scheme of thought that will bind together the observed facts? If memory is a core consequence of the feedback process ubiquitous in all dynamical systems, then the universal living memory hypothesis serves as a powerful scheme of thought that binds together—the observed facts, from the conventional to the controversial, and beyond. Everything that is remembered, from the small to the all.

According to the systemic memory process, the info-energy systems that comprise our personal histories, both the good and the bad, continue unconditionally, but this does not mean that we must be forced to relive them, over and over. This is because the stories, as info-energy systems, can evolve as new information is uncovered and added to them.

The history of humankind tells us that we are an evolving species who live on an evolving planet that is an integral part of an evolving universe. Remember, a mere hundred years ago, humans still dreamed of flying, and today we take jet flight for granted. The history of science tells us that dreams can be translated into technology that extend our bodies, minds, and spirits accordingly. Who is to say that in the future, we will not be able to speak on the phone with the living info-energy systems of our loved ones who have physically departed? Probably the same people who said that humans will never be able to fly.

Can you imagine a culture of our children's children's children that was actually open-minded, flexible, responsible, and humble? It is not impossible. All humans have the capacity to learn, grow, love, and care. If we are to continue to wish that our children will have better lives than we did, it behooves us to envision the possibility of an evolving and responsible future, and live it before it is too late.

Linda and I have seen firsthand that children, in particular, smile when they think about sharing heart information with the people and pets that they love. One wonders how the lives and visions of children might change if they came to envision their bodies as integrative energy systems extending into space. Would they feel more interconnected, more part of the world and the cosmos? Would they become more sensitive to the feelings of others, and become more responsible in terms of their effect on others and on the environment? Would they become more heart-focused, more heartfelt, more loving? And would they be better able to appreciate the wonder and mystery of nature and the universe?

The history of science suggests that we should not underestimate the power of creative and caring evolution.

Can science quench our thirst for finding meaning and purpose in life, and even help point the way? If the logic of the systemic memory process is true, and science discovers that universal living memory operates in all systems at all levels to various degrees, then life is more wonderful, entertaining, inspirational, revisable, and designed than any of us can yet imagine.

Science and society are approaching a fork in the road. The choice between the “dead” vision and the “living” vision, the non-systemic and the systemic vision, is not just one more fork in the road. It is the definitive fork. If we choose the correct hypothesis, systems science may enable humans to rediscover a living divinity, and in the process enable us to honor the gift of gifts—our capacity to know and empower love, everywhere and in everything.

The logic of the systemic memory process leads inexorably to ideas about eternal life and evolution that have the power to expand our vision so we may, as Marcel Proust said, “see with new eyes.” As I look back on this journey, the path has continually been paved with joy and love, everywhere and in everything.

**Joy**

Joy is Being that lovely Presence in the unveiling of Omniscience

The warm glow from the Center in Love’s flow to all that matters

Joy is radiance of the highest order it is perseverance success like no other

—Katy Bennett

**Civilization starts with the cultural and spiritual side of human evolution, the evolution of consciousness. The true history of civilization is of those harbingers of evolution, the Prophets, who are actually making history possible. Except for the few rulers who have been benevolent, what we call history today is actually the history of crimes. Read it from that angle—who killed whom, who ruled over whom, who invaded whom. Those who fought wars, invaded or defended each other, are subsidiary, whether in the East or West is immaterial. Certainly Krishna, Rama, Buddha and other such figures existed before Western history was written. The epics are the actual history of mankind.**

An American devotee once asked, “But don’t you think, Swamiji, that wherever the military has gone, civilization has grown?” It depends upon how you define civilization. From age to age the kings, emperors and philosophers have been influenced by the truly great ones, whether it was Krishna, Jesus, Buddha, Rama or others. If you carry this back in time you will see that at the change of each age, it is the
The lives of the Prophets are living history, far beyond the kings and emperors of many nations whose names are hardly remembered. They came and went. It is the Prophets who start and end history, the evolutionary process. For each evolution or age the Prophets see what is needed, where we stand, what we can grasp, how to behave with us; which language, which actions, agreed to go. But before leaving he told to his wife, “I can’t go empty-handed. I should take something, as an offering at least.” So she tied some pulled rice into a cloth—all that they had to eat—and tucked it into his waist, saying, “Offer him this.”

Sudama walked all the way from his village and after days reached the golden city. But once outside Krishna’s palace, he felt very shy and berated himself for coming. “I might have been his friend in school, but now he’s King and I am nobody. What merit have I to even meet him, let alone ask him for anything?” Sudama wrestled back and forth in his mind, but since he had traveled so far, he finally sent a message to Krishna that Sudama, his school friend, had come.

There are many aspects and incidents in each Prophet’s life that, if taken quite ordinarily, could be misunderstood. So it was with Jesus, Buddha, Rama and Krishna. Krishna’s life, however, is the most misunderstood and the greatest enigma; not only because of the variety of things he did, but also because his was the most perfect manifestation of Divinity. But in spite of that, after nearly five thousand years he still lives and grows in our consciousness. Why? It seems a contradiction but on a deeper level it is not. That is the only way it could be. In the Srimad Bhagavatam, the story of Krishna’s play on earth, the author, Vedavyas, wrote that if you truly want to understand Krishna, you have to be very, very pure.

When hard times came, there was no food and the children were on the verge of starvation, Sudama’s wife reminded him of Krishna. “He was your great friend in school and now he is King of Dwaraka.” Sudama was reluctant to ask for money or food from Krishna’s palace, his wife; they had several children. When hard times came, there was no food and the children were on the verge of starvation, Sudama’s wife reminded him of Krishna. “He was your great friend in school and now he is King of Dwaraka.” Sudama asked him again, “What can I do for you? Just tell me.” But Sudama was shy and simply said, “I have your love and your friendship. That is more valuable to me than anything,” Krishna told him, however, “When you return home, your days will now be better.” And it is written that when Sudama returned home, where his simple hut had stood was a mansion, and his wife came to meet him bedecked in jewels and fine clothing. Each Prophet played his role on Earth in his own way. But Krishna’s life is the perfection of Love (God’s play), as God would be with all beings—whether virtuous or sinner, strong or weak, high or low, man or woman, rich or poor, talented or illiterate. His Incarnation is a flawless example of how the Creator deals with His creation in all respects. On whichever level of consciousness you exist, He meets you there. If He were to mechanically deal with everyone uniformly, it would have no meaning, nor would it benefit us.

Love is the only all-attractive reality and Krishna and life are synonymous. He stands by the simple-hearted people, the lowly, the downtrodden, to whom injustice has been done. He is a perfect lawyer, a perfect lover, a perfect warrior and a perfect peacemaker. To understand the significance of his life is very revealing. It is no small thing that he still lives after so many thousands of years. When we understand Krishna’s love, we will understand God’s love. Then everything else will be revealed. 