

# A Message of Hope and Joy

A269 Sunday Address 19th December 1954 St Mary Abbots Place, London Festival Of Carols

*Text:* a carbon copy of a typescript, not exactly fitting any of the styles used in 1954 – there seems to have been a variety of typists used during this period, and the usual ones by MB are not to be seen at this juncture. There are some small corrections which seem to be original, and so they are incorporated here.

*Context:* Christmas service, in which the opening words are particularly striking! The only carol we have reference to, later in the teaching, is ‘O little town of Bethlehem’. In his thanks, White Eagle particularly addresses ‘our little twin Mary’ and ‘our Choirmaster Christian’. Mary Brameld would have been the organist for the service and was the twin sister of Elizabeth, and they and their parents, Doris (‘Hope’) and Tom (‘Francis’) Brameld, were all four Inner Brothers of the Lodge. Elizabeth would have been singing in the choir, as White Eagle notes, but Tom had passed in 1946. Christian was the Brotherhood name of Ylana Hayward, who took over the choir upon Reginald (‘John’) Botcherby’s death in February 1945. The ‘soldier’ reference seems to connect her name doubly with the character in *Pilgrim’s Progress*. The mention of anonymous gifts reminds us that in 1954 the Lodge was nine years into a somewhat crippling mortgage, still far from being paid off – but also referred to are gifts for the annual ‘Christmas Tree’ collection of toys for children in need.

*General Notes:* It is unusual for White Eagle to thank not only the ‘team’ but the congregation as well, and he seems particularly moved that they are present. He has a few words about how he makes contact. He mentions the three priceless gifts that every human being has received: a loving spirit, the Christ light, and peace beyond comprehension. He also reminds us that the message comes from universal spirit, not from himself, ‘for we who are spirits have found at-one-ment with each other’. He prophesies a new spiritual awakening, the result of scientific discovery. This seems to include contact from outer space. Most of all, though, the message is one of hope and joy.

*References:* there is obviously reference to the nativity story, which is repeated with certain differences in the opening chapters of Mathew, Mark and Luke. For reference to the veil of the Temple being drawn aside (or rent asunder), see Matthew 27: 50-51. There are many references to the veil in both the Old and New testaments – see, for instance, Exodus 26: 31-35, and Hebrews 10: 19-22, which reminds us that the veil is there to protect us from seeing the Holy of Holies, the actual sight of God.

## White Eagle’s Christmas Address:

Welcome, dear beloved brethren of the spirit. Welcome to our Christmas Festival, not only to this earthly Festival but to our heavenly Christmas Festival. We would remind you that all of you who have taken great trouble to be here with us tonight receive from the angelic hierarchies and all the brethren of the Star Circle in the heavens a blessing, a great blessing, into your hearts: all love and inspiration and peace.

But before we proceed to speak further our Christmas message, we would all of us in spirit who are gathered here with you and on your behalf, on behalf of all the congregation, we wish to say ‘thank you’ to the dear brethren of the White Eagle Choir. We thank you for your Service of Carols. A special tribute to our little twin Mary, whom we called up to this altar when this Lodge was first dedicated and opened during the years of fire, and Mary with her sister, her twin, who has been one of the soloists in the Choir: to both of our twins our love and blessing and thanks. And of course to our choirmaster Christian, a soldier, our gratitude to you, my child, and to all who have selflessly given in this service. There are many behind

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the scenes whom we cannot mention who have done their part to make this service happy, harmonious and beautiful, and to all these silent helpers in the background White Eagle and the brethren on our side of life – thank you and bless you.

And now to our congregation. Some of you have travelled a long distance and may have endured an irksome journey but you have made us happy by your presence, and we hope this will be a little reward for the effort you have made to come. And there are others in this congregation, of whom we know, whom have done kindness, shown kindnesses to our work here in this lodge. Little gifts have been anonymously left in the Lodge. Gifts have come by post anonymously to help this work, gifts for the Christmas Tree which will be distributed amongst the children who have so little love and joy in their lives, and to all of you who have brought your hearts in the form – various forms – of service and gifts, we say ‘thank you’, and may the blessing of the Father–Mother God and the glorious Christ Spirit rest upon you and your dear ones. May all joy and happiness fill your hearts, not only at Christmas, not only just now, but may you feel that you have received a wonderful gift, the greatest gift that God can give to His children on earth, the gift of a loving spirit, the gift of the Christ Light and the gift of peace which is beyond the understanding of earthly minds.

We use this instrument to speak to you our message, which does not come through her brain but from the spirit, the spirit, the universal spirit, for we who are spirits have found at-one-ment with each other. We are a brotherhood in the heavenly life, and this is what you are to become, a great universal brotherhood, not in the spirit world alone but here on your earth. Now this may seem impossible at the moment and our message incredible; nevertheless we assure you that before very long your earthly scientists are going to make a pronouncement which will completely knock aside all the old materialistic conception of life. Now wonderful things are coming to your earth plane – and with the coming of this knowledge, this scientific knowledge, will come back to you all a new religious revelation. God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform, and mankind is not as bad as it appears, for within every man and woman is the light of the Christ Spirit. The Star of Bethlehem is in every man’s heart but there are many who do not know it at present. But when they have a little more help from their comrades on the earth plane, their companions, their hearts will awaken and the Star of Christ will radiate through them and then all people will be drawn together in a universal spiritual brotherhood.

Now you notice, those of you who are fond of reading your daily news, not always true nor pleasant, but you will find creeping in most astounding statements; you will see the trend of thought upward, upward, for science will cause men to lay aside their materialistic thought and make them realise that there are other worlds, other spheres of life surrounding – not only surrounding the earth but extending very far into space. And you will notice before very long that messengers will come from outer space bringing truth, knowledge and spiritual light to the earth people.

You have been singing a carol or hymn about the ‘Little Town of Bethlehem’ and we would like you at this moment to close your eyes and imagine that little sleeping town and above in

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the heavens the exceedingly bright Star, blazing, speaking to all wise men that a mystical happening was taking place, a mystical birth. The hierarchies are opening the heavens to mankind. We want you to think of this and to see in your inner vision great heavenly concourses. We are not telling you a pretty fairy tale. We are telling you of things which happen in the heaven worlds above your earth state of life – and when the child Jesus was born a sign was given in the heavens, a Star blazed and the wise men who had the power to communicate with heavenly intelligences were expecting this sign. And when it came, they knew that it would lead them to the earthly birthplace of the babe Jesus, who was the chosen one through whom the Cosmic Christ would manifest. This is not only a story of two thousand years ago; it is a story of today, particularly of this beginning of the new age; this Star, the planet in outer space, is preparing to send to you people on the earth plane a sign and a message.

Now remember this. You are very limited in your mentalities and limited even in your spiritual consciousness, but there are humans not of this earth who are not so limited as you and they are watching the earth; they are looking out for a place or places to which they can send their messenger. Now this does not come about in a haphazard way. No communications from our spirit world, nor from other places, come to your earth in a haphazard way. The messengers are directed by a plan and the messengers come to those who prepare themselves in every way to receive them – and you will notice in the future that these people from outer space will come to the faithful, to those who have watched and studied the heavens and the divine laws of living. For those who are coming are advanced souls, and with this great revelation to the earth will come a complete change of man's belief. He will no longer think that death will be the end of him. He will be compelled to believe in that old and beautiful story of the birth of Jesus Christ and the message which the Christ Child brings to all peoples, for the Christ says: 'I bring to you a message of joy, peace on earth, goodwill to all men, for I come, I come, I come into the heart of you; I come in the silence and in the stillness; I speak to your heart; I turn your thoughts upward to heavenly states and I help you to establish those heavenly states on earth'.

My children, it does not depend upon the other man or the other country. It depends entirely upon you. The whole responsibility is yours. 'I come. Wilt thou receive me? My voice is gentle. My love is limitless. I give you the key to life and the mysteries of life and heaven. There is no death. Life is all, all-embracing; life is eternal. My symbol has ever been the Star of Bethlehem, the six-pointed Star, the symbol of the perfectly balanced human being, he who is balanced between spirit and matter, the perfect man, even the Christ man.'

My children, when He came last in the form of a babe, there was a grand and wonderful mystical happening and the angels filled the heavens with their praise and thanksgiving to Him, for He left that state of perfection and love to come to the earth where there is darkness and conflict and ignorance. He came to *you*. Oh we pray, my children, that you will open your hearts wide now to let in the light of truth, the light of spiritual science, the light of brotherly love, the light of God. And the veil between the world of spirit and the world of

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matter will be drawn aside, as He said it would be, and the Holy of Holies will be revealed to mankind. Oh give praise, give praise and thanksgiving!

O Lord, we thank Thee for the joy which now rings in our hearts, and may these Thy children be blessed, blessed, blessed, for evermore.

A truly happy Christmas to you all and a New Year of brightness and sunshine and heavenly visitation. Peace be with you.

