

Pathwork Guide Lecture No. 34
An Unedited Lecture
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PREPARATION FOR REINCARNATION

Greetings in the name of the Lord. As usual, I bring you blessings, my dear friends, for each and every one of you here as well as for all my friends away from here.

I have to speak tonight about the process of birth, and I have received permission to do so from higher authority. My dear friends, let me tell you first, whatever I will say to you can only be a very small and limited part of this extremely complicated procedure for which the human understanding cannot possibly be adequate. So please understand that my words will only represent a rough outline and are performed "squeezed" into the limitations of human understanding.

Before I will explain the technical procedure of birth, I will have to talk a little bit about the spiritual and psychological implications that govern karmic law, although some of this is familiar in its broad outlines to most of you. But since the technical procedure of birth is directly connected with and dependent on karmic and spiritual law, I have to somewhat show you in this lecture the connection so that you will be able to understand birth as such to some degree.

Your next life, my friends, is already prepared now in some way by each and every one of you. Not entirely, for as long as you live on earth, the last word is not spoken and the chances of determining your next incarnation and effecting a change from what you have prepared so far are strong -- much stronger than in your existence in the spirit world, when you will still have a chance to make alterations although the chances are smaller then. It is more difficult to do so in the spirit world by the mere fact that life there, if we do not include the spheres of darkness, is an easier one than life on the earth plane. For that reason, development is slower in the beyond, and to effect a change is definitely more difficult.

Up to a certain point in the cycle of development of an individual being, decisions cannot be made by the individual. But from a certain development on, each spirit-entity has the right, and often even the duty to make decisions about circumstances of the following incarnation personally. Of course, these decisions are not always good ones, depending on the character of the entity. There are people who tend to be lazy, they lack ambition and are satisfied with a certain comfort. They do not particularly strive for higher forms of consciousness and happiness. Their choice may often be an easier life than would be good for them. They still lack the comprehensive view of the purpose of earth existence. On the other hand, an overambitious and overactive person may often choose more than he is ready for. This too will hinder progress and cause a temporary setback. Here the view is lacking of one's own limitations. By this same token, an overoptimistic character may make a wrong judgment as well as an overpessimistic character. As I said, up to a certain degree of development, a spirit-entity is not capable of making any decisions, for an extreme in any characterism is a lack of harmony which must influence proper judgment. Only when the character becomes more harmonized, will decisions not deviate too strongly from the right middle course.

When an entity is still not far enough developed, decisions are made by higher authority. But even in these cases, the entity is consulted first as to what he or she would imagine the best fate would be for his next incarnation. This is taken as a test, and it is afterwards explained to the individual why this or that alternative would be bad or even dangerous and why the decisions made by this trained and highly developed spirit offers a stronger chance for advancement. So, there is a schooling connected with the decision-making and planning for the next life. The entity has to learn something from this alone. And I may add that even in cases when, on the whole, a being is not yet able to make his own decisions, sometimes he may have the right idea too, and this is then adopted and his wishes granted. There is no definite borderline between the state when decisions are made for an entity and when he is ready to make his own decisions. This comes slowly and gradually. First, perhaps, as I said, some ideas are sound and are adopted, while others must be rejected. From incarnation to incarnation, something is learned, particularly in this respect too, so that more and more the ideas of the entity can be considered. Then there are also cases when the choices made by the entity are still within the realm of possibility but may prove too difficult, or too easy, as the case may be. In such instances, the higher authority advising and planning the next incarnation with the spirit to be incarnated will advise and explain and offer another alternative. The entity then has the right to accept or reject this advice according to his own free will. If the advice should be rejected and the entity should then after the next incarnation find out that his own judgment was faulty, this will often represent the only lesson he could learn. He would never have been convinced as long as he is not left to follow through his own ideas. Only when a case is too crass, too hopeless, are his wishes disregarded, and the type of lesson to be learned that is so often necessary, namely to go through one's own mistakes, is postponed for later opportunities or perhaps for other details concerning the incarnation to follow. So you see, there are a great many details and variations possible in this one respect alone.

Needless to say, according to failure or success of the plan -- whether the spirit himself or the higher authority planned it -- development is speeded up or slowed down. Now, since life on earth is a long chain and each life represents nothing but one small part of a long chain, the evaluation of the duties and tasks in each life depend on many, many circumstances. As I have mentioned before, for each being in existence, there is what is called the Book of Life, where everything is inscribed: from the time this particular entity has been created, up to the last moment -- its special talents, inclinations, characteristics, and the personality trends that brought him to fall, and all the various stages of development since the fall, not only the various earth incarnations but also all activities in between. According to this "general ledger," if I may call it that, each incarnation is planned -- planned carefully, meticulously. Before each incarnation, while planning it, this whole ledger is shown to the entity, and whether the entity is ready to make his or her own decisions yet or not, the purpose of what should be accomplished in the following incarnation is revealed.

It is not always that the law of cause and effect or that the law of karma works immediately in the successive life. It is often that the cause of one life will only come to effect perhaps three or four incarnations later. For no one is asked to bear too much at a time. But I might add that generally, though not always, the higher the development, the faster cause and effect follow. Thus you will perhaps understand a little better when I admonish you not to judge, not to compare, not to generalize in these matters. You can see only this one life -- your own or that of another person -- and even this view is a very limited one. That is why man is extremely foolish to judge the justice of the laws of God. He often feels inclined to say something is too difficult to bear or another person has too easy a life, etc. You would not think so for one moment if you knew the missing part of the

information; and there are many good reasons for your own spiritual development why this curtain must be drawn to you as long as you have not worked yourself up to such a state of consciousness that information of this sort is good for you and for those around you. Therefore, you should have the humility to withhold judgment even if you do so quite by yourself. So may this be a lesson to all my friends who hear or read these words, never to judge, never to compare your life with that of another, or perhaps the fates of two people you know. If you seem to bear a heavier cross, it is because more can be expected of you. You are stronger, you are already farther up on the ladder. Or it might also be that you, if you happen to be an ambitious person, have chosen an unnecessarily difficult life, perhaps even against the advice of an angel of God. Consider that, my friends.

When I started this lecture by telling you that you are already preparing your next incarnation now, it is entirely true. For according to how much of the plan you are fulfilling, your next life will afford you the possibilities to turn to other things necessary in your overall development; but if you do not advance, or only partly so, the purpose why you came this time will have to be repeated, or at least partly. On the other hand, it also happens occasionally that a person fulfills a little more than he set out to. Or he brings the plan to fulfillment before the life-span is over so that what was meant to be accomplished in the following incarnation can already be begun now. It goes without saying that this changes the plan for the next incarnation, as it was drawn roughly as sort of an overall blueprint, subject to change in any direction until the time has actually arrived. Again, beware of rash judgment: an easy and pleasant life is not always an indication that your last incarnation was a very good one. It may be the result of merits you have earned three or four incarnations ago. On the other hand, if you have a very difficult life, this may or may not be the result of actions on your part of your last incarnation. Furthermore, a demerit may be paid off in one lifetime by a zealous person, while another pays off just as great a demerit, or perhaps even a greater one, in several stages. This, too, makes it impossible for you to judge and compare.

All this should be food for thought and meditation material for you. It should make it clear that you have so many chances on this earth plane to make changes for the better in your personal plan. It is up to you to annul accumulated bad karma much quicker if you only realize fully what this life is all about.

When life on this earth plane is finished, as you know, an account is being made. Everything is being checked minutely and so justly that there cannot be any different opinion or argument about it. For everything is out in the open in the spirit world. It cannot be that one opinion stands against another. Your deeds, your thoughts, your feelings, your reactions, and your attitudes create definite forms that are as substantial and visible as any material object to you now or even more so. As two normal people would not argue that a round table in front of them is round or square -- that this is a matter of opinion -- by the same token, the forms are there in spirit and cannot be argued about. Do not misunderstand, the prohibition of argument on that score does not exist because of a dictatorial attitude of the spirits of higher development, but because you can see for yourself the truth in front of your eyes no matter how much you have tried to deceive yourself as long as you were hidden in matter. When the full account is being made and carefully considered, it is compared with the original plan for the past incarnation as well as with the overall plan for the entity in question. Trends and faults overcome, tasks fulfilled are being checked off; and all that remains to be done determines the next incarnation. But a comparatively long time according to your human standards elapses before the next incarnation is being started. There is a time of rest for many spirits, particularly those who have suffered a great deal, physically, mentally, or otherwise. There is,

either before this rest-period or after, this time of accounting I have just mentioned. And then a period in the spirit world begins when the spirit goes through certain schools, receives instruction according to his personal needs, and where he is put into a particular purification sphere, again according to his individual needs. The succession of these different phases varies. There is no rule that first one and then the other. Purification is often done in connection with human beings. This may be new for some of you. Let us suppose it was the task of an entity during his last incarnation to straighten out a relationship with another human being -- perhaps to learn to love and to accept this other person. This task has not been entirely fulfilled. Often this task is completed, as well as it can be, when one of these people is still on earth and the other is in the spirit world. This can happen in various ways. I will not go into these details now because it would lead us away from the subject. We may discuss this at another time. Purification can also take place in particular spheres that again vary. There are many, many different levels. Periods between incarnation also include in many instances a time of service and the fulfilling of certain tasks in the plan of salvation, provided the entity has reached a certain degree of development. These different phases are sometimes sharply divided -- accounting of the last and planning for the next incarnation, purification, fulfilling of tasks -- or they interact and are combined. Of course, all this applies only to those spirits who have willingly incorporated themselves under the divine order. There are many who are on their own. These latter are also brought to an accounting and planning for the incarnation to follow at one time or another during existence in the beyond, but all this is done on a lower level, in other spheres, and in a different manner. The same principles hold true but the way of execution must vary because the free will of the entity has to be considered inasmuch as incorporation into divine order is concerned. This influences not only the activities in the beyond but also the incarnations to a great extent. In the measure that your spiritual consciousness is raised, in that manner you will come to feel with your fellow creatures into what category they belong. I only want to say here that justice is complete in all cases, also these latter ones.

Thus you will see that the time between incarnations also determines the following life. The length of time between incarnations may also vary, as I have already told you. But for all who still find themselves in the cycle of incarnation, the time comes for rebirth on earth. At that moment, the respective entity is brought again to the quarters or the authority that is competent for his whole cycle and that has arranged previous incarnations with him and done the accounting after the last one. That is where his particular and personal ledger is looked into and where temporary plans have been made for the next life, subject to change, according to the attitudes and activities of the being since this plan has been constructed. Now the final plan will be made for the incarnation to come; this takes considerable time. The proper choice of parents, nationality, religion to be born into, life circumstances, certain phases that are called fateful in life, are set down and considered. All these choices are being made in the most practical way. For instance, parents may be chosen to afford an environment best suited to bring out certain disharmonies in the soul; for that purpose, it needs certain imperfections in the environment; for if everything were perfect, these shortcomings would not have an opportunity to come to the surface. At the same time, the parents may also be karmically linked to the entity so that a karmic debt may be paid off. Difficulties and advantages in the life to follow are considered from the point of view of the plan. It is carefully weighed how much should be taken on, how much the entity should concentrate in this life on one character trend, or perhaps it would be better in this life to concentrate on a heretofore unsolved psychological problem. For entities of higher development -- all this is, of course, relative -- tasks for the plan of salvation are planned that they may best combine the entity's own purification problems. Talents are chosen that may be brought forth, others are planned to remain hidden in

this earth life. When all this is considered, the entity then has the chance to make his own choice in some ways; and where this choice cannot possibly be made yet, he is asked theoretically how he would choose if he could. Denials of choice are not made dogmatically, but the reasons are conscientiously explained. All this I have mentioned before.

After an intensive period of study, the final plan is made for the life on earth to come. Special spirits are sent to various places, also on earth, to smooth the way, to make preparations by guidance and inspiration. And here or there, they may come back and report that conditions are not as hoped and therefore unsuitable for the purpose; then other karmic ties are used for this life that would have been concentrated on in a later incarnation if the first considered circumstances would have turned out as expected. When the plan is finally concluded and the conditions and preparations on earth checked, the entity is led into a different sphere. It is a great, great sphere, consisting mainly of what in your earth language you might call a hospital. Spiritual physicians are working there. Many physicians on this earth plane have been incarnated from such hospital spheres that exist on various levels. They are learning in these spheres. But there are also a great number of spirits active there who are out of the cycle of incarnations, as well as some who have never been in it. They have more responsible tasks. Others learn under them. This hospital sphere consists of several parts. To mention just one of them, there is one department where spirits are brought who have died in accidents or another form of sudden and violent death. In such cases, their fluidal bodies may be injured, and they are nursed back to health, if I may use this expression, before they begin the other activities in the spirit world that I have explained to you here. This is just one of the many parts of this sphere.

A great part is the one where lives on earth are prepared. The entity ready for incarnation appears there before a certain spirit who has high authority and great responsibility. He, the entity to be incarnated, comes in company of his guardian spirit or spirits; it may be the same that has guided him through several lives before, it may be a different one. It will certainly be the one who will lead him through the coming life. This guardian delivers the plan to this spirit in charge in this sphere, where the plan is carefully studied again by this spirit. He will then call some of his assistants who will work on this entity. And again, minutely everything is discussed, planned, and preparations made.

My dear friends, I can sense that some of you think all this is impossible. It sounds too human, it sounds too concrete for you to be credible, I know. Yet, as the saying goes, truth is often stranger than fiction! And this is the way it is, although, again it is different -- different than on earth and different than you imagine. And yet, the words I have to use describe it the nearest. For all these spheres and hospitals and physicians and higher-placed authorities and assistants and ledgers and plans and whatnot, all this exists, for you have nothing on your earth plane that is not a poor copy of what has existed in spirit first, in some other way, but still it has existed.

Now, when this plan has been carefully studied and preparations have been made, the entity to be incarnated is waiting until conception of the future parents has taken place. Astrological factors of conception are being taken into consideration, as well as a number of other factors of which you either know still very little or which you completely ignore. Conception cannot happen unless it is the will of God, to put it plainly. If a conception today would not serve a purpose for the entity to come into your world, it is prevented by spiritual means, but it may take place next month. And then, according to the so-called genes of the parents, which of course have been studied

beforehand and which again must be in correspondence with the entity to be born, certain magnetic fields, rays, fluids get to work -- partly automatically as an effect of causes set in motion, partly by spiritual helpers. This is extremely difficult to explain to you. At the moment conception has taken place, the entity to be born is made unconscious. It is such a deep state of unconsciousness that a great part of his knowledge will come back only after life on earth has been completed. Another part of knowledge will come back during earth life, but only when the entity leaves the body -- in other words, during sleep. But a certain feeling of self-consciousness will gradually and slowly come awake as a living human being while growing up. That all this can happen in exactly that way is due to preparations with certain types of fluids in the entity that are being made by these experts in the sphere I have described you here. It is a question of measurement, of a certain way of treatment of these fluids, and of a highly specialized form of processing. There is a refraction and extension of fluids. There are different types of fluids, each representing a different facet of the personality.

Let us talk first about the physical aspects of the future human being. The parental genes are made to correspond and to effect the physical shell -- in the meantime growing in the body of the mother in such a way that the physical karmic necessities of the entity to be born can be fulfilled. There is no coincidence possible. Nothing is just left to itself. And when it says in the Bible that God has counted each hair on your head, it is no exaggeration, my friends. This saying is to be understood in this sense. For every smallest detail has to correspond and has a meaning, a much deeper meaning and significance than you can possibly imagine. Symbolism is not the way humanity thinks. It is mostly the other way around. Your bodies are often symbols in one way or another for your spiritual development, for psychological trends, and so forth. But beware of rules and generalizations here. There are none. So these genes are worked in such a way that the shell is prepared properly. Some genes will therefore have an influence, some will not. In one instance, the genes of the mother have a greater influence; in another, of the father. In one instance, genes of the parents do not work at all; in another case, the genes of a grandparent or even a great aunt may all of a sudden be at work. All this is not arbitrary or left to coincidence. For every detail, there is a reason. This physical shell grows in the mother's body although there is no spirit in it, but it grows according to the rays, to the magnetic fields that work in correspondence to the treatment in this particular sphere that is taken exactly according to plan.

Also, many other factors are taken into consideration. There are certain highly trained specialists who concentrate on the physical shell, as I have just explained. Other specialists, equally highly trained, concentrate on psychological and spiritual factors. Furthermore, it is also a question of treatment of certain other fluids that some consciousness will return as the human being grows, other types of consciousness must remain hidden. Thus, one person will grow up with a strong feeling of God consciousness, perhaps even in spite of atheistic and materialistic parental influence and other influences. In another case, it is the other way around. In some instances, there is a strong urge to become, let us say, an artist or a scientist in spite of contrary environmental influences early in youth. This is due to the preparation of certain fluidal matter that has been made before birth. In other words, it is determined there what urges, trends, and leanings should come to the surface at what period. Others are prepared and processed in such a way that it is conditional on other factors, whether they have been fulfilled or not. You can perhaps glimpse vaguely on how infinitely complicated and exact this preparation in the so-called soul must be. By the same token, the faults that have been planned to work on in this life are, as you know and as I have often told you, energies or currents. These are treated in the fluidal bodies in such a way that they need very little outer challenge to come to the surface. These outer challenges are provided for in the choice

of parents and other conditions in the incarnation. If faults remain dormant in the depth of your soul, you cannot become aware of them, and if you are not aware of them, you cannot overcome them. So not all problems or faults are prepared for raising to the surface. Some are supposed to remain hidden and are planned to be worked on in a future incarnation or, as I said, only if and when the plan of this life has been fulfilled. All this must be carefully studied in the plan by these experts and prepared properly. The same applies of course to talents, to psychological problems and complexities. Some are prepared so lightly that they will rise immediately, others only under definite conditions. This preparation in the fluidal bodies will perhaps be easier to understand if you think of each quality, each trend, each attitude, good or bad, as a power current, which it truly is! Now it depends very much on how these power currents are treated, insulated, or channeled.

All this may be an explanation to some of you who have experienced a case in your family or your environment when someone has been known to be always a very decent person, conscious of his shortcomings, working at them, and obviously making great spiritual progress. And all of a sudden, something apparently quite new comes to the surface. Everyone is suddenly shocked and disappointed. From now on you will understand that this is often due to the fact that this person is working spiritually very well, and after having accomplished these trends that were on the surface, other trends left deeper embedded by the spiritual workers can now evolve to be worked on in the purification process. This is exactly why people on the spiritual path often display at certain periods trends that have never been noticed before. Of course, this may also be due to the fact that they were hidden by the mask self, but it may also be on account of the taking out of trends that have been left for consideration only until after certain other things have been accomplished. The same may apply to a good trend or a talent. These specialists look at their charts exactly. In one case, a strong talent is supposed to come out very soon. This has to be prepared. In another case, a talent is supposed to come to the surface only much later; in still another case, a talent is left conditional according to certain circumstances and whether the person is following through the plan or not. All this is shown on the plan, and the preparations have to be made in the fluids, in their processing in an exceedingly difficult procedure that is impossible for you to grasp entirely.

This period of processing and treatment of the fluidal bodies takes approximately nine months, the time the human shell needs to grow. Sometimes the processing is completed a little before the nine months are over; then the entity is just waiting in an unconscious state. Sometimes life should start a little earlier than nine months because then conditions may be better suited for that entity to begin life under; and yet the parents in question also fulfill the best mutual conditions. In such a case, a premature birth will occur. In other instances, birth may be delayed a little.

At this opportunity, I will just add one more detail in this connection. The attitude of the mother, as well as of the father, during the time of pregnancy may often determine a change. If the parents or even one of the parents should change their spiritual attitude, then the entity first planned to come to these parents would not fit into these circumstances anymore. It is not only that perhaps the parents are now deserving a higher developed spirit as their child if their attitude has changed for the better, spiritually speaking; but it is also that the being, first destined for these parents, may not find the necessary fulfillment with parents of this spiritualized outlook. There are enough parents available whose attitude would afford the limitations that the particular entity needs for growth. But there are fewer, indeed, who will represent the proper environment for a spirit who has more to give to this world. But this is also a task and a responsibility for the parents who have to be worthy to rear a child who has greater tasks to fulfill. This worthiness is often determined by the spiritualized

way of looking at life. So, last minute changes can be made if the mother or the father or both change their attitude during pregnancy, either to the better or to the worse. There are enough possibilities available for such changes to be effected. The spirit world can foresee fairly well whether or not such changes are within the realm of the possible, knowing the capacities of each soul much better than the human beings themselves, having the Book of Life available. So, tentative arrangements may be made already during the time of pregnancy, for instance the time of preparation for birth, that if the parents first chosen should change enough to warrant a different child for them, the first intended child will go without difficulty or delay to another pregnant woman. Therefore it is advisable for the mother in particular to become quiet within, to turn to God, and to spiritualize her whole being and attitude during pregnancy.

Now there remains only this to say: when finally the time of birth has arrived, many spirits assist so that the fluidal bodies that have been treated in the manner described enter the body of the baby. And then the incarnation has been effected. Are there any questions about this?

QUESTION: Yes, I would like to ask how is it possible that sometimes babies die at birth, in other words, after they have already received their souls, so to speak?

ANSWER: There are many possible reasons for that. In the first place, it may be that it is a karma for the parents, a test they have to go through, and the spirit of the baby will not have gone through this procedure for nothing. But in the spirit world this fate of the first mother was known, and the parents where the baby will finally settle down with have already been chosen before the first birth occurred. The spirit of the baby will thus have fulfilled an additional little task by going through this experience even though it is unaware of it, being in a state of unconsciousness. Nevertheless, it is not done without the consent of the spirit to be incarnated before he undergoes the birth process. It will mean a merit for the spirit who lends himself for this, being an instrument of fate, so to speak, for the parents he so shortly visits. There may be other reasons too. The possibilities are manifold. For instance, there may be the fact that the parents have not lived up to certain promises made in the spirit world. But it may also be that the parents have fulfilled more, spiritually speaking, than was expected of them and thus are ready to bear this cross and this test that otherwise would have been too much for them. This will further their development. So such a thing may either happen because the parents fulfill less or because they fulfill more than originally planned. In either case, later on, something better may follow. As far as the baby is concerned, after its physical death, there will be a comparatively uncomplicated process, the fluids will be retracted a little, certain adjustments being made; and without gaining consciousness, it will appear for birth with the other parents, chosen as permanent hosts in the first place.

QUESTION: We have now two and a half billion people on this earth. This is the maximum, according to any reliable census, we can have. This means an increasing army on the other side, that must have been increasing rapidly. Now probably every human being has the same attendance, or is that not so?

ANSWER: Certainly. You see, my dear friend, the vastness of the spirit world is so great that you cannot have an idea of it. There are so many worlds, so many spheres, and so very very many spirit beings of all types of development. There is really enough for everyone. You can be quite sure of that. There are many many more spirits than the amount of human beings that will ever exist.

QUESTION: Is it true what Theosophy teaches that there is about three times the present population in the reservoir of spirits to be incarnated?

ANSWER: My dear friend, I have not counted them, and I am not curious to know the number. So I could not possibly give you an answer there. I do not know it. If it would be important, I would make my inquiries.

QUESTION: With regard to the "Pistis Sophia" we have read that the so-called servitors are working on that. Now that would correspond to these many entities ...

ANSWER: Exactly. So I think that takes care of that question.

QUESTION: Is an unchangeable destiny as to birth and time and form of death correct?

ANSWER: No, it is not correct. The element of birth I have just explained now, so I do not have to go into that any further. And, as you heard, even that can be changed in the last moment. And the element of death also can be changed. As I said to you, there is a plan for each life. But I also told you there are many plans. There is a plan for every alternative, every possibility of free will decision. Let us say, an entity fulfills the most he or she was expected. For that alternative is one plan. There is another plan if he fulfills even more than the best that could be expected. That exists occasionally too. There is another plan if he does not fulfill anything. There are several other plans for partial fulfillments. Perhaps a person will straighten out a karmic debt, but he will not overcome a certain weakness that was planned or will not solve a psychological problem. The time of death does not vary according to which plan is fulfilled in some cases, but in many cases the time and manner of death varies according to which plan has come true. Again, I would like to emphasize, the fact that life can be longer than has been foreseen in one of the plans is not always a sign that this life has been fulfilled at its best. It may in certain instances. If an entity really fulfills his very best, his life may be prolonged because in his environment and in his special fulfillment he may have many possibilities to help others. But there may also be cases where the life is shorter because he has fulfilled his best. Because of his good fulfillment, the favor is granted that he may return home sooner so as to start on something new, a new task that he has been waiting for. So again it cannot be bluntly said that an unforeseen prolongation is necessarily a proof of good fulfillment. It may be that way, but it may also be exactly the opposite. So the time, as well as the form of death, can in many instances vary according to which of the many alternatives the entity has chosen.

QUESTION: This would explain an astrological riddle that sometimes death does not occur by the usual progressions.

ANSWER: Exactly. You see, my dear friend, perhaps now with the teachings you receive here, you will be able to understand many things in astrology that were not quite clear before. It may be a very good idea to adopt right now the idea of the many plans that necessarily each human being has. That will also clear up another question: why some aspects work, as you say, and some do not -- because astrology does not contain all plans. Other plans are contained in subjects other than astrology that are not yet known to mankind. Perhaps you can fit this in with your picture.

QUESTION: There was a question asked last time with regard to the total destruction of entities, souls, before the salvation through Jesus Christ.

ANSWER: There never was a total destruction of a single soul. Never. No created being has ever been totally destroyed, not even Lucifer.

QUESTION: Did Dante's prophecy of the Veltro refer to the coming of the Holy Ghost as predicted in De Flora's eternal Gospel, and is that Veltro taken from the Vangelo Eternal, in other words the coming of the Holy Ghost?

ANSWER: I may answer the question only in the following way, for there are certain spiritual laws that bind me to the statements I am allowed to make. Partly, perhaps, the answer will already be clear by the fact that I have mentioned these various plans. Different clairvoyants, seers, or otherwise psychically gifted people have seen one plan. Others have seen another plan, and that again is an explanation why one clairvoyant can be right in so many instances and wrong in others. In the latter case, he just happened to see one plan that does not come true due to a perhaps unexpected change on the part of one or several other responsible human beings. Here I would like to say this: it is, of course, the general plan of development, of the whole plan of salvation, that humanity will come to a point -- how soon is difficult to say -- when the authority of human intervention will not be necessary anymore. The various churches and religious organizations will teach their followers then in a similar way than I am teaching you now: that is, to cultivate and obtain a direct contact with the divine world, not necessarily through mediumship which is only direct for the medium, but through spiritual development and the refinement of the inner senses. This indicates that the religions will subtly, gradually, but surely change in the centuries to come. I might say, you can observe this trend already in the following way: some time ago, people used to kill each other if they thought something different. Yesterday, they hated each other but did not kill anymore because of different ways to come to God. Whoever was in power would enforce his belief and prohibit the others. Today humanity is coming far enough that people begin to tolerate one another. They still feel that there is something to "tolerate" because the other fellow has different conceptions, but nevertheless, this is a great step forward. Tomorrow they will not have to tolerate one another anymore, but they will see the one truth that underlies all religions. Religions will not be a separating factor anymore. And that is the time that is meant here with regard to your question. This time, in all probability, will not come about by destroying the existing religions suddenly. Just as Jesus has said, He has not come to destroy. But they will change from within, gradually, in the only way a positive and constructive growth can ever take place. And this is what was foreseen and expressed in this manner. Does that answer your question?

QUESTION: Yes, except the last part whether the Veltro does actually refer to this prophecy by Joachim de Flora.

ANSWER: That I am not allowed to answer. If you study it carefully, you may be able to sense the truth. It is possible that you are inspired. But it would be against spiritual law if I gave you a simple yes or no. Perhaps it is difficult to understand why, since this is all new to you. But that is the way it is. You see, it is our purpose and we are only allowed to answer questions that in some way further spiritual development, directly or indirectly. But if it has in your work a particular importance, I would advise you to ask your guardian spirit to inspire you, and you will receive the answer. It is God's will that certain knowledge can only be given to you if you make certain efforts

to attain a personal contact with the spirit world of God, in your own channels. Spirits of the world of God who talk through a medium can only show you the way how to obtain such a personal communication. And this I am doing.

QUESTION: What, spiritually speaking, is the time that you had in mind, speaking about people killing each other when they were of different opinions?

ANSWER: Spiritually speaking, it is very little time.

QUESTION: My question is about the things we read about the prolongation of life through science, the extension of the life cycle and the elimination of child death. Since everything is so beautifully planned, how is it that science claims some part in the extension of life?

ANSWER: Science can only find if God's spirit world allows it to find. This permission depends on two factors. One is that the findings have to fit into the general plan concerning the entire earth sphere at any particular given time. The other factor is that the human beings in question, in this case the scientists, make the necessary effort. Effort is always an integral part and constitutes the first step. The same holds true, as mentioned before, as to reaching contact with the divine world for an individual or a group. If the effort is not taken by the human side, if the attitude does not fulfill some basic requirements, the spirit world cannot do its part. By the same token, I can only speak through this human person because of her efforts. If she would refuse to sit down here, I could not do anything to come through here. In a way, it is the same with a scientist, or with an artist for that matter. With all his talent, he cannot really accomplish anything quite by himself. He must have spiritual helpers around him who can only manifest if he is fulfilling the necessary requirements. Now, if science has found today so many new things, it is because this fits into the present stage of development. There must always be a, let us say, leeway to see what humanity does with such findings, whether they are used for good or evil and selfish or destructing purposes. In the latter case, material progress will wither ultimately, as it has happened before. So if life is longer today than it was, it is because it fits into the whole picture of overall development. Since humanity as a whole is further advanced, people may accomplish more in one lifetime, and that works hand in hand with the technical and scientific improvements, which in turn will only bear fruits if spiritual improvement follows, at least to some degree. So science on the whole or the scientist individually is to be taken but as an instrument. All this, my friends, must always work hand in hand.

And now, my friends, I will retire. I will not speak to you for a short while, but this should not mean, it must not mean that you are cut off from the world of God. You yourself should make an effort to remain in touch with it by your thoughts, your efforts, and your times of inner quietness. Continue to search in your heart for the spiritual truth you need in order to solve your problems and your life. The more you seek, the more will be given unto you. You are never alone if you reach out for God's spirits who are constantly around you, waiting for you. Blessings for all my friends, for your bodies, for your souls, and for your spirits. Be in peace, God bless you, be in God!

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