

The Wonderful Journey of Life

T236 The Inner Teachings 30th November 1954 St Mary Abbot's Place, London

Invocation:

O Lord, our God, we open our hearts in prayer and adoration and worship to Thee. May we be receptive to the outpouring of Thy love, wisdom and power.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

We will continue our talk given at the last group. We spoke then of the Christ Circle and the importance of groups of people like yourselves being active mentally for construction, or for reconstruction in the new age. We pointed out the importance of positive, good thought, for we know that many people are as careless in their thinking as in their speaking, not realising the power behind thought as well as words. Heedlessly, people think critically about others, not understanding the need every soul has for constructive, good, positive thought on the part of others. When men* hurl critical and destructive thoughts upon others, they are pulling their fellows down and hurting them.

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

We have often spoken of the importance of overcoming and abolishing cruelty in the new age. Now you immediately think about cruelty to animals. This is only one aspect of cruelty. The abolition of destructive and cruel thought is of as great an importance as the abolition of cruelty to and the slaughter of animals.

Has it never occurred to you that you can debase the soul and possibly the creative work of others by harsh criticism? We are aware that criticism has a place in the world. To some degree it can stimulate and lead perhaps to the perfecting of a work, but there is a fine line of distinction between harsh criticism and suggestions that are constructive and helpful. We want, however, to make the point that constructive good thought is God thought!

Some of your leaders are great souls who hold a position of authority and a grave responsibility. Nevertheless they are heedlessly criticised by the masses. If people only understood the difficulty of those in high positions in your land (and elsewhere in the world) they would surely long to help such people by projecting to them thoughts of goodwill and kindness, and by surrounding them with the light of Christ.

Now, every constructive God-thought of this nature sent out into the world is helping the whole of mankind to rise. This is the purpose of life—to rise and to expand in consciousness. Life itself is consciousness. We would again emphasise the age-old truth that within man is all knowledge. Man contains within the life-spark located in his heart centre the whole universe of life. This is a great truth. Man goes outside himself. He is ever reaching outwards and upwards. That is necessary, a natural instinct—to go forth, to look out and reach up for knowledge. Presently there comes a time when the growing consciousness in man reveals the profound truth that all knowledge is within himself. From within, man will receive the wisdom of eternal and universal life.

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It is not solely for the purpose of helping you to uncover this power of the soul that we say meditation is the way. Man must understand and learn to practise meditation continually if he would find God and the truth of life. 'Man, know thyself, and thou shalt know God and the universe.' The sages, the wise men of the East—and of the West—have withdrawn from the outer mental plane as well as the physical. They often spend a long time in retreat. Periods of complete isolation are necessary at a certain stage of man's evolution; but there is a great deal to understand about the purpose served by this isolation and meditation. The sages, the Masters, as they are called by many people, spend long periods in their rocky homes in the mountains, contemplating, meditating. In their temple within the soul their consciousness expands and penetrates the whole universe. You often read or hear that man contains within himself all knowledge but do not fully appreciate the meaning of this. Think then of the radiation of thought.

Today the waves of sound coming across the ether seem commonplace. Man by his discoveries of the secrets of nature is overcoming space and time. He regards the reception of sound and light waves as an ordinary occurrence. In the comparatively near future, when man develops inner powers, he will receive (and quite normally) thought waves. This you could do now were you practised and trained for this purpose. Your soul, your psyche, is a sensitive instrument; it receives constantly the impressions (or the batterings) of human thought waves. This is why so many people suffer today through their nervous system, which interpenetrates the higher etheric and the soul body. That soul body is a highly tuned receiving station for waves of thought. For this reason people who are striving to unfold or develop their soul or psychic powers, their spiritual perception, are advised to keep away from massed humanity except perhaps on rare occasions. It is a great trial for a sensitive to have to enter, say, a crowded theatre, a cinema, or mix with crowds. Those of you who live in the city know how weary you get, without understanding why you are so depleted or why you long to withdraw from the crowds. So, when you reach the country you begin to respond to the healing vibrations of nature.

Now that you begin to realise what you are contending with in daily life, it will help you to train yourselves to project only kind and loving thought. This is all so very simple, and people with highly developed intellects, who are considered very clever, may say, 'Well, this is all baby talk! We do not want to hear all those soft ideas for babies.' But truth is ever simple. The greater the truth, the more simple it is and the more simply it can be expressed. Good thought, God thought, is positive thought. The leaders not only of Britain but all good leaders everywhere should continually be supported and helped by good thought. This is why the sages and Masters in their mountain caves long remain so in meditation and contemplation. There is no time to them. They dwell in the consciousness of life; they enter into the life-streams; they are conscious of the interpenetration of the vibrations of the cosmos with their soul. They become fully conscious of their origin and of their completion. They are then at-one with God. Consider the soul-emanations from these great people. Try to imagine the many countless, countless threads of light or projections which are constantly going forth, constantly penetrating the whole of life—your life included. Some of you may doubt that such a great being could ever be en rapport with your soul. Well, we can assure you that work is going on constantly at a certain level of conscious life. The mission of these

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great ones is to give enlightenment to all souls who are praying and ready for enlightenment. You yourself can by aspiration and goodness of thought and life attain to these Brethren. Nothing hinders you; you can only debar yourselves by breaking the common spiritual law, which is simply love.

For some reason man ever seeks the hard way. He will persevere by concentrating upon mental growth and development (and what you call education) which for many is necessary and important. Nevertheless, the most profound truths of life are only written on the ether. Students of those early days were taught how to read the akashic, the etheric records. When man leaves the earth plane and comes to the spheres of light, his soul is eager for knowledge. He has then to learn to read the etheric records, which are never printed like books. The Elder Brethren have within their reach a great library, being records of all that has ever been printed and circulated on your earth. This will seem contradictory until we explain to you that the essence of the books that are good and valuable remains impressed upon the ether and can be read at any time by the Wise Ones. What we are trying to show you is that within man himself is all knowledge; that the life within him is conscious of everything. What man is learning when he incarnates into a physical body is to expand that consciousness of his—which is his life. This is the sole purpose of man's being.

One supreme factor helps him along his path. This is his ever-pressing-forward inclination to grow. Just as the seed in the ground labours to send out its roots and struggle upward through the dark soil, so also does man work, at first unconsciously; he does not know what he is doing. Nevertheless he labours all the time to expand his consciousness. In the course of this effort for self-expression and growth he does some very queer things, ever pushing his fellow man out of his way; he becomes full of egotism and intolerance. Having seen one tiny aspect of life which he calls truth, he thinks he is the only one who has ever found truth. If the fellow by his side sees another aspect of truth, he quarrels with him and says: 'You have not got truth at all. You just come and see my truth. I have got the very best truth.'—and so on. Not only with religion does this sort of thing go on, but with everything comes this assertion that one man is better than his fellow. Only when the soul of man begins to recognise and to meditate upon God does the expansion of his consciousness become harmonious. Then he begins to see not one aspect of truth but all truth.

We have said that there is one power which is ever-present to help man in his growth. This power is like a tremendous magnet. Try to remember our words in past talks about the Solar Logos, for this is all part of the great Plan for the evolution of man's soul. The Creator has sent to earth His messengers; has sent the Son of God in the image of God. Man is also created in the same image. He can only understand and love someone like himself. This is why the Son of Man came to man—at Christmas. We want you to remember at Christmas the power which is then radiating on to the earth and the stimulation of man's conscious life. We know there is darkness together with light, that there is the misuse of this power. It is always so; while man is ignorant there must be this misuse. There are greedy people who want gain for themselves, but they are not wholly selfish. Remember this because, whilst their motive may not be wholly pure, nevertheless out of it all comes good. Out of man's ignorance comes knowledge; out of the darkness comes light. So although this spirit of greed and

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commercialism exists at Christmas, there is also a spirit of kindness, goodwill and loving brotherhood.

Now we would draw your attention to the glorious Christ Circle in the heavens above the earth. Is it really above the earth? It seems to be; in reality it encircles, it enfolds the earth, and from its centre there shines a great cosmic jewel. Think for a moment about this heavenly Being and the great hierarchies around him, all directing upon earth their radiation of love, of life, of beauty, of truth, ever drawing you upwards towards the fuller, the more beautiful life. It is difficult for you to believe what we say? Yes, the earthly mind cuts it off every time. By means of meditation or contemplation you can reach higher. You can then feel the radiation, the beauty and the wonder of that influence, but come back again to your little business and the little fleshly self gets to work and it cuts you right off by saying: 'Oh yes, that is all very well. But now get back to these present problems with which I am wrestling.'

This is why we say that the earthly mind is the destroyer, the slayer of truth. A time will come, however, when every soul will become aware of its higher life and of its true self. Then it will be able to see the two selves in contrast—the limited earthly self and the higher, heavenly and eternal self. As development proceeds the higher self becomes stronger and more in evidence in everyday life. Then problems and difficulties no longer overwhelm a man; they keep their rightful place. He develops vision not only of God and of heavenly things but also of earthly things. He sees things in their true perspective. His sensitivity enables him to penetrate the ethers and to receive radiation from the higher worlds. A rapid development is taking place now although the man may be largely unconscious of it. In a little while the human race itself will be uplifted by its own effort and by the effort of the hierarchies. This planet will then attract the planetary beings, the planetary angels. There is also great spiritual activity in outer space, a penetration of the mists of the earth by rays of angel life. This is why it is necessary for man to attune himself to godliness, to good things, to simple truth and simple beauty. He must learn to be receptive to the radiations from outer space. He is being prepared and given every opportunity now to purify his life, to abolish all that which is cruel, unseemly and ungodly. He must prepare himself for the reception of visitors by becoming loving. He must be ready to receive his brethren from other worlds, not only of a physical nature but of an etheric and a spiritual nature. You will see vast growth in man's knowledge. Not only has man to become aware of the conscious life in outer space and in other planets, but he has to become aware of the conscious life in nature and his relationship to that life in nature. He has got to recognise this interpenetration of those particular rays of consciousness in the mineral, the vegetable and the animal kingdoms, and even the angelic kingdom.

Think well about the great Ones who, in their meditation and contemplation of humanity, can help any particular soul. Of these you may be one. That will depend on you. No one is going to shut you out. If you sound your own particular keynote and it is harmonious, however simple you may be, however unworthy you may feel, if your radiation is clear and true as a bell, it will echo in the Master's heart and you will call him and he will answer. 'Seek and ye shall find; ask and ye shall receive.' There is nothing that you may not know if you seek in the right way. The simple and the true way is to seek through loving all creation, loving life,

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loving God, being compassionate and loving all animals and nature and every form of life. When that radiation goes forth constantly from man there will come an instant change in his life. Man's inhumanity to man, man's cruelty to his brother, the horror and the sadness of war, poverty and disease will all be swept away. Do not think for one moment that this is a hopeless task; it is not so, but it does need every soul to understand this simple truth. This brings us to our last point.

The truth about this universal spiritual life has been revealed. You have cried out to God. You have searched, you have longed for truth, and a little has come, has been revealed in your own heart. Soon you are going to meet fellow travellers on the path of life. Many of them will ask you for guidance. You can be a messenger to them, helping many, many people to understand the whence and the whither of life. Do not hesitate to help—by word, by deed and by thought—your fellow travellers on this wonderful journey of life.

Do you see the inner planes? Do you see the presence of the King, the Lord, the Lord Christ and the vast Star Circle around him? These are His messengers, His servers.

Benediction:

O Great Spirit of Love, we Thy children stand in that glorious light which is Thy life. May the light shine throughout human life. May the whole of this earth planet be polarised with Thee. May all darkness be absorbed by the love of Thy children on earth. May the life here be one glorious praise for Thy creation. May these Thy children assembled have courage and ever greater vision and understanding, comprehension of Thy everlasting 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:

Evolution, nerves, control, far-memory, spiritual unfoldment, mastery