

# *The Religion of ♥ Love*

## *Falling in Love - Rising in Love*

*The Teachings of Mother Rytasha*

*The Angel of Bengal*



*Mother Rytasha*

RELIGION  
THE WORD RELIGION, AS USED IN,  
THE TEACHINGS OF MOTHER RYTASHA  
IS TO BE UNDERSTOOD  
IN ITS ORIGINAL MEANING,  
RE - AGAIN  
LIGIO - TO LINK  
RELIGION - THE PROCESS AND PRACTICES  
BY WHICH ONE CAN COME AGAIN TO GOD.

I Razzaque Khan, and others as I, are not always understood. And the spiritual master did speak of this, saying, "Know that to be misunderstood by the world is one of the hard austerities of a holy life. To be judged unfairly has often been the lot of those who take to the spiritual path. **For who will hear the heart of one who walks this world, but already belongs to Paradise?"** And this then was the lot that fell to me. For what the world wanted - I did not! And what the world did - I do not! And for this some say I'm mad. And crazy they call me. And backward they say I am. And when I hear these words I smile to myself, for I remember a story the master did often tell, of another called crazy and backward.

And this, of an old man, who all his life had loved God with all his heart. And because of this was much favored by God, so that The Lord gave to him fields fertile, and well watered by springs beneath the ground. In his garden were many trees, heavy with fruit. And his house was the largest in the area, standing higher than any other. And as God was good to him, so too was he good to others, giving generously to the poor in charity. Now seeing this, his relatives growing greedy, plotted together, saying one to another, "If he keeps giving so much to the poor, what will be left for us to inherit! Therefore, let us charge him before the court with being crazy, that we might now possess all that is his." And because he was old and alone they dared. And the deed done, the old man was charged with the crime of being crazy and forced to appear before the court.

On that day the court was filled with people, all gossiping about the old man. And one told, "how a thief had come right into the old man's bedroom, in the night, to steal his watch, solid gold, with his initials etched on the casing. And the old man sat up in bed, and saw the thief, and saw the watch in his hand, and calm as could be, he says to the thief, 'When you go out of the room, shout back loudly, *thank you*.' And the thief asked why should he do this? And the old man, says, 'If you are caught and my watch found on you, you can say, I gave you the watch as a gift, and the servants will remember they heard you say thank you.' The thief told me this story himself, said he never could steal again, so touched was he by the old man's kindness." "Well!" said an old woman, "if that isn't crazy, I don't know what is!"

"And I have a story, even stranger," said another. And they all turned to him. "This too of a thief," he said, "for all knew him to be very rich. And this is even crazier, for when this thief comes to steal, the old man helps him find some gold pieces he overlooks and this gets the thief to thinking that the old man must have something much more valuable than gold, if he was so easy about letting go of it. So he goes back the next night and demands of the old one, saying, 'I know you must have something more valuable than gold, and I want it!' And the old man, can you believe it, admits, yes, he has, and will happily give it to him. Now, and this is the crazy part, for the old man begins to tell the thief how a man may enter Paradise. And he talks and talks. And in his words, and in him, there is such truth and such a beauty that the thief never again leaves his side, till years later when he is sent to a distant land to give to others what he had received. And he always said, that of all the valuable things prized by the world, gold and jewels, horses and houses, and everything that can be bought, never did he find anything of greater value than that which he had received from the old man." "Sounds like being crazy is catching," said another. And they laughed, and were well pleased with their joke. But the laughing stopped abruptly when they looked up and saw the old man approaching on his donkey.

And what they saw made them gasp, and open wide their eyes. For as the donkey trotted down the street, they saw the old man seated upon his donkey backwards, facing the tail instead of the head. As it was a hot day and the courtroom doors open to the street, all saw, including the judge. In fact, this would be the main question of the judge, who asked of the old man, why was he riding that way, backward? And the old man, the Lover of God, smiled, and said, "To the whole world it would look as if I were backward, but there is another way to look. Please consider this. Perhaps it was the donkey who was backward."

And to the whole world, I Razzaque Khan also looked backward. And crazy they called me, for I walked not in the ways of the world, but chose instead, the way to God. And the one I would follow, the people call The Angel of Bengal.

And it was her wish that we work among the poorest of the poor, that we might ease their suffering. For she said, to only speak of God's Love is not enough, but that we must also be a living example of that Love for all to see, saying, "**Let our charity be God's Love made concrete.**"

And this I did. And many with me. And the conditions we worked under, and the work itself, was so hard that a Doctor who worked with us would ask of her, "Holy Mother, the work that is done is wonderful, and a blessing to the people, but I do not understand why you, and all, take such a burden upon yourselves. You take trouble for others, but what good do you get?" And she answered him, saying, **"It is not asked of us that we do good for what we might get, but for what we might become. True happiness is not about having, but about being."**

And still he questioned, for he could not understand, saying, "But Holy Mother, you yourself have often preached that **material help can only make the prisoner more comfortable in his prison, that it is the message of God alone, that can set him free.** Why then do this hard work? Why not just preach the message of God that all might hear?" And she answered him, saying, **"It is in charity, the giving and receiving, that the heart by Love is opened. For it is not with the ears that the message of God is heard, but with the heart."**

And so we worked together, for the poorest of the poor, that the world might see, that **a man can be more than he appears to be, and can give more than he appears to have.**

And in travels I went with the master to a far country. And in luxury did we sit ourselves down, that many might hear the message of God. And it would be here, in the richest country on Earth, that I would see an even greater poverty. And this the poverty of the heart. For many women came to her, that they might be healed by her. And these women were as a lovely garden, laid waste by a terrible storm.

And one said, "When first I fell in Love, the one I Loved, was as a door, open, and I was welcome in. Now the door is shut, the bolt thrown, and when I call no one comes."

Then another spoke, saying, "When I first fell in Love, his eyes where as a mirror in which I saw the beauty of myself. But the mirror is shattered, and I am cut with criticisms."

And there was much weeping, for great was their despair. And the master sat silent with sympathy, until another in desperation, cried out aloud, "How has it happened that Love is lost to us!"

Then did the master speak, asking gently, "Why do you lament for that which is not worthy of grief? That of which you speak is not Love." And this they could not bear to hear, and so set their minds against it. Yet the master could not but speak the truth to them. "Love cannot be lost," she said. "If it were Love, it would have lasted. And not only lasted, but increased. That of which you speak, is of the world, therefore its pleasure is limited and temporary, as are all the things of this world. Love is not of the world, but of God. That which you seek, once found within is never lost. Love is eternal! **Your longing for Love is a longing for God.**"

Then one asked of her, "If it is not Love, what is it?" "A lie," she said. And speaking with them, she was filled with compassion, for they suffered much.

"You who could walk with the angels," she said, "have fallen down before a false god. When you heard him call, you thought it was life calling to you. It is not life, but death disguised as life." And some saw this truth, but for most it was a difficult teaching, and so she continued, asking, "Why do you cling to the shadow and forsake the light? As a tree seen on water appears real, yet is false, so too what you speak of as Love, appears real, yet has proven false."

And on hearing this, such fear arose in their hearts, that they cried out as one, "Are we then to believe that there is no Love?"

And she soothed their troubled hearts, saying, "Yes, there is Love. Just as there must be a real tree for its reflection to appear, so too is there a real Love. It is that for which you long. **To long for Love is to long for God.**"

And a certain woman sat by the door, and when she spoke her mouth turned down in distaste, and her words were bitter to hear, for she mocked the master, saying, "Love and Love and Love! Only and always you speak of Love! But what of me, who am betrayed by Love. I am not filled with Love, but with anger!!"

And the master answered her outburst, calmly saying, "**Your anger is not anger, only Love unlived.**"

And another spoke up. "And what of me. I have tried so hard! I have served him! I have slaved for him! What haven't I tried to earn his Love!"

And the master answered, "**Love cannot be earned. It is a gift. If it could be earned, it would be a payment.**"

"Before he left me," said another, "he often promised he would Love me for all time!" "Yes," the master said sadly, "Now you know. **Time is shorter than eternity.**"

Then a woman came forward and sat in front of the master, so that she might ask for all. "We women have always been taught that women must surrender to men. Is it your teaching too that a woman must surrender to a man?" And the master said, "No. **Women need not surrender to men. Nor need men surrender to women. But that both surrender to Love.**"

Then a woman at the back spoke up. "And what of marriage?" she asked, "for I thought in marriage I could be sure of his Love."

And the woman who sat by the door spat out, "Marriage! What is marriage, but legal prostitution!" Still the master was gentle, saying, "Legality has its place. A protection for the things of this world. But **Love is not of this world, therefore legal bindings can make no surety of Love.**"

"Let me tell you a story," she said. And hearing this they all drew near, till they sat in a circle at her feet. "Now it was the coldest winter any of the animals could remember," she began. "The snow was so deep very few of the animals could attend the meeting to decide who would be voted the strongest of all the animals. So The Little Long Legged Rabbit was elected. All went well until spring. When the snow melted, all the animals came out again. It was on this day that Bear was loping down the path leading to his favorite berry bushes. He was very hungry, so that he was not in a good mood. He had not eaten all winter, as bears hibernate during the cold."

"Just then who should come bouncing down the path, towards Bear, but The Little Long Legged Rabbit. 'Out of my way Bear,' sang out Rabbit, blocking Bear's path. This annoyed Bear, who took his huge paw and - *whack!* - sent The Little Long Legged Rabbit flying off the path and into the woods. Of course Rabbit complained. A meeting was called and all the animals gathered. Bear was reprimanded and told that The Little Long Legged Rabbit was legally the strongest of all the animals. Bear hung his head, and said, 'Sorry. How could I have known,' he sighed, 'I wasn't at that meeting!'" And the women Loved the story and laughed and clapped their hands together in delight.

And last was a woman of wisdom, respected by all. And when she stood to speak everyone listened. "I had always believed," she said, "a man and marriage were my destiny. Now I am confused. In our youth, my husband and I, knew the passion this world presents as Love. And in time, its disappointing illusion. Today, with you, and hearing others speak, I again saw clearly that illusion. And saw something more, a purpose hidden in illusion. Can it be," she asked, "that in tasting the false, we are helped to hunger for the real? For if the reflection seems so wonderful, how much more must be its reality." And the master answered, "You have spoken wisely and understood rightly."

"Though my husband is a good man," the woman continued, "and we both care deeply for each other, still..." And she hesitated, her voice choked, and her eyes filled with tears. "Still... today," she said, "in hearing you speak of a longing for Love as a longing for God, it touched my heart, and I knew it to be true. Yet though I might sometimes think to give up everything to follow a spiritual path, in truth, I know I never could leave my husband and my home."

And the master well understood the woman, and so said, "From the beginning of time, women have made of men their destiny. But a man is not your destiny, but a doorway to your destiny." And she spoke then of **marriage as a spiritual path**, saying,

**"IT IS IN THE COMING TOGETHER  
ONE TO ANOTHER  
THAT ALL YOU HOLD  
HIDDEN WITHIN  
WILL BE SHOWN TO YOU.**

**KNOW THAT  
IN LOOKING FOR LOVE  
EVERYTHING WITHIN YOU  
THAT IS NOT OF LOVE  
WILL BE REVEALED TO YOU,  
THAT IT MIGHT BE  
RELEASED BY YOU.**

**ALL SPIRITUAL  
PATHS AND PRACTICES  
ARE BUT A PURIFICATION  
OF ALL THAT IS NOT OF LOVE,  
FOR IN LOVE ALONE  
DO WE ENTER INTO  
THE KINGDOM OF GOD."**

And the woman was amazed. And, "Yes!" she said. "I see!" she said. "What has been said here today is as the thin thread of light seen along the horizon, that signals the long night of darkness is at an end. The dawning of clarity is now before me. And the master agreed, saying,

**"WE ARE BROUGHT  
TOGETHER  
THAT WE MIGHT  
HELP EACH OTHER  
INTO HEAVEN  
AND TOGETHER  
LIVE OUT OUR HEAVEN  
HERE ON EARTH."**

"This then was the destiny I was seeking," said the woman. And the master said, "This too was the destiny that was seeking you." And with tears in her eyes she embraced the spiritual master and kissed her hands, saying, "Bless me, and all here present, that we may bring the beautiful teachings of The Religion of Love to the world." And all asked and it was done.

Then said the master, "Stay awhile with me that you might know more." And she told this tale to give them greater understanding, starting, "It was on a dark night, no moon nor stars to be seen, that a man was out alone, trying to find his way back home. In the darkness he could not see the path he walked upon, and so he stumbled and fell. And this happened many times till he became discouraged, and despaired of ever getting home again. Just then, up ahead, he saw a man with a lantern. So he ran after him, calling, 'Kind sir, as we go in the same direction, may I walk with you awhile, that I might see by the light you carry?' And the stranger was kind, and, 'Come,' he said. And so they walked together many miles and the light made the path easy to see, and the way was clear. When at last they came to the crossroads, the stranger said, 'Here we must part. I to go my way, and you to go yours.' And so he left. And again the man was alone in the darkness."

And she said to the women, "Do not leave this world in darkness. **As one small flame can light many, being neither diminished nor extinguished, so too your Love.**" And she blessed them, one and all, saying, "Go now into the world, to be there Apostles of Love."

And as the hour was late, she rose to go. But a woman cried out. "Please!" she said, "one last question, for I have waited a lifetime to know the answer." And the master was gracious, saying, "Yes. Ask." And the woman said, "Thousands of years ago, there was one who came to Earth to bring the message of God. And he told us, '*The truth shall make you free.*' And before he was put to death, he was asked, '*And what is the truth?*' But did not answer. So now I ask of you this same question. What is the truth that shall make us free?" And the master answered her, saying,

**"LOVE!**

**LOVE IS THE TRUTH THAT SHALL MAKE YOU FREE."**



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