

The Golden Ladder

A332 Sunday Address 24th July 1960 New Lands, Liss Sunday Service

Text: carbon copy of a typescript, probably by AMI. There are no markings. We suspect that in the second half of the third sentence of the second paragraph, the word 'they' should be 'we' (this is confirmed by the next sentence). At the end of the third paragraph, the typist was uncertain whether to transform the word 'of' into 'to' but we have kept the initial reading. The typist, through hearing difficulties, also missed a short phrase near the end of the address – we have inserted the phrase 'tried to touch it', which is reasonable but as much a conjecture as any other phrase would be.

Context: the New Lands service at which White Eagle spoke seems to have stabilised at the end of the month, but there were five Sundays in July 1960 and this was the fourth. The start and end of the typescript contain no indication of readings or hymns, but the hymn 'Breathe on me, breath of God' is identified in the address itself. Unlike the London address at the beginning of the month, this contains a full communion. White Eagle also speaks of the reading, and its being about the golden ladder which angels ascend and descend. This is Jacob's dream in Genesis 28 : 10-19, although it is possible that the concept is also mentioned in the Aquarian Gospel.

General Notes: White Eagle early emphasises the power of sending forth the light – not a 'fleeting thought' but a real power for good. He says how awareness of the Holy Breath helps the body reject its acidity – perhaps a simplification, but doubtless all toxicity is meant. White Eagle refers to the enemy of spiritual development as 'Mammon'. Mammon actually stands for money, wealth, but it is clear that by it White Eagle means mental arrogance or power. Much of the reading is an answer to the question, 'Where do we go to find truth?' – the answer being within, inevitably, but this answer is particularly clearly stated here. 'The light is the most beautiful thing, how beautiful you do not yet realise.' The astral body of our brothers and sisters, he says, sparkles with light – could we but see it. And he insists that matters clothes life at all levels, right through to but not including the causal level. This may be puzzling to us on earth, from which the most obvious thing about the higher planes is that they do not contain matter; but White Eagle is looking down from those planes, whereas we are looking up to them. In bringing into the picture the causal body, a body near the very peak of the soul's cycle of existence, he at last speaks of freedom, real freedom from the bonds of matter.

References: 'Breathe on me, breath of God' is the opening line of the hymn by Edwin Hatch, written in 1878, and a very common choice in White Eagle services, normally as the quiet hymn before White Eagle spoke. For the Golden Ladder, see above, 'Context'. 'What I do, ye shall do also' (John 14 : 12) was a topic at the heart of White Eagle's London address in London at the beginning of this month.

White Eagle's Address:

We are speaking to you from the world of spirit, and we do so because the time has come when the people on the physical plane of life are stirring. They must arise and see the path which lies before them, a path which leads homeward for man.

Now there are many people who wonder what good is done by coming to a religious service. They may feel that the singing of hymns and the uttering of prayers is all childish nonsense. No grown man or woman in the modern age wants to sing hymns and utter prayers to an unknown Being, but they will say that the very action, the very fact of speech, sending a vibration into the ether, is of great assistance or otherwise to man. We mean this, but man lives in a physical world, in a world of very dense dark matter – but he himself, his true nature, his real nature is light. Man is a spirit and is part of the whole of life, part of God, part of his fellow being, and as we have just said, man has now reached the stage on the path of spiritual evolution where he can be quickened in consciousness, awakened to his true nature and to the path which leads to freedom.

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Man does not live for himself alone. Whatever man says or does, every action, every spoken word, every thought has its effect upon the world around him; and by prayer which is sincere, from the heart, man not only helps himself to awaken to the beauty of the life of the spirit but he assists all men to do the same. He is a builder of a new world, not only a physical world but a non-physical world, a world built of the higher ethers which increase in lightness and beauty as man himself evolves through the spheres of spiritual life.

And now a second point we would make, and this is the sending out of the light. Do not think that this is just a fleeting thought, which may be a trial and a nuisance to some. Remember the power which God has given to every soul, every spirit which is clothed in dense matter; and by sending out the light from your heart you are increasing the light in the whole world. Breathe in the light; You have sung the beautiful hymn, 'Breathe on me, breath of God' – an aspiration – and as you breathe in with this thought, with the consciousness of the light of the spirit, you are breathing in the Holy Breath. You are not only cleansing and purifying your body, you are bringing relaxation – which means at the same time all the acid state of the body is being rejected. The body is being purified by the pure Holy Breath.

What does 'Holy Breath' mean? It means healthy, holy breath. You may try this for yourself. Every morning you can be revived by the conscious inbreathing of the breath of creation, the breath of God. And [with] every effort that an individual makes to find truth, he is making progress on the path. He is fulfilling the purpose for which he is living in this dark state on the earth, which again we say is the darkest planet in your solar system. And how has it become so dark and dense? Why is it that materialism is rampant on your earth? Because man succumbed to the temptation of self-power.

In the past humanity fell through this temptation of self-domination, self-power. Man wanted to become as God without the effort and without submitting to the discipline which is necessary for the pure life. Man gave way to the power temptation and rejected the love-wisdom way of life. Spiritual law is very subtle. Man is so foolish. He rejects even the thought of spirit living beyond or apart from physical matter. Mankind is arrogant in thought, arrogant intellectually – yet when man recognises that within his heart chakra is that shining jewel of truth and will submit first and foremost to the guidance of the spirit within him (which is also conscience, which is also the still, small voice, intuition, in-tuition, tuition within, from within) – you see man in these days, particularly just now with this very rapid advance, growth of the mental age, man is worshipping mind and mind is only matter. But that is not recognised. Man does not understand what mind is. But he is certainly worshipping Mammon, and mind can destroy man, destroy him body and soul. Mind can destroy the very planet, but man has to be stirred, stimulated to look within. You see, all truth, children of earth, comes from spirit, but not everything which comes into the mind comes from spirit. Thoughts which are dropped into the mind unfortunately come from negative forces, negative conditions, and man grasps these thoughts and thinks he is wonderful because he has learned something fresh about physical matter.

You know, my children, the saints of all time, the saints have found the truth. They have found the inner secret, and this is the beautiful shining jewel within the lotus of the heart chakra, that shining jewel which is all truth. We heard a young brother saying a few hours

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ago, 'But we have a mind and our minds demands to know *why* and *how* these things happen'. Why? Why? Why? – the eternal question of that physical mind, that material mind. And you say, 'Oh, but we have been given reason. We have a right to reason things out for ourselves. We have a right to know.' My son, you have a right to know and you will know how when you look in the right way and in the right direction for the answer to your question.

The right way to truth is through the spirit. It is so much, the outer world turmoil and chaos and unhappiness, but [of] all these dear, dear brethren of earth never think. They *think* they think with the mortal mind, with the mind which is part of the substance of earth. They do not think with the inner mind. They do not approach problems through the inner self, through intuition. The very word explains itself. Tuition. Training in, inside you. How are you going to get this training? By love. That is why you have descended into matter, into this dense state of life, ignorance, confusion, bewildered, in the dark. Struggling outwards, you are looking outside for help and all the help you want is inside, and you commence from the inner state of conscious life, from the inner. You go inward, and the world that so many of you talk about and believe in – the world of spirit – is all within. It is an inner world, and spirit is within matter. If spirit was withdrawn from matter there would be no life anywhere. Spirit interpenetrates all matter and all the various planes from the physical upward to the heavenly planes.

We assure you that an answer to every question may be found – but has it ever occurred to you that you are like children in the kindergarten? And you cannot expect a child in the kindergarten to give you an answer or even to understand a very profound mathematical problem, because a child has not developed its power to comprehend. It is just Greek, as you would say, to the child. And we all find that we are living on the physical plane confused and bound down by dense matter. We all find ourselves in the same position, and as you heard in the reading, there is a golden ladder from the heart which leads right up to the highest heaven, and angels come and go up and down that ladder to you. Have you ever thought of that? Of the watchfulness and the love which is given to you by your Elder Brethren who have escaped from the bondage in which you now find yourselves? – but even the angels cannot interfere with man's karma.

My children, within *every* human heart is what we describe as the seed atom. It is the spirit, and written or impressed on that centre, that seed, is the karma of the past. You often wonder how much freewill man has, and some foolish people seem to think he has all freewill. That is a grave error. Man is governed by law, by the law which governs the universe; and all that man has before him in his life is impressed on that seed atom. Now these beloved Elder Brethren, whom you may call by the name of Masters, they have by discipline and slow progress on the evolutionary path escaped the bondage of earthly matter – and they have the power to read in man's heart what lies before him, because it is written there and man himself has ordained it. In that way man has free will – if you can call that free will – but whatever is in life is [there] because you have created it. You have begotten it.

My children, all the things which are happening to you in your life are the result of fruits sown at some time, somewhere. But we do not want to depress you and make you feel very unhappy, that there is no hope before you. We have come to give a message of more than hope. We have come to give you a message of truth, of certainty, that you can create – if you

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will obey the law of the spirit. Now your spirit within you, which is love, will tell you, will guide you. You must not be impatient. You must accept day by day the presentation of your own creation. Accept, accept, accept, and be thankful for the opportunity which life on your physical plane gives to you to develop and to stimulate the growth of that spirit deep within you – that divine spirit, that light.

The light is the most beautiful thing, how beautiful you do not yet realise. But when man escapes from the physical body, when that time has come to shed the outer clothing, he finds himself in due time, in due time, in new surroundings and in a new body, and he finds that all his companions in the new life, the planes that you call the astral planes, are clothed in light.

Now if you are clairvoyant, if you have developed clear vision – not just a very earthy extension of your vision but *clear* vision – you will see that the astral body clothing all the companions who come to you – you will see that they are pulsating with light – tiny specks, countless, countless millions of those tiny specks shining, scintillating from the forms of those who have discarded all the lower physical matter. Do not think this is the end and you have arrived when you get to that stage! Oh no, you are just beginning! For there is a long way to go, my children, through the spheres, through all the astral planes and then what you call the mental plane.

Now all these states of life, remember, are clothed in matter, and matter even in the astral world can be inhibiting. It is not until the spirit of man has attained complete mastery over all the planes of matter that he finds himself on that level which has been described, but words cannot describe these states of life,. But you will understand the word ‘causal’. When man gets into that causal plane of life he might then be free, free to move as he wills, because such a man has become as perfect as the earthly sojourn can make him. He has become man made perfect, and this is the goal of every man. Think of it. Jesus the Christ said, ‘What I do, ye can do also.’

Now do not be disappointed. Do not be dragged down by the mind of earth, by that dense, dark matter in the mind. You find the spirit, the light, the light of the world, the light of man, and go inward to find it. How? Now you will be instructed how when you have prepared yourself and the Master can come closer to you. When you can be trusted, when you are saved, then you will be instructed on the inner planes, and do understand this – that these inner planes are not wispy, cloudy things. These inner planes are to the inmates as solid and real as your physical plane is to you. To us of course this is not real, only when we touch it with a physical hand, but if we had [tried to touch it] without the physical hand, there would be no resistance. It is when matter of the same plane comes up against matter that there is resistance – but do understand, children, that in the world of spirit the matter is finer but it is still matter, and so it goes on up through the planes until the soul of man is perfected. Man made perfect. Then he has complete control of matter, and he is so spiritually evolved that he only wants to use his power to love, to help, to heal, to lighten the darkness of all his brethren on earth and in all the confines of matter.

So, my children, keep on keeping on living the life which your inner voice directs, kindly, lovingly, giving help wherever you can, giving love and sustenance in this great work of illuminating the life of man, illuminating the life of all things. Life goes on and on. There is

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no such thing as death. It does not exist. You take off the coat when you have finished with it. It is dropped. You are just the same. You go on. We could continue for a long time with this theme. Man knows that he wants a little more knowledge. 'How can I get it?'

There is only one way, my son. Back you go. 'I don't want to go back.' 'Very well, stay where you are.' But until that inward urge, 'Oh I *must* be able to understand all the problems of life.' [*sic*] Very well, take another trip down, and back he comes in his new body and his life of prayer because he himself has prepared it for his further incarnation.

You may not accept what we say but truth sometimes is not palatable, but we promise you this, that as you follow faithfully in obedience to the world of the spirit you will surely, surely arrive in due time at that stage of freedom and happiness, a state of perfect life, with so many of your companions and your loved ones with you, because what you do does not only affect yourself. It affects a very wide area. Your life is like a pebble dropped into a pond of water, making ripples, and it rolls on and on and on, and you know not the end of a word, a thought, an action.

God bless you, every one; dear, dear children. God bless you and give you peace, and He who is the one perfect Son, the Lord Christ, so humble and gentle and so radiant, so beautiful in His presence, He comes into your midst. Lift up your hearts to a higher level and see Him with clear vision, His form. He brings to you the symbols of communion. Remember these planes, the astral planes, are just as solid as your physical plane, and on this higher astral He bears the symbols of the bread and the wine. And He offers to you the wafer of heavenly bread, the symbol of the bread of life. Take it and eat – in your imagination if you like that word. Accept it from Him; and the blazing, the holy chalice, the cup of wine, symbol of his love for you, symbol of His permeation of life over all mankind. He asks you to sip the wine and feel the power passing all through you, the power of His spirit, His life which He gives to all, but you must realise it, you must sip that wine....

The service is full, full of His power.

Go thy way in trust, in peace. The Lord is with thee.

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:

breathing, light breathing, tree of light, sending out the light, materialism, knowledge, intellect, inner truth, spiritual unfoldment, spiritual development, light within, spiritual path, path of the soul, cause and effect, freedom, karma, psychic studies