

Does Hell Really Exist?

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After that beautiful song with the appropriateness of the subject this morning, "Does Hell Really Exist?"

But still, you should realize that it's God's Consciousness. This is only a Dream, there's no difference between the good things in life, such as that song, and the place and the state of consciousness we call Hades or Hell. I notice in the dictionary we have two definitions of Hell. The first is this: "The place of pain and punishment for the wicked after death." I don't think we have to wait that long, because the second one says this: "Any place or condition of misery or wickedness."

And so, in discussing this subject this morning about whether hell really exists, I'm going to read a bit, in the light of this second definition, that hell is really "any place or condition of misery or wickedness." Before I am finished, I will say a word or two about the place the wicked go after death. So let us approach the subject in a practical way, in a pragmatic way. And we must realize, if we do it that way, that hell is a state of consciousness. And that that state of consciousness can exist right here and now; and do not have to wait until we're through with this Plane. In fact, under certain conditions, I doubt if it can be any worse. So hell, let us say, is a state of consciousness.

Now, this state of consciousness can exist, and does exist, in three Realms. That's the important thing to understand. It exists in the outward realm of waking consciousness, Physical Consciousness; it exists in the Subtle or Astral Consciousness within; and it exists in the Causal Consciousness, or the Mental Consciousness that produces the Astral and the Physical. So don't think that hell exists only in outward consciousness. No. That is not so.

We can illustrate this, easily, by taking a condition of pain, severe pain, excruciating pain, in Physical Consciousness. Those who have that know that there cannot be any worse hell than that, right here in this consciousness. So hell can exist, and does exist, in Physical or outward consciousness.

Now you go within the Astral Realm, and you have had, I'm sure, certain nightmares and dreams wherein you saw those things, right before you, you felt the pain, you had the fear. And that state of consciousness, in the Astral, is just as real as the state of outward consciousness, is it not? You look back

through the nightmares you had, or the terrific dreams that were disagreeable – hellish in nature, so to speak. So hell exists in that second state of consciousness, the Astral, or the Subtle Consciousness.

Now, going just a little further into the Causal Realm; the Mental Realm. Perhaps you've had vistas of that realm; or seen a little bit of heaven; or felt it rather. Then, then you realize that you have lost it. And understand that is what happens after death. Those who have neglected to find the realization of oneness with God get a little glimpse of heaven. Now, don't you think when that slips away that the anguish that comes in the Mental Realm or Causal Realm will certainly constitute hell? And ya know mental suffering that we have, sometimes; it is more excruciating than physical suffering. So, there you have the State of Hell; the state of consciousness known as hell, or Hades, exists not only in the Physical Realm, but in the other two realms as well. Hell is a State of Consciousness.

Now, I have a few illustrations I'd like to give you about whether hell really exists or not. I remember the case of one devotee; he was in such a restless state. He was just, was in a terrible state. And he started on a trip, just a few miles from Los Angeles; a hundred or two hundred miles away. He got part way, and he got so jittery, and in such a state, that he called up the Master. He told me, "I couldn't hold the phone, I couldn't hold the receiver I was so jittery, so terribly upset. I said, "Master, what'll I do?" He says, "Go on," he said, "Go on. You'll get there." Now that devotee's state, certainly, was a state of hell. He had no control of himself. He was in misery. As he told me, I could see what he had passed through. So, there's one illustration of what hell can be like here on earth.

Now, you may be subject to severe pain – horrible pain – and yet you may be in a Spiritual temple, a house of God. Still you can suffer that pain, or death. So now, you may not necessarily need to be in a certain place. It is a state of consciousness.

Now, hell to the devotee, the humble devotee, the real Spiritual man, can be a den of vice. If he finds himself in such a place, he's sure he is in hell, as far as his consciousness goes, and the affect of that place on him. Now, likewise, you take a crook, or a criminal, or a wicked person, and put him here with us now, this morning, or in a Spiritual meeting. He'll be in hell. And as soon as he can get out, he'll get out. Fast. So, you see, hell is a state of consciousness, rather than a place. And if we could realize that as we go along.

Now, one thing you should realize is this – and this is the important thing. That hell will exist. But it exists only, only in the Dream Consciousness of God. That's the important thing, because hell and all conditions are secondary to the one Omniscience of God. Isn't that so? Now, "God," it says in the Bible, "created evil." You have read that. I read it to you two or three Sunday's ago. "God created evil." In other words, he created those things, as things of evil which will produce within us the consciousness of

hell. God has created that. Strange though it might seem, the Holy Ghost, from which all things have come. And one aspect and these are the Master's words, "the good Holy Ghost, and the bad Holy Ghost." Because you can see a flower comes up, a little plant, and if that's the most beautiful thing, but it isn't long before the bad Holy Ghost gets after it. And the bugs come; and all sorts of things happen to it. And if you're not careful, you'll lose your little plant. The same with babies; they're born with a pure bloodstream. It isn't long before the bacteria and bugs get busy, and then the evil force begins to work.

And so, I am trying to point out to you that this state of hell or hellish consciousness – whatever you want to call it – exists only in the Dream Consciousness of God; and this worldly consciousness; Astral Consciousness; in the Causal Consciousness, which produced those two other realms, is found in God's Dream. That's the important thing – in delusion.

Now, I've given you the seed to the way out; the way out of all hellish consciousness; consciousness of hell; and to get out of the manifested part of God. Get out of this delusion. Get out of this Dream. Because in the unmanifested part of God, there is no place called hell. What is there there? To those who meditate a little, lift themselves up out of the duality of consciousness where hell exists, find only the Peace and the Joy and the Omniscience of God. Isn't that so? Well, we cannot say that hell doesn't exist on one side; but we can on the other say, that said, that hell does not exist, if you get out of the delusion of God into His Omniscience, into His Great Love. You being children of God can do that.

So, hell does exist on one side, in the Dream Consciousness of God. But not, not in His Unmanifested Side; not in His Omniscience; not in His Great Sea of Bliss, which each and every one of us can feel, if we lift ourselves from delusion. If we merge in the Holy Vibration; become one with the Omniscience of God. And one thing to remember is, that right within the Holy Vibration, which produces the state where hell can exist, we find God. "On whom you see the Spirit descending and remaining (sic).2" It is those who see and feel the Holy Vibration, and merge in it, love it. It is they who, "baptized by the Holy Ghost," that is, God is in there, in spite of its dual nature. These things must be taken into account.

Now, going on just a bit, to point out to you that hell is a state of consciousness. Hell is the product... This is the most, the surest thing I can say this morning to help us all. Hell is the product of an uncontrolled mind and mental processes. That's all. You think that over. Your mind is restless, uncontrolled, you're in that state, undesirable state which carries you to an extreme we call hell. Now, if you can control your mental processes and your thoughts, and dismiss, dismiss them, how can hell exist? It cannot. So, remember, that hell is a product of your lack of control of your thoughts and your mental processes.

You think of people; you look them in life, plenty of them, not true here. But look about you and see them; just frustrated all the time; unrest; disturbed. When awake, they have no control of themselves, and they're not even able to permitted sleep in their restless state. Now, they don't need any more punishment than that. They don't need to go to hell and be worse off. They have it right here. And so, that's hell enough for people in that state. Hell is, because we have not, it's just because we have not controlled our minds, our mental processes, and such. And another condition comes to my mind; you take a person, lying with an incurable disease. Do they need any more hell? They know it. No. That's hell enough. And so, you can see hell can exist right here on this earth.

Now, let us discuss the second, or rather the first definition of the starting list: "Hell is a place or state of punishment for the wicked after death." Because many have had the conception that hell is a place, which will only be in your last years from, so is this place. No. We have enough of it right "here." We don't have to go "there." But still that place exists.

So, let us discuss this a little bit, about the states of consciousness after death. This is very interesting subject. One of two classes of people, I have told you before: "yogis," "saints," and "devotees" – that's one great class. After death, they have a certain consciousness, because they have become used to the Eternal Consciousness within while living on this Plane. And so, they can retain that Consciousness.

The other great class of people, are those who are left. We have classed them as the "moralists," "worldly people," and "wicked people." Now, they, not having, not having given any time to God on this side – while here in this life – naturally, cannot have a conscious state after death. They cannot have that. The yogis, saints, and devotees have the Om Consciousness and Higher Consciousness after death. But these other two groups do not have that, because they have not made it their own in this life.

The moralists; maybe ten percent could, like Luther. But that does not mean he knows God or Eternal Consciousness. The worldly person, if I remember, one, one in a thousand. One in a thousand is conscious after death. The moralists; once in a while they're conscious – very few – even though they're very good. But the first commandment is to know God; to seek and know God first. Then, you will be conscious after death.

Now, we come to the wicked people. The wicked people, naturally, being engulfed in what: they're engrossed in sensation, following the senses, passion, everything gross, aren't they? How can they have any spiritual consciousness after death? No.

But there is this one thing you must remember in the yogis, saints, and devotees, the depth of their Realization of Christ Consciousness, determines the length of time and the depth of their consciousness after death. Is that clear? If you meditate deeply, and contact God in this life, after death you will have a Conscious Existence for a deeper state and for a longer time.

Now, likewise, the wicked people, really wicked people, who use their will, organize it, to do wrong; they have a strong consciousness of wickedness, don't they? A gross consciousness. And so, after death, when they feel the body slipping away, they have been so engrossed in that body, so attached to the passions and sensations that they can't get out of it. They're held to it. And so, after death, for quite a while, they are plagued by nightmares, and dreams, and they are in a very restless condition.

Now the yogis, saints, and devotees have a conscious state after death. The worldly people, moralists – although they do not have a conscious state – they have a semi-conscious state; but it is blissful and peaceful. Just like when you have a good night's sleep. You know you've had a good night's sleep. You wake up in the morning, and you feel, if you've had a restful sleep. That is what happens to the worldly people, moralists, and so forth.

But the wicked people, the wicked people, when they pass into that unconscious or semi-conscious state, it is not filled with bliss. It is not as the worldly people have a solace, a respite from this world of delusion. No. Their semi-conscious state is restless. And we can liken it to a restless night of sleep. You wake up in the morning, and you're tired, and you're restless, and you knew you did not sleep well. So, that is the state of the wicked people after death. It is a strong hell. They are so attached to the gross vibrations of this earth and worldly things, that they are plagued after death. They can't get away from it. They wanted it so bad, they get it. They have, it in the form of nightmares, dreams, and restlessness – terrific restlessness. They cannot get out of it. So, that is the state of hell that is spoken of mostly in the first two, as the state after death where the wicked go.

Now going on to conclusions; just a little more about this states after death. You have seen balloons, haven't you? How you let them go up high into the rare, rarified contents of the balloon it'll keep a certain level. However, the wicked people seek a certain level due to the grossness of their consciousness, and their balloons hover close to the earth. Their gravity is such, it is so gross that they are held close to the earth, and, of course, there they find other earth souls of the same qualities, same grossness.

Now, the worldly people are much better off. Their consciousness is not so gross. So their balloon of souls, so to speak, rises to a little higher level. And there, in their semi-conscious state, they look for others of like nature.

The moralists have an edge. A rare, Subtle Consciousness, so to speak, rise to a different level, a higher level.

The yogis, saints, and devotees, who have realized their oneness with God through varying extents – from just the realization of the Om vibration to full

Conscious Realization of the Omniscience of God – they rise to the higher, full states; practically free from the gross vibrations of the earth. So remember the illustration which the Master used to give about the balloons. According to the grossness of the soul, it's at that level, from gross attachments to everything to full freedom in the Omniscience of God.

Now, in that lower realm of the earth, you will find the region known as “hell.” And so, we will conclude by saying, “Yes, hell does exist.” Hell does exist. All those states of consciousness, of which I have just referred, if, if we are attached to, or remain in the Consciousness of God's Greatness – that's important – hell does exist, and will exist, as long as you stay in that consciousness, alone, of God's Dream. Hell does not exist if you break the attachment, by regular meditation, Spiritual discipline, devotion to God to break the attachment, free yourself, and merge in the Unmanifested Bliss of God; hell does not exist there.

In the desert the other day, we were meditating. And, as we meditated, we could feel, you could feel the outward consciousness, just imperceptibly, into the Omniscience of God. And there, instead of feeling attached to this little body of limitations and its ability to be in a state of hellish consciousness, you felt yourself merged in the Great Ocean of God's Bliss. And there, in that state, where you can feel as small as smallest thing in the universe or large as you value yourself; you see your consciousness changed into the Omniscience of God, with His Peace, and His Joy, and His Perfection, His Strength, and greatest of all, His Love. Hell exists in outward consciousness. Hell does not exist in the Omniscience of God.

Meditation

Let us sit just for a moment. Feel that Great Peace within. Let no undesirable consciousness enter.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, help us to realize, the Play of Thy Life, Thy Drama of life, and to escape, into Thy Love and Thy Omniscience. Thy Light and Thy Love, be with us. Help us, to take this realization, with us, in every action. Om. Peace. Amen.

Let us rise and sing our closing song.

Singing of Glory Hallelujah

1 Isaiah 45:7, "I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the Lord do all these things."

2 St. John 1:33, "And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost."