

world and our connection to it. She begins by asking “Is it too much to believe that man should be developing new sensibilities and a closer relationship with nature?” We can begin to understand that our life is more than this physical realm and that by having a closer relationship with nature, we will have the ability to discover hidden powers latent within us to create the world we want to live in. It is also here that we realize that if we want to awaken the powers within us, we must, without question, choose love in our lives.

When we chose love it is a path of self-sacrifice. We are choosing to sacrifice the personal wants and desires, the personality, in order to know the Higher Self. This choice is not made lightly by those who commit to it. The Road is Steep and Thorny and the Divine Witness is forever reminding us of the karmic repercussions that we will endure when right thought, action, and word is not followed. If we truly commit to the path of love, we step into a world where vibration and energy dominate, leaving aside the physical realm, and we wait for the Voice of the Silence to speak to us in a whisper. It is truly a world of self-sacrifice, because the self is no longer the focus. Like a mother caring for her young, gone are the days where one thinks of themselves first. Every action is based on what is best for the whole. Karma rules the tongue so words are watched carefully and the guardian of the gate keeps watch over our thoughts. We know within our heart of hearts that this physical realm is just a breath of the Divine Mother, breathing us into existence.

Choosing the path of love and living a life of altruism are two very different actions. Here is where things get sticky. H. P. B. deciphers between being a member of an organization, i.e. choosing a path of love with all the good intentions, and being a Theosophist, i.e. living an altruistic life. Trying to live altruistically can get difficult when we are active in the world and are in contact with more people who can irritate us. It is easy to be a member of an organization, and say we are loving, but to live the ideals of the organization every day is difficult. We are “to be in the world, but not of it.” In other words, to rise above the irritations of the world and this takes a lot of inner work which leads to self-sacrifice. Awareness in our daily lives is one of the most difficult tasks we can undergo, but one of the most crucial stepping stones to an altruistic life. It is the awareness that allows us to discern reality from illusion; keeps the ego in check and opens our minds to new experiences. Theosophy waits for those who knock.