A LIVING EARTH

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As students of our beloved Order, we become well acquainted with the four elements, their laws, and principles.

We learn how we ourselves are a manifestation of these four elements – earth, water, air, and fire – and that it is necessary for us to live in balance with their aspects. A condition for good health and a

sound body is a life in total harmony on all planes. Nowadays we are, more than ever, interested in what we eat and drink and how this affects us. In reality this means that we strive for a good balance between the four elements in our body.

Let us now raise our eyes and look out on the world around us. Observing our

Earth, we realize that we are looking upon another living creature, although of a different kind – a living creature also in need of a harmonious life through the balance between the four elements. We see a globe, a world that has lived through many convulsions, but following the laws and principles of creation itself, it has always continued its existence, lifting itself to an even higher level of evolution. Our world has seen many species of animals and plants manifest, develop, and disappearperhaps preparing for the possibility of an even higher form of existence – all this in an endless chain of evolution.

After eons of time of an increasingly complex evolution, human beings at last came upon the scene, and as time went by they called themselves the "Crown of Creation." As long as humans on Earth were few in number, Nature could carry their actions and activities, and the natural balance between the four elements could work undisturbed, according to the laws of ever-

active evolution. But in our times something serious has happened. Humans learned through inventions and the extreme growth of new industries to manipulate that which Nature, once so carefully balanced, had built up.

The population of the world began to grow rapidly, and unsuspectingly we interfered with the

chemistry of Nature, broke down and consumed its natural assets, and changed the ecological conditions without considering its internal balance that is so vulnerable and delicate.

When we, who study the laws and principles of Nature as seen from inner balance and harmony, look upon the things that happen in and with the world today, we know that it is alarming. We are neither able to determine nor judge when and where things go too far. But one thing we do know: If our own body were exposed to the same kinds of damage and unbalance – were it to become polluted, so to say – our health would soon weaken



Rosicrucian Digest No. 1 2020 and break down. Following the principle, "As below, so also above," we understand that the world, our wonderful Earth, is ill – very ill.

Dear Fratres and. Sorores, we are not a political organization, and we are not environmental activists who demonstrate with placards, shouting in streets and squares. But with the insight given us through the Rosicrucian teachings about the necessary harmony needed for our daily social life to function, there comes a responsibility. The knowledge we receive through our studies about the Inner Life is accompanied by a deep understanding of the many levels of this Inner Life in the world around us, and I again refer to the Hermetic law that we know so well: "As below, so also above; as above, so also below." This law implies a responsibility not only for our own lives, but also for all others who inhabit this planet of ours. We must also face the fact that Earth is also the planet where we will, again and again in the future, be reincarnated.

What Can We Do?

Those who follow the Path of the Mystics are blessed with an inner knowledge. But this wisdom is not won before we are able to use the knowledge – to the glory of the Divine and the benefit of humankind. So then, what can we as Rosicrucians do with this insight, other than not personally cause utter damage to our polluted air, not contaminate the water we are in touch with, not poison the Earth from which we harvest our food, or not use fire for destructive purposes?

First of all, we should, as fratres and sorores of the Rose Cross, use the tremendous power of visualization and mentally try to influence those who are involved with environmental decisions. Visualize that they open their minds to a deeper understanding of polluted Nature's needs – that the welfare of Nature is the

welfare of humankind. And we must never become tired and give up. In our daily social life, among family, friends, and colleagues, we must – with the vibration of positive, constructive thinking – infuse the desire to take responsibility, the desire to act, and above all, we must try to eliminate the prevalent feeling that what just one person thinks or does can't make a difference. Every single step we take in the right direction, we take for the whole of humankind.

Fratres and Sorores, maybe we are the "Crown of Creation," but the power that this implies - to think, feel, and act as we wish, and to be conscious of our own existence - can lead us as well to consume, thereby destroying our fragile and finite Narure instead of using it with respect and understanding. Because as we give, we shall also receive; what we take, we must somehow pay back; and we stand on the threshold where Nature soon does not have any more to give if we don't begin to balance the account. We must also be aware of the fact that the knowledge and understanding of our Inner Life, our Inner World, its harmony and balance that we learn through our studies, is not shared with the majority. Therefore, our important task is to spread our Light of Wisdom spread insight and understanding to those who wander in the darkness of ignorance.

May we, as Rosicrucians, be even more active in spreading Light where darkness prevails, and providing knowledge of the true meaning behind everything where ignorance is humanity's daily guide. May we be sincere workers for a peaceful, harmonious, and loving future where we indeed will see coming generations live in Peace, Light, and Love, and where the four elements are purified and in balance both within human beings and in Nature.

So Mote it Be!

