

1951 Seattle Closed Class
Soul, Consciousness Constitutes You

Good Evening - In the work that we have done this week, we have moved ourselves back, from the realm of effect, to the realm of cause. When we began this week, we may have thought that we were an effect of God, that we were something separate and apart from God. We may have come in under the belief that there is a power or presence somewhere, that governs our destiny, separate and apart from our individual being.

If you have followed closely, you must have come to the realization by now, not merely that there is a consciousness, soul or spirit at the center of your being, which governs and directs you, but I am sure that most of you have already glimpsed the fact, that you are that spirit, or soul or consciousness. That that consciousness or soul actually constitutes your being and that there is no you, separate from or apart from that consciousness which you are. It isn't a consciousness which you have, it isn't a consciousness or soul which you have, it isn't a spirit that you have. Soul, consciousness, God, Spirit, constitutes you.

Once you perceive this in a measure, you will also note that you are the causative principle of your own existence, the causative principle of your own experience and that your experience is harmonious or inharmonious only in proportion to your consciousness of Truth or ignorance of Truth. There is no other power operating in your experience, except the power of the consciousness of Truth, or the absence of power represented by our ignorance of Truth.

There is no power that we can please or displease. There is no God to reward us or punish us anymore than there is a God of mathematics or of music to reward us or punish us. There is a principle, and the awareness of the principle of mathematics makes us a mathematician. The awareness or consciousness of the principle of music, makes us a musician. The ignorance of it deprives us of that pleasure, privilege, knowledge, ability, power. So with life.

You are not going to be rewarded for tithing, or going to church or studying your lessons. You are not going to be punished for not doing any of these things. Because there is no power sitting around observing your actions. There is no power, there is no presence, there is no person, judging you or condemning you.

There is a principle of life which in your spiritual reality you are, and that principle of life is perfect. And insofar as you have the awareness of your true identity as that principle or of that principle as constituting your being, as you have the consciousness of the Truth that there is only one power in the universe, that consciousness of life governs you harmoniously and the ignorance of that brings about sin, disease, discord, lack, inharmony and then finally death.

And it does it in this wise. There is only one power. In heaven or on earth, there is no other power than One. And that is the power of harmony, wholeness, completeness, a power of Grace. That is the only power operating and operative in our experience. The consciousness of that Truth brings forth complete harmony, wholeness in our experience, or let us put it this way, in proportion to our consciousness of that Truth, do we bring forth harmony and divine order in our experience. In proportion to our ignorance of it, this is what happens: we set up as powers, those things that have no power in and of themselves at all. For instance, power in germs, infection, contagion, power in inherited disease or family traits, power in climate, weather, power in medicines, power in

food, power in calories and vitamins, power in the position of the stars in the heavens. Now then, it isn't you and certainly it isn't I who have given those things seeming power, it is a built up belief in human thought, in human consciousness, that has grown bit by bit through the centuries.

You may remember in Hebrew scripture, that the sins of the fathers are visited on the children unto the third and fourth generations. But you may also remember that two hundred years later that law was nullified. And in the same Hebrew scriptures it tells us, no longer shall this law be in Israel. No longer shall it be said that "the parents have eaten sour grapes and the children's teeth are set on edge ." From now on every one is held responsible for their own acts. Well of course, from now on is nonsense. It had always been so. Only in the ignorance or perhaps somebody willfully trying to make people behave, they invented this law of inheritance. Just as the churches, in order to make people behave and not knowing how to govern them through spiritual means, invented heaven and hell. That is purely a church fabrication of course. It has the same reason for its existence that in former days, school teachers could whip a child or slap their hands with a ruler because in those days it wasn't known how to govern children except with a whip. Now it is better understood how to govern them through love, but in those days it had to be with a whip.

And so it was in the church. Churches of course are churches because of the absence of spiritual power. And therefore, a church, being on the whole devoid of spiritual power, has to have some way of governing its people, of making them behave, of making them contribute, of making them tithe or making them come to church. And so they have rules. And as Moses started the fashion, saying "God said", so the churches followed suit. God said there was a heaven and God said there was a hell and God said you must come to church on Sunday and God said you must get down on your knees and God said you must light candles and, if you don't you will go to hell or be punished, or be held in outer darkness.

These are the threats of the human mind and they affect us not only theologically, medically, scholastically, in every way a whip has been held over us on the human plane instead of our being set free spiritually. Now we come to a place where we learn that there are no such rules and laws as the church has set down. You know as well as I do that if there were, all these good people that have been going to church for all these years would be perfectly healthy, wealthy, and wise. And all their good attendance and all their good conduct hasn't made it so. Good people have the same amount of sin, disease, death, lack and limitation that the bad ones have. If they don't have it to meet in their own minds and their own bodies, they have it in their family. You cannot rule goodness or badness into an individual. Goodness comes only through spiritual vision.

We have this sin of saying, "my country right or wrong but my country," and we have the same sin in saying "my church" not your church but "my church ." We have the sin of believing all of the beliefs and laws that have been handed down to us until we come to a place of spiritual vision and we learn this: there is only one sin and that is a violation of your own integrity. The moment you violate your own integrity you have sinned. The moment you have done that which in your inner consciousness you know to be wrong you have sinned. Up until that time you are merely in ignorance. Your sin only begins when you violate your own integrity. Now then, to violate your own integrity is in itself, the evidence of ignorance.

For instance, if a man steals he is not sinning, not in any spiritual sense. He is committing an act of ignorance, and the ignorance consists of this: He doesn't know that he is a child of God and all that the Father hath is his, and he thinks that he has to go out and get it for himself. That is his ignorance. And because of that ignorance he gets it. One way or another, he gets it. It isn't sin it's

ignorance. If he were aware of the divine law of abundance operating in his own consciousness by virtue of the fact that the kingdom of God is established within him, he would not be ignorant or have this sense of separation from his supply. No one has any sense of separation from their supply, after they have achieved an awareness of the fact that the kingdom of God is within their own being, and that right there within their own being, all that the Father hath is established.

No person ever sins in the real sense of the word sin, except through ignorance of their true identity. Let an individual become aware of the fact that they are the very presence and power of God—that the Allness of God is established within their own being, and you take from that individual any desire to sin or any need to sin.

You watch the miracle that takes place in little children, in their behavior, in their conduct the moment that the restriction of “thou shalt not” is removed from them. In the wisdom, not with a license to do as they please, but in the wisdom that God is the very center of their Being. I have seen this with little children, that as soon as they were taught to meditate, and realized that the kingdom of God is within their own being, that quickly they began to feel the impulse of God within, and they were consistently led, and guided and directed and quickly learned to turn to the Father within for their guidance. You know that the moment that the child realized that the Father was within, there was no longer a capacity for bad behavior, disrespect, wildness, couldn't be, and hasn't been and isn't now and never will be. Let the child become aware that the kingdom of God is within their own being and that they can commune with God, that they can be silent and let God impart to them, and that innocent child mind quickly touches the Presence of God within their own being and then you find them God directed, God governed and not with the human whip of “thou shalt not .”

We as adults are just a wee bit slower than the children but we get there too. Let us come to this realization: that the cause of our experience, the cause of the harmony in our experience is a power that resides within our own being, and that we can turn to it for substance, supply, guidance, direction, wisdom, love, and very soon we will withdraw our gaze from the outer realm and learn to draw our good from the inner realm. And so I say, you learn then, that this God that is the Causative Principle of the universe, that governs, guides, directs, supports, sustains, maintains us, is not something separate and apart from our own being, but actually it is our own mind, or consciousness or soul, the moment we stop using human thought, human methods, human rewards and human punishments.

Certainly there are punishments for wrongdoing, the same as there are punishments for adding up two and two and getting five, or getting three. The punishment is not from God, the punishment is from our ignorance and it is not so much a punishment as it is a lack of demonstration. Instead of thinking of it as punishment, let us think of it as a lack of demonstration—a lack of harmony. We lose our fear of it and we learn more and more to turn to that loving principle within, the principle that never punishes. Our so-called punishments are merely the result of ignorance, the ignorance of our true identity, the ignorance of the how, where, and why of God, and the nature of God and the action of God.

Theology has made us superstitious. It tries to make us good with promises of reward. It tries to make us good by threats of punishments for our ills. And there is no way to get away from that theology and the effects of it, except through opening your eyes, opening your mind to this great truth *that all inharmony, all discord, all sin, all disease, all lack and limitation is due to our*

ignorance of the laws of God, the laws of life and nothing else. And, the so called punishments all disappear in proportion as we gain the understanding of the nature of God and of God's laws.

Now the first of these that we must learn is this, first that the issues of harmonious experience really lie within our own being, and we are not to look outside for either punishment or reward. And second, that the nature of this deific power, this great principle is love. Now I know that love is a word that can be defined in a thousand different ways and really mean love all the way from love to hate and still be covered by the word love. But when I say love is the character and nature of this divine principle at the center of our being, I'm using the word love in the sense that the Master used it when he said, "love thy neighbor as thyself ." In other words, do unto others as you would have others do unto you. In the sense then of continuously living out from the center of the heart instead of living in to it. In other words, pouring out love and not expecting love to be poured to us. Living out from the center of our being, not drawing in.

Love is not something that we get. Love is not something that is given to us. Love is something that flows out from us. Why? Love is of God—not of man. Love is of God and it is at the center of our being and it must be released—it must be released.

Robert Browning, "Truth is within ourselves. There is an innermost center in us all, where the Truth abides in fullness. And to know rather consists in opening out a way whence the imprisoned splendor may escape, than in effecting entry for a light supposed to be without ."

We can substitute the word love for Truth. Love is not something external to us that can come to us. There is no way for love to come to us. Love must be permitted to escape from us. Because love is God. God is love. God is the center of our being and it must flow out from not to. What we behold in the human world as ourselves receiving love from someone else is only the reflex action of the love that has poured out from us.

Oh, you all know it's true. In the cases of many people of whom you, yourselves have heard complain about the lack of love shown them in the world. And I know many times you have said to yourself, "How much love have you expressed out into the world." Usually the complaints about not receiving love or not receiving justice come from those who bestow so little of it. And you know that as well as I do.

Never forget this. You can't drawn out of life what you have not first put in. It is like a checking account. And so it is with the whole harmony of existence. It doesn't come to you. You can't draw out from God, you can let God pour out through you. In one of the tape recordings which you will hear soon, on the subject of Love and Gratitude, it came forth in this wise. That gratitude never comes from a person, that no person is ever grateful. That gratitude is a quality of God and all we can do is open ourselves and let that gratitude flow out from us and through us. But it isn't our quality, it is not a quality of you or of me as humans. Humans have more the idea of holding, getting and achieving much more than they have of bestowing and giving. But when one has the qualities of bestowing, giving, granting, it is not the human, it is their degree of demonstrated Christhood. It is their ability to let the love and the will of God flow through them and it appears to the world as gratefulness, benevolence, charitableness, kindness, goodness, mercy. It isn't theirs, it's a quality of God. That is what enabled Jesus to say, "Why callest thou me good. There is but one good, the Father in heaven ." No one is good, no one is loving, no one is grateful. All that anyone can do is to open their consciousness to the great Truth that God is the creative principle of all and that the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, and because son, all that I have is thine. open up that consciousness and let God flow.

Then the world says, “Oh, he or she is good, or he or she is generous, or grateful or benevolent. Alright, to be that means actually to open consciousness and let this which is at the center of our being flow through. All that is worthwhile of our being is God.

In our work then, instead of being an effect or something out here waiting for God to bless us, God to heal us, God to save us or God to send something to us, we in this weeks work have reversed that entire position, and we find ourselves to be that place, that part of God consciousness through which the Godhood flows, the Christhood flows. We are the Christ of God. We are that point of God consciousness where the infinite good flows through as we permit it. As we realize that this which I give is not of me, it flows through me from God, and in giving it, it does not impoverish me. Whether it is a word of Truth spoken from the platform or a dollar bill given out of the pocket, it does not impoverish me since, it isn't mine. All the earth and the fullness thereof is the Lord's. And because of that, it is universally, impersonally and impartially yours and mine and all we have to do to prove it is to let it flow, let it flow and watch how every time we let out a word of Truth another word flows right into our consciousness. Every time we give out a dollar another one flows right back into our world. It could not be any other way because it is spiritual law. Spiritual law does not get, spiritual law is an activity of giving. The sun does not get sunshine it just shines or reflects that light. Nothing of God, nothing of Reality gets, not even Jesus Christ the Son of God could get anything, he could merely be the avenue for its expression through to the world. Even Jesus Christ could not have store houses and barns. Many people believe that the more spiritual you get, the greater your possessions. It isn't necessarily true at all. The only thing that is true in connection with supply and spirituality is that the more spiritually one reflects, the less lack and limitation they can ever experience. Whether or not they ever have storehouses and barns is not important, since they have come into contact with the law of instantaneous, immediate and abundant supply every moment throughout time. What difference then does it make whether there are storehouses or barns?

No, sometimes wealth is shown forth as a proof of ones spirituality. I do not see it that way. I see abundance as the evidence of spirituality. The abundance of every moment for every need. Whether there is enough left over to fill storehouses is relatively unimportant. Just as it is relatively unimportant whether I have words stored up as long as one word is going to follow another when I am on the platform. I don't have them stored up in memory, on notepaper or in books. They flow, as you know they do, and they flow out of an infinite storehouse that never will run dry. And if I run dry as a person, as a teacher, it will only be because in some way I have stopped that flow, not because the supply is less, not because it is not Omnipresent, but because in some way I have permitted the flow to stop, in other words I have stopped giving.

And so it is with all forms of supply, with you as well as with me. We dam up supply, by trying to hold on to it. There is a spiritual law that—what you loose you have. And what you hold, you lose. That's a spiritual law. That law is older than time itself. You can only have that which you loose and let go. You can never have that which you hold on to. Not in spiritual law. It is very difficult even in material law. You know how many times they have held onto matter and watched it disappear too. But more especially true in spiritual law, we have what we loose.

There is an example of that that came to my attention many years ago, in the case of a woman who had no knowledge at all of metaphysics. She was a very, very strict Baptist, and not only had no knowledge of metaphysics, but had a definite hatred for it for what she believed it to be. But she had a 21 year old son, ill with pneumonia and on this particular night the doctor told her it was no use to have any more hope, that the boy would die before morning. And they had done everything

to save the boy but he was too far gone. And this woman's first reaction of course, was that of almost of any natural mother. When all of a sudden a sense of peace and quiet came to her and she thought, "This is a sin! I'm trying to interfere with God. He isn't my son, he is God's son. We are all children of God and who am I to say where that boy shall live or how. Why Father, forgive me for interfering with your government of this universe" and she loosed her son to God. She let him go. She said, "thy will be done not mine ." You do with my son as you think best. And the whole condition broke. And when the doctors came in the morning the boy was not only on the way to recovery, the boy was healed. He was healed, the moment she loosed him and let him go. You can't lose anything by loosing it to God. And so it is, everything that we have that we loose to God, that we release into God's government that's what we have, and everything we try to hold onto as human beings that what we are trying to take out of God's hand, out of God's government, out of God's possession and that is what we lose. This is a spiritual law also.

Now, I started by saying that in this week many of us have reversed our positions, and this is what I meant. That the cause of the harmony and wholeness that appears in your experience is right at the center of your being, not separate and apart from God at all, but the cause is your own awareness of the truth of being. The awareness, the knowledge, or consciousness of the truth of being sets you free from the result of ignorance, and sets me free, in proportion to our understanding. If any of us have been set completely free, I haven't known it. We are only set free in accord or in proportion to our awareness of the truth of being, our actual consciousness of the truth of being.

And therefore, harmony and perfection, wholeness and completeness are to be had by us in proportion to the realization of this great truth that the infinity of God must be permitted to pour forth through our being. That we are not being punished for our sins and we are never going to be rewarded for our good deeds, ***we are going to live harmoniously in proportion to the knowledge of truth we have. And we are going to suffer discord and inharmonies in proportion to the ignorance of the truth of God's laws or the ignorance of God's laws.***

When you stop to think, you will know as well as I know, that there have been good people, wonderful people, fine people, in truth, in metaphysics for twenty and thirty and forty years and having as many discords and inharmonies as they had at any period of their life before they knew truth. And that isn't because they are not good, that is not because they are being punished, that's not because they are not living up to their highest sense of right. What are they being punished for? Nothing! They are not being punished at all. They are not doing anything to be punished for. Their inharmonies and their discords merely represent the degree of their lack of the knowledge of this principle. The amount of years that one is in truth is no guarantee of one's knowledge of truth. There are people who are only one week in truth who have come much further in their knowledge of truth than some who have been in it twenty years. Why? Because it isn't a difficult subject. It is just as easy to learn in one week as it is to learn in twenty years.

It depends first of all on the correctness of the teaching that is presented to us. Secondly on our ability to die daily. On our ability to let go of this personal sense of existence. To let go first of all of the fear for of life as if it made any difference whether we lived or died, since there isn't truth student anywhere on earth who has only been in truth for one week who hasn't learned that God is life and that that life is eternal. So what difference does it make whether you live it in Oregon, California, New York or Alaska, or on this side or the other side of that door. Let us lose our fear of death. Let us learn to trust our life to God which is our life and let us stop trying to hold on to it.

And watch how impossible it would be to get rid of it. But most of our trouble comes because we are struggling to hold on to it.

Yes, only today I received a letter from a lady who has written me three times before for help. Evidently, in my last letter to her, I must have said something to the effect, I have no recollection of it, but I must have said something to the effect of releasing this thing that she is making too much effort to be healed, that there certainly could not be God and this disease, and she caught that whole glimpse in that letter, whatever it was in there, and she saw that she has been holding on to a disease in one hand and waiting for God to come along and take it away from her.

Well now, it would be like our friends you know who had the snake in the rope. Let them sit there looking at that snake and holding on to it and praying to God to remove it. There would be no possibility of it would there because it was not there in the first place. The only chance the man had of getting rid of the snake in the rope was turning away from the appearance and looking up into reality and then looking back and discovering that there was no snake there, but to keep looking at and then praying for God to take it away, remove it, heal it, overcome it, couldn't be.

So with our friend and his poodle on the stage. For our hypnotized friend to keep looking at his poodle and praying God to help him get rid of it would be perpetuating it wouldn't it? Oh, I hope you can see that it would. I hope you can see that you can't look at a non-existent entity and pray to have something remove it. I hope you can see that you can't look at car tracks coming together in the distance and pray God to pull them apart. Or that you can't go out to the desert with a mirage and keep looking at it and pray for some power to remove it so you can go through in your car. I hope you can see that if there is a God there cannot be error in any form whatsoever!

And therefore whatever the picture is before you, instead of holding it there and trying to have some kind of a miraculous power do something to it, that you can loose it and say, "well, if you have so much power go on and use it. Do whatever you want to me, for heaven's sake you have my permission. If there is a power apart from God this is a good time to find it out. Let's stop worshipping God, let's worship this error if it is so much more powerful than God. If there is a power apart from God and we have tried for years to remove it, maybe the best thing we can do is to start worshipping it.

Now, I do not mean to be facetious, I don't mean to belittle the errors that confront us as if there were not tormenting to us, not at all. But I do mean to hold them up to our gaze so we can see what it is that we are fearing and how it is that we are perpetuating them. We are perpetuating them because we won't loose them and let them go, because we are holding on to them.

And on the contrary the good things of life that we should be letting go of, we also hold. Ah no, let's drop this. Lets loose everything and let it go whether it appears to us as good or whether it appears to us as evil, since at the center of our Being is the creative principle of all good and it will manufacture for us as fast as we use it up. If you destroy this temple, there is something within me that in three days will raise it up again. If you destroy this fortune or this property, there is something within me which in a reasonable length of time will raise it up again. That which created it to begin with, that which brought it to me, that which gave it to me, that same power will reestablish it.

So we are not something out here, with a power operating on us, we are ourselves that very power, the very power within us, operating through us and as us, we are that power, we are that life,

we are that love, and instead of watching it come to us, we must reverse that position and let it escape from us out into the world.

Now, there is again a discipline that will help us to achieve this and that is this. Instead of thinking of ourselves as human beings with something to get - health, or supply or anything else, let us think of ourselves as the Christ of God, the child of God through whom the good of the world, the good of God flows to the world. Give up, let's die right now, die daily to the person who has to make a demonstration. Lets kill ourselves right off quickly and let's be reborn of the spirit. Let's be reborn in the consciousness that nothing has to come to me, whatever it is that I need flows out to me from within, and not only to me, but I can feed four thousand, five thousand, seven thousand and woman and children too.

I can heal multitudes. Why? Through the same power, we are told in scripture, the same power, the same spirit, that raised up Jesus Christ from the dead will quicken also your mortal bodies. The same spirit, that raised up Jesus Christ from the dead will quicken also your mortal bodies. Well, let it, let it! Accept that! That the same spirit, the mind that was in Christ Jesus, that raised up Jesus Christ from the dead, will also quicken us and let it. Let it, let it flow! Instead of thinking of ourselves as something requiring a power to act upon us, and for us, let us see that we are the child of God, the Christ, through whom the power of God can flow out to the world. In that, we drop the word, I, me, and mine. ***We drop the thought of getting, accomplishing, achieving, being, having and we realize ourselves to be that place through which God is able to pour Himself to all those who do not yet know that they have died to their humanhood and have been reborn of the spirit. All those out in the world who do not yet know that they are the children of God, the Christ of God. They in their ignorance require light and help from those of us who have awakened to our true identity and realize that we are not somebody out in the world needing something, we are the Christ of God out here in the world, existing as the light of the world.***

Ye are the light of the world. Oh, nobody is the light of the world that is seeking a demonstration. Nobody is the light of the world who thinks they have to find God, or get God to do something. Nobody is the light of the world until they come to the realization that all the great prophets have come to, "I am the light of the world, I am the resurrection, I am the way, the truth and the life, I am He that should come."

And the moment you say, "that which I am seeking, I am", the moment that you say, "the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof", and "Son all that I have is thine", or the moment you go back to our lesson the other day and realize, "I will never leave you nor forsake you", "I am with you unto the end of the world ." "Before Abraham was I am", and "if you walk through the waters you will not drown, I will be with you, and if you go through the fire, the flames will not kindle upon you, I am there. That "I," that thing at the center of your Being, that makes you the Son of God, or Christ.

And you have nothing to fear as long as you know that that "I" is at the center of your being. So instead of seeking demonstration, let that "I" make your demonstration for you and you help the other fellow who does not yet know that "I" am at the center of his being. That "I" will never leave him nor forsake him. That "I" will be with him unto the end of the world. When he finds that out, he too will be the Christ of God, the Son of God, ready to be the light of the world which we are.

Thank you!