

# The Kingdom of God is Within

T225 The Inner Teachings 16th June 1953 St Mary Abbot's Place, London

## Invocation:

Our Father-Mother God, we open our minds, our hearts to Thy love; and in that love may we receive wisdom and knowledge; may truth thus be released within our hearts. In Thy holy name we call upon the angels and archangels to bless us this eventide; so that with the incoming of the light of Thy spirit we are able to worship Thee, and to give humble thanks for our creation and all the beauty, all the glory of Thy life. May there go forth from this service light and love and healing to our brother man.

Amen.

Brethren of earth, we would speak to you about the kingdom of God within man.\* Man does not at present realise the latent powers within himself, but a time is coming when these God powers in man will be recognised, cultivated, released and used for the glory of God and the blessing of man. Man has thus a great part to play in God's creation. So as the secrets of nature are being rapidly revealed, man deeply needs to comprehend the spiritual life which can be his. For if he does not take advantage of these opportunities then human kind is likely to be overwhelmed by its knowledge of the secrets of nature. It will not happen; man will not be overwhelmed by forces let loose by material science, because God holds within His hands a perfect plan for man's spiritual evolution. Although man can to some extent choose whether he will be receptive to or reject the light, his freewill is very limited. For that reason we know that he is destined to evolve along a path which is like a spiral, ever reaching upward into more glorious spheres. If we study the records of science dispassionately we are bound to recognise that a Divine Intelligence has created life on the earth, and that life has been slowly evolving or opening to a consciousness of God—that is to say human life. In the lower orders we see how the smallest creature has been equipped with organs and senses which enable it to contact its own limited sphere of life. If we can see the marvellous equipment with which insects and animals have been endowed to enable them to find and absorb nourishment and to live and grow, then how much greater is the equipment which has been given to man to enable him to contact more wonderful spheres of life beyond the physical.

*[\*For editorial policy around gender issues see the introduction.]*

Think often on these things. In your Bible are the words, 'God created man in His own image.' Even man's limited understanding enables him to recognise God as omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent force or influence. Demonstrations of love and wise guidance which all of you have received have convinced you of an intelligent and loving power which is behind your life. Sometimes it directs you into channels which you do not like and you show your dislike by clothing yourself in sorrow. You say then, 'I am in trouble because things have gone wrong. I thought and I wanted this, that or the other thing to happen and nothing did!' But when you become more enlightened and study occult and spiritual law you are bound to admit that God's laws are just and perfect and true. So whatever happens to you in your outer life, although it may seem undesirable from your point of view, nevertheless there is always a compensating power which brings something helpful, comforting and blessed. So, when you have been relieved of a former condition to which you were clinging, this is like a parent releasing a baby's fingers from a plaything in which the parent sees harm or danger or

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hurt, and the mother gently removes this plaything from the little baby's hand. The baby screams and the wise mother says, 'No, my child, here is something better,' and she offers her baby something much more suitable.

If you can apply this incident to your own life and accept what happens, you will learn in time the value of acceptance. Accept, knowing that God is wise in His giving and wiser still in His taking away. The whole point is that as the soul evolves and expands in God-consciousness it cannot really lose anything. For then it knows that nothing is lost in God's creation. Only a limited consciousness prevents that soul from recognising that all is here, all is present. There is no separation when you become conscious of the world of spirit, when you can expand your consciousness beyond the limitations of the mortal mind and brain.

Some people criticise or condemn people who spend time in meditation and prayer. It is sometimes said that action is the better course. True, action is right at the right time, but action should be the result of meditation and prayer, and never of emotional stress.

We would like to tell you about the elder brethren who live in the mountain tops. By mountains we mean an elevation of consciousness, although it is true that the elder brethren gather together in small groups or lodges in the remote places, often in the fastnesses of the mountains both in the east and the west. These brethren are working unceasingly for the spiritual unfoldment and advancement of humanity. They have reached a level of spirituality which has brought them into closer communion with the Eternal Spirit. They do not live to themselves, however remote their abode, for they are so attuned to the Infinite that their consciousness, mind or soul expands to such a degree that they are attuned to all life. We do not say that they are as great as their Creator but they are *en rapport* with His spirit, with His harmony and love and peace and being in this exalted state they are worthy messengers of the Creator. They have a physical form, having passed through all degrees and grades of human life. They comprehend the slightest, the most simple need of any human being. They are all love and understanding. The masters are neither severe nor do they coerce. They leave their younger brethren absolute freedom. Their work consists of worshipping God their Creator and through that worship they radiate light and love. They send forth an influence to humanity which [people] do not recognise; nevertheless that influence is continually at work. So the elder brethren labour ceaselessly for you and for all men. The reason why the brethren do not get angry nor do they judge their younger brethren is because they know God's laws, God's plan for the unfoldment in man of the God within. The young in soul are quick to pass judgment on others, but the elder brethren are patient, for they recognise the slow process of soul-expansion of the God life in God's creatures. They do not expect too much.

Realise also that these elder brethren are very close to humanity. It only requires man to use divine law, to act by divine law in life, and then the channel opens wide for the inflowing of power of the Christ light.

We have spoken of these things on other occasions, but human memory is very fallible and soon forgets the truths which it has heard. You need just now to be reminded of your destiny,

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of the path upon which your feet have been set. Remember that you are not only a physical body, so that you cannot and will not die. You will not even know when your own death takes place. You will be exactly the same when you have stepped out of your body as you are here and now while in your body. The important thing to realise is that the kingdom of God or the kingdom of heaven does not mean some far distant country to which you will go when you have shed your body. It is here with you now and you are here on earth encased in matter to labour for and earn the tools which you will need to carve your road into that glorious heavenly state of life, which can be reached only through your own effort and spiritual unfoldment. You have been told that if you faithfully believe in the Lord Jesus he will save you. True, but not without your own work and effort, for is it not said, 'Whatsoever a man soweth that he shall surely reap'? So thoughts, words and deeds are the seeds which are daily sown on earth. The result of this sowing is certain. We do not preach at you. We are just giving you truth and this same truth you can prove for yourselves very simply. If things are difficult for you tomorrow morning and you allow yourself to get worked up about them, life will seem very unpleasant. If on the other hand you remember that the things of earth are not all-important you will remain happy. So if you are hasty you will get into difficulties, but if you are patient and calmly look to God for the directions you need, then all will be well. Your actions are like sowing seeds which are going to be reaped at some time in the soul as well as in the bodily life and which will also shape your whole future life. This is the perfect law and it is inescapable, but we must also emphasise this point that together with this law of karma is a complementary law which the East calls 'dharma.'\*

*[\*There is no one meaning of 'dharma', but it is equated with the spiritual principles/laws governing all life, and in Buddhism refers to the teachings of the Buddha.]*

Now 'dharma' means the opportunity which is always given to you to make the best of all circumstances and conditions—or the opportunity for the expression of the highest and the best in you. As well as the law of cause and effect—strict, just, perfect and true—there is also the law of God's mercy. 'Dharma' is the demonstration of God's mercy. A wise child looks up to God. God is merciful to that child but He does not say, 'You will not have to work or suffer. You will not have to work out your karma.' Instead He is saying, 'My child, my love is with you and will help you.' God's love is God's mercy. God can thus heal all wounds, helping His children to go through their self-created karma. The mercy of God is again related to the mercy of man. In the degree man shows mercy so God releases mercy too.

We were speaking about belief in the Lord Jesus Christ and the power of the Christ to save souls. Of course the Christ-light within man is his saviour. God has endowed every one of His children with the Christ spirit, which is the saving grace of life. It is in this manner that Christ saves all those who are in ignorance and who sin. To sin is to break the divine law, which is being continually broken. Through the pain and the discomfort caused by this, the soul eventually gains wisdom, an expansion of vision and understanding.

You have heard us say that the soul must be ready to give service. Service is important on the path of unfoldment. We would like to qualify this by saying that you can give service on the inner planes as well as on the outer. The first service of any soul is to God—the service of

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worship, of adoration. God must be first because God is our Creator. We must worship the Lord our God with all our hearts and with all our minds. That is the first law and the second is to love thy neighbour as thyself.

We have travelled in a circle back again to service through worship. The elder brethren, having learned this great truth, have removed themselves from the physical contact with humanity, although they are still working for humanity. First they seek the presence of God. They spend their time in worshipping God, in meditating upon God, in adoration and in love. That worship is service, because by that act they are doing something for the whole earth in that they are raising the life of man. They are radiating an influence which is slowly but surely permeating the whole of humanity. In the same way all people who worship God in spirit and in truth are serving humanity, but it must be humble, true and simple worship. It means this, dear ones, that in daily life instead of grumbling, instead of complaining of this, that and the other, you are praising God for all His gifts and the greatest of these is life itself and the ever growing consciousness of a life that is purer, more harmonious, more beautiful than anything yet known upon the earth. It means also having faith in the unseen influence and in those unseen brethren who are ever close to you in spirit—that is, when you prepare yourself to receive them. My children, if you would but sit quietly with minds stilled, in meditation upon heavenly things, you would be inviting the unseen guest, the elder brother or sister. Then you feel his or her presence. You say, 'What a heavenly feeling! What a heavenly condition!' But you have had to work for it. Had you not striven for quietude; had you not worshipped and given thanks to God for your creation and all the blessings of life—and even its sorrows and disappointments—you would feel nothing.

What we tell you is true. The brethren of the White Light work to help you. They are ever with you. They turn your thoughts upward. Seek ye first the kingdom. Seek ye first this contact with the Infinite Life. Psychic power is bound to follow but you do not seek the development of psychic powers. You seek only to worship and to live to glorify your Creator. You are like a candlelight—very simple and unassuming, very little and unimportant—but countless candle lights held up to God increase even His light and His glory. You do not live to yourself or for yourself. You are living to God, for as you grow in beauty and spirituality so you are glorifying your Creator. What is the purpose of life? Why did God create you at all? Because God is the Creator and His creatures, when they grow in His spirit, all contribute to the greater glory of their Creator. God gives joy and life and He receives joy and life back into His heart from His children. What a glorious opportunity is yours. What a gracious path lies before you. O Lord, how wonderful are Thy blessings. How beautiful are Thy temples! Let us enter in and worship Thee for ever and for ever.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

## Benediction:

And now we will all join together, looking upward into the light; giving praise and thanks to our Creator for the power of love, for the power of truth and for the power of peace. O Lord, we worship Thee, we worship Thee. We thank Thee for the peace of Thy spirit in us. May it grow in strength to glorify Thee for ever and ever.

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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:*

*Worship, prayer, brotherhoods, avatar, Bodhisattva, seclusion, divine law, balance, purpose*

