

## Male and Female

T186 The Inner Teachings 7th September 1948 St Mary Abbots Place, London

### Invocation:

Let us pray in spirit and in truth. We open our hearts to Thee, Great Spirit of the universe. We worship, we praise, we would glorify Thy holy name and Thy creation, O Thou whom we are learning to worship as Father, Mother and Son, holy and blessed Trinity, three great Principles of life. O Lord, we earnestly pray for a greater revelation of Thy truth, Thy love, Thy power. May these Thy children who come in search of truth be un-blindfolded, so that they may see the light of Thy glory and be filled, and be united in spirit with their brethren on earth and their brethren in the world of spirit. May joy and love and peace unite us all in this gathering tonight.

Amen.

Beloved children, we would help you to expand your consciousness to enfold a vast unseen company of brethren. Remember that we are not speaking only to a few people in a small upper room but include in our thoughts all those who may read this talk. We know we have many friends in all parts of the globe. To them we speak tonight as well as to the small company present. Could your eyes be freed you would also see a vast multitude of spiritual brethren who come to enfold you and to help in our endeavours to convey to you some of the glory of spiritual life. Surely, surely, my brethren, you must feel the presence of these age-old souls, who have one object, and that [is] to help you if not by words, by their love, by their spiritual power.

We are going to speak to you tonight not on the intellectual plane. We are going to speak to you on the plane of soul. We are going to speak to your soul. You know that you are composed of three aspects—body, soul and spirit? Some may find it confusing to attempt to define soul and spirit. We are only too conversant with physical desires and physical life in general, but we are not so familiar with the soul and still less with the principle of spirit.

Soul is that part of man's\* being that is created or built up through experiences undergone during life in the world. A soul is created through undergoing what is called pain—pain or feeling—or the experiences through which the tender inner self of man suffers in life. Once spirit comes down to dwell in matter it commences to create what is called soul. Soul is the creation of feeling. Soul can also be described as the feminine aspect of life, the mother-principle existent in human beings, both men and women. The womanly or the feminine aspect is the soul. The soul of the world is the feeling of the world. The soul of a nation is that which is built up, that which is created by the life of feeling of the people of that nation. The life of the nation creates the soul of the nation.

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

In esoteric teachings you will find the soul referred to as representing the mother or feminine aspect of life. The first aspect of being is the divine will, which interpreted means the father or the masculine aspect of life. 'Will' stands for determination, courage, power. According to the Bible, God created man from the dust of the earth. Stress is laid upon God as the first principle of life. Later in the New Testament the mother aspect of God was introduced. In

## Male and Female

T186 The Inner Teachings 7th September 1948 St Mary Abbots Place, London

ancient days God was worshipped as both father [and] mother because out of the first principle was created the soul of the universe. Out of the first principle was created the mother or woman aspect, and you will know that the soul or the woman was taken from the first principle, was taken from the region of the heart of the first creation, Adam—man—while Adam was asleep or quiescent. God brought forth from the male, the first principle, the female or the woman, the second principle of life, from the ‘rib’ or heart of Adam.

We should begin to see the importance of this soul, this woman aspect, for lacking a soul the first principle could not continue to live, could not proceed or evolve. Adam needed that second aspect. He had to become ensouled to enable him to live, for the soul giveth feeling to the self of man and is the symbol of intuition.

The coming age of Aquarius will certainly bring into prominence the mother or the woman aspect of life. In other words it is indicative of the development of intuition or increase of soul power among the people of the earth. The first principle, being representative of the father or the will, must be balanced by the mother or the intuition. When you get perfect interplay, perfect interpenetration of these two principles—the will or power and the love and the wisdom—when you get perfect blending of these two principles of creation, then is brought forth the Christ Child, which is the perfect outcome of union between the two principles.

Do not mistake our meaning. The self of a man contains both manly and womanly qualities. In the male the first predominate; in the female, the second. Each individual soul passes through many trials, tribulations and initiations. By this process these two principles of will and love gradually become united and perfectly balanced with the result that the Christ Child is eventually born to man. This is the true meaning of the Immaculate Conception, which is the outcome of the mystical marriage between spirit and soul within the self of man.

Thus we may see Christ becoming manifest in perfectly evolved souls whom the world now hails as avatars or saviours of humanity. Such avatars are born into the flesh to teach and to help the rest of humanity to develop eventually those qualities that will enable the soul to become impregnated by the divine spirit and bring forth the Christ-child.

The world is advancing although this advance may not be apparent to you who are blindfolded and have only a partial revelation of what is happening in either your own life or the collective life of the world. What distorts your vision is the mind of earth, which judges from its own low level. This mind of earth has no power to see the gradual impregnation by divine spirit of the soul either of the individual or of the earth itself. This soul of the earth is created by pain and travail. You may not agree, because you do not comprehend the full meaning of what is called pain. Pain is joy. You can feel pain with exceeding joy. Do you not know the exquisite feeling of joy which is pain to you? Great happiness, exceeding happiness can be painful. Pain and joy are akin to each other, being two separate aspects of the same thing, being light and shade, both springing from the same principle. Through the human unit undergoing pain the soul originates, is strengthened, is built up. Once you know this you will

## Male and Female

T186 The Inner Teachings 7th September 1948 St Mary Abbots Place, London

not shrink from any experience. You will learn to welcome pain when once you understand what pain can do, what pain actually is. For pain is creating, is beautifying the soul by developing power to feel, developing intuition, that sixth sense which will become universal in the new age and will give vision into other worlds, and will bring through into the mind of earth, into the outer self, a consciousness of truths of universal, of heavenly life.

The place of woman in the world will have to be recognised. During past cycles or ages humanity has been unbalanced. That is quite obvious. Woman has yet to be accorded her correct place in world affairs. In years to come the second principle of life will become recognised. It will be seen that woman is the perfect companion, the perfect complement to man. Woman will not be excluded from high office but will be given her correct, her honourable place in the affairs of the world. Man needs woman by his side because without soul man cannot find completion. In ancient Egypt man and woman ruled together and so brought happiness and beauty into the lives of their people. In the gradual evolution which life undergoes humanity passes through stages or cycles of life in which definite progress is made towards the bringing forth of the soul of man. When one cycle passes yet another comes, bringing a fresh influx of the younger selves or children of God who are destined to undergo the same process of finding or discovering their true nature, their correct relationship to one another and to the higher principles of their own being.

The soul or the woman aspect of man's character is that aspect which inspires praise and worship. It is the soul of man that is stirred in religious service. Music can arouse the soul. The ritual of religion can stimulate and stir the soul. We know that there are two aspects to all things. We know that a soul can be what you call shadowed or manifesting the darker side but through darkness the soul is nerved to seek the light. And all the time the soul is developing this feeling, this intuition which is enabling the spirit to contact matter, to come into greater manifestation in matter, and when the full manifestation of spirit comes into matter then the Christ child is born.

Not by intellect alone can man find God. He is trying so to do at the present time. He is seeking to intellectualise God but man cannot find God through his intellect alone. Man must have his soul, his feelings and his love developed. He can only find God through life, through his feelings, through his soul, so that soul becomes like a bridge between heaven and earth, bringing man back again to God. The soul is the bridge. It enables man on earth to contact God again. We are trying to convey (a very difficult task it is) the nature of this divine Trinity of Father, Mother and Son, the perfect and holy Trinity of life. We are endeavouring to show the necessity for that marriage or union between spirit and soul to take place within man, and how from this the idea of the Immaculate Conception has arisen, and the truth which underlies such teaching.

The woman aspect, the divine mother aspect, is the tenderness, the love and the gentleness in life without which spiritual death must ensue. See here the importance of woman's place in the scheme of things. First let us say that women, those who are in the highly privileged position on earth of being in a woman's body with womanly qualities, have great responsibilities. They do not all recognise such responsibilities, for they allow their lower or

## Male and Female

T186 The Inner Teachings 7th September 1948 St Mary Abbots Place, London

weaker self to take possession of them instead of realising their noble and divine attribute, the attribute of the Divine Mother. A woman's work, whether she is physically a mother or not in this world, is to give love and motherhood, to mother all life; to express motherhood with tender love and sympathy and with wisdom which is as important as the love. Woman must endeavour to develop the qualities of the Divine Mother. In the Roman Church the Divine Mother is held up as a principle to be worshipped, as an intermediary between the individual soul and God. Do not you see that the Divine Mother is herself the soul of man? It is the soul and the soul is the intermediary between man's self and the first principle or will of God.

We should begin to see the place woman should occupy. When women arise and manifest the dignity of the divine principle that is behind womanhood, wars will cease because the soul (or the woman) desires neither strife nor war. The soul is peace-loving; the soul yearns for beauty, harmony and perfection; the soul being intuitive can look into the future desiring to protect the race, not to destroy it. We speak most earnestly to all women, urging them to develop the qualities of the noble, the holy Mary, the mother aspect.

With women rests great responsibility because a man looks to his mother. The child, the growing boy, will be guided by his mother. It is a natural instinct for the boy to love his mother in a way which differs from the love he bears his father. Women have this great privilege of being given by God the honour of the leader, the soul that will eventually carry the individual back again to the first principle, God the Father. Do not neglect your opportunities; do not be dragged down by the mind of earth. Be true to the soul of the world, the soul of your nation, the soul of the earth, the soul of the universe, whose destiny is to uplift, unite and bring forth the Christ, the Perfect Son. Be true to your destiny! With the blending of soul and spirit the perfect being is born, the one who is capable of taking the Christ initiation, who is capable of crucifying the lower self, crucifying matter, dispensing with the lower form of matter. You do not understand what this means yet, but we will just say at this moment that the crucifixion of matter, the dispensing with matter, means that a time will come when the Christ child, born from the two great principles of life, will rule matter, will rule the earth, and its darkness will be no more. For the earth's vibrations will become so etherealised, so harmonised that it will be a world of light.

O beloved children, both men and women, be true to the inner light, to the first principle. Be true to that and you will develop a soul worthy of being the mother of the perfect Son of God.

You understand that when we are endeavouring to put these heavenly truths into words we are at a loss. We can only hint. We can only say things that will stir and quicken your minds and hearts so that you will catch a train of thought or intuition and follow that intuition. Spiritual truth is fluid. You can get principles upon which to work, but truth is like a great river with many tributaries. You will get side-tracked; you may get lost, but always come back to the main theme, the main principle. If you can rise above the earth and look down, you will see where all the tributaries flow, see them all fit into the grand panorama of beautiful life on earth, the Garden of Eden.

## Male and Female

T186 The Inner Teachings 7th September 1948 St Mary Abbots Place, London

Next time if you wish we will speak on guides, how you may personally contact your guide, what your guide is to you, and what he or she can do for you.

When you do not understand spiritual truth, my dear ones, do not worry; leave it. If you do not understand, know that it is because you lack the capacity at present but you will have [sic]. All will be revealed in due course. When you want to docket everything and tie truth up in neat little parcels, you will stumble.

Q. May I thank you, White Eagle, for all you give us?

A. It is not White Eagle really, you know; it is just this one common cause, truth and light which flows through humanity, through the heart. We grip your hand, my dear, with love and understanding. The blessing of God is upon you.

You will all find that as you proceed along the path of spiritual unfoldment you will change. In all probability in twelve months from now you will see things quite differently from how you see them tonight. That is how unfoldment takes place. It is not that what is true today will not be true tomorrow, but a question of expansion, greater comprehension of spiritual principles. This enables you to accept life as it is, for you will have a deep, deep certainty that all is working out in accordance with the divine plan—for that divine plan is there in the Lodge above, in the keeping of the great Architect of the universe. Accept all things as having a purpose, but keep your vision, keep your heart centred upon the light of God and it will never fail you.

Q. Should we take pain and transmute it into joy?

A. It can bring you joy. If you did not know the pain you would not reach great heights of joy. You could not see these things if your vision were not opened by your pain. God is not cruel. The pain resulting from human disappointment really brings heavenly appointments. One or two of you here tonight have suffered agonising pain through loss, through sorrow. Had you not experienced such loss and sorrow you would not be here tonight, nor would your eyes be opened to the wondrous beauty and love of God. Pain of course is of the lower, the physical self, but is an experience which brings forth and develops the soul, causes the soul to be built—which soul is really the temple of the spirit, the temple wherein the spirit works and worships. Pain causes the roots to go down deep, causes you to grow and expand so that you are able to enjoy all the beautiful fruits of the spirit. 'Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies.' Mine enemies are those attributes of the lower nature, the enemies of the spirit. 'My cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.' You will learn to go on your knees and thank God for pain because pain will bring the joys of heavenly life. Put your hand in the hand of God. Be true to the inner light.\*

*[\*The quotations are from the twenty-third Psalm]*

Benediction:

## Male and Female

T186 The Inner Teachings 7th September 1948 St Mary Abbots Place, London

Great White Spirit, we receive Thy blessing in humility, in gratitude. We earnestly seek to learn to grow and to serve and to obey Thy will and to help in Thy work of raising earth's humanity from darkness to light.

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:*

*Balance, equilibrium, soul growth*

