

The Truth about Reincarnation

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The subject this morning is "Reincarnation," and I approach this subject with fear and trembling. "Fools rush in where angels fear to tread," because this is the most discussed subject there is, and it's the subject of which the least is known about, because it's the most guarded secret of God.

Reincarnation, because on that, on that hinges all the Play of His Drama of Life; because, if we knew that secret, there'd be nothing to it. But still, through the help of the beloved Master and his grace, I have seen one or two instances, which I will tell you about. So that, as I'm concerned, that is, I feel, that reincarnation is a fact. And so, the subject this morning, "The Truth About Reincarnation."

In this subject I will give you some Bible references, a reference from the [Bhagavad] Gita, one or two personal experiences – but you, you may judge as to the truth of reincarnation.

First, what is reincarnation? What does reincarnation mean? Reincarnation means "The pilgrimage of the Soul, pilgrimage of the Soul until all of its desires are fulfilled, worked out, and it returns to the place from whence it came." These are the Master's words. "It is a pilgrimage." Now the pilgrimage takes place in the Drama of Life. The pilgrimage is in this Dream of God. The Soul itself is old. The Soul came from the Prehistoric Christ Consciousness – came long before creation. But in this creation it manifests first in lowly forms, in the minerals, and in the vegetable kingdom, in the animal kingdom, and finally, in the highest form, as a human being.

Now the Soul is the same through the whole thing. Through the pilgrimage the Soul is the same – complete. But just a little part of it begins to manifest in the lower kingdoms. Finally, it manifests to its fullest extent through the intellect and the mind as a human being. But then to know the Soul, from there on we have to know the Soul, not by the intellect, but by the intuition. There comes in involution, and man, being the highest form, has the power, through introspect and through involution, know, know this Prehistoric Christ Consciousness, which is ever was, and ever will be. That is what our Soul is.

But when the Soul is identified to the vehicle – like this body, or your body, or this animal, or that animal that takes on the characteristics – it's limited by the vehicle, therefore, it's difficult to understand that behind that is the One, Prehistoric, All-knowing Christ Consciousness, which we all are, because in Proverbs, in the 8th Chapter, it says this – the 8th Chapter of Proverbs, it says, in the 22nd and 23rd Verse, "The Lord possessed me in the beginning of His way before His works of old." The "Lord" is the Christ Consciousness, as I have said. "I was set up from everlasting from the beginning before the world was."

So that is what reincarnates. That is what makes the pilgrimage. Only it's in the Drama of Life. It's in delusion. You see only a part of it in the animal kingdom, in the vegetable kingdom; you see a great part of it manifesting in the human being. But to understand it fully, you have to go beyond, beyond the intellect, beyond the mind, beyond the senses, into the intuition of the Soul itself. Then by being one with that Prehistoric Christ Consciousness, you can know, not only your past lives, but the lives of everyone.

So that's what the Soul is. That gives you a different idea. The fact is it's attached to this transient body, or the body of each and every one of us, or the body of every animal, or every little crystal, that is what throws us off. That is what makes it difficult. But when you lift your consciousness into the All-pervading Consciousness of Christ, then, then you know it as a ray of that Soul manifesting as the mineral, metal, animal, vegetable, finally, as human beings. But we, being made in the Image of God, have the power to know that One Great Soul – the Christ Consciousness.

So there, in a few words, is what happens in reincarnation. When it says, as I read, "The Lord," it means the Christ Consciousness. This is the same preexisting Christ Consciousness which spoke and appeared to Abraham, David, Joseph, Daniel, Ezekiel, Zachariah, all the prophets. It's the One Great Consciousness of God, but being attached to the body of David, or Abraham, or Ezekiel, or Zachariah, we apply it to them, not realizing that it is eternal. That is what our Soul is, each and every one of us. We're not differentiated and separated. We're only separated by attachment to this body – circumscribed, limited by the vehicle. Remember that. That will give you a definite idea of just what you are, what the Soul is, and what incarnates.

Now, passing on – what is it that accompanies the Soul as it travels from one body to another? What is it that goes? We know it isn't this body, because this

body stays here, and disintegrates, passes back to the earth, and so forth. Therefore, it must be what is left.

What goes on with the Soul as it goes from one body to the other is the Spiritual body of Light plus the Causal body of God's Thoughts, which are producing it. The Spiritual body has 19 elements, 10 senses, the 5 pranas, which you've heard me speak of – those great forces which keep us alive and make us human beings – plus the mind, the intellect, the chitta or emotion, and ego. Those in subtle form, those things in subtle form, like the seed. In the seed is the Great Tree. So in the Spiritual body, in subtle form, are those things. Those pass on, plus the Causal body, wherein we have the elements of the Ideas of God, which have produced the Spiritual and the Physical body. Now those things, those 19 elements, pass on plus, plus paresis, or tendencies, which we carry with us from our actions in each life.

Is that clear? When you live this life, I live this life, I have certain characteristics and tendencies; I do certain actions. Now those leave traces. It is those things; it is those things that are carried on from one body to the next. That's why you will see the difference in people. Some will have certain tendencies, some will have another. Why – because they've carried them on. And that's how, if you are fortunate enough to have friendship with one like the beloved Master, he can show you someone who has reincarnated, being someone else you will see those definite tendencies.

Now we had a gentleman in Boston. He passed away. He was a very wonderful man, and I used to ask the Master, "Where is so-and-so?" He said, "Well, he's still resting. He hasn't been born yet." After awhile he says, "Yes, he's born now." Now in him, in him you will see the same characteristics that he had in a previous life.

Now, coming a little nearer home in my own family, I'm saying these things just to help you, not from any egotistical standpoint, but my mother passed away, and after a little bit he said, "Your mother is born again." I said, "Fine." He says, "She's in Maine." I said, "Fine." And later I was able to see in my mother, those same characteristics that she had. You could see in her look, in her actions. Furthermore, I don't want to say, but that much I will tell you, that having the good fortune to be with the Master, and have those things happen, to me. To me reincarnation is a truth and a fact.

Now, going on for just a little bit – what is it that causes rebirth, the Soul to come back? It is desire. As long as we have desire we have to come back, take another vehicle, go on, until we get out of the wheel of births and death. Jesus had the desire to do what? Not perhaps the desire you and I have, but he had the conscious desire to do God's Will. That's why he came back. That's the way you and I must come back. Not through compulsion, but we must know that Prehistoric Christ Consciousness, be one with it, realize our oneness with God. Then we can come back as Jesus did, fully realizing, as I'll try to show in the scripture, fully realizing that he was playing a definite part in God's Great Play of Life.

Now, one of the greatest arguments for reincarnation is the injustices – the inequalities we see in life. I will have to skip over it fast, because it's a vast subject. But we see certain children born – they live just a short time. We see others born – they live a full life. Some are born in wonderful families, spiritual families, lots of money. Others have nothing. Why?

Then we see different people. Some people have social position; some have wonderful opportunities; some have good health; some can make money. They just touch a thing and it turns into gold. Others, they have good intellects; they're wonderful people; they can't make a dime, so to speak. Why, why, why is this so?

Then we have the case of outstanding people, musicians, artists, and, I remember one boy came to the house, a Hindu boy, and he could multiply 60 digits times 60 – mentally. Imagine it, 60 figures – sixty trillion times 60 – mentally. So he said to me, he said, "When were you born?" I says, "What's the date of your birth?" I says, "March 26, 1893." He says, "You were born on Sunday." I said, "Fine, that's wonderful." "Oh" he says, "that's nothing." He says, "You take six figures." I put six figures on a paper, I put another. He says, "Take six more." I put six more on. He says, "Multiply them together." So I got my pencil out, he says, "Your answer is such-and-such." I didn't even get started, and he says, "Anytime within a year you ask me and I'll tell you that sum, in the multiplication there. So he says, "Well." I says, "How do you do it?" He said, "Well, I see those things, it's like a blackboard. I see those, and I begin to multiply mentally." And he multiplied 60 digits times 60, I think it was in Columbia and Oxford.

Now, how does that happen? That doesn't just happen. There is a cause of that. That is a result of karmic law – cause and effect. He is just where he is, as you

and I, every one of us are, because of our previous lives and our previous actions. You cannot escape.

Now going on – we see those differences. How about you see the difference in temperament, capacity, and evolution of different men, in the same family, born under the same conditions, and the same training, these things cannot be explained except through reincarnation.

Then, another thing, you take 70 years, 70 years of sin, or virtue – certainly cannot throw any of us into hell or heaven; and how about the man who has about 50 percent good karma and 50 percent bad karma? What's he going to do – stay six months in hades and six months in heaven. How are you gonna, you cannot play it that way. It's impossible. And also wouldn't God be partial, wouldn't He be partial, if He created some of us fortunate and some of us unfortunate? Yes, he would.

We're here because of our previous action, and we're here because we have deserved just what we have got, according to the laws of God's Great Creation; and surely, a finite life, a finite life cannot, cannot give an Infinite Life. There's no question about that. We've got to right now, right now, know the Infinite part of us. Know the Christ Consciousness from which we have come. Be one with that. Then we will know all our previous lives, not only our lives, the lives of everyone, because they are all in that great Consciousness of Christ, the Christ Consciousness – God Himself in creation. Everything is there. The thing is, remember, we are sidetracked and identified with the vehicle, not the Doer, not the one who is playing this Drama of Life.

Now going on just a little – I will have to burden you just a bit with a few Bible references. You know, in America here, we want facts. We don't want to be just told certain things. We want to know about it. So I will hurry through this, and those of you who can take down the references, I advise you to do so, and then read them. Read them, and then you will understand about reincarnation in a much clearer way.

The first reference now is, the first reference, is Matthew, the 17th Chapter, the 17th Chapter, the 12th and 13th Verses. Matthew, the 17th Chapter, 12th and 13th Verses. Now this has to do with reincarnation. Here we read, "But I say unto you, that Elias is already come." Jesus said this. "Elias is already come." Now Elias, you know, was Elijah. He was called Elijah. You read in Kings, in the Old Testament, you will read that Elijah was spoken of as Elias. So Jesus says, "Elias

is already come, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they wanted to. Likewise shall they also do unto the Son of man." Then he says, then it says, "Then the disciples understood that he spake unto them of John the Baptist." John was Elijah, or Elias, he came as John the Baptist. That's the first.

Now I have given you a few references in the Bible interpretation this morning about John being the guru of Jesus. There you learned, or you understood that John was previously Elijah, the guru of Jesus. At that time, in the Old Testament, Jesus was Elisha. As I will point out, Elijah found Elisha. The Lord told him to go and look him up and find him, which he did, and what happened? Then he anointed him, he anointed him with his Spirit, the mantle of Spirit.

So going on we find in the 1st Kings, the 19th Chapter, 1st Kings, 19th Chapter, the 15th, 16th, and 19th Verses, just what I have told you. Now I will not read it all, but I will just give you the gist, and you folks can look it up. The 19th Chapter, 15th, 16th, and 19th Verses, it says, "And the Lord said unto him, go..." – he's speaking to Elijah; and meet certain people, do certain things – then he said, "and you will find Elisha, the son of Shaphat. . .", and what shall you do? Thou shall anoint him "to be a prophet in thy room."

So there we have the direction of Elijah to find Elisha, and what to do – give him his mantle of Spirit. And we will see the reason in a few minutes. Then it says, and so Elijah departed "...and found Elisha plowing with twelve yoke of oxen... and he with the twelfth, and Elijah passed by him and cast his mantle of Spirit upon him." And so there you have what happened. Jesus received the mantle of the Spirit of Elijah. He received his Spiritual perception, because he was his guru. He was his guru.

Now in the 20th Verse we read, that is after receiving, after receiving the mantle of perception from Elijah, it says he returned home, and then the people arose and they went after Elijah. Then Elisha went after him, and ministered unto him after he had received his mantle of Spirit.

Now going on just a little bit – in the 2nd Kings, the 2nd Kings, 2nd Chapter, 2nd to 6th Verses. Here we read that Elijah is testing Elisha. The guru tests the disciple that he may be strong and may rise above delusion. Now Elijah tried to get Elisha to leave him in several instances – there were four instances between the 2nd and 6th verses, which I will not read. He tried to get him to leave him, he says, no, I won't, because he knew, he knew what was in store from him. Elisha knew

that he had to pass through the crucifixion, be crucified. He knew the test was coming, because after he received the mantle of perception from Elijah, then he knew he was to come again, and go through this, and be crucified.

You say, "How?" because then didn't he ask Elijah for a double portion that he might stand what he knew was coming. When Elijah cast his mantle of perception upon him, Elisha knew that he would come again as Jesus, and be crucified, dead, and buried, and so forth. He knew that, he knew that. He also knew that 12 oxen represented that, the 12 disciples. Then, he said, Elijah, do something for me. Elijah said to him, I will do what you want. And Elisha said give me a double portion of Spirit that I may stand and go through this great test which I shall have to do when I come again as Jesus. And so, in 2nd Kings, read that 2nd Chapter, 2nd to 6th Verses. You will read about how Elijah tested Elisha.

And then from the 9th to the 15th, you will also read how finally, Elisha received the double portion of Spirit. How - by being able to keep his attention on Elijah, and not leave him, until Elijah ascended into heaven. Then Jesus, Elisha, received a double portion of Spirit. It says finally, in the 15th, "And when the sons and prophets, which were to view Jericho saw him they said, "They said," now listen, "They said, the spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha. And they came to meet him, and bowed themselves to the ground before him."

By Elisha being able to perceive Elijah going up in the whirlwind, which is the Kundalini power which took him up to heaven, by Elisha being able to perceive that, what did he receive? He received all the perceptions which Elijah had in that particular life. And so, he had the power, and he had the strength to go through that great test which he would have to do as we read about in the New Testament.

So after Jesus received the mantle of Spirit from Elijah, then you will notice, by reading in the different places in 2nd Kings, the 4th Chapter, about the 32nd or 34th Verses, 42nd to the 46th Verses, there we find that Jesus performed the same type of miracles of raising the dead, and of feeding the 5,000, which we read about in the New Testament. He did the same type of miracle which he did later in the New Testament, which you all, of which you are familiar. So we see the same characteristics brought over. John had the same raiment; Jesus did the same type of miracle. These are most interesting things.

And so, finally as to the Bible references, we read John came to see Jesus. Why? He came to be with him through his trial. Now many people say, "Well, if John was Jesus' guru in the previous life as Elijah, why, why wasn't he greater than Jesus in this New Testament era we read about?" That's an important point.

Now every realized Soul is the same in the Great Light of God. Now in a previous life Elijah was greater, no doubt, we read in the Old Testament. But in the New Testament, we find that John, who was Elijah, took a different part, a secondary part, and Jesus manifested, as I have said, completely the Great Prehistoric Christ Consciousness to the fullest extent. Therefore, he was taking that part. But in the Light of God, there's no difference between them. Just in that particular incarnation John was less, according to our view, than Jesus. But really, they are just the same. Remember that when you compare some saint with another. No. The comparison is in you, not in the Light of God. They are the same. That's one thing used to bother me. But thank God, I understand it now. I hope you do.

Now we read also in Matthew, the 14th, this is important, in rather Matthew, the 3rd Chapter, the 3rd Chapter, the 3rd Chapter, the 11th Verse, we read as follows – 3rd Chapter, the 11th Verse. Now John knew Jesus was coming. I'm trying to show you that fully realized people know what's going on. They know what's going on. John knew Jesus was coming, and there we read – Matthew the 3rd Chapter, the 11th Verse. "I indeed baptize you with the water unto repentance, but he that [cometh] (shall come after me) is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear; he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire."

Jesus came to manifest the Great Consciousness of Christ, the Prehistoric Consciousness of Christ. So there you have, John knew Jesus was coming, and Jesus also knew that his guru had come. And this we read in Matthew, the 17th Chapter, the 12th Verse; the 17th Chapter, the 12th Verse. This is what we read. "But I say unto you," Jesus is speaking, "that Elias is already come . . . Elias is already come, and they knew him not, but have done unto him as they like." Then he says, "Then the disciples knew that he spoke of John the Baptist." Jesus knew that his guru had come.

And going on finally, completing the reference in the Bible. Jesus knew that the law of guru to disciple must be fulfilled. So that when John, that he saw John, he wanted him to baptize him. And John said "No." Jesus said, "Yes," because this is "...the way of all righteousness." And John also showed his great regard for Jesus when he said in Matthew, the 3rd Chapter, the 11th Verse, "He that cometh

after me is mightier than I...whose shoes I am not worthy to bear." There was Jesus, who manifested fully the Christ, said about John the Baptist, or John the Baptist said about Jesus. Then what did Jesus say, he said, 'There is no man born of woman as great as John the Baptist.'

So you see the relationship between two fully liberated Souls as Jesus and John, that you realize that there's no inequality in the Great Light of God. The inner quality comes from little people. And you will find that last reference in Matthew, the 11th Chapter, the 11th Verse, when Jesus spoke about John, "No man born of woman is as great as" my guru. That's how we feel toward our guru, isn't it? That's how Jesus felt toward his.

Going on now with references to reincarnation in the scriptures; in the Bhagavad Gita, in the 4th Discourse, the 5th Line, there we read how Krishna, speaking to Arjuna, said, "Many lives we have been here," we've come and gone, "I remember all of mine, but you, O Arjuna, do not remember yours." Those who are one with the Prehistoric Christ Consciousness, they know all their past lives, just as all saints know the past lives, their own, and others. So, all who merge in that Prehistoric Christ Consciousness know all previous lives of all saints, as well as their own.

The only argument against reincarnation is that this is the only life which we know. We have no memory of past lives, and the future seems unknowable. A favorite expression is, "No one ever came back to tell us about the other side." This, of course, is so in the majority of cases. As I have said, reincarnation is God's deepest secret. But it is knowable, when we become one with Him, one with His Christ Consciousness.

Jesus, you know, came back. Some of the disciples touched him – he ate with them. Babaji appeared in different places. The great Lahiri Mahasaya also showed that his Soul could be in more than one body. Sri Yukteswarji came back and appeared to the beloved Master. And so memory is not a positive, deciding factor in the matter of reincarnation, whether it is true or not, because most of us cannot remember even our childhood days. While saints, some of them, retain their consciousness after death through birth, and then go right on without a break in the continuity of consciousness.

Now, one or two more interesting facts about reincarnation – evolutionary reincarnation. Evolutionary reincarnation starts in the crystal and reaches the human sphere of existence. Eight million years are we in the animal body. Then

the Soul passes to the body of man. And so, we can see that reincarnation is the retrograde stage through which the spirit returns to itself. The One Spirit became many through evolutionary processes and now returns to Itself. A metallic Soul, a vegetable Soul, a human Soul – herein the bodies are different – but the Soul is the same. There are different rays of that One Great Prehistoric Christ Consciousness. Soul of all things manifesting, a little bit in the minerals, to a great extent in human beings.

Now as to reincarnation in spiritualism; in spirit possession, two Souls possess one body. In reincarnation, one Soul passes from one body to another in different births.

And so, we come to the final question, how, how can reincarnation be understood? Reincarnation cannot be intellectually understood. One has to experience the state of conscious death. By the techniques of Self-Realization, concentration and meditation, we pass into that state of conscious death wherein we are expanded beyond the limitations of this body and merge in the one Prehistoric Christ Consciousness. Self-Realization techniques will give you this realization, if you do them. The Master once said to a group of disciples, he said, “Die then, die then in Kriya yoga.” When they show a little interest, give them the Hong Sau technique, the Om technique, and these are auxiliary to Kriya yoga. Then later, if they take the Praeceptas and read them, then they will understand why they do these techniques.

And so in conclusion, we must break this Dream, this Dream of God wherein the pilgrimage of the Soul is taking place. We must break it by being one with the Dreamer. We want to reincarnate on earth as Jesus did – of his own free will – not as a matter of compulsion. Free the Soul from karma and loss, which binds it, and lift the chains of forced reincarnation. Prehistoric Christ Consciousness can change all things. All waves of lives are potentially saints in all, who can be one with that Consciousness; can know not only their past lives, but the lives of all.

I have a letter from Lahiri Mahasaya’s grandson, Ananda Lahiri, and in that he read of some of the things Lahiri Mahasaya had said. And this is the thing Lahiri Mahasaya said, he said, “That by merging in this One Omniscience of God,” Prehistoric Christ Consciousness, “being one with His Omniscience, being one with the Universal Power of Sight, of the Single Eye of Spirit, then we can know not only our past lives, but we can know the lives of all the saints,” – Jesus, and

Lahiri Mahasaya. We can even be, be one with Jesus. We can be a Christ. We can be a Lahiri Mahasaya.

And so, dear friends, you have the truth now about reincarnation. Our problem, our duty, our task is to merge in that Christ Consciousness which is manifesting in each one of us – in the stones, in the vegetables, in the animals, and in us. When we merge in that, then we can know not only our past lives, but the past lives of all, and greatest of all, we can merge and be one with Jesus, the Great Masters, our beloved Guru, Lahiri Mahasaya, and all the liberated saints.

Doctor closes by playing an old Christian Hymn on the organ.