

Fold to thy Heart thy Brother

A178 Sunday Address 6th July 1947 St Mary Abbots Place, London Sunday Service
(national Day of Prayer)

The text of this address is as issued in the magazine Angelus after it was given, apart from correction of errors

Text: from *Angelus*, September 1947. No date is given, but the allusion to the Day of Prayer makes 6 July certain.

Context: White Eagle refers to a national Day of Prayer. These had been held regularly in wartime: see, for example, the addresses of 23 March and 7 September 1941, but 6 July 1947 was the last to be called in the UK. The editorial to the issue of *Angelus* in which this address was printed two months later refers to the crisis which had been brewing in July and is 'now upon us'. The editor, IC, avers that 'even an economic crisis has its spiritual background' and it may be taken that the crisis is the potential economic collapse of much of post-war Europe. It was what led to the US programme known since as Marshall Aid, launched on 3 April 1948.

One of the hymns, we are told, was the highly appropriate one by J. G. Whittier (1807-92), 'O brother man, Fold to thy heart thy brother'.

General Notes: the address contains a description of what can be seen from spirit when earthly people commit to prayer in the form of aspiration, one that is possibly unique in White Eagle's teaching. There is a message about the destiny of Britain at the end which, as White Eagle says, relates not to 'an idol' but the spirit of God rising within. In all, this is a powerful address.

References: the two sayings of Jesus quoted in the third paragraph will be familiar to readers of these addresses, since White Eagle quotes them again and again – for the source, see John 13 : 34 and 14 : 6. The 'I AM' as a concept in John's Gospel is also something White Eagle frequently explains (see, for instance, the address of 7 April 1946), reminding us of such sayings as 'Before Abraham was, I AM' (John 8 : 58) to imply how much more it means than the simple outward sense. At the end of the address he refers once again to John 14 : 6 ('I am the way'). White Eagle had referred to this whole locus in St John only two weeks earlier, on 22 June in Edinburgh.

'Where there is no vision the people perish' is Proverbs 29 : 18; behind this sentence is also an echo of Isaiah 9 : 2: 'The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light'. 'Treasure the message in your heart' holds an echo of Luke 2 : 19 and Matthew 6 : 21, while 'the leaven in the bread' is a phrase used repeatedly in the Bible with a number of meanings. 'No man can serve two masters' is Matthew 6 : 24.

White Eagle's Address:

We bring our loving greetings from the world of spirit. The nation has been called to a day of prayer, and there are many who will respond, some by going to a place of worship to join in prayer. Others will feel they have no place in worship of this kind and will seek the fields and woods, thinking upon serious matters. These will in all probability reflect sadly upon the confusion and chaos that appears to reign on earth, fearful that the sole road open for mankind is that of destruction. It is true that souls who choose the way of darkness will find themselves consumed in a darkness which will for them prove a process of suffering and eventually purification, when they will at last behold God in all truth. Then they will see that God is not a destructive monster but a Father Mother of infinite love and wisdom.

You have been singing the hymn, 'O brother man, fold to thy heart thy brother' – beautiful words with a profound meaning which mankind, as a whole, has yet to learn. Yet there are a few people who are absorbing spiritual joy and light from their brotherhood one with another.

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Brotherhoods of the Great White Light have existed all down the ages, but such brotherhoods are active behind the scenes of material activity. They do not rush into the arena. They work in a different way. (Of this we will have something to say later.)

The Lord Christ as well as the Lord Buddha and the Lord Krishna and the disciples of these avatars gave an identical message to mankind in a few simple words, 'Love one another'. 'I AM the way, the truth and the life.' 'I AM the way.' What is the I AM? Evidently not the I AM which is usually uppermost in man's mind, the personal ego, but that light which is love and enshrines all the attributes of God in the human heart. Every impulse of good, every impulse to love and to help another comes forth from the I AM, the Christ within. So we see, my brethren, that the I AM need not work only through those who occupy high places. Such as these may be saints and seers and teachers of the human race but the I AM works also in you and in me: in the humblest and simplest child of God, no matter whether that child be black, red, brown, yellow or white of skin. The one thing which inspires each lowly one to express love and brotherhood is fostered by the love, light and brotherhood which other men show to him. Brotherhood is the sweetest relationship in life, the sweetest relationship which God has caused to be given to mankind. The brotherhoods of old experienced an exquisite joy in their union with each other and in the service which such a brotherhood rendered to the races of mankind.

You have been called to a national day of prayer. What is prayer? Prayer is the attunement of man to this infinite love. Prayer means the awakening, the quickening of a divine light in the human heart. True prayer, my brethren, is not a lip-service, but first of all an attunement with eternal light – all good, all love, all wisdom. If any man needs help the soul does not gabble a few words to some remote being far removed from human problems, who may have no understanding of the conditions under which that man is suffering. The true prayer is the opening of the heart of the individual within a temple of prayer, in company with hosts of other souls who have learned the secret of life and service and who are gathered together with the object of directing light and healing and comfort to every soul willing to open the door of its heart to the divine inflow.

What does this mean? It means that the life of the true brother becomes attuned in meditation at all times to the brotherhood of the Great White Light which encompasses it. When the soul thinks in material terms only, a curtain falls between it and the invisible worlds. Then the peoples dwell in darkness, having no vision, and where there is no vision the people perish. So we begin to see the importance of that veil of darkness being drawn aside so that the people may see for themselves into the invisible world. Then the people know the Source of their strength and use its power through their prayer, through their meditation and contemplation of heavenly truths in the service of their brother man. They no longer live for themselves but to serve the whole of life – which means those who are nearest to them, the men and women and children brought by the great law of Karma, which means through past actions certain souls are drawn together in a succeeding life. Souls thus brought together may know that they have service to render to each other first and foremost. When the soul is aware of this and works out its karma it is serving its brother man.

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Some people do not believe and indeed cannot enter a building to worship and pray. But we can speak to you of things which we know are true, because we have seen them in the heaven world. We see that as soon as a soul seeks to pray, seeks to become attuned to the Source of its being (which is the eternal light) that soul, being in a state of contemplation and true communion with its Source, is no longer alone. Such a soul may climb to the mountaintops or visit the ocean shore or the woods or the sunlit fields. No matter; the act of true prayer from the heart of the soul causes an etheric building to be formed around it not unlike an open temple. Circles of light clothe the soul. You may call it a temple of prayer, if you like. It appears to have no roof and no walls but is composed of pillars of light and colour of a beautiful design. There the soul prays; and as it prays its temple expands until it becomes like the universal temple of a vast brotherhood. Though the soul at the beginning may think it is alone, its eyes are opened in due course and it finds itself in the centre of a vast gathering of shining beings who join with it in prayer. This is brotherhood.

Do not think we are speaking of unpractical things. On the contrary, we are offering you a way by which you may test this magical power of God. Attune yourselves in sincerity and in truth to all that is good and lovely and wise, to all that is God-like and right, and you will find that your whole body will become lighter, will become radiant; and you will find that light flowing from you will touch the brother or sister by your side or whoever you contact in that outer world, and you will notice a magical change in that soul. Is this too fantastic to believe? Surely not? When you come into this Lodge to listen to a talk which flows from one who dwells in the spirit world, you must necessarily weigh and consider deeply what you hear; but more than any reasoning of the mind you will feel the power of the spirit in your soul, the power of the invisible brethren who are gathering around you.

My brethren, you may be wondering what all this has to do with the national day of prayer and with the chaos which reigns in the world. This that we are telling you, my brethren, is the way to pray, the way of service and the way to the reconstruction of your life on earth. Life in the future will have to be build upon a spiritual foundation. If you take this message into the world now and try to get your churches or your governments to listen they will have no time for it. But if you treasure the message in your heart and express it in your life to your neighbour it will act like leaven in the bread. It will spread until man's mind will turn away from hate, destruction and fear. Fear of one's brother men is the root of all the evil in the world. God wants to remove that fear and fear can only be removed by love and confidence in His infinite power. This pull between God and Mammon, between spiritual truth and material objects always exists. You will say, 'Oh yes, this is all very well, but a spiritual being does not have to live in our time and age'. My brethren, the law of God was the same yesterday as today and as it ever will be. You cannot escape the law of life and so long as men and women break the law of brotherhood, of love, they must suffer.

Look back over the past ten years and you will see a world crucified. Do you know the meaning of crucifixion? Crucifixion means the overcoming of darkness and the release of the soul triumphant into the light. All men and women will pass through crucifixion. They may not understand what is happening. Those of you who have problems at this moment, remember, my children, you either have to surrender all to God or must go the way of matter.

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Truly, truly the Master said, 'No man can serve two masters, for he will hate the one and love the other'. This is the problem of every human soul. Reason, you will tell us, must be satisfied. But reason is not given to satisfy the lower self. Reason is given to you in order that your vision may be opened to spiritual truth. Reason guided by the light of the I AM will bow down in humility before the grandeur of the blazing light of God's truth.

Your nation has a mission. We are not saying that your nation is better than any other. No man is superior to his fellow but some souls have certain work to accomplish, as have some races. Yours has its task but it must not concentrate upon its national greatness – not upon an idol – but the spirit of the true God within the breast of every Briton. This will guide him to live to serve throughout the world. The spirit of God in every Briton says, 'Rise! Put on your armour of light and work for the coming of the new day' – not to satisfy any personal ambition or desire but for the coming of light and happiness and brotherhood in the land. Obey this urge towards service in every detail, in the simplest and in the humblest matter concerned in your life and in the life of your neighbour and in public affairs and above all in the affairs of the Great White Spirit.

This is the ancient land of the first men who came to this planet and the spirit of those great sun-gods lingers still to inspire the people of this land to deeds of courage, kindness and goodwill. Be true to this ancient light. Be true to your great heritage, my brethren, and carry the torch of the sun-gods, the torch of the Christ who is their messenger, the Son of God who came in the form of man but who also lives in you as the spirit of goodness, of brotherly love.

May these words ring for evermore in your hearts: 'I AM the way, the truth and the life, and no man shall find the Father–Mother except through my spirit within his heart'. 'God bless you, everyone', is the cry of the invisible ones who are behind our words. You may look forward with confidence to the coming of the new day, especially if you give your heart to the service of God and to the Great White Brotherhood of men and of angels.

Peace be in your hearts ... Peace.

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:

the I AM, Sun Gods, Britain, prayer and attunement, peoples drawn together by karma, brotherhood on every plane