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| **Discovering Your Purpose** *for the James Van Praagh Special Chat Area*  Thank you all so much, and Cammy- what a great introduction! Wow, I am honored, really! I have been slowly working on the work I will present to you tonight, and when working on presenting matter that is so important, there is always the thoughts of "is it too much", "it is too little". So, with some help from friends both living...and not so living- we bring this to you tonight.   Your Path- Your Purpose... Your reason for Being- Can it be summed up in one word? Or even one sentence? With a great amount of introspection, I have learned it can indeed be summed up accurately. That sum is "We are complex in our simplicity." And that sum is created by our Soul Purpose and our Life Purpose. Again and again the question comes up in my sessions with clients, "Am I off my path?" Well, why don't we begin with how your path is even conceived.   Let's now look at the idea of Soul Purpose and Life Purpose. It is important to note that 'Soul Purpose' and 'Life Purpose' are not one in the same. The Angels told me in a channeling session, that Soul Purpose is reached by the combination of all lifetimes, whereas the Life Purpose works WITHIN the Soul Purpose for your current incarnation.   To begin the understanding of Soul Purpose and Life Purpose, let's start with the past, what we call past lives. Often when past lives are discussed, thoughts run to Cleopatra, Sitting Bull, Abraham Lincoln and other historically famous people. In reality, we have each played the role of king; we have also played the role of servant. We have been leaders; we have been followers. We have been heroes, and we have been villains.   Each lifetime is like a play- each play is your Life Purpose at that time. There are many roles or lives you live-those individual roles combine to reach your Soul Purpose. And as it is your play, you are always the lead, much as the center of your own universe. This lead role for each lifetime, however, can vary in intensity as well as motivation and agenda.   The soul is already on a mission- a purpose of that mission is fully realized. For instance, consider a beautiful, multi-faceted crystal. If you hold it just so, you can look through one of the flat sides, or window let's call it. While looking through this somewhat clear window, you can see right through.   Perhaps opposite the crystal is a vase of flowers. Your view through the chosen crystal window offers one perspective of that vase. The flowers may appear faded if the window is somewhat tinted. Or it may appear distorted if there are too many inclusions or marks within the crystal. It depends of course, on the view of the window. The perspective is attained from the view. The very same is true of the Life Purpose.   If our Soul Purpose is portrayed by the crystal itself, then the windows and the perceptions from those windows would be the various Life Purposes we come to experience. I think it is important to understand completely that we choose our lives. This means that before conception into the physical you have already selected the variables in the proposed Life's Purpose.   How are these variables selected? By what is called a "Celestial Council." This Council is made up of various Beings; the center of this Council is the Higher Power; the Universal Consciousness. The other members are made up of those beings that are helping your growth along, by guiding, advising and assisting when necessary. These include angels, spirit guides, animals, fairies, and Master Teachers, as well as others.   I gained this information about Soul Purpose and Life Purpose through meditations and contact from my Angels. The Angels used an image of a Tree of Life to demonstrate a Soul's Purpose to me. They said to picture a mature tree, full of branches and leaves, and with a steady firm trunk.   Tree roots spread out from the tree like the fingers of a hand. The taproot, however, grows straight downward; this taproot anchors the tree and provides deep nourishment to the topside tree. The taproot goes very deeply into the earth.   Now let's liken the taproot to your Soul's Purpose. As we come up the taproot, we begin to encounter other roots in the tree structure, these run underground and sometimes break the earth's surface. Many times, you will see these when looking at a physical tree. The basic root system keeps the tree balanced and upright. We would liken our balancing roots to our various life goals, all decided prior to incarnation. In essence, your Life Purpose.   As we travel upward we have the strength of the trunk. I was told this would refer to our nationality, our family, our religion, and other variables in our life making process. We then travel further to the branches. These very branches are the various ways we can live out our Life Purpose.   These branches show us the various directions we could go while living out both soul and Life Purpose. When seeking ones Life Purpose, it is very common for the reviewer to stop at the basic root system.   For example, I have known some people who have assumed their Soul's Purpose was to be a healer. In fact, that was extremely short sighted. It has been my discovery that one's Soul Purpose is not a noun, but rather a verb. For example, let's look at a doctor.   He may say his Soul's Purpose is to be a healer (a noun), when in fact his true Soul's Purpose may be to experience detachment, such as when he must tell a family their loved one has passed. He may have opted to experience power, as he holds a human heart in his hands during surgery. He may have wanted to experience counseling as he advises on various medications.   So, you can see that he didn't come to be a healer; he came to experience an action (detachment, power, counseling). He chooses a healing occupation to play out his Soul's Purpose. Part of his Life Purpose may indeed have been to be a healer; this would be one of the support roots we spoke of. But, as you can now see, it goes deeper than that which is clearly seen.   Let me give you another example. Let's say our doctor's taproot will be power, and two of his support roots are science and healing abilities. Can you see how this doctor may be attracted to the medical aspect of curing cancer? It fulfills both his Life Purpose aspects (the support roots - science and healing), and his Soul's Purpose aspects (the tap root of power).   Coming up the tree with our doctor, we can see that his nationality, his religion, his family as well as his social status will combine to give him a sense of tradition and morals that will reflect his own society's mores.   Now as we make it up to our branches, we can note that the various branches provide a vast array of learning opportunities. With a science & healing support root, and our taproot of power, we can see how our candidate could head up a branch that is named Space Exploration.   Can you see how his interest in science and in the healing arts would want to explore the possibility of life on other planets? Or even how cancer cells advance or decelerate growth while in space? His "power" taproot would be the primary drive.   Concerning the branches, one would need to decipher if they are acting out of a positive pole or a negative pole. Some branches are gnarled and twisted with various twigs, while others are straight and twig-free. It is an absolute, free will choice that decides the branch that the soul chooses to pursue.   Another example-With the taproot of power, the support root of science and healing, and through the trunk of a difficult childhood, he could very easy have chosen a branch that would lead him to build bombs and to terrorize people.   I am speaking of a person much like the Uni-bomber. His distorted thinking led him to believe he would be offering a solution to rid the earth plane of people who he felt poisoned the world. We can see he chose a twisted and gnarled perception of his taproot of power and his support of science and healing.   This same soul could have just as easily chosen a branch of "discovery" which may have altered the medical or science field instead of causing death and destruction. Another window of our crystal. Even in this negative pole, there is learning. We would hope, of course, that the soul would "jump a branch" into a positive aspect.   It is your choice which branch you choose to experience. And, it is possible to change branches. You have absolute free will in this. So, as you can see, it would be very difficult to be "off your path". You may have chosen a difficult branch, with many twists and turns, but you are experiencing an aspect, a perception of your life's purpose, no matter what your choices may be.   Is it our destiny to be in pain, to suffer, to endure? To be honest, for some this is the path they choose. And, although our spiritually primitive minds may not understand the "why", we do know that we see evidence of this every day. One merely has to watch the evening news for this.   Now I realize this is old thought for some of you, but very new thought to others - just as it was to me at one point in my spiritual education. In fact, so disturbed was I by the revelations that the Angels were sharing with me, that I took it to them once again. I would like to share with you what they said.   I asked the Angels, "What of those harmed, abused, murdered, and violated? Are you saying they chose this? That is absurd!" I cried out. I was told this: "Many of the higher evolved souls came down to bring messages and to change events by their very existence, and by their very sacrifice. They do so for the spiritual evolution of mankind."   They went on further to say, "Of course when you incarnate, there is a sense of amnesia that works with that soul. With this spiritual amnesia the soul does not recall its current mission. The soul does not necessarily know that its physical incarnation this time will be relatively short.   The soul does do not realize it will be returning to the Universal Collective. The soul does not recall it will be entering a difficult life plan dealing with abuse, abandonment, or cruelty". Still this was unreasonable to me; I asked the Angels further, "How can you say this? I cannot believe any child would choose to be abandoned, I cannot believe any wife would consent to abuse, I cannot believe a murder victim has chosen this path!"   Their answer? "How can you not? The Light has given you free will. Of that there is no doubt. So, you have the choice to believe in several different ways. One would be that The Light has turned its back on humankind, and with great apathy, allows the murders, the abuse, and the total disregard for life here on your earth plane.   Or, you can choose to believe these souls that are suffering here or have passed over young, or perhaps even in a violent way, gave themselves for a higher purpose. Their Soul's Purpose may have been to alert, draw attention to, or to disturb ones thinking.   The Christ did not wish to die, it is recorded as such. However, he did not have the amnesic layer and knew his outcome. Humankind is spared this conscious foreknowledge." "What types of higher purpose?" I asked. Again they patiently answered me.   "Such as the awareness that at one time children had no legal rights. Such as, compassion for the hungry. Such as those who were in charge of watching over the elderly, the children, and the unfortunate, who were not properly doing their jobs. Many may have suffered from these unseen acts.   One souls sacrifice, two souls sacrifice, or even a million souls sacrifice may be required to inspire humanity into action, thus changing the way humanity reacts to one another.   Sometimes it will be as simple as one word, or one sentence that changes a branch.   One young woman asked a simple question as she faced death in a school cafeteria in Columbine, Colorado, 'do you believe in God?'. Her answer was one word, but it ricocheted over every newscast and every associated press news wire, 'Yes'.   Sometimes it will only be one word, a whisper even. And those that will defend that one word with their physical life are serving their purpose. It is these souls, that will inspire, and attempt to alter the branch humanity is climbing at the time. One only has to look into the eyes of a crippled child to see the essence of The Light within them. There resides the Glory of the Light.   These are some Souls, who have come to teach compassion by example. This is too is an example of a Soul Purpose. Again, this is your choice of thought. As with all things there is a purpose. It cannot be true when convenient, it is either true or it is not." so the Angels said.   When we choose our incarnation's destiny (the Life Purpose), we also choose the learning experiences and situations that will aid us in discovering that purpose. I can tell you that there is a common theme that runs throughout your life and finding that thread will unravel the mystery of your Life's and Soul's purpose. That thread is your purpose   I think I would like to take you to your inner library where all of your information is kept, safe and secret. I would like to take a few moments to ground our selves. Taking in a deep breath and slowly releasing it - Many times we forget that we are colorful beings, made up of color and vibration.   |  | | --- | | **So, on your next deep breath, visualize with me that you are breathing in..... white light, and releasing.....gray. When we do this release, we clear out the stress of the day, the irritations we felt, the fear that pushes us along-   As you feel yourself center in your mind's eye--the place of memory--begin to see a library-- Rich, dark cherry wood bookshelves line the walls of your library You can smell the rich leather of inviting overstuffed chairs A fire crackles and sparks in the fireplace Candles adorn a chandelier casting a warm glow throughout the room   This is your library A place where records of your experiences are kept Breath in the beauty and sacred space of your library-- white light in........ gray out.......   Allow yourself to step forward-- As you move forward, feel the plush texture of the carpet beneath your feet With one step-- Then step two-- And, finally a third step--   You find yourself before one of those bookcases See the many different shapes of books-- Notice the coverings of this vast amount of words....... Smell the aroma of contained knowledge and bound thoughts and actions-- Of the hundreds of books before you-- your eyes are drawn to one   Perhaps it stands out to you as a glowing object-- Perhaps as an oddly shaped book- Whatever attracts you to it-- you know that this is your book of life See your hand reaching forward- fingertips lightly skimming the spine of this book Take it from the shelf As you pull the book from it's shelf, you notice how warm it feels in your fingers   A sense of familiarity flows through you-- it is as if the book itself recognizes you- Allow the book to fall open, showing you it's hidden contents-.. Here is your tree, drawn straight and firm, between the pages of this wonderful book   Running your fingers over the ancient paper-- feel the indentations left by an old quill- Look at your tree drawn there Realize this is your Tree of Life-- Within these pages, within this drawing, is your entire blueprint of purpose Look at your branches on the tree   Are they straight and strong? Are they curved and twiggy? Is the trunk wide with age? Or is it small with innocence? Do branches intertwine? How many branches are drawn there?  a few?  many?  Which branch are you on at this point in your living experience?   Knowing that our great design is safe and secure..... Return the book to it's proper resting place upon the cherrywood shelves. Running your fingers down the worn ancient spine Stepping back from the book shelves - One step.   Feeling the carpet beneath your feet, step back once more-- And finally a third step backward allows you to view the entire bookcase from the top to the bottom- Look at the knowledge at your fingertips. This is your library-..   Taking a moment to re-center, knowing that all things are perfect-- Connect with me once more within this sacred space known as the JVP chat room.** |   I want to thank all of you for attending tonight. |

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