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- *Transition from human to spirit life and levels of spiritual development*
- *All knowledge imparted by guides comes from God*
- *Negative energy, dark power, and evil*

God accompanies your journeys in all ways. You travel your pathways in the loving company and warm light that characterizes the presence of the Center of All Souls, that entity you call God.

We know of God. We feel God's presence constantly as a light, as a warmth, as an overwhelmingly powerful, loving presence. We know of God because we are not shielded by our human barriers any longer. Human life is important for the lessons that can be learned, but the limitations of human understanding also are a kind of barrier that prevents you from seeing the reality of God's truth as clearly as is available to all of us. We each experience God in our own ways, but there is no soul among us that is blind to that presence.

Some souls join our life-form with considerable confusion—not panic, as you would characterize it, but clearly a discomfort in the newness of their life. We accompany these souls as they slowly accommodate to their expanded life. Such transitions in human terms can take a long period of time, but all souls eventually embrace the breadth and depth of the life that they are experiencing. There is no soul totally left behind.

The life of spirit is always a life of service, a life of giving, a life of loving. Each soul accepts the opportunity to work for the enhancement, for the affirmation, the growth of all other souls. It is a natural condition of each spirit, each soul, to reach beyond its own existence in search of growth. Every soul has that potential to be loving and to love, including souls that currently are attached to human life. It is a reality of the spiritual realm that some souls are dedicated to supporting other souls, and therefore it is not uncommon that souls connected to human life can indeed be called upon to help souls who find it difficult to embrace their new life.

We, your guides, cannot be thought of as newly initiated members of this spirit community. There are many levels of spiritual awareness among us. Those souls who are occupied in what you call "guidance" come from numerous levels of development, but there is no level occupied by a soul that could be considered "just starting out." Those spirits who serve as guides serve as a lens of God. The souls do not initiate the material. They do not decide what shall be shared, but they serve to bring God's presence into clearer focus to each of you. Whether a soul has been a part of this life-form for centuries or not is unimportant, since the knowledge does not begin with the soul. It merely passes through.

Your guides have a loving commitment, not just a responsibility, for your own growth, for your insight, for your development as spirits. The spiritual life of a soul will

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differ in character, one from another, depending on the nature of the human life it accompanies. The blessings that you share include an awareness of the existence of guidance. With that awareness, you are more able to receive all that your spirit guide wishes to transmit to you. There are many levels or layers of spiritual depth on our side of the small divide, but these levels are unrelated to sophistication of knowledge or wisdom, and are more closely understood in terms of their differences of strength, of endurance.

Your souls are guided by us. When we are attached to a particular soul experiencing the human condition, we experience some relationships that are easier than others. Some relationships are relatively smooth in that the human being and the soul connected to that human being need little effort to be contacted in a conscious way. There are other human beings and their spirits that require great effort to open up sensitivity to God.

The many layers, the many levels of spiritual development, can be simplified to one of strength but not considered to be solely one of knowledge, for if your guides were imparting their own knowledge, then some human beings would feel guided by more highly developed spirits than others, and that is not the case. There is only one knowledge source for the spirit, and that is God, and we, your guides serve merely to transmit that knowledge to your own experience. We transmit what is positive. We transmit what is affirming, what is instructive in terms of an understanding of your own lives and God. So there is much positive energy that flows. As you respond based on your understanding of God, you have the ability to enhance that energy, that loving presence, making it more evident, spreading it, and creating a life that is filled with love, compassion, and a commitment to sustaining others.

But as you discussed, there is also negative energy. This negative energy is not just human frailty. The negative energy that we speak of is not centered in a single entity. It is not truly God versus the devil, but it is love versus emptiness. The negative energy is a vessel waiting to be filled, and its emptiness creates suffering. Its emptiness creates the tensions that you experience as evil. There is no soul that is fully empty, but there is a kind of vacuum that is created when the presence of love is denied, rejected. Is there a dark power to life? The answer is very strongly yes, but that darkness is not centered, as we say, singly. It is a shared power, just as love is a shared power.

Your thoughts, your actions, your intentions all have an impact on the reality of energy. If you are positive and loving in your approach to life, you will help multiply that positiveness. If you feel consumed by anger, jealousy, spite, if you are consumed by actions that serve to reduce the value of another, you are contributing to the negative energy. Your challenge in life is to do whatever *you* can do to strengthen what is good, even in the face of being overwhelmed by what is negative. A single soul committed to what is good carries more impact than the efforts of thousands to deny that goodness. Positive energy is infinitely more powerful than negative. Of course you see the

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evidence of the negative around you, negative that is made by human beings and negative that seems to just happen—"acts of nature," even some claim, "acts of God." There is no act coming from God that is negative, but every individual has an opportunity for creating the positive and the negative.

No human being is all positive, for there is no human being that is one hundred percent love. There is no human being who does not experience concerns for self, "self-preservation," you might call it. But every human being has the choice. You can choose to devote your life to positive force, to the strength of love and affirmation, or you can choose to deny it. You can choose to be that empty vessel that has all the potential and yet contributes so little. That belongs to human life, the ability to choose. A child makes the choice of obeying a parent or disobeying a parent. Certainly there is much that a child does with no anticipation or intention of disobeying, and yet that action may indeed be in opposition to the wishes of a parent.

Such it is with every human being. You can live your lives without an awareness or acceptance of God. You can live your lives rejecting that reality as a conscious decision, or you can live your lives embracing what is godly according to your own understanding. Your guides serve to help you with this third choice. You may live your lives never getting to that third alternative, and your lives will still be considered of value, for whether you choose consciously a path that is loving or not, your spirit grows. There is value, there is merit, there is purpose to human life, regardless of your awareness.

The negative powers of human experience, this negative energy, is greatly enhanced by the individual who rejects what is known, who rejects God, who rejects a sense of spirit or soul, and then acts accordingly. That negative approach accumulates and gathers strength, but just as the night is not more nourishing and strength-giving than the day, the negative powers are never to overcome the positive love and all that emanates from the Spirit Center, from God. Light always overcomes the darkness.

Is there evil? Yes. But are there spirits whose intention is to be evil? No. All souls, all spirits are created from God and all spirits return to God. The energy of which we speak is beyond the realm of spirits. It is a different kind of "vibration," if you will, and that vibration can temporarily mask, block out the vibration that is positive, the vibration that is light. But the light always prevails. Love always prevails. Love always disarms hatred. Positive always disarms negative.

You certainly cannot go through your human lives rejecting the reality of any negative energy, for you experience the results of that constantly. But you must always accept that every soul can contribute to what is good. No soul contributes to what is negative.

There are many books whose discourses serve to explain good versus evil as experienced in human life. The attempt is to separate one from another, or at least give reason for such consideration. Have faith in the positive potential of all souls. There is no soul which is the spirit of darkness. There is only the soul waiting to be filled with

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light. There is no human being who is totally consumed by evil, although there are many human beings who do evil things. Every human being has the potential contained within the soul to be filled. Allow your lives to be a vessel pointed toward light, purposely being positioned so as to be filled overflowing with the warmth and loving light that is God.

Your lives are vessels that are pointed in the right direction, you can be assured. Your lives are also filled with a strength that can help direct God's light to others. Be assured that each of you is on the appropriate path, even when you are not certain where it leads in the near term. That direction will be made clear when you consciously seek out the light and courageously follow your vision.

Be blessed in God's light. Be blessed in your ability to follow, to grow, and to be warmed by an incomparable and unending loving presence that is God. Rest in that presence and be strengthened by it.

Amen.