

The Pentecostal Fire

A373 Sunday Address 16th May 1965 St Mary Abbots Place, London Sunday Service

Text: MB typescript, a blue carbon. The title, 'The Pentecostal Fire' was used when the address was printed in *Stella Polaris*, April-May 1969 and is preserved here.

Context: despite the date being mid-month and the date not being actually Whitsun (see the next, 6 June), this is definitely a London celebration. MB's script gives 'O worship the King' (318) as the first hymn. The invocation is not attributed to Minesta but is 'recorded separately', a by-now familiar comment. Then came a reading from the final chapter of the Aquarian Gospel (182 : 1-34). This is the AG's account of Pentecost with a retelling from the preaching Apostles of the life of Christ; in this version, the Holy Spirit is announced by thunderous noise and comes as twelve balls of fire. White Eagle refers to both these phenomena. Then follows the familiar Whitsun hymn, 'Come down, O love divine' (177), doubtless to the Vaughan Williams tune, Down Ampney. After prayers, Elizabeth Brameld sang the anthem 'Think on these things' solo. The words of this anthem are from Philippians 4 : 8, and the music is by [?] Müller; normally, it was sung by the full choir.

At the end, Brother Faithful gave a few thoughts as usual and introduced hymn 344, 'Lord who didst send By two and two before thee'. There is then a benediction, transcribed in full, unusually. The Choir ended the service singing the doxology 'Glory to Thee my God this night'/'Praise God from Whom all blessings flow'.

General notes: in the Aquarian Gospel, the early Christians are called Christines; it may be no accident that the next address in the series has carries the title 'The Christine Church' from soon after it was given (see address of 6 June). Despite the Aquarian Gospel version read, it is the version of the Pentecost story in Acts (see 'References') that White Eagle refers to in detail. He says that even as he is speaking there is an interpenetration of another world into the physical Lodge. He seems to mean the world of spirit, but there seems to be a deliberate attempt to make this akin to the sort of world that might be recognised by physicists. There is an interesting period in the address of close attention to the time of the Disciples' preparation for the crucifixion and for Pentecost (for a further note, see 'References'), and then White Eagle introduces the Buddha as another Christed one from an earlier age who brought the message of peace and prepared humanity for the coming of Jesus Christ. He also speaks of the necessity for each of us to learn how to enter the silence – and then at last we understand the reason he has introduced all this teaching. It is to enable us to go through the Pentecostal experience in ourselves. And it is at the end of the address when White Eagle tells us that at the moment of initiation we will feel the 'ball of light' descending on us – this is at last a reference, apparently, to the story in the Aquarian Gospel. Interestingly, White Eagle is quite clear that this is the moment when the pituitary and pineal glands – or, at least, the chakras associated with them – unite.

The communion that follows, and ends the address, is a re-enactment of the descent of these balls of fire on those present. But White Eagle also engages in more detail than usual, and is clear that one of the symbols is the white cloth on the communion table, signifying the fundamental element, ether. Despite its given title, and the concentration on the experience of the Disciples at Pentecost, a major theme of this address is the Redeemer – to the extent that a title such as 'The Redeemer' would be just as appropriate.

References: in the Bible, the story of Pentecost is told in Acts 2 : 1-47. For much of his ministry White Eagle tended to confuse the story of Jesus sending the disciples ahead to find 'the man with the water pot' before his final entry into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday) with the gathering of the disciples in the 'upper room' of Acts 1-2 after the Ascension. Here, he is clear that the water pot episode was 'when he told his disciples earlier'. It might be, of course, that there were details available to White Eagle not included by the writer of Acts.

Right from the outset, White Eagle quotes 'think on these things' which, along with 'Whatsoever things are true' is from Philippians 4 : 8. 'In my Father's house are many mansions' is John 14 : 2. The reference to the scientist who promoted the idea that other worlds interlock our own is uncertain, but those that White Eagle most often mentions are the heroes of Spiritualism such as Sir Oliver

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Lodge. This may be a more recent reference, however. The story that White Eagle tells of the disciples grieving the loss of the physical Jesus is probably best seen in the context of John 14-16, the so-called Farewell Discourses, in which Jesus prepares them for that event. It is a passage that feels quite close as he speaks, and he has already mentioned the opening of it by quoting 'In my Father's house are many mansions'. In the communion, the phrases apparently quoted are not actually biblical, but after it, 'You will know truth, and the truth shall make you free' is John 8 : 32.

White Eagle's Address:

Beloved children, beloved brethren, beloved friends, we come to you in love. We bring from the world of spirit all love. We speak to you from the spirit: not from the intellect, but from the heart. And those who are with us, the company of Heaven, speak to your heart and whatsoever things are beautiful, good and true, we beg you to think on these things.

The group who accompany us to your service tonight wish to speak to you on the blessing of the Holy Spirit, the Holy Breath. This story, which is told in your Christian Bible, has missed so much of its true meaning. At the present time, men and women are so concerned with searching intellectually for knowledge that they are closing their heart to truth.

We speak to you from the spirit, even as the company of White Brethren spoke to men at the time of the feast of Pentecost of the Jews. The story is told of the Apostles, the Apostles meeting in an upper room, waiting for the visitation of their Lord and Master, which had been promised to them. They all met with one accord, meaning that they were all in the same spirit, they were all in perfect harmony waiting. They were in an upper room, which is so significant – they were in a higher state of consciousness – remember this. And they were waiting at this higher level of consciousness for the coming of the Lord and Master. It is important for everyone to comprehend this truth, that when a man passes out of his physical body he does not immediately pass into that heavenly state of life. Indeed, as man unfolds his spiritual faculties whilst here in a physical body he begins to learn that there are many levels of consciousness – for, as Jesus said, 'In my Father's house are many mansions'.

You may be accustomed to receiving communications from beloved friends who have passed from the body onto the next plane of life. And there are some friends on the earth, who are so anxious that people should express their naturalness in communication with the world of spirit because they do not wish the unconvinced people on earth to think that it is cranky to hold communication with the next state of life. They do not mind trying to hold communication with worlds beyond this earth planet, because they think that there is something material that they can touch – they can get a scientific understanding of other forms of life on another planet. But when it comes to man getting into touch with an ethereal state of life – the ethereal plane of being – then man shrinks from this experience, shuts it away from him. It is far too mystical and unreal, he thinks, and so all lines of communication he himself cuts. He lives only on the one physical plane, simply because he thinks it is the real plane of life. He can see and touch and hear with all his physical senses; therefore, it is true to him that he is alive on this physical plane of life. He hasn't yet learnt that he has spiritual senses, that he has within him a replica of all those physical senses by which he can penetrate the veil of materialism and the veil of hard mentality and get into a heavenly world.

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Now, we have told you this many times. We shall continue to tell you, not only for your own benefit, but also because there are fresh friends who come into this Lodge desiring knowledge of a spiritual world and a spiritual state within themselves. Remember that even one of your most eminent scientists (but we think we are correct in saying that a number of them) have stated that there are other worlds even interpenetrating the earth planet – worlds of a finer ether. Just imagine this. At this present moment, although you don't know it, there is this interpenetration here in this very Lodge. We can tell you all round you can be seen Brethren of the Light. Now this, of course, means that in this Lodge now there are many souls – a great company of souls who have gathered here because they love earthly friends. They come very close to you – they try to impress you with their presence. But why are they doing this! They are trying to impress you with their presence, because they have an object, which is to stimulate in you your own powers of vision and understanding and feeling for a higher state of life.

You may wonder what all this has to do with the blessing of the Holy Spirit, the blessing of the Great White Light upon those twelve apostles at Whitsuntide. We will tell you. As man becomes accustomed to the idea of life invisible, so he commences to unfold his own spiritual awareness. First of all, man may be convinced of life after death, receiving communication from the immediate state of life after death. And from that moment, when man is convinced that there is a state of life beyond the physical, he commences to unfold; the creative power within him rises, commences to pulsate and come to life and grow and develop, so that he is in touch with heavenly states of being.

We would like to emphasise this truth, that when we are referring to the Great White Light we are referring to the Son of God, or the Redeemer of life, which some people who find themselves very practical do not accept – a Redeemer outside – they think that by themselves they can achieve all that they wish to achieve in their life. But we want to make it very clear to you that while man does his best to live according to the law of brotherhood and the law of the love of God, he is developing or causing the life of God, the consciousness of God within him to take possession of him and his life and thus he is – man is – redeemed by that Divine Light, understanding and love of God. The Son of God is the same in all men. But all men must in time learn to allow this divine light, this truth, this beauty, this love, to function through him [*sic*]. This is the Son, the light of God. This is man's redeemer. Man's redeemer is not merely another man; man's redeemer is the supreme light which flows through him when he allows it to do so.

Now, all mankind by slow degrees will be redeemed by this one true life, this light – you call it the Christ Light. We speak of Jesus the Christ, because Jesus was an example of how that great light can shine through a man living in a physical body on a physical earth plane. He was so simple in his life, in his language, in his teaching of an age-old basic truth of life. So when he was removed, by the loss of the physical body as man then knew him, his disciples were overcome and did not know how to carry on. But he came, he appeared, and he promised that if they prepared themselves according to his teaching and they went to Jerusalem and prepared an upper chamber, he would come – the Holy Power would be there. This is very important to you all at this present time because of the passing of the Piscean Age into the Aquarian Age. And when he told his disciples earlier he told his disciples to

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enter Jerusalem and to follow a man bearing a water pot on his shoulder he was giving the symbol of the Aquarian Age – the Age of spirit and of advancement of science – the mental Age and the development of wonders on the physical plane of life.

Now, later on, after he had been crucified his disciples, remembering his instructions, returned to Jerusalem. Now, we suggest to you that the City of Jerusalem – called the Holy City – means a state of consciousness – a city of purity – a city of gold. You have it described to you in the chapter of Revelations – the Golden City. The disciples went forthwith to find the Golden City, another way of saying that they were raised in consciousness to a level of life which enabled them to be impressed, or to be receptive to those higher spiritual forces which were gently playing upon them. Now, this is an interesting story; if you have ears to hear may you hear first the words of the spirit. For as they were seated in silent expectancy there was a great noise like thunder. There was a powerful vibration. Now powerful vibration always has this effect upon physical matter causing what appears to man to be a great noise. And you can translate this same symbol right down onto the physical plane and the very earthly state of life. You have already seen this trembling – this thunder noise – it is going on now on your earth plane, this thunder noise of the vibration of spirit which is playing upon humanity, and you interpret it not as a spiritual power which is breaking up unwanted conditions – you interpret it as something which means destruction, or pain and suffering and terrible events on your physical plane. Nothing of the kind – it is a drawing close to man of these more powerful, more spiritual vibrations. And so you will see on the earth plane chaos in many aspects of life. Some people object to modern music – they object to modern art – they object to modern language – they object to all the modern developments, and they think the world is coming to an end. Not a bit of it! All these disturbances are preparing man for his reception of that spiritual power which is bound to come. And thus men and women who have the sense and are ready to follow the word of the spirit, they will indeed receive the greatest blessing of life, because they will have their vision opened to reality – to what the Scriptures really mean.

Some ages before the manifestation of the Son of God or the Christ Light, there came to earth another Great Soul, a Christed One. He came to the East. He brought the message to the Eastern people. You are aware of what is called by our Eastern brethren the Wesak Festival. Now, at this festival the Lord Buddha is seen by His followers. And His followers are countless. They not only inhabit physical bodies, but his followers are also his helpers in the work he has to do at a spirit level.

Now, Buddha brought the message to mankind of peace and brotherhood. He brought the message of stillness. Now this is the most important point, and we are going to suggest to you that Buddha brought the gift to man of knowledge of how to prepare the way for the coming of the Lord Christ. He brought the message of peace. He taught his disciples to enter into the state of meditation and become conscious of the enveloping God-power – spiritual power. He taught his disciples how to live wisely, and in brotherhood, and to give help and love and to be able to comprehend the sufferings of the physical plane. And he explained to them that if they were able to touch that Infinite Stillness, the true life and power, they would not suffer; that all men can live in that state of spiritual life without suffering. So Buddha pointed the way, prepared the minds for the coming of this baptism of light and power, the Christ light.

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And now at this present time as we are passing – we are passing the threshold – advancement is a better word for us to use – into the Aquarian Age, man is receiving guidance. We say there are many more people who know this, but who are not known. Do not think a handful of people here or a handful of people there in other churches and in different parts of the world are the only people who are aware of this Holy Blessing, the coming of this spiritual and Holy Breath. It is descending and penetrating the lives of countless, *countless* men and women, irrespective of class, colour or creed. It is a natural and a spiritual process of evolution. And the preparation for the opening of man's consciousness [and] development of his power to make contact with invisible worlds is training in stillness – stillness of mind and body – a quiet meditative state. And in this state of meditation, which many people at the present time may find very hard, but with perseverance all men will learn that it is in the stillness and the silence that the Lord cometh to him individually.

Now, every man must walk his own path, but every man can be helped by his companions. When you sit in contemplation and meditation, although you may seek to be alone – prefer to be alone – you are always alone, let me remind you, in your own inner sanctuary. But you cannot dwell in splendid isolation. This develops spiritual snobbery, I think you would call it that in your modern days; but man must learn, through meditation and contemplation of God, his unity with all God's creatures. Now this is the goal.

Now, it is at that point, being raised in consciousness to that higher level, to an awareness of God and all men in God that man receives the baptism of the Holy Fire. It is then that the ball of light descends upon his head, bringing him illumination – when the pituitary gland is quickened and united as by a bridge with the pineal gland in the brain, then man is open. He sees and he feels the power of the Holy Spirit. Then from those – from those golden balls of light – there streams the seven lines of light indicative of the seven higher planes of spiritual life which man is immediately linked with. All his chakras, or psychic centres, whatever you like to call them, are linked with the seven planes of life which connect with this physical life, and man is then open to vision: in understanding, in desire to help and care for his brethren whatever their experiences on earth. Man lives not for himself, but that his life may be a blessing to other men and women on earth. When man receives the Holy Blessing, he is then an ambassador, he goes forth into life, into light, to serve, to uplift, to heal, to comfort. He is then the chosen one of God in the service of man. So, this we would commend to you for thought: development of your own being – not for your own sake, but for the service to life, which you can more adequately give.

And now before we close this Service let us be still: feel, feel the power, for the Holy Tongues of Fire descend upon you now, and your spiritual vision, your power of spiritual vision, imagination, is opened and you see Him in purity, in understanding you and your every need. White-robed, he stands before you: Jesus in the Body, the Christ, the Light, radiating from every part of his Being. He brings to your sight, your inner sight, the Golden Lodge, which is here interpenetrating the material Lodge. And there is the table spread with the white cloth signifying the pure - purest – white ether. Upon that communion table are the symbols of the wheat changed into bread, and the grapes pressed into wine, a symbol of your earthly life, or your karma, which he asks you to accept, and to eat – which means getting on with your life, accept[ing] it, knowing that it is for your good. 'Whatever you have to endure, it is for your ultimate good', he says, as he raises the cup, the communion cup filled with the

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wine of life, the symbol of his spirit, his love. 'Now sip', he says, quite simply. He holds it to your lips. Sip, feel the power flowing all through you. 'This is my divine love, the essence of my life, which will strengthen you, regenerate you. These two gifts come from our Father in heaven.'

Now, this Service is filled, filled, filled with Divine Fire and spiritual power. And all the company of the White Brotherhood are around you. Remember that you are on a higher level of consciousness – not on the earth, you are higher. And from these heights you are able to see a clearer picture of life. It is here that you will know truth, and the truth shall make you free.

We leave you with all love and the blessing of the Great White Spirit, who will never, never fail you. Do not fail yourselves. Goodnight – goodnight.

Brother Faithful:

A queer thought that humanity sees fit to spend uncounted millions, thousands and hundreds of pounds, and men's lives, for the exploration of space, when so near at hand, so close to us, are other worlds and other people much wiser than we, as we have heard tonight, with whom a clear path could be established with a minimum of effort and expenditure of money – safely establish a path, a line of knowledge, of thinking which could change entirely the outlook and the hearts of men. Something to live with, something to ponder over.

Hymn No. 344:

"Lord, who didst send, by two and two before thee,
Thine own disciples, those three score and ten,
That they should show the lost ones where the path was
And bring the light to eyes of blinded men:"

Benediction:

Silently we feel the Presence the Presence of the Spirit of the Great White Spirit, the Supreme Divine Intelligence, Wisdom, Love and Power. We thank God for this pure simple and Holy Blessing, and pray, pray that it may strengthen us in all our endeavours to live in the service of God and man.

May this peace which passeth all worldly understanding rest in our hearts evermore.

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:

spiritual unfoldment, spiritual development, light within, spiritual path, path of the soul, holy spirit, path of service, spiritual work, spiritual service, initiation, heaven world, world of light, whitsun, spiritual contact, St Michael, new age, modernism, culture, eucharist, Buddhism