

(An introductory lesson as presented in the first Austin Freedom School class July 17, 2003 A.D.)

Hello and greetings!

I'm here to introduce you to a new metaphor for living. While this may not come as surprise to some, I feel that it will be shocking to others! How will affect you? I don't know – stay tuned and we'll see...

Firstly, fundamental question: Is government your slave or your master?

First what is a metaphor? Metaphor is a symbol, figure of speech, simile, allegory = parable. A metaphor is a way of looking at something and seeing it as something else in order to become acquainted with it – a way of getting to know something better.

We do this all the time – we take something new to us and thing about it in terms of what we already (think) we know.

OK, so here are my thoughts on a new metaphor for living in today's world: Look around you - all around you and what do you see? After studying this for well over a year now – what I see is the sea of commerce. We are all in the sea of commerce. We all operate in the sea of commerce.

OK, what is commerce? Commerce is: trade, business, buying, selling, exchange, wholesale, retail, swap, barter; **Deal** = agreement, arrangement, pact, treaty, covenant,

Everything we do – we do in commerce. Commerce is the stuff, glue, whatever that binds us together. Think about it – what do we do that is not in commerce? Or some form of commerce?

Think about your day – you begin your day in commerce by what? Being a consumer of products – soap, shaving products, towels, oh yes the water used for showing, the gas used for heating the water, the electricity for the lights, the refrigerator used to hold the food that you eat for breakfast, the clothes you choose to wear, the brush for your hair.

Gee, I wax poetically... Do you see my point? In some form or manner we all begin, spend and end our day and night in commerce. We are in commerce – we are commerce. And for those who may be wondering – yes, we end our days in commerce – think of the funeral industry.

OK, you say, so what? We are in commerce. Commerce is pervasive. OK I say – if you are in a game (and yes commerce is a game. All is a game in some form or another) then it is probably wise to begin to learn the rules of the game. Yes?

We are in this game and we now know that the name of the game is commerce. We know that there are generally rules to and of any game. What about this game? Yes there are rules and as this game is the most pervasive game on the planet doesn't it strike you as being odd that perhaps we don't know enough about this game yet to play it well?

O yes, we all, individually, know or think we know the rules and how to play. OK I say then why are you in the position you are in currently? Why is the world the way it is currently – politically speaking, economically speaking, and morally speaking? Why are you here? What is your purpose? What is your being? Anyone?

OK I say we are in commerce, in the sea of commerce, on the water of commerce, in the flow of commerce – do you get that I could be talking about boats here? Sea, water, flow.

Yes I am. There is strong nautical flavor about commerce. And the more we look the more we see, or sea if you will.

With my presentation I hope to awaken new thinking within each and every one of you by sharing with you the fruit of my past year's labor. And by doing so I am educating myself in the matter.

Have you every heard the thought that if you want to get to know something then you should teach it? I look around and I see the work educate used. Get any education, go get educated, we're gon'a educate you/them/whatever. Now I could be corrected here but what I think the word educate means is this: I believe its root is educare which is Latin meaning to draw out. Now that could mean to draw something out as in drawing a picture or as in drawing out the story from a friend who is a bit timid about telling it or drawing out from inner resources the necessities to get a point across. Do you see where I am going with this? If I feel that I know something about something then I am educating myself by presenting, teaching, drawing out the what-it-is for you.

As children we did it a lot – “Hey look what I can do!” “Shut up kid and sit down!”

Hey mom, look at what I can do!” “That's nice now... finish whatever, or shut up, or just get out of my face – I've got my own things to do.” “OK mom.” – Sad.

Conditioning, behavioral modification, operand conditioning. Things that were used on us from early on to get us to conform. Things that are still in use today.

OK – so much for prelude, let's move on to the next chapter.

Where to begin? Let's take it from the beginning – OK?

In the beginning the creator said: “Let there be light.” There was light and the creator deemed the light good!

Then the creator when on about creating all that is and when finished the creator deemed all good and then rested.

The creator then decide to add man to the created, and seeing that man was alone the creator then added woman to accompany man. (Actually the creator got tired of seeing

man sexually assaulting all the different things of creation... and that is a whole other story.)

As you may suspect I am condensing things here a bit. The details are important – in the beginning there was darkness then came the light – enlightenment. Then came creation and the creator deemed it all good! Then came man, followed by woman – both created in the image of the creator!

Think about this for a moment – man and woman created in the image of the creator.

Psychologically we cannot recognize in others what we don't already see/recognize in ourselves. The more we learn about our self the more we can say that we know about others. From hence, I believe, flows the biblical admonishment: *do unto others what you would have others do unto you*. And the second law of commerce that says: *all are equal under the law*. And the phrase that, as you will learn, sets you free – ***equality under the law is paramount and mandatory by law***.

Let's back step a moment. **Created in the image of the creator**. What does this mean?

One view: Think for a moment, if you were the creator and you had all the power(s) that are ascribed to the Creator – all knowing, all wise, all this, all that. What would be left for you to do? Well I say the only thing left for you to do would be to experience that that is - the created. And if it is all deemed to be good then... But wait, isn't there a 'monkey wench' that's been tossed into the equation?

Adam and Eve wandering about in the Garden of Eden, also know or referred to by some as paradise, experiencing all that is when out of nowhere, as it is said, appears a serpent and suggests to Eve that perhaps partaking of the fruit of the forbidden tree may not be such a bad thing to do. Think about it, the creator said they could do anything except eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. In other words they didn't need to know of such things as the creator knew it would not be to their benefit.

Think about the words I am using here – if any words being used don't make sense to you then stop me and clarify. If you don't I am going to presume that you are comprehending what I am saying. Is this clear?

Do you begin to feel that what I am doing here may be more than what is being presented? I hope so as this is a training situation and I am about giving you information that you may use to obtain and maintain your freedom! Are you with me?

Isn't interesting that it was a serpent that presented to Eve the idea that ... isn't it interesting that a serpent is used, a lowly creature, one that is generally not liked by most, a slithering, slimy thing that quietly sneaks in, some varieties being quite poisonous and deadly. Isn't it interesting that such a creature was picked to represent the Devil, the Devil that creature who chooses to be at odds with God. A being, that the creator deemed good, who chooses to be at odds, against its creator. Pity the poor snake, it just goes

about doing its snake thing, in snake ways, and remember the creator deemed it good - as all of creation.

Isn't interesting how we equate serpents and attorneys ... and merchants?

Why? And this is a key that will help you unlock your shackles, chains, bindings. This serpent, attorney and merchant are third parties – third party interveners. People who get involved and create problems when they do. They like you to think that you can't live without them and then you come to see that you can't live with them. Third party interveners.

Think about it Adam – think about Eve – you are wandering about in your Garden of Eden enjoying [whatever] is and then someone intervenes, someone steps in and does whatever and you not knowing what else to do allow this loathsome intervention to extract you from your Garden of Eden.

Happens all the time – in ways that are obvious, apparent and evident and sometimes in ways that are obscure and not so noticeable.

In-laws, special interest groups, friends, enemies, teachers, preachers, politicians, bureaucrats, government officials, attorneys, retailers, merchants, commercials, advertisements, television, radio, etc. The list is endless.

You not knowing what else to do allow these entities jurisdiction in your domain and for the most part to your detriment. You not knowing what else to do give these entities license to do what they want to do!

Hey! This is all commerce.

Commerce is pervasive, all-encompassing, enveloping, invasive, persistent, omnipresent, and at times insidious. Antonym: contained

Commerce knows no boundaries.

All is in commerce.

Commerce rules!

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And yet, Commerce is controllable.

Now remember we, you and I were created in the image of our creator and as such we have traits and abilities that we may not be aware of – yet.

Let's go on to the next chapter.