PART IV

THE INNER LIFE OF JESUS

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Those of us who love and admire the Master Jesus would also like to emulate Him. Perhaps we could better identify with Him and understand how to cope with our own personal lives and weaknesses if we knew more about His inner life. We ask that the Master give us more details of His life on earth. At what age did He first become aware of His close relationship with God? What was the relationship with God at that time, and how did it come about?

From the time of birth there was spoken of, and continued to be spoken of, light that was seen and songs from heavenly realms that were heard. And as time went on, the mother, in caring for the child, often said to Him—constantly was telling Him—that He had a mission on earth and was not here to simply grow up, follow a trade, and carry on life as those around Him—that there was a *particular* mission—and so this was repeated over and over. The child was reminded that He should always focus on this and that He should talk to the Father and ask for guidance. So, even at a very early age, as a child, there were conversations with God. The child would, when it was possible, wander off to be by Himself and speak with the Father and always ask, "Prepare me in whatever way possible for the mission that I have, and help me that I may always be ready and capable of doing that which was assigned to me." As is true with everyone who talks to God a lot and listens within for responses. He began to become aware of subtle promptings, and so, even as a child, the Master felt the Presence of the Father, and He felt that guidance was given. It was as if the child had a special friend—the Father God—with whom He spoke a lot. He asked questions about things that came up in the daily life and was open to receiving guidance from the Father. As a very young boy He became aware of the guidance and was able to tell that He was receiving it from God. Then as the years went by, He entered school and was taught the Holy Scriptures. And He was taught to read and write so that He could study the scriptures Himself. The child began to seek even more to find that relationship with God and make it closer and closer, for there was great dedication within Him. He wanted to be God's emissary. He wanted and desired—He asked—the Father to manifest His Love through Him on earth.

There were instances in which He, as an observant child, saw those around Him going through stressful situations, even tragic ones, and He always asked the Father, "How can they be comforted?" And He came to realize while still quite young that He could extend Love in spirit. Because at an early age children were not expected to enter into conversations or to have the wisdom to advise or give spiritual comfort, He would withdraw and imagine that He was in the presence of those who were going through these situations. He talked to them in spirit; He comforted them; He reassured them; He embraced them. And He always asked the Father, "Tell me everything that I could do—put the thoughts into my mind of things that I could do in addition to talking to them in spirit." So, when thoughts came to Him of things that He might do on a physical level, He had no second thoughts about them, and He went His way, often behind the scenes, just doing things that would bring comfort and help and that would soothe the

feelings, the nerves, of those who were distraught. Just bringing a flower to a widow who was in sorrow and giving her a hug lifted her up. And to those who had suffered some accident or were suffering from some disease, He would often bring things, certain herbs or whatever might be helpful—if they allowed, which often they did because He was such a sweet and gentle child—and they were comforted, sometimes amused, and certainly always uplifted when He would say, "Let me put this on your arm" or foot—whatever might have been hurt or was giving problems. And it seemed that the soothing of the pain and the improvements had an extra element to them—more than just what the herb itself might have brought. And so, the awareness of the relationship with the Father came about gradually and was from such an early age that it would be hard for Him to pinpoint when it might have begun.

Did He have a non-ordinary knowledge of herbs, or was that a knowledge that was common to His people—knowing what to bring that would heal or soothe?

There were those who talked about what might be labeled as the "home remedies," and He was aware of these things, but there were times when He was out in the meadows, in the woods, and it seemed an inner voice was telling Him of something that might be helpful for a particular injury or disease someone might have. And so, when He would come to people, He would often bring what was the usual herb, bark, or whatever, but He would have mixed with it something else that had just come into His mind that might be helpful. So there was an additional element to these things besides what was the common knowledge and usage at that time, and He added even more to this by the loving touch and the great desire to be of comfort and of service. His very presence and His desire to do this brought much relief to those who were in need of such help.

Were there human weaknesses that He needed to face and overcome as a child growing up and as a young man? If so, please tell us about these and the process of coming to terms with them.

The childhood was in many ways like that of other children, although there was an extra element He had that other children did not have. But still, at times there was, as it is with children, a focus upon that which He desired or wanted Himself—what He wanted to do. Very often, with an inner knowledge that other children do not have of knowing what might be best in certain situations, He seemed to want to take charge of matters and tell the other children what was best, and there were times when they resented this and would ask, "How would you know better than we?" So, as a result of His great desire to be of help, He also soon learned to do this in what you might label as "a diplomatic way" and to **suggest** things, rather than **tell** people what to do—or even say, "Why don't we just try this and see what happens?"

And there were also situations when He, being from a large family with a lot of children, was suddenly faced with the realization that there were things He wanted to do—things He would find some personal fulfillment in doing or have some personal joy or pleasure in doing—and yet, He was aware that if He did this, it might leave someone else somewhat unattended to. And as He was about to run off and do something that would be pleasing to Him, He would turn back and look; and His heart opened and He had such joy and deep feeling for the others—other family members, whether they were children or adults—that He would be faced with a choice that is sometimes difficult for a child with a lot of energy and who is ready to go off and do his own thing. It is difficult to say, "No, I'll do that another time," and to come back, take the hand of another child or adult, and take them with you; or to see that the mother has so many chores in the house, so many things to do, and she needs help, and then—instead of running through the meadow and having great delight in the sunshine, the breeze, the birds, and all the little animals-to decide to stay with the mother and help her with the chores so that she might not be so tired and distressed. He sometimes came to realize that while He was doing these things there was also importance in carrying on a conversation with the mother. And if she was troubled or overcome with all the things she had to do, He began to see that it was His role to bring hope; and He, as the eldest child, began to take on the role of a parent who always would tell the children, "God is looking after us and He will take care of us. We must not doubt. We must do all that we can ourselves and then trust that the Father will **add unto** that which we have done. He will take care of the situations and see that we have all that we need for the life we are supposed to lead here on earth."

So at a very early age He was taking on this role of bringing hope and lifting the spirits of those who were distraught. And He began to see that they expected this from Him—they looked to Him for it—and it wasn't long before He, at about the age of eight, just fell into the role and wore it naturally. And as He began to play this part more and more, He Himself began to see that there was more to the role He had to play than simply telling people, "Everything is going to be fine, and God is going to provide," but that He had to actually

believe this and trust it Himself. And He also saw that between the schoolwork, the chores, and doing things for other people, there was sometimes very little time to go off and talk to God quietly. He began to see that He must do this in the *moment, in the situation, while standing before someone else* and listening to their chatter. And He began to commune with the Father under all circumstances, which made it a lot easier, and this is not by any means to say that He stopped going off to be by Himself and talk to God alone but that He learned to bring the Presence of the Father into His awareness in all situations and to trust the promptings of Spirit, no matter how subtle. And if the promptings seemed to be rather odd and out of place, and nothing else came, He would just whisper to the Father, "I've asked for Your guidance, and this is all that I see; so I am going this way. And if it is not right, correct me. In the meantime I am, with the desire of doing Your Will, going in the direction that appears to me to be open in this moment."

And so, this relationship with the Father developed at an early age, and there was a knowing in His life that He had to think of other people. And even though He might have said, "I'm not being selfish in saying that I want to go off for an hour and be with God," He also realized that He had a role to play in bringing comfort; and by asking God to help Him and setting the intention each day to allow the Father through Him to bring comfort, He was taking on that role. And later He realized that in doing this He also had brought the relationship with the Father even closer, because out of necessity He began to allow God to be in Him and work through Him. Because very often when there were situations in which He wasn't sure exactly what to do, He asked the Father, He was also in this way preparing Himself to be empty so that the Father could be fully in Him and express through Him; for if He thought He knew ahead of time, He would not have made the room for the Father to come in. So, the situations as a child prepared Him, because when one doesn't know what to do, one turns to God—when one doesn't **think** one knows, one turns to God. Then it becomes, you might say, a habit; it becomes a custom. He became accustomed to always asking God—carrying on conversations with the Father—so that He might then Himself be of true assistance in every way possible to those around Him.

Did He not pursue personal goals, but rather was focused on others?

There were times when He did have desires and goals that He pursued, and this was allowed. The Father did not want Him to simply be a servant. He wanted Him to find joy in life on earth and not view earth as a place where one comes to be a slave or to suffer. Also, once He started to school, there were other things He was interested in that were a part of the schoolwork, and that was something He was able to devote Himself to, as in studying the scriptures. In addition, He had a great love of music and was able to find some time to practice, playing the instruments. And He looked upon teaching the other children to play the instruments and to sing songs as part of His role in taking care of them. He would sing to them, as well as to those whom He visited—the elderly or the sick. So, there were times when He had great interest in certain things of this sort and was able to pursue them, but there were also situations in which He made the choice when He saw there was a need—when the mother was busy preparing a meal and the baby was crying and needed attention, He might pick up the baby, comfort it, and talk to it, and also

ease the nerves of the mother who was trying to cook and didn't need a screaming baby added to all her chores.

Would the Master speak to us of His temptations—how He met these and came to terms with them on a spiritual level? Was it difficult for Him? How did God help Him?

There were times when, even as a child, He observed situations which upset Him very much—when He saw people in the community who were not being kind and thoughtful of others or who were even being cruel—and His feeling was, "If I could, I would just stop them dead in their tracks!" And He had a desire to do this, maybe even to punish them. It brought great agony to Him. And it was an important spiritual lesson for Him to learn to stop, always go to the Father, and say, "This is really bothering me. I don't like seeing these people causing others to suffer. What must I do? How can I help? What would You have me do?" And He realized that He had to turn His thoughts, as if turning His head, away from the situation He was focusing upon and turn them toward God in order to release those feelings He had—release those things that had upset Him. He had to turn back to the Father whom He had come to know to be truly a Father of Love. And, even weeping at times, He asked God, "Just help me. I want to stop this situation that is bothering me." And then He realized the Father was telling Him, "You must release the situation to Me. Allow Me to be in you, and forget not that I am Love."

So, when you turn back to a situation, you don't go with an iron fist and you don't go with a club in your hand, but rather you go with Love in your heart: you go in sweetness and gentleness and you suggest things, rather than tell people what to do-you offer a helping hand. When a father is thrashing his son because he hasn't done his chores, you offer to help the son do the chores, and you may even tell the father that you will help if he will just stop beating the child. And so, there were many such incidents when the Master's heart was torn, and He would have liked to have just corrected the situations in the old way of doing it by force—occasions when He would have loved to have punished those who seemed to take delight in evil—but He came to realize that they weren't really helped by being punished—that something else was needed in the situation. He realized as time went by that if He offered unconditional Love, then people would see that He was not condemning but that He came to them in Love—that He wished to be regarded as their brother and was willing to help them. And He also realized that when He offered such Love, it caught their attention, and they would perhaps listen to Him; whereas otherwise, they would not have listened—they would have been resistant.

So, He did have lessons to learn—that the spiritual way of being the Father's Son was not the way of the warrior but rather the way of Love. And the Father allowed Him to have these situations so that He might learn through them—and also learn to understand those around Him by coming to them and offering assistance with Love. He began to see that He could truly be the Father's Son, the Father's vessel—the Father Himself on earth. And so, He then with great intensity began to ask, "Father, help Me to allow You to be on earth. Help Me to exemplify Your Love. Tap Me on the shoulder and stop Me when I am about to take a human solution to situations." And there were so many occasions that presented themselves that it was easy for Him to make it a habit to always turn to the Father. He came to realize that there was great importance when He arose in the morning in setting an intention for the day—in asking God to be in Him and with Him and not to allow Him to go astray—because that intention itself opens the door to the Father coming through. And He realized that you must always invite the Father if you want Him to come.

It would seem that even His temptations had to do with compassion and justice and were not related to temptations of what self wanted for self.

Primarily that is true; primarily that is true. Although there were times when He perhaps really, on a human level, wanted something for Himself or when He was faced with a situation of seeing: "For Me to have this that I desire for Myself personally, someone else will go lacking." And then He would just stop and see Himself at this fork in the road. Particularly as a child, sometimes there are things that you just really, really want, and it is difficult to loosen the grip on that, but *He also realized, even while still quite young, that His deeper* and greater desire was to exemplify the Father, so it was easier for Him to release those things; nevertheless, after He became an adult, when He saw cruelty, it gripped His heart, and He made a particular effort to allow the Father through Him to offer everything that might be of assistance to the heart and mind of the one who was being cruel, because He realized that there is something lacking, something missing, in the souls of those who are cruel that causes them to be that way.

Was there special preparation in higher realms before coming to the earth?

The decision for this birth and this life was made in higher realms long before the birth took place, and since the situations of earth have their own nature, their own characteristics, and are so different from the higher realms, it is necessary that one coming be prepared to enter into this lower vibration, because in coming into the earth and functioning as another human being, one must also have a human body and a personality that one does not have in the higher realms of spirit. There must be preparation in order to adapt oneself to identifying with the body and personality, as well as to remaining with that identity in order to carry out the mission. So, in order for one to come into the earth and function in the best way, this preparation has to be made to identify with the body to some extent—to identify with the personality and be able to relate to the personalities of other people, other beings on the earth at that time—and also to keep the identity of Spirit. And one of the great things that has to be prepared is to have patience and longsuffering and to not expect everything on earth to be pure, holy, and loving—to be able to accept the situations and then enter into them as an emissary of the Father: to enter into the human, earth situations and relationships as the Father manifest on earth and allow the Father through oneself, as a personality and a body, to interact on that level.

It takes great preparation because a beautiful Son with great Love, a being of Light from higher realms, is not used to the limitations that any being coming to earth has to take upon itself. And yet, the Master took this role upon Himself long before the birth. He took it on willingly, and He knew that it would be difficult—it wouldn't just be a breeze. He knew that it would be difficult being here and seeing all the things that are going on—all the cruelty, all the evil. It would be difficult

as another human being with a body, with a personality, and a human mind—and with chores to do and responsibilities to balance all this and learn on the human level to look to God and allow His promptings to come through. Yet, He knew that He had great support from the higher realms—from angelic beings and definitely from the Father, Whom He loved so greatly, Whom He adored, and for Whom He wanted to be the vessel through which He manifested on earth. He wanted to be a manifestation of Divine Love. He wanted those on earth to see this so that they might have something to look up to, something to aspire to; and it was because of His great Love that He took the very limited conditions of earth and this life upon Himself. Although He brought with Him an inclination to trust the Father totally. He also had to learn to apply that and allow it to be in every situation in His life. And very much as with other humans, there were times when He felt that He fell on His face initially—that He didn't allow it totally at first—but He began to see that when something came up and at first He had not totally allowed this, it was an opportunity, not to feel guilty about it but to go back, relive the situation in spirit, and in effect correct it—allow the Father through Him to manifest in that way.

So, even as a young man, before the ministry began as a fulltime occupation for Him, He was observing all the different situations and weaknesses in humans and always contemplating what would be the best way this or that particular person could be reached, could be touched, could be inspired to seek another solution. And He realized that if another human being experiences the Love of God, that experience will make him open his eyes and turn to seek more. But without the experience itself, all the teachings become just boring concepts; and one gives lip service to beliefs, yet deep within one doubts. So, He recognized that part of His mission was to bring the experience of Love through—allow the Father **through** Him to bring that experience to other people, to touch their hearts. And He knew that it had to be done in the realm of Spirit, that He had to commune with the Spirit of God in other people in order for this to come about.

Is there anything more to add about how the relationship with God developed further as He grew older, and how the Master nurtured it?

As He grew older He began to realize the great responsibility He had and how important it was that He not miss a single opportunity; whereas, as a child it was just the situations that came up and that might particularly affect Him. But as He matured, He came to see that there was always something that could be offered in Spirit, even to those He might observe as He was visiting some strange place or walking down a road—those who didn't have a personal relationship with Him. Then the great responsibility of doing this dawned upon Him, and He began to focus His mind upon it more and more. Even in hours of leisure when one might have thought He was just daydreaming or relaxing, He very often was communing with the Spirit of God in another person. But He was able to focus on this so much because it was His desire—it was the joy of His life to do it—so that it would have been a chore if *He had had other things that He liked to focus His mind upon,* but because this was the single focus in His life, then He was able to spend a lot of time doing it—and spent less time in idle daydreams.

Was there a special technique to the Master's prayers and meditations?

If possible, He sought a quiet place, perhaps out in nature upon a mountain, down by the sea—where He could talk to the Father alone. And He would speak—even with the physical lips if He felt like it. He always approached the Father first in a spirit of thanksgiving, saying at times,

I thank You, My Father, that You are Love itself! I thank You that You have prepared a way so that We can know this Love and know that We rest in Love. In this moment I allow Myself to just rest in Your heart, and I allow all My awareness to know Myself melting into You—into that Love.

And He would just dwell in that for a few moments. Then He would say,

Father, I know that I came to earth for a purpose, and at times it wrenches My heart to see what is happening here. Prepare me every moment of the day. Help me not to miss a single opportunity to allow Your Love to express through Me. Lead Me. I would have that the thoughts that come into My mind always be Your thoughts. If I feel an urge to go some place, may that always be Your urge and not an idle thought of Mine; and being Your urge, there will be a purpose—there will be someone who can be touched. Guide Me every moment of the day. Keep Me always open. And let Me never forget that of Myself I am nothing, can do nothing, can know nothing-that I am only the conduit for You. I want to be You, manifest on earth. I want You to manifest as Me to bring the vibration of holiness into earth. I want the heart of every person I encounter

to be touched in such a way that he may at some point remember it and begin to seek to know You and Your Love. I want not one single encounter to have been just a chance meeting that meant nothing. Lead Me wherever there are those who can be touched. Help My brothers! Some are crying out, and they need help, but forget not those who are not crying out, in particular those who have lost all hope, who have no belief in goodness and love, and who just exist in almost a state of nothingness. Forget them not! Touch them on the heart. Awaken their souls. Quicken them so that they may come to realize that the spark of Your Divine Being within them may expand and they may seek to be divine children—children of holiness on earth.

And then there were times when, as He might have been walking through a village or through a town, He came upon someone who was suffering—who had a fever or only one leg, or who was lame or blind. Initially it gripped His heart, but quickly He realized, "If I just have pity, I have not helped. I must look beyond. I must look straight into the heart where the spark of the Father is, where the Father laid a part of His own heart. I must gently part the clouds before that altar. I *must look into that heart and see—I must rejoice in—the pu*rity and the holiness there and know that I am come into the Father's Presence and receiving His blessing through this heart. And if I acknowledge that holiness and that purity there, I bring it forth to some extent into the awareness of this one's being. And as this person sees that I am almost no longer aware of the lame foot, the blindness, the limitations, the mental handicaps—as he sees that I don't look upon

this—joy comes into his heart—a true joy—for he sees that I recognize holiness within him.

"There is almost always with these souls who may have taken upon themselves certain limitations in this life an element of suffering there—or at least depression or something that has been added unto that which they took upon themselves which is caused by their own loss of faith and feelings of hopelessness; and by My embracing the holiness in their hearts. I allow them to release that which they added unto their own particular mission here, their own assignment. And by doing so, I allow them to accept their assignment as a holy one. Even though it may appear on earth as a limitation, they then begin to see it as serving a purpose and that they may use it as a part of their vehicle—the body, the mind, the personality on earth—as a part of that which allows them to perfectly play their role—expressing the Father's Love and being an inspiration to those around them. For there is not one single being on earth who is so handicapped that he does not also have a mission to be an inspiration to those around him. And it is important that he not allow his handicaps to cause him to be disheartened and, in his own self-pity or even his suffering, to forget his holy mission."

As the Master went through His life, He learned more and more how He could best play His role here—could best serve His mission of inspiring us, all of us, to be perfect children of the Father. And it was necessary for Him to learn some of these things in the moment, in the situations on earth. It was not possible for Him to be totally prepared in higher realms for all of this, because in dealing with His own physical body and personality, He also had to learn certain lessons through them. And so, every day, for many years, there were situations He encountered through which He learned. Being such a high and blessed, pure and holy Son, He, by also desiring not to miss a single opportunity, was able to learn all those lessons and to be an inspiration and a help in some way to everyone He met, even those who had set an intention in their lives toward evil. He touched them in a way that at some point they would realize that there was—there must be another way, and that they would turn within and ask, "Provide another way; help me to see another way." Even those most deeply involved in evil whom He touched received a benefit from His presence.