

# Ancient Wisdom for Today

T286 The Inner Teachings 12th October 1967 New Lands, Liss

## Invocation:

We give thanks to our Heavenly Father for this opportunity to come to speak once again to our earthly brethren. And we pray that each soul here will be raised in spirit into the golden light and be conscious of the presence of the beloved Master.

O Gracious spirit, we look up to Thee in worship, and in true humility await Thy words of wisdom. May He who is the Beloved, the Lord Jesus the Christ, bless this group by his presence.

Amen.

It is true, we welcome every opportunity to speak to you about the Ancient Wisdom. You may hear quite a lot about the ancient wisdom, but few really understand the meaning of these words. Let us analyse them...ancient wisdom, a wisdom which has been ever since the beginning of life on this earth planet. It is such a deep subject and broad subject that we fear we shall be unable to cover the whole ground in a short time. Nevertheless we will do our best to give you a clear, simple picture of what is meant by 'the Ancient Wisdom.'

But first of all we would raise your thoughts and your spiritual consciousness to heavenly spheres of life and would describe to you the golden temple in spirit in which we are sitting talking to you. Can you also use your spiritual imagination and see this circular temple with its many fluted pillars supporting a domed roof? Can you see the golden light and the pulsation of radiant soul substance or soul-matter of which this temple is composed? There you will see gathered countless souls, all as one in spirit, all together on the one vibratory note. (Try to understand the meaning behind every word we say to you.) When you are all vibrating on the same spiritual note, so you too will feel the harmony and the love and see the wiser brethren gather in the very centre of this assembly.

Now you will have your own ideas of the physical features and appearance of the Master you know and love best, the Master Jesus. He shines with heavenly light, but he is not remote from you, for the love which is now flowing from his heart reaches your heart. This heavenly state of life is not easy to reach whilst you are in your physical body, held down by the heaviness of physical matter and material conditions, but when you have learnt how to rise in thought and in the creative spirit to that heavenly state of life, and make the effort to do so, you will catch a glimpse of its glory. You will feel in your heart the beauty of the spirit world.

Since the beginning of life on this planet there has always been a group of masters guiding the destinies of the world, presided over by the Grand Master whom you understand to be the Great White Light. The Great Light of mankind\*, the Light of the world, uses a physical form for certain purposes, but the Christos is not confined in a human form. The Christos is limitless Light and Love; the Power which has created physical life in all forms. You think of the Creator as God, which is true. God is the Creator, but the Son of God, or the Light which He has brought into being, operates through a form, and if it will not mislead you we will use the word 'personality,' because humanity understands a human being and can accept

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knowledge and wisdom and love through a human being. Through a human being you can understand just a fraction of what love is. You can listen to and absorb knowledge when spoken to you in your own language. Now at a certain stage of spiritual growth or unfoldment you can recognise the wisdom in another human being, or in certain words, certain phraseology. There are wise sayings which have come to humanity down the ages, which you recognise as ancient wisdom because you can see the truth of the teaching being enacted in a human life.

*[\*For editorial policy around gender, see the introduction.]*

Now this is all part of the Ancient Wisdom. Truly great masters have been sent to earth from time to time down the ages. For ages and ages and ages past, for longer than your mortal mind can conceive, this Ancient Wisdom has been coming to the earth, conveyed to humanity by human personalities prepared to become channels for this purpose. From time to time, according to humanity's level of spiritual evolution, these wise ones, these great masters, have been sent forth from the Great White Lodge or centre of eternal truth, to give to men what they could understand of the Ancient Wisdom. As a result, certain beliefs or religions started on the earth plane, because all the teaching contained in the words a way of life. This is always the beginning of a religion—teaching people a way of life. For this reason we ask our earthly brethren always to be tolerant of another man's belief, because in all religions the same basic truth exists, the same Ancient Wisdom. Nevertheless you will find distortion of the original truth after a while. But when a man or woman is searching for truth, when he has learnt to go to the very heart and centre of that truth, which is love, so that he himself becomes love, he becomes tolerant, and when he becomes tolerant and humble his inner vision opens and he learns to understand the symbols he sees in meditation; they speak to his soul; they convey truth to his soul. His spirit is teaching the soul. Have you ever thought of that? Your soul is a body, similar to your physical body, but it is built by your own thought, by your action and reaction. What man thinks so he becomes. So he creates his soul body from the higher ether. Now it is through that soul body that the voice of spirit is heard. Spirit, which is the spark of God, the life of God, uses the soul body just as the soul body uses the physical body to contact physical things and physical life.

Now let us go back again to the beginning of things. We would like first of all to refer to the spirit guides who come to earth people to help them, and sometimes to be helped through their contact with the earthly life. Unknowing people are foolishly critical of spirit guides, who may be American Indian, or Chinese, or Egyptian, any one of these ancient races, thinking they have nothing to give to modern man with his great knowledge. We assure you that the races of the past, many of which have faded away from the earth plane, knew far more about the Ancient Wisdom than most of the people of today. For one thing, these ancient peoples, although they may not have had scientific learning as you understand it, nevertheless they learnt right from the very heart of truth. One of the first things which the ancients learnt from their masters, who came to them from those golden, those heavenly spheres of spirit, was that there were two aspects to life, the physical and the spiritual. They learnt that there was a soul replica of the physical body. They learnt that every manifestation of life on earth had its soul. They were taught how to see into that soul world. This was part

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of their normal, accepted temple training. Don't make the mistake of thinking that the only temples of spiritual training were in Egypt. There are these temples in Europe, in France, in Brittany, and Scandinavia, and even in the most northern parts of the planet. All over the world are the remainders of centres of the Ancient Wisdom, centres of spiritual power which at one time were visited by great masters who brought the Ancient Wisdom and inculcated it into the souls of men. Men in those days were able to see far more clearly into the soul world than has been possible since.

At the present time there is a crude effort to open the minds of human beings to these inner planes, but most truths which come concerning the evolution of the soul come at first in crude form. Let us take one simple example of what we mean—spiritualism itself.

In early days when the edict went forth that it was time for mankind to be awakened to the existence of life after death, very crude methods of material manifestation had to be resorted to, otherwise those guides and helpers deputed to open the minds of humanity could never have penetrated human denseness. They had to resort to physical manifestation such as knockings, and making themselves felt in rather an obvious way, so that people began to say: 'Well, there is something here—a ghost perhaps?' Modern Spiritualism started like this, but now all those old phenomena are outworn and a new presentation is coming to the earth in the form of knowledge about how man can disentangle himself from the bondage of the body and rise in mind and soul into those higher spheres. The knowledge which is coming today tells you how safely and correctly to develop your inner vision, your clairvoyance, your clairaudience, and all the other senses of the soul, so that an etheric bridge is being built between your own world and the spirit world; but note how you on the earth have to start to build the bridge from your side! And when you have done your part and you have built it so far, the builders from the spirit world, who have started from their side, come and join their bridge with yours. Then you have a clear path between earth and heaven. A very simple illustration.

We were talking about the crudity of the break-through, both in spiritualism and in meditation. Many young people today are hungry and searching for soul truth which they know instinctively, yet do not know how to tap it, and resort to crude methods to try to break through the barrier of materiality. When the gramophone was developed it started in a very crude way, gradually becoming more refined, until you have the almost perfect reproduction attained today. The same thing is happening with this development of the soul senses in young people. They are, for instance, resorting to a very peculiar kind of music which horrifies some people, but it is serving a purpose, my friends. It is quickening and awakening the soul centres in some of the young people, although they themselves do not realise what is happening; the music is creating a certain vibration and is quickening their souls. The drugs which you hear so much of today were quite well-known in ancient days, and among many races were those who resorted to them in order to stimulate their psychic powers, but it is not the right way; it is not the pure way; it is not the good way; it is a dangerous way, because while it excites the psychic powers, it also excites the darker side of the psyche.

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This subject of the two aspects of the psyche is too big to enter into tonight, but we want to explain to you that from the beginning knowledge of these two aspects of life was given—knowledge of good and evil, and the purposes of evil in the plan of evolution. God is omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent, and evil as well as good has its purpose in the evolution of all life, acting on the soul to stimulate the good or God in it. The Ancient Wisdom teaches that man must make constant effort towards goodness, and warns him of the suffering and pain which he will eventually have to endure if he allows the negative or the dark forces to drag him down. All the time he must make his effort towards the light, reaching up out of darkness towards the light.

Now the subject of good and evil is one which you will learn more about when you have reached a certain level of spiritual unfoldment, or passed what is sometimes called the higher initiation. All we are prepared tonight to tell you who are so dear to us, who have been with us in a number of past lives, is that your path is the path of discipline, of purity, of love and service to your fellow creatures, but at the same time remember that the dark side, the negative side, has a very wise purpose which you will one day understand for yourselves. Work persistently and consistently towards the light.

The ancients also practised the art of healing. You say: ‘Well why did they need healing?’ Well, even though they were good brethren, they were not wholly perfect. Like you, they had to learn truth. They were taught by the great masters that man was between two worlds, the soul world and the physical world, and that he was in the midst of powerful forces. You too are learning this. They learnt how to make contact mentally and spiritually with the forces of nature, and how to use and live and work in harmony with them. They were taught, for instance, how in the act of breathing in the fresh air they could also establish contact with the angels of light. An angel is always a messenger from God. Therefore these angelic or nature forces were able to direct rays of light, power, wisdom and love to the brothers, and through certain practices—notably in meditation and in their way of life—they were able to form very true and beautiful links with those natural forces, and even with the great Devas themselves. As you unfold spiritually you will be able to see, even as the ancients did, the spirits of the air, the sylphs and tiny fairies, the angels of the water element, and those lesser spirits who work at their command, the water sprites, the undines. You would see the spirits associated with the earth element, the fairies and the gnomes. The ancient peoples were helped by these angelic powers and these nature beings to fertilise the soil by the power of the spirit. They had the secret of a spiritual fertiliser and how to work within natural law to maintain the fertility of the soil. Some of these ancient temples which remain in your country were centres from which the whole countryside was enriched by the radiation and absorption of the Great White Light.

Ancient wisdom teaches that behind the physical sun is the spiritual Sun or the White Light, and the ancients were taught how to use and direct this White Light for the blessing of their life on earth. They were taught how to work with the angels to control the elements. Have you heard of my Red Indian\* friends controlling the wind and the weather? You will do this later on by some machinery of earth, but in time you too will learn to go back to the ancient way of soul and mental control of the forces of the air.

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*[\*When these teachings were given in the 1930s, the term 'Indian' or 'Red Indian' was common parlance used to refer to Native Americans.]*

We want you all gradually to understand and learn the power of creative thought, God thought. We want you to understand and work in harmony with natural and spiritual laws, which govern all life. We want you to learn to thank God for every manifestation of this law, even if it sometimes seems dark and difficult. Remember, without the rain you would have no harvest and would wither and die. You have to learn to understand and accept the natural law as the ancients did, to love and rejoice in the rain as well as the sunshine. This is a secret which is most important for humanity to learn.

Many of your clever people today would say the ancients were superstitious, but they were not superstitious; they had truth which people today have not yet found. The brothers in those days were taught to breathe in consciously, to meditate on nature, on the beauty of the grass and the corn and the flowers and the trees and all the blessings of nature. And also they were taught that, when they went to rest at night their last thoughts should be of God and of the attributes of God; they should open their souls to God's love, God's wisdom, God's power, to the beauty of the brotherhood of all life.

Let us now meditate together on the at-one-ment of life. In your meditation try to realise that you are not separate but that you all are of the one spirit. You have to learn that humanity is one vast brotherhood of life; that all nature is part of you; you are part of nature; you are part of the animal kingdom; you are part of the air and the birds in the air and the fish in the sea; you are part of the whole of creation because you are a part of God and all creation is in God. To reach this realisation you must rise in your imagination into the golden Light, the supreme Light, and there prostrate yourselves humbly before the Almighty God in whom we all live and breathe; who is infinity and eternity. It is impossible for the spirit to be separated one from another. All are in IT. You can never lose a loved one for that loved one is with you, an individual close to you. Listen to his or her voice speaking to you in the language of the spirit, which is love and love and love. You cannot be separated from anyone you love either on this earth or in the soul world. Think often along these lines and let the soul or spirit world become part of this physical world for you. All that happens at death is that the suffering body is cast off, but the soul you love is exactly the same, oh so happy to be free and well, and yet closer to you than ever before.

This truth is part of the Ancient Wisdom. Life is good! So live life to the full. Live to glorify your Creator; live to give from your own soul and body life-giving, healing rays, either by thought or action. Give out health. Give out love. Give out light. This is the work of every true brother of the light.

### Benediction:

O Great White Spirit, immortal, invisible, infinite, eternal Love, from Whom all creatures derive life, we thank Thee for life, for all that it brings to us of joy, of knowledge and

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wisdom. We pray that the consciousness of Thy love will be our companion for ever. May love and beauty, truth and wisdom companion Thy children on earth, that they may overcome all bitterness, all war, all cruelty. O God, may love bathe the earth that wars may cease and beauty and peace return. Thy will...so be it.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

*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:*

*Psychic development, spiritual planes, history, creation, evolution, balance, sensitivity*

