

Pathwork Lecture 225: Evolutionary Stages of Individual and Group Consciousness

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

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

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

Gary Vollbracht

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03	<p><i>Greetings.</i></p> <p><i>Blessed be this hour [i.e., Blessed be this time we now spend together in this lecture].</i></p> <p><i>Blessed be every one of you, my beloved friends.</i></p> <p><i>Once again I am allowed to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• come to you through this channel and</i><i>• bring you what you need at this particular juncture on your path.</i> <p><i>This need may not always be quite clear to you.</i></p>

by Eva Broch Pierrakos

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	<p><i>Some of you may not immediately realize why this particular lecture is just what you require at this point.</i></p> <p><i>Others may immediately</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• be touched by it and</i><i>• know that this is exactly what they need.</i>
04	<p><i>I will start, as many times before, with a general discussion of some</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• cosmic realities and</i><i>• philosophical premises,</i> <p><i>but once again you will see that they [i.e., that these cosmic realities and philosophical premises]</i></p> <p><i>have</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• immediate</i><i>• practical value for you.</i> <p><i>It is often said that this period of your history,</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• the Aquarian Age, or</i><i>• the New Age, is bringing in a new group consciousness.</i> <p><i>This [new group] consciousness manifests in many different ways.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• Groups and</i><i>• community life are taking entirely new forms.</i>

	<p><i>These developments [i.e., These developments of new forms of groups and community life that are arising out of manifestations of a new group consciousness] express something deeper; it is not enough simply to see this occurrence out of context, as it were.</i></p> <p><i>It is very important for you to understand the dynamic principle of the evolution of consciousness at work here.</i></p> <p><i>You need to gain an overview, so that you can grasp the deeper meaning of what is happening today.</i></p>
05	<p><i>Ever since human beings have incarnated, an evolution of consciousness has existed on this earth plane that alternately emphasizes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• individuation [or individual consciousness]</i><i>and</i><i>• group consciousness.</i> <p><i>The emphasis must change in different phases of human development.</i></p> <p><i>In one period, people need to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• gather their energies inward and</i><i>• concentrate all their faculties on their personal lives.</i> <p><i>In other phases they need to develop through their relationship to their surroundings.</i></p>

	<p><i>This alternation [i.e., This alternation between periods when people concentrate inwardly to develop their personal lives (individual consciousness) and periods when they concentrate outwardly to develop their relationships to others and their surroundings (group consciousness)]</i></p> <p><i>occurs</i> <i>in</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>an overall movement,</i> <p><i>as well as</i> <i>in</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>smaller cycles,</i> <p><i>both</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>historically</i> <i>for humanity as a whole</i> <p><i>and</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>personally,</i> <i>for the individual.</i>
06	<p><i>In each [alternating] phase</i> <i>a higher level of development is reached,</i> <i>so that</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>what was gained</i> <i>through the emphasis on, say</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>individuality,</i>• <i>the group consciousness,</i> <p><i>and</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>what is learned in</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>group relating</i>• <i>individual development.</i> <p><i>I will now give a brief, somewhat simplified picture of this.</i></p>
07	<p><i>At the dawn of human evolution,</i> <i>there were only a few human beings</i> <i>scattered over the earth.</i></p> <p><i>Each individual</i> <i>lived more or less</i> <i>alone.</i></p>

People
fought the elements as best they could
by themselves.

They were generally
in such a state of
fear
that they
could just about cope with

- **the environment,**

but they
could not yet handle

- **other human beings.**

Of course,
they did live with

- **relatively small family groups, or**
- **clans.**

They already understood to some degree
that they needed others
to cooperate
in fighting the enemy,
whether this was

- **the elements,**
- **beasts, or**
- **other clans.**

So even at
this highly individualized period
at the bottom of the evolutionary scale,
there existed the need
to cooperate with others.

The lessons learned
at this [highly individualized] stage
could then be brought into
the following phase,
enriching
a group consciousness.

08	<p><i>Later,</i> <i>as the population increased,</i> <i>humanity developed the ability</i> <i>to cope with the elements.</i></p> <p><i>People learned</i> <i>to take care of themselves more efficiently.</i></p> <p><i>The need then arose</i> <i>to widen the circle</i> <i>of human relationships.</i></p> <p><i>Thus</i> <i>group consciousness</i> <i>came to be emphasized.</i></p>
09	<p><i>From</i> <i>• family clans</i> <i>came</i> <i>• tribes</i> <i>and people had</i> <i>to learn</i> <i>to get along with others.</i></p> <p><i>They were</i> <i>not yet able</i> <i>to widen their relationships</i> <i>beyond</i> <i>a relatively small circle</i> <i>of their own clans.</i></p> <p><i>Eventually,</i> <i>• larger groups,</i> <i>and, much later,</i> <i>• nations</i> <i>came into existence,</i> <i>but only after</i> <i>further alternations</i> <i>between</i> <i>• individual</i> <i>and</i> <i>• group</i> <i>consciousness</i> <i>had taken place.</i></p>

10	<p><i>Even today, humanity is not yet</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>willing and</i>• <i>able</i> <p><i>to get along with all brothers and sisters inhabiting the earth.</i></p> <p><i>The old consciousness still makes for separation.</i></p> <p><i>But humanity is now ready for a new influx [of group consciousness that will inspire and empower people to move from separation toward oneness],</i></p> <p><i>so that those who</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>resist the movement [i.e., who resist the influx of new consciousness that inspires movement away from separation toward oneness] will experience</i>• <i>a painful crisis,</i> <p><i>while those who</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>follow it [i.e., who follow the influx of new consciousness that inspires movement away from separation toward oneness] will experience</i>• <i>unprecedented</i>• <i>richness and</i>• <i>blessing.</i>
11	<p><i>Let us now return to the second phase [i.e., the phase of group consciousness that followed the first phase of evolution, the development of individual consciousness] of this great cosmic movement.</i></p> <p><i>Group consciousness at this very early stage meant learning to get along with others.</i></p>

***In this [very early] phase [of group consciousness],
getting along
could best be learned
for a negative reason:***

- ***fear of an enemy.***

***As human development proceeds further,
getting along with others
will no longer come
from***

- ***fear and
need
only,***

***but also
from***

- ***love and
mutuality.***

12

***Group consciousness
means
finding
the oneness
between
• the self
and
• others.***

***In the early development of consciousness
this [i.e., this finding the oneness between the self and others]
happened in a
very***

- ***primitive and
superficial
way.***

***Nevertheless this stage [i.e., this stage of getting along and finding oneness
between the self and others, but doing so only out of fear and need],
too, had to be traversed.***

*Human consciousness
had to learn this particular lesson
of cooperating
out of fear.*

*So for extended periods of history
individuals
existed within the tribe
finding security in it.*

*They could find security
only when
they learned how to get along with others.*

*Then
the tribe would act out*

- enmity,*
- suspicion, and*
- negative aggression,*

*not so much by
fighting between individuals
within the tribe –*

although this, too, always existed within

- tribes,*
- nations, and*
- families –*

*but mainly by
opposing
other tribes.*

*In the expression
of negative aggression,*

- loyalty to one's tribe*

and

- protection of the other members of the tribe
had to be learned.*

13	<p><i>So you can see, my friends, even the negative manifestation of the lower development –</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• hostility toward the other,</i><i>• warfare –</i> <p><i>can be used to promote the evolution of consciousness.</i></p>
14	<p><i>As</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• population increased and</i><i>• civilization advanced,</i> <p><i>this movement [i.e., this movement toward group consciousness at a level of getting along and finding oneness between the self and others, but doing so only out of fear and need to protect one's own tribe] had to reach its next alternation, in order for evolution to take its course.</i></p> <p><i>As you know, in more recent history, just a few hundred years ago, the emphasis began to focus [less on the group or tribe or nation or religion and] more on the individual.</i></p> <p><i>Individualism</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• became very important and</i><i>• has continued to increase in recent years.</i> <p><i>Humanity</i></p> <p><i>had learned certain lessons in bridging the gap from the</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• self</i> <p><i>to the</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• other.</i>

	<p><i>So now the emphasis had to return to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• the individual,</i> <p><i>to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• individual rights,</i><i>• the right to be oneself,</i> <p><i>to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• be perhaps different,</i> <p><i>to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• not conform,</i> <p><i>to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• become more self-responsible.</i>
15	<p><i>This phase [of individual consciousness] is now approaching its end.</i></p> <p><i>The importance of the individual is not diminishing, but the emphasis is again shifting to the group consciousness on another level of reality.</i></p> <p><i>The principles [of group consciousness] that were previously learned on</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• lower levels [i.e., on levels of group consciousness at the lower level of getting along and finding oneness between the self and others, but doing so only out of fear and need to protect one's own tribe]</i> <i>can now be applied to a</i><i>• higher evolutionary level.</i> <p><i>The lessons learned [more] recently in the phase of</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• high individuality</i> <p><i>can now be brought into the new phase of the development of</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• group consciousness.</i>

16

*Once again you see here
the familiar spiral movement of creation
that you detect so often,
in many individual forms,
on your own path.*

*The same spiral movement [that operates in many individual forms
on you your own path]
exists, of course,
in the development
of humanity as a whole.*

*The spiral
always seems to go around in circles,
yet
if the growth is real,
these are not circles
that repeat on the same level.*

[Rather,]

*They repeat
on ever*

- deeper, or*
- higher,
levels:*

higher in

- development,*
- deeper in*
- consciousness.*

17

Let us look at an example.

*The more
self-responsible you are,
the more
you contribute to the group.*

*The more
you can assert
your
• rights and
your
• individual needs,
the less
you
• need from or
• conform to
the group.*

*The freer
your
• love and
your
• ability to give to the group,
the more
you can
receive from it.*

*For the self-sufficient person
has valid needs for
• love,
• intimacy,
• closeness, and
• warmth
to be happy.*

*The greater
the individuality,
the better
your integration
with the group consciousness
will be.*

*It is therefore
a great mistake
to think of this development
in either/or terms [i.e., EITHER you focus on the development of
group consciousness OR you focus on the
development of individual consciousness].*

*There are those
who believe that*

- *group living*

is contradictory to

- *individuality.*

*And there are those
who accuse*

- *practitioners of individualism*

of being opposed to

- *love and*
- *brotherhood.*

*Both [of these positions]
are wrong,
as you can see.*

18

*There are many more
such alternations [i.e., alternations between development of individual
consciousness and development of group consciousness]
historically speaking,
that I cannot go into at this time.*

*Actually there is
a spiral within
the larger spiral.*

*The spiral I have discussed here
is a
fourfold alternation
that holds true
on the overall scale of human evolution.*

*But
within the fourfold alternation [alternation between individual consciousness
and group consciousness for both the group as a subgroup
interacting with other groups and the individual as an entity
interacting within its own or with other groups]
exists
a smaller spiral movement
in which
subdivisions
of many more such alternations
exist.*

*For instance,
within
the larger overall phase of
either the
• individual
or the
• group
consciousness,
constant smaller fluctuations
of the same alternations
take place.*

*And within
that secondary spiral movement
exist
many more alternations of
• individual and
• group
consciousness.*

19

*An entity
is born many times
within
one overall phase
that may last*

- *many hundreds*

or even

- *thousands of years,*

*but
each individual life
must still go through
the same alternations.*

*One incarnation
may emphasize
one form of consciousness
much more than another.*

*And even within
this same incarnation,
you go through periods of your life
in which,
whether you know it or not,
you concentrate
first on*

- *one form of development,*

then on

- *the other.*

*So, for example,
a small infant
is almost entirely
in the individual state.*

*Do not believe
that no lesson
is learned in that [first individual] phase.*

*School age
is the first phase
in this particular lifetime
of learning how to get along with a group.*

20

*As you continue [beyond the second, or school-age phase,]
to go through each alternation,
each [i.e., each alternation between development of individual
consciousness and development of group consciousness]*
• *fulfills a purpose and*
• *presents a lesson.*

*This [i.e., After the school-age, this period of continuing alternation between
development of individual consciousness and development
of group consciousness]*
constitutes
a third spiral
within the larger spirals.

*There are periods where
living alone
fulfills an important function.*

*At other periods
living alone
represents*
• *stagnation and*
• *a refusal*
to follow the organic movement.

*The same
holds true for the reverse.*

*There are periods when
group development
is essential*
for the development
both of
• *the individual*
and
• *humanity as a whole.*

*There are other periods where
staying within that [group] framework
represents stagnation.*

***But one cannot generalize about
when one or the other applies [i.e., about when development of individual
consciousness applies or when development of group
consciousness applies].***

***Each [period of a person's development]
has to be evaluated
in terms of
the person's own path.***

***The only thing that can be generalized
is that***

- when people
follow their inner path movement,
they will find***
 - peace and***
 - joy;***

- when they
do not [follow their inner path movement],
they will be***
 - discontented and***
 - anxious.***

21

***Living with
one other person
in real intimacy
can also come under the heading of
group living,
at least to some extent.***

***Once again
it can be quite misleading
to try to judge
whether it is***

- right***

or

- wrong
to be***
 - alone***

or

- with others.***

*It [i.e., Whether it is right or wrong to be alone or with others]
depends on
what phase of
all the intermingling spiral movements
an individual is in.*

*If you
truly follow your path,
you will
know that
what is
at one time*

- important and*
- advisable,*

*may
at a later period
be*

- a sign of
stagnation and*
- inadvisable
for you.*

*So you have to be aware
that
no specific thing
is always right,

for there is
a continuous movement.*

22

When
an entity –
• **individual entities** [i.e., *When an individual as an entity*]
or
• **the entity of the planet –**
is ready for
an alternation,
when its [i.e., *when the entity's*]
development
approaches the switching point,
there are always
strong new energies released into
• **the planet or**
• **the individual**
from higher spheres.

This [i.e., *This strong new energy*]
manifests
on the inner plane
as a strong movement.

When this movement [on the inner plane]
is halted
by the ever-existing tendency
to stagnate,
it creates
a painful crisis.

You may look at
all the upheavals in human history
from this point of view [i.e., *from the point of view that upheavals are*
a result of resisting the strong new energy that is manifesting
as a strong movement on the inner plane].

Most such periods [i.e., *Most such periods of upheaval in human history*]
were manifestations of
exactly this principle [i.e., *the principle that when new energy manifests*
on the inner plane is halted, a painful crisis is created].

*When the new movement
is halted,
what would express itself
in a*

- *blessed,*
- *rich*

*way,
can manifest
only in a*

- *distorted,*

therefore

- *painful*

way.

You
create the distortion
by

not

- *feeling,*

not

- *trusting, and*

not

- *following*

*the course
of the inner process.*

23

*Let me give you
a specific example
of something that is happening
right now.*

*Humanity
as a whole
is ready to approach
a much deeper phase
of
group consciousness.*

*The natural manifestation
of this [i.e., of this much deeper phase of group consciousness],
if followed,
would be*

- *the transformation of
nations
into
one human government;*
- *religious differences
would disappear
because
the One
would be recognized
as undifferentiated.*
- *All humanity
would apply laws of*
 - *equality,*
 - *justice, and*
 - *love**to all,
sharing
the wealth of the earth.*
- *New laws and*
- *new approaches
would be instituted
that would yield
undreamed-of results.*
- *The "other"
would no longer be
"the enemy."*

24

*But since humanity by and large
resists
this
natural
development,
• those who
follow it [i.e., those who follow
this natural development]
necessarily separate from
• those who
do not.*

*They [i.e., Those who follow this natural development]
create
their own communities
where this new spirit
will increasingly manifest.*

*In the meantime,
the great new movement
halted by
the resisters
manifests
in a distorted way.*

*This is why you find today
the regrettable manifestations of
"group consciousness"
in
• overpopulation,
• overcrowded cities,
in
• the emergence of monopolies
in which
large groups
• master
the masses and
• dictate
• laws and
• values.*

	<p><i>The self-alienation of overcrowded</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>living and</i>• <i>working,</i> <p><i>in which</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>human qualities</i> <p><i>give way to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>robotic qualities,</i> <p><i>is by now well known.</i></p>
25	<p><i>Those who are not connected –</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>consciously or</i>• <i>intuitively –</i> <p><i>with the</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>movement and</i>• <i>development</i> <p><i>of consciousness</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>are regressive and</i>• <i>try to halt the movement,</i> <p><i>• fearing it [i.e., fearing the movement and development of consciousness],</i></p> <p><i>and</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>believing it</i> <p><i>is bad [i.e., believing the movement and development of consciousness is bad].</i></p> <p><i>But they [i.e., But those who are not connected with the development of consciousness, who try to halt the development of consciousness – fearing such development and believing that development of consciousness is bad]</i></p> <p><i>cannot really halt the movement, which [i.e., the movement and development of consciousness] then hits a closed channel that is alien to its own benign nature and thus [the movement of consciousness] creates negative conditions.</i></p>

***The group [of those who try to halt the influx of new consciousness]
becomes
an amorphous mass.***

Instead of
• highly individuated members,
such groups have
• a mass-consciousness
that must not be confused with
group consciousness.

The halted movement
of group consciousness
expresses itself in
• large groups
selfishly
running the masses;
• big concerns
in which
all personal connection
to
• others,
to
• employers,
to
• aspects of the work itself,
is almost lacking.

• These [manifestations of the halted movement of group consciousness],
and
• many more such manifestations in your modern life,
are not the result
of
• overpopulation,
but [rather are the result]
of
• halting the movement of consciousness,
of
• not
• feeling and
• following
it [i.e., of not feeling and following
the movement of consciousness].

	<p>Overpopulation itself <i>[rather than being the cause of problems in the world today]</i> is one such manifestation <i>[of halting the movement of consciousness, of not feeling and following the movement of consciousness].</i></p> <p>Modern people are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• small cogs in a big machine,• depersonalized because they halted both movements:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• their own individuation and• the group consciousness.
26	<p>As the movement <i>[and development of consciousness]</i> is blindly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• halted,• feared,• denied,<ul style="list-style-type: none">• population increases;• greater communities develop<ul style="list-style-type: none">• a mass consciousness <p>instead of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a group consciousness – in<ul style="list-style-type: none">• urban and• industrial life, <p>in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the disconnection from nature. <p>As</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• group consciousness distorts into<ul style="list-style-type: none">• mass consciousness, <p>so does</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• individual consciousness turn into<ul style="list-style-type: none">• separatism and• alienation from the other.

27

If the movement [and development of consciousness]

is

- *followed,*
 - *unobstructed*
- by*
- *blind resistance,*
- by*
- *fear of change,*

but is

- *trusted and*
- *honestly accepted,*

then

these negative manifestations [such as group consciousness deteriorating into mass consciousness, and individual consciousness deteriorating into separatism, and alienation from each other] will fall by the wayside.

As for those who

follow the movement,

- *they will*
- not be affected by*
- the distortions of*
- *mass consciousness.*

- *They will*
- create*
- a new*
- *group consciousness.*

There is a

great difference

between the two [i.e., between mass consciousness and group consciousness]

*as you, my friends,
can surely perceive now.*

Mass consciousness

- *eliminates*
- individuals;*

group consciousness

- *honors and*
 - *furtheres*
- them [i.e., honors and furtheres individuals].*

	<p><i>[In group consciousness]</i> Each individual is, of course, an integral part of the whole.</p> <p>The more fully you function as an individual, the more you have to add to the group.</p> <p>The less you are a full-fledged individual, the less you can contribute to it [i.e., the less you can contribute to the group].</p>
28	<p>In the mass consciousness this is entirely different.</p> <p>Mass consciousness does not require individuation; instead, it imposes a blind</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• following and• conformity. <p>The halting of the movement [and development of consciousness] creates a perversion of what group consciousness would create.</p>

29

This [i.e., This difference between mass consciousness and group consciousness] is very important to understand, my friends.

Within
• *yourself,*
as well as
within
• *the consciousness of humanity,*
group consciousness
has
definite
• *gradations and*
• *categories.*

There are
three major phases
of development
in this respect [i.e., in respect to group consciousness].

Both as
• *a whole,*
and as
• *the individuals*
that form part of it [i.e., the individuals that form part of the whole],
humanity
has gone through these three stages [of development].

You are also going through them
on
• *deeper,*
and respectively
• *higher*
levels of
consciousness-organization,
until
total oneness
with the All
is achieved.

30	<p><i>On the lowest scale you need the group because you are</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• frightened,</i> <p><i>you are</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• dependent, and</i> <p><i>you are</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• not yet able to be responsible for yourself.</i> <p><i>You do</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• not yet have the ability to establish a channel to your own limitless creative potential.</i> <p><i>This [first] phase can be likened to the infant who needs the mother.</i></p>
31	<p><i>You often find individuals who are ready to move into the next [i.e., second] phase of</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• being self-responsible and</i><i>• establishing their own channel,</i> <p><i>but are unwilling to do so.</i></p> <p><i>I might say, you have all found this resistance on your path [i.e., this unwillingness to move into the next phase of your path by being self-responsible and establishing your own channel]</i></p> <p><i>when encountering your lower self.</i></p>

*Since the planet
also has
a lower self,
there are
factions of people
who express
a similar resistance.*

*So you must differentiate
between being
unable
to take on selfhood
individually,
and being
unwilling
to do so [i.e., unwilling to take on selfhood individually],
insisting that
others –
• parents or
• groups –
give you
the sustenance
that only
the divine self
can give.*

32

People who
• *use the group*
as a crutch
to substitute for
individuation
halt the movement [and development of consciousness]

as much as
those who
• *use individualism*
as a cover for
their inability
to be
• *intimate,*
to be
• *open and*
• *undefended,*

and who therefore
• *fear*
the group.

Such people [i.e., people who fear the group and use individualism as a cover]
will have a stake in
confusing
• *conformity and*
• *mass consciousness*
with
• *group consciousness*
and will
use the rightful arguments against
• *the former [i.e., arguments against conformity and*
mass consciousness]

to blot out the existence of
• *the latter [i.e., blot out the existence of group consciousness].*

33

*When individuals
organically
take the next [i.e., the second] step
from*

- needing the group*

to

- emancipation and*
- self-responsibility,*

*the pendulum may first
swing slightly too much
in the direction of
individualism.*

They then

- rebel against
the group and*
- deny its value.*

*You also find
this rebellion
within you, and
you now know
that*

- to the degree you*
 - deny,*
 - fear and*
 - distrust*
- autonomy,*
- to that exact degree you will*
 - dislike*
 - yourself and*
 - those on whom you depend.*

*Thus
you
need
to rebel.*

*But if you proceed organically,
that rebellion
will not last long,*

for

- *you will recognize the rebellion
for what it is and*
- *your emphasis will be put on*
 - *the self,
rather than on*
 - *those against whom you rebel.*

*You then learn to utilize
your
dormant divinity,
but you are still in a phase
where you must concentrate
mainly
on your individual process.*

*Of course,
this does not mean
going into isolation.*

- *Help and
reactions
from others
are always an integral part
of this [second] phase.*

- *Contact with others
is always necessary.*

- *Others
can mirror to you
where the self is stuck,*

and

- *the self
deeply needs this awareness
of its effects on others
during its
individuation process.*

*In this entire [second] phase,
the emphasis is on
individuation.*

34

*The third phase of development comes
when individuals*

- *have developed
full self-realization*

and

- *can thus*
 - *benefit from and*
 - *give to*
the group
without losing
 - *selfhood,*
 - *autonomy, and*
 - *self-responsibility.*

*They do not
lose*

- *privacy,*
- *the right to be different,*

*nor do they
deny their need*

- *to express their uniqueness.*

Quite the contrary.

*In such an evolved group
there is no conflict
between*

- *individual needs*

and

- *those of the whole group.*

35

*Group consciousness
does not
diminish
uniqueness,
but
furthers
it [i.e., furthers uniqueness].*

*The self
no longer
uses the group
as a crutch
because
it cannot handle life.*

*Nor is
the group
an authority
that one needs to rebel against.*

*The group
is truly
an extended self
in which one can function
as a free agent.*

*The highest organization
of group consciousness
occurs
when
each individual
has found his or her
autonomy.*

36

*In the overall development
the [three] phases
are never that clearly defined.*

- *They overlap and*
 - *there are
many spirals
within the spiral,
yet the movement
is*
 - *not haphazard*
 - but*
 - *an expression of
such profound*
 - *harmony and*
 - *lawfulness*
- in a larger scheme
that the human consciousness
can sense it
only vaguely, at best.*

*So I would say to you, my friends, that
in this period of your history,
humanity is
ready for*

- *the individual autonomy
that can form groups and*

ready for

- *the group consciousness
that becomes
an entity in itself.*

Those who obstruct group consciousness

- distort*
 - *it [i.e., group consciousness]*
- into*
 - *mass consciousness,*
- and [distort]*
 - *individual consciousness*
- into*
 - *separatism.*

*But those who
follow
the movement of autonomy
within
a new group consciousness
will create*

- *the new world,*
- *the life of the New Age.*

*Community living
is springing up increasingly,
and although it does not always express itself
in its perfect form,
it moves toward it [i.e., community living moves toward its perfect form]
so that it [i.e., so that community living]
will blossom.*

37

*Now, in your particular community,
you will find
each of these three phases of human consciousness
represented.*

*Even people who are, on the whole,
sufficiently highly developed
to form part of this
New Age community living,
have areas within them
that represent lower phases.*

You all

- *know this and*
- *have been working with these aspects.*

*You find
that part in you
where you desperately need others
because
you fear you*

- *are not enough and*
- *have not actualized
your inner God.*

This [i.e., Having a part in you where you desperately need others because you fear you are not enough and have not actualized your inner God] does not mean that you should now separate yourself from the group, for alone you could hardly accomplish the task of development.

But you need to be aware of your wish to misuse the group in order to avoid meeting yourself.

38

And you also find that part in you that

- *rebels against the group and*
- *wants to shun it*
 - *because you fear*
 - *exposure and*
 - *rejection,*
 - *your need and*
 - *your weakness*

and

- *because you do not yet know how to function without the pretenses of*
 - *your mask and*
 - *your defensive games.*

Again this does not mean that you should now abandon all your

- *individual needs and*
- *forms of self-expression*

and submerge into an amorphous group organism.

It merely means to

- *see and*
- *pay attention and*
- *understand and*
- *proceed from there.*

So even while

all these aspects

may still exist in you to some extent,

this does not mean

that you are not ready

to become

a fully autonomous individual

who is part of the group,

- *being enriched by it and*
- *enriching it.*

You can find

your

- *privacy and*
 - *individuality*
- totally intact,*

your

- *group living and*
 - *intimacy*
- totally unhampered.*

In the course of your movement on this path,

you will find

the [three] phases I mentioned;

- *all of them*
- are represented.*
- *They [i.e., the three phases I mentioned]*
- coexist*
- within the soul,*
- and that*
- has to be recognized.*

39

*Most of you
have already found your
dependency,
be it on*

- *family,*
- *a mate,*
- *the group.*

First

• *unconsciously,*
and later

• *consciously,*
you expect

the group

to do for you

what you

• *think you cannot or*

• *will not*

do for yourself.

*You have also discovered
that you*

• *become*

• *frightened and*

• *uncomfortable*

in the group and

• *want to run from it*

• *because of your*

• *expectations from and*

• *demands on*

it [i.e., expectations from and demands on the group],

as well as

• *because of the hidden*

• *guilt and*

• *shame*

of your lower self.

So you

• *turn against*

the group and

• *rebel against*

it.

40

*You are all perfectly well aware of
these tendencies,
but you have applied them
exclusively*

to the parental situation:

you, as a child,

still want to have

- a father and*
- a mother*

figure.

This is true

in a purely psychological sense,

in terms of this life,

but

putting it into a cosmic framework,

it is also true

that in the phase of

group consciousness

you endow the group

with the power

that you resist

developing within yourself.

You therefore

go into the second phase:

- rebellion against the group,*
- resenting it,*
- avoiding it.*

You find that [second phase] part in you, too.

41

*But many of you are becoming
increasingly ready to go into
the third phase*

- *where you will find*
 - *true self-responsibility,*
 - *your own inner strength,*
 - *your autonomy,*
 - *your own channel to the highest,*
- *where you can indeed
stand on your own two feet
because
you have within you
what you need.*

Therefore [i.e., Because you have within you what you need to enter the third phase]

- *you
need not*
 - *fear and*
 - *rebel against
the group.*
- *You no longer
need the group
in a debilitating way;*
- *you
need the group
out of*
 - *love and*
 - *a desire for
mutual*
 - *giving and*
 - *receiving.*

- *You*
 - *share and*
 - *experience*
 - *the struggle of growth and*
 - *the joys of life,*
 - *the pain and*
 - *the pleasure*
of living, and
- *you are*
 - *grateful for*
this richness of
life with others
in which
being together
in no way infringes on
your
 - *privacy,**your*
 - *uniqueness, and**your*
 - *need to be by yourself.*

That kind of relating
is
true intimacy.

42

This kind of relating
must also exist for
a couple
in order for
the one-to-one relationship
to be
truly fulfilling.

If you
use a mate
because
you do not wish to
 fend for yourself,
the relationship
becomes
unbearable.

*By the same token,
if you use
a group
because
you
feel frightened*
• *alone,*
you will simultaneously
• *fear*
and
• *hate*
• *that group.*

43

*The negative expressions
vary
in the different phases.*

*In phase one [i.e., In the first phase where you depend on the group]
you will be*

more in touch with

- *the fear [of life] and*
- *the need [for the group or mate]*

and

less in touch with

- *the hate [toward the group or mate] and*
- *the rebellion [against the group or mate].*

Feeling the fear of life

more,

you will need

- *the group, or*
- *the mate*

more.

The hate

for those one

- *needs and*
- *depends on*

*is more dormant in
the first phase.*

In the second phase

the

- *hate and*
 - *fear*
- of the group [or mate]*
is predominant

as is the

• desire to run from it [i.e., as is the desire to run from the group or mate],
while

- *need [for the group or mate] and*
 - *dependency [on the group or mate]*
- are more dormant.*

A false independence

is then courted

in which

- *give*

and

- *take*

cannot be learned,

neither can

- *flexibility and*
- *openness.*

People in this [second] phase

continue to cultivate a

- *rigid,*
 - *inflexible*
- attitude*

in which

- *they think they*
can control
everything
 - *within and*
 - *around*
- them.*

- *They cultivate*
an unyielding
false
selfhood.

44

*All the phases of
the alternation
of*

- *individual*
- and
- *group*

*consciousness
exist*

not only

on

- *the planetary level,*

on

- *an overall scale of
the total evolution*

of

- *the planet Earth,*

of

- *humanity as a whole;*

*they [i.e., all the phases of the alternation of individual and
group consciousness]*

exist

within each human being.

*From this point of view [i.e., From the point of view that all the phases of the
alternation of individual and group consciousness
exist within each human being]*

it will become

*quite significant for you, my friends,
to see where you are.*

*To be aware of this [i.e., of where you are in this matter]
is of great importance.*

*It [i.e., the framework describing the three phases of the alternation of individual
and group consciousness that exist within each human being]*

will be a map for you

with which you can

chart your way

through an inner situation.

Without this awareness [i.e., Without this awareness of where you are in terms of the framework of the phases of the alternation of individual and group consciousness within your being]

it would be much harder for you to understand

- *where you are,*
- *what you do, and*
- *what your reactions truly mean.*

You will come into an even deeper understanding of the

- *unitary principles of life.*

In this particular instance, the

- *dualistic principle proclaims that either*
 - *individualism is*
 - *"right" and*
 - *group consciousness*
 - *"wrong" or*
 - *"bad,"*
- or vice versa.*

Each "wrong" is easily rationalized by the use of the distorted form of its true expression.

45

*From the
unitary principle
you understand that
both [i.e., both individualism and group consciousness]
have*

- *their function*

*and both
have the*

- *healthy,*
- *truthful*

expression,

*or both
can have a*

- *perverted,*
- *distorted*

expression.

So it is of utmost importance for you

- *to see where you are
in relation to the group;*
- *to probe yourself
with questions.*

- *Are you needful
of the group?*
- *Are you
afraid of being alone?*
- *Do you expect the group
to do for you
what you*
 - *do not wish to do or*
 - *believe you cannot do?*

*The answer may
not always apply to
the whole group;
it may
apply to
only one other individual,
but the principle remains the same.*

*The moment you
fear
your aloneness,
you must also understand
that relating to
the other –
be it*

- *one person or*
- *a group –*

*will be as difficult as
being alone.*

*And
only when
your aloneness
is no longer difficult
will*

- *the group living or*
- *the one-to-one living*

be a true joy.

46

*You will then move into
the new consciousness
that*

- *spreads its wings,*

that

- *is rich from within
and therefore
adds to what is without,*

*and
that*

- *can also take in
from without
and bring it back into
the inner world.*

***In a group
that consists predominantly of
autonomous individuals,
the richness***

- multiplies and***
- compounds***

with almost incomprehensible speed.

***This [i.e., this richness multiplying
and compounding with almost incomprehensible speed]
is a phenomenon
you, in your work here,
begin to perceive.***

***Those
who are following
this new stream [of consciousness]***

- will***

and

- do***

***perceive it [i.e., will and do perceive the richness multiplying
and compounding with almost incomprehensible speed].***

***Those
who***

- may be very active in this work***

but

- are not yet within that stream [i.e., not yet within
that new stream of consciousness]***

***are blind to it [i.e., are blind to the new stream of consciousness and
to the resulting richness multiplying and compounding with
almost incomprehensible speed among others around them].***

***They [i.e., Those who are not yet within
the new stream of consciousness]
are not able to differentiate
between***

- the healthy***

and

- the unhealthy
attitude
toward***

- group and***
- individual
consciousness.***

*They [i.e., Those who are not yet within
the new stream of consciousness]
cannot differentiate
between
healthy*

- *selfishness and*
- *unselfishness*

*as two expressions
of the same source.*

But those

- *who are within that stream [i.e., within the new stream of consciousness],*
- *who have reached
their first foothold
in that cosmic current,
which constantly expands,*

*will know that
the group
will never eliminate*

- *their privacy or*
- *the autonomy
of their being.*

*It [i.e., The group]
will further*

- *it [i.e., will further the privacy or
autonomy of your being]*

as well as

- *your independence.*

*As you develop,
you
enrich
the group,
and
the group
enriches
you.*

47	<p><i>New</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>communities,</i> <p><i>new</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>living centers</i> <i>of the new consciousness,</i> <i>are springing up on Earth.</i> <p><i>They [i.e., These new communities and new living centers of the new consciousness]</i> <i>will</i></p> <p><i>increasingly</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>manifest and</i>• <i>practice</i> <i>this consciousness.</i>
48	<p><i>It is important that you</i> <i>be well aware of</i> <i>the unitary principle.</i></p> <p><i>This possibility [of you being well aware of the unitary principle]</i> <i>is speedily ripening</i> <i>into a reality</i> <i>manifest on your earth plane.</i></p> <p><i>Thus you can</i> <i>follow the various spirals</i> <i>within you,</i> <i>knowing</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>where you are and</i>• <i>what you move toward.</i> <p><i>It is one thing</i> <i>to know about these phases</i> <i>as conditions</i> <i>within the human personality,</i> <i>but it is another</i> <i>to understand them</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>within the framework</i> <i>of a larger cosmic scheme,</i>• <i>as a meaningful manifestation</i> <i>of a cosmic movement</i> <i>that you are part of.</i>

	<p><i>Such understanding [i.e., Understanding these phases within the framework of a larger cosmic scheme, as a meaningful manifestation of a cosmic movement that you are part of]</i></p> <p><i>will help you to not bring this new force to a halt so that it would manifest negatively, but you will go with it [i.e., go with this new force] in the best possible way.</i></p>
49	<p><i>On each threshold from one new phase to the other, new energies are being released.</i></p> <p><i>So it is not the first time in history that new energies are being released onto your earth plane.</i></p> <p><i>Each period had its own newly released energy-and-consciousness streams brought into the inner awareness of individual beings.</i></p> <p><i>But humankind has now reached a much higher potential of development and those who follow this potential will therefore be swept onward by this inner movement as never before.</i></p>

50

*If you wish,
you can*

- *tune into this force and*
- *truly use it*

*for
your transformation.*

*In this respect [i.e., in respect to your tuning into this force and using this new force,
this influx of new energy-and-consciousness, for your transformation]
you are not yet doing
as much as you could,
although your progress*

- *individually*

and as

- *a group*

is very substantial.

*You do not yet
tune in enough
to this force,
which is operative*

- *in the universal consciousness*
- *and therefore also*
- *in you.*

*You still
cling to the belief
that this or that*

- *problem or*
- *attitude*

*of yours
cannot be changed.*

By doing that [i.e., by clinging to the belief that this or that problem or attitude of yours cannot be changed]

*you not only
make yourself
unavailable to*

- the new consciousness and*
- this energy force*

*that streams inside of you,
but you also
endanger yourself
because
this force
will then*

- reverse the process and*
- bring you into a crisis*

that could have been avoided.

*The force
is there,
whether you*

- use it consciously*
- or not.*

If you

- use it*
 - consciously and*
 - wisely and*
- follow it,*
- go with it,*

*it will bring you into
undreamed-of*

- unfoldment and*
- enrichment.*

[Conversely]

*If you
stem against it [i.e., against this new consciousness and energy force
that streams inside of you]*
in blind

- fear and*
- stubbornness,*

*it will
turn against you.*

This is the law.

***It is no
evil force per se
that is doing it [i.e., that is actively working to defeat you];***

***it [i.e., that which seems to be actively working to defeat you]
is only
the denial of***

- the movement of the whole,***
- the divine flow.***

***Whether you deny it [i.e., deny the movement of the whole, the divine flow]
because of***

- ignorance,***
- stubbornness, or***
- anything else
makes little difference.***

So I say to you, my friends,

- you are in a wonderful process of
awakening;***
- wake up more.***

- Take yourself
out of your numbness.***

- Look at***
 - it,***
- feel***
 - it,***
 - the force within you.***

***It [i.e., The force within you]
is
the living Christ force
that can
transform***

- the negative material,***
- the stagnant attitude***

into

- an entirely new expression.***

***Do not
hug
your
negative***
• *thoughts and*
• *convictions.*

***The force
is there
the moment you***
• *embrace it,*
the moment you
• *turn to it,*
the moment you
• *lift your face to it,*
• *allegorically,*
• *inwardly,*
• *symbolically.*

• *Lift your hands to it,*
• *allow it, and*
• *go with it.*

***So much has already happened
in this respect [i.e., in respect to you embracing, turning to, lifting your face
and hands to, allowing and going with this force].***

***It [i.e., This force]
can be activated more
to the wonderful unfoldment
of each of your lives.***

51

***Universal love
is highly concentrated here, at our meetings [i.e., during this time we spend
together in these lectures],
so that you do not receive
just words,
important as the contents of these lectures are for you,***
• *to understand and*
• *to work with.*

*Most of you
who do not numb yourselves
are indeed aware of
this very concentrated [universal] love force*

- *penetrating and*
- *enveloping*

you.

You

- *feel it [i.e., You feel this very concentrated universal love force]*

and

- *are enriched by it [i.e., and you are enriched by this very concentrated universal love force].*

*So I say,
open*

- *your
inner*
 - *eyes and*
 - *ears and*
- *all your faculties of
intuitive perception
to soak in
the force that is here,
so that
what your mind learns*
 - *on the level of consciousness*

can become

- *a vibrant truth –*
- *not just a cut-off intellectual understanding.*

You

- *live and*
- *move and*
- *have your being
in this*
 - *love*

and

- *truth
in this*
 - *truth*

*at all times,
only most of the time
you are not yet aware of it.*

	<p><i>What you have to learn is know it [i.e., learn to KNOW that you live and move and have your being in this love and in this truth at all times], that is all.</i></p> <p><i>You are all blessed, my very beloved friends.</i></p>
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