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The Second Age of "Why"

Earl Hubbard

The question of immortality is a question of purpose.

If this is a purposeless universe, it is a meaningless universe. A meaningless universe is as inconceivable as it is unacceptable.

If this is a purposeful universe, the question is—is this purpose finite or is this purpose infinite?

If this purpose is finite, there is no immortality.

If this purpose is infinite, there is immortality.

For this purpose to be infinite, it must be an ever-evolving purpose.

For this purpose to be an ever-evolving purpose, it must be a conceptual force.

We, Mankind, are part of this universe. The question of our immortality is the question of whether we are part of a finite purpose or whether we are part of an ever-evolving purpose.

If man seeks immortality, he seeks to know that he is part of an ever-evolving purpose. For man to know that, man must know that he has a capacity for conception; for to be part of an ever-evolving purpose, he must be part of a conceptual force.

The question of immortality is a question of purpose.

Man's search for purpose on this earth has been made manifest in his search for God. For man, God has represented the purpose of this universe. This search for God, this search for purpose began with the question "Why?"

The first age of "why" marked the beginning of recorded history. Somewhere, at some time, someone looked at himself and looked at the earth, and asked "Why?" That "why" heralded the dawning of Mankind's awareness.

The effect of the question "Why?" was magnetic. It drew the minds of men together to form the nucleus of the first community. The people were drawn to this nucleus of those that asked "Why?", and they asked them, "Who are we?" And those that asked "Why?" answered, "We are the servants of the gods." And the people asked, "Who are the gods?" And the nucleus answered, "They are the forces that built us and all we see and know, and more than we see and know." And the people asked, "How do we serve these gods?" And the nucleus answered, "First, we must find a place where we can meet and speak with each god. And at each place, we will build a house for that god, and we will call that house a temple. Then we will go to each temple and ask each god how can we best serve him."

And the people built the temples, and when they were finished, they went to the temples and there they found those who asked "Why?", and they were now called

priests. And they asked the priests, "What are we to do?" And the priests asked the gods, "What are the people to do?" And the gods told the priests, and the priests told the people. And the people asked, "How?" And the priests said, "The gods tell us what to do, but it is for us to discover how to do it, for in seeking how to do what must be done, we will discover the best we have to give, and so we will find how best to serve the gods."

And the people looked at each other and said, "How are we to do this thing which must be done?" There was silence. Then a voice spoke and said, "I will tell you how. Follow me." The people followed, and the first community was built, and civilization began, and the age of "how" began, the age that built the cultural body of Mankind.

Then someone said, "I will tell you how to build a better community. Follow me." And the first community divided, and a second community was built.

Then someone said "I will tell you how to build an even better community." And this community divided and sub-divided, and then sub-divided again, and again, and again, and again.

Always, the people asked, "How?", and always someone said, "Follow me," until there were communities all over the world. And at the center of each community, there is a nucleus of buildings called mosques, temples, cathedrals and churches. And if you took all the mosques, temples, cathedrals and churches and put them end-to-end, stretching from the first house of God to the last, and knocked out the front and the back of each house, you would discover a corridor, a corridor of constant concern for "how" best to serve God. And within this corridor of "how", there were conceived the arts and crafts and sciences that built this cultural body of Mankind.

Standing now at the end of this corridor, we look out—not at the earth but at a black void beyond which we see the moon, and beyond the moon we see the universe. And we hear echoing down the corridor of "how" behind us, a whisper of a voice asking "Why?" There is silence. Then someone among us, who heard the whisper, looks at himself and looks at the universe, and asks first to himself, in silence, "Why?" Then, turning to those about him, he breaks the silence and speaks, asking "Why?" And those about him look at themselves, and look at the universe, and ask first themselves in silence, then out loud to those about them, "Why?" And those about them look at themselves and look at the universe, and ask first themselves in silence, then out loud to those about them, "Why?" And a cry of "whys" spreads about the earth, until as one, all voices of all people speak as one voice. And there may be heard in the universe a new cry of "why", and we wonder who hears our cry.

We, on this earth, are now in the second age of "why".

Why go to the moon? Why not take drugs? Why build the SST? Why not do as I please? Why have children? Why not reject the past? Why obey the laws? Why work? Why do anything?

All ancient cultures in their search for "why" conceived of a concept of genesis. These conceptions of genesis have, in fact, been the foundations on which all cul-

tures on this earth have been built. They differ in detail but not in intention. The intention was to seek an answer to "why". The intention was, that by looking back and finding out where Mankind came from, he might gain some sense of where he's going.

Since these first conceptions of genesis, Mankind has not looked back. Since these first conceptions of genesis, Mankind has not sought a new concept of genesis. But now in this age of "why", the second age of "why" on this earth, Mankind now is seeking a new concept of genesis. And there is now revealed in the theater of Mankind's awareness, a new concept of the genesis of Mankind as revealed by science. This genesis begins with a super nova.

A super nova is a large star exploding. Prior to this explosion and after this star has consumed most of the hydrogen and most of the helium of which it is composed, it collapses towards its center, and in this collapse there is created a crucible. And within this crucible there is evolved 1% of the elements that comprise the material universe.

So far as we know, the material universe is comprised of 90% hydrogen, 9% helium, and all the other elements make up 1%. This 1% is created in the crucible of a collapsing star.

There is, then, the explosion which radiates out into the universe in all the colors of the rainbow. At this majestic moment, there is heralded a new event. The universe is, in effect, told that something new and something that is needed is coming. We are aware we are witnessing a cosmic conception, for the debris of this ecstasy fertilizes the recumbent figure of a hydrogen cloud which can stretch for trillions of miles long and may be trillions of miles wide.

As we watch, we see condensed out of this hydrogen cloud cottony balls of gas which then further condense into a sun with orbiting planets.

One of these planets, the one we call "earth", appears to be covered with water. And if we were to follow a beam of light from the sun into the depths of this primeval sea, we might see quaking at the end of this point of light, provided we had a microscope, something that looks like an amoeba. And if we could compress eons of time into seconds, we would see this amoeba-like cell divide and sub-divide. It might appear to join other cells to form larger bodies that swam.

We would see one of these bodies crawl from the water onto the land, and walk, and run, and climb, and fly.

And we would see land masses heave up. We would see land masses buckle into ridges of mountain ranges. And we would see large glacial ice masses sculpt valleys and lake beds out of the surface of the earth.

And then we would discern a form of energy we would recognize and identify with and call "man".

Remember, all that has occurred has occurred with the same basic building blocks of energy. The building blocks have not changed, but the forms which are built with these building blocks have changed and have changed constantly.

This final form of energy on this earth, we call "man", is the first form to speak. We don't understand its first words, but they appear in elegant drawings on the

walls of caves. The first words we do understand are in the writing of cuneiform and hieroglyphics, and what they say, they say clearly. They say we seek God, meaning, purpose.

And within the brief span of time that we call history, this form of energy pursues this search, and in the process develops all that we call culture.

The effect is synthesis, for it takes all the other forms of energy, of which this earth is comprised, such as iron, coal, water, wood, and synthesizes them into steel, homes and books.

Up until now, we have seen this highly motivated form of energy build what we call culture. We have heard it speak, but still we don't understand the meaning—what is the purpose?—until finally at one point, if we watched very closely, we might see something leave the earth and land on the moon, and at that point, the meaning is clear, for the meaning is birth. And at that point, the purpose of all that has occurred on this earth is clear. The purpose has been to build a body capable of birth.

And we recognize that within this brief span of history, we have watched man synthesize all other forms of earthly energy into a body capable of birth, and that this synthesis occurred through the search for God, purpose, meaning. And the effect of this search has been that a cultural body, we call Mankind, has been built and has now outgrown this earth.

All Mankind's problems are growth problems.

Pollution is a growth problem. Population is a growth problem. War is a growth problem. Drug addiction is a growth problem.

The problem is, Mankind has outgrown this earth. The meaning is Mankind is being born. Mankind is not sick. Mankind is being born.

The effect is that Mankind is no longer needed on this earth, any more than a baby, when it has arrived at a point of birth, is no longer needed in the womb. Mankind must now know that the meaning of the present is birth, that the meaning of the past was to build a cultural body capable of birth, and Mankind must be aware that there is a sequence that preceded his birth, a non-repetitive sequence of unique events that stretch from a super nova fertilizing a hydrogen cloud, to Armstrong's foot on the moon.

Each event differs from those that flank it; each event is a synthesis of those that precede it. We see no repetition. We see no circular sequence. What we do see is a consistent purpose made manifest in a sequence of constant change.

Mankind may therefore have a sense of purpose, for Mankind is part of this ever evolving purpose.

Mankind can understand the meaning of this Age as being birth.

Why is Mankind again in an age of "Why?" Because we now, like the ancients before us, face what appears to be a hostile environment. The ancients faced the first new world, and now we face the second. We are between two worlds. We are between the prenatal world and a post-natal world. We are between this earth and the moon and Mars. We are, in fact, between this world and new worlds. We are

being born. Our birth makes this age of "why" incomparable to the ancient age of "why."

The difference between a prenatal existence and a post-natal existence can be described in one word, "conception." A baby within the womb cannot conceive. A baby born can gain this capacity for conception—not only a capacity for sexual conception but also a capacity for cultural conception.

In the first age of "why," the prenatal ancient civilizations sought to build a body capable of birth. They were unaware of this. It was for them an act of faith. They sought through prayer and contemplation to know what they were to do, and they did what they were told. This is like the RNA in the cells of the embryo waiting for the messages from the DNA in the nucleus of these cells.

The DNA is the plan on which this body is built, the body of man. But for that plan to be carried out and for the body to be built, there have to be what are called RNA. RNA are like those that asked "Why?" They, the priests, prophets and saints, sought on mountain tops, through fasting, through prayer, through contemplation, through every means conceivable, to discover what the plan was, and then they went to the people and told them what they had been told.

This, again, is like the RNA. It seeks to receive the message from the DNA. Once it has received the message, it carries this message to those in the cell that can build the right kind of protein matter to build the right kind of new cells. This cell then joins the other cells of the embryo in building the needed new cells to build the new body of a new baby.

How could the cells know they were building an eye? How could the cells know they were building an ear? How could the cells know they were building a heart? They couldn't, but they did build what was needed. Because of their faith and their fortitude, this body was built.

In prenatal history, the need for prayer was the need to know the message of how to build this cultural body of Mankind. No scientist yet knows how the message is sent from the DNA to the RNA. And even today, we don't know how the messages were received by those that asked "Why?", the priests, prophets and saints, as to how to build this cultural body of Mankind.

But messages were sent and messages were received, and the body was built.

The DNA, the RNA, and those that asked "Why?", the priests, prophets, saints and now scientists, are all made of the same basic building blocks of energy, and in a cosmic sense they are all part of one act, so far as we can now conceive from this new conception of genesis, the act of building a body capable of birth.

Mankind is again asking "Why?", but Mankind does not now seek to serve. Mankind now seeks to conceive.

Each one of us has bodies that are made of the same basic building blocks of energy that were created in that crucible of a collapsing star billions of years ago. And each one of us has a capacity for sexual conception, and each one of us has a capacity for cultural conception.

As you think of this, imagine yourself on a television screen, a split television screen. On one side, you see yourself as you appear in a mirror. On the other side,

you see yourself as you would appear through the largest electron microscope yet built. You would see yourself there in what could be called an aggregate form of energy.

We then might ask you a series of questions, such as "Do you seek God?" "Do you seek meaning?" "Do you seek purpose?" And it wouldn't matter what you said so long as you spoke, for the instant you spoke, it would be apparent that that aggregate of energy you're watching on one side of your screen spoke. And if it said it sought God, purpose, meaning, you would realize that that aggregate of energy seeks God, purpose, meaning.

Imagine, now, doing this with Michelangelo, with Napoleon, with Beethoven, with Homer, with Jefferson. Pick any of your favorite leaders, authors, artists, or whomever, and when you do this, you will see that energy speaks. Energy thinks. Energy aspires. This gives you a new basis for a new cosmic consciousness.

You are made of the same basic building blocks of energy that the material universe is made of. Therefore, you have a personal awareness as to what this universe is about. It doesn't mean you know what it is about; it means you know you are part of whatever it is about.

Perhaps now you will take a different view of what we call "culture." You will realize that this is stardust talking; this is stardust painting. That energy does more than generate heat. Energy writes music. Energy writes poetry. Energy writes Magna Cartas. Energy signs Declarations of Independence, and energy conceives of a body capable of birth and going to the moon.

With this basis for a cosmic consciousness, what do you have to fear?

We are in the second age of "why."

In pursuing the answer to the question of "Why?" on this earth, we have sought God, purpose, meaning, and in this search we have synthesized the energy of this earth into a cultural body capable of birth. Now we have outgrown this earth, in the same fashion that a baby outgrows the womb.

We have no choice but to continue this search, a search that now takes us into this universe. But to fortify ourselves, and give ourselves the essential faith requisite to make this act of birth successful, we must accept a new cosmic consciousness, and we must, if not accept this particular concept of genesis, seek to piece together as best we can from the facts that science, the sensory system of the cultural body of Mankind, is now giving us, a new conception of genesis. For we realize that the ancient concept of genesis, we have had on this earth, was a genesis of a body capable of birth, but the genesis that we are now seeking is that of a body capable of conception.

This capacity for conception on this earth is made manifest in what we call "culture." Though you may see such manifestations of this capacity for conception, as steel, homes and books, you have never seen the conceptual idea that conceived of these manifestations, and you certainly have never seen the intention that inspired the conceptual idea.

Who on this earth would deny having intentions, and who on this earth would deny having ideas? Yet, who on this earth has ever seen an intention or an idea?

No one. And what is the effect of intentions and conceptual ideas?

If we were to take a builder from recent history, such as Henry Ford, and look deep into his mind, we would see nothing but darkness. We wouldn't know that within this darkness of that mind there was an impulse of an intention. Nor would we see that this impulse would lead to the condensation of a conceptual idea. But as we withdraw from the darkness of that mind to the silhouette of the head, we would begin to see that the effect of that conceptual idea is, indeed, magnetic, that it draws towards it people, iron ore, coal, trains, all kinds of things, until you have what is called "industry"—in fact, until you have what could be called an organism, which then can and did sub-divide and sub-divide again until there were Ford car industries virtually all over the world.

Who saw how it happened? No one. We saw *what* happened, but no one saw the conceptual idea. No one saw the intention that prompted the formulation of that idea. But it did happen.

And no one has seen a conceptual idea that might draw hydrogen atoms together to make a very large star. We see the effect, but we don't see the idea. We don't see the intention that prompted the idea, but there was a large star. And no one has ever seen a conceptual idea that might have prompted that star to collapse and to evolve a crucible capable of conceiving that essential 1% of the requisite elements for building a material universe.

And nobody saw a conceptual idea for the explosion of this star as a means of conception, but the debris of this ecstasy did fertilize the hydrogen cloud, and out of that cloud a solar system did condense. And no one saw a conceptual idea that might have preceded the metamorphosis of some of this energy into an amoeba-like cell. And no one saw a conceptual idea that might have preceded the uniting of forms of energy, we now call "life," into forms that could swim and a form that could and did crawl out of the sea onto the land, and walked, and ran, climbed and flew.

No one saw a conceptual idea that might have caused land masses to heave up and buckle into ridges of mountain ranges.

No one saw a conceptual idea for glacial masses that sculpted valleys and lake beds out of the surface of the earth. And no one saw a conceptual idea for the making of a form of energy we call "man."

We call ourselves "man." We claim to have conceptual ideas, but who has ever seen one? We see the effects. We hear about them and read about ideas, but we have never seen a conceptual idea. We know that what we call conceptual ideas have shaped what we call the cultural body of Mankind.

So far as we now know, we are made of the same basic building blocks of energy that the rest of the universe is made of. If this form of energy, the form we call "man," has conceptual ideas, is it the only form?

Mankind faces his second new world and is afraid, and asks "Why?", and seeks and finds a new concept of genesis, the second within the brief span of his earthly awareness. The first genesis was to prepare man to build a body capable of birth.

To do this, man had to be obedient and do as he was told. And most men were obedient, and most men did as they were told, and the cultural body of Mankind was built. Now, Mankind is in the process of birth. Beyond birth lies the capacity to conceive and two planets, the moon and Mars, awaiting this capacity for conception to become two new world.

To do this, Mankind must be creative. The new genesis is the genesis of a capacity for conception.

The first age of "why" built the foundations of Mankind's earthbound self-awareness.

In this second age of "why," the foundation of Mankind's universal self-awareness will be built on the concept of a genesis of a capacity for conception.

The third age of "why" will be marked by our encounter with other members of the galactic community of which we are a part. To reach this third age of "why," we must do what we did to reach the second age of "why"—continue to seek God, purpose, meaning, and so grow into the universe.

The question of immortality is a question of purpose.

So far as Mankind can now see, this universe appears to be purposeful.

So far as Mankind can now see, this purpose appears to be an ever-evolving purpose.

So far as Mankind can now see, this ever-evolving purpose appears to be a conceptual force.

So far as Mankind can now see, this purpose appears to be immortal.

If what Mankind sees so far is part of a greater truth—

Mankind is part of a purposeful universe;

Mankind is part of an ever-evolving purpose;

Mankind is part of a conceptual force.

If what Mankind sees so far is part of a greater truth—

Mankind is part of an immortal purpose.

Lakeville, Connecticut