

## **Ode to Technology:** *systematic treatment of an art*

Progress, Nature, Technology, Community, Heart ...

You are always learning, building the future ...

Technology will keep evolving, but we can direct it ...

We can define progress ...

Mans' masterpiece is to improve our very PROCESS ...

There is probably a simple way to simplify life ...

Human\_being\_kind - as one whole ...

Nature is complex, yet simple - there's our model ...

Try not to fall ...

Ode to  
tech·nol·o·gy \-jê\ n, pl -gies [Gk technologia  
systematic treatment of an art, fr. technê art, skill + -o- + -logia -  
logy]

**community**  
**progress**  
**nature**  
**technology**  
**heart**

“To be a good scientist, or to have a scientific attitude toward the world,  
one must be able to imagine wonderful things – even things that seem  
too wonderful to be true.”  
- Chet Raymo, “Dr. Suess and Dr. Einstein”, Orion, Vol. 12, Number 2, Spring 1993

“Nothing is too wonderful to be true.”  
- Michael Faraday

...

"In every age, we have learned that learning WILL take place...

Look therefore to yourself; for you are the example. It is from you that the future will be built. By your very actions, you re-create portions of the past and create for the first time, the world yet to be."

"No compulsory learning can remain in the soul. . . In teaching children, train them by a kind of game, and you will be able to see more clearly the natural bent of each."

**- Plato, The Republic, Book VII**

In the places I go there are things that I see  
That I never could spell if I stopped with the Z."

**- Dr. Suess, On Beyond Zebra**

...

"The evolution of technology is a miniature prototype of the evolution of mankind's tools. Once the first tool improved the human situation, a process started that will never stop. Our ancestors got that ball rolling by being human.

It is my responsibility and it is your responsibility to DIRECT that ball. We cannot stop it or decrease or increase its speed.  
We cannot wish it away."

"It is a universal condition of the enjoyable that the mind must believe in the existence of a discoverable law, yet have a mystery to move in."  
- James Clerk Maxwell

...

"Progress cannot be reversed. It WILL take place because the human being is by nature looking for a better way. Humans learn from experience. Then they apply what they learn to each next situation.

The question therefore is, 'What impact can we have on Progress?' Herein lies the balance between prayer and innovation - between hoping and trying - between wishing and doing. We can have an awesome impact!"

"The most beautiful experience we can have is the mysterious.  
It is the fundamental emotion which stands at the cradle of  
true art and true science."  
- **Albert Einstein**

...

"Have you ever been amazed at what an animal can do when it is performing its best skills in its native element? That is how one must feel about the evolution of the human race. Here we see a masterpiece not unlike what the beaver can do with mud and wood.

There is a difference, though. Whereas the beaver's masterpiece is the dam, the human masterpiece can be seen in the improvement of what it means to be human. Human achievement is the *human consciousness itself*."

"That which intellectually considered we call Reason, considered in relation to nature, we call Spirit. Spirit is the Creator, Spirit hath life in itself."

- **Ralph Waldo Emerson, Nature, (15)**

...

"If it looks like we are on a collision course with confusion, then you must look further. What could be a form of progress that does not make our lives more complicated? What could truly be called progress in that it improves our lives by using wisdom from the past and takes us beyond the present? What could simplify our lives without simply regressing to the way we used to be? Perhaps the answer is right in front of us. After all, every other major idea in the history of the world was."

"When I examine myself and my methods of thought, I come to the conclusion that the gift of fantasy has meant more to me than any talent for abstract, positive thinking."

- **Albert Einstein**

...

*"I dreamt of a time that was better.  
Each person was engaged.  
Criminals were not enemies.  
Nature was not enraged.*

*Minorities were not separate.  
Individuals all took part.  
The millions of limited people,  
together were very smart.*

*The human race had finally  
progressed beyond the start."*

"The only reward of virtue is virtue; the only way to have a friend  
is to be one..."

**- Ralph Waldo Emerson**

...



"Nature is complex. It has many parts that interact in many, many ways. And the rhyme and reason to Her processes are incredibly intricate. But the overall impression one gets by watching Her is not what we humans normally associate with complexity, confusion, or complication. Watching nature we often feel a sense of calm that usually accompanies simplicity.

Could we learn to have technology progress toward something complex yet simple?"

"Now I see the secret of the making of the best persons, ... It is to grow in the open air, and to eat and sleep with the earth."

- **Walt Whitman**

...

"Why do we trip over the ground? Do we  
not see it is there in front of us?"

Thank you.

Music by Rossini, William Tell Overture  
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