

A New Heaven and a New Earth

A321 Sunday Address 8th November 1959 St Mary Abbots Place, London Sunday Service on Remembrance Sunday

Text: another MB typescript, an unmarked blue carbon, without a title beyond 'Remembrance Sunday' and the date. It seems not to have gone into print, and the title, 'A new heaven and a new earth', has been added for the present project.

Context: according to MB the reading offered Isaiah 2 : 3-4 and Isaiah 11 : 2-9. The first extract is about the new comings on 'the mountain of the Lord' and includes the famous lines about 'beating their swords into plowshares', while the second contains the equally famous lines 'the wolf also shall dwell with the lamb', and so on. The final hymn is the only one given: it was the otherwise Christmas hymn, 'It came upon the midnight clear'. There is a two-minute silence leading into a communion at the end, and once again Brother Faithful's words at the end are preserved, and offer a message of hope.

General Notes: a service which both in the reading and the final hymn looks seems to look forward to Advent, although it is only at the end we gain White Eagle's the vision that offers us. The address begins conventionally, and White Eagle is quite careful to list 'the remembrance of happiness, of God's gifts' after the anguish and suffering; cleverly, he puts remembrance of those who gave their lives in the second list. The content of the address is more conventional to White Eagle than the context (inevitable when the audience will have had the same expectations) but later, by an invocation of the vastness of life, including the Solar System and the Cosmos, it develops a new perspective. White Eagle reminds us, 'man is here on this low physical plane to grow in awareness of his true nature', and a later paragraph invokes all the beauties that humanity may discover on the earth plane and then the spiritual plane – sunsets, the seashore, gardens, and so on. He reminds us of our inter-connectedness: 'You are the conflict and the sufferings and the pain of mothers and wives bereaved'. White Eagle insists that the very 'least' of the beauty is what is seen on the physical plane. There is a useful paragraph on the discipline the soul needs to experience and develop, and White Eagle says it will all lead to 'the centre of love and happiness'. Another useful paragraph explains good and evil. White Eagle says that a great outpouring from the higher worlds is bringing to the earth a beauty which human aspiration also brings, and it is achieved by individual effort. He adds, 'You are the most important individual in the universe' – a lovely affirmation. The final note is one of vision, and borrows from Revelation in this.

References: 'I saw a new heaven and a new earth' is Revelation 21 : 1.

White Eagle's Address:

Beloved earthly brethren, we bring all love to you in this service. And we come with a message of hope and joy, not a message of gloom and sadness. You know, dear children, there is no death of any soul who passes away from your mortal sight. And this Lodge tonight is a very vast Lodge, beyond your comprehension maybe. Nevertheless you have within you the power to see through the veil into a world more beautiful. And tonight we come to help you build a bridge between the physical plane and the spirit life. Now, there are some people on your earth who say that it is wrong to penetrate the veil between this world of flesh and the world of spirit. You might as well say that God prohibits all progress in man's life. God does not wish to stop you from rising in knowledge, advancing in knowledge.

He has filled the earth with secrets of Infinite wonder, and He has given to man the power within himself to develop his mind to gain knowledge so that he may discover these hidden secrets. It always has been so, throughout time. There have always been the hidden secrets,

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but remember they are hidden from those who would profane them, but they are revealed to the gentle and the loving and the wise.

Now, at this time, the whole of Christendom, the whole of the countries who have suffered loss and have suffered pain and anguish for many years are meeting to celebrate a Day of Remembrance. There are a lot of things to remember. Not only the sorrow and the anguish and the separation from mortal loved ones, but the remembrance of happiness, of God's gifts to man; remembrance of all those noble souls who have given their lives in service.

Now, there are many such people living in a physical body today, who are so often overlooked by the community in which they live because they are simple humble servants. But let us pause and think how the life on earth would be disorganised and turned into chaos were it not for the faithful servers behind the scenes, not only the spirit people, but the earth people. Some are so patient and kind. They live to give of their best to their fellow men. We remember all our loved ones in spirit. God holds every one of His creatures in His Heart. Have you ever thought of this when you are anxious and worried and fearful and lonely? Now, all these failings cut you off from something which is God's greatest gift, His Love; the realisation of His continual Presence. God is in your heart and you can be consciously in the Heart of God. And this is what will be when humanity has lived in spirit. We do not mean without a physical body, we mean in the consciousness of the spirit. And this is what man is moving towards, though you may think it is a long time. Oh, dear friends, there is no such thing as a long time: all that is, is now. You can have all the glories of that heavenly life now if you ask for them.

In our Lodge you will feel the closeness of the vast company of men and women, many of the[m?] young ones, whose lives apparently were cut off through the brutality and cruelty of mankind. But these lives were not cut off from life itself, they continued. You see only one side of the picture. You are the conflict and the sufferings and the pain of mothers and wives bereaved, of fathers bereaved, of sisters and brothers bereaved. And you see, perhaps, the casket which is no longer the instrument for the life that used it, and a heavy dark curtain falls before your eyes, and you think this is the end – how can I endure the years of loneliness before me? Where is my loved one? And only silence comes in answer to your plea. Even the heavens seem as brass. Why is this? We will try and tell you as we proceed.

There is a reason why man fears death. All the instincts of the body fear death. But all the beauty and all the fine attributes of the spirit only feels a joy because it knows that the person in flesh has been released to return to a home of glory and happiness from which it was sent down, down to the earth plane. Now, when we use those words, *down, down to the earth plane*, you must try and understand that it isn't a question of distance or geography. It is a question of attuning the consciousness of the spirit lower and lower until it is able to adapt itself to the physical state of life.

And every soul is born on to the earth because it needs experience, because it has to discipline itself and train itself to think of God; to live constantly in the knowledge of its Father–Mother God in a life of glory and peace and happiness. The spirit leaves the heart of the Great White Spirit unconscious of itself, unconscious of its origin. And it descends into

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this physical life in order to gain self-consciousness; and later on consciousness of others, consciousness of its brethren on earth. And, later on, the consciousness of the cosmos, consciousness of the solar system in which the little planet upon which it has been placed, lives and works, moves. These things will bring to your minds a great expansion of consciousness. And if you meditate upon these truths you will know that there is no death and you cannot die. And you will know that your Creator is a Creator of love and wisdom. And you will know that you cannot be separated in spirit from love, nor loved ones, because spirit is God and God is love.

This, my dear ones, is the whole simple truth: man is here on this low physical plane to grow in awareness of his true nature. Now this means that as man becomes aware of his origin and his true nature he begins to develop hidden powers which enable him to penetrate the veil of darkness, the darkness of ignorance. Man wants to learn, but oh, so many of them refuse to learn, and turn their heads away from any new thought or any development of thought. They shut it away and say: 'No, that is all nonsense'. They close their ears and close their eyes to the beauty of God's world which is all around them, and the least of it is on the physical plane.

But when man begins to develop the awareness of the beauty on the physical plane, he then commences to open up his awareness of the spiritual planes of life. Look, many of you here have been away during the summer months into beautiful countries, or even to a lovely spot in your own country; and you may have stood and admired a lovely sunset, you might have looked upon the rolling waves of the seashore; you may have looked upon lovely flowers in perfectly trained, beautiful gardens; you may have listened to exquisite music and through these channels you have been caught up in an ecstasy of beauty. And it has done something to you. This ecstasy which the spirit experiences from outside objects stimulates the consciousness, man's consciousness of spirit. And it sets him on the path of progress, on the path of unfoldment, unfoldment of spiritual powers, of hidden powers. But as man treads the path upon which feet have been set he finds trials and tests. You all have these. You make mistakes which are very painful. There is always the temptation to discard your aspirations when you suffer from your mistakes. But my friends, the path leads you onward and upward to that Supreme Light of life.

But on that path you have to discipline yourselves in thought, in emotion; in all kinds of ways man has to be disciplined. And it is this discipline of the soul which enables it to steadily progress along its appointed path with more than faith, with a certainty of inner knowing that it is moving homewards. Every effort is worthwhile. Accept, my dear ones, accept the disagreeable things that cannot be altered. Be brave and cheerful and accept. But remember at the same time that within you is a hidden key; within you lies the God power. And as you learn this and apply this God power in your daily life, even in the simplest way, you will find that this God power is a creative power, and it will work. It will work not only in you, but it will work in your environment. It will make crooked places straight. It will bring you to the centre, the centre of love and happiness. You see, life is built upon law, divine law. No man can escape this divine law.

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Now there are many questions which arise in the minds when we speak of divine law, and particularly on this Day of Remembrance. You will want to know why does God permit wars? Why, why, did God take my dear one from me? Why, why does God permit all the cruelty in the world today? Why does He permit men of science to create evil weapons which are going to bring such devastation to the earth? God has given to humanity that one priceless gift of freewill. And everyone has that power of freewill to choose whether he will keep on the path of light and goodness and love no matter what the cost, nor how difficult is the way; or whether he will succumb to the destructive forces of life, and use his power to destroy.

Now, these two aspects of life is [*sic*] what you call good and evil. They are like two great wheels revolving against one another, and from them is produced the heavenly bread. If it were not for the pull of what you call evil and the destructive forces, the good in man would not develop.

Why did God take your loved one from you, dear mother and sister, and father and brother? Because the law of karma, the law of cause and effect, made it happen. Nothing happens by chance. And you must remember that in the past mankind has been guilty of very great cruelty and wrong. And there is bound to come the sting where those who have inflicted suffering find that they receive the suffering because they have generated it on the physical plane of life. Now, this is the simple reason and there is no other reason for it. But you have to sift this cause very finely and then you will find the reason why pain and suffering exists on your earth.

And so the next question is, what are we going to do about it? You have to reverse your thoughts and actions, and you have to apply yourselves individually. That is the most important: that individual effort must be for good, for the good of your brother man. Your thoughts must go forth as a shining light, thinking good of brother man, and realising that every individual has within him the divine spark, and that divine spark is what you must love and serve.

Now that is the fundamental law of life. Never make the mistake of thinking that God is unjust. Do not make the mistake of thinking that things in your own life are unjust. No, the great Cosmic Law is absolute justice. But it is only when man develops his spirit and his mind [that] he is able to see truth and comprehend all the problems which so confuse the mind, the ordinary materialistic mind of man today.

Now, there has been a tremendous output of light and goodwill onto your earth plane in the last few decades. And as a result you will see now, very soon you will see much more clearly, the picture of how this goodwill and the light which has been projected by man himself is bringing out a change of conditions on your earth. Man will create his own heaven upon earth, and everyone is responsible for it. You cannot say, 'Well, it is no use a little thing like me doing it'. You are the most important individual in the universe. You may be an atom, but you have a mighty power within you. Never forget this. And what you put forth in thoughts of goodwill and spiritual light is a creative force; and it goes forth and stimulates the power in others. You may be very blessed, you may have greater opportunities than many others to project this good into your world. No man is greater than another. All humans are equal in the

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sight of God. And all humans have the power within them to do good. And this is the road to heaven, not only heaven above, but heaven beneath, on the physical plane.

Now you will see as this very year grows, as it advances long into the next year, wonderful changes will come, but do not look back and say, 'another war'. You are creating it by thinking it. *No*. Progress, spiritual illumination, a deeper understanding of life both on the physical plane and life in the spirit world. Oh, a wonderful revelation; and did not our dear brother John say: 'And I saw a new Heaven and a new Earth'? And this, I do assure you, my brethren, is what is to come. Man is the instrument, God's instrument to bring about this new Heaven and this new Earth. Love is the foundation. Good will overcome all cruelty, cruelty to lesser creation, cruelty to the earth, cruelty to the animal kingdom, cruelty to the human kingdom and cruelty to the higher kingdom; for it is possible to destroy what is good and beautiful by the ignorance and cruelty of man's selfishness.

Now, we mustn't talk to you any more, but before we leave, brethren, let us all join together in one grand company; remembering now that you are united with your loved ones in spirit. Each one of you has your own beloved by your side. And in the two minutes' silence which we will hold remember all their loving ways, the nobility of their souls and the tenderness of your love for them. Remember with them the work that lies before you all to establish the Kingdom of Heaven upon earth.

And He Who is the Grand Master of all Brotherhood Lodges, Christ the Lord, stands in the centre of this Heavenly Lodge. And He, with all of us, remembers the loving service and human sacrifice of the past years.

See Him with your inner vision and go towards Him, as He invites you to do, and take from Him the small piece of bread, the heavenly symbol of your karma. Accept it, absorb it into your being. And He raises the Chalice, so beautifully curved and formed, and offers you a sip of this Divine Wine, the Essence, the Essence of Spiritual Life. Drink, in remembrance of Christ and your own dearest ones. Send them your love. And pray for His blessing upon them and their progress for all their works.

Amen.Amen.Amen.

Oh, they are happy, so happy, happier than ever they were on earth! Rejoice in their happiness and use the power of good so that their sacrifice will not have been in vain.

Goodnight.

Brother Faithful:

The Days of Remembrance have come year by year since 1918. And with each one there seems little progress, little gain, little more likelihood of peace on earth. Man seems to learn

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so very, very slowly. But this year there is a change. There is greater hope. There is greater promise. It seems as though the powers of the Light are going to prevail. And if and when they do, and we know they will, it will be because of those powers. It will be a spiritual uprising, a spiritual miracle brought about by the powers of the Light; by man himself sending out the Light; and by the prayers of men. So, we must continue in the good work.

Amen.

You are going to like the last hymn, no.76: 'It came upon the midnight clear'.

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:

Armistice day, life eternal, war, loss, pain, positive thought, God's plan, life after death, rebirth, eternal life, light within, communion, spiritual path, spiritual contact, spiritual unfoldment, fairness

