

The Garden of Eden Rediscovered

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[*Note: Not given before and audience*]

The subject this morning is "The Garden of Eden Rediscovered."

There is much misunderstanding about the Garden of Eden. There's a great deal of vagueness. But the Garden Eden is simply the region of Spiritual Consciousness of the spine, and of the brain, where Christ Consciousness is found. The "garden" is where that Spiritual Consciousness of "Eden," the region of Spiritual Consciousness, manifests, or can be perceived, where things, which have their roots in Spiritual Consciousness, grow. You know, a garden is a place where things grow. And so, the Garden of Eden is the place where Spiritual Consciousness manifests.

Now, we have a reference substantiating this, in Genesis, the 2nd Chapter, the 8th and the 9th Verses: "The Lord planted a garden eastward in Eden;...And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food; the tree of life also is in the midst of the garden; and the tree of knowledge of good and evil (sic).¹"

And so, the Lord planted the Garden eastward of Eden. The East part of the body is this part², where the sun rises, where the Star of the East is found in the Christ Center; this is the East part of the body. The back part³, the posterior part, is the West. The upper part⁴ is the North, and the lower part⁵, especially the base of the spine, is the South part of the body. And we have many references in the Bible and other scriptures to "whirlwinds of the South." In other words, this refers to the Spiritual Consciousness, which is dormant at the base of the spine; the Great Creative Consciousness, which, when it is aroused, whirls upward with that sort of a motion. This is referred to when we read in the Bible: "When

¹ "And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed."
"And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil."

² Doctor points to the forehead, the point between the eyebrows, the Spiritual Eye

³ The Medulla Oblongata Center

⁴ The Seat of Virtue, Thousand-rayed Lotus, top of the head

⁵ The coccyx or base of the spine

Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness.⁶ The North part is this part. The East is the part in front. And so, when it says, “The Lord planted a garden eastward,⁷” it means that the place where the Spiritual Consciousness of Eden, or the spine and the brain, where that manifests, or grows, is Eastward, at the Christ Center.

Now in this garden, it says that the Lord made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food.⁸ In other words, those trees which have their roots in the Christ Consciousness of Eden, the fruits of those trees are good. It also speaks about “the tree of life growing in the midst of the garden.”⁹ This refers to the Tree of Spiritual Energy, Life Force, in the spinal region, with the roots in the brain – the Thousand-rayed Lotus. The stem is the spine; the branches are the nerves of the spinal nervous system; and the leaves are the end-organs. And so, this is the Tree of Life, the tree of Spiritual Consciousness and Energy.

This Tree of Life is spoken of in the Bhagavad Gita, in the 15th Discourse, as the Tree of Life “With the roots above and the branches beneath (sic).¹⁰” We also read in Genesis, that the Tree of Life, the “tree of knowledge of good and evil” is found in the Garden. This refers to the Tree of Soul Consciousness, which is the innate cognizing conscience of Soul-consciousness, or Christ Consciousness. In that, is the knowledge of good or evil; whether we should follow things rooted in Christ Consciousness, or follow the conscious force of evil, or Satan. This also proves that good or evil, good and evil are distinct separate Forces created by God.

Now going on, what are the characteristics of Eden? The characteristics of Eden are Joy, and Peace, and Bliss. We have this substantiated in Isaiah the 51st Chapter the 3rd Verse: “For the Lord shall comfort Zion: will make her wilderness like Eden (sic)...¹¹” “Wilderness” simply means “consciousness,” will make her consciousness like the Consciousness found in Eden, of Joy, and Peace,

⁶ St. John 3:14, “And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:”

⁷ Genesis 2:8

⁸ Genesis 2:9

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ 15th Discourse, 1st Line, Translated by Dr. Annie Besant, 1939, “The Blessed Lord said: With roots above, branches below, the Asvattha is said to be indestructible; the leaves of it are hymns; he who knoweth it is a Veda-knower.”

¹¹ “For the Lord shall comfort Zion: he will comfort all her waste places; and he will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody.”

and Bliss. Will make "...her desert like the garden of the Lord.¹²" The consciousness within, until Christ Consciousness comes, is a desert. Nothing is there; nothing real, nothing substantial, nothing lasting. But, when we have the Consciousness of the Garden of Eden, then we feel the Peace and the Joy and the Bliss of that Consciousness. "Therein shall be found Joy and Gladness, Thanksgiving, and the voice of melody.¹³" "Melody" means Harmony. And so, the characteristics of Eden are what? Joy, Peace, Bliss, and Harmony.

Now, to rediscover the Garden of Eden, this title presupposes that we were consciously in Eden at one time, because we're going to rediscover something, which at one time we had. And this is just so. We were in Eden. And in Ezekiel the 28th Chapter, 13th to 16th Verses we read words just to that effect. We read: "Thou hast been in Eden, the garden of God;... and thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; and thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.¹⁴"

"Thou wast upon the holy mountain of God" means, that we had the Consciousness of the Thousand-rayed Lotus, where God and His Angels dwell. We had that. When it says, "Thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire," means that we had Consciousness to move up and down through the Centers of the spine, wherein the Spiritual Consciousness is concentrated; wherein the subtle forces are located. We had that Consciousness.

"Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee...and therefore, I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God.¹⁵" "Iniquity" simply means "delusion." When delusion overtook us, when attachment to outward things, duality of consciousness was ours, we lost the Unity of Consciousness. We lost the Consciousness of the Thousand-rayed Lotus, the Holy Mountain of God. We lost the Consciousness of "the stones of fire," the Centers of the spine. We lost the Spiritual Consciousness, and that is what is meant when it says, "Therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Ezekiel 28:13-14, "Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and the gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created." "Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire."

¹⁵ Ezekiel 28:15-16, "Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee." "By the multitude of thy merchandise thy have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire."

garden, the mountain of God (sic).¹⁶ With duality of consciousness it is impossible to perceive the Subtle Consciousness of the region of the Holy Mountain where God and His Angels dwell.

And so, to rediscover the Garden of Eden within, simply means that we must once more make Christ Consciousness, the manifestation of Christ Consciousness, dynamic to our consciousness.

How to do this? The rediscovery of Eden will come only by following one who has reestablished Eden within. And that one that I refer to, especially, is the Master, Paramhansa Yogananda; who, reincarnations ago, reestablished Eden within. Those of you who had the privilege to meet him, when you came in his presence you felt the characteristics of Eden; the Joy, the Peace, the Great Love, and you felt Harmony. Why? Because that Garden of Eden Consciousness, the Christ Consciousness was there. It was not so much the words that he spoke, because, sometimes, I've sat with him all night, hardly a word spoken; but I felt the characteristics of Eden, the characteristics of Christ Consciousness.

And so, the way to rediscover the Garden of Eden within us, the way to rediscover and reestablish the Christ Consciousness within us, is through the door; the door to the Garden of Eden, which is at this point [between the eyebrows], the Christ Center.

Now, Paramhansa Yogananda came as a special dispensation to give SRF¹⁷ Yoga, that all irrespective of race, or creed, or color, or position in life, could enter into the door, into the "East gate," and once more rediscover their Divine birthright – the Consciousness of the Garden of Eden.

We read this, exactly, words to this effect, in Ezekiel the 43rd Chapter, the first two Verses when it says: "...he brought me to the gate..."¹⁸ we might say the Master brought us to the gate, "even the gate that looketh toward the east: And, behold, the glory of God of Israel came from the way of the east, and his voice was like the sound of many waters:..." the Holy Vibration is what we contacted,

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Self-Realization Fellowship

¹⁸ Ezekiel 43:1-2, "Afterward, he brought me to the gate, even the gate that looketh toward the east:" "And, behold, the glory of the God of Israel came from the way of the east: and his voice was like a noise of many water: and the earth shined with his glory."

“and the body shined with his glory (sic).¹⁹” This is the Consciousness of the Garden of Eden which we have to rediscover.

And so, then we come to the point: how will you know when you have once more reestablished Eden within? In Corinthians we have the answer; Corinthians, 1st Corinthians the 2nd Chapter the 9th Verse: “...Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath it entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.²⁰” “Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard,” means that the Consciousness of the Garden of Eden is not perceived through outward means, through outward consciousness, through the outward instruments of duality; but is perceived through the Intuition of the Soul, through the All-seeing Power of God, the Universal Power of Sight, through the Omniscience, which is one with that Universal Power of Sight – the Intuition of the Soul. That’s how we perceive things and Consciousness of the Garden of Eden.

“Nor doth it enter into the heart of man...²¹” That is, with ordinary emotion of our hearts, we cannot perceive the Great Heart of God, but only by merging and being one with His Great Love, can we perceive and realize the Consciousness of the Garden of Eden.

And so, we will know when we have reestablished the Garden of Eden, because, as we sing in our chant, each one will know. “He knows, whom you let know.²²” Every devotee knows whom God lets know; because when he does know, then he receives, as St. Paul said, “That Peace which passeth all understanding (sic) ...²³”

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Ezekiel 2:9, “But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.”

²¹ Ibid.

²² Chant by Paramhansa Yogananda, “Thou Art My Love”

²³ Philippians 4:7, “And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”