

The Ancient Wisdom – II

T121 The Inner Teachings 2nd December 1941 St Mary Abbot's Place, London

Invocation:

We would attune our hearts to the Great White Light; we would open our consciousness to the hosts of radiant beings; we would seek the truth and understanding we need to understand the glories of life and the purpose of creation. We pray for understanding. So mote it be.

Brethren, there is so much to talk over, and the little time at our disposal limits what we can say of these ancient mysteries. Many questions which will arise out of our statements are unanswerable, not because we cannot answer, but because each one of us must arrive at a certain degree of illumination before we can understand such answers. This applies not only to the ancient mysteries but indeed to the everyday life. Many of you are faced with unanswerable questions, inexplicable circumstances. We say again and yet again, there is always an answer to every question.

Several years ago we spoke on ancient freemasonry* and the teachings of the Rosicrucians**; we then stated that both these aspects of the ancient mysteries were as old as the earth. Certain people think that freemasonry dates back but a few centuries; others think the Brotherhood of the Rosicross to be of comparatively recent origin. Many of you here, doubtless, understand that these two great mystery schools were established by the sons of God, or beings who came from the breath of God to teach the earliest humanity the true way of living. The mystery schools established in the beginning have continued throughout the world's history, extending to one continent after another. Inscription on relics of stone still testifying to the existence of these schools can be found, but the modern investigator does not yet comprehend their meaning. Nor does the modern mind understand one iota of the power and glory and truth still impregnated in these stones, in the very earth itself— because this truth is hidden in the Sun itself. As surely as the Sun's rays penetrate the earth and all physical matter and life, so this ancient wisdom and this mystery of life still impregnates all matter with its divine origin.

*[*See teachings T 071, T 072, T 073, T 074. White Eagle refers to masonry as a form of universal truth or teaching, with no specific reference to the freemasonry of today.]*

*[**See teaching T 034]*

Many may try to evade this ancient knowledge, but still it speaks through the conscience or the innermost voice of man's heart. Man* cannot forever deny the First Principle of life, of growth, the first principle of happiness. The earth seems a dark place at the moment, but never forget that all physical and material atoms are yet impregnated with divine truth, this spiritual sunlight—without it the world would disintegrate and all life be withdrawn from this planet.

*[*For editorial policy around gender, see the introduction.]*

Again we state, as before, that ancient freemasonry is the inner secret of how the builders of the past built, not only the temples (of which only a few remain), but also the spiritual life of men, which has been sustained ever since. It is not only a building with material stones which

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has been going on since the beginning of time, but a building of the spiritual power and the life essences in earth and in man. Ancient freemasonry is the way to build, the way to create and to sustain life.

Ancient Rosicrucianism is the science of life, the truth of the life of the Son, or the Light within the heart of every man. We can put it very simply. Rosicrucianism is that truth which reveals to each man the light of his own heart and the way to use that light for the upliftment and education of humanity. Also, the mystery of the Son of God: we told you that one of the most powerful and most used symbols on the continent of Mu was that of the triangle. We explained that the triangle represented the Father-Mother-Son, the Holy Family. The Son of God is a holy mystery—we are speaking of the relationship between the Father-Mother principle and the third principle of life which dwells within every soul. Millions are unaware of their potentialities; they are like little brown seeds buried in the earth but within them there is the potential Rose, that rose which can only grow to its full beauty of colour and form and perfume through experience, through feeling the stimulation of the forces in the earth. These earth forces cause the seed to burst and the root to grow. Such birth is usually a painful process, but eventually the rose turns its face towards the Sun. Without the Sun's rays it could never attain colour, perfume, or form.

The rose, then, is the symbol of triumph; the spiritual rose lies within every man, but before that rose can blossom, that man is stretched upon the cross. Need it be a cross of suffering? Not necessarily—it may be a cross of triumph, of victory, but at the heart of the cross the rose has ever to bloom—it cannot fail, because a cosmic law decrees that it shall bloom. Certain conditions of human life are the soil and the elements which produce the rose.

In the beginning of human life on earth, a great truth was directed on to the planet. It was the truth of the Rosicross. It came in the form of the Light, the light of men's hearts. It is indescribable. We cannot tell you what it is; it is for you to become aware of it, to realize it. Having realized it, you will draw your strength, your light for evermore from its true source. It is the Son. It is the spiritual sun which the ancients worshipped, a worship which earthly-minded people have mistaken for worship of the physical form of the sun.

You may have regarded the natives of certain islands—the South Sea islands for instance—as savages*; they might well regard you in the same light; these so-called savages being the remnants of an ancient race have learnt from their forefathers something of the ancient wisdom. Because these mysteries are not understood by Europeans, they are looked upon as savage beliefs. Our savages are not quite as ignorant as they appear. They might well look upon your present warfare, your commercial world, your present church and religious beliefs as barbaric. These islands were once the mountain tops of a continent which once supported a race of people far in advance of yourselves, a people fully aware of the invisible worlds in which they lived, fully aware of the diseases likely to afflict their brethren who sinned or broke the laws of brotherly love. The priests of these people could cure particular diseases through the power of the White** Magic. Remnants of this knowledge have been handed down to the present day, but this is but a small part of the true mysteries of life which remain on your earth plane today.

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*[*The term 'savages' was common in the 1930s but is unlikely to be used today.]*

*[**Refers to light, not colour or race.]*

Many think that Egypt cradled one of the oldest civilizations of the world. Of course, Egypt is modern—a few thousand years—why, it is nothing!—like half an hour ago! In Egypt there are certain temples which puzzle the present-day man. The Great Pyramid is one of the world's wonders in the present age, but 500,000 years ago such a building was a commonplace and nothing out of the ordinary. Nevertheless, that building is the material representation of the ancient wisdom, the chief remaining temple on earth which contains the riddle of the perfect cube and the triangle. In other words, it is a temple of the sun, an object lesson to all mankind for the life which they are here on earth to live. A similar temple is being built by man in his soul; until that perfect temple is squarely built and exactly adjusted, a man must continue to labour and to sorrow. He remains ever a mason, a builder. All people, whether they know it or not, are masons, are builders of a divine temple—which on earth is represented by the Great Pyramid and described in scriptural writings as a temple of the sun, a temple of *sol*—the sun's temple. You will find similar pyramids in the north, south, east, and west. Such pyramids lie beneath the sands of the Gobi desert, are in existence in Mexico, and many others beneath the Pacific and Atlantic oceans. From the principles embodied in these pyramids have sprung all religions, all over the face of the earth. Moreover, the influence of ancient freemasonry can be traced in all religions, in all the mystery schools, and even in the arts and sciences of the past, particularly the science of astrology.

The Temple of Sol-o-mon is said to have been built by master builders and priests without the sound of a hammer. Some interpret this in a spiritual sense, accepting this as meaning the building of the soul-temple in the heavens, but there is a law which all ancient brethren understood—as above so below. Nothing manifests in the etheric world, in the soul worlds, on the mental planes, which cannot manifest on the material planes. The Temple of Sol, Sol-o-mon's Temple, is truly being built by every man in the heavens, and is built in silence, since no blow is heard, no sound of gavel or hammer. At the same time, that temple can be erected in stone, on earth. It was erected on earth. There it stands, the great pyramid of Giza, a mystery to scientists, for none know how it was built. Many theories are put forth, but no proof. It was built without the sound of hammer. The secret of the pyramid is not discovered yet. A little here, a little there, has been revealed—air shafts, the way to the bottomless pit, the ante-chamber, the Queen's Chamber, the King's Chamber; a great deal more is yet to be found. The pyramid goes down into the sands to a greater depth than it rises above the earth. The pyramid is not only a lasting monument but a temple of light, a temple of initiation. It contains all the lesser secrets of man's being, and also the greater mysteries of the heavens and of past and future ages. It was not built by any ordinary means. It was a creation, a building by the priests of the White Light, literally built through magical power; we prefer to call it spiritual or heavenly power. Of the few places so far discovered, the Queen's Chamber is representative of the Mother principle in the human life; the King's Chamber symbolized the King, spiritual illumination of the head centre of man's being—will, the government of man's being. The pit is representative of the lower nature to which all men and women must

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succumb if they do not aspire and climb the way leading to the centre of wisdom, love and power.

The Pyramid was a temple of initiation; the glories it contains can only be revealed to the initiate. As the soul becomes raised in degree after degree in these spiritual mysteries, so it will learn more and see more the wonder, the perfection of that temple of stone, and it will remain as it is until the truth it contains is revealed or is discovered by man. Not only do the very stones themselves and the shape and form of that building contain great esoteric truths, but chambers within that building hold written records in stone, telling of the beginning of life on this earth, records of all that has happened, of the rise and fall of races and continents. It tells of the position which one whom you worship as Christ, the living Son, has in the plan of life within this solar system.

Before you ask questions, we would say another word about the Rosicrucian Brotherhood. Its object, as we have already said, was to spread the light through Europe, light throughout the world. The brotherhood in later years was inspired and guided and helped by one you know as Francis Bacon, whose group again set in motion a light, a truth which today gradually penetrates the darkness. It is now knocking at the door of man's minds and hearts—only now. Perhaps it is a pity to expend so much time in arguing as to whether Bacon or Shakespeare wrote the plays and sonnets—because our brother does not mind very much! All a Rosicrucian wishes is to see human life irradiated by truth.

Q. In regard to the teaching of the Rosicrucians, by which the Rose blooms upon the Cross, can you give some help as to the psychological problems involved, for it seems that those who set out upon this path encounter great difficulty from the subconscious mind. The object of growing the Rose upon the Cross is to induce the superconscious mind to function, is it not, instead of the subconscious?

A. To bring about that awakening or manifestation of the superconscious mind, the path is to train your conscious mind firstly in pure thought. If the conscious mind is thus trained, you have no need to trouble about the subconscious at all.

Q. Is it desirable to practice meditation upon the superconscious or divine mind and deny the reality of the subconscious?

A. I would not deny the existence or reality of anything, but suggest that the aspirant consistently lives each day, in all his relationships, in the realization that the rose is sending forth its perfume to humanity—the rose of the heart. If you persist in this, in all that you practice in life, the rose becomes just a living manifestation—it is always with you and you with it. The subconscious becomes the superconscious.

Q. Would you not describe it as a state of constant awareness?

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A.Exactly. It is not a question of meditation but of constant awareness. The rose is so perfect a symbol of what takes place—the opening, the perfume, the radiance of the rose. We know of no finer way to explain the secret of the Rosicross.

Q.You said the cross may not necessarily be a cross of suffering but of triumph. If Jesus was the Way-shower, it seems that through the path of suffering, he came to the cross of triumph. Is this not the way for us?

A.Is the way of suffering necessary? Humans make it necessary because of the complications they bring on themselves, but if humans could see the light the master is holding forth, they would not feel any path to be a path of suffering but of light and radiance. It is only another aspect of the cross. The cross is usually represented as being a cross of suffering, but it can always become a cross of triumph. Although the material mind nailed the divine man upon the cross and apparently the body was tortured, nevertheless the spirit was radiant; it shed from the cross radiance, triumph, light. Humanity rejects the light, and so is stretched upon the cross.

Benediction:

We thank the Source of All-God; of All-Love, Wisdom, and Power. We humbly acknowledge, with thankful hearts, the blessings of life.

Amen.

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Ancient religions, ancient civilisations