

The Leaven in the Bread

A180 Sunday Address 5th October 1947 St Mary Abbots Place, London Sunday Service (Harvest)

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*, November 1947, which gives us the asterisk and footnote.

Context: although a harvest festival service was not an institution by 1947, most October addresses have some sort of reference to harvest, and in this case it is hinted at in the title. A footnote states that the reading was from Matthew, chapter 13: it contains four parables: those of the sower, the tares, the leaven in the bread, and mustard seed. It is unlikely the whole chapter was read, but the leaven parable comes at verse 33 (see 'References').

General Notes: the opening references to a feeling of depression among listeners fit with addresses from the second half of 1947 – in particular see that of 5 July, coinciding with a national day of prayer, and 1 June, where the Marshall Plan is referred to. The depression was about national recovery as well as the stirrings of the Cold War. White Eagle makes an interesting point from the start, appearing to contradict the message of parables such as the tares: he says that good and evil cannot be separated. Tolerance is another theme in the address, and the creative power of thought. White Eagle refers to the Star at the end – his direction to use the Star symbol has not been a major feature of these addresses to date, and here there is a hint of the Star of Bethlehem, but reference to the Star will grow from this point.

References: the title is from Matthew 13 : 33: 'The kingdom of heaven is like unto leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three measures of meal, till the whole was leavened' and this parable comes into the story at the end. 'If I be lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men unto me' is John 12 : 32.

White Eagle's Address:

We bring you greetings and love from the world and spirit; we pray that we may bring to your hearts a message of cheer, and take from your eyes the bandage, so that once more you may receive true vision of God's love and God's purpose in your creation.

At present the world appears to be in a state of chaos. In every mind there is a question as to what will happen if there is no change in men's minds, in men's outlook, in men's lives. You are feeling the effect of such depressing thoughts; but, my brethren, we would refer you to the promise which is given in our reading that the kingdom of heaven will surely come upon earth. * Also you are told that should tares spring up with the wheat they should be allowed to grow because if they are pulled up the wheat will suffer also. When the harvest comes the tares can be separated from the wheat.

Perhaps a century ago many more people were familiar with these stories of the separation of the tares from the wheat or of the sheep from the goats. A difference interpretation was put upon these parables in days gone by. Today we would try to help you to understand that there cannot be separation of good from evil. You may find this difficult to accept. Nevertheless it is a truth that the two aspects of life – good and evil, positive and negative – are necessary one to the other. You cannot separate them without the whole structure of life being brought to chaos. Remember that you stand at the beginning of a new age, when there is an exceptional outpouring of light and spiritual power. You are not always aware of this. You are aware of what you think is an increase of evil, but this is because your perspective is not clear. Side by side with this evil is also an increase of good. More and more the children of earth are

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gathering together into groups to receive the teaching which is coming to the earth from the spirit world. Many channels are being used. According to their ability to give truth to mankind do these channels receive truth. For all men are not at the same level of consciousness. Some require delicate food, others stronger meat. We emphasise this because it is important that you all realise this truth so that you will increase in tolerance. Tolerance is the first step and then more light and more light will flow into man's mind. He will recognise, instead of denying, his brother's needs.

When first introduced to this teaching of the spirit you will find that tests will come. Having a longing for spiritual knowledge, you seek that knowledge; but there is the swing of the pendulum from time to time, and the lower or the mind of earth will tempt you, the body trying to hold you down. In life, beloved, there are these two aspects, which you call good and evil. We will give another name. One is the outer aspect – the life of the physical body and the material world. The other is the life of the spirit or the inner world. Many people refuse to accept the truth of the latter. They say that life in the world claims all their attention. Having no time to consider the inner or spiritual life, they shut it out, so find themselves unable to make contact with the beautiful world of the spirit. They live entirely within and to satisfy the demands of the body and the material mind. They deny themselves the sustenance of the spiritual life and so, like the cutting off the power from a factory, everything slows down to a standstill.

The world of spirit is a world of the mind. You find it difficult to understand this, particularly those of you who have had tangible evidence which appears to come from beyond death. But we repeat: the spirit life is an expression of the life of the mind. You can live in your spirit world whilst you still have a body, for there are no limitations of space or time in the spirit or the mind world. In a flash of thought your spirit can travel to the farthest ends of the earth. More than this, you can actually manifest to a friend there. You may have had evidence of this. There is no limitation of time or space for the spirit, but the world of spirit is the world of the mind. So we find that when a soul passes away from the physical body it finds itself in a world which it has built up from its mind-substance. It finds itself surrounded by things for which it has longed, things about which it has thought a great deal whilst chained to the physical body – surrounded by mind-pictures, if you like; but mind-pictures which have substance, because they are clothed in matter which is many degrees finer than physical matter, but still matter.

The spirit world is with you here and now. Many of you have proved this when in your meditations you withdraw from everyday life and consciousness and go into what is called the inner or the mind planes. There you may meet and converse with friends who are also functioning on that particular mind plane. Where is all this leading us? We want you to realise that day by day you are building, you are creating a mind- or a spirit-world in which you will function some day when you have no longer a body of flesh. Do not make the error of thinking that that mind-world will be unreal, for its substance is as solid as that of your material world. Whatever state of life the spirit of man is functioning in, that spirit is clothed with a substance suitable to that state. The beings who inhabit the far-off planets are clothed in the substance of their particular planet. You may be told by your scientists that it is

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impossible for human life to exist of either on the sun or the planets. Certainly not life as you know it! Upon the sun are great beings clothed with the substance of that sun, which is also the life-giver to earth's humanity. The sun-spirits have a direct interest and connection with earth's humanity, a truth men will in due course learn, for in the far past these beings were known to men as Sun-gods. They came to bring humanity teaching, knowledge; they came to teach men the way to live if they would be happy. The great Being from the Sun called the Son of God, the Christ spirit, descended to earth and brought the teaching of the God of love. Man is proud. The mind of earth becomes ever more arrogant as the Age of Aquarius approaches and this arrogance denies the teaching of the Son of God, the Christ: Christ – which means the saviour of mankind.

Christ is spirit. Christ is love – the love which God has implanted in every human soul – and this love *is* the saviour. The saviour of man is not he who was nailed to a cross long ago but he who is crucified in the world because he surrenders worldly things and allows the spirit of Christ to manifest through him in power and in truth, the spirit of Christ to possess him. His lower nature is thus crucified or subdued; his higher arises in power and glory.

You are concerned with the state of the world today. Yet you all have within you the power to help the world to rise, a teaching plainly given by the Master Jesus who was one of the channels for the Christ spirit. If every man thought first of the needs of his brother, there would be no need for any man to think of himself. Until all men have learned this lesson there will be pain and suffering for those who have not risen to meet the Son of God in the planes of spiritual truth. The answer will be, of course, 'How can we consider the other man first? We must fight for ourselves'. First think of the magnitude of the statement we have just made. If every man were to remember his brother before himself there would be no more selfishness, because there would be no more need for selfishness. Every need would be supplied. You may endeavour to bring about a better state by legislation but if the spiritual life and the truth of spirit is ignored, there cannot be progress or happiness or fulfilment of God's purpose in the world.

It will surprise you to know how this spiritual law can be demonstrated in your own lives. We have listened to a parable about the woman with a little leaven which leavened the whole. You may be humble, perhaps insignificant in your own eyes; and yet by practising this simple and divine law of love you will bring heaven within your own heart and mind, and through you others will receive help to bring heaven into their lives also.

Remember what we have told you, beloved. The world of spirit is the world of mind. You are creating your own afterlife here and now – not only your immediate after-death state but also the conditions for your next incarnation. You are creating your own body for this next incarnation. The law of life is that every man is his own creator. Every thought, every desire, every action is drawing to the soul the substance from which will originate not only the physical body of the future life but the mental, the desire and the celestial body. You may say, 'Why bother about these things which lie so much in the future? Let us deal with the present'. You cannot deal with the present and ignore the future, for as you live today so you will live in the world of spirit or afterwards in a physical body. This is simple truth, beloved

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brethren. As you aspire in mind to goodness, to kindness, to love, to the light of the sun, so you will receive help in full measure, pressed down and running over.

God has decreed that brethren of the White Light, great White Brothers, shall come to you, often in the form of humble guides and helpers to help in your life's work. Remember the companions of your spirit. You speak of imagination. You say, 'I do not know if it is my imagination or not'. Let your imagination be pure and true, kind and good and you need not fear being deluded. You can be sure that all the beings who come to you in what you are pleased to call your imagination are helpers of your spirit, guided by the law of God because within them they have a corresponding love. As Christ says, 'If I be lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men unto me'. So, beloved, look into the future with confidence and trust. Do your part towards building a mind-world of great beauty and truth which will be a service to your brothers and sisters now and through ages to come.

Above our heads is a shining star. Let us follow that star wherever it leads, for this is age-old symbol of the angelic hierarchies, of the messengers from the Eternal Spirit ... God.

*See St. Matthew, 13th Chapter.

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:

creating our own futures, chaos in the world, good and evil cannot be separated