

The Divine Magic

T215 The Inner Teachings 15th January 1952 St Mary Abbots Place, London

Invocation:

O Lord God, Thou who art all-enfolding love and wisdom and power, may we feel Thy presence in this magic hour of communion, when the earth children, having laid aside the lower nature, aspire to receive Thy blessing from above. We humbly pray that in this meeting there may be a simple, humble spirit like unto Thy Son's spirit so that each human heart may be touched by the light and the glory of the true life, which is Thy gift to all mankind.

Amen.

In this evening's communion we would bring to you the magic of the higher worlds. You will not be able to understand this magic with your intellect. You will only feel it through the heart of love ... through simplicity ... humility. By this means you may comprehend something in which you live and have your being, but which appears to be remote to many people. You will find that this subject of divine magic will link up with certain thoughts that we gave you in a recent talk about good and evil.*

*[*Teaching no. T 204]*

Many people fear evil. Therefore they want to attack it. As we have told you before, evil is only overcome by good. Then 'good cometh out of evil'. You will wonder why we speak of good and evil in connection with magic. Well, it is because evil is a form of undeveloped, undisciplined good. You will find this difficult to accept at first. Nevertheless as you proceed with your investigations and your own spiritual unfoldment, you will feel thankful for what has formerly appeared to you as evil in your midst. You may then recognise that evil has its place in the spiritual evolution of mortal life, and that earth and earth's humanity go through periods or cycles or degrees of evil (so-called).

It is not until man recognises that many customs and events of past ages were largely evil that he is able to get a grander vision of good. As an illustration of this, in the middle ages the people of this land accepted as normal things which today you would consider bad and wrong. It is therefore not until the soul receives a greater degree of knowledge and light that it is able to recognise evil as such. We speak of these things because in order to comprehend what is called magic, you must get an understanding first of the two great opposites, so-called good and evil. Good and evil are like great wheels working one within another to bring about spiritual evolution, to bring forth ultimate beauty and perfection out of life.

We have already said that you live in magical worlds. Only when your eyes are opened are you able to see this magic, this beauty of the unseen life which is waiting to manifest and to bring to mankind beauty beyond all your powers of imagination at present. Why, even your earth is quickening with magic. Look! Go into the open spaces, into your own small or large gardens, or walk in the countryside and observe the magical little green shoots appearing out of the cold dark earth. Notice a certain aura of soft pinky light around the black branches of the trees. Use your sense of smell and notice that already there is a faint perfume of awakening life. All these things are magical. Imperceptibly the sap is beginning to rise. One can almost say that a resurrection is about to take place. We always think the words, 'I am the

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resurrection and the life,' have their own magical power. They do not convey the idea of darkness and death but a picture of awakening life. For then we look up into the heavens and see with the vision of the spirit and so behold the Christ and all his angels there—we behold the resurrection and the life made manifest.

From out of darkness cometh life, and out of evil cometh good. The darkness of earth holding within its womb the seed of life, and the magical touch of the Sun, the Christ, reaching down, touching, embracing Mother Earth, brings forth in due season the Spring as child of that love. Is this not the magic of life both on the material plane and in the spiritual plane? But unfortunately the souls of many people are earthbound—held in the bondage of matter—and are unable to force, to break open their shell until the magical moment.

You must have had many similar experiences when you have felt imprisoned within what you may call evil days of despair, and unable to break the bonds. Then something magical takes place. You do not know what has happened but apparently, without any external change, you have felt release, like a little chick breaking out of its shell. Your life is changed. You cannot account for it, but it is as though a great cloud, a weight has been lifted from you. Things which had in the past been obscure become clear. Problems and difficulties for which you seemed to have no answer suddenly answer themselves. But was there any particular change in your earthly conditions? No, but a magic had touched you, and the light broke in upon you, and you realised that you had been your own prison without knowing it. There is a time—what the Bible calls the 'acceptable time of the Lord'—for this magic. You must be hushed and still and must wait for its coming.

What is a miracle? A miracle is a happening which is beyond man's understanding, because it is outside known physical laws. We are sure that if you look for miracles you will be surprised to find they are continually happening. We say, that in order that you may yourselves wield this power of white magic and perform what the world would call miracles, you must be able to recognise the miracles which are happening every moment all around you, miracles which the ordinary man or woman fails to see.

Let us now speak of magic in its highest or divine form—and the greatest magician that you will know is Jesus. His life, his work, was a series of miracles, but he did nothing by himself. He claimed nothing for himself. 'It is not I; it is the Father which worketh in and through me.' In other words, it is the divine impregnating the human and physical which brings about what is called a magical happening.

It is therefore important that you learn more about what is called magic. The early students often feared what is called black magic, thinking it dangerous, evil and potentially very destructive. We do not advise our students to investigate black magic when we say these things. On the contrary, we always tell you to look up and concentrate on divine love and truth, purity and sweetness. Nevertheless, we know that the time must come when every student, every aspirant to the kingdom, must grow in knowledge of magic. The magic which is turned against spiritual evolution, which is used by the unevolved soul to gain selfish power, to acquire domination not only over matter but over human beings too—that is

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unevolved, dark, ignorant magic. So it is regarded as 'black' simply because the motive behind the action or manipulation of this magical force is selfish and not selfless.

Both good and evil—although you may not accept this truth—both good and evil are one. Light and darkness are one. Darkness is the opposite of light, and students have to learn in due course to balance the two opposites. So we repeat that any magical power, or psychic power if you like, which is used to enslave other people, to hold back spiritual evolution and unfoldment must be regarded as evil. And that same power used, as Jesus and other great avatars taught their disciples, for the furtherance of the kingdom of light and love, is white, and is called white magic.

Therefore it is as well to understand that these two forces are working together, since you are bound to be affected by both aspects. It is for you to discern and to follow the light, and so to live as to give forth more light and more light.

Your life is a series of what you call in ordinary parlance 'ups and downs'. You find it difficult when you come up against what you call 'human nature'. You are sometimes appalled at the actions of those around you. You do not understand them. You think that certain actions are bad and you see, well, many shadows around certain human beings. What you must all understand is that behind that cloud which you call evil is a divine magic which is working for good. Yes, truly it is disguised as evil, but you must see through that disguise. Then you will realise that even if the person concerned is not very evolved, this same magic working behind and through that human life will bring forth ultimate good.

At this you will say, 'Well, are we to sit down complacently and accept what we know is evil?' You have no other choice, my children. What you do is your business, entirely your own affair, but not what other people do. You will eventually come to understand that your contribution towards the great plan for the evolution of man is to dwell continually upon the love of God. Look into the light and so train yourselves to recognise the goodness working through everyone else. Do not concentrate upon the darkness which you may decide is affecting everyone except yourself, because these two aspects are so intermingled, are so interpenetrated that no one is wholly white and no one is wholly black. There is no such thing as an angel here and a devil over there. You have to think of life as a whole. Do not think of heaven as up above and hell down beneath you. Recognise all spheres of life as interpenetrating, and recognise good and evil as working together to bring about perfect balance and ultimate perfection.

And now a few words about the ray of magic usually known as the seventh or the violet ray, which is closely allied with the sixth ray.* Upon the sixth ray operates spiritual science, philosophy. It is the ray of love, the ray upon which healing is conducted. Thus we have the sixth ray of love, divine love, the ray upon which Jesus Christ proceeded, and the seventh ray, the ray of divine magic, born, shall we say, from the Christ. From the Christ life (the sixth ray) emerges the true white magic, the culmination of all magic. But we have been taught that before passing on into that realm of magic, man must attain knowledge of divine love and be able to put that knowledge into life.

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*[*For more on the seven rays, see Inner Teaching no. T 008]*

Preceding this present new age of Aquarius was that of Pisces, an age of love and emotion when the soul was evolving and responding to the pure ray of love from the Christ heart. Now we are moving on to the seventh ray of magic. Hence you will have seen the uprising in the past years of powerful dictators who have had their place in the scheme of evolution. People look upon past years of war as terrible. They regard certain personalities almost as black magicians. Yet through the power which such people have wielded, you will begin to see the gradual coming forward of a clearer spirit, a change of heart in the human race.

We want you to think on these things and try to understand that God is all—God is all love, all wisdom, and all power. One of your poets once said, ‘God’s in his heaven; all’s right with the world.’ It is very difficult for man to accept this truth, but when he can comprehend the love of God he will then comprehend the magic of God. Remember what we say about the sixth ray of love, of the divine philosophy of life, and the seventh ray, the magical manifestation in the human life, of that love. For until a life of love, selflessness and devotion to God is lived, man cannot enter into his kingdom of divine magic, for he cannot break through the bondage of matter. He is enslaved by matter. He is bound to the earth. Let us say here that the tests of the neophytes before initiation into the mysteries were actually enacted on the physical plane in the ancient mystery schools. In this higher cycle of evolution the aspirant is no longer called to go through actual physical suffering. Today there is this finer suffering of the emotions and the mental bodies. This is the path which the soul must pass through so that eventually it becomes master, first of all on the physical or material plane, then on the emotional or psychic, and then master on the mental plane. At last comes the supreme illumination of the Christ circle, of the Christ plane of life.

To illustrate for one moment what we mean about evil disguising good, which happens sometimes, for every man is an individual, everyone passes through his own individual experiences. Every soul reacts to those experiences in its own particular way. You are not all cast in one mould. That is why no one can judge another soul. It is also impossible for us to judge. We do not judge. Indeed, we dare not judge any living soul. We know certain spiritual laws exist. And we know what disobedience or obedience to these cosmic laws will entail, but we do not, we cannot criticise another man for taking his own path to heaven. What we were going to say is that it is known in the astral world that a soul will sometimes meet its guardian angel in disguise, and, say, shrouded in darkness. The point is this: every soul must attain complete confidence in God, knowing that whatever or whoever confronted it, God was present; therefore, no harm could touch it. If the soul were firmly rooted in confidence in God, behind that disguise would be revealed a beautiful angel of light.

So also we, deep within our souls, must know that behind every dark happening, behind every difficulty, there is a hidden blessing. Man has to develop that faith, that confidence in God and in divine magic, so that at the right moment, at the acceptable time of the Lord, the magic will be worked, the dark shroud will fall away, and behind will be the radiant angel. Behind will be the glory of God’s life, and this is the magic of life, the divine magic.

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Benediction:

Great Spirit of good, our hearts overflow with love to Thee. We worship Thee. We would give humbly our thanks for the beauty of life, for the magic of life, for the wonder of life on all planes. O God, Thy blessing flows into our hearts and we thank Thee and pray that we may live to bless, to bless, to heal and to fulfil Thy law and Thy will.

Amen.

