

Acquire True Wealth

~ Dr. M.W. Lewis

San Diego, 6-16-57

Our subject this morning: "Acquire True Wealth," Acquire True Wealth.

Let us not forget Paramhansa Yogananda's words, the Founder of Self- Realization, when he said that, "The true nature of a man is determined, not by what he has, but by what he is."

And so, what we are, truly, is real wealth. Now, True Wealth is wealth of the Spiritual Realm – wealth of Christ Consciousness, wealth of Heaven. Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this earth." And so, real wealth – True Wealth – must be Spiritual Wealth, because this world passes away, and the things thereof. So let us understand, right off, what True Wealth is – it's Spiritual Wealth, wealth in Christ Consciousness, wealth in Heaven.

Now True Wealth is Eternal, and therefore, it is our greatest need, our first necessity, because every day we have illustrations, right before our eyes, of the temporary nature of things of the world – they pass away. But Spiritual Wealth does not pass away. It is Eternal. And so, we must not forget that whatever we accumulate of a material nature, we are apt to lose in a moment. Anyway, at any rate, we have to leave it. And so, it behooves us to judge whether we are laying up wealth of a temporary nature, or whether we are laying up Spiritual Wealth, which is Eternal, and does not pass away.

And one great thing to remember is this: that although we can lose – and those of you who have passed through a stock market crash understand that you can lose in a moment what it has taken years to accumulate. But it is never necessary, never necessary to lose Spiritual Wealth, because it is Eternal and cannot be taken away from you. That's the lesson we must learn this morning: Spiritual Wealth is Eternal.

Now, although we have been, or are, Divinely created, somehow we have lost connection between, or with, rather, the Great Ocean of God's Consciousness – True Spiritual Wealth. Somehow we have lost that connection. Although we read in the scriptures we are made in the Image of God – "I say ye are God's, children of the most high" – still we have lost that connection. We have lost contact with the Great Ocean of God's Presence, and therefore, Spiritual, or True Wealth.

Now, how did this...how has this come about – through a progressively involving process in which the individual soul of man has become attached to its natural body – this body of nature – and its material existence. We have become attached to the vehicle, and that existence in which the vehicle lives, rather than to the Eternal things of Spirit. We must not forget that. In other words, these limiting conditions, illusory conditions of this outward existence, have replaced within us, those Eternal things of Spirit, or those Eternal things of True Wealth. We have to undo that. We have to once more leave that outward consciousness, or this outward consciousness, which is of a dual nature, and passes away, and replace it, by a Permanent, Eternal Consciousness of the Presence of God within.

It is because we are connected with this Cosmic Dream Consciousness, this illusory, or transitory consciousness; it is because of that that we suffer. And we do not enjoy our natural wealth of Spirit, and suffer ill health, loss of things, and poverty, because we are identified with this Cosmic Dream, which passes away. Now in striving for temporal things, we must not forget values. We must be able to judge values. Speaking about values reminds of a little, a little story, or rather an actual happening; happened out in the desert where I go there, two a week to recuperate, realizing real values. And there in front of the drug store there was a box about that wide and that high, and it had a grating over the top. And on the inside it had a picture of a big rattlesnake coiled up ready to strike. And underneath it said: "Beware, baby rattlers inside." So, we cautiously came up and looked in. And they were there all right. There were little baby rattlers of celluloid, you know, those little things that rattle. And so we must not be sidetracked by values. I don't know what I expected to see. It was the funniest thing to look in – baby rattlers – they were there, but the shock was terrible.

So let us realize, in striving only for temporal things...that is, in striving only for temporal things, we lose the true values of life. And the true value is, what are we seeking? It is freedom; freedom, freedom of the Soul; freedom from attachment to this worldly existence – this temporary living in which we find ourselves. Freedom of the Soul is what we truly want.

And so, we need to just look around a little bit and we will see that most people are spending their time in pursuit of, rather than enjoying, health, and wealth, and freedom. They're pursuing something – hunting for something – instead of looking right within themselves, and finding that True Wealth, which is in the Soul itself. It is no other place. The Soul is Blissful and Peaceful, because it is a Ray of Spirit. The Soul is a Ray of God. And what is God? God is Bliss Consciousness. And so, let us not be sidetracked, but look around and see – see the millions of people who are following the will-of-the-wisp of temporary pleasures. There's no happiness there. There's no True Wealth.

And so we come to the question now – what to do about it? What to do about this thing? Well, the problem of acquiring True Wealth is just the same as acquiring material wealth. There is no difference. The law is the same.

Now, to acquire material wealth, first, until we accumulate sufficient wealth to take care of our necessities, we must have some security until we can work, and labor, and lay up material wealth. And so we do that. We create an estate. As you all know, and those of you who do not do that, especially, if you are just starting out, should do it, because you cannot tell what's in store. And so we create, immediately, in this material life, we create an estate to tide us over until what? Until we, through work, and labor lay up, lay up material wealth. We take out what we call insurance, and immediately we have created something of value.

Now in attaining True Wealth, the process is just the same, exactly – exactly. We immediately, if we're wise – and everyone us can do it – we create an estate, an estate in Spirit, an estate in Spiritual Consciousness, by taking out, as I have said, insurance that gives us that. You say, "Do they have insurance for heavenly things?" Yes, they do! You read the scriptures, you'll find that out. And we find that out in that beautiful verse of Daniel, in the 10th Chapter, the 12th Verse. We read as follows: "And then said He unto me, Fear not Daniel. Fear not, for the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand and then to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for those words."

Now, there you have, right before your eyes, a statement of how to create, immediately, an estate in the Kingdom of God. So when we read, "Thou has set...when thou hast set thine heart to understand," – this means that when there is a definite turning, a definite turning toward the Supreme, Potent Forces of God, the minute there is a definite turning toward God, you open up a channel for the Supreme Power of the Spirit to flow through you. Right then – not next week, next year – right then! It says that. The first day we do this, we have taken out of our insurance our True Spiritual Value. The first day that you set your heart to understand – "from the first day thou didst set thine heart to understand," – right then, and you really mean business for God – you opened up the channel. Not for material forces, but for the Supreme Potent Forces of Spirit to work and take care of you.

Now that's the first thing to do in laying up True Wealth, is to take out that insurance with God. And you can do it by meaning business with Him, and set your heart to understand, and say, "God here I am. Now I mean business with You." And then what do you have to do? Then you have to do, as it says, "chasten thyself – chasten thyself before God." What does that mean? It means that you do not sit down and just say, "Lord you take care of things." No. It means you get busy, and through spiritual

discipline, you work, and labor, and lay up spiritual treasure in heaven. In Christ Consciousness, you lay up true treasures.

Now, there you have, right in our own scripture, just as clear as it can be. Now, does it not say, “Thy words were heard and I am come for thy words.” And so, the minute you mean business with God, and in your heart you feel that you want Him, and you want God alone, right then, He has come to you. He has opened up the channel for the flowing of the Great Spiritual Power of God.

Then, comes the second step. Just as in laying up material wealth, the second step is work, and labor – work, and labor. If you take out your insurance in this worldly existence, and then do not work, and labor, you cannot pay the premiums. You cannot pay your bills. You will lose your insurance. So it is in Spiritual things. When you take out the insurance with God, then you must work and labor, and through spiritual discipline, when you do, you attain God contact. When you take out insurance with God, you open up the channel for the Superior Forces of God’s Spiritual Consciousness to flow through you. Then when you work, and labor you utilize those Spiritual Forces. And what do you do? You attain God contact. You attain oneness with Him, and realize that He is in you, and flowing through you. Then you sure will lay up True Wealth, True Spiritual Oneness with Him.

And so, work and labor is necessary, and especially to lay up Spiritual Wealth. In this world we can do it sometimes by playing politics, or as they say, “Who do you know?” But with God, you have to know Him. You have to know Him. And He is behind your thoughts, and your actions, and your motives, and your emotions, and you cannot fool Him. And so, work and labor is necessary. But that Jesus attests to the fact that if you do work and labor, if you do work and labor, the goal is there. The goal of Spiritual Wealth is there. The goal of True Wealth is there. For he says in St. John, the 4th Chapter [35th and 36th Verses], “Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh the harvest, behold I say unto you, Lift up your eyes and look unto the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he then reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto eternal life [life eternal];” And so, if we work, and labor, the harvest is there – it’s right there. As it says, look unto the fields for they are white, ready for harvest. But then it also says – what’s the reward? “He that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto eternal life [life eternal].” There is the key.

And so, laying up spiritual values, Spiritual Wealth, means that, if you discipline yourself, and regularly keep contact with God at the Christ Center, there you see the spiritual fields, the White Spiritual Fields of Consciousness of God – Christ Consciousness, that’s what it means. Because it says, the reward is eternal life. Is there any eternal life in this outward consciousness and its things? No, but within you. As you lift your eyes to the Christ Center, there you see the white fields of Spiritual Consciousness. And day by day you accumulate wealth – the wealth of those Spiritual Fields of Consciousness – until, finally, you

realize that's your home. That's your Cosmic Home of Light. And there is no value, there is no value like that. That's Supreme Value, because that's God's Consciousness, right within ourselves.

And so, work and labor is necessary, but as Jesus says, it's there – the value is there. And you can lay up spiritual values by performing spiritual discipline – works of Spirit. But also, he says in Matthew, the 9th Verse [Matthew 9:37], "Then saith he to his disciples, the harvest truly is plenteous," – the Spiritual Consciousness is there, there is no question about it. But, he says, "The laborers are few." The laborers are few.

In the [Bhagavad] Gita we find the same thing. Out of a thousand that hears about God and His Great Consciousness, one listens; and out of a thousand of those who listen and follow, one receives it. Why? Because, that's the way of the world. It also says in the Gita, "All men walk the earth wholly deluded." But he also says, "Get out of my delusion." Get out of it! There's nothing there but delusion – uncertainty. There is no love in this worldly creation. True love – only in God.

And so, if we are to lay up true values, we have to seek it in the kingdom of which Jesus spoke: "My kingdom is not of this world." But that kingdom is more real than this world ever thought of be, because that's God's Consciousness and His Power. Those are the fields of white which are ready for harvest; the Consciousness of God, which you can see at this point [Doctor points to the place between the eyebrows], plus His Power, and greatest of all, plus His Love. And finally, we can acquire True Wealth of spiritual realization, but to do this we must first fully surrender to God – fully surrender to God. And when we do that – what do we attain? We open up the channel for those Superior Multi-forces of Spirit. If God is with us, there's nothing we cannot do; but alone we can do very little.

And so, the first step is to fully surrender to Him. Set your heart to understand, and then mean it! You cannot fool with God – God is not mocked. He knows our very thoughts – our very actions. He knows whether we're trying to fool Him, or fool anybody, because He's our own consciousness. And so the first thing, we must surrender to Him fully. Then the channel is opened up. The channel – not for worldly forces – but the channel for the Supreme Spiritual Forces of God's Consciousness Itself – that's the first thing.

And then, the next thing, the next step is, as I have said, work and labor – work and labor for it. Spiritually discipline yourself. Get that realization. And what is that realization? God contact. And, if you know God is with you, what do you care for anything else. Nothing! That's the greatest thing, is to know God is with you! Not in an imaginary way, but in a real way. Know His Power, His Strength; greatest of

all, His Love is with you. If you have this, if you know your Heavenly Father is with you, and is watching your every motion, and is supplying you with everything you need in spite of the trials you go through. Then whether you are sick or not, whether you have anything or not, whether you have no place to lay your head, or whether your friends all leave you, and you have not a friend left. It doesn't make any difference, because, if you have God, if you have His Great Consciousness, and His Light, and His Love, you have everything. And you surely, have laid up True Spiritual Wealth.

Father's Day Message

Now this is Father's Day, as I understand. I guess I happen to be one, so I should say a few words about Father's Day. But what can we say? We have the example right before us of the One Father – the One Father.

One time I went to the Master – I've told you this – but it, it, we can tell it again. I went to him in trouble, and I couldn't rattle him at all. And when it was smoothed out, I said, "I wish I had the stability and the calmness you have Sir."

And he says, "Remember Doctor, the same Father who protects me protects you. He is our common Father."

And so, we have the example of the common Father who protects His children, especially if we let Him. And so, each one of us, as a father should try to protect his children, his family, as a true father should. But then, on the other hand, we should remember Jesus' words when he said, he looked out and said, "Who, who is my mother, who are my brothers and sisters," and he could've said, "Who is my father?" And he pointed to the disciples, and he said, "All these who do the will of God, they are my brothers and sisters, mother and father."

And so that's what the true father should be. We should look after, not only our own family, but we should look after every one, other one of God's disciples as a true father, as God looks after us; and "He is watching over us, and is kind to us," as the Master said, "More than we can imagine." So should we, as fathers, look after one another, realizing that they are all, or we are all God's children, under the one common Father. Having him, we have everything. Having that relationship with Him, then we will be able to watch over our children, whether they are our own, or members of the Great Family.

Let us just meditate a moment.