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

1996 Edition, Original Given May 17, 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 <u>not</u> bolded.] To learn more of my Devotional Format and see the lectures I have done in this way, go to <a href="https://www.garyvollbracht.com/pathwork-lectures/pathwork-lectures-devotional-format/">https://www.garyvollbracht.com/pathwork-lectures-devotional-format/</a>

Gary Vollbracht

¶#	Content
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.

```
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.
04
              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 [i.e., even in the areas 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 of milder
        forms of CREATIVE MANIFESTATION feared, resisted, and maligned,]
    is the deepest reason
        • why such stringent taboos existed
           regarding
                sexual love;

    why releasing

           the spiritual forces [i.e., releasing the spiritual forces in SEXUAL LOVE]
                seems to be
                   the most
                       • threatening and

    dangerous

                          experience of all.
```

```
These powers [i.e., These powers of DIVINE SEXUAL LOVE]
                  are by no means
                      merely ethereal;
              they encompass [i.e., these SPIRITUAL FORCES of SEXUAL LOVE encompass]
                  • the whole personality
              and certainly include
                  • the body.
              This is why [i.e., Because these SPIRITUAL FORCES of SEXUAL LOVE encompass
                             the WHOLE PERSONALITY and certainly include the BODY is WHY]
                  the Christ
                      • force,
                  the Christ
                      · consciousness,
                  the Christ
                      • reality
                         has suffered so much
                             from
                                • misunderstanding and
                                • strife.
05
              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 [i.e., to this degree do these
                             POWERFUL SPIRITUAL CURRENTS of SEXUAL LOVE]
                  manifest as
                      • crisis,
                      • pain, and
                      • danger.
```

```
Nonetheless [i.e., Nonetheless, even though these POWERFUL SPIRITUAL
                      CURRENTS of SEXUAL LOVE can, because of negativity and distortion in
                      an individual's consciousness, lead to CRISIS, PAIN, and DANGER],
                  to be
                      • part of
                        these forces
                    and
                      • receptive
                        to them [i.e., TO BE PART OF and RECEPTIVE TO
                                    these POWERFUL SPIRITUAL FORCES of SEXUAL LOVE]
                            is the
                                deep longing
                                   of
                                       every soul,

    consciously

                                           • unconsciously.
06
              The development of
                  the institution of marriage
                      is significant
                        from this point of view [i.e., from the point of view of this LONGING].
             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 TO BE PART OF and RECEPTIVE
                             TO these POWERFUL SPIRITUAL FORCES of SEXUAL LOVE
                            through a deeper understanding of MARRIAGE]
                  is always
                     the first step
                          toward bringing what you long for
                            into actuality.
```

07	
	During the
	many centuries
	of its existence,
	humanity
	has developed
	in many areas.
	The state of the s
	Let us consider [i.e., Let us consider the area of]
	marriage.
	Understanding its [i.e., Understanding marriage's]
	evolution thus far
	· ·
	will open your vision
	to the future [i.e., open your vision as to the future of marriage].
	You will view
	the current attitude toward
	this institution [i.e., this institution of marriage]
	with the larger picture in mind.
	e <u>-</u>
	History
	can be properly understood
	only when
	• the spiritual meaning
	that underlies
	• earthly events
	is gleaned.
08	
	In the not-too-distant past,
	marriage
	served a number of functions,
	but least of all [i.e., but LEAST of all did marriage serve the functions of]
	<b>,</b> , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
	• sharing,
	• love,
	or
	• mutuality
	on all levels of the personality.

```
In fact, [i.e., In fact, in marriage]
    • love.
    • mutual sexual surrender
    • 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, [i.e., 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 [i.e., as a fact of life].
              Even without
                   the awareness of
                       the concept [i.e., Even WITHOUT the awareness of the concept of
                                                            emotional and mental responsibility],
              men acknowledged
                   this responsibility [i.e., acknowledged this emotional and mental responsibility]
                       toward
                          • other men
                   but totally neglected it [i.e., but totally neglected emotional
                                                     and mental responsibility]
                       when dealing with
                          · women.
10
               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.
11
              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.
12
               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., to that degree 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. 13 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 power current [i.e., Sometimes the UNCONSCIOUS FEAR of
               the SPIRITUAL POWER CURRENTS 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,
                         vet blot out
                              her reality
                                 during the act of sexual union.
This act [i.e., 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.
14	
	For the woman,
	the denial of
	the unified power current [i.e., For the WOMAN, 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
	munifesteu
	in spite of
	all attempts to deny it,
	and anteniples to decay of
	she experienced it [i.e., she experienced her manifested sexuality]
	with
	• guilt
	and
	• shame.
15	
	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
        [i.e., these repressions and denials, these guilts and false shames of
                the unified spiritual power current in the sexual experience]
        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.
```

```
16
              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 [i.e., engages in mating in secret
                                             because he feels the sexual act is not entirely
                                             "acceptable" behavior, but nevertheless engages
                                             in the sexual act]
                                         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 • soul development • commitment to each other, through • personal purification. 17 • 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 [i.e., But there again, in the churches],
    the full power of the current [i.e., 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 SPIEIRUAL 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 power current [i.e., Their UNION will release
                                      this inner SPIRITUAL POWER CURRENT]
          so that they
              will
                  experience
                      God
                         in
                             • themselves
                       and
                         in
                             • each other.
```

```
18
              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 acts [i.e., that these OUTWARD acts CONDEMNED by the moralists]
                       indicate
                          denial
                                 • the God-given
                                      unification of
                                         • love
                                       and
                                         • sexuality,
                                 • the greatest power current,
                                      which is in itself
                                         an expression of
                                             the divine presence.
```

19 In a certain sense this • fear [i.e., this FEAR of outer acts condemned by the moralist, acts that DENY the powerful love-sex current, a current which is an expression of the DIVINE PRESENCE] and • denial [i.e., and, through participating in these outer acts condemned by the moralist, these acts that DENY 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., since you all ALSO fulfill a task in evolution] in your return to the state of union with God, it is futile to rail against this [i.e., to rail against yourself for naturally being in these unpurified states as you gradually evolve and return to the state of union with God]. **Those who do** [i.e., Those who do rail against being in these unpurified states as they naturally and gradually evolve and return to the state of union with God] are themselves • fallen spirits, • unpurified souls, and • parts of this evolutionary movement.

```
The appropriate attitude toward
                   fear of the
                       full power current [i.e., fear of the full power of the unified love-sex current]
                          is one
                               • of acceptance of this fact of life [i.e., ACCEPTANCE of this fact of
                                  life that ALL humans go through these unpurified states in their
                                  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 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., This long process through which ECSTASY becomes COMFORTABLE]
                   happens
                       through a process of development
                          over
                               many
                                  incarnations.
20
               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 [i.e., and also 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., Both sexes DENIED the FEAR the MYSTICAL ECSTASY, this release of a spiritual power current in which God is experienced as a living and physical reality, an ecstasy which is also ideally possible in the UNION of a MAN and a WOMAN who are sufficiently free from fear and who follow together a path of self-purification],

which in a deeper sense might be called

the primary guilt [i.e., the PRIMARY GUILT of DENYING the FEAR of the release of this SPIRITUAL ECSTATIC EXPERIENCE possible in the union of a man and a woman], a guilt that all people share.

21

## The denial

of the fear [i.e., The DENIAL of this FEAR of MYSTICAL ECATASY possible in the UNION of a MAN and a WOMAN]

caused secondary guilts [i.e., caused secondary guilts in man PUTTING DOWN the woman, the woman MAKING the man the ENEMY, not taking self-responsibility, etc.].

Some of these secondary guilts gave energy to lower-self energy.

- Material greed was fostered;
- money,
- power, and
- social advantage became motives for choosing mates.
- Mass images,
- 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 strength of secondary guilt of pride, material
                       greed, value of money and power in choosing a mate,
                       nourishing idealized self-image and appearances, etc.].
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 [i.e., 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 [i.e., 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,
                  • karmic conditions,
           and also
               created
                  • the standards of society.
```

```
23
              In very recent times,
                  consciousness
                      made a great leap.
              Humanity
                  has truly become ready
                      to
                         • shed
                              these old attitudes
                      and
                         • create
                              new
                                 • conditions,
                              new
                                 • standards,
                             new
                                 • 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.
```

```
24
              In all evolutionary movements
                  the pendulum
                       tends to swing
                            from
                              • one extreme
                            to
                              • another.
              This [i.e., This fact that the pendulum tends to swing 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.
```

```
25
              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
                         • a new groundedness in
                             real
                                 • inner freedom and
                                 • independence
                                     that voluntarily chooses
                                        monogamous commitment
                                            because it yields infinitely greater fulfillment.
```

```
26
              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 [i.e., into the service of another soul current],
              both [i.e., 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., BREAK AWAY FROM 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 [i.e., 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.

27

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
                   • the wholeness
                       of
                          · love,
                          • eros, and
                          • sex;
                of

    affection and

                   respect;

    tenderness and

                   • passion;
                of
                   • 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.
28
              Knowing
                   the state into which
                       vou
                          • can
                        and
                          • must
                              eventually
                                 grow
                                      because it is
                                         your innate destiny
                                             is important.
              It [i.e., Knowing this state into which you MUST eventually grow]
                   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 [i.e., using this model as a map
                                                     for where you are heading]
                   and
                       • forceful attempts [i.e., forceful attempts
                                                     to use the map in order]
                          to be [i.e., to be ALREADY]
                               what you have
                                  not yet
                                      organically
                                         become.
If you
    recognize the model [i.e., the model of the state toward which you are evolving]
        without forcing yourself [i.e., 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., You need to 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.
29
               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.
30
               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
                                                               • partner.
              No wonder such marriages
                   could not survive.
              But this step
                   was necessary
                       before maturity could be gained.
31
              Just as
                   • individuals
                       cannot learn
                          unless they
                              experience

    mistakes and

                                 • immaturities,
              neither can
                   • the collective consciousness
                       [i.e., 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
                       • 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.
32
              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 [i.e., Fleeting sexual encounters with multiple partners]
                   should
                       not be looked upon
                          as the
                              final state of liberation [i.e., 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 [i.e., 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.

```
33
              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
                   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.
34
              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 with him or her].
If you do
    not expose
        your difficulty in being open [i.e., If you do NOT expose to your partner
                                       your difficulty in being open with him or her],
your unfulfillment [i.e., 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]
                   • 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 [i.e., even from this SHARING of your FEAR].
```

```
35
              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.
36
               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.
37
               The fusion
                   • on all levels of
                        the personality
               means the fusion
                   • of all energy bodies.
               This [i.e., This fusion on all levels of the personality, this 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 [i.e., 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 [i.e., but you also become one]
        with
           • God.
You realize
    God
        in
           • the mate
and [i.e., 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

                               • purification.
```

```
38
               Once you realize
                   that
                       sexual fusion [i.e., that sexual fusion on any of the levels]
                              • insufficient and
                              • uninteresting
                                  unless it [i.e., unless this sexual fusion]
                                      includes
                                         all
                                             the energy bodies [i.e., ALL the energy bodies of each
                                                     partner, that is, the
                                                            • PHYSICAL.
                                                            • EMOTIONAL,
                                                            • MENTAL, and
                                                            • SPIRITUAL
                                                               level energy bodies of each partner]
                                                in the process of coming together,
              your approach
                   to a sexual encounter
                       will become
                          verv
                              different.
              Sex
                   will never be
                       • casual
                     or
                       • haphazard;
              you will consider it [i.e., you will consider sex]
                   a holy ritual.
               These rituals [i.e., These HOLY SEXUAL RITUALS]
                    • will be created
                       by the individual couples
              and
                    • may change over time.
               They [i.e., These holy 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,
                   • heights of development
                       in the two selves
                          that can be passed on to others.
The complementary merging
    of these two divine aspects -
                                  • 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.
```

```
39
              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 [i.e., 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
                  as an enrichment
                      given to you.
```

```
40
               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]
                        completely denied,
                • the total personality
                   is
                        being thwarted
              and
                • the tension [i.e., the tension between
                                       the male and female energy currents]
                   is so powerfully accumulated
                        that
                           nonsexual violence
                               is acted out.
If these expressions [i.e., 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 [i.e., when this process of expressing
                            sexuality negatively as in sadism, masochism, or fetishism]
                        is
                           • not glorified
                           • understood in its true meaning.
```

```
41
               [Conversely,]
                   When the tension [i.e., When 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
                       • denials,
                   nor in
                       • 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 release
         • permeates
           the total personality
      and
         • transcends
           the finite.
It [i.e., The EXPLOSIVE FORCE of the male-female tension AND its RELEASE]
    truly
        • spiritualizes
           the body
    and

    materializes

           the spirit,
                which is
                   the task [i.e., which is the task and the purpose]
                       of evolution.
```

```
42
               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
                           • fill you
                                with
                                   his [i.e., fill you with Christ's]
                                        • love,
                                   his [i.e., fill you with Christ's]
                                        • strength
                                 and
                                   his [i.e., and fill you with Christ's]
                                        • blessings.
```

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