

The Way to the Kingdom

A170 Sunday Address 2nd February 1947 St Mary Abbots Place, London Sunday Service

The date of this address is conjectural (see below), while the text is as issued in the magazine Angelus after it was given, apart from correction of errors

Text: from Angelus, March 1947

Context: the date is conjectural, mainly on the 'printed the next month' principle. If it is correct, the service fell at Candlemas, although that is not specifically mentioned. The immediate quotation of 1 Corinthians suggests the possibility that the short reading before White Eagle spoke was from the same chapter, although it was not a passage regularly read in services.

General Notes: White Eagle speaks of 'this temple in which you are assembled', not the only time he described the London Lodge as a temple. There is an element of meditation to this address, and after describing the temple of worship in spirit he takes us to the hall of music. The purpose, though, is to make real the continuing existence of loved ones in spirit. In the process the whole world beyond becomes visible. It becomes an act of preparation for the higher worlds.

References: the quotation beginning 'Eye hath not seen' at the beginning is from 1 Corinthians 2 : 9; it comes again in different form in the quasi-quotation, 'things which mortal eye cannot see and ear cannot hear' at the end of the address. 'Light and dark are both alike to Thee' is from Psalm 139 : 2.

White Eagle's Address:

Beloved Brethren: we come as a spokesman from the world of spirit bringing a tender love. There are many with us known to you individually.

'Eye hath not seen nor ear heard' the glories, the beauties which God has prepared in the heavens for those who love Him. Can you for a moment rise above the cold earth into heavenly states of consciousness, and in imagination or visualisation behold the world of perfect form, colour and beauty peopled by those who have attained discipline over their lower natures? This they did whilst living in a physical body; they grew in God-perception, in God-consciousness, so that when they left the earth they were able to rise above its pull into spheres of light. It is true that we cannot find adequate words to describe these glories, but you have heard other descriptions, not only from spirit people but also from the lips of the saints and sages of all time. They also had not passed out permanently from the physical body before they were able to perceive these perfections, but had so disciplined their outer selves as to enable them, in full consciousness of what they were doing, to go to those heaven worlds and then to come back and describe some at least of their beauties.

My brethren, we assure you in very truth that the life lived in the heaven world is one of perfect happiness – happiness such as you cannot conceive. We are looking at you with the eyes of the spirit. We are looking at your surroundings with the eyes of the spirit; instead of seeing a material building, we perceive a very lofty temple. Its dimensions seem limitless. We see pillars shining with beautiful colours which rise into the heavens. We see the light of the heavens streaming down into this temple in which you are assembled. We see a vast company of illumined souls gathering with you in this temple of the spirit.

Perceive then the state in which we worship and hold spiritual communion in the heavens. Let us take you to another place in the heaven world, a lovely building of white substance. The architecture is simple; the windows are arched; the entrance porch is a perfect arch. We

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mount seven wide steps into this entrance hall and find ourselves in a place of exquisite simplicity. Colours radiate from the walls. Within is a musical instrument on a raised dais. Someone is playing upon that instrument and is radiant with joy; his body is pulsating with the light of God. Now he is not alone; loved ones have drawn very close. As his hands fall upon the keys we hear heavenly music which seems to issue not only from the instrument but softly from the very walls of the room. Now there comes into the picture a young girl. She commences to sing. Her voice too is echoed by the walls.

The company present are those whom you have loved and perhaps, when you saw the physical shell die, felt that all that you loved and all that was real to you had gone forever – but that is not so. All that has gone is that part which had outlived its purpose. The physical atoms have disintegrated, returned to earth, but not the soul you love. Oh no! Your loved one has risen into that condition of life which is the true home of the spirit, into an inner world. Your physical life is the outer world. We might use the simile of a wheel. A wheel has spokes reaching to the outer rim but its centre or hub can symbolise the home of the spirit. The spirit goes forth from the hub, as it were, and travels down the spokes to the outer rim; it does this in order to test the powers which God has given to it.

Keep in mind what we have been telling you about your real home: the condition of that real home; the perfection of its buildings and cities; the glories of nature there. Picture that home as all harmony: the inhabitants of that sphere always radiating kindness. Kindness is the keynote of the world of spirit of heaven world. Whatever has to be done in that state of life is done kindly. That is what the people on earth have to learn to do: to act kindly. That is all. Not weakly but meekly. There is a difference. The Master Jesus was strong but also meek and lowly: He was kind. He came to demonstrate to people on Earth the way to live in order to bring into full power the God within your heart.

We have noted that some of you are puzzled about the complex question of good and evil. You have thought, ‘Why is it that if God is implanted within man, man sinks to such base levels of thought, feeling and action? Why is evil so strong in the world? If God dwells within the heart of every man, why is that man given to evil deeds?’ How can we explain to you simply that God has two aspects, positive and negative, and that man has to learn so to live that he is able eventually to control or direct the negative aspect of his life. God has given every person freewill; and that person has to learn through that freewill to use wisely the two forces at his disposal. There are two aspects in physical matter – energy and force – and if force did not control or act as a buffer to energy, matter would fly to pieces. That balancing force is an integral part of matter. It must be, and what you call evil is also an aspect of life which must be. It has its work, its place in the universe. Sometimes evil is spoken of as being under the direction of one called Satan; but if we change the name of Satan to Saturn, recognising that the influence of Saturn comes as the great testing in human life, we shall begin to understand how the word Satan originated.

In your life you are constantly being tested. You suffer; you grieve; you are very uncomfortable; but you do not know what that same testing is doing to your soul. It is acting much as force acts upon energy. It is enabling the soul to grow in spiritual quality, in power.

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It is giving to the soul an access to the inner wisdom. Without that testing or the difficult conditions which come into your earthly life, you would not be developing the full power of God, which is the purpose of your spirit incarnating. The seed, the spark from God is perfect, much as the seed planted in the earth is perfect; that seed contains potentialities for growth into a beautiful plant, even as the seed of God can grow into a most beautiful being – the Perfect One, the Christ. But, my children, remember that the seed has first to be placed in the cold earth. It extracts nutriment from the earth. The seed of the spirit is planted in a body of the earth because in that earth can be found the nutriment which the seed of the spirit in man needs to enable it to grow. Whilst the seed in itself is perfect and contains all its potentialities for growth, it is unconscious of its own beauty. It is unconscious of its own power. When that soul has passed through its many, many incarnations, then it is full-grown. It has attained the full consciousness of its God-powers. It then has knowledge of good and evil and is able to control these two aspects. Physical matter and what you call evil are not to be condemned, but must be in their right place.

We will explain. Most of you love gardens. Many probably have lovely gardens, or failing that may grow plants in a bowl. In either garden or bowl, soil is necessary if you would have your flower; but if the soil in the bowl is scattered all over your room it is out of place; it is a nuisance – out of harmony altogether. If the soil of your flower beds is scattered, then it is out of place; it is inharmonious, it is evil. Do you to see what we are endeavouring in simple language to show? When the aspect of God which you call evil is in its right place and being wisely controlled, it brings forth good. It is producing beauty; it is producing harmony. Without that aspect there would be chaos. It only becomes evil when it gets out of place and runs riot. The purpose of man's life in physical matter is training. He is learning as a child learns when it goes to school. First it is in the kindergarten, then in the higher classes; then it passes out into the university completely qualified. Through class after class the soul rises in understanding of this hidden wisdom, these hidden secrets of nature. All is God and God is both creative and what you call destructive. the process of change and decay must go on in physical matter. When these two aspects of life are blended so that they become harmonious and perfect, then what you call darkness is another aspect of light. 'Light and dark are both alike to Thee.'

Our last word, my children. Whilst you are on earth take every opportunity presented of turning your thoughts, your awareness, to the inner planes of life. Dwell within your soul and learn how to contact the glories of the heaven world whilst you still retain your body. Believe old White Eagle, for what we tell you is true, my dear ones. It has been demonstrated in the lives of the masters, the saints, the sages. Right down the ages they have learned this inner wisdom of life through practice on earth of the laws of heaven. This will without question or doubt bring to you the vision of those heavenly things which mortal eye cannot see and ear cannot hear; but the vision of the spirit can reveal these glories and the ear of the spirit can hear the music of the spheres. Develop the inner vision not just to discern spirits, but to discriminate between what is false and what is true, what is unworthy and what is worthy. In other words, get your values right – and this, my brethren, can only come through inner development; development of character, of soul and of spiritual light. The beauties of the heaven world are reflected by man's own inner being, and until man's inner being is ablaze he

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cannot reflect the glories of the heavens. When man leaves his body he will not see these glories unless the light is full in his heart. It takes him time in the spirit world to shed the particles of darkened matter which still cling to his soul after he has left the body; but as soon as he is cleansed his heart is like a jewel, a mirror reflecting the heavens.

This is the hidden wisdom which has been with man since the world began. This is the Garden of Eden, the place within man's innermost being. But man was driven from that garden, sent forth by God to till the ground, to work hard. Again we see the meaning of Saturn, the Saturnian influence which causes people to labour long and hard. We recognise the importance of such work and of the testing of Saturn in those descriptive words, 'Saturn is the ring. Pass me not'. No soul is allowed to get past the ring of Saturn until it has earned the right to see what lies beyond the gateway of imitation.

God bless you. God bless us all with these gifts. May we strive to be worthy of our blessing. Amen.

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:

lessons on earth, heaven on earth, spiritual journey, vision of heaven, testing, Garden of Eden