

MAGDALENE CHRISTIANITY

Mary's Gospel

Inner Themes
#3

HELEN MARTINEAU

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INVOKING THE LIGHT

I am the light of the world

This I AM saying is again connected with divine light, and dovetails with the previous one but with a different emphasis.

In the higher realm of the eternal the light of the Sun-being, the divine Word, prevails, and darkness has no place. The Prologue in John's gospel emphasises that the darkness cannot overcome the light of the Word (1:5). The Greek word *katelaben*, 'overcome' is also translated as 'comprehend' – the true Light comes into the world, yet the world does not know or understand the Light.

Mary affirms that the world cannot receive the Light. Nor can it hear Wisdom speaking.

This 'world' cannot be the same as the earth, so abundant with nature's wisdom and permeated by spiritual forces. In terms of the soul, the gospels are directed to the human spirit and the 'world' of our making, the world that lives in human consciousness. The I AM has entered this inner world.

When the sun rises into the sky or we flick a switch to light up a room, darkness is dispelled. But both Mary and John in their gospels emphasise the light shining *in* the darkness. We can compare this light to torchlight that penetrates darkness, while beyond that ring of light the dark world is still there. Light and darkness co-exist. Metaphorically in our soul we are both light and darkness.



Our spirit is imprisoned in a physical body where experience is acquired through the sense based astral. This is a realm of desire, and it includes all the thoughts in our soul that stem from desire. In other words, it is the content of our lower self, our underworld. For spirit, this is a prison.

Yet it is not the task of our I AM to make war on this dark world within but rather to shine light in the world ever more brightly and so enable its transformation.

The divine light is always available to us because it is a gift from the mighty I AM, the spirit of the cosmos. We can choose to receive this gift and wake to the spirit in us. And we can bring it to birth in our souls.

‘Ah, I see,’ we say, when with wonder at last we know, when we experience a light bulb moment. If it is an insight that enriches our soul, and this is the nature of genuine in-sight, we are affirming our awakening to the spiritual light.

The tasks of transformation

For Mary and John ‘I am the light of the world’ is related to the incident when Christ gives the blind man his sight for the first time (John: 9). It is his light bulb moment.

Yet the man needs to fulfil certain requirements. He must believe in a seeming impossibility, he must be active and wash his eyes at the pool of Siloam, and he needs to acknowledge the reality of his experience, which in the gospel people ask him to do a number of times.

The healings of Jesus make it clear that it is up to us whether and how strongly the Light penetrates the darkness of the world. If spirit is to manifest, co-operation is involved – through acceptance, action and recognition. Acceptance requires openness, trust and faith, which is essentially listening to the soul’s inner wisdom.

And action. The specific inner task of our age is to develop the consciousness soul in all we do. Our activity in any field needs to be expressed through a consciousness aligned with divine will. We must discover how to live in the light and express ourselves through the light. This leads to true creativity.

And when with open-eyed clarity we recognise the heavenly life in the soul, genuine spiritual vision can awaken. We gain the ability to perceive the wider purposes, the world wisdom and deeper meaning behind events, and take wise action accordingly.

Soul work - thoughts for contemplation

The threefold process of faith, the inner work, and spiritual vision can be separated as in the story of the blind man’s healing. If in your experience they take place in a different order, or all at once, that is because they interweave on our path to discovering the Light of I AM.

In your contemplation on this saying you might observe and compare the activity of darkness and light in your thoughts and deeds. We are all magpie beings, pied souls consisting of darkness and light, goodness and unkindness, generosity and selfishness, hope and hopelessness.

Invoking the Light is a potent healing meditation, for the Light is within us that we may perceive and know the Light. This radiant spirit does not condemn 'the world' but rather illuminates our way to becoming the human beings we are meant to be.

The affirmation is also a prayer for true creativity. This comes through uniting the cosmic I AM and I AM uniquely unfolding in our souls. In this union we discover how to express the Light in our lives. Then we align with our purpose and destiny, individually as human beings on this earth.

✿ I AM the light of the world – May I create in your radiant presence

