

# True Religion

A265 Sunday Address 4th July 1954 St Mary Abbots Place, London Sunday Service

*Text:* from a typescript (purple carbon copy), no heading other than the date and 'White Eagle's address'. The title, 'True Religion', has been added for the present project.

*Context:* the July Sunday service marks no festival, yet this seems a profound teaching, central to the White Eagle work. It is clear from a reference within that the reading was the Twenty-Third Psalm.

*General Notes:* the opening is an address to all listeners in a form that seems to speak to each one of them individually. It could serve as an introduction to the whole White Eagle teaching. The address contains a very useful section on what religion really consists of. Then it goes on to talk of the power of positive thought. White Eagle is unusual here in saying that he has talked about positive thought in many lives on earth, and even written on the subject. Nowhere else, as far as we can recall, does he speak of being a teacher *and a writer* in former incarnations. The section on positive thought is extended into a call to all involved in the White Eagle work to perform a regular sending forth of the light, with a suggested time of 9 pm. Although such work had been done many times by the White Eagle Brotherhood, particularly in the War, this call may mark the beginning of the Prayer for Humanity (which seems to be anticipated here) and of the noon service, even if 9 pm is here specified.

*References:* there is a gathering of references to Psalm 23, which formed the reading. 'It were better for him that a millstone were hanged around his neck' is Matthew 18 : 6. The injunction to Love one another comes frequently in John and in the first Epistle of John, but in particular see John 13 : 34.

## White Eagle's Address:

Dearly beloved brethren, our brethren, our dear brethren, all of you, those who visit us for the first time, those who are old visitors, those who are initiated brothers, to all the company here tonight we say: Dearly beloved brethren of ours, who are striving to live in earth and in flesh to the best of your ability. You strive under great difficulties and there are very few of your companions on earth who understand your limitations, your heartaches, your fears or your triumphs. This we are commanded to say to you all, that there comes to you in this Lodge at the present moment a company of illumined men and women. Some are very simple, just like yourselves, who have only recently come over into the world of spirit. Others are a little older in the spirit life. Others are guides and teachers, some who have had quite a lot of training in the God-unfoldment of their hearts. Beyond them are those you call the 'Elder Brethren', those who have you particularly under their observation and their loving care. Then there are those really great souls who wait – now listen very carefully to our words – who wait to sacrifice their heavenly state to come down to your earth and to take upon themselves fleshly bodies and to live amongst humanity. This is not something which is coming in the future. It is something which has already happened and has happened many times. That is to say that these illumined and perfected sons and daughters of God have willingly sacrificed their heavenly state of life to come back to the earth and to live amongst men. And we speak of the one tonight particularly, the one whom the Christian world worships by lip service and sometimes by heart and mind service, the Lord Jesus Christ. We would impress this truth upon you, that he came down to this earth not as an ordinary man – and yet he lived and appeared to be an ordinary man amongst men. And so the ignorance of mankind made them think that he was an ordinary person like themselves.

In one sense he *was* ordinary. He was a man. But in the other sense he was extraordinary and totally unlike any man living at the time. We would hold him before your vision this night as

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a supreme being, a Son of God, a perfected one who through many, many lives – not necessarily on this earth plane but in form in other worlds and on another planet as well as on this earth planet – lived and grew in stature and perfected his nature until the whole of God flooded through him and he was worshipped as the Son of God. Will you keep this in mind? For he gave to all men on earth most profound truth, and you will find no deeper nor higher nor broader nor wider truth in the whole of the history of mankind than the truth which came through Jesus in very simple language.

There have been other teachers. We are not overlooking this fact. There have been other Elder Brethren and Masters and they have all had their particular contribution to make to the spiritual evolution and upliftment of mankind. But we particularly remember on this occasion the life, the ministry and the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ. Now nearly 2,000 years after his passing away from the earth and returning to that heavenly state to which he truly belongs, his followers are still, we were going to say, seeking; struggling for truth, misunderstanding his words, misrepresenting his teaching in some cases. We do not decry religion but we do say to you that mankind misunderstands the meaning of the word 'religion'. There have been many religions through [the] ages upon your earth and the original teacher of a religion has brought the simple truth to mankind – but, as time has gone on, the followers of that religion have changed the meaning. They have used the words according to their interpretation of them and they have brought about confusion in their own particular religious circle.

And so we want to say just a few words to you about the meaning of religion. Dear brethren: religion is not creed, dogma. It is not merely a belief. Religion is the growing consciousness of God in man's own being, and when man becomes awakened to the Light of God, the Christ within him commences to grow, the Christ which is the Son of God within man's breast. Religion is not what you believe. It is not the words that you listen to or read. Religion – we repeat it – religion is this growing God-consciousness in you and this is what all humanity is needing, is searching for. Mankind has lost an organised religion and is seeking for God and does not know how or where to find God until he learns that within himself is God – and he learns this infinite truth, this vital truth, through the love which he can feel first of all for others, the feeling which grows in a man for the sufferings of others, for the in-harmony and the pain of his brother's life. He begins to feel sorrowful and sad and thinks about this brother and what he can do to alleviate the suffering of his brother. This is the first glimmering of religion in a man's heart. Then he desires to change his life. He desires to live in accordance with that inner feeling, that God-feeling – which is like a little babe, but it is growing slowly in his heart. And as this feeling of concern and love for his brother grows, he enfolds more than human life; he expands into other worlds, into the animal kingdom, the natural kingdom. Then he expands beyond all physical form into the etheric kingdom and so on into the mental kingdom and to the celestial kingdom. The consciousness of God which has started as a tiny spark grows and expands and expands until finally that soul embraces the whole of the universe – and when we speak of the universe we mean the universe of life both physical and spiritual. There is no limitation to that consciousness of God and that true religionist embraces all life because he has seen glimpses of the glory of the God life and the God nature. He cannot harm his brother by thought or word or deed. He becomes gentle in all his ways. He becomes meek but not weak.

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Remember the example of Jesus, who demonstrated to the world his gentle nature, his meekness, but also his deep strength, his moral courage, his unfailing pity for those who sinned and suffered. Here was the exemplar for all followers of the Christ. It is therefore necessary for man in his search for religion not to look at the shell of orthodoxy or to creed and dogma, but to look for the spirit in men and in his brother man.

Do not misunderstand these words. We do not decry the work of the orthodox religions. We know that they have done great work on the earth – but they have made mistakes, and when they come to the little misunderstandings between sects, they do much harm. But that we will leave on one side. We are trying to give a clear point of light, that we may all follow that light in the expansion of the God-consciousness within, and to the understanding [and] the comprehension of true religion.

Now this religion, it is not cut short at man's death or the passing away of the physical body. It goes with him into those states of life beyond the physical body. True religion in a man's heart gives him that knowledge and that complete conviction without a shadow of a doubt that he is eternal and that he cannot die and those he loves cannot die. He does not need conviction. He does not need any proof or evidence of life after death. He has it here. He knows, because the light within him reveals those worlds, those higher worlds, worlds of a purer ether into which the spirit passes after the death of the physical body.

But you have listened to a reading tonight which was inspired by the spirit, and we would hold this before you as a reading of profound truth. And if you, indeed if all men, could read that twenty-third Psalm, you would find there a light to lead you on the pathway of true religion. Oh come, brethren, come. Say to yourselves daily, 'The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want' because the Lord is the power of life within you and the Lord is not only within you, but he enfolds you. And the Lord feeds you and gives you drink and he gives you clothing and he gives you a place in which to live. It is true that you have to make an effort, but the God within you makes the effort to live. But it is unconscious. Man lives by this unconscious impetus. The God within him forces him to act so that he lives. If man had no impetus to live, he would lie down and die. But in that urge to live, man has to supply his daily needs – but it is the God within him who is the shepherd, who is guiding him, succouring him, lifting him up when he falls down.

'The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He leadeth me. He leadeth me into green pastures. He leadeth me beside the still waters.' Now many of you here know the meaning of the still waters, the state of consciousness when you are truly and earnestly loving God and seeking in the quiet, in meditation, by the still waters. How many of you have seen the light, have received inspiration, have been raised in consciousness through your contemplation and meditation by the still waters? It is there that you find God. 'He restoreth my soul.' When you make that inner contact in the silence, you come away from your communion restored in soul. This is – this is religion: restored by God, by the blessed and glorious and universal Father and Mother God. You are lifted up and you are given strength, and you see the light and you know that you can go on and you must go on – and you must work not only for

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yourself but for all this life of spirit which you are dimly becoming aware of. And you are becoming aware that, if you fall down or if you sin by wrong thought and wrong words and wrong actions, you are going to suffer as well as making others suffer. You are pulling the whole structure down. You are just a drag on the wheels of spiritual progress.

Think! That is a very serious thought. By your thoughts and particularly your words: how many realise that the foolish word which slips off the tongue so easily can wound very deeply? And it can create great sorrow and sickness and trouble to others. O my dear brethren, it is so important – if you would serve the world, if you would be servers of the human race, servers in God's house – that you think very carefully what you say, so you do not drop any darkness into the lily of an expanding religion which is filling the hearts of many souls. This is as we see it from the spirit life, and this kind of thing is taking place in religious movements everywhere. Men and women who long to be true religionists, who want to follow a religion and yet they have not learnt that important thing – to think rightly and to speak rightly, which means to think and speak lovingly and kindly and truly. This is why the religions get confused and why Jesus said to his followers; 'It is better that a millstone be tied round his neck and he be flung into the sea than that he should destroy the faith of one of these, my little ones'. This is the kind of religious teaching which Jesus gave to the world. Thou shalt love. Thou shalt love one another, and the dear earthly people who wrong their religion are snatching it away from themselves and throwing it down and trampling it underfoot. They are just taking beautiful lilies and trampling on them, not meaning to, because they have not stopped to think of the result of their words, their actions.

O dear ones, we are going to go on now to the power of thought – the greatest power there is in life. And yet when we look upon the earth plane, even in good places, we see oh such a dark mass of tangled weeds where there could be growing beautiful flowers, lovely gardens. How can the servers of religion help humanity to find religion, which means to find their God within them? They can help by the power of thought, God-thought. Now we who speak to you through this physical body, we have spoken thus through many lives and we have written words on this theme: the power of man's thought, the power that man has to broadcast the Light of God, but it is a difficult task, and all men who would take upon themselves that work must be very strictly disciplined themselves as to what they think and what they say.

Do not be despondent. We are not saying that children, that very young children, can accomplish the same work that adults can do. We are speaking of children in spirit and adults in spirit, not in a physical sense, but the motive is there in the heart; the motive to broadcast God's will, God's word; the motive to send forth good thought, God-thought. You know that we were once asked, and you may have read the words in some of the publications, we were once asked the effect of one man's good, positive thought, and we can only draw your attention to story in the Bible about the cities [of] Sodom and Gomorrah, which were so flooded with darkness and evil, which means un-development. And the Lord said that if there were only a few, two or three, men in those cities who were earnest, true God-men, the whole city could be saved – and oh! you know, my beloved brethren, what we say to you is profoundly true, that if a small group of people such as gather in this Lodge can be positive in the God-thought and their love to their fellow creatures in daily life, the whole of this earth



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could be caught up in the light and power of the Creator. The power of the Creator works through every atom of this planet, and the work, the object, of life here on this planet is to raise it from dark, dense matter into a much finer ether. There are planets and worlds all around you that no telescope can see, no astronomer can register. Planets that are invisible because they are out of range of the rays from this earth. They are out of range of any physical telescope. They are in the light.

You will hear more about this in the future because your men, your men of physical science are very slowly stumbling on some of these spiritual facts, spiritual truths. They will discover that the universe is not wholly physical matter. They will begin to help people find what we have been talking about; the God-consciousness within themselves. Now when this work is in full swing on your earth plane there will be no death, no destruction on earth – because it will have passed away from the vibration of destruction and disaster. It will be in a state of light. It will be in a higher etheric state. May you get a crumb of truth from the words that we have been pouring forth, just a crumb – and remember that you do not work alone. You make no efforts by yourself and yet you appear to be so lonely. Angels and Elder Brethren and companions of the spirit are with you, watching over you, my children. The angels know you and all you do. They know. They pour forth their compassion. They devote time and love to healing you physically, mentally and soulfully.

Now then, our last word – and this again is on the power of thought. The world today needs all the positive God-thought that you can project, not only to heal the sick in body, but to heal the sick in mind. And we suggest that each one of you in the silence of your own soul will kneel beside the still waters and pray for light, and to send forth the light of the Son of God, the Christ: send it forth. If you cannot do it daily, in your daily lives and every minute of your lives, then send it forth at the magical hour of 9 o'clock. Not only send forth this healing light, but project [it] with all the power and the love of Christ which is within you. Project that light to the nations, to the whole earth, to all suffering humanity. And behind you is a power beyond your comprehension. It only waits for Its creatures, Its children to be willing to be a channel. It only waits for you to be a humble, a very humble servant, knowing that you are nothing and anything good which comes through you is not your own power but it is flowing through you because there is something in you which attracts it. And because of that simple and humble faith and love which is in your heart, the channel opens wide and the light floods through you. By your mental direction it goes forth to heal the sick, to heal the nations, to heal the whole world, and to raise it from death and darkness into light, everlasting light and glory. And so mote it be.

O God, take these Thy children for they offer themselves in Thy service. May Thy Guardian Angels surround them and strengthen them that they may not be guilty of ill thought or ill word but only be true servants of the Creative Light, Thy Son.

*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:*

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*life of Jesus, messiah, Christianity, Church of England, prayer for humanity, thought power, positivity, sending out the light, enlightenment, inner voice, light within, spiritual contact, spiritual unfoldment*

