

Thomas Berry's Comments

Thomas Berry moved to Greensboro, NC in 1993. Since his move to Greensboro, he and Nelson Stover have had numerous personal conversations and meetings. Nelson has shared much of his own writing and thinking with Thomas and the two of them have talked in depth on several occasions.

During a visit to the North Carolina mountains, Nelson wrote a poem which he sent to Thomas after one of their meetings. Thomas replied:

Your "Valley Clouds" poem is delightful. It has the full soaring quality of the clouds themselves. Keep writing!! We need such sensitive insight especially here in this region!

All best greetings. I look forward to our next meeting.

Tom B.

As part of a city-wide celebration of Thomas' 93rd birthday in 2007, Nelson and Elaine produced a 6-session study guide of *The Great Work*. After reviewing the curriculum, Thomas wrote:

After a century of relentless exploitation of Earth's natural resources for human benefit, we realize that we have exceeded what the planet can endure. How to respond to this situation is the challenge before us.

Much needs to be done immediately. Thus the importance of this program of Nelson Stover. He sees the depths of the problem and the way to a solution. His insights need communication throughout the human community. By far the most effective program yet devised to direct us at this critical moment, Nelson's work is a clear guide to the shaping of a sustainable future, not only for the human community, but, as well, for the comprehensive Earth community.

Thomas Berry
September 2007

In order to help popularize the themes set forth in Thomas' book *The Great Work*, Nelson prepared a photographically illustrated lecture entitled "Cultural Tsunami – Shifting the Foundations of the 21st Century". This presentation was given in Takayama, Japan at the 7th Global Conference on Human Development sponsored by the Institute of Cultural Affairs International. On reading the text of the presentation, Thomas wrote:

In his paper on the need for twenty-first century transition of human consciousness from anthropocentrism to Earth-centrism (ecocentrism), Nelson Stover contributes substantially to the physical, intellectual, and spiritual health of a planet indescribably magnificent, incredibly threatened by the folly of its human inhabitants.

Thomas Berry
December 9, 2008