

FIRST INTERVIEW:

The Only Teacher of Soul is God

Excerpts from Several Interviews

Question: Can you tell me about your early life and how you came to the spiritual knowledge that you now share?

Thakar Singh: The desire to find God was in me from previous lives, and I began religious training when I was young. I was brought up in the Sikh religion and was faithful and sincere in all disciplines. I applied each and every teaching available, but could not find success in any of them, and was disappointed.

At this point there was unexpected help from God. I had never dreamed of finding a living Master. In western countries the Christian people believe that Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God and that no one has come since Him. Similarly, the Sikh people have the conviction that Guru Nanak is the only begotten Son of God and we can still find everything from Him; there is no need of a physical Master. To have a physical Master is considered heresy.

So I was working 100 per cent with this conviction, but God showed all and I was led to see my Master, Sant Kirpal Singh. Yet I only accepted Him after much struggling. It was not easy. I was initiated for three months before telling anyone, and I went on questioning within to confirm for myself if this experience was real or only a delusion.

After three months there was satisfaction that this was real. I continued to work with my Master, and found perfection in this. Then I was given this mission by Him: to carry on and share this help with other needy souls. It is by His orders and by the will of God that I am going on. These are His powers that are working; I am only being only as an instrument.

Question: You teach many people. What kind of teacher-student relationship do you have with those who come to you?

Thakar Singh: Man cannot be the teacher of soul. Man can teach only man, body to body. The only teacher of soul is God. We are not only bodies, we are souls. We are to be taught as soul so we may know the knowledge which is required by soul, which is what the Kingdom of God is; what God is; what soul is; where it has come from and what God is; what soul is; where it has come from and what its relation to the Kingdom of God and to this world is. All this knowledge cannot be had from man or from education of this world.

The teacher of soul is God. He is our Father; He has produced us and we are from Him. So all knowledge, wisdom, peace, help, light, all life and food we enjoy from Him.

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Lord Christ said “ I am the bread of Life; I am the water of Life’ eat Me and drink Me.” He also said: “I am the Life and I am the Way,” meaning that all teachings come only from God.

The first thing to happen towards this is that we are admitted into the Kingdom of God. There, God Himself is the teacher. He teaches all about His own knowledge, which is complete knowledge. You are not to depend upon the physical form of the Master because it is the God in Him that is working and which connects your soul to God within you. Your education starts through the soul from God directly. This connection takes place in meditation. You rise out of the body into the Kingdom of God, and the education begins. As long as we are inside we will be educated.

Our teacher is God; He is already in us. We are not to be dependent upon any other thing. We are to become complete from within our own selves.

Question: To which religion do your teachings belong?

Thakar Singh: The Saints who come from God convey messages only from God. These messages are designed by God, and may be called the universal religion. When these Saints appear in different countries in various ages, They may give some outer rituals according to what is best suited for those areas. There are differences in the outward rituals of the existing religions. According to the situation, the outer, social part of any religion may have a special ritual, but every religion has the same meaning: basic union of the soul with God.

Lord Christ was asked what great commandments He had brought from God. He said “Love thy Father God with all thy soul, with all thy heart, with all thy mind, and with all thy strength, “ and the second commandment: “Love thy neighbor as thyself and love thine enemies.” He explained that on these two commandments hang the teachings of all the law and prophets. This is the way of love, which is the true religion.

From the tenth Guru of Sikhs it was asked: What is the way to find God? He said “Learn to love. This is the only true religion: to love God and after having been filled with the love of God, then to love thy enemies and thy neighbors.” This is the basic religion, which I am preaching.

Question: What if one jumps from one religion to another?

Thakar Singh: Don’t jump into religions! I do not believe in that. There is only one religion: God and His son and all this creation. The two great commandments given by Lord Christ and all (genuine) Masters teach this religion; to love our Father God, and to love humanity. I do not believe in any religions which are a source of troubles and quarrels, wars and barriers, and which are contrary to this law.

Question: What is the difference between the normal Christian religions, what they offer, and that which you offer?

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Thakar Singh: There is no “religion.” Religion is there to know the truth, which is always one. Truth cannot be two. Only that religion which gives truth can really be called a religion. There is only one religion. It may be called Christianity or Hinduism, it may be called anything. I have tried to tell you of this Reality, and this Reality is to be verified by you. Other wise any religion, anything that professes any theory or dogma, is only theory and philosophy until we have verified for ourselves that it is true. If one man says there is a donkey standing outside, another man says that it is a horse, and I say it is an elephant; there cannot be three truths. Only one thing may be there. You may go there and see for yourself. Only then can that truth be verified.

I have told you about the Life, which is in Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, etc., and that truth which exists in all of you, even in myself. I have verified this for myself and from myself. You may also verify this and then you may admit it.

Question: Do you support the idea of giving up one’s autonomy or individuality voluntarily and following a guru blindly?

Thakar Singh: The people who are connected with me already know very well that I always declared “Don’t believe what I say, only believe when you find the truth of what I say.”

If you follow blindly there is a 99% chance that you may be lead astray because you have only blind faith, which leads to blindness. I have not followed it myself and I will not ask anyone else to follow in this way. I do not make followers but look to everyone as my brothers and sisters. I respect them; they may or may not respect me. I serve them; they may or may not serve me. At least we may live together in harmony and in faith of God, and we may enjoy the blessings of Him. I am not in need of any money. I live on my own retirement pension. I have no children, no brothers or sisters. I may die tomorrow and where will my wealth be? It will be among my children, the spiritual children, the children of God. I give myself in all service to His children, to the children of God. All this I do for Him that I may be valued in Him, and that my services may be valued in Him.

Question: I know that you take no donations for your discourses. Is there a reason for this? How does the organization that you work with (Kirpal Light Satsang, inc.) function monetarily?

Thakar Singh: You see, my Master said that what we are giving is priceless. Nobody can pay for it. If nobody can pay for it, then how is it to be given? It is given freely. We cannot undervalue it.

This is a free gift from God, so we are also giving it freely. After the people feel that they have benefited from these teachings, they are ready to devote everything. But we receive very little. A small percentage is accepted so that our organizational expenses are met, and its services may flourish. So donations are accepted, but in love and

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devotion and up to a certain extent, and only from initiates who feel like giving. We do not ask for anything. You can be an initiate all of your life and never give a penny. No one is going to say anything to you. I do not raise bank balances.

Question: It is interesting that you quote quite a lot from Jesus and the Bible in your talks.

Thakar Singh: It is because the people over here understand the Bible. In India I also speak from the Bible, but only sometimes. Otherwise I speak from the Vedas and Adi Granth, from the Mahabharata, the Ramayana, and the Bhagvad Gita, which the people there understand.

Question: The Christians say that Jesus had a special position and that He was higher than all the prophets.

Thakar Singh: In the Bible, it is written that when John the Baptist baptized Jesus, the Spirit of God came and John the Baptist witnessed, "I saw that it came like a dove." It was the pure receptive human body of Jesus Christ, which was selected by that God power, Christ power, to work through. This is important; this is the work of God. As He has Himself said, "It is not I, but my Father who is working in Me." This God power, Christ power, Master power, goes on working in different poles, and not only in one country, but in different countries, at different times.

As Guru Nanak claimed, "I am one with my Father." Guru Gobind also said: "I am the begotten Son of Lord God." Many other Saints have said this. I think the Christians have not read all the other scriptures. They are not wrong in saying that Christ was the only begotten Son of Lord God, but as He Himself has said: "As long as I am in the world, I am the Light of the world." He was the Light of life as long as He was in the world.

Question: I believe that from your point of view, it may look like everything is the same, and that all Saints are the same. But this is not acceptable for a Christian. Jesus Christ is unique to the world, and in fact He is the only savior for the whole world.

Thakar Singh: The Eastern people read the books of their Adepts, and they accept the things as written there, and do not accept Jesus Christ. Similarly, you have read the scriptures here, and do not accept any others. This is the problem with both sides. What is the solution? To go and see for ourselves what is the reality and only then come to the correct conclusion. You are requested to see, and then believe, because seeing is believing. Then you will see that all the Saints are there inside, in the Kingdom of God. So I request you to do this, at least.

The Kingdom of God is within us, as we are the temple of God. "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God liveth in you?" And "Forsake the flesh for the Spirit, learn to die so that you may begin to live." Christianity gives a definite way, a definite method, and instructs: "Enter ye in at the strait gate." Enter ye, is

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the advice, is the commandment. “Enter ye in at the strait gate, because strait is the gate and narrow is the way which leadeth unto Life.” These commandments are there.

Who can fulfill these commandments? Only He can fulfill them. He comes in the garb of a man and takes the form of a human body, and He does all the work. Where He is, there you will find these commandments completed.

As long as we do not find this, then we do not find anything. Because He is the commandments. “If you love me, keep my commandments.” If we have not found the palace, how can we say that we have found it, and how can we live in it? If we have not found the Kingdom of God and if we have not found the Light and Sound (Word) of God, then what have we found? Have we found Christianity then, or not?

Question: Tell me more about the inner connection with the Light and Sound of God. What is this meditation?

Thakar Singh: What is meditation? Literally, it means single-minded attention on some object. Whenever we attend to one object that is meditation. What is really meditation is single-minded attention on that highest entity, God, which is to be seen, heard, and enjoyed. In meditation our attention is fixed upon that Source. Our attention can only be attracted by something, which is available, very sweet, and valuable. The inner music of God contains all bliss, harmony, and peace. In it we find the only everlasting enjoyment.

Question: Does the knowledge and practice of this meditation make one a member of your group? How does one learn this meditation technique? Is that Initiation?

Thakar Singh: Initiation does not mean membership in any movement or any society. It is a rejoining, a finding of personal connection with God, a baptism. It does not mean you are bound to any teacher. You may just go on independently developing your relationship with God. The Master is there to help and serve you if you wish. The real teacher is God within. For initiation, you are required to be strictly vegetarian; not to eat meat, fish, fowl or eggs; and to discontinue use of any intoxicating liquors and intoxicating drugs. Smoking is also prohibited. These are the only prerequisites and these are not harsh. We should live an ethical and pure life.

Question: Is there anything else you wanted to share with our readers?

Thakar Singh: I want real knowledge to be given to the people. This information is not limited to any religion. It is a universal religion, the religion of love and service, and is acceptable to everyone. No one can say that my instructions are contrary to any religion or to any human being, because these are universal teachings. This is from God. It is clear, and does not have any label on it or any artificial color in it.

I find there is so much negativity in the world, taking us to the depths. There is no one in a position to stop it. There is no government there to check it and only the money-makers are flourishing.

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The young people are being spoiled with all these drugs and sexuality. Bad things are going on in the schools and colleges, and all the movies and TV shows only help to spread the problem. Even when the stations no longer earn so much money, they still consider themselves successful because their circulation is increasing. Their success is only based on this. They do not know that true success is based only on benefit, which is given to the people; to what extent you have helped to raise the true standard of living and how much you have raised people in love and service to each other. This is a basic necessity, and the greatest service, which we can do for humanity.

SECOND INTERVIEW:

The Lesson of Love

Television Interview with Warren Dyrmus Rochester, New York 1985

Question: Sant Thakar Singh is referred to by followers of His teachings as “Master of holy Sound Current, the immutable Word of God.” That sounds a bit as if you are a God?

Thakar Singh: Everyone is God. In Genesis it has been explained very clearly: “God made man in His own image, in His own image made He him; male and female created He them.” This clearly shows man was made by God. The male and female vestures were added later.

Question: So you have the feeling that everyone has a little bit of God in him. Is that it?

Thakar Singh: Not a little bit; full God!

Question: Full of God! Let’s go back some 57 years. You were born in a small village in the Punjab, India. You went to school as millions of other young children do around the world. You became a civil engineer, and later retired. How do you become the “Word of God”, the Master of the science of Sant Mat?

Thakar Singh: If there are two or three persons living in a house, one may be an engineer, one may be a doctor, and the other may be a lawyer. My body was working as an engineer and my soul was Son of God, Who is there in all of us. “Know ye not that ye are the temple of the living God, and that the Spirit of God liveth in you?” When my body was 10 or 15 years of age, my soul was handed over to God to be taught by Him to become God. This life of becoming God through soul was continued side by side. Everyone has these two lives: one is the physical life, which is to be born, to live, and to end – as it is written in the holy Bible, “The flower bloometh and the grass fadeth, but the Word of God liveth forever”; the other life is that everlasting life which is to exist for eternity in Godhood – “I and my Father are one.”

Question: You were born a Sikh, a member of the Hindu faith. Do you still practice your Hindu faith?

Thakar Singh: No. It is not that one should practice Hinduism, or Sikhism, or Mohammedanism, or Christianity. These are only the outer customs or rituals, which have been adopted according to the age and necessity of the time from the originators of these religions. Real religion is one. That is given in the holy Bible: “What great commandment have you got from God?” The Master told, “Love thy Father God with all thy soul, with all thy heart, with all thy mind. And love thy neighbor as thyself. And love thine enemies.” This is the real religion I could find in Hinduism, Sikhism, Christianity,

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and in all faiths. If the people have forgotten it, I am trying to reconnect them all with this one religion. “On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Question: I notice here on the flyer for your appearances in Rochester today: “Learn the teachings of Sant Mat, the way of the Saints, as taught by Lord Christ, Mohammed, Buddha, and all the past Masters.”

Thakar Singh: Yes.

Question: It sounds as if this is an all – embracing science?

Thakar Singh: Yes. As long as those practical adepts had been there, they could understand the basic teaching, and preached it. Afterwards the people only got acquainted with the outer shell and lost contact with the inner kernel.

Question: I see. One of the suspicions many people may have about folks like you, ever since the days of Jim Jones and the disaster with all those people in Guyana in South America, is that this is another person who is trying to lead people astray and trying to make a buck while doing it.

Thakar Singh: I am not creating anything. When Columbus discovered America it already existed. That man did not invent it. I am not giving any thing from my own invention, but am connecting the soul with God at the third eye center.

Question: Do you make any money doing this, sir?

Thakar Singh: It is not my purpose. I have more than sufficient to live on from my own retirement pension.

Question: From your civil engineering pension?

Thakar Singh: I am retire now and receive my pension from the Indian Government.

Question: I understand that you never take a donation for any of your services?

Thakar Singh: I don’t need it. Why should I get it?

Question: How do you live as travel around this country or the world? This is your fifth world tour.

Thakar Singh: I am not a rich man that can accommodate all these expenses in the foreign countries. My friends who love me and love this work, they arrange.

Question: They arrange. You stay in their homes; you share their table.

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Thakar Singh: Yes, but when I go back to India, I will go in the same way as I have come.

Question: That brings up an interesting question when you mentioned the word “love.” As you look around the world, after two world wars, with all the terrorism that’s taking place, with all of the inhumanity of man towards man, is love at the heart of the universe?

Thakar Singh: This is the great question. If we have come in this world, the only subject of man is to find love. Otherwise, there is no purpose of being in this world.

Question: You say man is God, though?

Thakar Singh: Yes, when he develops love in himself, then that is God. In the Bible it has been explained, “We have known and believed the love Father God has for us, because God is love. And he who dwells in love, dwells in God, and God in him.”

Question: How do you explain then these terrible things that men do to one another?

Thakar Singh: This is due to disconnection from God. We are absent from God and are taken up by the devil.

Question: So man is also the devil?

Thakar Singh: Instigated by devil, he becomes a follower of devil, and then naturally he is a devil. But when he will again come to God and will follow God, then he’s God.

Question: That sounds like man can be anything he wants to be? And at any given time?

Thakar Singh: Yes, that is there. It is the arrangement of this world, that the negative power is automatically dominating and, if not cared after properly by the Saints and Masters, man becomes follower of the devilish instinct. Man is not to follow the worldly life but to follow the Saints and the Masters.

Question: What is it you try to do instill in human beings a belief that they can be God, that they can be love?

Thakar Singh: I directly connect the people to the God in themselves. Their souls are down in this physical body. At the time of Initiation, the soul is brought up and connected with God. Here (the third eye center) is the lowest link of the Kingdom of God. This upper part (above the third eye center) is interpenetrated by the Kingdom of God. God is also there in His lowest links. The soul is connected with God and Kingdom of God, and is handed over to Him. He then teaches the lesson of love bestows all His powers and all His blessings. As long as the man lives over here (at third eye center), he will live in God, in God’s love, and in God’s blessings. It has been explained in the Bible: “To him who overcomes, I will give him the power to rule over the nations.” First He will fill him with His love and with that love He will also give His powers.

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Question: Thank you for this. We wish you well on your tour, sir.

Thakar Singh: I am also thankful for your cooperation.

THIRD INTERVIEW:

We are to Know Ourselves as Soul

Interview with Gregory Vlamis Chicago, Illinois, June 30, 1983

Question: Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to be with you.

Thakar Singh: I also feel privileged to have an opportunity to talk to my dear brothers and sisters.

Question: I hope you will bear with me while I ask questions that may be very obvious and in the books, but I want to hear your own words with your own energy.

It seems that to follow the Path of Sant Mat a perfect Master is completely essential. Is Sant Mat the only Path for anyone? If someone is not initiated by a living perfect Master, does that mean he's doomed or will never reach the higher regions?

Thakar Singh: You see, God has prepared everything in His own perfect way. For light, He has given the sun. And for taking birth of a child there is the mother and the care of the parents. Similarly, the Pathway to God, and for salvation, is only through the competent Master.

Regarding the Path, which you have called *Sant Mat*, the scriptures tell that the Saints go directly to God, and find God, and after having experienced God themselves, then They tell the truth from Their own experience. They do not relay second – hand information. This information is not Their own, but They give out the understanding and the reality They have received from God. They tell Their own personal experiences to those people who have not yet found the reality. And They also want everyone else to have it.

Question: “There's always a living Master present, at all times.” Does that mean that there's only one living Master at one time, or can there be several Masters at the same time?

Thakar Singh: The general rule has been that there is one, but sometimes there had been more than one. God cannot be limited under any rule. As He feels fit, He may arrange.

Question: As you are well aware, there are some people saying that they initiate into the Sound Current. At this time is there more than one living Master?

Thakar Singh: Maybe. As I have said, more than one Master can also be there.

This process of the Sound Current is the real way, the shortest and easiest. Flying on the wings of the Sound, we can reach back to God.

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Question: Sant Mat solves the mystery of death. Could you explain a little bit about how we can't escape from dying, but we can escape the fear of death?

Thakar Singh: First we will have to know what it is to die and what is immortal. Our Self as soul is immortal. This body, which is not our Self but our garment, this only is subject to death. When we come to know and begin to live as soul, then naturally the problem of death is solved. As long as we recognize ourselves as body, we will not be out of the fear of death. When we will see, we will know we are immortal, and then fear of death will be no more.

Question: Could you explain what soul is, or define it for someone who is not on the Path? For someone who was reading an interview, what information would you want them to have about the soul?

Thakar Singh: That is why I am stressing, as all Masters had stressed, not any path, but only Truth, and Truth is one. What is that Truth? That we are souls and our relation is directly with God, Who is immortal, and we are immortal.

To realize ourselves as soul is the work of a competent Master, Who can take out the soul from the body and make it exist in its own Self. There it may find its own glory, own life impulse, and then may also find God.

Question: Is soul a spark of the Divine or is it a region? How does one know when they are aware of their soul? Is it just a state of joy?

Thakar Singh: Soul is of the same essence as that of God. God is all life, form eternity till eternity, all light, wisdom, competency, enjoyment, and full of all blessings and grace. The highest kinds of attributes available are in God. There are attributes we do not even know exist which we find when we go to Him. Soul is of the *same* essence. It is only a difference of size. He is the ocean, and this is the drop. But character and constitution is the same. We are really wonderful in ourselves but we have not been able as yet to recognize ourselves as soul. This is to be known by everybody, as the facility and provisions have been given to everyone.

Question: You've mentioned the term oversoul. Could you explain what that is?

Thakar Singh: That is God. I have called Him oversoul, that we may feel connected with Him. We are soul and He is oversoul. There is not a very great valley between us.

Question: The question of vegetarianism: I've heard different points of view. I myself am a vegetarian, so it's not a problem for me, but some other people say that if I didn't kill the animal that I am eating, then I don't have any karma, so I can eat it. Or that a Master will often ask His initiates to become vegetarian to lighten His work load. Is any of that true?

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Thakar Singh: There are so many explanations with which we can advocate really, and with justification, that for man, meat is not food. But this is especially true when we are to go along with the Path of the life of soul. Then we will have to prepare our body as a vehicle, good vehicle, for the journey of soul. Life of soul is very, very conscious; it is superconsciousness. The body is inert material. But god has made this material very refined. The human body is not really particles of dust, it is refined.

The first refinement is that the tree is grown from earth. The second refinement is that the fruit comes from the tree. The third refinement is that the fruit goes into our body. Later, surplus material is disposed of, and the final material is used by the body. The body is constructed so that soul can assimilate it and can accept it for working. But when soul has to work for that higher cause, then still more refinement will have to be done. Those people who are initiated find that there are waves in the body; sensations are going on in the body, which is the replacement of coarser particles of the body by finer particles.

How can we help this system, if we take much coarser particles of animals and put them in our body? It is a contradiction to our Path of spiritual life.

Question: For one who is not initiated, until they're eventually initiated, what can you suggest they do to get above body consciousness?

Thakar Singh: They cannot come above body consciousness. And if they come, they will put themselves in more danger than if they stay in the body. As children, it is not so good to live in our own home if the parents are not available. But it is even more dangerous to go out of the house without our parents. When God comes and takes us out of the body, He will take us to His house. If we come out of the body, then negative power will be there and will catch hold of us and will deal very terribly with us.

Question: Then one should have pure thoughts and sweet deeds?

Thakar Singh: Yes.

Question: And be of service and love God and all of creation until one finds a perfect Master?

Thakar Singh: That is why it is always recommended, "Sit with some good person." In the Bible, it has been given that "A good man out of his treasures gives out what is good. An evil person gives out, out of his evil treasures, what is evil. "So, if we do not find a Saint or a Master, at least we should find some good person. From every good person, we will find something better.

Question: Part of the Path involves maintaining the diary. There's a lot of self – analysis. Would you suggest the same process to someone who is not an initiate, to keep a diary?

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Thakar Singh: Yes, it is for all. We may analyze our life and may know what is the condition of our actions. Then we may be able to improve our life.

Question: In 'The Ways of Saints' by Kirpal Singh, in the beginning I saw something I didn't quite understand. Were there no living Masters before Kabir in the 15th century, or is that just when Sant Mat, under the form Sant Mat, started?

Thakar Singh: Sant Mat is not something new. My Master also explained that the Path has been same always. But the people had forgotten it. The Masters have always been coming to make it available to the people. But the people began to feel that this Master has started it, or that Master has started it, because the previous teachings of the previous Masters they had forgotten. If they had known, then they would not have said that. Otherwise, there was a chain, and it is continuing. It was before Kabir and is after Kabir.

Question: What could an initiate expect as a final goal in this life? What is the destination while he's still in the physical body?

Thakar Singh: You can imagine that if the child is lost and then comes home, it is really satisfied. Then he has no worries, no problems, and is finding all love and service. We can also well imagine that even if we may be with our good friends, or relatives or in our home, this is also a worry. If we come home, home will also give its own kinds of worries. If we go out, the outside also has its own kinds of worries. But when we will really go to our own Home, Home of the soul, then there will be no worry. All satisfaction and perfection is there. If it is found, we are totally satisfied.

Question: Somewhere I heard that if one is initiated, one has the opportunity to reach one's final home in not more than four lifetimes. Is this true?

Thakar Singh: That is not necessary. Generally, the people who are initiated are to be taken back in the same life.

Question: In the teachings, it talks about not injuring anyone's feelings. And in today's society, some awareness teachings teach one to be honest and to share themselves with others and not to withhold information, and in the process of being honest with another person their feelings might get hurt. And yet, some say that you really can't hurt anybody's feelings because they hurt their own feelings, they create their own hurt. Is that consistent with your point of view?

Thakar Singh: You have to judge in your own self whether you really are hurting the feelings of another. If a child wants to catch the flame of a candle, are you really hurting the feelings of the child if you do not allow him to do this? It is not hurting his feelings, because if he touches the flame he will suffer.

We are not to go blindly in this respect. We should know the consequences, the basic truth. Then we will be helping the other person. Really we are helping him. In this way, the things will go in a positive direction.

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Question: Forgiveness is mentioned as one of the greatest virtues, and other people say, well you have to forgive yourself because the self is one in a condition to judge. Instead of forgiving somebody else, should one first forgive oneself?

Thakar Singh: Forgiveness of self is not really possible, because somebody is to forgive us. Otherwise everyone forgives himself. One never feels like he should be punished. But somebody who's controlling us, he should be forgiving to us so that we may really be forgiven. When we have put ourselves before some cruel one, we will never expect forgiveness. From our Father we naturally expect forgiveness. Therefore, only for forgiveness we have to come out of the clutches of negative power and to be dealt with by our Father God. That is the main necessity.

Question: As a Master, by continuing to have more initiates all the time, does that restrict you in terms of your time, do you have to spend more time in meditation as you have more initiates to work with?

Thakar Singh: The power of Master is unlimited. Even if all the population of the world comes for Initiation, He is competent to initiate them and He can put the situation in His control.

Question: Even though the physical form of the Master is not present, it's always there inwardly. Is it through a process of thought transference or intuition that the Master knows the initiate's needs? Is there no limitation of time and distance? Is it just a matter of thought?

Thakar Singh: Yes, it is correct that time and space has nothing to do with or cannot interfere in the working of the Master. Once a person is initiated through a competent Master, the Radiant Form of the Master is embedded with the soul of the initiate. That is a personal responsibility of the Master. For 24 hours a day, there is a regular watch and protection given to the soul until it reaches God.

Question: In the literature I've seen something referred to as the fifth heaven. What is that? Is that the soul?

Thakar Singh: This journey of the soul towards God is divided in to five regions. The final region is the fifth one, where God is in His highest form. We meet God there. That is called the fifth region or fifth heaven.

Question: And in each region there's a Lord for each region?

Thakar Singh: Yes, there are, under the control of God. The lower powers are also working in their own regions.

Question: So Kal is the Lord of this negative realm. Could you talk a little bit about the various Lords on the way to the fifth region?

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Thakar Singh: The Lord of the fifth region is God, and the Lords of all the five regions are told to the initiates at the time of initiation.

Question: I don't know if on this particular Path people release a lot of negativity or emotions, or go through difficult experiences in meditation, or get information inwardly that may not be accurate. What does one do?

Thakar Singh: This meditation is really the work of God. What is our purpose in life? We are to start with the journey for which we are meditating. First we have to make clear our destination. Meditation is not only for its own sake. We are to meditate for finding God. Then we are to do that kind of meditation, which will take us to God. And that can be understood from a person who has found God. Naturally if I plan to go to some city, if you also plan to go to that city, you will ask me "How do I get there?" Then I will give you the route. So we will have to make a goal, and then go with that person who travels there, and then we will really find the way.

Meditation is a simple thing. What is the definition of meditation? It is single – minded attention on any object, as I am meditation upon you now and you are meditating upon me. And what is the effect of meditation? As you think, so you become. Whatever you are attending to, may be by thought, may be by thought combined with presence (because thought is always there), then naturally I will tend to become you and you will tend to become me. This is the way the meditations work. So if we think of something other than God in meditations, then that will not be meditation on God, that will be meditation on some other object which will take us to negative side. If we meditate on God, we will find God.

Question: How can people who are not initiated best serve humanity? Many people have resources but prefer to work independently. For example, there are some wealthy people who want to do philanthropic work. If a very wealthy man came to you saying, "I have a million dollars for service, to help others," what would be the best way for him to use his money?

Thakar Singh: We have in this world two kinds of service. One service is to the Self, soul, which is really the highest kind of service. The second service is to our vehicle, body. Both are important; we cannot neglect the body, but we can never neglect soul. Any service to the body, if not accompanied by service to the soul, is of no use.

Master carry on with both kinds of services. Here in western countries, there is not very much need of physical services. But in other countries, like India, I have seen that really the people need these very much. Orphaned children in India have no arrangement from the government or any other organization. The old people who are diseased are also neglected, and they are suffering. So we have opened about five centers for these reasons, which are called "Man Service Centers," and they are working in different parts of India. Free food is given over there, old people are accommodated, and schools are also open for any children. Handicapped persons are also admitted. These are

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flourishing in India and may be, according to need, in western countries even. Services at all levels are done through the Masters.

Question: Are these Man Service Centers currently financed through the initiates that give money? How do these centers support themselves?

Thakar Singh: Yes, we have never demanded money from anyone, but as per arrangement of God it comes through initiates. But for Man Service Centers, other people are also using them, and we have allowed other people to also give for these.

Question: It's mentioned about marriage that it's not for sexuality but for friendship. Divorces seem to be on the increase, at least in this society. What suggestions can you offer to people that are married to improve their marriages?

Thakar Singh: It is not only the question of divorce. Divorce starts two or three years before the actual divorce (which we call paper divorce). When we really accept each other from the heart, then there is a marriage. When we have some difficulty with each other, then really we have divorced each other. It may be that we are keeping connected physically in a very uneasy atmosphere, but from heart we have already divorced each other. But we are to learn the lesson of love. Lord Christ has told the two greatest commandments from God: "Love thy Father God with all thy soul, with all thy heart, with all thy mind." And then, "Love thy neighbor as thyself, and love thy enemies."

Why can we not love each other as husband and wife and also as brother and sister? The only difficulty is that we have lost connection with our Source of love. Oceans and oceans of love are lying dormant in us, untouched. If these are awakened, we will be full of love and we will fill everyone with love and everyone will be able to work in love. This is the gospel of love, which we are to propagate.

Question: It has been said that self – love has to be overcome. But then again others say that you have to love yourself first before you can love someone else.

Thakar Singh: When you begin to love yourself, soul, then you will be connected with God and filled with love from God. From that big Source you will be able to love yourself and love others even; you will have an atmosphere of love from your own Self, from which others will also find radiation.

Question: Our society seems to want to knock anything off a pedestal. Whenever something's put on a pedestal, most people in the United States just like to knock it off. How can people work with their egos in that type of situation?

Thakar Singh: Yes, the difficulty is that the people who become great are not really great, because they are great for their own selves. If they are great for the world, then they will be accepted.

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If there is a small hut of a person and nearby there is a very big palace of a rich person, some of the poor man's friends may come and say, "There is a very rich person by your side."

He will reply," No, he is not a rich person. He is poor, totally poor."

"How can you say he is poor?"

"Because if a dog comes, there is access to my house. It gets some food from me. But the dog cannot even enter into the rich man's house. So who is rich and who is poor?"

We are to be rich, but not for ourselves. We are to be rich for other people, that other people may be benefited. Then there will be no struggle. In love, we may serve one another.

Question: I had just one more last question. A lot of people are concerned with health, holistic health, and things like that. How would you define health for this level?

Thakar Singh: The main difficulty is the mind. When the mind begins to work in some direction, its waves are running in the body. Sometimes a man is totally startled and puzzled and frightened, as when suddenly a snake comes, and he cannot even run away from the snake. He is just shocked. Such situations show that mental nervousness fully controls the body. If we harmonize our mind, then there will be very little disease. Disharmony of mind goes into body and disharmonizes the body system. Those bad actions, which we had done, the disharmonious vibrations, which had been emitted by those persons whom we have hurt, are converging on us. Nothing dies and nothing can die.

Body is only dependent upon the mental system and our own vibrations. If we harmonize our mental system with the help of soul with God, that is the perfect solution. Otherwise, these medicines etc., they can do only a little something. They mainly give satisfaction of mind.

Question: I want to thank you for your time. And God bless you.

Thakar Singh: All right, if this information can help some people, I am pleased to be of use.

FOURTH INTERVIEW:

What is Reality?

Television Interview with Rosemary Broccoli San Diego, California, December 1986

Question: Would you describe your teachings? Can you just explain to those in the audience who may have seen a Master from India, but have never really met one personally, can you share with the audience what it is that you want to give to people?

Thakar Singh: These teachings are not connected with any religion, any faith, sect, or thought. They are connected with reality, which is from the beginning and will remain eternal. What is reality? It is God, the Kingdom of God and our own Self, which is fitted in this human body. This human body is a house in which we are living as soul, and in which our God with all His Kingdom is living. From our lower outer self, this physical body, we are to come into contact with our higher Self. The reason why we could not come in contact with that higher Self is because we are as soul are down in the human body, and are only up to the eye level. We are only concerned with the animal kingdom. As animals see the sun, moon, stars, sky, flowers, all this growth, etc., we are also working in the same way.

Question: So, Thakar, what you are saying is that most of us are coming more from our animal nature and we don't allow ourselves to get in touch with the God nature.

Thakar Singh: From our birth we are shown how to work in this animal kingdom with our physical body, which also belongs to the animal kingdom. But we are to grow as soul to be in the Kingdom of God and to be with God, so that we come into contact with our higher Self and then lead the higher great life, which is of perfection like that of God.

Question: Thakar, this is a question that I have as an American. Being raised here, I was born a Catholic and left that religion around the age of 18. Why is it that here in America our religious teachers don't teach us things like that? That's the first question I would have!

Thakar Singh: I am sorry to say that in the East also, the people do not teach this reality. You'll find the same thing all over the world.

Question: Why don't priests and ministers know about this?

Thakar Singh: They have not gone inside; they have not started to work with soul. This is the subject of soul, to know about God and to find God, and to know about the Kingdom of God and to find the Kingdom of God. This is no subject of body, mind, and intellect.

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Question: Please explain to those in the audience who may not understand the relationship between a Master and disciple; just what is that?

Thakar Singh: It is like a father and child. The father is helping the child to grow as best as possible. He also provides the child with every kind of education, and works with the child so that the young one may some day take over the father's business.

This is the work of the Master. He is one with God. He is enjoying the Kingdom of God and wants to raise all the souls to also become one with God and to enjoy the Kingdom of God as He Himself is.

Question: Explain what it means when you say you can actually awaken God within an initiate, the connection with God. In other words, somehow you're able to reconnect a person with their God power?

Thakar Singh: This can be answered by using an example. There is a blind person who goes to a doctor for an operation. The film (cataract), which was blinding his eyesight, is removed, and he then can see and can find all the sun, moon, stars, everything of this world.

In the same way there is a curtain of negativity between God and us. The Godman removes that curtain and makes the soul look up, instead of down. He then shows us the Kingdom of God, Light of God, and all music, blessings, grace, and all the wonderful existence over there. The people look, enjoy, and also hear.

Question: One of the purposes of this television program is to assist ourselves in growing more in love, and I know that is one of your primary missions. How do we reconnect ourselves, or how do we allow that love energy or love within us to come forward? Can you talk a little about that?

Thakar Singh: Yes, that is the problem; who is to teach us love? The answer is, He Who is love in Himself. If we go to a jewelry shop, we cannot find groceries. If we have a yearning for love, we should go to God. Only He has this Source. In the Bible it is written: "We have known and believed the love Father God has for us because God is love, and he who dwells in love dwells in God, and God in him."

In my talks I have told that there is a killer of love, and that is all this material stuff, which is the source of confusion and struggle among us. This cannot be love. If we are given all these treasures and supplies from God along with real love, then we will be able to love and we will serve each other in love.

Question: How does this happen on a practical level? In one of your books you explained as we meditate on a longer basis, more negativity may come up within us. Can you explain how? One of the questions I have is if we are feeling a lot of love – I know I can be feeling that I'm centered and that I have a lot of love coming from me – and then someone will do something on the road, maybe someone will cross in front of me, and all

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of a sudden I'll start yelling and screaming. How do we achieve that inner peace and inner harmony so we don't go into the anger?

Thakar Singh: You are to develop inner strength. If someone else is stronger than you, he will be able to impress upon you his own things. But if you become stronger than the other one, you will be able to impress your own self upon the other one. You are to grow more and more strong and blessed in the love of God so that the disturbing power, which is called negativity, may not be able to put its own impression upon you. Your godly impression of love will be stronger on the other person.

Question: You're saying that we actually can grow in this love and it does something to us internally?

Thakar Singh: Yes, it changes our mind and changes our heart and makes them full of love and peace. Then the disturbances of other people will not be able to touch us, but our positive peace and love will be effective upon the others.

Question: I also was intrigued by your statement about karma. You explain that through being initiated and opening up to the Master power, we can transcend karma in our lives, and not be affected by it anymore.

Thakar Singh: Yes, we come out of the region of *karma*. When we rise above, it cannot approach us.

Question: Some of the people in the audience may not know what karma is, because that's not a word that we use here in America. Would you briefly explain?

Thakar Singh: *Karma* means action. For everything that you do, a reaction will be there. If you say "Good morning" to someone, he will also say "Good morning." And if you look a little horribly upon the other one, he will also look upon you in the same way.

Question: And that's why in our stories, the bad guy always loses, because if you put out bad energy, you will get that in return.

Thakar Singh: Yes, yes. The same is *karma*.

Question: What you're saying is that as one opens up to this God – realization, karma is no longer affecting us, is that it?

Thakar Singh: Yes, because the law is "As you sow, so shall you reap". But when you are blessed by God power, you will not have to reap; all is being forgiven. This is for everyone who transcends this region of action and reaction, which is of the lower law, and then we enter into the higher law of God, which is of forgiveness, mercy and grace.

Question: You speak freely of reincarnation. You say once one reaches that level, there is no more reincarnation?

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Thakar Singh: Yes. Then we reach our Father God in our own home. He will never leave us. He says, “I will never leave thee nor forsake thee till the end of the world.” Then there’s no reincarnation. Never will we fall down into this earth plane again.

Question: One of the things that is happening very strongly here in San Diego, and I’m sure across the country, is this whole idea of spiritual healing. Can you explain to us what is spiritual healing?

Thakar Singh: The lower law mandates that “As you sow, so shall you reap”; nothing is free. If we interfere with this law of *karma*, we will be in trouble. There is one capability with mental powers. They can shift the tenure; if one is to suffer now, one will suffer instead after one year or two years, or a little later on. This is not really a remedy, however it may look like the person has been helped and healed. This is a total misunderstanding. And still there will be punishment because we have interfered with the law. He who interferes with the law is a sinner. The practitioner is to suffer for that, without any special benefit to anyone.

We are to come under the law of mercy and grace of God, and when we reach this higher law, then we are saved. And all others for whom we have a little sympathy and love, and toward whom we feel good, God power will help that person and will burn away all those karmic situations and will shower His blessings. He is all – competent, and it is only with this competency of God that the karmic situations can be dealt with. Otherwise no one else has the authority. The people have a total misunderstanding about spiritual healing. If it is not spiritual healing really, it is psychic healing, using mental powers. These create a great difficulty.

Question: You have certain guidelines for Initiation. One of the things you recommend is not to do any pranayama or breathing exercises. That really surprised me. Why is that?

Thakar Singh: Pranayama keeps our attention lower, down to the navel plexus, because this is the range of the breathing system. The people who practice pranayama are asked to attend to the breathing. They exhale for some time, and then inhale and keep that air for some time. Their attention is limited only to this area. We are to go up, our attention is to go higher than the physical level, and so we are not to attend lower. If we attend down, how can we go up? This is a great impediment for our growth into the higher regions. That is the reason why pranayama is not allowed. It has no benefit.

With meditation of inner Light and Sound the breathing automatically slows down. It is only when the mind is disturbed that the breathing is quick. If one is in a rage or fear, one breathes fast. When the mind and body are peaceful and intellect is quit, the breathing automatically adjusts itself and purpose of pranayama is automatically served.

Question: Can anyone do the meditation that you teach? Does one need special guidance?

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Thakar Singh: I give the full process. After having full process, which is called Initiation and takes about two and half to three hours, then one is allowed to go along wherever one may. I will travel on, or that person may go away, and we may not even see each other again in this lifetime, but he or she may continue independently. The people receive instructions through a competent Master, they are in danger. Along with full Initiation, full protection of the Master power is also provided to that person.

Question: Sant Thakar, if someone in the audience is saying, Gee, I'd like to be initiated by you, "How do they find where you are, and do you regularly travel throughout the United States?"

Thakar Singh: There are people living in the United States who are representatives of our organization. Those persons, who are desirous of finding any information about me, may contact them.

Question: And the name of your group?

Thakar Singh: Kirpal Light Satsang. It has been incorporated in New York. Otherwise I do not give it any name because it is universal truth. I don't want to confine it in some name.

Question: If someone writes me at my studio address, I could then refer them to your people here in San Diego, and they in turn could tell the person of the different centers. Do you have centers all over the world?

Thakar Singh: Yes.

Question: Someone in our viewing audience may want to know how you can be contacted.

Thakar Singh: Yes, the arrangement is there. I may be in India but the person can be initiated without my physical presence.

Question: That's what I was wondering. You don't have to be here; one of your representatives will do that, is that what happens?

Thakar Singh: Yes, those persons who are authorized may conduct the process and help will be there. The people will find the same inner blessings, whether the Master is physically present or not.

Question: I know that there isn't any charge for this.

Thakar Singh: No charge.

Question: You don't ask for any money or anything, and supposedly you are living on your pension that you get from having worked as an engineer in India.

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Thakar Singh: It's all free. It's all free because it is from God and it is for His dear children. All for His dear children is free. What I am to charge, I will charge directly from God!

Question: Do you have time to explain to the audience the importance of having a vegetarian diet?

Thakar Singh: We are to love. In all scriptures, which are written by those persons who have connection with love, they tell never to hurt anyone. If you even think of hurting anyone, then you have no love. He who has no love does not have God, and is cruel one. He cannot find any place in this world or in the Kingdom of God. There's no question about that.

First one has to develop love. Love feels like serving, giving, helping, and to be devoted. Love does not try to find something from the other one or to hurt the other one. Killing action is first to be there if you are to eat meat. It cannot be without murder.

One of the Ten Commandments God gave Moses was "Thou shalt not kill". Why? The reason is, you will not be able to kill if you have love.

What is given to us, that we should eat. When fruit is ripe, it changes its color, grows brighter, and then asks us, calls us, "I am ready, please have me. If you do not eat me, but I am for you". When the crop is almost ready, it turns green and then changes its color and becomes dry, which shows the seed is ready to harvest. The crop calls us, "Please collect me. The chaff may be given to the animals and the seed is there for you. If you do not collect this I will fall down, become rotten, and will be of no use."

All these things are given to us by God. What is not given to us, we are not to use, and this is not legal. Something which runs away from us and that we run after and try to catch, that is illegal. That is cruelty. Find the fruit and enjoy the fruit. Fruit is also blessed that it has become part of the body. The seed is blessed that it is not rotting in the ground but that it has been of some use. This is the basic principle. In Genesis it has been explained; "You are only to eat that fruit which bears the seed of the seed – bearing tree, and you are only to eat that food that is grown on the table of the earth, and that will be for your meals." That order is still there. We are to know it and go along with it.

Question: One last question. What do drugs do to our system: alcohol, marijuana, and cocaine? What do you have to say about that?

Thakar Singh: I think the worldly people also know the effect of these. The doctors say that these are injurious to health. Any shop in India that deals with cigarettes has written on a board in large letters that smoking is injurious to health. These are poisons. Some may be weaker poisons and some may be stronger poisons. If someone is not addicted to drugs and you give a certain quantity to him, he will die at once. But for that person who starts from little and then grows more immune, he can take the same quantity of drug that

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killed the first person, with no effect upon himself because his body has adjusted to that poison.

Question: Don't drugs interfere with the nervous system and with the growing in love?

Thakar Singh: Everything is disturbed. Everything is disturbed because it is not only poison for the body, but also for the mind, nervous system, and even for the soul' the soul also loses consciousness. Anyone who is under the effect of some kind of drug does not behave intelligently. Sometimes we have to forgive someone who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs. We take pity upon that person.

We are to become super conscious; all knowledge, all wisdom. And all knowledge and wisdom are to be only found when we neglect all negative things, which are deleterious to this growth. We are to take up only those measures, which are helping factors.

Question: Thank you. In closing, I'd like the audience to know that you have written many books.

Thakar Singh: This I do not know. My people know how many books.

Question: The people in the audience might want to be able to read more of what you have written. There's one here I have gone through. It's called the Gospel of Love. Are these available in bookstores, or do you have to get them through the center?

Thakar Singh: They may be ordered through the National Headquarters.

Question: This book is called And You Will Fly Up To God. I love the title.

Thakar Singh: But you will actually fly up to God! Billions of dollars have been spent and finally someone could reach the moon. But the people reach sun and moon and stars on the very first day of Initiation without spending a single penny!

Question: That's great!

Thakar Singh: And that real sun, real moon is eternal. Here, the sun and moon go away in the night or day. Inside, if you sit at midnight you'll find the sun, and in the day you'll find the moon and stars. Those regions which contain moon, sun, and stars are always constant, they are not changing. They are permanent.

This earth region is showing itself to be not permanent. Everything is transitory here and should not be believed. This is giving us a warning. But still we go on believing this, which is transitory, and will not even investigate that which is really permanent.

Question: That's one of the things you're teaching us.

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Thakar Singh: Yes, all these good things, it is my duty to tell.

Question: Thank you.

Thakar Singh: I'm also thankful to you for all this good work you are doing. May God bless you and give you more power and strength.

Question: Thanks.

FIFTH INTERVIEW:

The Connection with God

Radio Interview with Alaina Zachary Hudson, New York, February 1987

Question: With open heart I welcome you to these microphones. What is the message you have to bring to us, Thakar?

Thakar Singh: The message is important. It is the message of love. All the universe was made by God, Who is all love. With that love, this universe is to exist. If we have no love, negativity is there and destruction is present. We all are to learn the lesson of love and that is from God.

Question: It seems in this time there are so many people talking about the darkness and negativity on the planet. Is love an antidote?

Thakar Singh: God is all beauty, glory, Light, Life, wisdom, knowledge, all grace, and full of love. What is negativity? It exists when we are not connected with God, just the opposite of love. Then there is all anger, greed, ego, hatred, misunderstanding, and all confusion. Instead of Life there is deathlike system. It will prevail automatically.

If there is Light, everything is available in this world. When there is darkness, everything is there but it is covered and nothing is available.

Question: Darkness and anger are the disconnection from love?

Thakar Singh: Yes. Negativity is not really anything existing tangibly. Darkness is called the absence of light. Negativity is the absence of God.

Question: How can we experience God in our lives?

Thakar Singh: He is more immanent than our own self. He is our inner, higher, and glorious Self. This outer body is limited in its activities and existence. The higher Self is Godself; that is inside us. We are to find our inner Self through the help of the Master. He will give us insight. Our soul, which is now down in the body, will be taken up to the third eye center where we are to enter the Kingdom of God. We will then see, hear and act in the Kingdom of God, with God, in His Light.

Question: Are you a living Master?

Thakar Singh: Yes, I should admit it, not in ego, but in service to humanity.

Question: I read in your short biography you are from Delhi?

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Thakar Singh: Yes.

Question: *You had not been a follower of Kirpal Singh. You were born a Sikh...*

Thakar Singh: Yes.

Question: *He was not your Master at that point?*

Thakar Singh: I had been initiated through Him in 1965. Sikhism is a religion.

Question: *Yes, Sikhism is a religion.*

Thakar Singh: All teachings of every religion say the same thing. That is, God and the Kingdom of God. However, these are not available by only following a religion. They are available only from a true, competent Master. We may then become perfect in our own religion.

Question: *How did you know Kirpal was your Master?*

Thakar Singh: In my life before I was initiated, there was never any expectation I would find a physical Master. In the case of Christianity, there is the belief of Christians only in the past Master, Jesus Christ. We Sikhs also had the same firm faith in Guru Nanak, that He is the only master and no one else could be.

Question: *He was not in the body at that point?*

Thakar Singh: No. I had a very strong conviction Guru Nanak was the only one and preached this to the people. But after I toiled hard to find God over the years and put in every possible way and means according to my religion, I still could not find anything. When I was totally disappointed, it was the work of God that brought the Master into my life. And I could also accept Him.

Question: *At the end of all your struggles when you had to finally give up, that's when the Master appeared before you?*

Thakar Singh: Really, really.

Question: *Is that to say that we have to do that in our own lives?*

Thakar Singh: I should pray to God that what I suffered should not also be for other people. For more than twelve years, I had to work very hard, very hard, to find God and I was not allowed to find anything. And after that, I could find, and I decided to work upon it.

Question: *Your life changed enormously from that point on? Was it clear what you were to do?*

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Thakar Singh: Yes. I was really satisfied, because I could find God all inside, clear and definite. Here in this world there is night. Over there, there is never night, there is always the same glory, which is eternal. Soul, our inner Self, is also eternal. The body is not, it is subject to destruction. Our inner Self is of the same essence as that of God.

Question: *Do you think people recognize their essence?*

Thakar Singh: There is not one person out of the world's total population of five billion that does not have God or Kingdom of God within. This provision is in everyone. Every religion also teaches this. People have not been informed properly. They are misguided and cannot really enjoy life. They are in pain, worry and suffering. Their suffering will be prolonged because they will have to go through this *karmic* system. What they have done in this world will have to be paid for.

Question: *Would you talk a little bit about karma? I think it is a word most people are familiar with, but they might not really understand how it works.*

Thakar Singh: These things are important to know. If we are to drive on the highway, we must know all the rules and regulations of the road. Similarly, when we take on a great responsibility we will have to know what rules and regulations we are governed by, who is connected with us, what is dangerous, and what is to be used and how. All knowledge should be there. But the people of this world are only groping in darkness. No one knows what kind of vigilance or control is upon them and how they are to act. All these things are told in scriptures. Moses gave the law. And the laws of Lord Christ were also told: the message of mercy, forgiveness and grace.

There are two laws: the law of *karma* and the message of love. As long as we have not connected ourselves with God, then the lower law of *karma* acts upon us: "As you sow, so shall you reap." If I go outside in the snow, I will feel cold. If I come into a heated room, I will be warm. If we injure someone, we will be injured. If we help somebody, we will be helped.

Question: *They don't really talk about karma per se in the Bible, though it is said, "As you sow so shall ye reap." What they're talking about is karma?*

Thakar Singh: You see, the Bible gives just hints.

Question: *Hints?*

Thakar Singh: It gives hints, but in the Adi Granth (the Sikh Bible) and in some other scriptures, very detailed description is given. Unfortunately, the Bible has not been written by the Master Christ Himself. It is collection written by His disciples after He left the body. So it could not really justify the subject properly.

Question: *That's a very controversial statement to make in this country.*

FIVE INTERVIEWS WITH SANT THAKAR SINGH

Thakar Singh: Still, whatever is available, we have to work with.

Question: That's right, we have to use what we have.

Your Master created the Human Unity Conference? It was His idea?

Thakar Singh: Yes, He initiated it in February 1974. Each year it is convened in the Western countries. This year it was in Long Beach, California.

Question: Did it begin in India?

Thakar Singh: Yes, in Delhi, India. It was really a great conference and more than one hundred thousand people were there from all parts of the world: political leaders, religious leaders, and even atheists.

Question: This year you spoke and it was really completing a circle, which your Master began?

Thakar Singh: Yes, it is my duty to carry on this noble work, to bring all the people under the Fatherhood of God and brotherhood of humanity.

Question: We all participated in a local event here in Hudson at the same time. It was held all over the U.S. and was called various things, Moment of Peace and so forth. Was that also a part of the Unity Conference?

Thakar Singh: Yes. If two meet together in God's name, God is there. "Where two or more than two sit in My remembrance, there I am." There may be thousands, He is also there.

Question: Did you have one hundred thousand at the Conference in Long Beach?

Thakar Singh: No, there were not so many people there. In India we have more than twenty thousand people who come to the two yearly conferences: one is in 21st August, on the death anniversary of my Master, Sant Kirpal Singh Ji, and the other is the 26th of March, on my birthday.

Question: You are going to have a birthday soon?

Thakar Singh: Yes.

Question: That's marvelous; will you still be in this country to celebrate it?

Thakar Singh: I will be back in India at that time.

Question: What does it mean to be an initiate, Thakar?

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Thakar Singh: When the child is born, he belongs to this world and is with parents of this world. In a similar way, our soul is taken out of this physical body at the time of our Initiation and enters a new world. We are taken care of by God. All food and lodging is given by God, we grow in Him and even become Him, in His Kingdom.

Question: Does one have to strongly desire to become an initiate, or can it just happen?

Thakar Singh: A person may come and listen to one or two of my talks. One will then have theoretical knowledge of spirituality – what he really is and what his body is: “Dust thou art and to dust returneth.” Also, “What does it profit a man if he gains possession of the whole of the world, but loses his own soul?” Information such as this is explained and one becomes ready for the holy Initiation. This is work of the Master – to clean and unbind the soul, to make it acceptable, and then to raise it up to the Kingdom of God. This is all the work of the competent Master.

Question: And so it is part of your work then. Do you guide each initiate? Are you a kind of a caretaker for each initiate while they're on the Path?

Thakar Singh: When the person is initiated, the Master embeds one of His Radiant Forms with the soul. About thirty per cent of the people see Him inside on the very first day of Initiation. Others see Him inside after some days.

Question: What does a Radiant Form mean?

Thakar Singh: That Form made of Light, not of the physical material of this world, but of spiritual material. It is available all twenty – four hours, and goes on working with one's *karma*, with one's family situation, job situation, and other difficulties and problems, including disease. He goes on helping and guiding all twenty – four hours of the day.

Question: I read that you help your initiates work through their karmas.

Thakar Singh: Yes, it is the duty of the Master.

Question: It's a lot of work! Especially if you have many initiates.

Thakar Singh: He manifests one Radiant Form for each initiate.

Question: You manifest yourself each time for each initiate?

Thakar Singh: If all the five billion people come for Initiation, then I will manifest in five billion. One Master and one initiate, one disciple.

Question: You must be very busy!

Thakar Singh: Yes, I am busy, and I am not busy.

FIVE INTERVIEWS WITH SANT THAKAR SINGH

Question: Can we talk a little about the mind? Do you think most Westerners think the mind is supreme?

Thakar Singh: Mind is the connecting link between God and this world. The difficulty is that it has to be connected with both so it may find blessings from God, form His supplies, and everything as is given in the holy Bible: “Seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added unto you.” Then we may serve all brothers, sisters, and family members, and all others who are connected to Him. This is the proper way. But the mind has been disconnected totally from God. It could not find any power wisdom, knowledge, or any supplies form God. Mind is searching from his brothers and sisters, here and there. And life is hard, one cannot live peacefully. The connection with God Power is very necessary for the mind, so mind cannot rule.

Mind is really an important life component. Even if we do not care for it, it will go on working. It will go on working negatively, haphazardly, as the child who is neglected will become spoiled.

Question: Is this where meditation comes into play?

Thakar Singh: The meditations are given to the mind to show that one is connected with God. Mind is cleaned out from all negativity and is filled with love, peace, satisfaction, and with a sense of giving, to be devoted, to be sweet, and to serve everyone.

Question: Where does heart come into play in all of this? Where is the heart?

Thakar Singh: Heart is not really here (pointing to chest). This is the physical heart, which supplies blood to the body. When something hard happens the heart cannot stand it and it sinks. Really our heart is here (pointing above and between the two eyebrows), which is the seat of the soul.

Question: We should say you're pointing to the third eye; you say this is where the heart really is. But those feelings of love and compassion we have for one another, don't we feel them in the area of where our physical heart is?

Thakar Singh: No, they come from the seat of the soul, our feeling is there. When we meditate we are getting supplies from the third eye center. After we have meditated, we feel the heart to be all calm, quiet, and peaceful – it is satisfied.

Question: You spoke of how we can get home in one lifetime. That's something I would like to know about, getting home in one lifetime. It probably has to do with karma, doesn't it – how we can take care of a lot of karma in a short time?

Thakar Singh: You want to know how we can go back to God very quickly?

Question: Yes, how can we get home in one lifetime, Thakar? I would like to know.

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Thakar Singh: This is quite simple, my dear. When the Father finds the child, He arranges everything. He knows which way to go back. The child is only to surrender to the Father. He will be taken home in this very life. It may take two, three or five years. There are some initiates, initiated by me, who reach the destination, the final goal of realization of God, in two years. But these are rare examples. Others easily find in five years. As for my case, it took ten years.

Question: Are there things we can do to clear the way to hurry ourselves along?

Thakar Singh: It is sufficient that the child remain in the lap of the mother. The mother and father are fully responsible for cleaning the child, for nourishing and protecting it. The child cannot grow by himself. This is also the case with spirituality. We are to keep our self-connected with God and the Kingdom of God. For two, three or four hours at least, we close our eyes and withdraw from the world outside and are connected with the inner Light and Sound of God, which are the primal manifestations of God. These are the attributes of God. For the rest of our waking hours, we are given a *mantra*, which is filled with the power of God. The people should go on repeating this *mantra* mentally. This goes on automatically after some time, as subconscious mind takes it up. And that keeps us purifying ourselves and keeps us connected with God. Then all help is available.

Question: So we have to, first of all, give ourselves over to the mother and the father?

Thakar Singh: This is the most important thing. We cannot boast of our own effort; only by mercy and grace we are to be benefited.

Question: Do you quote the Bible so much when you are in you own homeland?

Thakar Singh: You see, when I speak in Western countries some people stand up and say, "We are thankful to you. You have taught us the Bible!"

Question: There are many books in the world, and the Bible is one.

Thakar Singh: In Western countries, the people are only conversant with the Bible. If I speak from the Adi Granth, or from Ramayana or Mahabharata, no one will be able to understand anything. But when I speak from the Bible, at once the people can take it to heart.

Question: Is that another way of saying these teachings are available to any of us, no matter where we live, whatever jour cultural or even spiritual heritage is?

Thakar Singh: This is the great grace of God, that He has spread His knowledge and it is available to all people of this world. The people may accept or may not accept. You will find a Bible in every room in a hotel or motel! One may or may not read it.

FIVE INTERVIEWS WITH SANT THAKAR SINGH

Question: Some people are very conscious of their spirituality; many people are not. Can they also come to realize God even if they are not conscious they are spiritual beings, conscious of their connection with the Divine?

Thakar Singh: There are life phases. In childhood, the child is always innocent and does not worry for anything of the world. When the child grows up he has to be connected with the world and become responsible. During young age, the people generally are worldly – minded and do not think of God. When old age comes, so do worries, problems, difficulties, diseases, and many compulsions that are so strong. Man cannot face these by himself. One also does not find help from outside. Naturally one has to turn towards God. The difficulties, problems, sufferings, diseases and old age is a very god phase which takes the people towards God.

Question: We don't necessarily have to come to God out of suffering. We can also seek God out of joy.

Thakar Singh: That is a wonderful thing that is really desirable.

Question: I think that's the best way to go, don't you?

Thakar Singh: Most of the people of this world are coming through sufferings and miseries. Very few come only for finding God in love.

Question: But what if I don't do it at all in this lifetime, if I've been totally involved in worldly things, until even my old age, and then pass over?

Thakar Singh: It is told in scriptures if man had totally lost his life, all of it, and at the last moment begins to feel “I have not done good, it would have been better if I had worked for God,” and with this idea he leaves the body, then God will give him the next life again in a human body, in some spiritually – oriented family. From childhood, he will receive all impressions of God and is to work for God.

Question: Do you have a sense of other lives you've had to prepare for this one? This must be a pretty special life to be a living Master?

Thakar Singh: It is correct that our life is eternal, and it is not that only with this physical body we came into existence. We do have past lives, but we are not to be concerned with them. We are only to be concerned with our future.

Question: Westerners are very concerned with past lives, I think, because the idea of karma is so new to us.

Thakar Singh: Everything will be available because God is all knowledge and wisdom. When you rise up from the mental levels, where all records from past lives are lying, everything becomes clear. We are not to depend upon astrology, etc. Our definite records are inside. You can find everything, each and every detail.

FIVE INTERVIEWS WITH SANT THAKAR SINGH

Question: Have you had that experience?

Thakar Singh: The initiates also have these experiences.

Question: So everything is available?

Thakar Singh: Everything is available.

Question: Seeking God first.

Thakar Singh: Yes, God will answer every question.

Question: How would one become an initiate?

Thakar Singh: The people may come to a talk or may read the books from our organization. Then they may feel the necessity of God and come to me, I will accept them. There is no difficulty.

Question: What are some of the things you are going to be talking about?

Thakar Singh: I have no other business and no other concerns. I have directly to connect people with God. The world is there, we cannot leave it. We have a body – it is the temple of God. We are to respect it, we are to maintain it and we are to keep along in any circumstance and take care it is not diseased or suffering in any way. All our families and worldly jobs are to be kept intact. Nothing is to be disturbed. But some time, maybe three or four hours can be taken out of our twenty – four hours daily, to be used in connection with God. So our eternal life is going along simultaneously with this physical life.

After some time, the physical life will be no more with the extension of the physical body. Then we will not have any problem. The people are generally taken by the angel of death and put into the court of the judge to be put into the heavens and hells. That is also a very hard condition. But when we are connected with God, our Home is already prepared. We are taken up by the Master, because He appears at the last time. A few minutes or Hours before the physical death, He is there and takes the soul directly to God, in His lap. We are to enjoy over there. This is the definite future given to every initiate. There is no exception to it that anyone has to come again in this world to suffer or to go to heavens or hells. The initiate is also not to be judged because all *karma* we had done in the past is burned at the time of Initiation. Only two *karmas* are left: destiny and seed.

Question: What is the second one?

Thakar Singh: Seed *karmas*. We sow those simultaneously side by side, what we think, what we speak, what we act. That Master, Who is taking the seat inside the soul, day and night settles everything. It is the law that Master cannot take the soul back until every

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karma is settled. If one *karma* is left, the soul will have to take birth again. Master handles all situations day and night, until end of the life when there is no plus, no minus; no negative, no positive. Then He is free to take back the soul. The initiate is told two or three days in advance in order to make preparation. The time of leaving the body is the most glorious for an initiate. Master comes, so glorious, so wonderful, full of all love, all peace, all happiness, and fills us with all His blessings from God. We become wonderful and enjoy such a moment, which we will enjoy at that time. This is the end of all our sufferings and the beginning of our wonderful life with God, to enjoy for eternity, never to come back again.

Question: You're talking about finishing up the last karma. But what is death like if we still have more karma to handle? If we haven't realized God in this life, is the Master still there to help us?

Thakar Singh: This condition can only happen to those people who do not have the Master. Who has a competent Master, it is sure – one hundred percent for each one – that all the *karmas* will be settled. Because it is not something impossible for Him. Anyone who is a sinner, robber, murderer, thief, it doesn't matter. The master has such powers that He can settle every *karma* and can release the soul for eternity.

Question: When you meet new initiates, do you know them? Can you tell what their difficulties are, what the Path is like for them?

Thakar Singh: We are not allowed because it is not to be disclosed. However, from their forehead, we come to know what is the situation. It is unlawful to disclose karmic situations to the people.

Question: I find Westerners are so absorbed in those things. Everyone wants to be a Cleopatra.

Thakar Singh: They cannot know, and no Master will tell. It is not allowed. The Master will go on working, for settling each *karma* from the initiate's past lives. He will never tell the initiate what He is doing because He is to work behind the curtain, not in front. All He will do secretly. It is not allowed to speak anything in this world.

Question: What do you think of Westerners? We seem to be so body conscious and now more than ever before.

Thakar Singh: I love them very much.

Question: I would have been surprised if you said something different.

Thakar Singh: They are very innocent.

Question: We are children, still very young.

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Thakar Singh: They believe nicely and they go along. The only difficulty is materialism has overpowered them. And due to that materialism, the hearts have become immune to God. Materialism is opposite to God; it takes one away from God. Lord Christ has told: “It is easier for a camel to enter the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of God.” The rich person is only enjoying his riches, is very much adjusted to them, and will never feel like finding God. This is the difficulty. The God Power has sufficient competency that can enter the heart of a person and put God in it. Then the people become interested in God, especially average people, not very rich ones.

Question: Surat Shabd Yoga has been described as the Yoga of Light and Sound. Is this the yoga you teach, is that your Path? Is that right? What does that mean; the yoga of Light and Sound?

Thakar Singh: Yoga means to unite, to make a union. It is union of the soul with Light and Sound. The body below the eyebrow level is darkness because it belongs to the valley of death where darkness rules. Soul can never find Light or Sound of God. When it is raised up out of the physical body, it then enters the Kingdom of God over here as the third eye center. The Kingdom of God extends from above. That is the start of the astral plane. Astral means shining. There, Light of God is available and everything is gleaming. Everything there resounds with the music of God and the Light of God, which is always available.

And as we grow further, higher and higher up, that music will also grow stronger and stronger, more and more sweet, and life giving. The Light also will become more and more. We will open up more in knowledge, more in wisdom, understanding, love, peace, and strength. All of these attributes of God will go on entering into our hearts and we will continue in purification, preparing ourselves to become more receptive to our better situation. We are lifted up. This is a continuous process until we reach the highest state of our realization of God. Then we will know “I and my Father are one.” And “Be ye perfect, even as your Father in Heaven is perfect.”

Everyone is to find this. And some of those who I have initiated have already found this, others will find.

Question: Thank you so much for this time. I want to share with the listeners that you frequently touch this center, this third eye center, and I keep thinking, the Kingdom of Heaven is within.

Thakar Singh: Yes, surely.

Question: Thank you so much for this time, it's been very special.

Thakar Singh: There is no necessity of thanks. I am also feeling privileged to serve my dear ones.