

Bringing Peace on Earth

A298 Sunday Address 10th November 1957 St Mary Abbots Place, London
Remembrance Sunday Service

Text: typescript by MB, a blue carbon; the title has been chosen for the present project. The address was also printed the following year, in the October-November 1958 *Stella Polaris*, where it has the generic title, 'On Remembrance Sunday'

Context: for Remembrance, as usual, the service moved from the first to the second Sunday of the month. The reading is given as an extract from the White Eagle book *THE CHRISTIAN MYSTERIES*, and rather than an anthem by the Choir there seem to have been two solos, 'O Rest in the Lord' (probably the movement from Mendelssohn's *ELIJAH*), and 'Praise ye the Lord' which as it is unidentified may have been a composition by one of the Choir, maybe Mary or Elizabeth Brameld. She or her sister Elizabeth may have sung, although there are other possible candidates.

General Notes: White Eagle says that the first task of a soul when it wakes in the world beyond death is to learn to love. He says, 'we spoke of this only a few days ago to a small group'. This is probably Inner Teaching no. 252, given on 29 October. It does not specifically make the same statement, but the statement is very much in keeping with that teaching. Or White Eagle may mean the statement that follows, about seeing the sun through the fog. White Eagle next speaks of the sacrifice soldiers make in war in individual karmic terms and in the context of the spiritual Law of Compensation. He also speaks of the great need all have for imagination and how that can be harnessed to bring about good. An injunction offered is simply, 'Be human' in the sense of doing as you would be done by. Ultimately, the address is very much about how to bring peace on earth, and the key to this – White Eagle says – is partly in imagination, partly in positive thought, and partly in a real adherence to another injunction, 'Rest in the Lord'. The communion, at the end, contains the two-minute silence of remembrance.

References: the words of 'O rest in the Lord' come from Psalm 37, which also contains the injunction, 'Commit thy way unto the Lord ... and fret not thyself because of evil doers' (verses 5, 7), quoted by White Eagle. 'As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be' is the standard doxology from the Book of Common Prayer, added to the Lord's Prayer and to several others. 'Do unto others as you would be done by' is commonly known as the Golden Rule – a principle that according to Wikipedia goes back in human history at least as far as Confucius and forms part of the all the major religious moralities since.

Historical note: White Eagle suggests that at times men and women are 'appalled by the blackness and the discomfort of the fog' outside. There seems to be an element of memory here, of the great smogs of the earlier part of the twentieth century, although such conditions could continue to around 1960, by which time natural gas heating was taking the place of coal. One of the major Clean Air Acts in the UK was passed in 1956. Later in the address, 'We see there is so much fear in the mind of man because of the scientific developments' probably alludes to the nuclear threat, 1957 being very much in the middle of the Cold War.

White Eagle's Address:

Beloved children of earth, we welcome this opportunity of drawing aside the veil which hides the world of light from your mortal eyes. And on this special occasion of remembrance, reunion and dedication to future service, we ask you to strive at this moment to lay aside all mortal thought, all mortal thought.

The world dwells too much on the material things of life, and humanity does not give itself time to go into the quiet and seek, in the silence, God its Creator. Particularly is it so in these days of scientific advance that people allow their minds to dwell on physical science and

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material form, where the moment has come in the history of mankind for the inner powers to be developed so that the veil between man and the inner worlds and the Holy of Holies may be removed. Sometimes it is said that God does not intend man to know about the future life, but those who make such a statement are unaware that God has created man's body and soul to enable him to develop spiritual powers, so that he can look through the gloom of earth and the mists surrounding the earth: look through into a world made beautiful by love.

Now this is the very first lesson which the soul has to learn when it arrives in our world of spirit. It has to learn to love its companions, to love all things and to love God.

Now dear ones, we spoke of this only a few days ago to a small group. If you open your door, the door of your earthly home, and look out you may sometimes see heavy fog. You are appalled by the blackness and the discomfort of the fog. But you do not remember that behind this mist, the sun is shining. And it is the same with spiritual life and the spirit world; the world that is inhabited by spirits and the Spirit. It is a world of infinite beauty and sunlight.

Now when we tell you to go into the silence, into the inner planes, we want you to remember our words: that behind the mists of the material world is a world of sunlight and harmony and infinite happiness. It is the world which God has created for His sons and daughters after they have passed through the physical life.

Today all over your country, and in many parts of the world, there is being celebrated a Remembrance Day, a remembrance of the sacrifice made by millions of men and many women. And it was a self-sacrifice for what they thought was right. They did not stop to think, but they gave themselves for what they thought was a just and right cause. And all over the world, in your country and many other countries today men and women are thinking of the sacrifices which these souls made. Now we would try to show you another side of that sacrifice.

You are all aware of the governing law of karma in human life. And you know that nothing happens without cause. Nothing happens by chance. Now these souls who laid down their lives, or whose life was taken from them in this world, had a certain karma to pay, and the way was chosen for this karma to be paid. And although you on the earth plane suffered so deeply the loss of your dear ones, we want you to understand that they passed through the mists into a world of infinite beauty. They passed through the mists to find God in that world above the darkness of the earth.

There is a law, my children, which operates all through life. It is the law of compensation. When you are called upon by the law of karma to endure pain and suffering, remember it is a process of discipline which is preparing the soul to comprehend and realise and enjoy the fullest happiness. You cannot achieve divine harmony, divine love and happiness unless you go through this process of cleansing and eliminating the lower nature. You cannot force the gates of heaven. You cannot jump into heaven like that. There is an ordered path that every soul must tread. But remember what we have just said. Although you may have to pass through unpleasant conditions, there is the law of compensation at work. God takes away, but

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He never takes away without giving something to compensate. And it is for man to seek to understand this and to find, to recognise the compensation which God has given to him. The same law operates in the world of spirit. Those brave souls who suffered torment and endured the greatest darkness passed through the mists, and in the spirit life they found compensation for the loss of a physical body, the loss of a young physical body.

We are not saying it is right for man to slay his brother. We are only explaining to you that man has freewill, and he chooses his thoughts and actions which produce conditions which cause him to suffer. God's will is that man should learn the way of happiness and love and joy eternal.

These young souls who left their earthly bodies so early were not disappointed in their careers, in their hopes. They were given opportunities which their sacrifice had earned for them. Don't think the spirit world is a world of playing harps and everlasting psalm-singing and sitting on clouds. The spirit world is a real world, and there is substance [there] just the same as there is on your physical plane. There is the higher ether, the substance of a finer ether which is just as solid and real to the spirit people as your matter is to you on the physical plane. And your loved ones who left the lowest form of matter were reclothed in a finer ether and were not only able to continue their life, but [to do so] with greater opportunity for developing and expressing the spirit through a higher body.

Now when we tell you to go into the silence and to commune with the inner world, we don't mean you to go into blankness and darkness. We want you to use the most sacred gift which God has given to man. And this is imagination and intuition: two sacred gifts. When you go into the inner world, use your imagination. Imagine it as you think it is, and you will find a clear vision will develop, if your heart is pure and is set upon the Holy of Holies, God your Creator, Who has given you the power to penetrate the mists and come into communion with the company of Heaven.

My children, this does not just happen by an occasional thought of the spirit life. It comes about by the daily, continual thought of a higher world, of a heaven word, which is all about you. It comes about by your seeking the true values of life. Not by being overwhelmed by materialistic thought, nor by what you see in the world which seems crude and cruel – but by steadfastly believing and knowing that God is Eternal. God your Creator is Eternal. 'And as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be.' Remember this. Man is not omnipotent. He may think he is, but there is a Supreme Power, an Omniscience and Omnipresence which watches over mankind. Man cannot have it all his own way. God has a plan for the evolution of His creatures. But we do say this to you, that you must not condemn, nor can you judge, from your earthly standpoint, true values.

There are many people on earth who are unbalanced. They are carried away with wrong emotions. When you think of man's cruelty to the animal world, we would like to say this to you: that God loves His creatures. And though man inflicts cruelty on the animal kingdom, man will learn through the pain and suffering he is calling upon himself. He will learn to treat all animals with respect and love because it is the spiritual law of evolution.

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Now, beloved ones, you were listening and we were listening to that beautiful solo, 'O rest in the Lord'. Oh, the truth in those words. You do not yet understand the mighty power there is in that surrender, that resting, that trusting that God is Omniscient, and all-loving and all-powerful. Surrender to Him. Commit thy way to Him and fret not thyself because of evil doers.

This brings us to this new age of science. We see there is so much fear in the mind of man because of the scientific developments. It must come, my children, but what will come too is man's awakening to the spiritual life. These new inventions will be applied eventually for man's wellbeing. You are passing through a narrow passage, but you are coming out into a glorious Temple, a spiritual temple and into a world so much more perfect and beautiful than it is at present – and made so by man's service to his brother man.

Now we want you to keep this thought, and do not allow yourselves to be weighed down by distressing thoughts and fear thoughts, because [then] you are contributing to the darkness and ugliness. Whereas if you train yourselves daily to remember the spiritual values which are behind all physical things, and train yourselves to rest in the Lord, you will be helping the Creator and all men to realise that love is coming and progress and brotherhood. That it is coming.

Now it is on an occasion like this, when the masses are drawn together for one purpose, that the hosts from the heaven world draw very close; and if you raise your hearts like a cup to be filled with the living waters of life, you will be filled with the spiritual light and power. And you will be channels to assist humanity instead of being channels to drag humanity down into the depths.

Now, dear ones, at this moment we want you, in the silence, to realise the Presence of the King of Kings, the Lord of Hosts, the Cosmic Christ in human form, for He is with you – and all around Him the heavenly host of your loved ones. Oh yes, yes, my children, they come to you in all their glory, for they are numbered amongst the saints who have sacrificed their lives to help their brother man.

Now He Who is all Love is in their midst. They are all looking towards Him, all holding the cup, the cup of the heart; and He fills the Cup with His Divine Essence. In this moment He offers you the Heavenly Bread. Take and eat the Bread of Heaven. And sip from the Cup the living Waters of Life.

And we remain silent for two minutes in remembrance of a great sacrifice; in remembrance of loved ones and of the saints who have blazed the trail for the rest of mankind.

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And here we dedicate ourselves, we in spirit and you in physical bodies, to work for the coming peace on earth by right thought, right speech, right action. We work to serve our brother man and to neglect no opportunity to love and to construe the actions of other individuals and other nations in the right way. Let us look for the good and turn aside from

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destruction. May our lives be good humanly God-lives [*sic*] – because remember that God manifested through the human soul of the Christed Ones. Humanity is beloved. God loves humanity. Be natural. Be human. It is a lovely word ‘be human’. It means to do unto others as you would be done by.

This is the vision of the future, and those dear ones you love in our world of spirit paint the picture beautifully of the lives they are now living; living to serve their brother man. Particularly they are working in the many different avenues of service to help the people on earth to penetrate the mists of materiality and to keep the vision glorious of the heavenly life coming to earth.

And so with this vision, my dear children, we leave you – praying that the Great White Spirit will bless you all and send you forth comforted with a new vision: a fresh vision of life before you – life Eternal, and with deep and lasting peace in your hearts. Work for peace by being at peace yourself. Be peaceful, giving peace to others. And this is the true way and the sure way of bringing peace on earth and a brotherhood as wide as the world.

All love, all love from all of us, all of us: countless hosts all around us, bringing you their love.

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:

communion, sacrifice of soldiers, remembrance, science, self-sacrifice, beyond the mists, thinning of the veil, coming of the New Age, laws of karma and compensation, free will, God’s will, God in human form