

Illumination

A037 Sunday Address 5th September 1937 Pembroke Hall, London Reopening service after Summer break

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

Text: from a duplicated script in a bound volume, which also formed part of *Angelus* for October 1937; no superficial markings. It is headed: 'Address given by White Eagle at the commencement of the Autumn Session' and the date.

Context: apart from the greeting to 'all our friends who have come to worship in this Lodge' and the following remarks, there is no detail evident of the service in which this was given, except that it was the reopening after the Summer.

General notes: the idea of Man made Perfect (with no intended gender specificity, of course) is a common theme in White Eagle's teaching; it probably does not stem from the teaching from spirit which led Mabel Beatty to call her 1929 volume by that name, but it must at least be connected. Minesta and Brother Faithful attended Mrs Beatty's special gatherings in 1930. The concept, in the middle of the teaching, of 'those who know and those who do not know' is capable of much misunderstanding, but also recurs in White Eagle's teaching. It is well explained here. Near the end, the phrase 'not done', which is rarely used now, implies something that supposedly civilised people naturally refrain from doing. The term 'a let down' implies someone of whom much was hoped but who fails to fulfil expectations. Both these expressions are twentieth-century colloquialisms. The first White Eagle book carried the title 'Illumination' but was probably in production before this teaching appeared. See the talk, 'The Mystery of the Soul', K006. This text, in the original duplicated version, has a cross within the circle cut by hand into the stencil at the end. It probably implies that at the end, White Eagle drew this shape with his right hand as a form of salute – as he continued to do right to the end of his ministry.

References: White Eagle mentions Krishna, Confucius, Osiris, who stand at the head of religions or systems of thought in India, China and Egypt.

White Eagle's Address:

We greet all our friends who have come to worship in this Lodge. When we come we have no other wish than to bring a message of love, nay more – we pray that we may give forth a spiritual power, the very power of love. We ourselves can only be the messenger, but we have seen and do see the glory of love in the life beyond. We come to testify to this great and glorious gift! Words, beloved, may fall on deaf ears, remain merely words; but behind words is the power of the spirit of love, the spirit of Christ, divine life in humanity.

When you, individually, meet people through whom the divine life or the light shines, you realise something about them not of the earth which may puzzle you and cause you to ponder and wonder. What is there in such and such individual which breathes truth, beauty and sincerity? Whatever it may be depends not upon intellectual attainment, but upon the response to love, to Christ or to the light. Christ spoke saying, 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life'. What did He mean? He showed to you the way in his daily life, not only by the spoken word, but in daily contacts, in regard for the law and in respect and love and understanding for all peoples.

We come to speak to you on 'Illumination' – Light.

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We draw aside the curtain to reveal to you the figure of a Man made Perfect – Christ, the divine love, manifesting through the Master Jesus. Many are confused concerning Jesus Christ and his relationship to the other world teachers and argue that Jesus was not the only world teacher. For the western world, perhaps, they say, but not for the East. Behold, there are other witnesses of the truth [that] have lived such as the Lord Buddha, master of wisdom, and others – Krishna, Confucius, Osiris. We admit all of these – but analyse their teaching and you will find that they reveal the path, the way. The Lord Buddha pointed the way of life, and through his wisdom prepared later generations to receive the light within themselves. The Buddha taught how men should prepare themselves for the light. Christ is the light. Christ is the light, born in the flesh.

In ages past, humanity was being prepared, was evolving towards that point of complete illumination – to that time when the Christ life would shine forth through man to perfection, creating and bringing forth into life the Perfect Man, the Perfect Son of God. For God created man in His own image and sent His Son, His only begotten Son, the Christ, not only to manifest through the prepared vehicle of the Master Jesus, but through every man. This and no other awaits us all at some time, when we become perfect in Christ, the divine life and light of all the earth and all humanity. Break away from the creeds and dogmas which have necessarily confined your path in the past. Step forth into the freedom of God's love, break through those chains of orthodoxy which bind and restrict the soul, and see the beauty of the perfect life in man, perfected, as revealed in Jesus Christ.

What has all this to do with life, with a world troubled and shaken with fear, with hatred and war, crushed by competition in the economic and commercial worlds? What bearing has all this preaching on the realities of man's daily needs?

Such truths have every bearing, for they concern themselves with the sufferings of humanity, with the joys and the sorrows of the world; for the true light shining behind the material shadows will eventually break through and nurture the earth. Even as the sunshine brings forth flowers and fruit, so this Divine Light and love which you worship in the Christ and in God your Father will, in due course, sweep materialism, sin and corruption away. There shall come that new and glorious Day of peace and harmony, a day already dawned to other planets more advanced than this earth.

My brethren, it has been said that humanity is divided into two distinct sections; There are those who know and those who do not know. There are those who can perceive reality behind the physical and the material life and those who remain blind and deaf, who live in a darkened room. To change our simile – they are like fish in a murky pond, swimming round and round in their own environment. The intellect is a hard master and demands proof. The intellect limits, will not allow the fishes a peep at the sunlight of spirit above, but keeps them working hard, swimming and swimming in their own dark pond. Beyond the pond there is nothing. They dive to the bottom and they find but mud; to the top they do not rise. They know not what can be above and so they swim ever on and on. There are masses of humanity

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in this state and some will expostulate, 'I long to know, but I cannot accept'. This means, in reality, they are afraid to put a head above water.

Others there are who do not ask for proof of God, for proof of an afterlife, for proof of reincarnation; they do not demand proof of the laws of the universe, of the law of Karma. They do not say, 'Prove to me that I am a living soul'. They may never seek what the Spiritualist calls proof of the afterlife, not receive tests through a medium of the survival of their loved ones in the spirit world.

Why? They know without proof. Illumination is within them. They are no longer as fish swimming in the confined spaces. They look out on a starlit night at the glory of the heavens and their mind falters before the wonder of the universe. They need no mathematical calculations to satisfy them that wonders dwell in the heavens. They need no proof of a God, for in their heart the light is born and grows apace. They are not limited by the mind; the heart speaks its own language and their experience of life at some time on the path of their evolution has taught them, has revealed them the love of God.

We do not decry the mind, the reason or the intellect. These are all God's gifts to enable man to progress on the path towards God. The mind has its place in the scheme of evolution, its work to do. The mind must be developed and must grow even as the body of a child should grow, but without the guidance of the intuition the mind can become a dead end, refusing any further solution to the mysteries of the universe.

At this period there comes to the earth plane a wave of spiritual force. A cosmic ray falls upon humanity and there are many thousands – nay millions – today who are being thus quickened. Whereas in the past the mind has been educating and training man that he may be ready to receive the greater knowledge and the deeper wisdom, the future will find in man a quickening intelligence which will replace the purely mental attributes. We speak again of intuition, the intuition in a man's heart, within his soul, through which the Christ Man, the Christ Light can and will shine. There are reforms needed – God knows! – social reforms for which humanity is crying out. But realise that when the conscience or intuition, the still small voice rises and speaks to man, then such reforms come naturally and simply because man will then know that to suppress his brother is 'not done', it is beneath the dignity of a true man to be cruel and hard towards a brother. Intuition will show man that all races, all classes of human life are as one. He will know that he cannot injure his brother man without feeling the repercussion on his own heart, in his own life.

This is the Illumination which hastens to the human race.

And now, one last word: let us liken the light of Christ, the illumination of mankind to the sunlight behind some beautiful coloured glass window. A work of art which remains almost unseen until the sunlight shines on it. So also God's handiwork in humanity remains unbeautiful and darkened until the light of Christ glorifies it. Many would love their fellow but are repelled by the crudity and ugliness which they see. But try to realise that in every

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human soul there is that in which you share – the light of Christ. Search for this light in brother man by first giving forth love and sympathy and tenderness in your own life.

Then those who would be musicians might be perfected not only in technique, but through a gentle love ever inspiring and guiding the musician; the writer may become the perfect messenger, conveying to his readers a message from the heart and all to the heart of his reader. So also with the doctor, the preacher – with all who labour, who may give not merely of their labour to humanity, but the true service of Christ.

May your daily work not be to you a drudgery: may you see it as your contribution of the light to humanity – not indeed by preaching the light, not by the word, but by constant service, trust and kindness. Never mind if you are what is called a ‘let down’ – that is never your affair, but the business of the other man. Give in love and trust to the Spirit of Christ behind and permeating humanity and thus you shall at last become a light, an illumination on earth, some day to shine forth in the heavens.

Illumination. Love. Give love, the Christ Radiance, and all gifts of heaven and earth shall become yours.

The blessing of God our Father is upon you all. Open your consciousness and receive the Light.

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:

Aquarian Age, enlightenment, duality of Christ, awakened state, light within, inner light, sending out the light, inner voice, spiritual contact, spiritual unfoldment, empathy, faith, great teachers