A322 Sunday Address 20th December 1959 St Mary Abbots Place, London Christmas Carol Service

Text: another MB typescript, again a blue carbon. Unmarked. There is no record of this message going into print, and the title has been chosen for the present project.

Context: as usual a slightly shorter address for the carol service, because of the time taken up by the carols themselves. The script tells us that there were two readings on this occasion. Brother Faithful is recorded as having read Isaiah 9:2,6 and 10:2-9. The first of these is 'The people that walked in darkness'. The second reference does not make sense and it is likely the reading was Isaiah 11:2-9, which is the text about the animals lying down together, in peace. This is confirmed by White Eagle's reference back to the reading in the fourth paragraph. Minesta read Luke 2:8-18, the visitation of the angels to the shepherds and the shepherds' visitation at the stable. There is no mention of the carols or the choir (nor is a report to be found in *Stella Polaris*), but Brother Faithful's closing words are once more given, and retained here.

General Notes: the first sentence retains the commas of the typescript, which seem to hold a very slightly different message than the more natural punctuation: 'Dear beloved brethren, all who are here....' On an occasion when brevity was to be wished for, White Eagle promises just that. He speaks of the innocence of children 'untouched by the cares and sorrows of life'. Obviously, children can be touched by sorrows, so he takes a risk in saying this, but knew his audience; and the point he wishes to make is confirmed when he reminds us that adults look to children at Christmas to discover their happiness for them. He also reminds us that we are children too: 'in grown bodies'. As a whole, this address is unusual among Christmas addresses; deeply, it seems most to be about the extraordinary magnificence of God the Father giving his Son to the earth. That might sound conventional Christianity, but the interpretation White Eagle gives is far from conventional – hence the title chosen.

References: 'A little child shall lead them' is from the second Isaiah reading, 11:6; 'Unless ye become as a little child' is Matthew 18:3. 'If I shall be lifted up' is John 12:32. 'Your old men shall see visions, and your young men shall dream dreams' is Acts 2:17 (and is a verse not frequently quoted by White Eagle).

White Eagle's Address:

Dear beloved brethren, all, who are here in love and worship, we come down to this earth plane for one purpose. This is to tell humanity the truth about life and the glory of life. And at this particular time, we bring to you in as few words as we can select, the message of Christmas.

Now it is as old as old can be, but the true message is yet to be comprehended by humanity. But in these few moments at our disposal, first of all we want to assure you all, whatever your circumstances, even if you are lonely through bereavement, if you are troubled by sickness or cares of the material life, we want to tell you that at Christmas time especially the veil between life on earth and life in the spirit and in the heavenly spheres grows very thin.

For, as it was in days of old with the shepherds, who by the way were the leaders, the spiritual leaders of men, those who had quickened their powers of perception, discernment and discrimination: to them came the Angels, the great band of White Brothers. Some were Angels from afar, but they came to the shepherds first with the great message that God had not left His children comfortless. He had sent to them the most precious gift He had, the gift of His Son.

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Now, whatever the intellectual interpretation you may give this story, we have to tell you that you must look above the intellect; and with the simplicity of a child you must seek this Holy ancient truth by becoming as a little child, because God sent His Son to earth in the form of a little child. And as you have heard in the reading tonight, 'A little child shall lead them'. Beloved Jesus himself said, 'Unless ye become as a little child ye shall in no way enter the Kingdom of Heaven'.

And at Christmas time, you all admit that it is the time for the children, the children who are as yet untouched by the cares and sorrows of life. Those of you who have families rejoice with your children at Christmas time because it is to the children that this spirit of Christ comes: the child's heart, the unsullied, untroubled; it knows the care-less-ness of the burdens and the sorrows of life.

Now beloved children in grown bodies, we say to you that you must become in your innermost heart as the children, care-free, at peace with life, confident that your Father God in the Heavens knows your need and is coming to you, is coming to you through the Christ which will one day arise in you and live. For God has planted His seed, the pure Eternal Spirit, in the human soul – in the human heart. And at Christmas time there come to this earth choirs of angels and a great army [of heavenly beings] to stimulate this scene. It is like the treating of Mother Earth with a fertiliser. The Great Heavenly Light comes to earth at Christmas time, bringing to mankind the old message of love, telling that Christ is born. We want you to remember, all of you, that if you lift your hearts in simplicity as a child to those heavenly spheres you will not be disappointed. You must go into the silence of your innermost being, into the Temple of Light within you. And there in the silence, in the Holy silence, the silent night – because many of you will only be aware of the night – and there you will hear the angel message – your particular message of love will come to you, if you will only remember what we say, and become as a little child, as Christ was.

And if you feel that you are not pure enough, then in humility kneel before the Holy Shrine, and ask that you may be helped to purify your body and soul. No man or woman is left without an answer to such a simple and humble prayer. And then, again remember that it is only you, by your earthliness, [that] shuts away the closeness of your nearest and dearest. The one you have loved who is separated from you through lack of [a] physical body is really very close to you, is talking to you in your heart, will come back and reassure you, because you will get that inner conviction of the truth of the Christ story.

We want you to think at this Christmas time of the full significance of the coming down to earth of a great Soul. Now, many of you have said, 'I do not like the idea of reincarnation, I won't have it'. Now, if you feel like this, my friends, we would point out to you at this Christmas season the meaning of that Great Being Who had prepared through countless incarnations to be the vehicle through which the Son of God could manifest in human form. Think what it means for a high initiate to leave that heavenly state of life, and without thought of self for its own comfort or happiness obey the command of the Holy Father–Mother God, and return to this dark plane. Do not think it is funny, my friends, for spirits even to come back to the earth to help mankind. Those who have been given the task

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of guiding, comforting and healing humanity do so with infinite love and compassion. But at the same time they come at great sacrifice: make no mistake about that.

Now, Jesus was not like the other prophets and seers and sages. Jesus had a very particular mission. And as we are telling you, he prepared for his mission through many, many incarnations until he was what all of you can and will become, a man made perfect: through his own endeavour and hard work, and never flinching or taking his eyes away from the symbol in the heavens which his Father had placed there: the symbol of the STAR.

Think quietly of this mystical truth of the descent of the Son, the Son of God; the Light which was God Himself descending to be with His children but manifesting through a human life and a human heart.

It is the most wonderful cosmic happening that has ever been when the Son, the Great Son, descended to mankind. And this gift of the Holy Child is not to any orthodox church, is not to any particular body – only insofar as body or community endeavours to make itself a simple humble pure channel of that Christ light – but it was sent to *you*. You, we are speaking to *you*, dear brother, sister, the gift of the Christ birth is to you, it is in your heart; and you have the power to nurture and raise it from the tiny inarticulate babe to the glory of the Holy Christ. Is not this a wonderful gift? And do we treasure it and preserve and use it not merely for our own selfish reasons, but for God the Giver, and all His creation?

The angels are very, very close to you in this service. And in the silence which we shall give you in a few moments, you may hear the angels singing. We pray that the song of Christ will ring in your own heart this Christmas time.

Remember, my children, your goal. Your feet are now set upon the path, however old you are, however young you are in a physical body. Your feet are on the path, the probationary path which leads to the heavenly places, which leads you to gain mastery over your life-conditions, your lower nature, and will finally release you at some time in God's future to share a life of freedom from all the darkness and cares and sorrows and suffering of the lower physical place. Isn't that a wonderful outlook for you?

Now, as Christ said: 'If I be raised up, I will raise all men with me'. My dear ones, this is going to happen in this age of Aquarius. The Aquarian Age is the age of the spirit. Old men may dream dreams, the young will see the vision of truth and the power of the spirit will descent upon this earth plane, and will stimulate to the finest degree the Christ spirit in all peoples, irrespective of colour, race or creed. And do, we beg you to remember that all religions have their way of reaching the centre: the altar on the top of the golden mountain. God did not give this Holy Message to only one or two, nor to any particular church. He gave it freely to all men.

In your midst is the glorious form of Jesus Christ. Close your outer vision. You must go to the inner planes to find truth. It comes through the heart, through love, through love, goodwill, kindness to life.

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He stands here with a host of angels round him, reaching far up into the highest heights. He has come down to you. And he stands with one hand holding the heavenly bread on the golden plaque, the other hand the golden cup with the holy wine, heavenly symbols. May every one of you in this silent moment humbly go towards Him. He will give you a morsel of Bread, just sufficient for your needs at present. And He will offer you a sip of that heavenly Wine.

'My Heavenly Father–Mother has blessed you with the Christmas Blessing.' Go forth with the grand tidings of the Son of God coming to earth. Give love, for love is His message: 'Behold, I bring love, goodwill and peace on earth'. 'My spirit', he says, 'will bring peace to every man and every nation, and love to all creatures.' So we rejoice, we rejoice in thankfulness to Thee. Amen. Amen.

Brother Faithful:

I think this is the twenty-fourth time that White Eagle has given his Christmas Message. I think quite a lot of the people here have heard them all. And it will be the twenty-fifth time next Christmas. And I believe that many of us feel, I know I do, that this Christmas Service, and above all the Christmas Message sets a seal upon our Christmas. We take it with us and live with it afterwards.

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:

baby Jesus, nativity, birth of Jesus, holy men, holy ones, rebirth, path of the soul, purity, purification, great teachers, masters, new age, spiritual unfoldment, spiritual development, light within, inner light, inner peace, service, communion, spiritual path, devas, holy grail, grail cup