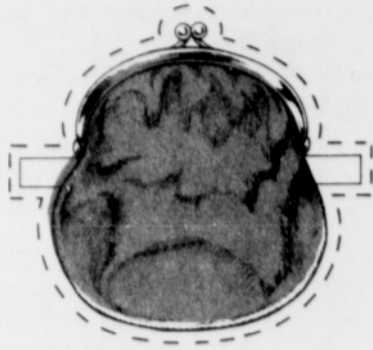


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## The Prejudice Spirit

by Linda D. Wattleby

I do not care who you are or what position you hold in society. If you are able to allow the prejudice spirit to live within your being, you are definitely headed down a deadly road.

Anyone who is able to hate a person because of the color of their skin definitely is a person who lacks spirituality.

One of the strongest forces that rule our world today is the spirit that is prejudice. Anyone who is able to carry such a spirit within their being is robbing themselves of experiencing the best that life offers because this spirit is a destructive and limiting force that does not permit you to see and experience the totality of God's love.

God has made each living thing and person to teach us more about the Creator of the universe. All is connected and there is no separation. Though many have attempted division of the human race, it cannot be accomplished as long as God rules this world.

Recently, I came in contact with the prejudice spirit. As this spirit entered my zone, I felt something like a sharp dart go through my whole body and it carried with it a coldness that seemed like it could be death.

Shocked by the experience, I was thrown off-balance, for a minute. I thought for sure I would be ill. I could not help but wonder why anyone would want to live with such a beast within them for surely they, too, must be ill and extremely unhappy. There is no way the true blessings of God could shower them, for God does not deal with limited thinking and false judgement.

After recovering from the blow, I felt sadness for this person because the chances of their realizing how detrimental the prejudice spirit is may never be revealed due to the strength of that seed which was planted in his heart and mind probably since birth.

Through this prejudice experience, I learned to protect myself from attacks by such forces. Instead of absorbing such a force, I instantly use my understanding and release this situation. I send peace to people of this nature.

To be prejudiced actually reveals how a person has no control over his or her life. If there was control, any normal person would prefer to carry those spirits or forces that edify God's world.

But to the contrary, a prejudiced person makes it clear that God does not count in their life, having found God in error in His choice of creating the human race in different colors.

How should we deal with prejudice situations? First, we must realize a person in a prejudice state has a serious identity problem, and a strong need to feel supreme. Instead of realizing he or she is a child of God, they prefer to create a world of their own where they are gods over the human race.

If you want victory over prejudice, you must ever be aware of who you are—a Divine Child of God. Remember, everyone did not love Jesus, and the possible difference in his skin color may be one of the reasons. But like Jesus, we can rest assured, greater is He that is in us than he that is in the world.



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## Strong Ambition Drives Ortiz Brothers' Growth

BAYTOWN, TEXAS—After working 14 years for a major Houston insulation company, Tino Ortiz quit his vice president position to pursue a lifetime dream of operating his own business.

He obtained a \$35,000 loan from the Small Business Administration, and with a staff of five employees, he launched Ortiz Brothers Insulation Inc. in Baytown, TX.

The year was 1980, and despite a sliding, sluggish Texas economy, Ortiz Brothers managed to record sales of \$396,000 its first year in business.

By 1987, Ortiz Brothers had 100 people on its payroll and reached \$3.2 million in sales, with major clients including Anheuser-Busch Inc., Standard Oil Chemical Company and Dixie Chemical Company.

"I was convinced when we started that the company would do well, and it has," said Tino Ortiz, president of the firm. "It's getting bigger all the time, and I don't see things slowing down."

"Quality, service and performance—that's what I believe in, and they're the keys to our success," Ortiz said.

Ortiz Brothers specializes in industrial insulation projects. One of the materials the company most frequently uses is calcium silicate, an asbestos-free, blanket insulation used to control extremely hot temperatures.

Calcium silicate is used on heated piping, boilers, tanks, vessels, etc., operating up to 1200-degrees Fahrenheit.

The material has been used extensively on various projects Ortiz Brothers has completed for the Anheuser-Busch brewery in Houston.

The relationship between Ortiz Brothers and Anheuser-Busch developed in 1984 at the world's largest brewery organization's "Partners in Economic Progress" program.

"Partners" is Anheuser-Busch's minority economic development program, and periodically the company conducts one-day seminars in cities throughout the country to inform minority business people about the purchasing procedures and needs of Anheuser-Busch's varied operations.

Floyd E. Lewis, director of Corporate Affairs at Anheuser-Busch and coordinator of Partners in Economic Progress, says businesses like Ortiz

Brothers are an integral part of the program.

"Tino Ortiz has established a solid reputation, and it's businesses like Ortiz Brothers that have enabled the 'Partners' program to work and grow," Lewis said.

Although the majority of Ortiz Brothers' work is concentrated in the Houston area, the company has projects in cities across Texas, including Lubbock, Dallas, Longview and Corpus Christi.

"I'm always traveling and looking for new markets," Ortiz said. "We have not limited ourselves to Houston or Texas because there is business in so many other places."

"Once you set limits on yourself, you may run into some problems," he added.

Ortiz projects his company will reach gross \$5 million in sales by the end of the decade, and significantly expand its out-of-state services.

"There will be strong competition for available work, but we've established a good reputation with the clients we have," Ortiz said. "I'm sure we'll make \$5 million by 1990, and perhaps a lot more."

## Local Poet Published

LaFayette F. Keaton of North Portland has just had original poetry published in Love's Greatest Treasures, an anthology of today's love poetry. The poem is entitled Letters to My Love, and the main subject is love and affection.

The American Poetry Association seeks to discover and encourage poets like LaFayette F. Keaton by sponsoring contests that are open to the public and by publishing poems in widely distributed hardback volumes.

LaFayette F. Keaton has been writing for twenty years and his favorite subjects and ideas are expressing appreciation of spouse.

Poets interested in publication may send up to 5 poems, on any subject or theme, no more than 20 lines in each poem, name and address on each page, to the American Poetry Association, Dept. CN-6, P.O. Box 1803, Santa Cruz, CA 95061.

All poems selected for publication are also entered in the American Poetry Association's Poetry Contest, which awards over \$11,000 in prizes to 152 winners. Free copies of "The Poet's Guide to Getting Published" are given to all poets who send poetry.

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