

Life as Gift or Reward

1. *Acceptance* as a gift. Unconditional access into full relationship with the person who is the source of 'being' and 'well-being' is free. The infant feels accepted *in toto*, i.e. with whatever doubts or destructiveness he may own up to. Because forgiveness is assured, the personality remains open.

2. *Sustenance*. Close relationships with source-persons do not exhaust because there is nothing to hide. By abiding in the spirit of the greater 'Thou', well-being is assured and refreshed. Night brings sleep in which the spirit returns to its root experiences in the foundation year. Anxieties emerge but are resolved in the 'dream work'. We wake refreshed, new every morning. The anticipation of work brings pleasurable thoughts.

3. *Status*. He starts the day as a son, having rested in the given relationship and the powers of 'being' and 'well-being'. His obligations as a son, and his inclinations as a son, both born of gratitude for the experiences of care, are harmoniously united. He loves the 'law' of his family, which is the law of love. Personal and ontological status is high.

4. *Achievement* is an expression of ontological resources. Work is donative. He gives himself and his skills as the outflow of relationships in which he has a kind of 'freehold'. Having received so much, it is now better to give than to receive. Success or failure do not affect his essential 'being'. Justification is by faith in another person and their achievement.

1. *Acceptance* as a reward. Only conditional access is granted. The 'bad' side is felt to be rejected and one's 'bad' self with it. No genuine sense of acceptance is possible. One's 'being' is no longer 'in' the person who was the source of 'being', but in oneself and one's own efforts.

2. *Sustenance*. Close relationship with personally important people is felt as a threat to security. The closer one admits them to intimacy the more likely they are to stumble on the wretched secrets. As this is construed as leading to inevitable rejection, close relationships are exhausting.

Night and its dreams is also exhausting. Dungeons of primitive experience are revisited. The enraged tigers and savage dogs which represent the primal rages and the imagined parental retribution, attack again. The censor stands guard keeping the would-be sleeper awake lest the destructive rages become too plain in the dream. Waking, the spirit is exhausted. The day ahead is viewed with distaste, as is the work that has to be done. There is no energy to get up and face it. 'Spirit' is at a low ebb, and so are courage, joy, caring, love and peace.

3. *Status*. He starts the day as a slave, having apparently nowhere to rest, no 'given' relationships, only those which can be earned. There is no 'being' or 'well-being' except his dogged willpower to battle on joylessly in hope of picking up some reward. Obligation to get up and move is in conflict with inclination to stay in bed or commit suicide. Early in the day status is practically nil. By the end of the day, if work goes well and is approved he may feel better.

4. *Achievement* is an expression of ontological needs. Work is extractive. He does it to feel better, not because he likes doing it. He performs in order to achieve relationships. His eyes are not wholly on the task itself, but on the effect his doing of it is calculated to produce. He likes to be seen doing it. His 'being' as a person is bound up with the acceptance or rejection of his work. Justification is by works, one's own achievement.