



Igor Bondar

About
that which
is most
important

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A photo story



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We live in extraordinary times. Externally human life is changing tens and even hundreds of times faster than it did before. Only the souls of men and the reason for their happiness or unhappiness remain unchanged. It is sad that in the bustle of our modern lives we often forget this.

Photo by George Czaus & Igor Bondar.

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*How to find God? You simply need
to look for the One who is closer to you
than anyone else in the whole world.*



*Constantly striving to improve our life
every day we have reached the point where
we have almost completely forgotten its
only true meaning.*



When a plane shakes violently passengers immediately become believers. How many of them later remember the Lord after their flight? The Saints have said: “A single thought about God in times of prosperity is worth thousands of thoughts about Him in times of misery”.



Today God's existence is undeniable. It is simply impossible as people possess too much evidence of His presence. However, these days he is well concealed by the hustle and bustle of our lives. But If we choose to live without Him then the reasons become unimportant. There are no reasonable excuses for forgetting our Father and our Creator and replacing Him with something "more important".



Time. We have both a lot of time and very little of it. We have very little time to just live life not thinking about anything too much – this time will run out anyway. We have a great amount of time to find that which is most important in life and strive towards it. To strive to where time never ends.



During our lifetime we are all searching to find “calm waters”. However, an experienced sailor is not afraid of any sea. We must learn to stand upright in turbulent waters, holding on to God like the mast of a ship.



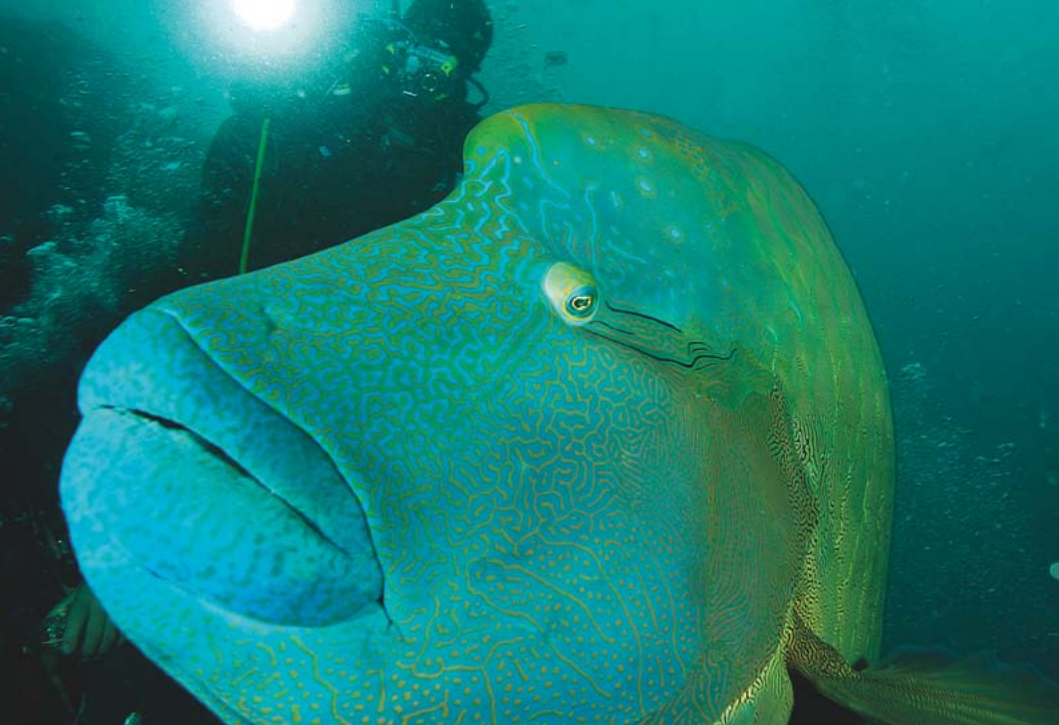
Modern civilization has provided mankind many comforts on this earth, but very few knowledge knowledge on how to achieve joy and happiness in the soul. However without that, what is the point of everything?



*If the soul is empty, no other person
can ever fill it. He will just be
a temporary distraction.*



Nowadays, many don't take their eyes off screens. Is that good or bad? It depends on what we see on those screens – light or darkness, good or evil. All of the information devices today are the pathways to our soul, they can be filled either with useful things or with all sorts of garbage.



Pride – is a most foolish thing. For the very reasons we are attracted to people who are easy going, considerate and humble we are repulsed by those who are arrogant, conceited and overinflated with self importance.



Nature always helps us purify ourselves and start seeing many things in life clearer. However, even after a long vacation, if a person does not begin to work on himself, he will soon return to his old habits.



Nowadays it is fashionable to seek stillness of the mind using a multitude of techniques. But this is not the way. A turtle on the sand can also be absolutely peaceful and still. Only love elevates a person.



It is strange that despite being extremely intelligent and logical, mankind is often eager to believe in tens or even hundreds of different “spiritual” theories, none of which are validated by a single miracle from God. It is surprising how modern people who are usually cautious and not gullible show such astonishing carelessness while considering such an important question.



Love is a flag that was given to us by God. Mankind should have raised it to great heights in the past two thousand years, rallied behind it and happily marched forward with it throughout their lives. Unfortunately, the world today is dazzled by flags, the names of which we not too eager to pronounce. Yet so many people chose to follow them...



Who creates the more and more realistic computer generated virtual reality? The answer is not complicated. It is enough to look around and see what we sacrifice for it – nature, walks, beautiful real personal relationships, reflections on the meaning of life and acknowledgement of the Divine in this world. A long time ago God created the most incredible reality to which nothing can compare.



A person's soul can only be healed by loving others. If the soul has no need of love, it means that it has withered and become completely empty.



The world today is blinded by its cleverness and advanced technology. However, all this “modernity” is but a tiny drop from the world of the Father. . We often blindly chase after some temporary and essentially unnecessary things, and in doing so we lose something priceless and eternal. It is unfortunate that sometimes we are completely impractical



*Some of the people on earth choose to look
at the light. Others, at the darkness. As a
result, each of them become filled with
that which they are looking at.*



Social networks today are real nets that have already caught a significant part of mankind. Indeed, it is a convenient means of communication but these nets often take up a big proportion of our life and they replace the reality that God created for us.



No one likes to think about their own death.

All our life we deceive ourselves by trying to “stretch” the pitiful seventy or so years of earthly life out to eternity. To tell the truth, it is a silly idea! Eternity is reached by a different path. Thinking about death is useful as it helps us to touch reality and look for true Eternity. These thoughts gradually turn our 'achievements' into temporarily amusing toys and help us find the right path.



Only God joins the hearts of people.
Simpler connections people find
themselves.



Right now is a good time to begin spiritual work. Even though the number of passions and temptations is so huge and diverse these days, a person having decided to resist them can with the help of God, achieve quite a lot.



Observing modern politics one can be surprised at how quickly mankind forgets the bitter lessons of the past and all its efforts making peaceful agreements afterwards. It keeps repeating the same mistakes being hostile, combatant and uncompromising.



People are always searching for a “golden eggs” which they believe are the key to happiness. They look for them everywhere leaving no stone unturned in search of this illusive magic key. It’s bad that it doesn’t occur to them to look inside themselves and fight with their own passions and sins, for this purpose.



*Love like water, can be of different depths.
It can be quite shallow, a drying out
puddle or it can be a boundless ocean.*



Those who break earthly laws do not look very sensible in the eyes of normal people. In the same way, we won't look too clever in the eyes of the inhabitants of Heaven when we break the kind and beautiful laws of the Creator.



One saint of recent years has said that today we have lost our Home and even the way to It. Now we are even trying to convince ourselves and others that the world of lies, hostility and cold pragmatism that we are building today is the best home in the whole world.



How much time is left for this world? The exact answer is known only to God! However a lot depends on us also.

Our Father gave us a free will and He acts according to the circumstances which are created by how we lead our lives on earth. Nothing is fully predetermined – people play a big part in determining their future depending on whether during their lifetime they live by God's rules or by those created by their passions. It is the amount of love and kindness in this world that will determine its longevity.

The Lord once
asked people, if
He would find
faith on earth
when He
descended for
the second time.
Today it would
be difficult to
give Him an
answer to this
question.

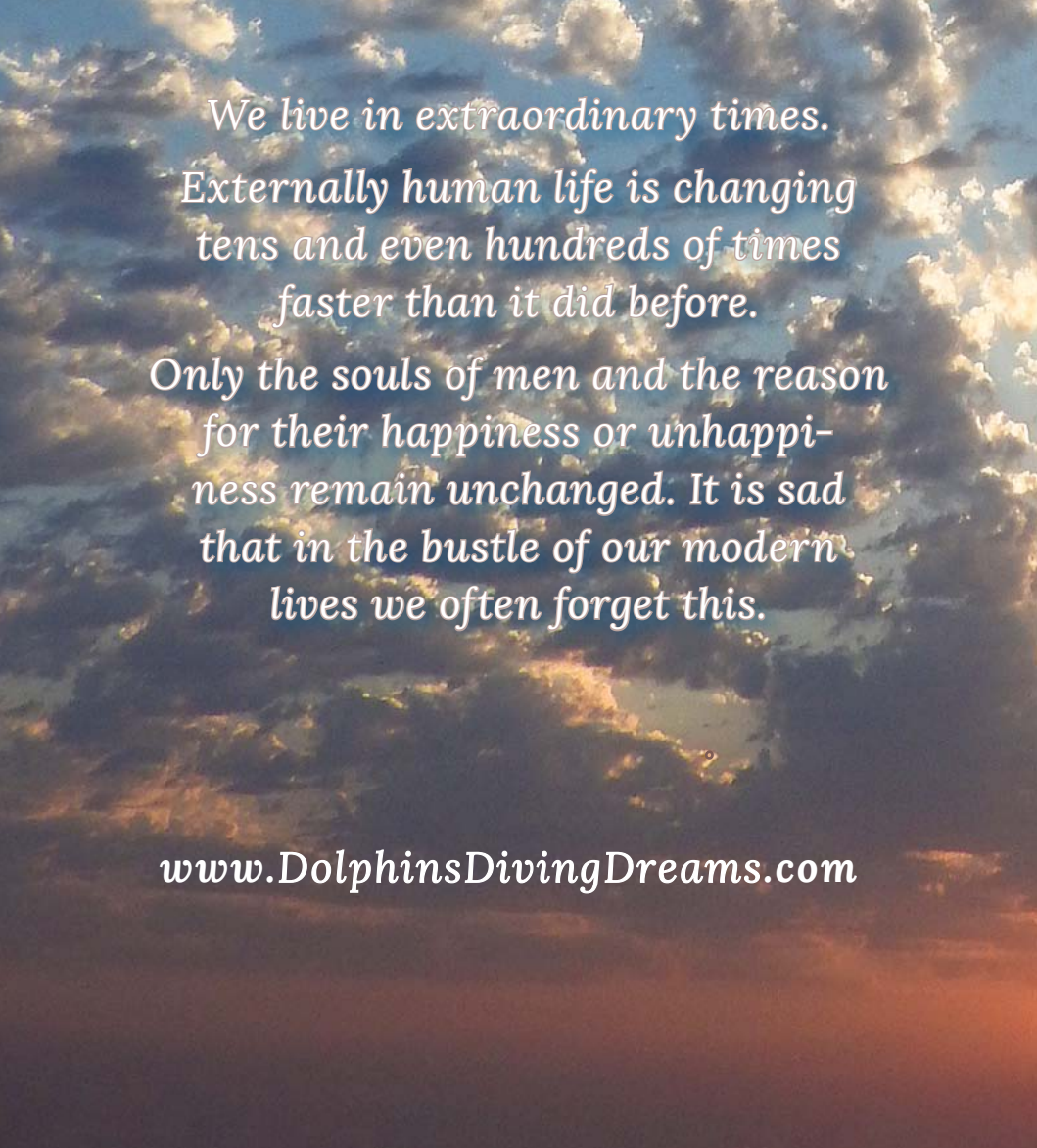


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*(All text used from book
Igor Bondar
"Face yourself. About our times")*



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