

Joy in Life

T207 The Inner Teachings 13th February 1951 St Mary Abbot's Place, London

Invocation:

O Great White Spirit, all-enfolding Love, we worship Thee, the Source of our being, and seek to comprehend the joy of Thy life springing up within our hearts and demonstrated in our lives. O Great Spirit, in Thy holy Name we call to our brethren in the spheres of light—angelic and human—to encircle this group, and to send forth through the instrumentality of Thy earthly children the radiation of Thy love, healing and goodness.

Amen.

Brethren, in our invocation we touched that vibration of purity which we pray that all present may recognise—may feel in their hearts as simple goodness. Such a pure feeling as this does not depend upon a powerful and well-stored mind or intellect, but upon a pure joy uprising in the heart. Every son—daughter of the living God should live joyfully. If you analyse our simple words you will recognise their profound truth. Take as an example your own life. Were you touching the secret of joy—if you had realised, if you had recognised, pure joy in your life how different you would feel!

While speaking of this joy and goodness let us consider the immense service which would be given to all humanity by any individual who lives in joy and pure goodness without any thought of the result to the self. The ideal, of course, is to do right because you love the right, because the joy within you, the life of the spirit within you cannot do other than express itself as goodness. The goodness of the individual safeguards the future of the race, and were there no goodness there would be no future. As a person lives in singleness of purpose to do good, to be good and to live happily, that person makes an enormous gift to the future. We recognise it is not easy to do good, or to be good for goodness' sake alone. We are not preaching to you. We are working upon a certain theme which you will understand later in this talk. We repeat: if you build life upon this wellspring of joy within, and express goodness in every action and in life itself, you will be contributing a gift to mankind the worth of which is beyond any estimate you can form.

Let us take for illustration the life of Jesus. If you knew in more detail the manner of his life, its simplicity, and his continual outpouring of the magical white light, you would understand what we mean when we say that joy and goodness are the spring which releases the power of the white magic. We can quote no greater example than Jesus for this western world, because much of your life, your traditions and your religion arose from the Christian religion. Your national, your family and your religious life are still influenced by a Life which illustrates the profound truth that we are very inadequately trying to express to you. Any other life of spontaneous joy and goodness by its nature is continually pouring forth the divine essence and the creative life force which is the basis, the core, of all spiritual healing.

We see this demonstrated by some of the other great teachers. The yogis of the East have also discovered this source of happiness and the secret of life. Their constant service is not work to them but a spontaneous outpouring all the time of divine essence. Man* has a wonderful journey yet before him. He has already come a long way. He has come as an unconscious spark, but still a divine spark, from the Centre of Life, from the Godhead. He has descended

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slowly through the spheres, down and down, taking on denser and denser clothing until he finds himself now robed in the heaviest garment that he will ever know—not only that of dense flesh but also the material conditions of the whole Earth. For Earth too has been solidifying by a process of slow crystallisation as it descended, so that at the present time the human soul, the human spirit has touched the bottom of the arc. Indeed, some souls, but not all, are already climbing upon the upward arc.

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

It is important for us to understand that many a soul is still in the process of crystallisation and materialisation at a very low level. During his journey down through the various planes, vibrations of conscious life, man has passed through conditions much more beautiful than he can know today. This is the reason why records of man's past give the picture of people in such times as the Hyperborean, the Lemurian and the Atlantean ages, when souls living in a physical body were more childlike and joyous than today. For they still retained some of the joy and the simplicity of that life in the heaven world which they had left. They were like children still in contact with their heavenly Father and still remembering those beautiful fields Elysian which they had left to descend through the planes of experience to gain, to develop that divine power which had been implanted in them in the beginning, when they were born or breathed forth from the Holy of Holies, or the womb of Love, Wisdom and Power.

The story of Atlas, who carried the world on his back, has an inner significance. We see pictured there the inner truth of the soul taking upon itself the weight of worldliness. This is what every soul has to do, gradually taking on clothing of denser and denser matter until at the lowest point of the arc of evolution it is completely weighed down. Then it seems to be quite unaware of spheres of beauty and truth from which it came forth and to which it will eventually return. We must think of these steps on the path of evolution as being the way that every soul must take, but not all souls march in one line. Some have already descended, touched the base and are now rising on the arc, while others are still descending.

You must also understand that on this path of spiritual evolution the soul gathers to itself knowledge and power. Some souls linger at certain levels of consciousness because they are feeling the power. Sometimes they become chained by love for power at a certain level. Such undeveloped souls are able to produce a very strong mental body at this stage and they cannot resist the temptation (unconscious, mind you) to use that power of the mind for their own aggrandisement, for their own glory. We can instance such people as the late Herr Hitler, the present Joseph Stalin, and others of a like nature. They have realised an occult power and have used that occult power first perhaps with a desire to help their country, their people. Then as the power took possession they could not resist a desire for world domination. Then they were swept along to disaster by the power which the mind had invoked and had caused to possess them. But it seems to us a pity that these strong mental individuals had to be the means of galvanising the world into action.

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It has never been good for people to become complacent. Those who live in the body, for the body, for the gratification of the physical senses, are inclined to become slothful and indifferent to the rest of mankind. So we see these powerful personalities coming along, and they are used by the divine Father–Mother God to stimulate humanity into action so that they order their lives on a more constructive basis, and not solely for their own pleasure, their own satisfaction.

A great opportunity is now being presented to you—and to all mankind. You are what have been called in the mystery schools masons – the ancient freemasons – or the builders of the New Age. It is not good for you to sit down complacently. For as surely as humanity or the western world settles down in that state of smug complacency, there will arise in another part of the world a powerful force which will again challenge its complacency and make it rise to the occasion and give true service to the vast human family. The conditions of the world today are challenging and stimulating this goodness, which lies within every living soul, and which quickens the consciousness of those who are now turning their faces upward.

In ancient times a saying was engraved over the arch of the temples: ‘Man, know thyself and thou shalt know God and the secrets of the universe.’ Do you realise that all the secrets of the universe are hidden within your own being? The secrets of the atomic age, the secrets of the fourth dimension are within you. Some people have already tapped into these secrets. Let me explain that when inventions come to earth it is because there has been a projection or release of God-power at a certain level of consciousness, which reaches those who are ready and can respond to these waves, these radiations from the centre of truth. We can describe it more simply. These radiations are like waves of sound such as are broadcast from your broadcasting stations on earth. There are spiritual broadcasting stations also. At the right time, at a certain level, advanced grades of humanity can receive these waves. You will notice that inventions do not come to one individual alone, but usually to a number of people at the same time. The ideas from this plane of the fourth dimension were broadcast at the beginning of the last century, and were gradually picked up by the souls who had developed their minds to the required degree.

In this manner came the telephone and the radio, and also on a higher level the advent of Spiritualism and Theosophy and other groups of new thought. These have all percolated through from a fourth-dimensional plane. These inventions have stimulated mankind on the spiritual planes. This might be illustrated by Spiritualism which, although severely criticised for its weakness and failure, has nevertheless done a grand work by bringing to men's minds proof of a life beyond death and of a life of spirit apart from the body. Because it has brought proof it has stimulated man's soul and made him seek greater truths. Thus Spiritualism with all its crudity has brought to mankind a stimulation, a new impetus that it was ready for, to seek these higher planes of life, to seek this world to which the soul would pass when the physical body was finished. The result was that you and many like you are now following this path of spiritual unfoldment and so learning of the powers of clairvoyance, clairaudience and spiritual healing. You need no proof because demonstrations are continually given of the reality of these invisible forces which are now playing upon the soul of humanity. It is true that with the majority of men the mind is still crystallised by materialism, but you will see in

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years to come a breaking up of this crystallisation. In others you will see what you are beginning to feel in yourselves—a transmutation, a changing, a quickening of the vibrations of life. First of all comes the transmutation of your own individual atoms, the consequent lightening and the refining of the body. We think that what applies to the individual applies also to the world at large. If you compare life today with the life your great grandparents lived, you will be forced to admit that in life today with its simplification, its vegetarianism, its health service, its attention to pure living and pure thought and true Christian service—we do not mean lip service but true service by persons and by groups of people—a transmutation is taking place. In spite of that crystallisation which results in the 'death' of the soul of man, there is now this slow but certain transmutation of life, a purification and aspiration. There is coming into life this spontaneous joy of which we spoke at the beginning of our talk.

We feel, my brethren, that the service of healing in which so many of you are interested can bring a wonderful transmutation of the outer self of man. Healing can awaken this spontaneous love and goodness towards one's fellows. The healing of the future is going to be very different. The nature of the troubles of the body will change, and complaints of the future will be different from the heavy 'crystallisation' diseases (if you can understand what we mean) of the past, which brought about the corruption of the flesh. Disease in the future will be more of the mind and of the nervous system, and surgery except in cases of accident will fall into abeyance. The healing of the future will first begin with the cleansing and purification of the body and its aura and the spiritual redirection of the mind and the heart. There will be a radiation from the heart of and through the hands of the healer. We shall see in the new age demonstrations of the healing of which Jesus the beloved Christ was the teacher and the pioneer.

You look back over two thousand years, which you think is a long time. It is nothing. Jesus was the messenger heralding the new Age of Aquarius, and it has taken mankind two thousand years even to penetrate the truth of the teaching and the wisdom which Jesus brought. Now man has to assimilate that truth, to become as the Master directed. He has to put into operation those laws of the divine Spirit, the law of love and brotherhood, the law of divine healing which Jesus lived. From the heart of Jesus flowed continually the radiation of a pure white magic. The heart of any man can still receive this same radiation from the heart of the Christ, and if that heart keeps pure and joyous it can in turn radiate light and healing to all the world.

Yes, we think that spiritual healing is a great work in its spontaneous selflessness. The healer does not think of his own aggrandisement. If he did, he could not give spiritual healing. He thinks only of the good of others. He thinks only of the alleviation of pain and suffering, of the transmutation of the dense conditions of life into a more heavenly state of being. So we would say that if you long for spiritual development, for spiritual unfoldment and vision, give yourself in service to heal the sick. In the words of Jesus of Nazareth—or more correctly the Christ Spirit through Jesus—we would say, 'Feed my lambs.' In spiritual service, in healing, you are feeding the lambs, which are sick souls. In this manner you are serving selflessly not only for the present but for the future. You are helping God to create a better state of life for all people on earth. Yes, my children, follow the path of service, of true goodness,

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spontaneous joy in life, and become in time like your beloved Master Jesus the Christ—a perfect son of the living God.

Q. What eventually happens to dictators?

A. In time they will proceed on their evolutionary path. Those of you who truly love your fellow beings are content to know that 'God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform,' and in due time it will be proved to you that at some level good was at work. God uses all kinds of people, not only His saints, and this is as well for you to remember. It is not only the saint who is doing the greatest good, although saints are very delightful people. But do remember that God does not use only saints. God uses anything and everybody, according to their capacity, in the process of building His world. If you are earnest in your search for truth you must be very broad in your outlook and have complete confidence in God's love and God's wisdom. An artist may paint a beautiful picture. If you put your nose right against the picture, you will see no beauty. Go the correct distance away and you will see. In the same way you will see the grand outworking of God's plan.

Benediction:

We turn our faces upward and we look towards the Light. We worship the Light, the Source of all life and beauty. O God, we thank Thee. We worship Thy beauty, Thy love. We surrender to Thee, to Thy wisdom and to Thy laws, and gladly we walk the path that Thou hast ordained for us. We walk towards Thee, hand in hand, in praise and hope, and Thy blessing is now with us. We thank Thee, dear Father—Mother, Christ the Lord.

Amen.

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Good and evil, happiness, spiritual evolution, history, ancient civilisations, myths, psychic development, spiritual gifts