

In Search of Loving Kindness – a New Year’s Message

A029 Sunday Address 3rd January 1937 Pembroke Hall, London New Year Service

The text of this address is as prepared for machine-duplicated circulation shortly after it was given, apart from correction of errors

Text: from the duplicated version, in a bound volume. The title evidently added at this point.

Context: New Year service

General Notes: none

References: the poetic quotation in the first paragraph is from Robert Browning’s poem, ‘Grow old along with me’.

White Eagle’s Address:

At this New Year, we who love you, who come to speak with you from the world of spirit, would bring first and foremost our wishes of happiness and joy and strength. We pray that together we may walk towards the eternal light. For be it remembered, the purpose of our creation is our growth and however weary and downhearted, however disappointed man becomes in his earthly toils, there is still before him such joy and happiness as you have yet to experience. And so we bring our message of Hope to all. Whoever you are, whatever your path, we bring abiding hope for that which is to be. With one of your great poets we say, “The best is yet to be, the last of life, for which the first was made.”

You may feel that with the passing of each year you get a year older, certain sadness comes perhaps with the passing of the years, but age, as you know, has no reality. We would have you readjust your outlook and think no longer of passing years as adding to your cares, to your age, to grey hairs or liability to sickness and disease – because this is false. In this New Year resolutely put aside thoughts of fear and discouragement and reach deeply into your own being and find therein a power, not of the earth and not of your body, a power and life which knows no age, nor sickness, nor sorrow, nor fear which, on finding, becomes to you an eternal hope. This life spirit within you must encourage in growth and in expression throughout your daily life.

The purpose of your creation is growth. The essence of your life is spirit, the spirit which, if you will allow it to speak through heart and intuition, tells you that as surely as the sun will rise in the morning, eternal life is yours. You need no evidence from we who come to you, who have passed through the glorious awakening. If you are true to yourself, you will hear a voice above the clamour of a material world, above that materiality of the world of men, the voice which says, “I live, I am eternal; there is no death!”

Adjust your life, from this moment, so that the spirit within shall rise supreme over all doubt and fear. Many present have received what you call evidence through medium[s] and so are assured of a life beyond death. This is insufficient; it is not enough to be told by any spirit who returns from the spirit world. Truth must be experienced by yourself.

You will ask, “How can I know of a life beyond, when I have not been to the spirit land?” Truth is within; it takes no rise from outward things, so [as] soon as your spirit grows strong within your heart it will continually, second by second, day by day, hour by hour, remind you that life is eternal; that life goes ever forward.

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You will reply, “We have heard this many times; but the mind of man demands proof”. The mind of man will receive the proof for which it clamours when the real self, the spirit within, asserts itself; for it is stronger than the mind. Then you will be released from the prison of the material mind and be able consciously through daily experience to know the life of spirit. Spirit ages not; the spirit knoweth not grey hair nor weariness, spirit brings eternal life. Can you not recall a man or woman whom you respect and revere because something indefinable radiates from them? A beauty, a truth, a sincerity? They are essentially ageless. You only see the light, the spirit, grown to such strength as to overpower and overcome the limitations of the years.

When a soul passes from the earth plane to the spirit world it finds that life becomes beautiful, harmonious. There is work to be accomplished, but no sense of time. How difficult to comprehend that time is not in the spirit world! There is work to do, experiences are passed through, all and each intended to impart understanding of the laws of life. We do not separate the earth plane from the spirit world. We see a close relationship between life on earth and in the spirit worlds. In the life of the spirit there are opportunities offered to every soul and every soul has to find the way to heaven itself. No soul is coerced or forced, but by a process of unfoldment, as a flower unfolds, so grows the soul.

When a soul travels the road of progression in the spirit life, when that soul is given perhaps a difficult task requiring great courage and all its inward power; when that soul sets forth with courage and high hope to accomplish its task of its own accord and its own freewill it may bottom the depths. But always, without fail, when that soul needs most help, when it has accomplished a certain amount of its own effort, there comes always the help of a friend.

The help of a friend; there is no need for fear, no one need fear passing onwards into that Land of Greater Opportunity. There awaits every soul congenial companionship, conditions and surroundings. The soul is given opportunity. Beyond the first range of mountains which the neophyte climbs there lies the City of Light, wherein wait opportunities for every soul to find completion.

Do not think that having climbed one mountain the soul can sit down for ever and ever singing and praising God – for beyond again there rises another range of heights, and beyond, glory indescribable.

At all times when you have contacted truth, have you not learned that God is love? Open the mine of love within yourself and you will realise that God is love and life is rich and beautiful. Beauty seems sparse sometimes, does it not? – and man finds life discouraging. Only because mankind has to learn to harmonise itself with life. He has not yet learned the brotherhood of life. You say it is impossible to regard some men as brothers? It is not impossible for when you touch that plane of love-consciousness, you will feel the at-one-ment of all life.

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Have you ever stood in the silence on a starlit night and felt the pulsation of life within and about you? Have you felt the all-embracing power which issues from the air, from the stars, from the pines, from Mother Earth and all the pulses of brotherhood beating as you became enfolded within life? Even as you, in your better self, can love, so every man and every woman created by the same Father, loves too.

Once you have touched these heights of spiritual life, you have grown. Age has no thralldom over you, your years are well spent, you have fulfilled the purpose of your incarnation. And if, beloved brother or sister, you have yet to realise such Brotherhood of life, seek for it and you shall find.

To come down again to the practical affairs of everyday; if in this year which you have entered you will resolve with all your heart and all your soul and all your mind that your attitude to man, individually and collectively, and your attitude to life shall be kind (no more we ask – only this, that you shall be kind) – [then] you will be amazed at the peace which will find you. You will be amazed at the influence which you will reap from life and you will become aware of a Life unlimited in its power to guide, direct and heal you.

It seems so simple – ‘be kind’. We ask you to take this little message to heart. You talk about turning over a new leaf, about forming resolutions and these all fade away; they are too difficult to fulfil. As grown men and women, thinking men and women who desire above all things to give service, you would make use of your life and feel that you do not live uselessly. Not one is passed over when there is work to be done and as you resolve this day to be a faithful and true servant of God, so we give you once more the very first step.

Be kind. Be kind to one another.

Analyse this little message and you will be amazed how often we all fall short of being kind. For the mind desires to be arrogant, the mind says, “I have a right to reason and this man or this woman is wrong.” When you feel thus, look within. “Who is wrong? Well, maybe it is I.”

If a soul has injured you – and there are those here who have suffered thus – we beg you to change your viewpoint. Yours was no injury to you; I don’t mind what the circumstances are, however acute the seeming injustice. There is, there can be, no injustice in life. You are but working through your karma, reaping that which you have sown in the past; or else you are being given an opportunity to learn some lesson. When you can look upon the injury done to you with a thankful heart and be grateful for the lesson you have learned, you take a very big stride upon the path. However difficult it is for you to accept what we say, in the life to come circumstances and conditions will teach you to say, “My God and my brother, I thank you.”

For this very reason we beg you to readjust your attitude towards life and just be kind. Be kind in your thought, be kind in your words, kind in your actions. And, if you cannot give constructive criticism, never criticise at all.

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Thus your Master taught. Time does not alter the eternal truths. Every great soul, each peak of the human race, the elder brethren, some call them Masters, have attained Mastership and freedom from bondage of the flesh because they first learned to be kind, to be true, because they have learned discrimination.

So my beloved, we give you hope. There is nothing to fear in life, except fear. Cast out fear at this moment and look forward with hope – not merely hope in your mind, but hope throbbing as a life-force in your heart. A sure hope which tells you that all things work together for good; that God is love and that death does not divide and cannot stay the course of man’s progress to the Eternal Day. If a loved one passes through the veil you need not fear separation for you may go to your beloved, now passed into the silence of the Eternal. That beloved can still guide and help you in your earthly life. Only man’s materialism can separate souls who love – not death.

And so we pray that every one here present may be touched by the rod of life, be enkindled by the fires of hope and go forth, pressing forward, determined to grow in spirit, to become more aware of the eternal truths and that thus you may know no more disease or poverty, but that as you become in harmony with God and His love so every need of your heart and life will be supplied.

Hope, hope – thank God that He gives us hope! For the future lies bright before everyone and the clouds pass rapidly, and the Eternal Day shall be with you all.

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:

atonement, judge ye not, eternal life, getting older, ageing, mortality, life after death, world of light, spirit world, heaven world, world of nature, natural world, spiritual path, path of the soul, initiation, cause and effect, forgiveness, acceptance