



Thoughts, Poems and Reflections in a Time of Pandemic. Postscript

At the present time the news is dominated by two things, the rapidly increasing number of deaths from the Corona Virus Pandemic and the disruption it creates. The social isolation forces us in on ourselves and makes us face up to our personal thoughts, fears, and challenges that we might otherwise have hidden away. In these *“Thoughts, Poems and Reflections in a time of Pandemic”*. I describe some of these, and how through facing them we may find fulfilment in the lives we seek.

In these reflections I use the Gospel of Thomas purely because it claims to be an account of the sayings of Jesus. I report them only because of the insights they might give. No other historical or theological meaning is attached and none of these reflections or poems presume or expect anyone to have a religious belief. In this account this Gospel is not treated as a sacred text. However, large numbers of people do have religious beliefs and great harm has been done to many people, most notably among those in the gender and sexually variant (LGBTI) communities because of the scapegoating and condemnation that has taken place, and which still takes place, in societies, in sections of the Christian Church, also in other faiths and religious groups, where the misplaced presumptions that are made on the basis of religious belief cause great feelings of anger, rejection and guilt. I discuss these issues separately in other work. See for example *“East and West: A Comparison of How the Apostles Interpreted the Gospel Message in Roman and Persian Cultures”* and *“The Gospel of Thomas: Its Origins and the Consequences for Understandings of Theology, Gender and Sex in the Christian Church”* which will shortly be released.