**Pathwork Lecture 258: Personal Contact with Jesus Christ – Positive Aggression – The Real Meaning of Salvation**  

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/](https://www.garyvollbracht.com/pathwork-lectures/pathwork-lectures-devotional-format/)

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<th><strong>Content</strong></th>
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<td><strong>Joyfully</strong></td>
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<td><em>I bring divine blessings</em></td>
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<td><em>that can touch</em></td>
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<td><em>everyone here</em></td>
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<td><em>in a very vital way</em> [i.e., <em>I bring blessings that can touch, in a very vital way, everyone who is now spending time with this lecture</em>.]</td>
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<th><strong>You need to</strong></th>
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<td><em>raise your consciousness</em></td>
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<td><em>remove the barriers</em></td>
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<td><em>from perceiving</em></td>
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<td>• <em>the Lord’s presence</em></td>
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<td>• <em>His love</em></td>
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Let me start this lecture with some words on feeling God's presence.

Even though you have strengthened your faith and your realization that this world is infused with God, few have as yet made personal contact with Him.

He [i.e., God] became human so as to always be close to you in a very personal, loving way.

For most believers God is a much less personal, a much more vague and general experience.

And you know that you can experience only that which you can conceive of and believe in.
If you seriously
• long [for],
• pray [for], and
• search for
  a realization of
  Jesus Christ's
  personal love
  for you,

the answers [i.e., the answers to your serious longing, praying and searching for a realization of Jesus Christ’s personal love for you] will come forth.

Perhaps you will not recognize the first answers as such [i.e., not recognize the first answers as real answers to your prayer for the realization of Jesus Christ’s personal love for you].

They [i.e., These first answers to your prayer for the realization of Jesus Christ’s personal love for you] may have something to do with specific barriers that prevent you from
  • this experience [i.e., specific barriers that prevent you from this experience of Jesus Christ’s personal love for you],
  • this reality [i.e., specific barriers that prevent you from the experience of Christ’s reality and of His personal love for you].

They [i.e., the first answers to your prayer concerning experiencing Jesus Christ’s reality and His personal love for you] may bring up
  • new,
or again
  • old,
  material on your path that you need to work on for your purification.

These [i.e., Your new awareness both of new and old specific barriers and of the work you need for your purification in order to remove these specific barriers] are the answers [i.e., are the first answers to your prayer for the experience of Jesus Christ’s reality and His personal love for you]!
Once the barriers begin to crumble, you will experience what it means to feel Jesus Christ's personal love for you.

You are always involved in a vicious circle here [i.e., here on the earth plane in your state of dualistic consciousness].

When you feel
• unworthy,
• unlovable,
• unacceptable,
it is impossible to believe that Christ can love you personally,

[and can do so] regardless of your present state of development.

So you need to
• forge ahead and
• reestablish your self-acceptance and self-respect
[i.e., reestablish your SELF-acceptance and SELF-respect in the face of parts of you being in very early stages of development and still feeling unworthy and “sinful”].
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Yet this [i.e., Forging ahead to reach a felt sense of self-acceptance and self-respect] can be done only when you • recognize and • oust • real, • justified guilt, without annihilating yourself in the process.</th>
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<tr>
<td>I have shown you many times how to do this.</td>
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<td>The self-condemnation that so often accompanies insight into your lower self [i.e., accompanies insight into your “sinful” not-yet-purified nature] obstructs the • cleansing and • liberating process that makes room for self-love in the healthy sense.</td>
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<td>07 It is also true that without at least a slight awareness that you are personally • precious and • beloved to the personified God – Jesus Christ – it is extremely difficult • to accept your guilts and • to find your real value.</td>
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So what you need is a continuous double approach that combines your
determination to
• search for and
• face all of your lower self

and to
• understand all of your being with
  • compassion and
  • realism,

with your
• direct prayer and
• deep desire to feel
  • Jesus’ presence near you,
  • His concern for you,
  • His
    • deep,
    • abiding interest in
      • every
      • smallest detail of your life.

As you thus proceed on your path (i.e., as you proceed on your path using this continuous double approach of 1) facing your lower self with compassion AND 2) desiring and praying to FEEL Jesus’ presence near you), the glory that will come to you cannot be put into words.
Nothing else is comparable to the knowledge that the Lord [i.e., the Lord Jesus Christ] loves you personally, cares for you, never forgets you and always protects you, no matter what the momentary circumstances are.

However, this total fulfillment [i.e., this total fulfillment that comes from KNOWING that Jesus Christ loves you personally, cares for you, never forgets you and always protects you no matter what the momentary circumstances are] can come only as you totally surrender to the will of God, without any reservations, in every • large and • small aspect of your • life and your • being.
We have discussed this [i.e., this need for total surrender to the will of God] so often, and yet how difficult it remains for a number of you.

- You keep holding back.
- You still have your little corners
  - of holding out,
  - of believing that
    - your self-will knows better than
    - God what makes you happy.

Yet Jesus Christ is here to give you
- eternal life,
- safety and
- total fulfillment, if only you
  - trust Him
  and
  - give yourself to Him.

You will be sustained with all the juices of
- life and
- joy in a constant flow of renewal.
You cannot
eliminate
your
• fears and
your
• distrust of others
unless
you
constantly
renew the practice
of
total surrender to
the highest within yourself.

For you
cannot subsist
alone.

No creature can.

All created beings
hang together
on
a chain of interdependence –
• physically,
• emotionally and
• spiritually.

When
the weight of dependence
is put where it belongs –
• on God,
• on His personalized aspect [i.e., on Jesus Christ]
who is personally near you –
then
you can create
a healthy center of gravity
anchored
deep within your soul,
for that [i.e., for deep within your soul]
is where to find Him [i.e., is where to find
Jesus Christ].
**His presence** [i.e., Jesus Christ’s presence] merges with **your higher self.**

You truly become **one** [i.e., You truly become one in Jesus Christ].

Thus [i.e., Thus, in being one in Jesus Christ,] all interdependence with others will be free from neurotic dependency.

It [i.e., All dependence on others] will be healthy interdependence that will give you:

- clear vision,
- the ability to adjudge realistically where your trust is justified and where it is not [i.e., adjudge where your trust is NOT justified].

Therefore you will have a healthy relationship with your leaders and your followers.
Without that
    proper center of gravity
    in God,
you will
    always
    • be confused,
    • live in fear,
    • distrust your judgment,
    • become
    either
    • too distrustful
      in the wrong place
    and/or
    • too gullible [i.e., too trustful]
      in the wrong place.

So, my beloved friends,
    make it your business
    now
    to deepen your
    desire for
    personal contact with Christ.

Strengthen
    your commitment
    • to Him,
    • to give over
      all of your life
      to Him
      in the total trust
      that He deserves.

Your human fears
    can never be assuaged
    otherwise.
I spoke in a lecture about
one basic existential fear
that
all human beings share,
whether they are aware of it or not.

This is
the fear of
annihilation of consciousness –
which you fear will take place
after the body
separates from
the spirit self [i.e., at physical death].

To no longer exist
is
the most insidious fear
that you
must
• meet
and
• deal with.

Only
through
total surrender to God
can you do this [i.e., can you meet and deal with this most insidious fear of no longer existing].

Only
through
removing your impurities
can you do this [i.e., can you meet and deal with this most insidious fear of no longer existing].

Only
through
• experiencing
rather than
• denying
your various pains
can you do this [i.e., can you meet and deal with this most insidious fear of no longer existing].
The Creator has filled your earth sphere with
- signs,
- symbols which say
  - loudly and
  - clearly
  that
  nothing • is ever lost,
  that
  nothing • can ever
  • disappear or
  • disintegrate into
  nothingness.

You will recognize these symbols as you awaken.

The awakening depends utterly on your surrender to
- the Creator
and to
- His personalized presence in your life – Jesus Christ.
One such beautiful symbol is the sea.

Just observe the
• ebb and
• flow
  of
  the sea.

The tide
• flows forward
  in great masses,
only to
• recede and
• diminish.

Where does it go?

It seems
• to disappear,
• to disintegrate,
• to no longer exist.

From your vantage point on the shore,
where there was water
before
there is none
now.

But you know [i.e., But you understand and are conscious and aware of the fact] that the water
  does not
  disintegrate into nothingness.

It [i.e., The water]
• continues
  • to be,
  • to exist
    in the greater pool,
    never losing its unique quality,
and
  • will return.
Could it be different
with
individual consciousness?

Could
individual consciousness
go through
all the painstaking steps
of
• developing and
• cleansing
  itself;
of
• growing and
• expansion,
with
no purpose?

The more you establish
your own inner connections
between
your
• life experiences
and
your
• attitudes,
the more deeply
you will understand
that there are
no arbitrary coincidences.

Your life experiences
stand in direct relationship
to
• you,
to
• who you are now,
to
• what you express and
• what you
  • deliberately or
  • inadvertently
create.
Awareness of these connections [i.e., AWARENESS of these connections between your life experiences and YOU – between your life experiences and your attitudes, who you are now, what you express and what you deliberately or inadvertently create]

in

the microcosm

of your personal existence

inevitably also makes

the universe comprehensible

in an entirely new way.

You must then see

that

• everything has purpose,
that

• nothing is for naught,
that

• there is a magnificent design at work
  whose purpose is
  to bring everything
to
  • perfection,
to
  • bliss,
to
  • oneness – and therefore
to
  • ineffable peace.

You can no longer doubt

the design

behind events

when you explore

your microcosm [i.e., the microcosm of your personal existence]

• painstakingly,
• honestly and
• courageously.
And when you see
the fabric
of
• wisdom and
of
• purpose
in all that comes to pass,
you will simultaneously
recognize
the Great Spirit
of the Creator
at work.

When you work
with the aid of
the personalized God [i.e., with the aid of Jesus Christ], who is
• always available
to you,
• always responsive
when
you reach out for His help,
you will gradually
establish connections [i.e., connections between painful events in your life and their inner causes]
that were totally obscure before.

Nothing
could be
more
• painful and
more
• frightening
than
the disconnectedness
between
• a painful event in your life
and
• its inner cause.
Its [i.e., The painful event’s]
appearance
seems
• inexplicable and
• inconsequential.

To establish
the causal connection [i.e., connection between the painful event and its cause]
is
• relief,
• release,
• liberation and
• enrichment
  beyond description.

There exists
a certain rhythm
that you need to
• discover,
• sense and
• accept.

Again I use
the analogy of the sea.

• Ebb and
• flow
  function according to
  • a very specific rhythm,
  • a rhythm
    that has been established
    under higher orders.

This rhythm
is never broken.

Only when
specific upheavals interfere –
such as
• earthquakes,
• tidal waves or
• human destructiveness –

is the rhythm
temporarily disrupted.
[When the sea’s upheavals interfere with the natural unique rhythm of the sea]

The sea
  is in crisis,
  so to speak,
but
  the crisis
  conspires
to reestablish
  • its [i.e., the sea’s]
    unique rhythm,
  • its [i.e., the sea’s]
    harmony
    with the rest of creation.

The sea
  has the wisdom
  to follow this pattern.

Humans,
  with their disruptive minds,
  too often
  make themselves
  insensitive to
  their unique rhythm patterns
  with which
  they need to be in harmony.

• When you seek
  a connection
  between
  • an event
  and
  • your inner person,
• when you
  • work to recognize it [i.e., when you work to recognize the connection between an event and its cause in the inner person]
  and
  • pray for help
    and the answer [i.e., and pray for help, and the answer concerning the connection between a painful event and its cause in the inner person]
  still fails to come,
you may be
  out of rhythm.
The waiting time [i.e., The time during this period of ebb, this time without answers concerning the inner-person cause of a painful event] may then be used to find qualities within yourself of which you can learn only in times of • ebb, never in times of • flow.

The time span of the • ebb and • flow of the sea, of • high tide and • low tide, is never exactly the same.

Mostly • one lasts longer than • the other, if measured with earthly time.

Time relationships often change.

It is the same with the human being's rhythm.

The time of • fruition may come sooner in some areas, the time of • waiting may last longer in others.
Sense your rhythm
in all things.

Feel your daily life
in accordance with
your personal universal rhythm pattern.

It [i.e., Your personal universal rhythm pattern]
exists as definitively as
you carry
your life pattern
within
your soul substance.

If you
• work,
• rest,
• play,
• live,
• move and
• have your being
  in harmony with
your unique rhythm pattern [i.e., your unique
  personal universal rhythm pattern],
you will live
  a much more
• fruitful,
• creative,
• joyful and
• peaceful
  life.

Much
• harassment and
• restlessness
will fall off
your burdened shoulders.
You need to
raise your consciousness
specifically
to this phenomenon [i.e., this phenomenon that your life has a
unique, personal, universal rhythm pattern and your daily
life will be much more fruitful, creative, joyful and peaceful if
you live your daily life in harmony with that rhythm pattern].

• Think about
  this concept [i.e., THINK about this phenomenon of being in or out of
  harmony with life rhythms],
to begin with.

• Meditate that it [i.e., that this phenomenon of life rhythms]
  exists.

• Stir up
  your imagination
  and
• feel into
  • living a day
    in rhythm,
as contrasted with
  • your usual
    • unconscious,
    • rhythmless
    existence.

Once you can
visualize the difference [i.e., the difference between a day in rhythm
and a rhythmless day],

• concentrate on it daily [i.e., concentrate daily on this rhythm pattern]
  and
• ask your personal guidance
to help you
  • focus on it [i.e., focus on your unique rhythm pattern each day]
  and
  • stay increasingly
    in your rhythm pattern [i.e., increasingly live each day in
    your unique rhythm].
When, following a comparatively long time of
- search and
- work,
  a painful personal event
  [still] seems
  utterly disconnected
  from any
  personal
  - cause or
  - meaning,

something in your rhythm pattern
demands
that you
accept this
as a rhythmic phenomenon.

True,
the rhythmic phenomenon
is also
determined by
underlying causes
that exist within
the particular consciousness.

But
only when
the rhythm pattern
is
- respected,
- accepted,
- adhered to and
- utilized in the most constructive way,

will the rhythm
- flow
  without disturbance
  and
  - take its natural course.
• Doubt,
• rebellion,
• anger,
• belief in a meaningless universe
    that makes you suffer –

these are
destructive responses
to your rhythm pattern
    that delay
its natural flow.

Equally disruptive
is
the self-rejecting attitude,

"I am so bad
    that I deserve
to be punished
    this way."

You have all learned on this path
what a constructive response
to a painful event is.

[Namely – this constructive response to a painful event is to meditate and ask...]

• "What can I
  learn here?

• What
  could
  my response be
to this seeming delay [i.e., this seeming delay in answering my
  prayer for help in recognizing the inner cause of my suffering]
  that would
  most further my development?
• If there is anything in my lower self that I am not yet aware of or not sufficiently connected with,

I want to see it fully, without ever losing sight of the fact that
• God loves me and
• I am God's unique expression."

These are positive responses that will help the rhythm to take its harmonious course.

Then, in its own time, often when you least expect it, new connections [i.e., new connections between painful events and their inner causes] will open up, sometimes pouring out with such rich profusion that suddenly
• all woe will disappear and
• the suffering will turn into the blessing it always had the potential to be.

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Again I say that personal contact with Jesus Christ will help you to
• live in harmony and
• make all the necessary connections [i.e., make all the necessary connections between painful events and their inner causes].
But here, too, [i.e., But here, too, regarding personal contact with Jesus Christ] the rhythm pattern is at work.

• Mentally, you may be completely reconciled to His reality [i.e., completely reconciled MENTALLY to the reality of Jesus Christ].

• You may have used your personal will for total surrender [i.e., for total surrender to Jesus Christ] and you may sincerely mean it.

• Yet you may not have experienced the emotional reality of Christ's • sweet and • loving presence.

• You may wait for this [i.e., wait for this experience of the EMOTIONAL reality of Christ’s presence] to happen.

• You may become impatient and then begin to doubt, thus [i.e., thus, by impatience and doubting the emotional reality of Christ’s presence,] disrupting the seed you have sown [i.e., the seed you have sown by coming to accept mentally Jesus Christ’s reality].
When the emotional experience [i.e., the emotional experience of Christ’s presence] fails to materialize for a while, it is not that He keeps you waiting. [Rather] It is that your inner barriers [i.e., It is rather that your inner barriers to the emotional experience of Christ’s reality and presence] need to give way.

That [i.e., The giving way of your inner barriers to the emotional experience of Christ’s reality and presence] can happen only within the context of your • unique, • personal rhythm pattern.

Remember that [i.e., Remember that your rhythm pattern is at play when your inner barriers to the emotional experience of Christ’s presence do not give way] and do not despair.

Christ • is here.

He [i.e., Christ] • hears you,

He • loves you,

He • protects you,

He • is deeply concerned with you, even though your senses are still too dull to perceive it [i.e., too dull to perceive His deep concern with you].
The time will come
suddenly
when you will be
intensely aware
of this fact [i.e., intensely aware of this fact that Christ is here, that He hears, loves, and protects you, and that He is deeply concerned with you].

You will
feel [i.e., FEEL, and not merely mentally know of,]
His [i.e., Christ’s]
• loving,
• healing
arms
in which you can
always
• rest and
• find new sustenance
for your life task.

All doubt
is evil.

But since evil
has no permanent substance,
you can
easily dispel it.

Bring your
positive aggression
to bear upon it [i.e., Bring your POSITIVE aggression to bear upon your doubt],
which is
very contrary to
what you usually do [i.e., which is very contrary to what you usually do with your aggression].
By habit,
you put all aggression
into the service of
lower-self aims,
while keeping an
• apathetic,
• passive
[i.e., an apathetic and passive rather than an aggressive]
attitude
toward
the good
you desire to receive
from life.

Or you are
• passive and
• apathetic
when you are
enveloped in
the negativities
that stem from your
unpurified self and
that therefore [i.e., that therefore, because these inner
negativities stem from your unpurified self,]
draw
evil forces [i.e. evil forces from outside yourself]
to you.

It then [i.e., When these evil forces are drawn to you from outside yourself, it then]
seems much easier to
• let all aggression out
  in a destructive way and
• give in to
  negative influences [i.e., to give in to these negative influences
  you have drawn to yourself from outside yourself]
without using
any of your aggressive aspects
to either
• dispel them [i.e., to dispel the negative forces you
  have drawn to yourself]
or to
• assert the positive forces
  • within and
  • around
  you.
This [i.e., This bad habit of misusing your aggressive aspects by NOT USING them
to dispel negative forces you have attracted to you nor by USING them
to assert the positive forces within and around you] needs to be changed
and you have
• the power and
• the means
to do it.

But you must
• be aware of
  the displacement [i.e., be aware of how, where and when your aggression is
  not placed on positive aspects and instead is used destructively]
and
• put
  • more awareness and
  • clear intention
  into straightening out
  the imbalance [i.e., the imbalance when you use your aggression for
  negative ends rather than for positive ends].

Visualize yourself
  taking a firm stand
  against all thoughts
  that are
  • negative and
  • divisive
  in any way.

Seriously question
  any thoughts
  that
  • seem correct
  but fail to give you
  a feeling of
  • peace,
  • love and
  • unity,
  that
  • make you
  feel
  • disharmonious and
  • in any way
  uncomfortable.
Just being willing
to let in
the light of truth –
• the truth of God
rather than
• your temporary perception of truth –
will create
a shift
in your consciousness.

The result [i.e., The result of this shift in consciousness in which you STOP using your aggression for negative and destructive ends and instead START using your aggression for positive ends]

may not be
immediate,

but sooner or later
you will have
less of a
tight urge to pursue,
often with undue aggression,
• untruthful
and therefore
• negative and
• constricting
aims.

Visualize yourself
questioning your position
in each situation
that creates
a disharmony
• within you
and/or
• around you.

Just see yourself
in your imagination
doing that.
Visualize yourself always surrendering
- your position [i.e., surrendering your position and YOUR vision of “truth” in every situation] for
- God's vision of truth.

Often it may not be a question of sharply divided
- right versus
- wrong.

but the truth may still be different from the way you see it.

When you visualize yourself surrendering to God's vision,
- you will find out the truth of any particular situation.

- You will be enlightened and
- you will lose a tremendous burden.

The
- relief and
- liberation are enormous, especially if you do not have too big a stake in your egotistic self-righteousness.
However, if you feel personally humiliated by • being wrong, by • being imperfect, by • having made a mistake, it will be much more difficult for you to let go of the tight hold of your position.

The reason [i.e., The reason it will be much more difficult for you to let go of your tight hold of your position and vision of what is the “truth” in a situation] is that you secretly hold a low opinion of yourself.

The lower this opinion is [i.e., The lower your opinion of yourself is], the greater must be your stake in some • prideful, • egotistical, • self-elevating and • self-righteous position that, at the same time, creates projected judgments of others.
Please, my friends, remember these words well, because here your personal contact with Jesus Christ is again your best solution.

Only through allowing yourself to
• know –
and later to
• feel –
His [i.e., to know and later FEEL Jesus Christ’s]
• love and
• total acceptance of who you are now,
no matter how
• flawed,
• imperfect and
• destructive your lower self may be,
will you be able to do the same [i.e., will you be able to know and feel your love and total acceptance of yourself, of who you are now, no matter how flawed, imperfect, and destructive your lower self may be].

Only then [i.e., Only when you know and feel both Christ’s and your own love and total acceptance of who you are now with your imperfect and destructive lower self]
will you trust your ultimate divine nature.

Then you will be able to afford the luxury, if I may put it this way, of accepting your distortions – your sins, if you will – without losing the ground under your feet.
And that [i.e., And to know and feel both Christ’s and your own love and total acceptance of who you are now with your imperfect and destructive lower self] is the healthy position which allows you to reach:
• truth and
• harmony with
  • yourself,
  with
  • others and
  with
  • life.

Then you can go to the next step and visualize putting your aggressive forces into the service of positive aims.

• You can refute negative influences.

• You can talk to your own false thoughts with
  • firmness and
  • reasonableness.

See yourself doing that.

Invite Christ to come to your assistance in this endeavor [i.e., Invite Christ to come to your assistance in this endeavor of putting your aggressive forces into the service of positive aims and of refuting negative influences and talking to your own false thoughts with firmness and reasonableness].
Then claim with
  • all the vigor at your disposal,
  • all the aggression you are beginning to transform from
    • negative to
    • positive,
that
  • you want only the will of God,
that
  • you trust [that] the will of God will bring you the best you could ever hope for,
that
  • any distrust of the will of the Highest is a lie you need to rid yourself of.

The more aggression you put into such • declarations and • intents,
the better the seeds will grow in your soul substance.
Your aggression itself
needs to be transformed.

This will enable you
to become
• who you are meant to be,
• who you actually are already
  on another level of reality.

Perhaps some of you can occasionally
begin to visualize
another picture of yourself.

Imagine
your real being,
free from
all the encumbrances
that burden you
now.

It does not matter
whether these encumbrances are
in your
• body,
in your
• psyche, or
in your
• relationships
  • to others and
  • to the world.

They [i.e., These encumbrances]
are all expressions
of pain,

the pain you suffer
from
some untruthfulness
  contained within your psyche.
It is not easy
to ferret out
the untruthfulness.

Sometimes it [i.e., Sometimes the untruthfulness]
is right on the surface
and it [i.e., and when the untruthfulness is right on the surface, the untruthfulness]
will become clear to you
after only
a slight effort on your part
to want to see it.

At other times
your defensive blocks
blot out your own view,

but they [i.e., but these areas of your untruthfulness and
defensive blocks that you cannot see]
are nevertheless
obvious enough to others,
who could help you
if you let them.

This is why
working with others
is such an important aspect of the pathwork –
both
in
• the helper/worker relationship,
and
in
• groups,
as well as
in
• your interactions in daily life.
But then there is also untruthfulness so deeply buried that it may take
  • a long time and
  • many trials
  before you can bring it [i.e., bring this buried untruthfulness] close enough to the surface level to recognize it.

Such areas were not necessarily those you planned to take on in this incarnation, but your spirit may nevertheless have chosen to tackle them if you have fully completed your original task.

I spoke about this in a recent lecture [See Lecture 230: The Universality of Change – Reincarnative Process in the Same Life Span, given April 9, 1975].

Once the untruthfulness is on the surface and you are
  • able and
  • willing to
  • see and
  • confront it,
  the moment has come to transform your aggression [i.e., transform your aggression from negative aggression to positive aggression].

This is also the moment when a further visualization can take place.
Imagine that
your true being –
which means
• your being in truth,
• all in truth –
observes
the suffering part of you
that is squeezed into
a smaller world
in which you sometimes
appear to suffocate.

Your real being [i.e., your true being]
is without any shades of
• untruthfulness,
• error,
• distortion – sin –
and therefore [i.e., and therefore your real and true being is]
in total wellbeing.

There is
no pain there.

This true being
observes
your earth being
that has undertaken
to correct
the distorted part
[and to do this correcting]
with compassion
for the momentary difficulties [the earth being
is enduring].

But it [i.e., But this true being]
sees no tragedy [i.e., sees no tragedy in these momentary difficulties the
earth being is enduring],

for it knows
that
• all is well and
that
• the temporary suffering
must lead to
salvation.
Salvation.

That word!

There are a number of words which many of you have become allergic to.

They are words used in
• the Bible and
• organized religion,

words that have indeed often been
• misused and
• abused.

But these words have nevertheless a true origin that should not be forgotten.

The name of divine manifestation in human form – Jesus Christ – is, as you well know, one such word.

Yet if you heard a description of God as
• form, as
• personal helper,
• friend,
• guide, as
• all-forgiver, as
• a being of
• translucent light and
• perfection,
you could accept it.
So do not let the word "Jesus Christ" stand in your way.

- He is the Christ,
- He was Jesus when he incarnated.

Similarly, you have associations [i.e., allergic and negative associations] with the words
- sin,
- hell,
- evil,
- devil.

All these words have been grossly abused.

That is true.

But they [i.e., But all these words] nevertheless indicate only the same facts that we now call by different names, such as
- lower-self aspects,
- negativities,
- destructiveness,
- a painful state of mind.
Now what about salvation?

The traditional interpretation of this word leaves a lot to be desired.

It [i.e., The traditional interpretation of “salvation”] lends itself easily to misunderstanding, although the more enlightened among religionists do perceive the truth.

Salvation means, among other things,

- Christ's endless forgiveness and acceptance.

It [i.e., Salvation] means that

- you can always find your way to God,
  - no matter what you have done,
  - no matter what your lower self still wishes to do.

- The door [i.e., The door to God] is always open,
  - you are never, never locked out.
All you have to do is

• knock.

• Ask
  for the bread of God’s
  mercy,
  love,
  forgiveness and
  personal help in all ways,

  and you shall not receive a stone.

• Ask to know
  yourself,
  your lovability,
  your nobility of spirit,
  the beauty of your true being, through His
  redemptive love of you,

  and you shall receive it.

That is salvation.

All that – and more.
God's personalized aspect [i.e., Jesus Christ] has brought it about.

The incarnated Christ [i.e., Jesus] has made it possible for all other incarnated entities to be saved from

• their painful state of untruth – sin – and consequent
  • destructiveness of
    • self and
    • others.

Let us now discuss three interdependent aspects of salvation that create a lot of

• confusion and
  • contradiction among humankind.

I am speaking here specifically of the salvation of your personal soul.
There are other aspects of salvation which go beyond that [i.e., beyond the salvation of your personal soul].

They [i.e., These aspects of salvation that go beyond the salvation of your personal soul] have to do with the possibility of every created entity leaving behind

• the state of consciousness that might be called
  • hell – or various lesser stages of it [i.e., or leaving behind lesser stages of hell]:

• states of consciousness that reflect
  • error and therefore
  • suffering,
  • the wheel of
    • death and
    • rebirth which carries with it
      • fears due to a break in consciousness [i.e., fears of death of the physical body].
Christ's demonstration of
• supreme love,
• forgiveness and
• mercy –
  of acceptance
due to
  the deep penetration
  of His vision into
  your ultimate nature –

opened all doors
that were closed before –

not [i.e., not closed]
because
• God
  • punished humankind
  and therefore
  • locked the doors,
but [i.e., but closed]
because
• humans
  were deeply immersed
  in the conviction
  that they
  • cannot be forgiven and
  that they are therefore
  • doomed
to suffer eternally.

This [i.e., This conviction that humans had that they cannot be forgiven, are doomed to suffer eternally and hence are in a hopeless state],
in turn,
took all the incentive away
to work on
any process
of self-purification.
Where there is no hope,
  • will and
  • incentive
  \[i.e., \text{will and incentive to work on any process of self-purification}] are also lacking.

Through the
  • life
  and
  • death of Jesus
  a new modality was created within the human mind.

This new model enabled human beings to choose
  \text{the path the Master has shown} \[i.e., \text{the path the Master, Jesus Christ, has shown}].

He has said that
  \text{He is}
  • the way,
  \text{He is}
  • truth,
  \text{He is}
  • life.

It was no longer futile to try \[i.e., \text{It was no longer futile for other human beings to try the path back to God by, while being held in Christ’s love and acceptance, following the path of purification and thereby gradually removing lower-self barriers that block humans from their true selves and thus, with blocks removed, enabling human beings to follow the higher-self path that Jesus Christ had shown in his life on earth – a life of love, compassion, mercy, and forgiveness}].
Forgiveness
  for
  • all sins,
  for
  • every transgression

exists already,

because
  God recognizes
  in much deeper terms
  why
  • you are driven as you are [i.e., driven as you are by your unpurified lower-self aspects],

why
  • you must
go
  through
  your sins
  in order to recognize them
  for what they are [i.e., to recognize what your sins are, namely, lower-self aspects that are barriers to experiencing God’s love that is always there for the asking],

so that
  a new incentive [i.e., both the incentive that 1) since you are already forgiven and not hopeless, and the further incentive that 2) since your sins (i.e., your impurities of lower-self aspects of pride, self-will, and fear) are the only barriers keeping you from experiencing God’s love and blessings that are always available for the asking, there is this incentive to do your work on the path of purification, this incentive that]

spurs you on
to the great journey
  you,
  here on this path,
  are now undertaking.
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| 43   | *The personal aspect of salvation seems contradictory to the mind that is steeped in the dualism of either/or.*  

*Let me present these three paradoxical aspects [i.e., these three paradoxical personal aspects of salvation]:*  

| 44   | **(1) Only**  

you yourself can effect your salvation.  

*It [i.e., Your salvation, your work of purification,] is your responsibility.* |
|------|------|
| 45   | **(2) You cannot possibly do it alone.**  

You need the help of others who  

• share the journey with you,  

who  

• may often see what you do not see. |
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<td>46</td>
<td><strong>(3) Without God, without the personal assistance of the personal aspect of God [i.e., without the personal assistance, encouragement, love and compassion of Jesus Christ], the undertaking is too vast for you to accomplish.</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
These three categories [i.e., These three paradoxical aspects of salvation] may no longer seem
• contradictory or
• confusing
to those of you who have worked for a considerable time with my lectures about
• duality and
• the unitive principle.

You may see quite clearly that these categories [i.e., that these three paradoxical aspects of salvation:
1) that you alone are responsible for your salvation, 2) that you cannot do it the work alone, and 3) that without the assistance of Christ the undertaking is too vast for you to accomplish]
are not mutually exclusive.

Yet some among you may still feel a confusion and ask,

"How could it be that although I am
• solely responsible to do it myself,
yet I need
• others, as well as
• God?"

Even for those who are not particularly confused about this concept of salvation it may be helpful to have more clarity on the subject.
Yes, [i.e., Yes, the first paradoxical aspect of salvation is that]

*it is obviously true*

that

your

salvation

is

your

• choice,

your

• intent,

your

• responsibility,

your

• will,

your

• effort –

and often what seems to be

your

• sacrifice.

At least it

seems

a sacrifice at first

to give up

• time and

• energy

for the undertaking of

your self-work.

It often seems

even more of a sacrifice

to shed a habit that

• stems from

your lower self and

• gives you

some lower-self gratifications

for a while,

so that

higher pleasures

can take root in you.
No one else, not even the Creator, can make you do what you do not wish and choose to do.

This [i.e., This “making you do” what you do not wish and choose to do] would go directly against all spiritual law whose author, after all, God is.

Yet [i.e., Yet the second paradoxical aspect of salvation – that you need others – is also true because],

you are often
• too involved in your misperceptions of your reality and
• too blind about your role in your interaction with others to be able to set distorted perceptions right.

You need
• the mirror of others.

You need to learn
• to be open to them [i.e., to be open to others as mirrors].

You need to learn
• to give up your
  • pretenses, and therefore your
  • defenses,
    in your relationship with them [i.e., your relationship with others].
You need
to show yourself [i.e., to show yourself to others]
as you are,
with
• all your vulnerability and
• total inner truth.

This [i.e., This showing yourself as you are with all your
vulnerability and total inner truth]
in itself
is already
an integral part of
your journey
toward
self-realization.

You need to learn
to receive,
even though this may first [i.e., even though
receiving from others may first]
make you feel
• weak and
• vulnerable,
for only then [i.e., for only when you can receive]
can you give of yourself.

You can
give
• many things
before [i.e., before you are able to receive from others],

but you
cannot give
• yourself
unless
you can
receive [i.e., unless you can receive from others]
in the sense I mentioned.
• Working with others,
• being
  • open to and
  • with
    them [i.e., being open to and being with others], fulfills
    the law of brotherhood.

I spoke about this [i.e., about this law of brotherhood] many years ago.

There are spiritual aspirants who deceive themselves that they can reach the goal by
  • seclusion and
  • separateness.

They have their rationales.

But the truth is
  that they never want to expose themselves to others and thus
  whatever their "success,"
    it [i.e., their “success”] can, at best, be only a half-measure that
      • cannot last,
      that
        • is not grounded in
          • spiritual, as well as
            • practical, reality.
[And the third paradoxical aspect of salvation is that you need Christ’s help.]

How could you ever
overcome the hurdle
of your self-hate
that festers underneath
all your defenses,
if it were not for
the experience
of
Christ’s
personal
• love,
• forgiveness,
• acceptance and
• total vision
of you?

How could you
learn to love
yourself
without at least
• knowing,
and finally
• experiencing,
  His love
  for you?

How could you
activate
the power to change
involuntary aspects
that do not
directly respond to
your outer will?
• The outer will and
• the outer aspects
  that respond to it [i.e., the outer voluntary aspects that respond to the outer will] need to be
  aggressively activated
  • by your
derication to your path,
  • by the many daily decisions to face the truth
  in
  • difficult or
  • confusing situations,
  • by your choice to
  • fulfill
  the law of brotherhood
  and
  • overcome
  your initial resistance to showing yourself as you are.

But then comes a point in which you deal with involuntary
• emotions,
• responses,
• reactions and even
• beliefs that
  do not respond [i.e., that do not respond to your outer will], no matter how sincerely your outer self wants to change them.

So you constantly need the higher powers to help you
• find the way into those deeper levels
and
• effect a change that your own mind alone cannot bring about.
All this
also teaches you
the wisdom
to distinguish
between
where
• the self
  is the master
and
where you desperately need
• the Great Master
  without whom
  nothing
  can be accomplished.

My beloved friends,
take in these words
and make them your own.

• They will
  • enlighten you and
  • help you toward
    the state of mind
    that you so yearn for.

• They will
  • open new doors
    that will make a
    personal experience of
    Jesus Christ
    possible for
    you.

Whenever you allow this to happen [i.e., Whenever you take in these words and make
them your own so that they 1) enlighten you, 2) help you toward the state of mind that you so yearn for, and 3) open new doors that will make a personal experience of Jesus Christ possible for you]
all doubts
about His reality [i.e., all doubts about the reality of Jesus Christ] will vanish.
Once you are
• held in His arms [i.e., Once you are held in the arms of Jesus Christ],

• consoled and
• encouraged
  by His sublime tenderness
  for you
  personally,
• rocked
  with all the comfort
  only He [i.e., rocked with all the comfort that only Jesus Christ]
  is capable of giving,

you will
never
doubt again,
although you may of course
lose
the feeling experience
and need to recapture it [i.e., need to recapture the feeling
experience of Jesus Christ’s presence within you] again
and again,
until

your entire consciousness
is filled with Him [i.e., is filled with
the consciousness of Christ]
who is in you.

• His blessings,
• the blessings of
  His angels
  are here with
  all of you.

Listen and
sense the reality
of this blessing.

All our love
accompanies you
every step
of your beautiful path.
Work
for the greater cause [i.e., Work for the greater cause, work for the Plan of Salvation].

Your own cause
that may seem selfish
will be furthered through it [i.e., Your own cause will be furthered through your work for the greater cause, your work for the Plan of Salvation].

Be
who you truly are!

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