

# The Resurrection – Easter

Dr. M.W. Lewis

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The subject, as you know, is “The Resurrection,” “The Resurrection.”

There are two definitions that you find about resurrection. One is: “arising again from the dead.” Then there is another definition, which gives a more practical application of resurrection in our everyday life, and that’s the one I’m going to say a few words about this morning: “any rising again, renewal, restoration.” That is, the restoring of something which we already have, even though we have lost it temporarily, because each one of us is created in the Image of God and as such we have His Immortal Nature right within us.

Jesus manifested that Immortal Nature of God. His Great Consciousness in Creation is the Christ Consciousness which Jesus manifested. “Jesus, the Christ” is his name. Not Jesus as a man, but Jesus, as such an instrument through which Christ Consciousness, the Power of God, His Presence in all creation, manifested so wonderfully to such a great degree. That Christ Consciousness is available to everyone. God would not be a just God to make it possible for only certain saints as Jesus and others. It is possible for each one of us to manifest God, which is within each one of us.

Back, ages ago in India, there was a king, “King Jadava, the Krishna.” King Jadava manifested Christ Consciousness, as Jesus did. In Proverbs we read, “Thou wast with me before the beginning of the world.<sup>1</sup>” In other words, we had that Consciousness. Before God’s Creation, He was. And we as rays of His Great Spirit also had that consciousness, but we have lost it since, because we have become attached to the body and to this dream consciousness. And so, this renewal and resurrection of consciousness is renewing something which is our birthright. Not something we have to attain – something we have, if we will but, but remove the ignorance and error which covers it up, because, as I have said, we are rays of that One Spirit, that One Presence of God.

And so, what we are trying to resurrect, or renew, or restore is Soul Consciousness. A Soul is a ray of Spirit, and that Spiritual Consciousness is in each Soul as the Christ Consciousness. And so, that is what we are trying to

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<sup>1</sup> Proverbs 8:22, “The LORD possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old.”

restore and renew, as it says in the Gita,<sup>2</sup> one of the oldest scriptures. It says the Soul is unborn, always was, perpetual, eternal, undying. This we read in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Discourse of the Gita, the 20<sup>th</sup> Line: It perishes not in the perishable body.<sup>3</sup>

We put too much faith in this body. Master used to say to me, "Don't pay so much attention to the body and this world. Don't take it too seriously." How right he was, because it passes away. We see it right and left. Why should we be deluded into believing by putting too much faith into this worldly existence? We should know the Immortal Consciousness within us. Put faith in that, because that's lasting, as it says in the Gita: undying, it never was born, it always was, and, therefore, it always will be.

Jesus said the same thing in words when he spoke about Abraham. He said "...Before Abraham was, I am."<sup>4</sup> Now Jesus didn't, did not mean his bodily consciousness. He meant the Christ Consciousness within, which Abraham had, because he said, "Abraham rejoiced in that day."<sup>5</sup> (*Sic*) Abraham rejoiced in the same Christ Consciousness which Jesus manifested, and which is within each and every one of us.

Now going on just a little further; St. Paul, St. Paul had resurrected and renewed the Christ Consciousness within him, because he said, "I die daily." In Corinthians, 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians the 15<sup>th</sup> Chapter the 31<sup>st</sup> Verse: "...I die daily."<sup>6</sup> He died to this outward consciousness. He resurrected within him the Immortal Presence of God as the Christ Consciousness. So, he died daily, Paul said, to outward consciousness. He died to this worldly consciousness which passes away. He said: "I protest by the rejoicing I have in Christ, I die daily." (*Sic*)

The fact that he said "I protest," I declare "by the rejoicing I had in Christ," shows he had Christ Consciousness, because Christ Consciousness is manifested in each and every one of us by Bliss. And so, when you have that, when you feel that, when you feel the Peace and Bliss of God; know that you have that Christ Consciousness at that moment, dynamic to your being.

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<sup>2</sup> The Bhagavad Gita or The Lord's Song, Many translations are available. This particular reference is unknown.

<sup>3</sup> The Bhagavad Gita or The Lord's Song, Translated by Dr. Annie Besant, 1939, 2<sup>nd</sup> Discourse, 20<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Lines, "He slayeth not, nor is he slain; he is not born, nor doth he die; nor having been, ceaseth he any more to be; unborn, perpetual, eternal and ancient, he is no slain when the body is slaughtered."  
"Uncleavable he, incombustible he, and indeed neither to be wetted nor dried away; perpetual, all-pervasive, stable, immovable, immutable, he is called..."

<sup>4</sup> St. John 8:58, "Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am."

<sup>5</sup> St. John 8:56, "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad."

<sup>6</sup> I Corinthians 15:31, "I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily."

Now Jesus said, also, in St. John, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter, 19<sup>th</sup> Verse: "Destroy this temple. In three days I will rebuild it."<sup>7</sup> (*Sic*) Jesus knew the electromagnetic laws of creation. He knew God was in him as Cosmic Consciousness and Cosmic Energy, and having that oneness with God, he knew how to once more, as you heard Mr. Cook read from the Autobiography,<sup>8</sup> he had the power, he knew how to gather together the atoms of his body, and once more reconstruct it, reform it, with its consciousness.

That is one form of resurrection, but the form, I think, we're interested in this morning is that whereby we can take the practical application of res, of resurrection, and apply it in daily life, to renew that which we all need so much, and know the Presence of God within as a reality – as a living reality.

What is it that rises again? What is it that is renewed? What is it that is restored? Well our Master has this to say about that and I will just quote a few of his words. "The Soul, not the body, is made in the Image of God." "The Soul, not the body is made in the Image of God. Nothing decays, it merely changes form. It is the Soul attached to the body that causes the difficulty. Therefore, being attached to the body, it is subject to the changes and limitations of this body."

Do you realize when you think that you are this body; you are subject, subject to its limitations? That's why we become so attached to the body and sleep we forget our Immortal Nature. Where are you in sleep? You do not remember it, because you have not made that Soul Consciousness dynamic to your being. And also in death, because we are so attached to the body we see people pass away and so we feel, "Well, when my time comes I will pass into oblivion or somewhere – I know not where." But if we know the Immortal Light of God within as a reality, we will not pass into oblivion either in sleep, and especially in death. Because those who meditate and follow the ways which the Master has left for us, with us, they will see the Immortal Light of God and feel His Presence. They will know that that cannot die. Now isn't that worth struggling for? Isn't that worth working for, rather than to be cast into oblivion, not knowing where we're going?

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<sup>7</sup> St. John 2:19, "Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."

<sup>8</sup> Autobiography of a Yogi, by Paramhansa Yogananda, First Release 1946 (May be downloaded for Free from several sites on the Internet).

That's why Jesus came on earth, to show you, and to show me, and to show all mankind that behind this worldly consciousness was the Great Immortal Presence of God as the Christ Consciousness which did not die. And do not forget he said, "The things I do ye shall do and greater things."<sup>9</sup> (*Sic*) And so, Jesus pointed out to us that each and every one of us can do as he did – realize his oneness with his Father when he said, "I and my Father are one."<sup>10</sup> That's the lesson of resurrection. That's the practical lesson of resurrection, that we, right now, resurrect our Immortal Nature, the Divinity within us.

Now, we had this Immortal Consciousness. We had this Immortal Consciousness. Otherwise, how could we resurrect it? How could we renew something we never had? We had this Great Presence of God within us. And we find in the scripture, in Ezekiel a passage which attests to this great truth. And I will just read the parts that apply to it, so as not to keep you too long, but to show you that we have this Consciousness right within us, only it's covered up. We must uncover it, we must renew it.

And so, in the 28<sup>th</sup> Chapter of Ezekiel, we read as follows, the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> Verses: "Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God..."<sup>11</sup> the garden of God, "...thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; and thou walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire."<sup>12</sup> (*Sic*) We had that Immortal Consciousness. The holy mountain of God is the Supreme Center of the brain where God's Consciousness dwells. We had that. It was dynamic to our consciousness. We have lost it. We "walked up and down amidst the stones of fire" means we had the Consciousness, the Spiritual Consciousness of the Centers of spine. "Stones of fire" means the Centers, the Spiritual Centers in the spine of each and every one of us; the six spinal Centers, plus the Supreme Center, making the seven Great Centers of Spiritual Consciousness. We had that Consciousness. It was dynamic to our being. We have lost it. Why?

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<sup>9</sup> St. John 14:12, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father."

<sup>10</sup> St. John 10:30, "I and my Father are one."

<sup>11</sup> Ezekiel 28:13, "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 gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created."

<sup>12</sup> Ezekiel 18:14, "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."

Going on it says: "Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee."<sup>13</sup> Iniquity is delusion, that's all. Until we began to think we are this body and are living in this world of reality. When that came upon us, then we lost the Great Consciousness which we had. We lost the Consciousness of the holy mountain and the stones of fire, because we allowed delusion, ignorance, the soot of ignorance and delusion to cover up our Divinity. And so, it finally ends this way: "By the multitude of thy merchandise..." – that's delusion, more delusion. We get one thing in this world, we want another; then we get another, then they get another. There's no end to it, because it is not reality. We do not find fulfillment in outward things, but in the Soul within. And so it says just that: "By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence and thou hast sinned."<sup>14</sup> We have forgotten our Immortal Nature and: "Therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God...and from the midst of the stones of fire."<sup>15</sup>

And so, do not think it's something, Christ Consciousness, is something which you have to make. Now, you had, but we have lost it. We have to once more regain it. Now, if we too, if we too will do as Paul did – die daily to outward consciousness – we will have that Great Spiritual Presence of God within us, spoken of in Ezekiel. We are Spirit; there is no question about that. We are Spirit, but what has happened? We've been a come, attached to this world, and this body, and we've lost it. We've covered it up, so to speak, as the Master says, "with the soot of ignorance and error."

Now, finally, how to do this? How to reclaim it, how to renew, how to resurrect the Presence of God within us? Well, the law is simple: mix with the Presence of God within you. Mix with His Presence within you, as the Christ Consciousness, and then, by the law of association and assimilation, you become that. You know, I know, that if people mix with bad company, they become like that company. Those who mix with good company, they become good. But those who mix with saints, become saintly. Those who mix with God, become godly.

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<sup>13</sup> Ezekiel 28:15, "Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee."

<sup>14</sup> Ezekiel 28:16, "By the multitude of thy merchandise they 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."

<sup>15</sup> Ibid.

And so, we must realize, mix with the Presence of God within you. Know Him, merge in Him, and then you will not only become like Him, but you will have the Powers which God has at your disposal.

Now, Self-Realization teachings point out the ways and the means whereby we can, without question of a doubt, contact the Presence of God within. Know Him; know His Presence as the Word, spoken of throughout all the scriptures – the Great Holy Vibration. We can know that; we can be one with that. If we follow the teachings which the Master has left for us, we will become as he was, a man of God. He had that realization of Christ Consciousness within, and, therefore, if we follow him, we, too, will be able to have what he had – the realization of the Presence of Christ Consciousness within. By following Self-Realization teachings, what do we do because he had it, and because he left us the ways and the means? We make the Presence of God dynamic to our being. We make the Presence of God a reality in our lives. We resurrect our bodily consciousness to the Presence of Christ Consciousness. We supersede this worldly existence by Divine Existence. We supersede this transient existence by an Eternal Existence, by restoring that which is our birthright.

And so, in closing, just realize this, as the Master has said, when you have resurrected, and restored, and renewed the Presence of God within you, then that All-pervading, Ever-attentive, All-knowing, All-loving, All-sustaining, Omniscient Consciousness of God will be yours. That's the Christ Consciousness. When we do that, when we make that dynamic to our being, then we will realize through resurrection.