



This web site and the TSV organization is under construction – to be completed later in 2005. If you are interested in the concept and would like to help, please email us at [info@TwelveStageVision.com](mailto:info@TwelveStageVision.com)



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**1. Welcome to Twelve Stage Vision (TSV).**

In this confusing time of ecological meltdown and nuclear terrorists, of clashing cultures and conflicted egos, TSV offers a clarifying model of our spiraling human development.

TSV provides twelve simple stages for understanding our accelerating human drama from cells to scavengers to cell phones to spirit. Some highlights:

- **Two billion years ago**, the debris from the big bang had miraculously formed into self replicating life, but it was still hardly more than microscopic pond scum.
- **Two million years ago**, that pond scum had clumped together to form our hominid ancestors -- fighting, fornicating and foraging on the Serengeti plains
- **Two thousand years ago**, we had evolved into the great mythic civilizations. Most of us were soldiers or slaves or serfs, but a few sages and saints had the leisure, opportunity and desire to examine and see thru the illusion of relative form to the underlying spiritual truths.
- **Today** we circle the globe with jets and cell phones, trade and the world-wide-web – and our viewpoint is widening to an integral global level. Many of us have found that money can't buy happiness, but it can give us the time and leisure to look more deeply at spiritual alternatives.

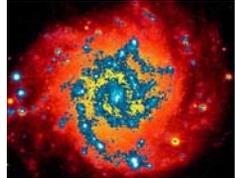


TSV shows how our accelerating technology in the past has allowed us the luxury to expand our moral vision. After tens of thousands of years, cannibalism ended with the rise of intensive agriculture and slavery ended with industrialization.

TSV describes how it is possible that in this century, accelerating technology, trade, and wealth will expand our moral outlook to the point that aggression and discrimination against our fellow humans, or against earth-ecology will become as morally repugnant as cannibalism, human sacrifice and slavery have become today.

**Some Questions TSV considers.**

- Are there **other worlds** like ours? Was our special universe an accident or crafted by a "guiding force"?
- Is **true spirituality** to be found in the great mythic churches, pagan magic, or scientific inquiry – or by including and transcending all three? Is true spirituality non-rational or trans-rational?
- How does the study of humans on the **African plains** a million years ago help explain our stressful aggressive striving today -- or our striving for the perfect partner – and then having an affair.
- Did the people of 1,000 or 10,000 years ago **think differently** than we do? Were their morals different?
- What is **time**? Does it change with our perception?
- Is **integral thinking** the highest mind stage or the lowest spiritual stage? Why will it "save the world"?

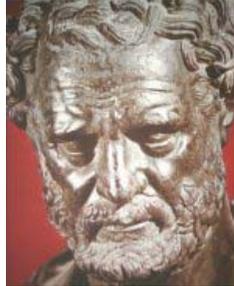


● What evidence is there that **technology drives economics, culture, and morality**? That our morality or ethics will increase fast enough to avoid catastrophic terrorism or ecological meltdown?



## 2. THE 12 STAGES OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT.

The perennial philosophy – core to all traditions east and west – is that sentient beings can express themselves or grow and develop (evolve) up a “Great Chain (or Nest) of Being” from non-conscious matter to body to mind to spirit to the One Godhead which is the ground of the entire sequence.



This chain is not so much a theory as a description of the actual experiences of such explorers as Plato, Aristotle, Hegel, Aurobindo, Leibniz, Plotinus, or Buddha.

Each higher stage (of the chain or nest) includes and rests on the foundation of the lower stages – animals are composed of cells, cells are composed of molecules, molecules of atoms.

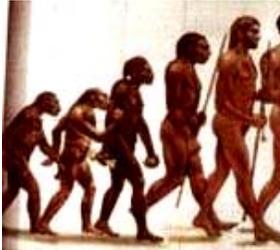
Ken Wilber has pointed out in several of his books (see sidebar) that –these stages of growth of maturation also are reflected in our biological and cultural evolution.

The TSV model uses 12 stages grouped into 4 eras: body, emotion, mind, and spirit.

**ERA**      **Stage** (approximate time of stage dominance)  
 -----      ----- (mya=million years ago)

**BODY**      **S1. Matter** (over 5,000mya)  
                  **S2. Cells** (5,000 to 500mya)  
                  **S3. Animals** (500 to 50mya)

**EMOTION** **S4. Mammals** (50 to 5mya)  
                  **S5. Hominids** (5 to 0.5mya)  
                  **S6. Archaic Man** (500,000 to 50,000ya)



**MIND**              **S7. Magic** (50,000 to 5000ya)  
                          **S8. Mythic** (5000 to 500 or 400ya)  
                          **S9. Rational** (S9a. Rational-Individualistic)  
    (S9b. Rational-Pluralistic)  
    (S9c. Rational-Integral)

**SPIRIT**              **S10. Integral-Spiritual**  
                          **S11. Subtle-Spiritual**  
                          **S12. Causal-Spiritual**

These stages are described in some detail below.  
 We are now poised at stage 9a or 9b (but many people are still at stage 7 and 8) -- trying to make it to stage 9c or 10 (Integral-spiritual) without destroying ourselves or our planet.

**Time.** Please note that the times used for the stages are approximate, but compelling in their indication of the exponential acceleration of human evolutionary development.

**Defining a Stage.** A stage here is defined by the dominant leading consciousness of its human population or of that population leading to humans. Thus today, while some folks are in the Mythic or even the earlier Magic stage (especially in less developed countries), the majority of power and nearly half of the population is in the Rational stage.

We observe that generally in historical development, higher technology allows higher morals, but that is a generality and a Nazi Germany, or a Buddhist Tibet are extremes from that rule.

For an individual, a person’s center of gravity could be at rational-pluralistic. But that is an average. He could often be lower (under stress, say), or higher. Or he could be cognitively at rational, but morally much lower (Nazi doctor). [But not the reverse since a higher wider view is needed for higher/wider morals.]

**Stage development** is not a “**hierarchy**” but a “**holarchy**” with each “higher” stage building and depending on the lower stages. Frogs are made of cells, and cells are made of atoms.

**Integral Theory. Ken Wilber.** TSV is inspired by the work of Ken Wilber, considered the most comprehensive thinker of our time. He was the first to integrate modern western psychological development with the spiritual teachings of the great sages and mystics.

Wilber in his later work emphasizes not only **stages or levels**, but also:

**Quadrants.** Stages of development are expressed in 4 quadrants.

<b>"I"</b> . Interior-Individual (consciousness),	<b>"It"</b> . Exterior-Individual (brain),
<b>"We"</b> . Interior-Social (culture),	<b>"Its"</b> . Exterior-Social (society)

**Lines of development.** Cognitive, moral, values, emotional, interpersonal, spiritual, etc. A person can be at different stages or levels of development in each line (A Nazi doctor had high cognitive and low moral).

**States.** Waking, Dreaming, Deep Sleep; altered, non-ordinary, meditative, etc. Experiencing a higher spiritual state of consciousness is helpful but must be integrated to move to a higher stage.

**Types.** Gender, personality types, etc.

### 3. BODY ERA.

**S1 Matter.** Fifty billion years ago (and earlier)\*, two nascent universes, weighty with potential, moved on a collision course through ten dimensional space-time like two huge icebergs in the Arctic seas. Finally, fourteen billion years ago, they crashed together in what is known as the “big bang” that created a universe of universes, including our own. The “behavior” of matter is apparently pretty simple – it can be described by mathematical rules.



**S2 Cells.** Five billion years ago\*, our solar system spun into existence, and shortly thereafter, self-reproducing single-celled life covered our world like a thick pond scum – a giant oxygen generator. About 2 billion years ago these simple cells got together to create more complex nucleated cells and a teeming microscopic world of sex, hunters, and prey.

**S3 Animals.** Five hundred million years ago\*, the cells of the pond scum suddenly and rather miraculously specialized into arm cells and eye cells and mouth cells and nerve cells to form complex animals (and plants) that diversified to fill the ocean, the sky and the land.



Consciousness was pretty primitive and primarily instinct driven. Frog sees fly spot – frog extends tongue to catch fly spot.

Recent research is showing dinosaurs behavior to be more complex than frogs, but nothing like say a horse or a wolf.

The **body era** provides the basic building blocks for the next era. Atoms, molecules, cells, digestive systems, perception systems like eyes and ears, the brain stem and basic nervous system, and simple instinctive behaviors. This development is paralleled in the growth of every human child – in the womb, and as an early infant.

\* **Accelerating Stage Times.** Stage development is more organic than mathematical – with each higher stage expressing itself much earlier in a few places or peoples and then spreading.

The Stage 1 start time is arbitrary and could be anytime from infinity to the big bang (based on current science).

Stages 2 to 8 follow a **simple and easy to remember exponential acceleration rule of one tenth the time per stage** - 5 billion, 500 million, down to 5 thousand for stage 8.

If Stage 9 (Rational) ends soon – say about 2100ad -- then to be consistent, Stage 9 would have started in 1650ad. (and the other stages would also have to make the slight 150 year adjustment also).

See **Time, Timing, Omega Point** sidebar discussion later in this paper.

### The “Big Bang”



According to generally accepted cosmology, the “big-bang” stretched space time. At one time our 14 billion light-year across universe was the size of a proton nestled in with an infinity of other proton sized universes. Then space-time stretched hugely to generate not only our visible universe, but an infinitely large “multiverse” of universes that extend beyond the visible edge of our universe. Some of the universes in this multiverse could be identical to ours – or only vary by chance incidents (like our birth, or World War III). Not only that, but there is a multiverse of multiverses with different basic constants – and even different physical laws.

These multiple universes can explain why we seem to live in a “Designed Universe” without the need for an “Intelligent-Designer” [we live in the particular world that formed life and did not blow itself up]. However, they do not explain the awe we feel in contemplating the miracle of our existence and our universe.

**Mystic Scientists.** Einstein, Heisenberg, Schroedinger, Pauli, Eddington, de Broglie and Plank developed weird and wonderful quantum theory – the basis for lasers, nuclear energy, computers, cell phones, the internet, radioactive dating and modern cosmology. They looked harder at the physical universe than anyone had before, and they were all spiritual mystics. Coincidence?

[Note that proposed experiments in tiny black holes may verify 10 dimensional string theory – the basis for the multiple multiverses described above. ]

**Individual Growth.** Individuals mature thru similar developmental stages:

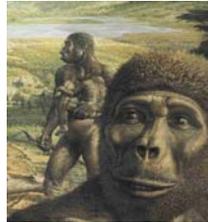
- from the atoms that compose our cells, to the single celled sperm or eggs,
- to the multi-celled fetus (whose growth mimics evolution thru reptilian and early mammalian stages),
- to infant,
- to verbal (magic) child (at 3 years),
- to concrete operational (mythic) child (6-10 or so),
- to the child capable of rational (what-if) thinking (about 12 in the modern west).

#### 4. EMOTION ERA.

**S4 Mammals.** Fifty million years ago, our earth was recovering from being nearly incinerated by an Everest sized meteor that wiped out the dinosaurs and most other life. But it “gave love a chance” -- those sexy little mammals hiding in the bushes from the dinosaurs survived and flourished along with the birds and the bees (social insects) and the flowering trees. Rather than the simple instinctive drives of the reptiles, the behavior of mammals was governed by generalized emotions that guided their complex social interactions and required larger and larger brains.



**S5 Hominids.** Five million years ago, apes (like the famous Lucy) started walking on two legs, and pairing off into family groups with even more complex interactions and even larger brains and some basic morals.



**S6 Archaic Man.** Five hundred thousand years ago they learned to control fire, make tools and hunt cooperatively using a pre-language of signs and symbols.

The emotional era is the next step in the development of humans. Emotional/social intercourse is complex and required larger and larger brains. Emotion, it is said, rules the wolf back.

Evolutionary psychology [see sidebar] is attempting to understand stages 5 and 6. We have no living examples, so scientists have to work with current animal/ape behaviors, with bones and stones left behind by our ancestor hominids, and with the behaviors of current or recent primitive (or even more advanced) societies.

Homo Erectus (2 million years ago) had a brain two to three times a chimpanzees and pretty complex stone tools. Archaic Homo Sapiens (500,000 years ago) and Neanderthals (200,000) had nearly modern human sized brains.

Scientists believe modern humans evolved in Africa about 150,000 years ago, but their culture and behavior did not start looking radically different that from other Sapiens until less than 50,000 years ago [possibly due to the full development of language].

It is during this emotional era that the foundations for language, culture were developed. Cognitive use of images, symbols and pre-conceptual non-verbal thought was developed in this era for later flowering into verbal thought and culture. Development is similar to a modern child 6-30 months.

[Note: Recent discoveries of smart caring dinosaurs and smart caring archaic men may enliven the discussion of some TSV stages. ]

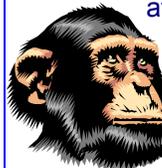
**Triune Brain.** Mammals have 3 brains each wrapped around the other:

- 1) Reptilian Brain Stem (instincts).
- 2) Paleomammalian or limbic brain (emotions).
- 3) Neo-cortex (thinking – more complex in humans).

**Evolutionary Psychology** is the study of the evolution of our psychology from monkeys to human. Fascinating reading on why – for instance – we evolved to be mostly faithful (dads), but opportunistically faithless (cads), why men are more aggressive, or how it is possible our big brains evolved as sexual attractants like a peacocks tail feathers.

Evolutionary psychology starts adding some hard facts and logical interpretations to the nurture verses nature controversy. **But just because aggression, murder, infanticide, and infidelity is in our genes does mean we need to engage in it – anymore than we let a two year old run into the street or whack her brother over the head with her shovel. In fact that is what culture and morality and spirituality is all about.**

**Chimp Morality** **Chimpanzees** are affectionate and caring, but male chips aggressively assert their ranking to lower males and all females to assure their best access to food and females in heat. Shockingly, roving bands of (mostly) males foray into adjacent territories and beat-up or even kill lone males.



**Bonobos**, the chimpanzee's cousin species south of the Zaire River, are best known for their sexuality. They have sex several times daily with either gender for fun, grooming, food, or amends as well as to pass on their genes. **They are not nearly as aggressive as chimps, in part because when a male gets aggressive with a female, she screams for her female buddies – who beat the tar out of the offending male.** It is thought that this is because more divergent food sources allow bonobos to hunt in large groups – which give females time to bond into close nit groups.



**5. MIND ERA.**

**S7 Magic.** Fifty thousand years ago, the new connections that had been slowly developing in the brains of humans, erupted in an event much greater than that dinosaur killing meteor -- LANGUAGE.



Compared to the glacial changes of older hominids, within a few millennia this new talking human had created arrows, pots, sculpture, paintings and elaborate burials – and eliminated the rival Neanderthals. Then came horticulture, domestic animals, villages and towns [so widespread they warmed the earth and stopped an ice-age ten millennia ago.]

Language helped increase the capacity for conceptual thought and a sense of separate self (ego). But it's a magical pre-logical world of demons and sorcery and personal magic much like the cartoon shows for modern pre-schoolers. At this age a child can be emotionally sympathetic with a hurt schoolmate, but is truly unable to see the world thru another persons eyes – and will not be able to until fully rational at age 12 to 16.

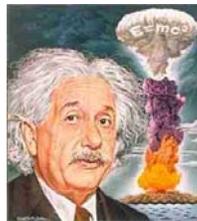
**S8 Mythic.** Five thousand years ago, writing, herding and plowing initiated civilization, slavery, god-kings, and warring patriarchal and feudal empires -- Sumner, Egypt, China, India, Greece and Rome were born as well as the great mythic religions – Christianity, Buddhism, Islam.



Male strength was needed for ploughing and warring and the patriarchy ascended. While in magic times, people believed they had personal magic power, in mythic times they prayed to all powerful Gods to do what they wanted. While a sense of self is stronger, this is a very conformist, traditional, membership, rules and roles stage where approval of others is very important.

Thinking is like a modern school girl of 7 or 8, rational, but with a concrete single tread kind of thinking. Not until puberty will they be able to abstract and entertain what-if contrary-to-fact kind of thinking.

**S9 Rational.** Around four hundred years ago (see below on timing), the printing press heralded the reformation, “the age of reason”, science, technology, industrialization, emancipation, democracy, market economy, space travel, and globalization.



We are nearing the end of the rational stage. Thinking at the stage, like a modern adolescent, challenges the common beliefs – the truisms of the mythic institutions. They ask difficult questions and explore multiple answers. In rational-pluralism they look at the world from multiple perspectives, and in the rational-integral stage see value in all the earlier stages – and start hearing the call of Spirit.

This is what we explore in the next section.

**Technology drives Morality.**

**Technology and economics drive culture and morality.**

**Magic Morality.** In cultures at the magic/forager level, women gathered the bulk of the food and generally had a higher status than in mythic/agriculture societies. Female gods abound (but most folks thought it reasonable for a man to beat his woman occasionally).

Meat (concentrated nutrition) that the men hunt was highly valued, and people captured in a raid were often tortured and eaten (if the area is meat poor). Non-tribe humans in these cultures are considered sub-human.

**Mythic Morality.** Handling an animal drawn plow requires heavy musculature so men produced most of the food in mythic/agricultural societies. Thus the birth of the patriarchy. All of the mythic religions have exclusively male gods.

Peoples captured in the wars between kingdoms were considered more valuable as productive slaves than as food – so cannibalism was out and slavery was in. People not of my myth are considered sub-humans. (Just look at the old testament.) [Comment: Mexico had no large herd animals and thus the Aztec people, even though they were an early mythic culture, appreciated the protein provided by the bodies of the enemy soldiers after the priests cut out their beating hearts to keep the sun and the moon up in the sky.] [Mythic is ethnocentric.]

**Rational Morality.** In the rational-industrial age, brain power becomes more important than physical power. The invention of the competitive market economy showed that wage earners were much more cost effective than slaves. Thus the view of who was really a human expanded and slavery was banned as immoral (southern U.S. plantation owners clung to slavery for economic reasons until forced by northerners and the rest of the world to change). Women's economic utility, value and civil rights rose in a similar fashion.

Today, a global company can't be competitive unless they utilize all the creative power of all potential employees whoever and wherever they are – and a competitive global company must also sell its products to all peoples. So the new morality is diversity or pluralism: slavery and discrimination are evil – and all people everywhere are equal.



Morality gets larger or higher as the individual's world-view (or stage) gets larger or higher. It moves from the tribe to the country to the world. At integral it starts to include the world's eco-system as well as all its people.

**6 THE PRESENT TIME**

**Distribution across the stages.** The rational stage and the mind era are nearing their close. But all people are not in one stage. Children are, of course developing thru the stages. In some countries, the stage of development is mythic (middle east) or magic (parts of Africa). And even in developed countries, the population is distributed from foraging street gangs to rational-pluralistic universities.

Spiral Dynamics is a well researched methodology used by many business and government consultants. It has levels (based on values and called “memes”) that roughly correspond to TSV’s stages. The percentages below are based on their sources.

**Magic Stage. [Purple/red meme.]**

**24% of population, 4% of power.** Includes purple (magical animistic) and red (power gods). The red meme is late magic when “big chiefs” came to power and segues into early mythic. “Our magic peoples (and self) gives a sense of wonder and respect to our world. [note that percentages are rough estimates, normalized to 100% from the KW books.]

**Mythic Stage. [Blue meme.]**

**35% of population, 25% of power.** Our “conventional” mythic peoples add a sense of order to our world.

**Rational-Individualistic [S9a. Orange meme.]**

**30% of population, 50% of power.** Our rational peoples challenge the conventional blues and provides inquisitiveness, achievement, equal rights, democracy, science, technology, and rockets to the moon.

**Rational-Pluralistic. [S9b. Green meme.]**

**10% of population, 15% of power. (Tiny 50 years ago.)** Our rational-pluralistic group softens the assertive individualistic orange people and adds multi-perspective human bonding, ecology, anti-hierarchy, humanistic psychology, diversity, eco-psychology to our view.

**Rational-Integral. [S9c. Yellow/turquoise “2<sup>nd</sup> tier” memes.]**

**1.1% of population, 6% of power. (May be 10% in 10 years.)** This is a major breakthrough from the previous memes or stages. What this stage does is to understand and value the entire spectrum of development. And thus to value, appreciate, and integrate all previous stages for the overall health of the world.

This is very different than the previous memes – that think my view, my way is the only correct way. So blues, oranges and greens all dislike and distrust each other.

Fear drops away at this stage and the pull of spirit is much stronger – the knowing that there is much more to us and the universe than just the rational material – than just scientific materialism. It takes reaching a stage of relative wealth and leisure to know that wealth and leisure is not enough.

[ When I was seeking a Buddhist shrine high up Everest, all my Buddhist sherpa guide sought was my help in getting a green card! ]

**Acceleration of Technology and Morality. The great speed-up.**

**Technological Acceleration.** It took a few million years to develop language, 50,000 for writing, 5000 for the printing press, and 500 for the web. Acknowledged expert Ray Kurzweil says progress today is doubling every decade – so by 2050 all the progress of 32 years will be packed into a single year. And by 2100 it will be a thousand years progress in a single year.

[For example, a recent discovery in super-conductors announced on the web generated 20 papers at a conference the next month – before the original discovery had even been published in a journal!]

**Economic Acceleration.** Since 1500, population has increased ten times and world GDP a thousand times. In the next 50 years, population growth is projected at 40% (and near its peak due to increasing wealth), but China’s GDP alone, at its current growth rate, will be \$260 trillion – 25 times the current US GDP.



**World Population (millions) & Income.** JB Delong, UC Berkley

Years Ago	500,000	50,000	5,000	500	now	2050ad
Population	0.5m	3m	15m	500m	6500m	8700m
\$/person/day	\$0.30	\$0.30	\$0.35	\$0.44	\$20.	\$120.

Early wealth increases gave a privileged few more leisure, but later wealth improved the life of the worlds deprived. But will insatiable greed lead to ecological meltdown – or global war?

(discussed at length in the globalization section)

**Moral Acceleration** (driven by technology).

5,000 years ago, cannibalism was ok.

- 500 years ago, slavery was ok.
  - 50 years ago, overt discrimination was legal; the idea of a black female US Secretary of State was absurd; a million people dying of famine in Asia barely made the news in the west; and Martin Luther King was an unknown preacher, not a national holiday.
  - 40 years ago management consultants did time-motion studies for more efficient assembly lines.
  - 20 years ago they advised on diversity and employee empowerment.
  - Today, the new management consultant paradigm is “for big business to evolve from being a purely profit driven machine to a living system working for the future of the planet.”
- Moral change is not only possible, it is happening faster and faster and faster.

**But the really big shift is yet to be.**

## 7. TRANSITION TO SPIRIT

### The call of spirit

The rational stage, with its inquisitive multi-perspective integral views – its advancing science and technology -- and its global spanning democratic and free market social and economic systems – has and will continue to produce mountains of material wealth.



But material wealth, as the wealthy citizens of the wealthy countries have discovered much to their shock and dismay does not bring peace and happiness. America's wealth has increased greatly, but its happiness index is no greater than 1948. This was the "betrayal" that fueled the hippy revolt of the 1960's. But this essential truth had been pointed out by existentialists long before.

Like a Zen koan, if you limit your beliefs to space, time, and logic (to body-mind-ego) -- and then try to find peace and happiness -- you will only get existential agony -- and then, perhaps, an irrational explosion into some belief system beyond space-time that can give life purpose and meaning.

There are several ways people in America answer the call of spirit:

**1) Return to mythic.** Many are returning to (or never totally left) the God-based mythic religions that the "age of reason" rejected. They seek the seeming safety of fundamentalism and try to deny or ignore the cognitive conflicts inherent in believing in a 6000 year old earth or in old testament slavery, patriarchy, and wholesale slaughter of non-believers. [A pre/trans fallacy – see next page side bar.]



**2) Return to magic.** Some are resurrecting the magic era. Neo-paganism, Gaia-reverence, "web-of-life", and deep ecology are examples of the paths these mostly pluralistic people pursue. [Another pre/trans problem – see next page side bar.]



**3) Seeking a deeper direct or mystical connection to the ultimate thru prayer, contemplation and meditation – through eastern, western religions – or independent methods.**

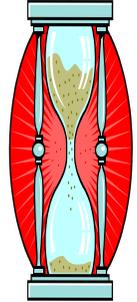


[See [Earth, Heaven, Nondual.](#) ]

## Time, Timing, and the Omega Point.

"Time is trick, a sleight of hand, a vast illusion in which figures come and go as if by magic. Yet there is a plan behind appearances that does not change."

ACIM



Our sense of time varies according to our stage view. Linear time with a sense of past-present-future really only came into our working consciousness in the mythic stage.

In the west, scientists usually either thought the world was infinite (Aristotle) or a biblical 6000. Estimates in 1800's ranges from 75,000 to 200 million. Finally, the discovery of radioactivity dated the earth at its present 4.6 billion years (although fundamentalists still cling to the 6000 years despite "mountains" of evidence to the contrary.

So our present view of time is thru a rational view – and it could change when we move to the spiritual era.

**Timing.** There will be more technological change in the next 50 years than in the previous thousand – and far more than that by 2100 (according to Kurzweil. Morality lags technology, but with large current increases in rational-pluralistic and rational-integral, it is difficult to see how we would not have a controlling majority at the rational-integral stage by 2050 or at least by 2100. This heralds the start of spiritual by about 2100.

**Omega Point.** So, if the TSV model is carried to its conclusion, the omega point or end point will be about 2150.



Physical materials that reach an omega or asymptotic point do odd things – water freezes or boils, materials turn superconductive – in other words their behavior radically changes.

A world with substantial numbers of people at even the lowest spiritual stage is as unimaginable to a rational stage person as modern London or even classical Egypt would be for a Cro-Magnon forager. And if we throw in a thousand years worth of technology advances before we switch to spiritual – who knows.

My major interest is getting us to the rational-integral where are less likely to kill ourselves (and me) off.

## 8. SPIRIT ERA

### Spiritual States and Stages.

The highest or most inclusive stages of the great chain (or nest) of being are spiritual as defined fully below.

But spiritual can be a line or method of expression at any stage. It can also be a state or experience. All of us experience daily the states of **waking, dreaming, and deep sleep.**

Most us have had an experience during the day when are busy heads got quiet -- in simple contemplation of the ocean's waves or the redwood's majesty or a child's joy -- and we could hear the whisper of the Infinite -- of God -- of Love. [And in that whisper of Love's Peace lies mankind's true future. And sooner than we imagine. ]

These experiences or states by regular folks have spiritual-mystical correlates: (Wilber, Integral Psychology p14) .

- **Nature mysticism:** A feeling of deep timeless union with all of nature (Spiritual Integral),
- **Deity mysticism:** Radiant union with a transcendental creator/source (Spiritual Causal).
- **Formless mysticism:** Transcends all forms into boundless radiance; no-self, no-subjects, no-objects, just consciousness. (Spiritual Causal)
- **Nondual mysticism;** Integrates all above (beyond Causal)

[When I work with people in recovery, I call these experiences a touch of God's love.] The challenge is to convert these brief experiences into a stage of being. [See [Earth, Heaven, Nondual.](#) ]

### SPIRITUAL STAGES

The rational-integral stage provides a basis for moving to the trans-rational. People now have the time and the leisure and the motivation to answer the call of spirit by meditation, contemplation and other paths. When we reach the rational-integral stage, people will quickly start penetrating and inhabiting the spiritual stages.

**S10 Integral.** Integral vision or knowing of oneness of self, spirit and nature (nature mysticism). Basis of true morality or compassion - since you and I are one, I can no more kill you than cut off my own arm. Extra-sensory vision and expression. **In Spiritual-Integral there is a direct experience or knowing of oneness rather than the more intellectual approach found in the Rational-Integral stage.**

**S11 Subtle.** The sense of self continues to expand to the subtle realm -- deity mysticism. Conscious during our daily experience of the subtle realm -- lucid dreaming.

**S12. Causal.** The direct experience that I and God are one. Awareness continues even during deep formless sleep. We transcend form and embrace it as an expression of the one. There are many challenges to reaching the spiritual -- or even the rational-integral. Let us look at some of them.



### The Pre/Trans Fallacy.

This is the frequent confusion of pre-rational magic-mythic rituals, religions and consciousness with genuine trans-rational spiritual and mystical states consciousness. Ken Wilber calls this the pre/trans fallacy. In fact, true spirituality builds on, includes, but transcends the rational and personal.

**Pro-Rationalists.** The problem arose when the early rationalists in their rebellion against "daddy" church (not unlike most adolescents) condemned trans-rational spirituality as pre-rational.

They see reason as the highest of human achievements. They confuse genuine trans-rational spiritual consciousness with the old mythic God-in the sky on high or a nature-Goddess. Freud damned it as "a regression to the infantile" -- "the black tide of the mud of occultism". Today it is damned by hard headed globalists as new age tree-hugging airy-fairy thinking -- and as a handy excuse for ecological ravaging.

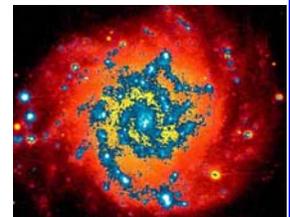
**Anti-Rationalists** see reason as the low point of human achievement. Like the pro-rationalists they confuse pre-rational with trans-rational. They believe spiritual is (as it is) an advanced state, but think anything un-rational is spiritual. So Jung and his followers tried to read deep spirituality into infantile narcissism.

The anti rational leads to anti-technology, anti-business, and anti-globalism. A yearning for the nice simple states before technology. A sort of romantic eco-naturism. Billions would be condemned to poverty or death if their wildest most irrational proposals were followed. [The originator of the Whole Earth Catalog now thinks that urbanization, genetic foods, and nuclear energy can cut birth rates, feed more people safely and cut global warming!]

### Spiritual Morality - True compassion.

It is only at the spiritual stage that we can have both personal and world peace -- because

it is at this stage that the ego-defensiveness is dropped -- the addictive NEEDED to be a separate individual that is a part of a separate group that needs to be defended at all costs. As Zen says "body-mind dropped". **True compassion** only comes when I know there is no boundary between you and me.



## 9. GLOBALIZATION CHALLENGES.



Globalization refers to the unprecedented recent increase in the world trade of goods, services, investments, and ideas.

It also (often pejoratively) refers to the spread of western commercial institutions ("McWorld") and values such as "happiness is rooted in increased choice and wealth". Often unique traditional cultures deteriorate or even cease to exist when even slightly touched by globalization.

Aborigines wear Mickey Mouse T-Shirts; African tribesmen kill rare animals for rich buyers and destroy forests for fuel; and the rich countries burn fossil fuels that pollute and threaten the very survival of life on our planet.

On the other hand, **most rich countries have evolved or adopted democracy, free press, a good legal system that protects minorities, and an economic system that projects the rights of the less wealthy.** It seems that reaching a stage or creating an environment that nurtures human creativity of scientists, inventors, entrepreneurs and small investors goes hand in hand with increased wealth.

**Wealth is the creation of human imagination and energy.**

Wealth is NOT something lying around. The ocean of sticky smelly oil ("black gold") that Arabia floats on had no value until enterprising inventors and entrepreneurs in the west created and promoted the work-saving internal combustion engine. And if that oil disappeared, western economic growth would hardly pause as they adjusted to wind or nuclear power or electric cars.

Simple gifts to a magic level country are often grabbed by the big-chief/war-lord leader to help maintain his position.

High level wealth creation requires a Rational stage country with institutions that support entrepreneurs. The challenge to the world is to be more skillful in promoting the ways and means and incentives for a country to do this. The European Union has been remarkably successful in inciting countries to change. The recent EU additions are amazing -- like the US tearing down its border barriers to Mexico. Even Islamic Turkey is turning democratic fair-play tricks to get itself ready to join. (Heavens Ms EU, we loove those Kurds.)

**Painful Change.** Globalization impacts cultures. And this means change. And this means pain. From the Chinese peasant leaving her assessorial home for the city factory to the African bushman leaving his beloved Kalahari for government handouts and an alcoholic haze.

The growing up -- maturing through the stages can be more or less painful for a child -- or a culture. The revolutions in Europe were bloody. A two stage jump in twenty years is quite a trick, but the Masai warrior that used to kill lions now leads tourists on photo-ops.

**Hopeful Change.** Globalization spreads ideas of tolerance and respect that will be the foundation of our evolving into a compassionate integral or spiritual world culture.

**Trade** increases wealth for both parties. If you are good at fishing and I am good at hunting, then trading will increase both our relative well being. This is a basic law of economics and has been proven time and time again. China and India opened their doors to trade and increased entrepreneurship in 1980, making such a dramatic difference in their economic wealth that China, once a tiny 10% of the US economy, is now 50% of the US with an aim to be #1 by 2020. It now pours half the world's concrete and uses half the world's huge construction cranes. While political freedom is still lagging, the increasingly wealthy Chinese are demanding more freedom.

Trade also expands our view of who is a real person -- increasing our moral span.

Trade also cuts war. A few years ago, when India and Pakistan politicians started rattling their nuclear swords, the outsourcing entrepreneurs squashed the heated conflict because it was making their American customers nervous. **No two countries with McDonalds have fought a war.**

### Global Warming -- and other negative environmental impacts.



Unrestrained economic growth is imperiling the planet. But the solution is not to kill the capitalists. If we reverted to the magic or mythic era, the technology could support only 10% of today's 6.6 billion. **Which 6 billion people (or 9 of 10 friends) would you sentence to death to let the rest live mythic lives of slavery, patriarchy, and 25 year life spans?**

The best answer is to place economic (and some absolute) incentives on undesirable activities. A carbon tax for instance. And local economic incentives to save first growth forests. (i.e. Australian tourist guides are successfully fighting to save the barrier reef.)

The efforts need to be informed and creative. For instance, the originator of the Whole Earth Catalog now thinks that urbanization, nuclear energy, and genetic crops can cut birth rates, cut global warming, and feed more people safely.

**[It does not seem possible for America to evolve into a compassionate-spiritual society if we need a big fence to keep out the poor Mexicans. We will have to help the Mexicans -- and all the rest of the world to become nearly as wealthy as we are.]**

## 10. INTEGRATING – PERSONAS, GROUPS, COUNTRIES

The rational-integral stage is the first stage that respects the others – values them as important parts of itself. That is a great improvement from the lower stages which try to impose their value system by force – just as the mythic Roman empire did on the magic “Barbarians” (no more human sacrifice).

### Integrating Personas.

“Love your inner child, but don’t let her drive the school bus.”



Like our bodies, our personas have building blocks developed during our stages of development. First we recognize images (our cat), then group them into symbols (the word cat), then into conceptual and eventually logical thinking (cats are carnivores, thus my cat is a carnivore).

Most stages first develop in childhood. An interesting experiment when you are highly emotional is to stop, and ask, “how old do I feel”. It is often 2 or 5 or 11 or so. It is also a practical process in that it stops the inner child, the well worn habitual pattern, from acting out, from driving the school bus off the road in a fit of childish pique. By observing the process, you lessen the power the bratty inner kid has over you.

There are also more deliberate processes whereby we revisit our inner children stage by stage – and carefully, lovingly “re-parent” them so they are no longer painfully dysfunctional – but integrate into our whole persona.

### Integrating Groups (within a country).

In the US, we generally allow folks to be at any stage of development as long as they don’t impact or damage others. Children, of course, need to develop thru all the lower stages till they reach (or exceed) the stage of their community. Most folks reach the orange rational-level, and many the green rational-pluralistic (about 25%). But some, are what I would call “nueva-blues” – in their need for spirit, they (mostly fundamentalists) have kept their values at the blue mythic level.



The blues, oranges, and greens tend to snarl, sue, legislate, and occasionally kill each other (at abortion clinics). **Only those that have reached the rational-integral level can appreciate and respect the family values of the blues, the industrious creativity of the oranges, and the insistent fairness of the greens** (who tend to run the universities). [It is hopeful that Mr. Bush, who was elected by fundamentalist blues, is very green and pluralistic in his selection of advisors like Condoleezza Rice.]

### Integrating Countries.

As in our own country, we need to respect and value the countries at earlier stages for their respective qualities, **but we should not let them drive the global school bus of state.** No wars against other countries. No genocides against their own populations. And we try through various skillful incentives to raise their government level to the rational so they can better interact with other countries.



### Integrating Institutions.

While technology and the economy is forging ahead faster and faster, and the cognitive and moral view is being pushed to be more and more inclusive – **institutions** are harder to evolve. Schools systems, religious systems, and government systems are sometimes painfully slow.



Better rules are required to prevent global corporations from unbalancing world ecology taking advantage of poor countries, and propping up oppressive dictatorships. Countries with oppressive rulers need to be encouraged (or even forced) to stop killing their citizens.

On the international front, the Kyoto accords were a great first step – even if flawed. The UN is striving hard, but is an awkward remnant of World War II. Many countries are still struggling for democracy, a free press, and fair legal and economic systems.

So can the institutions reach integral before some ego driven dictator pollutes the atmosphere with radioactive nano-poisons or we chop down so many forests and burn so much coal that the Gulf Stream stops?

TSV believes the answer is yes. For example, many former communist countries have become democratic with a free press, a free market, and a fair enough economic and legal system to satisfy the stringent EU requirements – and all in less than 15 years.

### What can we do personally?

We can do the very best we can to increase our own breadth of view – our own breadth of compassion.

Reading, meditating, joining groups, and stopping and chuckling at our own habitual dysfunctional patterns when we interact with others.

And taking that integral compassionate attitude into our world of family, work, and community.

Please contact us if you would like to help with this project.

**Twelve Stage Vision**

**11. SUMMARY.**

We have reviewed the great nest of being and the Integral model and applied it to historical human pre-cultural and cultural development. This development is accelerating:

**20 billion years ago** two branes in 10 dimensional space were about to come together in a "big bang" to form a infinitude of universes including our particular one. [S1. Matter.]

**2 billion years ago** microscopic cellular life covered our earth like thick pond scum. [S2. Cells.]

**200 million years ago** the pond scum had differentiated into organs, preceptors and primitive nervous systems that made up animals that ran complicated lives governed mostly by instinct. [S3. Animals.]

**20 million years ago** mammals with their intricately complex social/emotional structure and triune brains were ruling the earth. [S4. Mammals]

**2 million years ago** hominids on African plains were using stone tools to compete for food with lions. [S5. Hominids]

**200 thousand years ago** Neanderthals with modern sized brains were using fire and sophisticated stone tools. [S6. Archaic]

**20 thousand years ago** we were forager/gatherer/hunters using conceptual language to compete for sex and food and status – capturing and eating each other and worshipping animistic gods with human sacrifices. [S7. Magic]

**2 thousand years ago** most of us were deep into a mythic culture surviving by herding, ploughing, warring and slavery -- and hoping to escape earth for a heaven run by an omnipotent male god. [S8. Mythic.]

**200 years ago** the rational stage was well under way with the American, French, and Industrial revolutions. Slavery had a bad name, and Protestants broke free from the pope. [S9. Rational]

**20 years ago** we had invented cars, airplanes, atomic power, television and moon rockets, but were terrified of the evil empire and nuclear winter – and women and minorities had the vote and better jobs, but most folks could not imagine a future with e-commerce, Chinese cell phones, or refinance sales calls by a woman in Bombay, India. [S9. more pluralistic]

**Today**, we hire people who can do the job, whatever gender, race, or even location on the planet. And we generally treat them with respect. Most countries are nominally democratic and free market. [S9. Rational – more pluralistic, some integral]

But there is much work left to do if we are to make it to a real rational-integral stage – and then to a spiritual view. There is still starvation, poverty, disease, injustice, cruelty, war, and global warming. And there is our own personal dysfunctional habitual patterns and occasional narrowness of view. So we do the best we can to move toward integral -- trusting that Spirit is pulling us home.



**MAJOR TSV POINTS.**

**1. Stages.** Humans and human culture **develop in stages** – each stage is based on and incorporates the previous one, but has a wider, deeper view. Thus we learn words before sentences and foraging and agriculture before industrial and informational technologies.

**3. Technology Drives Morality.** Historically, technology advances drives economics, society, culture, and morals – expanding our view of who/what is fully human and eliminating in turn cannibalism, slavery, and (in progress) racism and the patriarchy. [But not uniformly. i.e. Buddhist Tibet or Nazi Germany]

**2. Acceleration.** The pace of change of technology, economics and stage development is **accelerating** – from millions of years to thousands to decades. If current technology and economic projections hold true, then growth in the next century will increase an incredible 100 to 1000 times. To avoid global meltdown or blowup will require a huge increase in ethics, morals and vision – and will likely push us into a new spiritual era.

**5. The Pre/Trans fallacy – True spirituality** is based on and integrates earlier stages including the rational. It is TRANS-rational and TRANS-personal, not based on a PRE-rational patriarchal mythic church or a pagan magic one.

**4. Integral.** The rational-integral stage is still mind/ego based, but is the first stage that sees value in all the other stages. Like **inner child** work, it values and respects all the lower stages as necessary parts of the whole. [However, an integral world government will not let those lower stages drive the "global school bus."]

**6. Rational Globalization sets the stage for Integral Spirituality.** Increasing wealth and

**globalization** are causing painful human disruptions and stressing the planet. However the answer is not to regress to simpler times (and let billions die), but to move through this painful growing stage.



Improved technology and wealth have saved billions from the suffering of starvation and extreme poverty -- even as the rich get even richer. Higher wealth also appears to stabilize population, create a wider view of who is human" and provide a greater freedom and fairness in politics, law, and economics.

Finally, the rich are discovering that money can not buy happiness. It does, however, provide the incentive and the opportunity to seek true happiness in the spiritual.

## EARTH, HEAVEN, NON-DUAL.

**Historically, humans have sought three ways to salvation.**

**1. EARTH.** Salvation is found on earth in nature. The pagan religions found among hunting, foraging, and horticulture people worship the spirits of the things that nurtured them – animals, plants, earth, water, sky. Gods tended to be equally split between male and female – following the equal division of food gathering between the foraging women and the hunting men. Personal magic rules as the hunter asked for guidance and good luck – and thanks with great respect the spirit of the animal who gives up its body for food. Shamans travel to the lower or upper worlds not to escape earth but to ask for useful earthly guidance and help from their spirit animal or being. Rituals were often joyous celebrations and offerings of sex and food and nature.

**2. HEAVEN.** Salvation is found in “not-earth” – or heaven. Zoroasterism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, early Hinduism and Buddhism – the great axial religions starting about 2500 years ago reflected the changed economies where men provided most of the food by herding or animal drawn plough (that required male strength). Men dominated economics and the mythic patriarchal Gods that both men and women prayed to for a fruitful harvest (and for winning the war). Since salvation (and power) was to be found in ascending to heaven, religions and priests often became earth-rejecting, sex-rejecting, women rejecting in their ascetic quest to escape the misery of earth-samsara for supposed glories of heaven-nirvana. These mythic religions tolerated no one not of their belief. They viciously exterminated pagan expression – both in other lands and in their own midst. A fact brought home to me by the hanging of my many-great grandmother Sarah North-Martin in Salem in 1682.

**3. BOTH HEAVEN AND EARTH – THE NON-DUAL.** OK – now it gets tougher. The fully realized person first learns to “ascend” to heaven (learns to let go of his/her identification with body-ego – the source of samsara-misery) – and then “descends” to see that all earth-form (including his/her body-ego) is just a manifestation – an arising – of heaven-spirit-god. In the non-dual experience (satori in Zen terms) body-mind is dropped and a person is at-one-ment with both the forms arising (including their own body-mind) and the formless oneness-emptiness-god-nirvana.

This was a discovery of the early meditator-sages in around 200ad – who, so to speak –went to heaven –and came home. Plotinus in the west said the ascetic ascenders like the Christian Gnostics had only half the picture. Nagarjuna in the east said the early Hinayana Buddhists had it half wrong. (He basically started Mahayana Buddhism – Zen and Tibetan.) As the heart sutra says – “form is no other than emptiness – emptiness is no other than form”. The enlightened Arhats – who had fully realized nirvana – were said to have had heart attacks when Buddha said they had to bring their realization down to earth.

## **Addition to Twelve Stage Vision Document.**

There is a delightful sense to these realizations – that magic-God-buddha nature shines thru or is the essence of our entire mundane world. And it is expressed right now to me by the sight through my balcony window -- chickadees dancing in the morning mist round our garden feeder.

### **THE PRESENT WEST.**

1. **Scientific materialism** has produced mountains of wealth and has fought a tough battle to free itself from the rigid constraints of the medieval mythic church.
2. **Fundamentalism.** But most of us find a mechanistic universe cold and heartless and ... WRONG ... at some deep level. Some have clung to or gone back to their fundamentalist religion – even in the face of rational evidence of things like evolution.
3. **Neo-Paganism.** Others have, in a sense, gone back even further to neo-paganist Gaia-worshipping deep ecology.
4. **Integral-non-dual.** All three need the healing integral view of the non-dual.

**HEAVEN-EARTH-MAN.** In my living room is a



calligraphy of heaven-earth-man by Ösel Tenzin, the first recognized western lineage holder of the Tibetan-Buddhist Nyingma-Kagu traditions.

It symbolizes that humans are the connection between heaven and earth -- that we as humans can have the full non-dual magical mystical tantric

realization of the ultimate oneness of heaven-emptiness and earth-form.

Ösel Tenzin himself symbolized this connection by his high realization and power and love as a teacher – and by his royally screwing up and causing great disarray and agony in his community of several thousand Buddhist practitioners.



## BIOGRAPHY OF TSV FOUNDER, CARTER SMITH



**CHILDHOOD AND EDUCATION.** Carter’s concern for the world’s people began as a child at the dinner table. His father was an immigrant’s son who surpassed his dream of captaining a ferry boat to become a much decorated US Navy Admiral who fought in three wars. His mother escaped from Macon Georgia to marry his father in Shanghai in a romance memorialized in the epic film “Sand Pebbles”. His uncle, an Ambassador to Switzerland and a China expert was a frequent visitor, even after his career was tragically sacrificed to the McCarthy era communist witch hunts.

Carter was raised on both coasts and survived the bombing of Pearl Harbor by hiding under a bed. Later he graduated from Lakeside in Seattle (a nerdy kid like a later graduate – Bill Gates). With scholarships to MIT and Harvard, Carter chose MIT, hoping to save the world with quantum physics.

However, at MIT, he faltered, shaken by not being the most brilliant mind there – and still in adolescent rebellion against authority. However, he stayed in Boston to become one of IBM’s very first computer programmers (1957) and then returned to MIT to do pioneering robotic research with Claude Shannon (the father of modern digital communications and information theory).

After graduation, Carter developed computer models at Boeing that maximized hypothetical millions of Russians killed for various nuclear strategies and thousands of pigs-in-overcoats killed by depleted uranium warheads. His disgust at the latter caused a switch to commercial aircraft where his computer models led to Boeing’s expansion in the commercial market place and the termination of a strike by 50,000 machinists.



Boeing also gave Carter a Pre-Doctoral Fellowship to the University of Washington where he received a MS in Math and a PhC in Computer Science – doing early research in Artificial Intelligence (but failing to train an early 1970’s era computer to learn like a Piaget child).

**BUSINESS CAREER.** Later as a national and international consultant in information technology and financial operations, Carter developed work and profitability models that saved client’s millions and doubled Citibank’s Credit Card profits. A grievous assignment for a Mexico City stockbrokerage led him back to the states.

As head of IT research and planning for a Japanese owned bank, Carter was responsible for managing a project portfolio of over \$100m. Following a successful on-budget \$25m Y2K effort, he championed the bank’s move into the web era with major new API, B2B, B2C, and international trade systems. Currently, Carter is the Chief Information Officer and a founding partner of LSI Outsourcing.

Throughout his career Carter has shown a unique ability to understand the crux of a business process, to utilize the best of technology and management techniques, to obtain consensus, to quantify the project’s costs and benefits, to obtain funding by preparing a clear business proposal, and to minimize risk by putting together successful implementation teams.

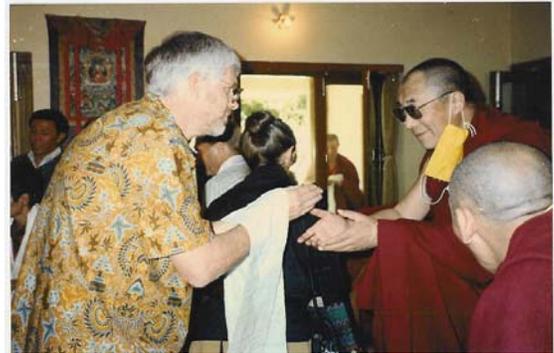
**THE OTHER SIDE OF THE STORY.** But that is only the business side of the story. Carter’s spiritual journey started with his ego-smashing problems at MIT. His difficulties and self perception led to such “existential angst” (a classmate compared him to Camus’ “The Stranger”) that even marriage and children did not help – eventually leading to depression and alcoholism.

Reluctantly choosing a recovery program over suicide in 1974 cracked Carter’s lifelong agnosticism – and opened him up to spiritual power or God, “the Great Reality found deep down within us”.

## BIOGRAPHY OF TSV FOUNDER, CARTER SMITH (CONTINUED)

In the 30 years since then, Carter has:

- Spoken to thousands and worked personally with hundreds of recovering addicts/alcoholics on how to live happily in this world without chemical assistance
- Taught (with a small staff he hired and obtained bank funding for) a thousand uptight banker–technologists to stretch their human potential. (as trained by Bob Mowab).
- Pioneered Quality Circles in western banking.
- Facilitated Sheri Carter Scott’s workshops, supported Marshal Thurber at “Money and You”, learned to trust his own power tramping the desert with Castaneda, did 50 rebirths, the Christ Training, and the rigorous Six Month Training with the World Healing Organization
- Relived a dozen past lives under the guidance of Dick Sutphen and the lovely Chris Griscom in Galisco New Mexico, intensively studied the clarity and vision of the metaphysics of Seth, and received personal interviews and guidance from the powerful channeled entities Dr Peebles and Bashar.
- Was one of the very first American Firewalkers – in the backyard of a Beverly hills mansion – in 1983 with Tony Robbins (scared to death.) Like Tony, Carter is a certified NLP practitioner.
- Utilized his training as a shamanic counselor (by Michael Harner) to guide terminal AIDS patients and others on healing journeys to the upper and lower shamanic worlds.
- Was an intensive 15 year student of the non-dual mystic Christianity expressed by “A Course in Miracles” – meeting most of the founders and practicing the precepts daily.
- Trained for last dozen years as a Buddhist - extensive retreats/ teachings/ initiations in Rockies, Nova Scotia, Himalayas, Dharmasalla, Nepal by Geshe Gelson, Dali Lama, Garchen Rinpoche, Pema Chodren, Chogyam Trungpa, Sakyong Mipham Rinpoche, Ruth Gilbert, and Acharya Allyn Lyon – including teacher training, refuge and bodhisattva vows, dathun, and Sutrayana and Vajrayana seminary. (His Buddhist name is SengGe NgagGi – Lion of Speech.)



GURU YOGA INITIATION IN DHARMSALLA with DALI LAMA, GESHE GELSON.

Based on an intense study of the works of Ken Wilber – considered the “most comprehensive philosophical thinker of our times (the author of the “pre-trans fallacy”). Carter developed “The 12 Stages Model of Human Consciousness Evolution”, and the basic ideas for “The Twelve Stage Vision – Understanding the intersection of globalization and spirituality.

Carter is an avid skier, surfer, and hiker – has studied Tai Chi, Yoga, and recently received a black belt in Tai Kwan Do (he suggests doing this at an earlier age).

In his spare time Carter travels and helps his artistic and stage designer wife, Franny, or visits their six children and eight grandchildren.

Carter has first hand experience with the positive and negative impacts of globalization on the world’s citizens – from impoverished beggars to the stressed out wealthy around our world.



SUNSET AT MOJAVE MOUNTAIN DESERT SOLITARY RETREAT – 2003.