

## PARALLEL PATHS

**Morris A Bradley 1977**

It is hoped in this article that the reader will be able to understand just what is meant by the term parallel paths, that is often mentioned in writings of Spiritual Philosophy but never really explained clearly to anyone's satisfaction. The Parallel paths of a person's life are three paths of existence that run side by side and give each person three chances of living in three independent life styles for a definite period of time, after each of the hundreds of milestones that appear in a life pattern.

For example. if I was having a sword fight with another person, I could win the fight, I could lose the fight, or it could be a draw. But, then another factor was evident prior to this, and that was that I didn't have to partake in the fight in the first place, unless I was forced into it by either my action or someone else's actions.

If I was walking along a street, and I saw a whole lot of giant sized building blocks stacked up in some semblance of order, I could walk passed this pile of blocks, or I could push one out of the middle, then step back to watch them fall down, flew, when they started falling, they could injure someone else or myself, or I may find that they had been stacked up in this manner to keep a ferocious man-eating tiger at bay, and now my irresponsible actions would prejudice the safety of others around me.

I do not accept the fatalistic attitude of many who say "this is my lot, I will have to live with it", for man is the master of his own destiny, for we are not puppets to be pushed and manipulated by some "super-being" sitting up there on Cloud number nine.

Nevertheless, as we approach these crossroads" on the Path of Life, we can take the wrong turn right, which can start or trigger an almost irrevocable chain of events, and although we try to stop it or bring it under control, it keeps forcing us forward towards the next set of crossroads. It is only then, and then only, can we chance course and hope that our new change of direction will put us back on the main highway.

Picture yourself standing in front of a giant slot machine. There is the slot to put the money into. Before you are all sorts of intricate equipment and you have a choice to find out first what you are going to get for your money, if anything, or just say 'she'll be right, I will give it a go". So in goes the money . The next thing that could happen is that you could hear a whole lot of buzzing and whirring, then a light flashes on and you see the word WINNER and out drops a box of chocolates. Secondly, after you have dropped the money in, the machine lights up and says "OUT OF ORDER", or thirdly, you put your money in and there is more buzzing and whirring; in the machine, and this time a recorded voice from within says, "Thanks for the dollar, Sucker"

How often have you heard people say things happen in three? Where do you think such a story originated? These three paths run side by side just like three Parallel Worlds of existence, and although we have our own free will, we can become bound for a time, due to our actions.

Let us imagine we are with some friends and they decide to commit a crime. If you became involved in this, you could be caught and sent to jail, therefore There would be a period of time where, as you were locked up, the use of your free will would be strictly limited. This is the way it with the Parallel Paths, for there are times when you come to a crossroad and take the wrong turning, and your life pattern slowly alters.

When one looks at it closely, it is not so much the wrong turning, but more of a different chain of events which will present themselves on this road, that you have not encountered or another road. Some people liken it to a chain of coincidences, and you hear then say "If I hadn't met you, then so and so wouldn't have happened, and I would never have visited such and such a place," and so it goes on. But I don't believe in coincidence at all, for life is too highly organised for this sort of thing to happen, especially as we have spirit guides and helpers in the background trying to help us.

As well as this, we have the concentrated thought patterns that are directed at us by others, that send energy waves to us. No, I believe that there is a multiplicity of pathways spread before us, with a particular destiny pertaining to which one we choose at each crossroad, and each has an inevitable conclusion to it.

If you are a good Chess player, and you think up to 15 moves ahead, quite often when your partner makes a particular move, you can quite confidently say “CHECKMATE” in nine moves, and for any one who has played with a real expert, this can be a bewildering. experience for no matter what you seem to do, and you have your own free will, you do finish up Checkmated in the 9 moves.

I feel that this is the way with God the Father. He can see a great number of moves ahead for the whole world, therefore, when we as a whole, make a move in a certain direction and become bound to the Rules of Play, the Checkmate is inevitable, as well as this, remember that there is no such thing as a STALEMATE play in the great chess game of life.

The parallel paths of this life is full of the Karmic conditions of previous existences, therefore, it is imperative where and whenever possible, to make some effort to establish some links with past Karmas, thereby finding out where those “chinks in ones armour” exist, so that we don’t leave ourselves open to further Karmic indebtedness in the next existence.

One thing is obvious, and that is, that if a man like Adolf Hitler had kept picking the correct path to follow, he may have risen to be a statesman. and leader, and with the expansion of Germany and its influence on the trade and commerce of the world generally, the whole course of history may have been altered, which would have probably kept communism out of Europe for maybe another 50 years, or maybe forever. Who can tell!

We all know that this is pure hypothesis, but I feel each of us must realis~ that every day, in every way, we could be moving through life just like a retreating Army, blowing up bridges behind us, or burning our ships, thereby, leaving no retreat for ourselves as we get swept up in the torrent of life. So the moral here is to tread carefully and warily, and ask the Lord God that our feet be “anointed” by the Holy Spirit, and led or allow ourselves to be led, in the right direction. When thinking of this, it brings to mind, something that the great Jewish Prophet Jeremiah said in the Old Testament, and this was, “O God Jehovah, I know that the footsteps of Man, lie not within himself”, pointing out, I feel, that without some form of guidance from the upper realms of the Spirit, we seem to march inevitably towards our own destruction.

In ending this article, I would like to quote some of the words of an old tune once recorded and sung by the late Nat King Cole. It is called, “Somewhere Along The Way”

“I used to walk with you  
I used to talk with you  
Our hearts were happy and gay  
How did I know that I’d lose you  
Somewhere along the way.”