

## Imitation of the Christ Life

A305 Sunday Address 6th July 1958 St Mary Abbots Place, London Sunday Service

*Text:* again, two copies of MB's typescript are preserved: a clean blue carbon, and a top copy well marked over with both YGH's amendments and IC's. The top copy has the note, in ink, at the top: 'Used in St. Pol. Aug-Sept 1960, while the carbon has a note on the cover page, 'Very good' – both notes are in YGH's hand. In the third paragraph. 'They could not leave their beloved' would be a more likely comment than 'They could not leave the beloved', and indeed IC corrected the word thus, but we have left what the stenographer gave us.

*Context:* the last live White Eagle address for the summer season in 1958, although the Lodge kept going until 10 August. White Eagle was not listed to speak in June, but GEC herself spoke on the 1<sup>st</sup>. The typescript once again includes Brother Faithful's closing remarks – which were partly intended to help people earth themselves after their very strong pull towards spirit during the address.

*General Notes:* White Eagle begins his talk but is immediately interrupted 'by some of the shining ones' – loved ones of those present, sending their message of love. White Eagle must have had particular persons in mind, because he speaks of couples who had come together in union at the altar in Pembroke Hall, and are now separate. One passing that would recently have occurred was that of Irene Hume, the partner of Eunice Dickson and co-leader of the Bournemouth Lodge, but they would not have come to the altar together. Just eighteen days later, Minesta was to lose her sister Beatrice, the wife of Frank Wharhirst, a brother of the innermost circle, but her passing had not happened yet.

A key, even summary phrase of this address is 'Remember, my children, to live in the spirit and in the consciousness of the Eternal Life'. He speaks of the purpose of life and of how earthly life and its laws appear to those in spirit. There is teaching on karma. White Eagle advocates a simple imitation of the life of Christ as a key to how to live. As in the previous talk (4 May) he advocates simplicity. Jesus, he says, is a familiar figure to those in the spirit world. And the address ends with a communion, wherein the Christ is very much present. The final message is an urge to service.

Brother Faithful's postscript mentions, at the end, the work of Lord Dowding with regard to the abolition of cruelty to animals. Lord and Lady Dowding were personal friends of GEC and IC and it is highly likely that White Eagle's many words about the effect on human souls of their poor attitudes to the animal kingdom inspired the Dowdings' work. The August 1958 issue of *Stella Polaris* includes Hugh Dowding's own report on his speech in the House of Lords in July 1957 and what has transpired since.

*References:* 'souls who have passed through great tribulation' refers to Revelation 7 : 14. White Eagle slightly embroiders the words of the Church of England marriage service, 'Those whom God hath joined together, let no man rent asunder'; they originate in Matthew 19 : 6. 'What I can do, ye shall also do' is a rendering of John 14 : 12. White Eagle mentions having spoken 'a little while back' about healing. This was probably in the Anniversary address on 2 March, when he spoke of healing as one of the gifts of God to humanity. White Eagle says, 'Jesus, the beloved Master, has so simply and clearly given humanity the truth; the science of living'. He may have been referring specifically to the Sermon on the Mount here. Although he often prioritised the teaching in John, the term 'the science of living' seems to refer more to the simple ethical training the Sermon on the Mount offers. White Eagle also addresses the desire people have to 'get beyond personalities'. He addressed the question in similar terms in his address of 5 February 1956. 'I Am the way, the truth and the life' is John 14 : 6. 'Not a sparrow falls to the ground' is Matthew 10 : 29, but it is likely that White Eagle is quoting if from chapter 99 (verse 25) of the Aquarian Gospel, read a few minutes before. He mentions the lily or lilies as well – they too are found in the Aquarian Gospel reading, two verses later.

White Eagle's Address:

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Beloved earthly brethren, we speak from the world of spirit. We speak for a vast company of shining spirits whom you may call the White Brotherhood; those souls who have passed through great tribulation and who are now free from the bondage of the dark earth planet.

There are many brilliant minds on your earth. They may be here. You may be one of those brilliant minds. You may comprehend deep natural mysteries. You may have an exceedingly brilliant scientific brain, but you find, at the present time, it is impossible to understand the simplest truth of man's being.

Before we proceed with our talk we are interrupted by some of the shining ones, your own dear ones, your loved ones who have left the physical body and who are now living in a greater freedom and a service to God. They wish me to send their love to a number of you in this Service who are very close to anniversaries, birthday or wedding anniversaries. We do not need to mention personalities. You will know. All we have to do is to convey love and blessing. There are some of you in this congregation tonight who have stood before this Altar waiting for the blessing of God and the great company of Heaven on your marriage. Some of you have lost your earthly partner; others are blessed by a continued partnership. To the first, who have lost their earthly companions, we would say you may have lost or exchanged the physical companionship for spiritual guidance and help. Do not think your loved ones have departed. They could not leave the beloved. Remember the words of Jesus the Christ, 'Those whom God hath joined together, no one, not even death, can put them asunder'.

Remember, my children, to live in the spirit and in the consciousness of the Eternal Life. To those of you who are young and those not so young according to this present incarnation, we would say of this treasure, the love which is in your heart and in your life, treasure it. Let it be your inspiration, aye, and your healer. We shall say something about healing a little later on. We just pass through to you as dear human personalities, the understanding love of those who now live in spirit.

You all have companions, guardian angels, whoever you are, in this Service. We remind you of the shining ones who are as close as you will allow them to come. We, in spirit, must be received by you in your spiritual awareness or consciousness.

You know, most of you in this Service know the purpose of life. First of all it is that life may evolve to self-consciousness. Then, by effort, by striving upward towards truth and beauty and love, guided by love, inspired by these attributes of the Christ-hood, the soul eventually becomes conscious not only of itself and its highest self, but of God, its Creator. But this development and the evolution of the soul of man can only come about by effort, the individual soul effort in the common and simple things of life. You know you cannot acquire knowledge without effort, without a desire to know the answer to many problems. You must work hard. You must make effort, even as the seed planted in the earth grows by effort, but it seems so effortless.

You are now observing the miracles of nature; the blossoming and the fruiting of the seed. You understand with your physical brain that when the seed is planted it will grow. It does not seem to you to be a miracle because apparently the plant is following natural law; therefore it

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is not within the compass of what is usually called a miracle. It is demonstrating to you a truth; the truth of growth from the seed to perfection of natural law.

Now, we who speak to you from spirit do so with a certain amount of authority, because we have seen a demonstration of spiritual law. As you see demonstrations of natural law on your physical plane, we see the law, the divine law, working in human life.

Beloved brethren of earth, with us, as we have already told you, is a heavenly company, who bring to you an atmosphere, the sweetness and purity of heavenly life. We would ask you to make an effort to respond to their presence, to the help which they are bringing to you – a help which will enable you to get a clearer vision, a clearer understanding of this evolving spiritual life of man. Life is governed by law, natural law – the physical body – divine law or heavenly law which is governing the spiritual evolution of the soul and the spirit.

Beloved ones, there is great eagerness amongst many people on your earth today to understand the invisible life, to probe the phenomena of spirit life beyond the grave. Many people who are searching for deeper knowledge of the soul's make up, the various levels of consciousness [and] what happens to man when he is unconscious – away somewhere, but few people know where. The mysteries of the soul are being sought so that they can be understood and used on your physical earth. So many occult schools are working today for this unfoldment of knowledge – and not only of knowledge [but of] of powers, inner powers, which some people think are dangerous. All power is dangerous until the individual who has power has learnt how to use it wisely. Remember this.

And so the soul, from the moment it became self-conscious – conscious of itself as a soul – has been subject to divine or spiritual laws. The[re are] two of these laws which, when understood by mankind, will help him very much in living his life wisely and tolerably happily: we refer to the law of reincarnation, which many still dispute, but you might as well tell the tide not to come in; and the law of karma, cause and effect.

The law of karma is so plain, even in your present life; so clearly demonstrated to man that if he breaks its laws, simple laws of life either natural, religious or divine, whichever word you like to use, he suffers. You cannot get away from it. It is as plain as, what do you say, as the nose on your face: perfectly plain.

These two laws govern human development. And so we say to you, when you come into a difficult state of life, into an inexplicable condition – either an emotional storm or a physical affliction – pause, and say to yourself: 'What is the lesson that I have to learn?' For karma is not only the paying-off of debts. Karma is also an opportunity for the soul to gain the knowledge which it is seeking. It does not realise what is happening to it. But these divine laws which govern man's life are very wise, and when man can accept this divine ruling, when he can accept it with a humble spirit recognising that the Creator is a Loving Being, or Divine Intelligence, not only ruling His Universe but is also causing that seed which He has planted within the soul of man to grow, to grow into a beautiful being [*sic*]. Whilst this law is operating in the Universe through all physical matter, it is also operating in the soul of man. Therefore, you can all trust that wonderful power which has demonstrated to you in so many

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forms on your physical plane its wonder, its grandeur and its beauty. It is demonstrated to you through physical personalities what it is doing to man.

The beloved Jesus spoke so simply, but very plainly, when he said, 'What I can do, ye shall also do'. The demonstration of this spiritual law at work in mankind has been given to humanity all down the ages. For there have been – and still are – those peaks of the human race that have evolved from the unconscious through the conscious, the higher consciousness to the God or Christ consciousness.

We spoke a little while back about the power of healing, and also about the search for knowledge of the occult. When we use the word 'occult', we mean knowledge of the inner planes of life, invisible planes, worlds invisible to mortal sight.

Now there are many teachers on your earth today – so many who have a little knowledge – and we see humanity as a great army moving forward, surging forward; falling down [and] hurting themselves, suffering the pangs of ignorance and pain, physical pain, mental pain. And all this ill-health comes from the soul.

Now we know that at the present time there are also wise, good, selfless people who are giving their lives either as doctors or nurses or healers to help mankind. The physical result of the broken spiritual law is visible in the physical body, but it does not commence in the physical body. It is deep in the soul, and it may have been brought over from a past incarnation. It may be the result of ignorance and making mistakes whilst in the present life. But in the future, we say without equivocation, when mankind understands the spiritual law governing life, man will understand the cause of pain and suffering; and when it arises will be able to treat it, not only with outward or physical application but by spiritual application. The soul of man needs healing. And when the soul is healed, the man's selection of the right things to think and do and eat will be engrained in him so that he will react spontaneously to God, to good, to purity and love.

Jesus, the beloved Master, has so simply and clearly given humanity the truth, the science of living.

Now those of you who desire to become servers of the human race cannot do better than to study the words of Jesus the Christ. Not only do His words apply to the simple actions of everyday activities but, if put into practice, will produce in man the required qualifications which will enable him to use the powers which God has bestowed upon him [*such as*] the occult power – it is not a very good word – but the spiritual power which is all within man's soul.

First of all you must look towards the beloved figure of the Christ. 'A personality!' people say. 'We want to get beyond personality.' But, children of earth, the Creator manifests through the human personality. Jesus the Christ, in all His sweetness, his vision, his gentleness, his love, was a demonstration of the spiritual life. And demonstrating the spiritual life, the multitude flocked to him; not so much because of His eloquence but because there issued from him this invisible power, this healing power; the power which healed bodies and souls, and the power which commanded the storm to cease and which commanded the

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sleeping ones or the dead to waken. Remember Jesus' life was one of complete simplicity. His was the demonstration of this divine life shining through him, inspiring all his speech and action. This is a demonstration to everyone upon your earth. The way! 'I Am the way, the truth and the life.' It is as simple as that. It is not the, necessarily, organised religious bodies that man must follow. It is the becoming the Light of Christ.

Now Jesus has given you, in his teachings, the way: Truth, sincerity, tolerance, love, gentleness, patience, meekness, simplicity – all the qualities of the Christ soul. And you see, dear ones, that in that life comes to man the answer to all his problems. There comes to him the comfort, the sustenance that he needs. Did He not say, 'Not a sparrow falls to the ground but my Father in Heaven knows it'? Even the lily, in that beautiful reading which we were listening to tonight, the lily clothed in all its beauty, holds out its hand in faith and confidence to its Creator. It nestles upon the heart of the Father. Very simple, but if you are big in soul you will be simple and follow the simple path of the Master – of love.

And now, before we leave you, we would like to answer a question which comes from a number of souls. Do we, in spirit, ever see the Master, Jesus Christ? Can you, whilst you are in a physical body, ever see the beloved Master or His disciples? The first answer is; Yes. Thanks be to God. We do see Him in all his heavenly radiance. And we also see Him clothed in simple garments which enable Him to go amongst the poor and the suffering, not necessarily, not only, the material poor, but the poor in spirit. We have been allowed to see His ministry to the souls on earth who cry out in anguish to Him. Oh yes, your physical mind asks, 'How can He be in a million places at once?' Spirit is limitless. It can be in millions, indeed it is in millions of places at the same time. And we want to give you that picture of his coming to a weary soul, the anguished soul, the suffering body. He comes with healing touch.

Many questions will arise in your mind, but all you have to do is to accept the spiritual life and your questions will be answered. And live the life and you will be raised from darkness and ignorance to light and light supernal.

And now, close your outer senses, dear brethren. Use your own soul imagination, vision, and see the form of the beloved Master. We tell you He comes in power, in light and so simply. He brings to you the symbols of the sacrament, the spiritual Bread, the heavenly Bread and the Wine; the divine Essence of His love. In humility of spirit and in silence, individually receive from Him in His spirit form the Bread and the Wine: now, in the silence.

[*silence*]

This Service is filled with the power of the spirit of love. Receive as children the heavenly sustenance and know that all is well. Your Father in Heaven knows your heart, knows your sincerity, knows your aspiration. All is well.

Be ye servers of the human race. However small your capacity, serve your brother man as God wills.

All love, all love, all love to you. And remember the power which is given to you to raise all men to the Light of Christ.

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Amen.

## Brother Faithful:

It is not only the apostolic and the mystic today who are searching for spiritual truths, but also the material scientist, the physiologist, the physicalist and astronomer who, in his investigations of what he thought was natural law finds, or begins to find, that there is a spiritual law of spiritual reality underlying everything in this Universe. So whilst there are many powers of destruction abroad in the world today we are nearing an era of man's quickening by reason of his soul knowledge of himself and of his God. In our reading and also in the address there was a reference to the flowers and to the sparrow. I should perhaps mention that Lord Dowding is opening a campaign for the abolition of cruelty to animals.

*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:*

*science, technology, loss, bereavement, path of the soul, spiritual path, path of service, spiritual development, spiritual unfoldment, ancient laws, metaphysical law, psychic studies, esoteric studies, esoteric laws, medicine, messiah*