Pathwork Lecture 223: The Era of the New Age and New Consciousness


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/

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<table>
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| 03 | • Blessings,  
    • love, and  
    • greetings  
      to all of you,  
      my dearest ones.

With immense joy  
do we resume our contact  
for the coming working period.

The rejoicing in  
our world  
is great.

This rejoicing  
can communicate itself  
to you  
if  
you open yourself to it.
**It [i.e., This rejoicing in our world]**

- has to do with
  - what many of you
  - have accomplished
    - • individually
    - and
    - • together.

**But the rejoicing [i.e., But this rejoicing in our world]**

- is also about
  - what
  - is to come.

**For**

- more
  - • growth and
  - • liberation,
  - • peace, and
  - • joy
  - will come
to those of you
  who really devote yourselves
to your own innermost path.

**Now, my dearest friends,**

- you have often heard
  from
    - • me and
  from
    - • many other sources
      that
      an
      - • immense
      - • new
      cosmic force
      that will sweep the planet earth
      has been released
      into the universe.
A new surge
toward
spiritual truth
is spreading
throughout
your world.

New values
are seeking to push through
old resistances.

I will speak in this lecture
about
the meaning
of the new cosmic force
in terms of
your
• community,
your
• individuality, and
your
• growth.

The planet Earth
is an entity
of which each individual inhabiting it
is a cell,
not unlike
the cells of your body.

Each of these cells [i.e., Each of these cells of your body]
is a
• consciousness
and
• energy
center,
just as
you
are a
• consciousness
and
• energy
center [i.e., as you are a “center” in planet Earth].
Now
the entity Earth
is growing up.

It [i.e., The entity Earth]
is coming to
an inner crossroads
just as
a growing person
comes to
an inner crossroads.

You have all experienced
at some point on your path
that
one part of you
is ready
to
• expand,
to
• risk exposure of its hidden secrets,
to
• move toward
  a new vision
  of
  • life,
  • self, and
  • a new mode of being.

The new modality
• does not
  shed
  the old,
• but
  transforms
  what is
  not compatible with
  the
  • new,
  • pure, and
  • great
  influx.
It [i.e., The new modality]
   incorporates
   the pure substance
   of the old self
   into a
   • new,
   • expanded
   version.

You also know
   that
   at the same time
   the part of you
   we call
   the lower self
   obstructs this movement.

It [i.e., The lower self]
   • fears,
   • distrusts, and
   • resists
   such growth.

Which part
   you ally yourself with
   depends on
   your ego consciousness.

In such a conflict
   crisis
   is inevitable.

The resisting part
   creates
   the crisis
   by
   obstructing
   the inexorable evolutionary force.
The less you recognize this struggle [i.e., this struggle created by the lower self obstructing the inexorable evolutionary force] for what it is, and the more you deny and rationalize its [i.e., the more you deny and rationalize this struggle’s] true significance, the greater an upheaval it [i.e., the greater an upheaval this struggle created by the lower self obstructing the inexorable evolutionary force] will cause and the more frightening the upheaval will appear.

Conversely, the more you recognize the struggle [i.e., the more you recognize this struggle created by the lower self obstructing the inexorable evolutionary force] for what it really is and the more you act in accordance with higher self principles, the shorter the crisis will be.

In fact, the crisis [i.e., the crisis created by the lower self obstructing the inexorable evolutionary force] will transform itself into undreamed-of bliss.
So you see, the crisis [i.e., the crisis created by the lower self obstructing the inexorable evolutionary force] is
  • healthy and
  • unavoidable.

Growth cannot take place without crisis [i.e., without the crisis created by the lower self obstructing the inexorable evolutionary force],

and to the extent you resist growth, you create crisis.

The lower self is not merely
  • devious,
  • dishonest, and
  • selfish;

it [i.e., the lower self] is also
  • ignorant.

This ignorance makes it [i.e., makes the lower self]
  • stubborn,
  • unperceptive,
  as well as
  • destructive and
  • negative.

Earth also possesses a lower self.
Like the individual's [i.e., Like the individual’s lower self],
Earth's lower self
is not only
• negative,
• selfish,
• greedy, and
• dishonest;
it [i.e., Earth’s lower self]
is also
• ignorant with a vengeance.

It [i.e., Earth’s lower self]
totally resists
the new consciousness
the soul is ready for.

Thus
there is crisis
on this earth.

You see
• the crisis [i.e., You see this crisis on this earth]
as much as you see, here and there,
• expanded new ways of being,
• new understanding,
• deeper vision of life, and
• deeper perception
of spiritual reality.

The new expansive movements
are not always
without their
• distortions and
• exaggerations or
without their
• fanaticism and
• misunderstandings.
They [i.e., These new expansive movements, in some of their distortions, exaggerations, fanaticism, and misunderstandings.]

sometimes
• miss the point of
  the great new influx of consciousness and
• avoid confronting
  unpurified matter in the soul.

Such abuse [i.e., Such abuse brought about by distortions, exaggerations, fanaticism, and misunderstandings of the new expansive movements, such abuse that avoids the critical need to confront unpurified matter in the soul] will turn out to be particularly
• costly and
• disappointing to the individual.

The new cosmic force has made many attempts to come through, but its [i.e., but the new cosmic force’s] meaning is poorly understood in many quarters.

So there are many spiritual movements which seek to follow the pressure from within, without devoting themselves to the [purification] work that needs to be done within the soul.

The spirit world has been preparing for this new expansion for many centuries with a great deal of
• investment and
• energy.
Many are called
but not all follow.

Not all
are sufficiently willing
to heed
the inner call.

It is best
• to clearly acknowledge this [i.e., to acknowledge that
  not all are sufficiently willing to heed the inner call],
• to leave open
  the possibility for
  later
  following the call.

If, however,
• it [i.e., If, however, the inner call]
  is explained away
and
• illusions and
• delusions
  accepted
  as if they [i.e., as if these illusions and delusions]
  were valid reasons
  for the decision [i.e., for the decision not to follow the inner call],
then
the soul
will remain in confusion.

Now the earth
as an entity
is going through
such a struggle [i.e., going through such a struggle, a struggle created by
the lower self obstructing the inexorable evolutionary force].
Those who resist the light of the new consciousness have a stake in making themselves
deaf and blind to it [i.e., deaf and blind to the new consciousness].

Many of them [i.e., Many of those who resist the light of the new consciousness] have the
• mental and
• spiritual equipment
to follow the movement, but choose,
out of
• pride,
• fear, and
• self-will,
not to
• follow or even to
• notice it [i.e., not to follow or even to notice this movement, this light of the new consciousness].

There are others, of course, who are not yet ready in their spiritual development even to know that levels of reality exist that cannot be seen with the eye.

And then, of course, some do follow the movement even though they do not quite understand what is at stake.
Those who follow it [i.e., who follow this movement, this light of the new consciousness]
   • will find
     the deepest
     • joy and
     • blessings
   and
   • need not fear anything.

They [i.e., Those who follow this movement, this light of the new consciousness]
   need only to
   • rejoice.

In following the influx [i.e., In following the influx of this immense new cosmic force that has been released into the universe and is sweeping the planet Earth],
   they
   • keep in harmony
     with the universe;
   they
   • flow with
     the process [i.e. they flow with the process energized by the new influx],
     rather than
   • obstructing it [i.e. rather than obstructing
     the process energized by the new influx].

They [i.e., They who follow this influx of immense new cosmic force]
   are also
   needed
   as physical channels
   for the further penetration
   of the Christ consciousness
   into the new era.
Their
ever-renewed decision
to devote
all
of themselves
to the process
that has encompassed them
will make their life
as
• fulfilled and
• glorious
as it will be
• useful and
• meaningful
to the entire cosmic evolution.

My dearest friends,
the fulfillment
of this surge
cannot come about
unless
the most profound
purification process
takes place.

With
this particular community [i.e., With this Pathwork community],
an emphasis on
personal purification
has existed,
as you very well know,
for all these years.

Until now,
the emphasis
was directed
exclusively
toward your
individual
fulfillment.
Now

a new phase
has arisen
where
your own inner expansion
has readied you
to realize
that
individual fulfillment
is the basis for
the cohesive fulfillment of
the total movement
that sweeps your world.

In other words,
more is at stake
than your
individual
fulfillment.

When I say
"more,"
it may sound as though
your
individual
fulfillment
were not important,
and that
may indeed
appear
to contradict
what I have just said.

I always emphasize
the importance of
your
individual
• happiness,
• wholeness, and
• freedom from obstruction.
This [i.e., That your individual happiness, wholeness, and freedom from obstruction are important] is not a contradiction [i.e., is not a contradiction to the statement that there is “more” at stake than your individual fulfillment].

Your individual fulfillment, which cannot exist as long as you are • unpurified and • alienated from the truth of your inner processes, is the most important thing.

At the same time something much larger is at stake.

Perhaps I can put it this way:

You can find total individual fulfillment only if you serve a greater cause.

Many of you, in this work, almost inadvertently found this to be so.
The guidance of events
has brought you to realize,
some
  • more intellectually,
some
  • more intuitively,
that
you are involved in
a great task
[in] which
you are
  simultaneously
    • serving [i.e., serving a greater cause]
while you
    • fulfill yourself.

You have found that
this very service
  • enhances
    your fulfillment,
just as
this service
  • requires
    you
to be a
    • fulfilled and
    • happy
    person.

You are beginning
to experience
that
  • fulfillment of
    the self
lies in
  • service [i.e., fulfillment of the self lies in service to a greater cause].

And
  • service [i.e., And service to a greater cause]
can be executed only through
  • self-fulfillment.
In other words, the apparent contradiction [i.e., the perception that the pursuit of “service to a greater cause” is opposite to the pursuit of “individual self-fulfillment”] proves, once again, to be a faulty perception [i.e., they are not, in fact, opposite pursuits].

What appear to be
- opposites [i.e., pursuing “service to a greater cause” and pursuing “self-fulfillment” appearing to be opposite pursuits]
coexist in
- oneness [i.e., pursuing “service to a greater cause” and pursuing “self-fulfillment” are in fact one and the same pursuit].

Therefore
- the individual
  - is only apparently
  - opposed to
    - the whole.

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You will learn to perceive more
- consciously and
- deliberately the importance of service to the entire Christ consciousness that is infiltrating your universe.

This [i.e., This perceiving the importance of service to the entire Christ consciousness that is infiltrating your universe] will very drastically change the
- life,
- consciousness, and the
- values of those who are willing to follow that movement.
In my coming lectures
I will increasingly concentrate on
helping you comprehend
the difference
between
the old
• values
and
the new;
the old
• consciousness
and
the new.

You will come to view
your
• personal fulfillment
as exactly
what it is:

a necessary tool
with which
you can
• serve [i.e., you can serve a greater cause by
serving the entire Christ consciousness
that is infiltrating your universe].

For
• unhappy and
• frustrated
people
cannot
• serve,
cannot
• undertake the task of
• enriching
• life,
• enriching
• others, and
• setting
• a desirable example.

For how can
the poor
enrich?
Nor is it possible
to pretend, 
for followers
do know, 
in a deep inner place, 
whether 
those who lead 
are 
• genuinely fulfilled [i.e., are individually fulfilled] 
or are 
• just pretending [i.e., just pretending to be fulfilled].

Only those 
who are 
fully centered 
in their own 
God-consciousness, 
thus able 
to create their lives 
according to 
their 
• needs and 
• wishes, 
can 
• enliven 
their 
• surroundings and 
• teach 
their 
• consciousness 
to others.
Many different tasks exist, but all who serve in this cause must
- teach and
- lead,
  representing the new
  • consciousness and
  the new
  • values
  in their own lives, whether
    through
    • instruction or
    through
    • example,
    transmitting
    • joy,
    • love, or
    • the capacity
      to be
      one's best.

Now, my friends,
I would like to explain another dichotomy you have experienced in the course of this work.

Most of you who are starting this work have a compulsion to be good, like many other human beings.
You may fear your selfishness.

But your mask has put a cloak over your
  • selfishness and your
  • little meannesses.

That mask makes you
  • comply with higher standards and
  • appear to be a very good person.

Often the real
  • surge and message from the higher self
    is interwoven with
    • the masking cloak,
    • the false goodness.

In your pathwork many of you have already dealt extensively with the part of you that sells out your
  • genuine self-interest,
  • real rights, in order to please some imaginary authority.
You have also found that you do this [i.e. that you act not from your genuine self-interest or real rights but rather in order to please some imaginary authority] not
  • out of the pure spirit of service but
  • by design.

You always wanted this authority [i.e., this “imaginary” authority] to do something for you
  • that was not fair to expect and
  • what you really have to do for yourself in order to become fully yourself.

You work through these issues again and again until you find the strength to
  • relinquish the secret hope [i.e., relinquish the secret hope that some “imaginary” authority will do for you what you really have to do for yourself in order to become fully yourself],
  • cease the false service [i.e., cease using false service in order to “trick” some “imaginary” authority into doing for you what you have to do for yourself if you are to become fully yourself],
  • become more self-responsible and consequently more self-assertive.
You find a balance:

The more you
  • stop cheating
    in ways
      which you pretend
donot existand
the more you
  • stop
  the false goodness,

[then]
the more you
  • assert
    your right
to have
    the best in life.

The guilt
ceases
because
  you live honestly.

When
dependency
  and the consequent
  • submission and
  • lack of selfhood
exist,
service to
  a greater cause
  is premature,
  because
  you
  • misuse it [i.e., you misuse “service to a greater cause” by
    using service to get something in return]
and
  • perpetuate
    the pretenses of
    the mask self.

So you had
  to learn
  to be selfish,
  my friends.
As you know, there is a
• right kind
  of selfishness
and
there is a
• wrong kind.

The
right kind
of selfishness
preserves
the right to unfold
in the best way
for you,
regardless of
• the opinions
  of others and
• their possibly covert reasons
to exploit you.

This [right kind of] selfishness
rooted in
independence
can easily
• recognize and
• refute
  other people's
exploitative demands
rather than
• submitting to them [i.e., rather than submitting to
  other people’s exploitative demands]
because of
  your own
hidden agenda.

People with
the right kind of selfishness
feel
deeply deserving of
happiness
because
  they never want it
at the expense of others.
The distorted form of selfishness splits the interest of self and others.

The right kind unifies them [i.e., the right kind of selfishness unifies the interest of self and others].

At first, sorting out the misunderstandings [i.e., the misunderstandings about selfishness] is complicated, but once you have accomplished this [i.e., accomplished living out the right kind of selfishness] along the spiral movement of your path, there is no longer a dichotomy between the self and others.
When you free yourself of the real guilt of your hiding and your pretenses, of disguising your hidden agenda and the negativity it [i.e., the negativity your hidden agenda] perpetuates, you will not feel unworthy of becoming the best, the happiest and most fulfilled person.

Then service will no longer be compensating for guilt.

On this path we want to prepare as many human beings as possible for the great event that sweeps your universe.
This [i.e., Preparing human beings for the great event that sweeps your universe, preparing them for the great influx of the Christ consciousness] requires

• strong and
• guilt-free
souls

who act
for
• real,
not for
• false
reasons.

So your path had to first bring out

• false and
• real
selfishness
in order to help you become

• unselfish
without sacrificing
• personal fulfillment.

The lower self with its lower aims must often be sacrificed.

But is this really a sacrifice?

It only seems so.

What ultimately emerges is a real fulfillment.
Your
  • outer ego-self
will no longer contradict
your
  • Godself.

This state,
however,
comes only after
you have learned
  • to let go of
    the mask
    of false service and
  • to expose
    the short-sighted selfishness
    of the
    • lower,
    • little
    self.

Then you learn
healthy selfishness,

and from there
you come into
true selflessness
that is
not at all contradictory to
it [i.e., you come into true selflessness
that is not contradictory to healthy selfishness].
When people follow spiritual teachings which emphasize service too soon, there is a danger that they [i.e., that these followers] will use these teachings to escape from their
  • hidden
  • inward selfishness.

Thus they will cultivate a service through martyrdom that is not wholesome for the soul.

When people refuse to become truly
  • independent and
  • self-responsible,
they do not undertake to meet their hidden selfishness, and therefore their service will also be distorted.

In this light, you will see more clearly the overall dynamic of your own pathwork.
A figure you have used in many other instances because it is a recurrent thought form in symbolic spiritual expressions might be useful here also:

the three circles, the mandala-shaped design.

In this figure

• the higher self is surrounded by
  • the lower self, which is surrounded by
    • the mask self and
    • the defenses.

Individually you have dealt with this configuration again and again.

The same applies to

• your community, as well as to
  • humanity as a whole.

Let us now look at your community.

Those of you who

• are most involved in taking responsibility for the community, who
  • have most deeply worked and
  • exposed themselves and
  • are thus beginning to reap tangible fruits of fulfillment, represent
    • the higher self of the group.
You [i.e., Those of you who make up the higher self of the group] have traveled through the outer layers.

You have learned more and more not to fear any part of yourself and you have come to accept all of you, thereby uniting what was once divided.

You can identify more and more with
• your higher self, since you are increasingly able to differentiate between
  • it [i.e., between your higher self] and
  • the wishful thinking of
• the mask self that hides
  • the distortion and
• the untruth of
• the lower self.

You thereby [i.e., By identifying more and more with your higher self, you] come to hear the true voice of your higher self, which you can increasingly trust.
Your community 
as a whole 
has come to this point [i.e., come to this point of identifying with your higher self],

and I daresay
   you cannot help
      but notice it.

The evidence is
   in the
      • growing numbers of new Pathwork members;
   in the
      • nature of these newer people
          who are more ready to
              • understand and
              • follow
                  the new cosmic force;
   in the
      • deeper feelings of genuine
          • love and
          • joy
              among all of you;
   in the
      • increased
          • removing of
              • blocks and
              • obstructions,
          • resolving of
              • problems and
              • conflicts,
              so that
                  fulfillment occurs
                      on all levels
                          for more and more of you.

This fact [i.e., This fact that fulfillment occurs on all levels for more and more of you] can no longer be ascribed to coincidence but is obviously the natural expression of your development.
So a good number
of the inner nucleus
function
as the higher self
of the community.

This does
not mean
that they are perfect;
of course not.

But you are
sufficiently capable of
• establishing
  the channel
to the higher self.

You are
increasingly capable
• of totally committing yourself to
  the will of God
  and
• of perceiving the importance of
  the Christ consciousness
  that sweeps your planet
  and
• to serve it [i.e., and you are increasingly capable to serve
  the Christ consciousness that sweeps your planet].

As such [i.e., As you increasingly commit yourself to the will of God, perceive the
importance of the Christ consciousness, and serve the Christ consciousness]
you protect yourself
in an incredibly efficient way
against
the onslaught of
the countermovement.

You immunize yourself
against
the countermovement
from within
• your own lower self;
and therefore
from without, against [the countermovement of]
• the lower self of the planet.
Then there are those others [i.e., those others not in the higher self of the community]
  • working diligently on the path,
  • still struggling,
    who are in the phase of
    • owning up to
      the lower self,
    • laboriously getting to know it [i.e., getting to know the lower self]
      by penetrating
        the concealments
        of
        the mask self.

In this struggle
  • the temptation to hide,
    as well as
    • the habit of doing so [i.e., the habit of hiding],
      are strong obstacles;
  so are
  • guilt and
  • the fear of
    exposing the truth.

And
  the illusion
  of this fear [i.e., the illusion of this fear of exposing the truth]
  can only be eliminated
    gradually
    by testing it [i.e., by testing this fear of exposing the truth
      to see if this fear of exposing the truth is warranted]
    until you learn sufficiently
      to trust the process [i.e., trust rather than fear
      the process of exposing the truth].

There are those of you
  who
    at first
    • cannot find the channel
      to your higher self,
    and thus
    • do not even want it [i.e., do not even want the channel
      to your higher self].
You fear it [i.e., You fear your higher self];
you do not trust it [i.e., you do not trust your higher self].
You trust your
  • old,
  • destructive habitual defenses
  more.

Then of course there are always those who are still strongly identified with their mask self.
They have the most difficult time, and they seek reasons to
  • discredit the process [i.e., the process of exposing oneself and growing] and
  • judge it.

But this does not make them any happier; on the contrary.
Their stake in not growing is strong; their fear of growing is equally strong, so they do not want to find out how unjustified the fear is [i.e. they do not want to find out how unjustified the fear of exposing oneself and thereby growing is].

They are not necessarily new friends, for it is not always a matter of time [i.e., it is not always a matter of time to overcome the fear of exposing oneself and growing].
These friends
• have to recognize
  that they
  identify with
  their mask self
and
• must begin
  to travel through the layers.

The purpose
  of my saying this here
  is that you should
  • experience
    yourself
    where you are
and
  • be aware of it [i.e., be aware of where you truly are].

As you
• have learned to take responsibility for
  your lower self and
• overcame the shame
to admit it [i.e., as you overcame the shame of admitting your lower self],
so must you now
• learn to
  • take responsibility for and
  • not be ashamed of
    your higher self.
Admit

where you have indeed
already arrived.

Then you can
give yourself
even more fully to it.

Then you can
• fully commit yourself
to be
  a part of
    the great movement and
• feel
  the
    • privilege, the
    • honor, the
    • beauty and
    • excitement
  of it [i.e., the privilege, honor, beauty, and excitement
  of being part of the great movement, of giving
  yourself to the great cause, of giving yourself to
  the cause of the influx of the Christ consciousness
  that is sweeping the earth].

To give service
to a greater cause
will cleanse
  the residual little selfishnesses
    that make you fearful.
You believe you cannot give all of yourself to a greater cause because you fear to do so.

But I say to you once again: It is the other way around.

You are afraid [i.e., You are afraid of giving all of yourself to a greater cause] because you still cling to a little selfishness here or there.

Consciously giving yourself to a greater cause that sweeps the entire planet is in itself a cleansing process.

We will discuss the new values of the new consciousness in the lectures to come.

We shall share these

• new
  and
• old truths.
What I have just said is one of the most important differences between
• the old
and
• the new value systems.

I say "new," though they [i.e., though these "new" value systems] have always existed in
• isolated,
• highly developed individuals who have incarnated for a specific task.

The great difference at this time is that the entire planet is
• growing up,
• coming into its own
divine consciousness.

The first thing for all of you in this respect [i.e., in respect to the entire planet coming into its own divine consciousness] has to be a very conscious understanding that your life must consist of much more than the immediate little personality.
And you must also understand that

this expansion [i.e., this expansion into divine consciousness] will lead to

happiness,
even though happiness is also

its prerequisite [i.e., happiness is also the prerequisite for this expansion into divine consciousness].

There is no division between

• expansion and

• happiness.

To follow the will of God cannot deprive you, so in the years to come you will become proficient in trusting total surrender to the God within every day of your life, in every

• issue, in every

• venture, in every

• decision you undertake,
even in

• the opinions you choose to adopt.
With the new consciousness you will not make superficial decisions with your head, wanting the immediate fulfillment of your desire.

The new consciousness makes decisions in an entirely new way.

It [i.e., The new consciousness] is aware that the outer self • does not know, that it [i.e., that the outer self] • is not trustworthy and • is full of subjectively colored • distortions and • prejudices.

The new consciousness always • consults the higher self and • learns to wait • quietly and • patiently for the answer.
It [i.e., The new consciousness] is
never
opinionated.

It [i.e., The new consciousness] accepts
that it does not know yet.

It [i.e., The new consciousness] keeps itself open.

It [i.e., The new consciousness] has no stake in
a certain answer.

It [i.e., The new consciousness] makes room for
an answer that may be
anything,
be it
• what is most desired
or [be it]
• its exact opposite [i.e., or be it what is least desired
or even hated],

but it [i.e., but the new consciousness] trusts
that what will come
will be good.

Such an approach [i.e., The approach of the new consciousness]
• has no fixed opinion;
it [i.e., the new consciousness]
• empties itself.

That [i.e., Having no fixed opinion and emptying itself]
is one of the hallmarks
of the new value system
that has already
begun to sweep the planet.
This [i.e., The approach using the value system of the new consciousness] clashes, of course, with the old value system, which functions merely from • the surface, from • immediate little emotions, from • the narrow view that has a stake in not even wanting to • widen one's perception and • consider other possibilities.

The old attitude clashes with the new in you, and in your environment the clash is between those who represent • the new and those who represent • the old consciousness.

In this process it will become increasingly clear where you belong.

It does not suffice to say, "I belong in the new" while you continue acting in the old ways.
<table>
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<td>• say anything,</td>
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<td>• approach to decisions</td>
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<td>in which camp you belong.</td>
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<td>and more of you</td>
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<td>the new golden light</td>
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<td>that sweeps the earth,</td>
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**They** [i.e., *Those who refuse the new golden light that sweeps the earth*] are the ones who perceive only
• the negative countermovement
and
• are blind to
• the light itself.
When the light comes near them [i.e., When the new golden light comes near those who refuse the new golden light that sweeps the earth], they feel

- strong discomfort and
- misinterpret it [i.e., they misinterpret the new golden light that sweeps the earth].

It [i.e., The new golden light that sweeps the earth] brings

the greatest joy
to those
who
- want it,
who
- give themselves to it,
who
- fight for it and
- serve it.

This is my message for this time.

We shall continue
all future lectures
from this wider vision:

How you, as an individual,
- fit into
  the scheme of
  the whole;
how you
- can become happy
  only when
  you are
  part of
  the force
  that fights for
  the
- growing and
- purification
  of the planet
  to reach its own divinity.
Your purification work on the path begins to acclimatize you to
- the joy and
- the light of what is to come.

But you must now also begin specifically to
- aim for this,
- meditate for it,
- want it.

I have truly given you what you need in this first lecture of the year.

It is the kind of map I always give at the beginning of a new working season.
Be blessed,  
my very dearest ones.

You  
• must  
and  
• will  
increasingly  
feel  
how  
• guided and  
• protected  
you are,  
how  
• important your venture is,  
what  
• a privilege it is  
to  
• be involved with it and  
• give your all to it.

For this [i.e., For this venture]  
is not only  
important for  
the little outer life.

It [i.e., This venture]  
is  
important  
in terms of evolution.

Be blessed,  
my dearest ones.

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