

## **GUIDANCE FOR THINKING, KNOWLEDGE, EPISTEMOLOGY**

Some aphorisms, sayings, maxims, adages, dictums, epigrams, proverbs, precepts attributed to Li Kiang by Albert G. Wilson

1. If it is not a paradox, it is not a bridge to truth.
2. If it is profound, it appears absurd.
3. Intuition does not validate, it only significates.
4. If you have all of the right answers, then you have the wrong questions.
5. If you can answer your question, then question your question.
6. The path of education lies in the acquisition of lucid answers; the path of wisdom lies in the acquisition of lucid questions; the path to enlightenment lies in the acquisition of lucid paradoxes.
7. Philosophy is about the spin that language puts on understanding.
8. Not only has reality outstripped experience but experience has overflowed the schemata we possess for organizing it.
9. For things, it is more blessed to give than to receive. For information, it is more blessed to receive than to give.
10. We have no measure of the quality of questions we only have the signification of answers.
11. Freedom is neither a goal nor a process, but a metacondition requisite to the successful operation of all higher order processes, like thinking itself.
12. For anything to be true of false, it must belong to a delimited set. (e.g. the present).
13. When the figure is too confused, the ground must be expanded.
14. When a problem becomes too complex, this means that the framework in which it is formulated is too limited.
15. When one succeeds in sufficient unlearning, it is possible to make fundamental discoveries.
16. Profundities are the offspring of absurdities; Absurdity spawns profundity.
17. Consciousness is awareness of awareness.
18. Our thoughts shape the future.
19. There are two kinds of ignorance: not knowing enough and knowing too much.
20. Creation is the ultimate mode of learning.
21. Philosophy is about the attempts to solve with words the problems that have been created by words.

22. Those who are intolerant of alternatives disclose their doubt in their own views. Intolerance of alternatives is a measure of the weakness of a position.
23. The two great illusions are localization of mind and entification of self.
24. Knowledge is the label we give to experience we have organized; Lore is the label we give to experience we cannot organize.
25. In the ontology of the psyche, a thought is a thing, a mood is a place.
26. Godel's theorem tells us that understanding reality lies beyond rational thought.
27. The epistemology of archeology (exploration of artifacts) is not the same as the epistemology of natural science.
28. Someday when we encounter ruins left by aliens, we shall need a third epistemology: perhaps epistemologies of the heart as well as the mind
29. An Epistemology establishes an ontology and the ontology directs the epistemology.
30. There is a limit beyond which the intellect alone cannot go without the accompaniment of the heart, but there is no limit beyond which the heart cannot go without the support of the intellect.
31. "Fools can only learn from other fools" (from email msg, AGW to Troncale, Nov. 13, 1999)
32. "Old men remember only what is interesting to them" (from email msg, AGW to Troncale, Dec 3, 1997).