



Religious Gatheka – Hazrat Inayat Khan

13. The Message of God

This Month's Concentration:

Read and contemplate daily for the next several weeks

Pir-o-Murshid Hazrat Inayat Khan's lecture: Religion

Reflect Daily on the Following Points in Gatheka 13

Hazrat Inayat Khan in this Gatheka emphasizes the follow. Let us contemplate:

1. *Where is God? God is in the heart of man. When it is the voice of God that rises in the hearts of man it is a divine word. The words of Christ are a tongue of fire that pierces the heart of man.*

Contemplate: What thoughts and ultimately what words arise in my own heart?

2. *Every person when born on earth is born an innocent soul. He gets the experience of the world and becomes worldly. Then the more worldly he becomes the more the beauty and angelic attributes are covered by the knowledge of the complications of the world. As he develops he tries to learn still more and to bury the spirit of innocence as deep as possible, until the Christ-spirit is altogether covered. What he knows is what he has learned in this mortal life., this false life. And what can the knowledge of falsehood bring? Falsehood. The generality is seeking falsehood and gets falsehood. This can be seen by the simple fact that the man clad with artificial clothes is welcome in society. This shows that that man cannot stand the bare truth.*

Contemplate: This a a potent teaching Murshid gives us. Let us examine our hearts and minds regarding complexities and complexes that keep us unaware of our Christ-spirit and the truth of our being.

3. *Man can prove to be worse than the animal, man can act worse than the devil. The devil is a miniature of man's wickedness, as the angel is the miniature of man's greatness. It was the human being which was honoured by being Christ, it is the human being who is pictured in the form of Satan. Think what a gulf there is between man and man!*

*To take off the cover separating man from Christ a process is necessary. This process is the same that is taken to take away the stains and lines from paper by rubbing. The process is Safa from which comes Sufi. Safi means to clean, to wash, to erase and by this the soul is purified. This shows the mission of Sufism, and the work of the Sufi Order.**

Contemplate: By examining our hearts and minds we can assess our inner and outer life in relationship the this aspect of the teaching. Then the next step is to "take of the covering" separating us from our Christ consciousness.

4. *Every process of meditation and concentration is to wash the soul of the stains of earthy experiences. The real use of any exercise or practises is that the Christ-voice may become audible, that the light may manifest. Once a person has heard this voice, once he has seen the light, do you think that he hears or sees anything else afterwards? No, the ears are dedicated to Christ when once one has found Christ in one's own heart*

Contemplate: Here Murshid is teaching us the significance and benefit of our spiritual practice.

With loving regards,
Nuria , *Hazrat Inayat Khan Study Circle Moderator*