

# value-of-a-man-11

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Please note that this article is a visual guidance piece for men of the Mankind Project based on my intuition and research into

the mind. I have come to understand that during my teenage years, out of fear of being abandoned, my mind was overwhelmingly influenced by public opinion. After looking back on my life, I realized that many of my life decisions centered around a need fit in. After 9/11 I realized that I live in a very sick society. To protect myself, I rebelled against modern society by speaking out against the ideology of government and politics. Although this reaction protected me from some of the psychotic social mores that I allowed modern society to impose on me, it didn't resolve my fear. I only shifted acceptance to non-acceptance, opposite ends of the same pole. My only way out became living a life of independent thought. To this day I still feel a certain quality of self-betrayal for not realizing sooner that I needed to become completely responsible for my life. This work takes on controversial topics and it is not my goal to create exclusion between people of race, gender, or beliefs. On the contrary, I aim to discuss difficult topics, and I hope to encourage humanity to act from a place of individual power (for the well-being of all) by being an example for it.

Without a predominance of independent thought in my life, my mind unconsciously and unknowingly tended to externalize situations (Make different) to create distance from feeling overwhelmed. This resulted in cutting myself off from objective reality. I realized that being unique is important, and it's important to recognize differences on an individual level. But on the group level, it's been my experience that during social interactions, putting a narrow focus on these differences, between myself and others, caused me to classify people into specific categories. To avoid becoming overwhelmed and paralyzed by situations I didn't fully understand, my mind tends to oversimplify or overcomplicate external situations. I found that true autonomy, for me, is formed by individual

choice, free from the constraints of public opinion. Both have their place, but being an individual is primary, while healthy public living is only a byproduct of living as a truly autonomous individual.

When the people lack a proper sense of awe, some terrible fate decided by the universe at large will befall them. —Lao Tzu, Tao Te Ching, 72

## The beginning

I imagine that, before life existed on this planet, only spirit and thought reigned. Suddenly mankind sprung into being, fully formed, with a basic level of intelligence. As mankind evolved, survival depended on cooperation, so we developed systems of exchange. As crafting became vital for these systems of trade, craftsmen bonded together to create the first human tribes. Individuals in these tribes cultivated skills that eventually became working classes or roles for others to be tutored in. These tribes became the first traditional societies on earth.

To protect and provide for the tribe, men became warriors. They ventured out into the wild, away from their homeland to contend with the unknown. The wild rewards silence and solitude with a particular inner guidance that manifests as an inner strength. When the inner-guided join together, they become an unstoppable force.

During these journeys, these men came across another tribe, unlike any people they have ever experienced. This tribe taught them reading and writing, but most importantly they learned the secrets of the universe: The reason why mankind exists, that man has an immortal soul, and that earth is a pit-stop before reaching our final destination, one of many.

Mankind is such that we are all brothers and sisters, we all share this journey, but each path we take is unique. Earth is the first trial-by-fire world where the spirit works to overcome material forces. As man becomes free of this burden, peace and love reign on earth. Freedom is discovered in the wild, by oneself. It can never be found in another, or in a group, or even in a creed.

In walking a path of the Warrior, vision quests came into existence, then ceremonies centered around supporting Warrior-Individuals in their quest to overcome Earth's material forces became a regular celebration of life that would last weeks and shared between many tribes.

Great cities developed around the Tribes. Some Tribe-folk became civilized, and over time, civilization grew with many great achievements. These improvements advanced the world to a great extent, but in the process of achieving greatness, the civilized people forgot what it was like to develop the inner-spirit by remaining in seclusion. The civilized people became lost in their own cities. Being surrounded by civilization, it became more difficult for the Tribe-folk Warriors to function in this new way of living. So they moved further out into the wild and set up enclaves away from civilization. As civilized life declined, the enclaves became beacons of light between the old world and the new world. The peoples of civilization ventured out to learn the ways of the Warrior, upon returning home, the wild influenced many. The Lost, as they were called by the Warriors, fought tooth and nail with the returning of these People-Warriors. The solitude-lifeforce created chaos for anyone that ran from the inner life. So it was decided to wipe out the enclaves. The Warriors, on the run from The Lost, with nowhere to go, eventually died off,

save a few, that hid in small towns on the outskirts of the newly developing nations.

## The Fall

After the fall of the enclaves, city populations within these nations grew beyond the capacity for individuals to be distinguished. As individuals lost their connection to each other, corrupt systems of power formed around lower compulsions of the mind. Instead of desiring a better world, and rising above the material forces, our cosmic purpose on the Earth was forgotten. And so it continued, generation upon generation until the unexpected happened. You see, the solitude-lifeforce of the Warrior life never completely died out, it went underground, changing all, slowly, one person at a time, over millennia's. The solitude-lifeforce reached a critical mass, and to overcome the effects of lower-minded power structures, movements sprung up to combat the spreading damage. Many traveled to enclaves in the jungles, forests, and deserts of the Earth to learn traditional ways. The wisdom of the solitude-lifeforce ran its course, as it did before, but this time, the quality of spirit in each individual rose to a point that it could not be stifled by the lower forces any longer.

With too many tired of being lost, the work spread across the globe. Setting up enclaves became a different matter entirely as the inner-work became more accepted. The Lost could no longer influence people through the old fears, fears brought about by betraying the honored positions of the kingship. No, the people had risen to a different level from within, and it's not easy to fight the internal without submitting yourself to it, and by then you inhabit the converted. The dark paths once tread disappear forever. Some kind of force worked its way

through the converted like a web, it cannot be overcome by compulsion, because compulsion, like all the other lower qualities, is an unnatural state that can only survive as long as the need for it survives. The natural existence of the cosmos is fluid and dynamic, and as we regain our memory of our previous life, our cosmic purpose returns. Once every being on this planet returns to its natural existence, our time on Earth will be done and we will move on to the next stage of our journey.

This is where we are today. You are that Warrior, brother. Take your rightful place in this new world as warriors for Truth and Purpose. This is the true value of a man.

## **Inspiration**

- The end of all Evil - Jeremy Locke
- Not in His Image, Gnostic Vision, Sacred Ecology and the Future of Belief - John Lamb Lash