

## ‘What I do, ye shall do also’

A331 Sunday Address 3rd July 1960 St Mary Abbots Place, London Sunday Service

*Text:* a blue top copy of an MB typescript. It bears the note, in YGH’s hand, ‘Used in April May SP also a tape made’. In fact, the April/May issue in question was that of 1964, when it was given the title ‘The Bells of Heaven’. The only later edits in the copy are a pencil deletion of two paragraphs and the fact that just over three pages at the very end of the script have been cut off with scissors. The printed address offers a continuation of a full page-and-a-half of printed teaching and this is incorporated here, despite this section being an edited version and the rest of the address not. The restored material begins with the paragraph, ‘The masters teach...’ and goes through to the communion at the end.

The typist herself noted her inability to hear a word early in the fifth paragraph; the words in square brackets here, ‘other worlds’ are purely conjectural. A typist’s correction inserts the word ‘to’ after the word ‘affirmation’ in the middle paragraph of Brother Faithful’s words; possibly the meaning is better without it.

The record that a tape was made is interesting; although White Eagle had been recorded, and a gramophone record made of his voice, even before the 1950s, the regular tape recording of his addresses began later, and this may be the first or a very early one of the series.

*Context:* the typescript gives the reading as Aquarian Gospel 176 : 1-31. This tells the story of an appearance by Jesus at Orissa, in India, and another to Magian priests in Persepolis after the Resurrection – whom Jesus addresses as ‘My brothers of the Silent Brotherhood’. The anthem is given as ‘By cool Siloam’s shady rill’. This is properly a hymn, with words by Reginald Heber dating from 1812, sung to the tune Belmont (by William Gardiner, same date). According to Brother Faithful’s words at the end, the hymn sung then was ‘For all the Saints’ (by Bishop William Walsham How, 1864). There seems to have been no communion (see ‘Text’ for a possible cut, but not a long enough one to have removed a whole communion).

*General Notes:* all the opening part of this address leads to the distinction between the simple Spiritualist claim, ‘There is no death’, and the words of Jesus, here given as ‘What I do you shall do’. White Eagle goes on to describe a spiritual awakening within humanity at the time of his speaking. Following the words of the Aquarian Gospel White Eagle refers not to the closeness of the White Brotherhood, as elsewhere, but of the Silent Brotherhood. This phrase is not unique to the present teaching (he used it several times around the date of this address), but less usual than ‘the White Brotherhood’. He speaks of the difference between the immediate world after death and the world inhabited by the silent brethren, and thus gives a wonderful extended definition of clairvoyance and clairaudience. When he speaks of masters who have gone back and forth between a physical body and a non-physical one, Paramahansa Yogananda’s *Autobiography of a Yogi* is probably the easiest source to turn to for examples. At the end of this address White Eagle speaks of an enormous spiritual outpouring upon the earth.

*References:* ‘What I shall do, ye shall do also’, which occurs at the beginning, is a short rendering of John 14 : 12; but unless that was read also, White Eagle is looking back to verse 30 of the chapter from the Aquarian Gospel that was read: ‘What I have done, all men will do; and what I am, all men will be’. ‘Touch me not, for I am not yet ascended to my Father’ is John 20 : 17. ‘Doing unto others as you would be done unto’, the Golden Rule, occurs in one form or another in almost all religions. ‘Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard’ is 1 Corinthians 2 : 9. ‘From the unreal lead to the real’ a phrase much loved by the Theosophists, is the first of the Pavamana Mantras; its ultimate source is the Brhadaranyaka Upanishad.

White Eagle’s Address:

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Beloved children of earth, we would take for our subject tonight those words which you heard in the reading: the words which Jesus spoke to mankind: ‘What I do, ye shall do also’; ‘what I am, you shall be’.

Now few people, comparatively few people on earth, give thought to these wonderful words of the Master Jesus. ‘What I do, ye shall do; what I am, you will be.’ You have the story of the life of Jesus in your Christian Bible. The story of His birth, the visitation of the Magi to Him with their gifts; the miracles which He performed, and the parables He gave to the multitude; and finally His seizure by the world – the worldly minded, the materialists – His crucifixion; and then His resurrection from apparent death, and finally His ascension. But how few people take the trouble to consider it, to search for the truth in it. There you have the most beautiful story of the life of the Son of God.

Now, many people think that Jesus alone is the Son of God. They do not yet understand that everyone born is the Son of God; that man is created in God’s own image, and he is endowed with Godlike qualities. And that when these qualities are quickened, brought to life and unfolded, man becomes master: master, first of all master of himself, of his emotions, of his body, his emotions, his thoughts: master of his conditions, in other words master of matter, master of life. Many, many of you think that this attainment is so far in the distance, if ever it comes, that it is not worth commencing now upon this path of conscious development of the supreme superb Godlike qualities and powers. Do not be so discouraged, but remember that the tiny seed, the tiniest seed, which is hardly visible, will grow into the most beautiful and perfect flower. Let us take for an illustration the lily, the lily which grows with its roots in the dark damp earth. And it grows silently from the darkness, but it grows and grows into the plant and the bud appears; and when the sun shines upon it the lily opens its petals. And oh, what a beautiful sight, what a beautiful decoration in your garden, or maybe on your lily pool! Now, the lily is a most beautiful flower. And it is a symbol of the spiritual life or the spirit in man, the unfolding spirit in man.

Now, our brethren in the East teach, and have taught through many centuries, that the lotus flower is the symbol of unfolding spiritual qualities and powers. And one of the favourite places which the Master will draw His disciple to in those higher planes of life is a quiet spot – a silent garden – wherein is a lily pool. And on the surface of the water the disciple sees the beautiful lotus or lily blossom. And in this place the disciples and the Masters gather, and silently they worship and draw closer to the heart of life. How many dear brethren on the earth plane could consider trying to find such a place on a higher plane of life? Because to the masses of embodied souls there is no other place but the material world – and [at] this level of life that is on the material plane of life men suffer – they make themselves suffer. They are caught up in the violence of evil passions. They seek for personal possession, whatever those possessions may be; and they give no thought at all to any other condition of life beyond that level of dark, dark materialism. And oh, these poor young souls continue to suffer in their own-made hell. They think they can escape to sensational enjoyment, because in every man and woman there is an inner awareness of happiness or – shall we say? – an inner desire for happiness. Do you, can you, believe us when we tell you that beyond this physical life of yours there are planes, spheres of life of indescribable beauty and happiness? And in time all men will attain that degree of spiritual life, spiritual development in which he will be able to enjoy these glories?

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Now, there are many people who will say we have got a mess down here on earth to get on with, we can't be bothered with any [other worlds] which we cannot see. But you see, dear ones, everything depends upon the man's life on the physical plane, because it is on the physical plane that man learns to develop those finer qualities of spiritual life which give him the power whilst he is still in the physical body to overcome death. One of the most striking realisations of the soul when it escapes momentarily, perhaps during meditation, perhaps in the condition of quietude and peace when he is unaware of any spiritual happening, he suddenly receives a flash of cosmic consciousness; and all he knows at that moment is *there is no death*. Now, there are many people who will tell you that there is no death. And there are many people on the earth plane, particularly those who are Spiritualists, who will tell you that they know there is no death because they have had a message from a loved one who has passed away, or who has died. But that is only an infinitesimal part of the truth. Jesus said: ‘What I do, you shall do’. Now, what did He do? He not only had that miraculous power of healing. He could also raise dead bodies back to life, and there is no psychological teaching which can explain exactly how that is done. And He was able to give the most profound and beautiful truth to humanity by His parables. He would not save Himself from crucifixion, although He had the power to do so because He had a work to do. And His work was to demonstrate to mankind that man cannot be killed by slaughter, by crucifixion, by murder. Man cannot be killed. And Jesus demonstrated this, and more. And you all – most of you – in this congregation can stand up and testify that you know that you have received communication with spirits who have passed on. But you cannot testify that you have seen the arisen body of the one who has passed on. Yet Jesus said: ‘What I do, ye shall do also’. Now, what does this mean? We will tell you.

In man lies the potentiality to develop powers which will enable him to leave his body at will and in full consciousness travel into the higher spheres of life. And this becomes so normal and so natural to the one whom you may call Master, or a disciple of a Master, that when the time comes that his physical body has served its purpose, and is no longer in use, he sheds the body, walks out of that body, and he just goes on into the world that he is quite accustomed to visiting. He is able to move freely in what is described as the spirit world. He does not know death. Death does not exist for him. But Jesus went a step beyond this, journeying to and fro free of his physical body. He was able to so change the atoms of the physical body by the spiritual power, or the power of God which he had been taught and had been trained to use, that his body was transmuted, was translated from the dense flesh of the physical plane. Do you remember His words: ‘Touch me not, for I have not yet risen unto My Father’?

Can your Church explain these things to you? No! But those evolved, advanced souls, not only of this earth plane but on other planets, who have achieved this degree of mastership, they are, the same as Jesus, able to change the form of the physical atom. We do not want to take you too far away from the physical plane. Keep your feet on the earth, my dear brethren, because you have to live on the physical earth. But do not let it be the one and only form of life that you know.

Now, there are many, many people on earth who deny a life beyond death. They deny an invisible spiritual power which can heal. They deny any form of spiritual life in the form of invisible life. They only believe, and are dogmatic about it, particularly certain scientists, that

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there is only the one life and only physical matter which man has to investigate and develop along certain lines which science thinks is the only way for man's progress to take.

Now, it is very interesting, you will agree, that side by side with this material development of the physical science and the physical atom there comes a spiritual awakening. Now it is far greater than any one individual or any group of individuals on earth at the present time can possibly know. But those who are away from the physical life, and who have a little broader and deeper vision, they can tell you that there is quite a large spiritual awakening in humanity.

Now, we may have told you this on other occasions, but it will bear repeating. There is now a considerable stimulation in the human consciousness – in the mass human consciousness – a stimulation of the spiritual life which is within man. Now, you will see this in many ways. Nothing can stop this tide which is now approaching the earth plane, this tide of spiritual power which is coming in, coming in, coming in, for mankind is now rising, developing, evolving spiritually; and has reached a time when mankind as a whole will no longer be able to deny a spirit life, a spiritual power. He will no longer be able to claim that there is only a material plane of existence, because with the incoming tide of this stimulation which is going on in human consciousness there will come inspiration and guidance from the silent Brotherhood. We do not say where the silent Brotherhood is, but it is very close to you. It is very much in touch with human need. We assure you that although humanity must have its ups and downs, this spiritual evolution is proceeding according to the Plan of the Great Ones in the world of life and glory – the heaven world – if you like. But don't confuse the plane immediately after death with those spheres of light and glory, which are quite a long way, at present, beyond the imagination – even the imagination or the understanding of man.

Now, let us go back again, dear ones, to assure you that within you and within every living human being there lies the potential power to unfold, to develop the power of inner vision, clairvoyance, clairaudience – not the clairvoyance which only sees a very limited picture, [but] the clairvoyance which can penetrate these spheres beyond, far beyond this physical plane – true clairvoyance, clear vision of life, clear vision of humanity, clear vision of the soul of humanity, clear vision of those worlds and states beyond death. And the hearing, the clairaudience, the clear hearing not merely of names and words of immediately passed-on friends; but the clairaudience which can hear the bells of Heaven, which can hear the lifestream. You know – those of you who meditate, and those who have done a certain amount of studying of Eastern philosophy – you will be quite familiar with the idea of that audible lifestream, that Source of all life. In other words, the pulsation of God, the continual flow of the Almighty music, the music of the Spheres, the harmony of the Spheres. These are the things which are to be heard when the soul has developed clairaudience, clear hearing.

You see, my children, there is something so beautiful before you. You will not always be cramped and bound to a life which is so hard, with all its perplexities and its suffering. Oh no! When you can enter into that supreme consciousness of God life, of God's spheres of life, you will break away from all the limitations of the physical plane. And this is what the beloved Master Jesus came to demonstrate. But He did not try to escape pain or suffering for Himself if, through suffering, He was able to help his fellow beings.

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*[restored text begins: see headnote]*

The masters teach that if you have to face some ordeal which your karma has placed before you, or if you have limitations to endure, never try to run away, but grasp your nettle boldly. Face up to such problems and difficulties in a spirit of complete faith in God’s love, in complete surrender to God’s will. Pray for His power, love and wisdom to help you on your path, or to help you deal with any situation which seems too hard.

Can you at your present stage of development even begin to find these wonderful things about which we tell? Yes, you can start immediately; he who would tread the probationary path which leads to God must begin very simply. Jesus told us all how to live: to ‘love one another’. Oh yes, at this we can register your thoughts. You are thinking, ‘How can we ever learn to love so-and-so? Or, ‘How can we ever love people who seem so naturally antagonistic to us?’ But peace, my children. Peace. Be still. Be at peace first of all in your own hearts, for this is the one way ever to establish peace, goodwill and brotherhood on your earth. Be patient; these things are coming.

First of all, just examine your daily habits of thought, especially any antagonistic or critical thoughts, and even spoken criticism, which can destroy the beautiful lily which has just commenced to grow in your heart – or in your brother’s heart. He who would become a disciple or even a lesser master must start *on himself*, with love in his heart. The first and most important act for the soul is to refrain from intolerance – and from believing the worst. You can’t do any harm by reversing the process – by believing in the best in a man and encouraging that best to come forth. Learn to live in an upright and honourable way yourself, ‘doing unto others as you would be done unto’. Before all things love God, your Creator, and give thanks for your creation. Give thanks for the little light which is already burning within your soul and in the souls of your companions. Be thankful and keep on keeping on.

Persevere, persevere, persevere on the spiritual path. Refuse to close your eyes to the reality of the unseen life, which is far, far more important than the material life which dominates man. Look beyond, beyond, my children, to that state of life which is perfect – perfectly beautiful – perfect in every detail. ‘Eye has not seen, nor ears heard the glory which the Lord thy God has prepared for you.’

Never fear death; substitute something better. Develop the power to go for a walk in higher realms! See for yourself their glory. No, I am not talking nonsense. The man who says there is nothing but physical matter is the one who is merely talking nonsense, not he who describes the invisible worlds.

So, we bless you. We leave you with this thought: do your best to uphold the truth of the invisible life and of the power which flows from that life to assist humanity. Be true to the light in your soul, which leads man from the unreal to the real country, to the eternal life.

Never, *never*, fear death. You personally will not know death. You will just awaken after sleep. Then when you look back you will say: ‘How foolish I was never to have taken advantage of all these things. How foolish I was to make myself miserable.’ Fears! Cast them from you, my children! Place your hand in the hand of your Master, and know that *all is well*.

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The Master, Jesus the Christ, is here in your midst. Pray with all your heart and soul and mind that you may know that this is truth. For he places before you the symbols of the heavenly bread and the heavenly wine. Take this communion. Accept what he brings to you. Whenever you are in doubt or fear, think this – that all is well. Receive into your soul strength, divine fire, and the eternal love which is humanity’s salvation.

### Brother Faithful:

There have always been two gospels intended for the soul of man. The one gospel is of affirmation and the other that of negation. And the ultimate outcome of the gospel of negation is destruction. The outcome of the gospel of affirmation is salvation.

Tonight we have heard a powerful statement, a powerful plea for the gospel of affirmation to which is the answer of all sin, suffering, of destruction – it is the eternal yea or yes of God. The gospel of affirmation.

We conclude our service with Hymn 202, ‘For all the Saints who from their labours rest’.

