

The Ancient Christ Mass

T214 The Inner Teachings 27th November 1951 St Mary Abbots Place, London

Invocation:

We would pray to the Almighty Spirit, the all-pervading Presence of Love, asking that we may receive His light into our hearts. O God, our prayer is that our mind may be cleansed of all that would hinder reception of Thy truth. In Thy holy name we pray.

Amen.

Brethren, we come hoping to bring a message not only for your minds but for your souls. May this message find the tiny spark of divinity within you, so that your vision may behold truth.

You on your earth and we in spirit life are looking forward to the great Christ-mass, to the time when there is a free interchange of loving greetings and loving wishes, when both you and we shall worship at the shrine of the new-born Son, of the Christ, the spiritual being who is embodied in the Sun. And when we say 'embodied in the Sun,' we mean to convey something of the radiance of the spiritual Sun, the great sphere of golden light. For the Sun above is in truth the physical or material embodiment of a divine essence, a divine intelligence.

You fail to recognise the glory and the beauty of these two presentations—of the Sun above which is the life-giver and of the spiritual Sun which is behind, of which the physical sun is but a manifestation or demonstration. In the same way the Christ babe is a symbol of human kindness and love. Most people respond with love to the appeal of a new-born babe, which with all its helplessness seems to inspire the beholder with a desire to give to the babe, to care for the babe, to protect the babe. In so doing, the babe calls forth the highest instinct in man. So we have here two extremes—above, the Infinite, the macrocosm, and below, the finite, the babe, the microcosm—and contemplation of these two pictures can stimulate your soul with realisation of the goodness of God.

What a blessing is this, my children! What would it be like if man had no Christ-mass to celebrate? Have you ever thought? Suppose you had no such ideal before you but only a succession of drab, dark days following one after the other—with no fanning to life of that God spark, the God life within, no expansion of your consciousness? What then? For this great gift which is symbolised for you by Christmas, thank God is the greatest gift of all, the gift of the Son, the babe, the Christ babe in our midst. Ponder on these things during this period, particularly during the weeks preceding the Christ-mass day, and recognise the birthday of Christ the Son.

Unfortunately there are many people today who cannot find Christ. To them, no such person exists—that is, intellectually. They cannot accept so ancient a truth because their mind has become hard and keen owing to over-rapid mental development, and such a mind tends to kill the Christ child.

In this age evil seems active and vigorous. But in future talks we shall tell you that what the world calls evil is in reality a great force which is training humanity to recognise the divine

The Ancient Christ Mass

T214 The Inner Teachings 27th November 1951 St Mary Abbots Place, London

truth that God is love. So-called evil provides a pressure, or becomes a test to man's soul to keep him on the path. Evil is likened to the angel with a sword placed at the gate of the Garden of Eden. The angel guarding the gate of Eden or Paradise—call it what you will—described a circle of light with the sword. This circle is known to the ancients as the 'Ring' of Saturn; of Saturn, of Satan, interpreted now as evil. And the 'Ring' of Saturn means 'pass me not'. The soul is not permitted to enter into the great hall of initiation until, having been tested and tried, it becomes as pure gold.

Yes, so-called evil is pressing down the world today. You are inclined to see only a blackness, a darkness, as to the future. You must also recognise the omnipotence of God, the wisdom, and the love and mercy of God. Then you will know that all is moving forward on a spiral of light. Humanity is being tried and tested and stimulated like a plant, but very gently, very gently—stimulated rather than forced—to grow upward to the light, to bloom in the sunlight.

This Christ-mass on which we all concentrate at the present time is not a modern institution. Not only in Christendom is this teaching of the rebirth of the Sun given, but everywhere is to be found the same story. Even the so-called primitive races welcomed the return of the Sun with celebration and festival. For the Sun had seemingly passed away, had departed. Then from the constellation of Virgo the Virgin, the Sun came forth. This is an astronomical or astrological truth, and the ancients worshipped the heavens and the constellations. Some would say they were wiser than we, for they had the wisdom of the gods. They may not have had the scientific knowledge as you may have it today. They had the scientific knowledge in a different form. Mankind today has a science resulting from the intellect which is dangerous, insofar as man has a greater, graver responsibility in the use of this knowledge. Man needs to develop his other side, his spiritual part; otherwise his uncovering of the secrets of nature will be his destruction—that is, his physical destruction and the destruction of materialism.

This festival of the Christ-mass, this celebration in many lands, is presented to Christendom as the birth of the human babe. The ancients worshipped not only the babe but also the Sun which had brought forth the babe—for every young thing is a creature of the Sun. Behind that Sun they worshipped something which seemed wholly good, the beneficence which provided them with life and with the fruits of the earth. To them, that Sun became the good Father; and the earth which grew the fruits became the dear Mother. So we get the worship of a dual Deity—Father and Mother. And the coming together of the two, according to the ancient religion, was the marriage. The impregnation of the Earth by the Sun brought forth the seed ... life ... food ... flowers, happiness, all the gifts which made life for them beautiful, sunny, warm. For these reasons they worshipped the babe that to them seemed a manifestation of this great love.

Today mankind* takes all these things for granted, as with the seasons of the year. Some people certainly recognise the beauty of nature's colouring and form. They say how lovely nature is. To them, a natural law provides everything they want. Such an attitude is not enough, for then man is only partially receiving the great outpouring of the love of God.

The Ancient Christ Mass

T214 The Inner Teachings 27th November 1951 St Mary Abbots Place, London

*[*For editorial policy on gender issues, see the introduction.]*

What must happen now and in the future is that man's heart must simply, yet profoundly, worship and adore. What will be the result of such a change of heart? Why, the whole earth will rid itself of pain and sorrow and become a place of joy, peace and beauty, once man has found the secret. In the heavens the glory of God is everywhere. You yourselves look forward to the time when you will enjoy that glory. Before this can happen, my dear children, you must first of all bring heaven through to the earth. *Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done*—in Earth, in matter. Thy will be done on earth as it is being done in heaven. Think what that will mean, no less than the beauty of the spiritual spheres penetrating the material life! Oh, but it will come! Do you feel hopeless about it? Surely, surely it will come to everyone. You are the builders. So long as any one of you refrains from thinking in the right way, from looking in the right direction, you will hold back the rest of the world from realising this wholeness, this at-one-ment with the Great White Spirit.

How we long to bring to you all the understanding, the realisation of the Christ message! Try to imagine, try to picture the form of the Golden One, the Christ in the heart and at the centre of the Sun.... Think of Him as the perfected man, your ideal of what man should be. It is true that he is clothed in golden light. His hair is the colour of gold. He is the embodiment of gold, for gold is the colour and the metal of the Sun, and the Sun is the jewel on the breast of man. Astrologically, the heart represents the Sun. This is truth. Your heart is your sun, the centre of your universe, and everything in your life, in your universe revolves around your sun. Your sun is the symbol of divine love. And in the degree that man has a dignity, a nobility of character which causes his sun to radiate light, he is in the process of becoming at one with his Father in heaven.

Hermes, supposed to be a mythical character, was once a living person—what you would call an Egyptian Master. He taught his flock that 'as above, so below'. He taught them to look into the heavens, to love the eternal wisdom in the stars. He said to his disciples, 'What you read there applies to the life on earth. As above, so below.' This mystical or spiritual teaching revealed to the wise that the message of the stars is reflected in the life of man. You will find in the esoteric teaching a workable way of life. Until man realises the value of the heavenly mysteries and brings them through into his everyday, mortal life, he must continue to suffer pain, but when he sees the vision of the Son of God and endeavours to follow the pattern of that Christ-man, then he will receive the glory.

Only in silence can we convey to you the vision of the Christ man in the heavens, the vision of the Golden One, the human and divine in one. Round Him countless angels are singing the *Gloria*, are praising God, thanking God for the inestimable gift of His Son. This upper room in which we are gathered is filled. There are no limitations, for the great company spreads far beyond these material walls. You are in the heavenly company—now. These radiant, glorious spirits are singing praises to the Father—Mother and to the Son. 'Glory be to God in the highest; on earth, goodwill and peace.' To each one of you this message is given with great sincerity and love. For you can do your part to bring this truth home to all unhappy, wandering souls, this not by what you say but by how you live—expressing to all what you

The Ancient Christ Mass

T214 The Inner Teachings 27th November 1951 St Mary Abbots Place, London

feel of the Christ spirit, by living it, giving it forth in silence. This is the way, the only way for the salvation of humanity. And this is the meaning of the Son of God coming to this earth as the Saviour of Man. Christ is the one and only saviour. We do not mean the man Jesus. We mean all the avatars who have been used as a vehicle for the great Sun Spirit. These are the saviours of mankind.

You are told in your Christian churches only to believe. Your reason says to you, 'What is the good of man believing? If by belief alone he is saved and taken to heaven, there seems no reason in it.' My children, cannot you see that you must believe; you must believe in Christ, you must believe in these things we tell you. If you do not believe, you will seek but never find. You must believe and then you will know. You will have proof, you will feel in your innermost the power and the glory of the Christ spirit. You will say, 'If all the world is against me, I know, for first I believed and then I saw and I knew.' Let your heart believe in this beauty, this spiritual light and glory, and then you will have both proof and certainty.

So may you all at this Christmas tide, either in company with your friends or in loneliness of spirit, go into the silence. Go on your knees and thank God for Christ-mass. Do not be over-hurried. Do not be over-burdened with material things, but preserve a tranquil spirit of love.

The Lord bless you and keep you in the knowledge of His love for ever and for ever. That is all.

Now we are just chatting. If you could see the smiling spirit faces all around, you would be so joyful. You have to persevere, to keep on believing and knowing. Then you will see. You have to know spiritual power and spiritual truth yourself before you can see it in another. You have sometimes to look very deep to see it in other people. You say you can love God and all kinds of things, but you cannot love people. If you learn to look into the heart, you will love everybody. Your companions are perhaps unhappy and unkind? They are poor dear ones. You must learn to look into the heart and love them, and above all, forgive. Forgive as you are forgiven.

We are talking to you as an old father. One thing none of you must forget is the Silence at noon on Christmas Day—the Silence and the thankfulness. Whatever your circumstances, look up to the Father, the Great White Spirit, and say, 'Thou art all love; Thy gifts are true and beautiful.' Remember, won't you? Even if you have a sad heart, remember. Worship and thank the Great White Spirit—for everything.

Benediction:

Our Father–Mother God, we thank Thee for the gift of Thy Son. We thank Thee for humanity, for the sweet simplicity and human kindness which we see all around us, for the dear, the humble and the great people on this earth; for the noble and true, and for the lowly and humble. O God, we thank Thee for all who are Thy children and our brethren. We thank Thee, we thank Thee. And most of all, these children on earth now thank Thee for the

The Ancient Christ Mass

T214 The Inner Teachings 27th November 1951 St Mary Abbots Place, London

presence of the spirit of Thy Son and for their Elder Brethren from the Great White Lodge. And they thank Thee for the presence of angels and guides and loved ones in our world of spirit. We voice their gratitude, O God. Thou knowest their hearts. So may Thy peace, Thy glorious, heavenly peace abide with them now and always.

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:

Xmas, astrology, myths, ancient rites, ancient civilisations

