

Prayer

A243 Sunday Address 14th September 1952 St Mary Abbots Place, London
Reopening Service after summer break

Text: although there is the usual 'draft' copy for this address, the text is this time taken from a top copy from which 'draft' has been dropped: in other words, the approved text.

Context: this is the first service after the summer break, but for once the commencement does not seem to have been on the first Sunday of the month but on the second. The reading is given as the whole of Matthew chapter 6, which is the Sermon on the Mount from 'take heed that ye do not your alms before men' through to 'Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof', 34 verses in all. It made for an unusually long reading. At the end of the address there is a separate communion.

General Notes: White Eagle's opening is particularly inviting to all his congregation, and he explains what the contact with spirit is about. He refers to the presence of the illumined ones in spirit and afterwards refers to them as the Illuminati. There must be no confusion with modern conspiracy theories; these illumined ones are exactly as he describes them, ones who come from spirit 'with love such as you on earth have yet to feel or know'. We move swiftly from these opening remarks to the presence of the Comforter, and then the nature of Solomon's Temple, which White Eagle had spoken of in some depth earlier in the year (the address of 23 March). White Eagle speaks of how by building the solar body we can free ourselves from depression and other ills in this lifetime. He sets his followers to read Mathew 6 quietly, on their own, and thus to receive it as the disciples heard it on the mount. White Eagle most simply commends this as something to deeply affect his followers – in marked contrast to the commentaries of scholars! Finally, White Eagle offers an interpretation of the Lord's Prayer, and talks about the overcoming of fear. At the very end, there is once more a communion (see 'Context', above). There was one after the address on 6 July, and it would seem that it was at this time, in 1952, that the practice of a meditative communion at the end of the address began, with White Eagle himself leading it. It has continued ever since in services of the Mother Lodge.

References: 'Where two or three are gathered together in my name' is Matthew 18 : 20. 'These are they who have come out of great tribulation and whose garments are washed whiter than snow' is White Eagle's very frequent collation of Revelation 7 : 14 and either the Transfiguration story (e.g. Mark 9 : 3) or Psalm 51 : 7. Lilywork, in relation to the building of the Temple, is a phrase from 1 Kings 7 : 19 and 22.

White Eagle's Address:

Beloved children of earth, we greet you from our world of spirit and would have you know that when you meet to worship and to hold communion with God there is always a great company of shining spirits and angels with you.

We usually prefix our talk with these words because we know that it helps you to open your consciousness to the realisation of the presence of the great company of shining ones and of your own friends and loved ones who are with us in this world of spirit.

Did not the great Master, Jesus the Christ, say; 'Where two or three are gathered together in My Name, there will I be in their midst'? And if he gave this assurance then you must know within your heart that it is true that the illumined ones, those who have passed through the earthly life and who now dwell in the world of spirit, come back to any place of worship on your earth. They come because in the world of spirit they have learnt of humanity's need for

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the guidance and the inspiration of the *illuminati*. They come with love such as you on earth have yet to feel or know. But now, in this service of communion, open your hearts, beloved brethren, and receive the inflow of the spiritual power and the light of life.

Although you do not always think so, we assure you that we understand you. We understand the earthly life. We know the doubts and the fears which daily fill your minds. Particularly does your material mind question impressions being made on you from the spirit world – and even if you receive a material manifestation, a touch or a voice. Even then your material mind doubts and wants even greater proof.

This was clear to the Master Jesus. He spoke of it when he asked his disciple, the doubting Thomas, to put his finger in the prints of the nails upon his hands. He knew the doubts passing through his disciple's mind. We know the doubts which pass through the human mind when it is confronted with spiritual truth and with a spirit voice. The earthly mind cries, 'How do I know that this is a spirit speaking? How do I know that there is a spirit world? How do I know that there is a company of shining ones present with us now?' The material mind will not be satisfied. But there is something else within every living soul which the Master Jesus spoke of as the Comforter, the spirit of truth. It is a spiritual thing. A spiritual knowing: you call it faith. Faith we would call an inner spiritual grace, an inner knowledge of God and of eternal life.

If you would be wise, you would turn to that simple inner faith, that voice which through the ages has been called the voice of conscience. But it is more than conscience. It is a living spirit within you. And as you cultivate this living spirit, as you refuse to allow your material mind to reason you out of that inner knowledge, so that faith, that surety, will increase in you and your life will become more complete. It will become happier, healthier and more beautiful. Your life will become as a house built on a rock. It will become a thing of beauty, not only to yourself, but to all men.

Beauty is a quality of God. Great stress was laid upon beauty in the building of Solomon's Temple – the Temple of the Sun – SOL-O-MON, the Sun Temple. The Temple of the Sun is symbolic of the body of light, the solar body which man has to build. Not merely in the spirit world, but whilst he is here in incarnation man is building this solar body, this temple of the sun which he will inhabit when he passes into the world of spirit. For this reason we refer to the vast company of illumined souls who come to you on these occasions. These are they who have come out of great tribulation and whose garments are washed whiter than snow, because they are illumined by the Son life, the Son of God.

Beloved brethren, you sometimes become downcast, overshadowed by the darkness of earth. You feel unhappy and fearful and anxious. Oh, so often you feel thus! But, beloved ones, if you would set yourself the task of developing this inner self, this spiritual self, and build your solar body, the body of Christ or the Son body, you would not have to wait until you passed away from this physical life to inhabit this solar body. You could function in it while still in

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incarnation. And you would bring to your own earthly life a beauty undreamed of by you; a beauty of life which no words of ours can describe. You would feel the inner peace and certainty of God and the mighty power of God's love working through you and through every condition of your earthly life.

You have listened to a reading of the Master, Jesus the Christ, not to the multitude, but to His disciples, some of them initiates, but all sufficiently awakened to follow Him. In the quietness of your own rooms and with an inner understanding, read that 6th chapter of the gospel of St Matthew and you will slowly but surely comprehend the deep occult truth of this chapter. The Master does not tell you to fast and to wear a long face and to parade your religion before men. Oh no, he speaks the whole way through that chapter on the importance of man developing this inner spiritual life, which is beautiful, which is like the lilywork on the Temple of Solomon, the perfecting of the soul, the perfecting of the solar body of man.

This reading tells you to be happy in your daily life, not to be miserable and to parade your religion, but to be natural. If you have this inner light growing and developing within you, it will shine through you, radiating happiness and joy and comfort to your fellow travellers on life's road. It will give to you a beauty of character, a beauty of spirit, which will radiate through all the conditions of your life and make the seemingly ugly conditions appear to be good. Your spirit will know that what is happening around is the result of a spiritual law. God does not inflict suffering upon humanity. The young soul suffers because of his state of undevelopment, and through that suffering he learns the better way of life. He can only learn by experience, which is life's great teacher.

If you will turn to the inner life and quietly through communion and prayer develop this inner power, this spiritual life, you will render a great service to your own community, to the world at large and to those planes of life immediately following this physical plane of life – those lower conditions of spirit life to which the imprisoned souls pass.

Why are they imprisoned? They have imprisoned themselves in matter, in materialism, in cruelty, in unkindness and foolishness. These are the things which imprison the soul, and when the physical life is finished and the soul is projected on to the next plane of life, if the man or woman has allowed himself to be imprisoned in materialism whilst in the physical body, he will certainly find himself imprisoned in the same condition, in the same state of mind, when he passes into that spirit life.

Now, we come to a question which we are aware has been asked by a member of this Lodge; a question of how to pray and the power of prayer. Remember that prayer is an occult power and a very great power. What you pray for earnestly you will receive. Prayer is the putting into operation of a spiritual force. If you want material things, if you want things for yourself; or you want things for a loved one, you pray to God for those particular things. You will have your prayer answered but maybe you will deeply regret having made such a request to the Deity, to the Godhead. Whatsoever you receive has to be paid for and it is paid for both with

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soul substance and sometimes with material possessions. A prayer which is uttered for personal things is a prayer to be very well considered before it is expressed.

The Master Jesus, knowing the occult value of prayer, gave to His disciples a suitable prayer: a prayer which was not selfish but one which was putting the soul into communion with the Divine Life; a prayer which was causing an attunement of the individual soul with the universal soul and with the cosmos. It was a linking-up between the human soul and the Infinite. Jesus knew that in such a state of spirit and mind, the soul would receive light, knowledge, love, power and peace.

‘Our Father’ – an opening of the heart to the Cosmos and to the source of life. ‘Our Father which art in heaven’ – in a state of harmony and perfection. ‘Hallowed by Thy Name’ – Holy, Holy, Holy and powerful is Thy Name. ‘Thy Kingdom come’ – Thy Kingdom of love and beauty and truth and brotherhood come. ‘Thy Will be done on earth.’ ‘*Thy Will*’. It is not God’s Will that there should be suffering and poverty and unkindness to one another, and wars and greed and the suffering of children and the lower strata of life. God’s Will is that His children should live, as they will in due time understand how to live, in a state of harmony and beauty, as in heaven.

‘Thy Will be done on earth as it is in heaven.’ ‘Give us this day our daily bread’ – all that is necessary to our sustenance physically, mentally and spiritually. ‘Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses’ – our debts – ‘as we forgive those who trespass against us.’ The law of karma. You must forgive if you would be forgiven, for that is a cosmic law. ‘Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation.’ Would God lead men into temptation, the question is asked? Lead us, O Father, not into temptation, but lead us onward into greater light and deliver us from all evil. For Thy spirit is within us, shows us the way and, if we follow Thy Spirit, the voice that is within us, we shall not follow the path of darkness. We shall follow the path of light. We shall find Thy Kingdom and Thy Power and Thy Glory.

O beloved children, this prayer simply means that man is being taught how to surrender himself to the Great Good and the All Wise, All Loving God. *Surrender* is the magic word.

Are you fearful? Are you anxious? Then go to your inner sanctuary and humbly surrender in faith. A surrender which is an inner knowing that your Father in heaven knows your need even more than you know it yourself. He knows not only your material need but the need of your soul. He knows your need for knowledge, understanding and wisdom, and he knows that your karma is guiding you and causing you to come up against those conditions to which you object – but which are going to cause your prayer, the Lord’s Prayer, to be answered. For with the outworking of karma you will find release, and you will go forward into that land of light, creating for yourself the glorious solar body of the Son Christ. In this body you will live eternally, going on from strength to strength, from mountain peak to mountain peak and onward in to a more perfect day, into a more perfect life.

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But the beauty of all this may be transmitted while you are still living in a physical body. You will find beauty all around you, because spirit is light and light is the substance which creates beauty. True beauty is the reflection of the light of God, the light of the Son. It is within you. You will then look upon the natural world with quickened vision and see increased beauty; and even scenes which before may have appeared to you to be dark and sinister, when seen with the vision of the spirit, will be beautiful. Beauty depends upon the inner light, upon the spirit of God within you. Beauty is a God quality. Your lives shall be beautiful. Follow the simple way, and fight, if necessary, the mortal mind and the lower nature. Slay this lower nature, even as your Saint, the Saint George of your Land, who killed the dragon. So shall every man and woman on this earth gain freedom and rise in glory and light to be Master and King of life. So may it be.

The Great Lord God, the Spirit, bless you. Bless you and hold you in His embrace of love.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

Before we leave you we would hold silent communion with the great company of illumined ones who are now around you. Visualise this company. Visualise the beautiful form of your Master for He is here with you now. From His hands He is pouring light, the blessing of His spirit. In silence receive the touch of these golden rays into your heart. For His voice, like music, says; 'This is My life, given for you'.

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 contact, belief, certainty, sceptics, illumination, enlightenment, inner voice, light within, power of thought, Lord's Prayer, cause and effect, flowing