

# How Can Mankind Find the Christ Again?, SteinerBooks, 1984, 182 pages, 1984, 9780880100793, Rudolf Steiner

How does one find the Christ today? Rudolf Steiner emphasizes the importance of striving for self-knowledge, the significance of experiencing powerlessness, and the eventual resurrection from powerlessness. In this important lecture he also speaks about the ancient Academy of Gondishapur, the significance of the year 666, the mission of Islam, as well as the crucial consequences of the Ecumenical Council of 869. "Once one has passed through powerlessness and refinds oneself, one also finds Christ. Before we can gain access to the Christ Impulse we must plumb the depths of our own feelings of insignificance, and this can only happen when we view our strengths and capacities without any pride." How does one find the Christ today? [page 36] You see again how one-sidedly the human being is often observed. One fails to take into account the time element in his being. He is spoken of in general terms, in abstracto, because people are not inclined today to consider realities. Steiner recapitulates in these lectures how humans have changed such that in the present time the age of maturity has moved down to 27 years old. This is the age of maturity today; in Christ's time, it was 33, and in earlier epochs the age of maturity was higher. For the ancient Indian epoch it was 55+, the Persian epoch 42+, the Egypto-Chaldean epoch 35+, and the Greco-Roman epoch 28+. What does this expression the "age of maturity" mean? Jesus Christ gave a series of signs that must occur before He returns. Evidently, the fulfillment of Christ's prophecy would happen within the lifetime of one generation "once the signs relative to that specific prophecy begin. So Christ is coming back to this earth, but not right away. Not until these signs have occurred! The book of Revelation confirms this coming famine. "When he had broken the third seal [shortly before the coming of Christ], I heard the third Living Being [an angelic personage] say, "Come! And I saw a black horse, with its rider holding a pair of balances in his hand." Jesus Christ predicted that great "pestilences" would be one of the signs to mankind to warn of His imminent return (Matthew 24:7). Would God afflict the earth with lethal disease plagues? A similar background will be needed for reading How Can Mankind Find the Christ Again? Such a background will prepare the reader for challenges and vistas not encountered elsewhere. Steiner's message of the new Christ Light midst the shadow existence of our age speaks to the modern soul in search of a cognitive reach" How Can Mankind Find the Christ Again? is a translation of "Wie kan die Menschheit den Christus wiederfinden?" Today's road to Christ must involve a new, formative thinking whose Christian character is shown in the advent of selflessness, health, and a sense for truth. George O'Neil describes the nature of these lectures in his foreword: "As always, Rudolf Steiner spoke freely without using notes.