

VISION
“Really Seeing the Kingdom of God”
6 pages

By Don Tilley

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This three-page Vision about world transformation I wrote was used by the University of Peace in Costa Rica. I've also enclosed a two-page Vision by Robert Mullert, Assistant General Secretary of the United Nations. Why doesn't a church group write its own vision to represent the Kingdom of God in 50 years?

for a better world

Annex A VISION

THAT COULD CHART THE WAY TO THE FUTURE WE PREFER by Don Tilley

The year is 2050

Some say it was a dream, but I know that it was too real to be only that. I saw the Earth spiraling into the future — as it was designed to become. Daring humans had unlocked many secrets of the human heart thus opening new vistas, and setting new directions for governments and society alike.

I saw how people had been shaken only two decades before by the continent-sized, fast-growing blacken patches covering both land and sea. With their lives immanently threatened, awakened people mobilized the entire planet for action. I saw that the build-up of this accumulated pent-up energy had exploded into a new world very different from the one we now know.

I saw large pictures of hunger, war, and poverty hanging in museums reminding people of former days and times when old, obsolete instincts needed for survival by our cave ancestors had not yet been challenged and dislodged from the fearful, unconscious mind. One of the great advances of civilizations (so very recently achieved) was substituting the instincts of sharing and caring for the primitive instincts which had prohibited people from living together peacefully in a closely populated world, growing ever more complex.

People had extended their previous loyalties toward families and nations to include bioregions and the world

Each month, the people attentively watched the dozens of indicators providing feedback to the planet which revealed how the whole world was becoming more humane and caring. Now that the world had this information about itself, it could keep making adjustments toward becoming a compassionate world. Even leaders in trade and commercialization took on new energies — like a crusade — as they responded to developing the entire planet for the humane good of all instead of past fixations on profit and expanding their own self-enterprises.

Deeper understandings about linking human minds inspired a world consensus to emerge. The world developed a Mission Statement which set forth purpose and direction for the Planet. Led by former warriors, world institutions mobilized themselves around this Mission Statement, focusing on developing the planet, and installing massive human programs — exciting the people.

The Habitat of Humanity was now a quasi-government program with a high moral and motivations tone, with people building their own houses with the help of their neighbors. Over 30% of the population lived in these homes that people had built themselves, through this program modeled so successfully during the late 1900's, but in which only a relatively few could participate.

Most prisons had been torn down. Justice now was quick and immediate. Victims were compensated by those who hurt them. Persons who could not be rehabilitated were still locked up, but people could now reprogram themselves using the new techniques and devices to rechannel their own thoughts into attitudes and behavior they really preferred — which quickly emptied the prisons. Good jobs were provided for those who had been incarcerated. Roots of crime had been eradicated and a world ethic of responsibility had been accepted by the people.

I saw that most oil wells were deserted. No longer would wars be fought over cheap oil. Fusion and other inexpensive energy sources were abundant to all, thus greatly reducing the cost of all goods. Abundant, low cost energy lowered the costs of housing, food, health care, transportation, and communications to one-third of their cost during the last century. (In the 1990's, the production and use of goods used up 98% of their value in energy costs). Now people did not have to work as long and jobs were available to all.

People had learned to replace their fears with love. In the last century, even most good, moral, religious people lived with disturbing personality flaws that would flair up and ruin friendships. But no more — for people had learned to face and remove such blockages. I was amazed to watch most people daily experiencing the love a higher power was revealing to them through the interactive meditations techniques and shamanic practices on world television and the internet. Various electronic devices linked to their own nervous system enabled each person to invite and regulate messages and images in one's mind sent from this higher power, commonly referred to as God. Regardless of external circumstances, everyone could feel loved to the extent that they did not need to prove themselves to others nor be addicted to work, drugs, television, possessions, power, or any other addiction.

I saw that most people had developed acute empathic powers to the extent that most possessed the ability of mental telepathy. Due to the considerable empathy that people now had developed for all people, wars were considered anathema. Rulers who tried to initiate war were quickly neutralized by world opinions and by decentralized police trained as conflict resolvers and the aegis of a world body.

Using the example of a nursing infant and mother surrendering to each other, a Cuban woman artist had persuaded people that the way of nurturing was the way the planet was destined to operate. Intuition, active listening, and sensitivity became highly valued. Major new technology was being developed to nurture the inner lives of people.

World television was continually beaming pictures of the great potential of humans to develop themselves and presenting visions about what the Earth could become. In daily conversations, people talked about the many new techniques they were using to enhance the lives of their families.

The number one tourist attraction was traveling through space, circling the Earth for three days in a spaceship. Throughout each day, guides would present artistic interpretations of the majestic beauty and functioning of the Earth, the home of all, so alone in the darkness of outer space. For many, such a trip was a kind of spiritual pilgrimage as they explored their own lives and intimate relationships with the planet. Surprisingly, during such an experience people found themselves breaking loose from acquiring 'things'.

Recent contact with Beings from other planets had challenged the beliefs and division among people and brought them together. Attention was focused on comparing our culture with other earths, and learning from them.

Sensing the presence of the Divine in one's own life became as natural as eating or sleeping. People began to know themselves as spirits who were in existence before coming to this Earth and after dying. People learned to communicate with the spirit world and received guidance from various spirits.

Children were everywhere, running, playing, laughing, and frolicking. One activity children enjoyed was a new kind of virtual reality. Children not just mentally but physically explored environments they created with their advanced voiced-activated computers. As the children moved about, they called forth various simulated, holographic figures — some of these figures seemed young, others were from ancient times and wise, and some were entire families. While the children questioned, talked, laughed and played with their created playmates, they learned compassion, felt the deeper meanings, experienced many wonders of life, and created a kind of world they wanted to live in. Ideas of children were taken seriously as they permeated the planet, helping to chart the course of Earth, while creating new kinds of hope.

How did such a world come about? The knowledge about how to develop this preferred world was already in the hearts and minds of people in 1997!

— Don Tilley, May, 1998, 4533 Starr, Lincoln, NE 68503 (402) 466-6622—

NOTE: Why write such a vision? 1) Because we need to see the many options available to us. 2) Because our own deficiencies as a society are made known when we dare to see the possible that we are not doing. 3) Because as peacemakers, we need to stretch our thinking and imagination to create new possibilities — to be pro-active rather than re-active as much as we can. 4) Because we need hope.

Virtually everything in the above vision is possible to accomplish.

In all probability, pragmatism, expediency, and gradualism will not abolish war nor the outbreak of violence. The roots of divisiveness are too deep. A peaceful world will probably require the transformation of many of our ideas — about ourselves (including our own potential), relationships, role of technology, the planet, and fields of knowledge such as economics, governmental structures, psychology, sociology, cultural anthropology, education, etc. The impetus for such a transformation is likely to be a new vision inspired by the need to survive combined with experiencing a better way of living.

24 Aug. 2000

Dear Don Tilley

At long last
the last 2 volumes
of 200 ideas will
come out in the next
few months. Ideas
2001 + 03500 will
come next.

I am so delighted
with your great texts.
The world needs them.

With all my love
Robert Rulb

A Cosmological Vision of the Future

Robert Muller

Dr Robert Muller is the Chancellor of the University for Peace. He was formerly the Assistant Secretary-General for Economic and Social Development at the United Nations. Since the Conference in Costa Rica he has been awarded the prestigious 1989 Education Prize by UNESCO for his idealism, personal action and for the World Core Curriculum. The following is an extract from his talk to the Conference. The full text of this speech is available as an Occasional Paper from World Goodwill.

I propose that as we proceed towards the year 2000 we should pack this last decade with visions and actions aimed at preparing the next millennium as the cosmic, spiritual millennium of this planet, in order to properly respond to the expectations of God or the cosmos. In order to do this I will propose that a number of major conferences or efforts be undertaken which are not considered in the United Nations. Peace, disarmament, population, the environment, economic development etc., are all subjects being dealt with in the United Nations. But there is a list of others which should be taken up in order to prepare adequately the next millennium.

First, a major conference should be convened on a **new cosmology**. One would listen to the physicists, to the biologists, to other scientists and to people who have come out with new cosmologies. From their views one would extract a common denominator. They all have very important perceptions. But these perceptions vary with the point of view of their professions: physical, biological, spiritual, social, political, etc.. At the end of such a conference we would have a better understanding of what the cosmos is expecting from us in our next phase of evolution.

Second, I would recommend a major conference on a **new philosophy**, a global philosophy. Philosophy is the way of life. What should be the way of life on this planet in global terms, in the light of our fantastic knowledge? Where are the great sages of our time? Where are the positive philosophies that are giving us an explanation and meaning of life and hope for the future?

Third, a **new sociology** is needed which would help us to understand the meaning and role of all the innumerable groups, entities, professions and institutions we have on this planet. Most of them have a contribution to make to the success of our evolution. Many of them do not know it and have not even asked the question why they exist, why they were created, what their ultimate purpose and contribution should be in the total human fabric. Their aims and behaviours must be geared to the needs of humanity, of the planet and to the continued success of our cosmic evolution. This is a vast, unexplored, urgent subject.

Fourth, we need a **new anthropology**, as Margaret Mead proposed. We need world celebrations as we have them in the family, in religions, in nations. Humans and the world have to develop common paradigms, common ideals and benchmarks for the future. The science of the total human race leaves much to be desired. We know more about tribal systems than about the human system.

Fifth, we need an **overall human biology**, a science of human life on this planet. We study more animals and microbes than we study the functioning of the human species. To the biologists this is political. It should not be so. The biologists should tell us very frankly and honestly how the human species functions from their point of view as experts in life. If they do it for the fishes and the mammals, they can also do it for the human species.

Sixth, we need a **world or cosmic spirituality**. We have heard this morning religious leaders of various faiths. It was illuminating. I hope that religious leaders will get together and define before the end of this century the cosmic laws which are common to all their faiths. They have been cosmic experts and interpreters of the heavens for a long time. They should tell the politicians what the cosmic laws are, what God, or the gods, or the cosmos are expecting from humans. It is good that we had last year the Oxford conference of parliamentarians, scientists and religious leaders and that in January, 1990 a second conference will be held in Moscow. We must hope also that the Pope will come before the year 2000 to the United Nations, speak for all the religions and spiritualities on this planet and give the world the religious view of how the third millennium should be a spiritual millennium, a millennium which will see the integration and harmony of humanity with creation, with nature, with the planet, with the cosmos and with eternity.

Seventh, we need a **new world policy and political system**. This planet is mismanaged to an incredible degree. If the United States were managed like the world is managed it would be a disaster. Nobody would understand how fifty states — and the world has 160! — each having a president, a flag, an army, an absolute sovereignty could ever work together. Imagine the U.S. government in Washington being only a kind of United Nations without any authority. It would be a disaster. Well we have this disaster for the world and it is about time that we recognise it. I'm glad that we have amongst us Ken Keyes who wrote the excellent book *Planethood* which makes this point and offers a way for the political reform of this planet. The birth of the European community which was seen by Jean Monnet as the first step towards a world community is also a harbinger of hope.

Eighth, we need a **proper planetary management**. Private firms and the multinationals must be placed before their responsibilities for the management of the planet. They consider themselves responsible only towards profits and stockholders. Well it is becoming increasingly manifest that

this planet was not created for the purpose of making profits.

Ninth, we need a **new world philanthropy**. People are giving their wealth and monies to a hospital, to a local university, to a national foundation or purpose. And the world gets nothing. The University for Peace here in disarmed Costa Rica is one of the most beautiful and useful projects on earth. But where are the philanthropists who are taking an interest in it with the exception of one or two? And yet it is here in this University where a new Science of Peace must be developed for this planet and thousands of peacemakers educated for the whole series of professions. The people have to take the financing of the world's care in their own hands. We do not even have an intergovernmental world budget. Well, if governments do not want to have a world budget let the philanthropists and the people do it in their own way. A new world democracy will thus be born.

Tenth, we need a **new world education**. Global education, namely the education of the children into our global home and into the human family is making good progress. But we have to go beyond. We need the cosmic education foreseen by the religions and by people like Maria Montessori. We need a holistic education, teaching the holism of the universe and of the planet. I am glad that one of the first graduates of the Robert Muller School in Arlington, Texas, which teaches my world core curriculum, is here and will take at one point the floor to announce the creation of a United Nations of Youth. How beautiful!

Eleventh, we need a **new world information**. Outer-space inspectors would be shocked by the wrong information that is being spread around this world. We need honest, objective information to guide our way and behaviour and not manipulated information for all kinds of purposes. Proper world information and communications are another subject of paramount importance. The UN and its 32 specialised agencies and world programmes come closest to what such an information system should be.

Twelfth, we need a **new world ethics**. What is good for the United States or the Soviet Union — like having atomic arms — can be awfully bad for our planet. I'm sure that God or the cosmos has not created this planet to have all these nuclear detonators in its flesh, in its waters, in its air, and tomorrow in the stars. Our political leaders must be given to understand that they have not only a responsibility towards their people and towards humanity but towards the success of the cosmic process unfolding on this planet. They might finish it or they might help it.

Thirteenth, we need a **new world science and technology**. The scientists and the technologists must assume a cosmic responsibility. What they are doing might be right or wrong for humanity and for our further cosmic evolution. They have to think of the seventh generation.

Fourteenth, we need a **new world economy**. *Oikos*, economy, means the management of the household. Our household is now the planet. We need a world economy in which all people have decent cosmic lives and perform the functions for which they have been born. It goes far beyond the new international economic order. It is a restructuring of the economy of our planet. We have to put our house, which is the planet, in good order.

Fifteenth, we need a **new world art**. We need a renaissance of art similar to the Italian Renaissance which put things into harmony again. Modern art was the expression of our analytical period. We dissected everything. We have now to put everything into harmony again. We need a holistic, universal cosmic art expressing our faith, sense of beauty and planetary, humanistic and cosmic consciousness as all great poets, writers, painters, musicians and sculptors have done in the past. The classical book by Richard Bucke, *Cosmic Consciousness*, gives a whole list of such people. We also need world anthems as we heard one this morning. Some of the sanguinary, violent national anthems need to be re-written. I have a new text of the Marseillaise which starts with the words "Alons enfants de la planète". Why not? It is beautiful. I hope that the young people in Strasbourg will sing it on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of the French Revolution. Several national hymns have been re-written by young people.

Sixteenth, we need a **new world psychology**. We must learn to love the planet and humanity above anything else. Now we are taught to love a nation or a group or a religion and we are ready to kill other human beings, other cosmic units, for them. This is contrary to nature and to cosmic, divine laws. We have to love humanity, we have to love the planet, we have to love the universe and to be their instruments during our short years on this planet. A completely new world psychology must lay down our right sentimental priorities.

Seventeenth but not least, we must teach the children of this planet a **new art of living**, show them how great life is, how thankful they should be to live today at this time of magnificent consciousness of the universe and incredible knowledge, that it will be their role to be the right managers of the planet, that each of them is a cosmic unit, or as Pablo Casals said, "a true miracle, a potential Leonardo or Beethoven. Therefore you cannot hurt, you cannot kill another miracle".

We must learn to love the planet and humanity above anything else.

Yes, we are miracles, microcosms of the universe. This must be taught to the children so that they can flower to the responsibility for which they have been born. We also have to teach frugality and simple living in order not to destroy or tax unduly the beautiful Creation of God. We should follow in the footsteps of St. Francis who preached this 800 years ago. We should read *Voluntary Simplicity* by Duane Elgin. Simple frugal lives of five billion people are the most monumental contribution to the environment of this planet.

In the next century every human being should know that he or she is an instrument of God, be it as a mother who gives life to a new cosmic unit, or a father who in the family is raising new cosmic units, or an educator who is educating new cosmic units, or doctors, or public servants, or artists, etc. etc.. Then we will validate life fully and make children and people proud to be alive. Then humans will respect their cosmic unit as Buckminster Fuller said when he was offered cigarettes, "I will never do anything that might impair the functioning of the perfect cosmic unit I have been given by the universe". This is the language which we should have with children. This would be the real fight against drugs. You do not destroy your cosmic unit by introducing poisonous materials into its functioning. We can validate life to an unprecedented degree and extend it to the largest and smallest limits of the universe.