

# Pathwork Lecture 16: Spiritual Nourishment – Willpower

1996 Edition, Original Given November 8, 1957

This lecture is given in an **expanded poetic format**, what I call a **Devotional Format** of the lecture, and in that sense this is **my interpretation** of the **intent** of the lecture. I may have interpreted portions differently from you, and I ask you to ponder the words for your own interpretation. I did this Devotional Format so I can take the words into my heart, phrase by phrase, much as I would in reading poetry – that is, **devotionally**.

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

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

Gary Vollbracht

¶	Content
03	<p><b><i>Greetings in the name of the Lord.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Blessed is this hour [i.e., Blessed is this time we now spend together in this lecture], blessed are all of you, my friends.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Again I have the pleasure of welcoming some new friends here tonight</i></b></p> <p><b><i>and I want to tell all of you:  just let go.</i></b></p>

by Eva Broch Pierrakos

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	<p><b><i>Do not think for this hour</i></b> [i.e., <i>Do not think during this time we are together in this lecture</i>]</p> <p><b><i>about</i></b> <b><i>any of your doubts</i></b> [concerning the truth of what you hear or where this communication comes from].</p> <p><b><i>Just let your soul</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b><i>speak</i></b></li></ul> <p><b><i>and</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b><i>give you the answer</i></b> [i.e., <i>the answer as to whether or not what you hear is truth</i>].</li></ul> <p><b><i>This</i></b> [discernment concerning whether or not what you hear is truth] <b><i>can happen</i></b> <b><i>if</i></b> <b><i>you are open.</i></b></p>
04	<p><b><i>It is not surprising</i></b> <b><i>if a person,</i></b> <b><i>confronted the first time with this phenomenon –</i></b> [i.e., <i>this phenomenon you are now experiencing, namely</i>] <b><i>that a spirit</i></b> <b><i>should indeed</i></b> <b><i>be able to talk through a human being –</i></b> <b><i>cannot readily accept it</i></b> [i.e., <i>cannot readily accept that this phenomenon of a spirit talking through a human being is possible</i>].</p> <p><b><i>Many things</i></b> <b><i>are possible, however,</i></b> <b><i>of which</i></b> <b><i>you know nothing as yet.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>So just</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b><i>be open</i></b></li></ul> <p><b><i>and</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b><i>wait.</i></b></li></ul> <p><b><i>Eventually</i></b> <b><i>you will see that</i></b> <b><i>not only is this so</i></b> [i.e., <i>that not only is it so that a spirit should be able and is able to talk through a human being</i>], <b><i>but</i></b> <b><i>much more exists</i></b> <b><i>than you can even dream of.</i></b></p>

**You will**  
**not only be able to accept all this** [i.e., accept that a spirit is able to talk  
through a human being, thereby imparting spiritual truths]  
**intellectually,**  
**but you will actually**  
**experience it** [i.e., experience these spiritual truths that come to you  
by a spirit talking through a human being]!

**Your lives will**  
**change**  
**when you**  
**know**  
**certain truths.**

**This** [i.e., Knowing certain truths]  
**will give you**  
**• direction**  
**and**  
**• purpose,**  
**while now**  
**you often do not know**  
**• what this life is all about and**  
**• why you should have to go through**  
**so much**  
**• hardship,**  
**so much**  
**• testing.**

**And yet,**  
**there is**  
**a sense to all of this.**

**So**  
**• relax,**  
**• untie knots,**  
**• be open.**

05

*Your problems  
are so often  
about*

- *your daily bread,*

*about*

- *material needs.*

*Yet*  
*important as this daily bread may be,*  
*it is only of*  
*secondary importance*  
*to the spiritual daily bread*  
*that you need.*

*Much of your talk is about*  
*the importance of*  
*the right*

- *food and*
- *vitamins,*
- *minerals,*
- *proteins, and*
- *diets.*

*It is indeed good*  
*that humanity*  
*has begun to find out about these facts.*

*But we spirits*  
*see such a tremendous discrepancy*  
*between*  
*the concern for*

- *material nourishment*

*and*  
*the lack of*

- *spiritual nourishment.*

*The latter [i.e., the lack of spiritual nourishment]*  
*is every bit as important as*  
*the former [i.e., the concern for material nourishment].*

*We see  
spiritually*  
• *underfed,*  
• *undernourished*  
*people;*

*so many suffer from  
spiritual*  
• *vitamin deficiency.*

• *The soul*  
*and*  
• *the spirit*  
*need food*  
*so badly,*  
*often without*  
*the person being aware of the need.*

*And only if*  
*this [spiritual] food is*  
• *supplied,*  
• *taken and*  
• *digested,*  
*will all your*  
*other needs*  
*automatically*  
*be taken care of,*  
*including*  
*your material daily bread.*

*Your spirit's*  
*starvation*  
*must have its consequences.*

06

*The same thing applies to  
hygiene.*

*Humanity has made great progress  
in the direction of  
physical  
hygiene.*

*Today people*

- *bathe and*
- *shower*

*daily*

*and*

- *keep their bodies clean.*

*At the same time,*

*so many*

*unhygienic*

*souls*

*are going around.*

*Now you may wonder how*

- *this cleansing*  
*of the soul or*
- *the nourishment*  
*of the spirit*

*is to be accomplished.*

*What has to be done*

*practically?*

*Spiritual nourishment*

*is*

*the regular intake*  
*of spiritual truths;*

*even repetitions*

*are important!*

*The learning*

*of spiritual laws*

*is also important.*

*The outlook on life*

*from*

- *the spiritual point of view*

*often contrasts with*

- *your material point of view,*

*and one day*

*your outlook [on life]*

*will change accordingly [i.e., will change as you transition from your*  
*current material point of view to the spiritual point of view].*

***Taking  
spiritual nourishment  
has to become  
a regular habit,  
for it is possible  
that you get accustomed to living without it [i.e., without spiritual nourishment]  
for a long time,  
just like a person  
who gets accustomed to  
eating the wrong kind of food  
that does not supply  
the essential factors the body needs  
in order to remain***

- strong and***
- vigorous.***

***One can go along for quite a while  
in that way [i.e., living without proper nourishment]  
without ever connecting***

- cause***

***and***

- effect.***

***The  
physically  
undernourished person  
will complain about***

- tiredness,***
- weakness, or***
- other physical symptoms,***

***without thinking about  
the real reason  
behind them [i.e., behind the symptoms of tiredness or weakness].***

***The same applies to the  
spiritually  
undernourished;***

- the emotional problems,***
- the lack of inner peace, and***
- all the other symptoms of this deficiency [i.e., other symptoms of this  
deficiency of spiritual nourishment]***

***are seldom consciously connected  
with the cause of it all.***

07

*Spiritual food  
does not come to you  
by itself.*

*You have to*  

- *go out and*
- *get it,*

*the same way  
that you have to get  
your physical nourishment.*

*You have to*  

- *earn your bread,*
- *buy it,*
- *prepare it,*
- *eat it.*

*This is true  
just as much of your*  

- *spiritual bread*

*as of your*  

- *physical bread.*

*You earn  
your spiritual bread*  

- *by*

*your sincere desire  
to receive it.*

*You prepare  
your spiritual food*  

- *by looking for  
the right source  
for you,*
- *by going to a certain amount of trouble  
in order to get it.*



***And you digest***

***it [i.e., you digest your spiritual food]***

***• by thinking through  
for yourself***

***what you have***

- heard or***
- read,***

***• by meditating***

***about it [i.e., by meditating about what you have heard or read],***

***• by trying to apply it [i.e., by trying to apply what you have heard or read]  
to yourself***

***in some way***

***so that***

***something will change***

***for the better***

***within you.***

***Therefore,***

***spiritual nourishment***

***is, in part,***

- listening to lectures,***
- reading the appropriate literature, and***
- conversing with people***

***who know more than oneself.***

***Spiritual nourishment***

***is also***

- prayer and***
- meditation***

***in the right way.***

***Here again***

***you need to fight***

***within yourself***

***to overcome your resistance.***

*There will always be  
the voice that says,*

- *"I am too tired [to pray and meditate].*
- *I do not feel like it [like praying and meditating];*
- *it does not matter  
if I am not doing it today [i.e., if I am not praying and  
meditating today].*
- *What difference does it make [i.e., What difference does praying  
and meditating make]?*
- *Why should God mind  
whether I pray to Him  
today?"*

*No,  
God does  
not mind,  
my friends.*

*But  
your  
• soul and  
• spirit  
will starve.*

*By  
opening yourself  
every day,  
you receive  
• the strength and  
• the light  
that  
• maintains you,  
that  
• guides you  
into the right direction.*

08

*The cleansing of the soul,  
which is equally important  
if not even more so [than the cleansing of the body],  
should be done in this way:*

*Many times  
a person is unaware  
of certain*

- *faults,*
- *attitudes,*
- *opinions,*
- *emotional reactions.*

*People carry  
many of these trends with them  
from an early age,  
due to*

- *some influence  
in their surroundings and*
- *certain happenings  
in their lives.*

*These attitudes [and ways of reacting emotionally]  
may  
or  
may not  
have had their justification  
in the past*

*but they [i.e., but these attitudes and ways of reacting emotionally]  
are*

- *completely obsolete  
at the present time*

*and*

- *quite harmful.*

**Yet,**  
**unaware of**  
• **the existence of these old reactions** [i.e., unaware of these old ways of reacting emotionally in certain situations]  
**and**  
• **their harmfulness** [i.e., unaware of the harmfulness of reacting emotionally in old ways in certain situations],  
**people**  
• **still carry them** [i.e., still carry these old ways of reacting] **unconsciously**  
**and**  
• **still**  
**react in a certain way** [today]  
**because of them** [i.e., because these old ways of reacting of which they are unaware are still carried in them today].

**Examine**  
**what you**  
**really**  
• **think,**  
**what you**  
**really**  
• **feel,**  
**what you**  
**really**  
• **want.**

**Make an inventory**  
**of your**  
• **emotional trends and**  
• **soul currents.**

**By re-examining them** [i.e., By reexamining your emotional trends and soul currents]

**you can**  
**oust**  
**whatever**  
**has no validity for you any more**  
**and**  
**change**  
**your [soul] currents accordingly.**

**Thus**  
**you put order**  
**in your soul.**

***Then [i.e., With your soul in order]  
you will be able to  
change***  
• ***your will-direction  
where that is necessary.***

***You may even  
change your  
• desires.***

***Only when you do this [i.e. Only when you change your will-direction and desires]  
consciously  
can you ascertain  
the existence in you  
of the various***  
• ***feelings,  
• desires, and  
• attitudes.***

***Then [i.e., When you ascertain the existence in you of your various feelings,  
desires, and attitudes, then]  
you will be able,  
with the help of  
the spiritual nourishment that you take in,  
to see whether these tendencies  
are in accordance with  
the spiritual laws  
or [are] not [in accordance with the spiritual laws].***

***You will also see  
whether you have  
broken some spiritual law  
in the past,  
quite unconsciously,  
by your  
wrong inner direction.***

09

*When these tendencies [to break spiritual laws on the level of your feelings, desires, and attitudes]*

*are*  
*unconscious*  
*within you,*  
*they create*  
*• a great deal of harm;*

*they create*  
*• conflict and*  
*• disorder*  
*within you.*

*This [i.e., This tendency to break spiritual laws on the level of your unconscious feelings, desires, and attitudes]*

*all represents the*  
*• uncleaned or*  
*• "unhygienic"*  
*soul.*

*There is so much in there [i.e., in your soul]*  
*that ought to be*  
*• washed away or*  
*• ousted.*

*So*  
*cleanse your*  
*• souls*  
*as you*  
*cleanse your*  
*• bodies.*

*This [i.e., This cleansing of your souls]*  
*ought to be done*  
*every day.*

***You ought to***

- ***review***  
***your day and***
- ***examine***  
***your own reactions to***  
***the various incidents***  
***that have taken place during the day.***

***This [i.e., This examination of your own reactions to the various incidents of the day]***  
***is the only way***  
***you can cleanse***  
***your***

- ***spirits,***
- ***souls.***

***Only in this way [i.e., Only in this way of examining your own reactions to the***  
***various incidents of your day]***  
***will you be***

- ***open and***
- ***receptive***  
***to the proper nourishment***  
***with which***  
***you can grow***  
***spiritually***  
***every day.***

10

***With this attitude [i.e., With this attitude of examining and being open and***  
***receptive to your own reactions to the various incidents of your day],***  
***nothing that happens***  
***will ever depress you.***

***Yes, my friends,***  
***this is***  
***the truth.***

***Even the unpleasant things in life  
will not have the power  
to tear you down.***

***For you will thus [i.e., you will, by examining and being open and receptive to your  
own reactions to the various incidents of your day, especially open  
and receptive to your reactions to the unpleasant incidents of your day,]***

***be able***

***to learn more  
about***

- ***yourself,***

***and***

***about***

- ***spiritual law,***

***about***

- ***divine truth***

***and***

- ***what you have  
still to accomplish***

***and***

- ***what you have  
already accomplished.***

***Your own failures,  
which are unavoidable,  
will give you***

- ***strength***

***instead of***

- ***weakness***

***when you***

- ***view yourself in that way daily [i.e., with the attitude of learning  
about yourself, spiritual law, divine truth, and what you still  
have to accomplish and what you have already accomplished]***

***and when you***

- ***consider your failures  
with the attitude,***

***"What can I learn about  
them [i.e., about my failures]?"***

***Where do I still have to work on  
self-purification?"***



11

*Nothing  
that happens in your life  
is  
• good  
or  
• bad  
in itself.*

*Do not believe this fallacy [i.e., do not believe the fallacy that things in life are  
either good or they are bad].*

*The best thing  
that could happen to you  
might appear to be  
a disaster  
at the moment it occurs –*

*and it will be  
a disaster  
if  
you have the wrong attitude.*

*A happening that  
seems to you  
• very fortunate  
can turn out to be  
• very unfavorable  
if  
you  
do not  
learn your spiritual lesson from it.*

*So  
everything  
that happens to you  
can be  
good  
• if  
you  
• make it so,  
• if  
you  
• use it  
from a spiritual point of view,  
• if  
you  
• learn from it  
so that  
you can continue to  
grow  
• spiritually  
and thus  
grow into  
• happiness!*

12

*This [i.e., This living daily with the attitude of learning about yourself and about  
spiritual law, divine truth, and what you still have to  
accomplish and what you have already accomplished]*

*is the only way  
you can  
• direct your life,  
instead of  
• being a slave and  
• being directed  
by  
• moods and  
• outer happenings.*

***It is  
in your power  
to change.***

***You have  
your life  
in hand  
if  
you  
use***

***this knowledge [i.e., use this knowledge about yourself and  
about spiritual law, divine truth, and what you still have to  
accomplish and what you have already accomplished],***

***but often  
you do  
not  
want***

***to use it [i.e., do not want to use this knowledge about yourself and  
about spiritual law, divine truth, and what you still have to  
accomplish and what you have already accomplished].***

***It seems  
to you  
so much easier  
to give in to  
a mood of***

- depression and***
- hopelessness,***

***for this [mood of depression and hopelessness]  
allows you to***

- be passive and –***
  - consciously***
- or***
- unconsciously –***
  - blame some***
    - fate or***
    - circumstances or***
    - other people***

***for what has happened to you.***

**No, my friends,  
this way [i.e., this way of passivity and of blaming forces outside yourself for  
any and all unpleasantness in your life]**

- **you indeed  
make a slave of yourself;**
- **you make yourself  
dependent on  
outer happenings  
over which  
you have no control.**

**Say to yourself  
instead:**

**"If anything unpleasant happens,  
the answer  
must be within me:  
• the cause of it  
as well as  
• the solution."**

**Pray  
at that instant  
to God  
to help you  
• find the answer  
and  
• have the absolute will  
to look yourself  
squarely in the face.**

**If you overcome  
the resistance to do so [i.e., the resistance to look yourself squarely in the face to  
see causes and answers within for unpleasant happenings in your life],  
which is only difficult at first [but not difficult as you grow],  
you will  
get the answer  
as inevitably  
• as sun  
follows rain,  
• as life  
must follow death.**

*And this [i.e., this courage to look yourself squarely in the face to see causes and answers within for unpleasant happenings in your life]*

*will bring  
great happiness  
into your soul,  
a happiness  
that you have never known before.*

*Because  
there is no other happiness comparable to  
the one that comes*

- when you conquer  
yourself,*
- when you decide,*

*"I am no longer a slave.*

*From now on  
I  
direct my life.*

*In order to be able to do that,  
I have,  
first of all,  
to face  
within me  
• what I may not like or  
• what makes me feel uncomfortable."*

13

*You  
have much more power  
than you realize.*

*The willpower  
that lies enfolded  
within you  
is something  
you do not realize,  
my friends.*

*Since willpower  
is of great importance  
in the life of a person,  
I would like to talk about this subject now.*

*First, I want to say:*

*There is  
no person alive  
who has  
no willpower.*

*Whoever says,*

*"I am weak,  
I have  
no willpower,"*

*is fooling himself  
because it  
appears  
much easier*

- to be directed [from outside oneself]*

*instead of*

- being the director of  
one's life, and*
- taking the responsibility [for directing  
one's own life]*

*upon one's own shoulders.*

*It [i.e., Having the willpower to direct one's own life]  
is only a question of  
unfolding  
the willpower  
which you already have.*

14	<p><i>Now, how can you unfold your willpower in the right direction?</i></p> <p><i>For all of you who say you do not have any willpower, constantly use this willpower without realizing that you do so.</i></p> <p><i>You are doing it [i.e., You are using this willpower you have within]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>• subconsciously,</i></li></ul> <p><i>and often</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>• in the wrong direction because you use it [i.e., you use this willpower that you have within] without clear consciousness.</i></li></ul>
15	<p><i>There are many people who rightly say that whatever a person really wants, can be accomplished.</i></p> <p><i>This is more or less true.</i></p> <p><i>But whether what you want is, indeed, the best thing for you, is another question.</i></p> <p><i>Therefore, the will-directing power has to be examined by the person who wants, above all, to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>• grow spiritually and</i></li><li><i>• come close to God.</i></li></ul>

*Such examination [of one's will-directing power]  
has to be conducted  
in the light of*

- *spiritual law*

*and*

- *truth.*

*Currents coming from*

- *the higher self*

*are often distorted by*

- *the lower self.*

*Now here [i.e., Now will-directing power]  
is a good example [of how currents coming from the higher self can be  
distorted by the lower self],*

*because  
willpower  
in itself  
is a most valuable asset;*

*without it [i.e., without willpower], indeed,  
there can  
never be  
any  
spiritual progress.*

*Willpower  
comes from  
the higher self;*

*it [i.e., willpower]  
will remain*

- *a pure current of light and*
- *clean strength*

*as long as*

*it [i.e., as long as this willpower]  
is used*

*for*

- *a spiritual purpose,*

*for*

- *spiritual growth,*

*for*

- *God,*

*with*

- *God, and*

*in*

- *God.*



	<p><b><i>The moment the conscious will uses it [i.e., uses willpower] in a wrong direction it [i.e., willpower] • is distorted by the lower self and • becomes an impure force.</i></b></p>
16	<p><b><i>Let us take, for example, a criminal.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>He uses his willpower very</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b><i>• obviously and</i></b></li><li><b><i>• noticeably</i></b></li></ul> <p><b><i>in a wrong direction.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>He wants to have his will at all costs.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>For him [i.e., For the criminal] the gratification of his personal desires stands so much in the foreground that he is willing to go to the length of even harming other people in order to achieve his goal.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>A more highly developed person will not act that way because he knows that crime is sin.</i></b></p>

*And yet, he [i.e., yet a more highly developed person] too  
may use his willpower  
in the wrong direction,  
though*

- *unconsciously*

*and, of course,*

- *not in actions  
that obviously harm other people,*
- *but in*

- *feelings and*
- *inner reactions*

*that also put  
the gratification of the ego  
in the foreground.*

*This [i.e., Using his willpower in the wrong direction through unconscious feelings  
and inner reactions that put the gratification of the ego in the foreground]*

- *is breaking spiritual law*

*and*

- *has its consequences*

*in*

- *inner disharmony*

*and/or*

- *outer conflicts.*

*The whole process  
remains in the subconscious  
because  
this person  
knows somewhere  
that what he wants  
is wrong,  
yet*

- *he is not ready to give it up [give up what he knows is wrong];*
- *he wants it [i.e., he wants what he knows is wrong] nevertheless.*

*The willpower  
continues  
to flow in the wrong direction  
without conscious awareness.*

	<p><i>This [i.e., That the willpower continues to flow in the wrong direction without consciousness] is often a very important factor in an emotionally disturbed person.</i></p> <p><i>All this [i.e., The willpower flowing unconsciously in the wrong direction with grave consequences] does not apply only to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>crime or</i></li><li>• <i>sin as usually understood.</i></li></ul> <p><i>Anything that deviates from spiritual law is</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>sin –</i></li><li>or</li><li>• <i>ignorance, if you wish.</i></li></ul> <p><i>They [i.e., ignorance and sin] are the same.</i></p>
17	<p><i>Now, you may want something very badly that in itself is not considered sinful; it may not even violate the recognized standards of ethics in your society.</i></p> <p><i>And yet, what you want may be</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>wrong for you, for your life.</i></li></ul> <p><i>It [i.e., What you want, however,] could be</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>right for another person.</i></li></ul>

- *Sin,*
- or*
- *the breaking of spiritual law,*  
*is*  
*not only*  
*something*
  - *generally established*  
*for everyone alike,**but also*  
*something*
  - *very personal*  
*that varies with each individual.*

*For one person*  
*to become a writer*  
*may be his destiny;*  
*in this way [i.e., by becoming a writer]*  
*he can best fulfill*  
*the tasks*  
*he is supposed to fulfill in this life.*

*Another person,*  
*by becoming a writer,*  
*may neglect*  
*the task*  
*he has really come to fulfill.*

*You cannot say*  
*to become a writer*  
*is a sin,*  
*and yet*  
*for a particular person*  
*it [i.e., becoming a writer]*  
*may be*  
*the wrong thing to do.*

*Now if he [i.e. if the person choosing to become a writer even though becoming a  
writer was not the task he was intended to complete in this lifetime]  
uses his willpower  
blindly,  
he will  
become a writer,  
but  
he will not be happy,  
because  
you can only be happy  
if you fulfill  
the task you have taken on [i.e., the task you were intended  
to take on]  
in this incarnation.*

*And  
everyone  
has a task,  
my friends,  
everyone!*

18

*Wherever you stand,  
you have a task,  
whether you  
• have a family or  
whether you  
• live quite alone.*

*But  
do not look far  
to find this task.*

*Do not even think  
first  
of other people  
whom you may desire to help.*

*You will be able to do that too, certainly,  
but only after  
you have  
first  
found  
yourself.*

***Before***

*you can fulfill a task*

- *with other people,*

*you have to fulfill it [i.e., fulfill that task]*

- *within yourself first.*

***That means***

*you have to achieve*

- *spiritual growth,*
- *purification, and*
- *complete self-knowledge*

*as much as possible*

*according to*

*your*

- *strength and*
- *development.*

***When you do***

*this [i.e., when you achieve spiritual growth, purification, and self-knowledge*

*as much as possible according to your strength and development],*

*you*

- *are on*  
*the right path*

*and*

- *are already*  
*fulfilling*  
*a part of your task,*  
*whatever*  
*the rest of the task*  
*may be.*

***If you begin with***

*yourself,*

***the rest***

*will come to you*

*without your having to move a finger,*

***I can assure you.***

19

*Coming back to the question of  
willpower:*

*The most important step  
to channeling your willpower  
in the right direction  
is in stating first:*

*"Once and for all,  
I will use  
whatever will there is within me  
according to  
the will of God."*

*When you do that [i.e., When you commit to devoting whatever will there  
is within you to following the will of God],*

*my friends,  
the willpower  
already alive within you  
will often  
change direction*

*and,  
even though you may not like this at first,  
you*

*• will,*

*you*

*• must*

*become happy,  
because*

*God knows  
better than you*

*what*

*• is best for you and*

*what*

*• gives you*

*most happiness.*

*All of a sudden  
your problems  
will disappear,  
I can promise you that.*

*Your willpower,  
even if it has been dormant to a large degree,  
will suddenly  
surge through you  
with a clean strength  
you have never suspected to exist.*

*All*  
• *tiredness,*  
*all*  
• *weakness,*  
*all*  
• *weariness –*  
• *physical or*  
• *emotional –*  
*will disappear*

- *if you  
sincerely mean  
that you put  
God's will  
above all else,*
- *if you*
  - *keep this promise**and*
  - *actually live it.*

*"Whatever willpower I have,  
I use it  
according to  
Thy will" –*

*this resolution [to use your will according to God's will]*  
• *is the beginning of  
the change for the better  
in your life.*

*It [i.e., this resolution to use your will according to God's will]*  
• *is the foundation [of your better, happier life].*



20

- **Keep this in mind** [i.e., *Keep in mind that using your will according to God's will is the foundation of a better, happier life*]

**and**

- **do it** [i.e., *use your will according to God's will*]
- even though**  
**to follow**  
**your own will**  
**often seems so much more tempting.**

**When you prefer**  
**to say to yourself:**

**"Why should God**  
**have anything against**  
**my doing this or that?**

**It is such a little thing,**  
**it cannot do any harm;**

**it cannot possibly**  
**make any difference,"**

**then, of course,**

- **you do**  
**not even intend**  
**to find out the answer** [i.e., *find out whether or not doing God's will rather than your own will makes things come out better and makes you happier*];

- **you**
  - **have already made up your mind**
- and**
  - **have put**
    - **your will**
    - above**
    - **the will of God.**

21

*There are  
no  
• little  
and  
• big  
things,  
my friends.*

*For what  
may seem  
• tremendous  
for you  
may be  
• very little  
in absolute truth,  
and  
vice versa.*

*The  
• littlest thing  
may be  
• a stepping stone  
to the  
• biggest and  
• most important.*

*The littlest thing  
may be  
• a very significant symptom,  
• a key to  
all  
your problems.*

*Do not  
• overlook it [i.e., Do not overlook the littlest thing].*

*Do not  
• minimize it [i.e., Do not minimize the littlest thing].*

***And have the confidence  
that what God wills for you  
must be better than  
your shortsightedness,  
even if  
it [i.e., even if following God's will]  
means  
a little sacrifice at first.***

***When you put your life  
• really  
and  
• truly  
in the hands of God,  
if you  
give yourself up to Him,  
you must  
become happy.***

***There is simply  
no other alternative [to your becoming happy].***

***It [i.e., Becoming happy]  
is the only possible consequence [of putting your life really and truly  
in the hands of God].***

***But it [i.e., But putting yourself in the hands of God]  
leads often  
through a door  
that  
appears  
like a sacrifice  
• at present,  
• when your gaze is still clouded.***

*Afterward [i.e., After you have put yourself really and truly in the hands of God]  
you will not be able  
to understand yourself:  
what seemed*

- so important and*
- so attractive, or*
- so hard to give up,*

*will then appear  
like a burden  
you have carried around,  
which it indeed was!*

*For  
everything  
is a burden  
that separates you  
from God,  
my friends.*

22

*And do not  
ask me,*

*"How should I know  
what God desires?*

*What is  
His will?*

*And*

- when should I*
- fight and*
- be active*

*and*

- when should I*
- be passive?"*

	<p><i>When you really want to know [i.e., When you really want to know what the will of God is and know when you should be active and when you should be passive],</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>• you will have the answer.</i></li><li><i>• You will take the time</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>• to meditate about any particular problem and</i></li><li><i>• to ask God.</i></li></ul></li></ul> <p><i>And He will show you the answer;</i></p> <p><i>He can do so [i.e., He can show you the answer] in many ways.</i></p>
23	<p><i>The problem is not that you do not know the will of God.</i></p> <p><i>The problem remains solely whether</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>• you really want to know His will;</i></li><li><i>whether</i></li><li><i>• you have decided that you will fulfill His will, even against your apparent interest, in this little moment now!</i></li></ul>

**If**  
**you fulfill the conditions** [i.e., *If you really want to know His will, and have decided that you will fulfill His will*],  
**you**  
**must**  
**receive the answer.**

**Again and again**  
**we notice**  
**that you**  
**do**  
**receive answers**  

- **to your prayers,**
- **to your questions about**  
**what the will of God may be,**

**but you often**  
**do not**  
**want**  
**to receive it** [i.e., *you do not want to receive an answer*].

**You**  
**deliberately**  
**keep your eyes closed.**

**My dear friends,**  
**it is**  
**only**  
**the first time**  
**that it is so difficult**  
**to really give your life up to God,**  
**with all that this implies.**

**Once you have**  

- **done so** [i.e., *Once you have really given your life up to God*] **and**
- **experienced the**  
  - **peace and**
  - **joy**

**that comes from it** [i.e., *from having really given your life up to God*],  
**it will**  
**never**  
**be difficult any more,**  
**because**  
**then your confidence** [that giving your life to God brings such joy]  
**will be truly established.**

	<p><i>And why is it so difficult the first time [i.e., why is it so difficult to really give your life up to God the first time you choose to do this]?</i></p> <p><i>[It is so difficult to really give your life up to God the first time you choose to do this] Because the doubt still lurks within you:</i></p> <p><i>"What if God's will makes me unhappy?"</i></p> <p><i>If you sincerely test yourself, you will find that this [i.e., that this doubt that giving your life up to God will indeed ultimately give you joy and peace, and fearing that it may in fact bring unhappiness instead of joy] is why you hesitate [to give your life up to God].</i></p> <p><i>Here [in your doubt that giving your life up to God will indeed ultimately give you joy and peace, and fearing that it may in fact bring unhappiness instead of joy] is the key to everything.</i></p>
24	<p><b>QUESTION:</b> <i>Isn't it conceivable that a human being may make a sincere mistake as to the will of God?</i></p>
25	<p><b>ANSWER:</b> <i>Yes, you may [make a sincere mistake as to the will of God], temporarily, but not when you reach the state I have mentioned [i.e., the state of really wanting to follow the will of God].</i></p>

*Certainly,  
people who  
do not receive the proper spiritual nourishment  
may still  
intend  
to follow the will of God,  
but  
they do not*

- know how to  
find it [i.e., find the will of God], or*
- have the patience to  
wait for His answer [to their question about what God's will is].*

*Or they do not*

- realize that an answer  
is actually forthcoming,  
  
so they may make mistakes.*

*But you,  
my friends,  
who listen to these lectures –  
or read them –  
have the necessary requirements  
to find out about it [about the will of God]  
the right way,  
and therefore you  
have that much more  
responsibility.*

*You cannot fail  
if you are  
really open  
to receive  
God's will.*



26

*To be  
really open [to receive God's will]  
means  
being ready to hear  
what you might  
like least.*

*When you*  
• *are thus open [i.e., really open and ready to hear what you might like least]*  
*and*  
• *put*  
• *your fate and*  
• *your life*  
*in the hand of God,*  
*then*  
*you will get*  
*the answer [i.e., the answer to your question about what God's will is].*

*There can be*  
*no question about it [i.e., no question about what the will of God is].*

*And then*  
*you will*  
*not make a mistake,*  
*ever.*

*Because you can ask*  
• *two,*  
• *three,*  
• *four*  
*times,*  
*if you are*  
*not sure*  
*that the first answer [to your question about what God's will is]*  
*was actually that [i.e., was actually the answer to your question*  
*about what God's will is],*  
*and not [instead of an answer], perhaps,*  
*a coincidence.*

*And the answer [to your question about what God's will is]  
will come  
again  
and again,  
perhaps in different ways:  
through  
• another person,  
through  
• a sign,  
through  
• something that happens,  
through  
• a voice within you,  
through  
• a dream perhaps, or  
through  
• your own feeling of enlightenment.*

*Nothing  
can shake  
this deep knowledge [about what God's will is].*

*In many ways  
will you receive the answer.*

*Of course  
you will make mistakes  
if you  
• go about it superficially,  
and then  
• do not even really wait for the answer.*

*But  
• if you go about it sincerely and  
• if you  
• open yourself and  
• ask again and again and  
• wait for the answer,  
there will be no mistake [as to what God's will is].*

27	<p><i>And now, my dear ones, I am ready for your questions.</i></p> <p><b>QUESTION:</b> <i>I was wondering whether you would tell us whether there is any conscious life on other planets?</i></p>
28	<p><b>ANSWER:</b> <i>Yes, indeed.</i></p> <p><i>Each</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>planet,</i></li></ul> <p><i>each</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>star,</i></li></ul> <p><i>is a sphere where spiritual life exists.</i></p>
29	<p><b>QUESTION:</b> <i>But I meant organic conscious beings?</i></p>
30	<p><b>ANSWER:</b> <i>A spiritual being is also organic, for all organs exist in radiant matter.</i></p> <p><i>And certainly there is consciousness!</i></p> <p><i>But there is no life like your material one.</i></p>

*The matter [comprising the spheres of planets and stars]  
is just*

- *different,*
- *of different density.*

*Those spirits  
can, of course,  
materialize.*

*We*

- *can do so [i.e., We can materialize]*

*and*

- *have done so*  
*under certain conditions.*

*If this happened [i.e., If we spirits materialized]  
you would think  
such a materialized spirit  
was of flesh and blood.*

*But life on the other planets  
is not exactly  
in your material form [i.e., not exactly in the form of flesh and blood].*

*Radiant matter  
varies greatly.*

*What may be  
for you  
radiant matter  
which you cannot perceive  
with your eyes  
is for us  
dense matter  
of a different*

- *vibration and*
- *type.*

*On the other hand  
the matter  
of the powers of darkness  
is*

- so coarse,*
- so much coarser  
than even your matter  
that you cannot see it [i.e., cannot see the matter  
of the powers of darkness]*

*either.*

*It [i.e., The matter of the powers of darkness]  
is*

- not radiant,  
but quite to the contrary [of radiant],  
[is]*
- too coarse  
for you to perceive it.*

*You think  
all life in the beyond  
is subtle matter,  
but this is not so.*

*Any difference  
in degree of density  
is automatically  
invisible  
for a spirit  
used to another vibration,  
unless  
the spirits are  
so highly developed  
that they have the power  
to focus their view  
on different degrees of density.*

*Unless there is  
a materialization,  
you cannot see  
the texture of matter  
existing in other spheres.*

31	<p><b>QUESTION:</b> <i>If there is</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>a sudden feeling of happiness about us</i></li></ul> <p><i>or</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>an occasional pleasant fragrance,</i></li></ul> <p><i>does that mean</i> <i>that there are</i> <i>harmonious spirits</i> <i>around us?</i></p>
32	<p><b>ANSWER:</b> <i>Indeed.</i></p> <p><i>When harmonious spirits</i> <i>can come so close to you,</i> <i>there must be a reason,</i> <i>for instance,</i> <i>an inner victory.</i></p> <p><i>For</i> <i>nothing</i> <i>happens</i> <i>without</i> <i>cause and effect.</i></p> <p><i>The perception</i> <i>of fragrance</i> <i>is already more [than a mere sensory perception],</i> <i>it is</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>a spiritual experience,</i></li><li>• <i>a sign.</i></li></ul> <p><i>This sign [in the sensory form of your perception of fragrance]</i> <i>is given as</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>encouragement</i> <i>to stay on your path, or</i></li></ul> <p><i>it [i.e., or this sign in the sensory form of your perception of fragrance]</i> <i>may be</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>a reminder</i> <i>to take this path.</i></li></ul>

	<p><i>It [i.e., This sign in the sensory form of your perception of fragrance] is, at any rate, a sign of grace.</i></p> <p><i>It [i.e., This sign in the sensory form of your perception of fragrance] means that</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>• help and</i></li><li><i>• strength</i></li></ul> <p><i>are given to make the next victory easier.</i></p>
33	<p><b>QUESTION:</b> <i>Can we remember our present identity in the next life and are we going to work on our old problems [in the next life]?</i></p>
34	<p><b>ANSWER:</b> <i>Whether you will remember your present life in the next one depends very much on yourself.</i></p> <p><i>It is, indeed, a fact that in times to come, when spirituality will have developed so much more, many people will be able to remember their former lives who have not been able to do so until then.</i></p> <p><i>But not all of them will be able to do it.</i></p>

*You see,  
there are people today  
who can,  
through their development,  
remember something  
of a former life.*

*The memory  
will come to them.*

*And as development advances,  
more of the curtain  
will be withdrawn.*

*The higher developed  
you are,  
the more  
you*

- strive for perfection and*
- work spiritually,*

*[then] the more you are capable  
to know about  
your past incarnations.*

*Then [i.e., When you are more highly developed]  
such knowledge [i.e., such knowledge about your past incarnations]  
will be used  
for a good purpose.*

*As for  
the problems [i.e., As for working on your old problems  
in your next incarnation]:  
you are  
absolutely right.*

*You will  
deal exactly with the same problems,  
life after life,  
until  
you have solved them.*



*As long as  
you have not solved a problem  
in this life,  
it [i.e., this problem you have not yet solved]  
will come to you  
in the next,  
even though*

- your circumstances  
may be different;*
- you may  
live in a different country,*
- you may have  
a different life pattern,*

*yet the problems  
will come  
as long as  
they have not been solved  
by you.*

*And what are the problems?*

*They are nothing else  
but the materialization  
of your faults.*

*When you  
purify  
your faults,  
your problems  
will disappear.*

*And when you  
do not do that [i.e., when you do not purify your faults],  
your problems  
will reappear  
in other forms  
in your next life.*

35

**QUESTION:**

*In his book,*

*Johannes Greber [Greber (1874-1944) was a German ordained priest who left the order and became involved in various spiritualist activities]*

*writes*

*about*

- *the Old Testament,*

*about*

- *great people like Moses, for instance, who*

- *contacted the spirits and*

- *asked them about decisions.*

- *Should they begin a war,*

- *will it bring victory, and such.*

*But we are taught*

*that we should make our own decisions,*

*and those people [i.e., people like Moses who, Greber notes, contacted the spirit world in prayer about their decisions instead of making decisions on their own as we are taught]*

*were*

*spiritually*

*so much more advanced than we are.*

36

**ANSWER:**

*These people*

*were very much concerned with*

*fulfilling the will of God,*

*which is*

*the most difficult decision of all.*

	<p><i>That they asked, concerning the welfare of their whole people,</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>a spirit</i></li></ul> <p><i>and</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>not [i.e., and did not ask]</i></li><li>• <i>their own and</i></li><li>• <i>very personal channels,</i></li></ul> <p><i>had a</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>good and</i></li><li>• <i>valuable</i></li></ul> <p><i>reason:</i></p> <p><i>the people might not have believed their leader if he had told them he received answers directly [from his own and very personal channel].</i></p> <p><i>These people</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>believed very much in the spirits of God and</i></li><li>• <i>accepted more readily their testimony [i.e., the testimony of the spirits of God].</i></li></ul>
37	<p><b>QUESTION:</b> <i>Does</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>a human being ever have spiritual guardians</i></li></ul> <p><i>and do</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>lower spirits have higher spirits helping them?</i></li></ul>
38	<p><b>ANSWER:</b> <i>The lower spirits also have their guardians, certainly.</i></p>

**But,**  
**like human beings,**  
**they [i.e., the lower spirits]**  
**cannot see them [i.e., cannot see their guardians].**

**And sometimes**  
**those guardians**  
**cannot get close to them [i.e., close to the lower spirits for which**  
**they are guardians].**

**That [i.e., The closeness that those guardians can get**  
**to the lower spirits in their charge]**  
**is according to**  
**their [i.e., according to the lower spirits']**  
**own attitude.**

**Each spirit**  
**has**  
**• somewhere and**  
**• somehow**  
**a guardian.**

**As far as**  
**human beings are concerned,**  
**everybody**  
**has indeed**  
**a guardian.**

**Some [human beings]**  
**have more than one [guardian],**  
**some [human beings]**  
**have only one [guardian].**

**It [i.e., How many guardians a human being has]**  
**depends on the case,**  
**but there is**  
**never**  
**any injustice.**

**Sometimes**  
**• one guardian spirit**  
**may be more powerful than**  
**• three or four [guardian spirits].**

	<p><i>A person who has more to accomplish has more powerful guardian spirits than a person who is just living into the day without desiring any spiritual progress.</i></p> <p><i>So this [i.e. So the level of spiritual guidance a person receives] is all determined very justly [i.e., according to what a person's task is to accomplish in this incarnation].</i></p>
39	<p><b>QUESTION:</b> <i>Is the spirit world aware of the</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>• spaceships and</i></li><li><i>• flying saucers</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>• which are so often in the news now</i></li></ul></li></ul> <p><i>and</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>• in whose observation there seems to be some validity?</i></li></ul>
40	<p><b>ANSWER:</b> <i>I am not entitled to give information on that.</i></p> <p><i>I have said so before and I will say so again.</i></p> <p><i>There is a very good reason for this.</i></p> <p><i>In a few years you will understand why I cannot talk about this.</i></p>

41	<p><b>QUESTION:</b> <i>In relation to your last lecture, when you spoke about the many spirits who are around a human being, • spirits of darkness and • higher spirits:</i></p> <p><i>I wonder if our calling for them is mainly conscious?</i></p>
42	<p><b>ANSWER:</b> <i>No, it [i.e., your calling for spirits of darkness and higher spirits] is not conscious.</i></p> <p><i>Indeed, it [i.e., your calling for spirits of darkness and higher spirits] is mostly unconscious.</i></p> <p><i>It is very, very seldom that this [i.e., that your calling for spirits of darkness and higher spirits] is done consciously, at least as far as the spirits of darkness are concerned.</i></p> <p><i>If someone really does that [i.e., really calls for spirits of darkness], he must himself be a very evil spirit.</i></p>

*As far as  
the spirits of  
• truth  
and  
• light  
are concerned,  
you  
• should  
and  
• can  
consciously  
call them to you.*

*But  
even if  
you do not do so [i.e., even if you do not consciously  
call in the spirits of truth and light],  
the moment  
you  
• overcome a fault,  
you  
• fight against your lower self,  
you  
• desire  
above all else  
to  
• fulfill the will of God  
and  
• live in accordance with divine law,  
you emanate  
a certain substance  
that draws  
spirits of light  
toward you.*

*By the same token,  
if you*

- *give in to your lower self,*

*if you*

- *violate divine law,*

*you emanate  
a quality  
that draws  
the spirits of darkness  
near you,  
like a magnet.*

*For instance,  
when you emanate*

- *anger,*

*you draw*

- *a spirit of anger  
toward you.*

*When you emanate*

- *selfishness,*

*you draw*

- *such a specialist [i.e., a spiritual specialist of selfishness]  
toward you  
who will  
encourage you further  
in this fault [i.e., encourage you further in selfishness].*

*And so on.*

*What  
comes out of you  
is what  
you draw toward you.*

*Like  
attracts  
like.*



43	<p><b>QUESTION:</b> <i>Is there mutual activity in this attraction [i.e., Is there mutual activity between a person who emanates a quality and therefore attracts a spiritual specialist of that quality and the spiritual specialists of that quality that are drawn to the person emanating that quality]?</i></p>
44	<p><b>ANSWER:</b> <i>Oh yes.</i></p> <p><b>QUESTION:</b> <i>On both sides?</i></p>
45	<p><b>ANSWER:</b> <i>On both sides, indeed!</i></p> <p><i>And not only this kind of mutual activity [i.e., the activity of attracting on your part and and the activity of being attracted on the part of the spirit of darkness, of the negative specialist], but also learning.</i></p> <p><i>You see, with the spirits of darkness it goes like this:</i></p> <p><i>they [i.e., the spirits of darkness, the negative specialists] fulfill a task in their world of darkness when they win out over a person, particularly with the people [i.e., particularly when they win out over people] who love God.</i></p>

*They [i.e., The spirits of darkness, the negative specialists]  
are very keen  
on drawing them [i.e., on drawing people who love God]  
away from God.*

*They [i.e., The spirits of darkness, the negative specialists]  
do not have to worry about  
criminals.*

*They have access to them [i.e., to criminals]  
anyway.*

*But they [i.e., But the spirits of darkness, the negative specialists]  
are particularly keen  
on conquering people  
who  
• love God,  
who  
• seek God,*

*so that  
they [i.e., so that people who love and seek God]  
may give in  
to their [i.e., to God-seeking peoples'] weaknesses.*

*The spirits [of darkness]  
earn special rewards  
in their world [of darkness]  
for such work.*

*And they [i.e., And the spirits of darkness, the negative specialists]  
know very well  
that they cannot accomplish anything  
by trying  
to inspire people  
to do any type of wickedness  
that is foreign to them.*

	<p><b><i>But they [i.e., But the spirits of darkness, the negative specialists] can succeed with the seemingly harmless faults that draw such a person [i.e. the seemingly harmless faults that draw a person who loves and seeks God] slowly but surely further into</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b><i>• darkness,</i></b></li><li><b><i>• depression,</i></b></li><li><b><i>• self-despising moods,</i></b></li></ul> <p><b><i>and thus into</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b><i>• separation from God.</i></b></li></ul>
46	<p><b><i>It is not so much the fault in itself that is damaging, but rather that they [i.e., that people who love and seek God but get drawn slowly but surely further into darkness, depression, and self-despising moods] • become disgusted with themselves and • may thus give up the fight [against the spirits of darkness] altogether.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>I said often that stumbling into the same fault in itself is not bad, provided</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b><i>• it [i.e., stumbling into the same fault over and over again] is recognized</i></b></li></ul> <p><b><i>and</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b><i>• one learns from it by adopting the</i></b></li><li><b><i>• right and</i></b></li><li><b><i>• constructive attitude.</i></b></li></ul>

*As a matter of fact,  
no progress  
is possible  
without stumbling.*

*But when  
the stumbling  
is viewed  
with an attitude of*

- hopelessness and*
- self-disgust,*

*then*

- the clouds  
become bigger  
and bigger;*

*then*

- a person  
gets more  
and more  
involved  
with*

- the respective dark spirits [i.e., with the negative specialists  
of that particular fault with which the person wrestles],*

*with*

- the world of darkness  
altogether.*

47

*You do not have to  
commit a crime  
in order to  
live in the world of darkness.*

*There are  
other vibrations [i.e., vibrations other than vibrations associated  
with committing a crime]  
that can accomplish this [i.e., that can make you stay and live in  
the world of darkness].*

- *If, however,  
a person  
refuses  
to be an instrument for  
the powers of darkness,*
- *if you  
fight –  
and you can only do this [i.e., you can only fight the powers of darkness]  
by knowing  
your own faults  
extremely well,  
for only through them [i.e., only through your own faults]  
can you be tempted by  
the dark spirits –  
do you know what happens?*

*The dark spirit  
will rise higher  
in its development [i.e., the dark spirit will turn at least a little bit away from  
the world of darkness and toward the world of light and truth];*

*it [i.e., the dark spirit]  
will learn –*

- *not directly,*
  - *not immediately,*
- because  
it is still*

*so much in darkness  
that at first*

*it will only know*

*defeat [i.e., defeat at your hands, because  
you know your own faults and are not  
tempted through your faults by the dark  
spirits – and they have no strategy other  
than tempting you through your faults].*

*This defeat*

*will cost it [i.e., will cost the dark spirit]*

*its position [i.e., cost the dark spirit its position in the world of darkness],*

*so that it [i.e., so that the dark spirit]*

*suffers [i.e., suffers loss of stature and position*

*in the world of darkness – the world of its identity],*

*and only this suffering [by the dark spirit in its loss of stature and identity*

*within the world of darkness]*

*will bring it [will bring the dark spirit] nearer to God.*

***Because only then [i.e., Because only by the dark spirit's suffering in its loss of stature and identity within the world of darkness] will it [i.e., will the dark spirit] turn to God, as a last resort, in complete despair [i.e., in complete despair at residing within the world of darkness having lost its stature, power, and identity there].***

***As long as it [i.e., As long as the dark spirit]***  
• ***can claim victories in its world of darkness, and***  
• ***has power there [i.e., has power in the world of darkness],***  
***it [i.e., the dark spirit] will never turn to God.***

***So***  
• ***each victory,***  
***even***  
• ***the smallest one, of each human being, causes a tremendous chain reaction in the universe among beings of whom you are not even aware.***

48

***My friends,***  
***if you could know how much you accomplish by your victory [i.e., your victory over dark spirits], not only as far as you***  
• ***yourself and***  
• ***your immediate surroundings are concerned,***  
***but for***  
• ***so many spirits as well,***  
***you would really try much harder.***

*And*  
*not only*  
*• evil spirits*  
*are affected by your victory,*  
*but also*  
*• erring spirits*  
*who do not belong anywhere.*

*They [i.e., erring spirits]*  
*• are often around you and*  
*• learn from*  
*your victory*  
*in a much more direct way*  
*than*  
*those dark spirits.*

*So when you*  
*conquer yourself,*  
*you are in fact*  
*a vital part of*  
*the great Plan of Salvation.*

*You are then*  
*an active soldier*  
*in the fight.*

*You are*  
*a front line soldier.*

*And*  
*a front line soldier*  
*needs*  
*• better weapons,*  
*• more strength, and*  
*• better protection*  
*than*  
*one who*  
*• does not fight back*  
*or*  
*one who*  
*• is in the hinterland.*

	<p><i>• The weapons and • the strength come to you from the spirit world of God in • guidance, • enlightenment, • recognition.</i></p>
49	<p><i>And now, my dear ones, I will retire into my world.</i></p> <p><i>I bless each one of you.</i></p> <p><i>Blessed are • your dear ones, blessed are • you.</i></p> <p><i>Take on the strength that now flows to you, so that you will be able to solve your problems • with God, • in God.</i></p>

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