Pathwork Lecture 251: The Evolution And Spiritual Meaning of Marriage – New Age Marriage

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 | **Blessed are**
   | your
   | • lives,
   | all your
   | • thoughts,
   | • strivings, and
   | • endeavors,
   | my dearly beloved friends.
   |
|    | **Without your deep commitment**
|    | to live up to
|    | your innate potential
|    | as people of God,
|    | we could
|    | never fulfill
|    | our own tasks. |

by Eva Broch Pierrakos

Edited by Judith and John Saly; Devotional Format Posted 12/25/16
We depend on your
  • truth and
  • love,
as you depend on ours.

We depend on your giving yourselves to the Creator,
as you depend on our giving to Him.

Let this
  • beautiful
  • mutual
  work always be blessed anew
in the name of the Lord,
  Jesus Christ.

His name [i.e., The name of the Lord, Jesus Christ] would never elicit so much
  • ambivalence and
  • negativity if divine truth had not been so distorted
  • in all areas,
even • concerning his life on
  • earth and in
  • heaven.
All
great divine influxes
lend themselves
more
to distortion
than
the milder forms
of creative manifestation.

With the knowledge you have gained
you can easily observe this
in your lives.

The
great spiritual forces
contained in
dynamic love
are
more
• feared,
• resisted, and
• maligned
than
lukewarm currents.

This [i.e., Because the great spiritual forces contained in dynamic love are
more feared, resisted, and maligned than are the lukewarm
currents feared, resisted, and maligned]
is the deepest reason

• why such stringent taboos existed
  regarding
  sexual love;

• why releasing
  the spiritual forces
  seems to be
  the most
  • threatening and
  • dangerous
  experience of all.
These powers [i.e., These powers of sexual love and powers of releasing spiritual forces]

are by no means merely ethereal;

they encompass
• the whole personality
and certainly include
• the body.

This is why
the Christ
• force,
the Christ
• consciousness,
the Christ
• reality

has suffered so much from
• misunderstanding and
• strife.

The spiritual forces are so strong that

an unpurified personality cannot bear them.

To the degree that
• negativity and
• distortion exist in an individual's
  • mind and
  • consciousness,
these powerful currents manifest as
• crisis,
• pain, and
• danger.
Nonetheless [i.e., Even though these powerful forces can, because of negativity and distortion in an individual’s mind and consciousness, lead to crisis, pain and danger],

* to be
  * part of
    * these [powerful] forces and
  * receptive
    * to them [i.e., to be receptive to these powerful forces]

* is the deep longing
  * of every soul,
    * consciously
    or
    * unconsciously.

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The development of the institution of marriage is significant from this point of view.

A deeper insight is needed now so that you can

* widen and
* deepen
  * your own understanding of marriage

and

* use this knowledge [i.e., use this deeper and wider understanding of marriage]

to articulate your longing.

This [i.e., Clearly articulating your longing from a deep level of understanding] is always

the first step
toward bringing what you long for into actuality.
During the many centuries of its existence, humanity has developed in many areas.

Let us consider [the area of] marriage.

Understanding its [i.e., Understanding the institution of marriage’s] evolution thus far will open your vision to the future [i.e., open your vision as to the future of this institution of marriage].

You will view the current attitude toward this institution [of marriage] with the larger picture in mind.

History can be properly understood only when the spiritual meaning that underlies earthly events is gleaned.

In the not-too-distant past, marriage served a number of functions, but least of all [did marriage serve the functions of] • sharing, • love, or • mutuality on all levels of the personality.
In fact, [in marriage]
- love,
- mutual sexual surrender
  and
- the profound exchange of dynamic energy levels
  was
  - rejected and
  - condemned.

Marriage
was supposed to be a
- financial and
- social
  contract
  to satisfy
  - other personality functions and
  - lower motives.

- Financial and
- social
  advantages
  were of primary importance.

Even more significant
was the absolute conviction
that these motives [i.e., that these lower level motives of financial
and social advantage]
were
- morally right and
- virtuous.

Men married
women
- who brought a good dowry
  and
- who raised men's social image.

In other words, [in marriage]
- greed and
- pride
  were
  - glamorized and
  - endowed with righteousness.
Men considered themselves the superiors of women.

Marrying a woman meant nothing more than acquiring a slave
  • who obeyed the master of the house;
  • who saw to it that the man received every
    • comfort and convenience
    • but made no demands for herself.

In exchange for these services, which included being an object for man's mostly quite impersonal lust, the woman received material security.

Her only responsibility was to be an adequate object for her master.

Of course you understand, my friends, that man's responsibility entailed much more than mere financial responsibility.

Since woman was not considered a full-fledged equal, morally she was barely responsible.
In those centuries
• emotional and
• mental
  responsibility
did not exist
  as a
  • concept,
but they [i.e., but emotional and mental responsibility]
certainly existed
  as a
  • fact [of life].

Even without
the awareness of
  the concept [of emotional and mental responsibility],
men acknowledged
  this [emotional and mental] responsibility
toward
  • other men
but totally neglected it [i.e., totally neglected emotional and mental responsibility]
  when dealing with
  • women.

Obviously
  this [i.e., Obviously, the man’s total neglect of emotional and mental responsibility when dealing with women]
was not only
  the result of men’s
  • distortion and
  • negativity;

it [i.e., the man’s total neglect of emotional and mental responsibility when dealing with women]
was just as much
  the result of a
strongly embedded intentionality
  in the woman's psyche.
Women
• refused
  self-responsibility
  on all levels
  for the longest time
and therefore
• co-created
  the unequal relationship
  between the sexes.

Both sexes
equally feared –
  and still fear –
  the powerful spiritual energies
  involved in
  the forces of
  • love,
  • eros, and
  • sex
  between
  • man
  and
  • woman.

This power [i.e., This powerful spiritual energy involved in
  the forces of love, eros, and sex between man and woman]
is
  the creative stream itself
  from which
  everything is made.

This powerful current [i.e., This powerful spiritual current involved in
  the forces of love, eros, and sex between man and woman]
can express itself
  in many ways,
  not just as
  a binding force
  between a
  • man
  and a
  • woman.
It [i.e., This powerful spiritual current involved in the forces of love, eros, and sex between man and woman] can be expressed through spiritual disciplines within an individual, merging the • masculine and • feminine • principles and • power currents within an individual soul.

The unpurified soul cannot stand this power current [i.e., cannot stand the powerful spiritual current involved in the forces of love, eros, and sex].

To the degree unpurified soul substance festers in the personality, the power current [i.e., the powerful spiritual current involved in the forces of love, eros, and sex] has to be • denied, • suppressed, and • split.

Sexuality that manifests without • love, • commitment, and • respect is just such a • split-off, • denied power current.
Human beings who believe that
  • pornographic or
  • promiscuous
  sex
  is more pleasurable
  than the sexuality
  that
  • streams from
    a unified wholeness and
  • combines with
    • love and
    • spiritual union
  could not be more wrong.

The precise opposite
is true.

But the power of such sexuality [i.e., the power of sexuality that streams from a unified wholeness and combines with love and spiritual union]
is so strong
  that it cannot be borne
  by the soul
  that still lives partly in darkness.

Another human error
is the belief
  that a married couple
  faithful to one another
  is necessarily
  beyond the stage
  of split-off sexuality.

The typical marriage of former times,
which I described earlier,
was
  a complete
  • suppression,
  • repression, and
  • denial
  of the spiritual power currents.
In the man
this denial [i.e., this denial of the spiritual power currents in sexuality]
often manifested as
an inability
to experience
strong sexual feelings
for the woman he
• loved,
• honored, and
• respected.

Sometimes
the unconscious fear
of the [spiritual] power current [in the sexual experience]
is so strong
that
• the split is total, and
• a man finds himself
  unable to
  experience
  sexuality
  with a loved woman.

In many cases, however,
the split exists
with one and the same woman.

A man can give
relative
• honor and
relative
• love
to a woman he has married,
in spite of deeming her inferior,
yet blot out
her reality
during the act of sexual union.

This act [of sexual union with his wife when he has blotted out her reality
during the act of sexual union]
can be performed
only when
the woman becomes
a low object in the man's mind.
Pornographic sex
• can take place
  within the framework of respectable marriage
and
• is socially fully accepted.

For the woman,
the denial of
  the unified [spiritual] power current [in the sexual experience]
  often manifested
  in total denial
  of the sexual reality
  of her body.

Whenever her sexuality manifested
  in spite of
    all attempts to deny it,
    she experienced it [i.e., experienced her manifested sexuality]
  with
    • guilt and
    • shame.

Today
  the misunderstandings
  about sexual
  • guilt and
  • repression
  in your world
    are almost as great as ever.
These
  • repressions and
  • denials,
these
  • guilts and
  • false shames
are not merely a result of
  • social mores and
  • bigoted influences,
but are actually
products of
  the inability
to carry the force
  of the fully unified power current,
  whose strength
  can be borne
  only by someone
  at least relatively liberated from
  • negativity,
  • fear,
  • doubt, and
  • destructiveness.

The strongly sexual person
  • who experiences sexuality
    • without
      love,
    • without
      a deeply personal melding
      with a specifically chosen other, and
• who
  • chooses passing partners
    without
    • heart and
    • mind and
  • is promiscuous,
is essentially
  no different from the moralist
  who is faithful to a wife
  with whom he engages
  in surreptitious mating
  as a marital duty.
Both [i.e., Both the strongly sexual person who experiences promiscuous sex without love and without a deeply personal melding with a chosen other on the one hand and on the other hand the moralist who is faithful to his wife but who engages in sex only out of a sense of duty] are afraid of the love-sex current that is unified through • the power of eros, through • the power of mutuality in • soul development and • commitment to each other, through • personal purification.

• The man-woman relationship of the past and • the attitude toward marriage are the direct results of this fear of the unified love-sex current.

Self-purification was practically nonexistent for the average person, existing only in the churches to any important degree.

But there again [in the churches], the full power of the [unified love-sex] current was diminished by the edict of celibacy.
True, some
• specially gifted and
• advanced
  individuals
evoked this spiritual power
  through their own individual endeavors.

The mystical ecstasy
is simply the release
  of a spiritual power current
  in which
  God
  is experienced
  as a
  • living and
  • physical
  reality.

This [i.e., This mystical ecstasy, this release of a spiritual power current
  in which God is experienced as a living and physical reality]
can also
  ideally happen
  through the melding of
  • a man
  and
  • a woman
  • who are
    sufficiently free from fear,
  • who follow
    together
    a path of self-purification.

Their union
will release this
  inner [spiritual] power current
  so that they
  will
    experience
    God
    in
    • themselves and
    in
    • each other.
Before discussing this experience further,
let us go back
to the evolutionary stages of history.

The picture I painted about marriage
is not very attractive.

Marriage
as it has existed for so long
was truly
a more sinful estate
than all the sins
the moralists who perpetuated these standards
condemned.

These moralists
directed the accusation of sin
toward
• illicit
  sex;
toward
• promiscuous or
• pornographic
  sex
  that could be
  outwardly
  identified.

It is true
that these [outward] acts
indicate denial
of
• the God-given unification of
  • love and
  • sexuality,
of
• the greatest power current,
  which is in itself
  an expression of
  the divine presence.
In a certain sense this
  • fear [of the powerful love-sex current that is unified through the power of eros]
  and
  • denial [of the God-given unification of love and sexuality]
    is a symptom of
    • the unpurified soul,
    • the fallen spirit,
      if you will.

But since this unpurified soul state is a fact of evolution and since you all also fulfill a task [i.e., fulfill a task in evolution]
  in your return to the state of union with God [and therefore, being a part of evolution, since you all also go through unpurified soul states during your various incarnations], it is futile to rail against this [i.e., rail against yourself or others who are in unpurified evolutionary states, states where one fears the powerful love-sex current that is unified through the power of eros, where one denies the God-given unification of love and sexuality and acts out accordingly].

Those who do [i.e., Those who do rail against those others (and themselves) who, in their unpurified state, fear the powerful love-sex current that is unified through the power of eros, and who deny the God-given unification of love and sexuality]
  are themselves
  • fallen spirits,
  • unpurified souls, and
  • parts of this evolutionary movement.
The appropriate attitude toward fear of the full power [of the love-sex] current is one of acceptance of this fact of life [i.e., this fact of life that all humans go through unpurified states in the journey of evolution, states where this fear of the full power of the love-sex current is natural and leads to immature acting out in the arena of sexual behavior and attitudes;]

• of gentle training so that the personality can gradually
  • acclimatize itself to this high-powered [love-sex] force and
  • bear it [i.e., bear this high-powered love-sex force] in comfort.

Ecstasy
• can and
• will become comfortable as the soul grows in stature.

This [i.e., The soul’s growth] happens through a process of development over many incarnations.

The real sinfulness of the attitude toward marriage that prevailed until recently resulted from secondary guilt.
Instead of admitting the fear of
• loving an equal,
the man had to put down
the woman.

Instead of admitting fear of
• loving an equal and [admitting fear of]
• experiencing the pleasure of sexuality,
the woman had to alienate herself from
the man by making him the enemy.

Instead of admitting that
he feared an equal relationship,
the man had to make the woman an object.

Instead of admitting the fear of self-responsibility on all levels,
the woman made herself an object and then blamed the man for this mutual creation.
Both sexes denied the fear [i.e., in the man, fear of loving an equal, and in the woman, fear of loving an equal, fear of experiencing the pleasure of sexuality, and fear of self-responsibility on all levels, i.e., Both man and woman denied their fear], [the fear] which in a deeper sense might be called the primary guilt, a guilt that all people share [i.e., all people share the primary guilt for their fear regarding aspects of the love-sex current or force].

The denial of the fear [i.e., the fear regarding aspects of the love-sex current or force] caused secondary guilts.

Some of these secondary guilts [i.e., secondary guilts of denying the primary guilt of the fear regarding aspects of the love-sex current or force] gave energy to lower-self energy.

- Material greed was fostered;
- money, power, and social advantage became motives for choosing mates.
- Mass images, [outward] appearances, idealized self-images were nourished;
- pride and vanity were elevated into false moral values.
If you consider
• the moral indignation,
• the moral self-righteousness of men and women toward those who deviated from the accepted standards,
you can see the strength of the secondary guilt [i.e., the secondary guilt of denying the primary guilt, the primary guilt being fearing aspects of the love-sex current or force].

The mask self claimed
• greed,
• calculating self-interest,
• prideful appearance values, and
• the mutual using of each other as the highest of moral standards.

Such claims [by the mask self] go way beyond ordinary hypocrisy.

A hypocrisy
• so deep-rooted and
• so pernicious required a strong uprooting;
otherwise the soul could not heal.

It is important, my friends, for you to see the nature of the attitude toward marriage through many, many centuries.

People marrying for love were the great exceptions.
The collective state of consciousness created these conditions in most marriages of the past.

The same collective state of consciousness also created
- karmic conditions,
- prerequisites for specific guidance for subsequent reincarnations.

For example, the antagonism that generally existed between
- men
and
- women had to manifest specifically between individual men and women to a much greater degree than it does now.

It was often predestined that two such individuals had to meet as prospective marriage partners.

Their elders would arrange it.
This kind of union [between two individuals predestined to meet as prospective marriage partners in order to meet karmic conditions and prerequisites for specific guidance for this particular incarnation] gave the scope to bring out in each person • general and • specific negative • feelings and • attitudes, which, once conscious, became the basis for transformation.

Thus, my friends, the marriages made in heaven were by no means always positive unions of • love and • affection, • attraction and • respect.

The negative mutuality between many individual men and women created • the collective consciousness, created • karmic conditions, and also created • the standards of society.
In very recent times, consciousness made a great leap.

Humanity has truly become ready to
• shed these old attitudes and
• create new
  • conditions,
• standards,
• moral values.

This can clearly be seen in your times by many drastic changes.
• The women's liberation movement,
• the sexual liberation movement, and
• a very different attitude toward marriage are clearly signs of a newly emerging consciousness.

These manifestations must be viewed in the light of an overall evolutionary direction, otherwise you cannot really grasp the inner meaning of these changes.
In all evolutionary movements
the pendulum
tends to swing
from
• one extreme
to
• another.

This [i.e., The pendulum swinging from one extreme to another]
is at times
• inevitable,
sometimes even
• desirable,
  provided
  the swings are limited.

But when the swings
are greater than
• necessary or
• desirable,
  • fanaticism and
  • blindness
  develop exactly as they did
  at the opposite extreme.
For example, today's sexual freedom is a reaction to the shackles of former times.

To a degree this phase [i.e., this phase of today’s sexual freedom] is necessary until

- the wisdom of the new consciousness becomes complete, and
- commitment to one mate is experienced as
  - freer,
  - more liberated, and
  - infinitely more desirable than the
    - uncommitted
    - free-floating exchange of partners.

The cycle had to move from

- involuntary monogamous commitment – with concomitant limitations on personal growth for both men and women –

to

- recognition of the debilitating effects of this attitude and
- a consequent
  - libertinism and
  - polygamous expression.

From there the movement can proceed to

- a new groundedness in real
  - inner freedom and
  - independence
    that voluntarily chooses monogamous commitment because it yields infinitely greater fulfillment.
A particularly pernicious aspect of the old attitude toward marriage was that
• the sexual need
as well as
• the need for companionship
were polluted by
• opportunistic,
• materialistic, and
• exploitative
ends.

Even worse, this
• pollution and
• displacement
[i.e., pollution and displacement of the sexual need and the need for companionship by and onto opportunistic, materialistic, and exploitive aspects of marriage]

was looked upon as if it were morally desirable.

Whenever one soul current is put secretly into the service of another [soul current], both [soul currents] become negative.

If
• love,
• eros, and
• sex
were given their rightful places, then the real needs for
• success,
• respect from the community, and
• material abundance could function in a higher-self way.
Humanity had to break away from the distortions [i.e., the distortions that natural forces of and human needs for experiences of love, eros and sex had to be restrained and sacrificed for the sake of success, moral respectability in the community, and material abundance],

and [in breaking away from these distortions] a certain amount of upheaval became inevitable.

The sexual revolution had to manifest at times in undesirable ways – but undesirable only when seen out of context.

Of course, the true lessons must be learned individually.

This is exactly what I am talking about.

The old ways desperately need profound change.

• A new sexual expression and
• a joyful acceptance of the sexual drive has to emerge.
At the same time, individual men and women need to understand the enormous importance of:

- the wholeness of:
  - love,
  - eros, and
  - sex;
- affection and respect;
- tenderness and passion;
- trust and mutual partnership;
- sharing and helping each other.

It must be understood that the committed relationship is not a moralized edict that deprives you of pleasure.

Quite the contrary is true.

The power current evoked through a fusion between:

- love,
- respect,
- passion, and
- sexuality
is infinitely more ecstatic than the power of any casual fusion could ever be.
It [i.e., The power current evoked through a fusion between love, respect, passion (eros), and sexuality]

is so powerful, in fact, that the very authorities against whom there has been so much rebellion have feared this combined current more than anyone.

These authorities are not that far removed from those who allow themselves to experience sexuality only in a split-off way, • cut off from the heart, • removed from real • intimacy and • sharing.

Knowing the state into which you • can and • must eventually grow because it is your innate destiny is important.

It [i.e., Knowing this state into which you are growing] is the chart [i.e., the map] without which you cannot steer your ship.
But there is a subtle yet distinct difference between

- using this model [as a map for where you are heading]

and

- forceful attempts [to use the map in order]
  to be [already]
  what you have not yet organically become.

If you recognize the model [of the state toward which you are evolving] without forcing yourself [to be what you have not yet organically become], you accept your human state.

You know that by virtue of your humanness you cannot immediately be the

- ideal,
- totally fused individual.

You know that it takes

- a long time,
- much experience,
- many lessons,
- many trials and errors,
- untold incarnations until your soul emerges as a complete being.
You need to know that
such a state [i.e., that the ecstatic state of a complete being evoked through the
power of fusion between love, respect, passion (eros), and sexuality]
exists,
even if
you are still quite unable
to experience it.

You need to know it [i.e., know about the existence of this ecstatic state of
a complete being as your eventual destiny]
without
• self-pressure,
without
• self-moralizing,
without
• discouragement.

All these
forcing attitudes
are
• destructive and
• erroneous.

The attempt
to enforce
an ideal standard
that individuals cannot possibly live up to
at this time
has
unfortunately
been made by almost all
organized religions.

This is why
organized religion
has fallen into ill repute today.

The state of wholeness
should be placed
lightly
into your consciousness,
if I may use this expression.
It [i.e., This state of wholeness that is your destiny] should never become a whip.

It [i.e., This state of wholeness that is your destiny] should merely be a reminder of
  • who you essentially are already and
  • who you will one day become.

Just as it is foolish to turn into an atheist because of the errors of religion, so it is foolish to discard marriage altogether because of previous distortions.

Before marriage began to be doubted as a valid institution by many, the attitude toward it had already begun to change considerably, especially in the last several decades.

Individuals began to choose partners • freely,
  • motivated generally by love.

This often led to errors, however.
Too often individuals who were too young and immature to form a really meaningful union chose marriage based on superficial attraction, without deep knowledge of self or partner.

No wonder such marriages could not survive.

But this step was necessary before maturity could be gained.

Just as individuals cannot learn unless they experience mistakes and immaturities, neither can the collective consciousness [learn unless those in the collective experience mistakes and immaturities].

New ways have to be tried by both [i.e., both by the individuals and by the collective consciousness] before the soul reaches wisdom and truth.
The freedom
to
• choose independently,
to
• experience
  • sexual and
  • erotic
  pleasure,
to
• make mistakes and
• learn from them,
to
grow into
• different and
• more mature
  relationships
  without condemning
  less mature ones,

are all necessary
to learn
the real significance of
marriage.
It [i.e., marriage] has to be seen not as a shackle imposed by a moralizing • outer or • inner authority, but as • a freely chosen gift, • the • greatest, • most desirable state imaginable, • the keenest • pleasure and • fulfillment for which [i.e., for which, in order to have the capacity for experiencing this level of pleasure and fulfillment that will eventually be experienced in the mature sex-love relationship.] • the soul and • the personality have to become • strong, • resilient, • mature, and • capable.

• Bliss, • ecstasy, • pleasure supreme can never exist • gratuitously, can never be • cheaply snatched.

They [i.e., Bliss, ecstasy, and pleasure supreme] cannot be borne that way [i.e., cannot be borne when merely gratuitously received or cheaply snatched].
They [i.e., Bliss, ecstasy, and pleasure supreme] can be borne only when the personality has reached sufficient
- purification,
- security,
- faith,
- self-knowledge,
- comprehension of the universe,
- Christness.

Sexual liberation has to go through some stages that may seem exaggerated, or may even be exaggerated, before further sexual liberation – the unification of
- love,
- eros and sex – can create the new-age marriage.

Fleeting sexual encounters [with multiple partners] should not be looked upon as the final state of [sexual] liberation.

They [i.e., Fleeting sexual encounters with multiple partners] are, at best, a very temporary and limited phase.
No one who has ever experienced this stage [i.e., the stage of having fleeting sexual encounters with multiple partners]

has ever truly been satisfied by it, not even on the merely physical level.

You may delude yourself into thinking that this [i.e., that freely having fleeting sexual encounters with multiple partners] is the best [sexual experience or life] you could hope to experience, but it is not.

You may deny your deeper unfulfilled longing because some of the hitherto unfulfilled longing has been assuaged [i.e., assuaged by having fleeting sexual encounters with multiple partners].

But you have so much further to go in order to give yourself what you really need, want, desire, and what you should indeed have.
As with the sexual revolution,
    women's liberation, too,
    had to go to some kind of
    extreme –
    at least temporarily.

So some women
    had to become
    as
        • hard,
        as
        • unyielding
            as their greatest enemy,
            man,
    in order to experience
    their
        • strength,
        their
        • capacity to be
            • independent,
            • self-responsible,
            • creative, and
            • resourceful.

As long as
    this [i.e. As long as going to these extremes in women's liberation]
    is a passing phase
    from which
    further changes will emerge
it [i.e. going to these extremes in women's liberation]
    is all right.

But when this [i.e. But when going to these extremes in women's liberation]
    is seen as
    the final ideal,
it [i.e. going to these extremes in women's liberation]
    becomes
    as damaging as the
    • suppressed and
    • dependent
    child-woman
    you no longer
        • want or
        • need
    to be.
The new-age woman combines
• independence,
• self-responsibility,
• full-fledged adulthood
with the
• softness and
• yieldingness
that was
previously
associated
exclusively
with
the dependent parasite.

The new-age man combines
his
• heart feelings,
his
• softness,
his
• gentleness
with
his
• strength and
• abilities,

not like the woman,
but in
a complementary way.

The two [i.e., the new-age woman and the new-age man] can form the new-age marriage.

The new-age marriage will not be formed early in life.
If the participants are young, they will have reached considerable maturity as a result of a genuine, intense pathwork, such as this.

The new-age marriage is a nucleus of strength, with the partners fortifying each other as well as others in a commonly undertaken task for the greater cause.

The new-age marriage is totally open and transparent. There are no secrets whatever.

The soul process of the pathwork is totally shared.

This openness and transparency has to be learned.

It [i.e., the new-age marriage] is a path within the path, as it were.
You need to
expose your difficulty
in achieving this openness,
rather than
• denying or
• hiding
it [i.e., rather than denying or hiding from your partner your
difficulty in achieving this openness].

If you do not expose
your difficulty in being open [with your partner],
your unfulfillment [in your marriage]
cannot be alleviated
no matter how much
you try to blame it [i.e., try to blame your unfulfillment
in your marriage]
on
• your partner
or
on
• outer circumstances.

Part of this openness
consists of revealing
your fear
of the
• strong spiritual current,
of the
• forces released
by the unification of
• sexuality
and
• the heart.

When the fear
is shared –
even though you may be
unable to shed the fear as yet –
• the obstructions will be eliminated
relatively fast,
and
• a kind of
vibrant fulfillment
comes
even from this sharing.
In the new-age marriage,
• being on a path of profound self-development
and
• bringing into the light the hidden parts of the self are the prerequisites of fulfillment in an
  • alive and
  • vibrant relationship.

When the vibrancy ebbs away, the causes need to be explored by both partners together.

There may be any number of reasons for the stagnation, none of them necessarily
• bad or
• shameful.

When all levels of the two personalities are open to each other, join and finally fuse, the
• intensity and
• vibrancy of the sexual encounter will surpass anything you can at present imagine.

You deeply long for it [i.e., You deeply long for the intensity and vibrancy of the sexual encounter], because this fulfillment is
• your birthright and
• your destiny.
It [i.e., the intensity and vibrancy of the sexual encounter] can exist only in a partnership such as I have described here – [that is.] in the new-age marriage.

This kind of fusion cannot come about easily.

It [i.e., this kind of fusion between the two partners] is the result of:
- infinite patience,
- growth,
- change,
- transformation.

But it should live in your vision as a possibility you can indeed actualize one day.

The fusion on all levels of the personality means the fusion of all energy bodies.

This [i.e., Fusion on all levels of the personality, fusion of all energy bodies] is very rarely the case.

You will come to know when the fusion exists only on the physical level, and when it [i.e., when fusion] happens on the emotional, mental, and spiritual levels.
All these energy bodies [i.e., All these energy bodies associated with the physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual levels] exist in reality and can • fuse or • not [fuse] according to prevailing conditions.

When the fusion takes place on all these levels [i.e., on the physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual levels], you not only become one with • your partner, but [you also become one] with • God.

You realize God in • the mate and [you realize] God in • yourself.

No wonder the power current is too strong to bear unless your personalities have reached a high degree of inner • development and • purification.
Once you realize that

sexual fusion [on the physical level] is

• insufficient and
• uninteresting

unless it [i.e., unless sexual fusion] includes all

the energy bodies [i.e., all the energy bodies of each partner and not only the physical/sexual energy body of each partner]

in the process of coming together [i.e., coming together in the process of fusion into one],

your approach to a sexual encounter will become very different.

Sex will never be

• casual or
• haphazard;

you will consider it [i.e., you will consider sex] a holy ritual.

These [sexual] rituals will be created by the individual couples and

• may change over time.

They [i.e., These sexual rituals] will never deteriorate into fixed routines.
The sexual encounter is a true fusion of the • masculine and • feminine principles as universal forces.

Each sexual fusion will be a creative act, bringing forth new • spiritual forms, new • heights of development in the two selves that can be passed on to others.

The complementary merging of these two divine aspects – the • feminine and • masculine forces – will create not only total • fulfillment, • ecstasy, and • bliss, but • enduring new values and • a true experience of • divine reality, of • the Christ in the self and in the other.
My beloved friends, this lecture should by no means discourage you, no matter how far away you may seem to be from the destiny I outline here.

You are moving in this direction merely
- by being able to comprehend this lecture,
- by being capable of choosing to use it in the most positive way no matter where you are.

Knowing this truth [about sexuality and the new-age marriage] will free you as any truth must free you, even if you cannot attain its realization in this life.

Rejoice that it [i.e., Rejoice that this state of sexuality and the new-age marriage] exists,
that it [i.e., that this state of sexuality and the new-age marriage] waits for you.

Know this truth [about this state of sexuality and the new-age marriage and know the truth that this state waits for you] as an enrichment given to you.
There exists a tremendous tension between the
• male
and
• female
energy currents.

This tension can manifest in
• a positive
or
• a negative
way.

If it [i.e., If this tremendous tension between the male and female energy currents] manifests negatively, sexuality is fraught with
• denials such as
  • homosexuality,
  • repression,
  • asexuality,
  • impotence,
  • frigidity,
or with
• negative expression as in
  • sadism,
  • masochism,
  • fetishism.
To a degree,
it may be necessary
to give some expression to
negatively connected sexuality [i.e., negatively connected sexuality as
sexuality expressed in sadism, masochism, or fetishism],
for if it [i.e., for if such negatively connected sexuality]
is
completely denied,

• the total personality
  is being thwarted
and
• the tension [between the male and female energy currents]
is so powerfully accumulated
  that
  nonsexual violence
  is acted out.

If these [negative sexual] expressions
occur
• in fantasy
  or
• in situations of mutual consent
  where no one is
  • harmed or
  • forced,
they [i.e., these negative sexual expressions as in sadism, masochism, or fetishism]
can lead to
a more
• cohesive,
• connected
  sexuality,
especially when this process [of expressing sexuality negatively
  as in sadism, masochism, or fetishism]
is not glorified
  but understood in its true meaning.
[Conversely,]

When the tension [i.e., this tremendous tension between the male and female energy currents] manifests positively,
it [i.e., this positive manifestation arising from the tremendous tension between the male and female energy currents] is truly a psychic nuclear point.

The new-age marriage is a psychic nuclear point.

- The energy released,
- the creativity liberated,
- the mutuality of ecstasy are all deeply spiritual experiences that happen in, through, and with God.

Divine sexuality must be recognized in the New Age.

It [i.e., Divine sexuality] is not to be found in
- old taboos and denial,
- moralizing judgments about this creative force,
neither is it to be found in
- deviations that occur as a result of incomplete development.
The explosive force of the male-female tension and its [i.e., and the explosive force of the male-female tension’s] release
  • permeates the total personality and
  • transcends the finite.

It [i.e., The explosive force of the male-female tension’s release] truly
  • spiritualizes the body

and
  • materializes the spirit,
    which is the task [and the purpose] of evolution.

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With this,
  I bless you,
  my beloved ones.

  • The Christ within your deepest soul fuses with
    • the Christ consciousness and
    • those energies that
      • surround you and
      • fill you with
        his [i.e., Christ’s]
        • love,
        his [i.e., Christ’s]
        • strength and
        his [i.e., Christ’s]
        • blessings.
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