit that though they are unable to understand the reason why continence should be

practiced, and unable to practice it because of lack of self-control, the spiritual teaching should be given repeatedly so that as the steady drop wears the stone, in time the coming generations will learn to depend upon their own will power to accomplish the object of keeping their lower nature in check. Without this educational feature looking toward a spiritual emancipation, information concerning physical methods of limiting the birth rate in families that are overburdened is dangerous in the extreme.”

Clairvoyance of Children

Question: Are all children clairvoyant?

Answer: Yes, all children are clairvoyant during the first year of life, at least. How long they will remain so depends upon the spirituality of the child to a great extent. The early environment is also an important factor, for most children communicate all they see to their elders, whose attitude affects the faculty of clairvoyance in the child. Often children are ridiculed for saying things adults do not understand, and this lack of sympathy and understanding greatly hurts their sensitive natures.

In such cases they soon learn to shut out the scenes which engender the ridicule of their parents and other relatives, or at least they learn to keep such experiences to themselves. When listened to, they often reveal wonderful things, and at times it is possible to trace a previous life by information from a little child. This happens particularly if the child died as a child in the previous life, for then it would have been in the Invisible Worlds only from one to twenty years, so that it is possible to verify its information.

Children who in their previous lives died as children are much more apt to remember the past and to be clairvoyant than other children, because the vital and desire bodies are not born at the same time as the physical birth of the child, but at seven and fourteen years of age respectively. What was not quickened cannot die, so if a child passes out before birth of the vital body or of the desire body, it will not go into the Second and Third Heavens, but will stay in the Desire World and will be reborn with the same desire body and mind that it possessed in its previous life. Therefore it will be very much more apt to remember what happened then.

“Pearls Are Not Whiter”

Question: I have searched my Bible quite diligently, but nowhere have I been able to find the quotation relative to the whiteness of the dead dog’s teeth mentioned in the *Cosmo-Conception* by Max Heindel. Will you please tell me where I can find it?

Answer: Max Heindel was not quoting from the Bible when he related the incident to which you refer. In a second edition of some of the poems of Jacobi Balde, printed in 1646, may be found the following extract:

*One evening when Jesus lingered in the market
place,
Teaching the people parables of truth and grace,
In the square remote a crowd was seen to rise
And stop with loathing gestures and abhorring
cries.
The Master and went to see
What cause for this commotion and disgust
could be;
And found a poor dead dog beside the gutter
laid:
Revolting sight! at which each face its hate
betrayed.
One held his nose, one shut his eyes, one turned
away,
And all among themselves began aloud to say:
“Detested creature! he pollutes the earth and air!
His eyes are blar! His ears are foul!
His ribs are bare!
In his torn hide there’s not a decent shoestrapping
left!
No doubt the execrable cur was hung for theft!”
Then Jesus spoke and dropped on him this saving
wreath:
“Even pearls are dark before the whiteness of
his teeth!”*

This poem is based on a tradition preserved by the Mohammedan poet, Nizami. The tradition may be found in *Swemer, The Moslem Christ*, page 148.

Max Heindel made an extensive study of ancient religions and during his research work he doubtless contacted the poem quoted, or the original tradition. □