The Middle East conflict seems to have dragged on for an eternity, but despite the horrors that are constantly broadcast around the world from that troubled region, the hope of peace remains buoyant in those who are diligently working towards a settlement. Why is it that hope unfailingly springs to life again and the search for peace always rises again undaunted? For the members of the new group of world servers seem to be characterised by a resilience that sees them bouncing back after even the most serious of setbacks – the vision that motivates them bestowing a dogged persistence to win through no matter what obstacles are strewn across the path.

From what is written in the Alice Bailey books, one reason is the fortifying power of a tremendous Life Who is overshadowing the Christ and His work at this time known as “the Spirit of Peace”. This extra-planetary Life is also referred to as the Spirit of Equilibrium, for when hatred grows to a specific level in human nature, He is enabled to redress the balance bringing peace and goodwill. Peace cannot be imposed on humanity though, as this would interfere with the process of human evolution through the exercise of freewill and discrimination. But when evil is rampant, the cry of pain from suffering humanity, consciously focused into an invocative plea in the meditations and prayers of people of goodwill, penetrates the subtle spheres to the great Lives who can, with the assistance of the Spirit of Peace, take action on humanity’s behalf without trespassing upon the laws of spiritual evolution.

The fusion of many minds into one directed activity is therefore of supreme importance in this current world climate, for evil is indeed rampant. And for our encouragement we can ponder deeply upon the fact that in such times, paradoxically, the chance for peace is closer not further away. We must have the strength and insight to hold onto this truth and work with a corresponding optimism, and it is interesting, in this connection, to ponder on the following quotation from Alice Bailey’s book, The Externalisation of the Hierarchy, written during the Second World War. “It is the negative and lukewarm attitude, this mental uncertainty and this failure to link up the spiritual and the physical worlds in a positive relationship which is holding back the Forces of Light and the actual presence of the Spirit of Peace, and thus negating a possible divine intervention. It is the test of group work. The faith of many individuals is real and deep, but they stand alone; the knowledge that the few have of the nature of the waiting Forces of intervention is being negated by the faithlessness of the world disciples and aspirants, weighed down by world karma, by their own physical fatigue and by their horror of the present situation, plus the difficulties of individual circumstance.” [Page 224]

How applicable these words are to the current world crisis and the continuing conflagration in the Middle East is a matter for each of us to decide. However, it is surely true that the challenge of faith and the resolve to act, despite all hindrances, remains the test of our group work. United as one, our invocative call can reach the Christ and evoke the Spirit of Peace. For our encouragement in these times when the horror of suicide bombers seems to take evil to new depths and problems seem so intractable, we can ponder on the reassurances given by the Tibetan Master in the Alice Bailey books, that the deeper the evil, the greater will be the activity of the Spirit of Peace on behalf of all people of goodwill, and the greater the peace that will eventually descend upon humanity.

In loving group service,

Headquarters Group
Cycle of Conferences
Extracts from the Alice Bailey books on the role of the Spirit of Peace

“This Spirit of Peace is not the sum total of an emotional and static calm, bringing to an end the turmoil on the Earth and instituting an era of peace. He is, in a mysterious sense, the Spirit of Equilibrium; He works with the Law of Action and Reaction and the inevitableness of His activity will be recognised. His work will demonstrate in two ways—fully when the Christ appears among men and slowly and gradually until that time:

a. The chaos, turmoil, emotional disturbance and mental unbalance found in the world today will be (under this Law) balanced by a corresponding cycle of calm, emotional quiet and mental poise, thus releasing humanity into a new phase and experience of freedom. The adjusted peace will be commensurate to the experienced disturbance.

b. The guarantee of the appearance of that goodwill is the excessive expression of hate—a hate which has been slowly mounting in the minds of men since the beginning of the 19th century, and which is reaching a new high at this time.

This spiritual Being will not descend from the high place whereon He works and from whence His energy is directed, but the Christ will act and serve as the channel for His directed potency. The inflow of His divine energy (extra-planetary energy) is destined to bring peace eventually upon Earth, through the expression of goodwill. This goodwill will bring about right human relations. Humanity registered (unconsciously, of course) the first impact of this energy in May, 1936, and again in June, 1945.”

The Reappearance of the Christ pp. 75-76

“It is your meditation and intense inner cooperation which will construct that channel through which The Spirit of Peace can work and the forces of Light enter. The Hierarchy waits. It has done all that is possible from the angle of its opportunity. The Christ stands in patient silence, attentive to the effort that will make His work materialise on earth and enable Him to consummate the effort He made 2000 years ago in Palestine. The Buddha hovers over the planet, ready to play His part if the opportunity is offered to Him by mankind. I beg you to note what I here have said. Everything now depends upon the right action of the men of good will.”

Esoteric Psychology vol II, p. 751

“When the thought behind the Great Invocation can be carried high enough in the consciousness of those using it through a joint effort of the world disciples and the Hierarchy of Light—as well as being reinforced by the Forces of Light—then the Spirit of Peace can be invoked.”

The Externalisation of the Hierarchy pp. 160

“Standing as the focal point of the inner Triangle—of the Buddha, of the Spirit of Peace and of the Avatar of Synthesis—the consequent outpouring potency of the Christ will be so great that the distinction between love and hate, between aggression and freedom, and between greed and sharing will be made lucidly clear to the eyes and minds of all men and, therefore, the distinction between good and evil will be made equally clear.”

The Reappearance of the Christ p. 111

“The Spirit of Peace is hovering close to humanity, seeking opportunity to make His Presence felt. The Spirit of Peace is not an abstract concept but a potent Individual, wielding forces hitherto unfamiliar to our planet. Great Forces are awaiting the hour when They can function as the Liberators and the Deliverers of mankind. But the door to Their entrance must be opened by humanity itself and it will be opened by a united act of the will, expressed through some formula of words and expressed in sound. It will be brought about by an activity performed simultaneously by all men and women of goodwill and by all the world aspirants and disciples. The door will not open unless the act of invocation is backed by the focussed will. The directed determination of the man or the group who is using the suggested formula, prayer or invocation is essential.”

The Externalisation of the Hierarchy pp. 174-175