

# kosmos

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MARTINUS:

THROUGH THE GATES OF DEATH (II)

(continued)

Guardian spirits show themselves in the guise that will be most helpful in any given situation

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Do they show themselves to the being they are about to help as the white-robed angels we saw pictured in the illustrated Bibles of our childhood, with luminous haloes, draperies and angels' wings? Only if the person to be helped expects them to look like that will they do so, but not if he or she does not realize what has really happened. In the spiritual world psychic matter obeys the commands of will and thought and thus the ministering spirit, by the power of its will and thought, is able to shape its spiritual body and show itself in the guise that in the given situation will be most suitable and helpful. Possibly a guardian spirit may be someone who knew the person to be helped when they were both alive in the physical world together, and in such a case, he will show himself in his old familiar aspect, so as to be able to comfort, help and guide his friend in the best possible way. There is also the possibility that the person needing help feels that a doctor, a nurse or similar helpers from the physical world, would be the right kind of help. Therefore will beings

resembling the desired category show themselves, and they will suggestionize away the dark thoughts from the consciousness of the unhappy person. In doing so, they will gradually acquaint him or her with what has actually happened and they will help the person and guide him or her to the spiritual sphere, which for the moment will be attuned to the same wave-length as the thoughts and feelings which dominate the state of mind of the person in question. In our time when so many young soldiers die on the battlefields with their consciousness filled with terror, where events have occurred so quickly that they do not know that they are dead, the ministrant guardian spirits will in many cases appear in the guise of Red Cross orderlies, nurses or doctors and they will wake up in a hospital, where they will gradually realize that there is in fact nothing wrong with them as long as they don't think so themselves. Something similar happens in the case when a person dies after a long protracted illness. In the initial period after their death, they may also experience the atmosphere and surroundings of a hospital and be surrounded by loving nurses and doctors, until they discover that it is only in their own imagination that the illness exists, and once such thoughts have been overcome, the guardian spirits will no longer need to appear in the guise of nurses etc. in order to be able to tune in to the wave-length of those that needed their help and guidance.

#### The religious conceptions of Paradise

If conditions are such that a person's religious feelings are awakened when he realizes that it is the state after death that he is experiencing, his consciousness may possibly concentrate on the faith of his childhood which he maybe once held and on conceptions of angels and a paradise. Such spheres do exist and they are just as colourful and beautiful as any depicted by the old masters in their wonderful religious paintings. In such pictures God the Father is often seen seated on his throne surrounded by a throng of angels and holy men and women, all arrayed in splendour and glory. Christ is sitting at his Father's right hand and the Holy Ghost is floating above them in the likeness of a dove. The person experiencing all this will

himself be one of the Great White Flock which is playing harps or waving palm branches, amid chanting and rejoicing, until this beautiful scene becomes tiresome for want of renewal and then it is no longer a paradise, but would actually be a hell if it were to continue for all eternity. Just imagine doing the same kind of thing over and over again for all eternity. Or to experience the selfsame conditions, however beautiful they may be, for ever and ever? Such a heaven would be anything but a paradise, it must be a hell. But things are not like this. Life is incessant renewal and transformation.

The collective paradisaical states will disappear in favour of the creation of a "Kingdom of Heaven"

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The above-mentioned kind of heaven is but a single sphere among many and it is not a part of the advanced spiritual worlds, but is only a condition to be found in the forecourts leading in to these worlds, an intermediary condition where man's consciousness is still strongly dominated by the ideas he once entertained with regard to the world to come, when he was living in the physical world. In this way there are also beautiful paradises for Mohammedans, Hindoos, Buddhists and for people still belonging to more primitive religions, just as there once was a sphere, where those who believed in Odin, Thor and Valhalla sat at meals with gods and heroes. These collective paradisaical states based upon dogmatic faith will gradually disappear however; they are based upon man's religious instinct and his religious feelings, but as creative thought is developed in terrestrial man in conjunction with more humane conceptions and neighbourly love, a "Kingdom of Heaven" will be evolved in his consciousness which will gradually be created also on earth, a world of intellect, art, logic, peace, liberty, and brotherly love, in short, a truly human kingdom. Such a world could never come to exist in physical matter, if it did not previously exist in spiritual matter. However it does and it constitutes the body of feeling of the earthly globe being and in this world terrestrial man now experiences everything purely human which, at his stage of consciousness, he can tune in to. It is also from this sphere that the guardian spirits come and man himself can become a

guardian spirit in relationship to how well his qualities of neighbourly love and his intellectual and creative abilities have been developed.

The experience of the process of death for the person who dies in his mature age

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In the case of persons in the prime of life or of mature age, who have left the physical world, their experiences in the forecourt or intermediary stage, will be characterized by the thoughts and feelings possessed by a man or woman of that age. But this is, of course, quite individual and hence can be portrayed only in broad outline, but in mature years things are often so that the being is very strongly occupied with physical activities and most of its consciousness and love is concentrated on such matters. A man may be the driving force in an important concern - the result of many years hard work - or he is just in the middle of some intellectual creative activity - behind which there is also the work and concentration of many years - when suddenly he dies and finds himself deprived of the physical means which connected him with the world in which his creative work took place; but he is still fully occupied with the thoughts which bound him to the work in question, with its development and its success in the physical world. It is not difficult to imagine that when a person's consciousness is filled with plans and with an urge to carry them into physical effect, he will feel bewildered when suddenly he loses the only means by which that work can be carried out. In principle it is the same as if a craftsman suddenly loses both his hands here in the physical world. It is nothing less than a catastrophe. We have, however, brilliant examples here in the physical world of how people who have become invalids nevertheless manage to get along, by virtue of an indomitable will coupled with untiring patience and, of course, also by other people's loving help and understanding. Is a person an "invalid" then, when he loses his physical body? Certainly not, but he may well feel like one if his mind has been centered almost wholly on the activities of the physical world and on his own physical happiness and career. If, on the other hand, his activities have not been particularly coloured by egoistical feelings, but have had a strong

tinge of altruism through the desire to do good to others, the transition will not prove difficult, for these activities will be well attuned to the wave-lengths of the spiritual world and they can be performed through the spiritual bodies. But if his activities have been based mainly on an urge to gain power and riches - maybe even at the expense of others - or if his desire for distinction, fame and titles through intellectual research, has been stronger than his need for finding the truth, or his desire to create something beneficial or pleasurable for others, he is likely to meet considerable difficulties until he accustoms himself to the spiritual state. With clairvoyant powers one will be able to see him "haunt" the places of his physical activities, because he is bound to very definite lines of thought from which he will, of course, be released the moment he prays for help, because he realizes that everything is different from what it was before.

In the case of a woman leaving the physical world in the prime of life, she must also learn to understand that she needs no longer bother about cooking and cleaning, or many other household activities she was accustomed to carry out. Her greatest problem will probably be worries about her children, who may not yet be able to fend for themselves. But guardian spirits will help her to see that care is being taken of them too and she may even herself be enabled to show them her loving care and interest from out of the spiritual world, as it is also possible for her to become their guardian spirit.

On coming through the Gates of Death terrestrial man first passes through an intermediary stage, or forecourt to the spiritual worlds. His experiences here are a process of weaning him from his all too materialistic thoughts and feelings, or from fear, wrath, resentment, an uneasy conscience and similar thought climates, all of which are vibrations that cannot possibly attune to the wave-lengths of the vibrations of the higher worlds, while at the same time, it is a period of accommodation to the principles and laws governing the spiritual worlds and applying also to the spiritual bodies which shall now carry his consciousness. His experiences in this forecourt may take the shape of a kind of purgatory or hell, if the being who has left his physical body has conflicts in his mind, or if he is very strongly bound to physical thought-habits. But in any case, after a shorter or longer period - through the help of guardian spirits - these conditions will

come to an end and terrestrial man will, as a cell in the spiritual bodies of the earth experience a wonderful holiday away from the difficulties of the physical world. He will in proportion to his abilities and interests, be able to experience the highest spheres of the art of living and the beings indigenous to these spheres and at the same time he will be able to be together with beings he has known and been fond of in the physical world.

#### Man's natural death due to old age

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The most beautiful form of death that can be experienced by terrestrial man is a natural death on account of old age. He is ready for the spiritual existence, for there is nothing more here in the physical world to hold back his thoughts. Naturally all old people do not enjoy peace of mind, and when such peace is lacking they will have to go through their own special form of purgatory, but it is an exception. As a rule most human beings are mellowed by old age. They are more tolerant and able to resign. Life has even prepared them for what is about to come when they leave the shell that is worn-out and can no longer be used. It is a relief for them and to terrestrial man the natural function of death is to be relieved of an instrument which can serve them no longer and to be given an opportunity of using the abilities and talents they have developed in their physical existence for wonderful experiences in the spiritual worlds. When they have experienced as much as is possible at their present stage of development, they will obtain a new organism on the physical plane with which to continue their "studies in learning how to think in conformity with the laws of life", for this is the true object of physical existence. When the old person has abandoned his worn-out body - quite often in such a way that he has slept quietly away - he will experience something which - if he had had any possibility of waking up again to tell us what he had seen - he would describe as a wonderful dream. The details of this "dream" will naturally be individual, but they may well be something like this: The old person will suddenly feel himself in a hitherto unknown state of complete liberation, freed from all weight, both physically as well as mentally. He sees a brilliantly illuminated gateway - which he now remembers having seen many times before when he was asleep, only then he was unable to come quite close to it. But he was able to observe how this portal opened to admit other beings who had been liberated completely from the connection with their physical bodies and were therefore able to pass through. On such former occasions he had nearly been able to glimpse how a brilliantly

shining flood of light streamed out towards the beings who were about to pass in through the portal. This time he himself is illuminated by this flood of brilliance and he sees that he no longer has an old worn-out body but a new and youthful body shimmering in luminous iridescence. Within the portal he sees even more radiantly lustrous beings welcoming new arrivals, surrounded by glorious scenery set in resplendent sheen of morning and eventide skies and the new-comer discovers that the beings he first took for angels are old friends and dearly-loved relations he has known, possibly throughout many incarnations. Throughout all this there has been the sound of beautiful music and on the far side of the gateway, wondrous landscapes are to be seen stretching away into the distance. There are woods and lakes, a rich vegetation and many songbirds whose twittering rises towards the sky harmonizing with the music of the spheres. The old dying person from the physical plane has turned into a radiant angel and for a time is to enjoy the world of such beings, he will also become a guardian angel for beings on earth, or for those in their own purgatories who are in need of help. But the above vision is but a view of the gateway of death. It is the initiation to life in the spheres of light. From it, roadways lead to beautiful divine worlds where the being will come to experience the highest forms of true joy, happiness and peace, which it is possible to experience at his or her stage of development. They will be allowed to experience the presence of the Godhead more strongly than they have ever been able to before within the present spiral and from here their path will lead to a new physical incarnation, where new possibilities will be revealed for furthering their development. Thus the spheres of light will one day be not merely worlds they visit between two physical incarnations, but will become their permanent home where they can experience and create for the good of everything and everybody.

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Translated from Danish by Harald Berglund

Again next summer there will be an International Course in  
Martinus Cosmology at our Center at Klint.

It will take place from 23rd July to 6th August 1983.

The first week's subject will be THE SOLUTION OF THE  
MYSTERY OF LIFE, and during the last week we shall deal  
with the subject of THE ANATOMY OF PEACE.

Every morning there will be a lecture and in the afternoons  
group work and question periods. The programme will be  
enclosed with the next issue of KOSMOS.

We may inform you that a new pavillon will be ready next spring  
with 15 modern single and double rooms with bath and kitchenette.