

# Why Are We Not Born Equals?

(With a Father's Day Message)

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Subject this morning: "Why Are We Not Born Equals?" "Why Are We Not Born Equals?"

This great government of ours has incorporated in some of its wonderful papers, the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, the following words, "...that all men are created equal and are endowed with certain unchangeable qualities<sup>1</sup>." (*Sic*) And our Master has said that "All Souls are equal," all Souls are equal. And he goes on to say, "The only difference is that I made the effort." Some of us have not made the effort. So realize that one thing.

But we look about us and we see that there is a discrepancy, because people are not equal. But the fact is this, that the people are not born equal. So the key to the subject this morning, : "Why Are We Not Born Equals?", depends on the understanding of that one word, "born." People, we can say, people are not born equal. That's right. When I first saw this subject I thought somebody had made a mistake. But when I saw that word "born," then I understood that we are not born equal, but we are created equal. We are one in God's Great Consciousness.

And so, remember, the key to this subject is to understand that little word, "born." That means when we're born we have a beginning, and we must have an ending. And so, the point to remember, to understand, is that the Soul, the Soul attached to the body, and one with that bodily consciousness is born. Therefore, it has an ending. But the Soul, unattached is never born, always was, always will be, complete in itself, without beginning, without end.

So, on that proposition, we can discuss the subject this morning, why we are not all born the same, and born equal, remembering it is due to the fact that our Souls, each and every one is the same in God's Sight, is attached to a vehicle, this body. And because of that attachment, and the various things that go on, which I will try to point out in a few moments, they cause the inequality so that we are really not born equal. And remember that the inequality is not in God's Great

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<sup>1</sup> "Constitution of the United States of America," July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1776, "... We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness..."

Consciousness. Not in the Christ Consciousness within. We are all equal there. But it is in the consciousness of the Drama of Life. That's where the inequality is. And there is no question of a doubt but we are not born the same. Some are thin, some are fat, some are wealthy, some are poor, some have sense, brains, some do not. Certainly we are not born equal, but the Soul underneath that is equal. That's the thing we must remember – the One Soul. We have to differentiate between the One Soul attached to the human body as the ego, and the unattached Soul, as the Christ Consciousness within us – the One Soul. We are all equal in that, but not in that Soul attached to the body.

Now Souls started long, long ago. Souls started long, long ago. As we read in the scripture, they are rays of the Spirit. They are rays of that One Great Light of God. Certainly they're all the same. But what happened afterward is what caused the trouble. We read in Proverbs, the 8<sup>th</sup> Chapter the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> Verses: "The Lord possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old." The Lord is the Christ Consciousness. That was dynamic to our consciousness when things started out. That was God's Plan that we should have that Consciousness of our oneness with Him, oneness in the Christ Consciousness. Then it goes on to say: "I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, ever the earth was."

So that Soul within us always was before this Drama of Life took place in this creation, we were, and we are still, but we been a, attached, become attached to the vehicle. That's all. The vehicle, as a part of God's Great Creation. And so remember, in Solomon's Song, which also follows, speaking of the Lord as the prehistoric Christ Consciousness in such a beautiful way, refers to the same thing as it does in Proverbs, the prehistoric Christ Consciousness, which always was and always will be. That is what constitutes our Soul. But it is a far cry from that sometimes as we look about us and we see attachment of the Soul to the body.

Now, the Lord, which appeared and spoke to the prophets of old, is the same Christ Consciousness. He spoke to Abraham, David, Joseph and many others; Daniel, Ezekiel, Zachariah. The same Christ Consciousness. Same Christ Consciousness which is in each and every one of us, for Jesus said, "The things I do ye shall do, and greater things<sup>2</sup>." Surely, that Christ Consciousness is in each and every one of us. In that Christ Consciousness we are equal. And when we make that now, right now, dynamic to our consciousness once more, we will all

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<sup>2</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 the Father."

be equal. But we haven't done that. We haven't made the Lord, the pre-existing, prehistoric Christ Consciousness dynamic to our consciousness. We've been satisfied by being attached to this vehicle, which plays a part in the Drama of Life. Now, remembering that, if we ah, are all equal in that Christ Consciousness; what happened? Then came in delusion, then came in inequity, then came in sin, as it is called. It is all delusion, all unreality.

I wanna give you one Bible reference at this time, which I have given many times. But I want you to listen carefully because you always get something new, until you become that Christ Consciousness. So listen, listen carefully. Find out where you are standing. In Ezekiel, 28<sup>th</sup> Chapter, 13<sup>th</sup> Verse, it says: "Thou wast, thou hast been in the garden of Eden<sup>3</sup>." (*Sic*) And it goes on in the 14<sup>th</sup> Verse: "...thou wast upon the holy mountain<sup>4</sup>..." That's where the Christ Consciousness is. In the Centers of the spine and in the holy mountain, the Thousand-rayed Lotus. We had that, as it says in Proverbs. That was dynamic to our consciousness. We had that consciousness of the holy mountain and it goes on to say that: "...thou didst (*sic*) walk up and down midst the stones of fire<sup>5</sup>," which is simply the Centers of spine. We had that Christ Consciousness; having that we are all equal.

But then it goes on in the 15<sup>th</sup> Verse: "Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created..." We were equal, we were equal in God's Great Consciousness "...until (*sic*) iniquity was found in thee<sup>6</sup>." Until delusion came; until the Soul became attached to the vehicle, that's all. And then what happened? Then he goes on in the next verse to say: "...thou hast sinned: and therefore thou hast been cast out from the mountain of God<sup>7</sup>." (*Sic*) That is, because of our attachment to the body. The Soul, attached to the body as the ego consciousness, we lost that consciousness of equality, the Great Christ Consciousness within. We lost the fact that we were once dynamic to that

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<sup>3</sup> Ezekiel 28:13, "Thou has been in Eden the garden of god; every precious stone was they 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 the tabrets and of they pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou was created."

<sup>4</sup> Ezekiel 28:14, "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."

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

<sup>6</sup> Ezekiel 28:15, "Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee."

<sup>7</sup> Ezekiel 28:16, "By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou has 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."

Consciousness that made that Consciousness dynamic to our being. We lost that, and became attached to the vehicle in God's Great Drama of Life.

Now that, that in itself, that one point is what you should remember, that the inequality is not in the Soul within. It's not in the Christ Consciousness within, but in outward consciousness, in waking consciousness. And I will show shortly how that came about, proving that we are not born the same, but we are still equal as Souls, rays of God's Great Consciousness.

The Soul is on a pilgrimage. This Soul, endowed with the Great Christ Consciousness, is on a pilgrimage. And that pilgrimage takes place in the Drama of Life. And that pilgrimage takes one body, through desire, and then it goes away and takes another body, and it goes on and on, following this pilgrimage for one purpose: to go back home to God. After awhile, after awhile sleeping memories come up, and the Soul realizes that it is not the body. And then it starts to go back to God, creep back, repent, back to God from whence it came. But in the passage back to God, taking many, many bodies, the effect is different on each one of us. Each one of us reacts differently to the conditions in which we find our bodies. That is what makes us be born unequal, as I will try now to point out to you.

The Soul, identified to the vehicle, now becomes subject to what? The Law of Karma, the law of cause and effect, through desire. And being subject to that law of cause and effect, then as it comes again in another body, these causes, which it laid up, have to be fulfilled. And if in one body you lay up good causes, when you come again in the next vehicle, you'll have a good vehicle. But, if you lay up causes which are detrimental to you possessing a good vehicle, when you come again, you have a poor, sick body perhaps – just one illustration. And so, remember, that the Soul, in passing, on this pilgrimage, from one body to another, reacts and lays up certain causes, which have to be fulfilled due to the Law of Karma. You cannot escape. Everything that you do is a cause and there'll be an effect from that cause.

If in this, if in this life you disobey the health laws, you are laying up causes, and they will determine the type of body you have next time. If you break all health laws, overeat and such things, you weaken your reserve, and the body you have next time will be according to the Law of Karma, cause and effect, and the body will not be strong perhaps. But your next neighbor may have a perfectly healthy body. Why? Because of the Law of Karma; the law of cause and effect. You reacted in a certain way to environment, judgment, and the latent impulses

within you. Your next neighbor reacted in a different way. Therefore, the type of body you have the next time, and the characteristics of that body, and the power of that body, is determined by how you are acting right now in this life.

Now, as I have said, each one of us reacts differently in every environment we find ourselves. Each one acts differently according to his judgment, whether that judgment be good, bad, or indifferent, or from the Soul. And each one reacts to the latent impulses within them. Now, you can see why we are all born [un]equal. The Soul, as it travels on its pilgrimage back to God, taking up different vehicles, laying up these different causes with their reactions, the Soul is subject to environment, judgment, and latent impulse. That's what governs our lives, those three things.

Now environment, environment can be family, social, or national, country, different epics of world civilization. Now, each one of us will react differently in that environment, according to the latent impulses we have laid up.

Now take judgment. Judgment made: good, or bad, indifferent. Some react from the Soul judgment, which is the best. Now, don't you see, that produces different latent impulses within you? And when you come again, those impulses suggest to the waking consciousness, and you act in a different way. And those latent impulses, laid up within you, remember, determine the type of body you have; the type of vehicle, and the characteristics after you were born, plus the powers which you have.

Now, if we all act as I have said, differently in an environment, in judgment, and latent impulses, no wonder we're all born unequal. Some have strong bodies, some weak bodies, some great intelligence, some weak intelligence, some money, some without money. Why? Because of the Law of Karma – cause and effect. And that is why we are born in an unequal way, because we ourselves have laid up – no one else has done it – we have laid up these causes; and the effects must be due to the Law of Karma – cause and effect. If I raise the book up, it falls down. So, if you act in a certain way in this life, you lay up a cause and the reaction will be there. And we all, remember, have reacted differently.

As you look about you and see in your environment, each one of us reacts differently. Then, when you add to that judgment, plus the latent impulses, which you have stored up within you, you can see no wonder we're all born unequal. No wonder it is so. Of course, it behooves us to remember that those

latent impulses are the things which we must watch out for. We must lay up right impulses within us. And so, that is what we come to now.

We're not born equal due to the working of the Law of Karma. This is called "jiva karma," human action, that's all. Karma is action, karma is action. I remember the Master used to tell the story about the fella was looking through the fence, at the circus you know. Minding his own business, looking quietly through, enjoying and someone came up behind and kicked him and knocked him over. He said, "Lord, wha, why, why this? I was doing nothing, just looking in enjoying the show." But the Lord, Christ Consciousness, said to him, quietly, "You forgot that last life you did the same thing to that man." You've forgotten that, see. But the Law of Karma doesn't forget it.

And, also, another thing comes to my mind here, about each one of us reacts differently. Some some eat a lot, some eat little, some do this, some do that. One little point says, the sad fact of life, square meals make round people. So, now, if you're gonna overeat, remember next life you're gonna be, perhaps, big. Watch out, if you wanna be nice and thin.

So these, this Law of Karma is what calls, causes the inequality. So never mind. You can't do a thing of what's gone by. You can't do much about it. Some people have an awful time keeping thin. Boy! The least, they look at food, they get big. That's the Law of Karma. You can't do much about that, but what you can do is now, right now, react to your environment in a different way, and do not lay up any more karma. How're you ever gonna win? How're you ever gonna become equal with the rest of Souls, until you start right now to lay up proper karma, which will make you, finally, once more return back to that Christ Consciousness from which you have come?

So, in dealing with this subject, we are not born equals, remember one thing, that it is our own fault. We have laid up the karma. But behind that, we should also remember, perhaps, with greater intensity, that although we are born unequal, still inside of us is that Christ Consciousness, and in that we are all equal. Now that's the goal which we should hold. Keep that goal always before us, and I'll point out the ways in which you can reach that goal.

The Law of Karma is exact. God is not mocked. As we read in Galatians, the 6<sup>th</sup> Chapter, be not deceived, 7<sup>th</sup> Verse: "Be not deceived; God is not mocked:

whatever a man soweth, that shall he reap<sup>8</sup>." (Sic) And in the 8<sup>th</sup> Verse: "For he that soweth to the flesh, he that soweth to the flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption, but he that soweth to the Spirit, shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting<sup>9</sup>." (Sic) And so what have we done? We have sown to material things. And from now on let us sow to Spiritual things and reap Spiritual things. That is what we must do.

And this brings us to independent action. Independent action is a very important thing. It comes from, there's a word called swadhinata. "Swa" means self; "adhinata" means to act from the self. Now this is the way, if you wanna be born equal in God's Great Consciousness, this is what you should do. Listen carefully. Swadhinata means, "action from the Soul." That's real independent action; action from the Soul, with its great freedom, with its great unattachment. We have to act from the Soul. And, if we act from the Soul, there is no inharmony produced within us. No bad karma can be laid up, because the Soul is God's Great Consciousness Itself.

So the key to understanding this question, why we are born unequal, is to right now, make up our minds, from now on, we're gonna act with independent action; which means that we act *not* from environment, latent impulses, or judgment, but from the Soul Consciousness Itself. Now if we do that, we will soon, after our karma is spent, we will soon be one and equal in the Great Light of God.

Now, those who meditate have proved that. Have shown that that Light is perceivable, and when you attain it, it's with you all the time. And in that is equality. We're all children of God, but not attached to this vehicle. I mean we are, are not real children of God, because we're limited. But when we break the attachment to this vehicle, and unite in a Great Light of God, His Great Love, then we are equal. And everyone who will meditate and see that Light of the Holy Vibration within, will feel equal with all others. And when two see that same Light, "when two or more are gathered together in my consciousness, there I am,<sup>10</sup>" it says. When two unite in that Light, they are equal.

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<sup>8</sup> Galatians 6:7, "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

<sup>9</sup> Galatians 6:8, "For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

<sup>10</sup> Matthew 18:20, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

“God’s Light,” as the Master says, “shines equally on the diamond and on the coal.” So His Light shines on each and every one of us equal. To be equal we have to be that Light. So that’s the way to understand this question, why we are born unequal. We are subject to environment, and judgment, and latent impulses. And as long as we are subject and react to them, we will still stay in the wheel of birth and death. Born and die. So, it behooves us to get out of it, to not act from environment, judgment, and latent impulses, but to lift our consciousness and act from Soul consciousness. And through independent action we will lift our consciousness from outward, worldly consciousness, supersede it, with the Great Consciousness of God the Father. Then we will find we are all equal in His Sight.

And you know in the scriptures it says, no matter how great the saints, they’re all equal in God’s Light. Judas betrayed Christ. It took 20 centuries for him to work out that karma. But the Master told me he saw this saint in India. He looked at him, he saw, although he was a swami and a saint, there was a little blemish on him. Then later, the great Ramakrishna told one of his disciples, “I just saw Manu...” I think his name was, “over. He’s all right now.” So, he had paid the last debt of karma, Judas who betrayed Christ. He paid it, but in the Light of God. In the Light of Christ Consciousness, everything is washed clean.

So, if you want to rise above inequality, merge in that One Great Light of God. There we are all equal. That’s the wonderful part. It’s different from this life, according to how much money you are judged; what position you have; how many strings you can pull. But you can’t pull strings in God’s Light. It’s not necessary. Everything is there. That’s the way to understand and rise above karma and be free.

And so, in conclusion, we come to this point. What are we gonna do about it? What can we do about it? We can do this: independent action, direct right action, distinctive conscious effort, I have called it. Distinctive conscious effort will cause you once more to realize the Soul within. Independent action; action from the Soul is necessary.

Now, let us not be afraid of karma. People say, “I don’t know what my karma is. I don’t know what’s in store for me.” Something happens, “Boy! My karma caught up with me.” All right, if you keep thinking of that you’ll never get out of it. Forget it. What you’ve done is done, isn’t it? You can’t do a thing about it, except one thing. If you lift your consciousness through the techniques of Self-Realization Fellowship, through its different techniques; if you lift your

consciousness, supersede it into the Great Consciousness of God within us, His Great Light; then your karma will be alleviated, and sometimes obliterated.

Now, if you wanna escape what you've laid up, that's the only safe place you can go is in the Light of Christ at this point [the Spiritual Eye between the eyebrows on the forehead]. So never mind what karma you have laid up. You're saddled with it anyway. Just like when you get married, sometimes you don't pick a good one, you have it, you're saddled with it. But that doesn't mean you're gonna stay down, does it? No. You're gonna do your duty. You're gonna see it through. But you're gonna learn the lesson: never again will I get caught like that. So that's what we have to do in this life.

Forget the past karma, but make sure that you do not lay up any new bad karma. That's the important thing. If you do that, if you do that, you are bound to win, because in time, the old karma will be worn out, will pass away. It passes away in time. It may take some time, but the more you merge in God's Light, the sooner it will be done. And through the techniques of Self-Realization Fellowship, especially Kriya Yoga, the seeds of karma can be roasted, can be burned, and you will be free.

So, never mind what the karma has been, or what you have stored up. I don't wanna know mine. If we know ours, we'd get frightened. Who cares? The point is, what we must remember right now, from now on, lay up no more undesirable karma. How to do it? By distinctive, constructive, right action which is independent action from the Soul. And when you act from the Soul, you keep your consciousness at the Christ Center – act from that – you will not lay up any undesirable karma.

Now, when you do that, gradually, the old karma will run its course and you will once more merge into that One Great Light of God, the prehistoric Christ Consciousness spoken of in the Bible. And in that Consciousness, in that One Consciousness, in that Great Light and Love of God, when that thrills you, you are equal to every other Soul, because each ray is a ray of that One Great Consciousness of God. In that is ee, ee, is equality, in this worldly life is inequality. But do not be sidetracked. We are made in the Image of God. Each one of us is a child of God. And when, through effort, plus the Grace of God, we supersede this weak outward consciousness, by the strong Presence of God, His Great Light within; then in that One Light of God, the Light of Christ, the Blood of Christ spoken of in the Bible, in that we are all equal.

## *Father's Day Message*

This is Father's Day, I understand. All days are the same when you merge in God's Consciousness. But I understand it's Father's Day, and a little message to the fathers might be in order.

As I have said, we are all equal in God's Light, but we, as fathers, are different. Why? Because, being born in this Drama of Life, we have a certain characteristic of God which is different from the ladies. We have more of that will and power of God, because we're made that way. But, if we exercise that too much, we are not complete. God's Great Light and Consciousness is not all will. An aspect of it is what? It's that Feeling, that Love. So, we, as fathers, have to modify our great strength and power by the Love, which the other creation of God, woman, has. We have to balance it, so that we not only have that strength and power, but we also have that sympathy and that understanding which women have, which Divine Mother has.

In India, in the old days, I understood, that the father, the husband was considered the guru. Now that's a wonderful example for us to try to follow. Let us make, let us, we fathers make ourselves so that we will be considered the guru in the family. We can do it by merging in the One Great Light of Christ. If we have that, everybody, including our families will look up to us and respect us.

And the greatest example to me, or one of the greatest fathers, is our own Lahiri Mahasaya, who was married and had two children. But he lived in the world, but not of it. He performed his duty, as father of his household, but on one side he was with God all the time. He had found out, that as a householder, as a father, he was born in an unequal state with his fellow man. But in the one Consciousness of God they were all equal.

So, we as fathers can remember that. We have that great example of Lahiri Mahasaya. Be in the world. Don't run away from this drama. Who's afraid of this Drama of Life? Who's afraid of life when God is with you? That should be the attitude of fathers. We have a responsibility as the head of the household, but who is afraid to accept that responsibility when God is with us.

So the solution to the whole problem is as Jesus said, "Seek first the kingdom of heaven and his righteousness<sup>11</sup>." (Sic) Seek first the Christ Consciousness within, the Great Light of God, and all other things shall be added unto us.

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<sup>11</sup> Matthew 6:33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."