

Pathwork™ in Texas

Study Materials for The Evil of Collusion Teleconference Tutorial

DEMAGNETIZING NEGATIVE FORCE FIELDS -- PAIN OF GUILT

Excerpts from Pathwork Guide Lecture No. 201

Full text all lectures may be downloaded from www.pathwork.org

Violations of spiritual law can only be corrected when you learn to feel the hurts you have inflicted and still inflict without feeling annihilated or worthless, without crumbling under a load of guilt. Feel the pain of your withholding, of your spite, of your maligning whether in your mind or in actuality. When you hold on to any kind of negative intentionality, you cannot help depriving and hurting others, just as these attitudes must inevitably hurt you. For there is no conceivable difference between yourself and others. Whatever you do to others, you do to yourself, and vice versa. I have said this many times before, but in your mind you still make a distinction, so much so, that you go on being spiteful and hating.

Now, my friends, let yourself feel the pain of inflicting pain: feel it without crumbling, without exaggerating, without doubting your divine heritage. If you can do this, you have found the all-important key that will make you want to open up to your divinity with all its joy and with its eternal reality of love. If you cannot bear the pain of your guilt and look away from it, then you cannot feel deserving, and hence you must block the contact with God in you. So this is one of the most important keys you need.

Facing the guilt for the pain you inflict on others is really not very different from facing the pain you have received. In both instances you can exaggerate it and make yourself incapacitated for life, or you can decide not to feel it at all. Or you can allow the feeling, and say: "Yes, others have made mistakes. I have made mistakes. They were blind and groping, and so was I. They were in darkness and I was in darkness. This is regrettable, but this is what we are all here for. I now lift my head in the dignity of who I am. I know the greater power within me will help me to feel the pain I have given and the pain I have received." This attitude can now be cultivated and pursued, my friends. You do have the courage; you do have the greatness; and you do have the possibility within yourself to feel this and become stronger and better, not weaker and worse, as you fear.

It is absolutely necessary that you trace all the connecting links between cause and effect, and be totally aware of pain received and pain given. See how one leads to the other, back and forth, in an endless chain reaction. It is in your power, any time you wish, to break this chain. When you decide to go into this area of your being to look at it, express your intent to avail yourself of all divine help in you. Call upon this help. Become so still that you can listen. Feel it and know its presence.

The apparent paradox is that the more you hide from the pain of your guilt, the more ruthlessly you punish yourself. Conversely, it is true that the more you face and feel that pain, the less you will need to punish yourself. The negative attitude of hiding from yourself what you are doing and really feeling creates a negative force field that perpetuates itself in the following way: punishing yourself for your unfaced guilt, you must stay in the very attitude that accumulates more and more guilt. You are truly caught in one of the most tragic of vicious circles: because you imagine that you cannot face the pain of your guilt, you cut yourself off from your heart, your center of being, and from your innermost life. You feel forever undeserving of joy. If you are undeserving of joy your needs must remain eternally unfulfilled. If you feel undeserving and unfulfilled you go on punishing the world for this painful frustration. You dare not turn to the wondrous magnificence of your inner presence to help you out of this trap because doing so would instantly fill you with light and joy. You feel that because you have given pain you do not deserve such an experience. But how can you break the negative pattern unless you avail yourself of the power of God within you? And you cannot experience God within you without also experiencing joy, peace, and light. How are you ever going to break the vicious circle unless you use this key?

SOME ASPECTS IN THE ANATOMY OF LOVE

Excerpts from Pathwork Guide Lecture No. 240

You constantly overlook the tremendous freedom you possess in how to think, interpret, and react in any given situation. You fail to comprehend that through freedom of choice you have the power to create and change conditions. Instead, you are mostly busy demanding from others that they present you with the conditions that you fail to create through your own choices.

These concepts are of utmost importance for you to understand, my dearest ones. For all too often you continue this unnecessary struggle. The more you rebel against what does not require rebellion and overlook what within you creates your self-infringement, the less you find true self-love and liberation.

Freedom comes from an intelligent recognition of the structure and from the choice to accept it. This choice is made not out of fear and weakness, dependency and submission, nor is it a rebellion of the inner tyrant, which disregards reason and wisdom. It is made with the will to see the truth and meaning and lovingly accept, on those grounds, the narrow structure of the present, even if this seems at first to restrict personal desires. This is the act of love and freedom. The first two alternatives of fearful acceptance and blind rebellion are obviously unloving and unfree. They are not deliberate choices, but blind, automatic reactions, and they bear the seed of hate, distrust, suspicion, selfish demands, maligning of truth.

There will come a time when you will find that outer infringements of your freedom diminish steadily. When you are without childish temper tantrums and blind rebellion, you will be able to dissolve these infringements. In order to attain this ever-widening scope of freedom, it is necessary to first find how often your reactions are thoroughly misplaced. Then you can develop a knowing reaction instead of a blind one. The knowing, conscious, probing, objective, deeply honest search for the particular truth of the particular circumstances will immediately fill you with the self-esteem that can never develop when you pursue a road of blind selfwill and accusing fury.

An open mind and heart allows you to love and be free, to be in truth, and thus to trust and respect yourself. You will then see which boundaries, restrictions, and rules are meaningful, and which are not. You will create conditions that make the meaningless restrictions unnecessary, and you will tenderly and lovingly embrace the restrictions that you find meaningful. You will accept them even when they at first seem to impose a momentary disadvantage on you. You can cultivate an open and intelligent frame of mind much faster than you think, if you will only stretch your consciousness and make room for this possibility.

Freedom does not mean what the infant imagines: no boundaries at all, taking the line of least resistance. That is the strongest enslavement imaginable. Nothing could be less free. In that attitude you depend constantly on something that cannot be, no matter how much you try to force, manipulate, and cajole. You become the slave of unreality, and reality defeats you.

I suggest to all of you, my dearest friends, a small assignment that you may incorporate into your self-observations and your daily review. When you find yourself in rebellion, no matter how you try to explain and justify it, forget for the moment the issue and the pros and cons. Focus rather on what are your feelings. Do you feel rebellious? Do you react blindly? Do you let in other considerations? What is your state of mind? In these questions you will get the clearest answers you need and you will immediately be able to determine whether you are in a state of love or in a state of hate. You can then further ask, compare and think, how you really feel when you are in a state of love and how that differs from the rebellious, blind state you find yourself in now.

"BE IN THE WORLD BUT NOT OF THE WORLD" -- THE EVIL OF INERTIA

Excerpts from Pathwork Guide Lecture No. 244

One of the most important attributes in this struggle is courage. The role of courage is often underestimated. Thus, on some irrational level of your emotional perception, courage is often associated with evil, while the weak, cowardly person is associated with mildness, gentleness, goodness. Nothing could be further from the truth. I shall attempt to show you now how cowardice is just as evil as active perpetration of evil. Spiritual cowardice not only leads to betrayal of the best, of God, but to as active and potent evil as the more obvious aggressive acting out of cruel, self-serving, dishonest malice.

What happens when you are weak, when you do not stand up to evil behavior, when you collude with it and refrain from fighting for the truth? You encourage evil, you sustain the illusion in the person who perpetrates it that it is not so bad, that it is all right, that it is smart and that many people support it. This perpetuates the further illusion that by asserting truth, standing up for decency, and exposing evil, you will be isolated, ridiculed, and rejected. In other words, you foster the delusion that in order to be accepted one needs to sell out integrity and decency.

All this happens constantly in human interaction. Such encouragement of evil is easy to push out of full awareness. Yet around the person who indulges in this kind of negative behavior there is a cloud of guilt, confusion, and an emotional climate of self-rejection. No matter how you try to talk yourself out of self-hate and into self-esteem on theoretical grounds, you will not succeed until you have gained the spiritual courage to be willing to sacrifice acceptance from others -- if indeed you believe that this price has to be paid.

When someone in your presence maligns another, for example, your silence is not goodness, gentleness, peacefulness. Far from it. In a sense it is more destructive and insidiously negative than outright, active maligning. Maligners expose their evil and thus take the chance of being rebuked and having to face the consequences. Passive listeners cheat by trying to have it both ways: they derive as much negative gratification from the maligning as the active one, without, however, risking any negative consequences, and even priding themselves that they really did not participate in the act.

Can you see that silent collusion with evil is more abrasive than active evil? This leads to an interesting speculation, my dearest friends; namely, that the active principle in distortion, harmful and murderous as it may be, could never by itself wreak the same havoc as the passive, receptive principle in distortion. This is why many spiritual teachings say that the lowest quality on the whole scale is not hatred, but inertia. Inertia, on the energy level, is the freezing of the flow of divine energy. In inertia the radiant matter of divine influx thickens, hardens, blocks, and deadens. The primary guilt is for cooperation with evil, permitting it, conveying one's approval of it, no matter how subtly and indirectly. The secondary guilt lies in pretending and claiming that one is not participating in the evil, and even pretending to be good, when one's cowardice and self-serving gives silent permission to the evil act.

Inertia refrains from action for the good. Laziness, non-movement, passivity (in a negative sense) always supports indifference, selfishness, nonparticipation. It promotes stagnation and hinders growth and change in the self and in the environment.

Stagnation and inertia are indeed the greatest evil. They are matter not wanting to be enlivened with the spirit, the spirit of the Eternal, who desires to penetrate the void that is totally stagnant and inert. False receptivity is masked inertia. The more false receptivity exists, the less real receptivity is possible. The inability to receive love, pleasure, fulfillment, and the compulsion to sabotage fulfillment come from not giving to God. When you give to God, you need to be active, to overcome inertia, to move and do and act, to risk, and sometimes to fight against your own and others' evil. Only then will you feel free from guilt and can therefore truly be receptive to what the universe wants to give to you. The grace of God is everywhere around and within you. It is always there, you are bathed in it. Your inability to receive it makes it appear as though it were unattainable.

THREE PRINCIPLES OF THE FORCES OF EVIL; PERSONIFICATION OF EVIL

Excerpts from Pathwork Guide Lecture No. 248

What exists in microcosm within the human soul also exists in the macrocosm. Every inner drama is a reflection of an outer drama and vice versa. Every battle within the human soul between the forces of light and darkness, between the higher self and the lower self, is also waged on a universal level, enacted by many entities at different stages of development. Every personality goes through this battle within himself or herself; every personality experiences it occasionally in his or her surroundings; and, last but not least, every personality will become involved in larger issues that also represent the universal battle between good and evil.

The individual's role in this battle -- on whatever level it takes place -- very much depends on his or her conscious, deliberate choice of where he or she wants to be. When issues are tinged by personal emotions, desires, or interests that belong to the realm of darkness, and these personal emotions are not recognized as fogging the vision, then one truly becomes a target for one or all of the three principles of evil. Cruelty will be hidden under the guise of expressing your feelings, while maligning and distortion will become the tools of cruelty and the intent to hurt. Disconnection from deeper reality will blind you to the true meaning of events. Confusion will be rampant so that truth will be used for lying and lies will be called the truth. The forces of evil have been allowed to find entrance through your lower self which you have not dealt with sufficiently.

My dearest friends, do not allow yourself to become enmeshed in this battle: do not unwittingly lend yourselves as tools for the aims of the prince of darkness. Use your good will to see the truth. See both the truth of your hidden lower-self motives and the truth of your higher-self good will, and give up the line of least resistance and its negative pleasure which makes you persist in a destructive course bringing clouds of pain and darkness to you and those around you. The key is really quite simple. It is so tempting to follow negative thoughts and come to believe them. It furthers a lower-self fixation to indulge in the negative pleasure of negative thoughts, suspicions, blames, and accusations which may or may not be true.

Raise the pertinent questions. The first would be, "What is the truth here? I want to know the real truth." The second question is, "Do I want to know the truth in this or that issue?" If you can answer these two questions truthfully and in depth, you will dispel the clouds of darkness which carry the three principles of evil.

Clarification will come when the truth is really wanted, even if a part of the truth at this moment is still that you do not want the truth, that you want to attack, to blame, to see people or events in the worst light. The reason why you secretly wish this can only be explored when you no longer deny feeling this way. The truth will shimmer through slowly but inexorably, once you admit a negative intentionality which then attracts expert spirits of lying and of confusion. Clarity will dissolve the pain of your guilt that is frequently not allowed to surface. You keep it down by strengthening the destructive process of projecting on others what you fear in yourself. Clarity will also help dissolve the pain you inflict on others with this evil projection.

Do not ever delude yourself into believing that negative intent and negative thoughts do not inevitably reflect in your actions and affect others in an insidious way. Thoughts can never remain separated things. They create results and events in one form or another. The clarity which comes from honestly pursuing and answering the above questions after you have delved into your hidden thought processes which are seldom completely unconscious will dissolve the pain. It will reestablish your connection with eternal life.