

Descent of the Soul and the New World Teacher

T208 The Inner Teachings 13th March 1951 St Mary Abbot's Place, London

Invocation:

O Great Spirit, Eternal Light from Whom we all derive, we worship Thee as Father, Mother and Son; and we wait in silence for the incoming of Thy power, Thy love, Thy wisdom. In the holy Name of God we call to our brethren in the spheres of light, to the angelic ones and all the saints of all time, praying that we may at this moment become aware of the radiance and the glory of their love. We thank Thee, O God, for Thy inestimable blessing, which now fills our being with peace and joy.

Amen.

Beloved brethren, tonight we are going to answer two questions which [have] come to us. Will you please read the first question?

Q. Why did the Divine Creator decide that souls which have been created from part of Himself should go down to the very densest levels of matter and then return? There must be some reason and function for these souls to fulfil when they get down there. If we could know why this had to be, it seems to me it would help us much to bear our lot and give us new incentive and purpose while we are at this dense level striving to earn the right for release for our upward journey.

A. As we listen we are overwhelmed with love for the questioner. We feel the great Mother-love enveloping us. We feel the power of the great Father Principle. We feel the tenderness and love of the great Son, the Christ Spirit. Oh, such tenderness and love flows to you, dear questioner! It comes from the Source of all love and light. We would like to impress upon all our listeners one glorious truth—and this is the love of our Creator. Of course there is a purpose, when souls created by God are directed down through the spheres to this dark earth—a very grand purpose, and it is only when man commences to get a glimpse of the divine Plan for the spiritual evolution of God's children that the soul learns peace and patience. It is then that the soul touches the fringe of eternal bliss and joy. We cannot over-emphasise the reality of the divine love of God: the wonderful, all-enfolding love which is beyond all earthly comprehension, and it is because of this love that the tiny spark, the soul, is sent forth on its journey.

The soul is which sent down to this dark world of dense matter in order that it might suffer. Understand that. You dear ones are well acquainted with suffering. Indeed, many of you know little else but pain and suffering, and for this reason the soul becomes enveloped in shadow and depression and wearily longs to escape from its prison house of flesh. If you could see more clearly you would begin to understand that matter itself is what in a sense is called evil. We were recently dealing with this same subject and explained that the real purpose of so-called evil or darkness was to bring forth good. Out of evil cometh good. Out of darkness cometh light. In the beginning there was darkness; also in the beginning God said, 'Let there be light!' and there was light. So, if the soul did not come down into the darkness of matter it might never become conscious of itself, of its powers, and ultimately conscious of God. This, in simple words, explains the real purpose of the soul. The divine life or light is breathed forth or sent forth from the Heart or the Centre of Light to come down

Descent of the Soul and the New World Teacher

T208 The Inner Teachings 13th March 1951 St Mary Abbot's Place, London

into mortal life, to be clothed in dense matter. Under pressure from this darkness of earth, in time it gradually opens, a seed sown in the soul to be cracked by the warmth and sunlight so that it can grow. This is what happens to the soul. The pressure of so-called evil working upon that divine life in time forces growth. From a non-conscious spark it increases slowly, slowly, almost imperceptibly. Through many ages it grows and becomes ultimately a master of matter, or master of itself. In course of its growth it takes upon itself, it acquires various bodies or vehicles which it uses with intelligence to function on different planes of consciousness, different planes of life. As far as this physical plane is concerned it learns ultimately to master the weaknesses of the flesh. When it has learned self-mastery and mastery of the various planes upon which it can function, then at last it is free. It has become God-conscious, and so becomes at one with the Father.

So you see that there is a grand purpose, a grand plan which is in the hands of the Great Architect of the Universe. That plan for you as an individual is detailed and beautiful. What all have to learn is patience, confidence in that Supreme Being, in God the Great White Spirit.

We have said these same things many times in different ways, we know, and yet you can still find questions to ask on the same subject. This shows how necessary it is for us to keep on going over the ground again and again. Therefore we say that should you suffer from some apparent injustice, try to remember that life is governed by divine love and divine law. You do not suffer unnecessarily. You appear to suffer unjustly because you have not yet developed the clear vision, the clairvoyance that enables you to see into the past, into the future. You cannot recognise the wonderful outworking of the spiritual life, the spiritual law. You cannot see the play of unseen forces upon your being. You do not yet understand the setting in which you, the jewel from the Father's crown, have been set. There can be no injustice. Life is governed by law which is just, perfect and true. When you come to see things in clearer perspective, you will see how every event in your life influences your soul, your character, and all is working together to bring forth in you the perfect son of God.

Out of the ashes of the old life rises the new life. This is the symbol of the phoenix. Some think that the phoenix is a mythical creature, but it was at one time the white eagle.

Why does a babe have to be nursed in its parent's arms and later tenderly taught to walk? Why does it have to be protected and cared for, for a long time before it grows strong enough to fend for itself? This may serve to illustrate what we are saying.

The perfect man,* the master soul, is a very wonderful and glorious being. You are that being in embryo; so—is not life worthwhile?

*[*For editorial policy around gender issues, see the Introduction.]*

Q. I gathered at the Inner Teaching in February* that the religion which Christ taught two thousand years ago is the one for the Aquarian Age which is now dawning. If I am wrong, please correct me. If I am right, does it follow that we shall *not* have another advent of a

Descent of the Soul and the New World Teacher

T208 The Inner Teachings 13th March 1951 St Mary Abbot's Place, London

World Teacher to mark the beginning of the Aquarian Age? I have always imagined that at the beginning of every New Age or World Period there is a restatement of the Ancient Wisdom in the form best suited to the development of the souls taking part in that World Period.

[*Teaching no. T 207]

A. In one sense what the questioner says is right—that is, the religion of Christ taught by Jesus is the religion of the Aquarian Age because it is a religion of love and brotherhood. We will deal presently with the latter part of the question.

The Christian religion has been established or known for nearly two thousand years, but so far has only skimmed the surface of man's mind. Jesus taught a religion of hope, faith and beauty, which stimulated the emotions and the goodness in the heart of some people but has rested there for the masses. Only a comparatively few souls have penetrated beneath the surface of Christianity. The reason why Christianity will provide a religion for the Aquarian Age is because of its brotherhood and love. As the Aquarian Age advances there will come a stimulation and development of occult power in man. The preceding age of Pisces, during which Jesus the Christ came, was to prepare humanity for the Aquarian Age. The Christian religion bears an important relationship to this development of occult power because it is vital that humanity should grow to understand a religion of love. Then follows the religion of happiness.

You have heard us say many times that the development of occult power can be dangerous. Some may not agree, but it is important that all should understand that without this Christ light growing and developing in man's being he cannot with safety advance into this next stage of development, which is the unfoldment of the occult powers that he has within him. This is the reason why Jesus the Christ came to prepare men's minds and souls for the next age.

You also want to know if there is to be another world teacher for the Aquarian Age. You realise, of course, that there is always the one Supreme Son of Life? In Christianity he is called Jesus Christ. The name of the next world teacher might possibly be *John* Christ. This we are only using as an illustration, a suggestion. What we are trying to show is that the great Light can shine through any human vehicle. Through Jesus of Nazareth the Christ Light once shone. Through other world teachers the same Light will some day shine, but on a higher spiral, a higher circle or cycle of life. We wonder, as you probably wonder, if the world teacher appeared at the present time whether he would be recognised or accepted. Not always does this happen. Only from a distance, sometimes after many centuries, does a world teacher become accepted as such.

Here we have to remember, dear questioner, that it is not the *person* of the world teacher, but his *radiation* through the ages, through the centuries, that makes a world teacher. The world begins to wonder and to reverence when it can see the effect of that life and its influence and when it can understand the wisdom of the teaching that was given. Yes, the world teacher

Descent of the Soul and the New World Teacher

T208 The Inner Teachings 13th March 1951 St Mary Abbot's Place, London

draws very close to humanity at the present time. The world teacher will bring all love and wisdom to man. The mighty power and light which will be brought to the earth will stimulate the subtler bodies of man—indeed, that light is active upon the earth, and this is why you see so much international difficulty and upheaval, with many a clash of ideologies. Some nations want to do one thing, some another. Remember that humanity is behaving like a child in the nursery. Individuals react to this great spiritual light in different ways and they do not understand why. They feel a tremendous urge, a pushing forward, a desire to assert themselves, a desire to introduce brotherhood in the crudest form. Behind all such crudity is the impetus, the power of the great Light of the world teacher.

Do not think of the world teacher merely as an individual. While the light and the glory will manifest through his personality it will not be limited by that personality, but will be working like the leaven in the bread to stimulate the life of man to higher levels, to raise the vibrations of the earth itself. You see, the world teacher does not come alone. He brings with him his disciples. Many are working at the present time to make ready for the new world teacher, and are already being used by their master to raise the vibrations. Some of you may be numbered with these disciples. We do not say you are; we do not say you are not. Disciples are used to help lighten the darkness, to raise the vibrations, to prepare the way for the greater coming, the more intense manifestation. You see, humanity has to be raised to a higher level before it can perceive spiritual truth. While man is down in the depths of matter man cannot see or comprehend spiritual truth. So the disciples labour to prepare the way. In time humanity will be raised higher and still higher. Then at last man will be ready to behold the Light that dawneth.

How will the new world teacher come? As a personality? Yes, as a personality. But since the new age of Aquarius is going to bring forth occult powers in man, is going to tear down the veil of the temple so that man can see into the spiritual realms, into the higher life, it necessarily follows that the teacher will come from that higher world. Such teachers will not necessarily enter the body of a newborn babe but bodies prepared for that great soul. Yes, much as the body of Jesus was prepared for many years, until the Master Jesus was able to give it to the great world teacher who is worshipped and loved as the Christ. Yes, we may tell you that in the new age there will come a great illumination from the spiritual realms upon the people of earth. There will be one particular teacher, it is true, but there will also be many disciples who will work with him from the world of spirit, but we think you will have a little way to go yet before all this can happen.

Q. Will the greater facilities of communication between nations cause the world teacher to be more widely known than Jesus was in his time?

A. Most certainly. How can we explain? As you say, earthly communication was limited in the day of the Master Jesus, but the communication in the new age is not only going to be physical, but will include telepathy and communication on the higher dimension of life. The teachings of the world teacher will spread rapidly because of the readiness, the preparedness of many disciples, and because the vibrations of the earth itself will be raised and more receptive.

Descent of the Soul and the New World Teacher

T208 The Inner Teachings 13th March 1951 St Mary Abbot's Place, London

Q. Why cannot one's personal karma be worked out in the next world? If so, which factor in the human nature causes man to come back to earth again and again?

A. The reason why the soul comes back into a life in matter is because it is only in matter that the soul can learn the lessons it needs. You think that the soul might work out its salvation on the astral plane, and that it will come up against exactly the same kind of conditions there as on the earth? No. The substance of the astral plane is very different from matter—more easily moulded by, more malleable to thought. In dark, dense physical matter the soul comes up against a severe lesson, which must be mastered and can only be mastered *in matter*. That is the whole purpose of creation—spiritual evolution. The soul must master dense matter. It must become wholly master of dense matter because it has within it the God-life and God is working in matter through His own creation. The God within grows and evolves until it has completed its work, which is complete mastery over its environment. It is easier, much more comfortable to think of the soul passing away from the bondage of the flesh into another world and working out its salvation in nicer and easier conditions, but it does not happen to work that way.

In answering these questions we would also like to point out that the joy which comes to the soul with this mastery over the flesh is incomparable. If we could only convey something of that intense joy of accomplishment gained through physical experience, you would then fully understand and rejoice in the opportunities given to the soul to return to earth for fresh adventure. We say these things again because some of you have forgotten or tucked them into the back of your mind.

When the soul passes onward and it has passed through the astral plane, the mental plane, and reaches a certain level of consciousness where it is able to see, feel and know to a limited extent the love and the glory of God, that soul then feels its own inadequacy, its own unworthiness. The intensity of the love from God, the radiation from God upon that soul makes it want to become like to God. 'Nearer, my God to Thee; nearer to Thee.' The longing grows so intense to get nearer to that glory, to that beauty, to that truth that the soul has glimpsed that it feels it will do anything, anything to advance so that it can get into that great glory. Then the teacher comes. The teacher, understanding the child, the pupil, says, 'Yes, my child, you want to know the way to get nearer, to get right into the heart of that Infinite Love? This is the way, my child. Back to earth to learn.' You will not accept this in your outer personality, nor yet in your brain. You have no means of knowing it except in your innermost heart, where truth abides. Once you learn to delve deep into the silence, into the deeps of your innermost being, then you will know that one thing you want more desperately than anything else and this is to be at one with your Father God. For then you know that God's inner light is reaching you all the time. It brought you back again into incarnation. It will take you onward into greater light if you will be true to its guidance. 'I am the light of the world,' said the Christ speaking through the Master Jesus. 'I am the light. I am the light which lighteth every man to the kingdom of God.' This is truth. You will one day know that it is utter truth. Man cannot comprehend truth wholly with his brain, but with his divine mind, with the mind of love.

Descent of the Soul and the New World Teacher

T208 The Inner Teachings 13th March 1951 St Mary Abbot's Place, London

Whoever he is and however obscure his life, man has to work hard in dense matter. You cannot comprehend time. There is no time! But we cannot explain this to you because yours is only a finite mind. But in what you call the future, humanity will assist in the raising of the earth planet itself until it becomes etherealised even as man himself becomes etherealised, and all dense atoms fall away. What will be left will be pure spirit. But as we say, you have no real comprehension of time or of the future.

Benediction:

Great White Spirit, pour down upon these Thy children the great power and glory of Thy love. May they breathe in the essence of Thy life and be recreated, reborn. May their vision clear so that they may see into the light of the Sun, the great light which cometh to every soul at last. We thank Thee, we humbly thank Thee, our Creator. May we live to glorify Thee.

Amen.

