

Changing the World

“Ever since I was child I listened to the old timers, ‘Our family farm got sold...See where that mall is (?), we use to have fields down here.’ I heard that over and over...there was no old timer that didn’t tell me some version of that story. So, I knew that even in my lifetime, even though there are still some pocket(s) of wild land around, they would be gone if somebody didn’t do something about it. So, I needed to be one of the people (to) volunteer, to throw my life down to make a piece of wild preserve, and then actively do something with it.”

“Taking our vision and our dream figuring out what we want to do, what’s important for you and make it come true and if it hurts sometimes go through the pain and if someone tells you, ‘you can’t do it,’ say, have a good day,” and go on and make your dreams come true” (September 6, 2010, TEDxAsheville - Eustace Conway - Traditional Lifestyles of the 21st Century, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qyElr_W-x7c&feature=emb_rel_end,

Mister Conway completed his college education despite leaving home at a young age. He is a graduate of Appalachian State University, completing degrees in anthropology and English, but chose to carve out his piece of peace.

In an interview with Eustace, he said, “We’re still trying to save the world.” The Associated Press | Aug. 11, 2013 | AL.com

Fast Forward Seven Years

“For over thirty years, Eustace Conway—preservationist, builder, man out of time—thought he'd rescue America from modernity. Modernity won. So where does that leave him?”

“I’m gonna save the world,” Eustace Conway tells me. “I see the light, and I’m gonna point it out.”

“Eustace refers to light of a different sort: the very light of human salvation, glimpsed by his younger self. He laughs now at his naïveté. *“Please.”*”

“He *was* gonna save the world, remember? ...He aimed to bring us with him... He took up that elusive mantle that so many have before him: teaching humanity again how to live with nature rather than kill it” (**WILL BAHR** | Feb. 5th, 2021).

Another young man, Sam Berns, at the age of 17, presented his story on TEDx Talks, saying: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=36m1o-tM05g>, Dec. 13, 2013). “I feel that no matter what I choose to become, I believe that I can change the world and as I’m striving to change the world, I will be happy.” This optimistic young man passed from this life on January 10th, 2014: twenty-eight days after the interview.

Compose lyrics, write articles, and proclaim to yourself and to others that your mission in life is to “change the world.” In the early years of life, you are full of vim and vigor (from the Latin “vigere,” meaning “to be lively, to thrive.”), ready to plow through life with a mission to change the world, only to come to grips with the fact that the general population does not desire for the world to be changed. Then you can join the ranks of many a man who “laughs now at his naïveté. *‘Please’.*”

It is not the world that needs changing, it is the mind: “be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, and ye may prove what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God” Rom. 12:2. (Ross Triplett, Sr. | February 20, 2021).