

## “The Power in Willingness”

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The subject this morning: “The Power in Willingness.”

The song which was just played is most appropriate for this subject. God is there to carry us back home. But we must exercise the willingness to do that, to follow Him back home.

Now, “The Power in Willingness” does not come from your own little will or willingness, but it comes from bending your will, bending your will, to the Divine Will within you – being willing to do the Will of God. When you do that, then sufficient power comes to you for all your needs. So remember, in willingness, bending your will to the Discipline of God, to the correction of Him through the channels which He has sent here for us, and through the scriptures, that willingness is what wins. And in that willingness, comes sufficient power to stand against anything.

That’s the real power in willingness – bending your will to the Divinity within you; the All-knowing Conscience of your Soul. Bend to that. Do not just wanna follow your own little will. That will not take you home to God. But bend it to the Presence of God within you, the Divinity within you – the knowing Conscience of your Soul. That’s God in you. It knows everything. It knows what you should do. Only we’re restless, and we cannot hear that still Voice of God calling us. Ready to carry us back home. Bend to that Divinity within you. And then, when you bend, when you bend your will to God, then will come the realization of why you’re here, where you’re going, and go back home to God.

As our Master has often said, “Our home is not here.” I’m pretty well convinced of it. Aren’t you? There’s no real fun here. But with God, it’s all Peace and Bliss. That’s our home. Let us be willing to bend our will to His Great Will. And in that bending comes the Great Power, because you’re willing, you’re willing to correct your mistakes. You’re willing to bend to the Will of God.

And so, in this, our Spiritual striving, the quality of willingness is of greatest importance. As we read in the scripture this morning: “The harvest is truly

plenteous, but the laborers are few<sup>1</sup>." Those who are willing, willing to labor for what? The Eternal harvest of Eternal life. Jesus clearly pointed this out in a most beautiful passage in St. John, the 4<sup>th</sup> Chapter, the 35<sup>th</sup> and 36<sup>th</sup> Verses. Here he is speaking of the Eternal harvest. Jesus clearly points out, the harvest is plenteous. Harvest of what? Eternal Life, right within us; and in the words of the scripture, it points out clearly, just what he means. He says: "Say not ye, ~~that~~ There are yet four months, and then cometh the harvest?" He was speaking about that, and the disciples thought he meant the ordinary harvest in the fields. He didn't mean that at all. He said: "...behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes."

There's the key. "...Lift up your eyes." Anyone can see a harvest in the fields, but the harvest of which Jesus was speaking of is the Eternal harvest of Christ Consciousness at this point [Doctor points to the Spiritual Eye located between the eyebrows]. So he says: "...behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto eternal life..."

There is the key. Jesus was not speaking of an ordinary harvest, but the harvest of the Presence of God, right within each and every one of us at the Christ Center. And there the Spiritual Consciousness is seen as "fields of white" – White Spiritual Vibration; White Christ Consciousness; the Light of Christ. That's the true harvest. You must be willing, you must be willing to find it, to give the effort, to take correction, to be obedient to the scriptures, and to the channels which God is sending to us, and has sent. Then he says, "the laborers are those who have," or rather we say, "the laborers are those who have willingness, willingness to reap the harvest," that's all. There's nothing wrong with the harvest. The trouble is with the laborers. They are few, they're not willing. They do not really want God. But when you want Him, and bend your will. Then comes Great Power, sufficient unto all your needs. And so, if in willing, striving, we base our attitude on faith, and complete dependence on God, we cannot help but reach our goal. We will have sufficient power.

Now, even though, even though you make mistakes, it isn't the making of mistakes that amounts to that with God. Even though you make mistakes, still, if you have the willingness to stand correction, and then are obedient to the teachings, which God has sent to you and to me, through these channels – especially, in our case, the channel of Self-Realization and through all the scriptures – if you'll be obedient to those things, and especially, stand correction.

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<sup>1</sup> Matthew 9:37-38

The mistakes do not matter, because you will attain God contact. And that contact, because you're willing, will give you tremendous power.

You take all the martyrs – all the great saints – they were fearless; they were persecuted; they were thrown out of their churches; but they stood steadfast. Why? Because they had the Power of God in them, or rather, they realized it, recognized, the Presence of God within. We can do the same. We're all made in the Image of God. And as they did, so can we, if we have the willingness to do that. Master has said this: "If you are willing and keep striving..." Now, that doesn't say one thing about mistakes. Everybody makes mistakes. It's the willingness that counts. And so, he says, "If you are willing and keep striving, you will change." There's no question about it. That's the Law.

And so, often in life, as you look about you, you will see that it is those who are willing – who are willing to change – and are then, when they're willing to change, they persevere. That's another important thing. Being willing to change, and then persevere. It is those who reach their objectives in life. It isn't those who make the mistakes, necessarily, or rather, those who do not make mistakes. Mistakes are secondary. It is those who have the willingness to keep at it, and struggle, until finally the Power of God comes. They reach their objectives, because they persevere. They have the willingness to keep at it. They have the willingness to do dutiful actions, and the greatest action of regular, and deep meditation.

Of course, in the beginning it is difficult. As Master himself used to say, "I couldn't sit still ten minutes." But when the Power of God begins to flow through you, and you see the fallacy of this outward consciousness, and you get a little taste, a little Touch of His Presence; then, the whole thing changes. Then time does not exist. Why? Because you rise above the element of consciousness, where time exists – this outward consciousness – into the Great, Timeless Presence of God; that's what we want. That's what we're struggling for. That's what we must change for – to be in that. So, realize it is the willingness to keep at it, in spite of the mistakes and the discrepancies, to keep at it, and persevere. It is those people; or those are the people, who win.

There is a story in the Autobiography [of a Yogi]<sup>2</sup> which clearly illustrates that. I'll just read a little bit of it to you, and perhaps, give you the gist of it, to show you how this great saint persevered. Master says: "I knew an Indian saint, half

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<sup>2</sup> Chapter 21, Original Release 1946

of whose body, was once festering with sores...but his spiritual aspiration was undeterable. 'Lord,' he prayed, 'wilt Thou come into my broken temple?'" Wilt Thou come into my broken temple? "With ceaseless command of will," perseverance, "the saint gradually became able to sit in the lotus posture for eighteen [continuous] hours steady..."

"And," Master concludes, "he told me, 'at the end of three years, I found the Infinite Light blazing within my shattered form. Rejoicing in the joyful splendor.'" ...of that Light. When that light comes, this body is nothing. It gives God a chance to repair it. And so it says, he says, "'Rejoicing in the joyful splendor, I forgot the body...' and, 'Later I saw that he had become whole through Divine Mercy.'" Why? Because he had the willingness to hang on, to persevere, and that gives God a chance to carry us back home – as we heard in the song.

Now comes the question, how are we going to develop this willingness? It's all right for me to get up here and say you must be willing. How're you going to do it? That's very important. How're we going to develop this willingness? First, we have to understand unwillingness. What is it that makes us unwilling? Well it is attachment to this body, and the demands of this body that does that. That is, we have allowed the demands of this body, and this outward living, and consciousness to enslave our will. That's all it is.

Introspect yourselves; analyze yourselves; and you'll find that is true. In other words, our wills are sluggish, and the motivation is ego consciousness. That's all. And the opiates of ego consciousness deter us from utilizing the Divine Will within us. And being willing, not to let the dictates of our senses, or these outward objects of senses govern us. But to turn toward God, who is the Source of all lasting things. And so, our wills have become enslaved by the opiate of ego consciousness. And especially, when you get one is, who is a real egotist. You can just see how far the enslavement will go. That's why the pure in heart and the humble, shall find God. Because they're willing, they're willing to let God guide them – not ego consciousness. Not to be enslaved by this worldly consciousness. So that's the greatest thing.

Now, is first, to develop an attitude. Not of crabbiness, not of being a wet blanket all the time, everything's bad in the world. You know those people, when you see them coming, you start this way. Why? Because they haven't got the right attitude. So the first and important thing to develop willingness is the right attitude of Inner Joy and Peace under all conditions. Why it should be so?

Because in God with us, are we not His children? Why shouldn't we feel that way? That's the most important thing, or one of the most important things, is to have that attitude of Inner Peace and Joy, come what will. If you have that, then you'll be willing to do the Will of God. You'll wanna do the Will of God. And that will allow you to. But, if you allow your moods and senses to enslave you with the will of ego consciousness, then you cannot have that Inner Peace, that attitude, at least, of Inner Peace and Joy. And that is right, because that's our nature. We are God's children. We should do that. Then the motivation will not be from ego consciousness. It will not be that negative, that negative prodding from the ego and worldly consciousness. It'll be the positive motivation from God.

Do you see the difference? You must first have that attitude of Inner Peace and Joy. Saying perhaps, even, "Father, I don't know Thee, still I know that when I turn within, I feel this Joy and Peace. Still, I will have that, no matter what you test me with. No matter how hard you test me. I will have that Inner Peace, because I know, through the teachings of the Master, that that is the Presence of God within me. As he has said, there is no difference, or without a doubt, Bliss consciousness, which we feel, is God consciousness."

Now that's the first step. Let us remember that – having that, having that attitude of Inner Peace and Bliss – which simply means full dependence on God, that's all; until, through His Grace, we know Him, and are one with Him, have that inner attitude of Peace and Joy – that's the first requisite. Then the motivation of your action will be from God, not this ego and outward consciousness.

Now the second step is, do not be lazy. Do not be lazy. As our Master has said these words: "God will not reveal Himself to the lazy person." So, those of us who are lazy, let's begin right there, because we're defeated before we start, if we're lazy. Do not be lazy. Do not procrastinate. "Yes, tomorrow I'll start my meditation," or "perhaps next week when the relatives get away," or anything to put it off. You cannot do that. That is one of the important things we must avoid, if we are to utilize "The Power in Willingness." We must not be lazy. We must not procrastinate. And a little story comes to my mind about procrastination, and this is a true story.

My father was a builder back in Somerville, Massachusetts. And I remember one time my brother and I counted up the houses we built. He built 2,000 houses. Well, that's a lot of houses, isn't it? All right, now you're awake. Now, here's the

point. A man came to the job, he wanted some work. The foreman listened to him, and this was in the time when the unions weren't strong. He listened to him, and he said, "What can you do?" "Oh, I can do anything." "Shingle a roof?" He says, "Yes." "Alright, go up and get to work." So, he sent him up on the roof to shingle the roof. And the foreman noticed it was quite quiet up there. And so he went up. Went up the ladder, and peeked up over the top, and the fellow was standing this way. He was looking at the roof. The foreman said, "What's going on here. What're you doing?" He says, "I'm considering." Well, the foreman says, "You let me do the considering, you get to work."

So we mustn't procrastinate. We mustn't "consider" about going to God. We must get busy and do the job. That's a true story. I remember the foreman telling me. I said, "What did you say?" He says, "I told him I'd do the considering, get to work." And so, let us not procrastinate.

Now the Master has said this about being lazy. I like to bring some of his words in, because he says things so much to the point. He says, from his little book, The Master Says: "This is not a path for the idle." This is not a path for the idle. "Indeed the idle never find God until they change. God doesn't help those who think He should do all the work." Some people, you know, they get in trouble. They just sit, and, "Oh, God'll take care of it. He'll take care," and do nothing. They'll never find God. And so he says, "God doesn't help those who think He should do all the work. He helps those who act intelligently and say, 'Lord, it is Thou who art acting through me.'" Then you act. Then you do dutiful action. Greatest of all, you feel the Presence of God in everything you do. And that comes through willingness to take His discipline, in whatever form it is, and carry out His Will.

And so finally, the third, and greatest requisite, to develop "The Power in Willingness," or develop willingness; the power will come itself – is deep meditation. Deep meditation! Effort, effort, effort to harmonize your will with the Presence of God within. If you will do deep meditation, if you will give effort, and you have the ways and the means – everyone who has sincerely followed the Master's teachings as a channel of God, everyone will testify to the same thing – you have the ways and the means to attain God contact through the different techniques, through realized knowledge, instead of theoretical knowledge of ordinary teachings. The Master has given us the ways and the means to make the knowledge practical, realizable. And so, the third step is deep, continuous, meditations until you attain God contact.

Now, if you have the Presence of God, and have His contact, don't you think you'll be willing to take His discipline? But the darkness is so engulfing. Ego consciousness is so engulfing, that we do not realize. We're all willing, I'm sure, to do God's Will. But how can you do His Will until you have His contact? How can you do His Will, until you feel His Presence in every cell of your body? Until you are one with the Great Cosmic Sound of Om, the Amen, as the Vedas say, "He who knows Om knows God."

So the third, and, of course, the most important step, is regular deep meditation, in which you contact the Holy Vibration within you. Contacting that, you have God. Don't you think you'll be willing to do His Will? Certainly you will be. But the delusion is very deep and engulfing, so that we do not, in the silence within, realize these in, Eternal Truths of the Presence of God. That's why Master said, "Those who regularly do dutiful actions, and meditate regularly, will change." "Not by works of righteousness shall you be saved, but by the washing and regeneration of the Holy Ghost<sup>3</sup>," which is the Holy Vibration within you.

We have the ways and the means through Self-Realization to do this; to receive the great blessings and washings of the Presence of God daily. Not once a week. Not here, on Sunday morning – daily. If you will do that, if you will let Him cleanse you, He'll carry you back home. You have to have willingness – real willingness – to bend to what God wants you to do – not to do your own little will; regular and deep meditation in the Presence of God, as the Holy Vibration, the great Om, the Amen. That will give you God contact. And that will give, will change you – change you. Changing, realizing yourself as one with God, you will gladly, willingly, lovingly, do His Will.

Now I'll close with a few of the Master's words from his little book, The Master Said. Listen carefully. "I have given you the instructions for finding God, but I cannot follow them for you. You, individually, have to make love to God. Keep your mind on Him all the time." How can you do that? If you hear the Cosmic Sound all the time it's easy, because you know that's God. And so, if you're gonna keep your mind on God, you must have something tangible to put your mind on, and that's His Presence as the Holy Vibration. I say this, because that's the easiest thing. If you can hear the Cosmic Sound, at will; then, you can keep your mind on God. As Master has said, "Keep your mind on Him, all the time. And when you are working, think all the while that you are doing it for the

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<sup>3</sup> Titus 3:5

Lord." Then, there's no responsibility to amount to anything, because you're working for God. He's taking the responsibility; He's taking the load off of your shoulder. Why? Because you're willing to seek Him out.

And finally, always, it should be God, Christ, Guru. Always! That's reality. God is the Sole Doer. His Presence in this body of yours, and mine, and in creation, is Christ. And the channel, the immediate channel, which God has sent to you, and to me, is the channel of the beloved Master. So keep your mind on that: God, Christ, and the channel which God has sent – the Guru.

"Each one of you must stand alone before God." That's the greatest thing he has said. Each one of us; I can't do it for you. You can't do it for me. I may be, be able to help you, you may be able to help me, but each one of us has to stand alone before the Great Light of God. But standing there, face to face with God, you have everything. Why? Because you are willing to bend to God's Will.