

THE KEY OF
IMMEDIATE ENLIGHTENMENT
SPECIAL EDITION

THE SUPREME MASTER CHING HAI'S
1993 WORLD LECTURE TOUR
VOLUME II
AUSTRALIA

The Supreme Master Ching Hai
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On Master Ching Hai's World Lecture Tour

In early March 1993, The Supreme Master Ching Hai, in an effort to bring the message of liberation to souls longing for their Homeland, undertook the arduous task of a worldwide tour. The lectures, discourses, interviews, and responses to innumerable questions posed by seekers around the world spanned a period of three and one-half months and included 16 countries from the Orient to the Occident and back to the Orient. People of all races, religions, and nationalities gathered to hear a living Master speak of an ancient Method by which one may escape from this world of birth, sickness, old age, and death, and describe the beauty of another world that is our true Home.

Thousands of people, yearning for deliverance from the cycle of eight-four, were initiated by our benevolent Master into Quan Yin Method and thereby secured not only their own release but also that of their five generations. These six volumes consist of literal transcriptions of interviews and discourses presented by Master Ching Hai at venues that included university campuses, public auditoriums, outdoor gatherings, historical sites and hotel conference facilities, in cities around the globe. Most of the lectures were given in the English language, but in Germany, Austria, and France, Master Ching Hai spoke in the native languages of those countries.

A small group of practitioners accompanied Her on the tour to assist with the multitude of tasks that are required to deliver lectures to thousands of people in cities around the world. To those of us who privileged to be a part of this tour, we could only regard Master with amazement, as city after city, country after country, with no respite between the crowded lecture venues, She attended to the spiritual needs of thousands of people. This petite Person with a delicate physical body, yet possessing incredible energy and stamina, maintained such an extraordinary pace that we had difficulty in keeping up. There is no doubt that only someone connected to the Universal Powerhouse could possibly have endured the physical hardships and successfully overcome the obstacles that a tour of this magnitude generates. Master has said, "When I teach the Method, it is not my body that speaks, but it is the Buddha (God or the Master power) within."

This report is presented by the News Group that accompanied Master Ching Hai during the sixteen weeks and hundreds of thousands of miles. She traveled in 1993 to bring a message of hope to the masses of people who were praying for liberation. It was in response to those anguished pleas and the repeated requests of longing disciples around the world that Master Ching Hai undertook this lecture tour, because in Her eyes, as She has so often said, there is no need to teach anyone anything. Everything is perfect the way it is. The lectures presented herein and spoken by Her were recorded, transcribed, and sometimes translated from other languages and then edited for publication. We recommend that you listen to or watch the original audio or videotapes. You will get a much richer experience of Her presence from these sources than from the written words. Of course, the most complete experience is to see Her in person.

First Stop on Master Ching Hai's 1993 World Lecture Tour News Group Report Surabaya, Indonesia

Indonesia, the first stop on Master Ching Hai's World Lecture Tour, is located in southeastern Asia and comprises more than 3,000 islands that stretch along the equator from the Malaysian mainland to New Guinea. Master's destination was Surabaya, capital of the East Java province. Surabaya, the country's second largest city with an estimated population of around 2.5 million persons, is a commercial and industrial center, as well as a major naval base.

More than 4,000 believers assembled at the lecture venue several hours before Master's arrival. The admiring crowd, having swarmed around the hall and book kiosks, was anxiously awaiting the appearance of Heaven's perfect Being. Upon first catching sight of our beautiful Master, many people, unable to restrain themselves, rushed forward to shake Her hands or simply to get a closer look. The atmosphere was brimming with excitement and goodwill as Master made Her way through the crowded assembly, silently blessing everyone with Her presence.

Unique Method to Impart Dharma

Due to bureaucratic obstacles that included masses of paper work, we were unable to obtain official permits to use the microphone system. Consequently, Master was unable to speak to the audience. With cancellation of the lecture part of the program, it appeared that the negative power had succeeded in thwarting Her plans for bringing word of the Truth to the people of Indonesia – but She was not to be beaten so easily.

Master's resourcefulness turned this "speechless dharma

gathering” into a tremendous success. Lacking the use of microphones, Master distributed blessed food, and as the people came forward to receive it, they were also rewarded with blessing from Her eyes. Master’s smiling countenance and elegant manner even transformed the terse and stern demeanor of the uniformed, military police to one of friendliness. Indeed, it was a strange sight to see these men with distinguished medals adorning their formal uniforms helping our lovely Master distribute cookies and candy to the people of Surabaya. This “silent dharma gathering” created a local sensation and made Master almost a household personality in Indonesia.

The local press, very attentive to Master’s second visit to Indonesia, competed with each other by printing long columns reporting news of Her activities. The “Surya Morning News” ran daily articles describing Master’s philosophy of vegetarianism, Her love for all beings, as well as the Quan Yin Method of meditation. A particularly interesting article revealed that Master is regarded by many of the Indonesian practitioners as “Mei Shin.” Mei Shin is a very beautiful Mongolian female swordsman who is known for having a noble character and helping other beings.

During an interview, a magazine reporter asked, “After yesterday’s incidents when the program had to be canceled, do You still want to come to Indonesia? Or maybe You are depressed and would never come to Indonesia again?” Master serenely replied, “I do not know this feeling. My lifestyle and activities are decided by Divine Will. If I have to come here again, I would not decline the assignment of God.” Many people expressed the hope that Master would return to give a lecture, while others prepared to travel to Formosa to learn the Quan Yin Method of practice. Still others made plans to attend a lecture at one of the upcoming World Tour stops.

The success of Master's visit in Surabaya makes it evident that no matter how adverse the conditions may be, our Master deftly transforms them to Her advantage. Through this unparalleled dharma gathering, Master broadly and deeply sowed the seeds of Truth in Indonesia.

Fearless Spirit, Courageous Lesson

At the group meditation for initiated practitioners, held later that evening, Master told us that this special form of teaching was God's arrangement. In order to judge real success or failure, one must see use the wisdom eye to see it properly. When sharing the message of Truth, it is not always necessary to speak verbally that which one wants to convey. Looking into the eyes of a fully enlightened Master has the same kind of blessing effect and can impart the same lesson. In addition, everyone had obtained a sample booklet that contains the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the Contact Persons. Those seekers who are sincerely looking for a method of spiritual practice will come to us naturally. Master pointed out that the occurrence of pressure conditions is God's way of helping us to develop a fearless spirit and to learn lessons of courage. Only with an optimistic outlook and positive love can we conquer the negative force.

Master also humorously commented that the large troop of military police assigned to protect Her was lined up in the fashion of a welcoming guard formation appropriate for the arrival of a head of state. Although very regal, it was a bit too formal for our Master's humble tastes. While in Indonesia, Master also met with the American and Japanese Consul Generals. Everyone enjoyed the very lighthearted conversation during a delicious vegetarian meal.

News of the meeting was reported in all the major newspapers of Surabaya.

Second Stop on Master Ching Hai's 1993 World Lecture Tour News Group Report Singapore

From Surabaya, Master's itinerary led Her northward to Singapore. Officially known as the Republic of Singapore, it is located in southeastern Asia and has a standard of living that is one of the highest in Asia. The entire island is densely populated and almost completely urbanized. With its tropical climate and delicious vegetarian ice-cream, the members of the touring group very much looked forward to the stop in Singapore.

Miracles Abound Before The Lecture

Master Ching Hai's visit to Singapore in March 1993 must have been, at least partially, in response to the most ardent wishes of the Singaporean initiates. For more than a year, they had been requesting that She visit their country. On the night preceding the announcement of Her intended visit, a local initiate dreamed that Master appeared in a bright yellow light, and said, "I will come." She did not understand the meaning of the dream until the following evening when a call from Formosa announced that Singapore was to be the second stopover on Master's 1993 World Tour. Upon hearing the news, she, along with the other Singapore initiates, was overcome with joy.

Since notification was received only a few weeks prior to the visit, there was precious little time for preparation. Local initiates quickly organized into teams, each with a specific task, including

publications, transportation, purchasing, administration, etc. In addition to the efforts of the local initiates, a score of Formosan disciples arrived to assist in a variety of tasks that included distribution of pamphlets and putting announcement posters. The rush to finish everything in time was incredible, and would not have been possible without Master's grace. For example, many thousands of free sample booklets and leaflets that normally would have taken several months to print were done in only a few weeks. In addition, the cost of printing was less than half the normal printing costs. In Singapore, official permits for all public talks are required and usually take many weeks for final approval. In this instance, a permit was obtained almost immediately and without the "usual bureaucratic turtle delay" as Master phrased it. In fact, the permit was obtained only hours before the start of the lecture.

Master Gives Illuminating Talk At The Airport

On the day of Master's arrival in Singapore, a large gathering of initiates greeted Her at the airport. Graciously, She gave an impromptu talk that was brimming with praises for the airline, the cleanliness of Singapore, and the economic progress of its government. Master remarked that this progress is indicative of the spiritual level of the local population. After Her talk, as Master was bestowing blessing on the assembled initiates, She suddenly addressed a little girl by name that had not personally met Master before. Although the parents of the child were both initiates, they were literally awestruck at this overt demonstration of Master's omniscience.

Thousands Listen to Dharma Talk

In addition to Master's public talks, She kindly met with initiates whenever She had the opportunity. In group meditations held the days prior to and following the public discourses, Master read Chapters from the "Tao Te Ching," and then carefully interpreted the ancient teachings so that we could learn to apply them today in our spiritual practice. She taught that through selfless action we would find fulfillment because when we serve others, we are in touch with our Inner wisdom. Master graciously answered our queries, and even gave special permission for some children of initiates to undergo half-initiation following the public lecture.

The public discourses were very well received and thousands of people crowded into the Singapore Conference Hall for each of the lectures. Master primarily spoke English, so a simultaneous Mandarin translation was provided. The audiences were very responsive and plied Master with numerous questions, including some very personal ones. Master answered all manner of questions clearly and concisely and frequently interjected her responses with humor and good-natured joking. Following both lectures, Master held initiation sessions for the Convenient and Quan Yin Methods of meditation.

Many inexplicable incidents that were nothing short of the miraculous occurred during Master's stay in Singapore. For example, although the M.C. had an extremely sore throat, he somehow found his voice for the lecture sessions, but lost it again immediately after the talks were concluded. In another incident, a boat was chartered to take Master and some initiates for a cruise around the southern islands. With no prior planning, initiates who were immediately available were asked to join the cruise. After our randomly

chosen group had boarded the boat, it was found that the boat had restrictions as to the number of passengers allowed. But it turned out that the boat was actually licensed to carry the exact number of passengers that were in our group!

The following two discourses are the dharma teachings that Supreme Master Ching Hai presented to the people of Singapore on March 8 and March 9, 1993. These inspired and beautifully delivered discourses brought the message of Truth to the thousands of seekers who filled the Singapore Conference Hall.

A Little Message

In speaking of God, or the Supreme Spirit, Master instructs us to use original non-sexist terms to avoid the argument about whether God is a She or a He.

She + He = Hes (as in Bless)

Her + Him = Hirm (as in Firm)

Hers + His = Hiers (as in Dear)

Example: When God wants, Hes makes things happen according to Hiers will to suit Hirmself.

As a creator of artistic designs as well as a spiritual teacher, Supreme Master Ching Hai loves all expressions of inner beauty. It is for this reason that She refers to Vietnam as “Au Lac” and Taiwan as “Formosa.” Au Lac is the ancient name of Vietnam and means “happiness.” And the name Formosa, meaning “beautiful,” reflects more completely the beauty of the island and its people. Master feels that using these names brings spiritual elevation and luck to the land and its inhabitants.

Walk the Way of Love

Footsteps of a Living Enlightened Master

We will search high and low
For a little love,
For a little love,
To share with all beings
In all corners of the world.

Supreme Master Ching Hai is a world-renowned humanitarian, environmentalist, author, artist, designer, musician, film director and spiritual teacher, whose love and care for humanity extend beyond all racial and national boundaries. Since the early 1980s she has also been one of our planet's most dedicated ecological pioneers, promoting environmental protection, biodiversity preservation, reforestation, sustainable living and most importantly, the organic vegan diet, the quickest, most effective way to solve the climate crisis.

With unwavering determination, she devotes her time and resources to awakening the world to the disastrous impact of climate change and to the vegan solution. From 2006 to 2008 she launched the Alternative Living and SOS global-warming-awareness campaigns. She also publishes a news magazine, writes books, produced the 2005 vegetarian documentary *The Real Heroes* and the TV series *The King & Co.*, broadcast on Supreme Master Television, a 24/7, global

satellite channel offering news on climate change, the vegan diet and other uplifting topics. Since 2007 Master Ching Hai has also shared her knowledge with environmental experts, government leaders, VIPs and concerned citizens through over 27 climate-change conferences in 13 countries broadcast live on satellite TV and radio.

As a result of these efforts, her motto “Be Veg, Go Green 2 Save the Planet” and “Be Vegan, Make Peace” has spread around the globe, inspiring humankind to embrace the healthy, sustainable vegan lifestyle and thus evolve into a higher state of peace and harmony.

Through her kind example, Supreme Master Ching Hai also reminds us of our inner goodness and love for all of God’s creations. The profound insights she gained through her spiritual attainment allowed her to identify the root cause of human suffering, social discord and environmental degradation: the violence we inflict on other beings, including our innocent animal friends. Out of compassion for the weak and voiceless, Supreme Master Ching Hai thus wrote the #1 international bestsellers *The Birds in My Life*, *The Dogs in My Life*, and *The Noble Wilds*. These literary gems, available in various languages, reveal the deep thoughts and feelings of our treasured animal co-inhabitants, highlighting their divine nature and unconditional love.

Her Early Years

Born in central Au Lac (Vietnam), Supreme Master Ching Hai studied in Europe and worked for the Red Cross. She soon realized that suffering exists in all corners of the globe, and her yearning to find a remedy became the foremost

goal in her life. She then embarked on a journey to the Himalayas in search of spiritual enlightenment and eventually received divine transmission of the inner Light and Sound, which she later called the Quan Yin Method. After a period of diligent practice, Supreme Master Ching Hai attained the Great Enlightenment.

Soon after her return from the Himalayas, at the request of those around her, Supreme Master Ching Hai began sharing the Quan Yin Method, encouraging her students to look within to find their own divine greatness. Before long, she received invitations to give lectures in the Americas, Europe, Asia, Australia and Africa. Supreme Master Ching Hai's compassionate heart is also reflected in her care for the less fortunate. Funds generated from the sale of her artistic creations have enabled her to support her mission of comforting God's children in need through worldwide disaster relief and charity work.

Beautify the World We Live In

Although she seeks no acknowledgment for her humanitarian work, Supreme Master Ching Hai has received numerous awards from governments and private organizations around the world, including the World Peace Award, the World Spiritual Leadership Award, the Award for Promotion of Human Rights, the World Citizen Humanitarian Award, the Award for Outstanding Public Service to Mankind, the 2006 Gusi Peace Prize, the Los Angeles Music Week Certificate of Commendation, First Place Silver for the 27th Annual Telly Awards 2006, the Presidential Active Lifestyle Award from former US President George W. Bush, and the

2010 President's Volunteer Service Award from US President Barack Obama.

In addition, October 25 and February 22 were proclaimed "Supreme Master Ching Hai Day" in the US by government officials in Hawaii and Illinois. Congratulatory messages were sent to her during the Illinois proclamation ceremony by former US Presidents Clinton, Bush and Reagan.

And to commend virtuous individuals and encourage others to be inspired by their examples, Supreme Master Ching Hai has also created the Shining World Awards series, recognizing deserving humans and animals for exceptional heroism, compassion, leadership, bravery or intelligence.

Master's Dream

Supreme Master Ching Hai thus selflessly dedicates her life to creating a beautiful future for our beloved planet and its precious co-inhabitants. Throughout history great visionaries have had dreams, and Supreme Master Ching Hai expresses hers as follows:

"I dream that the whole world will become peaceful.

I dream that all the killing will stop.

I dream that all the children will walk in peace and harmony.

I dream that all the nations will shake hands with each other, protect each other and help each other.

I dream that our beautiful planet will not be destroyed.

It takes billion, billion and trillions of years to produce this planet and it's so beautiful, so wonderful.

I dream that it will continue, but in peace, beauty and love."

“I do not belong to Buddhism or Catholicism. I belong to the Truth and I preach the Truth. You may call it Buddhism, Catholicism, Taoism, or whatever you like. I welcome all!”

~ The Supreme Master Ching Hai

“By attaining inner peace we will attain everything else. All the satisfaction, all the fulfillment of worldly and heavenly desires come from the Kingdom of God – the inner realization of our eternal harmony, of our eternal wisdom, and of our Almighty Power. If we do not get these we never find satisfaction, no matter how much money or power, or how high a position we have.”

~ The Supreme Master Ching Hai

“Our teaching is that whatever you have to do in this world, do it, do it wholeheartedly. Be responsible and also meditate every day. You will get more knowledge, more wisdom, more peace, in order to serve yourself and serve the world. Do not forget that you have your own goodness inside you. Do not forget that you have God dwelling within your body. Do not forget that you have Buddha within your heart.”

~ The Supreme Master Ching Hai

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Third Stop on Master Ching Hai's 1993 World Lecture Tour News Group Report Australia

From Singapore, Master made the trek down-under to Australia, the only continent completely occupied by a single nation, the commonwealth of Australia. The nation is subdivided into five states and two territories. When we arrived in March 1993, it was summertime and our first stop was Melbourne. The capital city of the state of Victoria, Melbourne is on the southeastern tip of Australia on Port Phillip Bay.

Preparations in Melbourne

When the news of Master's forthcoming lecture in Australia reached the Melbourne initiates, they were both surprised and elated and could hardly believe their good fortune. In preparation for the event, initiates vied for the privilege of offering Master the use of their houses and cars during Her stay, and the atmosphere became charged with the intensity of the discussions. The seriousness and stamina of the Touring group that came to Melbourne a week prior to Master's arrival won the admiration of the local initiates. This was the first time that the Melbourne initiates had worked unceasingly day and night to accomplish a unified objective, but with Master's blessing, they did not feel at all tired.

Master's arrival at the airport was a festive occasion. It was their first meeting for most of the Melbourne initiates, and whole families, young and old alike, dressed in their best clothes and hoping to make a favorable impression, eagerly greeted their most Beloved. Small children presented their drawings as Master happily admired and analyzed their contents. With intimate talks and shared laughter, happiness filled the air, and the gathering of Master and disciples resembled the joyful reunion of a family long separated.

Amazing Experiences In Melbourne

The night of the lecture, Dallas Brooks Hall was overflowing with Truth-seekers, most of whom were local Australians. Not a single seat remained empty. One man, who later became an initiate, said that when Master walked past him that evening, he felt that She was Light and so very pure, like the fairy who never ate any human food. One person saw golden light radiating from Master's whole body while another saw light flowing from Her palms.

A man described his experiences in the weeks preceding the lecture when he had received a sample booklet. He had placed it on his desk with no intention of reading it. Several days later, he tried to place a phone call to a friend, but dialing a wrong number, he heard a voice on the line tell him, "You should get initiation from this Master whom you have now met."

At that very moment, he happened to be holding Master's sample booklet. He studied the teachings and later attended the program and received initiation.

In Her lecture, Master sagely pointed out that the origin of all our desires, anxieties, and frustrations is ignorance of our inner God Power, and when we are in contact with that inner Wisdom, all happiness will just naturally be drawn to us. During the Questions and Answer session, Master replied with simple explanations, often substantiating Her teaching with scientific facts and quotations from the scriptures. The Melbourne congregation enthusiastically received these teachings and that evening many lonely souls found the answers for which they had been so desperately searching.

To Be One With God Is to Do Without Doing

Spoken by The Supreme Master Ching Hai

March 14, 1993
Dallas Brooks Hall,
Victoria Pde
Melbourne, Australia
(Originally in English)

I congratulate you for having a new, “old Prime Minister.” [Applause.] Your country is the envy of many other nations. That was my impression when I first landed at the airport and as we drove to my temporary residence. It’s so clean, fresh, big and vast. People don’t have the pressure of living close together without space. So clean, and the people are so friendly. Even the police at the airport were friendly and trusting - expert in knowing who is who. They only take care of the law and check on the so-called “not very law-abiding people.” When they saw us, they know nothing happens, so we just passed through without any checking of the luggage. This very rarely happens for such a group like us with many people and a lot of equipment, and wires, microphones, earphones, and so on. It was a very, very warm and welcome feeling at the airport. I have traveled a lot around the world and this rarely happens, so I also would like to thank you. Maybe

some of the policemen are sitting here today. If not, please be reminded of the goodness of your country and your people again. [Applause] If all the countries in the world become just like Australia, then we don't have to worry much.

I'm happy that your country is very liberal concerning the different faiths of different religions. When I came the first day, many people came to visit me. Some were native-born, and some were immigrants to your nation but speaking perfect English. They have informed me of the different faiths in your country, the different groups of meditational practice and different beliefs, or different so-called "religious sects." That shows that the people in Australia are very spiritual, and very open-minded to all kinds of good influences.

They also asked me what kind of religion I represent or try to advocate. I was asked already at the airport by the police who were interested to know. I told them that I have no intention to advocate any particular religion in your country because, from what I have gathered, your country has enough religions already. By the smiles on your faces, I know it is true. So they asked me, "Then what have you come for?" I said, "First to get to know your country." I have heard so much about Australia, this very interesting and charming land. Many people know about it and I have heard

about it since I was a child, but I had not the opportunity to come. So first, to get to know the country and the people; also, second, to share with them what we know, and also to learn from them what we don't know.

In these days, I have been busy learning but have not had the opportunity of sharing. Today is the day that I may have a chance to share with you what you might already know, or some of you might not yet know. In this age of very progressive communication systems, most people in the West, for example America or Australia know about many systems of meditation or religious devotion. So, religions, we have plenty and we have enough. All religions have encouraged people to be good, to do good, and to remember God or the Buddha; therefore, I do not intend to remind you about this again. The reason my disciples invited me to come to this beautiful country is that they thought because they are living in such a peaceful country, they owe so much to the Australian people for this happiness and freedom that they sometimes don't have in other lands. So they wanted me to represent them to share with you the happiness that they gained through our meditation practice, which is called the Quan Yin Method.

Quan Yin is a Chinese term from where I started, in Formosa. (Well, I've got to start somewhere.) Therefore, most of the terms sometimes seem very Buddhis-

tic, also a little bit Chinese. But in the Western countries, we don't need to discriminate over these terminologies. Quan Yin is the Chinese term for observation of the vibration, observation of the Word inside us, the Word, which was mentioned in the Bible, *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.* [John 1:1] By observing silently with our wisdom inside, we will come in contact with God. That's the reason for all our happiness, and all our desires will come to an end. We do not leave our desires, but our desires will leave us. Some people call this the Supreme power inside. When Jesus came to Earth, He declared that, *I do, but not I. It is my Father in me who does it,* [John 14:10] and *Whoever prays to the Father through my name, that will I do.* [John 14:13]

What I Can Do, You Can Do Also

Why had the people at that time prayed through Jesus? Why through His name and not directly? It is because at that time the people had not discovered their own Christ within. But later on, when He imparted the supreme wisdom to His disciples, He again told them, *Whatever I do, you can do also, and you can do better.* Why better than the Master? It is just because it's the nature of every Master to be very humble, and also to encourage people to stand on their own feet, to know

their greatness, to recognize God who dwells within them. That is why He mentioned it this way. And also why “better”? It is because He knew that in the generations to come, the freedom of religion, of spreading religious faith, would be greater than at the time of His life. He knew that His disciples, going through their own experiences and speaking in His name, would have more freedom to express the greatness of a living Master, as well as the Kingdom of God, which they themselves experienced. It doesn't matter how great a Master like Jesus is, He would not venture to glorify Himself; also, He's too humble to do that. But most of the disciples can speak better of Him, and more freely express the greatness of the Master.

The reason why the Master does not glorify Himself also is because when a Master is one with God, the Master has no more self to proclaim. There is no feeling of being the doer with the Master, if He is a true Master. If we believe in Jesus or any of the saviors who have graced our Earth, then we must know that we are great; we are the sons and daughters of God; we are, ourselves, the Supreme Master. But because we do not discover this power within ourselves, we have doubts, we have anxieties and we have desires that are hardly ever completely fulfilled as long as we have not come in contact with the God power. The reason for my disciples inviting me here is to share with you the

knowledge of how to get in touch with this Supreme God who is within you, of whom you have heard much about, and which all the Bibles, all the scriptures, in different religions have mentioned.

I have not come to alter your belief, your religion, to make you to become a Buddhist, or a Christian, a Muslim, or whatever. Whatever faith you have belief in, that is correct. If you have not the opportunity to get in touch with that Supreme power on which your faith is based, then we will help you to recognize that. It's very easy, just like you receive flowers from beloved friends, because it's always there. "It is very difficult to know God," some people say to me. But to me, it's very, very easy; it's like a child's game. I am always surprised whenever I am in contact with some people who have not tuned in with their Supreme power. I'm always surprised, again and again. Why don't they know it? Why have they forsaken their greatness? Why do they go around in life in some kind of negative feeling, or suffering, not knowing how great they are?

After the initiation, many of my disciples claim that I am the Buddha, or the Master, God's daughter, or whatever. Okay, that I accept, but so are you. So are all of you, from the child to the old man. None of you are different than I am. Everything I have, you have. Everything I have gained, you can gain. And that can

be proved very shortly after you have accepted your greatness through the symbolic process of so-called “initiation.” My disciples have testified to this fact; just like we say, *By your fruit shall you be known.* [Matt 12:33] If we say something only by hearsay, or only by theology, by speaking, by reasoning, or by debating, then it’s only half of the truth. We have to have proof of what we say and what we hear. That’s why Jesus said to the people, *Seeing, you see, but you do not perceive; hearing, you hear, but you do not understand.* [Matt 13:14]

The reason why we see without perceiving is that we see with our physical eyes only a part of the creation of God, but we do not see the Creator. We do not completely perceive what is the meaning behind all these beautiful creations, and what is truly the meaning of “God is love,” or “God is almighty,” “God is omnipresent.” Of course, some of you would have perceived that. Nowadays communications are excellent and everything is made known to the public at large. Many of the systems have been introduced to you, to your country, and to other people in different countries. Perhaps you have known some of the teachings similar to ours, or the method that can show you the Kingdom of God.

A Precious Method

When I mention the Method, it isn't a method at all, because when we transmit the light and the sound, we don't speak, both of us. The Kingdom of God doesn't need human language to be revealed. Just like in the Bible, it is stated that it is not by praying loudly on the street or making a lot of noise that you know God, but by praying in a secret corner, there your Father will know you. And what you do in secret, the Father will reveal to you openly. What is it that we do in secret? When we meditate, we come into the secret closet of our wisdom, of our Self. Then, the more we come into that chamber, the more it is manifested outside as intelligence, as wisdom, as loving kindness, as the more effectiveness of the way we work and serve in this world.

All of my disciples, or most of them, because some of them probably are dragging behind a little bit. I wouldn't boast that all of them immediately know everything but most of them do. They have experienced a lot of miracles in their lives. Many of us love miracles. Wherever I go, people keep asking me, "Do you know this or that man or woman who makes miracles?" "I always heard about this healer; he's the greatest healer; he puts his hands on you and you are healed." I said that it will be great and then all the world won't

need hospitals anymore. We all love miracles; that is the weakness within us. It's all right. I told some of these people, "All these healing powers, all these miracles are yours. If you want them, you will have them; no need to worship any miracle workers, or any healer even." It's great! What they do is great, but you can do the same. You can do the same. Jesus has promised it, and so it's for us now to verify if what Jesus said is true or not.

I have verified this, and many of my disciples, thousands, tens of thousands, hundreds of thousands of them around the world have verified this. If you, yourself, want to verify, it's nothing very difficult and it can be done very shortly. Most of our fellow practitioners, I don't call them disciples. It's just because I am just talking to you and I forgot. I call them fellow practitioners; brother or sister is what we call each other. But they call me Master, so I am only one and they are too many. I can't win, so sometimes I forget. [Master & audience laugh.] I call myself Master also, but this is not in a proud sense. It's just a very natural, spontaneous reaction. You may call yourself Master also after you have mastered the art of life and death through the practice of the heavenly Light and the heavenly Sound, which are the Word and the Light of God in the Bible.

We know so many things in life already; we know

so much already. Many of us have a great position in the society and possess great knowledge about science, biology, and every other thing, but there is much more to learn. We should not stop at the worldly level of discovery, but we should go on farther into the higher dimension of the Kingdom of God, and then choose where we go after we leave this physical world. Just like many of the immigrants to your country, they have chosen your land because it's peaceful; it's more secure and more loving than probably some of their original countries. Similarly, our world is beautiful; beautiful, but there are more exquisitely beautiful, absolutely fantastic worlds beyond our world. And this we can choose, because in the Kingdom of God, there are many mansions. After the initiation, should we practice this Method, we will know immediately some part of this Kingdom.

Most of our disciples know this. That's why they like to invite me here and there all the time to share with other people the same happiness. They thought they couldn't do it alone. They can do it, but they thought I probably could speak about it better. That's sometimes their mistake, but if people request me too many times repeatedly, then I cannot say "no." I have to come. Otherwise, each of them, each of you, after knowing God, after knowing the Kingdom of God, you have also the power to share it with other people. To do

it or not do it depends on your confidence. After you practice for a longer time, you have greater confidence and you have greater knowledge, and then you know what you are speaking of.

Before I knew the Kingdom of God, I always thought if I do good things and bow to the Buddha or go to the church, that would be enough. But afterward, there was something missing within me. Something, I cannot tell why, just pushes me so that I have to know further, so that I have to know more. Before, I went to the church and I never asked for anything much. I always prayed to God that if You truly exist, please reveal Yourself to me. Please somehow let me know Your greatness. And I prayed to the Buddha in the same way. At that time, God didn't reveal Himself to me; God did not care about me, and the Buddha also ignored me. After much suffering and praying for the Truth, I have got It, but I got It through the transmission, through the practicing of the Quan Yin Method, observing the Word, the vibration which is our own Self.

Our world is getting better and better because there has never been, in history, such an open disclosure of such a precious Method. Not that the Masters did not desire to share it with the people in the world, it was just due to persecution and difficulty in communication in the old time. Now we have television,

we have telephones, we have newspapers, we have radios. Therefore, the people in the world at large are now practicing this precious Method that in the ancient times could only be acquired through secret, through hardship, through years of searching.

I am not the only one who teaches this Method. There are several more; therefore, the world, our world now, is full of people who are enlightened, who know the Kingdom of God, and who live a saintly way of life. That's why, I guess, our world is getting better and better. Even all the conflicts between nations are being slowly minimized. Many of the political struggles that have bothered the whole world have become less in a very short time. If we practice the heavenly wisdom, we will see that there is a reason for it, and that it is because so many people are enlightened. There are so many new discoveries that are better for people's health, for the people's spiritual welfare, and for economical growth. Everything has a better promise.

Turn Our World Into Heaven

If more of the people turn to Heaven and truly get in touch with the Source of all healing power, of all magical fantasies, then the world will become Heaven.

At that time, probably we don't need to aspire to go to another planet or to go to Heaven even, because our Father will be here among us, because all of us will become one with the Father. It seems a very fantastic dream, but it may come true. We would have no need to fear for the end of the world because we will turn this into Heaven. God will not destroy our world if it becomes a fit, a better and more glorious place for Hiers children to live in. You only pull down a house when the house is rotten, and build a new one. Otherwise, if the house is repaired and intact, then you would not pull it down.

Many people ask me about the end of the world. Do I believe in it? Am I afraid of it? What do I do about it? I say, "Yes, I believe in it." God has the power to create, and should our world become unfit for Hiers children to stay, then Hes would destroy it. But no, I'm not afraid of it because I have the Kingdom of God in my pocket. I can take it anywhere I want. In this life or the life after, I will never lose my paradise; therefore, it doesn't matter if the world ends or doesn't end. It doesn't concern me. But what do I do about it? I do nothing. Of course, if you come to me and ask, then I will remind you that you don't need to fear it, because if we die, the world ends anyhow. So the world may end any time, sometimes even in an accident. What we worry about is not the end of the world, but the end of

ourselves. If we are not prepared for a longer journey to Heaven, we might have to worry. Otherwise, there is nothing that we should do, but to leave it to the will of God.

Because so many are here today, I will shorten my speech and you probably have something to teach me that I can learn, or something to inquire about what I know. If you have any questions or anything to say, please write it on a piece of paper and then we will answer it for you. Thank you very much. [Applause]

Questions & Answers

Q: Is one ever too old to start being a vegan?

M: Probably, yes. Maybe your biological system will not so quickly adjust to the new diet. So, sometimes in our system, at about age sixty-five or seventy, it would be better for you to start next time, when you change your clothes and come back again.

Q: If you have already a Christian mantra, does one have to change it?

M: No, you don't have to if that works for you. If you truly can get in touch with God through that mantra, and you can see the Light of God, and you can hear

the Word of God, then you don't need to change. If you do not experience this God power manifested through Light and the Word, then you should change, if you desire to. If you do not desire, of course, you don't.

Q: What does fear of the Lord mean?

M: Fear of the Lord means to respect Hiers laws, Hiers Commandments. It doesn't mean that you have to be scared of Hirm or be afraid of Hirm. Fear of the Lord means that you respect God, who is the Creator of all things. We try to be righteous and virtuous in order to please Hirm who is our true Self. When we fear the Lord, it means we respect the Lord, we know the wisdom. Then we can never do wrong things. It's not that the Lord is so fearsome that we have to stand far apart from Hirm.

Q: Why do you have to meditate two and a half-hours a day and become vegan to be enlightened?

M: No, you don't have to be vegan and you don't have to meditate two and a half hours a day to become enlightened, but you have to in order to keep the enlightenment. You can be enlightened without these, but you can't keep it if you are not fit to go on with

it. There is some great power within ourselves which, when tapped, can bring confusion, can bring shattering experiences to our body and mind, should we not have prepared our purity to keep it or to endure it.

Q: With respect, Master, may I ask why You wear makeup and jewelry?

M: May I ask you, “why not?” [Laughter & applause.] It’s not jewelry, anyhow and my disciples like me beautiful. This is very cheap; it’s only crystal of some kind. They are not true jewelry. If you want, I’ll give them to you right now. Who was it? If you want them, I’ll give them to you. If you don’t like them, I’ll throw them away. You want me to throw them away? [Audience: No.]

It doesn’t matter what you wear. Why are you attached so much to the material appearance? Whether you’re attached to a beautiful appearance or a beggar appearance, it’s all attachment. Throw them both out, okay? I can wear this today and I can wear jeans tomorrow. It makes no difference to me. Why should it make a difference to you? It’s I who wear it. [Applause] Don’t worry about me. Worry about yourself. Get enlightenment, that’s the best, then wear what you want.

But I understand what you mean. You mean a practitioner should be very modest. Dress like a monk or something like that. I have done that for ten years and I got enlightenment, but not through the monk's robe. Now I try to wear different clothes to see whether my enlightenment becomes less or not. It doesn't. You have to experience something; otherwise, how do you tell people? I do everything through experience and then I tell other people what I know. Should some other people who wear makeup and jewelry and have a glorious appearance not get enlightenment or what? It's nonsense. God never says so in the Bible, does He? No. Actually, I don't wear things beautiful enough; I tell you the truth, because from what I know, we are more beautiful than this. We are more glorious in Heaven. We have degraded ourselves already into this stage. So this is just a reminder of some glorious state in Heaven. I can wear it, or I can not wear it. It doesn't matter at all. Don't you agree? [Applause]

What we wear also has some effect. For example, before, I was wearing monks' clothes and I forsook my husband. I wasn't enlightened. I don't regret leaving him. I have more time to dedicate to people instead of having a lot of kids and having to burden my husband to look after the kids while I am going on tour for many months, or I never go home, for example. Then, I just let him free and I am free to dedicate myself to people and

to serve God. I don't regret leaving him but I was very sad leaving him at that time. I felt sorry for him because he loved me very much. Also, I loved him very much. We had a very beautiful marriage. So, I left him and then I thought that in search of Truth I have to be dressing like a monk and all that in order to serve people.

But then it had some kind of side effect. Many people left their homes and followed me. They left their children and their husbands and made a lot of trouble for me. Their children came and made trouble, their husbands came and threatened to kill me, their wives wrote many letters scolding me, etc. I don't mind all this scolding or accusing. It's just that I should not break up the family through my dress. I understand, but they did not understand. By setting this example many family people follow, and then they break up their family. I'm supposed to bring them happiness, not sorrow; therefore, I changed my dress. If that bothers you, then you go and look for another Master.

Q: Do You believe in reincarnation?

M: Yes, I do, but then, I don't, because reincarnation is only our habitual thinking that binds us. Our true Self is never born, never dies, and never reincarnates.

Awaken Your Own Supreme Master Within

Q: How can You explain or justify the existence of people suffering illnesses through no fault of their own?

M: If you believe in the reincarnation theory, that explains it. This is what the Bible says, *As you sow, so shall you reap*. [Gal 6:7] Sometimes we have made some mistakes in our previous life or even in this life, and then we get the illness.

Sometimes we suffer the collective so-called karma, meaning the collective effects of the whole society. For example, if you don't smoke, but you always have to go around the world in airplanes or on buses that are full of smoke from other people, then you're also having some kind of collective effect. It's called karma in the Sanskrit term. It means you suffer what the society, what your environment, inflicts upon you. Therefore, we have to clear it up by having a purer life and encourage other people to do the same. We should not need to wait for the neighbor to do it; we do it first. We start with a clean diet, a vegan diet, which has been scientifically proven that it is even good for our health. Apart from compassion, enlightenment, and all that

great deal, it's good for your health. And stop smoking; do meditation instead.

After initiation, most of my disciples quit smoking immediately. They just quit it on their own. I say quit it slowly if you cannot bear it. I do not ban cigarettes, but they quit it. Most of them quit it immediately after reading my book only. There is such a power, which is awakened inside that helps them to go through all obstacles in life. That is the supreme power. It's not I who help them. It's the Father who helps. It's their own Father who helps when they awaken to themselves and want to claim their greatness again. That's why I say, "Awaken your own power. Be your master, be the Master." I'm telling you, I'm trying to show you, the way to be a Master, not to be my disciple. Therefore, after initiation, all the miracles come to you, all the things good that happen to you, it is your own Supreme Master at work. So I never claim credit for this. Even though the disciples praise me that I do this and that for them through manifestation bodies, I say I know nothing about it. It is because your own Master power is at work after the initiation. Be the Master, be a Christ, be a Buddha! [Applause]

Q: If we have followed another Master, can we

follow Master Ching Hai?

M: It depends. If you think you need it, then you follow. If your Master has already imparted to you the light and sound, and you have experienced the Kingdom of God within and you're satisfied with it, then you don't need to follow me. Only follow me when you don't know it. If you already know and you have a good Master, please don't. But you're welcome. I don't reject you. [Applause.]

Q: If we become one with God, does it mean that we lose our individuality?

M: Yes, but no. In the worldly level, you are still Ms. or Mr. so and so, and if you happen to be the Prime Minister, you keep your post. God will not take it away from you. You still have your wife and kids, all the possessions that you need, and all the jobs that you have to do. And you still have your character. But then, you are one with God and that means you "do without doing." You don't claim credit for anything because you know it's not you who do it, and you don't have any more ego to glorify yourself. That's the only thing. Our individual Self doesn't mean the ego. What we lose is the ego, not the individuality.

Q: If I realize my own enlightenment, can I help those close to my heart who have a negative attitude toward life?

M: Yes, definitely. We have helped many, and our practitioners have also helped many. So can you. It's not by word of mouth that we convince people; it's by our own greatness, the great wisdom within which awakens that transmits this atmosphere to their wisdom inside and they perceive it. That's how we help other people in a more effective way, apart from just talking and consoling them.

Q: Is God personal or just a Universal power?

M: Both. If you want Hirm to be personal, God will appear personal because God can do everything. God is your own Self. The Universal power is also your own Self.

Q: Is there a devil, like Satan?

M: What do you think? In Australia, maybe no, but in other countries, yes. When you see a lot of disgraceful things that happen through some individual, some very destructive power at work, this is the so-called "Satan." But the sooner we practice the Heavenly Light and Sound, the better. Then the so-called Satan will also become an angel. We will initiate him, and

make him vegan. Then he will do no more destructive work. But I need your love and force together. I, alone, cannot turn this world into Heaven. I can only turn myself into Heaven. But you, yourselves, have to also turn each of you into a heavenly atmosphere before we can abolish Satan. We have to work together.

Q: Many ancient Masters, for example, Lao Tzu and Quan Yin, described the ultimate goal as a void where there is no attachment, no method, no sound, nothing. So, may I ask why You place so much emphasis on exterior things like hearing sound and seeing light?

M: Does he say “no sound”? Really? No. I have some books here. Lao Tzu, let’s see what he says. [Master opens the “Tao Te Ching.”] He talks a lot about heavenly music, about the Tao. The Tao, you don’t need to use the ears, but you can hear it; you don’t need to use the eyes, but you can see it. These are the invisible light and invisible sound. He didn’t say anything about “no sound.” He said that you don’t need to use the ears, but you can hear it, and you don’t need to use the eyes, but you can see it.

The Quan Yin Bodhisattva became Quan Yin because She practiced the Quan Yin Method, which means observing the sound. It’s full of this evidence

in the Buddhist scriptures. Like when you practice Quan Yin, you can hear the sound of the sea waves, the sound of Brahma, or the sound of thunder. Even the Bible mentions that God speaks in a voice like thunder, like the sound of many waters, etc. These things we can hear inside. It's not just like ordinary sounds. You hear without the ears, but the more you hear, the more you know what God wants.

Then we can do the will of God instead of blindly doing things and clumsily following our own instinct and making a chaos of this world. So Quan Yin Bodhi-sattva is the one who practices on the sound. That's why Her name is Quan Yin. It is stated very clearly in the Lotus Sutra that She is called that because she practiced the Quan Yin Method.

Q: Does everyone get enlightened eventually?

M: Yes, eventually, maybe in a couple of eons or so, in thousands of billions of years, if you haven't met a Master who is experienced and who shows you the quickest way.

Q: How did You become a Master? Did You train

with a Teacher?

M: Yes.

Q: Can You describe God?

M: No, but I know Hirm intimately. Just like I see you, I can see Hirm.

Q: Before we descended to this world of matter, we were pure as God. But why were we asked or forced to descend to this world to experience these everyday difficulties?

M: So that we learn to be God. We are born from God, but then we are not God. Just like you are born from your parents but you are not yet grown-up, so your parents send you to school with difficult examinations and all kinds of homework, which give you headaches. And sometimes you cannot sleep enough and you cannot play because of the schoolwork, but they have to send you there. It's the same way with God. All these are experiences for us to grow; otherwise, we become just like spoiled angels: doing nothing, knowing nothing, and having no inheritance of God's power.

Q: Thank You for this experience. You spoke of

no longer being the doer. Master, please expand upon this.

M: It's very difficult to explain to you, but this comes through experiences. It has two levels of understanding: first through meditation experiences, and later through grace, just living in the presence of God. And you don't even know that you have healed people thousands of miles apart. You don't even know that you bring goodness to those near you, but you do all these things and people know it. So it is to "do without doing." The first stage, before I met you, I had the experience of being one with the whole universe, but this I cannot describe to you. You just know it in the state of meditation called samadhi. You can call it samadhi; you're just being in the state of "non-desire." You can call it nirvana, the Kingdom of God, or whatever you want. You'll be one with God. You just know it. In that state, you can only exclaim, *I and my Father are one*, [John 10:30] and all the beings in the universe are one, but you have no way to explain or to describe it. I regret to disappoint you, but I invite you to come to me and let me show you how to experience it yourself, because I cannot describe in the human language what I know.

Q: Can the Quan Yin Method be used for healing the body?

M: No, but yes. If you are supposed to be healed, then you'll be healed. Most of our people are healed, even from cancer, after initiation. Just now I was in Singapore; one of the girls just sat there crying, and thanked me for helping her. "But I don't know anything about it," I said. She said that after initiation the doctor discovered that she had stomach cancer and wanted to operate on her. She was even administered the anesthetic, but she was still fully awake when the doctor examined her stomach and it was gone! No more operation needed, so she was pushed out again, just like that. Many of these situations have happened. Therefore, I told you that all the healing powers are within you. If you practice well, if you are sincere, if you seek the Kingdom of God, all things shall be added unto you. But sometimes the time is not proper; therefore, probably you experience some illness, but the God power will take away already half or two-thirds of it in most cases.

I do not boast about this because I don't want people to come to me, or to come to God, with the motivation that they just want to take care of their body alone. If we come to God with sincerity, then God will give us a lot of things. But if we come to demand just one thing or another, probably we will be disappointed. That is because we should surrender our ego. We should let God run the universe and not dictate to God what to

do. Therefore, I don't advocate healing power or miracles on our part. If we have it, we don't use it even. We just let God grace whomever Hes wants, whenever Hes wants, in whatever situation is fit. I don't use healing power myself. Even though my disciples claim that I have a lot of healing power, I don't know. I don't use it.

Q: This is not merely a moneymaking exercise, based on a cult of personality, the Supreme Master Ching Hai, is it? It looks that way to me, what with the books, video and audiotapes, posters, photos, and magazines You are selling in the foyer

M: Thank you for your compliment. I don't make any money. This tour costs me \$400,000 personally with the crew and all the equipment. And we don't charge money for initiation; we don't charge money for this auditorium. For the books, you just repay the printing costs, and the audiotapes we sell at the cheapest price. We don't make any profit from the audiotapes or videotapes. You look at the price, please. It's even cheaper than if you buy them outside as empty tapes in some cases. We don't make money, ever.

I earn money by my painting, handicrafts, interior designs - lamps, bedding, clothing, and all that. Please, I don't want any money from you. If you want to give,

it's all right. We can donate it to charity, but I don't spend money on me. Even my jewelry is just imitation. I don't have a car. I don't have a house, even! I have only a tent in my headquarters. It cost about \$50 or \$100, I guess. So don't be afraid that I will get money from you. If you don't want to buy the books, all right, we will donate them to you. We donate more than we sell. We give to everyone who needs. And even if we earn any money from these, we give it to charity. We gave to the Philippine disaster relief last year; we give to the refugees and we give to the poor around the world and in the countries where we live.

All of our so-called immediate disciples live in tents, I may inform you. We don't have a house or a temple, even. We don't have even a roof above our heads. We have only tents. We don't have a meditation center in our headquarters in Formosa. Mostly, I don't like to live in rooms. If I have a room, I will live in it. But I don't want to build; it takes too much time. By the time I build a house, I will die already. Therefore, please don't be afraid. We don't make any money. If you don't want to buy the book, we'll give it to you. You just say you don't have money, and we will give you everything you need. If you have the money, then you just exchange it so that we can print further. We print billions of copies of free booklets. It costs a lot of money, all from our own pocket, because all of my dis-

ciples work. Apart from going on tour, when we are at home or anywhere, we work. We earn money by hand-crafts and all kinds of talents that we have. We don't take money donations from the public. But sometimes people like to donate. You can't stop people from being good. So if they donate, we give it out again. Or we do something for you, or for the country that needs it. [Applause] But you're right. The one who works for God should never take money. Should give only, never take. But thank you for reminding me. I will try to keep to that principle all the time. Thank you.

Q: What is Your attitude on abortion, contraception, sterilization, and the abortion pill?

M: Abortion pill? They have that in a pill even? What do you want me to say? These are the affairs of you human people. I come to teach you the Kingdom of God. And should you follow it, then you will know the answer yourself, according to circumstances.

Q: Why is it that, even when living the way God has told us, loving our neighbor, not killing, not desiring material things, there is still an emptiness in my heart?

M: Yes, because you have not come in contact with the God within you. You only do Hiers Com-

mandments, but you have not known the Commander-in-Chief. Get to know Hirm, and then you will feel fulfilled.

Q: Plants do have life also. What is the reason to become vegan and why?

M: Well then, we should die, all of us. Eating nothing would be the best, I agree. If you can do it, welcome. [Master laughs] Well, we have to eat something, no? Jesus ate something, and Buddha ate something.

It's all right to take vegetables because in the Bible, even in the Old Testament, it is said so. God said, *I made all of the beautiful fruit, which is pleasing to your eyes and pleasing to your taste, and all the herbs in the field. These shall be your food.* [Gen 1:29] He didn't forbid us to eat a vegan diet, so why not? You don't study the Bible well, that's the trouble with you!

Q: Why is it detrimental to our spiritual progress to practice any meditation that involves breath control?

M: It is because breathing is ephemeral. Everything we use concerning ephemeral phenomena will end in the ephemeral. What we practice is using our own kingdom of God, our own wisdom, which is eter-

nal; therefore, we can get eternal lasting happiness.

Q: What is mind?

M: What is mind? You operate on your head and see! [Laughter]

Mind is the one that makes you drink coffee when you don't want to drink it, that makes you have two wives when you know you should have only one, and causes a lot of trouble when you know you should have peace. It's very stubborn, obstinate.

Mind is only the computer. It registers all things that happen around it and puts out again the same information whether the circumstances have changed or not. Therefore, sometimes we make mistakes and we have very harsh judgment in some cases because the mind has registered the same information, but in two different circumstances. We have not learned to be flexible, therefore, we stumble and we suffer. That's why we have to learn to get in touch with the real Source of wisdom and then handle every situation accordingly, without condemnation, only with love and with understanding.

Q: How can the majority of people find two and a half-hours daily to meditate? Can this time be reduced and be effective?

M: You don't have to sit straight two and a half-hours. You can get up early one hour in the morning, half hour at lunch break, and another hour in the evening. Less television, less rock and roll, etc., maybe, or less talk on the phone and save the phone bill. Then we will have a lot more time. Actually, we have more time than we suppose we do. We just waste it because we don't have anything else to do. But now we have a purpose, we have other work to do. We will concentrate, and we will have time for that.

And even when you sit on the bus, you can meditate. I'll show you how later at the time of initiation. When you sit on the airplane, you can meditate. When you sit on the beach to enjoy the breeze, the fresh air, you can meditate. When you sit in the park, you can meditate. But not when you drive the car, please. [Laughter] It's very easy to get two and a half hours. In fact you can have more, more, more time.

Q: Do You believe in marriage?

M: I do! Why not? If I don't believe in marriage, where do I come from? [Laughter & applause.]

Q: If one is fully enlightened, is he or she still subject to the law of causation?

M: No, but He respects the law of causation. He or She will probably suffer also because of sharing the burden with the disciples. Just like you yourself go around empty handed, but if your friend or neighbor carries too much stuff that he needs, probably he is ill and takes a lot of medicine, or he needs special food and takes a lot of stuff with him, then you cannot bear to see your best friend burdened with all this stuff. You share half of the luggage; therefore, you're burdened also. Even though you don't need this medical stuff, you don't need extra food, you are burdened with these because of love for the friend. Therefore, the enlightened person may undergo some apparent effects from the karma, but actually He or She is free from it.

Q: About Almighty power, can it change the movement of the sun or planets? Or should we understand Almighty power as having spiritual meaning, because I cannot believe the miracles written in the Bible.

M: You should. You can experience these miracles right now, and then you will believe. Anything, the Almighty power can do, but as God sees fit, not at our dictation. All the miracles in the Bible are true. These are children's play. There is nothing that is such a big deal that you could not believe it. There are much more than that. These are just very fragmented records

of what a Master can do.

Even nowadays I've seen with my eyes some of the Hindu monks walk across the water, and not just walk halfway across a swift flowing current. And they wanted to teach me how to do it. But I refused. I said, "I use the boat, it's cheap. Very cheap." If you read the book from Alexandria David Neel, you will see that she recorded many miracles in Tibet. People can fly around in the air right now. They have to chain themselves to a lot of metal blocks so that sometimes they can land; otherwise, they fly all the time in the air. Many such things are very simple. To turn water into milk and all that, this is there. You can buy them in India, these miracle tricks. If you want, go to India and search for some sadhus and learn with them.

No need to doubt the Bible because Jesus wasn't very proud of these miracles anyhow. For example, when His mother tried to demonstrate His supernatural power by telling people to prepare the jars of water and put them outside and then told Him to turn them into wine, He said, "Mother, why do you make me do this?" "Why do you force me into doing this?" He wasn't very pleased about it. And then when someone was sick and touched His garment and became healed, He said, *Your faith has made you whole.* [Matt 9:22] And sometimes when some miracle happened, He said,

It's not I, It's my Father who does it. [John 14:10]

So these things should not be an obstacle to you to put faith in Christianity or Jesus, in His greatness. He is greater than these miracles. These are just by-products and He was forced to do it in some circumstances. For example, He healed some people because at that time the medical treatment was very expensive and rare. People were poor and needy. If He were born here now, probably He wouldn't do it to attract you. The teaching by Him is important. The imparting of knowledge is important, not the miracles.

Q: How were souls created and can they be destroyed?

M: No, the soul cannot be destroyed because it is not material. Anything that is born and has a material shape will be destroyed, but not the soul. Space cannot be destroyed.

Q: Why did God create this world?

M: So that we can know each other today, at least.

Q: I agree with what You say. It's my opinion, not that God created human beings, but that human beings created God. Do You agree?

M: Yes and no, it depends on what you mean by God. God is our own wisdom, and God has no need for any creative power. It exists alone. It exists before all things. That is God. From that power we came and to that power we return.

Q: Didn't Your disciples just needlessly kill those flowers that they presented to You?

M: Oh, what a pity! Shall we cry? Shall I repent for it? They don't kill. These flowers are already sold in the market. If you don't want them, then tell them next time not to buy any. I've told them many times not to buy anything for me, but I can't always stop people from expressing their love. Actually, the flowers are sold plenty in the market whether you buy them or not. We are not so fanatic. It's all right, just be ordinary.

Flowers will be withered one day. We don't kill by cutting flowers. There will be more. But if you cut an animal's head, it won't grow a second head. That's the difference. You cut one flower and it becomes five next. The flowers like to be trimmed sometimes. If you ask the florist not to cut his flowers, his roses, he will say you're an idiot. By cutting it, it will grow again next year. He has to do it. Please, there will be more.

[Applause]

I seek your blessing. I am only of good will. I mean no harm, even to flowers. But I cannot stop people who want to present them to me and I cannot make the florists bankrupt because of my teaching. They mean no harm to the flowers. They just please you with all these reasonable things that you can express your love with.

Q: What is sexual misconduct?

M: It means you take a neighbor's wife or husband without their permission. [Laughter]

Q: Is it true the teacher cannot teach until the pupil is ready?

M: Right, it's true.

Q: What is it that You have that I don't have?

M: No, nothing. I told you already, what I have, you have. It's just that probably I know what I have, and you don't know yet what you have. But you will know if you let me show you how and where. [Applause]

Q: Could You please give a briefing on meditation and how you go about it?

M: Meditation itself is an empty word if you don't have sincerity and perseverance. If we truly want to know our true Self, that is the true meditation. Whether you sit, you stand, you lay, or you go about with your business, you are always centered in this sincerity, wanting to know God, wanting to know your real Self. That is meditation.

We just show you how to collect your scattered attention. It is the human language; actually, there is no center but I have to start somewhere to tell you to focus. And later on, you will even not know that you have a body. When you are in samadhi, you experience bliss, light, and all the wisdom, and all the questions will be answered for you, and all the desires will drop off. You'll still continue to serve the society in a greater capacity and love but you desire no fruit. You just carry on your business without attachment.

And the meditation practice is very easy, but you need an experienced friend to teach you. That's all. If you already know it or if you know an experienced teacher, then no need. If you don't, I may help you. But we have to explain it in detail because if you do it wrong, or if your motive is not pure, you might have side effects. That's why it is better to have commitment

to a teacher and learn the whole course in time. That's all.

Q: I have been through the experience of enlightenment, but now need to know how best to maintain my oneness with God's Light.

M: If you did it through a teacher, then ask him. If you don't have a teacher, then come to our initiation so that I may help you further to maintain that.

Q: Many times You have quoted the words of Jesus as mentioned in the Bible. How do you regard the Bible?

M: What a question! How would you answer this question? Please, this gentleman with curly hair or that one with straight hair. You answer him. "Words of God." He said these are words of God. Are you satisfied? Yes.

Q: I would like to be initiated, but I live far away from here. After I have been vegan for three months, how are You going to give me initiation?

M: I will send someone if I am not there personally. Initiation doesn't need language and doesn't need my personal appearance at the place. We do it regardless of space and time. Any time you're ready, we are ready for you. We'll find the means to do it.

Q: Master, I have been vegan and have been initiated, but my family is still eating meat, and I'm still cooking meat dishes.

M: It's okay. Do what is required of you. You cannot let them starve.

Q: I have a question that no other monk has explained to me satisfactorily: Where does the human being come from?

M: Even the Buddha did not answer this.

Q: Where are we going to go after death? Someone says that we are going to paradise, and some others say that we'll go to hell.

M: You'll go to paradise if you are virtuous. You'll go to hell if you are registered there. [Laughter and applause.]

Q: In the five guidelines, there is something that prohibits us from putting makeup on our face. If we do so, do we violate it?

M: No, it didn't say so. The five guidelines are only not harming other sentient beings; not killing; not stealing; not committing adultery; not drinking alcohol or taking drugs and things like that, not gambling; and not telling lies. These are only five. The Buddha didn't say, "Don't put on makeup." [Laughter] Don't make it more complicated than it already is.

Q: Dear Master, what is the essence of the Quan Yin Method that You are teaching? What is the important point? What is the benefit for our current life, and what is the good for us when we leave this life?

M: The essence is that you will be getting in touch with your Buddha nature [God nature] or your Kingdom of God. And it will benefit you right now as well as in the life after because you have wisdom and you will handle every situation in life in a more proper way. After you leave this world, you will go to your proper place in Heaven or nirvana and continue to serve the whole universe in your capacity there.

Q: Dear Master, there are many people who say that the husband should not eat a vegan diet because if

a male eats a vegan diet, he cannot fulfill his duty as a husband, so the family will not have happiness. What is Your opinion? [Laughter]

M: Is that true? You answer me. Is that true? You didn't fulfill your duty as a husband? [Master speaks to a male initiate and audience laughs.] Did you fulfill your duty? Yes, he did! [Laughter] So, please, you accuse me for all the things I never know. All my disciples are laypersons. Some of them are husbands and wives, and they continue to have children. I have not banned anything. I just advise them to be moderate in all things. That's all.

Q: Dear Master, is it true that when human beings commit many sins they have to be downgraded into animals in the next life?

M: The Buddha said so. The Buddha said "yes."

Q: Why is it that the more material things we get, the more obstacles we have in our spiritual progress?

M: It is not that the material things obstruct our spiritual progress. It's our attitude toward them that obstructs us. If you remember at the time of Buddha, there were many kings and many rich people following Him and they attained enlightenment all the same. In fact, one of them, they called "Yiu Mor," was a layper-

son. He was very rich, and he was more or less equal to the Buddha because he was so highly enlightened and powerful. It was because he had a lot of possessions but he was not attached to them. So take care of your attitude, and do not put away your possessions. Put away your attachment, not your possessions.

Q: Can the wisdom eye open by itself through diligent spiritual practice, or do we have to rely on the Master's blessing?

M: Both. Rely on both. It's the best and the most insured.

Q: Can You tell me the progress of the soul since the beginning until the end?

M: If I have time and if you have time, if we stay here forever, then I will tell you.

Q: Dear Master, if my husband has a concubine and I divorce him, do I commit some sort of sin against my children? I feel scared to live with him.

M: That's why I have told you, "No sexual misconduct, no adultery." It is to protect your family and the happiness of your children. I think you should not

divorce him yet, but talk to him first and see where probably you go wrong. Maybe you neglect him. You don't love him enough. Maybe you don't take care of the children enough. Maybe you don't dress yourself beautifully. Put on some makeup, put on some nice jewelry, buy some new clothes, and be a good wife to see if it works first. You don't just forsake a marriage at random and so quickly. You have maybe gone wrong somewhere or maybe something is missing in the family. So please, rescue your marriage first.

When it absolutely cannot be mended, then maybe you consider divorce. Otherwise, of course, you don't sin against the children, but they will suffer a separate family and a split-up loving atmosphere. If you want to sacrifice, and you consider the children that much, then consider talking to your husband. Be loving to him and be beautiful. See what the opponent has that you don't have and learn to be better.

Q: Master, these are questions from a young girl. Why do I have to eat a vegan diet? If I eat vegan food, does the Buddha help me to become smarter, more intelligent? If I eat vegan food, can I see the manifestation of Buddha?

M: You eat vegan because you learn to love, to

love all the beings in this world. Whether you see the Buddha or not depends on your sincerity and practice. And of course, you will be less sick and more intelligent. That is scientifically proven.

Q: Would You please let me know about Caodaiism? Is Caodaiism the religion of God who opened it in Au Lac? If I follow this method, is it good? Do I get enlightenment?

M: Every good religion is from God. If you follow any so-called religion, you should see whether the head of that religion, the founder, is still alive or giving you satisfaction that you see God, that you can see God's Light and hear God's Voice.

Q: Dear Master, I have a family and I have two children. I do want to eat a vegan diet because I understand the good of eating vegan food as You have taught in Your book. But, if I eat vegan food, sometimes I waste the food with meat because there is some left over from my two children. If I do so, is it a sin?

M: No, it isn't.

Q: How can I be a permanent vegan? I want to be

vegan very much, but I still want to eat meat.

M: Then wait until you're ready and pray that God will help you. We don't force anyone to be vegan if you're not ready, if you don't want to. We only help you if you want to.

Q: Dear Master, while doing meditation, is it true... (MC: I'm sorry, my English is bad, so I cannot translate.)

M: What is it? Come and give it to me. You have to do things quickly because we waste the audience's time.

She said that when she meditates, (not in our method, she just meditates), she empties her mind and recites the Buddha's name, but she does not get into samadhi (meaning the trance, peaceful-like state). She asks me whether meditating like that is effective or not. Well, I say it has some effect, but very minimum. If you have samadhi, it will be the best. Then you can get in touch with the real Buddha nature.

Q: About not killing, if a tiger wants to come and eat me, then what?

M: Where do you go to see the tiger anyhow? Is that so easy just to meet a tiger on the street? Your imagination is fantastic!

Q: In the kitchen, there are many ants. How do we fix this?

M: Be hygienic. Clean your kitchen all the time so the ants will not come.

Q: Is Quan Yin male or female?

M: Neither.

Q: A Buddha or Bodhisattva?

M: I don't think She cares so much about her rank. But in the scripture, it says that Quan Yin was an ancient Buddha.

Q: Can we change our destiny?

M: Yes, somewhat, if we practice the Quan Yin Method.

Q: After initiation, if I eat meat or drink alcohol, will that affect or trouble Master?

M: Yes, because we are one, but it affects you more. It troubles you more. I can go free with all this, but you may not. The person you should be most concerned with is yourself.

Q: I'm a follower and believe in Quan Yin Bodhi-sattva. If I study the Quan Yin Method, will there be any problem, any conflict?

M: No, it would be better.

Q: After initiation, can we read Buddhist books?

M: Sure, you can. Only, you understand better than before.

Q: After initiation, is it a certainty that we will be liberated?

M: Yes, if you follow the practice.

Q: Master, I'm from mainland China. There are many spiritual practitioners there who are very anxious that Master go to Mainland China to spread the Dharma. We don't know it. Can Master help us?

M: I go wherever God wants me to go. I cannot make the decision. I would like to, but if God's willing then it will happen.

Q: One of the Chinese said that Melbourne is very beautiful and they hope that Master can come back again. [Applause]

M: Yes, Melbourne is beautiful and I surely love to go, but again, it depends on God's will and the affinity between us. That is God's will. So, thank you. I thank them for their love and supportive spirit. And I also thank you, the Australian residents and natives, for giving me such a warm, open and loving welcome. [Applause]

I wish you all the best in everything you do.

- The End -