

## Ancient Festivals and Truths

T227 The Inner Teachings 6th October 1953 St Mary Abbot's Place, London

### Invocation:

We pray in spirit and in truth to the Source of all life—to the Father-Mother God and to the Eternal Light, the Son of God. We pray to be receptive to the glory of truth, the glory of the spiritual life. We pray that there may be a special outpouring of Thy Love upon Thy children here, who wait for knowledge and understanding of the true life—Thy life—Thy wisdom—Thy power and Thy love. In Thy Holy Name, we call to the Great Ones in the Star Circle: May they hear the cry of the human heart and respond to our prayer.

Amen.

We bring loving greetings to all, and a message of hope. This is what you all need; you need constant reassurance concerning the way which lies before you. We know also how dark is the earth and how easily you become enveloped in its mists and shadows. The only way to progress on the spiritual path is by continual effort to put aside mammon and materialism, and daily to lift up your hearts as children to God—to the Eternal Spirit, to the Eternal Light. Then you cannot help but feel the love, the peace and the certainty of that life of the Spirit.

Your present age has brought a growth of the mental body, which in turn has meant discovery of the secrets of nature. This is making man's physical life easier, but [can] also [be] a barrier to spiritual understanding. Of this you must be constantly reminding yourselves, since bodily ease and comfort tend to dominate the spirit of man.\* Therefore it becomes necessary continually to remind yourselves that the real life is spirit. Only by this can you move onward and upward towards ever greater understanding and realisation of the wonder and beauty of the Creator's plan.

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

During this week you are feeling an uprising of thankfulness, for you are celebrating the Harvest Festival. We spoke on this subject last Sunday, but now we would tell you that four times in the year—at Christmas on the winter solstice, at the summer solstice and also at the vernal equinox and the autumn equinox there is a greater outpouring of the Sun or of the spiritual sunlight. These four festivals are still celebrated in the religious ceremonies of today. This means and explains man's thankfulness at Christmas, or his joy with the coming of the spring—you know how you all feel thrilled with the springtime. Then, when the sun is at its zenith, which is the summer solstice, again you feel a stimulation and you are filled with joy by the flowers and the ripening fruits of the earth. Then comes the autumn equinox, the gathering-in of the harvest, which again gives cause for deep gratitude. In spite of materialism, humanity will always respond on these occasions, and rightly, for such festivals still celebrated in your Christian churches, are as ancient as the world itself.

Teachings similar to those of Jesus the Christ were given all down the ages. Vestiges remain of the ancient teachings of Osiris, which originated in the sun temples of Atlantis. Much the same teaching originated the building of the Pyramid; there you have the perfect symbol of the one true life of, shall we call it, the universal Christian life? You will find identical teachings in the Vedic religion, in the Egyptian, in the Greek and in the early Christian. What

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then is the basis of this world religion? Like the Pyramid it is built on the square, which means truth, with a base that is firm and solid. The ancient masons were taught to build thus, or in other words to signify by the quality of workmanship their brotherhood of life. They were taught, as you are being taught today, that man cannot injure his brother man without eventually injuring himself, and indeed the whole structure of spiritual life. Jesus came with the same message: 'Thou shalt love the Lord Thy God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind; and thy neighbour, thy brother, as thyself.' Upon these two laws—upon these two things—hang all the law and the prophets. So simple a law this, and yet in modern life so largely disregarded.

If man will only make his effort to cast out darkness, depression and the habit of destruction, that is thinking destructive thoughts, saying destructive words, and turn to constructive words, loving thoughts and loving deeds, he will be making good progress on his path. We know that this is the basis of everything real and lasting. Jesus the Christ in his teaching and in life itself gave the example of how man should live. He passed through three temptations. In each temptation is to be seen the overcoming of the lower nature, the refusal to make use of his spiritual power for his own aggrandisement. The three were the temptation of the body, the temptation of the mind and the temptation of the spirit. He overcame all three, thus showing that this is what man also has to do. Then at last man becomes free.

Much the same teaching was given by the Lord Gautama the Buddha, when showing people the way to free themselves from the wheel of rebirth. He also taught that man is responsible for all his actions.

Every action brings its due reward, brings its due result. An action is like a seed sown in the earth (in the physical life) and the harvest of that action has to be reaped. The world as a whole is only too conscious today of the karmic debt which is being paid as a result of wrong action, of cruel action, of the result of hate of one man to another, of one country to another. Man cannot sow tares and reap wheat. This is what all the great ones who came to this earth from the Circle of the Star came to teach. Continually these messages are coming through. We messengers of lesser degree are directed to bring the same truth. We can only voice them in a less powerful and less beautiful degree than the great ones have done in the past. Also you still have the records which these saints of God have left behind for man to see. Among the greatest of all symbols of the past is the great pyramid of Giza, which symbolises the whole life of man, which should be a pillar of brotherhood based on the square, so plain for all to see that all should recognise that the human family as a whole is under the loving care and plan of the Father-Mother God. Each side of the pyramid is a triangle, reminding man that his aspirations must go upward to the apex. The sun shines upon all four sides of the pillar, all four triangles. By the four is meant the great outpouring of the spiritual sun during all four seasons of the year. The spiritual sun enables man to receive that spiritual help and stimulation without which he must fail to reach his goal. Do not think that the Christian religion commenced with the coming of the Master Jesus. A like religion has always been presented to man in different guises and under different symbols, according to the age of humanity, and as men advance in spiritual evolution they will receive even finer and more

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beautiful truth. Indeed this is so already, for the highest symbol that has yet been revealed is that of the six-pointed Star, a symbol of a holy and perfect life.

Now and again one of the great temples of the past is excavated. People being ignorant of the spiritual life of man are unable to interpret the symbols and markings on the ancient stones found therein because the intellect of man can never decipher such markings. Only when he has a knowledge of esoteric symbolism and the esoteric or true Christian life, will he be able to understand. Such stones can be found in your own country and in Brittany, in Scotland and in the islands around Scotland, in Europe, in India, in Egypt, in ancient America, in the Andes and in the Gobi desert. The finder shakes his head and cannot explain them. He cannot even discover the builders of the stone circles. Not very far from here is Stonehenge, which is known to be a sun-circle built by sun-worshippers. At least, so say the astronomers. They see in Stonehenge a connection with the heavens, with the planets, but beyond that they know nothing, but when your man of vision, of practised occultism, visits this sun temple his eyes are opened and he sees great angels come close, drawn back to the scene of former ceremonies. Whenever a great ceremony has been performed anywhere in a church or on a hill-top, it leaves an impression on the surrounding ether which never fades. The ceremony which once was performed can be again celebrated in the etheric world. All comes to life again. A man with clear vision, or clairvoyance, who understands the symbols, who has made a study of true esoteric Christianity, recognises this. He watches the ceremony. He sees the rays of the heavenly light directed upon the altar, the sacred stone. In the case of Stonehenge it is the Rose Stone. He sees the mystery of the Holy Trinity. He sees how life began with the Father, the active principle of life, and with the Mother, the receptive principle; the Mother receiving the life-seed and by her faith bringing forth the Son. In esoteric language she brings forth the Christ-child and the little form is laid upon the rose of love. The angels of the planets and of the heavenly spheres gather round, and sing the Gloria to the Babe that is born of God.

This is but one part of the secret or sacred religion of the past, the lore of those whom you are learning to call the Illuminati. They are the true Rosicrucians. They are the sun-children. All over the world man will someday find traces of these ancient Rosicrucians, who are the sons and daughters of the Star Circle. They are referred to in the Bible under the Order of Melchizedec; in other words the Order of the Son of God, the Order of the Christ Circle, or the Star Circle.

These Great Beings still remain with this planet, watching over it until every living soul is safe again with the Father. This is a very sacred and serious truth. In this truth we see the foundation of the example of true brotherhood, because these illumined souls so love men that they will not leave this dark earth until every soul has been raised up; until every soul realises its sonship with God. From this Star Circle, the Order of Melchizedec, the rays of light pour down upon the earth. There is no hurry. They continue their watchfulness as the sun rises in the east and sinks in the west day by day; as the seasons come and go and as the years pass, the faithful watchers of that Great Circle continue their service to man.

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We once said in this Lodge there is nothing too beautiful to believe. Believe in everything that is beautiful, because it is true. God is beauty, God is love, God is truth. Remember that there are many facets in a jewel and whilst one man may travel along the blue ray, another along the yellow ray and another along the green ray and so on, all are travelling and all will meet at the apex of the pyramid—where shines the true light of God.

We see everywhere signs of the coming of the light in greater degree to humanity. We see this in the stimulation of the Mother-aspect, or the feminine aspect of life. You may not always agree with what women are doing. Nevertheless women have the vision, and are beginning to take their proper place in order to bring about a more perfect balance in the world. For there comes a time when the soul has to learn and understand the law of equilibrium. Until man and woman live in perfect partnership, each playing their part in the evolution of the race, there cannot be real progress. With the coming of this feminine aspect and the balancing of life there will be great progress on your earth. There must be equality, spiritual equality, mental equality; there must be mutual respect and true partnership between man and woman. This state of affairs will mitigate many of the ills which still exist. The uprisings in the world, although they bring much pain and suffering, are necessary to arouse man's understanding to the spiritual law of brotherhood. All are not ready yet, but all are moving towards brotherhood. With the process of evolution there is bound to be sorrow, pain and suffering because man has sown seeds that lead to pain and suffering. So also with your physical bodies; you continually sow seeds of future ill-health and then you cannot understand why your body suffers and [you] cry out, 'Why does God permit this suffering?' God does not permit suffering. God yearns over His children, and prays that they will not bring suffering upon themselves, but they must learn to bow to the spiritual law. They must learn to rise above the limitations of body and mind, to dwell in the life of the Son of God, the Perfect One. Christ demonstrated all this. He demonstrated by His life, His crucifixion and His ascension that the one and only life for man is the life of the spirit—the loving of the Great White Spirit instead of loving mammon and materialism. This does not mean that man is not meant to possess beautiful things and sufficient of all that he needs, but however blessed is man he must first of all love the Lord God with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his mind and his neighbour as himself. If his brother starves he must share his goods; he must love his brother and he must help his brother.

When the souls of men pass away from the earth they go through a period of purification and then through the halls of learning and wisdom; then they enter the Great White\* Army which serves humanity. There they work, doing much the same work as the Great Ones, but in very simple degree. The same pure light shines through them until the time comes when love in their heart grows so strong that they say: 'I must go to my brother man. I must return and live on that dark earth that I may help.' This is what you have all done previously. You have come back. Your one object is to learn how to love your God better and how to love and serve your brother man. Never miss this opportunity.

*[\* 'White' refers to light-filled, not colour.]*

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God is merciful. These truths are told to you so that you may know what to do, how to live, how to serve and how to climb to the heavens and win freedom—all freedom.

Be still and lift up your hearts as children in simplicity; look up to the Order of the Star Circle. See for yourselves the glory of the Life, of the love of your Heavenly Father. Take heart, have courage; commence again from this very moment to do all good and to love with all your heart and to be thankful for every blessing of your daily lives.

May the Lord be with you all your days and in all your ways.

### Benediction:

O Great Spirit, Father-Mother of all living creatures, Creator of life, Creator of worlds, show Thy children the way to truth and the life! Humbly we pray to be guided and to recognise Thy love, Thy will and Thy strength. Holy Angels, bless thy faltering children; touch their hearts, their hands and their lips that they may love, that they may serve and that they may speak truth, kindness and beauty.

May the Holy Breath be upon this small gathering. God, we thank Thee.

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:*

*Balance, trust, history, far-memories, far-memory, psychic impressions, akashic, feminine*