

# Pathwork Lecture 19: Jesus Christ

1996 Edition, Original Given December 20, 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

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03	<p><b><i>Greetings</i></b> <b><i>in the name of</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b><i>God and</i></b></li><li>• <b><i>Jesus Christ.</i></b></li></ul> <p><b><i>Blessed</i></b> <b><i>are you, my friends;</i></b></p> <p><b><i>blessed is</i></b> <b><i>this hour [i.e., blessed is this time</i></b> <b><i>we now spend together in this lecture].</i></b></p> <p><b><i>My dear friends,</i></b> <b><i>I have been speaking to most of you</i></b> <b><i>for over a period of months,</i></b> <b><i>but I have not yet mentioned</i></b> <b><i>Jesus Christ,</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b><i>who he is, and</i></b></li><li>• <b><i>what he has done.</i></b></li></ul> <p><b><i>At this time of year [this lecture was given the Friday before Christmas],</i></b> <b><i>when you are celebrating</i></b> <b><i>the birth of Christ,</i></b> <b><i>I feel my choice of this subject is an appropriate one.</i></b></p>

by Eva Broch Pierrakos

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04

*Not only  
is the light of Christ  
spreading  
within*

- *the earthly sphere,*

*but also  
in*

- *the spiritual world.*

*You may say,*

*"But in the spiritual world  
there is no time,"*

*and this is true.*

*This is difficult to explain.*

*After a certain period,  
which is drawn out  
much longer*

- *in the spiritual world*

*than*

- *on earth –  
according to your human calendar  
after a year –*

*the light of Christ  
returns  
with renewed force  
in remembrance  
of the greatest deed  
that has ever been accomplished.*

*The light  
is*

- so
  - *strong,*
- so
  - *penetrating and*
  - *glorious,*

*that it is unimaginable.*

*There is  
such  
• bliss,  
such  
• rejoicing,  
such  
• happiness and  
such  
• wisdom  
  
coming from this light!*

*For  
• wisdom  
and  
• light  
are one.*

*In your human language  
you call it  
• enlightenment.*

*In the spiritual world,  
  
• light  
and  
• knowledge  
and  
• love  
  
are all one  
and the same.*

05

*At this period  
the light of Christ  
penetrates  
down to  
• the lowest spheres of gloom,  
  
and at least to some small degree  
into  
• the world of darkness.*

**There may be**

**just**

- **a gleam of it [i.e., just a gleam of the light of Christ],**
- **a small sheen,**
- **a glimpse of light,**

**yet**

**the influx [of the light of Christ]  
is there [in the world of darkness];**

**and at this period**

**when**

**the beings living in the world of darkness  
encounter the light,  
they [each] have a different reaction to it.**

**Those [beings living in the world of darkness]**

**who are ready to advance spiritually**

- **will welcome the light [of Christ] and**
- **will follow it.**

**Others [living in the world of darkness]**

**who are**

**not that far advanced yet**

**will cringe away from it [i.e., cringe away from the light of Christ],  
for it is very painful to them;**

**it [i.e., the light of Christ]**

**causes an extreme pain**

**they cannot stand.**

**Therefore,**

**a human being**

**who has succeeded**

**in bringing out**

**the light from within,**

**for it is**

**one and the same light [as the light of Christ],**

**will be protected**

**against**

**creatures from the world of darkness.**

06

*Now who  
is Christ?*

*Some Christian religions  
claim he is God.*

*This is not so,  
for he himself has said,  
as you can read in the Holy Scriptures,  
that he is  
not God.*

*He is  
not*

- the Father, or*
- the Creator.*

*Some say  
Jesus was just*

- a wise man,*
- a sage,*
- a great teacher  
with great wisdom,  
not unlike  
a few others  
who have lived*
- at other times*
- in other countries.*

*This is also wrong.*

*The truth is, my friends,  
whether you want to believe it now or not,  
that Jesus,  
the man,  
was  
the incarnation of  
the Christ.*

*And this spirit [i.e., the Christ]  
is the*

- highest and*
- most exalted  
of all created beings.*

**He** [i.e., the Christ]  
**is the**  
**first**  
**• direct and**  
**• inborn**  
**creation of God.**

**His** [i.e., Christ's] **substance**  
**is the same**  
**as the substance of God.**

**All of you**  
**possess**  
**some**  
**of this substance [of God]**  
**which I call**  
**• the higher self or**  
**• the divine spark;**

**it** [i.e., the higher self or divine spark or this substance of God]  
**has to come out**  
**gradually**  
**through spiritual development.**

**But**  
**no other created being**  
**has this substance [of God]**  
**in quite the same degree**  
**as the Christ.**

**And**  
**there** [i.e., the fact that no created being has this substance of God  
to the same degree as the Christ]  
**is the difference** [between the Christ and other created beings].

07

*Again and again  
I see that human beings*

- *think or*
- *feel,*

*"Why was he chosen?*

*If he [i.e., if the Christ]  
is the  
son of God,  
so are  
we all  
children of God.*

*Why should he [i.e., the Christ]  
be*

- *better,*
- *more exalted, or*
- *higher?*

*Why?*

*This is not just. "*

*These*

- *thoughts and*
- *feelings*

*are often lurking  
in the souls of human beings  
even if  
they do not  
dare  
make them conscious.*

*Therein  
lie the seeds  
of the Fall of the Angels.*

*This very*

- *thought or*
- *attitude,*

*[i.e., the thought or attitude, “Why should Christ be better, higher, and more exalted than others?”]*

*which started long before  
the material earth existed,*

*caused*

*the coming into existence*

*of*

- *disharmony and*
- *evil.*

*Certainly,*

*no one who had such a thought*

*at the time*

*realized*

- *the danger or*
- *the possible results  
of such an attitude.*

*No one*

*actually realized*

*that in this jealousy*

*lies*

*a lack of faith*

- *in God and*
- *in His capacity to love.*

*For*

*even though God*

- *created*

*His first son*

*as the highest of all beings and*

- *gave most of His substance  
to him,*

*if you have the*

- *trust and*
- *faith*

*the Creator deserves,*

*you will not think*

- *that this [i.e., that giving most of His substance to Christ, His first son]  
was unjust or*

- *that you  
lack anything.*

	<p><i>Nowadays people do not carry these thoughts quite so far; nevertheless, that slight feeling of resistance against Christ in a number of people represents the germ of</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>the Fall and</i></li></ul><i>the germ of</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>evil.</i></li></ul></p>
08	<p><i>In what way has Jesus Christ saved humanity?</i></p> <p><i>In what way was his deed the greatest?</i></p> <p><i>What was the purpose of</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>his life on earth,</i></li><li>• <i>his one-time incarnation?</i></li></ul></p> <p><i>The purpose of his life was not only to spread his teachings; for</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>true and</i></li><li>• <i>beautiful</i></li></ul><i>as they [i.e., his teachings] are, basically the same teachings could be found elsewhere too, though perhaps in another form.</i></p> <p><i>So this [i.e., his teaching] was certainly not the only purpose.</i></p>

09

*The second purpose  
of his life,  
though still not the main one,  
was to show  
symbolically  
through his*

- life*
- and*
  - death*
  - the course and*
  - the stages*

*of development  
for each person  
who wants to regain  
the kingdom of heaven.*

*Periods of*

- testing,*
- trials,*
- faith in God*  
*in times of adversity,*
- crucifixion*  
*of the personal ego*  
*with its*
  - vanity and*
  - self-will:*

*all this was symbolized  
by the body of Jesus.*

*The resurrection  
of his spirit  
signifies  
the life eternal of*

- bliss and*
- happiness*

*for*  
*the spiritual essence  
of each individual  
after  
the ego has been crucified.*

*This [resurrection of the spirit]  
cannot happen otherwise  
than through pain [i.e., the pain in the crucifixion of the ego].*

	<p><b><i>But even this [second] part of his task [i.e., showing the course and stages of development for each person who wants to regain the kingdom of heaven]</i></b></p> <p><b><i>is not the</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b><i>• main and</i></b></li><li><b><i>• most important one.</i></b></li></ul> <p><b><i>The two purposes mentioned here [i.e., 1) teaching and 2) showing the course and stages of development for each person who wants to regain the kingdom of heaven]</i></b></p> <p><b><i>can be considered as accompaniments to the main purpose he had to fulfill.</i></b></p>
10	<p><b><i>At a future date I will describe in greater detail how his main task meant salvation, for he WAS the Messiah!</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Right now, I want to say this to you:</i></b></p> <p><b><i>If Jesus had failed, another spirit would have tried to fulfill the task; for it was not certain beforehand that Jesus would fulfill it, even though he was the</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b><i>• natural and</i></b></li><li><b><i>• logical choice.</i></b></li></ul>

*Someone  
had to*

- *come to earth and*
- *go through all the sufferings  
completely alone,  
at certain times*
  - *barring all divine protection, and*
  - *resisting*
    - *all evil and*
    - *all temptation*

*out of his own  
free will.*

*Only in this way  
could the spiritual laws  
continue to remain unbroken  
so that*

*in a spirit of justice*

- *each individual and*
- *even the very forces of evil  
could find the way back to God.*

11

*God is the power,  
and with His power  
He could certainly have done anything,  
including  
breaking His own laws.*

*Had He done this  
a great number of creatures  
who were not yet ready  
to find their way back  
would have been  
permanently  
separated  
from*

- *God and*

*from*

- *an eternal life of bliss.*

*That might have included  
any one of you.*

*Only by the*  
• *vast and*  
• *elaborate*  
*Plan of Salvation*  
*is it possible*  
*that*  
*down to the very last of the fallen creatures*  
*everyone*  
*can*  
*at one time*  
*find the way back to God.*

*This is difficult to understand now,*  
*but in the future*  
*I will explain it in more detail.*

*For the present*  
*this should suffice*  
*to give you an idea*  
*of how extremely*  
• *grave and*  
• *serious*  
*the task [of Jesus Christ] was.*

*Only understanding this*  
*will keep people*  
*from ever saying*  
• *that God is unjust or*  
• *that God*  
*has used His own power*  
*to break His own laws.*

*Naturally,*  
*God's power*  
*has to be the greatest.*

*No one*  
*will be able to say*  
*that God has used this power*  
*to violate*  
*His gift of free will*  
*given to*  
*each and every*  
*individual.*

	<p><i>The supreme justice of this solution could only happen through the fulfillment of such a task.</i></p> <p><i>Thus,</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>• no free will was broken and</i></li><li><i>• no power used unduly.</i></li></ul> <p><i>Jesus Christ has proven this.</i></p>
12	<p><i>Naturally, the question may come up,</i></p> <p><i>"Can we</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>• find and</i></li><li><i>• reach</i></li></ul> <p><i>God, and</i></p> <p><i>can we</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>• attain perfection</i></li></ul> <p><i>only</i></p> <p><i>through Jesus Christ?"</i></p> <p><i>The answer, my friends, is,</i></p> <p><i>"Yes and No."</i></p> <p><i>It is one of those apparently paradoxical cases where both answers are correct.</i></p>

13

*I will try to explain how this is.*

*You can reach  
a stage of development  
through every one  
of the great world religions,  
including  
the non-Christian ones,  
in which you can  
experience  
absolute truth.*

*No spirit  
of the world of God  
will ever tell you  
to leave  
your  
• church or  
your  
• temple or  
your  
• faith.*

*For  
if you have found  
what you  
• seek and  
• need  
in the way of  
• happiness and  
• spiritual food  
in the faith you are accustomed to,  
remain there:  
• enough of  
basic fundamental truth and  
• enough of what you need  
for your spiritual development  
is contained in  
all the great religions.*

	<p><i>It is up to you</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>to find out what the truths necessary for your personal development are</i></li></ul> <p><i>and then</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>to put them into practice.</i></li></ul>
14	<p><i>When I speak of satisfaction with your faith, I do not mean the satisfaction of your surface conscience: that is not enough.</i></p> <p><i>But if you follow the teachings of your religion whereby you</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>learn and</i></li><li>• <i>do</i></li></ul> <p><i>what alone matters, namely work for</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>self-knowledge,</i></li><li>• <i>self-purification, and</i></li><li>• <i>utter self-honesty,</i></li></ul> <p><i>then the religion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>to which you belong or</i></li><li>• <i>which you have chosen</i></li></ul> <p><i>will satisfy your spirit.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>The purification of your lower self and</i></li><li>• <i>the crucifixion of the ego</i></li></ul> <p><i>are the all-important things.</i></p>

*Where you are able to find  
the necessary*

- help,*
- guidance, and*
- inspiration*

*to accomplish this  
does not matter much,  
even if  
for many reasons  
you cannot recognize Christ  
in a religious affiliation.*

*By self-purification alone,  
you will raise your consciousness  
to such a degree  
that you will be open  
for truth  
in all its aspects*

- concerning  
the part Christ played  
in the history of Creation, or*
- concerning anything  
else for that matter.*

*So, in this respect,  
the answer is  
"No"  
to the question  
whether it is  
only  
through the recognition of Jesus Christ  
right now  
that one can reach God.*

*The perception of  
absolute truth  
in any respect  
can only happen  
through a process of  
self-purification  
over the lifetimes.*

*Unfortunately, few people are doing that.*

15

*Anyone  
going through  
the difficult process  
of self-purification  
will prepare the ground  
for becoming able to*

- *receive and*
- *experience*

*absolute truth  
in all its facets,  
whether some of the recognition  
takes place during*

- *this incarnation*

*or, due to certain circumstances,*

- *afterwards.*

*The ground  
has to be prepared,  
and this means  
perfection  
through purification.*

*For instance,  
as long as there is  
stubbornness  
in the soul,  
the*

- *experience and*
- *perception*

*of absolute truth  
is impossible.*

- *Stubbornness and*
- *self-will*

*are exactly  
what hinder  
the raising of your consciousness.*

- *Any imperfection*

*is a hindrance  
[to the raising of your consciousness].*

*I cannot stress  
emphatically enough  
that only those  
who crucify  
their lower selves  
are ready  
for pure truth  
concerning anything  
in connection with*

- *the Creation and*
- *the divine.*

16

*The fact  
that Christ  
is  
the messiah  
and  
that Christ  
is  
the most exalted  
of all created beings  
is a  
very important part  
of the*

- *great truth and*
- *history of Creation.*

*Whether you are*

- *able and*
- *willing*

*to recognize this  
does not belie  
the great truth.*

*It does  
not mean, my friends,  
that you should  
pray to Jesus Christ.*

*Only  
God the Creator  
should receive our prayers.*

- *What God expects from you and*
- *what is part of*
  - *perfection and*
  - *development,*  
*at least from a certain degree on,*

*is gratefulness*  
*to the person*

- *without whose deed*  
*no one*  
*could come back*  
*into divine light,*
- *without whose deed*  
*the stream back to God*  
*would have been broken.*

*Now*

- *some of you*  
*are still*  
*not ready*  
*for this decision*

*and*

- *other things*  
*are still*  
*to be accomplished.*

*However,*  
*when*

- *the time comes and*
- *gratefulness for*  
*the greatest deed*  
*without which*  
*you would be lost*  
*pervades you,*

*then*  
*you will be able*  
*to give it [i.e., to give your gratefulness]*  
*to the one*  
*to whom it is due [i.e., to Jesus Christ].*

*That is*  
*God's will.*

17

*Think about all this,  
even if  
you do not recognize  
"officially"  
the Christian religion.*

*Just as*  

- *all religions  
have enough  
of the truth  
to further  
your purification,*
- *all religions  
also  
contain errors.*

*It is important  
for you to follow  
only that  
which*  

- *your spirit demands and*
- *your higher self longs for.*

*The rest  
will come by itself.*

*But that does  
not  
change the fact  
that you should*  

- *open your hearts and*
- *not put aside  
completely  
the one person  
to whom  
you owe most  
next to God.*

*Do not disregard Christ so easily.*

*I hope you have understood me,  
and I hope you do not misinterpret these words.*

18

*There need never have been  
a split*

*between*

- *Judaism*

*and*

- *Christianity.*

*This was never meant to happen*

*by*

- *God or*

*by*

- *the spirit world.*

*And that it [i.e., that the split between Judaism and Christianity]  
has happened*

*is the fault of humankind.*

*You have invented labels  
to which you attach  
special implications.*

*For us,  
labels like*

- *Judaism and*
- *Christianity*

*do not mean anything.*

*Why Christ  
was born as  
Jesus*

- *at that particular time and*
- *among those particular people*  
*had its good reasons;*

*it was intended*

- *that one and the same truth*  
*should*
  - *expand and*
  - *grow, and*
- *that*  
*no splitting*  
*should occur.*

*Splitting is*

- *chaos;*

*splitting is*

- *the nature  
of the Fall of the angels, or*
- *the result  
of the Fall  
with all its*
  - *miseries and*
  - *hatreds.*

*Splitting is*

- *separation from God,  
and this initial tragedy,  
which took place  
long before the earth existed,  
keeps repeating itself  
in the course of time  
until the disease  
will be cured forever.*

*Union with God,  
which is the goal,*

*is*

- the opposite of*
- *splitting and*
  - *separation.*

*The splitting  
between*

- *Judaism*

*and*

- *Christianity  
after the life of Jesus*

*was another fault*

- grown out of  
the same bad root  
of the initial splitting from God.*

*There should have been*

- *oneness between Judaism and Christianity,*
- *one wholeness and*
- *one completion.*

19

*Since Christ  
represents  
such an important part  
of your returning to God,  
he deserves*

- *your personal **gratefulness** and*
- *some contact from you:  
you will not be able to  
reach God  
without him  
in the very last analysis.*

*He is indeed*

- *the best friend you could ever have and*

*he is*

- *your strongest helper.*

*The answer to the question  
whether you can reach God  
only through him  
is "Yes."*

*For the constant denial  
of these facts  
would imply  
a stubbornness of your heart  
that is a symptom of  
imperfection;*

*and as long as  
any imperfection  
is alive within you,  
you cannot  
unite with God.*

20

*And now, my friends,  
I want to say  
to each one of you:*

*Try,  
regardless of what religion you belong to,  
to open*

- *your hearts and*
- *your minds.*

*Be broadminded!*

*Do not leave the faith  
you are accustomed to,  
for that is  
not necessary  
unless you wish to do so.*

*But consider that  
my words  
are true,  
even if  
you do not believe  
that  
a spirit talks to you,*

*a spirit  
of the spirit world  
who has*

- *the insight and*
- *the knowledge*

*that these  
are*

- *truths*

*and*

- *not mere opinions,  
such as you on earth  
can have  
on these subjects.*

*Even if  
you have doubts,  
and probably most of you here still have some,  
consider that it  
may be this way after all.*

	<p><i>What</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>your</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>fathers and</i></li><li>• <i>forefathers or</i></li></ul></li><li>• <i>the people</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>in whom you trust and</i></li><li>• <i>who have</i> <i>influenced you in your life</i> <i>have said</i> <i>may not be</i> <i>entirely right.</i></li></ul></li></ul> <p><i>Certainly,</i> <i>they have spoken</i> <i>some truths,</i> <i>for truth</i> <i>exists everywhere,</i></p> <p><i>but</i> <i>no one group</i> <i>among all humankind</i> <i>has</i> <i>all</i> <i>the truth.</i></p>
21	<p><i>You,</i> <i>who are</i> <i>spiritually searching people,</i> <i>should</i> <i>open the doors</i> <i>to truth,</i> <i>no matter from what side</i> <i>it may present itself to you.</i></p> <p><i>Do not be stubborn.</i></p>

*Do not believe  
that this [i.e., that my teaching, "do not be stubborn"]  
means*

- *giving in or*
- *showing lack of character,  
my friends.*

*What an immature notion this is!*

*The question here remains as always,  
"What is true?"*

*God is*

- *truth,*

*as well as*

- *wisdom and*
- *love.*

*If you  
deny truth  
for any*

- *silly,*
- *stubborn, and*
- *childish  
notion,*

*you are thus  
denying God,  
at least in  
one aspect  
of your personality.*

*The only question  
that counts is,  
"What is true?"*

*Nothing else ever does [count],  
for any other question  
can only come from  
the lower self,  
even if  
clothed with  
apparently high-sounding motives.*

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The Pathwork® Foundation  
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