

Clothed with the Sun

A024 Sunday Address 1st November 1936 Pembroke Hall, London Sunday Service
for All Saints/All Souls

Text: duplicated script with the title, 'Clothed with the Sun' and the date, which was a Sunday, although not stated. Much underlining with red pencil, but no other superficial markings.

Context: no details given of the service itself.

General notes: the title, doubtless given to this address when sent out, is from Revelation 12; it is also the title of a book by Anna Kingsford. White Eagle uses the phrase in the address, but where in Revelation it replies to the Woman of the Apocalypse, he refers to 'the perfect man, clothed with the sun'. As far as is known, the explanation of the trumpet blast is unique in White Eagle's teaching.

References: Jacob's ladder, mentioned in the middle paragraphs of the address, is something he saw in a dream – see Genesis, chapter 28. The references to St Paul, just after, are to 1 Corinthians 15 : 51-55. The parable of the wedding garment, discussed at the end, is to be found in Matthew 22 : 1-14, with an additional reference to Matthew 26 : 29 (drinking of the wine in the kingdom).

White Eagle's Address:

Let us first consider the sunshine which endows nature with her panorama of beauty, and visualise the glow of the sunlight upon the green meadows, the glint of sunlight upon water, the radiance of sunlight upon snowclad mountains. We are held spellbound. And then we visualise the sunlight sweeping across the purple clad moor and see the colours reflected and enhanced by the heather, in the blue sky, and by the great pine trees as they raise their heads in strength and wisdom and worship to God, their Creator.

With such pictures in mind, we transfer our attention to the human soul, and look into the lives of humanity to see reflected in the eyes of the loving mother that which is akin to the glory of the snowclad mountains. We in the spirit gaze upon the patient, enduring lives of our brethren on earth, and although they are imprisoned in flesh, in the bondage of material circumstances, yet we see beneath this darkness a light shining through the soul of that patient worker on the earth plane. For be it remembered that all souls encompassed in a body of flesh are yet workers towards the greater Light and the eternal freedom.

Therefore we – you and I, who have eyes to see, and thus seeing – may register and in our turn reflect the beauty of the God-life in each human soul. This is the way, beloved, the Lord of this earth, the Christ who is the Son, regarded His younger brethren on the earth-plane. Was it not the Light with which He was clothed which enabled Him to thus see the reflection of His own Light and thus shine on his beloved on the earth?

Let us recall our picture of the beauty of sunlight upon earthly things, upon all physical form, and bear in mind that within and behind physical sunlight lies a spiritual sunlight – even the Spirit of Christ, Who is the embodiment of the Sun, the Light of the World. As the physical sun gives life to earthly vesture, so spiritual sun-rays give life to the spirit, to those spiritual worlds interpenetrating earth's physical or material atoms.

And God, the Father, created man in His own image. God held in the Divine Mind the perfect archetype – He who is Christ, the Son.

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We differentiate between Jesus the Initiate and Christ, the Light; Christ Who is the spiritual sunlight. We recognise the perfect man, He who has manifested through the personality of Jesus the Initiate, as Christ Who in turn is all men. For God, the Creator, the father of this universe, held in His mind the perfect son, and God created from the God-mind the perfect man, clothed with the sun, clothed in the sun.

Thus in the process of birth and evolution each soul descends a Jacob's ladder to the earth-plane. In such a descent each soul takes upon itself the clothing of the earth, or that which you call the physical body, termed by the great initiates as the 'terrestrial' body.

So we may conceive the soul of a man even as a young child, a babe, step by step through the process of evolution, descending a Jacob's ladder to the earth-plane, until at length he is clothed in the densest physical matter, in his terrestrial body. But there will be a return journey as well, for inasmuch as Jacob saw in his dream the descent of the angel-men, the God-men, or the Sun-men, so he watched them ascending again to their Father in Heaven.

So also Paul taught, as you have heard tonight, that man should be raised from the dead, and should put on incorruption.

Do not conceive this 'death' as mere death of the physical body. These inner truths which were veiled in allegory by the initiate teachers of the past contain jewels, but so long kept in the casket that the intelligence or the intellect of man has now decided that the casket is empty.

Let us examine the inner meaning of the words of Paul the Initiate, when he said that man does not die, that man has a celestial body which will in the twinkling of an eye be raised from the dead ... at the sound of the last trumpet.

What does this mean? According to orthodoxy, it was long held that man would lie in the grave until the angels should sound a blast on the trumpet, when the graves would fly open and souls rise to meet Christ, who was to come clothed in the sun in all the glory of the heavenly world.

Let us look deeper and interpret the inner meaning. The dead man is not he who lies in the physical grave, heavy under clods of earth, but he who lies entombed within physical life, a prisoner of the physical senses, a man dead to the spiritual universe. Blind, deaf, dead.

What does the last trumpet mean?

When a soul pursues the path leading towards the great portal of initiation, for many lives it treads the path of spiritual growth, and when he nears the portal of imitation, a great change takes place within. Among initiates, the term 'sounding the trumpet blast' refers to a condition reached by the vital, desire and mental bodies of man, when he bursts open the tomb of his lower self and ascends to freedom to enters the Temple of Light. There comes

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then such a tremendous quickening in the subtler bodies of man that it is like a trumpet blast; the vortices of the finer bodies are so quickened that the whole being appears shattered by the reaction. The last trumpet shall sound 'at the end of the world'. This phrase presents no difficulty to eastern adepts, since the end of the world means not the demise of the physical body necessarily, but of the mode of life which has enslaved and enchained the soul. "A trumpet shall sound, and ye shall rise and put on the body of light, the celestial body". Some call this the Second Death. But do not be confused with the idea that this raising or abandonment of the dead self must take place on the inner planes or what you call spirit life. It is not necessary to wait until after your physical death, but it is a condition on the path of evolution through which all will pass at some time on their way from death to LIFE.

Man knows that he possesses a physical body, and learns through psychic and spiritual science and even medical science that he possesses other bodies. So soon as man studies spiritual science, he learns of a vital body which is the body of life which interpenetrates the physical body and which is also directly connected with or in touch, or attunement to, Christ, or the Divine Life Spirit; and through this vital body he may draw into the physical body vibrations of light and health.

He possesses also a desire body, an astral body, which in turn may be clothed with spiritual sunlight, when the dead self is put away, when the lowest self departs. And he possesses a mental body which likewise may be animated by the Light of Christ, the sunlight, so that his mentality ceases to function as mere intellect (and that is the function of a large percentage of the mentalities today). When the mental body is quickened and awakes to Divine Intelligence, it also becomes clothed with the sun.

Man has descended to the earth with the cross laid upon him, the symbol of suffering and sacrifice, and yet the promise of glory. As man stands erect with arms outstretched in an attitude of giving and loving and blessing, he takes the form of the cross, and in this cross lies salvation, lies all growth.

How may we then grow nearer to the living sunlight, the very sunlight of life? By loving!

Why did you yourselves descend to incarnation on earth? Why did God send forth the souls of men as children, as young babes, from His bosom? That they might grow to manhood, to spiritual manhood, to Christ manhood. For no other reason.

And how? Where lies the way? The way is dark but the light can shine in your heart to lighten the way; for God gave man the light of Christ, God's Son. God gave to you, to you. The Light will light your way, the light will guide you to live, not selfishly, not unto yourself, but radiating the Christ, radiating happiness by seeing always the light on the mountaintops and refusing to dwell in the grave of the dead self.

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When we review life with a sunlight such as this shining upon the pathway, we welcome both happiness and sorrow. Both are the two sides of Jacob's ladder, both support the rungs up which we climb to the heavenly places.

You will say: "Oh, it is all very well, all very idealistic, but what we have to do in this world is to live!" But remember beloved, you must live under certain immutable divine laws which you cannot escape or evade.

Therefore, live in happiness, radiating love, and give forth peace ...

Why argue and contest with others concerning peace? For this is not peace, this is war. Do you realise that? To bring peace on your earth, you must be peace in your heart. True, one soul is but a drop in the ocean, but within can be the universal power of peace, of love, of wisdom.

In everyday life, discipline the bodies – the physical, vital, desire and mental bodies; by such a discipline governing every emotion, every action, every thought, making yourself ready to be clothed with the sun.

A last word.

How can man hope to enter heaven, without a wedding garment? (Do you remember the parable?) The wedding garment so vital and essential before man can be received into the marriage feast, is the celestial body, that which you are creating and weaving out of the very substance of your thoughts, emotions and actions ... every day.

And so man passes onward, onward, onward. It may take long, but what is time? Is it worthwhile? However simple and humble your life, however difficult, so long as you weave your wedding garment, the celestial garment to clothe you someday with the glory of the sun, there will dawn a day when the great Lord will say: "Welcome, enter into the kingdom of your Father, and take communion with the wine and bread, of which I told you long ago [that] you and I would someday partake in the Kingdom of Heaven".

So may the glory of God the Father, the love of Christ the Son, and the wisdom of the Holy Ghost, find a resting place and abide in you from now and ever onwards.

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:

Karma, cause and effect, path of the soul, spiritual path, initiation, eternal life, life after death, inner peace, spirit world, world of light, reincarnation, rebirth