

The ripple effect and your true purpose

Have you ever dropped a stone in the water and noticed the circular waves that are created? This is a natural phenomenon called “Precession.” Precession is a generalized principal of nature. A generalized principal is a natural law that has certain qualities. Generalized principals operate universally; they are eternal sources of energy and power and operate without exception. Today is the second and final entry in examining the process of precession and how it can positively influence your life.

Technically speaking, precession is the effect of one body in motion on another body in motion. The waves created by a stone falling in water are the ripple effects of the stones movement and impact on the water. The ripple effect occurs at a right angle and 90 degrees to the stones line of impact. The energetic consequences of this process are always felt off to the side of the moving object.

In the last article I discussed how precession operates in nature. A good example one can understand is that a tsunami is the side effect consequence of an earthquake and propagates at a 90 degree angle to the epicenter. Interestingly, precession also manifests in economic and sociological ways. Like in nature it can have positive or negative results. To gain clarity on this, let me share some examples.

In economics, precession is having a negative impact in the price of gas and food. The Federal Reserve Bank of the United States has implemented a monetary policy called “Quantitative Easing” (QE). Think of QE as the stone hitting the water. On an episode of 60 Minutes broadcast in March 2009, the Federal Reserve chairman stated the policy is the equivalent of “printing money”. The purpose of our Federal Reserve is to help the economy, but the ripple effect of their policy is rising food and fuel prices.

I am not writing a political column, but I would say that sometimes policy makers fail to understand the precessional effect of their actions. The intention of the Federal Reserve is to support capital markets, but the precessional effect causes inflation. Don’t believe this? Take a look at the price for an ounce of gold. Government bureaucrats would be well served to have education on the unintended consequences of precession.

In terms of positive effects, precession is what is responsible for synchronicity and serendipity. Remember from the last article my discussion about a honeybee? To review, a honeybee flies from flower to flower and in the process pollen is rubbed onto its body. As it flies to the next flower the pollen is blown off at a 90 degree angle to its flight path. The honeybee is searching for nectar to make honey. The honey bee is not concerned with spreading pollen around.

The pollen that is made air born is a side effect, a ripple effect to the honeybee’s search for food. The true purpose of the honeybee is not to produce honey. The true purpose of the honeybee is cross pollination. Without this ripple effect of the honeybee, there is no life on earth. The cross pollination of the honeybee provides the synchronicity for life to unfold.

In our own lives we can see ourselves as honeybees searching for nectar. The nectar can be a goal, money, or a relationship. The specific desire is not what is important. Like the honeybee, our true purpose is not found in the seeking. If it is money we strive for, we must learn our true purpose is not the money. Our true purpose is off to the side of our searching. It is our impact on the world around us that is most important.

The actions in my own life can serve to illustrate. Several years ago I wrote a health book to become a successful author and entrepreneur. That was my goal and desire. My original intention was never fulfilled. The book helped people in need and even won an award, but it was not a financial success. I did however, begin to write these articles. The side effect of publishing my book was to serve my local community by writing these columns. People stop me all the time to comment on how these articles inspire them. This is the ripple effect of writing my book.

This is a wonderful experience in my life, but not the one I originally thought was to happen; it was off to the side. I do not make any money from these articles. I do it because people constantly say they are helpful. In a way, I cross pollinate. I recognized these articles are due to precession, and in this understanding, I am inspired to continue.

I learned about precession from R. Buckminster Fuller. He addressed precession and purpose in the following quote, “Your significance will remain forever obscure to you, but you may assume you are fulfilling your life’s purpose if you apply yourself to converting all of your experience to the highest advantage of others.” If you become focused on serving others it will have a positive side effect that will enrich your life in ways you can’t yet imagine. Trust in the side effects.

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