

Dieter Duhm

Christmas Message 2012

The following short text is not only for Christians. It is not bound to any religion, nor to the 25th of December 2012.

Jesus lived 2000 years ago. It was the will of the divine world to replace the culture of violence with a culture of peace. The world was under the colonial domination of the Romans, and full of enemies. But even when facing enemies, Jesus did not want to use the instruments of violence, but rather the instruments of forgiveness, of grace. He preached the gospel of re-conciliation, and of loving one's neighbor. This was a fundamentally new step in the evolution of a new, humane culture.



But the effort failed. The people did not yet have it anchored deeply enough within them. It could therefore be destroyed by the church, and by the state. The followers of this original Gospel were annihilated and the old powers lived on in new garb. The effort could not succeed, because the social and political basis for it did not yet exist. Today we wish to take up the Gospel of Jesus again, and to continue with it on a new level.

Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Christ. God comes to earth in human form. To enable this shoot to grow, we need greenhouses of trust. Now, 2000 years later, the social structures need to be created that can give this event permanence. The commandments to tell the truth and to love your neighbor cannot be realized in a society based on repression and deception. The promises of the Gospel can be lastingly fulfilled only in new social, sexual, ecological, and economic structures. The heavenly Jerusalem should be brought down to the real earth; in real love relationships, families, communes, workshops, and universities; in the forests, rivers and lakes; in research labs for water, food, and energy.

The commandment to love is a political issue; its fulfillment demands a fundamental renewal of our societal structures. That is the line of thinking of the project of Tamera. We consider this to be a responsible continuation of the Gospel. We are not a church, but rather a research project for a future without war. We translate the coming "Kingdom of God" into gardens in a new world, and into the global network of the new era.

The "Holy Land" is not in Galilee. Rather, it is anywhere where people cooperate with one another in the spirit of the new Gospel. The Holy Land can be in Portugal, and in

every region of our planet where the message can be born anew. The message of Terra Nova, of an earth without fear. The birth of Christ: the birth of new communities and healing biotopes, of the joy of children, the joy of animals. It is the birth of the new human being and the new civilization which spreads caring and protecting over the earth. The birth of Christ: the birth of a new era in which love between man and woman is forever fulfilled - in the name of all children and of all living beings.

A thank-you to all the peace workers and all the groups that work in this spirit!



International GRACE-Pilgrimage in Israel-Palestine, 2007
Photo: Tamera Arts