

True Power

The power of a nation is generally evaluated in terms of the wealth that nation possesses. Today, money is what counts more than anything else. Indeed, this is precisely where the great risk that society is running is to be found. As long as wealth was based on industrial and agricultural production, and on scientific and even commercial development, there was a certain degree of stability. Now, however, there is no longer any balance because speculation has taken over the entire market, the volume of stock transactions being greater than ever and continually on the increase. Now that money has become one of man's "riches," inheritable by birth (an extension of the age of nobility), the people have "accepted" the inverted idea that rich people are the best people. Nevertheless, it is not difficult to perceive that the rich are definitely thwarting the development of civilization to such an extent that it is necessary to put an end to this situation.

True power, which lies in work and in scientific and artistic achievement and development, is unknown to most of humanity because the social structure is organized so as to enslave man to work that makes a few individuals rich. In the past it was the nobility, the bourgeoisie, and the churchmen; today it is the capitalists and those who have socio-economic power in communist and socialist regimes. We must distinguish here between the worker, the administrator, and the capitalist. Whereas the first two are essential to the operation of a business enterprise, the capitalist may even be a noxious element if the organization functions for the purpose of affording him profit. On the other hand, if the

administrator organizes the business so as to benefit the workers, the company can undergo extraordinary development.

There are two types of organizations: one, aimed at enslaving the human being, in which management maintains a pact with the powerful; the other, aimed at providing profit for those who work. The latter type is trilogical, since its aim is to provide well-being for the people. The former is the traditional type of organization which seeks to take what it can from the worker and the scientist so as to make a few individuals more powerful — a diabolical mode of existence imposed on the human being by direct inspiration from Lucifer. Indeed, we would do well to recognize that nothing good can ever come from evil spirits.

This phenomenon that has befallen mankind is extremely curious. It seems that humankind entered a state of collective somnolence in which men began to admire the most masked, most deceitful personages who call themselves powerful. We have ceased to recognize the fact that nothing in existence, in and of itself, possesses power, but that power derives only from action, only from those who act to further that which is good, truthful, and beautiful. Power, then, pertains to those who work, not to those who have seated themselves on "thrones" in order to be served. This desire for power is like a nightmare, something that has taken control of the human mind, closing off 90% of its capacity to function and making us act like robots, like zombies, half-dead, half-alive. I believe that the time has now come for us to wake up, to dislodge the powerful from their fantasies and steer a course to the stars, for the universe is much too immense for us to remain mired in this futile mode of existence we have created.

I think that each individual will have to be awakened as from a bad dream; each will have to open his eyes and see that he has never lived, and that we as human beings must waste no more time in this kind of useless existence. Really, it is only a matter of incensing a few hundred powerful people. We must begin to live for the common good, for a true civilization, and take the big step toward cosmic space.

It is to our advantage to study why some people take such great pleasure in being devils, people who characteristically attack others, unleashing their tensions on them; people who do the most harm they can to others. In other words, these are people possessed

of incredible malice. They are to be found in every corner — in schools and businesses, on buses and in cars, caring for children and praying in churches — and they can always be identified. Still, the places where they pass unnoticed are the mansions of the millionaires, the great financial enterprises, and the banks, given that their preference is for places where socio-economic power is to be found. The explanation for this is that such individuals believe that power lies in attacking and oppressing one's fellow man. They fail to see that such attitudes reflect the greatest weakness. For this reason they can be compared to evil spirits. Certainly the contrary is true: those who devote their lives to helping others — even though they may have fantasies of being supermen — are modest, simple, and happy because their lives are keyed to their very essence, their original nature.

When human beings, like the fallen angels, decided to be like God, they chose to have knowledge of good and evil in the belief that this would make them even better than God. The irony of this is incredible, for to accept something evil is the same as to respect that which is fantasy, something non-existent and useless. It is a renunciation of the power of the Creator. What is happening now is that the devils and we humans have begun to believe that power lies in destruction. We have filled the world with nuclear weapons, warships and warplanes — and we believe that this is power!

Power is precisely the opposite: it is the capacity of the Creator to create the universe and keep it alive every minute; it is the scientist's capacity to combat disease, bring equilibrium to the human being, and improve the quality of life; it is the farmer's capacity to till the soil for the seed to germinate; it is the work of the laborer that builds a machine, a house, a highway, or a bridge; it is the capacity of the artist to "create" a painting, a song, a sculpture. Power is the possibility to create and construct; non-power is the attitude of destroying, denying and omitting. The world should not have any weapons for destruction, for this is totally immoral. We do not have the right to build any sort of death machine, be it an atomic bomb or a gun. Weapons made for destruction are themselves an evil. For this reason, those who fight for disarmament are correct; the world should not possess any type of destructive weapon whatsoever. Still, we know that the greatest industry is that of arms, the objective of which is to eliminate human life.

● The technique employed by the powerful to dominate the people is to accuse them of all the evils that exist in the world. It is the technique of driving them into a corner, of censuring them so as to put each individual on the defensive. Of course, such an attitude is not expressed openly, only surreptitiously. One area in which this occurs is the media. In reporting all of the various crimes and delinquencies that are committed, they put emphasis on the efficiency of the police. At other times, they warn the people of the dangers the country faces from terrorist attacks by peoples of other nations, at the same time showing how invaluable the armed forces are to the defense of the nation. In fact, it is a strategy of attack, used for the purpose of preventing the people from having time to think. As the saying goes: the best defense is a good offense.

● Another technique the powerful use is to praise those who are in power and, with this, make them seem magnanimous and self-sacrificing out of interest in the common good. They also use the technique of praising the people to make them more willing to withstand the hardships and to make themselves appear generous. When these tactics fail to have an effect, they turn to dictatorship or some other form of strong repression. In any case, they try to keep the people as calm as possible by allowing them all sorts of alienating elements: drugs, alcoholic beverages, fanciful movies (unreal pseudo-patriotic themes), sexual freedom, and social security.

● The idea that work is arduous comes to us from those who control power (today, socio-economic power). It is they who made work burdensome by organizing the system in such a way that the work the people do does not serve their own best interests. Indeed, it serves only the vanity of the powerful. Thus, we are forced to do work we do not want to do and which we know does not benefit us, work that does not interest us; and this creates deep inner conflict. In this way, work has become extremely distressing; and yet, we can change it. The reader must realize that what is written in the Bible concerning work need not be definitive. All that we have to do is eliminate the motives that led us to make life a sacrifice.

● American films have long portrayed the struggle of the persecuted against their oppressors, clearly foreshadowing the future

liberation of the people from their torturers. Moreover, the persecutors in these films are people of power who used the laws and the power of influential personalities to further their own socio-economic power. In fact, all of the revolutions and wars in the history of humankind have been waged to stamp out the oppression of a few individuals against the majority. The individual with socio-economic power keeps himself hidden; he guards his privacy with care, and relatively few people know of his habits. I am even able to affirm that he is similar to the devil in that he knows perfectly well the risk he runs if he shows himself as he is; that is, if others find out his intentions. All evil persons seek the shadows, like the lethal bacteria that thrive in stale food, whereas the light that comes from on high shows itself and gives life.

A survey reported in *USA Today*¹ shows that "29.9 percent of the students think their work will make them a millionaire; 11.6 percent felt that way in 1976; 8.5 percent in 1966." These results show how the technique of promising wealth is now being used to keep young people quietly compliant. In fact, the same survey also shows that the younger generations are beginning to abandon sexual promiscuity: "31.4 percent think their parents' generation was too promiscuous; 4.2 percent thought the same in 1976; and 1.3 percent in 1966." As this change in values endangers the social powers, the students, barely free of one type of alienation, are being pushed into another: the illusion of economic power, which they will never attain under the present structure of society.

Humanity cannot depend on the minds of individuals, on their judgment, as it has been doing until now. We must succeed in organizing a system of laws that benefit the people. Looking through a recent issue of *Business Week*³ that showed photographs of important people in the world of business, I realized that all of them looked as though they were seriously ill. I saw disfigured physiognomies, expressions of great coldness, pronounced narcissism (indicated by the clothes they were wearing), and even a semi-retarded look in the eyes. It is no wonder that they pull mankind down to the lowest possible level of humanity.

He who knows how to work, works; he who does not know how to work, exploits others. The individual who works is not fairly remunerated, but only the idle have time to exploit others. It is good for the people in general to be aware that this serious

inversion exists, an inversion of the value of work, which on the one hand leads the well-intentioned and the honest along the path to study and work, and on the other, incites the sick, the malicious, the incompetent, the parasitic individuals to force the others to work for them. Can you imagine an individual from any millionaire family working in an office, a factory, or a machine shop? Indeed, it is the inactive who hold back human development and scientific research and thwart the well-being of the peoples. The notion that the wealthy know more about work than others is an inverted idea, for the number of those who become millionaires through work is minute.

There is nothing wrong with the idea of wanting to be wealthy. The problem initially is this; why is it so difficult to enjoy a normal life, with relative comfort, a certain amount of travel, good clothes and the opportunity to study and dedicate myself to the arts? The answer that comes to mind is that the socio-economic structure does not allow it. That is why anyone who succeeds in becoming rich through his own honest work is an extremely worthy person. In practice, however, this is not generally the case, because to get rich, a person must work 10 to 12 hours a day over a period of approximately 30 years in an entrepreneurial type of activity, according to Thomas Stanley, a professor of marketing at Georgia State University of Atlanta.⁴

One of the best paid professions in this country is that of medicine, but no one ever becomes rich from it. For example, although Dr. Melvin Moore, 60, has a radiology practice in Bensonhurst, N. Y., he has made more money in his side business, building houses in Bethlehem, Pa.⁵ Another misconception is that a person can become a millionaire by working for a big corporation. According to Mr. Stanley:

85 percent of America's millionaires own their own business or a share of a private company. Another misconception is that artists, entertainers, writers, and athletes make up a large segment of the millionaire population. Not even 1 percent of millionaires made fortunes in those fields, says Jonathan Robbin, chairman of Claritas Partners, an Alexandria, Va., market-research firm.⁶

As I have shown throughout this book, 1) to become rich, that is, to make a million dollars from scratch, a person has to spend his entire productive life making a superhuman effort; 2) in no ordinary line of work, not even medicine, can a person become wealthy; 3) any person who devotes his entire time to making money becomes unbalanced, for he cannot achieve the desired result in any ordinary profession; 4) the easiest way to become a millionaire is to be born rich; and 5) the socio-economic structure has practically closed the circle to new millionaires — the millionaire market is saturated. This being the case, no substantial increase in the wealth of the people is possible, and thus the wealth of the world is static. However, given that the world population increases continually, we are now beginning to enter into a period of serious collective impoverishment. We must break these bonds if we are to prevent the world from entering into this decline, one which will affect even the millionaires of today. The riches of the universe are abundant enough for all, not super-abundant for only a few.

Power is the word of the moment, and it is probably the word most used in the advertising media. The American people consume food, do exercise, meditate and pursue money in order to increase their power. Yet the greatest power of all is being forgotten: the power of freedom, or better, the power of justice and goodness. As I have already commented, at the very same moment that American politics was fulfilling man's dream on earth to be free, another parallel power promptly organized itself so as to limit that freedom. According to O. Wright Mills, it was in 1866 that the corporations began to acquire power.⁷ This victory of capitalism has generated a series of disasters for mankind: organized crime copied big business methods and powerful groups of gangsters established themselves; a dream of imaginary prosperity ended suddenly with the panic of 1929 and the subsequent years of progressive depression; the First and Second World Wars, Vietnam, the oil crisis, the Marxist Revolution in Russia, and the division of Europe and mankind into two basically similar regimes (individual vs. State capitalism).

In order to know the degree of power an individual possesses, we must know first, his level of intelligence; second, his affective capacity; and third, his realization. The idea that power

depends on the strength of one's muscles or on the size of one's bank account is erroneous. A nation's true power lies in its culture, its science, and its art; or better, in the worthiness of its inhabitants. This is the basis of civilization. Even the defense of a people resides mainly in their capacity for work. We recognize that the United States was not initially prepared to confront Nazi Germany, but in a very short span of time the American people transformed their automobile, refrigerator and washing machine factories into war production industries. In other words, the people who have the most, have the least; but if a person becomes mediocre, he is not able to obtain even the bare minimum to live on. Great power, true power, is found in love, for love alone is constructive, love alone accomplishes. We can say, then, that weakness is to be found in arrogance and in envy, for hatred is the "feeling" of the weak.

References

1. Nancy Hellmich, "The New Campus Attitude on Sex," *USA Today*, February 5, 1986.
2. Hellmich.
3. *Business Week*, February 2, 1986.
4. Beth Brophy and Gordon Witkin, "Ordinary Millionaires." *U.S. News & World Report*, January 13, 1986, p.45.
5. Brophy and Witkin.
6. Brophy and Witkin.
7. O. Wright Mills, *The Power Elite* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1956), p. 271.