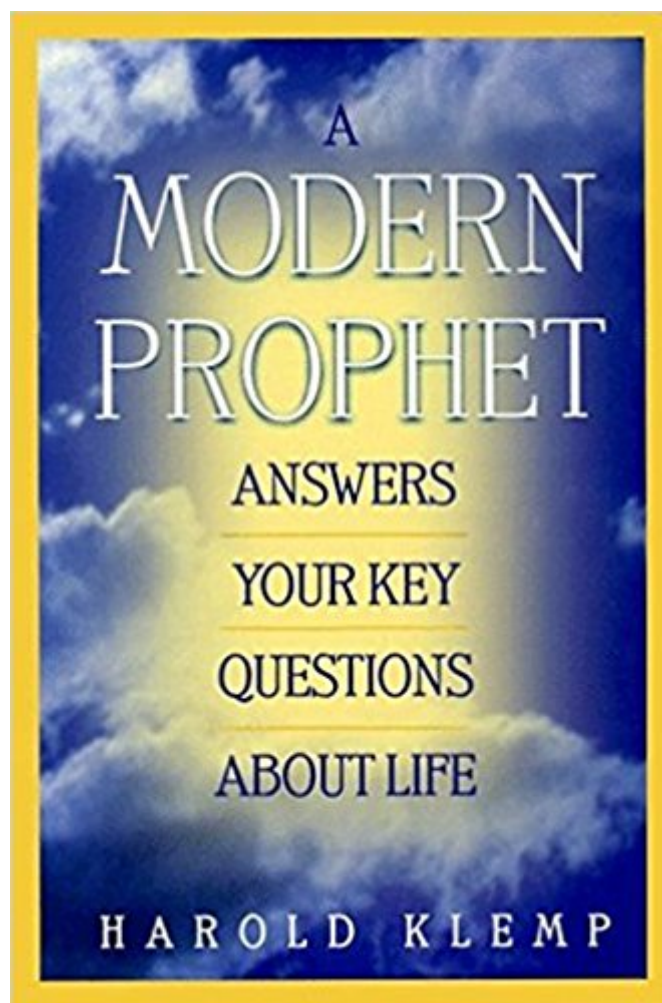


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# A Modern Prophet Answers Your Key Questions About Life



## Synopsis

All of us need solace and encouragement at times. Where do you take your toughest questions for compassionate, straight-to-the-point, and even surprising answers? In ancient days you'd turn to a prophet. Today there is a modern-day prophet who can answer your questions with good sense and compassion, plus help you find wisdom within yourself. Harold Klemp is the Mahanta, the modern-day prophet of Eckankar. He says that your life is your personal pathway back to God. You are like a star of God sent into this world for spiritual experience. Your questions help you grow spiritually--in love and compassion. Become more godlike. Harold Klemp's answers to the hundreds of questions you'll see in this book will uplift you and transform you. They'll help you see God's presence in your life. A Modern Prophet Answers Your Key Questions About Life is a guide to your own source of wisdom and deep inner joy.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Established in 1965 by Paul Twitchell, Eckankar is a religion that refers to itself as the "Religion of the Light and Sound of God." It teaches that past lives affect present decisions, dreams are real and can be used to understand everyday experience and that "Soul Travel" is a "natural method for discovering spiritual truth." Soul Travel is taught only by the living ECK Master, the spiritual leader of Eckankar who assists people in their spiritual travels and whose "duty it is to lead Souls back to God." In 1981, Harold Klemp, after a career in the U.S. Air Force, became the current living ECK Master, or Mahanta, of Eckankar. In the past 17 years, many followers of Eckankar have written to Klemp seeking his advice on spiritual matters, and many of those questions, along with Klemp's

answers, are reproduced in this volume. Gathered into 12 chapters, questions range from "Are dreams real?" and "Why is life so hard?" to "Why stay a virgin until marriage?" and "Does smoking affect your spiritual growth?" In his responses to questions, Klemp remains evenhanded and seeks a middle ground that will lead the questioners to reconsider certain principles of ECK that deal with their situations. On balance, though, Klemp comes across as a spiritualized "Dear Abby" proffering aphorisms like, "Life isn't run by people who are experts in living" and "Be kind and gentle to yourself. We are all beginners in living." Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

"A compassionate, understanding, immensely helpful response to the spiritual, emotional, and practical problems that confront ordinary people at the end of the twentieth century." --Robert S. Ellwood, Emeritus Professor of Religion, University of Southern California, Coauthor, *Religious and Spiritual Groups in Modern America*"A highly recommended book filled with practical, spiritual nuggets for transforming our lives." --Gerald G. Jampolsky, M.D., Author, *Love Is Letting Go of Fear*"Harold Klemp is a pioneer of today's focus on 'everyday spirituality'." --Arielle Ford, Author, *Hot Chocolate for the Mystical Soul*"Harold Klemp's insights place him among the most esteemed spiritual leaders of our time." --Rosemary Ellen Guiley, Author, *The Miracle of Prayer and Dreamwork for the Soul*"This book offers a wealth of spiritual information and analysis which is both illuminating and comforting." --Michael Newton, Ph.D., Author, *Journey of Souls*"Harold Klemp takes you on a guided tour of your inner self by answering questions which will help awaken you to your own God-given abilities." --Taylor Hay, Author, *Synergetics*"A Modern Prophet is an accessible book. . . . its pages are very poignant and indeed profound. Many daily concerns . . . that we face throughout our human journey are given loving perspective." --Robert S. Frey, M.A., *Independent Publisher Magazine*, May/June/99". . . The nice thing about the answers in this book is that they are not dogmatic; they encourage the readers to find a personal spiritual path . . ." --Rita Cutter, *MAGICAL BLEND*"Now [that I am] at more than four score years [of age], so many previously unanswered questions are, for me, comfortably resolved in *A Modern Prophet*. . . . prescient and spiritually sensitive answers for a person of any age, religion or race. And it's all in one volume, spelled out in depth and focused clarity." --Edith S. Engle, Compiler and Editor, *ONE GOD: Peoples of the Book*"Both spiritual and inspirational, a thought-provoking book." --Today's Librarian"Designed with an easy-to-read format, *A Modern Prophet* . . . allows readers to quickly identify their questions or issue and get to the heart of it immediately." --THE MIDWEST BOOK REVIEW"Each answer is clear, simple, practical, respectful, a down-to-earth and loving teaching." --NAPRA ReView ". . . Listening to the wisdom of a Master . . . can help one overcome fear, become

happier, more creative, and most importantly, open one's heart." --Patricia Stevens, The Light Connection

One of the most enjoyable spiritual books I read.

Answered a bunch of questions but still did not cover all of what I wanted. It is worth reading and you will gain some insight from the comments.

Author Klemp has tackled many of the questions we typically wonder about involving life and spirituality with a very practical and down-to-earth approach. No nonsense and no hoopla. Just the facts.

This amazing book will provide the answers to the many questions of spiritual seekers who are ready to hear. You can open to any page and find personal meaning in both the questions and answers. This book could change your life.

not as enlightening as I expected

Harold Klemp (b. 1942) is the current spiritual leader and "Living ECK Master"/Mahanta of Eckankar. In 1981 he succeeded Darwin Gross (1928-2008; author of *Â Â Your Right to Know*, and subject of *Â Â From Heaven to the Prairie: When You Know, You Know! The Story of the 972nd Living ECK Master*, etc., and who has since been excised from the history of Eckankar). Klemp has written many other books, such as *Â Â Autobiography of a Modern Prophet*, *The Secret Teachings*, etc.]. The publisher's Introduction to this 1998 book states, "In this book are over two hundred questions and answers to help you. Topics covers are many. Among them are the value to you of spiritual exercises, self-discipline, and planning versus surrender. They tell how to avoid making karma, the roles of divine love and human love, what our children and pets may teach us, how spiritual healing really works, how to love God, and more." He states, "Many who first come to Eckankar lean toward the side of introspection. That's why they remember so many inner experiences. But these people often serve no useful spiritual purpose, since all of their attention is upon themselves... People who first come to the path of ECK often have the habit of putting most of their attention on the inside. So it's natural for them to remember so many inner experiences, because they think that's what the spiritual life is all about. However, they've got it wrong... If they

allow the Mahanta to help them grow spiritually, their hearts will begin to open, They will start thinking of others first. The Mahanta is now bending the tree strongly away from self-interest toward compassion for others." (Pg. 61-62) In response to an ECKist who has fallen in love with a Christian, he states, "Follow whom you will in your heart. It is the same Holy Spirit working through yet another of its instruments. There are many ways to reach the kingdom of heaven... Life does not bring two people together without a reason. Our past lives get mixed up in this, and we find new friends in this life are actually old acquaintances from before. Love is what drew you to your Christian friend. The relationship, if followed through, will bring spiritual enrichment to the person who recognizes the hand of Divine Spirit as the motivating factor." (Pg. 77-78) To a confused spiritual "seeker," he says, "The question you're now asking is whether you need to join an organization (like Eckankar or something else) to grow spiritually. No, you do not. But don't be a hermit either. People need people. That's how things are. Join recreation groups or study groups, even take classes---if that's what you want. But be with people when you need to." (Pg. 108) To an ECKist whose husband is not, he says, "Your life with your husband has shown so clearly that not all students of Eckankar are in Eckankar." (Pg. 116) He states, "The path of ECK is actually for those who want to reach the God Consciousness in a certain, direct line. There are many paths to God, and I feel everyone should have the choice of his own religious way without fear from any outside source." (Pg. 171) He adds, "I've found it a waste of time to convince anyone to stay on a job, or in ECK, in the face of serious doubts. If the individual is inclined to leave, he should. Unless he does, he is not following his inner guidance. Some people learn better in other places. Go into contemplation to see if you are one." (Pg. 175) He tells another person, "if you feel that Eckankar is not going in your direction anymore, please feel free to leave it with my blessings. You, and everyone, have the right to choose your own spiritual direction in life. That is your spiritual right." (Pg. 195) He admits, "A religion is composed of layers and layers of people with different states of consciousness. Some of those individuals act nobly toward others, while a few try to use truth for their personal gain. The latter like power politics and cause a lot of problems for others... Eckankar has the same faults within its infrastructure. That's because it too is composed of many different kinds of people. Some are always trying to limit the truth that comes through Eckankar. The rest of us do all we can to reopen the channel of truth. A never-ending struggle..." (Pg. 236) He asserts, "The historical starting point for the pyramids goes back to Atlantis, the continent that once included the Bahamas... It was an advanced civilization that boasted giant pyramids... The Atlanteans had developed science beyond anything known today, including exotic means of space travel for colonization of nearby planets. The huge continent eventually broke up and sank, but only after many years of cataclysms that left little trace of its

former greatness... about 12,000 B.C., the Atlanteans packed their goods and fled to Europe, Africa, and the Americas." (Pg. 251)He points out, "Sometimes people don't understand the role of a spiritual guide---whether it's Christ, or the Mahanta, or Buddha, or the leader of a church somewhere ... So let me explain. Over all creation is the creator, God, whom we know as Sugmad in the ancient teachings... This Voice of God is what is known as the Holy Spirit... it's a neutral force... Now a true spiritual master is in tune with the Voice of God. A human manifestation that people can see and understand. In that role, his will is that of Divine Spirit. And that's all... In his physical body, the Mahanta, the Living ECK Master is like everyone else and can only be in one place at a time. In the soul body, however, he is like the air you breathe He is everywhere. As the ECK, he can easily be with you and thousands of others in the very same moment... The sole purpose of the Mahanta, the Living ECK Master is simply to help Soul find Its way home to God." (Pg. 264-265)This book will be very helpful to students of Eckankar.

In *A Modern Prophet Answers Your Key Questions About Life*, Harold Klemp fields questions about all kinds of subjects and gives answers that are simple and practical while still maintaining a spiritual perspective. He explains how to get more help from your dreams with living your life. When I was a kid I could never understand why only certain people in the Bible could have spiritual dreams that gave them guidance in their lives. It just didn't seem like something God would do. Klemp gives a technique for remembering more of your dreams and it works! In later chapters, he even gives techniques for having spiritual experiences while you are not dreaming. He gives techniques for problem solving. He even answers questions about how to get along better in your relationships. What I like most about this book and this author is that the things he tells us are not just theories or mind-candy. He shows us how to apply this information to the ways we live our lives and it works! At the same time, he gives us techniques to help us experience God. On page 168, he explains why it can be hard to experience truth and what a person can do to have truth in his or her life. On page 259, he gives a technique for overcoming fears. In the same chapter, he even tells how to get help from spiritual guides--and how to become one yourself. It's a great book and I highly recommend it to anyone who wants to improve their spiritual connection with life.

This book is not for those unwilling to look deeply at the answers to questions like: why am I here, what happens when I die, why is life hard sometimes, why does love hurt, who am I? Even if you think you know answers to these questions, Harold Klemp's answers take a step further in understanding in a gentle, open way. The format of the book is wonderful - actual heartfelt questions

from seekers with his response. There's lots of room to maneuver in this book, you can read it like a tennis match - watching a dialogue back and forth from the sidelines, or more likely, feel yourself pulled in to the conversations because the content touches on subjects that as human beings we've pondered sincerely for millenia. Harold Klemp's answers were always given with so much love and respect for the person asking, I enjoyed it just for that too. I found incredible jewels of wisdom in this book and would highly recommend it to any sincere seeker who loves God.

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