

Ascension

A350 Sunday Address 3rd June 1962 St Mary Abbots Place, London Sunday Service

Text: MB typescript (checked against a photocopy). The title has been chosen for the current project; the title given it at its printing in *Stella Polaris* in June-July 1964 was 'We of the Brotherhood'.

Context: a Sunday service in the London Lodge that fell on the Sunday following the feast of Ascension – a feast that really gave White Eagle the chance to speak, because of when in the month it often falls. White Eagle refers to Ascension at the end of the talk. MB states she has recorded Minesta's opening prayer separately, and gives the hymns as 'For the beauty of the earth' (opening) and 'These things shall be' (closing). There is no mention of what would normally have been a hymn in the second slot; in the third slot (i.e. before White Eagle) the Choir sang 'Cast thy burden upon the Lord', presumably the movement for choir from Mendelssohn's *Elijah*. MB says it was 'beautifully rendered'. The reading was Aquarian Gospel 178 : 30-47; it is an account of a resurrection appearance of Jesus at Heliopolis, wherein he explains the actual process of the Resurrection, in which 'the carnal form is changed to form divine', but it also speaks of human potential (see General Notes).

General Notes: approaching head-on the problem of suffering, White Eagle turns to the reading and gives a helpful account of how the medium for the Aquarian Gospel was prepared for his work. He goes on to explain how the Prayer for Humanity in each service is also a preparation or training for each participant. Ultimately, this ties in with the words of the reading, which White Eagle gives as 'What I am, you can become. What I do, you can do also'. He explains that from the time in the service of the sending forth the light, the whole congregation is illumined like the sun; and that if the sending forth the light were practised widely, the whole earth would change. He goes on to speak of humanity's imprisonment in what White Eagle calls his 'racial instincts'. Maybe the best synonym for 'racial' here would be 'animal', or something only a little bit more than the consciousness of the animal. Towards the end White Eagle begins to speak most earnestly about death being no more than an illusion, or at the least a tiny event, not the great one we make it. He moves to a communion in the spirit temple, but it is a protracted one and contains more teaching. In the penultimate paragraph he talks of the Ascension (this Sunday immediately followed that festival) and we realise it is where he has been leading us. As noted, it is not a festival White Eagle generally speaks of at length, so it is all the more useful to have the teaching that is in this address.

References: 'God has never left man without a witness' is a common White Eagle rendering of Acts 14 : 17. White Eagle's quotation from Aquarian Gospel 178 : 47 should actually read, 'What I have done all men can do, and what I am all men shall be'. It mirrors John 14 : 12. White Eagle returns to the thought later in the address. The phrase, 'Put on the whole armour of God' is Ephesians 6 : 11. 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life' is John 14 : 6; 'I am the resurrection and the life' is John 11 : 25. 'The Prince of this world cometh' is John 14 : 30. The Ascension of Jesus is written of in Luke 24 : 51 and in Acts 1 : 1-9 but not elsewhere in the Gospels, although three references in John (3 : 13, 6 : 16 and 20 : 17) seem to anticipate it. Brother Faithful misquotes the final hymn: the lines should end 'shall rise', not 'before'.

White Eagle's Address:

Beloved, beloved brethren of the earthly life, we bring to you all love and spiritual help in your life on the earth plane.

It has been said that God has never left man without a witness, and this is true.

Many people in the world of flesh are most concerned with their physical needs. This is understandable when we see so many on the earth who are suffering pain, injustice, hunger and want of all kinds. Because of this it makes the thinking man doubt the love of God. This

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seems to be the greatest stumbling block on man's progressive path – spiritually progressive path. The everyday or earthly man says, 'How can a God of Love permit so much injustice and suffering?'

Now, there must be an answer to man's natural quest for truth, but how is he to find that answer whilst he is clouded in the mists of materiality and physical suffering? We do not blame, criticise nor condemn any man who honestly doubts the loving wisdom of Divine Intelligence, but we desire or hope to draw aside for our brother man on earth the heavy dark veil which hides from him the light of truth, of spiritual truth.

You have listened to a reading of truth from a Gospel which is not usually read in a Christian church. The words of this Aquarian Gospel have come through from a higher level of life, of spiritual life. These words have been enabled to come through a fine soul – one who was prepared ages before to become an instrument of the Council above. Many of you here know that Council just slightly. You know it by the name of the Great White Brotherhood. The words, the message from this Centre of Truth have been slowly coming through physical agencies, giving man a clearer vision, help[ing] his perception of divine truth. God needs agents. He needs, or It needs, a channel to pour through truth and light. And until man of his own free will and accord takes himself in hand and makes an effort to transfer his thoughts from a physical and material level to a higher level of heavenly truth, he will deny himself that truth. Moreover, he is holding back for the rest of mankind that divine beauty, that divine light.

Now in this service, indeed in every service held in this Lodge, you are led in a special prayer. You call it a prayer for humanity. You project your thoughts. You try to send out *light*, thoughts of light. This means you attune yourself to that Star of Christ; the Star of the six points, the Star of spiritual initiation. And by doing this, endeavouring to send out light with thoughts or the formation of a thought form of a perfect six-pointed Star, you are setting in vibration the light of Christ from the Son of the Creator, which rests within every living soul.

The words of the Master which you have listened to in the reading tonight were these; 'What I Am, you can become. What I do, you can do also'. You will doubt even the possibility of being able to do as He did – demonstrate the power of this Light of the Cosmic Christ in your own being, in your own life. We assure you that the projection of the light, even if you do it weakly or in a feeble way, does good.

Now if you can see with clear vision – clairvoyance onto a higher level of life – you will see that during the time of the sending out of the light there is a light radiating from all of you. From the whole assembly the light goes forth. And this light is like the Sun. It is a spiritual Sun. You know what the physical sun can do on a foggy morning, a misty morning. It gradually penetrates the mists until they fade away. Each one of you is surrounding himself with the spiritual Light just by earnestly and truly sending out thought of Light.

This works two ways. It sends out light to dispel the material and erroneous thoughts of men. It also creates a protective shield around your own aura. You are accustomed to the words, 'Put on the whole armour of God'. But man does not always comprehend how to do this nor of the real help it is to him as well as to his brother man.

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Now when you are in doubt, in grief, when you are perplexed with a difficult problem – whether that problem is earthly or spiritual – if you will cease to worry and to think about your problem as such and transfer your thoughts to that higher level of life – shall we say – to the Shining Temple of the Brotherhood, and think only of God’s love and wisdom, ignoring your problems on earth, you will be receiving on the inner planes from that spiritual level, you will be receiving into your own soul understanding and guidance. And you will be putting into operation a certain power which can direct the physical and the material vibrations, bringing to you harmony and blessing. It is perfectly true that prayer is answered, but the difficulty is so few on earth understand how to pray. Prayer is not a demand. Prayer does not say, ‘Please God, give me all I want or please put some condition right or put it in the way I think it should be.’ Prayer is an aspiration to that Divine Love; a surrendering of one’s anxiety, one’s problems, to that All-Wise, All-Loving Intelligence. In other words it is a surrendering of one’s self to God.

Now if this prayer was a daily practice by man both individually and collectively, the whole world would be in a right condition.

You have just been singing, ‘Cast thy burdens upon the Lord’. And some people will say that the Lord helps those who help themselves. ‘Why should man sit down and let God, his Creator, do all the work?’ Quite correct! Man has to work too. He has to work both spiritually and physically. We mean by this that he has to use his intelligence. He has to use the qualities of the God within him, the Christ qualities, and do his best; think his best. And the power of creation will use him to restore harmony, harmony in his life, harmony in his health. Health, of course, means holiness. To be perfectly healthy every cell of the body, every organ, every part of a man’s body must be working harmoniously. Man breaks every law of holiness. True, he does it ignorantly. He breaks the laws of health. He breaks the law of spiritual brotherhood. He breaks the laws of nature and then complains of the sick body.

Now mind – you, dear, dear brethren on earth – we do not say these things critically. We do not condemn any man. We know that it is due to youth; in other words, to ignorance. Man breaks all the laws of life because he does not understand them.

Now the way to learn to understand the laws of life – and by life we mean not only life in a physical body, but life continuing after the physical body has been laid aside – the laws of life are gradually learnt from experience and often through pain and suffering. But remember that God is merciful. He has implanted in man’s soul a certain quality, a power. Man comes to life with a certain quality of consciousness. This quality can be developed instead of being ignored and obliterated, or very nearly, by selfishness. That is the key, but it is so innocently done. Men and women are working against the pull of the earth, of darkness, of ignorance. Man is on the upward path of spiritual evolution, but in ages past he has been imprisoned in physical conditions which have given to him what may be described as racial instincts which are all of the body. And that racial instinct holds the soul of man down, down, down to earth – and often it is the easiest thing to do to accept material thought and allow material intellect to argue oneself out of the true life. When this little argument goes on in you, remember what we have told you. It is the lower self, the racial self, which is holding you down, but there is another power in you. It is the God power, the Christ power, and the quality of your

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consciousness of God. Some men have only a very slight degree of this God consciousness and others have a greater degree of it. Those who have more consciousness of God can rise more often than not and respond to that blessing of the heavenly truth and light.

Now every time you make the effort to transfer your thoughts from that physical level, that ignorant level of life to that higher level where you will find truth, you are stepping forward all the time. Stepping forward on that path which leads you to freedom, freedom from the thralldom of the lower self, the physical self, the physical life and from all the heaviness and unhappiness and so on.

So, you see, the teaching or the words of Jesus the Christ are profoundly true. The simple teachings and every parable and even every miracle by which He demonstrated to the multitude the love of God, the power of God – all these demonstrations were to show humanity the way. Because He said, 'I AM the Way'. What did this mean? The 'I AM' is the divine spark; the God consciousness within is the 'I AM': the Way, the Truth, the Life. 'I AM the resurrection'. When man follows that divine life and light within him it is saying to him, 'I AM the way, follow thou Me'. We are putting this profound truth in the simplest words we can find. This demonstration can be made by you yourselves by surrendering in humility and knowledge – not only faith, but knowledge. Be certain that this is a divine law of life which operates without fail. When it doesn't appear to you to operate, it means that there is something in the way, possibly your karma, possibly something still in yourself that has to be eradicated, has to be removed, before the full power of the spirit can take over and operate through you.

Now, our last words to you; we want to take you to that Temple of the Sun. There we meet here for ourselves the words of the Law. Now just imagine that we are raised in spirit in a Grecian Temple of the past. The difference between the Sun Temple and the one we are now being taken to is that the Temple in the Sun, in the spiritual spheres, is built of the finest spiritual substance, pulsating with the spiritual power. See the columns which rise up right out of sight supporting, it would seem, a heavenly canopy over the Temple. There in our midst is the tripod or the pedestal upon which the Great Master stands. And He is radiating with heavenly love. And He is pouring upon you, upon all of us – we feel that we are wrapped around by His aura – sunlit aura. We feel comforted, healed. And we are in the centre of Wisdom, simple Wisdom. Wisdom is ever simple, and it is always found where there is love. Love which gives, which serves; love which has no thought except for God's children and for God, the Source of all life.

In this Temple of the Sun are the brethren of the Great White Light. When an earthly man or woman earnestly and sincerely thinks of these beautiful things, he brings them to life. He brings himself to life. And remember what the Lord Jesus Christ said from that raised pedestal or level of consciousness. He said, 'What I can do, you will do also. What I am, you are'. What a wonderful birthright has been given to every man: freewill – a choice between good and evil – free will to tread that higher path and to bring forth in himself not only the knowledge and the consciousness, but the living power of Eternal Life. Jesus demonstrated that He could raise the dead to life. He demonstrated that man will eventually overcome death. How do you think you are going to overcome death? By not recognising death, by being so full of that spiritual life that death will have no part in you. 'The Prince of this World

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cometh and hath nothing in me.' This is what will eventually come to every man. He will have nothing in death because he will not see it, and it will not touch him. He will just live in a world made better by his own efforts.

Now we of the Brotherhood of the Great White Light speak to you, our younger brethren, most earnestly and truly. Do not fear death. *It is not there*. The body may fall away but you, the soul and the spirit, the child of God, will be exactly yourself a moment after your body has been left. But this is only a step on the way. It is only the beginning for you to live always in that heavenly awareness – belief – it is not only faith. Man in ages past lived by faith but in the Aquarian Age man is going to live by knowledge and by his own spiritual unfoldment. By developing that God within him so that his vision operates, his hearing is quickened, his breath is purified and he becomes a holy man of God. And as a holy man of God, he has overcome the world, and has power to transmute every cell of his body, to raise the cells to a higher vibration where those who are in darkness cannot see him. That is the reason why you cannot see those in the spirit world, because you are imprisoned in a body which has no light in it. In order to see, even on the physical plane, you must have light. In order to see on the spiritual planes you must have light.

Now you can go forward humbly and simply. Do not give up your journey. Keep right on, and the more you strive to touch that higher consciousness, the more harmonious, peaceful and beautiful will your earthly life become. Do not be worried or strained by physical inaccuracies. Be at peace. Take your time. Do your best, but hold fast in your heart the love of God and the love for all creation, for all mankind, for the animal and nature kingdoms. Oh, embrace all in the Divine Love which is in you, which is opening in you and enabling you to overcome the flesh and the devil – evil – darkness – ignorance. This is the meaning, the inner meaning of the resurrection and the Ascension.

And the form of Him Whom you worship and love as Jesus the Christ now comes before you in the service. Again, He offers you in symbol this truth, the Heavenly Bread and the Wine. Obliterate everything else from your mind at this moment. See before you His Form and the Table of Communion spread with the pure white ether of the heavenly spheres. Make your own effort to put out your hand. Meekly take the wafer of bread on to your tongue. Let it dissolve – the sustenance of heaven. Raise the cup of heavenly drink and drink deeply if you want to, for it is inexhaustible. Drink the Essence of Divine Love. These are the gifts of our Heavenly Father: the bread of heaven, the spiritual food and the heavenly wine which heals and makes perfect.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

Brother Faithful:

Those of us who can look back on a childhood spent in Victorian days will remember how frequently our houses were hung with Bible texts, usually framed and decorated and mostly of a rather threatening character, reminding us that amidst life we were in death and after death comes the Judgment. Tonight I have been wishing that I had a text to hang up on the wall which I would see when I awakened in the morning, and my text would be a few

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sentences of what White Eagle has said tonight about true prayer. What it is and what it means and what it can bring; just a few sentences. I wish also that they could be written in letters of gold and hung somewhere in this Lodge. I leave that thought with you, and that brings us to hymn number 312: 'These things shall be a loftier race | than e'er the world has known before'.

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:

spiritual unfoldment, spiritual development, light within, intuition, illumination, enlightenment, inner light, spiritual contact, inner peace, path of service, path of the soul, initiation, spiritual work, spiritual service, service, sending out the light, prayer for humanity, healing, healing work, thought power, absent healing, distant healing, power of thought, life after death, psychic studies, contact healing, sun temple, temple of light, heavenly temple, trust, rebirth, reincarnation

