## BEING SPIRITUAL DOES NOT MEAN BEING IRRELEVANT

If I had walked into the Temple and said, "Hey fellas, move your tables out. You know this really doesn't seem right to me for you to be changing money and selling dogs and making a profit here in the Temple." They would have just laughed, because it had been going on for ages whether it was appropriate or not. It was necessary for me to, for lack of better words, provide a scene, something that would register with them and actually cause them to think. Now the fact is that they only stayed out of the Temple about thirteen days before coming back. But the point had been made, the meaning had been expressed, and my actions did make clear that the Christ, one who is Awake, does not tolerate that which is inconsistent with the Father's Will.

Now, the necessity was to say "No" in language that the individuals recognized as meaning "No." I will tell you, it is a characteristic of the ego that it joins with other egos in agreement not to make waves, as I mentioned earlier. And so even in big business today agreements are made that allow for money to be misused and misappropriated within the context of business practices. And everybody simply says it isn't happening. And yet, it happens in a manner that doesn't undermine the overall intent of the business to function and perform its function. And so everybody agrees to be dishonest within certain limitations, agreed-upon limitations.

Human relationships are the same. Agreements are made to allow that which is unintelligent or inappropriate to occur in the name of honoring the integrity of that individual and his right to express his or her free will. And as long as that expression of free will doesn't undermine the fabric of society too much, nobody says anything. The Christ doesn't do that. Because you see, when you join with another in an agreement that allows dreaming to continue, that allows ignorance to continue, you are joining in that which obscures Awakening; you are joining in that which obscures each one's divinity; you are joining in that which obscures each one's, I'm going to say, radical fulfillment. And so everybody loses.

Everybody says, "I will love you, but not enough to be that presence in your life that will trigger your Awakening." And love has come to mean that which allows others to remain deluded, because they love their delusion. You must say "No." You must be the brick wall, so to speak, that doesn't join with someone who insists upon being unintelligent. And you must dare to be that presence which says, "You're more intelligent than that. You know better than that. And it's that part of you that knows better that I value and that I will side with. That's the part of you that I will choose to strengthen and encourage you to value more, even though you are totally miserable because I'm not honoring your limited perception and allowing you to be bound by it."

The ego says, "Please don't turn on the light, it hurts my eyes." But the individuality that is there where the ego seems to be presenting itself, will rejoice that the light is turned on, because it illuminates that which that individual knows is true, and gives that individual, not the ego, but gives that individual the support and the encouragement needed to validate that part of that individual.

When you treat a person who sees himself as dishonest as though he's honest, the greatest likelihood is that it will inspire honesty because the confidence that is given feels good. Most people continue in their ignorant patterns because nobody said, "Stop." Nobody dared to be really straight with them and say, "This is inappropriate. This doesn't work. This isn't getting you what you want." You as a woman know better than most men that if you let your children, your house would be one chaotic mess all the time, and you have to say "No" or go crazy. Besides saving yourself from going crazy, you're saying "No" to them helps them develop an appreciation for neatness, cleanliness and order.

And so you have to say "No." And you have to say "No" to Saddam Hussein. You have to say "No" to a Hitler. And I will tell you something: they know the rules. And they know that when "No" is said, it's going to be said in a certain way. And if they choose to be where the "No" is being demonstrated and they die, it is not something that happens ignorantly, and it happens because they are in that place to object to the "No," to challenge the unwillingness, let us say, of the rest of the world to allow them to be inhumane.

Now until very recently horses were killed if they were severely injured. Why? Because no one knows easily how to address an injury in a horse. And so rather than have a horse in pain and experiencing the gruesomeness of it, and the emotional pain that those trying to care for the horse endure, they kill the horse to relieve themselves of the suffering from the fact that they don't know how to easily take care of the healing of an injured horse.

Don't ever think that expressing unconditional love means saying, "You hit me or you broke my ribs, but I love you anyway." You say, "You hit me, you broke my ribs, you cannot do that. Until you change your mind, you will be restrained from doing that and I love you anyway. And I care enough to find a way to help you see things differently so that you find no further need for such an incident." Unconditional love does not appropriately make you the doormat of ignorant people or ignorant perspectives

~excerpt from Gathering with Raj/JESUS Austrailia 1993