

“YOU CAN’T ALWAYS BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU THINK”

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“It was one of the oddest moments I can remember.

I was 23 years old—and as was often the case during this time, I was deep in conversation with Jones. I can’t recall exactly what he was explaining, but I do remember that I certainly had something to say about it. (I often did!)

“Let me tell you what I think—” I interrupted.

But before I could dispense what would have surely been an enlightening dose of 23-year-old wisdom, the old man cut me off.

“Hey, hey, hey,” he said. “You wanna be careful with that.” “With what?” I replied.

“That *thinking* thing. It can get you in trouble... In fact, most folks live their whole lives and never come to understand... **you can’t always believe everything you think.**”

You can’t believe everything you think... It took me decades to really understand what he meant by that.

Finally, though, I’m ready to explain it.

Have you ever been so sure of something, so *utterly convinced* it was the truth that you could argue it, and win those arguments, only to find out that your information was incomplete...or that you were flat out wrong?

Of course you have. We’ve all done that at one time or another!

So, with that in mind, does the **possibility** exist that you might be wrong about something right now?

“Of course,” you would say. “Of course I might be wrong about something. Obviously, that possibility exists.”

Okay...if the possibility exists, wouldn’t it also hold true that you don’t know exactly what it is you might be wrong about? Or even **how many things** you might be wrong about?

OK, now we’re getting somewhere. All I’m saying is that there is a huge world of truth out there well beyond what you already know.

You see, as humans most of us only think as hard as we’re forced to. When we bump up against something *we believe we already know*, we usually stop thinking about it. We remain in place, and so do our boundaries.

Rarely do we dig in and seek wisdom about ***the things we already know***.

This is what I think, we tell ourselves.

But if the possibility exists that we’re wrong...that means we can’t believe everything we think.”

It is important that we keep our minds open. It might be that God is ready to teach us something new.