

The Angels of Light and Darkness

A066 Sunday Address 3rd December 1939 Pembroke Hall, London Sunday Service

The text of this address is as issued in the magazine Angelus after it was given, apart from correction of errors

Text from Angelus, January 1940, from which we derive the date of 3rd December; another version carries the date 3rd January 1939. There is little internal evidence either for this being an Advent address, or a New Year one either. 3rd December was a Sunday, but 3rd January was a Tuesday, which makes the New Year date less likely, and White Eagle in any case gave a New Year message on 8th January 1939 and 7th January 1940. Also, the reference to nations at war would have been less apposite back in January. So it is best to treat the January date as an error.

Context: if this was a Tuesday talk the context is difficult to imagine, but it seems much more likely that this is the address for the first Sunday of the month. The reading seems to have been from the Book of Revelation, but it is not entirely clear which chapter.

General Notes: contains quite a major piece of interpretation of the Book of Revelation. The Egyptian gods of justice and mercy were, respectively, Maat and Meretseger.

References: the Book of Revelation is a general background: from it, we have the author, who at the beginning describes himself as John and the place of writing being Patmos. The 'woman clothed with the sun' appears in chapter 12 and the so-called Beast in chapter 13. The references to God and Mammon derive from Matthew 6 : 24.

White Eagle's Address:

The world at the present time is chaotic, and you, my brethren, who have striven, and still strive with all your strength to realise the spiritual values in life, come at times against obstacles. At such times you cannot see clearly, for a dark curtain falls betwixt you and spiritual realities.

We have listened to a reading from the Revelation of John – the revelations of a beloved elder Brother who brought to this world mystical truth – and the interpretation of such mysteries yet remains unknown to the religionist. If you students can penetrate behind the Word, and find the spirit, the truth behind Revelation, you will realise that now, at the present time, this world draws near to such a time of revelation. The prophecies of our elder Brother are now about to be fulfilled, not according to the letter, but to the spirit. Although the Book of Revelation has had many interpretations we suggest to your minds that you interpret in the light of your spirit ... in the light of the spirit of God. For not according to the letter, not by world conflagration, disaster, destruction, revolution on a vast scale, are these prophecies to be fulfilled, but in man's unfolding consciousness, man's own unfolding of God within his soul.

The 'Woman clothed with the sun' who was driven from earth, and who took refuge in a hidden place, is symbolical of the very Mysteries of which St. John wrote. The Woman fled before the onslaught of the Beast, we learn, and have to realise that the 'Woman' symbolised the Secret of the Ages ... the Ancient Wisdom.... Those, of whom John was one, who were to give this truth to their younger brethren, were already in process of being driven away by the 'Dragon' of materialism (the 'Beast' of Revelation). These mysteries of life still wait to be unfolded. Did mankind but know, the very happenings now causing so much disturbance in your physical life, as well as in your spiritual life, are the very 'sounds' ... the prelude

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heralding the coming to mankind of this revelation of spiritual truth. Man has to learn his lesson through experience and through suffering ... the experience of both sorrow and joy, and we watch with *longing* ... with longing vision and with longing heart, the process of birth which is taking place on earth today.

The Master Jesus gave to the Christian Church certain simple teachings, to enable mankind to learn the preliminary lessons ... the necessary lessons ... of approach to the portal of initiation into the hidden Mysteries. Two thousand years have passed since our beloved Elder Brother brought this message, and there are still countries at war – which rather indicates that the elementary Christianity has yet to be learnt! The existence of wars show that there must necessarily arise in the earthly minds, in man's intellect, many reasons to justify war. It is a matter for every man to decide for himself. We would not interfere with the freewill of any man. But we give you to think, to meditate, upon this simple truth: we have learned from the Christian Scriptures that no man can serve two masters: he cannot serve both God and Mammon. This is the test which confronts every aspirant at the present time, every aspirant to initiation into the Mysteries of the heavenly life.

When we say that man cannot serve two masters, God and Mammon, we do not suggest that the material life is to be neglected, nor that man should withdraw from active life and service to his brother man, from his duty on the material plane. No indeed! But we suggest that in man's attitude of mind he should attain a spiritual vision, and see clearly the two aspects of his life. Either man gives his whole allegiance to God, to the spirit of Christ – the Love Spirit of this world; or he must turn his back upon God's Wisdom and Love, and must see only through the eyes of Mammon ... seeing the justification for all the ill-will, all the cruelty of man to man. There can be no compromise between these two aspects of life.

My brethren, there is no question on which side the aspirant should stand. Having decided this for yourselves, there must be a steady, unquestioned, allegiance to the truth of brotherhood, and the light of Christ. Christ is the Love Spirit; the Sun spirit ... the Son of God. In Him is contained the revelation, the salvation of this present Age, of the Way of life. For the aspirant it is impossible to serve two masters with any degree of safety; there must be complete surrender to the spirit of brotherhood and goodwill in life.

Do we unduly speed up the evolution of mankind by standing before you so frequently, and expressing truths which we ourselves have seen revealed? Not so; the world has reached a stage when there is coming an unusual baptism of the Spirit of Christ. Some may be thinking we are far removed from this at present? Beloved, you are witnessing the very prelude of such baptism ... a cleansing, a clearing away of obstacles before the brotherhood of man can even be understood, can be born upon earth.

You have all heard of angels, and in a nebulous way believe that there can be such beings; you have read about angels in the Bible, in many occult works, and accept the fact that angels exist. You may even have studied the line of evolution along which the angels travel, already be aware that there are certain classes of angelic beings which have evolved from the nature spirits, or from the spirits of the air. At all events, you are familiar to some degree with the

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line of evolution referred to as angelic. You may also know that before humanity was sent forth upon this path of earthly experience angels dwelt upon the earth ... advanced Beings came to this planet to assist earth's humanity in its establishment upon earth. You may also be aware of Angels of Light and Angels of the Shadows, Principalities and Powers both of Good and Evil. Let us restate the last sentence, saying 'Angels in the light, Angels in the shadows, Angels serving the light and Angels serving the darkness'.

This brings to our minds a different aspect. We have to realise that the Angels of Light (or 'Good') stand for the forces of construction; those of the Shadows (or 'Evil') the necessary forces of destruction – necessary, because they are ever at work pruning away those aspects of individual and national life and thought which have outgrown their usefulness. Therefore do not think of the Light and the Dark Angels as adversaries constantly at war, but rather as the one being the complement of the other. Do not underestimate the power of these beings, either, for both aspects of angelic life are continually at work, through generation after generation, cycle after cycle of earth's humanity to assist the growth and to destroy that which is unworthy in man. There are two aspects in man's life, and you may choose which one you take: one aspect will bring you into harmony with cosmic laws; the other will throw you into disharmony. The man who has attained the vision of the heavenly mysteries works in harmony, always in harmony. He who is still in a state of darkness, works against the cosmic laws. Consequently the latter surrounds himself, through incarnation after incarnation, with suffering. As soon as the man learns to work in harmony, to live in harmony in the life, in other words, to give himself confidently to God – then he attains happiness. The angels of light work with him, and together, man and angel are able to assist in the unfolding of the God principle in the rest of humanity. The man responsive to the dark angels, although unconscious of the process set in motion by his actions, is caught up in a law of evolution which, whilst causing him to suffer, is also causing him eventually to learn the lessons of life through suffering.

The question arises in mind of one of my hearers: Can the dark angels, those angelic forces, perhaps not yet fully aware of the light and the power and the wisdom of the Most High, can these angels triumph over the angels in the light, and thus cause the destruction of humanity? Our answer is 'No'. The dark angels can go so far, and no farther, because then they are caught up in definite cosmic law which causes them to be absorbed or rendered powerless in this law. Those men who do evil, or so-called evil, are themselves the instruments of a certain force at work: a force which is working ultimately to bring through greater consciousness of the God-life in man. The dark angels cannot destroy the God in any man. But their own deeds can cause them to fall as a star from heaven; as a star torn from the firmament they will surely fall, because they are in a state of darkness, and lack the power to keep their position in life.

In conclusion, we draw your attention to two of the greatest symbols in Egyptian symbolism – that of Justice, and that of Mercy. God is just: God is merciful. You do not need to try and set the world right all by yourself; God will do that. But if you would find peace and happiness, true serenity of spirit, you will resign yourselves, utterly, and confidently, to God's mercy and God's love.

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We see little cause for fear abroad. We see a truly great and wonderful process of birth coming to this earth. At the right time there will come amongst men Elder Brethren, wise and loving souls, who will lead the nations into the light of brotherhood and progress. Be still in your heart: be patient. We hope that without fail you will continue to send forth goodwill to men ... send forth the light of Christ. Become His disciple ... with a gentle spirit...

Peace be unto you... Behold, a great light shines above you. The light will encompass the earth. Be not agonised by sorrows that will pass. All suffering is the result of sin. There is no such thing as innocent suffering.... God is just and merciful....

Clouds will pass away with the coming, the Second Coming, of Christ, which you and all mankind are being awakened to receive...

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:

age of John, good and evil, ancient mysteries

