

A Loving Heart Opens the Door

A434 Sunday Address 19th December 1971 St Mary Abbots Place, London Festival of Carols & Preparation for Christmas

Text: MB typescript, a good carbon, tape recorder copy. RAE has numbered it 'Cassette CS229A and A29B'. Once again, a number of RAE's emendations have been incorporated.

Context: MB offers a lengthy description of how the chapel at St Mary Abbots Place looked, and of the entry of the Choir. 'Exquisite white lilies on the Altar and a Christmas tree with many stars and light, and lots and lots of lovely toys and books for children gladdened many a heart. The Lodge was as always beautifully decorated with flowers and the antechapel to the main chapel had the lovely Christmas tableau. The members of White Eagle's Choir, each carrying a lighted candle, entered the Lodge very beautifully, singing "Once in Royal David's City", and on [their] reaching the foot of the altar, Minesta and Brother Faithful took each candle, placing them – this was a very impressive moment, revealing how the small light even can lighten, as the whole chapel and altar were revealed by the candles and the altar light only. Thus commenced the Service.' Brother Faithful then announced the second carol, 'O Come, all ye Faithful' and Minesta gave an Invocation, recorded separately. The first set of choir carols was, 'I Sing of a Mayden', 'Gabriel's Message' and 'The Coming of our King'. Brother Faithful announced and read Luke 2 : 1-10 ('And there were in the same country....'); he commented that 'Peter' (Peter Hamilton?) had told him that this reading had been a tradition for 25 years. The congregation then sang 'Angels from the Realms of Glory'. After the prayers, the choir gave 'Tomorrow shall be my dancing day', 'The Shepherds' Noel', 'Quem Pastores' and the 'Shepherds' Cradle Song'. Then the congregation offered 'Whence is that Goodly Fragrance?' and Brother Faithful gave a second reading, Matthew 2 : 1-11, the pilgrimage of the Magi. After the choir sang 'Away in a Manger', White Eagle began. When he finished, after 'Beautiful music from Brother David', Brother Faithful spoke the words reproduced below, and the congregation joined in 'Hark, the Herald Angels Sing'. Minesta's benediction his recorded elsewhere, but her closing words are reproduced below. Brother Faithful simply added, 'I echo all those words'. We only discover from Minesta's words at the end that there was a violinist present and doubtless accompanying some of the carols. It would have been Mary Kennard, Lalita in the Brotherhood.

General notes: Separation is an earthly experience; from spirit, you see the closeness of the two worlds; from earth, only a loving heart opens the door. White Eagle speaks of 'the unity of all life' as a concept to help us understand the connection, here picking up on a statement in the Remembrance address. The Christ, rather than Jesus, is defined as the love or the light in the heart. White Eagle describes the Christ festival in the heavens. The understanding of the little child will take us there, and at Christmas, the symbol of the child in the crib is there to remind us of the gentleness that connects us with simple childhood. Amid a message about the Wise Men White Eagle turns to Herod, representing the mind, as the one who wanted to slay the little Christ child. The message closes with an invocation of peace

References: 'A little child shall lead them' is actually Isaiah 11 : 6 (not the words of Jesus), while 'Except ye become as children' is Matthew 18 : 3. White Eagle alludes to Romans 12 : 21 when he says 'Overcome evil with good', but behind this is Matthew 5 : 39, 'Resist ye not evil'.

White Eagle's Address:

Peace, peace be with you all. We bring peace from our world of spirit. And those of you who have ears to hear, hearts to feel, you will both hear the voice of the angels singing, and you will feel the love which the angels bring to you now on this memorable occasion, because this is a meeting of two worlds, the meeting of the world of spirit and the physical world. All around us now are these shining-robed spirit people, amongst them your very own loved ones who have withdrawn from their physical body, but who continue to live in spirit. And we impress this upon you now, because there are those of you in this congregation who will, at the Christmas Festival, miss the physical presence of the one you most love.

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Now when you come to our world of spirit, you will see for yourselves how close the two worlds are. It is not easy for us in the earth language to explain to you the relationship between the states of life. Nevertheless, we will say to you, as we have said to so many of our children who have listened to the message which we bring to the world, it is for you on earth to build the etheric bridge, the bridge of white ether. We cannot come to you unless you are willing to listen and see and realize the companionship which can be yours. But this is not through the ordinary brain of man, but it comes to man through the depths of a loving heart.

We were once asked why we were not able to give a clear message of great evidential value to a certain woman who came for help and comfort in a bereavement. And we could speak simply and truly, and say, 'We can only reach you, my child, through a loving heart'. Now this is the secret, the secret of all truth, the secret of all progress, spiritual progress: a simple loving heart in the man or woman who is the receiver of the communication from the world of spirit. Some people may tell you that it is childish to believe in such things. But you see, my dear beloved brethren on earth, the great healer and teacher Jesus Christ said, 'A little child shall lead them' – and again, 'unless you become as a little child', simply trusting, pure in heart, believing in the love which the little child is enfolded in childhood. It is this very childlikeness in man which enables him to see with clear vision the eternal truth, to see with clear vision the infinite, and to understand that in this eternity and infinity there is no separation.

And we are going to add another word to eternity and infinity, and this word is *unity*. Now, this is what all the world needs before it can proceed into the world of light. It needs to become unified. And there is only one way to become unified, that is by the way of love – the way which the Lord Christ demonstrated.

O my children, could you but know the power which is within your own capacity to bring peace on earth, to bring healing both to nations and to men – physical bodies and souls that are troubled! It is not enough for you to have proof of the continuation of the life of the spirit in man after the physical body has fallen away, you must endeavour to enter into that unification, into that power, that love, that light – that light, the Christ, who is the Son, the only begotten Son, which means that the spirit of Christ was born from the heart of the Father–Mother God, and in this sense was the only begotten and the first begotten of the Great White Spirit.

Do not think that you, my children, in the northern hemisphere, are the only people who have received the message of the Lord Christ. We can testify that our people of the great Indian race, the Red Indian race, knew of the Teacher and Healer, that wonderful soul who came to us in those far-off days. Remember that the Christ light is not confined to any one particular individual: it is the great spirit of love. It is the light which lighteth every man on his journey through physical matter. And *that light must never go out*.

Now why then do you celebrate the birth of a little child at the Christ-Mass? Because the great spirit of power, of wisdom and love must manifest in a human form for humanity to learn to understand the meaning of the love of God. In our world of spirit, the Christmas

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Festival is always held. We cannot again find words with which to describe to you the sweetness and the beauty and the glory of the Christ Festival in the heavens. Can we try to raise your thoughts, your imagination, into a very beautiful world of nature, the most perfect that you can imagine? – and there you will see that assembly of shining beings, men and angels, and in the heart of this vast light is the human form of the Son of God: the human form because it is the human form and the human being through which God works, through whom God works. And this is where you all come in, you are a channel. You have within you the power to be a channel of that Great Light, that Love. And your example is the little child, not a belligerent fighter. Overcome evil with good, spread good in the world, not criticism. Do not attack evil but be kind, that is be loving and kind and give from your heart your own Christ-Mass spirit present to all those whom you contact, to those whom you think about – not judgment, not criticism, but sympathy, understanding. Pray, my dear ones of earth, for wisdom, for understanding, for the gentleness of the little child. And in our Christmas Festival we always have that symbol before the golden altar, the symbol of the little child lying in its crib. Create this picture in your mind on Christmas Day, and remember what it symbolizes, and what you can become in spirit – humble, gentle, loving. That is all.

And our last word in our Christmas Message which must perforce be short and simple is this: If you have lost a beloved one this past twelve months, do not hold grief in your heart, but joy because that beloved one has been released from a world which is dark and sometimes very heavy to the human soul. The earth is heavy, it holds it down. But when the soul escapes from the physical body it is free, free, *free*! Free to come to you, free to sit by your side and talk to you. Be natural, my children, talk to your loved ones in your heart as though they were there by your side, because they are there, they are there by your side. And when you dismiss them by thinking, 'It is all my imagination, it is all nonsense', you are making nonsense of a profound eternal truth.

Think, my children, of the unity of all life, for all are one in the Great White Spirit, *all are one*. The world of spirit and the world of physical matter, they interpenetrate, and only the mind of man slams the door between your world and ours.

And don't forget the reading you have listened to. It was the Star which guided the Wise Men to the birthplace of the Christ spirit. If you will all endeavour to follow the Star, that perfect symbol of man made perfect in the Christ spirit – follow the Star, visualize it, try to learn from it and understand it, as it has its scientific as well as its religious meaning – it will lead you to the birthplace of the child, Jesus Christ, the Lord. Never let King Herod, which is the symbol of the earthly mind, murder your Christ child. There is a great symbolic story there, for as soon as Herod, the symbol of the brain mind, the mind of earth, as soon as he heard of the birth of the Christ child, he wanted to get at it and kill it. And that is exactly what many people on the earth are trying to do with their mind, their earthly mind, which they think is so clever. They are trying to murder the sweet Christ child which is in the human heart, every human heart, irrespective of race, colour or creed. In every human heart, in your heart, the little child Christ is cradled. Take care of it, my dear ones, take care of it, and bring it up to be a grown man, the Christ man. Then there will be rejoicing throughout the earth, because all cruelty will be overcome. Remember that the Christ child was born in a stable, and whilst the animals may represent the sign of the zodiac, they also represent [and] are symbolic of

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another story – that Jesus Christ came to the humble and to the animals as well as to the humans. So work for the abolition of all cruelty on your earth. Work for unification and the true brotherhood of man, the true brotherhood of the spirit in every man.

And a happy, blessed, peaceful and joyous Christmas to every one of you here.

Now, we have tried to speak to each one of you as an individual because there are many of you who have read our words and who have heard our voice. We speak to you now as our brother, our sister, and we say, 'Hold fast to the truth that God is Love, and God resides in the heart of every man. And don't think in terms of material prosperity; think in terms of spiritual prosperity – of beauty, of harmony, of the happiness in your earthly life, and then you will be sure to create what you call prosperity. But that is not what you are seeking, you are seeking that quiet inner peace and joy which the world can never give you, and neither can it take from you.

So we leave you with our peace. Peace be with you, brethren. Peace in your heart, and joy from the world of spirit.

We thank our Choir. We thank our organist and the choirmistress. We thank everyone for bringing their particular gift to this lovely Christmas festival. Thank you, my dears, thank you every one. Thank you.

In the stillness and silence, sip from the Communion Cup the wine, the essence of the Christ Spirit.

Amen.

Brother Faithful:

I have been thinking: if only those passages about Herod, Herod the King, and the Christ Child, could be written down in letters of gold and hung up in all kinds of places today where Herod is especially busy trying to kill the Christ child: the television sets, the newspaper offices, in factory floors, in board rooms, almost everywhere!

And yet miraculously the Christ child is surviving, surviving, surviving and growing stronger in the world and in us all. So there is a message of hope.

Now we come to our closing carol, 'Hark! The Herald Angels Sing'. This is where we call the Herald Angels and think they *do* sing.

Minesta:

We wish everyone a very, very happy Christmas. We do welcome you so much and hope you will feel you are truly welcomed by a loving spirit. And thank you, Choir, for all your hard work, and for all the joy you have given us. Thank you. Thank you, organist and our violinist.

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It was so helpful and lovely to have you with us, and above all – as they say on the television – I thank you all for coming.

Brother Faithful:

I echo all those words.

The search matches with either words and phrases, which appear in the text, or the following 'key' words and phrases, which are similar in meaning to those in the document:

nativity, winter solstice, yule, magi, spiritual unfoldment, spiritual development, light within, inner light, communion, inner peace, illumination, enlightenment, heaven world, baby jesus, faith, belief, harmony, togetherness, life after death, eternal life, rebirth, native americans, grief, loss, wise men