

# Pathwork Lecture 247: The Mass Images of Judaism and Christianity

1996 Edition, Original Given January 11, 1978

This Pathwork lecture is rendered in an **expanded poetic format**, what I call a **Devotional Format** 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 Format 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 format 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, mostly underlined, but never bolded.]

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

¶	Content
03	<p><b><u><i>This lecture grew out of an answer to the following question.</i></u></b></p>
04	<p><b><u><i>Question:</i></u></b> <b><u><i>I am very puzzled by</i></u></b> <b><u><i>the tremendously strong reactions</i></u></b> <b><u><i>about the whole issue of</i></u></b> <b><u><i>Jesus Christ.</i></u></b></p> <p><b><u><i>I understand what you said about</i></u></b> <b><u><i>the fear of expansion</i></u></b> <b><u><i>that applies to</i></u></b> <b><u><i>all phases of expansion.</i></u></b></p>

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**But the reaction to  
your emphasis of  
the role of Jesus Christ  
in the pathwork  
is so strong  
that I have the feeling there is more to it [i.e., more to the  
strong resistance to your emphasis of the role  
of Jesus Christ in the pathwork]**

**than  
resistance to expansion.**

**Could you comment on this?**

05

**Answer:  
My beloved,  
most blessed friends!**

**Many of you must  
feel the strength  
of divine blessings  
in  
your  

- lives and

  
your  

- tasks.**

**This special  

- joy,
- security
- peace and
- excitement,

the deep sense that your life has  

- profound meaning and
- purpose,**

**can exist  
only when  
your life is  
totally dedicated to  

- God and
- His  
  - will and
  - plan [i.e., The Plan of Salvation].**

The more  
this [i.e., your life being totally dedicated to God and His will and plan]  
is the case,

the more  
• the clouds  
disappear and  
• the fuller  
life becomes.

This  
spirit of service  
• encompasses  
more  
and more of my beloved friends and  
• takes deeper roots  
in your hearts.

When such service spreads,  
a great light  
• springs up from  
• your level of consciousness and  
• merges with  
the more  
• powerful and  
• purier  
light  
coming from  
• our level of consciousness.

06

Strong reactions  
to the reality of Jesus Christ  
must be considered  
on two  
• very specific and  
• well defined  
levels:  
• the personal  
and  
• the collective.

07

Let us begin with  
individual Christians  
who feel  
a strong reaction  
against  
Jesus Christ.

They rebel  
against  
• their early upbringing and  
• the values  
their parents stood for.

Christ  
has been presented to them  
as a  
• meek,  
• passive,  
• sexless  
figure  
who demands  
the same kind of  
distorted self-denial  
from all those  
who are to follow in His footsteps.

They react to  
the identification of Jesus Christ  
with  
• rigid morality  
  
that denies  
• feelings,  
• sexuality,  
• autonomy and  
• the strong energy  
that creates  
• positive aggression and  
• self-assertion.

08

Thus  
a very confusing mixture in  
• perception,  
• understanding and  
• consciousness  
comes about.

On the one hand,  
Christ  
is depicted as embodying  
• love,  
• truth,  
• wisdom,  
• salvation,  
• goodness and  
• service to  
• the Creator and  
• His plan,

and on the other [hand]  
[Christ is depicted]  
as demanding [of his followers]  
a self-defeating denial of  
intrinsic human  
• values,  
• energies and  
• expressions.

This is  
the mass image  
of Christianity.

09

Like all mass images,  
this [mass image of Christianity]  
too  
stems from individuals  
whose circumstances  
in their early environment  
fostered the formation  
of a specific image.

The images  
may have begun  
• in this life  
or  
• in previous lives.

The less  
a specific image  
has been dissolved,  
the more  
it creates conditions  
in the next incarnation  
that help  
recreate the image.

It is then up to  
the individual  
to use these conditions  
to dissolve the image.

We shall examine the mass image in detail,  
from the point of view of our understanding of images,  
in a little while.

Let me first return to  
the personal reactions  
of a Christian child  
• who grew up with  
this confused perception and  
• who deals with it  
in his or her own way.

10

The admixture of  
• truth  
and  
• falsehood  
about Jesus Christ  
is impossible  
for children to disentangle.

So there are only  
two choices.

The first alternative  
is to submit to  
the totality  
of what is conveyed.

In this case  
they [i.e., the children who choose to submit totally to what is conveyed]  
will grow up  
accepting  
the traditional concept  
of what it is to be a Christian.

They will  
• fear  
their feelings,  
• deny  
their sexuality, and  
• put reins on  
their aggression,  
which they identify  
with evil.

Underneath this restraint,  
strong impulses exist,  
but they [i.e., these strong impulses]  
are very threatening.

Such "submitting Christians"  
feel themselves  
to be sinners  
whenever they register  
unallowed feelings.

They [i.e., Such "submitting Christians"]  
also  
rebel, of course,  
but  
the fear of  
expressing the rebellion openly  
is much too threatening.

11

***So [because such “submitting Christians” fear that  
expressing the rebellion they feel is much too threatening],  
the rebellion, too,  
must be***

- repressed and***
- denied,***
- only to create***
- more***
- guilt,***
- more***
- of a feeling of***
- secretly being sinners.***

***Such people [i.e., Such “submitting Christians”]  
will use***  
***any kind of doctrine***  
***to reinforce these denials [i.e., reinforce these denials of their  
rebellion, guilt, and feelings of secretly being sinners].***

***They [i.e., Such “submitting Christians”]  
will***  
***flock to***  
***orientations***  
***that take the Bible***  
***in a very***

- literal and***
- doctrinaire***

***sense.***

***They [i.e., Such “submitting Christians”]  
feel safe***  
***only in a***

- rigid,***
- life-denying***

***structure.***

12	<p><u><i>The other alternative the child has is to</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>openly and</i></u></li><li>• <u><i>consciously</i></u></li></ul> <p><u><i>rebel against the strictures that deny its very being.</i></u></p> <p><u><i>Such children become the "rebellious Christians" [that] we are concerned with on this path.</i></u></p> <p><u><i>The "submitting Christians" I first spoke of would never enter such a path as this.</i></u></p> <p><u><i>That [i.e., Entering a path such as pathwork] would be totally in opposition to the safety valves they have created.</i></u></p>
13	<p><u><i>The "rebellious Christians" need reinforcement for their rebellion, for underneath it [i.e., for underneath their rebellion] they carry some doubts about its [i.e., about their rebellion's] legitimacy.</i></u></p>

**The truth is**  
**that they** [i.e., **that the “rebellious Christians”**]  
**should indeed**  
**deny**  
**the prohibition of**

- **feelings,**
- **positive aggression,**
- **sexuality,**
- **self-responsibility and**
- **autonomy.**

**But they**  
**certainly should**  
**not**  
**deny**  
**the truth of**

- **Jesus Christ**  
**in**  
**His**
  - **love,**
- **His**
  - **power,**
- **His**
  - **presence,**

**and**

- **the need to**  
**take Him**  
**into their own lives.**

14

**“Submitting Christians”**  
**suffer from**

- **the same confusion,**
- **the same**  
**false fusion**  
**of**
  - **truth**
- **and**
  - **error**

[that the **“rebellious Christians”** do].

**However, they [i.e., the “submitting Christians”]**  
**would need to learn to do**  
**exactly the opposite**  
**of what “rebellious Christians”**  
**need to do.**

**They [i.e., The “submitting Christians”]**  
**must**  
**• question [rather than simply accept]**  
**the tradition**  
**as handed to them,**  
**whereas the rebels**  
**need to**  
**• accept [rather than reject and rebel against]**  
**the truth**  
**in the tradition.**

15

**All children**  
**need parents who are**  
**• strong and**  
**• right.**

**This gives them**  
**a sense of security.**

**A**  
**• weak and**  
**• “wrong”**  
**parent**  
**is no protection**  
**against**  
**a frightening world.**

**“Submitting Christians”**  
**accept their parents' doctrine**  
**unquestioningly**  
**also**  
**because they cannot bear the thought**  
**that their parents**  
**may have been mistaken.**

16	<p><b><u>"Rebelling Christians", on the other hand,</u></b> <b><u>find security</u></b> <b><u>in totally rejecting</u></b> <b><u>their parents' values,</u></b> <b><u>at least in this particular respect [i.e., in respect to Christianity].</u></b></p> <p><b><u>They [i.e., "Rebelling Christians"]</u></b> <b><u>grow up with</u></b> <b><u>a sense of superiority,</u></b> <b><u>considering their</u></b> <b><u>denial of Christ</u></b> <b><u>as more evolved.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Here again</u></b> <b><u>confusion exists.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>It is indeed</u></b> <b><u>"more evolved"</u></b> <b><u>to deny the false denials [i.e., to deny what is false in any</u></b> <b><u>particular tradition],</u></b></p> <p><b><u>but it is</u></b> <b><u>not more evolved</u></b> <b><u>to deny the truths</u></b> <b><u>that are also in the tradition.</u></b></p>
17	<p><b><u>In the consciousness of such people [i.e., In the consciousness</u></b> <b><u>of "rebelling Christians"]</u></b></p> <p><b><u>there exists</u></b> <b><u>a tremendous fear</u></b> <b><u>of finding out</u></b> <b><u>that perhaps, after all,</u></b> <b><u>their parents were right.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>In the childish consciousness</u></b> <b><u>everything</u></b> <b><u>is always</u></b> <b><u>either/or [i.e., either 100% right or 100% wrong].</u></b></p> <p><b><u>You know that.</u></b></p>

All images  
come from the inability  
to differentiate  
• truth  
from  
• falsehood  
because  
the image conclusion  
is always based on  
• total right  
versus  
• total wrong.

Being  
right  
means  
being  
• good,  
• acceptable,  
• having the power to create a safe life,  
• deserving happiness.

Being  
wrong  
means  
being  
• bad,  
• unacceptable,  
• having no power to create safety and  
• not deserving happiness.

18

This applies to  
• the self  
and, by extension, to  
• the parents.

"Rebelling Christians"  
can deal with the possibility  
that their parents  
were  
totally  
wrong.

[If their parents were totally wrong]  
They [i.e., "Rebelling Christians"]  
are then justified  
in denying  
all  
their parents stood for.

On a very  
• primitive,  
• childish  
level  
the threat  
the "rebellious Christian" experiences now,  
when Jesus Christ  
is being reintroduced in the pathwork  
in a more dynamic way,  
can be expressed thus:

"If my parents were  
right about  
• the reality of Jesus Christ,  
then they must have  
also been right about  
• my sexual feelings  
being sinful,  
• my surge for  
• individuality,  
• autonomy and  
• self-expression  
being sinful.

I would  
never have the right  
• to be angry and  
• to express my energies  
in an aggressive way,  
for all aggression  
must be bad.

	<p><u><i>I would also be</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>guilty and</i></u></li><li>• <u><i>bad</i></u></li></ul> <p><u><i>for having denied</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>Christ and</i></u></li><li>• <u><i>my parents</i></u></li></ul> <p><u><i>in the past.</i></u></p> <p><u><i>This [i.e., Being guilty, sinful, and bad]</i></u> <u><i>I cannot bear,</i></u> <u><i>so I must turn against</i></u> <u><i>these ideas [i.e., I must turn against the idea that these things are sinful, bad,</i></u> <u><i>and make me guilty: sexual feelings, individuality, autonomy,</i></u> <u><i>being angry, expressing any aggressive behavior, and my denial of</i></u> <u><i>Christ and my parents in the past]."</i></u></p>
19	<p><u><i>The stronger</i></u> <u><i>the inner confusion</i></u> <u><i>about</i></u> <u><i>what is</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>true</i></u></li></ul> <p><u><i>and</i></u> <u><i>what is</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>false</i></u></li></ul> <p><u><i>in the parental tradition,</i></u></p> <p><u><i>the stronger</i></u> <u><i>is the fear</i></u> <u><i>of finding out that</i></u></p> <p><u><i>"I was</i></u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>wrong,</i></u></li></ul><u><i>therefore I am</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>bad."</i></u></li></ul> <p><u><i>This stronger threat [i.e., this stronger threat of finding out that I was wrong</i></u> <u><i>and therefore I am bad]</i></u></p> <p><u><i>reinforces</i></u> <u><i>the rebellion against such thoughts [i.e., reinforces the rebellion against</i></u> <u><i>any thought that would say I was wrong and therefore I am bad,]</i></u> <u><i>[thoughts] which seem to echo</i></u> <u><i>parental admonitions.</i></u></p>

20

You can see clearly  
that the mechanism  
is very much the same  
as with  
• all image formation –  
and  
• the image dissolution.

You can also see clearly here  
that  
• the personal image  
is multiplied many times,  
for many similar  
• cases and  
• conditions  
exist.

Thereby  
• a mass image  
is created.

21

The mass image  
of the "Christian rebel"  
harbors underneath it  
the possibility  
of the "Christian submitter,"  
and vice versa.

"Christian rebels"  
fear that if they  
• recognize,  
• challenge and  
• dissolve  
their image [that their parent's Christianity is all wrong],  
they will have to become  
"Christian submitters."

And "Christian submitters"  
are equally afraid  
to let go of their own image [that their parent's Christianity is all correct],  
for that would seem to mean  
they must become  
"Christian rebels"  
who throw out

- the beautiful truth of Jesus Christ

along with

- the falsehoods.

22

As I said before,  
on this path we deal much more often with  
the "rebellious Christian" image [i.e., the image that one's parent's  
Christianity is 100% wrong].

The [image of a person who is a Christian] submitter  
exists only as an  
underlying

- threat and
- fear

that can be dissolved  
when the bright light of truth  
shines on the soul substance  
that has been

- rigidly and
- fixedly

holding these images.

Later we shall discuss  
the other aspects of these images [i.e., other aspects of these images  
of the "rebellious Christian" and of the "submitting Christian"] –

- wrong conclusion,
- vicious circle,
- proving the wrong conclusion correct.

We shall also show  
the process of

- dissolving the image.

23

Before that [i.e., Before discussing other aspects of these Christian images],  
however,  
I would like to discuss  
the Jewish mass image.

- A mass image  
must always start with
- a personal image  
that is multiplied often enough  
to create
  - a collective [i.e., mass] image.

So we shall start with  
the feeling of being threatened  
if Jesus Christ  
is indeed  
a manifestation of God.

Like the "submitting Christian," [i.e., Like the "submitting Christian"]  
in relationship to his or her Christian parents]  
Jews who deny Christ  
feel immensely threatened  
about their [Jewish] parents  
being wrong [in their denying Christ].

If they [i.e., If their Jewish parents]  
are wrong  
in this all-important question  
about

- life,
- the world,
- God,

how can they [i.e., how can their Jewish parents]  
be trusted in  
anything?

The ground  
seems to slip away  
from under the feet  
of the child/adult.

	<p><b><u>This fear [that comes when the child first begins to doubt that his or her parents can be trusted in anything]</u></b></p> <p><b><u>touches those</u></b> <b><u>who outwardly</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b><u>rebel against their parents and</u></b></li><li>• <b><u>disagree with them</u></b> <b><u>on many issues.</u></b></li></ul> <p><b><u>It [i.e., This fear that comes when the child first begins to doubt that his or her parents can be trusted in anything]</u></b></p> <p><b><u>applies just as much to those</u></b> <b><u>who are overtly</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b><u>in agreement with their parents</u></b> <b><u>about almost all the important issues of life.</u></b></li></ul>
24	<p><b><u>So, on one level,</u></b> <b><u>this mass image [i.e., the Jewish mass image that the Jewish parents cannot be wrong and the fear that results from this image when the child first begins to doubt that his or her parents can be trusted in anything]</u></b> <b><u>is a personal/psychological issue</u></b> <b><u>which parallels</u></b> <b><u>that of the "submitting Christian."</u></b></p> <p><b><u>The part of the soul</u></b> <b><u>which has not grown up</u></b> <b><u>cannot accept</u></b> <b><u>that the parents can be</u></b> <b><u>wrong about</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b><u>anything,</u></b></li></ul> <p><b><u>because this implies</u></b> <b><u>they must then be</u></b> <b><u>wrong in</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b><u>everything.</u></b></li></ul>

25

*Behind this personal/psychological level of reacting [i.e., reacting in fear to the image that if the parents are wrong in any one thing, then they must be wrong in everything]*

*lies*  
*a whole world*  
*of*  

- *history,*

*of*  

- *tradition,*

*both*  
*in its*  

- *true*

*and*  
*in its*  

- *distorted*

*form.*

*Let me try to examine this aspect*  

- *as much as is possible*  
*at this time, and*
- *for the specific purpose*  
*under discussion.*

26

*There was a time when*  
*the Jews*  
*were the only ones*  
*who*  

- *worshipped*  
*the Creator*  
*as the one God,*

*and*  
*who*  

- *were in touch with Him and*
- *attempted to follow*  
*His*  
  - *commandments and*
  - *laws.*

*This beautiful reality*  
*began to disintegrate*  
*when,*  
*as is inevitable in human nature,*  
*the lower self*  
*entered into the picture.*

*It [i.e., The lower self]*  
*induced*

- *pride,*
- *arrogance and*
- *feelings of superiority*  
*toward those*  
*who did not belong to*  
*the Jewish*
  - *community and*
  - *faith.*

*Jews looked down on*  
*pagans*  
*as inferior.*

*They [i.e., Jews]*  
*saw themselves*  
*as the aristocrats*  
*in the human family.*

27

*The reason why*  
*Jesus Christ*  
*was born as a Jew*  
*is obvious.*

Since He [i.e., Since Jesus Christ]  
is a  
• manifestation and  
• incarnation  
of  
• the true God,  
of  
• divine reality,  
He could manifest  
only among those people  
who worshipped  
• this God,  
rather than  
• gods  
which were  
often  
• spirits from quite undeveloped realms  
and  
sometimes even  
• evil spirits.

28

This tremendous gift  
of the incarnation among the Jewish people  
was also a test [of the Jewish people].

• All gifts  
are tests,  
just as  
• painful occurrences  
are tests.

The test  
was to recognize Jesus  
for who He was.

To do so [i.e., To pass the test of recognizing Jesus for who He was]  
would have meant [the Jews]  
overcoming  
• personal pride,  
• power drives,  
• self-interest and  
• self-serving opportunism.

*If this had happened* [i.e., *If the Jews had recognized Jesus for who he was as he lived among them and had overcome personal pride, power drives, self-interest and self-serving opportunism*],

*no such conflict as*

• *Judaism*

*versus*

• *Christianity*

*could have come about.*

*Christianity*

*would simply have become*

*an extension*

*in the development of Judaism,*

*whether or not*

*a new name would have been found*

*to indicate this true way.*

*Either*

*of these two names* [i.e., *either the name Judaism or Christianity*]

*could have been used*

*in the spirit of*

• *combining and*

• *extending*

*the truth*

*of*

• *the past*

*into*

*the truth*

*of*

• *the eternal now.*

29

*On the collective level,*

*both*

• *Jews*

*and*

• *Christians*

*have failed the test.*

*This is obvious.*

The general fear  
of admitting the failure [i.e. The general fear in Jews and in Christians of  
admitting to the failure of this test of Judaism and Christianity  
to recognize Jesus for who he was and coexisting in harmony]

is as

- irrational and
- distorted  
as your fear  
of accepting  
your personal
  - imperfections and
  - blindnesses.

On this path

you have learned that doing so [i.e. you have learned that accepting your  
personal imperfections and blindnesses]

is one of the most important aspects

of

- growth,

of

- self-liberation,

of

- purification,

of

- self-esteem.

The defense

against

admitting a possible wrong

- perpetuates the wrong and
- creates secondary guilts

that are

- much more severe and
- harder to eradicate.

The

- longer and
- harder

the resistance to truth,

the

- more painful it is.

The same holds true

for collective

- processes and
- dynamics.

	<p><u><i>The only way</i></u> <u><i>collective</i></u> <u><i>images can be dissolved and</i></u> <u><i>collective</i></u> <u><i>consciousness corrected</i></u> <u><i>so that it [i.e., so that collective consciousness]</i></u> <u><i>expresses the truth</i></u></p> <p><u><i>is through</i></u> <u><i>the commitment of</i></u> <u><i>a sufficient number of individuals</i></u> <u><i>who</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>know the truth and</i></u></li><li>• <u><i>have the courage</i></u> <u><i>to stand up for it [i.e., stand up for the truth].</i></u></li></ul>
30	<p><u><i>The Jews in power</i></u> <u><i>felt threatened –</i></u> <u><i>unjustly so –</i></u> <u><i>by Jesus Christ.</i></u></p> <p><u><i>They [i.e., The Jews in power]</i></u> <u><i>were threatened</i></u> <u><i>only insofar as</i></u> <u><i>they wished to deny</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>divine truth and</i></u></li><li>• <u><i>divine guidance.</i></u></li></ul> <p><u><i>Since the leaders</i></u> <u><i>prevailed on the majority,</i></u> <u><i>only a few courageous ones</i></u> <u><i>turned to Christ.</i></u></p>

	<p><i><u>The separation [between Christ and the Jews]</u></i> <i><u>was enforced</u></i> <i><u>by those who refused to consider</u></i> <i><u>that He</u></i> <i><u>could indeed</u></i> <i><u>have been the promised Messiah,</u></i> <i><u>because</u></i> <i><u>they [i.e., those who refused to consider that Jesus Christ</u></i> <i><u>could have been the promised Messiah]</u></i> <i><u>did not wish to abdicate</u></i> <i><u>their</u></i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i><u>negative</u></i></li><li>• <i><u>self-serving</u></i></li></ul><i><u>power.</u></i></p>
31	<p><i><u>Once the separation [between the Christians and Jews]</u></i> <i><u>became a reality,</u></i> <i><u>more of</u></i> <i><u>the pagans</u></i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i><u>turned to the New Message and</u></i></li><li>• <i><u>embraced it.</u></i></li></ul><p style="text-align: center;"><i><u>Their [The pagans']</u></i> <i><u>heart</u></i> <i><u>hungered for it [i.e., hungered for the New Message].</u></i></p><p><i><u>As time went on,</u></i> <i><u>more</u></i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i><u>pagans</u></i></li></ul><i><u>than</u></i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i><u>Jews</u></i></li></ul><i><u>turned to Christ.</u></i></p></p>

The pagans' attitude  
to the Jews  
was to a large degree  
a response to  
the stamp of inferiority  
that was placed on them  
by the Jews

who were supposed to carry  
God's  
• love and  
God's  
• word.

Thus  
mutual enmity  
came into existence  
and became  
a vicious circle.

32

In the consciousness  
of the Jews,  
• the pagan  
and  
• the Christian  
became  
one and the same.

Jews considered  
both [i.e., both the Christian and the pagan]  
• inferior and  
• hostile [toward the Jews].

**The hostility [toward the Jews from the Christians and pagans]**  
**existed,**  
**but instead of [the Jews]**

- **asking themselves**  
**how they [i.e., how they themselves, the Jews,]**  
**contributed to it [i.e., contributed to and provoked the hostility**  
**coming toward them] and**
- **taking responsibility for the situation [i.e., for the hostility coming**  
**toward them] and**
- **seeing it [i.e., seeing the hostility coming toward them]**  
**as a**  
**mutual**  
**creation –**  
**just as you have learned to do on this path –**  
**they [i.e., the Jews]**

- **abdicated**  
**any responsibility [for the hostility coming toward them]**  
**and**
- **saw themselves**  
**as the victims**  
**of the**
  - **pagans,****that is,**  
**of the**
  - **Christians,**  
**even while continuing**  
**to look down on them [i.e., look down on**  
**the pagans and the Christians].**

33

**This old history**  
**is very relevant**  
**for those [Jews] who are born into families**  
**who continue to harbor this attitude [of superiority and of being**  
**a victim]**  
**in their own souls.**

**They [i.e., Those Jews who are born into families holding this old attitude]**  
**can**

- **use existing family influences**  
**as a challenge**

**and thus**

- **help dissolve the mass image.**

	<p><u>Or they [i.e., Or those Jews who are born into families holding this old attitude]</u> <u>can choose</u> <u>to further perpetuate</u> <u>• it [further perpetuate this Jewish mass image]</u> <u>and with it</u> <u>• the Jewish karma.</u></p>
34	<p><u>When any of you</u> <u>work on any personal problem</u> <u>and find yourself</u> <u>terrified</u> <u>because your</u> <u>• friends and</u> <u>• helpers</u> <u>confront you,</u> <u>when you defend against</u> <u>even the possibility</u> <u>of that with which</u> <u>you are being confronted,</u> <u>you react according to</u> <u>the same erroneous assumption</u> <u>that</u> <u>• being wrong,</u> <u>• having lower-self attitudes,</u> <u>• having made a mistake,</u> <u>is</u> <u>• unforgivable and</u> <u>• unacceptable.</u></p> <p><u>Your terror is</u> <u>very simply that.</u></p> <p><u>Your belief is</u> <u>that you</u> <u>would no longer be lovable</u> <u>if this or that negativity</u> <u>were indeed true.</u></p>

Only as you  
gain

- courage,  
and therefore
- humility as well,  
do you jump into  
the apparent abyss  
of opening your mind [to possibly of having  
this or that negativity],

and only then

- can you find out  
that your assumption [that you would be unlovable if this or that  
negativity were indeed a part of you]  
was false.

In fact,

- only when you  
fully admit your
  - imperfection and
  - human fallibility

do you

- become  
a full-fledged human being,
- find your
  - true and
  - realistic  
value, and
- find God's love for you  
that
  - has always existed,
- but that
  - you could not feel  
due to your fallacy [i.e., you could not feel God's love due to your  
false assumption that you would be unlovable  
if this or that negativity were indeed a part you].

*This* [i.e., *Having the courage to seek, see and fully accept your imperfection and human fallibility as part of your being a full-fledged human being and discovering and feeling fully God's ever-present love for you no matter the degree of your imperfection and human fallibility*]

- *has always been the true path*

*and this*

- *will always be the true path.*

*It* [i.e., *This true path*]  
*applies to*

- *collective situations just as much as to individual ones.*

35

*It must become increasingly obvious to the observer that in in*  

- *mass images and individual images*

*the same dynamics operate.*

*The more the truth is denied, the greater the real guilt becomes.*

*With the guilt grows the resistance* [to seeing the truth of humanity's imperfection and fallibility]  
*whose purpose is* [i.e., *the resistance to the truth is intended*]  
*to ward off accumulated guilt.*

	<p><u>Negative karma</u> <u>is an accumulation over several lifetimes</u> <u>of</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>unresolved,</u></li><li>• <u>untruthful</u> <u>situations</u> <u>that have their own</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>laws and</u></li><li>• <u>consequences,</u></li></ul></li></ul> <p><u>just as</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>truth</u> <u>has its</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>laws and</u></li><li>• <u>consequences.</u></li></ul></li></ul>
36	<p><u>When you</u> [i.e., <u>When you who are Jews</u>] <u>persist in viewing these historical consequences</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>out of context,</u></li><li>• <u>as mere happenings</u> [<u>occurring randomly with no particular cause or</u> <u>historical context</u>],</li></ul> <p><u>thereby seeing</u> <u>the Jews</u> <u>as victims</u> [<u>of the pagan and the Christian</u>],</p> <p><u>you</u> [<u>who are Jews</u>] <u>rob yourselves</u> <u>of the vitality you need</u> <u>to be</u> <u>a self-governing part</u> <u>of the human family.</u></p> <p><u>You can become</u> <u>an autonomous person</u> <u>only</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>if you let truth</u> <u>stand above defense,</u></li><li>• <u>when truth</u> <u>is more important than</u> <u>justifying</u><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>yourself, or</u></li><li>• <u>your parents, or</u></li><li>• <u>your forebears.</u></li></ul></li></ul>

The constant chain  
of  
• cause and effect,  
of  
• negative karma,  
of  
• endless repetition  
of undesirable events,  
can be broken,  
my friends.

Why can you  
see these dynamics so clearly  
when it comes to  
• personal aspects,  
but draw the line  
when it comes to  
• collective reality?

37

The answer is –  
above and beyond  
what I said before  
about the terror of the child  
that his parents  
can be wrong –  
that  
the personal guilt  
in denying the truth  
of Jesus Christ  
seems too painful to bear.

To let go of the defense [i.e., To let go of the defense against seeing and feeling  
the personal guilt for not acknowledging the truth of Jesus Christ]  
would entail  
• giving up  
the victim and blame game.

It [i.e., To let go of the defense against seeing and feeling  
the personal guilt for not acknowledging the truth of Jesus Christ]  
would entail  
• accepting part of the responsibility  
for much of the past suffering [of the Jewish people].

It [i.e., To let go of the defense against seeing and feeling  
the personal guilt for not acknowledging the truth of Jesus Christ]  
would entail

- experiencing  
the pain of guilt  
for having inflicted pain,  
especially on  
one who came in love.

You may or may not  
have actually lived at that time [i.e., at the time of Jesus Christ].

But even if  
you were not present,

- by
  - allying yourself  
with those directly responsible,

- by
  - justifying  
their actions, and

- by
  - not ever asking  
the crucial question,

"Could it be  
that He was  
the promised Messiah?"

you do become  
co-responsible.

38

When you work on  
any personal issue  
where you,  
after much resistance,  
finally dedicate your being  
to wanting to see  
the truth,  
you sometimes  
go indeed  
through the pain  
of guilt.

*But when you do this [i.e., But when you go through the pain of guilt]*

*in a spirit of*

• *life*

*rather than*

• *death,*

*in a spirit of*

• *faith*

*rather than*

• *denial,*

*you come to*

• *self-acceptance,*

• *self-forgiveness.*

*Therefore you*

*experience*

*that God*

*has already forgiven you*

*all along.*

*You then*

*experience*

• *the light and*

• *the new strength*

*of wholeness.*

*Feeling*

*the pain*

*of real guilt*

*is never*

*a debilitating process.*

It [i.e., Feeling the pain of real guilt]  
is  
• a life process,

it [i.e., feeling the pain of real guilt]  
is  
• purification, and

it [i.e., feeling the pain of real guilt]  
leads to  
• oneness  
with  
• yourself,  
with  
• others,  
with  
• God.

39

Can you find  
within yourself  
the willingness  
to adopt  
the same attitude [i.e., the attitude of feeling the pain of real guilt]  
toward  
whatever universal issue  
comes up in your life?

What do you have to fear  
if  
• truth –  
• God –  
is your major concern?

By refusing openness,  
you express  
in no uncertain terms  
that  
• truth  
is not the major issue for you,  
but [instead]  
• being right  
is [the major issue for you].

No matter  
how you try to justify  
your antagonism toward  
Jesus Christ,  
you are  
not in truth  
when you  
refuse to  

- pose this question [i.e., this question: "Could it be that  
Jesus Christ was the promised Messiah?"]

  
in a  

- sincere and
- open

  
way  
and then  

- allow for a period of gestation  
for the answer to evolve  
within your own  
  - mind and
  - heart.

How can you  
believe yourself to be  

- free and
- liberated

  
when  
anything  
within you  
is closed up tight?

Can  
the justifying  
of your ancestors' infallible rightness  
on this central question [i.e., this central question: "Could it be that  
Jesus Christ was the promised Messiah?"]  
be more important  
than  
the truth itself?

40

Observe  
the feeling  
of threat in you now,  
when these words  
are being addressed to you.

Consider  
the meaning  
of this reaction [i.e., this reaction of feeling threatened when  
these words are being addressed to you].

Can you perhaps  
take distance from it [i.e., take distance from this reaction of feeling threatened  
when these words are being addressed to you]

for a moment,  
and then  
consider that  
the feeling of threat  
may be

- a distortion,

may be

- irrational,

may contain

- false assumptions on your part?

This questioning  
in itself  
is a healing  
you can administer to yourself.

41

Let us now consider  
the dynamics of  
images,  
as

- I have taught you to do

and  
as

- you have worked with them  
on your path  
in many personal issues  
where images  
destroy your life.

*A brief recapitulation [of images] here  
is in order.*

*An image  
is*

- *a false idea,*
- *a wrong conclusion  
formed in childhood  
with insufficient mental equipment  
to make a correct assessment.*

*The  
wrong conclusion,  
as all untruth,  
creates  
negative*

- *situations,*
- *feelings, and*
- *events.*

*Untruth  
is always  
painful.*

*The defense  
against  
wrong conclusions  
creates  
a negative  
• *action and*  
• *reaction*  
*pattern*  
*which affects*  
*others*  
*adversely.**

*The misconception  
is*

- *fixed and*
- *frozen*  
*in the soul substance*  
*because*  
*it [i.e., because the misconception]*  
*is never*  
• *questioned or*  
• *challenged.*

The personality

reacts [to a particular situation or on a particular occasion]

- blindly  
in a conditioned  
reflex,

rather than

- out of truth  
appropriate to  
the particular occasion.

The negative effect

created in others [by the individual's blind reaction to a particular situation]

- must, perforce,  
come back  
to the individual

and always

- appears to confirm  
the original misconception,  
which seems to  
necessitate the defense,  
which creates negative reactions  
in others.

And so it goes on  
endlessly.

The soul

is not free

when

any image  
exists.

42

The image  
of the "rebellious Christian"  
is:

"If I embrace Christ,  
I must give up

my

- vitality,

my

- life energy,

my

- sexuality,

my

- body,

- pleasure,

for all these  
are sinful."

Therefore  
"rebellious Christians"  
create a defense  
that  
shuts out Christ  
in order to  
affirm  
their sexuality.

But  
• shutting out Christ  
means  
• shutting out  
an essential part  
of God's world of  
• truth,  
• love,  
• beauty and  
• life.

These individuals [i.e., These “rebellious Christians”]

- create a split and
- live in
  - pain,
  - hidden doubt and
  - guilt.

Instead of

liberating their forces [from God’s world: truth, love, beauty, and life],

they must

be defiant about them [defiant about their forces from God’s world: truth,  
love, beauty, and life].

And you all know

that defiance

is nothing but an ill-advised attempt  
to shut out other voices  
within.

Therefore [in their defiance about their forces from God’s world: truth,

love, beauty, and life],

instead of

becoming stronger,  
the “rebellious Christians”  
become weaker.

They [i.e., “Rebellious Christians”]

may cover up the weakness

by a mask of strength,  
which deceives

no one,

least of all themselves.

They [i.e., “Rebellious Christians”]

feel like

- failures and
- frauds  
but do not know why.

*In fact they [i.e., “Rebelling Christians”]*

*believe their weakness*

*stems*

- *from having been influenced in childhood to accept Jesus Christ and*
- *from not having been sufficiently successful in rejecting Him.*

*Yet*

*the more*

*one rejects*

*a truth – any truth –*

*the more*

*one weakens oneself*

*in some way,*

*the more*

*split off one becomes,*

*the more*

*conflict arises.*

*So if you have the misconception*

*that Christ*

*intended you*

*to deny your vital life-impulses,*

*you will develop*

- *attitudes and*
- *reactions*

*that, in the end,*

*seem to bear out*

*the original misconception [i.e., that bear out the original misconception that if I embrace Christ, I must deny my vitality, life energy, and sexuality, my body and my pleasure].*

43

The Jewish mass image  
is:

"If my

- parents and
- forebears

were wrong,

and my

- ancestors killed  
in Jesus

not only

- a good man

but

- a man who manifested  
God on earth,

then they were

totally bad people.

They can

never

be forgiven.

I cannot

face

this possibility [that they were totally bad people and can never  
be forgiven].

I must

deny

this possibility [that they were totally bad people and can never  
be forgiven]

in order not to be

co-responsible

with them."

44

But did not Christ say,  
again

and again,

that

God

is

forgiveness?

Is He [i.e., Is God]

not

always

here

with His

- mercy,
- understanding and
- love?

Is this not

one of the great messages

He [i.e., Christ]

brought?

He [i.e., Christ]

said,

God does

not

punish

- mercilessly and
- unforgivingly,

it is

never

"an eye for an eye  
and a tooth for a tooth."

Here we have

a vicious circle:

Believing totally

in the old tradition of Judaism,

"an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth"

makes

admitting a sin  
impossible.

The punishment  
is too terrible.

Therefore

- the truth,
- or even
- the possibility

that Jesus Christ  
may be the truth,  
must be denied.

45

Now how does  
this [Jewish mass] image  
work?

The Jewish misconception

is

- that Jesus  
was a false prophet,
- that He  
was a fake,
- that the

- pagans and
- Christians

are

- lying,

are

- deluded,

are

- inferior

and at the same time they [i.e., the pagans and Christians]

are

- the victimizers,

out to annihilate the Jews.

The more firmly  
this belief was held,  
the more

- hatred and
- discrimination,
- separation and
- enmity

grew

in the consciousness  
of many individual Jews,  
thereby  
creating a [Jewish] mass image.

- The defense  
against this [Jewish] mass image,

- the fear of  
its coming true  
inevitably  
created

- more antagonism and
- actual persecution of Jews.

So  
the misconception [contained in this Jewish mass image]  
created  
a defense  
which, in turn,  
could not help  
but bear out  
the apparent truth  
of the misconception.

As I have said before,  
you  
create your own reality, and  
the more  
unconscious your belief,  
the greater  
its consequence is.

46

The greater  
• the guilt  
and therefore [the greater]  
• the fear of  
• its pain and  
• its supposed unforgivability,  
the stronger must be  
• the defense against  
the truth of the issue.

Then the  
• heart and  
• mind  
must close  
even tighter.

Then even  
this fact of  
• close-mindedness and  
• close-heartedness  
must be  
• denied,  
• justified and  
• fought against.

47

*My beloved friends.*

*For so many years,*  
*you have been working on*  
*your soul substance.*

*You have dealt with*  
*many an image*  
*in your personal psyche.*

*You have come to see*  
*the damage*  
*of all images,*  
*for images*  
*are not only*

- *distortions of truth,*
- *misconceptions and*
- *misperceptions.*

*They [i.e., Images]*  
*inevitably*  
*create*  
*a rigid soul substance*  
*that walls you off*  
*from*

- *the best within yourself,*

*from*

- *life with all its creative possibilities,*

*from*

- *God,*

*from*

- *loving, and*

*from*

- *being able to*
  - *receive and*
  - *accept*

*love.*

	<p><b><u>Images,</u></b> <b><u>in their untruth,</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b><u>are evil and</u></b></li><li>• <b><u>create sin.</u></b></li></ul> <p><b><u>They [i.e., Images]</u></b> <b><u>create</u></b></p> <p><b><u>war</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b><u>within the soul,</u></b></li></ul> <p><b><u>war</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b><u>within the personality,</u></b></li></ul> <p><b><u>and therefore also</u></b> <b><u>[war]</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b><u>outside with others.</u></b></li></ul>
48	<p><b><u>You have,</u></b> <b><u>often painstakingly,</u></b> <b><u>learned the importance of</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b><u>challenging and</u></b></li><li>• <b><u>dissolving</u></b></li></ul> <p><b><u>your images.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>There is</u></b> <b><u>only one way</u></b> <b><u>to do this [i.e., only one way to challenge and dissolve your images]:</u></b></p> <p><b><u>by starting to ask</u></b> <b><u>very probing questions</u></b> <b><u>from all possible angles.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>This [i.e., Asking very probing questions from all possible angles]</u></b> <b><u>sheds a new light</u></b> <b><u>on the picture.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>It [i.e., Asking very probing questions from all possible angles]</u></b> <b><u>opens doors</u></b> <b><u>that were heretofore closed.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>It [i.e., Asking very probing questions from all possible angles]</u></b> <b><u>loosens up</u></b> <b><u>hardened soul substance.</u></b></p>

	<p><u>The mind</u> <u>must be open</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>to look at the situation and</u></li><li>• <u>to consider</u> <u>everything</u> <u>that may be relevant to the issue.</u></li></ul>
49	<p><u>In the last lecture [i.e., Pathwork Lecture 246: Tradition: Its Divine and Distorted Aspects]</u></p> <p><u>I spoke about</u> <u>tradition</u> <u>in its</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>positive</u></li><li><u>and</u></li><li>• <u>negative</u> <u>connotations.</u></li></ul> <p><u>I also spoke about</u> <u>certain movements</u> <u>within this path.</u></p> <p><u>The emphasis</u> <u>has shifted</u> <u>at various</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>periods and</u></li><li>• <u>phases.</u></li></ul> <p><u>In the last year or so</u> <u>it must have become quite obvious</u> <u>to many of you who observe the direction this path takes</u> <u>that,</u> <u>from</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>the initial emphasis on</u> <u>individual</u></li><li>• <u>purification and</u></li><li>• <u>self-liberation,</u></li></ul> <p><u>through</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>dissolution</u> <u>of false images,</u></li></ul> <p><u>we are now increasingly concerned with</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>creating a new society.</u></li></ul>

*This [i.e., Creating a new society]  
includes  
dissolving whatever  
mass images  
stand in the way of  
the unfoldment  
of the self-realized person.*

*The new society,  
of which you are pioneers,  
cannot afford to live with  
frozen images  
in the soul substance.*

50

*I have often said that  
this path  
is representative of the new-age person.*

*For example,  
it is no coincidence  
that a mixture of  
religious backgrounds  
is prevalent among you.*

*In your political committees  
you learn how  
politics  
could be based on  
the principles you are learning.*

*In running your business,  
in matters of administration,  
you learn  
the practical application  
of the pathwork.*

*In your  
artistic pursuits,  
you approach  
your creative processes  
in an entirely new way,  
learning to release your blocks.*

Why, then,  
would you have  
a different approach  
to religious  
• affiliations and  
• beliefs?

To dissolve  
the particular mass images [in connection to religious affiliations and beliefs]  
it is necessary to see  
that there  
really are images  
to  
• investigate,  
to  
• question,  
to  
• challenge.

It is necessary to consider  
the subject [of religious affiliations and beliefs]  
anew.

51

The new-age society  
knows  
• no Judaism,  
• nor Christianity  
as they are known now.

Yet it [i.e., Yet the new-age society]  
knows both [Judaism and Christianity].

It takes  
the truth  
from both  
and expands it,  
filtering it through  
the newly  
• evolving and  
• expanding  
consciousness.

*The new-age person*  
*is so free*  
*that no word*  
*can trigger off*  
*emotional reactions,*  
*whether this word*  
*be*

- *"Jew" or*
- *"Christian,"*
- *"Jesus Christ" or*
- *"religion."*

52

*For many people*  
*the word*  
*"reincarnation"*  
*has a similar connotation.*

*It [i.e., Reincarnation]*  
*is against the teachings*  
*of both*

- *Judaism and*
- *Christianity,*

*at least as they are taught today.*

*Yet it [i.e., Yet reincarnation]*  
*is one of the*  
*eternal truths,*  
*regardless of whether it fits into*  
*the religion*  
*embraced by certain individuals*  
*or not [i.e., or does not fit into the religion embraced*  
*by certain individuals].*

*Does it not strike you*  
*as peculiarly significant*  
*that*

- *this word [i.e., that this word "reincarnation"], or*
- *the concept behind the word [i.e., behind the word "reincarnation"],*

*fails to elicit*  
*as strong a reaction from you*  
*as the name of*  
*Jesus Christ?*

You may or may not believe in reincarnation to begin with, but there is

- no strong emotional involvement with,
- nor a stake in denying this idea [of reincarnation];

because  
your doors are much more open in this regard [i.e., in regard to this idea of reincarnation], sooner or later  
you  
experience

- inwardly,
- within yourself, the truth of reincarnation.

53

- The new man

and

- the new woman  
are free of emotional involvements that block truth.

There is no stake in

- holding on to anything,

or

- denying anything, except to finding the truth.

This commitment [to finding the truth]

- is firm and
- is always expressed toward the Creator.

Thus truth  
can flow  
freely.

	<p><u><i>The new-age person is not bound to</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>nationality,</i></u></li><li>• <u><i>political party,</i></u></li><li>• <u><i>race or</i></u></li><li>• <u><i>creed.</i></u></li></ul> <p><u><i>He or she</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>combines all their truths</i></u></li></ul> <p><u><i>and</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>rejects all their errors.</i></u></li></ul>
54	<p><u><i>Remember what I explained in the lecture about new-age politics [see Pathwork Lecture 242: <u>The Spiritual Meaning of Political Systems</u>],</i></u></p> <p><u><i>in which</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>democracy,</i></u></li><li>• <u><i>communism,</i></u></li><li>• <u><i>socialism,</i></u></li><li>• <u><i>monarchy and</i></u></li><li>• <u><i>capitalism</i></u></li></ul> <p><u><i>are all combined in their truths in the best sense, while the untruths which</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u><i>create separation and</i></u></li><li>• <u><i>set one person against the other are left out.</i></u></li></ul> <p><u><i>The same applies to any other human expression.</i></u></p>

In religion, too,

- truth
  - combines and
  - unifies,
- untruth
  - separates.

• Untruth  
and

- separation  
create
  - evil,
  - dissension,
  - hostility,
  - outer and inner warfare,
  - mutually exclusive dualities.

"If I am a Jew,  
I cannot be  
a Christian.

If I am either [a Jew or a Christian],  
I cannot  
believe in reincarnation.

If I believe in monarchy,  
I cannot  
see the good  
in some

- socialistic and/or
- communistic

ideas.

If I am progressive,  
I cannot  
be for tradition."

All these dualities  
are false choices  
that separate.

	<p><i><u>When you are</u></i> <i><u>one versus the other,</u></i> <i><u>you are</u></i> <i><u>that one thing</u></i> <i><u>with a vengeance,</u></i> <i><u>thus</u></i> <i><u>you cannot be it [i.e., cannot be that one thing]</u></i> <i><u>in its best sense [but only in its distorted sense].</u></i></p>
55	<p><i><u>In the current turmoil about</u></i> <i><u>Jesus Christ,</u></i> <i><u>those who are burdened with</u></i> <i><u>their own</u></i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i><u>fear and</u></i></li><li>• <i><u>mass images</u></i></li></ul><i><u>often do not hold</u></i> <i><u>their own best traditions</u></i> <i><u>in their heart.</u></i></p> <p><i><u>They often pride themselves</u></i> <i><u>as being</u></i> <i><u>not even</u></i> <i><u>religiously inclined at all.</u></i></p> <p><i><u>So their violent reactions</u></i> <i><u>against</u></i> <i><u>the possibility of</u></i> <i><u>Christ's existence,</u></i> <i><u>when truly analyzed,</u></i> <i><u>turn out to be</u></i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i><u>a prideful stubbornness,</u></i></li><li>• <i><u>a false sense of individuality.</u></i></li></ul></p>
56	<p><i><u>Genuine individuality</u></i> <i><u>can never be associated with</u></i> <i><u>any</u></i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i><u>group consciousness,</u></i></li><li>• <i><u>religion,</u></i></li><li>• <i><u>nationality,</u></i></li><li>• <i><u>political party.</u></i></li></ul></p>

True individuality  
blossoms  
only when  
God's truth  
is sought  

- in all issues,
- at all times,

so that  
personal inner experience [of God's truth]  
can flower.

Individuals  
in that real sense [*i.e., Individuals in whom the personal inner experience of*  
*God's truth is flowering*]  
will create  
the new group consciousness  
that is made up of  
free  
men and women  
for whom  
God's will reigns  

- first and
- above

all else.

A group of such people [*i.e., A group of people for whom God's will*  
*reigns first and above all else*]  
is never in opposition to  
the individual,  
but as I mentioned before,  
the one [*i.e. the group or the individual*]  
further the other [*i.e., furthers the individual or the group*].

57

Your earth  
suffers deeply  
from human beings  
who have not yet understood  
this truth [*i.e., this truth that a group of free men and women for*  
*whom God's will reigns first and above all else create a*  
*new group consciousness where the group furthers the*  
*individuals and the individuals further the group*].

Such people [i.e., People who do not understand this truth]  
are still too immature  
to grasp  
the

- immense strength,
- autonomy and
- freedom

that lie

- in giving over  
totally  
to God

- while working  
constantly

on cleansing the psyche  
of

- impurities,
- ignorance,
- confusion,
- false images,
- emotional tightnesses and
- the displacement of  
individuality  
into any kind of  
societal traditionalism.

58

The suffering in your world  
is exclusively caused  
by those attitudes  
that are often confused with

- dignity,
- pride in the desirable sense,
- character,
- self-value,  
and so on.

Look at  
warring countries  
that cannot come to a peace agreement.

Each is steeped in  
• its own  
rightness,  
claiming  
• the other is  
wrong.

Neither  
• can see, or  
• wants to see,  
that  
• right  
and  
• wrong  
exist  
in both camps.

This example  
is very obvious,  
but the same problem exists  
in much subtler issues  
that do not  
seem immediately connected with  
the world's  
• dissensions and  
• suffering.

59

Humanity  
is beginning to grow up.

The process is

- slow and

- often hindered

by

- personal resistance to growth,

by

- habitual ways of thinking  
whose pattern is never questioned,

by

- rigidified ideas  
that people refuse to let go of,

by

- personal laziness and

by

- the tragic error  
that the old ways
  - are safe and
  - must therefore
    - be worshipped and
    - held on to.

It is through

these attitudes

that the forces of evil

- have access to  
the human consciousness and
- plunge it [i.e., plunge the human consciousness]  
into destructiveness of all kinds.

60

The whole process of growing up is  
is

- hindered,

- delayed,

with unnecessary suffering  
created along the way.

You are familiar with these dynamics  
in your individual paths.

Humanity as a whole  
goes through identical dynamics.

The more

- human beings  
can
  - remove their own blocks and
  - cleanse their own
    - souls and
    - psychic substance,

the more

- humanity as a whole  
will become ready.

You,

- as an individual,  
have a part in you  
which wants to
  - give the best  
to your own evolution and
  - overcome
    - resistances and
    - fear.

You

- [as an individual] also  
contain a part  
that seeks reasons  
to stop this process.

Humanity as a whole

- has these two parts  
also [i.e., the part that wants to give its best to its own evolution and also  
the part that seeks reasons to stop this process of evolution].

Individuals  
who follow their true destiny  
are humanity's higher self.

Those [individuals]  
who resist it  
are humanity's lower self.

As in  
your individual struggle,  
all depends on  
which part [i.e., whether the higher self or lower self]  
is stronger,  
so  
humanity [in its struggle]  
goes through  
the same shifting balances [between times when the higher self  
is stronger and times when the lower self is stronger].

61

It is  
not true  
that there must  
always be  

- war,
- suffering,
- injustice

on earth.

This [i.e., war, suffering, and injustice on earth]  
only holds true  
as long as  
the majority of human beings  

- refuse to grow up and
- persist

in remaining in a state of  
inner  

- error,
- falsehood and
- confusion.

The stronger  
people like you  
become

- in your purpose and
- in your understanding  
of what is involved here,

the more  
you will give up  
your

- personal pride,
- self-interest,
- small opportunism –  
which all amounts to  
lack of faith.

• You,  
and  
• those like you,  
will shift the balance.

Humanity  
will begin to grow  
into its innate destiny.

62

But  
how  
is faith to grow?

Only when  
the will  
to know

- God and
- His will  
are applied to  
all issues

• can God  
manifest to you

and  
• will faith  
become

- a realistic experience  
instead of  
• an empty word.

As you have  
the self-responsible duty  
to liberate yourself  
from all personal images  
because they

- hinder and
- frustrate
- your scope of  
aliveness and
- ability to experience
- love,
- truth and
- beauty,

so do you have  
an obligation toward  
your own human race  
to free it  
from all mass images.

You have to start  
by eliminating  
your own mass images.

- You

and

- your life  
are at stake,

but also  
so much more.

63

Perhaps you can begin  
to visualize

- the new-age person,
- the new society  
in a way  
you have never done before.

See this  
new you  
in a  
• joyous,  
• extremely free  
way.

See  
a society  
in which  
• dissension and  
• separation  
no longer have any room,  
because  
when they [i.e., when dissension and separation]  
do come up,  
they are treated  
on the deeper levels,  
as you learn to do  
individually.

You have learned on this path  
that when there is enmity  
between  
• you  
and  
• another person,

it [i.e., the enmity between you and another person]  
can always be resolved  
when you  
• really wish  
to be in truth  
and when you  
• go beneath the surface  
to deeper levels.

See  
this new society  
you are in the process of building  
that will be,  
as I have often said before,  
a model  
for  
the whole world.

64

The unity I am talking about  
has nothing to do with  
"tolerance."

Toleration [of one group by another group]

implies

that there is still

a difference [between the groups involved],

whether people [of either group]

feel superior about it [i.e. feel that their group is superior

to the other group]

or not,

but surely

a difference [between the groups involved exists].

Regarding

• unity

versus

• separation

there are

three stages

in humankind's evolution:

1) separation

in outright enmity;

2) tolerance;

3)

• union,

• unity,

• oneness.

To find

the oneness

underneath

the diversity

means

• peace,

• love,

• truth,

means

• growing into

a mature humanity.

65

Applying this concept [of separation versus unity]  
to the topic of  
Jesus Christ,  
I can see that the human race  
has outgrown the stage  
of killing each other  
for being a

- Jew or
- Christian.

Now when I say this,  
I mean that  
when this [killing of a Jew or Christian]  
still happens,  
the majority

- considers it a horrible crime,
- rather than
- condoning it.

The human race's most prevalent attitude today,  
at least on the surface,  
is for Jews  
to tolerate Christians,  
and vice versa.

66

Underneath the surface,  
you need to find  
those areas  
where you may wish to  
annihilate the other  
for being "different,"  
thus [i.e., by finding where you may wish to annihilate the other simply because  
he or she is "different" in his or her  
spirituality or religious background]

[discovering and] challenging  
your insecurity  
about  
your [own]

- spirituality and

  
your [own]

- religious background.

Some of you  
have already done this [i.e., have already discovered and successfully  
challenged and overcome your own insecurity about  
your own spirituality and/or religious background]  
and have thus  
traversed a tunnel  
through which  
you can find  
the next stage  
you are intrinsically ready for –  
that [i.e., the stage]  
of  
• oneness,  
• unity.

The differences [between you and the other]  
are wiped out, and  
you find that  
Jesus  
was never  
a dividing force.

It was  
• Jews  
and  
• Christians  
who  
in their distortions,  
created this impression [i.e., the impression that Jesus was a dividing  
force between Jew and Christian].

67

Jesus Christ  
came  
• to be  
• a bridge  
• a further stage  
of  
• love and  
• truth  
for all humankind,  
• to unify  
all humankind.

**In this new unity [of humankind made possible by Jesus Christ],  
mere tolerance  
no longer has any room.**

**You are  
all one  
in all of the great traditions  
that ever brought the earth  
aspects of truth.**

**Combined,  
they [i.e., Combined, all the aspects of truth that were brought to earth  
in all of the great traditions]**

**tell more of  
the whole story:**

**the story of**  
• **Creation,**

**the story of**  
• **humanity,**

**the story of**  
• **man's relationship to God,**

**the story of**  
• **God's presence in your life.**

68

Wipe out

• the superficial differences  
and find

• the great bond  
of inner oneness –  
not by eliminating

• Him who  
has been turned into  
a controversial figure,  
but by eliminating

• the  
• artificial,  
• erroneous  
controversy  
that is based

on  
• human limitation of vision and  
on  
• misunderstanding.

If Jews

feel put aside  
because of Christ,  
they could try to see  
that having sent Christ  
into a Jewish incarnation  
was God's  
great act of love  
for His Jewish children.

If Christians

feel that they  
must deny  
their  
• energies,  
their  
• pleasure principle  
if they embrace Christ,  
they could try to see  
that this [i.e. try to see that this having to deny their energies and their  
pleasure principle if they embrace Christ]  
is merely  
a wrong interpretation.

Wipe out  
your misunderstandings,  
challenge  
your assumptions,  
consider  
that truth  
may be  
totally different –

different in such a way  
that not only  
do you  
• lose nothing,  
but that  
you  
• gain everything.

In other words,  
you will gain  
all  
that you ever feared to lose  
when you  
give up  
your fixed ideas.

69

The new light

- nourishes and
- strengthens
  - you,
  - all of you.

It [The new light]

accelerates

its

- force and
- impact

as your souls

become

- freer,
- more open,
- more questioning
  - in a spirit of
  - truth-searching,
- more
  - filled with
  - goodwill toward
  - God's gifts of love
  - for you.

The universe

extends its tender love  
to each one of you,

as

- individuals

and as

- a new group of humans

on whom

the spirit world

sets so much hope.

You are

all

blessed!

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