Pathwork Lecture 19: Jesus Christ

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/](https://www.garyvollbracht.com/pathwork-lectures/pathwork-lectures-devotional-format/)

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Greetings
in the name of
• God and
• Jesus Christ.

Blessed
are you, my friends;

blessed is
this hour [i.e., blessed is this time we now spend together in this lecture].

My dear friends,
I have been speaking to most of you
for over a period of months,
but I have not yet mentioned
Jesus Christ,
• who he is, and
• what he has done.

At this time of year [this lecture was given the Friday before Christmas],
when you are celebrating
the birth of Christ,
I feel my choice of this subject is an appropriate one.
Not only

is the light of Christ
spreading
within
  • the earthly sphere,
but also
  • 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
  • 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.

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.
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].
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.
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
  • the Fall and
  the germ of
  • evil.

In what way
  has Jesus Christ
  saved
  humanity?

In what way
  was his deed
  the greatest?
What was
  the purpose
  of
  • his life on earth,
  • his one-time incarnation?

The purpose of his life
  was not only
  to spread his teachings;
for
  • true and
  • beautiful
  as they [i.e., his teachings] are,
basically the same teachings
  could be found elsewhere too,
  though perhaps in another form.

So this [i.e., his teaching]
  was certainly
  not the only purpose.
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].
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] is not the
• main and
• most important
one.

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] can be considered as accompaniments to the main purpose he had to fulfill.

At a future date I will describe in greater detail how his main task meant salvation, for he WAS the Messiah!

Right now, I want to say this to you:

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
• natural and
• logical
choice.
**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.

**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
      - 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.
The supreme justice of this solution could only happen through the fulfillment of such a task.

Thus,
• no free will was broken and
• no power used unduly.

Jesus Christ has proven this.

Naturally, the question may come up,
"Can we
• find and
• reach God, and

can we
• attain perfection only
through Jesus Christ?"

The answer, my friends, is,
"Yes and No."

It is one of those apparently paradoxical cases where both answers are correct.
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.
It is up to you
• to find out
  what the truths necessary
  for your personal development
  are
and then
• to put them into practice.

When I speak of satisfaction with your faith,
I do not mean
the satisfaction of your surface conscience:
  that is not enough.

But
if you follow the teachings of your religion
whereby you
• learn and
• do
  what alone matters,
  namely
  work for
  • self-knowledge,
  • self-purification, and
  • utter self-honesty,
then
the religion
• to which you belong or
• which you have chosen
  will satisfy your spirit.

• The purification of your lower self and
• the crucifixion of the ego
are the all-important things.
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.
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.

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 gratitude 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 • gratitude 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 gratitude] to the one to whom it is due [i.e., to Jesus Christ].

That is God's will.
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
which
• 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.
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.
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.
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.
What
- your
- fathers and
- forefathers or
- the people
  - in whom you trust and
  - who have
    influenced you in your life
    have said
    may not be
    entirely right.

Certainly,
  they have spoken
  some truths,
  for truth
  exists everywhere,
but
  no one group
  among all humankind
  has
  all
  the truth.

You,
  who are
  spiritually searching people,
should
  open the doors
  to truth,
  no matter from what side
  it may present itself to you.

Do not be stubborn.
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.

Be blessed.
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