

Working for Peace

A309 Sunday Address 9th November 1958 St Mary Abbots Place, London
Remembrance Sunday Service

Text: MB's top copy, heavily overwritten with IC's alterations and some by YGH. It was printed in the October-November *Stella Polaris* from the amended typescript. 'Working for World Peace', is the title IC gave it on the opening page of the typescript, but in the printed version, the word 'World' seems to have been dropped, and it is this title we have used here. A sentence from Brother Faithful has been included at the end. Two queries are outstanding. In the paragraph beginning 'Now on this day of Remembrance' there is a hyphenated 'to-' at the end of the line, a word which is never completed. Here the sentence has been repunctuated and the word expanded to 'together', but this is purely conjectural. Much later, the word 'paragon' would make better sense if it were 'paradigm'.

Context: MB gives a first 'solo and anthem', presumably an introit, which she entitles 'Oh taste and see how gracious the Lord is'. If this is the familiar Vaughan Williams arrangement of 1953 it is not so much a 'solo and anthem' as an anthem in which there is a solo introduction to the verses. 'Jesu, joy of man's desiring' is given as the second anthem, presumably sung just before White Eagle spoke: it is the familiar section of the Cantata 'Herz und Mund und Tat und Leben', BWV 147, published in 1723. The reading is listed between the two and was the 40th chapter of Isaiah, which begins 'Comfort ye, comfort ye my people' and contains, at verse 31, the words 'those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength'. At the end, there is a communion with a two-minute silence included in it.

General Notes: White Eagle offers a reminder of the many other groups who are meeting in remembrance and how they, too, have a crowd of 'shining spirits' surrounding them. Near the beginning there is a useful section on the power of prayer, the power of positive thought. There is a fine defence of the principle, 'Good is born or comes out of what appears to be evil'. White Eagle is quite severe on the evils of war, describing the event as a 'Service of Remembrance of man's stupidity and man's cruelty to man'. Maybe he had a twinkle in his eye as he said it. Later he sees his followers as teachers, and tells them to focus on 'truth, love, kindness and justice'. He says, 'There is no such thing as just wars', and yet he also says that to call war an evil misses the point, for out of war comes great development. In talking of those 'thrust out of life' by war White Eagle mentions how often Jesus appears to those stricken and dying (or passed over?). Near the end he assures us, 'Christianity has not yet been put in practice', for 'If a man lives his life as an example by Jesus there would be no war'.

References: 'seeing through a glass darkly' is taken from 1 Corinthians 13 : 12. 'Mercy poureth as the gentle rain from heaven' is from Shakespeare, *The Merchant of Venice*, Act IV scene I, where it is 'The quality of mercy is not strained; It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven Upon the place beneath'. The story of Jesus telling Peter to put up his sword and healing the injured soldier is Matthew 26 : 52. 'Resist ye not evil' is Mathew 5 : 39.

White Eagle's Address:

We come, beloved children, we come with joy and thanksgiving to God for all His mercies, for all His wonders. You are celebrating, on your earth today, 'Remembrance'. Remembrance of what can only be described in earthly language and from the earthly aspect as a terrible tragedy, but we would like to bring the other side of the picture.

On earth a man sees through a glass darkly, but when man is released from the earthly life, he sees the truth. He meets his companions face to face. He meets his Lord face to face.

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Now this happens to every soul when it is awakened in spirit life. And when we say 'awakened in spirit life', this does not confine the awakened man to the one who has passed away from his physical body. It means one who has awakened in a spirit life, in a spiritual state of being.

As we come into your midst, we come in the midst of a vast shining company. Now with many gatherings of this nature on your earth tonight there will be gathered round that centre on earth a host of shining spirits, many who have passed away, passed onward, as a result of warfare.

We know the questions which arise in the mind of the evolving soul of man in the physical body. 'Why is warfare permitted? Isn't it wrong for man to slay his brother man?' The answer is, of course, it is wrong for man to slay his brother, to rob him of life in a physical body. It is not that you or anyone should or can condemn any individual. It is the principle of right that man has to learn. And this knowledge can only come from the small individual aspiration. We will even go so far as to say it takes its life from prayer in the heart. When man prays to his God, prays for God, prays for his brother man that he may be comforted and inspired, that he may see the truth and the life and the light, that prayer is like a seed. That prayer going forth into the Universe radiates a power of light and that light is like a spiritual sun.

Now, you have been praying. You pray at every service and at every group in this Lodge for the light to go forth to heal the sick, comfort the sorrowful and the bereaved. You send for the light that it may illumine human understanding. Now this night, as you conceived in your mind's eye the blazing Star, you sent forth, from this Lodge, rays of light. It was a blazing Star and the light went forth to a limitless degree. This is what we mean by the efficacy of prayer or good thought. Prayer is good thought, God-thought – and as a man truly prays he is making a contribution to the powers of the light, to the power of God.

We know that many of you wonder why evil appears to be so rampant upon the earth. Evil is part of the great Plan. Now many of you will not accept this truth, but you will accept the fact that out of so-called evil good comes. God uses what is thought to be evil. Now this law runs throughout all life. Good is born or comes out of what appears to be evil.

Now mankind has learnt considerable lessons out of the tragedy of the past wars. It is true that so much goodwill and faith has come out of apparent evil; so much that was evil has been swept away in your own country, quite apart from other countries. God used what is called evil in mankind to help forward the spiritual evolution of humanity. Never forget that.

Now, on this Day of Remembrance, will you also remember – together with those whom you love – all who made sacrifice, who gave up a life or comfort and pleasure and happiness to go forth into a condition of great suffering and pain. We are not talking about the passing on, we are thinking of what preceded their release from the physical body.

Now the main point that we would emphasise in this service, this *Service of Remembrance of man's stupidity and man's cruelty to man*, is this: that those whom you now remember have

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been and are still counted in the Great White Army of Saints and servers of God and of man. *Remember.* Let us remember them: the saints, the teachers, the saviours and all the great White Army of spirit beings, who whether they are known to you or not have certainly contributed to the spiritual evolution of mankind.

And let us return again to thoughts of prayer. Your present or modern age is giving up to humanity many secrets of the earth and the air. It is demonstrating that the atmosphere around you is full of sound waves and light waves. You have instruments now which are proving this ancient truth to you, that the atmosphere is full of these waves of light and sound. You accept it, but a century ago it would have been ridiculed, the mere suggestion of the possibility of registering invisible and inaudible waves. Now it is demonstrated. Carry this truth a little farther, and you will find that those who pass away from a physical body only drop their body, just as they would drop an old coat. Now many, many, many of them, if they could speak to you tonight, would tell you that they didn't realise that they had left their body. It was pointed out to them in some cases. In other cases they did not know that they were still not in a physical body. Life just went on. Oh, do you realise that through the evil that you call war, the so-called evil that you called war, there was a great impression made on the physical plane from our spirit world. So many cases, countless people, received a clear proof that their dear one, brother, son, husband, daughter, sister, whoever it was, was not dead. The spirit proved so clearly, came back to its home, made an impression on the one left on Earth. The war did a mighty work to impress upon humanity that life after death was a fact. You see only in that one instance that good came about.

Now God is ever using the material which man provides in his ignorance to bring about good, to bring progress into human life.

Now, as we are speaking to you now, this Lodge is filled with a shining throng and there is one figure which stands out above all the rest: the figure of Jesus. Oh, would that everyone could see that humble, gentle, loving Being! Now what the dear ones from the spirit world would like you to know is this, that [with] those young men and some young women who were thrust out of life into a spirit sphere, a spirit state of life, one of the early visitors they had was that figure of the gentle Jesus. Earthly minds will start to question and wonder. You will never get an answer to your mind or brain, but you will get an answer to your questions in your heart. Jesus can and does come to those who are stricken and suffering, to those who send out a prayer for help and to those who are wondering, who are fearful and yet who send out a cry for help. Jesus comes. To all those boys who were thrust out of physical life and found themselves in a strange place, He came. His messengers came. He came.

And these messengers in groups were sent by Him to care for every single soul – and numbers – and the numbers were large, but that makes no difference. In the spirit world where there is no space, where there is all space, where the life is natural and can be of the happiest nature, these boys greeted Him and His angel messengers with great joy. They seized on the messengers. They listened to all that was told them and turned their attention immediately towards God. Don't forget that however rough the exterior of any individual, deep within the soul is the divine spark and that divine spark responds like magic to spiritual truth like a magnet picking up a piece of steel. And love, divine love, from the Master and the

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masters and their helpers was the magnet, and the response was instant. They were raised up, gathered up from the mists surrounding the confusion and the devastation of life upon earth. They were caught up into a world of harmony and joy. Yes, this is the other side of the picture.

Oh, as you remember your dear ones who have passed through the great initiation of physical death, remember that they, as soon as they desire God or, as in so many, many cases, Jesus, they are immediately met. They are immediately helped and comforted and guided to their true place in the spirit world.

Now these truths that we are endeavouring to give you in very simple form are ancient truths. It is Ancient Wisdom. It is not new, but it is man who is new. Man is beginning to unfold, to evolve. He is beginning to use the brain in the heart, for it is that brain in the heart which thinks truly and clearly – the brain in the heart which comprehends the Ancient Wisdom.

You have heard us say before that in the ancient mystery schools – not within your history – the prehistoric schools of learning, schools of training, the souls there were taught by symbol and paragon those ancient truths that life was eternal; about the powers which every soul – every man and woman – has with his own being: the truth which you now accept as reasonable, the truth of reincarnation, which some still reject. It does not alter truth, even if you don't believe it is true. It does not matter. Truth is truth and it is there.

Now the Ancients taught the brethren the truth of reincarnation, and there are remnants of this teaching still in your brotherhood lodges all over the world. So the brother goes forth to refreshment after labour and, after refreshment, returns to labour. There it is, when it is comprehended from the eternal centre within man's being. There is no death: man goes on with his experiences, but rests and refreshes himself, particularly after great devastation, great suffering. He is received into the home of his just deserts. But whatever home he enters, he finds the same thing – love and mercy. Never forget, dear ones, that in divine justice there is always found the gentle breath of mercy. Mercy poureth as the gentle rain from heaven.

And so, children of earth, be comforted. Be uplifted and go to work. What we of the heavenly hosts come to tell you is to work whilst you are on the physical plane. Work to eradicate the darkness of ignorance. Not necessarily by preaching, but the spoken word and the written word have great power. That too may fall upon prepared soil and bring forth rich grain. But set your minds towards truth, love, kindness and justice. Work that future humanity will never resort to armed warfare. There is, you will not like us saying this, but seeing from the spirit spheres, there is no such thing as just wars. There should be no war at all. If a man lives his life as an example by Jesus, there would be no war. Did Jesus allow His disciples to retaliate when the soldier was injured? No! 'Put up they sword. Heal the wound.' Jesus did not with any retaliation for any attack upon those who appeared to injure him, because He knew that this was not the way. Jesus, in His teaching, said: 'Resist not evil, but overcome evil with good, with love'.

Christianity has not yet been put in practice! Is it fear or is it self? There is only one way for the Son of God to live, and this is by the way of love. When this precept is put into practice –

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as it is slowly being put into practice upon your earth – there will come a great evolution, not revolution, *evolution* of the human soul. Then will be ushered in that new age, that new day, the golden age – the golden days of the golden age. There is no answer to the one who says; ‘These things cannot be. It is human nature to go to war – and what about the other man? If he fights, so must we!’ You may make a stand with spiritual weapons, with the sword of the spirit, the shining sword which does not injure but which heals the wounds and comforts the afflicted, and sends man onward, onward and upward to the heavenly planes.

And now, just as we leave you, will you all be very still? Try not to break the two minutes silence – for Jesus, gentle Jesus, stands here in your midst with the great throng around Him. ‘I come to give you the Bread of Heaven and the Wine of the Spirit; eat, drink in remembrance.’ Amen

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Go forth guided by the Christ Star. Follow the Star and you will be servers, pioneers, to usher in the New Age of brotherhood and joy, beauty and the perfect life.

Peace be with you all.

Amen.

Brother Faithful:

The gist or the essence of the talk tonight is that the greatest and the most powerful factor for the peace of the world is prayer; sending out right thought, constructive thought – which is of course prayer.

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:

rebirth, passing over, passing on, passing into the light, murder, judgement, positive thought, negativity, wickedness, Armistice, science, technology, light within, fairness, peace, spiritual service