

# *Satsang with Om Baba*

*(Rishikesh 2018)*

## **On Jesus Christ**

24/12/18

As today is Christmas I will talk a little bit about Jesus Christ.

My Guru Maharaji did not speak much. One time per year he would come out of his room and he would give a very short speech in English. That was on Christmas day, one time per year. He would always say the same thing:

*'God is Love and Love is God'*

Every time he would say: "Do not look at the religions. Great spiritual and enlightened people do not create religions. Religions are created by the disciples, especially the politicians. Those disciples who are clever in politics or marketing, these are the people that create religions."

The same is true of Christianity. Christianity was not created by Jesus Christ. Christianity was created by people who didn't even know Jesus. So, it is important is to differentiate between the spiritual aspect of Jesus Christ, who is like a blazing fire of spirituality, and the religion that surrounds him, that is like the smoke that surrounds the fire. The smoke comes out of the fire and covers it up and sometimes we cannot see it. The clouds, they are formed out of the sun and they rise up and obscure the sun, that is their source.

Throughout the world and throughout the ages, especially in places like India, we have had many thousands of realised beings and high level Sages - we have had thousands of Jesus Christs.

Today, all over the world, the person we remember the most is Jesus Christ from Palestine. He is the most memorable saint, the most popular saint, and he is by far the most influential human being of all time.

Why is it that He, amongst thousands of saints and many thousands of enlightened beings, is so special?

Why has he stayed so much in our hearts?

Why does he somehow enter so deep in our hearts?

He has inspired us.

He has moved us.

What is it that is so special about Jesus Christ and his teachings?

In all the years of religions and of the teachings of the Sages we have had a very simple principle. If you sin, if you break the code, you will suffer. If you sin you will be punished and there is no way out of this. This was also taught by Moses in the old testament - he saw God as the supreme punisher. This is also seen in India in the form of Karma and it is correct - it is scientifically correct.

Then there comes a blazing saint who says to us: *'You can be forgiven. I forgive your sins!'*

People came to Jesus who were sick, who were crippled, who were blind, who were lepers, who were suffering for one reason or another. Why were they suffering? Jesus Christ knew very well, everybody knew very well, it was because of some sin or another. They had done something wrong, either in this life or in a previous life.

In India they would call this Karma. You did something outside of the harmony of the universe and now you must suffer the consequences and then only you can be free.

Jesus went one step further. He said to them "I forgive you of your sins!" and they were healed.

How can somebody say this? Many would say that this is nonsense. Only God can say something like that.

If somebody has identified himself with the Supreme Being, he can say that.

Anybody who enters the spiritual path should practice this. If somebody did you wrong you don't say "this is karma, I am going to strike you back" - most people will act this way.

Jesus Christ came and he said "No, this is not the way!"

Maybe it is karma! It does not matter, you should say: "I forgive you!"  
And if you forgive, you shall be forgiven.

Jesus said: "You are doing so many wrongs yourselves, who is here without sin? Who is here without defects and does not wrong others out of ignorance? Who never causes pain to others out of ignorance? Which of you here does not deserve punishment?"

Everybody wishes to be pardoned for those things we have done out of ignorance. How can we achieve this? Simply - by offering forgiveness ourselves.

So, Jesus Christ did something that nobody before him has done. He went one step higher than karma. He said "Forgive".

Yes, the other person has done something wrong, there is no question about it, but forgive him...for the time will come when you will also be judged for the wrong things you have done and at this time you will also be forgiven.

So, this was an amazingly beautiful message. At the same time Jesus said: *"Love you enemies!"* Nobody had ever spoken like this.

He said to the people around him: "Everybody loves his friends and his relatives, there is nothing special about it. Even the criminals love their friends and family, but you are the children of God, devotees of the supreme, spiritual stars, you must do more than that, you should love even those who harm you.

The great Father shines equally upon sinners as upon saints. The great Father is like the Sun, it shines the same upon dirty water as it does upon pure water - it shines the same, without discrimination. The supreme Father is exactly like this."

If you want yourself to belong to that Supreme Being, you must also practice these qualities. You must shine in the same way.

Jesus Christ taught love. This is what Maharajji was saying. Spiritual men, enlightened men, they have no religion. Their only teaching is about love. They themselves live in love - they are love. They represent love, not just by speaking about it, but by embodying it, and radiating it. Just talking about it will not do.

The religion of Jesus Christ was not Christianity. The religion of Jesus Christ was love and forgiveness.

It is well known that Jesus was not in the company of the best people, he was in the company of the 'lower caste' of his time. He was associating with tax collectors, and "sinners" of all-shorts. The priests came to him and said: "If you are so spiritual then why do you associate with these people?" and Jesus replied: "It is the sick people who need the doctor, not the healthy. My presence amongst healthy people has no benefit, but my presence amongst sick people has very great benefit, that is why I am here."

But there was one more reason why Jesus was there. He could see the outcasts as God just as well as all the others. To Him it made no difference if you were a priest wearing a holy garment or a lower person of no standing. This is why he often would rebuke the priests who were dressed in fine clothes. They were preaching one thing and yet acting in another way.

Jesus Christ was very very kind, compassionate and sweet towards the lower 'castes', and very tough toward the higher 'castes'. He was very tough towards the priests and Pharisees and this was a very brave thing on his part. This was something that only a truly realised person could do, nobody else.

So, the third quality of Jesus Christ that makes him shine amongst saints is that he was fearless. If you look at all the saints of India, they were greatly honoured in their lifetime, they were worshipped, respected by the kings. The kings would come and place their crown at their feet.

But in Israel / Palestine at that time things were very different, saints were persecuted, they were arrested and tortured - they were crucified. So, to be a saint at that time and go out and openly speak the holy teaching with such straightforwardness was very unique. Only a person who has transcended death, who has transcended identification with the body could do something like this. Only a true self-realised being can be so fearless.

Jesus knew from the very beginning that they were going to get him and that they intended to slay him - he knew this all along. When he said to his disciples "they are going to get me and they are going to kill me", he was not prophesising - he did not use divine powers to know this.

It was simply common sense. Whoever was like him would have the same destiny. Nevertheless, that did not stop him, he was fearless.

“They will kill my body, so what? This body exists for one reason only, to spread the Light”.

Jesus used to say: “When you have a lamp you do not keep inside a closed drawer, but you place it in the highest place, so that it can illuminate the whole house.”

This was his role. He was the lamp standing in the highest place so that he could illuminate the whole room, he could share the Light with all people. This was a very, very brave thing to do at that time and in that place. Very few could do something like this.

It is very true that Jesus Christ sacrificed himself, sacrificed his physical body, so as to spread the Light.

In the gospels, which are more or less the only source of information that we have about Jesus Christ, we have a few teachings of Vedanta. Not so many in the main gospels, because they have been censored, but in the gospel of Thomas it says: “When the two become one then one shall know the Father.”

It is very beautiful. This is Advaita Vedanta.

When the two, the idea of duality, when the idea that I am one thing and you are something else, when these two become one - I am this One, I am the all pervading light, I am the One being, the One awareness - when they become one, then you will know your true Self.

At another point he said: “I am Life, I am Light.”

He was not referring to his physical body, or his name. He meant that which is inside the physical body. He was supremely brave to say these words at that time and in that place. Most of the time Jesus was avoiding using such words. He would refer to himself as the ‘son of man’, and when he would say this he was not referring to himself, but to his physical body. What he actually was, that was Light, that was Life.

So, one of the things that makes Jesus Christ so special is this very kind, sweet approach towards spirituality, which was very much contrary to the status quo at that time.

Sweetness, kindness, lovingness, forgiveness. These were very rare qualities. It is for all these reasons that we still remember Jesus Christ today and he is such a great inspiration to us - sometimes consciously, sometimes sub-consciously. Perhaps if we are young and we live in a Christian society and somebody gives us the teachings of Vedanta, we probably won't get it too much. If somebody reads to us the Baghavad Gita we probably won't get it, we are not ready. But if somebody comes and teaches us of kindness, of forgiveness, of love, this is something which touches us immediately.

Jesus Christ was not the body, so it doesn't really matter what he looked like. You see various movies and he is represented in many ways. It doesn't matter at all what he looked like, he was not the body.

When the time came for him to die he said to his disciples, who were very upset and crying, he said: "Why are you crying? I am not the body. When this body is finished the energy which is inside this body will come to you. You will experience me much more when this body is dropped. Therefore, you should rejoice!"

I know this to be very true. In the case of Maharajji, or any other great saint, when they leave the body, they leave behind the last limitation, they leave behind their last source of suffering.

Some say that Jesus Christ resurrected, let us not speak about this now, but certainly he was resurrected in the heart of all those who loved him. Not only was he resurrected but he went there and stayed for good. He was immortalised in all those who were inspired by him, inspired by his example. He was one and slowly, slowly he multiplied because when somebody is inspired by somebody like Jesus Christ he gradually becomes more and more like Jesus Christ.

We have one very great example of this in St. Francis of Assisi. There are a few examples but St. Francis is perhaps the most popular. St. Francis never actually met Jesus Christ, he lived about 1400 years after him in a distant place in Italy called Assisi.

Francis lived in a Christian community but he was not too interested in all that. He was not impressed by the way that the teachings were presented in the church, but there was something about Jesus Christ which touched him very deeply, his divine quality triggered something in him. Not the words being said about Jesus, but this quality of love and forgiveness, this simplicity. The seed that was inside him started to blossom. He began to live like Jesus Christ in the simplicity of Jesus Christ, in the dedication of Jesus Christ, in the example of Jesus Christ. He never memorised the scriptures, but he lived like Jesus Christ. Francis was constantly thinking of and meditating on Jesus and in this way he fully became Jesus Christ. If somebody focusses fully on Jesus Christ and meditates continually on him, he will surely become Jesus Christ.

Whatever we think of, whatever we focus our attention upon and direct our energy toward, we slowly become that. Be very careful where you fix your attention. Very often you see married couples who begin to look like each other, they think so much about each other that slowly they physically transform into each other.

In the same way, instead of memorising the scriptures, instead of trying to present oneself as a good Christian to the society, the devotee literally drinks from the example of Jesus Christ. He drinks from the love of Jesus Christ and slowly merges into the life of Jesus Christ, he becomes himself a living Christ. Maharajji was a living Christ. He was not a Christian, but he was a Christ.

So, the question is, how can we know the Christ? Not the Christ presented in the gospels which give us only a small part of him, a tiny part of him that somehow escaped the editing and censoring.

How can we truly know Christ?

They say there are two main ways. One way is to meet a true realised being such as Maharajji. Maybe he is not a Christian or his name is not Jesus. Maybe not young like Jesus or as charming. It does not matter at all, he will have exactly the same quality as Jesus Christ. Jesus was not the body. Jesus was not the Palestinian, he was not the personality. Jesus was the enlightened being

behind all these. He said "I am Light. I am Life. I am Love". Whoever becomes this fully through becoming free of his own ego becomes Jesus Christ. Not in his behaviour but in his quality!

We can become like this either by slowly purifying ourselves through yoga, etc., or we can accelerate the process by meeting a true Christ. By becoming inspired by him, by being guided by him, by being protected by him, by drinking from his presence, drinking from his Christhood. Whoever drinks from Christhood, he becomes Christ.

So, if you truly want to know Christ, the gospels will not help you very much. If you really want to know Christ, find a true living Christ and drink from his presence. Luckily there are living Christ's, they walk the Earth. Not everyone who professes to be a teacher or an enlightened being is a Christ, not at all, but there are some genuine ones such as my master and other masters in India and elsewhere in the world.

If you truly want to know Christ, find a living master. The other solution is the long way, purifying yourself from the ego and merge into Christhood, become yourself a Christ. In other words, if you cannot find a Christ outside of yourself or around you, you must become a Christ yourself. Can you do it? Absolutely yes! - you can. Do you want to do it? This is the big question.

What is your archetype? Who do you want to be like? Sometimes it is good to have an archetype. It acts like a guiding star. If your archetype is Jesus Christ you will become like Christ. Truly this is the reason that he came amongst us - to create an archetype of the perfect human being, a true human, a true spiritual being, a human being who lived his life fearlessly without any worries - in full faith, in full and unconditional love, having found true bliss inside his own Being. Perfect simplicity. Perfect contentment inside his own Being. This is what Christ is.

Our question is would you like to be like that? Do you feel inspired by this archetype?

Will this be a safe way to live? Probably not. But in this day and age they are not going to stone you to death or crucify you, they will probably not call you a blasphemer, you can probably move around relatively safely.

The obstacles do not really come from the outside, they come from the inside. On the outside you can find a lot of support to become a Christ - if you seek for it you will find it. But from the inside... there are many obstacles and the greatest of obstacles is that you do not wish for it.

Another thing that makes the teachings of Jesus Christ so precious is that they are timeless. They hold true both at his own time as well as in our own time thousands of years later and they will hold true in another ten thousand, or a hundred thousand years.

For example, he talked about faith. Most of the people at that time, they were mostly concerned with gathering wealth to provide for their needs and their wants. Just like today - nothing has changed. Jesus said to them: "Why are you worried? Is it possible that the Supreme Father that is Life itself will not provide for you? He takes care of the sparrows every single day and you are much more precious than any sparrow. He takes care of the lilies in the field, look how beautifully they are dressed, you are much more precious than the lilies, so why are you worried about what you will wear?"

His teachings are timeless. They are simple and straight to the point. They are not so abstract but very practical. To those who listen to him he gives them what they immediately need. What we immediately need is this love, this faith, this fearlessness, this simplicity. He gives us the basics and only occasionally speaks of the higher knowledge of Vedanta.

One more thing about Jesus Christ. The church likes very much to tell us that Jesus Christ was not born of a human being, but had a Divine birth therefore we can never be like him, this is one of the greatest defects of the church, one of the greatest sins of the Christian church.

Jesus Christ taught exactly the opposite to this. He said "We are all children of God, I am the same as you". He was born in the same way as anybody else, conceived of a man and a woman. Through his own sincerity and devotion he became Jesus Christ. Through his own dedication and love for God, through his own clear choice he became Christ. He was not born Christ. In the same way, anybody who has the same sincerity, the same devotion is an aspirant to Christhood.

This is the very clear message of all Saints and prophets. Everybody can be this. Everybody can reach to his highest potential. Everybody has the capacity to reach to their highest human capacity, but very few make this choice. The capacity is within all of us, but very few choose it.

Jesus said: "Many are those who are invited, but very few come."

Jesus told a story: "One time a great master was having a big celebration, he sent his servants to go out and invite all the good people. His servants went out to all the good people and invited them. One of them said "I am sorry but today I have very important work to do", another one said "I must take care of my Mother, she is sick in bed", a young man said "I need to take care of my cow, she is not doing too well". All of them without any exception gave some excuse for not attending the celebration. They had something more important to do.

The servants came back to the master, they told him that everybody seemed to have some reason or another to not attend. So the master said to his servants "Then go out into the streets and alleys and bring me the beggars and cripples. Anybody who wishes to come can attend, bring them to me, bring them to the celebration. Bring all those who are oppressed, who are afflicted, bring those who are in sorrow, who are suffering, bring the weak, the meek, the humble."

And this is what happens. Many are invited, but very few are coming. The fact is that everybody is invited and yet very very few choose to come.

So today and tomorrow it is Christmas. Think about it...what will you choose to do?

Will you choose to raise yourself to your highest human potential? And also to your highest potential as a conscious being?

Or will you choose to stay inside your box where you feel safe? Will you choose to remain comfortably numb? What will be your choice?

The word 'Christ' is a Greek word and literally it means 'the chosen one', but I tell you that Jesus Christ was not the chosen one - he was the one who chose. He chose correctly. He was not chosen by anybody else, he was the one who chose himself.

*He chose the One - the One Truth.*

*The One highest potential.  
He chose the way of Love.*

*He chose the way of Forgiveness.*

*He chose the way of Oneness.*

He lived a life full of these until the very last moment. It is said that on the cross, he cried out to his Father: "Forgive them for they do not know what they are doing."

Most other saints if they were caught and punished in some way, they would say something like "God will come and punish you for this".

Jesus said "forgive them God, they do not know what they are doing".

So this is the choice of Christhood.

This is a choice that is available to everybody.

This is an invitation to everybody.

May we honour that invitation. May we answer to this call. May we honour the example of Jesus Christ who came 2000 years ago, but still is blazing brightly. May we also choose Christhood, our highest potential.

*May we choose to awaken.*

*May we choose Oneness.*

*May we choose Forgiveness.*

*May we choose Love.*

*Jesus Christ Ki Jai!!!!*

*- Om Shanti Shanti Shanti -*

