MEDITATION (Cont'd)

By Ng Beng Woon

I want to know how a scientist looks at life and what reason he offers for his particular attitude. I turned to Albert Einstein for enlightenment. Now, I must admit that I have no head for mathematics and that I do not pretend to know the complicated equation of his world-known theory. But this is not to say that I am not entitled to read his speeches and essays. After all, he is mortal. He is not only the greatest scientist, but also one of the greatest philosophers of all time. I am infinitely amazed by the keenness of his mind and the impartiality of his ideas. I want to know what he has to say about science, philosophy and religion as a whole. Here is a quotation from one of his speeches and essay: "Men try to make himself in the fashion that suits him best a simplified and intelligible picture of the world; he tries to come to rest in the region of the knowledge of the world which he is able to comprehend. He is often, indeed, as the poet, the speculative philosopher, and the natural scientist do, each in his own fashion. I cannot conceive of a God who rewards and punishes his creatures, or has a will of the kind that we expect in ourselves. Neither can I nor would I want to conceive of an individual that survives his physical death; its fictional souls, forms fear or absurd egos, come to men's thoughts. I am satisfied with the 'mystery o the eternity of life and with the awareness and a glimpse of the marvellous structure of the universe."

"I'm rather busy at the moment. Can you come back sometime when I have time all married off?"

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