

A Message for the Coming Year

A289 Sunday Address 6th January 1957 St Mary Abbots Place, London New Year service

Text: typescript by MB, which simply carried the title 'White Eagle's New Year Address'. The title, 'A Message for the Coming Year' is in Brother Faithful's hand: he edited this address hard, presumably for *Stella Polaris*, although it seems not to have been used. The February-March 1957 *Stella Polaris* was a special twenty-first anniversary edition with a silver cover, and the choice of address was the previous year's anniversary message, rather than this one. The script, if seen, can be regarded as a good indicator of how much editing Brother Faithful did. A word has been edited out in this version: 'You will see as far as the horizon all around you' originally read 'You will see the as far as the horizon all around you'; it would seem to be a simple error of transcription, although the sentence would also make sense if a word like 'view' were added after 'the'. Roughly two-thirds of the way through, we have rendered the typist's word 'outlet' as 'outlook', for the former does not seem to make sense. IC, instead, added the phrase 'for his energies'.

Context: MB lists an anthem, 'God is love, all love' and two readings, Revelation 21 : 1-7 ('And I saw a new heaven and a new earth') and the twenty-third Psalm, 'The Lord is my shepherd'. She notes that IC read the first of these and GEC the second. There is no record of the hymns. The anthem is not immediately identified: the words could be White Eagle's, and an informed guess would be that it was a text set to music by the organist, Mary Brameld. For another example of this, see the very next address, from 3 March. At the end of this unusually long address is one of White Eagle's shortest communions.

General Notes: White Eagle refers back to the Christmas service, in slightly more detail than is common for him to do. Although this is a new year address, and begins as such, it seems as relevant for the feast of the Epiphany, which would have fallen on this very Sunday. White Eagle discusses gold, frankincense and myrrh, but in many ways the theme of the address is finding and manifesting the gold in your heart. When he moves on to talking about good thought, and relates it to human treatment of the animal kingdom, the drift of his argument is not at once obvious, but becomes clear in the next paragraph, which is about the self-control the Masters exhibit. There is a detailed and enlightening exegesis of the Lord's Prayer in the context of esoteric understanding.

References: the words, 'the stones that have cut your feet have cut mine also' form a statement White Eagle quite often repeats, but do not seem to have a specific source. Here, he refers back to another occasion when he reminded his listeners that the rough stones are entirely something we cut for ourselves. 'As you sow, so you shall reap' is a rendering of Galatians, 6 : 7. 'God moves in a mysterious way', etc., are the opening lines of the poem by William Cowper, sung regularly as a hymn. 'Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do' are the words of Jesus on the cross: Luke 23 : 34.

White Eagle's Address:

Beloved, beloved brethren of the earth plane, we bring you all the love of the Spirit.

You are setting out upon another year's life and it is customary for you to wish each other a happy New Year. We watch from our side of life the eagerness, the so-often deep sincerity with which you utter the words, 'A Happy New Year'. You bring joy and happiness into your wish.

But not one of you can know, at your present stage of evolution, what lies before you. We say this because it is perfectly true that at some time in your evolution, whether you are living in a physical body or in a higher etheric body, you will be able to know what lies before you.

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We want you to remember this, for you are all evolving upward to a higher life and condition of consciousness.

Here we have a word for so many who are despondent about their future. Never, never be despondent about anything, least of all your future, when you have been given the spiritual gifts which will enable you to go forward into the future with confidence: confidence in divine love and mercy, confidence in the divine law which governs all life – life in all its forms. This divine love is there with you always. Man has to grow in spiritual strength so that he becomes aware every moment of his life that there is a limitless reservoir of power upon which he may call. Your spiritual unfoldment is teaching you this vital truth. Do not be discouraged about yourself. If you feel ashamed of yourself, or weak, or very sorry and pitying for yourself, turn your thoughts to something more beautiful. Look into the eyes of your Lord, the Christ.

Brothers and sisters on earth, if only you knew the power which God has placed in your soul. If you only realised that there is a seed planted with you which has limitless power, and that every day and in every effort you make that seed is germinating and growing until at some future time – and it may not be so long distant as you think – there will bloom in your consciousness, in your heart and in your head, that beautiful flower of spirit; the flower that we so often speak of, the Rose.

Dear ones, the last time we were speaking to you from this little rostrum, we were speaking about the birth of the Christ on earth. You remember? We were speaking of the symbolism of the little Babe born in a cave, in a very lowly cave. We refer to the symbol of the Star, the Christ Star, which shone about that cave; the Star which led the Wise Men to the little babe, Jesus. The Star is the spirit of Christ, Christ the Son of God – He that was born of that mystical marriage of the Father and Mother, the two first Principles of life: the Principle of Will, Divine Will; the Principle of Wisdom, the Divine Mother. The Divine Will which projected, sent forth, the Love Principle – the All-embracing Wisdom and Love of the Divine Mother, Who cradled the Seed and Who brought forth the Child, the Son of God, the Light which is planted in every human heart. Remember that you are that child Jesus, and within *you* has been planted the seed. And within you worketh [*sic*] the principles of divine will and wisdom, the desire, the urge to give light, to give help, to serve life and to serve humanity.

And you find that there are many snags in the path. These snags are of your own making. You will not feel inclined to agree with us, not at present, but you will when you have arrived at that level of spiritual vision. You will see as far as the horizon all around you and then you will wonder at yourself. ‘Here is all this beauty and glory for me and I could not see it before!’

Now, let us remember that the Star was the symbol which guided the Wise Men. Are you going to be wise too? Are you going to allow that Star of Brotherhood, of Christ, to guide you ever onward, upward to that heavenly shore? Or are you going to allow the darkness and the doubt of a material world and a material mind to shut you away from that truth and glory, your birthright? To this end you were born: that you might become wise and receive the gifts of the Spirit. This means applying these gifts every moment of your life.

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The Wise Men came to Jesus with their gifts. And the first gift was of Gold. There may be several interpretations of this. We would like to give you ours. The Gold is the symbol of the spirit of truth as opposed to falseness. Look about you in your world and you will see these two mighty powers at work amongst men – the false and the true. You will see that there are many who desire to do good, but they are led away by false values. A true value is pure gold. And this pure gold you have received as your gift. It is within you: the pure gold, the truth, sincerity, the power to discriminate in your values. It is not easy to do this. But we know, dear ones, that this is what everyone must do, particularly when in incarnation. It is very difficult, but you must train yourselves to discern the truth in life from the false, the true motive in yourself. You all know the saying that he or she is 'pure gold'. Yes, such an one has not only received the gift of the Wise, the gift of gold, but has discovered it in his own life and his own heart. Strive then, beloved ones, during not only this year but for the rest of your earthly sojourn, to manifest the pure gold which is in you.

We do not say these things because we want to bribe you into any particular way of life, but because we know that the development of the pure gold within you is going to be your happiness. It is going to be your strength. It is going to enable you to dissolve that heavy mist, that curtain, which is between you and your brother man, not only your brother man on the earth plane, but in spirit – in our world.

All of you long to see your loved ones who live beyond death. The surest way to unfold that inner vision is to be true to the gift of God which the Wise Teachers bring to you.

Then there was the second gift, Frankincense – sweetness, wisdom – the power to aspire, to pray. We always see the prayers of humans rising like incense right up to the heart of life, to the very throne of All Love. You have received this gift of sweetness, of aspiration and of inner wisdom which will help you live your life and tread the path, even if it is hard and stony.

But remember: these gifts, when they are used in your daily life, are giving you an enormous power, a spiritual quality. Not only will they give you happiness, but they will give you a quality which you need in your daily life. It doesn't matter what you do to earn your daily bread. It doesn't matter how crude or distasteful your daily work may be, if you have developed these spiritual powers which have been given to you, no work will any longer be irksome. Your work will be a service to mankind so far as you are concerned, and you will be able to put the best that you know into your daily service, into your human relationships. This is happiness – believe old White Eagle – this is happiness, my dears.

And the last gift was Myrrh. We said a little while ago that the rough stones and the difficulties in your path you alone are responsible for. You may not like this, but myrrh has a bitter taste. Myrrh is that quality of bitterness which comes into every life. In other words it is karma, the karma of the individual. Now, there are many people who immediately rise when they hear the word, karma. They will not accept it. They will not believe it. But, they will say, God is a monster if this suffering is the result of karma. But the wise man meditates on these things. He contemplates the law of karma, the law of cause and effect. 'Whatsoever a man

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soweth, he must surely reap.' This does not only apply to sorrow and bitterness. It also applies to joy and happiness.

But let us say one more word about this divine law of karma. You are all making it. Every moment you live on this earth, karma is being incurred, and sometimes it returns very quickly to you. You do not have to wait for the next incarnation or even one or two following that. You may receive the payment of your karma in a few seconds or months or hours or days, weeks or months or years. But this bitterness, what does it do? Does it make the soul angry and more resentful? Yes, sometimes it appears to do that. It only appears to do that on the surface. You will see anger and resentment when karma is bitter, but what it actually is doing is working out something which is in the soul that is a stumbling block to its progress. These are the stones, the rough places that cut the feet of the neophyte and the aspirant on the path. Oh, my dears, remember the words of the Master: 'The stones that have cut your feet have cut mine also'. We all journey the same way. When we have learned to love our brother, we feel with our brother. We feel too the bitterness of myrrh. We also feel the beauty of his prayers and aspirations, and we are united with him in love – and rejoice with him when he finds that he possesses within him pure gold. But greater than this, we rejoice when he finds that his brother is pure gold also.

Like attracts like: remember this in the New Year. Your thoughts – we will not say anything about your speech or action at the moment – we will just say your thoughts are creating something, a karma. They are like a magnet in you. You go about your city in public vehicles, and you may be a little under the weather. You may be depressed. You may be fearful, and you are just attracting all the fearful and depressing thoughts of everyone you come in contact with. You know this is so. You have memories of it. You know that you can come in contact with a certain condition and you feel depressed and unhappy. But if you can remember to keep your thoughts positive, to for ever look up in aspiration and prayer – to incense, to the higher life – you will find all the depression and the negative thoughts of those around you will not penetrate. They will have no power at all. And more than this, your positive thought, good thought, the thoughts of the Star within you, will attract to you companions of your spirit.

Do you know, my children, that there are guides and teachers and helpers for every living soul on your earth? Whether you know it or not, you all have your own helpers, guides of your spirit. And it is beautiful to watch these guides in their patience and tenderness and love. They cannot interfere with your karma. They cannot take you by the neck and say, 'You must go on this path'. Oh no, that is not the law. They can only watch over you patiently and lovingly. They can shed light into your heart if you will let them. They can help you when you strive to reach a higher level, a higher standard of life. They are the messengers sent to man from the heaven world. It is their joy, their happiness, to help you.

But we are going to tell you what a sad vision it is when we see the Guardian Angel, the Bright One, standing near an earthly soul without the power to reach them or to get close to them because the thoughts of that individual are so violent, so cross, so angry. But nevertheless, the teacher, the guide, the messenger is full of compassion and love for that one; a yearning love, a tender love. They are patient, the angels. They wait patiently. They dare

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not force. They would not force – because, dear ones, of the happiness. The joy of spiritual awakening and spiritual attainment is beyond all earthly joy. It can only come to the individual. It cannot be given to you, that joy. You can only create it yourself in your own heart by remembering the Great White Spirit, the love which is all around you and the power of the Great Spirit. We told you many times and you all know it. There maybe one or two here tonight who have not heard us say this, so we will say it again.

As you pray to God – or all Goodness, or the Christ spirit, or the Divine Light, whatever you like to call it – as you pray so you will open the way in your soul for the inflowing of that divine power; the power which heals not only bodies, but souls.

Another unpopular thing we shall say to you at this New Year Service, that all the sickness and pain, yes, and even accidents – again we feel a mental rap, never mind, it is true – all these things are drawn to man by his own wrong thinking and wrong living, wrong outlook.

At the New Year it is necessary to take stock, to take stock of life, stock of daily thought and habit. It is a brave man and a brave woman who can do this, but the reward is great. The man who can do this will admit that there is enormous cruelty in your world, cruelty through intention and through thoughtlessness. So the cultivation of good thought, God thought, joyous thought, happy thought, loving compassionate tender thought and the cultivation of thoughtfulness, not only for other human beings, but for everything, for nature, all through nature [*sic* – the sentence was apparently not completed]. Yes, we know the sufferings and the cruelty in nature herself. But is man not inclined to look upon cruelty in the animal kingdom and do nothing about it? Does not this cruelty originate in the lord, the overlord of the animal kingdom? Oh no: God has given man dominion over the animal kingdom.

The Masters, the master souls – those who have trod the same path as you are now treading, those who have received the gifts and treasure them in themselves – have not they gained the supreme control over themselves? In gaining this supremacy over physical matter have they not gained supremacy by love over the animal kingdom? The love, the love of the Great White Spirit, is the Master of all the animal kingdom. There are no wild animals in the Presence of God. But man goes forth to shoot the wild animals, to frighten them, to wound and to torture them. It is not natural that the wild animal becomes wild and wilder still because of man's cruelty? The law of life is love, divine love.

Can you picture Jesus the Christ, the Master, shooting the birds, shooting his brother animal? You cannot imagine him inflicting cruelty upon any living thing. Dominion over the animal kingdom is through love. Dominion over man's own kingdom is through goodness and love – projecting good thought, God-thought, right thought, love thought, gentle thought, wise thought. And thought begets action. Thought begets speech. What a man is in his heart comes out of his lips. Oh yes, this is the law of life, the spiritual law. And when men all over the world recognise that they are part of each other, part of the whole and [that] no infliction of pain upon another can escape its own reward; as you sow, so you reap [*sic*]. So it all adds up to this, that in daily life the quiet steady living, walking the path with the hand in the hand of God – with a heart overflowing, bursting with love for God and belief in God and confidence in God – the pain is healed, the heart swells with joy. There is no separation. The physical

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body, for a time, the form, is removed, but only as it is removed when your dear one goes for a much-needed holiday, a rest, a recreation, a refreshment in higher worlds.

At night when you sleep you will go to your loved one. Think of him or her. Just know within you that the beloved one still lives and you can be with him or her and have a most beautiful night. Then you will, of course, be returned with a pat and an embrace and a kiss. 'Go back, it is time for you to get to your work and I must get to mine. But we will meet again in the evening.' If you could only adopt this way of thought it would make so much difference to you – and not only to you, but also to your loved one. They would be so contented and so peaceful within them knowing that you were truly with them in your higher life, in your higher consciousness.

We know that this cannot apply to perhaps those who are so embedded in material thought that they do not believe in an afterlife. But presumably you do, or you would not be here. And those of our beloved friends who are sorrowing because of the separation – we give you this message: there is no separation and no barrier if you think as we suggest; if you will only make our world, the world of spirit, a real world and let us be real to you. Remember, we have said this before, you will be a spook yourself one day! You will know – it is rather uncomfortable, you know.

Your loved ones come to you. They are round you. They register your smile. 'I know you are there, so and so.' Let them be real to you. If you want this truth of the afterlife to spread, let it be a real thing to you. Do not allow the mortal mind, the material mind, to slay the spirit. If you do this and you call and seek for that help in your daily life, you will receive it. It will come. It will come without any shadow of doubt and lift you up. You will feel that your Guardian Angel is near. Your Guardian Angel is God's messenger in form, in human form. God sends his messenger to you. And if you have to tread a way, a certain path that you do not like, that is disagreeable to you, perhaps a parting, a journey or a parting or the loss of a loved one, do not resent this little bitterness in your life. Try and accept it with the right spirit or in the right spirit. Accept it and know that out of what seems to you evil or pain, good will come. 'God moves in mysterious ways His wonders to perform.' Let this be your outlook. Take a firm grip upon yourself and tread the path.

Our closing words to you after wishing you to have all the spiritual gifts which will make you happy in life: we would say to you, do not forget the daily prayer – the one which contains everything for man. The one given by Jesus to his disciples and followers.

Let us recapitulate [on] this prayer. Our Father–Mother, the Source of our life. 'Our Father which art in heaven' – in glory, in light – 'Hallowed be Thy Name'. We reverence Thy Name, we hallow Thy Name. 'Thy Kingdom come': may we unfold Thy Kingdom in our hearts and may our life be lived in Thy Kingdom. 'Thy Will be done in earth': Thy Will which is all love, all wisdom and all power. Thy Will be done in earth, in us, in our lives. 'Thy Will be done in earth as it is in heaven' – because in heaven, divine law rules. All is love, justice, truth, wisdom. 'Give us this day our daily bread.' O God, we Thy children, ask for the spiritual help which we need for our daily tasks in our daily living. We cannot comply with Thy laws without Thy help. 'Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses.'

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Oh Lord, forgive us when we are cruel to others. If we ask Thy forgiveness for our cruelty, and our thoughtlessness, Thou wilt forgive. We shall be forgiven. 'Forgive us our trespasses' – as we think gently and kindly about others who have injured us. *Forgive them for they know not what they do.* 'For Thine is the Kingdom': Thy Spirit ruling over Thy children. Thine is the Kingdom in which we would live with our brethren on the earth and in the spirit worlds. 'Thine is the Kingdom and Thine is the Power' – the power to glorify. Thine is the power to heal; Thine is the power to make all crooked things straight. Thy power alone will do all these things. Thy power working through Thy children will bring peace on earth and goodwill to all men. 'The power and the glory' – Thy glory in our hearts and lives. Thy glory through all the spheres. 'Thy glory for ever and ever.' Amen.

O God, may everyone in this Service remember to say Thy prayer each day with an ever-unfolding vision and deeper appreciation of Thy laws which govern all life.

A happy, happy, happy New Year to you all.

The message the Angels bring you – remember this – [is] that death or loss or disappointment are not the terrible things you think they are. They are God's opportunities placed before you to help you to His Kingdom of Glory, not in some far distant future, but now, in your hearts, now, eternally now.

Good night. Good night.

The Presence of the Lord is here. Be quiet as we withdraw from the physical and receive from Him the Bread of Life and the Wine, the Essence of His Spirit.

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:

higher consciousness, evolution, despair, turn always to God, ask for, receive, and live daily through spiritual sustenance, gold, frankincense, myrrh, pain, creation and purpose of karma, power of thought, there is no separation, an understanding of the Lord's Prayer