The Ugly Duckling - or is it?

In this wonderful little story of the ugly duckling by Hans Christian Andersen, we have a beautiful metaphor, that shows us just what it was that Jesus was trying to say to us, when He stated that, "You shall know the Truth and the Truth will set you free". And, "Ye must be born again".

All those years, that little duckling spent in unhappiness, loneliness, fear and that terrible feeling of not belonging. Have we not all had these feelings at sometime or another. Maybe you are suffering them at the moment? Well if we look in to the reality and truth that this little duckling teaches us, we will see there is definate hope for us.

We all know the story of the duckling's sufferings. I'm sure that because his self esteem was extremely low, he drew toward himself all the derision he suffered at the hands of the swans. Then that wonderful day dawns, where revelation comes to the little duckling and for the first time he 'sees' and 'knows', that he is not an ugly duckling at all, but rather that he is a beautiful graceful swan. His esteem now soars, and for the first time in his life he knows true happiness and joy. He cries out with his exclamation of joy, "Wheeeeeeeee I AM a Swan".

The importance of this story that we must recognise if we are going to apply this 'great truth' to ourselves is; that this story is NOT about a duckling that changes into a swan. The thing we need recognise here, is that even when he was still in the egg he was a Swan. He was never an ugly duckling, for ducklings are the offspring of ducks. The offspring of swans are sygnets. A sygnet is still a swan whether it is 1 day old or fully grown to maturity, it was, and is and has always been a swan.

This is what Jesus was showing us. Not just about himself, but us also. This is why He said, "call no man (no human being) your father upon the earth: for One is your Father, which is in heaven.

As ducks birth ducklings. Human beings birth humans.

As swans birth sygnets. God the Father births Spirit beings.

Eph 4:4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; "Wheeee I AM. I and my Father are One". Joy of joys.

<u>Heb 12:9</u> Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?

1Co 6:17 But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit.

A Simple Matter of Identification

<u>Jhn 1:18</u> No *man* hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

<u>1Co 15:50</u> Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

Jhn 3:6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

<u>Jhn 6:63</u> It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing:

Gen 3:19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou *art*, and unto dust shalt thou return.

1Co 2:11 For what *man* knoweth the things of a *man*, save the spirit of *man* which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth *no man*, but the Spirit of God.

1Co 2:14 But the natural *man* receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God:

Surely all the above scriptures, (and I'm sure there are many more), point to the fact, that if our conscious awareness is that of *man*, then our destiny is that of *man*. From dust we came and to dust we must return. *Man* was born, *man* gets older, *man* gets ill, *man* dies. That is the lot of *man*. As a man thinketh in his heart so is he. We are told.

Rom 8:6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

<u>Rom 8:5</u> For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

Mar 8:36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

So. Are we identifying ourselves as Spirit (God) or are we indentifying ourselves with *man*. Paul advises us to be transformed by the renewing of our mind.

Rom 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God

I checked out these words with Strong's Greek dictionary:-

Transformed - μεταμορφόω *metamorphóō* ("change after being with" and morphóō, "changing form in keeping with inner reality") – properly, transformed after being with; transfigured.

Interesting that Paul's word for transformed means Metamorphosised. That's what happens to the caterpillar when it changes into something completely different, the butterfly.

Renewed ἀνακαίνωσις a renewal, renovation, complete change for the better.

The word renovation here is a great word. For if we renovate something we must first pull down and take out the old so that we can replace it with the new. This I'm sure is what Jesus was referring to when he spoke of not putting new wine into old wineskins. The truth that Jesus was teaching us is that the old ancestoral religion will not fit with the Spirit of Truth He was

bringing to us, and nothing has changed there, when it comes to man's fundemantal religions.

Imagine standing infront of a full length mirror dressed in a blue suit and red tie. You look at the image in the mirror and decide that a yellow tie would look better than the red one. Would you not think it rediculous if you tried to change the colour of the tie in the mirror? Or even if you asked a friend to paint the tie in the mirror yellow? It would still be red. This would be total hypocrasy to say the tie was now yellow, for we know it is still red in truth. This is as rediculous as *man* believeing he can be spiritualized.

It is obvious that if you wish to see a yellow tie instead of a red one, you yourself must go put a yellow tie on, and then when you stand again infront of the mirror you see a yellow tie. This is the transformation and renovation that Paul is speaking of. The renovation being the removal of the red tie and putting on the yellow tie - then voila. the image reports a yellow tie. This is why man has wars, crime, sickness, pain and all the seeming negative stuff he suffers. Religion, Politics, Medicine etc are all trying to change the colour of the tie, by working with the mirror and this can never work, even though some strides seem to be made, but they are not permanent. They are temporal, they are relative to the realm of appearances and not 'Reality' for reality is that which stands infront of the mirror, not the reflection. Reality is the Kingdom of Heaven. The creation that God declared good, even very good.

Zec 4:6 Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts

Actually, we cannot see ourselves when we look in the mirror; for we are spirit and spirit can only be known by its image, symbol, representation, form; but none of these are the actual spirit itself, which no *man* can see. The letter 'A' could be written on a million pieces of paper, and every piece burned, but not at anytime has the 'Real' letter A been burned. Only the symbol of it. The 'Real' letter A is eternal, and where ever you go the alphebet goes with you. This is what David meant when he said even if I make my bed in hell; you are there. Why? Because David is there. If I got to the planet Mars with my pen and piece of paper, I can still call on the alphabet to write. The alphabet is on Mars with me. Why? For I am there.

So let us no longer look in the mirror and see a human being, but rather look and see 'Reality' and say This is ME here. I AM here. It is I. The One and only I.

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