

Pathwork Lecture 223: The Era of the New Age and New Consciousness

1996 Edition, Original Given: September 25, 1974

This Pathwork lecture is rendered in an **expanded poetic format**, what I call a **Devotional Format** of the lecture. In this sense it is **my interpretation** of the **intent** of the lecture. I may have interpreted portions differently from you, and when this is the case, I ask you to ponder the words for **your own interpretation**.

I did this Devotional Format so I can take the words into my heart, phrase by phrase, much as I would in reading poetry -- **devotionally**. *I invite you to slowly read and ponder this format of the text – with an open heart to experience the Pathwork Guide’s Presence, Wisdom and Love emerging from among the words. May the Pathwork Guide’s Wisdom come to live you.*

For clarity: The **original text** is in **bold, italicized, and mostly underlined**. [My interpretations and intended clarifications are in brackets, italicized, mostly underlined, but never bolded.]

To learn more of my Devotional Format and to access the lectures I have rendered in this form, go to <http://www.garyvollbracht.com/quotes/pathwork-lectures-expanded-versions/>

Blessings on your journey, Gary

¶	Content
03	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i><u>Blessings,</u></i>• <i><u>love, and</u></i>• <i><u>greetings</u></i> <i><u>to all of you,</u></i> <i><u>my dearest ones.</u></i> <i><u>With immense joy</u></i> <i><u>do we resume our contact</u></i> <i><u>for the coming working period.</u></i> <i><u>The rejoicing in</u></i> <i><u>our world</u></i> <i><u>is great.</u></i> <i><u>This rejoicing</u></i> <i><u>can communicate itself</u></i> <i><u>to you</u></i> <i><u>if</u></i> <i><u>you open yourself to it.</u></i>

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Edited by Judith and John Saly; Devotional Format Posted 1/21/18

It [i.e., This rejoicing in our world]
has to do with
what many of you
have accomplished
• individually
and
• together.

But the rejoicing [i.e., But this rejoicing in our world]
is also about
what
is to come.

For
more
• growth and
• liberation,
• peace, and
• joy
will come
to those of you
who really devote yourselves
to your own innermost path.

04

Now, my dearest friends,
you have often heard
from
• me and
from
• many other sources
that
an
• immense
• new
cosmic force
that will sweep the planet earth
has been released
into the universe.

A new surge
toward
spiritual truth
is spreading
throughout
your world.

New values
are seeking to push through
old resistances.

I will speak in this lecture
about
the meaning
of the new cosmic force
in terms of
your

- community,

your

- individuality, and

your

- growth.

05

The planet Earth
is an entity
of which each individual inhabiting it
is a cell,
not unlike
the cells of your body.

Each of these cells [i.e., Each of these cells of your body]
is a

- consciousness

and

- energy

center,

just as
you

are a

- consciousness

and

- energy

center [i.e., as you are a “center” in planet Earth].

Now
the entity Earth
is growing up.

It [i.e., The entity Earth]
is coming to
an inner crossroads
just as
a growing person
comes to
an inner crossroads.

06

You have all experienced
at some point on your path
that
one part of you
is ready
to

- expand,

to

- risk exposure of its hidden secrets,

to

- move toward
a new vision
of
 - life,
 - self, and
 - a new mode of being.

The new modality

- does not
shed
the old,
- but
transforms
what is
not compatible with
the
 - new,
 - pure, and
 - great
influx.

It [i.e., *The new modality*]
incorporates
the pure substance
of the old self
into a

- new,
- expanded

version.

07

You also know
that
at the same time
the part of you
we call
the lower self
obstructs this movement.

It [i.e., *The lower self*]

- fears,
- distrusts, and
- resists

such growth.

Which part
you ally yourself with
depends on
your ego consciousness.

In such a conflict
crisis
is inevitable.

The resisting part
creates
the crisis
by
obstructing
the inexorable evolutionary force.

The less
**you recognize this struggle [i.e., this struggle created by the lower self
obstructing the inexorable evolutionary force]**
for what it is, and
the more
you

- **deny and**
- **rationalize**

**its [i.e., the more you deny and rationalize this struggle's]
true significance,
the greater
an upheaval
**it [i.e., the greater an upheaval this struggle created by the lower self
obstructing the inexorable evolutionary force]**
will cause and
the more frightening
the upheaval will appear.**

Conversely,
the more
**you recognize the struggle [i.e., the more you recognize this struggle
created by the lower self obstructing the inexorable
evolutionary force]**
for what it really is and
the more
you act
in accordance with
higher self principles,
the shorter
the crisis will be.

In fact,
**the crisis [i.e., the crisis created by the lower self obstructing the inexorable
evolutionary force]**
will transform itself
into
undreamed-of bliss.

08	<p><u>So you see,</u> <u>the crisis</u> [i.e., <u>the crisis created by the lower self obstructing the inexorable evolutionary force</u>]</p> <p><u>is</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>healthy and</u>• <u>unavoidable.</u> <p><u>Growth</u> <u>cannot take place</u> <u>without crisis</u> [i.e., <u>without the crisis created by the lower self obstructing the inexorable evolutionary force</u>],</p> <p><u>and</u> <u>to the extent</u> <u>you resist growth,</u> <u>you create crisis.</u></p> <p><u>The lower self</u> <u>is not merely</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>devious,</u>• <u>dishonest, and</u>• <u>selfish;</u> <p><u>it</u> [i.e., <u>the lower self</u>] <u>is also</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>ignorant.</u> <p><u>This ignorance</u> <u>makes it</u> [i.e., <u>makes the lower self</u>]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>stubborn,</u>• <u>unperceptive,</u> <p><u>as well as</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>destructive and</u>• <u>negative.</u>
09	<p><u>Earth</u> <u>also possesses</u> <u>a lower self.</u></p>

Like the individual's [i.e., Like the individual's lower self],

Earth's lower self

is not only

- negative,
- selfish,
- greedy, and
- dishonest;

it [i.e., Earth's lower self]

is also

- ignorant with a vengeance.

It [i.e., Earth's lower self]

totally resists

the new consciousness

the soul is ready for.

Thus

there is crisis

on this earth.

You see

- the crisis [i.e., You see this crisis on this earth]

as much as you see, here and there,

- expanded new ways of being,
- new understanding,
- deeper vision of life, and
- deeper perception
of spiritual reality.

The new expansive movements

are not always

without their

- distortions and
- exaggerations or

without their

- fanaticism and
- misunderstandings.

They [i.e., These new expansive movements, in some of their distortions, exaggerations, fanaticism, and misunderstandings,]
sometimes

- miss the point of
the great new influx of consciousness and
- avoid confronting
unpurified matter in the soul.

Such abuse [i.e., Such abuse brought about by distortions, exaggerations, fanaticism, and misunderstandings of the new expansive movements, such abuse that avoids the critical need to confront unpurified matter in the soul]
will turn out to be
particularly

- costly and
- disappointing
to the individual.

The new cosmic force
has made
many attempts to come through,
but its [i.e., but the new cosmic force's]
meaning
is poorly understood
in many quarters.

So there are
many spiritual movements
which seek to follow
the pressure from within,
without
devoting themselves
to the [purification] work that needs to be done
within the soul.

The spirit world
has been preparing for
this new expansion
for many centuries
with a great deal of

- investment and
- energy.

Many are called
but not all follow.

Not all
are sufficiently willing
to heed
the inner call.

It is best
• to clearly acknowledge this [i.e., to acknowledge that
not all are sufficiently willing to heed the inner call],
• to leave open
the possibility for
later
following the call.

If, however,
• it [i.e., If, however, the inner call]
is explained away
and
• illusions and
• delusions
accepted
as if they [i.e., as if these illusions and delusions]
were valid reasons
for the decision [i.e., for the decision not to follow the inner call],
then
the soul
will remain in confusion.

10

Now the earth
as an entity
is going through
such a struggle [i.e., going through such a struggle, a struggle created by
the lower self obstructing the inexorable evolutionary force].

Those who
resist the light
of the new consciousness
have a stake in
making themselves

- deaf and
- blind

to it [i.e., deaf and blind to the new consciousness].

Many of them [i.e., Many of those who resist the light of the new consciousness]
have the

- mental and
- spiritual

equipment
to follow the movement,
but choose,
out of

- pride,
- fear, and
- self-will,

not to

- follow

or even to

- notice

it [i.e., not to follow or even to notice this movement,
this light of the new consciousness].

There are others, of course,
who are
not yet ready
in their spiritual development
even to know
that levels of reality exist
that cannot be seen with the eye.

And then, of course,
some do follow the movement
even though
they do not quite understand
what is at stake.

11

Those who follow it [i.e., who follow this movement, this light of the new consciousness]

- **will find**
the deepest
 - **joy and**
 - **blessings**

and

- **need not fear anything.**

They [i.e., Those who follow this movement, this light of the new consciousness]
need only to

- **rejoice.**

In following the influx [i.e., In following the influx of this immense new cosmic force that has been released into the universe and is sweeping the planet Earth],

they

- **keep in harmony**
with the universe;

they

- **flow with**
the process [i.e. they flow with the process energized by the new influx],
rather than
 - **obstructing it** [i.e. rather than obstructing
the process energized by the new influx].

They [i.e., They who follow this influx of immense new cosmic force]
are also

needed

as physical channels
for the further penetration
of the Christ consciousness
into the new era.

	<p><u><i>Their</i></u> <u><i>ever-renewed decision</i></u> <u><i>to devote</i></u> <u><i>all</i></u> <u><i>of themselves</i></u> <u><i>to the process</i></u> <u><i>that has encompassed them</i></u> <u><i>will make their life</i></u> <u><i>as</i></u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u><i>fulfilled and</i></u>• <u><i>glorious</i></u><u><i>as it will be</i></u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u><i>useful and</i></u>• <u><i>meaningful</i></u><u><i>to the entire cosmic evolution.</i></u></p>
12	<p><u><i>My dearest friends,</i></u> <u><i>the fulfillment</i></u> <u><i>of this surge</i></u> <u><i>cannot come about</i></u> <u><i>unless</i></u> <u><i>the most profound</i></u> <u><i>purification process</i></u> <u><i>takes place.</i></u></p> <p><u><i>With</i></u> <u><i>this particular community</i></u> [i.e., <u><i>With this Pathwork community</i></u>], <u><i>an emphasis on</i></u> <u><i>personal purification</i></u> <u><i>has existed,</i></u> <u><i>as you very well know,</i></u> <u><i>for all these years.</i></u></p> <p><u><i>Until now,</i></u> <u><i>the emphasis</i></u> <u><i>was directed</i></u> <u><i>exclusively</i></u> <u><i>toward your</i></u> <u><i>individual</i></u> <u><i>fulfillment.</i></u></p>

Now
a new phase
has arisen
where
your own inner expansion
has readied you
to realize
that
individual fulfillment
is the basis for
the cohesive fulfillment of
the total movement
that sweeps your world.

In other words,
more is at stake
than your
individual
fulfillment.

13

When I say
"more,"
it may sound as though
your
individual
fulfillment
were not important,
and that
may indeed
appear
to contradict
what I have just said.

I always emphasize
the importance of
your
individual

- happiness,
- wholeness, and
- freedom from obstruction.

This [i.e., *That your individual happiness, wholeness, and freedom from obstruction are important*]
is not
a contradiction [i.e., *is not a contradiction to the statement that there is "more" at stake than your individual fulfillment*].

Your
individual fulfillment,
which cannot exist
as long as
you are

- *unpurified and*
- *alienated from the truth*

of your inner processes,
is
the most important thing.

At the same time
something
much larger
is at stake.

Perhaps I can put it this way:

You can find
total
individual
fulfillment
only if
you serve
a greater cause.

Many of you, in this work,
almost inadvertently
found this to be so.

The guidance of events
has brought you to realize,
some

- more intellectually,

some

- more intuitively,

that
you are involved in
a great task
[in] which
you are
simultaneously

- servicing [i.e., serving a greater cause]

while you

- fulfill yourself.

You have found that
this very service

- enhances

your fulfillment,
just as
this service

- requires

you
to be a

- fulfilled and
- happy

person.

You are beginning
to experience
that

- fulfillment of

the self
lies in

- service [i.e., fulfillment of the self lies in service to a greater cause].

And

- service [i.e., And service to a greater cause]

can be executed only through

- self-fulfillment.

In other words,
the apparent contradiction [i.e., the perception that the pursuit of “service to a greater cause” is opposite to the pursuit of “individual self-fulfillment”]
proves, once again,
to be a faulty perception [i.e., they are not, in fact, opposite pursuits].

What appear to be
• **opposites** [i.e., pursuing “service to a greater cause” and pursuing “self-fulfillment” appearing to be opposite pursuits]
coexist in
• **oneness** [i.e., pursuing “service to a greater cause” and pursuing “self-fulfillment” are in fact one and the same pursuit].

Therefore
• **the individual**
is only
apparently
opposed to
• **the whole.**

14

You will learn to
perceive
more
• **consciously and**
• **deliberately**
the importance of
service to
the entire Christ consciousness
that is infiltrating your universe.

This [i.e., This perceiving the importance of service to the entire Christ consciousness that is infiltrating your universe]
will
very drastically
change
the
• **life,**
the
• **consciousness, and**
the
• **values**
of those who are willing
to follow that movement.

In my coming lectures
I will increasingly concentrate on
helping you comprehend
the difference
between
the old
• values
and
the new;
the old
• consciousness
and
the new.

You will come to view
your
• personal fulfillment
as exactly
what it is:

a necessary tool
with which
you can
• serve [i.e., you can serve a greater cause by
serving the entire Christ consciousness
that is infiltrating your universe].

For
• unhappy and
• frustrated
people
cannot
• serve,
cannot
• undertake the task of
• enriching
• life,
• enriching
• others, and
• setting
• a desirable example.

For how can
the poor
enrich?

Nor is it possible
to pretend,
for followers
do know,
in a deep inner place,
whether
those who lead
are
• genuinely fulfilled [i.e., are individually fulfilled]
or are
• just pretending [i.e., just pretending to be fulfilled].

15

Only those
who are
fully centered
in their own
God-consciousness,
thus able
to create their lives
according to
their
• needs and
• wishes,
can
• enliven
their
• surroundings and
• teach
their
• consciousness
to others.

Many different tasks exist,
but all who
serve in this cause
must
• teach and
• lead,
representing
the new
• consciousness and
the new
• values
in their own lives,
whether
through
• instruction or
through
• example,
transmitting
• joy,
• love, or
• the capacity
to be
one's best.

16

Now, my friends,
I would like to explain
another dichotomy
you have experienced
in the course of this work.

Most of you
who are starting this work
have a compulsion
to be good,
like many other human beings.

You may
fear
your selfishness.

But
your mask
has put a cloak over
your

- selfishness and

your

- little meannesses.

That mask
makes you

- comply with
higher standards and
- appear
to be
a very good person.

Often
the real

- surge and
- message
from the higher self
is interwoven with
 - the masking cloak,
 - the false goodness.

In your pathwork
many of you
have already dealt extensively with
the part of you
that sells out
your

- genuine
self-interest,

your

- real rights,
in order to
please
some
imaginary authority.

You have also found
that you

do this [i.e. that you act not from your genuine self-interest or real rights
but rather in order to please some imaginary authority]

not

- out of the pure spirit of service

but

- by design.

You always wanted

this authority [i.e., this “imaginary” authority]

to do something for you

- that was not fair to expect

and

- what you really have to do for yourself

in order

to become

fully yourself.

You work through these issues

again

and again

until

you find the strength

to

- relinquish

the secret hope [i.e., relinquish the secret hope that some
“imaginary” authority will do for you what
you really have to do for yourself in order to
become fully yourself],

to

- cease

the false service [i.e., cease using false service in order to
“trick” some “imaginary” authority into doing
for you what you have to do for yourself if
you are to become fully yourself],

to

- become

more

- self-responsible

and consequently

more

- self-assertive.

You find a balance:

The more you
• stop cheating
in ways
which you pretend
do not exist and

the more you
• stop
the false goodness,

[then]

the more you
• assert
your right
to have
the best in life.

The guilt
ceases
because
you live honestly.

When
dependency
and the consequent
• submission and
• lack of selfhood
exist,

service to
a greater cause
is premature,
because
you
• misuse it [i.e., you misuse “service to a greater cause” by
using service to get something in return]

and
• perpetuate
the pretenses of
the mask self.

So you had
to learn
to be selfish,
my friends.

17

As you know,
there is a
• right kind
of selfishness

and
there is a
• wrong kind.

The
right kind
of selfishness
preserves
the right to unfold
in the best way
for you,
regardless of
• the opinions
of others and
• their possibly covert reasons
to exploit you.

This [right kind of] selfishness
rooted in
independence
can easily
• recognize and
• refute
other people's
exploitative demands
rather than
• submitting to them [i.e., rather than submitting to
other people's exploitative demands]
because of
your own
hidden agenda.

People with
the right kind of selfishness
feel
deeply deserving of
happiness
because
they never want it
at the expense of others.

	<p><u><i>The distorted form of selfishness</i></u> <u><i>splits</i></u> <u><i>the interest</i></u> <u><i>of</i></u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u><i>self</i></u><u><i>and</i></u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u><i>others;</i></u><u><i>the right kind</i></u> <u><i>unifies</i></u> <u><i>them</i></u> [i.e., <u><i>the right kind of selfishness unifies the interest of self and others</i></u>].</p>
18	<p><u><i>At first,</i></u> <u><i>sorting out</i></u> <u><i>the misunderstandings</i></u> [i.e., <u><i>the misunderstandings about selfishness</i></u>] <u><i>is complicated,</i></u> <u><i>but</i></u> <u><i>once you have accomplished this</i></u> [i.e., <u><i>accomplished living out</i></u> <u><i>the right kind of selfishness</i></u>] <u><i>along</i></u> <u><i>the spiral movement of your path,</i></u> <u><i>there is no longer a dichotomy</i></u> <u><i>between</i></u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u><i>the self</i></u><u><i>and</i></u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u><i>others.</i></u></p>

When you
free yourself of the
real guilt
of
your
• hiding and
your
• pretenses,
of
disguising your
• hidden agenda and
• the negativity it [i.e., the negativity your hidden agenda]
perpetuates,
you will not feel
unworthy of
becoming
the
• best,
the
• happiest and
• most fulfilled
person.

Then
service
will no longer be compensating for
guilt.

19

On this path
we want to prepare
as many human beings as possible
for
the great event
that sweeps your universe.

*This [i.e., Preparing human beings for the great event that sweeps your universe,
preparing them for the great influx of the Christ consciousness]*

requires

- *strong and*
- *guilt-free*
souls
who act
for
 - *real,*
 - *not for*
 - *false*
reasons.

So your path

had to

first

bring out

- *false and*
- *real*

selfishness

in order to

help you

become

- *unselfish*
without sacrificing
 - *personal fulfillment.*

20

The lower self

with its

lower aims

must often be sacrificed.

But is this really a sacrifice?

It only seems so.

What ultimately emerges

is a

real

fulfillment.

Your
• outer ego-self
will no longer contradict
your
• Godself.

This state,
however,
comes only after
you have learned
• to let go of
the mask
of false service and
• to expose
the short-sighted selfishness
of the
• lower,
• little
self.

Then you learn
healthy selfishness,

and from there
you come into
true selflessness
that is
not at all contradictory to
it [i.e., you come into true selflessness
that is not contradictory to healthy selfishness].

21

When people follow spiritual teachings
which emphasize
service
too soon,
there is a danger
that they [i.e., that these followers]
will use these teachings
to escape from
their

- hidden
- inward

selfishness.

Thus
they will cultivate a service
through martyrdom
that is
not wholesome
for the soul.

When people
refuse
to become
truly

- independent and
- self-responsible,

they do not undertake
to meet their
hidden selfishness,
and therefore
their service
will also be distorted.

22

In this light,
you will see more clearly
the overall dynamic
of your own pathwork.

A figure you have used in many other instances
because
it is a recurrent thought form
in symbolic spiritual expressions
might be useful here also:

the three circles,
the mandala-shaped design.

In this figure
• the higher self
is surrounded by
• the lower self,
which is surrounded by
• the mask self
and
• the defenses.

Individually
you have dealt with this configuration
again
and again.

The same applies to
• your community,
as well as to
• humanity as a whole.

23

Let us now look at
your community.

Those of you
who
• are most involved
in taking responsibility for the community,
who
• have most deeply
• worked and
• exposed themselves and
• are thus
beginning to reap tangible fruits of fulfillment,
represent
• the higher self of the group.

You [i.e., Those of you who make up the higher self of the group]
have traveled through
the outer layers.

You have learned
more
and more
not to fear
any part of yourself and
you have come
to accept
all of you,
thereby
uniting
what was once divided.

You can
identify
more
and more with

- your higher self,
since you are
increasingly able to differentiate
between
 - it [i.e., between your higher self]
- the wishful thinking of
 - the mask self
that
hides
 - the distortion and
 - the untruth
of
 - the lower self.

You thereby [i.e., By identifying more and more with your higher self, you]
come to hear
the true voice
of
your higher self,
which you can increasingly
trust.

Your community
as a whole
has come to this point [i.e., come to this point
of identifying with your higher self],
and I daresay
you cannot help
but notice it.

The evidence is
in the
• growing numbers of new Pathwork members;
in the
• nature of these newer people
who are more ready to
• understand and
• follow
the new cosmic force;
in the
• deeper feelings of
genuine
• love and
• joy
among all of you;
in the
• increased
• removing of
• blocks and
• obstructions,
• resolving of
• problems and
• conflicts,
so that
fulfillment occurs
on all levels
for more and more of you.

This fact [i.e., This fact that fulfillment occurs on all levels for more and more of you]
can no longer be ascribed to
coincidence
but is obviously
the natural expression
of your development.

24

So a good number
of the inner nucleus
function
as the higher self
of the community.

This does
not mean
that they are perfect;
of course not.

But you are
sufficiently capable of
• establishing
the channel
to the higher self.

You are
increasingly capable
• of totally committing yourself to
the will of God
and
• of perceiving the importance of
the Christ consciousness
that sweeps your planet
and
• to serve it [i.e., and you are increasingly capable to serve
the Christ consciousness that sweeps your planet].

As such [i.e., As you increasingly commit yourself to the will of God, perceive the
importance of the Christ consciousness, and serve the Christ consciousness]
you protect yourself
in an incredibly efficient way
against
the onslaught of
the countermovement.

You immunize yourself
against
the countermovement
from within
• your own lower self,
and therefore
from without, against [the countermovement of]
• the lower self of the planet.

25

Then there are those others [i.e., those others not in the higher self of the community]

- *working diligently on the path,*
- *still struggling,*
who are in the phase of
 - *owning up to*
the lower self,
 - *laboriously getting to know it [i.e., getting to know the lower self]*
by penetrating
the concealments
of
the mask self.

In this struggle

- *the temptation to hide,*
as well as
- *the habit of doing so [i.e., the habit of hiding],*
are strong obstacles;

so are

- *guilt and*
- *the fear of*
exposing the truth.

And

the illusion

of this fear [i.e., the illusion of this fear of exposing the truth]

can only be eliminated

gradually

by testing it [i.e., by testing this fear of exposing the truth

to see if this fear of exposing the truth is warranted]

until you learn sufficiently

to trust the process [i.e., trust rather than fear

the process of exposing the truth].

There are those of you

who

at first

- *cannot find the channel*
to your higher self,

and thus

- *do not even want it [i.e., do not even want the channel*
to your higher self].

	<p><u>You fear</u> <u>it [i.e., <i>You fear your higher self</i>];</u> <u>you do not trust</u> <u>it [i.e., <i>you do not trust your higher self</i>].</u> <u>You trust</u> <u>your</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>old,</u>• <u>destructive</u> <u>habitual defenses</u> <u>more.</u></p>
26	<p><u>Then of course</u> <u>there are always those</u> <u>who are still</u> <u>strongly identified with</u> <u>their mask self.</u> <u>They have</u> <u>the most difficult time, and</u> <u>they seek reasons to</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>discredit the process [i.e., <i>the process of exposing oneself and growing</i>] and</u>• <u>judge it.</u> <u>But this does</u> <u>not make them</u> <u>any happier;</u> <u>on the contrary.</u> <u>Their stake in</u> <u>not growing</u> <u>is strong;</u> <u>their</u> <u>fear of growing</u> <u>is equally strong,</u> <u>so they do not want to find out</u> <u>how unjustified</u> <u>the fear is [i.e. <i>they do not want to find out how unjustified the fear of</i></u> <u><i>exposing oneself and thereby growing is</i>].</u> <u>They are not necessarily</u> <u>new friends,</u> <u>for it is not always</u> <u>a matter of time [i.e., <i>it is not always a matter of time to overcome</i></u> <u><i>the fear of exposing oneself and growing</i>].</u></p>

	<p><u><i>These friends</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u><i>have to recognize</i></u> <u><i>that they</i></u> <u><i>identify with</i></u> <u><i>their mask self</i></u> <p><u><i>and</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u><i>must begin</i></u> <u><i>to travel through the layers.</i></u>
27	<p><u><i>The purpose</i></u> <u><i>of my saying this here</i></u> <u><i>is that you should</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u><i>experience</i></u> <u><i>yourself</i></u> <u><i>where you are</i></u> <p><u><i>and</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u><i>be aware of it</i></u> [<i>i.e., be aware of where you truly are</i>]. <p><u><i>As you</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u><i>have learned to take responsibility for</i></u> <u><i>your lower self and</i></u>• <u><i>overcame the shame</i></u> <u><i>to admit it</i></u> [<i>i.e., as you overcame the shame of admitting your lower self</i>], <p><u><i>so must you now</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u><i>learn to</i></u><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u><i>take responsibility for and</i></u>• <u><i>not be ashamed of</i></u> <u><i>your higher self.</i></u>

Admit

where you have indeed
already arrived.

Then you can
give yourself
even more fully to it.

Then you can

- fully commit yourself
to be
a part of
the great movement and

• feel

the

- privilege,

the

- honor,

the

- beauty and

the

- excitement

of it [i.e., the privilege, honor, beauty, and excitement
of being part of the great movement, of giving
yourself to the great cause, of giving yourself to
the cause of the influx of the Christ consciousness
that is sweeping the earth].

To give service

to a greater cause
will cleanse

the residual little selfishnesses
that make you fearful.

You believe
you cannot give
all
of yourself
to a greater cause
because
you fear to do so.

But I say to you once again:
It is the other way around.

You are afraid [i.e., You are afraid of giving all of yourself to a greater cause]
because
you still cling to
a little selfishness
here or there.

Consciously
giving yourself
to a greater cause
that sweeps the entire planet
is in itself
a cleansing process.

28

We will discuss
the new values
of
the new consciousness
in the lectures to come.

We shall share these
• new
and
• old
truths.

What I have just said
is one of the
most important differences
between

- the old

and

- the new

value systems.

I say
"new,"
though they [i.e., though these "new" value systems]
have
always
existed
in

- isolated,
- highly developed

individuals
who have incarnated
for a specific task.

The great difference
at this time
is that
the entire planet
is

- growing up,
- coming into

its own
divine consciousness.

29

The first thing
for all of you
in this respect [i.e., in respect to the entire planet
coming into its own divine consciousness]
has to be
a very conscious understanding
that your life
must
consist of
much more than
the immediate little personality.

And you must also understand
that
this expansion [i.e., this expansion into divine consciousness]
will lead to
happiness,
even though
happiness
is also
its prerequisite [i.e., happiness is also the prerequisite
for this expansion into divine consciousness].

There is
no division
between

- expansion

and

- happiness.

To follow the will of God
cannot
deprive you,
so in the years to come
you will become proficient in
trusting
total surrender to
the God within
every day of your life,
in every

- issue,

in every

- venture,

in every

- decision you undertake,

even
in

- the opinions

you
choose
to adopt.

30

With the
new consciousness
you will
not
make superficial decisions
with your head,
wanting
the
immediate
fulfillment
of your desire.

The
new consciousness
makes decisions
in an entirely new way.

It [i.e., The new consciousness]
is aware
that
the outer self

- does not know,

that
it [i.e., that the outer self]

- is not trustworthy and
- is full of
subjectively colored
 - distortions and
 - prejudices.

The
new consciousness
always

- consults
the higher self and
- learns to wait
 - quietly and
 - patiently
for the answer.

It [i.e., *The new consciousness*]
is
never
opinionated.

It [i.e., *The new consciousness*]
accepts
that it does not know yet.

It [i.e., *The new consciousness*]
keeps itself open.

It [i.e., *The new consciousness*]
has no stake in
a certain answer.

It [i.e., *The new consciousness*]
makes room for
an answer
that may be
anything,
be it

- what is most desired

or [be it]

- its exact opposite [i.e., or be it what is least desired
or even hated],

but it [i.e., but the new consciousness]
trusts
that what will come
will be good.

Such an approach [i.e., *The approach of the new consciousness*]

- has no fixed opinion;

it [i.e., *the new consciousness*]

- empties itself.

That [i.e., *Having no fixed opinion and emptying itself*]
is one of the hallmarks
of the new value system
that has already
begun to sweep the planet.

31

This [i.e., The approach using the value system of the new consciousness]
clashes, of course, with
the old value system,
which functions
merely
from

- *the surface,*

from

- *immediate little emotions,*

from

- *the narrow view*
that has a stake in
not even wanting to
 - *widen one's perception and*
 - *consider other possibilities.*

The
old attitude
clashes with
the new
in you,
and
in your environment
the clash is
between
those who represent

- *the new*

and
those who represent

- *the old*
consciousness.

In this process
it will become increasingly clear
where you belong.

It does not suffice to say,

"I belong in the new"

while you continue
acting
in the old ways.

	<p><u>You can</u> • <u>say</u> <u>anything,</u></p> <p><u>but</u> <u>your</u> • <u>actions and</u> <u>your</u> • <u>approach to decisions</u> <u>prove</u> <u>in which camp you belong.</u></p>
32	<p><u>More</u> <u>and more of you</u> <u>have already</u> • <u>made the commitment</u></p> <p><u>and</u> <u>are already</u> • <u>caught up in</u> <u>the tremendous surge</u> <u>of</u> <u>the new golden light</u> <u>that sweeps the earth,</u> <u>unbearable</u> <u>only</u> <u>to those who refuse it.</u></p> <p><u>They [i.e., Those who refuse the new golden light that sweeps the earth]</u> <u>are the ones</u> <u>who</u> • <u>perceive</u> <u>only</u> • <u>the negative countermovement</u></p> <p><u>and</u> • <u>are blind</u> <u>to</u> • <u>the light itself.</u></p>

When the light comes near them [i.e., *When the new golden light comes near those who refuse the new golden light that sweeps the earth*],

they feel

- *strong discomfort and*

they

- *misinterpret it* [i.e., *they misinterpret the new golden light that sweeps the earth*].

It [i.e., *The new golden light that sweeps the earth*]

brings

the greatest joy

to those

who

- *want it,*

who

- *give themselves to it,*

who

- *fight for it and*

- *serve it.*

This is my message for this time.

33

We shall continue

all future lectures

from this wider vision:

How you, as an individual,

- *fit into*

the scheme of

the whole;

how you

- *can become happy*

only when

you are

part of

the force

that fights for

the

- *growing and*

- *purification*

of the planet

to reach its own divinity.

34	<p><u><i>Your purification work on the path begins to acclimatize you to</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u><i>the joy and</i></u>• <u><i>the light</i></u> <u><i>of what is to come.</i></u> <p><u><i>But you must now also begin specifically to</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u><i>aim for this,</i></u> <p><u><i>to</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u><i>meditate for it,</i></u> <p><u><i>to</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u><i>want it.</i></u>
35	<p><u><i>I have truly given you what you need in this first lecture of the year.</i></u></p> <p><u><i>It is the kind of map I always give at the beginning of a new working season.</i></u></p>

Be blessed,
my very dearest ones.

You

• **must**

and

• **will**

increasingly

feel

how

• **guided and**

• **protected**

you are,

how

• **important your venture is,**

what

• **a privilege it is**

to

• **be involved with it and**

• **give your all to it.**

For this [i.e., For this venture]
is not only

important for

the little outer life.

It [i.e., This venture]

is

important

in terms of evolution.

Be blessed,
my dearest ones.

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