

Pathwork Lecture 250: Inner Awareness of Grace – Exposing the Deficit

1996 Edition, Original Given April 19, 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 not 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/pathwork-lectures-devotional-format/>

Gary Vollbracht

¶	Content
03	<p><i>Greetings and blessings, my very beloved friends.</i></p> <p><i>The joy of seeing your community</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>develop and</i> • <i>expand</i> <p><i>is enormous.</i></p> <p><i>We praise the Lord for this wonder that springs</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>from</i> <i>your personal growth,</i> • <i>from</i> <i>your</i> • <i>commitment and</i> • <i>devotion</i> <p><i>to serve a cause that goes far beyond your earth selves.</i></p>

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04	<p><i>Now I wish to speak about the meaning of grace.</i></p> <p><i>For many of you this [i.e., grace] is a difficult concept to comprehend.</i></p> <p><i>In former times the concept of grace was much more acceptable, for it was understood as a special dispensation from God that was</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• given, or• not given, for His own reasons. <p><i>The individual had little to do with it [i.e., had little to do with whether grace was given or not].</i></p> <p><i>At a time when self-responsibility was [only a] little developed, grace</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• was interpreted in this manner [i.e., grace was seen as given or not given by God for His own reasons] and• was therefore easier to accept.
05	<p><i>In the present general state of humanity, self-responsibility is much more developed.</i></p> <p><i>You understand that you create</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• your reality and• your experiences –<ul style="list-style-type: none">• good or• bad. <p><i>[So, if you are responsible for creating your reality.] How then does grace come in?</i></p>

***Is it [i.e., With self-responsibility being further developed, is grace]
totally eliminated
from your vision of***
• *life and*
• *reality?*

No, it is not.

Grace
is as much a reality as
• *self-creation and*
• *self-responsibility –*
***and they [i.e., grace and self-responsibility]
are by no means
mutually exclusive.***

***I wish to give you some perspective on this subject,
which will then open up
another equally important topic,
that of
faith.***

06

***The grace of God
is.***

***It [i.e., The grace of God]
exists at all times,
penetrating
all that is.***

***It [i.e., The grace of God]
exists
in the very nature
of ultimate reality,
which is
thoroughly benign [i.e., ultimate reality is thoroughly
favorable and positively disposed].***

Grace
means
that all must work out
for the best,
no matter

- **how evil,**
- **how painful,**
- **how tragic**

things
may
appear
at the moment.

In the end,
when people have

- **lived through and**
- **fully assimilated**

the negative experiences,
they [i.e., the people]
come around full circle
to the light of

- **love,**
- **truth,**
- **joy,**
- **peace,**
- **pleasure supreme,**
- **eternal life, and**
- **wellbeing in all respects.**

This [i.e., the light of love, truth, joy, peace, pleasure supreme, and eternal life]
must
always
be the ultimate reality
and therein
lies grace.

07

So, truly,
you cannot help
but live in
the grace of God.

The very air you breathe
is permeated with it [i.e., is permeated with the grace of God].

*Every substance of life,
on all levels –
from the finest*

- *vibrations and*
- *radiations*

to the

- *crudest matter –*

is permeated with it [i.e., is permeated with the grace of God].

- *The very world you live in,*
- *the universe,*
- *all of creation,*
- *the way divine law is constructed,*

*all [of these]
are an expression of

divine grace.*

You

- *live*

and

- *move*

and

- *have your being*

*in a universe
that consists of
such*

- *tenderness,*

such

- *love*

such

- *personal care*

of the

- *living God,*

of the

- *eternal presence*

*in all that is,

that it simply
defies description.*

*You are surrounded
by a universe
in which
there is simply*

- *nothing*
- *ever*

*to fear –
no matter
what
the momentary appearances
may be.*

08

*The problem
is not
that you need to
draw
the grace of God
to you.*

*For it [i.e., For the grace of God]
is already there,
filling
every pore
of your being.*

*The problem [rather]
is*

- your*
 - *lack of vision,*
- your*
 - *limited view,*
- your*
 - *distorted interpretations,*
- your*
 - *faulty outlook,*
- your*
 - *personal blocks.*

*These [i.e., your lack of vision, limited view, distorted interpretations,
faulty outlook and personal blocks]*

seem like

walls of iron,

which

- *enclose you and*
- *prevent you*

from

- *perceiving and*
 - *experiencing*
- grace.*

In reality

the walls

- *are [not walls of iron, but rather are]*
- mist*

and

- *must immediately dissolve*
- once you*

- *rearrange*

your field of vision

and thus

- *begin to dissolve*
- your personality*
- *defects and*
 - *blocks.*

As always,

*this process [of rearranging your field of vision and dissolving
personality defects and blocks]*

begins with

small everyday events.

As I so often said to you,

you can

easily tell

whether you are

- *in truth*

or

- *not [in truth]*

by the way you

feel.

***This gauge [as to whether or not you are in truth by being aware of how you feel]
is
always
right at your disposal.***

- ***If [for example, in your feeling world]
you are***

- ***in harmony with life,***

- ***if***

- you are***

- ***joyous and***

- ***hopeful,***

- you can be***

- certain***

- ***that you partake of
God's grace***

- that***

- ***surrounds and***

- ***permeates***

- you,***

- ***that you are
in truth –***

- at least in the limited way of your***

- present state of consciousness –***

- regarding your***

- immediate***

- ***experiences and***

- ***reactions***

- to the world around you.***

09

But

- *when*
 - *the opposite occurs,*
- *when you are in a state of*
 - *disturbance,*
 - *fear and*
 - *disharmony*
 - within*
 - *yourself,*
 - with*
 - *others and*
 - *life in general,*

you forget this key [i.e., you forget this key that says that when you are experiencing such negative feelings you must not be in truth].

I wish you would
all

choose to

remember using it [i.e., remember to use this key of seeing that when you are in fear and disharmony, you are not in truth].

Impregnate yourself

with this truth [i.e., this truth that when you are in fear and disharmony, you are not in truth]
in your daily meditations.

When you are

- *unhappy,*
- *fearful,*
- *discouraged,*
- *in darkness,*

know at least
that

you are
not
in truth.

	<p><i>This [awareness that when negative feelings arise, then you are not in truth] will make a lot of difference.</i></p> <p><i>Know that [when negative feelings arise]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>your blocks,</i>• <i>your faulty vision,</i> <p><i>have separated you</i> <i>from</i> <i>the grace of God</i> <i>in which</i> <i>you swim,</i> <i>even now,</i> <i>although</i> <i>you do not know it.</i></p>
10	<p><i>Your habit of putting</i> <i>effect</i> <i>before</i> <i>cause</i> <i>creates</i> <i>gross</i> <i>misconceptions and</i> <i>misinterpretations of life</i> <i>that prevent you</i> <i>from</i> <i>experiencing</i> <i>grace.</i></p> <p><i>The automatic habit of this reversed thinking [i.e., the reversed thinking of putting effect before cause] extends to</i> <i>many different</i> <i>issues and</i> <i>aspects of reality.</i></p>

***One example [of this habit of reversed thinking of putting effect before cause]
is the assumption
that the
experience
of God's grace
is something
to be given to you [from the outside].***

***Another assumption [from this habit of reversed thinking of putting
effect before cause]***

***is that
faith
comes also
from outside,
as if***

- one day [in the future]
something
would be added on to you,***
- while right now
you lack it.***

***You lack
neither
• grace
nor
• faith.***

***As everything else,
they [i.e., grace and faith], too,
already
exist
in you.***

***If only
you could
begin to
think of yourself
in these terms [i.e., in terms that already you have grace and faith
though you block them both],
all
would fall into place.***

	<p><i>You have a notion of the theory [i.e., the theory that you already have grace and faith], but in your habitual thinking you resist its [i.e., you resist this theory's] truth.</i></p> <p><i>[Instead of thinking of and applying this truth that you already have within you grace and faith and all that is good in the universe]</i></p> <p><i>You think of yourself as an empty vessel that needs to be filled [from the outside with grace and faith and all that is good in the universe].</i></p>
11	<p><i>Becoming implies acquiring something that you do not possess already.</i></p> <p><i>But in reality you are already all that you could ever wish to be.</i></p> <p><i>You already possess the states of consciousness you aim to attain.</i></p> <p><i>It is simply that only a limited part of your total self functions on the level of reality into which you were born [i.e., only a limited part of your total self functions on the level of material reality into which you were born].</i></p>

*It is
your task
to
gradually
release
those parts of you
that
fully exist
• on another level of reality,
but need to be
brought into
• the material level [of reality].*

*The
lower self
exists
precisely because of
the limitation
with which you manifest [those parts of you that
fully exist on another level of reality as the higher self]
on this [material] level of reality [in which you now live].*

- *Expansion,*
- *growth,*
- *development –*

*all these terms
mean only one thing:*

*to bring forth [on the material level of reality in which you
are now incarnated]
the perfection
of what you already are
in
essence [on another level of reality].*

	<p><i>If you could think of this process [of expansion, growth, and development] more as</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>releasing what is already there [i.e., already there in your essence on another level of reality],</i> <p><i>rather than as</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>becoming something</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>that you are not,</i>• <i>that is still foreign to you,</i> <p><i>you would aid your process [of expansion, growth and development] considerably.</i></p>
12	<p><i>So you can</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>release</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>your intrinsic awareness of grace.</i> <p><i>You can</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>release</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>the faith that is already in you,</i>• <i>the knowledge</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>that you live in a tender universe, shaped out of personal</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>love and</i>• <i>caring,</i>• <i>that there is nothing to fear.</i>

	<p><i>If you visualize in this way,</i></p> <p><i>you will</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>release new</i>• <i>awareness, new</i>• <i>knowledge, new</i>• <i>faith, new</i>• <i>ways of reacting that will</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>surprise you and</i>• <i>fill you with</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>wonder and</i>• <i>joy.</i>
13	<p><i>What are the obstacles to releasing the</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>faith,</i> <p><i>the</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>knowledge,</i> <p><i>the</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>awareness already existing within you [i.e., already existing as your true essence on another level of reality]?</i> <p><i>The first obstacle is your not knowing that you [i.e., that you, on another level of reality, already] possess the</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>awareness,</i> <p><i>the</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>faith.</i>

The knowledge [that you possess all the knowledge, awareness and faith you need]
• must be cultivated;

it [i.e., this knowledge that you possess all the awareness and faith you need]
• has to begin in your
outer
• brain and
• thinking.

Just considering
the possibility
• that there is
nothing to fear,

• that you live in
an utterly benign [i.e., utterly favorable, positively disposed]
universe,

• that you are
filled with the living God,

will make you
automatically
challenge
your
• fears,
your
• doubts,
your
• distrust and
your
• negative beliefs.

This [i.e., act of considering that there is nothing to fear, that you live in an utterly favorable universe, and are filled with the living God, and then challenging your fears, doubts, and negative beliefs],

in turn,
will make it much easier for you
to sufficiently trust
• life and
• its laws
so that you will
risk
giving.

*And this [risking giving of yourself]
is indeed
an important lever
that touches
an inexorable law of life.*

*For only
as you give out
of yourself,
• from and
• with
your heart,
can you
truly
receive.*

14

*You have heard
the law of
• giving
and
• receiving
discussed many times.*

*It is such an
important law
that it is taught
in all the religious scriptures
that ever existed.*

*Yet it [i.e., Yet the law of giving and receiving]
is usually
• misunderstood,*

*or at least
slightly but sufficiently
• distorted,*

*so that
you put it [i.e., you put the law of giving and receiving]
aside.*

You believe it [i.e., *You believe the law of giving and receiving*]
is
a sanctimonious edict [i.e., *an edict for one to make a hypocritical show of religious piety to impress others and authority*],
issued forth
by an arbitrary authority
that

- ***makes demands on you***
- and then possibly**
- ***rewards you***
with something in return [i.e., *a reward given by the authority merely for obeying an arbitrary edict rather than coming as a natural consequence in accordance with a natural and spiritual law of the universe*].

You see it [i.e., *You see the law of giving and receiving*]
as a form of
bargaining [with an arbitrary authority].

You resist
the concept [of being rewarded for obeying an edict from an arbitrary authority]
because it
offends human dignity.

You distrust
a universe
that

- ***is pedagogic*** [i.e., *a universe that is constructed merely to teach lessons to its inhabitants*] **and**
- ***treats the individual***
as an
unruly child –

though it is surely
not
your

- ***true personality,***
- your***
- ***real being,***

who believes
this distortion [concerning the law of giving and receiving].

15

*What does
the law of giving and receiving
mean
in reality [i.e., mean without these distortions and illusions]?*

*Every human being
contains
a built-in mechanism
that makes
receiving
quite impossible
when [at the same time]
the soul
withholds
its
innate
• capacity and
• yearning
to give.*

*Since
in reality
• giving
and
• receiving
are
one and the same
• flow and
• movement,*

one [here for example, say, receiving]

cannot exist

without the other [i.e., in this example, without giving].

Where

- *distrustful,*
- *fearful*
holding back [of giving]

*makes it impossible
for the soul
to enter into
the flow of
universal*

- *life and*
- *movement,*

*the total process of
giving and receiving
is stopped,
so that
the grace of God,
with all its manifestations,
cannot enter into
the consciousness
of the personality.*

*It [i.e., this situation where the process of giving and receiving is stopped]
is as though*

*all the riches
were*

- *there,*
- *ready to be*
 - *tasted and*
 - *experienced,*

but

- *the hand
could not reach for them;*
- *the senses
cannot perceive them;*
- *the brain
cannot even observe their vivid reality.*

***It [i.e., This situation where the process of giving and receiving is stopped]
is as though
the whole personality
with all its perceptions
were dulled,
so that
the total vision of life
is distorted.***

***This [condition of having a distorted vision of life]
strengthens
the illusion
that you live in a
• poor,
• empty
universe.***

***It [i.e., This condition of having a distorted vision of life]
increases the belief***

- ***that your
inner universe
is equally
• poor and
• empty,***

- ***that you have***

- ***nothing to give
from within [since you believe the illusion that your
inner universe is poor and empty] and***
- ***nothing to receive
from without [since you believe the illusion that the outer universe
in which you live is poor and empty].***

16

*As you know,
every*
 • *attitude,*
every
 • *mental and*
 • *emotional*
 condition
creates
 • *chain reactions and*
 • *circles –*
 either
 • *benign [i.e., favorable, positive, and constructive]*
or
 • *vicious [i.e., unfavorable, negative, and destructive]*
 ones,

according to the
 • *truth*
or
 • *error*
 of your
 • *belief,*
 • *attitude, and*
 • *behavior pattern.*

When you are
 in the illusion that
 both
 • *the outer*
 and
 • *the inner*
 universe
 are
 • *empty and*
 • *impoverished,*

you
 automatically
 create
 a vicious [i.e., unfavorable, negative and destructive]
 circle.

***This belief [of an empty and impoverished inner and outer universe]
must make you
hoard***

- ***yourself,***

- ***your innate***
 - ***riches,***
 - ***talents,***

- ***everything you possess***
 - ***spiritually or***
 - ***materially.***

You are

- ***holding in***

rather than

- ***giving out.***

Hence you
separate yourself
from the riches that

- ***surround and***
- ***penetrate***

you.

This inner mechanism [of holding in rather than giving out]

- ***makes your***
receiving
impossible;

it [i.e., this inner mechanism of holding in rather than giving out]

- ***strengthens and***
- ***finally seems to confirm***
your vision
of poverty of
 - ***life and***
 - ***self.***

17

*In contrast [to this vicious circle],
the benign [i.e., favorable, positive, and constructive]
circle
can be established by
risking
giving out,
in the
conscious
expectation
that
abundance
will grow
because
the fear of
• poverty and
• deprivation
may be
illusory.*

*As you start
giving to God
• in trust and
• with love,
• you release
the inner faith and
• you liberate
your clouded vision.*

*You will
not only
• see the abundance
• surrounding you and
• flowing through you,*

*but you will
also
• lift the lever
that locked
the [inner] mechanism [that wants to give].*

[As you start giving to God in trust and with love]

You will [also]

- **reach out into this rich world and**
- **allow it to bestow upon you all that it contains in overpowering abundance, given to you by the Creator with limitless love.**

**Words
can never describe
this magnificence.**

**By risking
giving out**

- **you enter into a benign [i.e., favorable, positive, and constructive] circle;**
- **you can afford to release [even] more of your
 - inner and
 - outer richesbecause you know they [i.e., your inner and outer riches] are
 - eternally and
 - inexorably replaced in a never-ending stream.**

*The more
you receive
the more
you can give,
and
the more
you give
the more
are you capable of receiving.*

It is then that
• giving
and
• receiving
become one.

18

*So the
first step
must be to
risk
giving out.*

*Consider
that
the fear
that
makes you*
• hold and
• hoard
is erroneous.

• Test once again
a new ground rule of life [i.e., the rule that motivates you to freely give out]

and
• begin
*gradually
to discard
the old one [i.e., discard your old ground rule of hoarding]
that has proven detrimental
because
it has painted
a false picture of life.*

• *False pictures
are reinforced
by belief,*
just as
• *true pictures
are [reinforced by belief].*

*Only when they [i.e., only when false pictures and beliefs]
are questioned*

*do they [i.e., do these false pictures and beliefs]
lose their energy.*

*Challenging them [i.e., challenging false pictures and beliefs]
is like*

- *pulling out
poisonous weeds and*
- *planting
new beautiful seedlings.*

*When you
give
in*

- *faith,*
- *love and*
- *trust in God,*
*even before
you are convinced
that your
fear of giving out
is unwarranted,*

*you have already
begun to plant
your*

- *new,*
- *abundant,*
- *rich,*
- *beautiful
spiritual garden.*

*When I say
spiritual [here in speaking of your spiritual garden],
I do
not mean
something*

- *far away,*
- *vague and*
- *realizable*

*only
in the afterlife.*

*[Rather]
I mean
something tangible
that must
sooner or later
manifest in
your material life,*

- *here and now,*
- *with*
 - *inner and*
 - *outer*

riches.

19

*And now
I come to
yet another obstacle
to establishing
the benign [i.e., the favorable, positive, and constructive]
circle
in which you*

- *flow*
 - *in harmony with creation and*
- *live*
 - *in divine order and*
 - *in divine grace.*

This obstacle is

- *very important,*

yet

- *seldom recognized*

for what it is.

It [i.e., this further obstacle to establishing the benign, positive, and favorable circle] exists on all levels:

on the

- *inner,*
 - *emotional,*
 - *psychological,*
 - *spiritual and*
 - *personal*
- levels,*

as well as

on the

- *outer,*
 - *general,*
 - *universal, and*
 - *collective*
- levels.*

This topic is chosen at this time

not only

- *to help you*
- personally*
- on your*
- *individual paths,*

but also

- *to help you establish*
- the new model*
- of world government*
- within your*
- *ever growing community.*

20

*This obstacle [to establishing the benign, positive, and favorable circle]
is
a tendency
in human nature
to build on
deficit,*

*a tendency
intrinsically connected with
the belief
in an*

- empty,*
- poor,*
- ungiving
universe.*

*Let me now be
more explicit.*

*Take at first
the*

- personal,*
- inner
levels.*

*When you build
positive*

- beliefs and*
- life patterns
on top of*
 - unconscious or*
 - semi-conscious
negative
beliefs,*

*you build on
deficit.*

*When you
secretly
believe
that
you are a
totally*

- unlovable and*
- unacceptable
human being,*

*you build on
deficit.*

When your

- real and*
- false*

*guilts
prevent you
from turning yourself
fully
over to God,*
*you build on
deficit.*

*When
you
assume the universe
to be hostile to you and
you
protect yourself
against this alleged hostility
with destructive defenses –*

- that you may or may not
be conscious of,*
- that you may*
 - rationalize and*
 - justify –*

*you build on
deficit.*

21

***Building
on deficit
can
appear
to succeed
for a while.***

***That [i.e., the fact that success can come initially while building on deficit]
is the trouble.***

***What is
false [i.e., building of deficit]
• seems to work
for a while and
• becomes
temporarily
convincing.***

***He who
builds a house
on
• unsafe,
• sandy
ground,
may indeed
erect
a lovely-looking structure
that holds up for a while.***

***When it begins
to crumble,***

***the builder
cannot see the connection [between the crumbling house and the
sandy ground upon which he built the foundation],
because
he may have
shut off
his awareness
of having chosen to build
on such a weak foundation.***

*The crumbling of the house
may then
be ascribed
to different causes [rather than the real cause of having built on sand].*

Such rationalizations only

- *maintain
the illusory picture of life and*
- *encourage
the tendency of
building on deficit.*

22

*The methods
I have given you to work with
on your path
are meant to
bring your deficits
to the surface
of your consciousness;*

*they [i.e., these pathwork methods]
prevent you
from ignoring
the deficits.*

*This path [i.e., pathwork]
is directly designed
to create
an inner order,
painful as this may be at first,
so that
you can
begin to build on
real assets*

*and never allow
your
"inner economics"
to become*

- *fraudulent and*
- *unsound.*

*The temporary pain
of exposing
your*

- debts,*

your

- deficits,*

*comes from
the wrong conclusion
that by doing so [i.e., that by exposing your deficits and debts]
you are doomed to accept
the "reality"
of poverty [in you and in the universe in which you live].*

You cannot trust

- that your
unsound managing
can be changed,*
- that you can indeed
create
real riches,
based on
a healthy policy.*

*You are
constantly*

- running on
deficit,*
- giving out
in a distorted way
that has nothing to do with
genuine giving.*

***This [giving out in a distorted way] is
pretended giving,
in more than one way.***

***For example, you
either***

***[give out only in pretense, not in truth – that is, you]
project***

***your mask self
to the world,***

while you

inwardly

despair about

who you believe

you

really

are,

or

***you give out
in order to***

accumulate

in a manipulating way

what you believe

you do not deserve [i.e., here manipulating to receive,

***while believing you are undeserving to receive
is building on deficit].***

***These [two] types of
lower-self "giving"
are manifestations of
building on
deficit.***

***False ways of giving [i.e., giving falsely from your mask self or giving to manipulate
the other into giving you what you do not believe you deserve]***

may temporarily

work on the surface,

but

inwardly

your deficits increase,

and the impoverishment thus created

is usually covered up [by] more [false giving]

in order to avoid

the necessary bankruptcy.

	<p><i>You</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>grab</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>outer,</i>• <i>temporary,</i>• <i>unsound</i> <p><i>means</i> <i>to coast along on pretense and</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>cherish</i> <i>the illusion</i> <i>that you can go on</i> <i>indefinitely</i> <i>in this way.</i>
23	<p><i>Thus</i> <i>you build</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>a mask</i> <i>illusion</i><i>on</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>a lower-self</i> <i>illusion.</i><p><i>The mask illusion</i> <i>is that</i> <i>this way of operating</i> <i>can go on forever.</i></p><p><i>The lower-self illusion</i> <i>is that</i> <i>the world is</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>mean and</i>• <i>poor.</i></p></p>

*To put it differently,
you believe
only
in the*

- *illusory wealth
acquired through*
- *scheming,*
- *pretense and*
- *greed,*

*and [you do] not [believe]
in the*

- *real wealth
of God's creation.*

*In practical terms
this [condition]
manifests
in putting so much energy
in your*

- *mask and*
- *lower self*

*that you
never dare
expose*

- *your deficits and*
- *the inner bankruptcy
that smolders underground.*

*When you
work with your*

- *helpers and*
- *peers*

and bring

- *all your guilts,*
- *all your lower-self machinations
to the fore,*

*you stand there
poor.*

*You
no longer
cover up
with a false veneer.*

*You no longer
try to avoid
the poverty
you have
unwittingly created*

- *through
false beliefs and*
- *by
destructive means
that only
increase
the deficit.*

Then the

- *fear and*
- *resistance*
*to declaring the bankruptcy
that you had
frantically covered up*

*is finally
overcome
through your
faith.*

*Then you can begin
to create
the sound
new order
of your
inner wealth
that has
waited for this moment
to*

- *manifest and*
- *enrich
you.*

24

All
all
are
nothing but
bankruptcy exposed.

- *personal crises,*
- *breakdowns*

Such crises can be
deliberately
induced
under controlled circumstances
when you work
with your

- *helpers or*

in your

- *group.*

- *You go through*
the shame of
showing your deficits,

- *you finally*
desist
building on them, and

- *you*
sail through the
 - *fear and*
 - *pain**of believing*
that this [i.e., this set of deficits]
is
your final reality.

*Soon you discover
the real wealth
behind
the frantic efforts
to hide
the assumed –
and hence
self-created –
poverty
by [i.e., the frantic efforts you use to hide
your assumed poverty by]
pretending
a false wealth,
built on
deficit.*

25

Your

- *spiritual and*
- *emotional*

*"finances"
often manifest
on the material level
as well.*

*Many people
live above their means;*

- *they
coast
on debts;*

- *they
cover one hole
with another,
newly created
hole.*

Although
they live in a
constant climate
of anxiety,
they refuse
to create order,

because
• they do not believe
that
• order
and
• abundance
can exist for them, and
• they are
unwilling to give.

Perhaps
they do not want to
give
by paying
the necessary price,
which may be
giving their best
to their work.

Thus,
• they cannot
make a decent livelihood;

• they
• depend on others and
• accumulate debts.

However,
• *the inner process
of your pathwork
in certain cases
finally reaches*
• *the outer levels
of material manifestation.*

*You have even
created budget sessions
for those who
manifest their*
• *inner deficit
on the*
• *outer level.*

In that way [i.e., through budget sessions]
• *you create a*
• *new,*
• *sound
order and*

• *you no longer
have to run
on deficit.*

*Budget sessions,
though they deal with the
outer
manifestation,*

*exactly replicate
the pathwork you do on the*
• *inner,*
• *psychological and*
• *spiritual
levels.*

26

*My beloved friends,
it is extremely important
for you to see that*

- *finances,*
- *economics,*
- *collective governmental procedures,*

*follow exactly
the same patterns.*

*They [i.e., finances, economics, and collective governmental procedures]
are sound
when government
is built*

- *on assets,
not on*
- *deficit;*

- *on reserves,
not on*
- *debts;*

- *on fullness,
not on*
- *emptiness.*

*For those of you
who have some knowledge
of the way
governments –*

- *national and*
- *international –*

are run,

*it will be easy to see
how the principle I speak about
applies to the*

- *outer,*
- *collective
levels,*

as much as to the

- *inner*
- *personal
ones.*

*Whenever a country
goes through
severe crisis –*

- *riots,*
- *revolution,*
- *war,*
- *financial collapse –*

*it is a result of
waiting too long
to establish*

- *cleanliness,*
- *order,*
- *truth*

*voluntarily,
through
deliberate choices,
by working things out
in controlled circumstances.*

*It [i.e., A severe crisis – riots, revolution, war, or financial collapse]
is the result of
not wanting to expose
the deficits,
so that
true abundance
can follow.*

*Such governmental crisis
can be likened to
the breakdown of
an individual
who refuses
to expose
his or her
inner*

- *poverty,*
- *pretense, and*
- *deficit.*

27

- *When governments*
 - *practice*
predominantly
injustice,
 - *live on*
 - *greed and*
 - *power drive,*

 - *when they*
 - *scheme and*
 - *lie*
to deceive the people,
- they always create*
- not only a*
 - *spiritual deficit,*
- but inevitably also a*
 - *material one.*
- The thus established*
imbalances
can be covered up
only for so long.
- Eventually*
they [i.e., the areas of building on deficit]
must
all
surface,
- so that*
a new order
can be established.

*When countries
go through
such crises,*

- *changes
are often brought about
with the best intentions
at first.*
- *New*
 - *laws and*
 - *modalities
are created,*
- *new*
 - *collective measures and*
 - *forms of governments.*

*But when
the
inner
meaning
gets lost again,*

*the same deficit
will arise
through different means.*

*The forces of darkness
can again*

- *distort the truth and*
- *tempt people
away from
the inner truth of God.*

*Again
their [i.e., the people's]
vision
will be blurred,
so that
new deficits
will accumulate.*

	<p><i>Thus the solution never lies only in</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• the form of government you adopt or</i><i>• the outer measures you institute, although admittedly some measures are better than others at different times.</i>
28	<p><i>If you take a</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• very close and</i><i>• well-informed</i> <p><i>look at various governments,</i></p> <p><i>you will soon see</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• where and</i><i>• how</i> <p><i>their deficits are created.</i></p> <p><i>Sometimes the</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• direct,</i><i>• material</i> <p><i>deficits are obvious in a particular country's economics.</i></p>

*It is clear
that the government
avoids temporary exposure
by*

- *frantically pretending,*
- *coasting along,*
- *trying to cover one hole after another,*
- *never daring to trust that
real wealth
can be reestablished.*

*In such a situation
it is
too frightening
to admit the*

- *imbalance and*
- *mismanagement.*

*When sufficient faith [i.e., sufficient faith that real wealth can be reestablished once
the deficit is honestly acknowledged, faced, and dealt with]
is lacking,*

*the false
world picture of a*

- *poor,*
- *untrustworthy,*
- *empty
universe*

*makes this step
toward honesty
impossible.*

29

*Taking this step [toward honesty concerning accumulated deficits and bankruptcy]
is possible
only*

- *through God,*
- *with total faith,*
- *by going*
 - *to and*
 - *with
God.*

*Risking
to have faith
can create
• faith
and also
• the experience
that
having faith
is justified.*

*It is therefore
foolish
to assume that a
• balanced,
• harmonious,
• abundant
world order
in which
• justice and
• peace
exist*

*can be established
without a
direct communication
with
• the divine world and
• the Christ
• within and
• around
you.*

*If you
ignore His existence,*

*you cannot
• perceive His presence,*

*nor can you
• hear His
• guidance,
• advice and
• loving inspiration.*

*Thus [if you ignore Christ's existence]
you cannot
summon up
the courage you need
to go through
the temporary exposure of*

- inner
bankruptcy,*

which is often also

- outer
bankruptcy,*

both

- in individuals and*
- in countries.*

- The shambles
can be
collected and*

- the structure
rebuilt
in a better way*

*only when
all participants*

- are seriously
filled with
the purest of motives and*

- directly ask
God's eternal presence
to*

 - help and*
 - inspire
them.*

*This
is the hope
of the world
in which you live.*

*Everything
that is undertaken
without God,
no matter how*

- *intelligent and*
- *efficient*

*it may seem at first,
is bound to fail
in the long run.*

Only

- *through and*
- *with*

*God
can you have the*

- *courage and*
- *honesty*

*to trust
total openness.*

*Rebuilding
can then
begin*

- *in earnest and*
- *in glory.*

*Only then
will all governments
run on assets.*

*Only then
can they [i.e., can governments]
function healthily
with a constant balanced flow of*

- *giving and*
- *receiving,*

*never
exhausting the reserves
because
all
is based on*

- *truth,*
- *justice, and*
- *fairness.*

30

*No country
will then
deny the other
its resources;*

mutual

- *pressure and*
- *power plays*

*will not
corrupt the world
that was
created by God
so that
all
can partake of
everything,
no matter where it originates.*

*Why do you think
God
has distributed resources
so that*

- *some are in*
- *certain parts of the world only, and*
- *others [are] in*
- *other parts?*

*The wisdom of the Creator
disposes
according to
deepest*

- *reasons and*
- *meanings.*

*Never is
anything
just an accident.*

*The reason
for the distribution
of the world's resources
is to help people*

- *to share and*
- *to consider all other people.*

*This will enable them also
to freely receive*

- *what they need and*
- *what others have.*

*Right here you can see
how a spiritual law works
on the most practical levels.*

• *Giving*
and
• *receiving*
can exist
when countries

- *share their resources,*

rather than [when countries are]

- *hoarding them and*
- *using them to gain more*
 - *power and*
 - *riches,*

*regardless of
how many people
will be deprived.*

31

*My beloved friends,
these are the principles
that you need to establish
in your community.*

*In that way
you will become
a true model.*

Let me now

- *say a few words
about this process and*
- *give you
some guidelines.*

The details

*you need to
work out yourselves.*

You need to

*make yourselves
channels
for God's will
in every detail.*

But some

*outer guidelines
are also necessary.*

*I was recently asked a question
that deals with this topic.*

You have become aware of

*a certain imbalance
within your structure.*

Balances

*constantly change
when*

- *one side*
- outweighs*
- *the other.*

	<p><i>In the development of</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>an individual,</i> <p><i>as well as that of</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>a collective organism,</i> <p><i>balances need to be</i> <i>constantly</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>reexamined and</i>• <i>adjusted</i> <p><i>in order to</i> <i>establish</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>inner and outer harmony,</i>• <i>health and</i>• <i>honestly acquired wealth –</i> <i>that is,</i> <i>divine abundance.</i>
32	<p><i>Here are some</i> <i>specific guidelines:</i></p>
33	<p><i>You need to examine</i> <i>when</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>the individual</i> <i>needs to</i> <i>give more</i> <i>to the collective entity, and</i> <p><i>when the process can be reversed and</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>the collective entity</i> <i>can give more</i> <i>to the individual.</i>

34

*You must
never
live above your means.*

*Function
out of fullness and
do not
run on deficit.*

*This should
not be done
in a spirit of*

- anxiety and*
- lack of trust.*

*It is possible
to have faith
and yet
not use
misapplied faith
to justify
the current tendency of your world
to function on deficit.*

*At the same time
you need to
establish priorities
in a deep way.*

*There may be
temporary situations
when
a deficit
on the material level
may be unavoidable
until
a sound basis of*

- fullness and*
- functioning*

*on assets
is established.*

35

*If you keep this goal [i.e., the goal running on a sound basis of fullness
and functioning on assets]*

*in mind
you will attain it.*

*It may be necessary
to keep your budget
smaller than you may wish;*

*it may mean that
you,
as a community,
may have to do
temporarily
without something
you may like to think of
as essential,
until you can
truly afford it.*

You may have to

- reconsider*
 - what is and*
 - what is not
essential and*

- look at it*
 - from the point of view
of the work that is being done and*
 - with a view
of the task
that is being fulfilled
on a larger scale.*

36

*Temporarily,
more of you
may have to pitch in
with your giving,
as some have done
from the very beginning.*

*Without it [i.e., without this giving from the very beginning]
you would not have
this community
as it exists today.*

*The law
fulfilled itself clearly
in that
none
have come to deprivation
from their giving;*

*quite the contrary,
more abundance
has accrued for them.*

*When more of you
adopt this spirit,
more abundance
will be created*

- for those who give and*
- for the collective entity,*

*until the latter [i.e., until the collective entity]
will be
sufficiently healthy
on all levels,
including
the material one,*

*so that it [i.e., so that the collective entity]
can, in turn,
give
more and more
to the individuals in question.*

***But do not ever forget,
even when***

- spiritual and***
- material***
 - health and***
 - abundance***

***are firmly rooted,
that each
new
person
who desires to commit himself or herself
to***

- stage four –***

or, in other terms,

- the third level of development,
that of nurturing others –***

***needs to go through
a period of
giving
without much recompense.***

***If this step [i.e., if this step of having a period of giving without much recompense]
is skipped,
the spiritual health
of the community
will suffer,
and that [i.e., and suffering of the spiritual health of the community]
will eventually affect
its [i.e., the community's]
material health.***

37

*A lot
will change
with this new outlook.*

*You will lose
that slight anxiety
that keeps nagging you
because
you are still
groping in the dark
about how to establish
an economy
that functions
• on assets
rather than
• on deficit.*

*You must understand
that this [i.e., that the community's process of groping for an economy that
functions on assets rather than on deficit]
duplicates exactly
the
inner
process
of the individual on the path.*

*However, if the
• concept and
• vision
are lacking,
the
outer
picture
may not
• immediately or
• speedily
manifest
the
inner
order
that already exists.*

Often
a problem needs to be tackled
from both sides [i.e., from both the inside and outside].

[On the inside]
You need to
deepen your inner work
on the

- **spiritual and**
- **psychological**

levels and
purify
what runs on
deficit.

At the same time [on the outside]
you need to also realize
a similar process [of purifying what runs on deficit]
in your
personal financial affairs –
budget sessions
are an integral part
of this aspect.

Last but not least,
the same principles [that apply to each individual]
need to be established [also]
for the
material affairs
of
the collective entity.

This then
is true harmony.

Your
entire path,
in all its workings,
will function

- **smoothly and**
- **richly.**

	<p><i>You will have more abundance that is</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• well earned,</i><i>• honestly deserved,</i> <p><i>and can thus be</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• guiltlessly enjoyed.</i> <p><i>The abundance [you will have]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• will benefit many</i> <p><i>and, among other things,</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• will also make it possible for those who need to be materially sustained at the beginning, to have scholarships until they become self-sustaining.</i>
38	<p><i>This lecture goes, of course, way beyond the factual advice at the end of it.</i></p> <p><i>You need to deeply understand a</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• divine law and</i><i>• principle.</i>

*You need to recognize
all
obstructions
that prevent you
from*

- perceiving and*
- partaking of*

*ever-present
divine grace.*

*Then
you can
release
the faith
that is*

- within you,*

that is

- realistic*

*because
it [i.e., because the faith that is within you]
is an*

- experience of*

*what is,
and [is] not*

- a belief in and*
- a hope for*

*what
might be
illusory
wishful thinking.*

39

*My dearest ones,
Christ's embrace*

- enfolds*

all of you and

- accompanies you*

in all your

- doings and*

in all your

- thinking.*

You are blessed.

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