

The Stone Circles

T194 The Inner Teachings 12th July 1949 St Mary Abbots Place, London

Invocation:

We call upon our brethren in the spiritual spheres of life for their aid. We ask that they will bring their spiritual power, their love and their wisdom, and in company with these illumined souls we raise our hearts in praise and thanksgiving to the Source of all life and all good, all love—to that spiritual essence we worship in the name of the Father-Mother-Son, the triune God. Thou hast blessed us, O Great White Spirit. We thank Thee, and humbly and earnestly seek the path of service and goodness that others too may be blessed as we have received blessing. May the presence of the Lord Christ be with us.

Amen.

We propose to talk upon general spiritual truths, and to give some insight into the gradual unfoldment of man's* consciousness of God. We begin by referring to the great initiation through which every soul passes during its life on earth. We are referring to the transition from mortal to spiritual life. We think that this transition looms up as the greatest bogey, the greatest enemy perhaps which man knows whilst he lives on this earth, and his apprehension seems to increase with development of the nervous system. This increase of sensitivity in many, many people has brought with it an increasing fear of what lies before and also what lies after death. Some of you can tranquilly say that all fear of death has now passed, and you can truly look through the very thin veil into that larger spiritual life with complete confidence and indeed with joyful anticipation. You can also really rejoice instead of grieve when one of your number has been visited by the great mother called the angel of life and death. You can picture this great mother as coming at the appointed time and drawing the bolt that bars the door between this world and the next. We would have you remember also the joy with which your loved one goes forth into a garden of sunlight and perfumed flowers as the door is flung wide. When you can truly say that you rejoice at the freedom gained by your loved one you have indeed taken a great step forward.

*[*For editorial policy around gender, see the introduction to the teachings.]*

Many ideas and beliefs about God exist today, but we would go back to very ancient times. Bear in mind that time can be symbolised by a circle, so it is difficult to measure time. However, very long ago when people were stimulated by desire to worship the Source of their life, they lived happily in a condition we can almost liken to a Garden of Eden, to a garden of intense beauty, when all the needs of the people were supplied by the fruits of Mother Earth. So these people worshipped the great Motherhood of all life, which they recognised and studied. They were pure, simple souls, without any very great mental development, but with a spirit and a spiritual urge. So they set up the God whom they worshipped and to whom they gave thanks in the form of the Great Mother.

Think for a moment, try to get some reaction to any sense of love and worship you may feel towards such an ideal as the great Mother, who was the personification of all love and tenderness, who was the source of comfort, the source of food and sunlight and all the things which made man happy and contented. Can you realise the great Mother in some such form

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as this? If so you will learn in time—as the ancient people learnt—that the great Mother was the great mystery of life.

A representation of this divine Mother is to be found through all the ages in all religions. She has been worshipped under different names—Mary, Diana, Sophia, Isis, and so on—but we would rather picture to you a loving, tender Mother who was to the ancients the Source of life and all goodness. We told you briefly of this before. You will remember that we referred to images that have been found all over the earth representing the Mother and the Child. Later the male aspect, the Father, was introduced, and this you will also find in various countries, particularly in the West. We cannot say only in the West because the idea of the triune God—the Father-Mother-Child—can be found in the ancient beliefs of the American Indians. We can cross to the other side of the world, to India, and find there an identical belief.

Originating from these ideas of God, stone images supposed to symbolise or represent God were set up. In many places on your island as well as in Europe and in America and in the East—indeed in every continent—you find these monoliths, these great stones. Sometimes they stand singly, sometimes in groups, sometimes in circles. These stones and stone circles were set up by the ancients as a representation of their ideal of God. They were not gods; they were purely a symbol. You are told that those whom you call heathens worship idols but the Christians also worship idols. Do not all people worship idols when they bow down to materialism instead of the divine essence which is the source of all form and all life and even all material substance? For even material substance comes from this divine essence, which is invisible and indescribable and can only be contacted by man in a state of supreme prayer and devotion. In other words, man himself has to stimulate within his being the spiritual life force, and by the power which he thus stimulates within himself he is able to feel God, to hear God, to recognise God and to hold communion with God. Thus he can learn that God is not only the God of matter but also the God of spirit.

May we say a little in defence of these whom many people would perhaps call heathens or worshippers of graven images? God is absolute life, the Source of all being, and Source of all form on this earth and in the astral and the celestial planes. This God is in everything in matter. When man grows more conscious of God, becomes more developed, he will recognise this same life force within everything. In the sense that God is in matter the ancient was right (according to his limitations) in his recognition of this fact and his worship of the symbol he had set up to represent his god.

You sometimes see symbols engraved upon ancient stones. You call them sometimes the mark of the master mason, a term which has a deeper meaning than is generally recognised. All symbols, both ancient and modern, aim at conveying the language of the spirit, or at conveying a profound truth that the uninitiated cannot read. Therefore we see the importance of meditation upon, studying of and an endeavour to learn the meaning of symbols, for the language of symbols is veritably the language of the spirit not spoken in words.

To come back to our stone circles: You know that there are many of these in your own country, the best known being the stone circle at Stonehenge and that greater circle at

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Avebury. Others, of course, exist in remoter parts of your island, and others across the water in France, and in South America as well as in India. We only propose to refer to the stone circles and not to tell you all about them—to give you a few hints and let you work out for yourselves their spiritual meaning.

The stones were erected in what you call the Stone Age, and you will find that many stones were arranged in circles, which were thought to give the idea of the encircling power, the protective power of God, and also the idea of God as the Source of all life. The source of all life being light, the ancients recognised that physically the source of light was the sun. They also linked their knowledge of the power of the sun upon their lives with the influence of heavenly bodies, for they had wise men among them who were developed mentally and spiritually. These elders studied and meditated upon the movement of the planets and the stars, the heavenly bodies, and as a result they found (from the same source as you yourselves are beginning to find) the influence of the God-power upon man's life—an influence quite beyond the comprehension of the brain of man. They also discovered that there was something within themselves that was affected by the heavenly bodies. They had what you call a psychic sense or a spiritual awareness. They found that they were able to receive communications from companions who had passed away from physical life, and also teaching belonging to a much higher state.

You will find evidence of this contact with a higher, an invisible plane of life, through all the races. The Red Indian people* were well aware of the hereafter and the etheric world. (When we speak of the etheric we mean the world which is very close, and which is constituted of a higher ether than this earth). You will find evidence of this communication from the gods (as they called them), from superior minds, superior beings in the world of spirit, in Greece, Egypt, India, Africa, Polynesia and all over the ancient world. In all these places man established his contact with the Invisible.

*[*Probably, White Eagle chose to use the term most recognisable to his audience. This term of course has long been superseded; he refers to his own people in the life by which he is best known, i.e. the American Indians.]*

These stone circles are extremely interesting to the student of occultism. Let us take the formation of the great temple at Avebury. We do not know the exact measurements. We are not here to give you mathematical facts. This temple, we believe, was originally some miles in length and formed of a great avenue of immense stones within the centre a great circle. The avenue leading to the temple itself is in a snake-like form. This is important, because you find serpent-worship in many parts of the world, and as you know, the serpent is used as a symbol in your Christian Bible. In Genesis you remember the serpent tempted the woman. You see, all these esoteric truths have been interpreted by material minds in a material way, in perhaps a childlike way. In the kindergarten class you are given simple things to manipulate and play with, but as the child passes from the kindergarten class into the higher school and eventually graduates in the university, the simpler things are left far, far behind. So we suggest to you that these stories of centuries ago had a purpose to serve and suited the mentality of the masses of that day. Now something different has happened. There has come to man a

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spiritual stimulation that is bringing knowledge of the meaning of the symbol of the serpent. The serpent stands for wisdom and knowledge, which wisdom comes to man with the rising of this spiritual essence within himself.

Our Indian brethren describe this serpent power as the power of kundalini. It normally rests sleeping in man's being until he has developed moral strength. If the knowledge is stimulated before spiritual and moral balance has been gained by the individual, chaos and destruction follow. In ancient temples we can recognise evidence of the serpent worship of the ancients. They knew what you are just beginning to find out, the awe-fulness of the power of the creative force in man. In the more highly evolved souls it can manifest in the form of spiritual wisdom and spiritual illumination, which brings man very close to the throne of the almighty, the Supreme Being, the Essence of all life, the Divine Essence, which is both the Mother, all love and tenderness and goodness, the Mother the womb of life, and the Father the knowledge and the will through which life in form comes into being.

The ancients recognised these two First Principles of life—the Mother, or the enfolding love—and the Father, or the divine energy and power which found its way into the enfolding love which is the home or the womb of life. Then the two Principles brought forth a child, a fresh life, and that child is mankind. You are that child, brought forth by these divine Principles of the First Cause. Is it to be wondered at that the ancients—or you, for that matter—recognise that you have not only earthly parents but God-parents, or spiritual parents? The ordinary child of earth looks to its mother for certain qualities, certain gifts. It looks to its father for other qualities. It loves both parents and has confidence in them, knowing that they will not fail it. You also, child of the Father-Mother God, instinctively, intuitively look to a power beyond your own. You do not know this power but you can see manifestations of its beauty on the earth. You recognise the loving guidance that enters your own life. You must admit this if you pause to think. If you review the past and every detail of your life you cannot but recognise wise guidance. Had you yourself chosen your own way, you could not have chosen so wisely. You have wanted your own way many times and not been able to have it. You have been forced to follow the appointed path because the very circumstances and the nature of your life compelled you to do so. Afterwards you have realised what a good thing it was—in other words, you have recognised a power superior to mortal mind guiding with unfailing wisdom and love the life of its child.

We think we have said as much as is advisable tonight. We will remain and listen to your questions.

Q. What is meant by the eye of Quetzalcoatl?

A. In your language Quetzalcoatl was the Christ of the Indians and the story is that he came mysteriously to the Indian peoples and taught them about the wonderful life beyond the sun; taught them the lessons of peace and brotherhood and goodwill and all the beautiful truths which Jesus the Christ taught to his disciples. At the appointed time the Indians saw him depart. He is supposed to have entered his canoe and sailed away down the river to the West, right into the sun. It is symbolic of the coming and

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the going of the spirit, or of the Christ the Son of God. His eye was the symbol of the all-seeing eye. It was believed by the Indians that their saviour was always with them and was watching over them. In a sense his was a magical, a spiritual eye, all-seeing, all-loving, and they knew that his eye was upon them and so all was well. You get the same symbolism in Egyptian mythology. It is also used in many, many inner brotherhoods, masonry, etc.—the eye of God.

- Q. What is the relationship of the power of kundalini to the spirit of Christ?
- A. When the power of kundalini is centred in the heart and the actions of the man come spontaneously from the heart centre of love, then we might say that the power of kundalini is absorbed into the Christ spirit and is manifesting through the Christ spirit and is become the saviour of man instead of the destroyer. In other words the spirit of Christ (and you have to define what you mean by Christ) is the saviour of mankind. Until that moment kundalini can be the destroyer, and indeed often is. The power of love arising in the heart is the Christ stimulation, by which kundalini saves instead of destroys. This is a very important and interesting question because it defines the saving power of the divine light, the pure Christ, the Son of God.
- Q. What are the first signs of the arising of the divine fire?
- A. Signs of spiritual power and poise, control of the speech, of the thoughts, general control and balance in life, a sense of great power; when that power is under control and recognised by the neophyte or the student as the power of love and goodness, which has to be used for the good of all and not for personal aggrandisement, then we know that the divine fire is rising and working in the individual.

Benediction:

We will all join in prayer and thanksgiving. Beloved brethren, let us meet on the plane of spirit in the temple of the living God, hearing the music of the creative life, praising God, worshipping and surrendering in humility to the love and wisdom of God. O Great Spirit, Thy children worship Thee and glorify Thee forever.

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:

Afterlife, ancient religions, history, feminine, psychic power, sacred places, base chakra