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

1996 Edition, Original Given: September 25, 1974

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 <u>not</u> 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-devotional-format/

Gary Vollbracht

¶	Content
03	 Blessings, love, and greetings
	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.
04
             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.
05
              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.
06
              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.
07
              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.
```

08	
	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.
09	
	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.
10
              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
```

And then, of course,
some do follow the movement
even though
they do not quite understand
what is at stake.

even to know

that levels of reality exist

that cannot be seen with the eye.

```
11
              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.
12
             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.
13
             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.
14
              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,
                               the
                                  • 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
                           vou 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].
15
              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.
16
             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,
                   your
                        • 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
            • 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
                        • relinguish
                           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],
                    to
                        • 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],
                    to
                        • become
                           more
                                • self-responsible
                          and consequently
                           more
                                • self-assertive.
```

```
You find a balance:
         The more you
            • stop cheating
                 in ways
                    which you pretend
                        do not exist and
         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.
```

```
17
             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].
18
             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.
19
             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.
20
              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].
```

```
21
              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.
22
              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.
23
              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.
```

```
24
             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.
```

```
25
              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.
26
              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.
27
              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

                 the
                    • 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.
28
              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
                                  • growing up,
                                  • coming into
                                      its own
                                         divine consciousness.
29
              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.
```

```
30
              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.
```

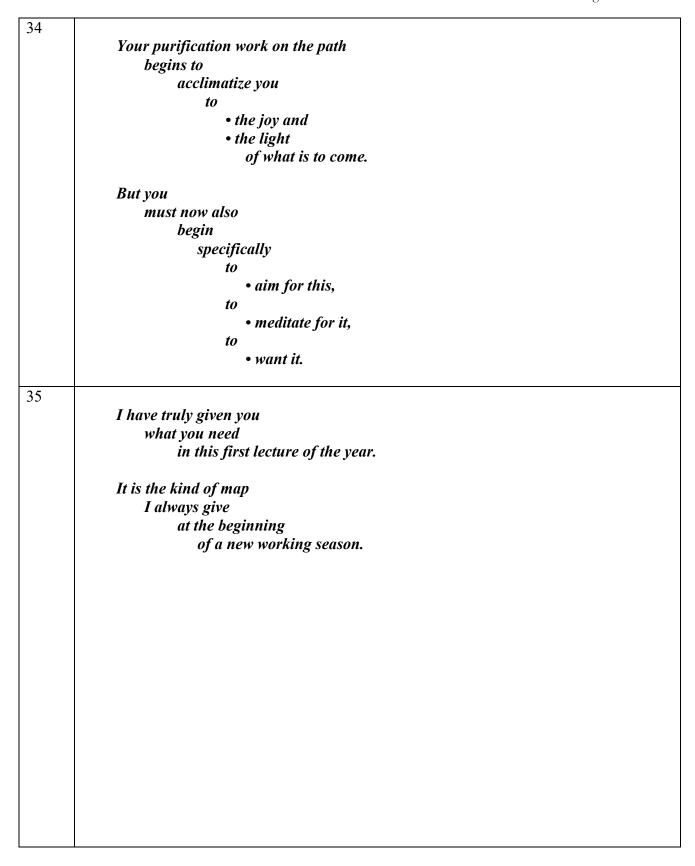
```
31
              This [i.e., The approach using the value system of the new consciousness]
                  clashes, of course, with
                       the old value system,
                          which functions
                              merely
                                 from
                                      • 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.
```

```
You can
                       • say
                         anything,
             but
                 your

    actions and

                 vour
                       • approach to decisions
                         prove
                              in which camp you belong.
32
             More
                 and more of you
                       have already
                          • made the commitment
                     and
                       are already
                          • caught up in
                              the tremendous surge
                                  of
                                     the new golden light
                                        that sweeps the earth,
                                             unbearable
                                               only
                                                    to those who refuse it.
             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
                  they
                        • 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.
33
              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.
```



```
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.
```

For information to find and participate in Pathwork activities world wide, please write:

The Pathwork® Foundation
PO Box 6010
Charlottesville, VA 22906-6010, USA
Call: 1-800-PATHWORK, or
Visit: www.pathwork.org

The following notices are for your guidance in the use of the Pathwork® name and this lecture material.

Trademark/Service Mark

Pathwork® is a registered service mark owned by The Pathwork Foundation, and may not be used without the express written permission of the Foundation. The Foundation may, in its sole discretion, authorize use of the Pathwork® mark by other organizations or persons, such as affiliate organizations and chapters.

Copyright

The copyright of the Pathwork Guide material is the sole property of The Pathwork Foundation. This lecture may be reproduced, in compliance with the Foundation Trademark, Service Mark and Copyright Policy, but the text may not be altered or abbreviated in any way, nor may the copyright, trademark, service mark, or any other notices be removed. Recipients may be charged the cost of reproduction and distribution only.

Any person or organization using The Pathwork Foundation service mark or copyrighted material is deemed to have agreed to comply with the Foundation Trademark, Service Mark and Copyright Policy. To obtain information or a copy of this policy, please contact the Foundation.