

# The Teaching of the Ancient Wisdom - I

T120 The Inner Teachings 4th November 1941 St Mary Abbot's Place, London

## Invocation

Our loving Father-Mother God, we pray Thee to bless this service. And in the name of the Son, Christ, we call upon the angels of the Christ Sphere to bless us this day.

Amen.

We are to talk today about the Ancient Mysteries, which will concern chiefly the Egyptian School, but before we come to that, let us run over the ground for the sake of those who have been absent from previous talks on this subject.

What is the Ancient Wisdom? We will put it into simple language and call it the truth of man's\* spiritual being, the story of man's creation and the creation of the solar system. The Ancient Wisdom is the only true religion, from which has sprung many another school of religion, from the oldest in the East (and the West) to the present Christian religion. The Ancient Wisdom was the teaching given to man when human life began on this earth. It is the religion of the Sun. When we refer to the Sun, we do not mean merely the sun above, which gives physical life to the earth. We mean the divine Principle, a life force, spiritual in essence, but which has many manifestations. The sunlight which is reflected upon the earth (or appears to be thus reflected) is, shall we say, an outward symbol, or the physical body through which the divine life force manifests.

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

The ancients recognized this; they also knew that man was wholly dependent upon that sun which is the divine life, and also on its physical manifestation. Therefore, they worshipped the sun, or the divine principle it symbolised. They were taught that they also had within themselves a sun which radiated from the heart centre. When we speak of the heart centre, we do not mean the organ of the heart; we mean the central place between the breasts—from this heart centre radiates the light. This light had to become the guiding principle in man's life. If he followed this light, it would lead him always, without fail, to all truth, would reveal the way to unfold the soul powers which would bring him into touch with planes of life beyond the earth plane. Long ago man knew how to liberate the power in his body to heal any wound or sickness of the flesh, and to release the power which enabled him to leave the physical body at will and journey into what the Egyptians called the land of light, and also into the underworld. Today such knowledge is not known, at least not to many, but there are certain people of developed mental power and spiritual quality who are well aware of these ancient truths.

The ancient wisdom is that inner knowledge which was imparted to men by certain beings who came to the earth for this purpose. We will not go into the nature of these beings, but they were superior to earth's humanity. In the beginning, then, there was what I will call the first mystery school. It was known then (to certain people) and is still known, as the Temple of the White\* Light. All the mysteries were practised in this temple. In the beginning there was no separation between the two aspects of good and evil, all was working in harmony. This may shock some to learn that good and evil work together, but evil has degenerated into

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evil as we know it because of misuse. In the early days it was an aspect of life which was necessary for the evolution of the incoming young life and had not become separated from and antagonistic to the White Light. This point may confuse some of you, and you will wonder where the parting of the ways came, but we would explain that the inner mysteries are unintelligible until a soul reaches a certain degree of spiritual achievement. Therefore certain questions of yours will be quite unanswerable; when this occurs, we beg you to say to yourselves, 'There is an answer; I cannot understand it yet, and could not if it were given to me. So I will wait until I myself unfold sufficiently'. Be sure, however, that an answer awaits every question that arises in your mind.

*[\*Refers to light, not colour or race.]*

The ancient wisdom then was the wisdom of the heart, of the divine Light, the knowledge of the divine fires and creative powers with which all men are endued. Most people think that the mysteries originated from Egypt; a few believe they originated in Atlantis. No ordinary man has any conception of the actual age of the earth. Scientists, as they proceed in their studies, agree to an ever greater span of time, yet even so they have not arrived yet at the earth's correct age. Thus, although we ourselves may have said that the light originated in Atlantis, by this we actually mean that the light originated in the very beginning, in a certain place now non-existent. The word Atlantis describes some lost continent—true; but a reference to Atlantis may mean other lost continents besides, and the term includes these. Most of you have heard of Lemuria, and some may be familiar with the name of a land called 'Mu' or 'Moo', the motherland, the mother continent. That is a significant name—Mu—the Motherland.

We will take you as far back, then, as the continent of Mu, which was situated where the Pacific Ocean now rolls. On that continent there lived a highly evolved and civilised people, well versed and trained in the ancient wisdom. From that place journeyed messengers to the east and the west—to China, to certain parts of America, to India, to Tibet and other places. Thus knowledge was sent forth from that continent of Mu. There was also a settlement in America from which originated a race of people highly evolved spiritually, who formed one of the mystery schools from which the Egyptians received their knowledge. Others were established in China, Tibet and parts of India, where today are to be found certain tablets containing records of those ancient mystery teachings.

Both in Egypt and in the West, the foundation of all teaching was based upon the symbol of the triangle.

The Sun was the life, the manifestation, but the sun first has to be created by a divine parent or parents. The ancients worked upon the plan in human life for they knew that as below, on earth, so above, in heaven. This was one reason why the sages taught their pupils to be very observant about life, and why the simplest human experience is so important, because it reveals to the wise a divine principle. Many people shuffle through life with no purpose, never trying to understand or see the reason for certain happenings.

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But the ancients readily saw the logic, the necessity for a parent or parents of the Sun, the life force, and so they conceived the two aspects, positive and negative, male and female. Upon the Father, Mother and Son, forming the Trinity or the triangle, all their religion was based. It went even deeper. They themselves, the spirit within them, were a part of that Father-Mother, the omnipotent Principle from which all life springs. As they proceeded with the study of the ancient wisdom in their mystery school, it was revealed to them that this Trinity of life was also part of themselves: they also were built upon the triangle. They realised that they were not the one individual but the two—male and female—separated in the beginning, but always the purpose of such separation was to gain experience. The pupils knew that they could not become God-conscious or creative beings until there was first a completion of the two aspects, and then the third—that is, Father, Mother, Son.

Thus the triangle contains one of the most ancient secrets. The more it is thought about, the more you contemplate and meditate upon it, the richer you will become spiritually. It is no secret which can be explained or passed on, but something which will awaken within your own consciousness when you have reached the stage at which you can absorb it.

We once told you that the oldest mystery school on earth was that of ancient freemasonry. You may associate freemasonry with certain lodges or brotherhoods of today, with secret signs and secrets and with benevolence and charity, but this is but a fragment, a remnant of the true freemasonry. Some think that freemasonry actually originated in Egypt. This is not so. Freemasonry was established on earth by the first school of the inner mysteries, and the knowledge was brought to Egypt from both the continent of Mu and from Atlantis.

You will be rather confused about all this. You will wonder how old the pyramids are. They are very much older than is generally thought; some of the pyramids were erected by the first mystery school on earth, erected, as you notice, with the triangle at the apex and the square at the base. The ancient wisdom taught that all human life must be built upon the square, and with precision. The building of the pyramid is perfect, with exactitude and precision throughout, as you know. This was because the builders were working upon spiritual principles. There can be no slipshod method with divine building. There must be exactitude in everything. The builders had learnt that the spiritual laws governing their own being and human life were exact and precise: for instance, the law of karma—they knew there was no escape. If they had sinned against their brother, they were bound to undergo that suffering which they had inflicted. They knew of the law of reincarnation, that they would come back again to earth; they knew that they had a purpose in life. They knew they must work to a certain plan, that they must, to the minutest detail, be perfect, be correct, in their dealings with men and in the construction of their temples and homes.

On Easter Island and [in] some of the temples in Egypt, in Burma, in Indo-China, there are relics of buildings which show doorways cut in the shape of the triangle—the symbol of the creative Principle. If the apertures are not triangular, triangles will be found on the carvings. In Central America, too, are to be found the remnants of buildings based upon the triangle.

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It is interesting too to note that in Egypt, when candidates entered the lodge, they stepped upon a square or stone which controlled the door of the Temple of Initiation. As they trod upon the stone, the door, which was in the form of the triangle, opened. This was to teach them that they must walk on the square if they would learn the inner mysteries of the soul and have the heaven world revealed to them. They must be square, they must be true, they must ring true; they must put their feet on that square, or the door into the inner mysteries remained closed.

Even the masonic aprons in Egypt were triangular. The basic principle of the mystery teachings of the past was always the Trinity. All the good in man, the ancients knew, sprang from his recognition of and his endeavour to live his life in accordance with this First Principle. Therefore the home life was considered a holy institution, not as it is today. Home life must become again a holy thing as it will be in the future, when man has learnt the sacredness, the beauty, and the wisdom of life.

Even your Christian religion has originated from the Ancient Wisdom. A great deal was contributed to your Bible by the brethren of the ancient mysteries; much of it came from Egypt. In the New Testament, in the four gospels, the Master Jesus made many references to the principles taught in the mystery schools. Jesus himself studied in the ancient mysteries in Egypt, Tibet and Persia. He travelled far, and was trained on the earth plane in all these ancient teachings. The Christian teaching is based upon the Trinity—the Father, Mother, Child. In Egypt it was Osiris, Isis, Horus—and the same teaching was given in South America—all these ancient religions were built around the triangle. Life is so planned that at different periods of history, religion is presented to the common people as they can absorb and are ready to understand it.

Those of the inner schools, having lived long and being well versed in the mysteries, interpret modern religion in the light of their inner knowledge. We can even call Christianity one of the mystery schools, only nowadays it holds only the outer shell. Most Christians have no idea of the secret treasure in the heart of their religion. Here is the whole point—in the heart of all religions there is the mystery school. Those who have trained themselves or equipped themselves well and have received admission to the school of their particular age wherein the wisdom has been revealed to them, may perceive the jewel within the heart of all religions, but it cannot be found in the outer courts, only in the holy of holies, which all temples possess.

Another point the ancients taught was to regard another man's religion as sacred: no Red Indian\* laughs at or derides another man's religion, a lesson which many would do well to take to heart in these days. There are many lines of approach to truth, many schools by which people reach the same truth. Therefore it behoves us to respect and revere the religion of another.

*[\*When these teachings were given in the 1930s the term 'Indian' or 'Red Indian' was common parlance used to refer to Native Americans. It is unlikely that White Eagle would use this term if speaking today.]*

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Q. Are we to understand that Egypt was peopled by a migration from Atlantis?

A. Yes.

Q. And did the migration commence a long time before, or immediately before the destruction of Atlantis?

A. Quite a long time. But there were two visitations to Egypt. There was the visitation of the brethren from Mu, first, and they established a colony in Egypt. Then there was a visitation from Atlantis, before Atlantis was submerged. Between these two visitations there was a submersion of a part of Egypt, where the desert now is.

Q. I wonder why it is that in the Christian Trinity the mother principle has fallen into the background and the 'Holy Ghost' substituted?

A. And have you noticed what is happening as a result? Dead, dead, dead—all life gone. That refers to the Anglican Church.

Q. It is curious that in the Roman Catholic Church they have gone to the other extreme and deified the Virgin Mary. Do you think that the life force has remained in the Roman Church, while it has not in the Anglican, because in the former that feminine principle has not been neglected?

A. In the Roman church the original mystery school teaching has retained its occult power. But if you overweight one side of the building, it is bound to collapse.

There will come a very definite revision and clearance of all the shell of religion. What is now a powerful church will crumble and disintegrate and the original principles will come again—and probably in your time.

Q. Should not these principles be carried out in the government of the country?

A. It was always so carried out in Egypt, and in China, indeed wherever the ancient wisdom was taught and understood by the people. Of course, the New Age will bring in a fresh life flow and stimulate again the divine principles. Life will be built again upon the square, instead of a very unsteady pinnacle.

Q. Are we to understand that the frequency of incarnation depends not upon the individual soul but on the particular period of the world's history? One is given to believe by some that an 'old soul' reincarnates slowly and a 'young soul' quickly, or vice versa.

A. You have to think of life, not in terms of 'I', but of you—not the individual, but the whole. You are not living for your own development, but for the people, for the whole life. Therefore the individual is subordinated to the whole, but at the same time the whole is working for the individual. No man can live to himself: all the principles of life are based

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upon this ideal—that all live for each, and each for all. What the people need, the individual life is planned to contribute. Each life is a contribution to the whole. This the ancients were taught and knew, and therefore they respected the law of brotherhood. There is no other way. There must be brotherhood—without it the wheels will not run smoothly. There must be brotherhood. It is one of the oldest teachings in the world.

### Benediction:

We turn our faces to the Light, to the hidden Light, to the glorious and the glorifying Light, to the blessed Light, to our Father-Mother God. And so we receive the blessing of Life.

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:*

*Ancient civilisations, balance, sacred centres, tolerance, Holy Spirit*

