"The Collapsing or Concentration of
Three Generations of Ethical Change
Into One Generation."

by

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My parents came foom Tecumseh, Michigan, a country village of 2500 population surrounded by vast farming lands intersected by railroads providing a link to the developing industrial economy of the United States. I thus came out of a cultureal background based on the ethics of our Hebrew-Christian heritage which was developed primarily for agruculturally based communities.

Working as an engineer in industry, I kept running into conflicts with so-called business ethics. It appeared to me that the organization of business was structured to destroy the principles of individual responsibility which I derived from my cultural heritage. Through years of meditation, study, and psychotherapy I was able to develop a perspective of what was happening -- namely that for most of my contemporaries, the religious ethics of our Hebrew-Christian heritage had already been disconnected from having any influence upon business operations. In the transition from the Force Era to the Power Era, the ethics of individual responsibility had been displaced by a marketing type of neutrality.

Then I observed that we were already partway into the Information Era, and that some new form of ethics was pushing out the newly established business ethics. In fact, I was being pushed to adjust to three generations of ethics -- all in one lifetime -- a greater change than any other generation of humans/has been asked to make.
                                        in history
However, being pushed   ough three ethical systems may be easier than the change between two   because the change is a mixture of cyclical change and exponential chan... The cyclical part of the change means that some elements of the first ethical system have relevance in the third system. Also being pushed through three stages of history gives one an expanded view of human history, where one can perceive some connections between biological and social evolution, between physical cosmology and the form of bio-social evolution, etc., etc.

Another factor which has been puzzling to me for many years is the compartmentalization of Christianity in practice -- in violation of the principles, such as have been stated in books like The Theory of the Christian Personality(1934). Another serious problem is that neither the application of the Hebrew-Christian ethics of the Force Era nor the distilled business ethics of the Power Era have made much of an impact on the most malignant dehumanization in the history of the world -- the racial discrimination against the blacks in the United States. Any ethical system that is a candidate for relevance in the Information Era must deal adequately and forcefully with this dehumanization of the blacks in our society.

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