

## Finding the Greatest Love

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San Diego, 2-7-54

Subject this morning: "Finding the Greatest Love."

Love is the Greatest Force in the Universe, because Love is the Power, the Force, the Burning Power of God's Consciousness. From the Eternal Flame of God, the Light of the Holy Vibration, has come all things, and the Power of that Holy Vibration is God's Love. In that Holy Vibration is the Wisdom, the Joy, the Bliss of God. That's His Love. Because all things have come from that, it is the Greatest Force of the Universe, it is that which we must have, we must know this Greatest Love, the Unconditional Love of God.

Now, that Love, attached to the body, to conditions, and to things, is "conditioned love." It's the same love, but it's circumscribed; it is not unconditional; and when those conditions are interfered with, that love is not anymore. But God's Love, Unconditioned Love, never changes; cannot be circumscribed, is All-Pervading, is Complete, is the Fullness of God Itself. That's why it's the Greatest Force in the Universe. Everything comes from that. All Law depends upon that One Great Force of God, His Love.

Now, Sri Yukteswarji has said, and many other saints have attested, that this great, Greatest Love, the Omniscience of God, His Love, is natural in the human heart. It's a natural thing. It's there. But then it becomes sidetracked. It becomes attached to people; to things; to conditions. But, because we are made in the Image of God, that love is natural to our hearts. It is there, and as he says, "it can be cultivated."<sup>1</sup> It can be cultivated. And now, when it is cultivated, what happens? First, we realize our position. We realize the relationship of our Soul to God, and the relationship of every other Soul. Because we have come from that Love, that's the Force that made us, that's the Greatest Force in the Universe.

And so, when we merge in the Eternal Flame of God, the Power of which is His Great Love, and see that, and become one with it, then the hearts of men are changed. Then we can realize our position, and we can realize that every other Soul is a ray of that Great Flame of God, one with His Unconditional Love. Knowing that, it's easy to love those people; and loving each and every Soul, we have God. Without that, we have, cannot take one step,<sup>2</sup> so to speak, towards God. And so, when we realize, and culture, the Natural Love in our hearts, it's not something foreign, it's there. Many times you have been lifted up.

Why? Because that Love is natural to you. Every time you're lifted up, then you are with God. You have contacted Him. You have become one with Him.

Can you imagine when you see a very wicked person, you look at them. Can you feel that Great Love of God looking at them? You should be able to, because they are made from that God, but sleeping. And you cannot do that unless you have realized the Fullness of God's Love, the Greatest Love.

Now, one other thing; by the culture of this Natural Love of the Heart, what happens? Then you will be fortunate in contacting the Divine personages, which have witnessed that Great Love of God, know the Light. By that, by your merging with them, by your being one with them, as they are saved, so you can attain Salvation. No other way. We are saved by merging in the Great Love of God. And so, by cultivating the Natural Love of the Heart, we may be fortunate enough to come in contact with those Divine channels of God, and thereby we are saved, eternally, from delusion.

Another thing that happens when we cultivate this Divine Love, without which we cannot live in a natural way; then we contact those fit personages, fit people, who are struggling like we are, to know God. We can be with them, and help one another back to God's Omniscient Love. If you do not have that Natural Love in your heart, you cannot mix with them. That's God's Law. You may feel the Presence of God; you may feel the fullness of His Love; you may want someone to have it, as you have it; but perhaps, they cannot have it, because they have not cultured the Natural Love of God in their heart. The two do not go together. Ordinary love is different. But that Unconditional Love in the heart, when it's cultured, those who have it, mix together, merge together, work together, lift one another up to the Great Fullness of God. Isn't that a great thing? But you cannot do it unless you have cultured that Natural Love of God in the heart.

And finally, perhaps the greatest thing, or the thing which is most important to us, is this: that without, without, without the culture of that Natural Love, there is no peace. There is no peace. Because you know, ordinary love changes – conditions change, and what's the end? Sorrow – sorrow and disappointment. And so, without the cultivation of that Natural Love of God in your heart, there is no peace. Life becomes unbearable. But the worst thing is we cannot take one step – we cannot take one step – toward the kingdom of heaven unless we have cultivated within our heart that Natural Love, Unconditional Love of God, and I will show you why in a moment.

Remember, it is impossible. That's why the Bible said, if you have love in your hearts, you are with God; if you haven't it, you are not with God. And that's why it's impossible to take one step toward Holy

Salvation without that feeling of the Omniscience of that Great Love of God. Now those who have that, they know one another. God says, "My sheep know me (sic)."3 And so, those who feel that Natural Love of God, they are attracted to one another; and that's how the humble devotee stays on the path back to the Omniscience of God's Love, to the Greatest Love. And so, we must find, we must find this Greatest Love, because we cannot take one step toward the Eternal Kingdom of God without it. That's why it is so necessary, so important that we find this Greatest Love.

In Revelation, the 2nd Chapter, 2nd to 4th Verses, I want you to listen carefully. It says: "I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them that [which] are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars: And thou hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted." Now, God knows all these things, but it says: "Nevertheless, nevertheless, I am [have] somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.4"

We have left the Unconditional Love of God, which He has given us, and from which He has made all things. We've left that. Don't you see? That's the important thing. That's why the first and greatest commandment is to love God, because we've left Him. We may do all the good in the world, we may hate evil and false prophets, but we have something to account for – we have left the Unconditional Love of God. We have left that. That's the thing which is so important. And that's why, as I said a minute ago, one cannot take a step toward heaven until the natural instinct, or the Natural Love in the heart, is cultivated. That's why it's so important, as it says in the subject of this lecture, "Finding the Greatest Love."

Now, this energetic tendency of the Heart's Natural Love, it is the Burning Power of God Consciousness. That Force can go two ways: it can go outward; it can go inward. When it goes outward – toward the senses, toward the muscles, toward the body – it becomes emotion; and you know, as well as I do, that sometimes, in a religious fervor, they begin to jump, and run around, and yell, roll, and so forth. That has gone into the muscles, and then again to move, and act. But when it's turned inward, when that Natural Love in the Heart is turned inward – toward the spinal Centers, and toward the brain, the Thousand-rayed Lotus, where God's Consciousness dwell, dwells, where His Love dwells – when it's turned inward, then it becomes devotion; quite different, quite different than that display of emotion. It's a deep, penetrating, satisfying, powerful feeling of God's Omniscience.

Now the Natural trend of that is toward the spine. And there, the Presence of God's Great Love, sleeping at the base of the spine, in the Kundalini Power, is aroused. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness5, so that Great Love of God, His Omniscience within us, His Fullness is aroused. Then we feel,

and know, that Love is the Greatest Force in the Universe. As His Love moves, comes up the spine, and then expands into the Great Spirit of God, then we have that expansion of Consciousness; we realize that we are one with that Great Love of God. Having that, separate existence from Him is unbearable. So you can see it is so necessary to find this Greatest Love.

Now let us, just for a moment, speak about conditioned love; the drawbacks of circumscribed love. Now you feel so much for those who are near you: your relatives, and friends, and those of the family. You feel so wonderfully toward them, but that love is conditioned. That's not unconditional, because when they're taken away, you feel sad. When you lose things in this life which you love, you feel sad. That's conditioned love. But, if you will expand that unconditioned love, that conditioned love, into the All-pervading, Unconditioned Love of God, you will not lose those people. You will not lose that love when they pass on, or when things are taken away from you, because those things came from the Great Love of God. How can you lose?

You will remember when the Master, his mother passed away? He told me, "I was going to kill myself" – such was his love for his mother. But it was circumscribed, it was conditioned. But he found the answer in the Unconditioned Love of God. There he found his mother in each and every one, because that's Unconditioned. Everything came from that Love of God. You will find everything, including those near and dear to you, in that Omniscience of God. So, you see how necessary it is that we find this Greatest Love. We must expand this circumscribed love into the Great Unconditioned Love of God.

Now, going on just a bit; a few illustrations of the fullness of God's Love. We must not forget this; we must not lose sight of it. God Loves us. He gives us freely of His Unconditional Love. And so, that is why we read in Matthew, the 3rd Chapter, Matthew, the 3rd Chapter, 37th to 40th Verses these things which we must never forget. Twenty-second Chapter, I beg your pardon, 22nd Chapter, 37th to 40th Verses. This is what we read: "Jesus said unto them (sic), Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." "This is the first and greatest (sic) commandment." "...Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself, and this is the second (sic)."6

Now, God loves us unconditionally. He doesn't demand anything from us, does He? He goes on and loves us. He lets us live and enjoy His gifts. "He just," as the Master says, "waits for us." So, God loves us that way. We must love others the same way. We must love others the same way. First we must love God, because we have forgotten Him. "I am somewhat against thee for having left me (sic)."7 So we must love God that way.

And then the second is, "...Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.<sup>8</sup>" Whomever crosses your path is your neighbor. If you have the Realization of the Eternal Flame of God, and the Power of that Flame is Love, then you can love your neighbor as yourself.

Now, I said in the beginning, this Love is the Greatest Force in the Universe. It is the Force of all Forces. And it says just that in this last verse: "On these two commandments..." it cannot be any clearer "On these two commandments hang all the laws and the prophets."<sup>9</sup> "On these two commandments," the greatest commandments, everything depends on you finding that Great Love of God, because everything has come from that. In business, if you feel the Omniscience of God, how different business would be. In family relations, if we felt the Omniscience of God, both parties did, and the whole family, how different things would be. In government, if the Love of God was realized by those who govern us, how different things would be. And, if all men realized the Unity of God's Great Love, then, really, peace would come on earth.

And so, Love is the greatest thing in the Universe, as the Master said just before he died – listen carefully – he said this. Those of you who have met him realize the great strength he was, the great lift he gave us, the great solid wall of strength. When you realize that, this is what he said: "When I am gone, there's nothing that will take my place except love." So that's why love is so important. That's why we must find the Greatest Love – God's Love.

And so, we come, finally, to the end: how to find the Greatest Love. In Revelation, the 3rd Chapter, 21st Verse, we read: "To them who overcometh (sic) ..." In the gist of which is, "To him who overcometh will I grant to sit with me on my throne,"<sup>10</sup> who overcometh will I give the station to be one with that Greatest Force in the Universe, the Power of God's Love. Overcometh what? Overcometh circumscribed, conditioned love. He who lifts his consciousness from the duality of consciousness into the Great Light of the Holy Ghost and perceives that, it is he who has overcome circumscribed, conditioned love, because in the Holy Ghost we feel the Great Love of God, the Omniscience of His Presence, the Eternal Flame, the Power of which is the Burning Power of Love. That's why Love is the Greatest Force in the Universe, and that's why it says in Matthews, Matthew, "On these two commandments..."<sup>11</sup> on loving God and His Presence in all humanity, "...hangs all the laws and the prophets." So, you can see, it is necessary that we find this Greatest Love.

How to do it? Through the techniques of Self-Realization. As I said in the beginning, if we have, if we cultivate that Natural Love in our hearts, then we can merge with those who have it; the Divine personages, as the Great Ones, and the beloved Master, and those through whom they work. If you merge through the techniques of Self-Realization – his teachings, his meditations – then you will contact

the Holy Vibration, the Holy Ghost. Then the heart will become as pure gold. Your little circumscribed love will expand into the Great Unconditioned Love of God. That's how to do it.

And then, seeing that complete fullness of God, and His Great Love, then you will not remain detached; you will understand yourself, as just a little speck, resting on the Bosom of His Unconditional Love, the Fullness of God. You will not remain separated. Such is the Power of God's Love. And you will be united, forever. You will have attained Holy Salvation, by merging in His Great Love.

And so, the Force of Love is the greatest thing. I'll close with these few little words. "Love rules the court, the camp, the grove; the man below, the saints above. For love is heaven, and heaven is Love."<sup>12</sup>

#### Closing Meditation and Hymn

Let us meditate just a moment.

Heavenly Father, we thank Thee, for the inspiration, of Thy Love. Help each one of us, to break the boundaries, of conditioned love, and thereby, not lose, but gain all, the fullness, of Thy Great Love. Om, Peace, Amen.

And let us rise and sing our closing song, "In the Beauty of the Lilies."

On the .mp3 file Doctor and the audience sing a hearty rendition of the traditional closing Hymn.

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<sup>1</sup> The Holy Science, Sri Yukteswar Giri, 1963, Chapter III, "The Procedure," Page 33, "Without this love, man cannot live in the natural way, neither can he keep company of the fit person for his own welfare; he becomes often excited by the foreign matters taken into his system through mistakes in understanding the guidance of nature, and in consequence he suffers in body and mind. He can never get any peace whatever and his life becomes a burden. Hence, the culture of this love, the heavenly gift,

is the principal thing for the attainment of holy salvation; it is impossible for man to advance a step towards the same without it." Vide Rev. II, 2-4.

2 Ibid.

3 St. John 10:14, "I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine."

4 Revelation 2:2-4, "I know they works, and they labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou has tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and has found them liars:" "And has borne, and hast patience, and for my name's sake hast laboured, and has not fainted." "Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love."

5 St. John 3:14, "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:"

6 Matthew 22:37-40, "Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." "This is the first and great commandment." "And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." "On these two commandments hang all the law and he prophets."

7 Revelation 2:4, "Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love."

8 Matthew 22:39, "And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself."

9 Matthew 22:40

10 Revelation 3:21, "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne."

11 Matthew 22:40

12 "Love rules the court, the camp, the grove, And men below, and saints above; For love is heaven, and heaven is love." Sir Walter Scott from *The Lay of the Last Minstrel*, 1805