Pathwork Lecture 253: Continue Your Struggle And Cease All Struggle

1996 Edition, Original Given September 20, 1978

This lecture is given in an **expanded poetic format**, what I call a **Devotional Format** of the lecture, and in that sense this is **my interpretation** of the **intent** of the lecture. I may have interpreted portions differently from you, and 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 – that is, **devotionally**.

The blessings to me in developing this format have been truly profound, and my wish is that this Devotional Format will be a blessing to others. I invite you to slowly read and ponder this format of the text – with an open heart to experience the Guide's Presence and Love emerging from among the words such that the wisdom comes to LIVE you.

For clarity: The **original text** is in **bold and** *italicized*. [My adds of commentary/clarification/interpretation are in brackets, italicized, and <u>not</u> bolded.] To learn more of my Devotional Format and see the lectures I have done in this way, go to https://www.garyvollbracht.com/pathwork-lectures-devotional-format/

Gary Vollbracht

\P	Content
03	
	• Divine and
	• joyful
	blessings,
	my beloved friends.
	Your tasks
	are becoming
	more
	• joyful,
	more
	• fulfilling,
	more
	• noticeably meaningful.
	Your
	• inner
	paths
	bring
	• outer
	meaning
	to your life.

```
As your community grows,
                  the cleansing process
                      must be
                         an inexorable byproduct,
                             my beloved ones.
             As you
                  • cleanse yourselves
                      inwardly and
                  • leave behind
                      aspects of your personality
                         that are not compatible with
                             your newly awakening self,
             so must
                  the entity
                      Pathwork
                         do the same.
04
             Now we begin
                  a new working season [note: this would be the last working season through Eva].
             Much
                  • expansion,
                  • excitement,
                  • fulfillment
             and many
                  • challenges
                      await you.
             Even
                  the unavoidable hardships
                      must
                         ultimately
                             become steps
                                leading to
                                    greater
                                       • harmony and
                                       • ecstasy.
```

```
05
              In the great plan,
                          also called
                              the Plan of Salvation,
                  the earth sphere
                       is meant to
                          change
                              gradually
                                 into a
                                      more spiritual abode of
                                         • unity,
                                         • harmony and
                                         • light.
              This [i.e., The earth sphere changing into a more spiritual abode of unity,
                                                                   harmony, and light]
                  cannot, of course,
                       be a process
                          given from
                              outside.
              It [i.e., The earth sphere changing into a more spiritual abode of unity,
                                                                   harmony, and light]
                  can only come about
                       through
                          a transformation of consciousness
                                  the earth's inhabitants.
              Transformation of consciousness
                  comes about
                       as a result of
                          laborious
                              inner work -
                                             the work of
                                                • self-confrontation and
                                                • purification -
                                  which leads to
                                     finding
                                         deeper
                                             inner levels of reality
                                                that were hitherto
                                                     disconnected from
                                                        your
                                                            conscious being.
```

06

As the earth transforms, those individual consciousnesses who

- cannot and
- will not

follow this process of

- growth and
- development

will create a new abode, with conditions similar to those that still prevail in this earth sphere.

However, these conditions [i.e., these conditions that still prevail in this earth sphere]
have begun to change already
among a relatively small section
of the earth's inhabitants.

As time goes on,

the number of those

who contribute to the change [i.e., the change in consciousness through their work of self-confrontation and purification]

will increase.

Your specific path [i.e., pathwork]
is a potent agent
to bring this change about
in the shortest time.

What might otherwise
take many incarnations for the individual
could be accomplished
in one lifetime,
if the pathwork
is truly followed
to its maximum potential.

Such transformations

- · have already been witnessed among you and
- are experienced by some of you

as a strong sense of being reborn in this very lifetime.

```
07
              I would like to discuss
                  a particular aspect
                       of this transformation of consciousness,
                          giving special emphasis
                              to what was previously discussed
                                 only in general.
              Humanity's
                  greatest imprisonment,
                              from which stems
                                  all
                                      • fear
                                    and
                                      • pain
                                    and
                                      • suffering,
                       is the duality
                          in which the human mind
                              is entangled.
              The mass mind
                  then
                       builds an
                          • environment
                     and
                       • creates
                          • conditions
                              that express this bent of consciousness [i.e., that express this
                                                            dualistic bent of consciousness].
              It is perhaps
                  the most difficult task
                       of the evolutionary journey
                          to penetrate
                              this
                                 seeming
                                      reality,
                          namely,
                              that the world
                                 is
                                      dualistic.
```

```
08
               You seem to be
                   put into
                        an entirely
                           objective world,
                               • all fixed
                             and
                               • ready-made.
              All
                   • conditions
                and
                   • natural laws
                        seem to be
                           unalterable givens
                               upon which
                                  your state of consciousness
                                          no influence whatever.
               To submit to
                   this false reality [i.e., this false dualistic reality]
                        seems indeed
                           the most
                               • "realistic"
                             and
                               • sane
                                   acceptance of life.
               The problem is
                   that
                        to a certain degree
                           this is indeed so [i.e., to a certain degree submitting to this false dualistic
                                                      reality of the mass mind IS the most "realistic"
                                                      and sane acceptance of life].
              It is necessary to

    accept the world

                        as you find it
                and
                   • deal with it
                        on its own terms.
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For
    even after
         • your own consciousness
            begins to
                • change and
                • transcend
                    this reality [i.e., change and transcend this mass mind illusion of
                                                              dualistic reality],
the creation
    of
         • the mass mind [i.e., the MASS mind illusion of dualistic reality]
            still remains intact.
In that transitional state,
    the individual
         lives in
            both realities [i.e., BOTH the changing growing reality of one's own
                                       consciousness AND the "reality" of the mass
                                       mind illusion of dualistic reality].
He or she
    • fully accepts the
         • created,
         • dualistic
            reality,
but at the same time

    recognizes

         the new vision
            gradually
                emerging through the fog.
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Most of you
    know this new vision
         in your mind [i.e., this new vision in your mind
                               emerging through the fog of created dualistic reality],
but few of you
    have begun
         even occasionally to
            experience
                its reality:
                        the absolute knowledge
                           that there is
                               • only good,
                           that there is
                               • eternal life,
                               • peace,
                               • joy,
                               • excitement,
                               • meaning,
                           that there is
                               • nothing to fear,
                           that there is
                               • no more pain.
This state of
    ultimate reality
         also contains
            the knowledge
                that
                   you
                        create
                           your
                               • world,
                           your
                               • conditions
                           your
                               • environment.
Rather than burdening you,
    this knowledge [i.e., this knowledge of ultimate reality]
         gives you
            an immense sense of
                • liberation and
                • safety.
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09
              Non-acceptance
                  of the conditions
                       of the dualistic world -
                                      [non-acceptance of the dualistic world]
                                         because of
                                             the vague knowledge
                                                 of another state
                                                     that can be attained -
                          is an aberration.
              It [i.e., Non-acceptance of the conditions of the dualistic world because you
                                             constantly look ahead to a better state that you
                                             vaguely know you will eventually reach]
                  expresses
                       the childish desire
                          to gain omnipotence
                              in a
                                  • cheap and
                                  • easy
                                      way.
              Those who indulge in it [i.e., Those who indulge in non-acceptance of the
                              conditions of the dualistic world because they constantly look
                              ahead to a better state that they hope to eventually achieve]
                  delude themselves
                       that they can
                          avoid –
                                  by an outer act of sheer will -
                              the developmental stages
                                  that sometimes
                                      must
                                         include
                                             temporary
                                                suffering.
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Thus we have
    the apparent paradox
         that glimpsing
            ultimate reality
                in a false way [i.e., false way because they are deluding themselves
                                that they can reach ultimate reality without the
                                developmental efforts needed to grow from their
                                current dualistic state to this ultimate glimpsed state]
                    leads to
                        more
                           unreality
                               than
                                   • not glimpsing it
                                       at all [i.e., not glimpsing
                                                      ultimate reality at all]
                                and [instead]
                                   • fully accepting [i.e., accepting as "ultimate"]
                                       the conditions
                                          of the dualistic mass illusion.
But when
    • the limitations
         of these life conditions [i.e., of these current dualistic life conditions]
            are fully accepted
and
    • the personality deals with them
         • honestly,
         • maturely,
         • productively and
         • constructively,
then
    • the inner evolutionary process
         continues organically
and
    • the mind begins to encompass
         other visions
            that were invisible before.
To deal fully
    with your limited reality [i.e., your reality caused by the dualistic mass illusion]
         must include
            a process of
                stringent self-work,
                   such as the pathwork offers.
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10
              Progress in this
                  inner work [i.e., Progress in this inner work needed to deal fully with your
                                                                            limited dualistic reality]
                       brings about
                          many changes -
                               changes
                                   of
                                      • attitude,
                                   of
                                      • intentionality,
                                   of
                                      • feelings,
                                      • opinions,
                                   of
                                      • your world view
                          and, finally,
                               changes in
                                      • perceiving reality.
              A simple and current example,
                  on a very practical level,
                       is precisely what
                          all of you
                               continually
                                  experience on this path.
              You start out
                  seeing a certain condition in your life
                       in a specific way.
              Let us say,
                  you are convinced
                       that
                          • circumstances victimize you,
                       that
                          • other people are doing you a great wrong,
                       that
                          • you have no recourse to change these conditions
                               unless
                                  the others
                                      change their
                                         • attitude and
                                         • behavior
                                              toward you.
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Most of you
                  have felt something like this.
              In such a situation
                  you start out
                       with
                          a very firmly held conviction.
              Everything you can observe
                  bears out this conviction.
              In fact,
                  the more
                       convinced you are,
                  the more
                       "proof" you will be able to collect
                              the accuracy
                                  of your conviction.
              This
                  • self-perpetuating vicious circle,
              this
                  • law that manipulates
                       your vision
                          according to
                              your conviction,
                                  is an ensnarlment of the mind
                                      that is very hard to overcome.
11
              Only as a result of
                  much goodwill on your part
                       • to open your mind,
                       • to let go -
                                  at least temporarily -
                          of your conviction,
                              will you begin to recognize
                                  new aspects
                                      that you could never see before.
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Perhaps you will see
                  how
                       vou
                          actively contributed
                              to the situation
                                  that seemed to place
                                      all
                                         the responsibility
                                             on
                                                 the other person.
              You may recognize,
                              on even deeper levels,
                  a definite
                       intentionality
                          to create a
                              negative situation.
              This recognition
                  will automatically
                       shift the total picture.
              Not that it will
                  • place
                       all
                          the burden of guilt
                              on you now
              and necessarily
                  • make a victim
                       out of
                          the previous villain,
              but you probably will see
                  how
                       vou
                          mutually
                              affected each other.
12
              This comprehension [i.e., This comprehension of
                                              how you
                                                mutually
                                                     affected each other]
                  will open new vistas.
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You will soon come to recognize
                  hitherto unsensed aspects
                       of
                          • yourself
                       and of
                          • the others involved –
                                     both
                                        • good
                                     and
                                        • bad,
                                        • favorable
                                     and
                                        • unfavorable.
              Underneath the duality of
                  • good
                versus
                  • bad
              you will find one day
                  an
                       • ultimate,
                       • unchangeable
                          level of truth
                              in which
                                 all
                                     is good
                                        in a
                                             • new,
                                             • different,
                                             • more alive and
                                             • very dynamic
                                                way.
13
              [Here] I have used a familiar example
                  that demonstrates the process
                      of extending human vision
                          to new realities.
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Here [in this example] you can find that
    the previous limitation [i.e., the limitation of your either/or dualistic vision]
         was inaccurate,
            mostly because of
                its exclusivity [i.e., because of blaming the other for the problem].
You saw the picture
    out of context
         with some elements missing,
            and without cognizance of these [i.e., without these missing elements]
                the total picture was distorted.
It was not false
    because
         your view was necessarily
            untrue in itself,
but it was false
    because
         you left out essential elements
            that are necessary
                to view the picture in its totality.
What I am trying to convey
    is that
         many levels of reality
            are valid
                about one and the same
                    • situation.
                    • condition,
                    • circumstance.
By knowing this [i.e., By knowing that many levels of reality are valid about
                               a given situation, condition, or circumstance],
    • you will beware of
         quick evaluations,
and
    • you will assume the responsibility
          to
            • search,
          to
            • grope,
          to
            • make the effort
                to extend your vision [i.e., to extend and broaden your vision].
```

```
14
              The same process [i.e., The same process that applies to individuals]
                  applies to
                       • the world and
                       • its natural laws,
                          as you know them.
              Your world view
                  is based on
                       a very incomplete vision
                          in which
                              your limited perception
                                 filters
                                      what goes into your consciousness.
              You see
                  only
                       what appears most obvious
              and you see it [i.e., you see what appears most obvious]
                  on an entirely
                       superficial level.
              But
                  as you
                       • grow,
                  as your
                       • perception of reality
                          about your personal circumstances
                              widens,
              so does your perception of
                  creation
                       begin
                           to
                              • alter,
                           to
                              • widen and
                              • deepen.
              You glimpse connections
                  • you have never seen before, and
                  • which are now
                       as obvious
                          as the limited reality [i.e., dualistic reality]
                              you had perceived previously.
```

```
15
              The dualistic world view
                   seems
                       an incontrovertible fact.
              Not
                  to see your world
                       in terms
                           of

    opposites,

                               • duality,
                                  appears
                                      the crassest form of delusion.
              And
                  it is true indeed
                       that
                          on the level of
                               appearance
                                  duality
                                    is
                                      a fact.
                               • Life
                                  seems to die,
                               • evil
                                  always lurks somewhere in the shadows
                                      no matter
                                         how much
                                             good
                                                 also exists.
                               • Light
                                  opposes darkness,
                               • night
                                  opposes day,
                               • where there is health
                                  there is also sickness.
              Yet
                   another reality
                       awaits to be recognized
                          underneath
                              the level of opposites.
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Since
                   living on the level of duality
                        brings
                           • pain and
                           • strain.
              it is the soul's
                   greatest longing
                        to find
                           the deeper level of truth [i.e., find the level of ultimate truth underneath
                                                                      the dualistic level of opposites].
               The longing [i.e., The LONGING to find the deeper level of ultimate truth
                                                      underneath the dualistic level of opposites],
                               as I often said,
                        exists
                           regardless of
                               whether or not
                                   a person is conscious of it [i.e., whether or not a person is
                                     conscious of this LONGING for a deeper level of ultimate truth].
              It [i.e., This LONGING to find the deeper level of ultimate truth underneath
                                                              the dualistic level of opposites]
                   fills the heart
                        precisely because
                           it is within an individual's
                               potential
                                   to awaken into
                                       this new level of consciousness [i.e., to awaken to the new
                                                        consciousness at the level of ultimate reality]
                                          at some point of his or her evolutionary journey.
16
              I have talked about this before.
              I mention it now
                   because
                        I wish to show you more specifically
                           how to attain
                               this new level
                                    of

    perception

                                 and [i.e., and this new level]
                                    of
                                       • being.
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You must clearly understand
    that this goal [i.e., this goal of attaining this new level of perception and new level
                of being, the level of consciousness at the state of ultimate reality]
         cannot be reached
            by using
                the
                    outer
                        will
                           alone.
It [i.e., this goal of attaining this new level of perception and new level
                of being, the level of consciousness at the state of ultimate reality]
    cannot come about
         as a result of
            • philosophical speculation or
            • theoretical knowledge,
         or even as a result of
            • specific
                • exercises,
                • methods or
                • disciplines.
The change of consciousness [i.e., The change of consciousness to perceive this
         new level of perception and new level of being at the level of ultimate reality]
    happens
         entirely
            due to
                an intensely personal
                   purification process
                        that,
                           to begin with,
                                always deals
                                   with
                                       • the most mundane matters
                                          of your practical life,
                                   with
                                       • your attitudes
                                          toward
                                               • them [i.e., your attitudes toward
                                                      the most mundane matters of
                                                      your practical life]
                                     and [i.e., and your attitudes]
                                          toward
                                               • your surroundings.
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Practical everyday matters
    are always
         an expression of
            • inner,
            • subtle,
         and finally
            • spiritual
                 attitudes.
To
    • skip them [i.e., To skip the practical everyday matters of your life]
and
    • consider them [i.e., and to consider the practical everyday matters of your life]
         irrelevant
            only leads to
                 • further separation -
                                the duality of
                                        • spirituality
                                     versus
                                        • practical life -
            and therefore ultimately [leads] to
                 • a delusionary spirituality
                    that is
                        not grounded in
                           the Now [i.e., not grounded in the Now
                                        of practical everyday matters of your life].
This [i.e., Because this pathwork deals with practical everyday matters of your life]
    is why you find
         this path
            so
                 • intensely practical and
                 • utterly compatible
                    with
                        your
                           • life of matter,
                        vour
                            • daily activities and
                        vour
                           • goals.
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The path [i.e., Your life informed by pathwork concepts and practices]
                   is not only
                       • compatible with
                          your daily life,
                   but it is
                       • a discovery and
                       • an expression
                          of the most subtle
                               • spiritual –
                             or
                               • anti-spiritual –
                                  attitudes.
17
              Let us now attempt
                   to be a little more specific about
                       attaining the new consciousness [i.e., the new consciousness at the level of
                                                                                    ultimate reality]
                          in which creation
                               is no longer perceived in terms of
                                  duality.
              Perhaps we should begin by pointing out
                   how
                       • painful and
                       • fearful
                          duality
                               really is.
              For this [i.e., For this pain and fear you experience in your world of duality]
                   is often
                       so taken for granted
                          that you cannot even perceive
                               • the pain and
                               • the fear.
              You do not know
                   anything else [i.e., anything else but PAIN and FEAR].
              This [i.e., This life of PAIN and FEAR]
                   is all there is,
                       so how could you even begin
                          to chafe under it?
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The dynamics
                  are similar to
                       a child's hardly feeling his painful conditions
                          simply because
                              he does not know what
                                 • other,
                                 • better
                                     conditions
                                        might exist.
              To change
                  existing conditions [i.e., To change existing
                                                    PAINFUL and FEARFUL conditions],
              one must
                  feel them [i.e., must FEEL the existing PAIN and FEAR]
                       as [being]
                          so undesirable
                              that the effort [i.e., the effort to CHANGE the existing PAINFUL
                                                                        and FEARFUL conditions]
                                 is well worth taking.
              But one must
                  also know
                       • that they [i.e., must KNOW that the existing painful and fearful conditions]
                              be changed,
                       • that other possibilities [i.e., that possibilities OTHER THAN
                                                    the existing painful and fearful conditions]
                          do indeed exist.
18
              Most human beings
                  do not know
                       that duality
                          is painful,
                  nor
                       how painful it [i.e., HOW painful duality]
                          really is.
```

```
Nor do they know [i.e., Nor do most human beings know]
        that
            another
                • perception [i.e. another perception of reality]
            and another
                • view [i.e., and another view of reality]
                   exist,
         another
            • way of living,
                that
                   totally
                       eliminates
                          this pain.
Living trapped
    in the limited world of duality,
you always
    • fear
         • the undesirable
and
    • strain
         · away from
            it [i.e., strain away from the undesirable fear and pain]
         • toward
            • the desirable [i.e., strain toward the desirable peace and pleasure].
This very straining [This very STRAINING away from the undesirable
                                                     and toward the desirable]
      is
         • extremely painful and
         • anxiety-producing,
but it [i.e., but your STRAINING away from the undesirable and toward the desirable]
    becomes conscious
        only after
           you have accomplished
                a great deal of
                   crude purification work,
                       such as you are involved with now.
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If you try to eliminate
                  a specific strain [i.e., If you try to eliminate a strain away from a specific
                             undesirable condition or a strain toward a specific desirable condition]
                       before
                          the purification work
                              is fully part of your daily life,
                  • you will
                       skip important steps
                and
                  • the process [i.e., this process of eliminating the specific strain]
                       cannot take place in an
                          • organic,
                          • grounded
                               way.
              So what I shall discuss now
                  mav
                       not yet
                          be appropriate for a number of my friends,
              but I believe it will help
                  all of you
                       to comprehend some of these aspects,
                          even before you are ready
                              to put the emphasis on this new phase on your personal path.
              If you can connect
                  with some of my words
              it may help you
                  to deepen your understanding of yourself
                       already
                          as you
                              do the simple purification work.
19
              In considering
                  • reality
                and
                  • the deeper truth
                       we are obviously talking about
                          different states of mind.
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If the mind
    becomes
         more firmly entrenched
            in the
                • painful,
                • fearful
                   dualism
                       through
                          straining [away] from
                              the undesirable alternative,
then it follows
    that you must give up
        the straining [i.e., give up the STRAINING away from the undesirable
                alternative as well as STRAINING toward the desirable alternative].
Yet
    how can I say to you,
        do not wish for
            • happiness
                as opposed to suffering,
            • life
                as opposed to death,
            • health
                as opposed to illness?
You would hardly be human
    if you would
         not
            deeply desire
                • happiness,
                • life,
                • health.
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```
20
              But there is a state of mind
                   in which
                       • the straining [i.e., in which the STRAINING away from
                                                     the undesirable alternative]
                          relaxes.
                   in which
                       • the undesirable
                          can be dealt with
                               in an almost similar
                                  • spirit and
                                  • attitude
                                      as
                                         • the desirable.
              This may appear
                   very strange to you now,
              but I truly say to you, my beloved friends,
                   this [i.e., this statement that there is a state of mind in which the straining
                               away from the undesirable painful alternative relaxes and in
                               which the UNDESIRABLE alternative can be dealt with in an
                               almost similar spirit and attitude as the DESIRABLE alternative]
                       is indeed so.
              Perhaps the first step toward
                   this particular state [i.e., first step toward this state of mind in which the straining
                               away from the undesirable painful alternative relaxes and in
                               which the UNDESIRABLE alternative can be dealt with in an
                               almost similar spirit and attitude as the DESIRABLE alternative]
                       is to pay attention to
                          the byproducts
                               in your
                                  • feelings,
                                  • thoughts and
                                  • attitudes
                                      as vou
                                         experience
                                              either
                                                 • a desirable
                                              or
                                                 • an undesirable
                                                     state.
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If the desirable occurs,
                   • you are most likely
                        to
                          • feel faith
                               in the Lord,
                        to
                          • experience
                               His reality and
                          • connect with
                               the Christ within.
                   • You can be
                       joyful
                          in the knowledge
                               that
                                  all is well in this world.
21
              I now address myself
                   to individuals who
                       • do believe in
                     and
                       • can experience occasionally
                          spiritual reality
                               beyond the earth reality,
              and
                   not
                       to people who
                          • have never as yet
                               experienced this level of being [i.e., NOT to people who have never
                                      as yet experienced spiritual reality beyond the earth reality].
              It is infinitely more difficult
                   to maintain
                       • the same faith,
                       • the same knowing,
                          when
                               the undesirable experiences
                                  occur.
              [When the undesirable experiences occur]
                   The feelings
                       immediately fluctuate
                          like the needle in a compass.
```

```
Just begin to observe
                  your moods.
              When
                  do doubts come up?
              What brings on
                  the doubts?
              Are they [i.e., Are the doubts]
                  not always
                       in some way
                          connected with
                              whether or not
                                 the desirable goal
                                      is attained?
22
              The Christed person
                  does not experience
                       these fluctuations.
              The outer experience [i.e., The OUTER experience, be it desirable or undesirable]
                  in no way
                       influences
                          which level of reality
                              he or she is connected with.
              It is indeed true
                  that such a person [i.e., that the Christed person]
                       reacts to
                          • pain
                       no differently than [i.e., no differently than he or she reacts to]
                          • pleasure.
              In that way
                  • pain
                and
                  • pleasure
                       become
                          indeed
                              one and the same.
```

```
To put it differently,
                   such a person [i.e., the Christed person]
                       transcends
                          duality.
23
              This kind of detachment
                  from
                       • pleasure
                      or
                       • pain
                          is strongly fostered
                               • by Eastern religions,
                             as well as
                               • by the Western mystics.
              These disciplines [i.e., disciplines of the Eastern religions and the Western mystics]
                   • negate
                       worldly fulfillment
                 and
                   • consider it [i.e., and consider worldly fulfillment]
                       an antithesis
                          to the goal of
                               spiritual self-realization.
              The pursuit of detachment
                   leads
                       • to all the disciplines of asceticism
                    and
                       • to deliberately-imposed suffering.
              Yet,
                   valuable as these approaches may be up to a degree,
              does not
                   the deliberate negation
                       of the desirable
                          lead to
                               a similar state of duality,
                                  only approached from the other end [i.e., duality approached
                                      from the end of avoiding PLEASURE, which is the opposite
                                      end of duality as the end approached by avoiding PAIN]?
```

```
Whoever denies
                   • the undesirable
              is not much different from one who denies
                   • the desirable
                       and does not permit himself
                          to rejoice in it [i.e., and rejoice in the desirable].
24
              Another kind of contradiction also exists
                   that has led to many confusions
                       in the human mind,
                          particularly among
                               spiritual aspirants.
              If,
                       as spiritual
                          • teachers and
                          • seers
                               claim,
                   God's will
                       is
                          your
                               • happiness,
                          your
                               · human fulfillment,
                          your
                               • health,
                          vour
                               • well-being,
                          your
                               • healing when you are ill,
                          your
                               • productivity and
                               • success in life,
              how then can
                  you negate
                       this life [i.e., how can you NEGATE this happy, fulfilled, healthy, productive,
                                                                            and successful life]
                          that the Creator has given you?
```

```
Does it seem right
                   to
                       • abdicate
                          all material existence
                     and
                       • deny its [i.e., deny material existence's]
                          desirable aspects
                               because [i.e., simply because]
                                  you know that there exists a
                                      • deeper,
                                      • much more permanent
                                         state of mind
                                              in which you can
                                                 experience
                                                     • life and
                                                     • fulfillment
                                                         without the breaks [i.e., without breaks in
                                                                PLEASURE by experiences of PAIN]
                                                             that are part and parcel of
                                                                the dualistic state of mind?
25
              All these questions
                   seem fraught with
                       • conflict and
                       • contradiction –
                          at least on this level of reality [i.e., on this dualistic level of reality].
              In a deeper sense
                   there are no contradictions at all.
              It is perfectly possible
                   to rejoice in
                       worldly fulfillments
                          as expressions of
                               inner states,
                                  while no longer
                                      straining
                                         • toward one state [i.e., no longer STRAINING
                                                                     toward the desirable state]
                                       and
                                         • away from another [i.e., no longer STRAINING away
                                                                    from the undesirable state].
```

```
This latter attitude [i.e., This attitude where you rejoice in worldly fulfillments
                as expressions of inner states, while no longer STRAINING toward
                the desirable state or STRAINING away from the undesirable state]
    can exist
         only when
            you deeply know
                that ultimately [i.e., deeply KNOW as ultimate reality that]
                    there is
                        the reality
                            of
                                • God.
                                • life eternal and

    fulfillment and

                               • well-being
                                   in every possible way.
Because
    you have attained a state
         without straining,
you
    • glimpse and
    • finally experience
         this other reality [i.e., GLIMPSE and finally EXPERIENCE this
                                                                     ultimate reality].
Or,
    you can relinquish the straining
         because
            you have glimpsed
                this state [i.e., have glimpsed this state of ultimate reality].
It [i.e., Experiencing this state of ultimate reality]
    must be approached
         from both ends [i.e., from one end, having attained this state without
                        straining, you can glimpse and finally EXPERIENCE this
                        this state of ultimate reality and, from the other end, having
                        glimpsed this state of ultimate reality you can RELINQUISH
                        all STRAINING].
```

```
26
              It would be
                  virtually impossible
                       to start out
                          with an attempt
                              to feel the same way
                                 about two opposites [i.e., FEEL the same way about two opposites
                                                           while you are starting out in the state
                                                            of the mass illusion of duality].
              You could
                  not possibly
                       make
                         yourself
                              react
                                 the same way
                                     • to pleasure
                                   as
                                      • to pain.
              It is
                  a natural movement
                       of the human manifestation
                          to strain
                              • toward
                                 pleasure
                           and
                              • away from
                                 pain.
              Even
                  the often-encountered
                       • fear and
                       • denial
                          of pleasure
                              is essentially
                                 nothing but
                                     another version of
                                         • fear and
                                         • denial
                                             of pain.
              How then
                  is one to start,
                       you may well ask.
```

```
As long as
                   the strain
                        between two opposites of a duality
                           exists,
              you must live
                     in
                        • fear,
                     in
                        • inner tension,
               and you [i.e. and as long as the strain between two opposites of a duality exists you]
                   cannot
                        realize
                           your
                               ultimate state of unity [i.e., cannot realize the ultimate state
                                                              of unity, of ultimate reality]
                           in which
                                there is
                                   no
                                       death
                                  and
                                   no
                                       pain.
27
               The way to go about it [i.e., The way to go about realizing the ultimate state of unity
                                                                                   of ultimate reality]
                   at first
                        is to
                           • stand back
                          and
                           • truly observe
                               your reactions
                                   to
                                       • pain
                                     and
                                       • pleasure,
                                   to
                                       • life
                                     and
                                       • death.
```

```
These reactions [i.e., Your reactions to pain and pleasure and to life and death]
    contain a great deal of material
         that you
            • need to see clearly
         but that you
            • generally ignore.
Your reactions [i.e., Your reactions to pain and pleasure and to life and death]
    have become
        second nature,
            so that you cannot see the forest for the trees.
    • Fear [i.e., Fear of pain and death]
and
    • desire [i.e., desire for pleasure and life]
         are only
            the most common denominators
                that designate
                   a host of
                       other
                           • feelings and
                           • attitudes.
In your
    • fear
         of death
      and
         of pain,
and in your

    movement

         to strain away from them [i.e., to strain away from death and pain],
            there is usually
                a great deal of
                   • anger,
                   • bitterness and
                   • resentment.
These feelings [i.e., These FEELINGS of anger, bitterness, and resentment in your
                FEAR OF and of STRAINING AWAY FROM death and pain]
    are not directed toward
         a specific
            • person or
            • deity.
```

```
They [i.e., These FEELINGS of anger, bitterness, and resentment in your
                FEAR OF and in your STRAINING AWAY FROM death and pain]
    form a
         · more general,
         • diffuse,
    but nevertheless
         • quite distinct
            state of mind.
These feelings of
    • bitterness and
    • anger
         become so absorbed into the system
            that they themselves
                turn into
                   the pain
                       you strain away from.
In other words,
    what started out as
         a small pain manifestation
and
    what might dissolve
         • smoothly and
         • relatively soon,
becomes
    more firmly

    entrenched and

    aggravated

                [i.e., the pain becomes more firmly entrenched and aggravated by
                                      feelings of bitterness, anger, and resentment].
It is, once again,
    not so much
         • the angry feelings themselves
    as [it is] their

    suppression and

         • repression
            that cause the strain.
```

```
The fact
                   that
                       • you are unaware of them [i.e., unaware of the angry feelings]
                   and
                       • they [i.e., and that the angry feelings]
                          can therefore exist underground
                               causes
                                  the damaging effect.
              Therefore
                  you need to make these reactions [i.e., make these reactions of fear of and of
                          straining away from death and pain, reactions in which the feelings of a
                          diffuse anger arise but are suppressed and become more firmly entrenched
                          and aggravated by further feelings of bitterness, anger, and resentment]
                       very
                          • clear and
                          • conscious.
28
              This [i.e., Being clear and conscious of all these feelings related to pain and death]
                   is in a certain way
                       more difficult
                          than [being clear and conscious]
                               with anger
                                  directed toward
                                       • specific individuals and
                                       • specific events.
              The latter [i.e., anger directed toward specific individuals and events]
                   may contradict
                       your
                          • idealized self-image,
                       vour
                          • moral standards,
                          • overall personality,
              but the former anger [i.e., the diffuse feelings of anger that arise in your reactions
                                       of fear and of straining away from death and pain and which
                                       are NOT directed to specific individuals and events]
                  feels very
                       • irrational and

    unreasonable.
```

```
An ordinary person
    may fear
         that it is a symptom of insanity
            to rile against
                what life is known to be.
                How can you
                   "reasonably"
                       resent the existence of death?
                How can you
                   be angry about it [i.e., about the existence of death]?
                How can you
                   even be angry that you,
                               like all other humans,
                        • fall occasionally ill
                     and
                       • suffer pain?
Yet there exists
    a rage
         toward
            • life and
            • creation
                in all human souls
                   before
                        realization of the
                           • unitive,
                           • deathless,
                           • painless
                               state
                                  has been attained.
```

```
The feeling [i.e., The feeling in this untargeted rage toward life and creation
                      BEFORE realization of the unitive, deathless, painless state has been attained]
                   is,
                       if it were articulated:
                          How can
                               • life -
                               • God -
                                  be so
                                      cruel
                                          as to impose
                                              at the end of one's existence
                                                 an inevitable event
                                                     that is
                                                         • unfathomable,
                                                     that is
                                                         • totally unknown,
                                                     that is

    deeply threatening

                                                             because
                                                                it may be the end of one's being?
29
              No matter
                   how certain
                       individuals
                          who have come to embrace
                               atheism
                                  claim
                                      to have
                                          accepted
                                              the idea
                                                 that they will
                                                     no longer exist
                                                         once they die,
                                                             in this very "acceptance"
                                                                lies
                                                                    the ultimate rage.
```

```
Atheism itself
                   is a manifestation of
                        extreme bitterness
                           against
                                a creation
                                   that seems
                                       so utterly
                                           • senseless and
                                           • arbitrary
                                               that no recourse exists [i.e., no recourse in facing a
                                                  creation that includes one's life ending in death
                                                  exists other than to accept the idea that
                                                   "I won't exist after I die"].
               Atheism
                   is the movement
                        that cuts off
                           any

    sensibilities and

                                • sensitivities
                                   to the perception of

    deeper and

                                        • different
                                           realities [i.e., realities other than life ending in death].
30
               There can
                   never be
                        a genuine
                           "acceptance"
                               of ending one's being.
              Such false acceptance [i.e., Such false "acceptance" of the ending of one's being]
                   is always
                        either an
                           • angry,
                           • bitter
                                resignation
                        or
                           • despair
                                about
                                   • life
                                  and
                                   • its pains.
```

```
At the same time,
    accepting
         eternal life
            can also come from
                identical reasons of fear [i.e., accepting ETERNAL LIFE can come
                              from reasons of fear of the ending of one's being
                              that are identical to those of the atheist].
So you need to
    go through
        your
            • inner fear [i.e., your inner fear of the ending of your being in death]
     and
        your
            • previously unconscious
                • anger,
                • bitterness or
                • rage
                   at life
                       • for imposing
                          • death and
                          • pain
                               on you,
                       • for putting you in a position
                          in which you find yourself
                               helpless
                                  against
                                      these common human experiences [i.e., the
                                                     common human experiences of
                                                     death and pain].
```

As you

• become aware of these feelings [i.e., AWARE OF these feelings of inner fear and of anger, bitterness, and rage at life for imposing death and pain on you, for putting you in a position of HELPLESSNESS against these common life experiences]

and

• accept their [i.e., ACCEPT these feelings' (i.e., feelings of inner fear and of anger, bitterness, and rage at life for imposing death and pain on you, for putting you in a position of HELPLESSNESS against these common life experiences)]

apparent

• unreasonableness

and

• childishness,

you will

then

be able to make new connections.

You will see

how these

unrecognized feelings [i.e., You will see how unrecognized feelings of inner fear and of anger, bitterness, and rage at life for imposing death and pain on you and for putting you in a position of helplessness against these common life experiences

have channeled themselves

and

• in what particular way

they [i.e., in what particular way these unrecognized feelings] have found expression.

```
Since this kind of deflection [i.e., deflection of these unrecognized feelings (feelings
                                                      for life imposing death and pain onto you) into
                                                      various channels and into various expressions]
                   can never lead
                        to
                           • clarity and
                           • truth,
                        to

    harmony and

                           • unity,
              the deflection [i.e., the deflection of your feelings in response to life imposing death
                                       and pain on you and for putting you in a position of
                                       helplessness against these common life experiences]
                   leads you further away from
                        the fulfillment of your soul's longing -
                               namely
                                  the real inner knowing
                                       of the
                                          unitive state.
31
               The less aware
                   you are
                        of what you
                          feel
                               about these very general existential matters of life [i.e., what you feel
                                       about these existential matters of life such as life imposing
                                       death and pain on you and for putting you in a position of
                                       helplessness against these common life experiences],
              the more
                   irrational these feelings [i.e., the more irrational these feelings about these very
                                       general existential matters of life]
                        will become;
              the less
                   you can permit yourself to face them [i.e., the less you can permit yourself to face
                               these feelings about these very general existential matters of life –
                               these feelings about death and pain] -
                                   or so you believe [i.e., the less you think you can face them] -
              the more
                   deflected they [i.e., the more deflected these feelings about these very general
                               existential matters of life – these feelings about death and pain]
                        will be.
```

```
You become
    more ensnarled
         in the dualistic state
            with all its
                painful

    strains and

                   • anxieties.
Denied
    • fear [i.e., Denied fear of pain and death]
         creates
            more fear [i.e., creates more fear of pain and death].
Denied
    • longing
  and
    • desire
         [i.e., Denied longing and desire for life, fulfillment and pleasure]
            create
                • anxiety,
            not
                • peace.
Only the courage
    to go through these feelings [i.e., Rather than deny feelings of fear of pain and
                        death and rather than deny feelings of longing and desire for
                        life, fulfillment, and pleasure, ONLY the courage to GO
                        THROUGH these feelings]
         will purify them
            until they emerge
                as gold does
                   in the hands of the alchemist.
```

```
Both
                   • the fear [i.e., the fear of death and pain]
               and
                   • the desire [i.e., the desire for life and fulfillment]
                        will become
                           a driving force,
                                       in a most positive sense,
                               to find
                                   · your longing,
                               to find that
                                   • in your longing
                                       exists a kernel of
                                          true knowing
                                               about
                                                  the reality
                                                      of fulfillment.
32
               From this state
                   of transmuting
                        your irrational feeling [i.e., From this state of transmuting (through
                               purification) your feeling of fear about death and pain and feeling of
                               desire for life and pleasure into true knowing about the reality of
                               fulfillment]
                           comes,
                               first

    slowly and

                                   • with many interruptions,
                                       a state
                                          in which
                                               you
                                                  want
                                                      life
                                                          • not because you
                                                              fear death,
                                                          • but because you
                                                              know
                                                                 that there is no death.
               You
                   know
                        that leaving the body
                           brings a better life.
```

```
These words [i.e., These words promising that leaving the body brings a better life]
    have often been
         spoken
but they [i.e., but these words promising that leaving the body brings a better life]
    are rarely
         experienced
            as inner truth.
To do so [i.e., To experience as inner truth the promise that leaving
                                              the body brings a better life],
    a specific approach
         on your path,
            such as I outline here,
                must be pursued.
There is a vast difference
    between
         • hanging on to life
            because you fear
                annihilation of
                   all you
                        • are
                      and
                        • have become,
    and
         • affirming life
            because you cherish
                the task
                   your life
                        on earth
                           means.
```

```
You may
                   rejoice
                        • in bringing parts
                           of the
                               • greater,
                               • real
                                  life
                                       into
                                          this
                                               • limited
                                               • dualistic
                                                 plane
                    and [rejoice]
                        • in thus
                           spiritualizing
                               the matter
                                  you temporarily inhabit.
33
               The same [i.e., The same principle that applies to DEATH also]
                   applies to
                        • pain and
                        • painful experiences.
              If one suspects
                   pain
                       to be the ultimate reality,
              there must be
                   a lot of anger
                        connected with
                           experiencing it [i.e., with experiencing pain].
              If pain
                   is assumed to come
                        only
                           to life's stepchildren,
              this, too,
                   must create
                        • bitterness and
                        • rage.
```

```
Often,
    these feelings [i.e., Often these feelings of anger, bitterness, and rage
                                                      when experiencing pain]
         • augment the pain,
         • extend it.
            until
                the pain
                    can become
                        the medicine
                           it is meant to be.
Then [i.e., When the pain becomes the medicine it is meant to be]
    you can use it [i.e., you can use the pain]
         as the indicator [i.e., the indicator pointing to the presence]
            of these other feelings [i.e., these other feelings of anger, bitterness, and
                                       rage when experiencing and feeling pain],
                so as to
                    • ferret them out [i.e., ferret out these other feelings of anger,
                                bitterness and rage that augment the feeling of pain]
                and
                    • become acutely conscious of them [i.e., become acutely
                                conscious of these other feelings of anger, bitterness
                                and rage that augment the feeling of pain].
If you defend against
    pain
         even on the deepest possible
            psychic level,
a tightening occurs
    that prevents
         healing.
Healing
    requires a
         deep –
                and more than physical -
            relaxation
                of the entire human system
                    in order to connect with
                        the ever-present
                           divine healing currents
                               that penetrate
                                   all that is.
```

```
A system that is
                   defended
                       against anything -
                               be it against
                                  • common human experience
                                      such as
                                          • pain,
                                         • suffering and
                                          • death, or
                               be it against
                                  • one's own feelings of

    rage and

                                       • bitterness
                                          about
                                              what seems insane to
                                                 • resist and
                                                 • oppose
                                                      [i.e., or against one's own feelings of rage and
                                                      bitterness about common human experiences of
                                                     pain, suffering and death that seem insane to
                                                      resist and oppose] -
                          is
                               • in a state of tension
                             and therefore
                               • unable to
                                  heal itself.
34
              The state of
                   deep relaxation
                       of
                          • body,
                          • mind, and
                          • the feeling self
                               brings about
                                  • the attitude
                                      I described at the beginning of this lecture [i.e. an attitude of
                                              freedom, peace, and safety to create one's own life],
                                  • a state that it may
                                      seem impossible
                                          ever to attain.
```

```
This kind of equanimity
    does not express
         a disregard for
            • earthly pleasure and
            • life in the body,
    but it [i.e., but this kind of equanimity]
         no longer
            fears
                their absence [i.e. no longer fears the absence of earthly pleasure
                                                                 and life in the body].
People in this state
    • do not
         rush into
            • death and
            • pain,
but
    • feel
         an inner peace
            because
                the glimpses of Reality [i.e., glimpses of Ultimate Reality]
                   follow more quickly in succession.
This [i.e., Their feeling of an inner peace because these glimpses of Ultimate Reality
                                              follow more quickly in succession]
    is so
         because
            they have begun to observe closely
                their reactions to their
                    • fears
                   and
                    • desires
                        in connection with
                           • life
                                and
                                   • death,
                           • pleasure
                               and
                                   • pain.
```

```
As these observations [i.e., As these observations of their REACTIONS to their fears
                      of pain and death and their REACTIONS to their desires for life and pleasure]
                   become
                       more
                          • honest,
                       more
                          • clearly defined,
                       more
                          • detached -
                                      while
                                         • that which is
                                              being observed
                                      is not confused with
                                         • who the person is
                                              as a whole -
                                  • a new state of mind,
                                  • the unitive state of mind,
                                      is
                                         • automatically and
                                         • inexorably,
                                              if ever so slowly,
                                                 ushered in.
35
              So, my beloved friends,
                   • try to think about all this
              and
                   • begin
                       a new

    outlook and

                          • direction,
                               wherever possible,
                                  on your individual paths.
```

```
It [i.e., Thinking about all of this and beginning a new outlook and direction
                                                                            wherever possible]
                   will prepare you for
                       • the great fusion
                          that must ultimately come about
                              for each created being,
                       • a fusion
                          that no longer knows the
                               • pain and
                               • separateness
                                  of the dualistic state of mind.
36
              As you search in this direction,
                  you will also find, once again,
                       a "reverse unity"
                          which,
                               in its own way,
                                  will help you
                                      to understand
                                          the nature of your mind
                                              that is steeped in
                                                 dualistic confusions.
              This [i.e., This "reverse unity"]
                   is the fact that
                       every so often
                          you believe
                               you
                                  • fear
                                       one end of the spectrum
                               and
                                  • strive for and
                                  • desire
                                      the opposite end of it.
```

```
But as you confront
    • your real feelings,
as opposed to
    • your illusion about yourself,
you find that
    you fear
        the apparently
            • desired end
                at least on one important level of intentionality
perhaps every bit as much
    as [you fear] that which you
         consciously
            • fear.
So you realize
    the "unity"
        of fear [i.e., realizing the "unity" of fear BOTH in fearing the apparently
                desired experiences AND fearing the consciously feared experiences].
• Life
    is feared as much as
         • death,
• pleasure
     [is feared] as much as
         • pain,
• success
    [is feared] as much as
         • failure.
Out of
    this "reverse unity"
         a real unity
            can grow,
                when you comprehend
                   the nature
                        of the fear
                           at both ends of the spectrum.
```

```
As you get in touch with
    both fears [i.e., both the FEAR of life, pleasure, and success on one end
                        and the FEAR of death, pain, and failure on the other end],
         vou have
            inadvertently
                attained a certain measure of
                    equanimity.
[With this certain measure of equanimity]
    • The strain
         automatically relaxes and
    • you are then confronted with
         the issue of
            faith.
There comes the point on your path
    when it is a question of
         just that [i.e. when it is just that: a question of FAITH].
Do you wish to
    • be open to
         your surrounding universe
   and
    • look at it [i.e., look at your surrounding universe]
         from the point of view
            of justifying
                faith [i.e., Do you wish to be open to the fact that your
                               surrounding universe justifies, perhaps even
                               demands your faith in a benign Creation]?
Do you
    • only see,
perhaps [i.e., perhaps even only]
    • wish to see
                in

    anger and

                    • bitterness,
         the out-of-context
            fragments of life
                that seem to imply
                    • cruelty and
                    • meaninglessness?
```

```
This question [i.e., This question of whether or not true reality JUSTIFIES faith
                                                                              in a benign Creation]
                   may occupy you
                       over years of
                          • serious and
                          • beautiful
                               struggle,
                          • the most noble
                               struggle
                                  in the human soul.
              But the time
                   must come
                       when
                          • inner,

    deeply experienced

                               answers [i.e., answers to the question of whether or not
                                                     true reality justifies faith in a benign Creation]
                                  will appear.
37
              Negation of
                   • truth,
                   • beauty,
                   • love, and
                   • the meaning of creation
                       always stems from
                          • bitterness,
                          • fear and
                          • anger.
```

```
These attitudes [i.e., These attitudes of bitterness, fear, and anger]
                   can only produce
                       more justifications
                          of such negation [i.e., more justifications for the negation of truth,
                                                      beauty, love, and the meaning of life],
                               hiding the vistas
                                  that harbor
                                      the most realistically grounded
                                          affirmation
                                              of
                                                 • all opposites -
                                              of
                                                 • life
                                                      and death,
                                                 • pleasure
                                                      and pain,
                                                 • light
                                                      and darkness.
38
              • When you can maintain
                   this vision [i.e., this vision of the most realistically grounded affirmation
                                              of all opposites – of life AND death, pleasure AND
                                              pain, light AND darkness]
                       even while
                          in pain,
              • when you can
                   know that
                       God
                          does it right
                               even while
                                  you face the Great Unknown -
                                              however

    near or

                                                 • far
                                                      it [i.e., however near or far
                                                                     the Great Unknown]
                                                         may be –
              your mind
                   will be stilled.
```

```
The struggle
                  that attempts to find a way
                       out of
                          the pain of duality,
                               only to draw the net tighter
                                  by the very nature of the struggle itself,
                                      will have ceased.
              • The tense movement
                       • away from
                          one [i.e., away from one "goal" – the absence of pain and death]
                   and
                       • toward
                          another "goal" [i.e., toward another "goal" -
                                                     the presence of pleasure and life]
                               will cease and
              • the underlying
                   unity
                       of all life
                          will be
                               experienced.
39
              Do not confuse
                   the ceasing of
                       a particular
                          • level and
                          • kind
                               of struggle
                                  with
                                      • apathy,
                                      • passivity and
                                      • lack of initiative,
                                         however.
```

```
You know very well
    • how important
        vour
            • committed
            • active
                effort
                  is,
    • how noble
        your struggle,
                as I point out again and again.
Struggle
    • on one level,
    • in a certain way,
         is necessary.
It [i.e., Struggle on one level, in a certain way]
    is the inevitable prerequisite
        for plowing through
            the mazes of the mind.
Struggle
    • on another level,
    • in another way,
         is the movement
            that
                • ripples the water and
                • prevents the peace
                   that flows from
                       the Most Holy.
```

```
40
              Right here
                   is another of the dualities
                       that exist in your world:
                          [i.e., the duality]
                               about struggle.
              Many spiritual movements
                   • totally negate
                       its [i.e., totally negate struggle's]
                          necessity
                and
                   • advocate
                       the detachment,
                          not only [i.e., not only detachment]
                               from
                                  • worldly matters,
                          but [i.e., but also detachment]
                               from
                                  • all striving [i.e., ALL striving and struggling].
              They [i.e., These spiritual movements that advocate detachment from all striving]
                   are completely correct
                       in that
                          they know
                               what I attempt to make you
                                  see here [i.e., make you see in this lecture].
              They [i.e., These spiritual movements that advocate detachment from all striving]
                   think of that level
                       where
                          • fear
                        and
                          • desire
                               • annihilate unity
                             and
                               • trap the mind
                                  into deeper illusions of the world.
```

```
But they [i.e., But these spiritual movements that advocate
                                                             detachment from ALL striving]
                   do not connect with
                        that level of the personality
                           that
                               needs to
                                  • strive and
                                  • struggle.
               They [i.e., These spiritual movements that advocate detachment from ALL striving]
                   ignore
                       that there exists a
                           • healthy and
                           • constructive
                               struggle.
               The pitfall of this approach [i.e., The pitfall of this approach that ignores that there
                                              exists a need for healthy and constructive struggle]
                   is that
                       through its very one-sidedness [i.e., that there should NEVER be struggle]
                           it [i.e., this approach]
                               • leads,
                                      from a subtle direction,
                                  again
                                       into more duality
                           and thus
                               perverts the
                                  • peace
                                       that may be experienced,
                                              at first occasionally,
                               into a
                                  • passive standstill.
41
               Then [i.e., Then on the opposite side]
                  you have spiritual approaches
                       that advocate
                           • the struggle and
                           • the work.
               They [i.e., Spiritual approaches that advocate the struggle and the work],
                   too,
                       are correct.
```

```
They [i.e., Spiritual approaches that advocate the struggle and the work]
                  know
                       the necessity for it [i.e., the necessity for struggle and work]
                 and
                   • help the followers
                       to summon
                          • the energies and
                          • the stamina.
              But they [i.e., But spiritual approaches that advocate the struggle and the work]
                   often ignore
                       that other level,
                          where
                              struggle
                                  • defeats the purpose
                                and
                                  • only ripples the waters
                                      more stormily.
42
              To you, my friends,
                  I bring the truth
                       of
                          both ends
                               of this particular human split.
                                      • Continue your struggle
                                  and
                                      • cease all struggle.
```

```
Grope for
    where struggle
        must
            • continue
  and
    where it [i.e., where struggle]
         must
            • cease.
And you will
    experience
         at some time
            the incomparable peace
                of
                   • no longer
                       fearing
                          what you
                               do not want [i.e., no longer fearing pain and death]
                and
                   • no longer
                       reaching
                          • anxiously and
                          • strenuously
                              for what you
                                  do want [i.e., no longer straining for
                                                            life and pleasure].
You will
    know
         that all
            that could ever be desirable
                 is
                   • right here,
                   • attainable
                       right now,
                   • ever-present
                       at the tips of your fingers.
```

```
All
    that you
        • fear and
        • strain away from
           is nothing but
                illusion,
                   even though
                       you may be in the midst of
                          experiencing it.
So you will truly
    • become still
  and
    • know God.
You will
    know
        God
             in
                • all that is,
             in the
                • best and
                • worst,
             in
                what you
                   • want and
                what you
                   • do not want.
Both [i.e., Both what you want and what you do not want]
    are what your deeper self
        knows
             is
                • intensely desirable,
                   • much better than what you
                       think
                          you want and
                   • not at all
                       what you fear.
```

```
43
               This is but
                   a vague outline
                       for your further path,
              perhaps
                   a whiff
                       that can be caught now.
              Even that vague gleaning
                   will prepare you better
                       for your further glorious path,
                               • blessed,

    beloved

                                  friends.
               You all
                   • live
                 and
                   • move
                 and
                   • have your being
                       in the
                           • Christ consciousness,
                       in the
                           • Christ Principle!
```

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