

## Contemplative Outreach Spiritual Journey with Thomas Keating Part 2 Tape 9(a)



### The Mythical Membership Stage

A child receives early religious instruction uncritically.

One mortal sin meant damnation – such teaching was just terrorism.

### In His Spirit

Jansenism (the view that humanity is hopelessly corrupt) is a residual heresy.

Its negative view of the body demanded extreme penance and asceticism.

It placed God outside of the developing self and turned Him into a distant object.

***Scripture emphatically says the self is in God and God is in the self.***

*We do not have to make ourselves, therefore, worthy of God.*

### Clean the Inside of the Cup First

1. The Cartesian, Newtonian, Western Philosophical Model made external acts more important than internal acts. Yet Jesus told us to clean the inside of the cup first. Tradition is the living experience of the Gospel, the result of having demolished the false self system and the transforming process of grace. You live tradition.

2. God initiates all good deeds and we co-operate; it is not a matter of us doing good things in the hope and expectation of reward.

3. The emphasis is not on future reward or punishment but on love and service of God here and now.

### This Attitude is Typhonic

There is something deep in human nature of wanting to offer a substitute sacrifice to placate God.

Behind this is a deep fear of God and a magical quality that is bestowed on eucharist and sacrament – a fake Catholicism.

Our rootedness in the self-centered and selfish programmes for happiness is what we have to change.

If you really love God and neighbour and give, give, give, the future will take care of itself.

This is our invitation to freedom, liberation and growth.

