

Talk by Bruno Gröning, Christmas 1957

“God sent us a son, His son...”

Note

This translation is based on a faithful transcription of a recorded talk by Bruno Gröning. The decision was taken to leave any grammatical or verbal slips in the German original unaltered, in order to preserve the authenticity of the source. In the English version these have mostly been corrected.

Numbers marked <1> indicate the corresponding CD tracks. CDs of the original tape recordings can be ordered from the following internet address: www.bruno-groening-stiftung.org

Bruno Groening often stated that he came to help everybody, regardless of their language, nationality, race or religion, and his intention was to transmit the healing energy to everyone on earth. He derived his teaching from that of Christ and therefore used the language of Christianity. However, this was in no way intended to exclude people of other faiths, who can transfer his teaching to the context of their own religions.

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“God sent us a son, His son...”

<1>

Song: From heaven above to earth I come
(Verses 3 and 15)

This is the Christ, our God and Lord,
Who in all need shall aid afford;
He will Himself your Saviour be
From all your sins to set you free.

Glory to God in highest heaven,
Who unto us His Son hath given!
While angels sing with joyous mirth
A glad new year to all the earth.

<2>

Song: As each happy Christmas

As each happy Christmas
Dawns on earth again
Comes the holy Christ child
To the hearts of men.

Enters with His blessing
Into ev'ry home

Guides and guards our footsteps
As we go and come.

Unknown and quiet beside me
He will ever stand
And will safely lead me
With His beloved hand.

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1: That I am speaking to you today by means of a tape recording is the wish or, better said, the thought of our dear Mrs. Thomsen, who, since I cannot spend time with you today in person, earnestly asked me at least to put at her disposal a tape recorder and a recording. Her heartfelt wish arose from the fact that she too should give all my words here as well, just as I have always known how to give you help on your way.

2: The “How” was indeed soon decided. Mrs. Thomsen said that she would be satisfied if I would just make the equipment available to her for this occasion only, for this day. But I went further with it, in that I say myself: It is a very good thought, a healthy thought, and so I want to make this equipment always available to Mrs. Thomsen, so that, by means of this equipment, you too will be able to receive a few words from my small, insignificant person.

3: Yes, my dear friends, don't be surprised at this: I do not want to be the great man; I am still your little Gröning. I want nothing more than that you all now set out on the good path, which has been decreed as such not by me but by God. But I don't want to digress now from what I want to say to you today.

4: Since you are already celebrating the holy festival today, it must certainly be known to everyone, to every person, why we are celebrating it. It is not only my wish but it is also the wish of many, many people, to celebrate this festival with the kind of celebration that it actually requires. I know that even now you will still not understand me. For until now you lived in the belief that the celebration, the way you held it, was already the correct celebration.

5: No, my dear friends, this preliminary celebration that you are holding today is only the hour, the hour of reflection. That is, when human beings should reflect firstly on their own being and then on the being of our Saviour; why, for what reason, for what purpose God sent us His son, who yet has given us so much on our path through life, who is not just anything, but rather everything that we need here in our life on earth.

6: I know that people have taken this as something self-evident. It's Christmas again, and the lovely Christmas songs will be sung or, better said, they will be rattled off, without one or the other even taking in the thought that these songs, as they have been entrusted to us by our forebears, by human beings - or I must put it like this: by

great spirits - who have entrusted this to us as a gift, who have left this behind them for us.

7: But yet each song has a meaning of its own which is indeed that we should become aware of each word and then take this word to heart as well. But this is not the only thing that I want to say to you, my dear friends.

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8: Up to now you keep thinking, when the holy festival — as you say, the Christmas festival — is approaching, you're already thinking months, you're already thinking weeks in advance about what you want to give to the people who are closest to you. You also think about the presents of your closest relatives and that here you can definitely count on receiving gifts.

9: I know that you consider yourselves fortunate that you can be among the givers as well, that you too can make those closest to you happy with earthly gifts. But now, my dear friends, we may not undervalue the universal, the great, the divine. God has entrusted us with more than just an earthly gift. And precisely for this reason we need to know so much about all of this, about what God is for us and what we are for Him.

10: Now, the gift that God has given us, I could say right off that this too is a purely earthly gift, for God sent us a son, His son, who showed us the way we should go during the time that we are here. I know that people merely - I'm stressing this yet again - time and again merely say, just as they also find it in all these songs: Unto us this day the Saviour is born, which is Christ the Lord. And so on and so on.

11: Yes, but as to whether human beings have really taken in what they ought to have taken in, what they should have taken to heart for themselves, this still remains, and not only to be desired.* No, friends! Many have not thought this over, since it was just a matter of course for them, for we have Christmas every year.

**This is difficult to interpret. Bruno Groening seems to be emphasising, as he often did, that wishing is not enough; the wish must be turned into deeds.*

12: But there is also the lovely, wonderful song which goes: “Every year the Christchild comes down again onto earth where we humans are.” Who has really thought about this? Who has really taken this seriously? Who has really been able to believe that this is true? I don't believe anyone has. It was simply something self-evident for people, and they dismissed it with one word: “It's only a song. Yes, well, and we always have the same celebration every year; it keeps coming round.”

13: My dear friends, just consider the gift that God is giving us here. Because human beings never listen to what's inside them, because human beings have come away from true divine guidance, they pay no attention to themselves or to their bodies. They did not listen to what was inside them and also did not follow their feeling and also did not live in the will, the will of God.

14: And so they came completely away from this true divine guidance and then they only lived in their beliefs: “It’s quite satisfactory, the way our parents, our forbears celebrated these festivals – fixed so hard and fast,” without really giving it a thought, without even becoming at all conscious of it. Nothing, not a trace of any of that. They simply lived in their belief, and I’ll say it once again: “It just had to be like that. My parents celebrated the festival this way, we celebrate it this way, and my children celebrate it this way too.”

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15: My dear friends, that means, in short, that everything goes down the drain. There is nothing left at all that can still be called life. There is nothing left at all of everything that God has decreed for us, God has decided for us, and nothing at all remains of what the Saviour means for us. There is no longer anything true, no longer anything credible amongst human beings.

16: They took it only like this, and that was that once upon a time, Christ was here once, and they don’t believe that he is always with us. And they also don’t believe that he can dwell in us, that we can actually be guided by him, that is, that God through His son leads us to where we belong, to Whom we belong. I know that people brush all this aside with a certain carelessness; briefly put, they simply cannot have faith anymore.

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17: Now, my dear friends, if you have not traced Christ’s life for yourselves, let’s go right back to the beginning, that is, back to the birth of Christ. But we are reminded about this day so often, every year in fact. Now of course, we must understand what the birth of Christ means for us, what Christ is for us. I know well enough that human beings are living in the belief of which they say: “My physical parents are what counts for me. What they say to me carries the most weight.” What the teaching of Christ says to them only comes in second place.

18: Yes, and: “My parents drone on about it. They say: ‘We must go to church, we must pray,’ without ever once giving us a hint that we have to do this with all our heart and that, as we do so, we must hand over this heartfelt wish of ours so completely that we actually separate ourselves from all evil and receive here the good, the truly divine.”

19: And now, my dear friends, now follow the life of Christ further, what he has done for us, what he has given us on our journey through life, and how he knew how to guide us, all that he spoke from God, his father, who, at the same time, is also our father. And consider that we only have to follow him, and that he does only this, does it like this and gives it to us here like this as God gave it to him, as God expected it from him.

20: Christ himself has given us much that is instructive. Only we must really take Christ's words seriously as well. We must take them into us with all our hearts. We must say “Yes” to all the good that he has given us on our journey through life, and we must then stand by this word, this one single word “Yes”.

21: I know that human beings are careless. They say “Yes” a hundred times and of these hundred times they live up to this “Yes” just once, and ninety-nine times not. And then they do not live in the belief that they owe themselves, above all that they owe God an account of all this. They always say yes, they “follow” and they “have faith” - and today still do not know what faith is.

22: And they still do not know what Christ means for us. And even now they still do not know that we have to do nothing else but follow him. He has given us a great task for our lives. He brought so much with him into our earthly lives that we ourselves, also regarded as individuals, have to put all of this into practice. That is our path, my dear friends, and no other!

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23: I know that you will now say: “Yes, but how is all this possible?” I don't need to repeat the “How” again today. I have let you know so often what path we have to travel, what path we find ourselves on. For everyone must feel that for themselves. For many friends in our circle of friends have the good feeling that they really are people who take joy in life again and say “Yes” to it.

24: They have come to this conviction, that their life, the life they were leading up to now, was not the right one and that they had never felt as good as they do now, when they hear true words and when they have taken these true words to heart, taken them to heart, taken them into themselves and also done everything that they owe to themselves and to the people around them as well.

25: Yes, my dear friends, and yet I have to keep on saying: Let us just do everything that has been given to us here on our journey in life from God through Christ, our Saviour. And I said just now that you have the pleasure of anticipating that you can give gifts to those closest to you, of expecting gifts yourselves, earthly gifts that is. But all that, my dear friends, is just nothing for us. We can also continue like this, but then you have forgotten the most important thing, and the most important thing is that God, our Father, *also* wants to give us a gift.

26: For He once gave us so rich a gift. Again I must say: He sent us a son, His son. And He worked through him. And through Christ He showed us the way. He has given more, certainly, than just an earthly gift. That is a personal gift. Naturally, God expects from us not just *anything*, but just *this*, that we also take this, His gift, into ourselves.

27: And I ask you now: are you not in need of it? Or do you still not believe in the divine order? Or do you by any chance believe that disorder prevails even there, with

God? No, friends! If you do stand in need of the good, you can put your minds to rest, you don't need to pray to Gröning for it, or even worship him. Pray to God. Bring your heart's desire in this way before God Himself, and believe that this, your heart's desire, will also be fulfilled for you.

28: Don't make big words about it, on the contrary: You don't need to say anything to those around you, you simply have to do it. And have faith in the good. I say it so often, have faith in the good, that is, have faith in God who has decreed only the good for us. For evil is around us and has to a large extent gained a foothold in human beings. That is, evil went to work in the human body and they, the human beings themselves, had to realise that this had become a great disorder.

29: No one can deny that you all stand in real need of order, the order that God Himself is. And here too, my dear friends: if you have this heart's desire, if you say “Yes” to all that is good, and if you have faith that your heart's desire will be fulfilled for you, it will happen!

30: Naturally you must look for the fault in yourselves, not in the people around you! Don't always push it away from yourselves and say: “Yes, well, I am certainly not to blame; I'm not aware of any fault in me! He and he, or he and he did it!” Oh no, friends: always look for the fault in yourselves and be open and honest with yourselves. If you are not honest with yourselves, every evil word you hear, whether you say yes to the evil word or are too cowardly to tell the truth to this person, the one who has said the evil word to you, or to confront him with the truth in any way, this alone is already sin.

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31: In that case you have already taken in the evil and after that you only give out evil. I ask you, dear friends: Do you really want to go on eking out your life on earth in this way? Do you believe that you will regain good order this way? These evil thoughts, the evil words that you yourselves have listened to, come from the evil side. And it is for this very reason that we should be on guard. We should restrain ourselves, we should urge ourselves on to what is good and we should always stand by the good, or to put it clearly, by God.

32: Now, my dear friends, that's a lot of words, which I have already given you, often and always, on your way. It is now time that you really take them to heart as well. And today too I say here: It is not entirely necessary or not necessary at all to have faith in Gröning first of all. What is necessary is that human beings have faith in themselves and that human beings have faith in all that is good, in the divine, especially as they stand in deep, deep need of this for themselves. That is the most important thing.

33: And if they always say “Yes” to what is good and always stand by the good and no longer turn away from the good, no longer turn away from God, no longer turn

away from this good path that has been decreed for them by God alone, then things will go well for them on this divine earth. But whoever keeps on falling prey to evil and then believes that they must follow evil, such a person could never tell the truth to anyone, for, if they were to bring the truth to the people around them, if they spoke the truth to them, they would be laughed at and mocked.

34: My dear friends, people who do this are cowardly. They are slanderers. They slander. And just as they slander themselves, they slander God. And just as they do not dare to speak about God, just as they do not take the good to heart because they only speak untruth, so this untruth will fall back on their own heads.

35: I'll sum all of this up by saying: “What a person sows they will reap,” and if you scatter good seed, my dear friends, you will also have a good harvest. “Everyone forges their own fortune,” that is to say, everyone hammers out their own good fortune for themselves. Or the other way round: if someone feels drawn to evil and if they do not hold it at all necessary to have faith in the good, well, they will then experience evil, and then they come and say: “I am a believer.” They blaspheme God and say: “I don't believe anymore. I can pray as long as I like, God won't give me” – as they would say, and how often have I heard it too – “won't give me back my health, my peace, my good order again!”

36: It is not those around you who are at fault, my dear friend. You are! And call yourself to order, and walk this path and have faith in yourself! Have faith in all that is good! Believe too that you stand in need of a great deal of good for your body and that you will also receive this good!

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37: Now, my dear friends, to sum this up again, I want to say to you that this year, on this holy night, you are preparing yourselves, I believe, for this, that you too are bringing your heart's desire before God Himself and that by then you will have separated yourselves from all evil and that you also pray often and eagerly to God and have faith that He will hear your prayers and that then you too, provided it is your heart's desire to obtain only what is good, you too will receive this good.

38: And I say it again today as well: Despite all of this, because I know that human beings are too cowardly to ask God for what is good, for what is His own, and that human beings today cannot pray anymore, because they don't know any more, they don't know any longer how to take their prayer to heart, I will ask for them, I will pray for them.

39: And today I also say this again: Whoever cannot yet have faith in the good, in what is truly divine, I will have faith for them and will go on doing so until they can do it themselves. I don't need to express myself more clearly today. I know, my dear friends, that you understand me anyway!

40: And you'll also say: “Well, that's a lot of words,” as has already been said, “a lot of words that he has so often said to us, and they are indeed the same words.” Yes, my dear friends, the good is always the same. Good is good and remains good too. But you, I believe that today you are already able to distinguish evil from good or the other way round, good from evil. And precisely for this reason it can't be said to you often enough.

41: For me the Saviour is not just anything but precisely *that* for which God enabled him here on this earth of His, so that he should show us the path we have to follow, which really does lead us all back to God. Otherwise we would never find the path. All of you, that is, most human beings, have come off this good path.

42: You wandered around on the wrong path, that is, you were led astray and had to take the wrong paths and didn't know where to turn and so you could not have faith any more, because you had come too far from the good path to find your way back there again, to get back onto the path that you had left. You would say: “Yes, years ago things were going very well for me, and I felt free. I had hardly any afflictions or none at all. I was always a person who took delight in life, who said yes to it.”

43: That, my dear friends, is the sign that you were still on the good path. But little by little, you wandered away from it, and you say today: “I don't feel well anymore. Here and there in my body I am aware of this or that disturbance, and I have tried everything possible to get free of this evil. Nothing has worked. And this evil didn't only stay as it was, but it became greater and greater.”

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44: And so, my dear friends, you yourselves are aware, and from all this you also know, that once again the time has been given you to express the one desire of your heart, which you must certainly have had, to God, and to ask and to pray, and to have faith that God will fulfill your heart's desire for you.

45: But I also know even more to say to you, my dear friends. To a large extent you have just run away with the belief that God will give you back your health, as you would say. But in this circle of friends of ours health means the divine order. And so you must make yourselves do this, and you yourselves must do everything so that you always live in this divine order.

46: And so, my dear friends, I believe that I can properly draw to a close and I wish you all love and goodness for this holy festival. I wish you all much happiness and God's rich blessing! After this Mrs. Thomsen will distribute to you a Christmas greeting from me, that is, a written Christmas greeting, in which I also wish you much happiness for the year 1958, that is, in love and in service.

47: I know that some friends won't know what to make of this either. Only those can serve God who live in the love of God, who take into themselves all the loving kindness of God and who do everything just as God has given it to us out of this great

love of His, so that they then, if they have been inspired by this great divine love, will also do everything that God expects of us and for which God has decreed an earthly life for us here. I know that human beings today are still not aware of their duty, their human duty, their earthly duty. For they have just lived in the belief: “Life? Well, we live it just as our forbears did.”

48: So here again, my dear friends, is exactly the same thing that I began with. And so I must now finish with it, in that I wish you all love, all good. And do not forget the people around you. To all of them as well, all those who are closest to you, pass on many loving, heartfelt greetings and much happiness and God’s rich blessing! So, to conclude once more, my dear friends, you can see that, today as well, I can’t take my leave of you so easily.

49: To finish with I would like to give you one more thing to take with you on your way: I am very, very sorry that I cannot be with you in person. But my duty calls me elsewhere. On this very day I have just come back from the friends from Austria, and I must straightaway be with a circle of friends, a community for this commun... for this Christmas celebration too, where they are doing just the same, except they also have the good fortune, as they themselves have let me know, that I myself can spend some time with them. But precisely because of this, that I am able to be at this celebration, I will quite definitely be with you in my thoughts and I will never forget you, my dear friends, as long as you continue to stand by the good, by the divine! Once again, I wish you all love, all good! I wish you good health for when we meet again.