

The Way, the Truth and the Life

Thomas saith unto him, “Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way?”

Jesus saith unto him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know Him, and have seen Him.”*

My beloved teacher Paramahansa Yogananda says, in Volume II, Discourse 70, of his book, *The Second Coming of Christ, The Resurrection of the Christ Within You, A revelatory commentary on the original teachings of Jesus*, the following:

Explaining these verses, my revered guru Sri Yukteswarji said: “Jesus meant, never that he was the sole Son of God, but that no man can attain the unqualified Absolute, the transcendent Father *beyond* creation, until he has first manifested the ‘Son’ or activating Christ Consciousness *within* creation. Jesus, who had achieved entire oneness with that Christ Consciousness, identified himself with it inasmuch as his own ego had long since been dissolved.”

The Christ Consciousness present in Jesus, and in all vibratory creation and phenomena, is the noumenon, “truth,” the primary substance and essence of life of everything in creation. No human being who is a part of the vibratory creation can take his consciousness to Cosmic Consciousness, “the Father”—which lies beyond vibratory creation and the immanent Christ Consciousness—without first experiencing the Christ-imbued Cosmic Vibration, or Holy Ghost, that manifests vibratory creation, then passing through the God-reflection of Christ Consciousness. In other words, to “come unto the Father” every human consciousness has to expand and attain realization of the Cosmic Vibration first, and then know Christ Consciousness, in order to reach Cosmic Consciousness.

Jesus went on to say that everyone who had “known” him (contacted the Christ Consciousness in him) should realize that they had also automatically contacted the Cosmic Consciousness (the “Father”), for the Cosmic Consciousness and Its only begotten reflection omnipresent in creation—the Christ Consciousness—are one.

Here Jesus clearly explained his inner Self as Spirit. He never emphasized his body, always the omnipresent Spirit within the body. It is important to remember the above point as a basis of understanding the spiritual cosmography: that the Christ Consciousness is the primary substance and essence, “the truth, and the life” of vibratory creation—the noumenon existing behind every phenomenon. When Jesus said: “Ye know Him, and have seen Him,” he never meant that the thousands of people who saw the body of Jesus realized that here was a manifestation of Christ Consciousness, and therefore of the Father. Only those advanced disciples who attuned themselves with Christ Consciousness by deep meditation could realize the presence of the Father as one with the Christ Consciousness manifested in the incarnate form of Jesus.

* John 14:5-7 from the King James Bible—the version of the Bible Helen Schucman preferred.