

## **Child of the Light**

The mind is nourished by that which it consumes.

For the Child of the Light, the mind, like life itself, is a garden. Thoughts are seeds: they may grow into roses or into thorns.

If life is not joyful, the garden is watered with thorns and overrun with weeds. The Child of the Light knows this...

Children of the Light never seek to disrupt the rhythm of life. They do not look for faults in the truths of others. Instead, they search for truth within their own mistakes and do not neglect to gaze into the mirror of the self.

The Child of the Light understands that the journey towards illumination is one that passes through the inner darkness.

On this path, they act with responsibility, guided by a wisdom nurtured through compassionate awareness and active altruism. They emphasise both the meaning and the effort of leading a life beneficial to oneself and to others.

The Child of the Light's primary aim is to free themselves from internal dualities and from the divisive understanding perpetuated by popular culture. Their purpose is to be enlightened by Christ's comprehensive understanding, and to escape the weakness of bending Christ to one's own desires instead of aligning with Him.

It is to liberate ourselves from every discourse and act that alienates us from our true selves, from our conceptual frameworks, our maps of meaning, our truth, and our spirit. It is to break the chains imposed upon the soul. In short, it is to be a Child of the Light.

For life is not merely a landscape, but a matter of *ira*—of character. We become defined through the way we live. Humanity rises as it honours the dignity of being.

In doing so, one attains the distinction of being the most honoured of creatures and becomes a brother of Christ.

If we plant a good word in the garden of life, that seed flourishes and returns to us. A harmful word, however, also grows, becomes corrupted, and finds its way back to us.

Therefore, let us sow beauty in the garden of our lives, so that beauty may also come to find us.

Yet we must not forget: without self-knowledge and without dispelling the mental darkness that obstructs our life energy, this cannot be achieved. We cannot align ourselves with the programme of creation—our very essence.

Reflecting on this, Saint Ephrem (306–373) prays: *"Lord, dispel the darkness of our minds with the light granted by knowing You. Dispel it so that our enlightened soul may serve You renewed in purity."*

Saint Augustine (354–430) also asks: *"How can you approach God while being distant from yourself?"* And continues: *"O Lord, grant me self-knowledge, that I may know You."*

May your joy in life remain full and unwavering.

**Yusuf Beğtaş**