

Holy Ghost, Symbol or Fact

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"Holy Ghost, Symbol or Fact" – a very intricate, lengthy subject because all things come from the Holy Vibration, the Holy Ghost.

And so in preparing this talk this morning, it is quite difficult to confine to about 20 or 30 minutes. It's such a vast subject. And I was reading that, in a magazine of late, that for a good sermon, 95 percent preparation is necessary – five percent inspiration – and the inspiration depends upon the preparation. I thought that was a very nice statement; that [is] if we can know our subject. And so in Self-Realization the ministers are admonished to prepare themselves, not only with facts, but by meditation. That's the difference. Meditation gives you contact with God through the Holy Vibration, and, therefore, you get the first hand realization for your subject, not just the preparation. Of course, some preparation is necessary, and which I have done.

Also, I had another little saying that intrigued me about a good sermon. It says, "A good sermon has a good beginning, and a good ending, and both close together." So I was thinking – how, how can I get that Holy Ghost close together when it's such a vast subject?

Master came out from his room one time, and he'd been listening to one of these, these, services on the radio. And he said that, "I just heard the preacher explaining the Holy Ghost. He says you must get the Holy Ghost, the puuurrrre Holy Ghost." Well, if you could have [heard him] say it, you all would have been thrilled. "The puuurrrre Holy Ghost." Now that's, that's an aspect of the Holy Ghost which I'm just going to sidestep this morning, because it's, it's too, too much theory to it – but when you feel the Presence of God, that's the real Holy Ghost.

Now the Bible sometimes is called the Word of God. It is the Word of God, but there's a misconception there. In St. John we read, "In the beginning was the Word, the Word was with God, the Word was God." You think the Bible existed in the beginning before creation came? You see the chance for misconception? But the Word of God is not just the printed word in the Bible, it is the Holy Vibration from which all things have come. That Holy Vibration, the Holy Ghost, the Great Comforter of which Jesus spoke – that's what the Holy Ghost is. And the Bible, in the Bible when it speaks of the Word, it means the Holy Vibration from which all things have come. Understand that, and do not be taken up too

much with the theory as we listen to the reading from Self- Realization Fellowship, the readings. There Master spoke about meditating on what you've read.

And so these things of the Bible must be known through realization, not through theological understanding, or through theory. They must be felt, and tasted, and that's why we sang that chant this morning, "I will meet Thee, I will touch Thee, I will love Thee." Not in idea. God must be known [not] as an idea, but as a reality. Understand that.

And so the Word of God means the Holy Vibration, and many, many, many people have not the remotest idea of what that means. That's why Self- Realization means so much to me – and I know to most of you – because it gives us something tangible to work on to know these eternal truths, and to know God, not as an idea, but as an actual reality, something vital, vibrating with His Power which we can contact, feel, and merge in. Such is the Holy Ghost. That's the true meaning of the Holy Ghost. And it is not a symbol – it is a fact. God is. But we cannot realize His Consciousness. You cannot see my consciousness. You can see my hand moving, which is a manifestation of my consciousness. And so, God is Consciousness. God is Consciousness.

Then it says in Genesis, "The Spirit of God moved." Therefore, God's Consciousness moves as Cosmic Energy. Therefore, you have those two things: Consciousness plus its Power. And what did that Power of God's Consciousness create – the Holy Ghost. "Holy" means God Consciousness – "Ghost," unseen. The Holy Vibration is the unseen movement of God's Consciousness. That'll give you a better idea of what the Holy Ghost is. If you can contact that, you have the Presence of God with you. That's what people do not understand. It's something real and tangible. The Holy Ghost, from this moment on, make it that. Do not let it be a theological conception. Make it an actual reality within you, and you can do it, because each one is made in the Image of God and that Holy Vibration, that Holy Ghost has made each one of us, and that Holy Vibration sustains us. Why? Because in that Holy Vibration is God's Great Intelligence, and above all His Love. Don't you see how important it is to realize the Holy Ghost as a fact, not just as a symbol? Not in the theological way, but in an actual way, realizing God's Presence within you.

And so, that's what God is: Consciousness plus His movement. The Spirit of God moved and that produced the Holy Vibration. And then God said, "Let there be light," and so the Holy Vibration is Light – Sound, Light, and Feeling of God. That's all it is. But it is – it's the reality within us. Remember that. All vibration has sound. So the first aspect of the Holy Vibration is sound, which we will talk just a minute about. Sound. The Holy Vibration is sound.

Now, this vibration is vibrating throughout all things because it has made all things. That the continuous hum of God's Great Cosmic Energy is an actual thing – a reality. But it cannot be perceived with outward ears – it can be perceived through your Soul's power, the intuition within you, and, therefore, it becomes a reality to those who hear the Cosmic Sound. Now you say, just hearing a vibration as my hand [Doctor claps his hands once], that doesn't give you anything. But in the Cosmic Sound is God's Intelligence. Realize that. His Love is in that Cosmic Sound. Then it becomes something different than a flat vibration. But that hum throughout the universe, or maybe because of His creation, that becomes an actual reality, solacing, sustaining power within you when you merge in it, after hearing it first, then merge in it.

So you see, the sound of the Holy Vibration is something different than just the sound of an ordinary vibration. Why? Because God's Power is in it, God's Love is in it, God's Intelligence is in it. Think of the Intelligence of God, which has made universe upon universe upon universe – there's no end to it, it seems. That Intelligence, is, will be your guide, if you'll allow it to be that, if you can merge in His Holy Presence. And so, that's what the Holy Vibration is, as the first aspect of sound. Realize that.

Now this is spoken of in the Bible, especially in Revelation, the 1st Chapter, the 10th Verse, and it says, "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day and heard a great voice as of a trumpet." We'll just stop there because we're talking about the sound of the Holy Vibration. It is spoken of in the Bible in many ways, as a trumpet sound, the voice of many waters, the great sound, the Amen – and we come to that later. This refers to the actual Holy Ghost, vibrating within each and every one of us. And all true devotees, who will honestly search to find God, and follow one who knew God, as our beloved guru – follow his techniques – will perceive this Cosmic Sound. Perceiving it, hearing it with the intuition of the soul, they will feel the Presence of God with them – even just the sound aspect of the Holy Ghost. So much for that first aspect: the sound of many waters; the great trumpet sound; spoken of in many ways, and spoken of universally in all religions.

Now the Light manifestation. The Light manifestation of the Cosmic Vibration is another aspect of vibration, because God said when His Consciousness vibrated and moved, He said, "Let there be light." Light is the underlying noumena of all creation, and if you have read science of late, you know that matter resolves into energy, and finally into light. You read the great scientists such as James, Jeans, James, and Eddington – and another gentleman from Harvard, I've forgotten his name – who have shown that matter resolves into light, and finally they have brought it back into matter. And the electron microscope shows that matter, even the metals, are vibrating light, and so that underlying vibration of light is an aspect of the Holy Vibration, because in the beginning was the Word and the Word was God – all things have come from that. And, therefore, Light is the underlying matrix, another aspect, of the Holy Vibration.

Now the third, and, perhaps, the greatest aspect of the Great Word, the Holy Ghost, the Comforter, is the Feeling aspect in it, the Love of God. God is Love.

Realize that. Because what good would anything be unless you could feel it? What good would this book be to me unless I could feel it? What good would anything be without the feeling aspect? What good would the Holy Ghost be without the feeling of God's Presence in it? It wouldn't give us what it does give when you merge in it and feel His Great Love and His Feeling – that is, His regard for you. No wonder Jesus said, "When I'm gone I will send you the Comforter." Why the Comforter? The Holy Ghost is the Comforter, because it has God's Feeling in it – His Love for you. We were created why? Because God so loved us. That's why He created us. Even in spite of all the trouble we have, underneath is His Great Love. We have made the trouble, because we came, became attached to that which He created. But, nevertheless, behind the vibration of this worldly existence is God's Love, and when all attain it in time. But why wait? Why not attain it now?

And so this Feeling aspect of God, the Great Love of His Presence, His Intelligence, to me, is the greatest part of the Holy Ghost, or the greatest aspect, because even though you have heard the Cosmic Sound, even though you see the Light, until God's Love comes, it is not the fullness of the Holy Ghost. Understand that. As Master said in some of his Metaphysical Meditations, "The body melts into the Cosmic Sound – body and universe melt into the Cosmic Sound – Cosmic Sound becomes the All-Pervading Light, and the Light loses its grossness in the Sea of Bliss."

So you can see that the aspect of the Holy Ghost which we must have is God's Love, and that takes care of everything. There's nothing can stand before God's Love. And so the humble devotee, who is making, who is pressing on, to feel his oneness with God, is utilizing the Greatest Force in the Universe, and by that effort he does the greatest good for this universe and for all people, because he is uniting himself with God, and God can flow through him. God's Love is the motivating force in this universe. And a humble devotee, not uttering a word, sitting silent in meditation, feeling, pressing on for the Presence of God, liberates tremendous power in the world. That's why the saints are the greatest benefactors for humanity, because God's Love flows through them. Realize that. Don't try to do so much yourself. I made that mistake. Don't try to do so much yourself. Let God do it. But you have to allow Him to do it by fully surrendering to Him, then His Love can flow through you.

And so you see, this Holy Ghost now becomes not just a vibration with its Sound, with its Light, but the Intelligence of God is in it, His Love is in it, that makes it something very, very desirable for each and every one of His children. The Holy Ghost is not symbol, it's a fact. It is a symbol of God's Consciousness, of course, but it's a fact that it can be realized, and that God is – the Comforter is with us.

And so the Holy Ghost, as I have said, is not an uncertain matter – although some people, because of their lack of realization, give it that aspect. It's not – it does not satisfy us. But through realization, which follows right meditation, then the Holy Ghost becomes a reality, because you have realized it. As long as you do not realize it, it's apt to be misconception – that is, when you treat it theoretically, or along the lines of theology. That's why we have so many different creeds and churches; outward expressions. But underneath them all is the one Universality of God's Presence, and that is known, that Holy Ghost is known through realization. Not through theory. Not through the testimony of the senses, mind, and intellect, but in the silence within, as we have said this morning, there you can realize the Presence of God as the Holy Ghost.

And then all the theory that they give you will not satisfy you. You will not taste God. Master used to say, "You can describe sugar, its various crystalline forms and its various outward forms of different kinds of granulated sugar, powdered sugar and all kinds of sugar. But," he said, "until you taste the sugar, you do not know sugar." And so you can describe the Holy Ghost through many ways – until you taste it, by realizing it, you do not know the Holy Ghost. Let us realize this one thing. And, if from this morning on we can make up our minds to feel

the Presence of God, no matter how feebly it is, and stick to it, God will not deny us. Such is the Power of the Holy Ghost within each and every one of us.

I have one or two references here, which I always like to give as I go on, because Master says it in such a concise way, far better than I can say it, or anybody I have ever met. He says this in his little book, *The Master Says*. "A number of intellectuals that quote the prophets are like Victrolas. Just as a machine plays records and sacred writings without understanding their meaning, so many scholars repeat holy scriptures, who repeat holy scriptures, are unaware of its true significance. They do not see the deep life-transforming values of the scriptures." "In the beginning was the Word, the Word was with God, the Word was God." Not this written word in the Bible, but the Holy Vibration is God. That's one illustration. And so they do, "From their reading, such men gain, not God realization, but only knowledge of words. They become proud and argumentative." He added, "That is why I tell you all, all of you, to read less, and meditate more." Read less and meditate more.

Now also from the same book. "Do not think that you can comprehend the Infinite Lord by reason." Do not think you can comprehend the Holy Ghost by reason. You cannot do it. "Reason can grasp only the cause/effect principle, because of this so that." You see the difference? And that pertains to the phenomenal world – this outward consciousness. "Reason is powerless to understand the transcendental truth and the nature of the Causeless Absolute."

The Nature of God cannot be understood through theory, but through realization, humbleness, meekness, and when the ego has been eliminated, then you can understand the Causeless Absolute, because God's Grace then comes. You cannot understand it except through His Grace. And so "Man's highest faculty is not reason, but intuition. Apprehension of knowledge derived immediately and spontaneously from the soul, not from the fallible medium of the senses or reason." And so it's a great thing, I think, that God cannot be known only by the smart one, but by the pure in heart, and the humble. They are the ones who shall see God.

Now going on just a little bit – we know that there are many diverse explanations of the scriptures, and that's why we have, as I have said, so many sects in the world. There are many of them. But there is one, who is one group of people who follow the Universal Pattern. Understand that. Universal Pattern. The brotherhood of those who seek to understand the Universality of God's Presence here with us, and they are made up of the saints, and the devotees of God, and

prophets, and men of God. They make up a certain pattern – and that's the pattern we should be interested in.

They have seen that there's something besides following a sect. They have seen there's something besides following an outward form of religion. They have seen there's a Universality, and they are the ones that follow it, follow it, and they make up the brotherhood of those who follow a Universal Pattern of God's Presence, and they are the saints, the prophets, and the men of God. Not just in word, but those who meditate regularly, and feel the Presence of God. They are the men of God. They are the devotees of God. As Master said, "They are not my devotees, they are all devotees of God." Understand that one thing. There are many people who now are turning toward that use. . . to form that Universal Pattern of those who follow God. And, I think, we all will agree that's the pattern we must follow, and will follow.

And so let us consider the Holy Ghost according to the Universal Pattern. This is very interesting, and I hope you like it. The Holy Ghost is universal to all religions. In the Hindu religion it is called the "Om." In the Mohammedan religion it is called the "Amin." In our Bible, and Christianity it is called the "Amen." In Tibetan religion it is called the "Hum." In Zoroastrianism it is called the "Ahunavar." Every one of those expressions means one thing: the Universal Holy Ghost underlying all creation. They refer to this one universal principle, the Holy Ghost, of which we are talking this morning. So you see, in all religions the truth is there, but it is not in the dogma. It is in the universality of each religion. And so, if you are a Zoroastrian, or following the Hindu religion, or Christian religion, underneath is the Universal Holy Ghost

and can be attained, and realized, by each and every member of that particular religion, if they will supersede the dogma, rise above it, contact the Presence of God.

Now a few comparisons. Patanjali, the father of yoga, he said this about the Om, "The Om is a symbol of God." When you merge in it, it is God, the Vedas say. "He who knows Om, knows Brahman." Brahman means God. Emerson said, when they didn't understand him, he said, "Substitute the word Jehovah for Brahman, and they will understand." And so Om means God, Jehovah. "He who knows Om," say the Vedas, knows God, "knows Brahman." And so you see, the universality of religion is in the Hindu religion naturally.

And in our Bible, what do we find? In Revelation, the 3rd Chapter, the 14th Verse, the Bible speaks about the Amen, which means the Holy Vibration – just like the Om means the Holy Vibration for the Hindus, and the Hum for the Tibetans – and this is what we read in Revelation, the 3rd Chapter, the 14th Verse, "These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God." The Holy Vibration came first, then from that all things have come. And so in our scriptures we have a definite reference to the Universality of the Om vibration as the Amen.

And going on, in the scripture where it says, "When two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." The name of God is what? The Holy Ghost, the Holy Vibration, the Vibration of God. Doctor Lewis, you know me because of the vibration of Doctor Lewis. We know God by the vibration of His Name, the Holy Ghost. No wonder those who know the Holy Ghost, know God. Those who know Om, know God. Those who are one with the Amen, are one with God. So from our scriptures we have the same universality of religion spoken of in regard to the Holy Ghost as the Amen.

The Koran, Koran also speaks about the Holy Vibration, and in that we read, "We must so live in this world as if we were in the Presence of God." How can you be in the Presence of God except you be in the Holy Ghost and the Holy Vibration? And in the Avesta, the sacred book of Zoroastrianism, it says "Zoroaster began to chant the Ahunavar," or the Om. So the Om is the universal aspect of all religions, referring to the Word, the Holy Ghost, and the Great Comforter, of which Jesus spoke.

Also in the Koran, I have a note here that it speaks about the Holy Vibration in this way, "Underneath the devotee" – that means behind the outward consciousness – "shall flow rivers of bliss." Master speaks of what? "Bliss is God contact." "Bliss is God's Consciousness." So in the Muhammadanism, in their sacred book, it speaks about "the rivers of bliss," referring to the same universal Holy Ghost in all religions.

Now going on to the Cosmic Sound as the Comforter. Jesus said, "When I am gone, I will send you the Comforter." He refers to the Holy Ghost, the Word, the Great Comforter. Why? Because God's Intelligence is in it. God's Love is in it, His All-Pervadingness is in it – His All-Solacing aspect is there. That's why Jesus spoke of it as the Comforter. And we have a reference to that in our own Bible, St. John, the 14th Chapter, the 26th Verse, "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost. . ." I'm sure the Holy Ghost will mean something more to us after this morning, the Comforter of God's Presence in each and every one of us. "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

Doesn't the Comforter seem something different to you? It does to me. Instead of just being a theological idea, or something which Jesus said, it becomes an actual reality. It gives me a chance to taste the Presence of God and His Great Comforting Vibration in that Holy Vibration – His Love is there – no wonder it's the Comforter. "I will send you the Comforter," Jesus said.

In the Autobiography¹, I have a reference which I'd like to give you, Master's words, referring to this Great Holy Vibration, this Holy Ghost, the Word, in which he says, "If ye continue in my word. . ." Christ pointed out – if you continue being one with the Holy Ghost, being one, merging in it, every day – now let's not let a day go by without we contact it, and then do our best to merge in it, otherwise, we're going to wile away this existence, and not know God, and have to come back, and go all over it again. Why not know him now – here? It can be done.

And so he says, "If ye continue in my word," Christ pointed out, "then are ye my disciples indeed." We're disciples of God the minute we hear his Cosmic Sound and merge in it. No one can take that away from us. No one can destroy that discipleship with God. As long as we hear His Presence and merge in it, we are His disciples, irrespective of denomination, irrespective of all this outward regimentation in the name of religion. We are God's disciple when we feel one with Him through the Holy Ghost, the Holy Vibration, the Word.

And then Master goes on. "You are my disciples indeed, and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make ye free." Why? Because when you hear the Holy Vibration and merge in it, then comes freedom of the Soul. Then you are not regimented and relegated to this little vehicle. Then you are free, because God is free, and you become one with Him in that Holy Vibration. "Free men all," the Master says, "lords of themselves, the Yogi-Christ's of India are part of the immortal fraternity. Those that attain a liberating knowledge of the one Father."

And so that's the Universal Pattern we must follow. Made up of whom? The saints, and the prophets, and men of God, you and me, if we so wish it and will it. It's a wonderful thing. That's the, that's the fraternity we want to join. We are God's children. Nobody can stop us. God is the Father of each and every one of us, and anybody who tries to curtail a child of God from realizing His oneness with God is sinning, because the greatest sin is what? Separateness from God. That's the original sin – separateness from God. We won't have it, because God is our Father, and we are His children.

And so all things have come from this Holy Vibration. All things have come from the one Light of the Holy Vibration, as science has pointed out. "All things are from Me," the Infinite Father says. And we have a reference to that, to the fact that all things come from the Great Word, the Holy Vibration of God. We have that in St. John in our own Bible. The 1st Chapter, the 14th Verse. "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us." The Word was made flesh. Each one of us is what? Vibrating Holy Vibration – Vibrating Word of God.

And yet how far we feel from Him when we get attached to this outward consciousness, and worldly living, with all its trouble and problems. But thank God we have a way to supersede that, and in the Presence of God within, we know, we know we are made from His Consciousness, and His Energy. How do we know? Because we feel, and merge, in the Holy Vibration. And merging in that, we hear the Cosmic Sound – we sometimes, perhaps, see His Light at this point [Doctor points to the Spiritual Eye], leading us on as it led the children of Israel. But greatest of all we feel His Love. Then we know He is with us, and we know that we came from Him, and even this bodily vehicle is nothing but His Vibrating Consciousness and Energy. Knowing that, we are satisfied that the flesh came from the One Omniscient Consciousness of God.

And so, we could go on and on, but I must stop, because the time is fleeting. Just to say that the Holy Ghost in us can be realized as the Spiritual Eye at this point [between the eyebrows], the Seat of Spiritual Being. And those who meditate will see it. They will see the Spiritual Eye there, the same Spiritual Eye spoken of in Isaiah, when we read as follows – the same Spiritual Eye here, spoken of many times as the single eye, the dove descending from heaven, the eye of intuition – is the manifestation of the Word of God, the Holy Vibration in each and every one of us, and every one of us can perceive it.

That's the universality in every one of us. We can perceive it through right meditation, and as it says in Isaiah, speaking about this Holy Ghost in each and every one of us, it says, "I, the Lord, say this to His anointed, whose right hand I have holden." God holds our hands as we follow the Holy Ghost. There's no

separation between us. "And I will subdue nations before my devotee." I will subdue nations. Such is the Power of the Holy Ghost. "I will loose the loins of (file ends)

1Autobiography of a Yogi, by Paramahansa Yogananda