

Bright New Year

A311 Sunday Address 11th January 1959 St Mary Abbots Place, London
Reopening/New Year service

Text: typescript by MB; a blue carbon copy. No markings, except a note by YGH on the cover sheet suggesting Jan 58 is the better address [to use in SP, presumably]. The title has been chosen for the present project, echoing the title of one of IC's articles in the magazine.

Context: reopening service; MB gives the reading as two chapters from the Aquarian Gospel – nos. 54 and 89. Both are long chapters and it is unlikely that the whole of each chapter was read. The first details Jesus' early training in Egypt and the second the training of his disciples; it includes the injunction, 'Turn from the outer to the inner self'. However, the service at New Lands two weeks later included, according to the typescript, chapters 54 and 59, the latter covering further instruction of Jesus by the sages in the higher realm. On balance we are inclined to believe that at both services it was chapter 89 that was read, simply because of the injunction quoted – which seems to accord so well with the general message of this address.

The anthem was 'Lead me Lord', presumably in the setting by Samuel Sebastian Wesley, and YGH was the soloist. There is a short communion. The end of the script, where a short comment from IC is preserved, also lets us know that the final hymn was Whittier's 'All as God wills'

General Notes: the address begins with a substantial backward reference to the significance of the Christmas festival. As WE turns to New Year, he mentions the 'lowly and lonely' in the congregation: by 'lowly' he possibly means low in vitality or low in spirits rather than lowly in the sense of humble; the context seems to imply this. He later uses the word 'low' in the sense of 'on the lower planes'.

Despite YGH's comment that the 1958 New Year address was better, this is a very coherent appeal for human beings to recognise the primacy of the spirit life and to enter imaginatively into it – and to use the silence in order to do that.

References: for the reference to St Paul on the two bodies, terrestrial and celestial, see 1 Corinthians 15 : 53-4. White Eagle refers back to what he said at the Christmas service, which fell on 21 December 1958.

White Eagle's Address:

Beloved children of earthly life, we come to speak to you from spirit. We come not alone, not by our own power, but by Divine Love.

You stand at the beginning of a New Year. You may be looking back over the past year with thankfulness. We hope that this is so. We hope that everyone present feels the thankfulness in his heart for the love which has guided, protected and preserved your life.

As we are speaking to you there is a great throng of shining heavenly beings gathered round you, enhancing the spiritual power within your own being.

Now, it is customary for man to live by physical and material standards of life. Man normally is unable to perceive or to comprehend any other form of life but that which he sees with his physical eyesight. But remember this, beloved children of earth, that man is here on the physical plane of life to develop his spiritual senses.

The Great Master whom you call Saint Paul, but who has many other names, he spoke quite clearly to all his hearers of the terrestrial body and the celestial body. With the body of earth you contact earthly things – physical matter. With the celestial body, the spiritual body, you have the senses with which to contact the spiritual part of life.

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Down the centuries man has been only aware of his physical body – with the exception of the few whom we will call the silent brotherhood or the goodly company. These are they who, because of their spiritual age, have been sent into incarnation to help humanity to awaken the consciousness of spirit.

We told you when we spoke here at the Christmas Service that the Christ-Mass is a cosmic event. Each year this anniversary comes round of this great cosmic event, which means the manifestation of the Christos on earth, the manifestation of the Christ spirit in the human heart. It means that humanity is advancing on the path of spiritual growth and unfoldment. Do not forget that at the Christ Mass there is a great gathering of shining beings: not only earthly souls but heavenly beings, and those who are advanced teachers who come from what you call outer space, from your solar system. They all gather round the Great White Light. Man does not yet understand the power, the glory, the beauty of that Great White Light. But with each recurrent baptism of the earth at this season of the year there is a quickening and an awakening in the hearts of men and women. This is expressed in a simple form in the mass of humanity. But remember that it is a great cosmic outpouring of Divine Love. This means, dear brethren, that humanity is advancing along the spiritual way, advancing to the degree at the present time. He is responding to the thoughts of goodwill which are being sent out by so many groups on your earth. There are many degrees of goodness; remember this. From the lowest right up to the highest there comes to mankind the understanding, [the] knowledge of the one supreme truth. Remember that there is only one truth but many forms of receiving – giving and receiving that truth – but there is only one truth and that is God is Love. God is Light.

Mankind is learning, and will completely learn in due time, that the Light of God is within his own being. He is as a grain of sand on the seashore or a drop in the vast ocean, but he is at one, part of the universal life. Man cannot injure his brother without injury to himself. This truth is slowly permeating the consciousness of the most materialistic on your earth. Remember, too, the part you individually play in the advancement of human spiritualisation. As you think, so the world becomes.

Now this is a New Year message for you all, for as we come amongst you we can see the different needs in this congregation. We can see the sorrowing hearts, the lowly and lonely hearts. We see the need of all of you to receive in full consciousness the blessing of God.

Those here who have been recently bereaved or who know they are on the edge of this separation from loved ones, we beg you to remember that when the soul can reach the centre of holy truth, there is no bereavement, there is no separation. You listened to the reading of the gospel which told you there is no death. A dead body has finished its purpose. It is nothing: the spirit is all. There is no death. There is no separation where there is real love. In the heart all are united at the level of the Christ consciousness.

Dear brethren, step forward on the path of life and let your companions be courage and faith. Faith is a vital lesson for every human being. All the brethren in the silent company who are invisible to you in your low, dense physical life, all had to pass the test of faith. This is very

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important. What is faith? It is an inner knowing [of] God. If you have this inner knowing, this inner awareness of the power of God in your lives, you have faith. In what you will do, surrender first to the Divine Spirit. Hold in your mind the manifestation of the good, the true and the beautiful. Remember, dear brethren, you are creators; and when things appear to go wrong, maybe it is a failure to you, but remember also that by failure man learns his lesson.

Hold fast faithfully to the spirit of God. Let your values be true. Value the unseen, the invisible: these things are the treasures in heaven which no man can lose. Go forward, my brethren, to the new path with simple faith and confidence that God, the Great Architect of the Universe, holds the plan of your life and all is well. God will guard your going out and your coming in. And may you realise more and more, every day of your life, the glory of the spiritual life.

Now, our last word to you – it is very difficult in a noisy materialistic world to make that true contact with the inner light. Jesus himself taught you, showed you, the need to withdraw from the multitude, to go aside into the garden of contemplation and prayer and meditation. This is the great need of every man and woman: silence, meditation upon the Divine Light. By this means the spirit within grows, expands its consciousness of universal love. The divine intelligence will not comprehend it fully with the mind of earth or the brain. Remember this, that in your heart is divine mind, and man must meditate and contemplate the light within. In all the schools of the Ancients this practice was always observed.

In the past two thousand years there has been worship on the outer plane, the singing of hymns and the saying of prayers, listening to the written and the spoken word. That is passing, my children. In the future man will learn the full value of that inner spiritual power. He will worship in silence and in service to God and creation.

The Great Spirit within you and enfolding you gives you now the awareness of the spiritual life and power. And it is for you to think, to meditate and to serve life by the light awakened and growing within yourself.

Look forward. Look into the Light. God has you in His keeping and all the powers of heaven are with you when you love God and seek to obey His laws.

And so, my children, you will be happy. You move forward into happiness. A happy, blessed, spiritually rich year is before you.

And now He who is all love, Jesus the Christ, is in your midst. It is for you to see with your inner vision His beautiful, gentle Presence. Receive from Him the symbols of the Holy Sacrament, the symbol of the Bread, the heavenly Bread. Take, eat, absorb this divine food. To each one of you He offers the symbolic Cup of Wine, the Divine Essence, Divine Love. Take it in your spirit and sip from the Cup which He offers you.

You are cleansed and healed and perfected by this Essence.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

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Brother Faithful:

At some time in the future, perhaps about this time next year, you will probably be reading in *Stella Polaris* a White Eagle New Year Address. It will perhaps seem vaguely familiar to you or, if your memory is good, you will remember tonight and something of the heavenly Light, the heavenly brightness that came down to illumine this dark black City.

May it be that we take something of the brightness home with us.

May I wish you all, in case I cannot speak to you personally, a Happy New Year. I take this opportunity.

(Closing Hymn: "All as God Wills".)

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:

Spiritual unfoldment, spiritual development, light within, service, spiritual path, path of the soul, life plan, God's plan, trust in God