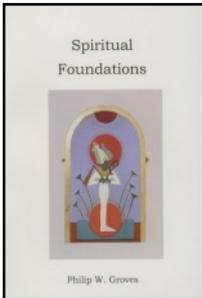


Conscious spirituality in search of truth...



DR PHILIP GROVES: SPIRITUAL FOUNDATIONS

Emanuel Swedenborg was a 17th-century mystic, philosopher, who travelled to the astral-spiritual realms and later recorded these experience. His extensive literature teachings stand as testimony today in 2020 through the Swedenborg Foundation, a worldwide organisation. Swedenborg literature has inspired countless students, teachers, seekers of Truth and others to explore this work using their reasoning ability along with intuition.

Among many who were inspired by Swedenborg teachings was Dr Philip W Groves, an Australian based teacher, author, lecturer, with knowledgeable background that included academia, naturopathy, psychology, and associated conscious spirituality areas. Groves had four decades of experience teaching others about the necessity of including conscious spiritual truths in their daily lives. Among Groves, many works are his lecture notes, books and cassette tapes. Recently, former Sydney based students of Dr Groves, Alwyn and Laurie Lewis, Hobart friends recently gave me a large volume of Swedenborg literature, along with Dr Groves cassette lecture tapes. One his books titled "Spiritual Foundations," outlines in detail the many pathways available to seekers of Truth exploring spiritual truths. In particular, the notion of heaven and hell, science and religion. An extract from Dr Groves book follows.

—Philip Crouch, Tasmania, 2020

DR PHILIP GROVES-BACKGROUND

'Dr Philip W Groves (1920-1999) was highly educated in a broad range of subjects, having PhD's in Biochemistry, Psychology and Divinity, was a qualified and practising Naturopath and Psychotherapist, and had extensive knowledge of Chemistry, Marine Biology, Egyptology, Comparative Religion and Botany. He taught for over 40 years in universities, natural therapy colleges, and privately with groups of people drawn to his teachings.'

DR PHILIP GROVES: SPIRITUAL FOUNDATION AND RELATED TOPICS

The foundation of his teaching, whatever the topic, was always to guide people into the abundance of life, the creative expression of life's potentials, as well as developing greater knowledge and understanding of the world in which we live. These goals were explored by the practical application and real methodology founded in Esoteric Christianity, Sufism, and the works of Gurdjieff and Emanuel Swedenborg, as well as science, history, botany and psychology. He demonstrated at all times, in his life and his teaching, a great love of the world and of spiritual Work, and these qualities are readily available in his many books.



- Spiritual Foundations
- Soul, Mind and Body
- Patterns & Correspondences in the Human Body
& the World of Plants
- Meanings & Correspondences of the Animal Kingdom
- The Starry Universe
- Spiritual Law and Order
- Time, State and Place
- Regeneration

DR PHILIP GROVES: HEAVEN AND HELL

‘In the earthly, embodied state humanity is poised between two vast realms of spiritual existence, which simultaneously and continuously act and influence the totality of human speech, thought and behaviour. Each person makes or breaks themselves spiritually according to whether they open themselves to an influx of forces, processes and falsities from hell or to an influx of forces, processes and truths from heaven.

Whether this fact be consciously recognised or not, the truth remains that every individual is what they are by virtue of the various forces and influences from these two realms which they admit into their own life by their own consent and confirmation. **Heaven and hell are not mere idle concepts or beliefs emerging from the mistiness of an irrational theology, but are actual realms connected with and yet extending infinitely beyond the boundaries of this earth.**

Both heaven and hell comprise the spiritual world in which men and women inwardly move during the whole of their earth life and to which they automatically belong the instant that earth life terminates. Indeed, it is from the spiritual world that an individual draws and derives everything that they need to activate, satisfy and complete their earth life.

Human beings are fundamentally spiritual beings - souls - who are connected with a mind and a physical body in an outward way, and who are inseparably integrated with the spiritual world in an inward way. That which a person inwardly receives from the various levels of the spiritual world they externally work out, apply and express in the physical world of space, time, matter and energy.



All that is received and applied from heaven is positive, good, useful and wholesome, while all that is received and applied from hell is negative, destructive and disorderly. Everyone is internally conjoined with both heaven and hell; everyone in some way gives expression to the things of heaven and hell; and every person may, if they so desire, learn to control their life in such a manner that the influence of hell is lessened and reduced in favour of the ascendancy of the influence of heaven.

Heaven is not a particular place circumscribed by limited dimensions but is a high universal cosmic state arising from the power and presence of God. Heaven is where God is acknowledged, received and loved, for it is the essential communion between humanity and the Lord of all. Heaven is the reciprocal conjunction between humans and God so that God is in each person and each person is in God, and the extent to which this conjunction takes place determines the state or level of heaven that is entered into.

When a person actively seeks spiritual regeneration and allows the power of God to transform their inner life, then heaven becomes for them an immediate and clearly experienced reality. Hell, also, is a universal state but its origin is with people and not God. Hell is the antithesis of heaven and is that life state where God is spurned, rejected and denied in favour of self-love and the madness of self-exaltation. It is through a person themselves that hell comes into being, for it is the totality of all those lowly urges, lusts, hatreds, suspicions, jealousies, antagonisms and falsities which are entertained, fostered and expressed.

HELL

Hell is certainly not a place prepared by God as the eternal home for evil doers. In God there is absolutely nothing whatsoever of punishment, revenge, vindictiveness, hatred, anger or the like, and certainly no plan or provision for condemning evil doers to hell. Whoever enters hell does so of their own accord, by a willingness to enter into conjunction with those states, qualities and properties that belong to hell, and simply because the person takes delight in these things.

Hell is the result of an individual's thinking, willing and acting from themselves in all things without reference to, or accepting guidance from, the Lord. God creates all that is good, true, beautiful, lovely and heavenly as the means through which we may eternally participate ever more fully in the infinite richness and delight of heaven, but we have acted by our own freedom and sought to create a world for ourselves in accordance with personal wishes, desires and wants.



Throughout the whole of history myriads of human beings have plunged themselves into the falsities of hell and there they still remain as the artificers of evil and as persuasive spirits who connect themselves with men and women on the earth, and insinuate into them an endless variety of evil lusts and motives.

Hell becomes progressively larger and more populous with each succeeding generation, and a very widespread evil influence incessantly impinges upon the mental and spiritual thresholds of all people. It is little wonder that so much discord, mistrust, strife, mischief, crime, belligerence and war are present among the inhabitants of the earth.

People everywhere are unwittingly opening themselves to an influx of force from hell by their small and selfish attitudes, and they expose the entire race to a danger that is infinitely greater than the threat of nuclear war. Nuclear bombs are capable of destroying the bodies, but not the souls, of perhaps countless millions of individuals, while the monstrous influence of hell is capable of plunging virtually all people into spiritual death - which is the most terrible thing that can happen to any person.

Spiritual darkness has increased with alarming rapidity among the people of this planet. It has always been present to some extent and has been the fundamental cause of the troubles that have afflicted humankind.

In this present age of scientific progress and technological development the main emphasis is upon the brilliance of the human intellect and the effective manner in which it exploits the resources of nature and finds ways and means of bringing them under control. The tangible and dramatic findings of science lead many people to assume that visible nature is the only reality and that life itself is merely a natural phenomenon restricted to the earth.

They assert that all such concepts as God, soul, heaven, hell, immortality, salvation and rebirth are mere products of the imagination and reject them as 'junk' inherited from less enlightened ages.

Even many eminent ministers of religion have confirmed in themselves these materialistic views put forward by scientific thinkers, and they even openly proclaim that natural forces lie at the basis of life, and that the spiritual life of humanity is but a development of naturalistic evolution which is the supposed means by which living things emerged out of the mud and ooze of the primeval earth. Such is the subtlety of the persuasive influence of hell that it causes even those who profess to be the expounders of Divine truth to assume materialistic views that dispense with the notion of a Divine Creator.



The cunning art of duplicity enables an evil person to create the impression of being honest, righteous and noble; but when their earth life ends this double game ceases and the buried evils are dramatically displayed for all to see.

The soul is the cardinal fact and central pillar of human life and requires all the attention, care, nurture and consideration that is possible in order to flourish, to evolve and to come into spiritual and celestial maturity. In order that the life of the soul should prosper it is necessary that each man and woman should learn to regard themselves in the light of eternity and conduct themselves in such a way that their earth-life corresponds to the harmonious unity of the celestial heavens.



Suggested resources:

Spiritual Foundations, Dr Philip Groves.

<http://www.swedenborg.com.au/philip-w-groves>

<http://www.swedenborg.com.au/>

www.philipcrouch.org

[LINK TO SPIRITUALITY INDEX](#)

