Pathwork Lecture 213: The Spiritual and the Practical Meaning of "Let Go, Let God"

1996 Edition, Original Given September 19, 1973

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
• Greetings and
• divine blessings
for all of you here,
my dearest friends.
With
• joy and
• love
I resume a new working season
to give you all the
• assistance and
• guidance
you could possibly require.
Your growth continues
to the degree
you truly desire it.
It has already borne wonderful fruit
and
will continue to do so.

	Everyone of you
	may find
	in the words I am privileged to speak this evening
	what you most need
	now.
	If you try to
	• listen
	with your inner ear,
	• see
	with your inner eye,
	• feel
	with your innermost being, and
	• let the doubting mind
	rest,
	you will find
	exactly what you most need
	for your development.
	joi your acveropmena
04	
	I have often spoken the words,
	"Let go, let God,"
	and when you meditate
	you also occasionally
	utter these words.
	Let us examine
	the true meaning of
	"Let go, let God"
	for there is a lot more to this saying than meets the eye,
	my friends.
0.5	
05	
	Letting go
	obviously means
	letting go of
	the limited ego
	with
	• its self-will,
	• its narrow understanding and
	• its preconceptions.

```
It [i.e., letting go, or, letting go of the limited ego]
    means
         • letting go of
            • fears,
            • distrust.
            • misconceptions, and
            • suspicion.
But it also means
         • letting go of
            the insistent attitude
                 that says, in effect,
                    "I can be happy
                        only
                            • if so and so does thus and thus, or
                            • if life responds exactly as I determine."
         This [i.e., This latter not wanting to let go, that is, not wanting
                                to let go of specific expectations and demands]
            often appears as
                 not wanting to give up
                    something precious
                        • that is,
                            in itself,
                                legitimate and
                        • that you should
                            indeed
                                have.
Does
    letting go
         of the little ego's self-will
            mean
                 having to settle for

    unhappiness and

                    • unfulfillment?
Is the
    striving for fulfillment
         that falls under the category of
             "letting go"
                 wrong?
These questions are important
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and we shall now deal with them.

```
06
               To
                   "let God"
                       from
                          • the center of your being,
                       from
                          • your heart,
                       from
                          • your innermost self
                               where God speaks
                                    if
                                      you wish to listen -
              that [i.e., that way of "letting God"]
                   is truly
                       the ultimate aim.
              Before this
                   • highest,
                   • most blissful and
                   • secure
                       state
                          can exist,
              • obstacles and
              • dualistic confusions
                 must always be removed.
07
              It is usually
                   so much easier
                       to comprehend a
                          • philosophical concept or
                          • spiritual premise
                               in
                                  • general terms
                          than in its [i.e., than in the spiritual concept's]
                                  • everyday applications.
               Your mundane reactions
                   seem often
                       too
                          • puny and
                          • insignificant
                               to be connected with
                                  the greater issues of life.
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Yet
                   it is exactly
                       in making the connections
                           in this so-called insignificant area
              that you can find
                  the key
                       to your
                           • confusions and
                           • conflicts,
                               which [confusions and conflicts]
                                  make it impossible for you
                                       to actually
                                          apply
                                              the great spiritual truths
                                                 to your daily life.
08
              Let us deal with
                   the confusion
                       I mentioned.
               The great truths,
                   as all things,
                        can be
                           • distorted and
                           • expressed
                               in a false way.
               Thus
                   many people
                        are aware of the truth
                           • that the universe is
                               • benign and
                               • giving and
                           • that they [i.e., that people] are not required
                               by divine law
                                  to suffer,
              but [nevertheless]
                   in their present state
                       they attempt to bring about
                           the fulfillment
                               they so ardently desire
                                  with [only] their [puny] self-will.
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To tell these people
    that they must
         let go
            of their
                forcing current [i.e., of their self-will that they use to attempt to gain
                       happiness and fulfillment and to eliminate pain and suffering]
seems to imply
    resignation to
         • emptiness,
         • suffering,
         • pain, and
         • unfulfilled longing.
To avoid this [i.e., to avoid being resigned to emptiness, pain, and unfulfillment]
         they then
            hold on in a
                 • tight,

    squeezed

                    way
                        that prohibits
                           the influx
                                of the greater world
                                   that is
                                        • light,
                                        • truth,
                                        • love,
                                        • abundance, and
                                        • all imaginable fulfillment.
The divine influx
    can only flow
         in its own harmonious rhythm
            when it is let loose.
Energetically
    there must be
         no hard knots.
• Self-will,
• anxiety,
• insistence,
• forcing currents and
• distrust
    create an energetic climate
         that prohibits the divine flow.
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```
The state of consciousness
    that produces these
         • tight,
         • untrusting,
         • insisting
            attitudes
is antithetical to
    divine consciousness.
An imbalance of trust
         is at work here.
         The
            • little,
            • limited
                ego
                    is trusted,
         while the
            • greater
            • divine
                self
                   is negated.
This does
    not mean
         that the ego
            should be denied.
                But it [i.e., the ego]
                    needs to
                        expand its
                           • creativity and
                           • wisdom
                               precisely by allowing
                                   the divine influx
                                       to occur.
```

```
09
              As you know,
                  all attitudes
                       create
                          energy systems.
              The tightness of
                  holding on [i.e., holding onto what already exists]
                       creates
                          a closed
                              energy system.
              This can be
                  easily observed
                       on the
                          outer level.
                       Wherever
                          • tyranny and
                          • domination
                              exist,
                                 because
                                      the will of a
                                        few power-driven individuals
                                             imposes itself over others -
                                                • stemming from and
                                                • creating more
                                                    fear –
                                                       the creative spark [of the others who
                                                                are controlled by those in power]
                                                            is squelched.
              A closed system
                  always
                       creates resistance,
                          even though
                              temporarily
                                 some people
                                      outwardly
                                         submit to the force [of the domination of the few]
                                             out of their own
                                                • fears and
                                                • weaknesses.
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But
                  the time must come
                       when
                          every last fearful individual
                                  • stand up and
                                  • throw off the shackles.
              History
                   has always borne this out.
              In the
                   confused human mind
                       this healthy movement [of standing up and throwing off the shackles]
              is often taken for
                   a general rebelliousness
                       • coupled with and

    nourished by

                          a childish will
                               to refute
                                  • genuine authority,
                                  • truth,
                                  • guidance and
                                  • the need for
                                      • self-discipline and
                                      • self-responsibility.
10
              Inwardly,
                   however,
                       people do rebel against
                          the momentary uncertainty
                               of stepping into
                                  an apparent vacuum
                                      created
                                         after they
                                              • have given up
                                                 their tight self-will and
                                              • have begun
                                                 to let go.
              Instead of trusting
                   • the letting go process,
              people trust
                   • their own false gods.
```

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11
              In relationships,
                  it is easy to observe
                       that the inner pressure
                          of the subtle forcing current
                               which says,
                                  "You must love me,"
                       creates exactly
                          the opposite
                              of the desired response [i.e., creates the opposite of the response
                                             you want from the other, which is that they love you].
              As an individual
                  you may feel
                       it is impossible
                          to give up this demand [that the other love you]
                              because
                                 you cannot stand
                                      not being loved.
              • Aren't you entitled to love?
              • Doesn't the universe
                  grant you
                       this very necessary fulfillment?
              How can you
                  • give up
                       the demand [that the other love you] and
                  • content yourself
                       with the
                          bleak emptiness
                              that you fear
                                  when you renounce
                                      this demand for love?
              Yet, it is clear that
                  the very attitude of
                       "you must" [love me]
                          elicits
                              everything else
                                  but love
                                      from the other.
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Love
                   cannot blossom
                       in a
                          closed energy system
                               that stems from
                                  • distrust,
                                  • non-love,
                                  • power, and
                                  • distortion of truth.
                                      It [i.e., a closed energy system]
                                         cannot
                                              breed love.
12
              You who do
                  the inner work of the path,
                       constantly encounter
                          in yourself
                               • this tightness,
                               • this fearfulness,
                               • this holding.
              You may
                   call it
                       resistance or
                  give it
                       other names.
              Basically the resistance
                  is not against any
                       • human being,
                       • helper,
                       • therapist, or
                       • teaching,
                  or even against
                       • any actual domination.
                               For you
                                  do not need
                                      to be tightly holding
                                         against
                                              actual domination.
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The
    • tight holding,
the
    • not letting go,
         always points to
              the
                 • inner,
                 • spiritual
                    struggle
                        about
                            what to trust:
                                    • the little ego
                                or
                                    • God within.
In order to do the latter [i.e., in order to trust God within],
    the
         interim
            states of consciousness [i.e., the interim states before the state of fully
                                trusting God within is reached, i.e., interim states]
                 which the mind

    has produced and

                    · wishes to avoid
    must be traveled through.
The self
    wishes to avoid
         what it [itself]
            has produced
                 only too often,
                    whether it be
                         • pain,
                         • confusion,
                         • emptiness, or
                         • fear.
Whatever the interim state [i.e., Whatever the interim state before the state of
                 trusting God, the interim state that has brought pain and fear],
         you must embrace it [i.e. embrace this interim state you produced]
                 so that it can be
                         • explored,
                         • understood, and thus
```

• dissolved.

13	
	There is an
	enormous difference
	between
	• believing that this
	temporary state [i.e., believing that the interim state you have created, the state producing unfulfillment and absence of love]
	is the
	final reality
	which must be kept at bay,
	and
	• knowing
	that it [i.e., knowing that this interim state that brings unfulfillment and pain]
	is [merely] a temporary condition.
	As long as you believe
	this
	condition [i.e., believe that this interim state that brings you only absence of love, unfulfillment and pain]
	is final,
	the self will either
	• fight against letting go of the interim state that is in truth bringing unfulfillment and pain],
	or it [i.e., the self] will • fall into
	a resignation to being [forever] • helpless and • unhappy.
14	That [i.e., because the self believes this condition of unfulfillment and pain is final]
	is why
	the resistance to letting go [of ego's self-will and dropping into the temporary unfulfillment and pain]
	is so strong.

```
You prefer [holding onto]
    the status quo
         in which you
            avoid falling into
                those other states of consciousness [i.e., avoid falling into those
                        states of consciousness that are the cause of your pain,
                        unfulfillment, and the absence of love in your life, states]
                   of your [own] creation
                        that must be traversed
                           before you
                                • can let go [of your present state of
                                                              consciousness] and
                                • begin to [trust God within, by which you begin to]

    create and

                                   • expand
                                       your life.
You prefer [holding on to]
    the status quo,
         even though
            the state of
                 • letting loose [of self-will] and
                • letting God
                   feels
                        · wonderful,
                        • rich,
                        • light,
                        • joyful, and
                        • safe.
Many of you
    have begun
         to experience this [wonderful, rich feeling that comes from letting go and
                                       letting God]
            more often.
In that way [i.e., by experiencing this wonderful, rich feeling that comes from
                        letting go and letting God]
    the resistance to
         letting go
            diminishes gradually.
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It [i.e., letting go of self-will, fully feeling the temporary pain and unfulfillment
                               that are caused by your present state of consciousness, and
                                                      coming to trusting the God within]
                   can never be done
                       in one single decision.
              It [i.e., the decision to let go of self-will, feel the pain, and trust the God within]
                   is a

    decision and

                        • commitment
                           that must be repeated many, many times.
15
               The tightness you feel
                   is so often traceable
                       to the current which says,
                           "I want it desperately."
              However,
                   the desperation [you feel in your insistent "wanting"]
                           • much more
                               a result of the
                                  tightness that shuts out God
                           • than of
                               not having
                                  what you want.
              • The state of tightness
                       stemming from fear
                               [of always being in pain and never having love and fulfillment],
              • the distrust [of God within], and
              • a concept of poverty [in self and the universe]
                   seem to justify
                       your holding on [to self-will in an attempt to get that for which you wish].
              I repeat what I mentioned before:
                        The giving up
                           of the tight self-will
                               implies
                                  first of all
                                       letting go
                                          of the insistence
                                               of your wish.
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The wish
    must be let loose
         • for the moment,
which is quite different from
    giving it up
         • forever.
The
    • "who,
    • where,
    • what,
    • when, and
    • how"
         of the wish fulfillment
            must be
                temporarily
                   given up.
When you have
    let go [of these specifics regarding your wish],
you may even come back
    to the same
         • "who,
         • where,
         • what,
         • when, and
         • how,"
but these wishes
    will then manifest
        in a different
            • emotional and
            • spiritual
                climate.
Often
    your insistence
         to have the wish fulfilled
            in the
                one specific way
                   that you now imagine
    limits the actual fulfillment.
```

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Give the
                   creative process
                        • rope and
                        • margin
              and you will then
                   experience
                        that it [i.e., you will then experience that the creative process]
                           will
                               by far
                                  surpass your

    hopes and

                                       • visualizations
                                           in

    happiness and

                                              • fulfillment.
              Since
                   your mind
                        is often incapable
                           of even conceiving
                               the richness of the universe,
              you must
                   learn to make yourself
                       empty
                           at the moment
              and
                   allow
                        the divine process
                           to reveal itself
                               to you.
               This means
                   "letting God."
16
              It is sometimes true
                   that you must
                       give up
                           the desire of the self-will
                               which you do not want to let go of.
              But this [giving up of the desire of the self-will]
                   is only
                        temporarily
                           true.
```

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If you have
                  inwardly
                       accumulated
                          a negative image of your life
                              in which
                                 you can only
                                      suffer,
              then
                  you must
                       • examine and
                       • oust
                          this image
                              so as to
                                 inactivate
                                      its [i.e., inactivate the negative image's]
                                         energetic power.
              This [examining and ousting of this negative image]
                  cannot happen
                       in a state of
                          • holding on and
                          • fighting against
                              this same innermost negative belief.
17
              · If you send out
                  currents of
                       domination over others
                          with whom you are involved in relationships,
              • if you fight against
                  their
                       • imperfections and
                       • immaturities
                          that hurt you,
              it is only because
                  you do not trust
                       that your inner God
                          can produce fulfillment for you
                              without [your] having to impose
                                 your ideas over others,
                                      no matter
                                         how right
                                             these ideas [of yours] may be in theory.
```

Humanity
is caught
in this conflict:

• You either

hold on [tightly to your current state, rather than letting go,
but at the same time trying to force the change you want by
using your tiny self-will, while fighting]

against [experiencing and feeling] the

- blankness,
- pain, and
- abandonment

you fear will be your fate [forever] if you let go,

• or you

resign yourself to this dismal [current] state in order not to [have to]

hold on [to your current state and not to have to forcefully try to change your situation with your self-will].

This universal conflict [of EITHER holding onto your current state of getting what you want by a forcing current (which never works)

OR resigning yourself to never have what you long for]

is part and parcel
of the dualistic [either/or] state of mind
which prevails
in your dimension of consciousness.

find its way out.

You have often heard me explain
that there are
many other
• confusions and
• conflicts
from which
humanity
must laboriously

```
In this particular instance [that I have just presented]
                   humanity's conflict
                       is between
                          either
                               • using a forcing current [to change a current negative state,
                                                             rather than letting go of a forcing
                                                             current to change the situation],
                          or
                                  resignedly
                                      accepting a negative state [as permanent],
                                  • becoming hopeless, and
                                  • harboring a negative concept of life.
              This conflict
                   seldom applies to
                       all
                          areas of life expression,
              but it
                   almost always applies
                       to some.
19
              You may
                   outwardly
                       tend more toward one of these [two] attitudes [i.e., either the attitude
                                      to force change or the attitude to resignedly accept a
                                                     negative state as permanent],
                       but the other [attitude]
                          also lives
                               within you,
                                  concealed
                                      even from your own awareness.
```

```
[For example,]
    Let us say
        that you are
            outwardly
                • forceful,
                • aggressive, and
                • temperamentally suited to
                       get away with
                          overriding others
                               either by
                                  • sheer force,
                                  • clever persuasion, or
                                  • dishonest manipulation.
In that case,
    you use
        some of your resources [i.e., you use some of your resources for
                                      forcefulness and aggressiveness in order]
            to cover up
                • resignation,
                • despair, and
                • distrust of life,
        though you do this
                in certain areas
                       only.
Or, [as another example]
    you may be
         outwardly
            a personality type
                • who wants
                   above all to
                       • get along with others,
                • who wants to

    depend on them

                   and
                        • not antagonize them.
         Then
            there must be
                underneath [and unconscious]
                   the desire to
                        • dominate [them].
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```
Often
                  such domination
                       is obtained by
                          submission.
                              "I will do what you say,
                                 so that you
                                      • are bound to me and
                                      • will have to obey my wishes.
                              You will be
                                 too guilty
                                     to offend me
                                        when I have proven to be
                                             so obedient to you."
              I venture to say that
                  you must have found such
                       hidden
                          attitudes
                              in the course of your pathwork.
20
              Whatever the
                  outer
                       manifestation
                          of these two ways
                              to react in life may be [i.e., manifesting either domination over
                                                            others or submission to others],
              the opposite of the
                  overt
                       manifestation
                          must also exist in you.
              You may have become
                  quite aware of
                       the manifest attitude,
              but may still
                  be deluded
                       in thinking that
                          the opposite
                              does not exist in you.
```

```
Whoever is
                   outwardly
                       • dominant
              will find it difficult
                   to deal with the
                       inner
                           • hopelessness.
              [Conversely]
               Whoever is
                   outwardly
                        • negative,
                        · dependent,
                        • weak, and
                        • submissive
              will find it difficult
                   to deal with his or her
                        covert,
                           • dominant, and
                           • manipulative
                               traits.
               They [i.e., dominating over others and submitting to others]
                   are inevitably
                       two sides of the same coin.
21
              At the beginning
                   of the path of self-exploration,
              you may not be aware of
                   even your
                       overt
                          personality aspect.
              But
                   little by little,
                       as you observe yourself,
                          you will become aware
                               first of
                                  • the overt,
                               then
                                  • the covert
                                      side.
```

```
22
              When your personality is
                   very adept
                       in its
                          • chosen way
                               of dealing with the world,
              you find it
                   most difficult
                       to recognize
                          • the hidden aspect.
              If you
                   • are forceful by nature, and
                   • have aspects of strength
                       that you partially
                          put into the service
                               of the forcing current,
              then
                  for a long time
                       you may get away with
                          this solution
                               for warding off
                                  the disaster
                                      vou
                                          secretly
                                              expect.
              If [on the other hand] you
                   are by nature
                       • soft and
                       • pliant,
              but use these assets
                   in order to
                       • manipulate others and
                       • hide the domination
                          you wish to exert,
              you may find it
                   extremely difficult to
                       • give up
                          the former [i.e., give up your soft and pliant aspects]
                       • and face
                          the latter [i.e., face your wish to dominate others].
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If you seem
                   to get what you want
                       through your chosen way
                          which is predominant
                              in your personality,
              it is
                  much harder for you
                       to see
                          what you miss.
              Only when
                  life
                       finally brings home to you
                          • that your
                              succeeding
                                  is an illusion, and
                          • that you
                              are actually
                                 fighting
                                      an already existing
                                         state of emptiness
                                             which is the result of
                                                your chosen solution,
              will you be
                  sufficiently motivated
                       to deal with this struggle.
23
              You may
                   momentarily
                       • seem to get, or
                       • even actually get,
                          what you
                              • want,
              but you
                    do

    not really get

                          what you
                              • yearn for [most deeply].
```

```
You do
    not get
         the real fulfillment
            you
                continually
                   make impossible
                       by the very use of
                          these pseudo-solutions.
[For Example]
Let us assume
    you wish [for]
         • love and
         • closeness
            with another human being,
    but feel uncertain
        that you will obtain this desire
           through the other person's
                own free will.
Let us further suppose
    you then
        rule by
            • possessiveness,
            • domination,
            • jealousy,
            • coercion, and
            • demands.
            Remember
                • that this can occur in
                   either the
                       overt
                   or
                       • covert
                          way and
                • that you
                   can rule
                       just as much [indirectly and covertly] by
                          • dependency,
                          • blaming, and
                          • making the other person
                              feel guilty.
```

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If that person
    partially
        • truly
            • loves you,
but
    partially

    neurotically

            • needs you or
            • wants to exploit you,
he or she
    will
         • submit to your rule,
but also
    will

    resent and

         • blame,
         • hate and
         defy
            you for it,
                even though
                   being party to the arrangement.
Thus,
    even when you succeed,
         it means little
            because
                you are
                    constantly
                       fighting against
                           those reactions [in the other person]
                               for which you [yourself] are co-responsible.
These negative reactions
    in the other
        only strengthen
            your negative
                image of life.
                               And so it goes on and on.
```

```
24
              But what will happen
                   if you have the

    courage and

                       • integrity
                          to let the reins go,
                               notwithstanding
                                  the fear
                                      that you might lose this person?
              If you
                   lose,
                       what have you lost?
              But if you
                   win
                       you find
                          the immense joy of
                               discovering
                                  that the other
                                      wants
                                         to love you
                                              freely
                                              • without your
                                                 • coercion,
                                                 • manipulation, and
                                                 • domination.
                                      [And do realize] That [this love that is now freely given you]
                                         is the
                                              true richness
                                                 you long for.
              And even if you
                   lose that person,
              does this
                   truly have to mean
                       that you must be alone
                          forever?
                               Certainly not.
              But you may
                   temporarily
                       have to dip into your bleakness [of loneliness and unfulfillment]
                          so as to dissolve
                               its power to present
                                      an obstruction [in your next relationship].
              In that way,
                       you can "let God."
```

```
25
              Divine creation
                   wants you to have
                       all the bliss imaginable.
              If you can
                   confront your doubts
                       that the best
                          could indeed
                               be yours,
              then
                  you can establish trust.
              But
                   • trust and
                   • faith
                       cannot be built
                          on the rotten foundation of
                               • distrust and
                               • lack of faith.
              If all the energy
                  you now use to

    coerce and

                       • bend
                          your environment
              would be used to
                       • establish genuine faith
                          • in the abundance of life,
                          • in the richness
                               your life could have,
              you would
                  indeed
                       create
                          such a rich life.
              Covering up
                  • your lack of faith,
                   • your distrust,
                   • your negative outlook,
              and then covering up
                   the means you use
                               to overcome them [i.e., the means you use to overcome your lack of
                                             faith, your distrust, and your negative outlook]
                       consumes
                          • valuable,
                          • essentially creative
                               energy.
```

```
26
              I specifically suggest
                  that all of you
                       • look at
                          both the
                               overt
                          and
                               • covert
                                      manifestations
                                         of this struggle in you, and
                       • see
                          in what areas of your life
                               they exist.
              Look at
                  your lack of faith
                       when
                          • you do not let God,
                       when
                          • letting go [of self-will and ego control]
                               seems to connote

    resignation

                                      into an unfulfilled state.
              [Or, on the other hand]
                   Feel
                       the inner
                          movement in you
                               when you
                                  cease grabbing, and
              then visualize
                  yourself
                       in a
                          • confident,
                          • patient,
                          • humble
                               state of mind
                                  in which
                                      the universe
                                         can give you its best.
```

```
27
              Whether you
                  experience
                       • your outer holding or
                       • your outer hopelessness,
              try to get in touch with
                  the hidden
                       opposite
                          attitude.
              Both facets [i.e., the outer holding or outer hopelessness and its hidden opposite]
                  should be
                       on the surface
                          so you can become
                              fully conscious
                                  of them [both].
              Only then
                  will you be able to find the key
                       which I will describe to you now.
              However,
                  just
                       hearing
                          about this key
                              can never be sufficient,
                                  although it [i.e., just hearing about this key]
                                      will surely help you
                                             find
                                                 the right direction.
              It requires
                  a great deal of
                       inner work
                          for you to
                              use
                                  this key.
```

```
28
              First
                  I would like to say a little more about
                       "letting go and letting God"
                              in your interactions with others.
              I have already mentioned
                  the apparent conflict of
                       • wanting to be
                          • loved.
                          • respected and
                          • appreciated
                    and your
                       • pushing for it [i.e., your forcing current pushing to be loved,
                                             respected and appreciated].
              I also spoke about
                  • your dilemma of
                       apparently having to
                              give up this wish [to be loved and respected] and
                  • your confusion about
                       whether you are
                              entitled to it [i.e., entitled to have the love and respect you wish for]
              It is so important to restate that
                    no
                       rightful
                          claim you make on creation
                              can be accommodated
                                  by the universe
                                      when your condition is a
                                         • cramped,
                                         • forcing,
                                         • hopeless,
                                         • negative
                                             one.
              Nor is the attitude of
                       "you
                          must
                              love me"
                                  an expression of
                                      genuine love
                                         on your part.
```

	Love
	and
	must
	are antithetical.
	Forcing
	does not allow
	freedom
	to the other,
	whereas
	an open energy system
	always functions
	in freedom.
29	
	The attitude characteristic of
	an open energy system
	would be somewhat like this:
	• "I would like you to love me.
	 You seem to be the person
	 I would like to share myself with and
	• to whom
	I would like to give
	all of myself.
	• If you are that person,
	I know that you must come to me
	• in freedom,
	• out of your own volition.
	• Even if my
	forcing
	could affect you,
	I would not want it this way.
	• I trust the universe
	to give me what is my fair due.
	• If you do not wish this freely,
	I can
	• let you go
	from deep within and
	• wait in faith
	that the person
	who will
	• appreciate and
	• freely want what I have to give
	will come to me."

```
This attitude
                  reflects
                       an open energy system
                          and is compatible with
                              the abundance available.
              Abundance
                  constantly
                       floats around you,
              hut
                  your clogged energy system
                       erects a wall
                          that closes you off
                              from the
                                  ever-present
                                      abundance.
              Of course,
                  the same principle
                       applies to all other kinds of relationships: to
                          • wanting a specific job,
                          • wanting friends,
                          • wanting people
                              • who will buy
                                  what you have to sell,
                              • who will receive
                                  what you have to give, or
                              • who give you
                                  what you look for.
30
              [On the other hand]
                  A closed energy system
                       with an attitude of
                          tightly holding on
              is really
                  your
                       • false and
                       • inefficient
                          • weapon against
                              a negative vision
                                  of the universe you live in -
                          • or at least against
                                 a [negative] vision of
                                      life for you.
```

```
The weapon [you use against your negative vision of the universe or of your life]
                   is wielded
                        with even stronger forcefulness
                           as it proves itself
                               inefficient:
                                  you become
                                       • more
                                          • forceful,
                                       • more
                                          • possessive,
                                          • demanding,
                                          • jealous, and
                                          • domineering.
              Thus
                   the energy system
                        • closes
                           more and more tightly and
                        • shuts out
                           life's riches.
               Your illusion
                   of life's
                        negative nature
                           is strengthened,
              and you
                 • fight against
                       this illusory negative vision
                           so as
                               not to fall into the pit of
                                  • resignation and
                                  • giving up,
              instead of
                   • just letting go.
31
               You have to live
                   in an
                        open energy system to
                                       • reach out into life
                          and
                               • comfortably,
                               • even confidently,
                                       • claim its riches.
```

```
You must
    be rich
        yourself
            in order to be
                energetically
                   compatible with
                       the riches
                          of the universe.
In a
    closed energy system
        you
            • believe you are a
                pauper and
            • never avail yourself of
                your wealth.
Knowing
    your riches
        implies,
           as the first substantial step,
                being
                   • strong enough,
                   • generous enough,
                   · humble enough,
                   · honest enough,
        not to
            exert force over others,
                no matter how subtly
                   this force
                       may be acted out.
Not letting go
        implies
           a forcing current;
forcing,
    no matter how concealed,
amounts to
    stealing,
because you know
    you would not have to
        enforce anything
            if it were
                indeed
                   freely given you.
```

```
The irony is
    that often
         what wants to be given you
                freely
                   becomes inaccessible
                        when you force.
Not letting go
    must
         violate your integrity
            on a deep level,
                which then causes you
                   to doubt

    yourself and

                        • your right to be happy.
Not letting go
    can be equated with
         • being a stealing beggar.
[Conversely]
Letting go
    can be equated with
         knowing
            one's ultimate riches and
         • having the willingness
            to establish this fact [i.e., to establish the fact of your ultimate riches]
                in your consciousness.
Letting go
    thus implies a
         • hard,
         honest
            look at
                your
                   • illusions,
                your
                   • pretenses, and
                your
                   • dishonesties.
```

```
32
              As you know,
                   • thoughts and
                   • energies
                       constantly create.
              There is
                   an enormous difference
                       between creating
                          • a closed system
                               by manipulation
                                  • of others,
                                  • of facts,
                                  • of events,
                                  • of the creative energies around you,
                       or creating
                          • an open energy system
                               through trust.
33
              The key is
                   letting go
                       into trust.
                       In order to trust,
                          you must
                              first
                                  establish
                                      certain intermediate links,
                                         which cannot be skipped.
                       Those [intermediate] links
                          form the bridge
                               to a state of
                                  genuinely
                                      positive
                                         expectation of life,
                                              where there is
                                                 no
                                                     • pressure,
                                                 no
                                                     • anxiety, and
                                                 no
                                                     • doubt.
```

```
Instead [of doubt]
                  there is
                       the deep faith
                          • that the universe
                              is benign and
                          • that you can have
                              the very best
                                 on all levels
                                      of existence.
              This is the key
                  we are concerned with here.
34
              An open energy system
                  in which
                       you positively
                          create
                              • fulfillment and
                              • enrichment
              requires
                  that you discover
                       your inner richness.
              You must become rich.
              If you start from
                  your poverty,
                       you can never create
                          an open energy system.
                       [Rather,] You can at best
                          create
                              a closed energy system
                                 in which you
                                      • directly or
                                      • indirectly
                                         • rule,
                                         • coerce,
                                         • pressure,
                                         • command,
                                         • demand, and
                                         • manipulate -
                                                    and cheat!
```

35	
33	The open energy system
	which creates
	richness
	flowing into you
	both from
	• within and
	• without
	must come from
	your own richness
	that can afford
	to lose
	at the moment.
	Then [i.e., When you are aware of your own riches] you can afford to
	• tolerate
	the temporary pain
	of finding
	what really obstructs
	the fulfillment
	of the unfulfilled need, and
	 ultimately remove it [i.e., ultimately remove what
	This is the way
	to create
	richness
	from poverty.
36	
	A sequence of steps
	must be undertaken in this process.

```
Step number one:
         recognize the conflict
            we have just discussed
                where you struggle
                        between resorting
                          to
                               • hopelessness [and being resigned to unfulfillment]
                        or
                          to
                               • pushing,
                               • holding, and
                               • applying pressure from above
                                      [in order to gain fulfillment by force].
Step number two:
        see that this conflict [between being resigned to unfulfillment on the one
                               hand and striving for fulfillment on the other hand]
            exists
                 because you operate
                   from the premise
                        of an imaginary poverty,
                          convinced
                               that you could not have
                                  what you need
                                      if you gave up
                                         the
                                              • pushing,
                                              • holding,
                                              • pressuring
                                                 struggle.
         You believe
            that you are condemned
                never to experience the fulfillment
                   • you long for,
                   • without which
                       your personality
                          cannot thrive.
```

```
Step number three:
                       commit yourself
                          totally
                              to working out
                                  the real reasons
                                      for your unfulfillment
                                         in the usual way
                                             you learn on this path.
                       This must be done
                          in a spirit of
                              • honesty,
                              • perseverance,
                              • patience, and
                              • humility.
                              Humility
                                  means
                                      • not blaming the universe
                                         for your poverty
                                             in a particular area of your life,
                                  but instead
                                      • searching for
                                         your distortions
                                             that have created this poverty.
37
              Most human beings
                   have
                       • some areas
                          where they
                              feel
                                  • rich and
                       • some [areas]
                          where they
                              feel
                                  • impoverished
                          and [where they] therefore
                              [feel]
                                  • needy.
                       It is hardly ever
                          just one way [i.e., life is hardly ever all rich or all impoverished].
```

```
So
    discover the areas
         • where you
           feel rich and
         • where you
           feel poor.
Perhaps you
    feel rich
         in having
            certain creative talents
                • where you
                   feel
                       completely confident and
                • where you sense
                   that you have this
                       limitless abundance
                           within you
                               like a stream
                                  that never ceases to flow.
But at the same time you may
    feel poor
         in regard to
            ever finding
                true mutuality.
Another person may
    feel very secure
         in that area,
            but
                feels very doubtful
                   about ever having

    abundance and

                        • security
                          on the financial level.
You all know by now
    how to search for the
         • misconceptions,
         • negative intentionality, and
         • destructive attitudes
            that must underlie
                such a blocked condition.
```

```
You have to be
                  quite clear
                       • where you feel rich and
                       • where you feel poor.
              Where you feel rich,
                       you will always be rich
                              because
                                  there [i.e., where you are rich]
                                      you must also have a
                                         • giving and
                                         honest
                                             attitude.
              But where you feel poor,
                       you will continue to be poor
                              until you
                                  establish richness
                                      within
                                         through
                                             • giving and
                                             • honesty.
38
              In actuality,
                  richness
                       always exists
                          with everyone.
              But if you
                  • do not know
                       that you
                          possess that richness and
                  • are blind to it [i.e., are blind to your richness],
                       you will
                          • truly believe and
                          • experience
                              only
                                 your poverty.
              The poorer
                  you believe yourself to be,
              the more
                  you must react
                       as if you had nothing to give.
```

```
Haven't you all found in your pathwork
                       that you
                          hold your feelings in check,
                              because
                                 giving them out
                                      would create
                                         • unendurable emptiness
                                             inside you,
                                         • an emptiness
                                             that can only be filled by others?
39
              Let us see what happens
                       when you believe yourself to be poor.
              I said before that
                  every kind of
                       • pushing,
                       · domineering,
                       · forcing, or

    manipulating

                          amounts to
                              • cheating.
              The translation
                       of such an attitude
                              into concise words would be,
              • "I shall force you
                       to give me
                          what you
                              do not want
                                 to freely give.
              • If plain power
                       is not adequate,
                              I shall do so by
                                      trickery.
              • I shall make you
                       feel guilty
                              for not giving me
                                      what I want from you.
```

```
• I shall

    accuse and

    • blame
        you
           for victimizing me.
• I shall
    turn it all around and
         accuse you
            of doing
                what I
                   secretly do to you.
                For instance,
                   I shall claim that
                        you dominate me
                           because you refuse to comply with
                               my goal
                                  to force you
                                       into submission to me."
It is easy to see that
        this attitude
                has nothing to do with
                   love.
            [On the contrary,]
                Such an attitude is
                   • unfair,
                   • cheating,
                   • prohibitive, and
                   • infringes on the other person's freedom,
                        or at least
                           attempts to do so.
```

```
40
              The
                   • free,
                   • loving
                       attitude
                          characteristic of
                               an open energy system says,
                                      • "I would be happy
                                         to have your love.
                                      • But, loving you [as I do],
                                         I shall give you the freedom
                                              to come to me
                                                 if and when
                                                     you so choose.
                                      • If you do not wish
                                         to love me,
                                              I have no right
                                                 to make you feel guilty
                                                     by pretending
                                                        that this [i.e., pretending that your
                                                                                   not loving me]
                                                             devastates me."
              This is the
                   • true honesty,
                   • decency, and
                   • integrity
                       that creates richness.
              You are entitled
                   to want
                       • to be loved, or
                       • to have money, or
                       • to have fulfillment,
              but if you go about it
                   any other way,
              your
                  means
                       become
                          • prohibitive
                   and,
                       in the deepest sense,
                          • dishonest.
```

```
Because you
                  feel poor,
              you think you
                   must steal;
              because you
                   continue stealing,
              you remain poor,
                  for only the
                       honest
                          can feel
                               deserving of riches.
              The energetic form
                   of the
                       • forcing,
                       • holding
                          attitude
                               is that of
                                  • a tight prison or
                                  • a short leash.
41
              Stealing
                   creates guilt, and
                       the guilt
                          produces doubt
                               that you are
                                  entitled
                                      to receive freely.
              Right here
                  you create for yourself
                       a climate of impoverishment
                          in which
                              you must indeed
                                  doubt
                                      your capacity
                                         to create richness.
              You also violate
                   spiritual law,
                       and it is extremely important
                          to find out
                              in what way [you violate spiritual law].
```

```
42
              During the process
                   of self-exploration,
                       you will also find
                          your lack of faith
                               in a universe
                                  that will yield
                                      what it already
                                         wants to give you.
                               You make it impossible
                                  for the universe
                                      to give to you
                                         because of the
                                              closed energy system
                                                 you
                                                     have established.
              It is exactly the same
                   in a relationship.
                       Even in the
                          best relationship,
                               if the most genuine love
                                    is

    forced and

                                      · coerced,
                                         it [i.e., the most genuine love]
                                              will automatically
                                                 be withheld.
                       Your demand for love [from the other]
                          will be resented
                               even by those
                                  who comply
                                      out of their own
                                         neurotic motives [to love you].
                       You cannot
                          receive
                               the
                                  • existing or
                                  • growing
                                      love [from the other]
                                         because
                                              your prohibitive energy form
                                                     does not allow it.
```

```
An attitude of
   • unfairness and
   • dishonesty
       is always present
           when you grab
               and do not
                  "let go and let God."
Pressure
       creates
               counter-pressure.
Letting go
       affords the possibility
               • to experience
                      genuine divine law,
               • to experience
                      what is.
Whatever
       • darkness or

    negativity

          may be there
               temporarily
must be seen
  for what it is [i.e., must be seen as darkness or negativity],
       so that
           its [i.e., so that the darkness's or negativity's]
               ultimate essence of
                  • light and
                  • beauty
                      can reveal itself.
Only
   when you
       let go
          can others
               be free
                  to love you.
```

```
43
              You may indeed
                  be entangled in
                       a relationship
                          where love
                              does not come forth freely.
              But this is only so
                  because
                       • your distortions and
                       · your concept of impoverishment
                          will draw to you
                              someone who is incapable
                                 of giving you love.
              You may have to
                  first
                       • let go
                          of what you want
                              from a specific person and

    accept

                          the momentary
                              apparent state of
                                 • impoverishment and
                                 • emptiness.
              Travel through
                  this interim state [i.e., a state of impoverishment and one empty of love]
                       until you can find
                          through your own
                              increasing inner health,
                                 • freedom, and
                                 • richness [that comes from knowing]
                                      that love
                                        is given to you freely.
              Once you have tasted
                  the difference
                       between
                          · what you get through
                              • pressure and
                              • control,
                       and
                          • what you get when you
                              • let free,
                  you will never desire the former any more.
```

```
The former [i.e., what you get through pressure and control]
                  is indeed
                       meaningless.
                  It [i.e., what you get through pressure and control]
                        cannot enrich you
                           because
                              you extracted it
                                  out of
                                      your own
                                         sense of poverty -
                                             a false
                                                sense of poverty,
                                                     but nevertheless
                                                        a sense of poverty.
44
              The richness
                  that is necessary
                       for
                          • having,
                          • being, and
                          • living
                              in an
                                  open energy system
                                      where
                                         • people,
                                         • love,
                                         • richness, and
                                         • the universe
                                             come to you
                                                freely,
              can only be created
                  by you
                       when you
                              • give
                          as fully as you wish to
                              • receive.
```

```
These words
    have often been spoken
         by all
            • religions and
            • philosophies
                of value.
                They are surely
                        not new.
But
    giving
         is so often
            • a false mask,
            • a ploy
                that only hides the
                   • cheating,
                   • bargaining,
                   • dishonesty,
                   • selling out, and

    negativity

                        that are present
                           in the heart.
Since the
    inner world
         of
            true
                interaction
                   cannot be deceived,
you must
    reap
         what exists in you
            according to your
                [actual] belief.
```

```
This is why
                  letting go
                      so often means,
                          at first,
                              plunging into this
                                 inner negative world
                                     that you have
                                        • created and
                                        • hidden
                                             both
                                                • from others
                                            and
                                                • from your own awareness.
              But you should also
                  remind yourself
                       that this [inner negative world]
                           is
                              not
                                 the ultimate you
                                     • to which
                                        you are either
                                             doomed or
                                     • from which
                                        you must hide.
              By admitting
                       the existence
                              of this negative part [in you],
                                     you can change it.
45
              Honest self-facing
                  includes
                       • courage and
                       • humility,
                          and never induces
                              hopelessness,
                                 even if you first examine
                                     the world of poverty
                                        you have created
                                             in your consciousness.
```

```
Experience its [i.e., experience the world of poverty's]
                   pain
                        as a tunnel
                           through which you travel
                               in the spirit of
                                  facing
                                     your own creation [i.e., facing the poverty you have created].
               When you deny this process [of facing the poverty you have created]
                   and choose instead
                       to feel victimized
                           by life
                               because of the pain
                                  you yourself have created
                                       out of [your own]
                                          • ignorance,
                                          • dishonesty, and
                                          • negativity,
              you cannot help
                  but stay poor.
46
              Out of that courage
                   of really seeing yourself,
                        the further attitude of
                           letting go
                               inevitably grows.
               This attitude says,
                        • "If others want
                           what I have to offer,
                               I will gladly give it to them.
                        • If they
                           do not want it,
                               I will let them go.
                        • If this [letting them go]
                           is painful,
                               I will
                                  • accept this pain and
                                  • explore its origin in me.
```

```
• I will trust in the
                          ultimate benign nature of life
                              to give me what I need,
                                 even if at the moment
                                      I am still
                                         not capable of
                                             experiencing it."
47
              This meditation,
                  my friends,
                       must be the final step
                          in the sequence I outlined,
              so you can
                  extricate yourself
                       from the
                          • incredibly painful and
                          • hopeless
                              dichotomy
                                 in which
                                      all
                                         humanity is caught.
              One person
                  may be more involved in it
                       than another,
                          even though
                              some are caught in it
                                 only to a small extent.
                                      Nevertheless,
                                         every
                                             human being
                                                is trying to get out of
                                                    this pattern.
              You create
                  • richness and
                  • an open energy system
                       by seeing how
                          • your demands and
                          • your tight holding
                              • defeat your fulfillment and
                              • imply an insult
                                 to the universe.
```

```
The demand says,
                       "I do not believe
                          I can have,
                               unless I
                                  • push,
                                  • pressure,
                                  · cheat,
                                  • manipulate, and
                                  • force it to come to me."
48
              When you undertake these steps,
                  • release first
                       the holding and
                   • then
                       let go of
                          what you acquired
                               through this
                                  forcing attitude of
                                      • self-will and
                                      • pressure.
              This means
                  you may not
                       immediately
                          obtain from the outside
                               what you desire.
              You must
                  first
                       create
                           the
                               inner
                                  attitude
                       in which
                          you can

    accept the

                                  not having
                                      with good grace and
                               • still feel,
                                 perhaps even because of it [i.e., because of accepting the
                                                                                   "not having"],
                                      your inner wealth.
```

```
The capacity
    to do without what you want
        will enhance
           your
                • self-esteem and
           your
                • integrity.
This will begin
    to enrich you
        • from
           within,
        • from
           your own resources.
        Then
           the fulfillment from
                without
                   becomes almost secondary -
                       in spite of there being often
                          a genuine need for
                               outer
                                  wish-fulfillment.
        However,
           such [outer wish-] fulfillment
                has to become
                   a natural byproduct
                       of your
                          inner
                             state.
        Also
           it [i.e., the outer wish-fulfillment]
                should
                   not
                       be something you cannot do without.
        If that is the case [i.e., if the outer wish-fulfillment is something
                              you cannot do without, and you are letting it go],
           you are centered
                in
                   • others [and thereby losing your true self] and
                not in
                   • your own being [where you receive all that you truly need].
```

```
The outer fulfillment,
    important as it may be,
         is simply
            an organic development
                of your
                   inner state.
[Hence,] First
        you must establish
            the inner state
                in which you can
                   let go of
                        what you want to have,
                           even if
                               this leaves you
                                  feeling
                                      • empty,
                                      • pained, and
                                      • needy.
However,
    do not lose sight of
         another state of consciousness
            into which you could flow
                 if
                   you did not resist
                       your present state [i.e., if you did not resist your present
                               state, even if your present state leaves you
                               temporarily feeling empty, pained, and needy].
This is the way
    to establish
        the inner
            state of richness
                that is compatible with
                   universal law
                        in a Creation
                          forever ready
                               to give you
                                  whatever you truly need
                                      for your happiness.
```

```
49
              Now I want to say a few words about
                       guilt,
                           an especially important topic
                               in this connection [to letting go and letting God],
                                  and clarify the difference between
                                       • guilt,
                                       • shame, and
                                      • remorse.
              I have often referred to
                        • justified
                   and

    unjustified

                           guilt.
              I have also spoken about
                       the destructive nature of guilt,
                           which
                               • devastates
                                  the self and
                               • prohibits
                                  the vision
                                      of your ultimate divine being.
              Now let us see
                       in what way
                               • guilt,
                               • shame, and
                               • remorse
                                  differ from one another.
50
               When you
                  feel
                       guilt,
                          you say, in effect,
                               • "I am beyond redemption.
                               • I deserve to be devastated."
```

```
Since you are
    an integral part
         • of Creation,
         • of the universe,
         • of God,
            you thus
                insult yourself
                    [just] as you do
                        when you
                           do not trust life's
                                • abundance,
                                • goodness,
                                • safety,
                                • justice,
                                • richness, and
                                • beauty.
No matter
    how
         • negative,
         • destructive,
         • mean,
         • malicious,
         • spiteful,
         • dishonest, and
         • manipulative
            you discover
                a part of you
                    to be,
it is
    • only one part,
    • only a temporary aspect
         which the
            real you
                has brought into
                    material manifestation
                        so you can
                           • recognize and
                           • alter
                               it.
Never think that
    this [negative part]
         is
            all of you.
                        You must beware of this dangerous distortion.
```

```
51
              There is a
                   direct correlation
                       between
                          • this self-devastating guilt
                       and
                          • your distrust of life [your distrust of life that prevents you from
                                                     letting go and letting God].
              It is
                   essential
                       that you
                               • deal with
                                  this double-edged distortion
                          and
                               • set it right.
              In this kind of guilt,
                  you inevitably
                       cut yourself off
                          from your own
                               divine flow.
              Thus
                  you feel
                       you have to
                          immediately
                               go to the opposite extreme
                                  of whitewashing
                                      your
                                          actual
                                              • failings and
                                              • faults,
                                                 those areas
                                                     which you
                                                         need to
                                                             face
                                                                • squarely and
                                                                • honestly.
              The defense against
                  your shortcomings
              is always correlated with
                   a self-devastating guilt.
```

```
And
                  the self-devastating guilt
                       is correlated with
                          a denial
                               of the true nature
                                  of an
                                      • all-giving,
                                      • all-loving,
                                      • all-fulfilling
                                         universe
                                              available to
                                                 all created beings.
              Beware of this guilt,
                   my friends,
                       for it does
                          not
                               lead to
                                  self-purification.
              It [i.e., this guilt]
                       is not a
                          • realistic or
                          • constructive
                               attitude.
52
              Now what about
                       shame?
              Shame
                   is the emotion
                       concerned with
                          • vanity and
                          • appearance.
              Perhaps you are ashamed
                   to expose something
                       in front of others
              because
                  you want to
                       pretend to be
                          other than
                               what you are.
```

```
The idealized ego-image
                   takes predominance over
                        what is real.
               Thus
                   you lose touch with
                       the treasure
                           of your real self.
                               So there is a difference
                                       between
                                          • guilt
                                       and
                                          • shame.
               Guilt
                   relates to
                       your inner self;
              it [i.e., guilt]
                   devastates you
                       and you exaggerate it [i.e., you exaggerate guilt],
                          playing a game with yourself.
              Shame [on the other hand does not relate to your inner self but rather]
                   applies to
                        · your image,

    vour pretenses

                               toward the world outside.
53
               True remorse
                   has nothing to do with
                       either
                           • guilt
                        or
                           • shame.
              It [i.e., remorse]
                  simply recognizes your [humanness, your]
                        • shortcomings,
                       • limitations [as a human being],
                        • faults,
                       • impurities, and
                        • negativities.
```

```
It [i.e., remorse]
    admits
         that there are
            parts in you
                where you
                   • violate spiritual law
                and thus
                   • violate your deepest integrity.
• To feel
    regretful,
• to admit
    the truth
         that these impurities
            • are a useless waste of energy and
            • inflict harm on
                • others and
                • yourself,
[and] sincerely
    wanting to change
        through self-confrontation,
is entirely different from
    • self-devastating guilt or
    • shame.
```

```
Remorse
    makes it possible to say,
         • "Yes, it is true,
            I have this or that
                • dishonesty,
                • pettiness,
                • false pride,
                • hatred,
                • malice, or
                        • whatever,
         • but
            this is
                not all of me.
         • The very fact that I can
            • recognize it,
            • regret it, and
            • want to change it,
                allies me
                    with my divine self
                        which will ultimately overcome
                           whatever negative traits
                                I feel remorseful about."
The "I" that
    • dislikes and
    • wants to change
         • destructive,
         • untruthful,
         • deviating
            aspects
remains
    basically intact,
         even while noticing
            that something is amiss.
```

```
So do
                   • make the distinction
                       between
                          • guilt,
                          • shame, and
                          • remorse,
                   • and see that
                       guilt
                          is very much part of
                              a lack of faith
                                 in All That Is.
54
              My
                   • dearest
                   • beloved
                       friends,
              there are
                  many spiritual helpers
                       around
                          • you and
                       around
                          • everyone
                               who is venturing on
                                 such a path of self-development.
              Some of you
                  may doubt the reality of
                       spiritual existence
                          beyond the body,
              but
                   whether or not
                       you have these doubts,
              it [i.e., the reality of spiritual existence beyond the body]
                  is a fact.
```

```
There is
    a whole world
         which
            for you is
                intangible
     but [a world]
         which
            is extremely tangible
                in reality.
In fact,
    it [i.e., the reality of a whole world of spiritual existence beyond the body]
            much more tangible
                than the world
                   vou
                        know
                           as real.
The world
    you know
         as real [but which, in fact, is not]
              is [merely]
                • a reflection,
                • a mirror image,
                • an outer projection
                    into which
                        your real self
                           is thrust
                               in order to fulfill a task.
Give the
    free gift
         of real love
            by letting others be,
                even if
                   this means a loss
                        at the moment.
Let go
      in
         • trust and
         • faith
            that life
                wants to shower you
                    with its gifts.
```

```
The more
                  you establish
                       an attitude of truth
                          in you,
              the more
                  you will know
                       • the inner beauty,
                       • the inner world
                          of reality
                              that can never perish.
55
              As you persevere
                  on your genuine path,
              your growth becomes
                  more and more tangible.
              It [i.e., your growth]
                  progresses
                      in ever-accelerating beauty
                          as you master the difficulties.
              You resolve
                  your problems
                       in an ever more profound way and
              your experience of
                  • joy and
                  • security,
                  • peace and
                  • pleasure,
              becomes
                  • deeper,
                  • longer lasting, and
                  • less fraught with
                      subsequent fearful contraction.
              You become
                  more capable of fulfillment
                       because of your honest investment
                          in facing yourself in truth.
              Divine blessings
                 are with you.
                       Be in peace.
```

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