

eternal search is itself an ideal worthy of our greatest efforts, which may advance a little the mental horizon of mankind. We can point out the fallacy underlying the assumptions of modern totalitarianism: that, since man cannot attain to absolute truth, he is justified in taking some particular point of view and reasoning that whatever subserves that point of view is therefore the truth. No more pernicious error was ever set forth to perplex the human spirit. For this encourages men to do what they are too prone to do anyway, to rationalize their prejudices or their selfish desires. They can always say that their course is the true one from the point of view of personal vantage, or national interest, or welfare of their social group. Truth is the very reverse of this, seeking to divest itself of personal prejudices, antagonisms and selfish interests before forming a judgment. While mankind may not attain to absolute truth, the only valid ideal is to approach absolute truth as closely as possible. Only thus can ever be realized in its essential meaning the promise of the Great Teacher: "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."