

# The Meaning of the Crucifixion

T216 The Inner Teachings 8th April 1952 St Mary Abbots Place, London

## Invocation:

Let us pray to the Source of life, to the Eternal Spirit, Father-Mother and to the Son, Christ our Lord. O Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty, we humbly pray to receive the light of Thy love and wisdom. We give thanks for all Thou hast given to Thy children on earth—for Thy loving care, for the unfolding vision of the truth and the beauty of Thy plan for the growth and the evolution of humanity. We pray, O Lord, that Thy ministering angels may come to this upper room, and that the power of the Holy Spirit may be upon all who love Thee, and who live to glorify Thy Holy Name.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

This is what is known in the Christian church as Holy Week. There are only a few people who have any understanding of the outpouring of light and power which falls upon the earth at this time from the world of spirit, where there is a great ceremony of worship, thanksgiving and rejoicing for the power which is released from the Solar Logos. The earth plane is so dark in comparison with this light and glory that the Christ and his angels concentrate their love upon the children of earth to help them to rise.

We shall have more to say about the future of the earth and earth's humanity, but first we would prepare your minds by talking for a while about the esoteric meaning of the Easter festival. In certain quarters this may seem a week of sorrow for all people who love their Master, the Lord Jesus Christ, and who mainly dwell upon his suffering and crucifixion.

Instead, if this were understood from the spiritual aspect, it is seen as a time of quiet thanksgiving, as an inner strengthening of the Christ spirit within the individual and over the whole planet—indeed as a strengthening of the Christ spirit throughout all spheres of life. Quite simply then, the inner meaning of the Passion Week concerns not only an event which takes place on the earth but one which also takes place on the inner planes; concerns something which happened not only two thousand years ago but is continually taking place. This is a cosmic event concerned with the Christ spirit or the Solar Logos, with the heavens, but also permeating through all the spheres right down on to the earth itself. Therefore it affects every soul on that earth.

You may find this difficult to understand when you think of the countless people who have already lived and died, and when you think of people's particular state of evolution today. For then you will find it difficult to understand that in the most unevolved soul an impression is made by the cosmic event of Easter. Nevertheless, at this particularly powerful time the power of thought plays an important part. The actual crucifixion of a human soul does not always, nor necessarily, include the crucifixion of a physical body as well, but occasionally the saviours of the world come forward to enact this great drama as an object lesson for the rest of humanity.

In the spirit world however, the lessons which the soul must learn are invariably thrown upon an etheric screen. On that screen souls are shown their past life, not only in the incarnation

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they have just left but for many incarnations back. They are also shown on this etheric screen events in the history of the earth planet which have played an important part in the evolution of the earth and of the human spirit.

So do not think that you people are the only ones able to see a cinematograph screen, for this is a very ancient method of teaching the people, bringing to their consciousness events of their lives which have played such an important part in their spiritual development. Therefore you see that this drama of the crucifixion applies not only to the Christian religion but is to be found down the ages. Indeed you will find that all greater souls, all who become teachers and leaders of men, must pass through what can only be described as a crucifixion. Even you yourself will recognise certain soul experiences through which you have passed in this life which have seemed like a minor crucifixion.

The crucifixion of what? A body hanging on a cross is but the outward symbol of an inner happening. In the story of Jesus nailed to the cross with thieves on either side you have an allegory. On either side they hang, the higher mind and the lower mind, both thieves because they have both robbed the soul and the spirit, although the higher mind has some harmony with the soul and the spirit of man. You will remember that Jesus turned to one thief saying, 'This day thou shalt be with me in paradise,' but the other thief died right away at the death of the body, as does the lower mind. The higher mind—and we will add also the higher etheric of the individual—lives on. Eventually it rises with the spirit to be at the right hand of the Father-Mother God in heaven. This means the survival of all the good that has been accumulated throughout the life. You understand, we hope, the higher etheric stands for all the good which has accrued as a result of every good thought during a life, good which lives on to pass eventually onward and upward into the eternal home of the Father-Mother God.

No one fully realises how important is the continual effort towards good thought, God-thought. For this is not only building the temple, the spiritual body, the celestial body of the individual, but it is refining the physical body also. Some people feel a certain complacency in the thought that life is law. They feel that they are in a sense automatons held in this law of nature and cannot help themselves. This is not true. Every person has within him the God power. As humanity uses this power of God, so he is recreating the life that he lives and also preparing a more beautiful world around him.

A little time ago we were explaining to you the difference between the white and the black magic. We said the white magic is the good or the white light which is encouraged to grow and develop both in the individual and throughout the earth. The white magic is goodwill—the loving thought, the good thought, the kind thought, Christ thought, the Christ action, the Christ speech which is continually flowing from the heart of Christ—and the dark or the black thought, which is described as evil, is the undeveloped, the crude life and is unformed, unshaped and therefore chaotic. If you think of someone whose life is controlled by positive good thought, of a life directed from the heart, from the Sun or Christ spirit, you know that such a life is well-ordered, peaceful, harmonious, happy. Nothing disturbs it. This law and order is gentle and beautiful and harmonious throughout the life, making all things new, all things perfect. On the other hand, the life under the domination of so-called evil, the

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life which is ungoverned, uncontrolled, unhappy, inharmonious, is full of chaos. You rightly think that such a life comes under the domination of negative thoughts, destructive forces. As Christ said upon the cross, 'Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do'. It is ignorance which brings this chaos. Ignorance is itself chaotic, undisciplined darkness. When once the soul earnestly seeks knowledge or understanding, then that soul is set upon a path which will lead to the temple of wisdom and knowledge.

In this crucifixion of Jesus we see a human soul passing through a great initiation. Up to the time of the crucifixion the soul undergoes many temptations and in the wilderness is tested and tried on the physical, on the emotional, the mental and lastly on what we can only describe as the earth plane. You see, any soul can acquire a great deal of book learning, can become intellectually brilliant, but knowledge means so little until it has been tested and tried. In other words when once the soul has been schooled, then of necessity it has to be tested to find out if it has really understood its lessons, if it has really absorbed truth, if it has learned to use the mind not on the lower but on the higher aspect and lastly, when it is faced with severe temptation, can it pass the crucial test of holding fast to the Christ standards?

Now this is really the crucifixion. Does the soul fail? If it does then it passes through into a state of what has been described as purgatory, but a purgatory of the soul's own making. Its suffering is not inflicted by God; the soul makes its own purgatory, particularly when the soul leaves the physical body and passes to the astral plane. Then comes such a testing as we have described. The soul has to see enacted before its eyes its own life, its triumphs and its failures. Then the soul cannot but endure regret, cannot but suffer remorse. At the same time we must remind you that love is ever attending that soul in the form of a guide, in a human [form], as well as an angelic guardian angel, and when once a repentant soul cries out for help earnestly, then the bandage is removed from its eyes and it is able to see both guide and angel waiting with tender love to help.

We say again that deep within the silence of man's own soul, even before passing onward, there are episodes which can most truly be called times of crucifixion. The simple truth we want to get over is this: such a crucifixion will affect only the lower nature, which is worldly, the nature whose values are all wrong, the nature which clings to a material power which will crumble to dust and ashes. The only everlasting and the real life is that of the Christ within. That life is not crucified. Christ is not crucified but freed and rises into the heavens triumphant. Only the lower nature and the world suffers crucifixion.

Now we know that there will be questions in your mind about this, but every question can be answered by the truth from the heart of the Christ spirit.

As our last point we are going to describe the resurrection, but not as usually known and understood. We mean a resurrection of the Solar Logos (if we can use such a term), the resurrection of the glorious Sun of life. Not only will this come to the individual but to the earth itself. Many people despair about conditions in the world and say they will never get any better. Well, this attitude arises because of the limitation of the finite mind, mind which does not even know how long the earth has existed, nor how long it will continue to exist. A

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number of ancient prophecies by the sages have foretold the coming to the earth of a great sun. These prophecies have mostly been misinterpreted. Men simply cannot comprehend the glory of the life [which is] to come to them as conceived in the mind of God.

We can ourselves speak of what we have seen for the future of mankind—of a coming life which can only be described in earth language as celestial—so that the light of the Sun of God is shining through men's faces, so that they live without sickness, pain or distress, live a life which is harmonious and beautiful in every detail but still warm and human, where the fullest expression of the spirit can be given. Believe us if you can: nothing is too good to be true, nothing, nothing!

How can such a life ever dawn when humanity is as it is at present? My children, you do not know how rapidly the human family is now progressing. Wars are going to recede more and more into the background. Many people will not believe us, but that makes no difference to truth. Wars shall cease. Untruth will fade away. Life will be lived from the centre of the Sun, from the heart of the Christ. There will be no more deception or illusion. The whole purpose of life is the continued etherealisation of this earth. Do you know that there are planets in existence in your solar system which have become so spiritualised that they are outside the range of the most powerful telescopes? These are planets of light, bright and beautiful stars. This earth planet, very dark at present, is slowly quickening in vibration. This is where all of you have a great work waiting. Don't just listen to our words and then forget them. Try to put into practice the truth of the Christ thought, the Christ life. Then you will be aiding in the creation of a brighter world. This dense matter, this darkness, will gradually be dissolved. Do you not see why this scene or drama of crucifixion is continually being repeated, not only in the Christian religion but in others? For this is the drama of each man's own life, of his spiritual initiation from the darkness of physical matter into the freedom and glory of spiritualised matter.

Jesus rose from the dead. The very atoms of his physical body were changed and spiritualised. That same body had been transformed, transmuted from darkness to light and freedom. Afterwards he walked and talked with his disciples and demonstrated to the world the triumph of spirit over matter. When he had finished his mission he was enveloped in the light and, according to your gospels, was caught up into the heavens. In other words, he withdrew into that new life which, as we have described, is coming both to individual man and to the earth itself.

So, my children, good thought, positive thought, loving thought—that is the way. For if you think positively, kindly and lovingly you must act so, because this is the spontaneous reaction to good thought. In the same way that thought affects action, so it affects physical matter, quickening its vibration, so that eventually the whole earth will not only be beautiful to look at and to live upon but it will be made of a finer, more delicate, more ethereal form of matter.

Benediction:

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So let us raise our heads and turn our faces towards the great Sun of God ... and thank God for His love. Thank Christ for the gift of eternal life, ever opening and progressing towards the finer, grander life.

Amen.

*The search matches with either words and phrases, which appear in the text, or the following 'key' words and phrases, which are similar in meaning to those in the document:*

*Akashic, as above so below, cosmic events, rays, leader, guilt, time, future*

