

Pathwork Guide Lecture No. 248  
An Unedited Lecture  
February 8, 1978

### THREE PRINCIPLES OF THE FORCES OF EVIL; PERSONIFICATION OF EVIL

My dearest, dearest friends! God's blessings envelop you, Jesus Christ is present here again, warming you, giving you courage and love, truth and hope -- hope that is always justified. Turn to Him, for He is God's human manifestation. He is the cosmic Christ that transcends all human bickering, separatism, and "me versus you" attitude. He has nothing to do with the mass image of Jesus Christ that I talked about in the last lecture.

In this lecture I wish to instruct you again about certain laws and realities about evil. I already spoke about this some time ago. In certain intervals I give you aspects about this facet of your reality. Once again it is necessary and important that you understand more about this so controversial subject.

For many centuries, the power of evil was utterly recognized. Mankind had a sense of the invisible, of what is referred to as "supernatural," both as regards the forces of light and the forces of darkness with their manifestations, effects, influence, and personification (spirit entities -- angels and devils). It has always been said that man's free will determines under whose influence he puts himself.

In man's still immature mental and emotional state, his will was not yet sufficiently developed to make a conscious, appropriate, wise choice. The strength of his lower self and his inability and unwillingness to face and therefore transcend it made him frequently the prey of evil influences. The lack of self-knowledge inevitably also led to lack of self-responsibility. The further outcome was that mankind became, or rather felt itself to be, victimized by evil spirits. Fear of them often led to submission to them -- and this happened on a quite conscious and intentional level. The worship of Satan occurred openly. And when this was not the case, it certainly occurred unconsciously by choosing the influences that corresponded to the intentionality of the lower self.

When history proceeded further, a disconnection from the invisible world occurred. This disconnection is in itself a manifestation of evil. I shall go into this more specifically later in this lecture. Now I just want to say what I often mentioned before: Evil and its manifestation must become the medicine to overcome evil, at least in the long run. This disconnection from supernatural realities had, of course, its very regrettable effects. But it also created an arena in which man could no longer blame the devil for his misdemeanors. He had to look within himself to correct the effects of evil. Thus mankind had to go through a period of isolation and separateness from the invisible realities in order to grow into self-responsibility. What was ridiculed as superstition was really a half-truth. It is indeed a kind of superstition when outside forces are made responsible for one's fate. But the other side of this picture is that fact that these other invisible forces do exist and have their influences.

In other words, we are dealing once again with a duality. Either the self is responsible for the individual's fate, or the angels or devils are. Humanity has matured sufficiently to unite this duality. After a long period of concentrating on the self at the expense of invisible forces, the time has come when you can combine the two facets of reality and truly make them the one reality it really is from our vantage point.

Although I have discussed the existence of these forces ever since my task with you began, for a considerable time we concentrated mostly on your own inner being with all its subtleties, all the various levels of consciousness, and their interaction within and around you. Occasionally I did of course return to the power of these forces, but always in conjunction with your own determining voice. You have begun to understand that to the degree your lower self is conscious and you are therefore able to choose not to act upon it and you pray for help to purify it, to that degree you are invulnerable by evil. To the degree you commit yourself to the will of the Highest and dedicate your life to follow in Christ's footsteps, to that degree evil spirits cannot approach you. But it is not enough to voice such intentions on the surface of your being. It must penetrate the most hidden levels of your personality in order to become the shining light that repels dark spirits. The purification process of this path is such a deep-rooted system that it totally renews the personality on all levels.

The time has come for you, my beloved friends, to understand more deeply how you are an electromagnetic field that attracts always according to certain levels of your inner being what is commensurate with these levels. In order to attain this awareness in a fuller and more complete way, you need more information, which I give as it becomes necessary on your path. At this time, I should like to discuss three specific principles of evil. Your understanding of this will prove immensely useful and will bring a clearer focus into your field of vision of life in general and of your life in particular.

There are three basic principles of evil. The first is the most obvious to mankind. The devil was always associated with this principle. It is the aim to destroy, to inflict suffering at all cost. The separation between the self that perpetrates suffering and the victim of suffering is so great that the perpetrator deludes himself to be unaffected from the further effects of his acts. It is known that one of Satan's earmarks is separation -- separation not only from God but also from others and from self. This aspect of separation exists with all the three principles I shall discuss here. The delusion of evil in the case of this first principle lies in the misperception that your brother's or sister's pain is not unavoidably also your own pain. On the contrary, the person filled with evil (whether in human form or a discarnated entity) experiences excitement and pleasure when wringing havoc, destruction, suffering, pain.

The second principle is materialism. This does not only apply to the earth sphere, but equally, and often even more, to a variety of hellish spheres in which entities live in a totally disconnected way, convinced that the dead state of the thickly condensed matter (much more thickly condensed than your matter) is the only reality that exists. In such hellish spheres the suffering is not the same as the suffering applicable to the first principle, which was often depicted by visionaries in your earthly sphere. This second principle is less often understood and sensed. Visionaries have not seen the spheres corresponding to and being manifestations of this principle.

I will give but one example as an illustration. Imagine a life in which there is total absence of nature in the surrounding. Nothing is alive, all is condensed matter. Nothing has flavor. By the same token, the entity's inner nature is equally inaccessible. There is only deadness and mechanicalness. There is only alienation from all that is pulsating life, within and without. There is no birth and no death, but not in the sense of eternal life that is truly heavenly. In this form of manifestation, it is the distortion of eternity. It is hopelessness itself, as if no change were ever possible. Existence is totally mechanized. The hopeless kind of suffering, as opposed to the suffering of direct infliction of pain, is neither more nor less desirable. It is simply a suffering of a different kind, corresponding to a different principle of evil.

It should be easy to see that your earth sphere manifested the first principle in a much stronger way until fairly recently in your history. The last hundred years or so, the second principle has overtaken in influence. Along with the disappearance of the superstitions, also the connection with the subliminal levels of reality disappeared. The life line to pulsating reality and reenlivening was broken. This resulted in an alienated reality in which mankind prided itself on its advanced state, not only advanced because the emphasis on matter actually did result in technological progress, but also "advanced" in that man became the only reality unto himself. This has its positive and negative ramifications. The positive I mentioned before. It brought man back to taking responsibility for himself and therefore led him to search within himself to an ever increasing degree for the causes of his fate. It is not coincidental that psychology appeared and helped in this endeavor. The negative manifestation is that you produced a life not totally different from the sphere I described before.

These two principles have been known by spiritually aware people. Since every principle and every spiritual reality can, and frequently does, also manifest as entity, two different kinds of devils were also recognized by some visionaries. They represented and personified these principles. Each holds his own realm and rules his own world, with many spirits of lesser power serving them. The hierarchy that is recognized in divine spheres also exists in satanic spheres.

However, the third principle of evil is little known, and although recognized in a vague way, perhaps as a by-product of evil but hardly ever as a powerful principle itself, it is as effective as the other two principles I discussed above. This principle, too, has its own personification, its own hierarchy, its own realm. It is the principle of confusion, distortion, half-truth, lie, and all the variations that may possibly exist in connection with it. It includes using truth where it does not belong, is not applicable, so that the truth subtly turns into a lie, yet cannot easily be traced as such because the divine truth is pronounced and seems unassailable per se. Thus confusion is wrought. This is not just an extremely effective weapon of evil, it is an evil principle itself.

It will be easy to see, my friends, how important it is for you to understand this now. You will find all these principles represented in your world, around you and within your own lower self. You will see that your own lower self contains in its negative intentionality, all three principles. Only when you become clearly aware of this, can you recognize when devilish forces and spirits want to destroy you; want to inflict pain on you through others; want to create the illusion in you that you are separated, isolated, that no God exists, that no life beyond the one of your present body exists; and, finally, want to drive you crazy with confusion, dualistic splits, false either/or's, half-truths, and subtle distortions that you cannot sort out. This recognition is of tremendous value for you. You

cannot deal with an enemy whose existence you ignore, whose weapons you do not know and recognize.

The time has come when you can see clearly how the corresponding principle within your unpurified aspects becomes an inevitable field of attraction of powerful forces you can only make harmless by the determination to remain true to God, by using the light of Christ to help you work within yourself so that this field of attraction can transform into a different magnet.

It must also be understood that these principles always coexist, but one may be stronger in manifestation at certain periods of history and/or during certain phases of an individual's life. It is also a question of individual preponderance, characteristics, and personal inclinations that determine which of these three principles are most compatible with the individuality in question. In the cycle of evolution, collectively speaking, at different periods one or the other of these principles will be most prevalent, as I already indicated. But that does not mean that the other two principles are absent. They all contribute to the ultimate aim of the forces of darkness -- to alienate creation from the Creator.

I will give an example of how this interaction of the three principles works. Confusion and distortion of reality, making a truth out of a lie and a lie out of the truth, creates a numbness toward subliminal reality, toward the cosmic, eternal aliveness that can be felt deep in the soul of any individual when there is truth and clarity. This numbness, created out of confusion and chaos, inevitably inflicts pain and suffering, as the lie must inflict pain and suffering. You may experiment with these three principles, starting with any one of them most prevalent in an individual's or collective manifestation, and you will see that they must all coexist and reinforce one another.

Today's human mentality can accept the principle of good and evil more easily than the fact of personification of both. Even the principle of good and evil is still often disputed as if good or evil were merely subjective perceptions. Here again we are dealing with a half-truth. Either good or evil actually are often experienced according to limited, personal, and highly subjective perceptions on a very superficial level. When issues are seen on a deeper level of consciousness, what was first believed to be good can often be seen as questionable and possibly a mask of something evil. By the same token, what appears bad on the surface turns out to be a very good experience or manifestation. So it is quite true that good or evil should be viewed with caution and discernment and with as much depth as possible. It is, however, a grave mistake to assume, because of this fact, that good and evil do not exist in a very real way. The denial of good or evil as absolutes (in spite of the relative with its misjudgments) leads to nihilism, hopelessness, and the void as if they were all that actually exists in the ultimate. For quite a while it was very fashionable and deemed to be very intelligent to postulate this nihilism, which is obviously the same separation from deeper and cosmic realities that I mentioned as one of the principles of evil. The confusion and half-truth is a result of the third principle, that breeds the second principle, which in turn must ultimately cause the first principle.

In this age, mankind has made a step in the right direction and begins to recognize that good and evil actually exist above and beyond the relativity of it due to man's limited perception. So, mankind is open to accept God as a creative principle and also, to a degree, a principle that countermands that divine creative principle. But you are still very hesitant to accept the fact that all principles can and do manifest as entities. It is as though you still hesitate to be called childish and

primitive by those who believe themselves so much wiser and more knowledgeable when they ridicule other forms and manifestations of reality.

If personification of principles and creative forces would not exist, how could you exist as human beings? A human being is merely one form of such personification. You personify principles of both good and evil, as you now know very well. Why should it be so hard to accept or appear as primitive and unintelligent to believe that beings exist who manifest more of the one and less of the other on the scale of development? And, finally, why should there not be entities who manifest total goodness and total badness? In the latter instance you may say that all created beings are ultimately divine, so they cannot be all bad. This is true in a much wider sense, but at the present manifestation, this divine core is so overlaid that nothing of it manifests. At any rate, we are here dealing with the fact that personification exists in all gradations, and to deny this is far from knowledgeable or intelligent. Your awareness of the fact that angels and devils surround and influence you need not result in worshipping the angels and overlooking the fact that the divine manifestation as personification -- Jesus Christ -- is the ultimate source of your supply, your life, and of all you need and that direct contact with Him is what opens the channel of communication between Him and you. Nor should it lead you to fear the devils you sporadically attract, according to certain cyclic rhythms. Like all disease, so are the devils near you cause, effect, and medicine. Their nearness and effect on you is caused by unpurified, limited, undeveloped consciousness. This cause has the effect of drawing devils near you and confusing you with lies so that you no longer know what is truth and what is lie. This effect can be used by you, if you so choose, to become the medicine to develop and purify these unattended parts of your soul. So, instead of fearing the devils, you need to recognize their voices, and you need to learn to distinguish where these voices come from. This is in itself an extremely necessary development. If you ignore and deny their existence, how in the world can you become aware of them and counteract them? If you do not know that they surround and inspire you at times, how can you counter them? If you do not consider the fact that lies may be whispered into your thinking apparatus, how can you bring to bear your capacity to question and doubt that thought material that filters through you. It is necessary to make the connection between your lower self that -- due to its ignorance, fear, and lack of faith -- creates destructive solutions and negative intentionality on the one hand and the voices of satanic entities on the other. Together these two factors wreak havoc in your life and the life of those around you. The time has come when you need to know clearly, fearlessly, and intelligently what the facts of life are in this respect. For the stronger you become in your higher self with its positive intentionality, and, at the same time, certain aspects of the lower self remain unattended to, the more you become a prey to evil influences who are much more concerned with you than with those whose life is not particularly dedicated to God. The reason for this is obvious and needs no further elucidation.

So now is the time that you particularly need to know as much as possible of the enemy and his weapons, so that you can combat this enemy force that is drawn toward you to the degree that you do not heed these periods and decide to make them a medicine.

When you take some distance from the series of lectures this year, you will perceive much clearer than you do now that in the specific sequence there is a profound meaning. As one lecture follows the other, they could not come to you in a different sequence. To some degree you sense this already. And retrospectively you have recognized this rhythm and meaning about the sequence

of lectures in the past. The topics of each lecture and their sequence spell out an articulate message the spirit world is sending you for further necessary steps on your path.

It is commonly misunderstood that Satan does not consider God, the source of all life, the creative principle of all universes, as the opponent against whom all his efforts and warfare are directed. The ultimate personification of all evil, containing all three principles (which are also personified as entities) usually referred to as Satan, recognizes God as Creator and bends to His will and His laws. He cannot help doing so, of course. I have spoken more extensively in a series of lectures I have given at the very beginning of my task with you, so I will not repeat myself here, for you can go back and reread these lectures. I mean particularly here why it was God's will that evil can have its sphere of activity and influence; that only in this way evil can be truly overcome from within the soul of all fallen spirits, all entities that have chosen thoughts and actions to plunge them into darkness. This is why very exacting laws and rules exist whereby Satan cannot act other than according to these laws. Definite limits are being set, always according to the will and choice of the individuals in question. I think I have made it quite clear how the interaction between an individual's (incarnated or not) lower self and evil spirits follows certain very definite laws. When the effort is being made to question one's own thoughts and to claim one's determination to follow the way of the truth and of the light, the power of spirits of lying instantly wanes. This may not be immediately discernable to the entity who cannot see the light of his own will to be in truth, nor can he see the entities that surround him, nor their influence. The effect may come only some time later. But come it must.

How often do you allow yourself to be submerged by thoughts of untruth and confusion and drown in them, until their effect disconnects you from the spark of life and until you suffer the pain of untruth and confusion. This is sad because it is unnecessary.

So if God, the creative principle of all universes, is not the enemy of personified evil, who then is? It is God the manifest personification, the Christ. His light of truth, of eternal life is unbearable to all satanic spirits, while this same light will inspire you with truth and life, will connect you with the Source of all life, will lighten your way. But you must make the decision whether you wish this Christ light to shine on your way, to make it your way, or whether you unwittingly choose to submerge yourself in thoughts of untruth and confusion because this momentarily seems easier, perhaps even more pleasurable and exciting, and finally because you do not have the faith that He will come to help you with truth and clarification if you desire it.

Satan's real opponent is Jesus Christ who came to forge a way for all creatures captivated and weakened by satanic influences. This has to do with precisely the fact of personification. When the Christ manifested God as man and was thus both divine and human, He accomplished the greatest feat imaginable. He proved that it is possible to remain true to God, true to truth, and not succumb to the strongest of influences that the personification of evil could unleash. Through this tremendous act of steadfastness, the man who was God and the God who was man opened the doors in the souls of all created beings. It meant that those who were submerged in darkness could gradually find their way back to light. Jesus Christ has saved every single entity who was ever created, every particle of consciousness and energy that ever manifested and ever will manifest as personality. The Great Light is always available through which a tunnel can be forged.

When satanic entities encounter this light, this Christ light, it causes physical pain. In this light are contained all divine attributes: the light of truth stings; the light of love is unbearably oppressive; the light of positive aggression is fearsome and terrifying. Only God manifest can become visible and perceivable to other personifications. Unmanifest divine principle can only be indirectly experienced by personalized energy/consciousness units.

The Great Light of the cosmic Christ reaches a soul in darkness, first through pain. To some degree all of you on this wonderful path have occasionally experienced this, of course to a much lesser degree. You have come in touch with a reaction that first seems inexplicable, in which you retract from happiness, fulfillment, pleasure, love. You close up your centers of receptivity for God's abundance. At first this puzzles you, later you learn to see and observe this reaction in you in the same manner as you learn to observe any other irrational and destructive reaction. Often this seems to make so little sense that you become discouraged when you see this reaction in you again and again. You meditate, you visualize yourself being receptive to happiness, love and fulfillment, and yet this automatic reaction continues.

Is it not clear yet that the hidden part of your lower self that resists exposure and transformation is unable to allow the personality to stand the light? So prayer is not enough, good will and meditation, visualization and logic, none of them will make you really accessible to the light as long as there exists a hidden agenda in your soul. In that area you must react similarly to demonic entities who hide from the light of Christ that contains all happiness, eternal fulfillment and life. This hidden area makes you react with pain to this light. In this area you become connected to the forces of darkness and are a target for them. When you observe your own similar reactions of contraction, of restlessness and anxiety when great pleasure and fulfillment come to you, you can now connect with the principle I am trying to convey to you. And you will understand well when I discuss demonic spirit's flight from the Christ light. You will also comprehend what history tried to convey again and again -- that Christ is the great adversary of Satan.

What exists in microcosm with the human soul, also exists in the macrocosm. Every inner drama is a reflection of an outer drama, and vice versa. Every battle within the human soul between the forces of light and of darkness, between the higher self and the lower self, also exists on a universal level enacted by many entities of different stages of development. Every personality goes through this battle within himself or herself, experiences it occasionally outside in his or her surroundings, and, last but not least, will become involved in larger issues that also represent this universal battle between good and evil.

The individual's role in this battle, on whatever level it takes place, very much depends on his choice -- his conscious, deliberate choice where he wants to be. When issues are being viewed tinged by personal emotions that belong in the realm of darkness and these personal emotions are not being recognized in their ability to taint the vision, then one truly becomes a further target to one or all of the three principles of evil. Cruelty will be hidden under the guise of expressing your feelings, while, in reality, maligning and distortion are the tools of cruelty and giving hurt. Disconnection from deeper reality will blind you to the true meaning of events. Confusion will be rampant so that truth will be used for lying and lies will be made the truth. The forces of evil have been allowed to find entrance through your lower self that is not dealt with sufficiently.

My dearest friends, do not allow yourself to become enmeshed in this battle, do not unwittingly lend yourself as tools for the aims of the prince of darkness. Use your good will to see the truth. The truth of your hidden lower self motives, the truth of your higher self good will to give up the line of least resistance and the negative pleasure that makes you persist in a destructive course that is bringing clouds of pain and darkness to you and those around you. The key is really quite simple. It is so tempting to follow negative thoughts and come to believe them. It furthers a lower self fixation to indulge in the negative pleasure of negative thoughts, suspicions, blame, accusations that may or may not be true. The key is to raise pertinent questions. I mentioned this before. The first question would be: What is the truth here? I want to know the real truth. The second question is: Do I want to know the truth in this or that issue? If these two questions can be answered truthfully in depth, not superficially, you dispel the clouds of darkness in which are contained the three principles of evil. Clarification will come when the truth is really wanted, even if part of the truth happens to be, at this moment in time, that you do not want the truth, but want to attack, to blame, to see something or someone in the worst way. The reason why you secretly wish this can be explored only when you no longer deny feeling this way. The truth will shimmer through slowly but inexorably once you admit a negative intentionality that draws expert spirits of lying and of confusion. Clarity will dissolve pain -- the pain of your guilt that is frequently denied being able to surface by strengthening the destructive process of projecting on others what you fear in yourself. And clarity will also dissolve the pain that is inflicted on others as a result of this evil process set in motion.

Do not ever delude yourself into believing that negative intent and thoughts do not inevitably reflect in your actions and do not affect others in an insidious way. Thoughts never remain separated things. They inevitably create results and events in one form or another. The clarity resulting from honestly pursuing and answering these questions, by delving into your hidden thought processes (seldom completely unconscious) and into the process of your intent in a given issue, will dissolve pain, all sorts of pain. And it will reestablish the connection with eternal life.

My beloved friends, you all come to the point in your development when taking responsibility for your creation must be combined with a profound knowledge of the invisible worlds and the laws by which you attract or repel the nature and development of the entities who influence you, who reinforce that in you that is the nuclear power field within your soul. Of course there are many areas, so that you may be influenced by the highest forces in some areas and by the lowest in others.

It is also important to understand that a person does not experience temporary evil influences because he is undeveloped or evil or bad. One individual may be more accosted by occasional evil although what needs to be purified in his soul may be much less unpurified than another person's soul substance who may be less accosted by demonic influences. I mean this in an absolute sense. The law of attraction and repulsion is purely relative here. To be more specific: if you have reached a comparatively high level of development, but the areas that remain to be transformed are not recognized by your consciousness even though these areas may not be particularly destructive or outright wrong, the charge of this unrecognized part exerts a greater force than the charge of a person who is on an altogether lower plane of development. It would be good if you pondered this principle and law and could gain a more feeling understanding of it.

With this, my dearest ones, I give all of you the blessings of truth and love. The light I bring is always the Christ light. He has said He is the truth and He is the way and He is life. In His light



you find the way to truth in the smallest and largest issues, the personal and impersonal issues. This way leads to the love of the Creator who has given eternal life. Eternal life can be found only in truth -- the way to the truth that leads through the mazes of the dark areas in your own soul, through the temptation to remain in them and savor their passing gratification, through deliberately overcoming this temptation. The truth, the way, life, the great Christ light are the overpowering love of the Creator, of creation, of all that is. Be blessed, choose this way!

For information to find and participate in Pathwork activities world wide, please write:

The Pathwork® Foundation  
PO Box 6010  
Charlottesville, VA 22906-6010, USA  
Call: 1-800-PATHWORK, or  
Visit: [www.pathwork.org](http://www.pathwork.org)

The following notices are for your guidance in the use of the Pathwork® name and this lecture material.

#### Trademark/Service Mark

Pathwork® is a registered service mark owned by The Pathwork Foundation, and may not be used without the express written permission of the Foundation. The Foundation may, in its sole discretion, authorize use of the Pathwork® mark by other organizations or persons, such as affiliate organizations and chapters.

#### Copyright

The copyright of the Pathwork Guide material is the sole property of The Pathwork Foundation. This lecture may be reproduced, in compliance with the Foundation Trademark, Service Mark and Copyright Policy, but the text may not be altered or abbreviated in any way, nor may the copyright, trademark, service mark, or any other notices be removed. Recipients may be charged the cost of reproduction and distribution only.

Any person or organization using The Pathwork Foundation service mark or copyrighted material is deemed to have agreed to comply with the Foundation Trademark, Service Mark and Copyright Policy. To obtain information or a copy of this policy, please contact the Foundation.