

## The Lessons of Fool's Gold

*Light and Dark*

I'm finding the gloomy financial news, famine and global violence on television contrasts particularly strongly at the moment with commercial breaks depicting happy families enjoying vast amounts of food, toys and the latest expensive high-tech gadgets.

Surely it's obvious by now that the more we seek happiness in the pursuit of money, goods and power the more unhappy and unbalanced we make our world. Not that there's anything wrong with money, goods or power - used well they can be fabulous resources - but when we make them a goal in themselves, instead of using them in service to a true vision we risk our integrity.



### The Emperor's New Clothes

The essence which depicts this best is Pyrite, also known as [Fool's Gold](#). So called because it often tricked the unwary miner with an illusion of instant wealth, Pyrite essence asks us to step out of mass delusion where we're frightened to be the only one to point out that the only suit the Emperor is wearing is the one he was born in. Pyrite essence asks us to resist external pressures and live our life according to our highest personal truth.

### The Golden Lining

This, to me, is the upside of the economic downturn. We're having to take personal responsibility for our livelihood, our own happiness and the social and planetary consequences of our actions. If you're reading this then you'll be familiar with the concept that we create our reality ourselves, yet the media have again turned this idea of using the Law of Attraction into the pursuit of **having** more, when in fact the journey is always about **being** more - more of who we truly are. I recently saw this excerpt in a friend's newsletter which expresses this very eloquently - over to Mark Silver from *'Heart of Business'*

### Heart or Ego?

*There's a popular idea floating around that says: God/Divine/Source wants you to have it easy. Just stay happy, stay focused on your dreams, and everything you need will come to you. This is a misunderstanding of a profound spiritual teaching. The Sufis talk about it like this: You have been promised ease around your sustenance.*

*The problem? This is a teaching of the heart, not the ego. For the ego, "ease" means easy, no work, lying around on the beach while the cash flows in. For the heart, however, "ease" means something entirely different. What brings ease to the heart is when your work (1) benefits others and has meaning, (2) hurts no one and doesn't accumulate what is referred to as "sin" or "karma," and (3) is honest. If you earn a living while accomplishing those three, even if there is some hard work involved, your heart will be at ease.*

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