

# Circles within the Circle

by Rosemary Wilkie

*Rosemary is a writer and Senior Practitioner of Spiral Dynamics Integral – a revolutionary model of the development of consciousness which provides a key to solving major conflicts and global wars. Links to more detailed articles can be found via [www.rosemarywilkie.co.uk](http://www.rosemarywilkie.co.uk)*

The ancient Greeks talked about man being a *microcosm of the macrocosm* (everything in the cosmos, as it were, lives in man). In this vein, Henry Thomas Hamblin reminds us that if there is an individual plan or purpose for each life, there must also be a far greater Plan for the entire Universe, a concept of a magnitude far beyond the comprehension of any of us!

I believe the first thing is to trust that there is such a Plan, and that it has been manifesting through all that has occurred in history and pre-history, and is still manifesting now. The prophets of doom are very busy arousing fear of the future, but we don't have to listen to them. Although, in my view, we need to know what is happening in the world in order to pray for those situations, we do not need to immerse ourselves in the news on the hour every hour. When we free ourselves from any pre-occupation with the news we may have, we release precious time to watch how the Plan is working out in our own lives and the world around us.

A true Plan must lead to a single goal, however distant. A convoy, like a desert caravan, proceeds towards its destination despite challenges

that may be presented by weather conditions and human intervention. It is also true to say that although the destination remains constant, there is a certain flowing around, enjoying and meeting of experiences that may crop up on the way. In the same way the greater Plan in the Mind of the Divine, is infinitely loving and providential, allowing us to use our freewill and yet turning all our less than wise choices to the Good.



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## The lesser wholes within the greater whole

Anyone who has organised a wedding understands this. The lesser plans are encompassed by the larger, so the guest list, church, music, flowers, food, transport, honeymoon, and dress are smaller wholes within the greater whole of the success of the wedding. On a larger scale think of organising the Olympics.

So the universal Plan must surely have major steps, with smaller plans appropriate for different times and places – a current plan appropriate for each age, such as the Christ coming two thousand years ago to teach love and brotherhood in a world that was in the thrall of a God that was perceived as a violent and vengeful deity.

What might the current Plan for our times include? What is the greatest good that can be achieved in the circumstances of this age?

⊗ Raising human consciousness is the prime aim of most spiritually minded people. Those who work steadily at this are extremely important as they open the way for others to follow, leaving behind a life previously based entirely on emotional reactions and learning to think clearly and wisely, an important step towards expanding consciousness.

⊗ Only when the gross imbalance between 'haves' and 'have nots' is resolved will it be possible to raise the level of consciousness of all mankind. This requires the peaceful resolution of differences between nations. Surely every human being has the right to water, food, housing, clothing and education? The desire for this is taking root. *Commons*,<sup>1</sup> and other inspired movements, are emerging to spread this message, and two million charitable enterprises are already labouring selflessly to help. Much more money is needed for such spiritually inspired work. Greed, selfishness, the desire for power, and national ambitions are huge obstacles, but when the time is right things happen. We did not expect the fall of the Berlin Wall or the Arab Spring destroying obsolete structures, and, yes, also presenting innumerable new challenges and problems for us to meet and overcome.

⊗ The human race has worked hard to achieve a level of individuality, but the time has now come to embrace the *group* idea – goodwill towards the whole – group endeavour – group inter-relationships – group consciousness. Working together, each contributing their skills and supporting those who need it. Here again, the most evolved among us must show the way.

Sometimes we feel overwhelmed by a loss, an illness, an apparent failure. Once, when I was at my lowest ebb, a dear friend said, *'The only place you will ever be is here, the only time it will ever be is now, and the only thing you will ever have to do is this.'* Even if this is just putting the kettle on. Step by step. Baby steps. Holding to our trust in God and doing what comes next. Using our will to lift ourselves from the emotional level to the mental level, think clearly and open

ourselves to the intuitional – which is understanding at soul level and which banishes our fears.

A true Plan or goal is powerful and draws us towards it and embraces us. If we hold in our minds the image or vision of a Divine Plan, we realise that there is a purpose behind the challenges and disappointments of everyday life, and that if we handle them correctly, and continue with persistence, we grow. The fulfilment of the potential of each individual

life contributes to the evolution of humanity as a whole, thus furthering the Divine Plan. ☒

1 The Commons movement began when Elinor Ostrom received a Nobel Prize for demonstrating what happens to our freedom and creativity when public and private interests own rights and properties that should belong to all of us in common: land, forests, water, minerals, fuel, living creatures, airwaves, seeds, our stores of culture and knowledge both indigenous and scientific – resources that are the basic support systems of life, many irreplaceable. [www.globalcommonstrust.org](http://www.globalcommonstrust.org)