The Psychic Health of a Life Worth Leading and the Necessary Role of Obedience for Nietzsche

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The Psychic Health of a Life worth Leading and the Necessary Role of Obedience for Nietzsche

by Betty J. Craipo
The Psychic Health of a Life worth Leading

**Ancient Greeks**
- Had the necessary resource surplus to look beyond mere survival and the exercise of one’s power
- Created Myths with Great Psychic Worth
- Explored Man’s truth and nature
- Not Burdened by “Truth”

**Modern Man**
- Has the necessary resource surplus to look beyond mere survival and the exercise of one’s power
- Created the Myth of God with Great Historic Worth
- Accepted Historic Fact of One Truth
- Burdened by “Truth”
Life Worth Leading for Heaven or for Earth?

**Spiritual Health of Eternal Life**
- Must Suffer Through This Life on Earth and Wait for the Eternal
- Great Herds of Passionless People
- Guilt, Illness, and Nihilism

**Psychic Health of Temporal Life**
- Life, Here on Earth, Is Worth Living
- Freedom of Mind and Spirit
- Flourishing Psychic Health
Nihilism According to Nietzsche

- Radical Repudiation of Value, Meaning, and Desirability
- Great Crimes in Psychology
  - Depersonalization
  - Feelings Branded as Sin
  - Misfortune Labeled as Wrongs

Nietzsche’s “Will to Power”

- Commanding Strength into Being
In Reality

**NIHILISM**
I believe in it

Only Outside the Social Order Can These Exist
• Obedience to the herd for survival purposes
• Obedience to the herd in order to be free to pursue one’s creative interests (external obedience)
• Obedience to one’s chosen trajectory in order to focus strength in a fixed direction to obtain psychic health (internal obedience)
“...what is essential "in Heaven and on Earth" seems to be, to say it once more,

that there should be obedience over a long period of time and in a single direction.

Given that, **something always develops**, and has developed, for whose sake it is worthwhile to live on earth;

for example, virtue, art, music, dance, reason, spirituality-something transfiguring, subtle, mad, and divine”.

*(Beyond Good & Evil Sec 188)*
What Nietzsche did NOT Say

Overman (Übermensch) as a Racially and Biologically Superior Man
“The only thing that interests me is the relationship of the people considered as a whole to the training of the *single individuals*

and in the case of the Greeks there are some factors which are very favorable to the *development of the individual*.

They do not, however, **arise from** the goodwill of the people, but from the *struggle between the evil instincts*.

By means of **happy inventions and discoveries**, we can train the individual differently and more highly than has yet been done by mere chance and accident. There are still hopes, **the breeding of superior men**

(We Philologists Sec 100)
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Questions?
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