

Immortality

A022 Sunday Address 28th June 1936 Pembroke Hall, London Sunday Service

The text of this address is as prepared for machine-duplicated circulation shortly after it was given, apart from correction of errors

Text: duplicated script with the title, 'Immortality' and the date. No superficial markings.

Context: no details given of the service itself. 28 June was a Sunday.

General notes and references: the theme of this address seems to be taken from Luke 12 : 23, 'The life is more than meat, and the body *is more* than raiment', in which case White Eagle misquotes the gospel by substituting 'Light' for 'life'. 'Take no thought for the morrow' is Matthew 6 : 34. When White Eagle excepts piousness from our aspirations in the middle of the address, he is referring to a piety of the surface. The reference to Adam and Eve and their modesty is to Genesis chapter 3. This address is remarkable for the very beautiful account by White Eagle of death among his own people, near the end of the talk.

White Eagle's Address:

Is not the Light greater than meat? Bear this in mind, for we take council together, you who are on the earth plane incarnate, and we who are discarnate, in more ethereal conditions of life. We take council together concerning the deeper issues of life.

As we look over life's panorama, one beautiful truth shines forth. It is the immortality of man. When we consider the immortality of man, we keep in mind the Light which the Master Jesus the Christ came to express through His personality and through His earthly life, the Light which He tells us is greater than meat. Take no thought for the morrow, for the morrow shall take care of itself. Take no thought what ye shall eat, but consider first the light within, the spirit.

Does this mean that we are to become sanctimonious and spend much time in contemplation and meditation, letting the world and its activities go past? No indeed! But rather that the light within shall always – in every condition and experience of life – guide us in the way we should tread. Why, no other than the light within urges us to be joyous and to live in harmony.

This the Voice of spirit continually says. "Harmony, Peace." Does the Voice send you forth into the world to set other people right, particularly those who do not hold the same ideas as yours? No, the spirit within urges you to peace and harmony.

Life on earth has for its purpose growth of the light within; that the light within may grow as harmoniously as the flowers. Keep to the one central thought, the light within, and the immortality of the soul. Now, if we know by the truth within us that we are immortal, that the light can never become extinct, then by its very nature it must have been in existence aeons before your present life here on earth. Much is heard about life after death, but let us for a brief space consider the life before birth. Eternal life ... yes, we can see life going on, we cannot imagine life ending. Therefore if life is eternal – as it is – it could not have had a beginning. How can we who are finite comprehend infinity?

Let us try again to unravel this deep mystery. We cannot think of a time when life was not, we cannot think of a time when life will not be. Leave aside for a few moments the confines

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of your present earthly life, and raise your consciousness. Think of the Godhead, the divine Life spirit in whom we all live and move, without Whom we are not. Contemplate the Light in all its ineffable glory and beauty, and remember that the One Whom you call God was at one time a unit, an atom from another sun, or Light, another universal system of life, and was born from such a Father as you have been born.

When one reaches infinity, time is nothing. In realms of spirit, space and time are naught and exist only in mortal consciousness as limitations to life's progress. Man thinks that everything must happen quickly within his own space, and becomes impatient, wants to get things done, wants things to happen at once. Man thinks: "I have only a few more years to live. I must get it done quickly!" Beloved, you get impatient maybe when we say "There is all eternity before you"; and yet again we say: "There is no time to be lost".

These paradoxes are very difficult to comprehend. But consider that ever-evolving life which has come forth from the central life, even as your physical earth was born from the sun. Consider the individual unit as being breathed forth from the divine parenthood, and finding its experience through those realms of spirit and etheric substance long before the spirit became clothed in physical substance.

Recall the process of growth, the consciousness of God or the Light growing slowly but surely in man. Does it not make your own life here and now glorious with anticipation and realisation? For the purpose of your life is the development of the self-conscious unit: hence the process of evolution through the forms of earthly physical substance, then the gradual awakening of that self-conscious unit until it quickens with an urge to something beyond itself. Humanity is at this stage now. We would call it the quickening of the self-conscious unit to the God-conscious life.

In your daily toil and its problems, you doubtless strive to do what you call good, and to give help to your brother man, receiving in return criticism and condemnation. The men who praise you today will condemn you tomorrow, and there is bitterness within your heart. This must be until you are fully aware, fully alight, and then you will know that no man's praise and no man's criticism can touch you... nothing can touch you, the perfect spirit, the light reflecting the Divine. Only will you respond to a greater light, as that great light becomes part of you and grows and enters into the fuller consciousness of your true nature and of God.

When you become a student, when you become a disciple on the Path, a disciple of the Christ within, you will strive to keep your physical vehicle pure. You have no place in things which are inharmonious. It is your natural instinct to be kindly and tolerant – but not pious! Be natural, this is the keynote. Be natural in all your dealings with your brother man. Let the light within shine forth. Because what happens when man has no longer a physical body with which to clothe or hide himself – as hid Adam and Eve from God? Man clothed in the senses of the flesh would ever hide himself from God.

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But when man no longer has a cloak or coat of skin or apron to cover himself with, he has to face, naked, the all-wise, the supreme Father ... God.

This comes to every Adam, every Eve. What does it matter, if you are ready? Having learnt in the present life to face the God in your brother man, you will be ready to face him when you have no longer the vehicle of the flesh or the apron of leaves with which to cover yourself.

And so to the great and awful experience which mankind fears and dreads – death, the passing from the coat of flesh into the realms of spirit. Many and divers stories are revealed to you concerning the change called death. May old White Eagle tell you his own experience? My experience is that of many others, and no doubt the like will be your experience, but in your own particular way.

It was known amongst my people that the call had come; for we were in close communion with the world of spirit. When the call came, we left my people and travelled far up the mountain side and laid the physical body down in a cave, and waited for the dawn. Remember that to me the physical life was fading, and the dawn meant one thing only; not merely the rising of the sun on the physical earth, but the rising of the Sun, the glorious light of all Light. Then from the dawn the voices called, and we stepped forth into the light to meet our forefathers and the hosts who were waiting to welcome us. This was not death. The physical clothing, the coat of skin, the apron of leaves we cast aside, forgotten.

We went forward into the Light.

This is that change called death. Beloved! See not the crumbling coat of flesh, but the light of the spirit as your loved one goes forward at the call.

Yet the bewilderment is often great as the spirit becomes conscious of the fresh activity and the freedom of the new life. They do not know what to do next – rather like an excited child, loosed in a field of buttercups. And so the spirit is led away to a place of quiet, and the guide of the spirit teaches what is waiting to be learned. Then the consciousness closes, and a period of passivity comes and according to the necessity of that loved one, the sleep continues.

In these days, because you are passing through important times, the spirit quickly awakens and is readjusted to its new life.

One thing always takes place at so-called death: consciously or unconsciously the soul registers or mirrors every event of its life. Like to a cinematograph picture is this impression on the etheric body or the soul, and the whole comes before the soul, a gathering of life's experience, to be absorbed into the memory of that soul for future reference. For the experiences of each earth life go to the building of the temple of the soul, and that which is not required is consumed, while all true and beautiful and fit to be built in the temple is retained.

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Then there comes a time when the soul is ready to look into the mirror again, and to see what it lacks, and what it needs for its further growth. Here we come to that great controversial point – reincarnation. Many dislike it. May we again sincerely and truly say that there is no compulsion, that the soul then knows what it needs, and goes forth to get it. Until that soul awakens to its need, it will spend its time in a state of bliss in the heaven worlds.

At last it realises that it cannot remain in a condition of bliss and quiescence if it would grow. There is but one way to growth ... by experience in life. Truly, truly there are many souls who have advanced beyond this stage and they do not return to the earth. But until a soul has absorbed all earth's lessons, it does not enter other worlds, where there is greater development and more glorious expression of the light within.

Beloved, we pray that we have given tonight a message of beauty and hope. If you have difficulties, thank God for them, because they are His way of teaching that which you need to learn. When a problem confronts you, examine it and learn from it – as soon as you absorb the lesson that problem contains, it will cease to trouble you further. Remember that every soul living has its lesson to learn. Be careful not to rob another brother or sister of his lesson, but remember to always give true help. Never withhold compassion and sympathy from a suffering one, but at the same time, help your brother to help himself. Never take his burden from him and carry it yourself, for you are robbing him of that which is his birthright; but give him encouragement on the path.

Go forth, blessed children, immortal brethren of mine, sons of the living God – God, Who holds you as perfect sons in His mind, Who is the Life, the Light, the Truth.

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:

continuing life, eternal life, rebirth, moment of death, passing on, path of the soul, spiritual path, initiation, spiritual unfoldment, inner truth, light within, inner light, inner voice