

**CRC “The Three Days” Good Friday 10 April 2020** by Hazel Archer Ginsberg

**Alberto: Welcome**

**Marianne:** recites COTS Verse #51

‘When from the depths of soul

The Spirit turns to the life of worlds

And beauty wells from wide expanses,

Then out of heaven’s distances

Streams life-strength into human bodies,

Uniting by its mighty energy

The spirit’s being with our human life.

~Rudolf Steiner

(Intro spoken conversationally)

**Hazel:** Overview introduction to Open the Gathering - In the New Mysteries we follow the path of the Christian initiation thru the Holy Week before Easter - With every step, from the recognition of the old Sun on Palm Sunday, thru the Death that brings New Life, to the meeting of the Saturn-Spirit and The Harrowing of Hell, which sparks the rising of the New Sun of Easter, we are led deeper into an inner initiation. Each of these steps, seen through the lens of the planetary spheres, leads to a conquest of a corresponding layer in the interior of the earth.

**David:** We rest on Good Friday, the stillness of Sabbath, ‘In Christo morimur’ - This is the Mystic-death or temple sleep of the initiate. The Tomb becomes the altar, a sacred place to commune with the gods – with the souls of the departed as our intermediaries.

**Lisa:** In the garden, at the center of the earth, between the rocky hill of Golgotha, part of the lunar Mount Moriah, and its polar opposite the Solar Mount Zion - the center of the cosmos - there is a new tomb where the body of Christ rests, and yet it is the oldest tomb, for it was formerly a primal fissure, a gorge splitting Jerusalem in two, called by some Adam's grave – Known as the gate to the underworld.

**Craig:** The earthquakes tear open the original fissure. The veil of the Temple is “rent in twain”. Vistas are opened into the interior of the world. He is “lowered into the grave of the earth,” and so it is, that The Christ went into the Earth's Interior, becoming the seed for our continued evolution.

**Marianne:** Even there the darkness of Saturn is warmed and lit up from within by the Cosmic Sun. The Easter garden begins to bloom, for those who have lost their divine nature in the dungeons of Hell. Releasing the light so that our soul can behold, like the Magdalene before us, The Risen One as the gardener of the New Jerusalem.

**Hazel:** The spirit radiates from the heights and yet is also carried to us by the eternal divine world of the depths. We hear it in the FSM: ‘Let from the depths be entreated, What in the heights will be heard’. We can send our prayer to the Christ-heart in the earth's depths, to help overcome and redeem the adversarial powers that hold sway in the 9 layers of the earth's interior. The agricultural course is a stepping stone to this ultimate aim.

**David:** Spiritual science tells us that when the blood flowed into the earth from the cross on Golgotha, a new Sun-globe was born in the interior of the earth. This golden earth-center is the legendary land of Shambhala, hidden away, yet waiting to be re-discovered by the seeking, Christ-guided human soul.

**Lisa:** Before the mystery of Golgotha, the task of evolution was that the cosmos would become human. After this ‘Turning Point’, the human becomes cosmos - The New Sun -The imperishable resurrection-body uniting with the Cosmic-Sophia.

**Craig:** The tomb becomes the Round table, and the Parsifal question leads us to find Christ in the etheric.

**Marianne:** Also working with us from the time of the Vernal Equinox is the Archangel Raphael, who holds the staff of Mercury, offering us the healing power of the Caduceus through the grace of the living Christ, who stands as the middle pillar within us all.

**Hazel:** May we take up this healing, that 'Good May Become 'for human & cosmic evolution.

**Lisa:** On the urn that holds the ashes of Rudolf Steiner, we read: "To create centres of peace & love in which the Christ can resurrect."

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**Marianne:** Musical Interlude

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**Activity: Hazel - Break out karmic groups with leading thought:** What is your personal experience with the world situation, in the light of the Good Friday experience, overlaid with the reality that in 1925 when Rudolf Steiner died, the starry world at Holy Week was the same as this year in 2020...?

**15 minutes then we come back & take 10 to share with the whole group**

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**Hazel:** Welcome back friends. Share...

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**Lisa:** Chimes

**Lisa:** And so it was that there was a great convocation in the spiritual world after humanity fell to the temptation of eating an unripen fruit. The Father Ground of the World shook His head:

**David:** “Babies are always putting things in their mouths. And yet this will surly alter my Divine plan. This premature action sows the seeds of death. We must send an emissary to reset this shift & bring balance to the blueprint once again”.

**Hazel:** The mighty choirs of angels were ready to serve, but really, they couldn’t go, as they had their work to do to keep the harmony of the spheres. The Holy Spirit volunteered, but it was thought She should wait until they were ready for Her Wisdom. So Love stepped forward.

**Marianne:** “Father I will be the emissary. I will go in your name, and by dying I will conquer death. I will sow a new garden that the earth shall become a Sun. And I will bring the mystery of death back as a gift to our eternal world. I will say “Who so ever believes in me, believes in the Father who sent me. I will come into the world as light, so that who so ever believes in me may not remain in darkness”.

**Craig:** And so it was that Love made the journey from the eternal, through the zodiac & down into every planet, making a special home in the Sun.

**Hazel:** The Holy Spirit sent Wisdom, Her own avatar to light the way. Awakening some wise initiates who began preparing for Love to come, hoping it would be soon, for the earth was rapidly dying, and human beings were losing touch with the source of spirit. So, when the stars were right, Love became human. And as with all Love's actions on earth, when the cosmic alignment was in harmony, the *earthly* being received the *Cosmic* Being from the Sun, at the Baptism by John, and Love began his mission. Showing how Love could live on earth.

**Lisa:** And when Love had taken 33 and a third turns around the Sun, the "Three Days" came that he should enact the trial to conquer death.

**David:** In the Garden of Gethsemane the fight against the power of death enters a decisive phase. Here in the quiet grove of the Mount of Olives, where Love has so often been with His disciples for intimate training, The Son of God must now withstand the most dangerous attack of the enemy in utmost loneliness.

**Craig:** Death, already apprehensive of losing control over Him, appears, in order to lay hold of Him. The Destroying Angel wants to possess Him.

**Marianne:** The secret of the conflict in Gethsemane lies in the fact that death wants to outwit Love. It wants to wrest Him away too soon, before He has ended His work and filled the last vestige of His earthly vessel with His Spirit.

**Hazel:** The Cosmic part of Love's Being wrestles to enter still more deeply into the earthly world of matter through the physical body. There is still a last remnant to be ensouled. The very bones.

**Lisa:** For three years, the Fire of divine Ego-hood has burned in the body and soul of Love. For this reason the human vessel – from within outwards – has already almost been consumed to ashes.

**David:** What still has to be suffered and completed demands so much strength from the earthly sheaths that there is a real danger of premature death. Death lies in wait and hopes to make use of this moment.

**Craig:** But Love is victorious and death is repulsed.

**Marianne:** It is not the will of Love to pass into the spiritual world simply through dying. It is the will of Love to remain united with the Earth, so that when the sacrifice is made, Love can conquer over death.

**Hazel:** Through the medicine of bitter pain, the inmost Being of Love has gained the ultimate power of spirit over matter, so that Death can no longer hold sway.

**Lisa:** The death-powers realize this, and appear for their last effort, furious that their might has been of no avail. When the sun is darkened during the sultry midday hours of Good Friday, it is as though the *demon* of the sun were straining to the utmost against the *God* of the Sun.

**David:** And when the earth is shaken by the earthquake, all the demons of the earth seem to storm forward and endeavor to help the death-power to victory.

**Craig:** Scorn of Love disturbs the earthly elements and even shakes the heavens. However, death can strip nothing from the sovereignty of Love.

**Marianne:** And from the Cross a mysterious brilliance breaks through the dreadful noonday light. The Son of God reveals itself at the same time as the physical sun suffered eclipse. A ray of Easter is already weaving itself into the darkness of Good Friday.

**Hazel:** In the willing sacrifice, Love goes directly into the Earth. The body, like a seed, is planted; and the Earth opens in an earthquake that takes into itself the body of Love. Death becomes life, for the whole of earth-existence. A cosmic and earthly Communion.

**Lisa:** The medicine for the spiritualizing of all material existence is incorporated into Earth existence “ –the medicine that makes whole”.

**Marianne:** Sound interlude

**Hazel:** Introduces Mary Ruud

**Mary Ruud – Hygienic Eurythmy Exercise**

**Alberto:** Thank you - any Questions - Invites folks back for the next 2 days etc...

**Marianne:** closes with COTS Verse #51

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