

# The Brotherhood of Christ

A392 Sunday Address 14th May 1967 St Mary Abbots Place, London Whitsun Service

*Text:* MB typescript, a blue top copy. She failed fully to capture the beginning of a sentence in a paragraph two thirds of the way through, marked here.

*Context:* the number of White Eagle Whit Sunday addresses from the London platform is not huge; most Whit Sunday addresses, insofar as they occur, are from New Lands. The flower arrangers thought it was special: 'Exquisite and beautifully arranged white irises in the hall of the White Eagle Lodge, in the antechapel and on the Altar in the chapel silently expressed the spirit of White Sunday' Brother Faithful introduced hymn 177 ('Come down O love divine', the Renaissance words of Bianco da Siena sung to Vaughan Williams' famous tune, 'Down Ampney'). Minesta's Invocation is not recorded here, but after it Brother Faithful read from chapter 182 of the Aquarian Gospel (without any indication which of the 40 verses were read). This is the very last chapter of the Gospel, and is an account of the feast of Pentecost; in it, what come to the disciples are balls of fire. Then came hymn 178, 'Come Holy Ghost, our souls inspire', whose words, attributed to Rabanus Maurus in the eighth or ninth century and translated in the seventeenth by John Cosin, would have been sung to the tune 'Veni Creator Spiritus', based on plainsong. After the prayers, the Choir 'beautifully rendered' (MB) 'Spirit of mercy, truth and love|O shed Thy radiance from above'. This is normally a hymn setting; the Choir may have had access to an anthem version, or it may have been felt the hymn tune and its parts were lovely enough in themselves to form an anthem. We don't however know which tune or setting was sung. At the end, the hymn was no. 507, 'Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost' (words by the nineteenth-century poet Christopher Wordsworth; tune probably 'Capetown' by Friedrich Flitz). Minesta then gave a Benediction and the Choir ended the service with 'Hail, gladdening light', probably in the version by John Stainer.

*General notes:* this address focuses very much on presence, the presence of spirit in the midst of earthly worshippers – which is fully appropriate for Whitsun, a festival in which the Holy Spirit is received into earthly being. After some words about religion not being dead at all, but rather, the end to a very earnest quest in ever more people, White Eagle is keen to show us how most easily to rise in spirit and feel the 'presence' that he speaks of early in the address. This introduction finished, White Eagle then offers unexpectedly detailed teaching about the brotherhoods of old and with the meaning of brotherhood, which includes brotherhood with spirit. He also makes clear that the ceremony known as Whitsun is, like the others in the Christian year, much more ancient than generally thought. The coming of the Comforter is universal, not exclusively Christian, and White Eagle works hard both in the teaching and in the communion that follows to make the coming of the Comforter absolutely real for us. The communion is indeed very detailed and lovely. One additional point White Eagle makes before the end is about evil, the presence of which puzzles people. He compares it to night time, and also to death, and asks if we can see these as completely natural, why cannot we see evil in the same way, part of an endless cycle? The quality of this beautiful teaching is not easy to summarise.

*References:* 'Come Holy Spirit, come' is not as such a biblical quotation, although so close to a number of phrases as to feel like one; it is the first line of many songs, prayers and anthems including (more or less) two of the hymns sung in this service. 'The dead know not anything' is Ecclesiastes 9 : 5. 'I will send you another Comforter' and the words that follow are John 14 : 16-17. 'Clothed in white': neither the account of Pentecost in Acts 2, nor the account in the Aquarian Gospel speak of those present being clothed in white. In the previous chapter of Acts, however, wherein is related the story of Jesus' Ascension, as the Disciples watch Jesus going into heaven, 'two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, "Ye men of Galilee, why do ye stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as ye saw Him go into heaven."' (Acts 1 : 10-11). 'The Christine religion' – this is a phrase or appellation White Eagle borrows from the Aquarian Gospel, and particularly from the final chapter, read before this address: no. 182. Full moon in Gemini: of course, the feast of Whitsun does not always occur at the full moon

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in June, but almost always before it. At a later period in his teaching, White Eagle was inclined to see Whitsun as preparatory to what he calls the Christ Festival, which is indeed associated with the June full moon. 'Whatsoever things are true', etc., is Philippians 4 : 8.

## White Eagle's Address:

Beloved children, beloved brethren of the earth plane, we come to speak to you with joy, oh so much joy, on this occasion. We trust and pray that every soul present – *every soul present* – will feel this power, this spiritual power which is now pouring upon every one of you present. And we pray that your inner vision may be opened and that you will see – not with your physical eyes but with the inner eyes of your spirit – you will become aware, you will see in your spirit the heavenly hosts, the great white angels, the Great White Brotherhood of men and of angels now assembled here.

Brethren, remember that it is for you to open your hearts to the love of God, to the love of the Great White Spirit, to the love of the companions of your spirit, to those who draw close to you, dear ones, still imprisoned in your physical conditions of life. It is for you to open your hearts in simplicity to the Presence, the Holy Presence, to the circle of the Christ angels and white brethren.

Now, however, close they come to you. Unless you are simple and humble of mind and heart, if you can truly bow your heads and say, 'Come Holy Spirit, come' and feel that inspiration and that love rising up in yourself; until you can feel this and are able to direct that love from your heart out into life, into the brotherhood of life; until you can feel it and do this, you will find yourselves in a barren wilderness. This is what happens to the soul who remains stuck on the lower mental plane, who remains fixed on the plane of earthly intellect.

Now we know that there are so many dear people who will argue with themselves. They question everything. Unless what they hear or read or see appeals to their reason, they pick it to pieces like picking to pieces a beautiful flower, petal by petal. They pull it apart until there is nothing left. Now this is what the lower intellect will do.

Now there is a difference between the intellect of earth and divine intelligence. Divine intelligence is the understanding of God's creation and the purpose of life. Divine intelligence is able to see right beneath all forms of matter. Divine intelligence can see pure spirit in the heart of man, in the centre of every form of life.

Now this is the explanation of man's divine intelligence; when he is able to receive into his being that awareness, that consciousness of the all-enfolding love force, the cosmic power, Divine Love and the eternal truth of spirit bring.

We know that there is at the present time on your earth a doubt in the minds – *in the minds* – of many people about religion. Is religion growing stronger or is it fading away from human life? But from our side of life, from the spirit, we are able to see as from a mountain top, and we can see a far wider expanse of life. In other words, we have a wider vision than anyone who is chained on the earth plane. And we see that there is an increasing power of religion,

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desire for religion in the soul of man. Not the outworn creeds and dogmas of an outworn orthodoxy, but we can see the searching mind and spirit of all peoples all over the earth, whether they are black, yellow, red or white skinned people. We can see this longing in the hearts of men and women for God. And this is natural when you consider that that desire and that search for a conscious union with the Infinite and Eternal Spirit is because within man's own soul is that spark, that fire, that Divine life, which is surging upwards, reaching out to find home, to find that link with its Source so that the perfect circle is completed.

We think of the straight line which appears to you to be a straight line, but which is not a straight line. It always inevitably curves round and eventually joins up in that complete circle. And in the centre of that circle is the divine seed. Now this is very simple. You can put it to the test yourself. You can sit quietly, if you can get that rampacious earthly mind quiet. If you can sit quietly and breathe in the peace of God, you can feel then that you will be raised in consciousness. And you will begin to see form or colour or life at a higher level of vision. And you will know, as surely as night follows day, you will know that you have within yourself something which is related to all, not only form of life, colour and sound which is radiating all around you, but around you in the simple earthly man and woman who is at present unawakened. We will not say unevolved; we will say unawakened to these truths, the science, to the spiritual science of life. Such a man or woman would not know anything. They are as dead. As the Master would say, 'The dead know not anything'.

And until you become alive in spirit you are as one dead. But to return to what we were saying, if you will sit in peace and quiet in meditation and just try to realise or imagine this life, this life of spirit, life in a higher ether all around you, you will feel that you are part of it. That is the point, you are part of 'IT'. You are part of the whole. We have often said to you, in love there is no separation. Of course not, because love is God; and when a man loves, he is with God, and He is in all life, all peoples. Never forget this relationship between yourself and the Great White Spirit.

Today on your – I think we are reading it correctly – today is, on your physical plane of life, known as White Sunday or Whit Sunday. You may have read stories in your Christian Bible about what happened to the disciples of Jesus Christ on this particular Whit or White Sunday. They had all gathered together in Jerusalem, the disciples of Jesus, that is the Inner Brotherhood – shall we call them? They were gathered in an upper room waiting for the fulfilment of the promise of Jesus Christ, Who said, 'I will send you another Comforter, even the spirit of Truth which the world cannot know or see or understand'.

Now, dear brethren, when you gather together in a small group, in a small brotherhood, which means, of course, every soul being in harmony with the others, you know, my children, you will get the most perfect and beautiful manifestation in your group of that Holy Spirit. It will not only be seen with clairvoyance as flashes of light or tongues of flame – it will not only be seen with clairvoyance – but every soul in that circle or group will be able to respond to the outpouring of that holy blessing.

This is what is lacking on your earth plane. There is too much mental enquiry into religion. There is too much wanting to hear sounds and see phenomena. There is not sufficient of that

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quiet still spirit in man listening: not listening to the voices of spirits, but listening to the harmony; the harmonies of Heaven.

And you will remember that on Whit Sunday many of the followers in the Temple were clothed in white. We often now see the little children at Whitsuntide clothed in white as they go into the Temple or church to worship God or maybe Jesus or anyway a Great Master, or even the Great White Spirit. We associate Whitsuntide with white garments, with White Light, with the coming down to earth of this Holy Blessing.

But you know, my dear ones, that this Great Festival of Whitsun was known to the Brotherhood. We will tell you what we mean by *Brotherhood*. Whitsun was known to the Brotherhood, to those few men and women – yes, there were women equally in the Brotherhood, and still the women are in the Brotherhood of the Great White Light. All souls – no difference between the sexes – but all souls are the same in the eyes of God. And as we have already told you on other occasions, the Brethren were drawn together by that same magnet that we have already described to you, the *light* which had risen in their hearts, their longing for God, and their reception through the great masters of the laws of living. And these Brethren received in humility and accepted those laws of life which have been handed down through the ages, right from the beginning of human life on earth.

Now immediately we feel – we can register the minds, the young minds particularly ... [typist's incomplete sentence] were in the beginning? They were not in the beginning. They had not developed into human beings. Now do not be too sure, my young friends, of what you are saying, because we can assure you that in the beginning of this earth plane there were sent to the planet evolved souls – call them what you will – Masters, Teachers, Beings, who were from the other – from outer space if you like. You will understand this – from outer space. Immediately another question pops up – we are reading it – ‘Oh, did they come in flying saucers?’ Maybe, maybe, that is a secret for you which will be known in due time when humanity is ready to receive truth. Humanity, we know, will receive truth. Humanity will know that the earth planet is not the only planet in the solar system, nor is it the only planet in the vast infinity, [the] vast space. Now those who are so intellectual and so probing for truth, they will accept that fact. And it is not very wise to think that earth's humanity is the only form of life upon any planet in your own solar system. We can say that truly because we are in the position to know that this is truth.

Anyway, let us continue with our message. The outpouring of the power of the spirit, the outpouring of the power of the life force of the Spiritual Sun (Son) or the Christos was known way down the ages. It was not introduced to earth's humanity by your dear orthodox teaching or church.

When we speak of the Christine religion we are speaking of that pure religion which came to mankind from the Christos far down the ages. But also the Whitsuntide Festival, as you call it, has always been associated with the full Moon, the full moon in June, in Gemini – in Gemini – and at this time there is a particular outflowing of light and spiritual power onto the earth. And when this happens, those souls who are ready to respond and who are humble and simple and will respond like a little child to that infinite power of the spirit, such souls will



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receive in full measure, pressed down and running over. Now it will work out through your ordinary simple human life. Now you, many, many people – we do not say you necessarily – but many people are always looking for miracles. They say the time for miracles is over. But they fail to study human life. They fail to study their own human life, their individual life. And we say that when a soul can be receptive to that infinite and glorious light of the Christos, so that the heart and mind is full of light, the body naturally responds to those divine laws of pure living, pure thinking, the divine laws of brotherhood – goodwill and peace on earth – such souls become channels for that light and truth and wisdom of the Great White Spirit.

Now it is up to you people, everyone on earth, to control and direct by the power of the truth of the spirit within the heart, which works through intuition, through the response that the individual can give to the Presence, to the influence, to the guidance of those Wise and Greater Beings; response to the influence and the power of the angels of the spheres. Oh yes, do be broadminded, my children. Open your minds and above all open your hearts to that Love of God. ‘Whatsoever things are good; whatsoever things are pure; whatsoever things are true and of good report, think on those things.’

And you will say, ‘but are we to take no notice of all the evil that is on earth?’ How much notice do you take when darkness comes over you at night? It is a natural phenomenon; night follows day – you accept it. Death follows life, you accept it. Therefore, accept, accept, accept what flows into your mind and heart which is of God, which is true, which is lovely, which is wise, which is of good report. And it is in this way, my children, that you open yourselves to the guidance and the love and the blessing of the heavenly hosts, who will work through your own particular master, guide or teacher. And you will find that as you open your consciousness to the cosmic forces, these cosmic rays, you will find better health if you obey the laws of pure living, breathing in God’s air, drinking the pure water which comes from the heavens, and so on. If you obey by eating the pure grains, fruits and vegetables of the earth, if you obey by raising your thoughts to the Great White Spirit, to the heavenly Father, remembering the gifts of the Great Mother, Earth – remember too the blessings which you have received through the knowledge which has been given to you of life after death. You don’t need necessarily to have demonstration after demonstration to make ... [typist omission] but you do not need a continual demonstration. And if you know you live on after death and if you are true to that inner voice of the spirit, you will know this; but if you let this doubting Thomas within you whisper to you ... [typist omission].

Now be true to your Creator, the Great White Spirit. Be true in thought and action, in service to your fellow men, and then you will find that this power which comes to you today, which comes to you when the full moon is in Gemini, it will sweep into your body and radiate around you and cause harmony and happiness and joy to come to you in your life. This is the meaning of the Comforter. This is the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth which the world cannot see; the worldly cannot see and does not often understand. But only the simple heart of a godly man can understand the meaning of the Comforter which the Lord God will send to every one of His children; when the child will become as a little child and not be too arrogant to kneel in silence to pray.

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Now before we leave you, we will describe the vast White Temple in which you are now assembled, not down there on the earth in a physical plane, but up here in the higher ether – this lovely circular White Temple with windows or apertures all round through which the glorious gentle light is falling upon us now. Tier upon tier of beings, human beings and angelic beings are assembled now. And from the centre of this White Temple in the spirit there is descending into your midst a white dove. A white dove is aflame with light. Picture it. Picture it, the dove and the radiation round. It gradually assumes the form of the Christos, the Golden One, the Son in human form.

He brings to you the symbols of the heavenly bread and the heavenly wine. Now see the table, the communion table or the altar spread with the cloth of the pure white ether. This Golden Figure stands before it, hands upraised. He blesses these symbols – the golden plate holding innumerable, countless wafers of bread and the holy cup of wine. Now look and you will see the cup which you associate with what is meant by the Holy Grail. Upon both those symbols the *light* from His hands pours down. He is the *power*. This is the truth; the Holy Communion on this White Sunday in your mind – your higher mind – your spiritual mind. Accept from Him the bread which is the symbol, the symbol only, of the cosmic body, the whole cosmic body of life, of the Creator or of the Christ, the Christos. Absorb it. Take it. Accept it from Him. It is on your tongue. It melts. You absorb into your consciousness the truth that you are part of the Whole, of the Cosmos. Your body is part of all bodies, of all form. You are at one with God, with Life. This is the blessing.

If you look at that Grail Cup, you will see the light streaming into it; and you will see the lesser light in it, symbol of yourself, your own soul. And this cup is raised to your lips. Sip this golden wine, the essence of life, the essence of spirit, divine love. Absorb it. Let it pass right through your being and feel, *feel* yourself alive; *alive* with this Divine Spirit. It makes you want to love and to bless and do all you can to heal and comfort those in need of your love.

From Him, from the Cosmos, from the Great White Spirit, you have received Holy Communion in spirit. Now the Temple is vibrating. It is on fire with this creative power. Here, *here* now at this moment your loved ones whom you have lost from the physical life are now so close to you, because all barriers have been swept away. And you and they are holding that true spirit communion. They are closer to you now than ever they were when imprisoned in the flesh. Remember this, and when you imagine, or think, or hope that your loved ones are close to you, they are there. *They are there*.

If you think of us – we get many calls – ‘O White Eagle, I want to know what to do’. We can hear this. You see, we don’t hurry. We just come to you and we do what is necessary to help. As you think of your loved ones and as you talk to them, they hear you, and they know. But what they do not feel so happy about is, when you shut the door and say, ‘go away. I do not want you’. Never, *never* do that. Live, my children. Live so that you are always aware of this higher, more gracious and more beautiful life beyond the physical realms.

God be with you. And the peace which the angels bring live with you through the coming days. The message of the angels is always, ‘Peace on earth, goodwill to man’.

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God be with you.

## Brother Faithful:

While White Eagle was speaking, I have been looking back to rather more than thirty years ever since the White Eagle Lodge has been in being, and for quite a number of years before then, and remembering that almost every month White Eagle has been before you to give an address such as the one you have just listened to. Almost every month, practically twelve times a year with, as far as I can remember, with hardly one cancellation due to ill health or stress of circumstances; thirty two or thirty three years in the White Eagle Lodge. Now this is a very wonderful record, and one almost would say that the age of miracles is not altogether past, when you think what this record has meant in the way of courage and endurance and sacrifice on the part of White Eagle, because it is no small matter. It cannot be. We are very nice people, all of us, but earthly conditions are not quite up to the standard of heaven conditions.

And so, with that thought in mind, we sing a hymn about charity. We sing hymn number 507, 'Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost'.

*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, inner light, communion, inner peace, spiritual path, spiritual work, inspiration, illumination, enlightenment, golden temple, pentecost, flowing, mass, eucharist, chalice cup, saviour*