

The Law and the Perfect Life

A333 Sunday Address 25th September 1960 St Mary Abbots Place, London Harvest Festival Service

Text: top copy in blue of MB's typescript, no later markings. The address does not seem to have been published. In the paragraph beginning 'Now, we have occasionally thrown out', the sentence that begins 'He wants the greatest – we were going to say – sun' might have been intended to have 'sum' for 'sun' as White Eagle appears to be talking about financial greed here.

Context: September, November (sometimes) and December are the months that break the pattern of White Eagle speaking on the first Sunday of the month, because of festivals. On this occasion, he is speaking on the fourth Sunday; the New Lands Harvest fell two weeks later, on 9 October and there does not seem to have been a London October service. The anthem is given as 'Praise ye and bless ye the Lord'. There is no well-known anthem with this title, so assuming the name is correct, it is probably a composition by someone known to the choir, maybe Mary or Elizabeth Brameld. The reading seems to have been a complex set of verses from Galatians: 5 : 16-18, 21-26, and 6 : 1-10. The passage from chapter 6 is understandable; it includes such phrases as 'Bear ye one another's burdens', 'God is not mocked' and 'Be not weary in well-doing' while the verses from chapter 5 are summed up in the phrase 'Live in the spirit' – but they include some unlikely phrases about drunkenness and the lusts of the flesh – it is conceivable the list of verses is incorrect. Brother Faithful, at the end, announces the last hymn as 'God is working His purpose out'. There is a communion.

General Notes: White Eagle's harvest messages sometimes feel as though they are repeating the same message from year to year, as – inevitably – they are. However this one quite quickly tackles the problem of suffering, and then gives the strongest of reminders to those likely to fear nuclear war, that they are missionaries for the light. The address is in fact an unusually strong call to the service of the light. It is also a plea to avoid cruelty and a clear indication of the effects on the self of the eating of animals. The communion is particularly beautiful and offers a reunion with loved ones as well.

References: there is a little confusion in White Eagle's appeal to 'the first law of life', which White Eagle always insists is love. 'Thou shalt love one another' is in effect the new commandment mediated to us by St John's Gospel (13 : 34). 'Thou shalt not kill' is one of the Mosaic commandments (Exodus 20 : 13). The lines beginning 'The angel comes to draw the bolt' are misquoted from James Russell Lowell's poem, 'On the death of a friend's child'; they should read: 'Life is the jailer, Death the angel sent | To draw the unwilling bolts and set us free'.

White Eagle's Address:

May the blessing of the Great White Spirit be upon you all, my brethren.

And we bring to you, from our world of light, love and joy – and peace of spirit. And before we proceed to talk further you, we would say thank you. Thank you to our choir for their loving service to the White Eagle Lodge, and to you all we would say thank you for your gifts to this Harvest Festival. And we take this opportunity of saying thank you for your gifts, material gifts, to our work. This work would be unable to continue without the gifts of our members and brethren. We would like you all to understand that you can individually be used by the spirit to forward the work of the spirit. And to any of you who may have at some time questioned about the need, the material needs of a spiritual work we can assure you that these needs are great. And in your world today which is so rampant with material thoughts, there is special need for you as members and brethren to support the work materially, and by your love.

The Law and the Perfect Life

A333 Sunday Address 25th September 1960 St Mary Abbots Place, London Harvest Festival Service

Now, the Council above, the Council of the Great White Brotherhood, are calling to you and would remind you that whilst there are many good causes and charities to be supported for the blessing of mankind on the physical plane, there are so many more people on your earth to support such good causes than there are people on your earth who are yet aware of the spiritual work which the White Brother is endeavouring to do on the earth for the New Age; for the quickening of the spirit within man, and to help man to comprehend his own need and the capabilities, the gifts, which lie dormant within his mind and body and his spirit.

Do remember that you and we are all working in this corner and many other small corners over the earth. We are working, not with great pomp and noise, but quietly on the inner planes as well as upon the physical plane.

Remember at this Service of Harvest that the seed which has produced the fruits and flowers, the grain so vitally necessary to man's life, these seeds grow quietly unnoticed by the masses, by humanity. They just suddenly see the fruit or the grain and say, 'Oh how nice, what beautiful fruit! How golden is the grain! – and think no more about it. But this evidence before you now is a symbol which we want you all to take to heart, the symbol of the sowing of the seed, the spiritual seed on earth and in man's own being for the production of the harvest fruits and flowers and grain on earth; but remember, brethren, the spiritual harvest – not only the harvest which man will behold in the spirit realms when he has left the physical body, but also the harvest which man will reap in his own life. Now, this is the foundation of our Harvest Festival talk.

There is so much suffering on earth, suffering in the physical body, pain and torture of the body, terrible diseases which grip the body. And man accepts these things as the Will of God.

Oh, my children, God's Will for man is the Perfect Life, the happy life, the healthy and wholesome life. God does not send the afflictions of sickness and death. These things are the result or, shall we say, the harvest of ignorance, selfishness and undisciplined life; but it springs from ignorance. Look out into the world at the present time and you see confusion and conflict and fear. You see the torture of men, torture of their minds as well as their bodies. Why does God permit these things? We know this is a question of the mortal mind, the intellect – always the question; why! why! why! does God permit these things. We will try to give you a few thoughts on this subject.

Now, whilst man continues in his ignorance, with a closed mind refusing to listen to the message of the spirit, he will suffer. But as a result of this suffering he will slowly realise, he will learn that by not putting into practice, or practising, the broken law of love, he suffers.

Now the law of love is spread throughout the whole of life, through the whole world. And not only man suffers, but the lesser creatures suffer through man's ignorance and because he refuses to pursue investigation into the higher life, the spiritual life. Man closes his mind to spiritual truth. He clings with all his might to the material aspect of life, completely ignoring the truth that permeating all form is a higher life – call it what you will – the white ether, the Christ spirit, the Great White Light, the Spirit of love and goodwill and gentleness. And as a result, because man follows the path of matter, he suffers. He cannot help it. When man looks

The Law and the Perfect Life

A333 Sunday Address 25th September 1960 St Mary Abbots Place, London Harvest Festival Service

above physical matter, when man opens his heart in compassion; when he thinks of the unnecessary cruelty which is inflicted on life, on the life of his brother man, his brother animal and his Mother Earth; when he uses his brain to think on the good, the true and the beautiful he will then shrink from inflicting suffering and pain upon all things. You would not willingly or wilfully torture your Mother, yet the Earth is the Great Mother of all living things. All creatures are your brethren. You would not willingly slay your brother. You remember in the Jewish history the slaying of Cain by his brother? [This] is just a thought we leave with you, but think it out and study the history and the events [that ensued] from that slaying of a brother.

Now, these teachings in the Old Testament, although they are obscure when you read them merely by the – with the – mind, when you ponder on them and meditate upon them you will discover the wonderful symbolism in these stories – one might call them parables. There are many parables in the scriptures, but man does not take the trouble to think them out. He does not know that he can retreat to an inner sanctuary, a temple of learning which he will discover in the inner planes. He will discover that he has the power to enter spiritual schools of learning. There he will have unfolded to him the true implication contained in these parables.

We have just reminded you of pain and suffering and confusion on your earth today. Many fearful ones say they hope there will not be a third world war. Do you know how to prevent this? And you may think that this is a foolish remark that we make. Commence here and now to work both on yourself and the circumstances of your life, to raise yourself to a spiritual viewpoint. Be missionaries. Behold the Master sends you forth as missionaries to unfold to mankind the gospel of the spirit, the gospel of love and brotherhood, the gospel of wise living, right living. You can help your earth far, far beyond your imagination by doing your own little bit to convey to your neighbours, your companions, your family, the community in which you live the truths which you are learning; the truths about the spirit and its power to direct matter on to a path of goodwill, perfect health and complete happiness.

We know that this sounds very farfetched. Remember brethren, from the tiny seed of the tree, the oak tree, from that tiny acorn, the great oak tree grows and spreads its branches, giving shade and protection for living creatures. Not one of you here is too insignificant to do a mighty work on your earth if only you will follow the line, the straight white line, which leadeth upward to the heart of the Creator, to the heart of the Cosmos. Do remember what we say because it is so vitally important. Children, children of earth, behold the glory, the bounty of the earth. Do you know that if your earth, the very substance of the earth, the soil, was kindly and properly and intelligently treated it would produce for you – for mankind – the most perfect health-giving food?

Now, we have occasionally thrown out – shall we say – hints or given you a vision of a future life on earth, not only in the spheres of Light surrounding the earth, but a future on earth when man would no longer suffer distress, but would live – shall we say – indefinitely, or he would retain his physical form as long as it was necessary for him to have that physical form for his work – his life – on the physical plane. You think, you smile and you say, ‘Oh, that is very far-fetched, White Eagle’. No! It is true, my brethren. And God has given man the earth and the fullness thereof. Man despises it, does his best to destroy it, because he wants, is

The Law and the Perfect Life

A333 Sunday Address 25th September 1960 St Mary Abbots Place, London Harvest Festival Service

greedy, oh so greedy, for the things which satisfy his lowest instincts. He wants the greatest – we were going to say – sun – he wants what you call money. He does anything irrespective of his brother man and his brother animal and Mother Earth – anything so long as he can get the satisfaction of handling physical wealth.

Now, that is breaking the first law of life, breaking divine law which says: ‘Thou shalt love one another. Thou shalt not kill.’ We are very reticent to force you, dear ones, to do anything against your own wishes. You have freewill, you can choose. But choose unwisely and selfishly and greedily and you are choosing pain and suffering and death. Choose wisely, selflessly, lovingly and you are choosing to reap a harvest of health, good health, beautiful conditions in yourself, in your surroundings and to top all that you are building for yourself a spiritual home of unimaginable beauty.

Now, you see there is a good deal in the old, old story of hell and heaven. Of course, to the modern idea that is all rubbish, that is all old wives’ tales. Don’t you believe it, my friends, it is a law. No one can escape that law. With the gifts of the earth all around us, man should not suffer disease. That is the result of broken law – maybe ignorance – but then, through ignorance and suffering man learns.

Now, the future holds great hope for mankind, because there is an infiltration of good thought, God-thought into the consciousness of man. Oh, there are quite a gathering of people on earth now who would not slay their brother animal to eat its flesh. Would you slay the brother or sister now sitting by your side? Would you stick a knife in them, and then take them home on your back to cook them and eat them? No! You shudder at the thought. Of course you are Christians and you would not slay nor eat your brother man. You would be called a cannibal.

Oh, my children, we beg you to think carefully. We know that we are talking to the converted but there is so much to do in voicing gently and tolerantly and wisely your knowledge that by eating the wrong things, filling your body with poisons; filling your rivers and the waters of the earth with poison you are poisoning all life. But by wise and good thought, loving all creatures, seeking your sustenance from the fruits of the earth and the golden grain; and taking if necessary for the correction of any little indispositions in the physical body, taking first of all your trouble to God, making your contact with the Great White Spirit, in your spirit absorbing into your being the cosmic rays of healing and also adding, if necessary, the herbs of the earth to harmonise and cleanse and dispose of any little poison which may creep into the body through wrong living, through wrong thought, through emotional strain and disturbance.

You see, my children, if you can attune yourselves to the harmonies of the spheres, and the harmonies of the Great Spirit over all, you will achieve the perfect life, perfect health, longevity as long as you want to live and whilst you have a particular work to do in the physical body. When the time arrives for you to leave the physical body – as one of your greatest poets, American poet, we think our greatest poet said:

The Law and the Perfect Life

A333 Sunday Address 25th September 1960 St Mary Abbots Place, London Harvest
Festival Service

‘The Angel comes to draw the bolt and set you free into a world of lightness, beauty, perfect happiness; to a life of fulfilment in every way.’

And He Who is all love, the Son, who is the Golden One right now, He comes here into your midst. He is with us, my children, my brothers, He is here. And He brings to you again a symbol. And offers it to you, the golden grain of bread, the symbol of the perfect food, and the juice of the fruits of the grapes.

The Bread and the Wine: your food, my dear ones; and, if you can, so attune yourselves and get above that destructive physical brain and mind – spiritualise that physical brain and mind, so that your intelligence and your intellect can comprehend the grandeurs of the universe, for without an adequate spiritualised mind no man can comprehend the glories of the Universe.

And now, my dear ones, will you be still, and in spirit visualise the Beloved Lord standing so patiently and lovingly waiting for you to accept from His Hands the Heavenly Bread, the Heavenly Wine – these symbols of Eternal Life. Receive now this Holy Communion from the Lord, the Son, the Life Giver.

And a great fountain of golden light – golden fire – is now spreading all over this congregation. And in this Divine Fire are the spirits of those you love – not dead, not dead but oh, so close to you! – in the fire of the Spirit.

We love. You must love, and reap a rich golden harvest of the perfect life in a perfectly healthy body; and a harvest home of *light* and *joy* and *perfection*. God’s Will. God’s gift to you.

The blessing of the Most High be upon you. Amen.Amen.Amen.

Brother Faithful:

We who have worked and worshipped in the Lodge over the years have seen the sowing of the seed, the sowing of the corn. And we have seen it break through and seen its first growth. As yet, it is a tender plant needing care, watchfulness, loving kindness.

But it is our privilege by our work and worship here and elsewhere, because by the Lodge I mean the whole circumference of the White Eagle work, which embraces many nations. It is

The Law and the Perfect Life

A333 Sunday Address 25th September 1960 St Mary Abbots Place, London Harvest
Festival Service

our work here, our charge to help in this growth of many people. Perhaps many nations can find shelter, comfort and rest under the mighty tree.

And so our closing hymn rather aptly follows the words.

No. 300. 'God is working His purpose out
As year succeeds to year.'

Amen.

