

Pathwork on  
**Christmas**

The Pathwork Lectures began with Number 1 on March 11, 1957. The first Christmas lecture was Lecture #19 given on December 20, 1957 and for the first time introduces Jesus Christ into the Pathwork. The second Christmas lecture was given on December 19, 1958 and was titled Christmas Blessings – Objectivity and Subjectivity. Lecture #19 and sections from #42 make for an interesting Christmas reading.

**Pathwork Lecture 18 Jesus Christ**

02	Pathwork Lecture #19 –1996 Edition December 20, 1957.....  <b>JESUS CHRIST</b>
03	Greetings in the name of God and Jesus Christ. Blessed are you, my friends; blessed is this hour. My dear friends, I have been speaking to most of you for over a period of months, but I have not yet mentioned Jesus Christ, who he is, and what he has done. At this time of year, when you are celebrating the birth of Christ, I feel my choice of this subject is an appropriate one.
04	Not only is the light of Christ spreading within the earthly sphere, but also in the spiritual world. You may say, "But in the spiritual world there is no time," and this is true. This is difficult to explain. After a certain period, which is drawn out much longer in the spiritual world than on earth -- according to your human calendar after a year -- the light of Christ returns with renewed force in remembrance of the greatest deed that has ever been accomplished. The light is so strong, so penetrating and glorious, that it is unimaginable. There is such bliss, such rejoicing, such happiness and such wisdom coming from this light! For wisdom and light are one. In your human language you call it enlightenment. In the spiritual world, light and knowledge and love are all one and the same.
05	At this period the light of Christ penetrates down to the lowest spheres of gloom, and at least to some small degree into the world of darkness. There may be just a gleam of it, a small sheen, a glimpse of light, yet the influx is there; and at this period when the beings living in the world of darkness encounter the light, they have a different reaction to it. Those who are ready to advance spiritually will welcome the light and will follow it. Others who are not that far advanced yet will cringe away from it, for it is very painful to them; it causes an extreme pain they cannot stand. Therefore, a human being who has succeeded in bringing out the light from within, for it is one and the same light, will be protected against creatures from the world of darkness.
06	Now who is Christ? Some Christian religions claim he is God. This is not so, for he himself has said, as you can read in the Holy Scriptures, that he is not God. He is not the Father, or the Creator. Some say Jesus was just a wise man, a sage, a great teacher with great wisdom, not unlike a few others who have lived at other times in other countries. This is also wrong. The truth is, my friends, whether you want to believe it

	<p>now or not, that Jesus, the man, was the incarnation of the Christ. And this spirit is the highest and most exalted of all created beings. He is the first direct and inborn creation of God. His substance is the same as the substance of God. All of you possess some of this substance which I call the higher self or the divine spark; it has to come out gradually through spiritual development. But no other created being has this substance in quite the same degree as the Christ. And there is the difference.</p>
07	<p>Again and again I see that human beings think or feel, "Why was he chosen? If he is the son of God, so are we all children of God. Why should he be better, more exalted, or higher? Why? This is not just." These thoughts and feelings are often lurking in the souls of human beings even if they do not dare make them conscious. Therein lie the seeds of the Fall of the Angels. This very thought or attitude, which started long before the material earth existed, caused the coming into existence of disharmony and evil. Certainly, no one who had such a thought at the time realized the danger or the possible results of such an attitude. No one actually realized that in this jealousy lies a lack of faith in God and in His capacity to love. For even though God created His first son as the highest of all beings and gave most of His substance to him, if you have the trust and faith the Creator deserves, you will not think that this was unjust or that you lack anything. Nowadays people do not carry these thoughts quite so far; nevertheless, that slight feeling of resistance against Christ in a number of people represents the germ of the Fall and the germ of evil.</p>
08	<p>In what way has Jesus Christ saved humanity? In what way was his deed the greatest? What was the purpose of his life on earth, his one-time incarnation? The purpose of his life was not only to spread his teachings; for true and beautiful as they are, basically the same teachings could be found elsewhere too, though perhaps in another form. So this was certainly not the only purpose.</p>
09	<p>The second purpose of his life, though still not the main one, was to show symbolically through his life and death the course and the stages of development for each person who wants to regain the kingdom of heaven. Periods of testing, trials, faith in God in times of adversity, crucifixion of the personal ego with its vanity and self-will: all this was symbolized by the body of Jesus. The resurrection of his spirit signifies the life eternal of bliss and happiness for the spiritual essence of each individual after the ego has been crucified. This cannot happen otherwise than through pain. But even this part of his task is not the main and most important one. The two purposes mentioned here can be considered as accompaniments to the main purpose he had to fulfill.</p>
10	<p>At a future date I will describe in greater detail how his main task meant salvation, for he <u>was</u> the Messiah! Right now, I want to say this to you: If Jesus had failed, another spirit would have tried to fulfill the task; for it was not certain beforehand that Jesus would fulfill it, even though he was the natural and logical choice. Someone had to come to earth and go through all the sufferings completely alone, at certain times barring all divine protection, and resisting all evil and all temptation out of his own free will. Only in this way could the spiritual laws continue to remain unbroken so that in a spirit of justice each individual and even the very forces of evil could find the way back to God.</p>
11	<p>God is the power, and with His power he could certainly have done anything,</p>

	<p>including breaking His own laws. Had He done this a great number of creatures who were not yet ready to find their way back would have been permanently separated from God and from an eternal life of bliss. That might have included any one of you. Only by the vast and elaborate Plan of Salvation is it possible that down to the very last of the fallen creatures everyone can at one time find the way back to God. This is difficult to understand now, but in the future I will explain it in more detail. For the present this should suffice to give you an idea of how extremely grave and serious the task was. Only understanding this will keep people from ever saying that God is unjust or that God has used His own power to break His own laws. Naturally, God's power has to be the greatest. No one will be able to say that God has used this power to violate His gift of free will given to each and every individual. The supreme justice of this solution could only happen through the fulfillment of such a task. Thus, no free will was broken and no power used unduly. Jesus Christ has proven this.</p>
12	<p>Naturally, the question may come up, "Can we find and reach God, and can we attain perfection only through Jesus Christ?" The answer, my friends, is, "Yes and No." It is one of those apparently paradoxical cases where both answers are correct.</p>
13	<p>I will try to explain how this is. You can reach a stage of development through every one of the great world religions, including the non-Christian ones, in which you can experience absolute truth. No spirit of the world of God will ever tell you to leave your church or your temple or your faith. For if you have found what you seek and need in the way of happiness and spiritual food in the faith you are accustomed to, remain there: enough of basic fundamental truth and enough of what you need for your spiritual development is contained in all the great religions. It is up to you to find out what the truths necessary for your personal development are and then to put them into practice.</p>
14	<p>When I speak of satisfaction with your faith, I do not mean the satisfaction of your surface conscience: that is not enough. But if you follow the teachings of your religion whereby you learn and do what alone matters, namely work for self-knowledge, self-purification, and utter self-honesty, then the religion to which you belong or which you have chosen will satisfy your spirit. The purification of your lower self and the crucifixion of the ego are the all-important things. Where you are able to find the necessary help, guidance, and inspiration to accomplish this does not matter much, even if for many reasons you cannot recognize Christ in a religious affiliation. By self-purification alone, you will raise your consciousness to such a degree that you will be open for truth in all its aspects concerning the part Christ played in the history of Creation, or concerning anything else for that matter. So, in this respect, the answer is "No" to the question whether it is only through the recognition of Jesus Christ right now that one can reach God. The perception of absolute truth in any respect can only happen through a process of self-purification over the lifetimes. Unfortunately, few people are doing that.</p>
15	<p>Anyone going through the difficult process of self-purification will prepare the ground for becoming able to receive and experience absolute truth in all its facets, whether some of the recognition takes place during this incarnation or, due to certain circumstances, afterwards. The ground has to be prepared, and this means perfection through purification. For instance, as long as there is stubbornness in the soul, the</p>

	<p>experience and perception of absolute truth is impossible. Stubbornness and self-will are exactly what hinder the raising of your consciousness. Any imperfection is a hindrance. I cannot stress emphatically enough that only those who crucify their lower selves are ready for pure truth concerning anything in connection with the Creation and the divine.</p>
16	<p>The fact that Christ <u>is</u> the messiah and that Christ <u>is</u> the most exalted of all created beings is a very important part of the great truth and of the history of Creation. Whether you are able and willing to recognize this does not belie the great truth. It does not mean, my friends, that you should pray to Jesus Christ. Only God the Creator should receive our prayers. What God expects from you and what is part of perfection and development, at least from a certain degree on, is <u>gratefulness</u> to the person without whose deed no one could come back into divine light, without whose deed the stream back to God would have been broken. Now some of you are still not ready for this decision and other things are still to be accomplished. However, when the time comes and gratefulness for the greatest deed without which you would be lost pervades you, then you will be able to give it to the one to whom it is due. That is God's will.</p>
17	<p>Think about all this, even if you do not recognize "officially" the Christian religion. Just as all religions have enough of the truth to further your purification, all religions also contain errors. It is important for you to follow only that which your spirit demands and which your higher self longs for. The rest will come by itself. But that does not change the fact that you should open your hearts and not put aside completely the one person to whom you owe most next to God. Do not disregard Christ so easily. I hope you have understood me, and I hope you do not misinterpret these words.</p>
18	<p>There need never have been a split between Judaism and Christianity. This was never meant to happen by God or by the spirit world. And that it has happened is the fault of humankind. You have invented labels to which you attach special implications. For us, labels like Judaism and Christianity do not mean anything. Why Christ was born as Jesus at that particular time and among those particular people had its good reasons; it was intended that one and the same truth should expand and grow, and that no splitting should occur. Splitting is chaos; splitting is the nature of the Fall of the angels, or the result of the Fall with all its miseries and hatreds. Splitting is separation from God, and this initial tragedy, which took place long before the earth existed, keeps repeating itself in the course of time until the disease will be cured forever. Union with God, which is the goal, is the opposite of splitting and separation. The splitting between Judaism and Christianity after the life of Jesus was another fault grown out of the same bad root of the initial splitting from God. There should have been oneness between Judaism and Christianity, one wholeness and one completion.</p>
19	<p>Since Christ represents such an important part of your returning to God, he deserves your personal <u>gratefulness</u> and some contact from you: you will not be able to reach God without him in the very last analysis. He is indeed the best friend you could ever have and he is your strongest helper. The answer to the question whether you can reach God only through him is "Yes." For the constant denial of these facts would imply a stubbornness of your heart that is a symptom of imperfection; and as long as any imperfection is alive within you, you cannot unite with God.</p>

20	<p>And now, my friends, I want to say to each one of you: Try, regardless of what religion you belong to, to open your hearts and your minds. Be broadminded! Do not leave the faith you are accustomed to, for that is not necessary unless you wish to do so. But consider that my words are true, even if you do not believe that a spirit talks to you, a spirit of the spirit world who has the insight and the knowledge that these are truths and not mere opinions, such as you on earth can have on these subjects. Even if you have doubts, and probably most of you here still have some, consider that it may be this way after all. What your fathers and forefathers or the people in whom you trust and who have influenced you in your life have said may not be entirely right. Certainly, they have spoken some truths, for truth exists everywhere, but no one group among all humankind has all the truth.</p>
21	<p>You, who are spiritually searching people, should open the doors to truth, no matter from what side it may present itself to you. Do not be stubborn. Do not believe that this means giving in or showing lack of character, my friends. What an immature notion this is! The question here remains as always, "What is true?" God is truth, as well as wisdom and love. If you deny truth for any silly, stubborn, and childish notion, you are thus denying God, at least in one aspect of your personality. The only question that counts is, "What is true?" Nothing else ever does, for any other question can only come from the lower self, even if clothed with apparently high-sounding motives.</p>
22	<p>Be blessed.</p>

### **Pathwork Lecture #42 Christmas Blessings – Objectivity and Subjectivity**

02	<p>Pathwork Lecture #42 –1996 Edition December 19, 1958.....</p> <p>CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS -- OBJECTIVITY AND SUBJECTIVITY</p>
03	<p>Greetings in the name of God and Jesus Christ. I bring you blessings, my dear ones, very special blessings tonight. At this time of the year, the strong forces of love, coming from the King of the Universe, touch all spheres. Whoever is open and in a state of quiet harmony can receive this force that is a blessing for your body, your soul, and your spirit.</p>
04	<p>It is often so difficult for this force to penetrate into your soul, however. Its golden ray must rebound if your emanation is not harmonious. You close yourself against it whenever you are resentful, angry, and hurt. Mostly these feelings are so superfluous, so unfounded. You know that the remedy is not to push these feelings aside as though they did not exist, but rather to take them out into the open and ask God, ask Christ, to show you where the root is in yourself, where you have built the wall that stands between you and the blessing forces. They are waiting to regenerate you with a very lasting effect. Let them flow into you, my dear ones. If you are angry at your brother or sister, try to understand both yourself and the other. Do not be more severe with the other than you are with yourself. And that, alas, happens with the best of you. Try to strengthen your love, understanding, and forgiveness so as to be able to partake</p>

	<p>of this wonderful spiritual nourishment. It could fill your heart, and every particle of your soul, cleansing it of all impurities forever.</p>
05	<p>We in the spirit world are particularly happy about this group, my friends, for most of you have made serious efforts. Your efforts have borne fruit, although you cannot always fully realize the value of your work. But some of you do understand, or begin to understand. You begin to observe in yourself a greater harmony at moments where only a little while ago you felt angry and resentful. With many of you these feelings occur now to a lesser degree and less often. The progress is indirect. You cannot make progress by forcing yourself not to feel disharmony, but you can go to the roots of your conflicts within yourself. That is the way to reach a healthy detachment, which will continue to increase until you can be touched only by love and brotherly understanding. Then you will not be blind to your shortcomings, but will face them, and they will no longer affect you negatively.</p>
06	<p>My message tonight is to tell each and everyone of you who has worked in this direction: continue by all means! Go ahead, even if the beginning is difficult. The forces of good, the strong, golden rays of Christ will fill you more and more, not only at particular times when these forces are strongest in the universe, but at all times. Until you have reached the goal, keep on trying to penetrate your own disharmony, so as to be able to take in what is waiting to bless you. If you sincerely try, you will receive great help.</p>
07	<p>Many of your dear ones in the spirit world have found their way here tonight. They have been led here. They listen and see. You too can listen, my dear ones, but you cannot see what the spirits are allowed to see at this opportunity. During such a lecture the forces build up a sphere that establishes such a communication. The spirits see a golden light and beauty, a harmony of splendor such as they have never seen before. This is their Christmas gift from the world of God. The way spirits see, and the significance of their sight, is different from human sight. When you see a beautiful landscape, or something else that looks beautiful, it may be wonderful to behold, but it has nothing to do with you personally, with your own state of mind, with your own inner peace and harmony. But when <u>they</u> see beauty, they realize that this is a world, a state of being, that can be theirs if they live according to these teachings. Try to visualize and to imagine that such a world is here, around you, and in you. In the spirit world you see what you hear, and you hear what you see.</p>
08	<p>My dear friends, Jesus Christ died on the cross in full knowledge of his freely chosen fate. His life and death occurred according to his will and desire. It was not fate that overtook him, as happens to human beings where an event is a matter of karma, a consequence of cause and effect. He chose this life and this death because he realized it was a necessity. His was the greatest act of love.</p>
09	<p>You all know about the Plan of Salvation. I have explained it at length. My dear friends, have you ever thought about the deed of Jesus Christ as the greatest act of courage ever? It is already an act of courage for a human being to go through a fate that</p>

	<p>is inevitable in a spirit of positive and constructive self-search, in an attitude of humble acceptance. How much more courageous it is to choose such a fate out of love hardly needs an explanation. True love, true kindness, true unselfishness is unthinkable without courage. Meditate on what courage means, my dear ones. If you lack courage, you do so because you love yourself too much in a sickly way.</p>
10	<p>There is a right and proper kind of self-love. Cowardice is nothing but self-pampering, self-pitying self-concern. Courage ascribes as much importance to a cause, to an issue, or to another person as to the self. Therefore courage and love, in the last analysis, are inseparable. Think about that, my dear ones. You will not only better understand Christ's life and death, but you will also be able to better understand and evaluate yourself, which means that you will be more successful in the process of purification. In the light of the work you have done so far, it should not be difficult for you to see where you are courageous and where you lack courage. And where you do lack courage, you will always find that you must lack love as well.</p>
42	<p>My dear, dear friends, angels of God are here in this room tonight to bless you. The blessing extends also to all friends who are absent, to all those who follow these teachings. Continue on this path, my dear ones. So much has been accomplished in so short a time, due to your very real efforts. Do not let up. By all means continue, and you will gain the strength of love and understanding that can be yours only when you go into the depths of your being to face yourself in truth. For the sake of God, for the sake of Jesus Christ, who has accomplished the greatest act of love and courage for you personally, trust that success cannot help but come if you overcome the initial difficulties. Indeed, it is the only endeavor on your part that can truly, lastingly be successful. Receive these special forces, all of you. Let the golden rays penetrate your heart, your soul, your spirit to sustain you. The light of Christ is shining upon you. Be in peace, be in God!</p>