

Pathwork Lecture 19: Jesus Christ

1996 Edition, Original Given December 20, 1957

This Pathwork lecture is rendered in an **expanded poetic format**, what I call a **Devotional Version** of the lecture. In this sense it is **my interpretation** of the **intent** of the lecture. I may have interpreted portions differently from you, and when this is the case, I ask you to ponder the words for **your own interpretation**.

I did this Devotional Version so I can take the words into my heart, phrase by phrase, much as I would in reading poetry -- **devotionally**. *I invite you to slowly read and ponder this rendition of the text – with an open heart to experience the Pathwork Guide's Presence, Wisdom and Love emerging from among the words. May the Pathwork Guide's Wisdom come to live you.*

For clarity: The **original text** is in **bold**, **italicized**, and mostly **underlined**. [My interpretations and intended clarifications are in brackets, italicized, sometimes underlined, but never bolded.]

To learn more of my Devotional Version and to access the lectures I have rendered in this form, go to
<http://www.garyvollbrach.com/quotes/pathwork-lectures-expanded-versions/>

Blessings on your journey, Gary

Content
03 <p><u>Greetings</u> <u>in the name of</u> • <u>God and</u> • <u>Jesus Christ.</u></p> <p><u>Blessed</u> <u>are you, my friends;</u></p> <p><u>blessed is</u> <u>this hour</u> [<i>i.e., blessed is this time</i> <u>we now spend together in this lecture.</u>]</p> <p><u>My dear friends,</u> <u>I have been speaking to most of you</u> <u>for over a period of months,</u> <u>but I have not yet mentioned</u> <u>Jesus Christ,</u> • <u>who he is, and</u> • <u>what he has done.</u></p> <p><u>At this time of year</u> [<i>this lecture was given the Friday before Christmas],</i> <u>when you are celebrating</u> <u>the birth of Christ,</u> <u>I feel my choice of this subject is an appropriate one.</u></p>

by Eva Broch Pierrakos

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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** [i.e., just a gleam of the light of Christ],
- **a small sheen,**
- **a glimpse of light,**

yet

**the influx [of the light of Christ]
is there [in the world of darkness];**

and at this period

when

**the beings living in the world of darkness
encounter the light,
they [each] have a different reaction to it.**

Those [beings living in the world of darkness]

who are ready to advance spiritually

- **will welcome the light [of Christ] and**
- **will follow it.**

Others [living in the world of darkness]

who are

not that far advanced yet

will cringe away from it [i.e., cringe away from the light of Christ],
for it is very painful to them;

it [i.e., the light of Christ]

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 [as the light of Christ],

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 now or not,
that Jesus,
the man,
was
the incarnation of
the Christ.

And this spirit [i.e., the Christ]
is the
• highest and
• most exalted
of all created beings.

He [i.e., the Christ]
is the
first
• direct and
• inborn
creation of God.

His [i.e., Christ's] substance
is the same
as the substance of God.

All of you
possess
some
of this substance [of God]
which I call
• the higher self or
• the divine spark;

it [i.e., the higher self or divine spark or this substance of God]
has to come out
gradually
through spiritual development.

But
no other created being
has this substance [of God]
in quite the same degree
as the Christ.

And
there [i.e., the fact that no created being has this substance of God
to the same degree as the Christ]
is the difference [between the Christ and other created beings].

07

Again and again
I see that human beings
• think or
• feel,

"Why was he chosen?

If he [i.e., if the Christ]
is the
son of God,
so are
we all
children of God.

Why should he [i.e., the Christ]
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,

[i.e., the thought or attitude, "Why should Christ be better, higher, and more exalted than others?"]

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 [i.e., that giving most of His substance to Christ, His first son]
was unjust or

- that you
lack anything.

	<p><u>Nowadays</u> <u>people do not carry these thoughts</u> <u>quite so far;</u> <u>nevertheless,</u> <u>that slight feeling</u> <u>of resistance</u> <u>against Christ</u> <u>in a number of people</u> <u>represents</u> <u>the germ of</u> • <u>the Fall and</u> <u>the germ of</u> • <u>evil.</u></p>
08	<p><u>In what way</u> <u>has Jesus Christ</u> <u>saved</u> <u>humanity?</u></p> <p><u>In what way</u> <u>was his deed</u> <u>the greatest?</u></p> <p><u>What was</u> <u>the purpose</u> <u>of</u> • <u>his life on earth,</u> • <u>his one-time incarnation?</u></p> <p><u>The purpose of his life</u> <u>was not only</u> <u>to spread his teachings;</u> <u>for</u> • <u>true and</u> • <u>beautiful</u> <u>as they [i.e., his teachings] are,</u> <u>basically the same teachings</u> <u>could be found elsewhere too,</u> <u>though perhaps in another form.</u></p> <p><u>So this [i.e., his teaching]</u> <u>was certainly</u> <u>not the only purpose.</u></p>

09

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 [resurrection of the spirit]
cannot happen otherwise
than through pain [i.e., the pain in the crucifixion of the ego].

But even this [second] part of his task [i.e., showing the course and stages of development for each person who wants to regain the kingdom of heaven]

is not the

- main and
- most important one.

The two purposes mentioned here [i.e., 1) teaching and 2) showing the course and stages of development for each person who wants to regain the kingdom of heaven]

can be considered

as accompaniments

to the main purpose

he had to fulfill.

10

At a future date

I will describe in greater detail

how his main task

meant salvation,

for he WAS 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.

	<p><u>Someone had to</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>come to earth and</u>• <u>go through all the sufferings completely alone,</u><u>at certain times</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>barring all divine protection, and</u>• <u>resisting</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>all evil and</u>• <u>all temptation</u> <u>out of his own free will.</u>
11	<p><u>Only in this way could the spiritual laws continue to remain unbroken so that in a spirit of justice</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>each individual and</u>• <u>even the very forces of evil could find the way back to God.</u> <p><u>God is the power, and with His power He could certainly have done anything, including breaking His own laws.</u></p> <p><u>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</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>God and</u><u>from</u><ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>an eternal life of bliss.</u> <p><u>That might have included any one of you.</u></p>

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 [of Jesus Christ] 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.

	<p><u><i>The supreme justice of this solution could only happen through the fulfillment of such a task.</i></u></p> <p><u><i>Thus,</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u><i>no free will was broken and</i></u>• <u><i>no power used unduly.</i></u> <p><u><i>Jesus Christ has proven this.</i></u></p>
12	<p><u><i>Naturally, the question may come up,</i></u></p> <p><u>"Can we</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u><i>find and</i></u>• <u><i>reach</i></u> <p><u><i>God, and</i></u></p> <p><u><i>can we</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u><i>attain perfection only</i></u> <p><u><i>through Jesus Christ?"</i></u></p> <p><u><i>The answer, my friends, is,</i></u></p> <p><u>"Yes and No."</u></p> <p><u><i>It is one of those apparently paradoxical cases where both answers are correct.</i></u></p>

13

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.*

	<p><u><i>It is up to</i></u> <u><i>you</i></u> • <u><i>to find out</i></u> <u><i>what the truths necessary</i></u> <u><i>for your personal development</i></u> <u><i>are</i></u> <u><i>and then</i></u> • <u><i>to put them into practice.</i></u></p>
14	<p><u><i>When I speak of</i></u> <u><i>satisfaction with</i></u> <u><i>your faith,</i></u> <u><i>I do not mean</i></u> <u><i>the satisfaction of</i></u> <u><i>your surface conscience:</i></u> <u><i>that is not enough.</i></u></p> <p><u><i>But</i></u> <u><i>if you follow the teachings</i></u> <u><i>of your religion</i></u> <u><i>whereby</i></u> <u><i>you</i></u> • <u><i>learn and</i></u> • <u><i>do</i></u> <u><i>what alone matters,</i></u> <u><i>namely</i></u> <u><i>work for</i></u> • <u><i>self-knowledge,</i></u> • <u><i>self-purification, and</i></u> • <u><i>utter self-honesty,</i></u></p> <p><u><i>then</i></u> <u><i>the religion</i></u> • <u><i>to which you belong or</i></u> • <u><i>which you have chosen</i></u> <u><i>will satisfy your spirit.</i></u></p> <p>• <u><i>The purification</i></u> <u><i>of your lower self and</i></u> • <u><i>the crucifixion</i></u> <u><i>of the ego</i></u> <u><i>are the</i></u> <u><i>all-important things.</i></u></p>

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.

15

Anyone
going though
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
• 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
[to the raising of your consciousness].

	<p><i>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.</i></p>
16	<p><i>The fact that Christ is the messiah and that Christ is the most exalted of all created beings</i></p> <p><i>is a very important part of the • great truth and of the • history of Creation.</i></p> <p><i>Whether you are • able and • willing to recognize this does not belie the great truth.</i></p> <p><i>It does not mean, my friends, that you should pray to Jesus Christ.</i></p> <p><i>Only God the Creator should receive our prayers.</i></p>

- What God expects from you and
 - what is part of
 - perfection and
 - development,
at least from a certain degree on,
- is gratefulness
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 [i.e., to give your gratefulness]
to the one
to whom it is due [i.e., to Jesus Christ].

That is
God's will.

17

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.

18

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 [i.e., that the split between Judaism and Christianity]
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.

19

Since Christ represents such an important part of your returning to God,
he deserves

- your personal gratefulness 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.

20

*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.

21

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 [i.e., that my teaching, "do not be stubborn"]

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 [count],

for any other question

can only come from

the lower self,

even if

clothed with

apparently high-sounding motives.

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