

The Mystery of Heaven

A017 Sunday Address 8th December 1935 London Spiritual Mission Sunday Service

The text of this address is as prepared for machine-duplicated circulation shortly after it was given, apart from correction of errors

Text: duplicated script in black with the title, 'The Mystery of Heaven', the date, and the venue: the London Spiritual Mission. No superficial markings. The style of presentation is very slightly different from the MSA talks around this time.

Context: a talk given at the L.S.M. on a Sunday morning. There are no details of the service in which it was given. White Eagle mentions talks on the mystery of life and the mystery of the soul; these were both given at the MSA early in 1934.

General notes: White Eagle comments on the beauty of the weather. He occasionally did this, but only to draw people's vision to the sunlight: storms and rain never get mentioned in this way.

References: for 'Except ye become as a little child', see Mathew 18 : 3. 'Before Abraham was, I AM' is John 8 : 48. 'Seek ye first the Kingdom' is Matthew 6 : 33, while 'Man know thyself' was the inscription over the entrance to the Delphic oracle. 'Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way' is Matthew 7 : 14. 'I am the light of the world' is John 8 : 12. At the end, some of these quotations are repeated; the 'good and faithful servant' is mentioned in Matthew 25 : 21 and 'the thief in the night' in Matthew 24 : 23.

White Eagle's Address:

Greetings, beloved. We would bring a message this morning on the mystery of heaven. We have spoken before on the mystery of life, the mystery of the soul, and the mystery of death. Now we would speak of the mystery of heaven.

It is a subject fit for this glorious Sabbath morning, for every soul both on your earth plane and in those spheres surrounding the earth longs for a deeper understanding of the mystery of heaven. You have all been accustomed to think of heaven in two ways. First, in your youth you were accustomed to the idea of heaven as being a delightful place to which you would go one day – if, that is, you were sufficiently good, righteous, and observed the teaching of this or that religion! Later on you came to understand that heaven was no place, but a condition of consciousness. You became familiar with the words: 'Heaven is within you': that each makes his own heaven, and perhaps [you] ceased to think of heaven as a place remote, and contented yourself with the thought that heaven was within, and therefore you contained all that was needed within.

Today we are going to take both these aspects of truth, for truth is not limited to any one particular aspect, one particular thought. Truth is unlimited, and if you hold truth in your right hand, you may also hold it fast in your left; for truth is like to a jewel which sends forth rays of light and beauty from many facets: and so heaven is both a condition of consciousness and also a place. You will ask us of its whereabouts if it be a place, because the limited earth consciousness is bound by geographical limits and so demands to know where heaven is situated. But one wants a clearer understanding, to be able not only to feel heaven, but to be in it, to look upon it, to be an actual part of it. Therefore the idea that heaven dwells within your own heart is not sufficient. Rather let us think of heaven as a condition of harmony, and remember also that according to the individual's conception of harmony, so harmony

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becomes increased or lessened. One individual's conception of harmony may spell discord to another.

Let us take the concept of art and beauty. A soul lacking the essential sensitiveness to appreciate the perfect blending of colour, form and sound vibration cannot find entry to the heaven of the individual who is attuned and can appreciate such beauty. So we must recognise that what may be hell to one would be to another heaven.

Now to leave the abstract and come to the personal and human. May we explain that there are many people on the astral plane who live in heaven, but their heaven is a very simple place. It consists perhaps of a cottage, truly in a very pleasing sort of suburb, and possesses a prim and neat little garden. To its owner it presents the very essence of harmony, for whereas the particular soul may during its earth life have lived in very discordant conditions, in the spirit world it has attained the acme of comfort and joy. Attempt to force that same soul to higher planes where there exists a more perfect conception of art and form, and the soul would neither see nor grasp their beauty. So we must recognise that heaven, first and foremost, is harmony, a relationship of outer conditions of life to the harmony of the soul therein.

Our Lord and Master came to this earth plane with one message. He was continually speaking to His followers of the Kingdom of Heaven. He came to bring to the earth the Kingdom of Heaven, to uphold the mystery of that heavenly state. He told men how they could enter the Kingdom: 'Except ye become as a little child, ye can in no wise enter the Kingdom'. How hard it seems! 'Except ye become as a little child...' Yet could a man or woman overloaded with arrogance of intellect find entry into a heaven of harmony and love? No ... there is but one key to Heaven ... its name is Love.

Now to explain exactly why love is the one key. For a moment close your eyes; turn inward in thought, and try to distinguish the difference between the two aspects of yourself – the outer clamorous aspect which strives ever for self-expression, self-dominance and self-indulgence; consider the outer self of the physical body, coupling it with the outer self of the mental body, and realise the outer self is not heavenly but decidedly an inharmonious place or condition, constantly affected by weather, by physical disturbances such as indigestion; its temper is affected by the little upsets of human life and its world is affected and disturbed by most of the contacts it makes with its fellows. Can you find in that outer self little more than hell? Examine it well, and decide!

But what of the stillness within? Not through much striving and mental chaos does one find the place of stillness and quiet. Be still ... and let everything fall away ... be still. But at first the mental body proves rebellious and refuses to be turned out or silenced. As it keeps coming back, say: 'No, go away, you have no part in my silence; get you hence.' After a time that mental body learns to remain outside, and the true innermost plane of your being becomes perfectly calm, a pool of still water. Then at last you will find nothing remains but ineffable love ...

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Never tell me that it is not humanly possible to find that place of peace. All souls that seek may find. When you have found, you hold in your hand the key to your heaven, and heaven dwells within ... a condition of ineffable love and harmony, wherein it will be impossible to know else but one truth – ‘I am’. ‘Lo! Before Abraham was, I AM’.

Many here may have reached such tranquillity and peace. If there are those present not yet conscious of this condition we say unto you: “Go to your home, to a place of quiet; and for one minute of your earth time, find that place which is heaven within you”.

We have spoken many times on that old saying of the ancients: ‘Man, know thyself’. How many do know themselves? Why, no man even fully knows or understands the outer hell which he calls self! And few indeed there be who have found and sustained contact with the true self. Try, brethren. ‘Seek ye first the Kingdom of Heaven’, the place of harmony within, ‘and all things shall be added unto you’.

Beloved, do not let these words remain words only, but persistently seek the Kingdom. No man can find entry by studying books nor developing his psychic powers, but only by the one way. ‘Strait is the way and narrow is the gate which leads to the eternal life’, said the Master, and His words are cast aside in this day of life by great intellectuals and men and women who have no time to spare from their search for great and more exciting things than the simple ways of the Kingdom.

Within you shall be found all the gifts of wisdom and harmony. Some present may have experienced the contact with those Masters in the Far East (there are not many to be found in the West, though there are a few). If such has been your joy, you will have witnessed the ineffable calm and stillness which they radiate. The Yogi Master sits for long periods, as you reckon time, in a state of apparent coma. Yet his contribution to humanity, to the light and the healing and the truth of the human family is immensely powerful. Remember that during those periods of meditation and stillness the Master reaches to heaven.

Where then, geographically, is heaven, if it be a place? If the Master in his meditation is in heaven, for according to our vision, he sits in very uncomfortable, unbeautiful and obscure conditions – and yet you say he is in heaven? Heaven, my brother, is the creation of substance, of spiritual substance by the Master Mind within, by the spirit, or the real self. This is all the spirit world is.

You may be sitting, as the Yogi Master, in a condition of placidity and stillness, and although not unconscious may live in an entirely new world. Cannot you picture such a condition? It is not imagination but actual creation, creation from the power within. When man passes from the physical life to the etheric planes, he will find himself in the exact condition which his own thought creates. He cannot escape; you cannot escape. This is the law of the Kingdom of God. So at least we begin to grasp the Mystery of Heaven, and understand why the Master came to earth to bring to a suffering and darkened humanity the message of light which would lead them into the Kingdom of Heaven. Did He not say: ‘I am the Light of the world’? Some think in your present day of life that this was an arrogant claim. But the Lord Christ

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who is the Son of the Logos is the Light. He expressed the Light through the physical vehicle of Jesus as never before. Great teachers, great masters, great prophets there have been, but never before the Light of Love, never before human love thus expressed.

The great Lord Buddha was wise – true – but even so, the wisdom of our Lord Buddha was not the essence or light as that all-enfolding love of Christ, the Son. He came to say: ‘Except ye become as little children, except ye strip yourself of that outer self, the mental and physical outer self, ye can in no wise enter the Kingdom of Heaven – for the way is narrow and straight is the gate that leadeth to the Kingdom’. Be ye stripped of arrogance and self, be simple as a child, and ye shall enter into the mysteries.

In closing, beloved children of earth, we would draw aside the curtain which hides the glories of the heaven world, for as the soul penetrates the mists of illusion and of self and can rise on wings of love to the higher realms of harmony and peace, it shall partake of the feast prepared for those who love Him; they shall partake of the harmony which becomes creation, they shall know the perfect beauty of landscape and mountain scenery, the halls of beauty and temples of art and grand libraries in the planes above, and with all, hear the Voice of God.

Enter thou in, good and faithful servant, enter into the harvest of thy labours. It is the Law that all things must be earned and paid for, for there is no short cut and no escaping the way. Did not the Master say: ‘Ye must enter in at the strait gate; no man can climb as a thief in the night’? There is but the one way: ‘Know thyself’, and as a little child, be simple, trusting and humble in the service of the Most High.

Go thy way, beloved, with the peace of heaven in your heart. Nothing can touch you from outside, no human limitation effect you. All before you lies the way, and you may start this very minute to walk the path of light and gain ever-increasing consciousness of heaven within...

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:

presence of God, heaven world, world of light, spirit world, etheric planes, light within, inner peace, eastern religions, great teachers, messiah, Buddhism, masters