

A VIEW FROM HIGH

**The Thoughts and Observations
Of A Foreigner On Earth**

PAPPA JOSEPH

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A SERIALIZED BOOK BY PAPPA JOSEPH

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PREFACE

My expeditions on earth have been heartboggling, and I believe my readers and audiences would be deprived of a precious perspective of existence if I didn't pass on to them the nuggets of what I have painfully and pleasurably gained in decades of experiencing or observing the ordinary and the extraordinary, the normal and the paranormal, the natural and the supranatural, in human interactions.

I have seen wisdom clad in common apparel shouting in the crowded streets I passed by. I have seen it draped in pundit's garments in the busiest corners and beckoning the simple to stop and listen to it. I have seen it taking its stand in the middle of the traffic and waving to the commuters to pause awhile so it could show them the missing links in their lives. And I was blessed, in that something in my heart moved at its invitation, and I stayed my movement and listened raptly to it on every single occasion I saw this mystical foreigner on corporeal terrain.

What I have received during those mellowed moments, I now heartily pass on to you in their quintessence. I hope the sparks of inspiration you may find in here ignite an unquenchable desire to explore life in dimensions you may have never thought of or acted in before.

Pappa Joseph

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10 Commandments

The devil's greatest fear

More than the churches, more than the Bible, more than the preachers, more than all the good works in the entire world, the devil fears The 10 Commandments being understood and kept by God's people.

Abraham

The irrevocable gift that made him a stud

Sarah was too old to bear a child. Abraham's body was 'already dead (since he was about a hundred years old)', says Romans 4:19. When the time for the promise to be fulfilled came, obviously Sarah was given the strength to bear a child and Abraham the libido and potency to perform the act needed for that. But 'God's gifts and his call are irrevocable', and 'immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine'. So even after the birth of Isaac, he continued to perform and outperform himself. But Sarah's need for supernatural strength was over.

I think the initial sweet nightmoans, after a few continuous months of bearing the brunt of her husband's prowess, may have begun to become stark nightmares for her. Abraham, being a just man, knew the solution was not to try to suppress his passion while sleeping in the same tent or even in separate tents near the object that's inflaming his groins. The solution was to remove his burning body as far away from his wife as possible. This perhaps is the reason why he stayed away from Sarah sometime after returning with Isaac from Moriah. (Genesis 23:1-2)

My surmise is reinforced by the fact that not too long after Sarah's death, his body was still strong enough to sire several children through his second wife, Keturah, and one or more concubines. Keturah, though married to Abraham as a wife, must have been treated as one of his 'concubines' because her children are among those whom Abraham only gave gifts to. And since the Bible says 'concubines', there must have been at least one

other concubine, possibly more, in view of the superstud gift Abraham continued to have even years after its original purpose was fulfilled.

Acceptance

The greatest deliverance

The greatest deliverance of all is acceptance. The greatest lesson a person can learn after love is patient endurance. Patient endurance is learned in absolutely one way only - enduring the suffering patiently. When the moment comes that we decide to accept the suffering as a permanent part of our life, then we enter the greatest of all deliverances.

The ultimate experience

The ultimate human experience, the utmost that man can achieve in his humanity, is the acceptance of the present situation, however painful, however humiliating, with thanksgiving.

Accident

Second greatest mystery

I don't believe there is a true accident or chance in human actions. That is, something that is caused by absolute randomness. But there may be true accidents apart from human actions, happening all the time in the universe - but only if there is true randomness in the universe. But that brings me to the second greatest mystery in my life, after the mystery of freewill - is there absolute randomness in the universe - or is there an absolute cause for every movement and action?

Why does one particular thought come after another, or not another? Why does a leopard resting sprawled on the savannah grass, turn his glance from one point to another, when there is not an outside cause for that movement? Is it just chance that I now write the word 'bellicose', and not another word? Did bellicose come through sheer randomness of my thoughts?

Achievement

More than any other achievement

Looking back at all your achievements, one widow or one orphan rescued from misery will be worth incomparably more in the final perspective of your life than several great multinational corporations founded by you.

Acting

Hellbound acts

A woman squirming in pretended or real pleasure under the body of a man not her husband, a man and a woman not married entwining their tongues and exchanging salivas, a woman having her breasts hard pressed on the chest of a man not hers in a scene of tight embrace, these are all heavenly experiences in the senses of Hollywood but hellbound acts of a spouse's unashamed betrayal and shameful sins in the sight of Heaven.

Actresses

Amos 4:1-3 expounded

Some of the most beautiful actresses in filmworld today, who have no hesitation in baring their buttocks on the silver screens to their raving fans, will walk through iron screens baring both their butt and slut to their foes on that Day of Judgment. Now the most exquisite scents of Paris announce their arrival and delay their departure. Then the most nauseating stench of scabies will announce their vile presence in the vicinity. The diadems they wear on their alluring scalps at glittering functions today will have been long since replaced by oozing scabs at slaughtering junctions then.

'As they carried Israel away to Assyria, they followed their typical custom. When the Assyrians depopulated and exiled a conquered community, they led the captives away on journeys of hundreds of miles, with the captives naked and attached together with a system of strings and fishhooks pierced through their lower lip. God would make sure they were led in this humiliating manner through the broken walls of their conquered cities (Amos 4:2-3).' Enduring Word Media

Alien

Every step in this world

Every step that I take in this world is a step taken on alien territory. Every encounter I have with the people of this world is an encounter with an alien species. Occasionally I do come across some who, like me, are sojourners here, awaiting our spaceship to take us to the world of our citizenship. Lord, teach us to walk circumspectly on this planet, for one wrong move and the aliens would pounce on us, like a raptor on a chick that strayed from its haven.

Anger

Anger is short demon possession.

Animals

Happier

The most pathetic plight in the free animal kingdom is that of a stray bitch when she litters. Yet, she is incomparably happier than an overfed royal beast in a golden cage.

Attitude

Still asinine

Attitudes are not impressed by facts and truths. Attitudes are affected and influenced by respect but transformed forever by humility, both of which are different aspects of love. That's why you can never win an argument. Even if you have won verbally and your facts and reasonings are conceded to, you are still the same old ass in the heart of the person you argued with.

Beauty

No created beauty can be beautier than its creator beauty.

Bed

Like oil

Man collapses clumsily onto the bed when it's time for him to retire, woman oozes into it and slides under the blanket like fragrant oil.

Beer

The common factor

Probably the only thing that God's People and the Devil's Disciples have in common that both enjoy to the same extent of pleasure.

Better Way

There is always a better way to do whatever you are doing excellently now until the day Perfection arrives on earth.

Bird

Hopping feet

A pretty hopping bird, mincing and prancing about on its two tiny feet, is a more graceful sight to behold than a pretty walking bird. Watch the monotonous stride of a hen. Watch a dancing peacock, the crowing act in the avian creation. If the movement of his feet is all that he can do to lure his lady, his species would have been extinct in Adam's generation.

Bishops

Miter

Some bishops are elected by God, some achieve their bishopric, and some have the miter thrust upon their hoary heads by the devil himself.

Black Holes

Heaven's fringe?

What are black holes? Tartarus, where chains of darkness are reserved for the demons, or the threshold of the third heaven?

Blessing

Received and given up

The very moment a good person receives a material blessing for this life is also the very moment he gives it up for life. It matters not that the blessing stays with him for some time or for a lifetime, but his heart is not set on it for a moment, nor on anything that rust and moth can eat away.

Body

My body, my darling

I am to love my body as I love my wife, counsels the Scripture. Which means I am patient with its weaknesses and longsuffering with its flaws, I quickly forgive it of its crimes against my soul, and look upon it with tenderness and affection even in its abominable state.

Book

For your descendants

Every father should write a book, which reflects his thoughts and his predilections, his fears and his dreams, his pains and his pleasure, to pass

on to his children, and perhaps from them to his descendants. For these books would reveal the true man that their progenitor was, which understanding the children could not gain merely by living some years with their father before moving out of the nest.

Bug

The mustard bug

There is a species of bug in my land about the size of, and indistinguishable from a mustard seed. It is endowed with a spray gland in its rear which ejects a stink that could have been concocted only by the devil himself. Every time a creature of this diabolic species espies me, it alights upon me. And it invariably alights on one particular spot on my body - the right side of my nape. The very moment my finger touches it to flick it away is the very moment it exhales a most horrifying miasma. The noxious fumes last awhile, and only hard scrubbing of my entire neck with soap and water could efface the feter. The disruption this olfactory attack causes to my work is so frequent and so dismaying that I am inclined to believe it's more than chance. The devil himself could be at work to prevent, or at least, delay, my vital work. But the more horrifying fact is, this bug surely has fallen often among the mustard seeds in the curries of many an Indian family and its stink camouflaged in the curry's strong aroma.

Business

Route plan

My business on earth is to keep moving toward my destination. The itinerary is God's business.

Cat [whose litter in a trash box were taken away by a garbageman]

Sir Walter Scott rephrased

Oh what a tangled web she weaved, when first she raised her tail to conceive.

Cause and Effect

Greatest principle

If there were no God, cause and effect would be my only god. In God's way, cause and effect is my greatest principle of living.

Cemetery

RIP

On the way to work, I saw a cemetery with RIP in large letters on a tombstone, and I pondered on the acronym.

For Hindus perhaps it means Roasted In Pyre.

For Parsees it may be Ripped In Pieces.

For Moslems it may mean Reproduce In Paradise.

So what might it be for Christians?

Some say it is Rest in Peace, which cannot be true in any sense.

There is no peace for any of them six feet under the ground.

Ahh, got it!

Rotting Inside Plank.

Change

Old tricks

Change with the times how you impart skills and knowledge to the younger generation. You can't teach a new dog old tricks. Neither can you teach cat tricks to a circus dog, old or young.

Christianity

No other religion

No religion, since religions began, has killed the people of its own faith in the name of its god so cruelly and as many as has Christianity.

Church

A hindering factor

I have never let my church interfere with my relationship with God.

Cleavage

Even a teeny bit

No decent woman should expose even an inch of her cleavage to any man other than her husband. I say this because many chaste women walk around with what they think are safe limits for their cleavage exposure. O naivety, your name is woman! You will sooner or later realize there aren't any such safe limits at all. For acute is the virile eruption that transpires in the mind of the ordinary man whose tender eyeballs have been groped by even the weeniest sight of that portion of living feminine flesh.

Comb

Dandy secret

If a security check is made at airports of all male passengers, I think a small comb, not more than three inches long, would be found in the pocket or wallet of perhaps 70 percent of those men who have even a strand of hair remaining on their pate. I had thought I was one of those rare dandies who carried such implement with them wherever they went...until I saw a mayor of a US city, on the street, taking one from his coat's inner pocket and do a quick sweep over his nearly bald head.

Condescending Attitude

Worse

A condescending attitude is worse than a haughty response. Showing oneself smarter and better in the sight of another is as resented as making him feel inferior. It's the same thing anyway, for one condescends only to another whom one considers as inferior.

Confrontation

Sleep on it

Never confront at the point of a confrontation. When the dust settles and the flared emotions have gone to roost, what usually emerges is not an affront on your dignity but a new frontier for your spirituality. And if the next morn shows in your calmed mind the same sight that slighted you yesterday, you can now, if need be, confront with conviction and clarity.

Conscience

The spouse and the child

Motive is the rib-off spouse of Attitude, and Conscience is the blessed or accursed offspring of them both.

Good and bad

A good conscience is the fruit of the constant acceptance of the affirmations of the soul. A shipwrecked one, the consequence of their constant denial.

Content

The key factor

Original content is the emerging and future commodity that will be most in demand. The world is looking for original content. You will be valued by first, the genuineness of your heart's content, and then by the authenticity of your mind's content. Websites, publications, tv shows, music, that rephrase original content will fall by the wayside. Original content, both good and evil, will be the key factor and driving force of the economy of the 21st century.

Courage

A sassy face is often a mask for a sissy heart.

Cow

Holy cow

There is a saying in my native language, stated when a person wants to send his milch cow to make love to a stud bull, so he can have the continuity of his milk supply assured when the cow calves again. He says, 'I want to send her among the crowd'. Probably the saying originated because the cow is released among a herd of horny bulls waiting to pounce on any female of their kind straying into their midst. Many parents, devoid of the Truth, are unwittingly doing this to their daughters - sending them among 'the crowd'. Of course not with the same intention as the owner of the milch cow, but often with the same consequences at the end - pregnancy, or at least, pounced upon..

Creepy

Nothing creepier

Never arouse a sleeping cockroach deep in your boots with your toes, as I once did. Only an irate scorpion or a viper between your toes can be a creepier experience.

Customer

The objective

Signboard I wish to put up in my business premises:

'We are not doing a business. We are building a relationship. Every activity you see in this premises is for the sole purpose of building a lasting relationship with you.'

And perhaps this too:

'The customer is not the most important person on this premises. Our employees are. But you are very important to us, and we will drop whatever important thing we are doing to serve you to your full satisfaction. Any organization that puts up a plaque that says the customer is the most important person on their premises cannot be an honest one or they have no clue what they are saying - because they are devaluing their most

important asset, the only ones who can ensure every customer is treated as a most valued person in their premises.'

Debt

The humiliation

There's something worse than the humiliation of not being able to repay a loan. It's being ashamed in the presence of your loaner.

Decisions

No sticky ones

Only a fool sticks to his decision at all times. Sometimes in the space of one hour, you may have to change your decision about a matter seven times. Not so, commitment. You may discard a commitment only when it breaks a bigger commitment, which you may not have been conscious of when you made the lesser commitment. Which is why one should strive to avoid making any commitment of any sort as far as possible and just work with a simple 'yes' or 'no'. But decisions...throw the old ones whenever you feel so and make a new one every day.

How to be secure

If you leave your decisions to your woman, she will keep you secure and mediocre all your life.

Dentists

Tooth truth

If most of the dentists around the world practiced the Golden Tooth Rule - Love thy neighbor's tooth as thine own - there would have been no toothpaste and toothbrush industry, no dental equipment manufacturers, no dentures. That you should brush your teeth with toothpaste and visit your dentist twice a year to fill the cavities caused by it, will be exposed as the darnest of dental advices when the Truth is revealed.

Devil

The wiser choice

If you ever find yourself trapped between the devil and the deep sea, jump into the sea without a moment's hesitation. The sharks' fangs are any day less agonizing than the devil's horns.

Dilemma

Perhaps both

Many times in our daily living, over small and large issues we struggle with the dilemma - this or that, to be or not to be. Often, very often, in my own life the great answer was: this and that, to be and not to be.

Diversity

Lord, save me from the ringtones!

If you want to know how diversely God created each man from the other, just listen to each one's favorite cellphone ringtone.

Doctor

Unprofessional

A male obstetrician probing the intimate parts of another man's wife for a fetal check, and a female urologist groping an intimate part of a man's body not her husband's for a fecal test are both professional conducts contrary to the professional code of Chastity.

Dreams

Ghastly gremlins

Dreams - the rampage of the mind and the rape of conscience by mutant thoughts, each birthing yet more grotesque offsprings, broken loose from their shackles in the subconscious when the will paused to repose.

Magnified

In dreams, horrors, sorrows, rages, and lusts, whose tips only dare emerge through our conscious in our waking hours, exponentiate and run riot with our emotions and our imaginations.

Sweet no dreams

I hate dreams. They are the visual sublimation and nightly culmination of the natural man's thoughts. Dreams are his easiest pathway in my body to put up an unbridled display of his base nature. The vast majority of dreams are driven not by love or mercy, but by suppressed lusts and unvented rage and repressed fears. I wish all my sleeps were dreamless. For in the multitude of dreams, as in words, sin is not lacking.

Ear

Perfecting spacing

Isn't it amazing that the space between the top portion of the ear and the head is exactly what is needed to firmly hold a clerk's pencil or a sub-editor's ballpen. Any more and the pencil falls off at jerks of the head, and any less the ballpen is a little pain in the pass.

Education

Greatest crime

When this era ends, and mankind finally awakes to the age of enlightenment, the new history books will record among modern age's greatest crimes against humanity its educational system for young children. It has crippled more innocent lives than all the wars of this age.

Threefold success

My urgent plea to educators: Cut your homework and classwork assignments to your students by half, and reduce by half the number of books they have to carry to class, and double your relationship with them – you will thereby increase their happiness and success in school life, and their love for you, a hundredfold.

Emotionally Right

More important

Unless it is a matter of sin and death, it is infinitely more important to be emotionally right to someone than factually right. Many, maybe most, divorces happen because of one spouse's attempts to be factually right to the other. Facts are servant to Emotion, and both serve Truth, and Truth lives for Love.

Evolution

Scales from ameba?

A question I want to ask Yngwie Malmsteen when I meet him:

Do you think that the notes you shred with incredible speed in the various scales, and the mellifluous tunes you compose with them, had their primeval origin in an ameba, and then as it evolved into the higher species, the notes and the scales began correspondingly to evolve with them and the chord progressions began correspondingly to progress with them, until by the time homo sapiens arrived, the seven major notes, the minor notes, all the scales, and all the chord patterns were timely completed for man to use them? Or do you think they all somehow came together at once in one awesome confluence of harmonies?

[More thoughts and observations of the foreigner waiting to be uploaded.]