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- *Strength from God is quiet*
- *Being peaceful is a choice*
- *Concerns for the environment addressed*
- *Evolution and a vision of the future*

God, to whom each of you prays, is the God to whom all humans who understand the power of prayer pray to. The God whom you pray to speaks to each of you according to your own needs, your own understandings. It is God who shapes your lives so that you are capable of being open to that loving presence. We, who are a collection of all your guides present, serve to open you to that magnificent presence.

The God to whom you pray can be considered a God of strength in that you are given strength as you are open to it. But that strength is not simply a commitment to fight for what it is you value. More importantly, the strength you receive from God is a quiet strength. It is the strength of peace felt within. Human beings who are filled with peace are not merely unaware of life around them, rather they fully embrace the life that surrounds them, and yet they greet that awareness with a faith that God's presence will become dominant. God's presence is the presence of healing through peace. God's presence is a presence of lack of strife. God's presence is a freedom from fear. It is a confidence in potential for real peace.

When we greet you, we greet you with God's peace, and that is not mere words. It is a greeting of assurance that God is present as a peaceful energy, an energy that frees rather than dominates. When you experience peace, you are freed from the deepest forms of anxiety and fear. It is a peace that is always with you, but as is true for all experiences in life, you can choose, you *can* choose to be peaceful. God's peace is not thrust upon you, forced upon you. It doesn't come in a brilliant shaft of life. It comes upon you as a kind of knowing, a kind of acceptance that you are not alone and that you will always be accompanied by the presence of God.

Part of the concept of peace that we wish to share with you goes beyond the sense of peace felt in a personal way. There are always concerns that you feel regarding stability in the world, the security of the world, the natural strength of the earth. It is most appropriate that you have those concerns.

God's peace as it relates to the future of the earth as you know it is not a peace that is blind acceptance. It is not a peace of "whatever will happen is whatever will happen." Rather, the peace we speak of is a sense of knowing that there is value to your concerns, that there is value to the connections you feel to the natural life around you, that there is value to the interactions that you have with life around you.

You are concerned about the future of food production, human health, the health of the air that you breathe, and the health of the environment that you observe and interact with. The peace we offer is one that assures you that there is a future, that the

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earth is not to be destroyed, that your lives are not to be ended because of changes to the environment.

Part of this peace, part of this sense of God's presence, comes from a further realization that the natural environment of the earth is undergoing changes, and you human beings are undergoing changes. Human beings in the future will be quite different from the nature of human and pre-human forms that you know of in part. Each of you and all of humanity are part of this natural environment, and as this natural environment changes, you change. The needs of the human being to continue to live and flourish will be transformed as they should. You cannot survive without adapting. You cannot survive by insisting on being unchanged when life around you changes.

We can say that at some point in the future the specifics of human life will be very different than what you understand as typical human life. Evolution occurs because of the need for evolution. You change because your environment changes. You change because society changes. The way you live now is different because the society in which you live has gone through vast changes in your own lifetime.

Project a great distance into the future as you consider the future. Human life will then be different. It is not that human life ends because of changes to the earth but rather human life evolves as there are changes in the natural environment.

If you could imagine going back far enough in your time to thinking of a humanoid creature standing on two legs, could they have possibly understood the life that for you now is normal, let alone the lives that you project into the future? As different as your lives are now from the lives of those early creatures standing on two legs will be the difference between human life in the future and human life as you know it. The evolution of that human life will be continuous. There will be greater understanding. There will be more knowledge. There will be different challenges, different understandings, different fears, different achievements, different resolutions to health, a different understanding of God, a different understanding of why there is any life, a different understanding of the relationship between one human being and another.

The evolution of the earth continues, and while some of that change is initiated by human actions, it is also the nature of human life to change as the environment changes. You require certain types of nourishment. You require breathing a particular combination of ingredients in the air. You require particular sources of life energy, but all of those requirements will change. Will human life as you know it now to be continue infinitely into the future? No, but will human life continue? Yes, but in very different ways. The relationship of human life to the earth and what the earth provides will change radically. You will of course see none of that in your current lives, but a number of you will experience it again in a different kind of human life.

What we can assure you of is that the peace which is God's presence will become more apparent as the evolution of human and the natural environment progresses. You are more aware of a creative force that is part of the heavens and

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earth than those human life figures of so long ago, and we can say that the nature of human life far into the human-measured future will be much more engaged in the awareness of the creative energy, the loving energy, that you call God.

So not only will the nature of human life evolve, but the awareness of that Spirit Center, the awareness of God, that loving presence, will also evolve, because that is the nature of God's creation. All eventually become the totality of that loving spirit energy. All works toward that end. When we say all shall become a part of what God is, we mean that for all human beings there is a moment when they become, in the spiritual sense, totally love.

But just as all people evolve through their spiritual growth to become love, we also affirm that there are other spirits who come along and are traveling in the middle of their path of unity with God. The moment will never come when all that has been created will exist only as love, but we can say that everything that has been created at some point becomes an integral part of that circle of love. Your earth evolves as it has evolved and will continue. Human life has evolved, and it will continue to evolve.

It is not a stretch of your imagination even now to realize the possibility of human life continuing beyond your current home, earth, for that journey is in the process of being constructed, some of it by ingenuity, some of it motivated by necessity. As a result of that journey, the human experience becomes changed. It is not for you to speculate whether that change is for the better or not, for you cannot apply any kind of yardstick to measure the validity of such changes. Those changes simply will happen, and we know that an awareness of God's presence will become more deeply felt.

The nature of evolution belongs to the creation of God. You evolve because it is in God's order to evolve. The earth evolves because it is a part of God's order to evolve. When you accept this extended evolution of spirit, of humankind, and of the natural environment, then you learn to work with that reality, and that movement towards acceptance is generated by the peace that we speak of.

When you see evidence of your environment being destroyed and, in the process, creating suffering, it is not appropriate to ignore, but rather it is important to consider in what ways the evolution of the natural environment can grow in consonance with the evolution of humankind. It is for humans to work with the environment, not to ignore it. It is appropriate to change as one must change, but it is not appropriate to refuse to change within the presence of that evolution of nature.

It is for each of you to give honor to what provides you with life, what sustains you, what provides nourishment, what fosters health. All that you do to embrace the natural world and your place within it harmoniously is a manifestation of peace, peace being that ability to see God's presence, to know God's presence, and be strengthened by that presence.

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The peace for which you pray is given its strength when the heart is open, when the mind is willing to share a commitment to honor all life. Peace is not achieved through dominance. Peace is achieved by the embrace of life.

You are part of a great journey, a journey of God's creation, a journey that is human, a journey that is in part not human, but nevertheless a journey that is fully consumed in the embrace. We embrace each of you with God's peace. Be joyful in that embrace. Welcome it, be open to it, and respond equally with love.

Amen.