

(so, stronger on images than on ideas)

In 1934, now 45 years ago, it became clear to me that the centering passion of my life as student was and would remain the Bible in its original languages.

Why?

This thinksheet is a meditation on that question.

Theologically, God called me to this study and ministry.

Genetically and developmentally I come, on both sides, from passionate stock

--fiery Anglo-Saxon, not a slow-burner on either side.

What a noisy household! To have a little peace, I took to sleeping in the attic and working in the basement. So most passionate and peaceful

how natural that I take to the world's book!

Professionally, my money-trally heated by daily exposure to the Spirit "Bible," not translations This, indeed, is the single running through my various al ministries as teacher, church administrator denominationally and numerically, counselor, and author.

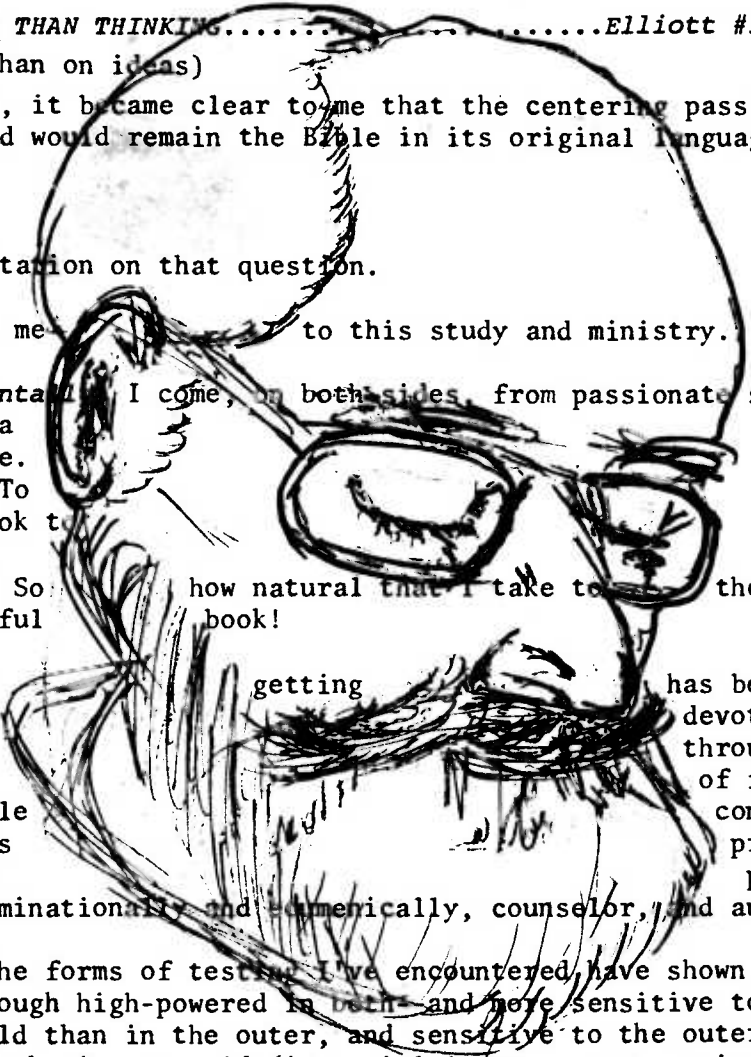
getting has been devotional through the of it. continuum profession-pastor, and author.

Psychoanalytically, all the forms of testing I've encountered have shown me more feeling than thinking, though high-powered in both and more sensitive to what is going on in the inner world than in the outer, and sensitive to the outer world chiefly as it impinges on the inner world (in social justice, e.g., primarily concerned about the crippling of spirit through the sanctional force of systemic and direct [socio- and auto-] oppression). Likewise the Bible centers in inner attending--as in my bromide "What gets your attention gets you, and what hold your attention is your god." Right at the Bible's beginning, the devil, trying to divert humanity's attention from God and so God's will, said "Forget it! The apple won't hurt you, but the opposite!" Forgetting "it," spiritual amnesia, is the Bible's central metaphor for both sin and forgiveness: "Beware lest yet forget the Lord your God!" "Your sins will I remember no more!" So naturally, from age 12 the Bible has been the book for me. Now that I've read all the world's sacred literature, I can confidently say that no other has this attentional way of seeing the worlds and journeys inward and outward as its integrating characteristic. It was the subject of my PhD thesis, and best explains my pedagogy and counseling (which I call "attentional therapy"). In courses, seminars, and tutorials, the syllabus is "written on the heart" of the student--according to my genes and pains, the only place worth writing it. Hundreds of my thinksheets spell out this way of seeing and living in the world (=, for me, "a religion").

Speaking of thinksheets, they are written when deep in the unconscious some connection\*is made that heats up to the degree that it becomes conscious, "a fire in my bones" that must become public event (writing being one way of going public, face-to-face witnessing being another). So the Bible was written, and so it is to be read.

See, there I go! This thinksheet looks (even visually!) as if it were primarily about me, but it's primarily about the Bible--how we got it, and how to read it! In NLP (neurolinguistic programming), Ad<sup>e</sup> (V<sup>c</sup>-K-V<sup>c</sup>Ad-K)E (74PT7.79): Something exterior triggers a visual construct about which I become aware I am kinesthetic (i.e., have feelings), and I visualize a response, about which I have feelings and produce an event (viz., a thinksheet): to interpret, reverse the process, or you can't "read" (interpret, understand) the thinksheet or the Bible.

\*In the case of this thinksheet, the connection was with (1) a critique I did for a psychiatrist on "Ministry to the Unconscious" and (2) my filing of this portrait doodle done in class by a student, Isaac Bolden--looking down (as in M.Michael's bust of me) = [NLP] a kinesthetic (feeling) person.



OVER

AF AND STAFF FROM WILLIS....c: Graham Davidson and Virginia Baron  
1 July 79  
The Elliotts' future

Loree and I are building a house on Cape Cod  
and,  
after selling our Chappaqua house,  
will be taking our home to the new house  
eleven months from now,  
after fulfilling obligations this current schoolyear.  
Come visit us!

**DETAILS:**

Craigville, contiguous to Hyannis (its airport only a few minutes drive from our house), is the Cape's largest and warmest beach. As a Christian community, it was established in 1895 by the UCC (then, Congregational Churches); it's in a boom period as both community and ministry. I hope to be able to continue offering tutorials and courses for NYTS credit there, but my concentration--at least for the first two years--will be on writing. Loree has already made contacts for the ministry she believes God has called her to, viz. with the aging and dying. For us both, Boston is only 1 1/2 hours by bus; "both" meaning that for culture and ministry, we'll not be cut off from the resources of a great urban center. But how we'll miss New York, especially y'all!

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