



LECTORIUM ROSICRUCIANUM

*Fortnightly Letters of Inspiration drawn from literature of the School,
curated by Golden Rosycross Ireland*

Dear friends,



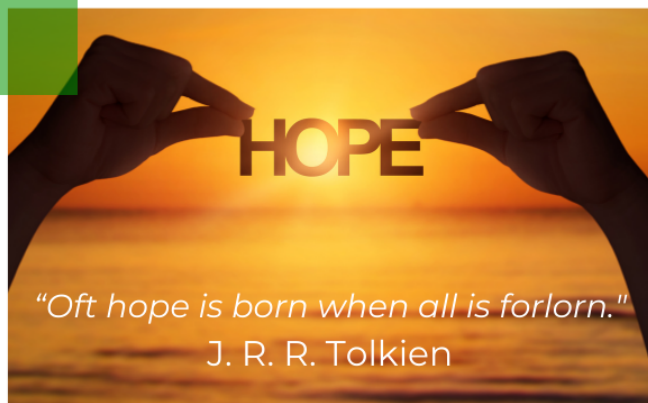
Letters of Inspiration

We are delighted to share with you this new initiative, intended to provide pupils and members with additional sources of inspiration. A cross-section of three carefully selected extracts from gnostic literature and the literature of the School on a common theme will form the basis for a triangle of inner reflection, from which we hope fresh insight will arise, encouraging each one of us on our Path towards the Light.

Hope springs eternal...

...so the famous proverb tells us. But is it really so? Recent world events have caused many people to feel quite hopeless, and many are wondering where to look.

Gnostic literature tells us this wretched state of hopelessness on the earthly plane can be the catalyst for a new inner condition. In our desperate longing for salvation, our Spirit Spark opens; after aeons of suffering, we have no choice left but to listen to the quiet whispers of the Soul, the Other One in us. We are touched by the Light of the Gnosis and slowly, we begin to understand that true salvation means total liberation from suffering, and Eternal Life - we can place all our hope and trust in Eternity itself. Surely, there can be nothing more hopeful than that.

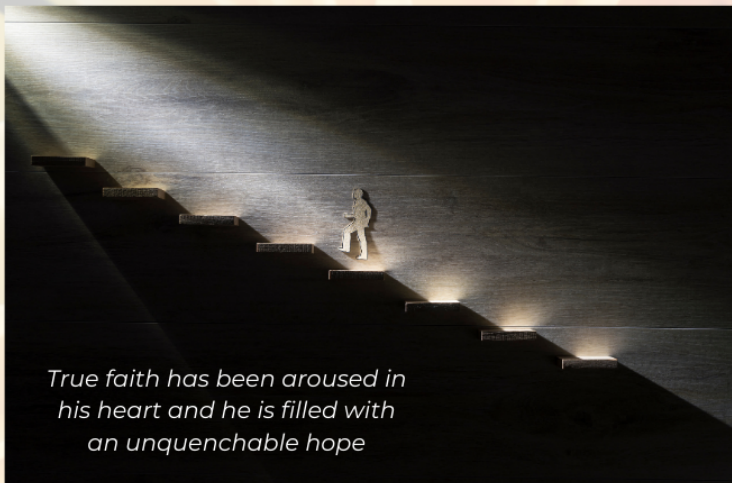


Unquenchable Hope

"By virtue of the natural laws of this cosmos, locked in the electromagnetic field of our world-order, we all are subject to struggle, hate and natural passions. This is the curse of this field of existence. Now when you experience this, when the hammer-blows of fate fall upon you, what do you do? You long for help, for a way out, for protection...."

Continued...

...When a person possessing a Spirit-Spark atom in his heart gives up chasing after natural things and becomes still in this sense, he will irrevocably be touched by the magnetic field of the Brotherhood. Then the atom in the right heart-ventricle will be awakened and a new vibration, a new desire and hence a new magnetic faculty is then at the disposal of the pupil, a faculty which cannot be explained from this nature. True faith has been aroused in his heart and he is, as Paul puts it, filled with an 'unquenchable hope', an enormous magnetic power by means of which he will draw numerous forces into his microcosm -



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- which do not derive from this nature. Owing to this changed gravitational force, all kinds of new building materials are accumulated in the microcosm, which are necessary to rebuild the entire system. So, we discover that transfiguration is actually a question of new electromagnetic laws... From now on this new field of life truly takes him captive as it were, admits him, and this admission is shelter in God, shelter in the Gnosis."

The Coming New Man, p. 58 - 61
by J. van Rijckenborgh



Light of Hope



'Awake, o' sleeper,
arise from the dead
and Christ shall
shine over you'

"We have been wandering about for aeons, in incarnation upon incarnation, going through the same experiences hundreds of times in this world of the treadmill, of eternal repetition, of eternal rising, shining and fading. We have been seeking and wandering about for aeons with our unappeased desires, our passionate struggle and our vain attempts to escape from the suffering caused by evil. For aeons we have been suffering the anguish of karma, of the burden of guilt which we create and which we inflict upon ourselves by our dark way of life. For aeons we have been enduring the suffering of ignorance, the suffering of separateness, the fear on account of our distress of life, the horrors of hate and struggle and crime, the fruit of our passion for self-preservation and of our selfishness, our inner misery and our delusions.

When at last ... at last ... we have become wearied to death, sick at heart and despairing, staring with eyes that do not see into the drab misery and dreariness of this existence, without purpose, without sense, light nor deliverance, then... then the 'inner Light' speaks to us from out of the spirit-spark-atom; only then can the 'inner Light' speak to us; then it calls us and only then do we understand its continual urge to awaken, the longing for deliverance and for the truly liberating Light. Then the liberating call: 'Awake, o sleeper, arise from the dead and Christ shall shine over you', will become real to us."

Joy of Hope

"The beginning pupil, who is conscious of being called, looks upon the aspect of breaking up as a struggle, as an intense fight against the lower, unDivine nature. But the pupil himself has nothing to break up. It is the gnosis that does this! It is the ultraviolet light that clears away all the barriers, sometimes with the force of a hurricane. The only thing the pupil must do is proceed to negation, to the negation of the straitjacket in which he is tied. Do you know the story by Jack London: 'The Jacket'?"

A man lies helplessly in his cell, cruelly tied in a strait-jacket. He is covered in vermin and his misery is almost total. Whoever identifies himself with such physically experienced misery dies in infernal horror. However, the hero of the piece ignores all this and remains silent. He does not accuse his jailers: he laughs at them. He thinks of the enchantment of the woods in summer, of the birds singing; he tries to perceive, via his sensory organs, the fragrance of flowers, the rippling of water in the brook. And behold, his physical weakness turns into a blessing. A splitting of the personality occurs. He leaves his straitjacketed body, slips through the walls and singing, walks to the open fields where everything basks in the sun. While the gaolers look through the peephole and the prisoner lies deathly pale, unconscious, as if forlorn, there is freedom, and, given the circumstances, an unbounded happiness. In this joy he returns to his body and the material form, miserable, eaten by vermin, starts up the exultant song of freedom, giving expression to its joy. He is conscious of being a prisoner but at the same time of being liberated. In this state he is found by his bewildered and astonished gaolers.

Perhaps you can now understand what the School means by 'negation'. Negation is no exaltation or denial of dialectical reality, but an inward detachment from it. And this detachment means hastening towards a wonderful liberty. Is such a negation an act of will as many people suppose? Is it a change of diet or something like that? Negation conceived like this would be a cultivation of the personality. No one can proceed to negation, as understood by the Spiritual School, unless he knows himself to be positively called by the infrared light impulses of the Divine Sun. Nobody attains this negation unless he carries the Spirit-Spark atom in the heart. Whoever possesses this signature of original life is called, drawn and, if willing, lifted up: he only has to go. Though his negation is consistent and positive, it is the result of the call. Experiencing the attracting power of this call and reacting to it in a positive way, negating everything of this world, is what Paul called 'faith': hastening towards a great goal that has appeared brightly on the horizon of life; hastening towards a light-power coming from afar to embrace us in love. It is a process which fills the candidate with the power and the irresistible joy of hope and makes him sing in the straitjacket of decay. If you understand this language, then you can prepare yourself with us in the ranks of the future new mankind, for the dawn that has come."

*The New Call p. 30-31
by J. van Rijckenborgh*



So, dear friends, we need not despair when our outer lives and the world around us seem wretched and barren of hope. Pain and suffering are unavoidably linked to this earthly realm, that's true; but so are beauty and love. By walking the Path, we can lovingly detach from events on the earthly stage. As we consistently focus our attention on the Rose of the Heart, we will find true Hope and liberation, which is not only our heart's deep-seated longing but also a certainty; a promise of God. May we allow this true Hope to set a fire in our hearts and inspire us on our Path.