

December 1960

## READING 10

## ALL GROUPS

## TWENTY YEARS AFTER (Continued)

This is our last meeting until after the Christmas holidays and one would like to sound a note in harmony with this happy festive season.

You have heard something of the System teaching about the inner world (the psychology) of man; now let us hear what the System says about the big world in which we live – for in fact we can't get away from it; we live in this world continually under its influence.

Let's start by an exercise in the expansion of our Consciousness; let's shut our eyes and, as we listen, let us try to be conscious – nothing more. Begin. You are sitting on your chair... in this room... in this house... in Old Church Street... Chelsea... South-West London... this great city... in an island... off the West coast of Europe... on the Northern hemisphere of the Earth's globe... part of the thin film of the Earth's Biosphere (all living creatures on the earth). The Earth (one of the smaller planets) is (with them) part of the Solar System, and the Solar System is just one of the stars of the Milky Way – a Galaxy or island universe, one of an uncountable number of galaxies which constitute our Universe. What is the world for me? The System says that we live in seven worlds at the same time and place.

What are you doing? By expanding your consciousness in this way you are trying to realise a bigger *Space*. Now try to realize a bigger *Time*. The chair you are sitting on lasts a few years; its life-time is measurable in the same units as your own life of 70 or 80 *years*. But this house? Its life is measurable by the *generations* of the people who live in it. Old Church Street? Its life has already lasted perhaps a couple of *centuries*. But London? Why London has existed since pre-Roman times – just 2,000 years – two *millennia*; in spite of the Great Fire of 1666 and Hitler's Blitz of 1940 and other violent episodes which have killed many human beings and houses and streets. So London could be called Eternal relatively to a chair or a man.

The life-time of the earth and the other planets is measured in thousands of millions of years; and the life-time of stars and of galaxies in units proportionately greater still. Yet even the Universe itself must have a life-time like everything else and the System tells us what it will be: then what is Eternity? Eternity is relative to the particular scale; and therefore *God* is also relative. How can the understanding of a man or of Humanity include the God of the Universe? Why, the whole life of a man's body is only the twinkling of an eye for the Sun, and it does not exist for a galaxy or even for other stars. Do you realise, for instance, that the only planets that astronomers can ever see are the planets of our own small star? No one knows if other stars have them or not. So the planets of one star do not exist even for its nearest neighbour.

But how does this conclusion (to which the expansion of our consciousness brings us) change the picture of the Universe that present-day science is trying to give us?

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First, hear what a contemporary astronomer said in a Broadcast talk (Prof. Hoyle 'The Nature of the Universe', 1950); he spoke of the Milky Way as follows:

Now I must introduce you to the idea that this immense disk of gas and stars is in motion, that it is turning round in space like a great wheel. How then do the stars move?

The main motion of a star consists of a spiral orbit with its pole at the centre of the galaxy. The Sun and the planets move together in a group round such an orbit (about half-way out from the centre). The speed of this motion is nearly one million miles an hour. But in spite of this seemingly tremendous speed it nevertheless takes the Sun and its retinue of planets about 200 million years to make a round trip of the galaxy.

At this stage I should like you to reflect on how many ways you are now moving through space. You have a speed of about 1,000 miles an hour round the polar axis of the Earth (Day and Night). You are rushing with the Earth at about 70,000 miles an hour along its pathway round the Sun (the Seasons of the Year). There are also some slight wobbles due to the gravitational attractions of the Moon and the Planets. On top of all this you have the huge speed of about one million miles an hour due to your motion around the Galaxy.

#### COMMENT

But if Time changes with magnitude on different scales, then Velocity does not change; and these vast speeds are only relative to man's space-time perception which depends on his sense organs, his intellect and his state of consciousness. With a different perception of space-time and good thinking in a different state of consciousness, that mad rush becomes a slow and orderly progression, or even complete stillness.

I ask you, how much of all this movement can we feel from our bodily senses as we sit here? Virtually nothing – we just look at a clock and we look at a calendar; and for all our senses can tell us we might equally well be stationary at the centre of the Universe with the Sun and the other stars revolving round us, as the Outer Circle of Humanity believed for centuries. But our System of Knowledge (which has also existed for centuries) knew better, and described our branch of the Universe in terms of what we call the Ray of Creation from the Absolute to the Moon:

- Absolute
- All Galaxies
- Milky Way (our Galaxy or Starry World)
- Sun (our Star)
- Planets
- Earth
- Moon

By this apparently elementary scheme the System teaches us how to think simply and clearly from a practical point of view. The astronomer has to study *all* the galaxies, *all* the stars, equally, and this study requires a whole life of professional work to get a nodding and superficial acquaintance with the Universe. But the System bids us leave all the innumerable galaxies and take just one – our Milky Way; it bids us leave all the innumerable stars of the Milky Way and take just one – our Sun; of the nine planets, it tells us to study particularly our own Earth, leaving aside the others with the asteroids, comets, meteors and other components of the Solar System; and of the satellites of the planets it tells us to study only one, our Mother Earth's single child – the Moon.

(Pause for Discussion)

Used rightly, the Ray of Creation can be of tremendous interest to us today. To begin with, it shows that there is truth in each of the main theories about which astronomers are squabbling at present. The expanding universe and the recession of the galaxies is true – it's a stage in the expansion and contraction of the Universe as with other living beings. The 'Steady State' theory with the necessity for 'Continuous Creation' supported by the Cambridge school is also true, just as the population of a country remains steady, for while many die, many are also being born. And Gadow's theory of 'Instantaneous Creation' is also true, for a cooling process has been going on since the birth of the world in addition to the warming, developing process. And this again is true of other living things.

To quote from Prof. Ellis, *Child Health and Development*, 1947:

The energy of growth is at its maximum in the earliest stages. The human ovum two weeks after conception doubles its weight in six days. The human embryo of the third month doubles its weight in the next month; the new-born child takes six months to double its weight. If the infant continued to grow at the rate he grows during the month before birth, he would weigh 200 lbs. at the end of the first year and at the end of 20 years, would be as big as the earth.

Bodily life is then a running-down of vital energy from the moment of conception; like a spinning top we turn ever more slowly until we fall over and lie still. This may also be true of the *body* of the Universe if we change to the appropriate units of space-time.

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According to the Ray of Creation there is an upward movement whereby the Moon may one day become like the Earth and the Earth like the Sun; and there is a downward movement (perhaps corresponding to what is called by the scientist today a 'law of increasing entropy' or rigid order.) At each level there is a balance struck between rising or falling, warming or cooling.

The Ray of Creation is also interesting in these days of Radio-telescopes because it is described in terms of *Sound*. Creation sounds one great Octave – Do, Si, La, Sol, Fa, Mi, Re (write them in beside the worlds). By the principle of Resonance they may all be sounding together like the common chord on a violin.

But look again at our Ray (for at every level there are other rays branching off which do not concern us). Even along our own branch, there is no mention of mankind or even of the Biosphere, the thin film of organic life on the surface of the earth. To study the relation of man to the Universe (which could continue without the existence of man) we need a different scale. This is only a rough sketch or foretaste of what some of you may care to study next term.

In these days of speculation about space travel, which is likely to prove an expensive, dangerous and delightfully futile pastime, it is much more profitable to explore the inner space of our own minds. For there lies the secret that can unite the Arts, the Sciences and the Religions. There lies the way to the Higher Consciousness and the real meaning of Christmas: 'That Christ may be born in your hearts.'

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[N.B. If anyone uses the word 'God,' ask them what they mean. Do they mean an

old gentleman with a beard sitting on a cloud? If so, we'll drop the subject! But if they mean a 'oneness' or a 'wholeness' or an 'intelligence' indefinable to the atoms of a given world, then there must be 'God' for each of the seven worlds; but it would be a supreme form of egoism to picture oneself holding hands with the Absolute.]

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