

Pathwork Lecture 247: The Mass Images of Judaism and Christianity

1996 Edition, Original Given January 11, 1978

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

¶	Content
03	<p><i>This lecture grew out of an answer to the following question.</i></p>
04	<p><i>Question:</i> <i>I am very puzzled by the tremendously strong reactions about the whole issue of Jesus Christ.</i></p> <p><i>I understand what you said about the fear of expansion that applies to all phases of expansion.</i></p>

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***But the reaction to
your emphasis of
the role of Jesus Christ
in the pathwork
is so strong
that I have the feeling there is more to it [i.e., more to the
strong resistance to your emphasis of the role
of Jesus Christ in the pathwork]
than
resistance to expansion.***

Could you comment on this?

05

***Answer:
My beloved,
most blessed friends!***

***Many of you must
feel the strength
of divine blessings
in
your
• lives and
your
• tasks.***

***This special
• joy,
• security
• peace and
• excitement,
the deep sense that your life has
• profound meaning and
• purpose,

can exist
only when
your life is
totally dedicated to
• God and
• His
• will and
• plan [i.e., The Plan of Salvation].***

	<p><i>The more</i> <i>this [i.e., your life being totally dedicated to God and His will and plan]</i> <i>is the case,</i> <i>the more</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>the clouds disappear and</i>• <i>the fuller life becomes.</i> <p><i>This</i> <i>spirit of service</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>encompasses more</i> <i>and more of my beloved friends and</i>• <i>takes deeper roots in your hearts.</i> <p><i>When such service spreads,</i> <i>a great light</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>springs up from</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>your level of consciousness and</i>• <i>merges with the more</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>powerful and</i>• <i>purer light</i><i>coming from</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>our level of consciousness.</i>
06	<p><i>Strong reactions</i> <i>to the reality of Jesus Christ</i> <i>must be considered</i> <i>on two</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>very specific and</i>• <i>well defined levels:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>the personal</i><i>and</i>• <i>the collective.</i>

07

*Let us begin with
individual Christians
who feel
a strong reaction
against
Jesus Christ.*

*They rebel
against*

- *their early upbringing and*
- *the values*

their parents stood for.

*Christ
has been presented to them
as a*

- *meek,*
- *passive,*
- *sexless*

*figure
who demands
the same kind of
distorted self-denial
from all those
who are to follow in His footsteps.*

*They react to
the identification of Jesus Christ
with*

- *rigid morality*

that denies

- *feelings,*
- *sexuality,*
- *autonomy and*
- *the strong energy*

that creates

- *positive aggression and*
- *self-assertion.*

08	<p><i>Thus</i> <i>a very confusing mixture in</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>perception,</i>• <i>understanding and</i>• <i>consciousness</i> <p><i>comes about.</i></p> <p><i>On the one hand,</i> <i>Christ</i> <i>is depicted as embodying</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>love,</i>• <i>truth,</i>• <i>wisdom,</i>• <i>salvation,</i>• <i>goodness and</i>• <i>service to</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>the Creator and</i>• <i>His plan,</i> <p><i>and on the other [hand]</i> <i>[Christ is depicted]</i> <i>as demanding [of his followers]</i> <i>a self-defeating denial of</i> <i>intrinsic human</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>values,</i>• <i>energies and</i>• <i>expressions.</i> <p><i>This is</i> <i>the mass image</i> <i>of Christianity.</i></p>
09	<p><i>Like all mass images,</i> <i>this [mass image of Christianity]</i> <i>too</i> <i>stems from individuals</i> <i>whose circumstances</i> <i>in their early environment</i> <i>fostered the formation</i> <i>of a specific image.</i></p>

*The images
may have begun
• in this life
or
• in previous lives.*

*The less
a specific image
has been dissolved,
the more
it creates conditions
in the next incarnation
that help
recreate the image.*

*It is then up to
the individual
to use these conditions
to dissolve the image.*

*We shall examine the mass image in detail,
from the point of view of our understanding of images,
in a little while.*

*Let me first return to
the personal reactions
of a Christian child
• who grew up with
this confused perception and
• who deals with it
in his or her own way.*

10

*The admixture of
• truth
and
• falsehood
about Jesus Christ
is impossible
for children to disentangle.*

*So there are only
two choices.*

*The first alternative
is to submit to
the totality
of what is conveyed.*

*In this case
they [i.e., the children who choose to submit totally to what is conveyed]
will grow up
accepting
the traditional concept
of what it is to be a Christian.*

They will

- *fear
their feelings,*
- *deny
their sexuality, and*
- *put reins on
their aggression,
which they identify
with evil.*

*Underneath this restraint,
strong impulses exist,
but they [i.e., these strong impulses]
are very threatening.*

*Such "submitting Christians"
feel themselves
to be sinners
whenever they register
unallowed feelings.*

*They [i.e., Such "submitting Christians"]
also
rebel, of course,
but
the fear of
expressing the rebellion openly
is much too threatening.*

11

*So [because such “submitting Christians” fear that
expressing the rebellion they feel is much too threatening],
the rebellion, too,
must be*

- repressed and*
- denied,*

*only to create
more*

- guilt,*

more

- of a feeling of
secretly being sinners.*

*Such people [i.e., Such “submitting Christians”]
will use
any kind of doctrine
to reinforce these denials [i.e., reinforce these denials of their
rebellion, guilt, and feelings of secretly being sinners].*

*They [i.e., Such “submitting Christians”]
will
flock to
orientations
that take the Bible
in a very*

- literal and*
- doctrinaire
sense.*

*They [i.e., Such “submitting Christians”]
feel safe
only in a*

- rigid,*
- life-denying
structure.*

12	<p><i>The other alternative the child has is to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• openly and</i><i>• consciously</i> <p><i>rebel against the strictures that deny its very being.</i></p> <p><i>Such children become the "rebellious Christians" [that] we are concerned with on this path.</i></p> <p><i>The "submitting Christians" I first spoke of would never enter such a path as this.</i></p> <p><i>That [i.e., Entering a path such as pathwork] would be totally in opposition to the safety valves they have created.</i></p>
13	<p><i>The "rebellious Christians" need reinforcement for their rebellion, for underneath it [i.e., for underneath their rebellion] they carry some doubts about its [i.e., about their rebellion's] legitimacy.</i></p>

*The truth is
that they [i.e., that the “rebellious Christians”]
should indeed
deny
the prohibition of*

- *feelings,*
- *positive aggression,*
- *sexuality,*
- *self-responsibility and*
- *autonomy.*

*But they
certainly should
not
deny
the truth of*

- *Jesus Christ*

in

- His*
 - *love,*
- His*
 - *power,*
- His*
 - *presence,*

and

- *the need to
take Him
into their own lives.*

14

*“Submitting Christians”
suffer from*

- *the same confusion,*
- *the same
false fusion
of*
- *truth*

and

- *error*

[that the “rebellious Christians” do].

	<p><i>However, they [i.e., the “submitting Christians”] would need to learn to do exactly the opposite of what “rebellious Christians” need to do.</i></p> <p><i>They [i.e., The “submitting Christians”] must</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• question [rather than simply accept] the tradition as handed to them,</i> <p><i>whereas the rebels need to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• accept [rather than reject and rebel against] the truth in the tradition.</i>
15	<p><i>All children need parents who are</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• strong and</i><i>• right.</i> <p><i>This gives them a sense of security.</i></p> <p><i>A</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• weak and</i><i>• “wrong” parent is no protection against a frightening world.</i> <p><i>“Submitting Christians” accept their parents’ doctrine unquestioningly also because they cannot bear the thought that their parents may have been mistaken.</i></p>

16	<p><i>"Rebelling Christians", on the other hand, find security in totally rejecting their parents' values, at least in this particular respect [i.e., in respect to Christianity].</i></p> <p><i>They [i.e., "Rebelling Christians"] grow up with a sense of superiority, considering their denial of Christ as more evolved.</i></p> <p><i>Here again confusion exists.</i></p> <p><i>It is indeed "more evolved" to deny the false denials [i.e., to deny what is false in any particular tradition],</i></p> <p><i>but it is not more evolved to deny the truths that are also in the tradition.</i></p>
17	<p><i>In the consciousness of such people [i.e., In the consciousness of "rebellious Christians"] there exists a tremendous fear of finding out that perhaps, after all, their parents were right.</i></p> <p><i>In the childish consciousness everything is always either/or [i.e., either 100% right or 100% wrong].</i></p> <p><i>You know that.</i></p>

*All images
come from the inability
to differentiate*

- *truth*

from

- *falsehood*

because
*the image conclusion
is always based on*

- *total right*

versus

- *total wrong.*

*Being
right
means
being*

- *good,*
- *acceptable,*
- *having the power to create a safe life,*
- *deserving happiness.*

*Being
wrong
means
being*

- *bad,*
- *unacceptable,*
- *having no power to create safety and*
- *not deserving happiness.*

18

This applies to

- *the self*

and, by extension, to

- *the parents.*

*"Rebelling Christians"
can deal with the possibility
that their parents
were
totally
wrong.*

*[If their parents were totally wrong]
They [i.e., "Rebelling Christians"]
are then justified
in denying
all
their parents stood for.*

On a very

- primitive,
- childish

*level
the threat
the "rebellious Christian" experiences now,
when Jesus Christ
is being reintroduced in the pathwork
in a more dynamic way,
can be expressed thus:*

*"If my parents were
right about*

- the reality of Jesus Christ,

*then they must have
also been right about*

- my sexual feelings
being sinful,
- my surge for
 - individuality,
 - autonomy and
 - self-expression
being sinful.

*I would
never have the right*

- to be angry and
- to express my energies
in an aggressive way,
for all aggression
must be bad.

	<p><i>I would also be</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>guilty and</i>• <i>bad</i> <p><i>for having denied</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Christ and</i>• <i>my parents</i> <p><i>in the past.</i></p> <p><i>This [i.e., Being guilty, sinful, and bad]</i> <i>I cannot bear,</i> <i>so I must turn against</i> <i>these ideas [i.e., I must turn against the idea that these things are sinful, bad,</i> <i>and make me guilty: sexual feelings, individuality, autonomy,</i> <i>being angry, expressing any aggressive behavior, and my denial of</i> <i>Christ and my parents in the past]."</i></p>
19	<p><i>The stronger</i> <i>the inner confusion</i> <i>about</i> <i>what is</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>true</i> <p><i>and</i> <i>what is</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>false</i> <p><i>in the parental tradition,</i></p> <p><i>the stronger</i> <i>is the fear</i> <i>of finding out that</i></p> <p><i>"I was</i> <i>• wrong,</i> <i>therefore I am</i> <i>• bad."</i></p> <p><i>This stronger threat [i.e., this stronger threat of finding out that I was wrong</i> <i>and therefore I am bad]</i></p> <p><i>reinforces</i> <i>the rebellion against such thoughts [i.e., reinforces the rebellion against</i> <i>any thought that would say I was wrong and therefore I am bad,]</i> <i>[thoughts] which seem to echo</i> <i>parental admonitions.</i></p>

20	<p><i>You can see clearly that the mechanism is very much the same as with</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>all image formation –</i><i>and</i>• <i>the image dissolution.</i> <p><i>You can also see clearly here that</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>the personal image is multiplied many times, for many similar</i>• <i>cases and</i>• <i>conditions exist.</i> <p><i>Thereby</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>a mass image is created.</i>
21	<p><i>The mass image of the "Christian rebel" harbors underneath it the possibility of the "Christian submitter," and vice versa.</i></p> <p><i>"Christian rebels" fear that if they</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>recognize,</i>• <i>challenge and</i>• <i>dissolve</i> <p><i>their image [that their parent's Christianity is all wrong], they will have to become "Christian submitters."</i></p>

*And "Christian submitters"
are equally afraid
to let go of their own image [that their parent's Christianity is all correct],
for that would seem to mean
they must become
"Christian rebels"
who throw out*

- the beautiful truth of Jesus Christ*

along with

- the falsehoods.*

22

*As I said before,
on this path we deal much more often with
the "rebellious Christian" image [i.e., the image that one's parent's
Christianity is 100% wrong].*

*The [image of a person who is a Christian] submitter
exists only as an
underlying*

- threat and*
- fear*

*that can be dissolved
when the bright light of truth
shines on the soul substance
that has been*

- rigidly and*
- fixedly*

holding these images.

*Later we shall discuss
the other aspects of these images [i.e., other aspects of these images
of the "rebellious Christian" and of the "submitting Christian"] –*

- wrong conclusion,*
- vicious circle,*
- proving the wrong conclusion correct.*

*We shall also show
the process of*

- dissolving the image.*

23

*Before that [i.e., Before discussing other aspects of these Christian images],
however,
I would like to discuss
the Jewish mass image.*

- *A mass image
must always start with*
- *a personal image
that is multiplied often enough
to create*
 - *a collective [i.e., mass] image.*

*So we shall start with
the feeling of being threatened
if Jesus Christ
is indeed
a manifestation of God.*

*Like the "submitting Christian," [i.e., Like the "submitting Christian"
in relationship to his or her Christian parents]
Jews who deny Christ
feel immensely threatened
about their [Jewish] parents
being wrong [in their denying Christ].*

*If they [i.e., If their Jewish parents]
are wrong
in this all-important question
about*

- *life,*
- *the world,*
- *God,*

*how can they [i.e., how can their Jewish parents]
be trusted in
anything?*

*The ground
seems to slip away
from under the feet
of the child/adult.*

	<p><i>This fear [that comes when the child first begins to doubt that his or her parents can be trusted in anything]</i></p> <p><i>touches those</i> <i>who outwardly</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>rebel against their parents and</i>• <i>disagree with them</i> <p><i>on many issues.</i></p> <p><i>It [i.e., This fear that comes when the child first begins to doubt that his or her parents can be trusted in anything]</i></p> <p><i>applies just as much to those</i> <i>who are overtly</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>in agreement with their parents</i> <p><i>about almost all the important issues of life.</i></p>
24	<p><i>So, on one level,</i> <i>this mass image [i.e., the Jewish mass image that the Jewish parents cannot be wrong and the fear that results from this image when the child first begins to doubt that his or her parents can be trusted in anything]</i> <i>is a personal/psychological issue</i> <i>which parallels</i> <i>that of the "submitting Christian."</i></p> <p><i>The part of the soul</i> <i>which has not grown up</i> <i>cannot accept</i> <i>that the parents can be</i> <i>wrong about</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>anything,</i> <p><i>because this implies</i> <i>they must then be</i> <i>wrong in</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>everything.</i>

25

Behind this personal/psychological level of reacting [i.e., reacting in fear to the image that if the parents are wrong in any one thing, then they must be wrong in everything]

lies
a whole world
of
• history,
of
• tradition,
both
in its
• true
and
in its
• distorted
form.

Let me try to examine this aspect
• as much as is possible
at this time, and
• for the specific purpose
under discussion.

26

There was a time when
the Jews
were the only ones
who
• worshipped
the Creator
as the one God,
and
who
• were in touch with Him and
• attempted to follow
His
• commandments and
• laws.

*This beautiful reality
began to disintegrate
when,
as is inevitable in human nature,
the lower self
entered into the picture.*

*It [i.e., The lower self]
induced*

- *pride,*
- *arrogance and*
- *feelings of superiority*
toward those
who did not belong to
the Jewish
 - *community and*
 - *faith.*

*Jews looked down on
pagans
as inferior.*

*They [i.e., Jews]
saw themselves
as the aristocrats
in the human family.*

27

*The reason why
Jesus Christ
was born as a Jew
is obvious.*

***Since He [i.e., Since Jesus Christ]
is a***

- manifestation and***
- incarnation***

of

- the true God,***

of

- divine reality,***

***He could manifest
only among those people
who worshipped***

- this God,***

rather than

- gods***

***which were
often***

- spirits from quite undeveloped realms***

***and
sometimes even***

- evil spirits.***

28

***This tremendous gift
of the incarnation among the Jewish people
was also a test [of the Jewish people].***

- All gifts
are tests,***

just as

- painful occurrences
are tests.***

***The test
was to recognize Jesus
for who He was.***

***To do so [i.e., To pass the test of recognizing Jesus for who He was]
would have meant [the Jews]
overcoming***

- personal pride,***
- power drives,***
- self-interest and***
- self-serving opportunism.***

If this had happened [i.e., If the Jews had recognized Jesus for who he was as he lived among them and had overcome personal pride, power drives, self-interest and self-serving opportunism],

no such conflict as

- *Judaism*

versus

- *Christianity*

could have come about.

Christianity

would simply have become

an extension

in the development of Judaism,

whether or not

a new name would have been found

to indicate this true way.

Either

of these two names [i.e., either the name Judaism or Christianity]

could have been used

in the spirit of

- *combining and*

- *extending*

the truth

of

- *the past*

into

the truth

of

- *the eternal now.*

29

On the collective level,

both

- *Jews*

and

- *Christians*

have failed the test.

This is obvious.

**The general fear
of admitting the failure** [i.e. The general fear in Jews and in Christians of
admitting to the failure of this test of Judaism and Christianity
to recognize Jesus for who he was and coexisting in harmony]

is as

- **irrational and**
- **distorted**
as your fear
of accepting
your personal
 - **imperfections and**
 - **blindnesses.**

**On this path
you have learned that doing so** [i.e. you have learned that accepting your
personal imperfections and blindnesses]
is one of the most important aspects

- of
 - **growth,**
- of
 - **self-liberation,**
- of
 - **purification,**
- of
 - **self-esteem.**

**The defense
against
admitting a possible wrong**

- **perpetuates the wrong and**
- **creates secondary guilts**
that are
 - **much more severe and**
 - **harder to eradicate.**

The

- **longer and**
- **harder**
the resistance to truth,

the

- **more painful it is.**

**The same holds true
for collective**

- **processes and**
- **dynamics.**

	<p><i>The only way collective images can be dissolved and collective consciousness corrected so that it [i.e., so that collective consciousness] expresses the truth</i></p> <p><i>is through the commitment of a sufficient number of individuals who</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• know the truth and</i><i>• have the courage to stand up for it [i.e., stand up for the truth].</i>
30	<p><i>The Jews in power felt threatened – unjustly so – by Jesus Christ.</i></p> <p><i>They [i.e., The Jews in power] were threatened only insofar as they wished to deny</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• divine truth and</i><i>• divine guidance.</i> <p><i>Since the leaders prevailed on the majority, only a few courageous ones turned to Christ.</i></p>

	<p><i>The separation [between Christ and the Jews] was enforced by those who refused to consider that He could indeed have been the promised Messiah, because they [i.e., those who refused to consider that Jesus Christ could have been the promised Messiah] did not wish to abdicate their</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• negative</i><i>• self-serving power.</i>
31	<p><i>Once the separation [between the Christians and Jews] became a reality, more of the pagans</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• turned to the New Message and</i><i>• embraced it.</i> <p><i>Their [The pagans'] heart hungered for it [i.e., hungered for the New Message].</i></p> <p><i>As time went on, more</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• pagans</i> <p><i>than</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• Jews</i> <p><i>turned to Christ.</i></p>

*The pagans' attitude
to the Jews
was to a large degree
a response to
the stamp of inferiority
that was placed on them
by the Jews*

*who were supposed to carry
God's
• love and
God's
• word.*

*Thus
mutual enmity
came into existence
and became
a vicious circle.*

32

*In the consciousness
of the Jews,
• the pagan
and
• the Christian
became
one and the same.*

*Jews considered
both [i.e., both the Christian and the pagan]
• inferior and
• hostile [toward the Jews].*

The hostility [toward the Jews from the Christians and pagans] existed,
but instead of [the Jews]
• **asking themselves**
how they [i.e., how they themselves, the Jews,] contributed to it [i.e., contributed to and provoked the hostility coming toward them] **and**
• **taking responsibility for the situation** [i.e., for the hostility coming toward them] **and**
• **seeing it** [i.e., seeing the hostility coming toward them] as a
mutual creation –
just as you have learned to do on this path –
they [i.e., the Jews]
• **abdicated**
any responsibility [for the hostility coming toward them] **and**
• **saw themselves**
as the victims
of the
• **pagans,**
that is,
of the
• **Christians,**
even while continuing
to look down on them [i.e., look down on the pagans and the Christians].

33

This old history
is very relevant
for those [Jews] **who are born into families**
who continue to harbor this attitude [of superiority and of being a victim]
in their own souls.

They [i.e., Those Jews who are born into families holding this old attitude] **can**
• **use existing family influences**
as a challenge
and thus
• **help dissolve the mass image.**

	<p><i>Or they [i.e., Or those Jews who are born into families holding this old attitude] can choose to further perpetuate</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• it [further perpetuate this Jewish mass image] and with it</i><i>• the Jewish karma.</i>
34	<p><i>When any of you work on any personal problem and find yourself terrified because your</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• friends and</i><i>• helpers</i> <p><i>confront you, when you defend against even the possibility of that with which you are being confronted, you react according to the same erroneous assumption that</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• being wrong,</i><i>• having lower-self attitudes,</i><i>• having made a mistake,</i> <p><i>is</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• unforgivable and</i><i>• unacceptable.</i> <p><i>Your terror is very simply that.</i></p> <p><i>Your belief is that you would no longer be lovable if this or that negativity were indeed true.</i></p>

**Only as you
gain**

- **courage,**
and therefore
- **humility as well,**
do you jump into
the apparent abyss
of opening your mind [to possibly of having
this or that negativity],

and only then

can you find out

- that your assumption** [that you would be unlovable if this or that
negativity were indeed a part of you]
was false.

In fact,

only when you

fully admit your

- **imperfection and**
- **human fallibility**

do you

• **become**

a full-fledged human being,

• **find your**

- **true and**
- **realistic**

value, and

• **find God's love for you**

that

- **has always existed,**

but that

- **you could not feel**

due to your fallacy [i.e., you could not feel God's love due to your
false assumption that you would be unlovable
if this or that negativity were indeed a part you].

	<p><i>This [i.e., Having the courage to seek, see and fully accept your imperfection and human fallibility as part of your being a full-fledged human being and discovering and feeling fully God's ever-present love for you no matter the degree of your imperfection and human fallibility]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>has always been the true path</i> <p><i>and this</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>will always be the true path.</i> <p><i>It [i.e., This true path] applies to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>collective situations</i>• <i>individual ones.</i>
35	<p><i>It must become increasingly obvious to the observer that</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">in• <i>mass images and</i>in• <i>individual images</i> <p><i>the same dynamics operate.</i></p> <p><i>The more the truth is denied, the greater the real guilt becomes.</i></p> <p><i>With the guilt grows</i></p> <p><i>the resistance [to seeing the truth of humanity's imperfection and fallibility] whose purpose is [i.e., the resistance to the truth is intended] to ward off accumulated guilt.</i></p>

	<p><i>Negative karma</i> <i>is an accumulation over several lifetimes</i> <i>of</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>unresolved,</i>• <i>untruthful</i> <p><i>situations</i> <i>that have their own</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>laws and</i>• <i>consequences,</i> <p><i>just as</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>truth</i> <p><i>has its</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>laws and</i>• <i>consequences.</i>
36	<p><i>When you [i.e., When you who are Jews]</i> <i>persist in viewing these historical consequences</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>out of context,</i>• <i>as mere happenings [occurring randomly with no particular cause or historical context],</i> <p><i>thereby seeing</i> <i>the Jews</i> <i>as victims [of the pagan and the Christian],</i></p> <p><i>you [who are Jews]</i> <i>rob yourselves</i> <i>of the vitality you need</i> <i>to be</i> <i>a self-governing part</i> <i>of the human family.</i></p> <p><i>You can become</i> <i>an autonomous person</i> <i>only</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>if you let truth</i> <i>stand above defense,</i>• <i>when truth</i> <i>is more important than</i> <i>justifying</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>yourself, or</i>• <i>your parents, or</i>• <i>your forebears.</i>

*The constant chain
of*
• *cause and effect,*
of
• *negative karma,*
of
• *endless repetition
of undesirable events,
can be broken,
my friends.*

*Why can you
see these dynamics so clearly
when it comes to*
• *personal aspects,*
*but draw the line
when it comes to*
• *collective reality?*

37

*The answer is –
above and beyond
what I said before
about the terror of the child
that his parents
can be wrong –
that
the personal guilt
in denying the truth
of Jesus Christ
seems too painful to bear.*

*To let go of the defense [i.e., To let go of the defense against seeing and feeling
the personal guilt for not acknowledging the truth of Jesus Christ]
would entail*
• *giving up
the victim and blame game.*

*It [i.e., To let go of the defense against seeing and feeling
the personal guilt for not acknowledging the truth of Jesus Christ]
would entail*
• *accepting part of the responsibility
for much of the past suffering [of the Jewish people].*

*It [i.e., To let go of the defense against seeing and feeling
the personal guilt for not acknowledging the truth of Jesus Christ]
would entail*

- *experiencing
the pain of guilt
for having inflicted pain,
especially on
one who came in love.*

*You may or may not
have actually lived at that time [i.e., at the time of Jesus Christ].*

*But even if
you were not present,*

- by
 - *allying yourself
with those directly responsible,*

- by
 - *justifying
their actions, and*

- by
 - *not ever asking
the crucial question,*

*"Could it be
that He was
the promised Messiah?"*

*you do become
co-responsible.*

38

*When you work on
any personal issue
where you,
after much resistance,
finally dedicate your being
to wanting to see
the truth,
you sometimes
go indeed
through the pain
of guilt.*

***But when you do this [i.e., But when you go through the pain of guilt]
in a spirit of
• life
rather than
• death,***

***in a spirit of
• faith
rather than
• denial,***

***you come to
• self-acceptance,
• self-forgiveness.***

***Therefore you
experience
that God
has already forgiven you
all along.***

***You then
experience
• the light and
• the new strength
of wholeness.***

***Feeling
the pain
of real guilt
is never
a debilitating process.***

It [i.e., Feeling the pain of real guilt]
is

- ***a life process,***

it [i.e., feeling the pain of real guilt]
is

- ***purification, and***

it [i.e., feeling the pain of real guilt]
leads to

- ***oneness***
with
 - ***yourself,***
- ***others,***
- ***God.***

39

Can you find
within yourself
the willingness
to adopt
the same attitude [i.e., the attitude of feeling the pain of real guilt]
toward
whatever universal issue
comes up in your life?

What do you have to fear
if

- ***truth –***
- ***God –***

is your major concern?

By refusing openness,
you express
in no uncertain terms
that

- ***truth***
is not the major issue for you,

but [instead]

- ***being right***
is [the major issue for you].

*No matter
how you try to justify
your antagonism toward
Jesus Christ,
you are
not in truth
when you
refuse to*

- *pose this question [i.e., this question: "Could it be that
Jesus Christ was the promised Messiah?"]*

in a

- *sincere and*
- *open*

way

and then

- *allow for a period of gestation
for the answer to evolve
within your own*

- *mind and*
- *heart.*

*How can you
believe yourself to be*

- *free and*
- *liberated*

*when
anything
within you
is closed up tight?*

*Can
the justifying
of your ancestors' infallible rightness
on this central question [i.e., this central question: "Could it be that
Jesus Christ was the promised Messiah?"]
be more important
than
the truth itself?*

40	<p><i>Observe the feeling of threat in you now, when these words are being addressed to you.</i></p> <p><i>Consider the meaning of this reaction [i.e., this reaction of feeling threatened when these words are being addressed to you].</i></p> <p><i>Can you perhaps take distance from it [i.e., take distance from this reaction of feeling threatened when these words are being addressed to you] for a moment, and then consider that the feeling of threat may be</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• a distortion,</i><i>may be</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• irrational,</i><i>may contain</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• false assumptions on your part?</i></p> <p><i>This questioning in itself is a healing you can administer to yourself.</i></p>
41	<p><i>Let us now consider the dynamics of images, as</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• I have taught you to do</i><i>and</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• you have worked with them</i><i>on your path in many personal issues where images destroy your life.</i></p>

*A brief recapitulation [of images] here
is in order.*

*An image
is*

- *a false idea,*
- *a wrong conclusion
formed in childhood
with insufficient mental equipment
to make a correct assessment.*

*The
wrong conclusion,
as all untruth,
creates
negative*

- *situations,*
- *feelings, and*
- *events.*

*Untruth
is always
painful.*

*The defense
against
wrong conclusions
creates
a negative*

- *action and*
- *reaction
pattern
which affects
others
adversely.*

*The misconception
is*

- *fixed and*
- *frozen
in the soul substance
because
it [i.e., because the misconception]
is never*

- *questioned or*
- *challenged.*

The personality

reacts [to a particular situation or on a particular occasion]

- *blindly*
in a conditioned
reflex,

rather than

- *out of truth*
appropriate to
the particular occasion.

The negative effect

created in others [by the individual's blind reaction to a particular situation]

- *must, perforce,*
come back
to the individual

and always

- *appears to confirm*
the original misconception,
which seems to
necessitate the defense,
which creates negative reactions
in others.

And so it goes on
endlessly.

The soul

is not free
when
any image
exists.

42

*The image
of the "rebellious Christian"
is:*

*"If I embrace Christ,
I must give up
my
• vitality,
my
• life energy,
my
• sexuality,
my
• body,
• pleasure,*

*for all these
are sinful."*

*Therefore
"rebellious Christians"
create a defense
that
shuts out Christ
in order to
affirm
their sexuality.*

*But
• shutting out Christ
means
• shutting out
an essential part
of God's world of
• truth,
• love,
• beauty and
• life.*

These individuals [i.e., These “rebellious Christians”]

- *create a split and*
- *live in*
 - *pain,*
 - *hidden doubt and*
 - *guilt.*

Instead of

*liberating their forces [from God’s world: truth, love, beauty, and life],
they must
be defiant about them [defiant about their forces from God’s world: truth,
love, beauty, and life].*

*And you all know
that defiance*

*is nothing but an ill-advised attempt
to shut out other voices
within.*

*Therefore [in their defiance about their forces from God’s world: truth,
love, beauty, and life],*

*instead of
becoming stronger,
the “rebellious Christians”
become weaker.*

They [i.e., “Rebellious Christians”]

*may cover up the weakness
by a mask of strength,
which deceives
no one,
least of all themselves.*

They [i.e., “Rebellious Christians”]

feel like

- *failures and*
- *frauds*

but do not know why.

***In fact they [i.e., “Rebelling Christians”]
believe their weakness
stems***

- from having been influenced in childhood
to accept Jesus Christ and***
- from not having been sufficiently successful
in rejecting Him.***

***Yet
the more
one rejects
a truth – any truth –***

***the more
one weakens oneself
in some way,
the more
split off one becomes,
the more
conflict arises.***

***So if you have the misconception
that Christ
intended you
to deny your vital life-impulses,***

you will develop

- attitudes and***
- reactions***

***that, in the end,
seem to bear out***

***the original misconception [i.e., that bear out the original
misconception that if I embrace Christ, I must deny my
vitality, life energy, and sexuality, my body and my
pleasure].***

43

*The Jewish mass image
is:*

"If my
• parents and
• forebears
were wrong,
and my
• ancestors killed
in Jesus
not only
• a good man
but
• a man who manifested
God on earth,
then they were
totally bad people.

They can
never
be forgiven.

I cannot
face
this possibility [that they were totally bad people and can never
be forgiven].

I must
deny
this possibility [that they were totally bad people and can never
be forgiven]
in order not to be
co-responsible
with them."

44

But did not Christ say,
again
and again,
that
God
is
forgiveness?

*Is He [i.e., Is God]
not
always
here
with His
• mercy,
• understanding and
• love?*

*Is this not
one of the great messages
He [i.e., Christ]
brought?*

*He [i.e., Christ]
said,
God does
not
punish
• mercilessly and
• unforgivingly,*

*it is
never
"an eye for an eye
and a tooth for a tooth."*

*Here we have
a vicious circle:*

*Believing totally
in the old tradition of Judaism,
"an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth"
makes
admitting a sin
impossible.*

*The punishment
is too terrible.*

*Therefore
• the truth,
or even
• the possibility
that Jesus Christ
may be the truth,
must be denied.*

45

*Now how does
this [Jewish mass] image
work?*

*The Jewish misconception
is*

- *that Jesus
was a false prophet,*
- *that He
was a fake,*
- *that the*
 - *pagans and*
 - *Christians**are*
 - *lying,**are*
 - *deluded,**are*
 - *inferior**and at the same time they [i.e., the pagans and Christians]
are*
 - *the victimizers,
out to annihilate the Jews.*

*The more firmly
this belief was held,
the more*

- *hatred and*
- *discrimination,*
- *separation and*
- *enmity*

*grew
in the consciousness
of many individual Jews,
thereby
creating a [Jewish] mass image.*

- *The defense
against this [Jewish] mass image,*
- *the fear of
its coming true
inevitably
created*
 - *more antagonism and*
 - *actual persecution of Jews.*

So
the misconception [contained in this Jewish mass image]
created
a defense
which, in turn,
could not help
but bear out
the apparent truth
of the misconception.

As I have said before,
you
create your own reality, and
the more
unconscious your belief,
the greater
its consequence is.

46

The greater
• the guilt
and therefore [the greater]
• the fear of
• its pain and
• its supposed unforgivability,
the stronger must be
• the defense against
the truth of the issue.

Then the
• heart and
• mind
must close
even tighter.

Then even
this fact of
• close-mindedness and
• close-heartedness
must be
• denied,
• justified and
• fought against.

47

My beloved friends.

*For so many years,
you have been working on
your soul substance.*

*You have dealt with
many an image
in your personal psyche.*

*You have come to see
the damage
of all images,
for images
are not only*

- distortions of truth,*
- misconceptions and*
- misperceptions.*

*They [i.e., Images]
inevitably
create
a rigid soul substance
that walls you off
from*

- the best within yourself,*

from

- life with all its creative possibilities,*

from

- God,*

from

- loving, and*

from

- being able to*
 - receive and*
 - accept*

love.

	<p>Images, in their untruth, • are evil and • create sin.</p> <p>They [i.e., Images] create war • within the soul, war • within the personality, and therefore also [war] • outside with others.</p>
48	<p>You have, often painstakingly, learned the importance of • challenging and • dissolving your images.</p> <p>There is only one way to do this [i.e., only one way to challenge and dissolve your images]:</p> <p>by starting to ask very probing questions from all possible angles.</p> <p>This [i.e., Asking very probing questions from all possible angles] sheds a new light on the picture.</p> <p>It [i.e., Asking very probing questions from all possible angles] opens doors that were heretofore closed.</p> <p>It [i.e., Asking very probing questions from all possible angles] loosens up hardened soul substance.</p>

	<p><i>The mind must be open</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>to look at the situation and</i>• <i>to consider everything that may be relevant to the issue.</i>
49	<p><i>In the last lecture [i.e., Pathwork Lecture 246: Tradition: Its Divine and Distorted Aspects]</i></p> <p><i>I spoke about tradition in its</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>positive and</i>• <i>negative connotations.</i> <p><i>I also spoke about certain movements within this path.</i></p> <p><i>The emphasis has shifted at various</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>periods and</i>• <i>phases.</i> <p><i>In the last year or so it must have become quite obvious to many of you who observe the direction this path takes that,</i></p> <p><i>from</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>the initial emphasis on individual</i>• <i>purification and</i>• <i>self-liberation,</i> <p><i>through</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>dissolution of false images,</i> <p><i>we are now increasingly concerned with</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>creating a new society.</i>

	<p><i>This [i.e., Creating a new society] includes dissolving whatever mass images stand in the way of the unfoldment of the self-realized person.</i></p> <p><i>The new society, of which you are pioneers, cannot afford to live with frozen images in the soul substance.</i></p>
50	<p><i>I have often said that this path is representative of the new-age person.</i></p> <p><i>For example, it is no coincidence that a mixture of religious backgrounds is prevalent among you.</i></p> <p><i>In your political committees you learn how politics could be based on the principles you are learning.</i></p> <p><i>In running your business, in matters of administration, you learn the practical application of the pathwork.</i></p> <p><i>In your artistic pursuits, you approach your creative processes in an entirely new way, learning to release your blocks.</i></p>

	<p><i>Why, then, would you have a different approach to religious</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• affiliations and</i><i>• beliefs?</i> <p><i>To dissolve the particular mass images [in connection to religious affiliations and beliefs] it is necessary to see that there really are images to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• investigate,</i> <p><i>to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• question,</i> <p><i>to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• challenge.</i> <p><i>It is necessary to consider the subject [of religious affiliations and beliefs] anew.</i></p>
51	<p><i>The new-age society knows</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• no Judaism,</i><i>• nor Christianity</i> <p><i>as they are known now.</i></p> <p><i>Yet it [i.e., Yet the new-age society] knows both [Judaism and Christianity].</i></p> <p><i>It takes the truth from both and expands it, filtering it through the newly</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• evolving and</i><i>• expanding</i> <p><i>consciousness.</i></p>

	<p><i>The new-age person is so free that no word can trigger off emotional reactions, whether this word be</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• "Jew" or• "Christian,"• "Jesus Christ" or• "religion."
52	<p><i>For many people the word "reincarnation" has a similar connotation.</i></p> <p><i>It [i.e., Reincarnation] is against the teachings of both</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Judaism and• Christianity, <p><i>at least as they are taught today.</i></p> <p><i>Yet it [i.e., Yet reincarnation] is one of the eternal truths, regardless of whether it fits into the religion embraced by certain individuals or not [i.e., or does not fit into the religion embraced by certain individuals].</i></p> <p><i>Does it not strike you as peculiarly significant that</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>this word [i.e., that this word "reincarnation"], or</i>• <i>the concept behind the word [i.e., behind the word "reincarnation"],</i> <p><i>fails to elicit as strong a reaction from you as the name of Jesus Christ?</i></p>

	<p><i>You may or may not believe in reincarnation to begin with, but there is</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>no strong emotional involvement with,</i>• <i>nor a stake in denying this idea [of reincarnation];</i> <p><i>because your doors are much more open in this regard [i.e., in regard to this idea of reincarnation], sooner or later you experience</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>inwardly,</i>• <i>within yourself, the truth of reincarnation.</i>
53	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>The new man</i> <p><i>and</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>the new woman are free of emotional involvements that block truth.</i> <p><i>There is no stake in</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>holding on to anything,</i> <p><i>or</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>denying anything, except to finding the truth.</i> <p><i>This commitment [to finding the truth]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>is firm and</i>• <i>is always expressed toward the Creator.</i> <p><i>Thus truth can flow freely.</i></p>

	<p><i>The new-age person is not bound to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>nationality,</i>• <i>political party,</i>• <i>race or</i>• <i>creed.</i> <p><i>He or she</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>combines all their truths</i> <p><i>and</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>rejects all their errors.</i>
54	<p><i>Remember what I explained in the lecture about new-age politics [see Pathwork Lecture 242: The Spiritual Meaning of Political Systems],</i></p> <p><i>in which</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>democracy,</i>• <i>communism,</i>• <i>socialism,</i>• <i>monarchy and</i>• <i>capitalism</i> <p><i>are all combined in their truths in the best sense, while the untruths which</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>create separation and</i>• <i>set one person against the other are left out.</i> <p><i>The same applies to any other human expression.</i></p>

In religion, too,

- *truth*
 - *combines and*
 - *unifies,*
- *untruth*
 - *separates.*

• *Untruth*
and

- *separation*
create
 - *evil,*
 - *dissension,*
 - *hostility,*
 - *outer and inner warfare,*
 - *mutually exclusive dualities.*

*"If I am a Jew,
I cannot be
a Christian.*

*If I am either [a Jew or a Christian],
I cannot
believe in reincarnation.*

*If I believe in monarchy,
I cannot
see the good
in some*

- *socialistic and/or*
- *communistic*

ideas.

*If I am progressive,
I cannot
be for tradition."*

*All these dualities
are false choices
that separate.*

	<p><i>When you are one versus the other, you are that one thing with a vengeance, thus you cannot be it [i.e., cannot be that one thing] in its best sense [but only in its distorted sense].</i></p>
55	<p><i>In the current turmoil about Jesus Christ, those who are burdened with their own</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• fear and</i><i>• mass images</i> <p><i>often do not hold their own best traditions in their heart.</i></p> <p><i>They often pride themselves as being not even religiously inclined at all.</i></p> <p><i>So their violent reactions against the possibility of Christ's existence, when truly analyzed, turn out to be</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• a prideful stubbornness,</i><i>• a false sense of individuality.</i>
56	<p><i>Genuine individuality can never be associated with any</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• group consciousness,</i><i>• religion,</i><i>• nationality,</i><i>• political party.</i>

*True individuality
blossoms
only when
God's truth
is sought*
• in all issues,
• at all times,
so that
personal inner experience [of God's truth]
can flower.

*Individuals
in that real sense [i.e., Individuals in whom the personal inner experience of
God's truth is flowering]*
will create
the new group consciousness
that is made up of
free
men and women
for whom
God's will reigns
• first and
• above
all else.

*A group of such people [i.e., A group of people for whom God's will
reigns first and above all else]*
is never in opposition to
the individual,
but as I mentioned before,
the one [i.e. the group or the individual]
furthers the other [i.e., furthers the individual or the group].

57

*Your earth
suffers deeply
from human beings
who have not yet understood
this truth [i.e., this truth that a group of free men and women for
whom God's will reigns first and above all else create a
new group consciousness where the group furthers the
individuals and the individuals further the group].*

***Such people [i.e., People who do not understand this truth]
are still too immature
to grasp
the***

- ***immense strength,***
- ***autonomy and***
- ***freedom***

that lie

- ***in giving over
totally
to God***

- ***while working
constantly***

***on cleansing the psyche
of***

- ***impurities,***
- ***ignorance,***
- ***confusion,***
- ***false images,***
- ***emotional tightnesses and***
- ***the displacement of
individuality
into any kind of
societal traditionalism.***

58

***The suffering in your world
is exclusively caused
by those attitudes
that are often confused with***

- ***dignity,***
- ***pride in the desirable sense,***
- ***character,***
- ***self-value,
and so on.***

*Look at
warring countries
that cannot come to a peace agreement.*

Each is steeped in
• *its own*
rightness,
claiming
• *the other is*
wrong.

Neither
• *can see, or*
• *wants to see,*
that
• *right*
and
• *wrong*
exist
in both camps.

This example
is very obvious,
but the same problem exists
in much subtler issues
that do not
seem immediately connected with
the world's
• *dissensions and*
• *suffering.*

59	<p><i>Humanity</i> <i>is beginning to grow up.</i></p> <p><i>The process is</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>slow and</i>• <i>often hindered</i> <p>by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>personal resistance to growth,</i> <p>by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>habitual ways of thinking</i> <i>whose pattern is never questioned,</i> <p>by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>rigidified ideas</i> <i>that people refuse to let go of,</i> <p>by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>personal laziness and</i> <p>by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>the tragic error</i> <i>that the old ways</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>are safe and</i>• <i>must therefore</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>be worshipped and</i>• <i>held on to.</i> <p><i>It is through</i> <i>these attitudes</i> <i>that the forces of evil</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>have access to</i> <i>the human consciousness and</i>• <i>plunge it [i.e., plunge the human consciousness]</i> <i>into destructiveness of all kinds.</i>
60	<p><i>The whole process of growing up is</i> <i>is</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>hindered,</i>• <i>delayed,</i> <p><i>with unnecessary suffering</i> <i>created along the way.</i></p> <p><i>You are familiar with these dynamics</i> <i>in your individual paths.</i></p> <p><i>Humanity as a whole</i> <i>goes through identical dynamics.</i></p>

The more

- *human beings*
can
 - *remove their own blocks and*
 - *cleansing their own*
 - *souls and*
 - *psychic substance,*

the more

- *humanity as a whole*
will become ready.

You,

- as an individual,*
have a part in you
which wants to
 - *give the best*
to your own evolution and
 - *overcome*
 - *resistances and*
 - *fear.*

You

- [as an individual] also*
contain a part
that seeks reasons
to stop this process.

Humanity as a whole

- has these two parts*
also [i.e., the part that wants to give its best to its own evolution and also
the part that seeks reasons to stop this process of evolution].

	<p>Individuals <i>who follow their true destiny are humanity's higher self.</i></p> <p>Those [individuals] <i>who resist it are humanity's lower self.</i></p> <p>As in <i>your individual struggle, all depends on which part [i.e., whether the higher self or lower self] is stronger,</i></p> <p>so <i>humanity [in its struggle] goes through the same shifting balances [between times when the higher self is stronger and times when the lower self is stronger].</i></p>
61	<p>It is <i>not true that there must always be</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>war,</i>• <i>suffering,</i>• <i>injustice</i> <p><i>on earth.</i></p> <p>This [i.e., war, suffering, and injustice on earth] <i>only holds true as long as the majority of human beings</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>refuse to grow up and</i>• <i>persist</i> <p><i>in remaining in a state of inner</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>error,</i>• <i>falsehood and</i>• <i>confusion.</i>

*The stronger
people like you
become*

- *in your purpose and*
- *in your understanding
of what is involved here,*

*the more
you will give up
your*

- *personal pride,*
- *self-interest,*
- *small opportunism –
which all amounts to
lack of faith.*

• *You,
and
those like you,
will shift the balance.*

*Humanity
will begin to grow
into its innate destiny.*

62

*But
how
is faith to grow?*

*Only when
the will
to know*

- *God and*
- *His will
are applied to
all issues*

• *can God
manifest to you*

and

- *will faith
become*
- *a realistic experience
instead of*
- *an empty word.*

*As you have
the self-responsible duty
to liberate yourself
from all personal images
because they*

- *hinder and*
- *frustrate*
- *your scope of
aliveness and*
- *ability to experience*
- *love,*
- *truth and*
- *beauty,*

*so do you have
an obligation toward
your own human race
to free it
from all mass images.*

*You have to start
by eliminating
your own mass images.*

- *You*

and

- *your life*

are at stake,

*but also
so much more.*

63

*Perhaps you can begin
to visualize*

- *the new-age person,*
- *the new society*

*in a way
you have never done before.*

*See this
new you
in a*

- *joyous,*
- *extremely free
way.*

*See
a society
in which*

- *dissension and*
- *separation
no longer have any room,
because
when they [i.e., when dissension and separation]
do come up,
they are treated
on the deeper levels,
as you learn to do
individually.*

*You have learned on this path
that when there is enmity
between*

- *you*

and

- *another person,*

*it [i.e., the enmity between you and another person]
can always be resolved
when you*

- *really wish
to be in truth*

and when you

- *go beneath the surface
to deeper levels.*

*See
this new society
you are in the process of building
that will be,
as I have often said before,
a model
for
the whole world.*

64

*The unity I am talking about
has nothing to do with
"tolerance."*

*Toleration [of one group by another group]
implies
that there is still
a difference [between the groups involved],
whether people [of either group]
feel superior about it [i.e. feel that their group is superior
to the other group]
or not,
but surely
a difference [between the groups involved exists].*

*Regarding
• unity
versus
• separation
there are
three stages
in humankind's evolution:*

*1) separation
in outright enmity;*

2) tolerance;

*3)
• union,
• unity,
• oneness.*

*To find
the oneness
underneath
the diversity
means
• peace,
• love,
• truth,
means
• growing into
a mature humanity.*

65	<p><i>Applying this concept [of separation versus unity] to the topic of Jesus Christ, I can see that the human race has outgrown the stage of killing each other for being a</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• Jew or</i><i>for being a</i><i>• Christian.</i> <p><i>Now when I say this, I mean that when this [killing of a Jew or Christian] still happens, the majority</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>• considers it a horrible crime,</i><i>rather than</i><i>• condoning it.</i> <p><i>The human race's most prevalent attitude today, at least on the surface, is for Jews to tolerate Christians, and vice versa.</i></p>
66	<p><i>Underneath the surface, you need to find those areas where you may wish to annihilate the other for being "different,"</i></p> <p><i>thus [i.e., by finding where you may wish to annihilate the other simply because he or she is "different" in his or her spirituality or religious background]</i></p> <p><i>[discovering and] challenging your insecurity about</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>your [own]</i><i>• spirituality and</i><i>your [own]</i><i>• religious background.</i>

*Some of you
have already done this [i.e., have already discovered and successfully
challenged and overcome your own insecurity about
your own spirituality and/or religious background]
and have thus
traversed a tunnel
through which
you can find
the next stage
you are intrinsically ready for –
that [i.e., the stage]
of*

- *oneness,*
- *unity.*

*The differences [between you and the other]
are wiped out, and
you find that
Jesus
was never
a dividing force.*

It was

- *Jews*

and

- *Christians*

who

*in their distortions,
created this impression [i.e., the impression that Jesus was a dividing
force between Jew and Christian].*

67

*Jesus Christ
came*

- *to be*
- *a bridge*
- *a further stage*

of

- *love and*
- *truth*

for all humankind,

- *to unify*

all humankind.

***In this new unity [of humankind made possible by Jesus Christ],
mere tolerance
no longer has any room.***

***You are
all one
in all of the great traditions
that ever brought the earth
aspects of truth.***

***Combined,
they [i.e., Combined, all the aspects of truth that were brought to earth
in all of the great traditions]***

***tell more of
the whole story:***

***the story of
• Creation,***

***the story of
• humanity,***

***the story of
• man's relationship to God,***

***the story of
• God's presence in your life.***

68

Wipe out

• *the superficial differences*
and find

• *the great bond*
of inner oneness –
not by eliminating

• *Him who*
has been turned into
a controversial figure,
but by eliminating

• *the*
• *artificial,*
• *erroneous*
controversy
that is based
on

• *human limitation of vision and*
on
• *misunderstanding.*

If Jews

feel put aside
because of Christ,
they could try to see
that having sent Christ
into a Jewish incarnation
was God's
great act of love
for His Jewish children.

If Christians

feel that they
must deny
their
• *energies,*
their
• *pleasure principle*
if they embrace Christ,
they could try to see
that this [i.e. try to see that this having to deny their energies and their
pleasure principle if they embrace Christ]
is merely
a wrong interpretation.

*Wipe out
your misunderstandings,
challenge
your assumptions,
consider
that truth
may be
totally different –*

*different in such a way
that not only
do you
• lose nothing,
but that
you
• gain everything.*

*In other words,
you will gain
all
that you ever feared to lose
when you
give up
your fixed ideas.*

69

The new light

- *nourishes and*
- *strengthens*
 - *you,*
 - *all of you.*

*It [The new light]
accelerates
its*

- *force and*
- *impact*
 - as your souls*
 - become*
 - *freer,*
 - *more open,*
 - *more questioning*
 - in a spirit of*
 - truth-searching,*
 - *more*
 - filled with*
 - goodwill toward*
 - God's gifts of love*
 - for you.*

The universe

*extends its tender love
to each one of you,
as*

- *individuals*
- and as*
 - *a new group of humans*
 - on whom*
 - the spirit world*
 - sets so much hope.*

*You are
all
blessed!*

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