

# The Fields are White unto Harvest

A256 Sunday Address 4th October 1953 St Mary Abbots Place, London Harvest Festival Service

*Text:* another MB typescript (a blue carbon). This one is not marked 'Draft' and is assumed to be a final copy. There are no markings on it. Unusually, it states 'London Lodge' at the top – the assumption to be taken from this being that addresses from New Lands were expected to become more frequent, although we have none for 1953.

*Context:* the Harvest Festival is now becoming regular, and White Eagle speaks of the harvest gifts laid out in front of the altar. The reading seems to have been a complex mix from the Psalms (24 : 1-5 and 7-10; 25 : 2, 4-6, 8-10) and John (4 : 24-36). The latter is the passage that includes 'the fields ... are white already to harvest'

*General Notes:* White Eagle mentions at both start and finish the contribution of his congregation in making the service beautiful with gifts of produce and flowers. In his account of the Trinity of Father, Mother and Son who bring to humanity the gifts needed for life, there is an interesting tribute to the element water as representing the soul, and thus the bridge between spirit and the earthly consciousness. Finally, the focus is truly upon the Son – and in a complementary way, our human need to be mindful of our own harvest and create all that is good in our future.

*References:* the Parable of the Tares, mentioned later in the address, is Matthew 13 : 24-30, and the line about the tares being gathered up and thrown on the fire is verse 30. Although the phrase about the fields being white unto harvest is from John, it is Matthew (9 : 37) who adds 'but the labourers are few'. 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, with all thy soul and all thy mind, and your neighbour as yourself' is Matthew 22 : 37-39. There is no direct reference in 'no living thing which God hath ever hated' but there is an oblique one to Ephesians, 5 : 29 and, even more oblique, to 1 Corinthians 1 : 28. There is another veiled reference at the end, to 'O death, where is they sting?', which is 1 Corinthians 15 : 55.

## White Eagle's Address:

Beloved brethren, we come with much joy to speak on this special occasion of the Harvest Festival. We see with our own vision the beautiful harvest gifts which adorn our Lodge. We come together, both you in your physical life and we in our spirit life. We come together to give thanks for harvest time; not only the harvest of the earth, but also the harvest of the spirit. This is one of the ancient festivals, for throughout the ages and throughout the world people have been aware of the Giver of life, the Giver of the fruits of the earth to sustain physical life.

And, as you know, the ancients worshipped the Great Mother Earth because they recognised that from the earth recurred the gift of food. Without that food and life they could not continue to live on the earth. And so the very first worship was of the Mother God. The ancients have left traces of this Mother-worship all over the earth. There are still standing stones with markings on them indicating the worship of the great nature God, the Mother God. There are stones in the form of the Mother with the babe cradled in her arms, indicating that the people of those times recognised the source of life. And they worshipped the source of life. They worshipped the Mother because without the Mother, life would not continue for them. Right up to the present day there is still the continuation of this worship and thanksgiving to God and to Mother Earth, the Great Mother of all life. The seeds are sown but without sustenance these seeds cannot grow – nor come to fruition.

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We look to the sun to warm the earth, to cause the grain to swell and the harvest to come. We also worship Brother Water, for without the rain the seed cannot germinate, the earth cannot bring forth her fruits. So we begin to recognise a physical demonstration of a spiritual truth: the great Mother Earth, the physical body, the physical form which receives into it the seed of life [and] the great God, Father God, who causes the seed to form, to impregnate the great Mother Earth; and the sun, the physical sun, without which no life on earth can come – nor can it be sustained. And the ancients worshipped the sun because they were simple people, much simpler than you are today. And they were trusting: they were faithful to the simple laws of life which were demonstrated to them through the harvest. And the sun was not only a physical sun to them. It was a spiritual sun, it was a glory. And that glorious sun shining upon the earth caused the stimulation of a spiritual sun with them. It caused the germination and the growth of a spiritual sun, the Son of God the Father and God the Mother.

And the ancients worshipped the Holy Trinity: the Father who projected the life of the seed and the Mother Earth who received the seed into her womb, into the darkness of the earth; and they worshipped the Sun, the warmth and the light, the life giver. They knew that even with these three there was still needed something more to cause life to grow and to flourish and the fruits of the earth to be produced for harvest. They looked to the heavens, to the clouds for the water to water the earth.

And in this symbol of the water, we esoterically recognise the symbol of the soul – the psyche. Without the psyche or the soul, the spirit of the Son and the Father–Mother God could not grow, could not come to fruition. The soul is of the utmost importance in life, in the human life, as well as in all nature because, remember, that nature has a soul form. Your clairvoyants have described to you many times the soul form of flowers and trees and mountains and rivers and the soul form of the seas. All nature has a soul form as well as a physical form. This is one of the ancient truths which still wait to be recognised by man's intellect. The time is coming when these profound truths of life will be recognised, because they will be discovered by the man of the New Age, the man of science, the man of religion or spiritual science. Think of a world made beautiful by the manifestation of a soul form: a beautiful form which is the holder of the spirit – or, shall we say, a bridge across which the spirit of life travels to human and physical life.

Think on these things, beloved brethren, and beware of your lower mind or the lower reasoning power which is sometimes man's enemy, robbing you of these beautiful soul truths which enfold life on the physical plane.

And here we would speak of the one central truth, the basis of all life. This is the Son of God; the physical Son which all humanity depends upon for sustenance; for bread and wine. But more than the physical food is the spiritual food upon which man depends, although not many will admit this. Not many recognise the source of all blessing. We want to just speak for a few moments before we close our talk. We want to speak for a few moments on this divine truth of spirit; of the spirit of the Son, the Christ spirit. Our beloved Lord, Master Jesus the

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Christ, came to bring this profound message; this basic message upon which man could build his life, upon which he could hope for a spiritual harvest. Remember, without the physical sun these beautiful fruits and flowers and the gift of food would not be here with us; nor would any of you be here. But more than this, it is that Spiritual Sun – the Son of God – without which there cannot be Eternal Life. Do not think that the laws of physical nature are sufficient to reproduce life and to keep life on the earth plane. It is not so. Life depends upon the Lord, the Son of God. And Jesus came in human form to teach the world once again this central truth.

There have been other teachers down the ages. The great Osiris, Hermes, many Masters from the East. There have been Greek Philosophers and Masters. There has been the Great Lord Buddha and, before him, Krishna. There has been Mahomet – and all the other Teachers which we cannot name. But you know that they brought the same message in different words. The message was clothed in language that the particular time demanded so that the people would understand what life was; what they were to expect from life if they lived in certain ways. Jesus again brought the same message. So simple was his message that people rejected it. They are still rejecting it. Do you know why? [It is] because the mind of the earth is arrogant and lazy; and the physical body is heavy and oft-times lazy, lazy about spiritual things – very active about material things, but the spiritual things are often neglected. They are put on one side and there is a hope or a belief in man that there is plenty of time to deal with the spiritual things when he is a Spirit. That is wrong!

Man will not have the same opportunity when he is a disembodied spirit as he has when he is an embodied spirit on the physical plane – not the same opportunity to comprehend this law of the Son of God, this spiritual law of life. Because it is in the physical that man is given the opportunity to not only understand this spiritual law of life, but to put it into operation and to reap the harvest of his sowing. Do not look for some lovely, beautiful Summerland when you have left your physical body unless you have made some endeavour to put it into operation or to sow the spiritual seed for the harvest in a spiritual world or on a spiritual plane of being. We are not talking about the spiritual plane as an after-death state – an after-spiritual state, but whilst man still retains a perfect form of man – a son of God – man made perfect in God's own Image.

And the seed for the harvest of man's life is sown in his heart by the love of the Son – remember, dear, dear brethren of ours! We ask you to take earnestly our words on this Harvest Festival. Sow the seed of love. If a man sows tares, which means sowing evil, he will reap tares. What did the Master say in the gospel? 'The tares will be gathered up and will be thrown to the fire and consumed but the wheat (which is the symbol of the spirit of the Son of God) the wheat will be gathered unto Himself'.

Now, our final word. This harvest must be gathered here and now whilst you are in a physical body. You know people neglect their physical bodies shamefully. You all do it in your Western world; indeed far more than we used to do it in our Indian bodies and our Eastern bodies. Great care is taken of the body in the monastery, although it works hard, but the laws

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of the spirit are obeyed. And by concentrating upon the spirit and the spiritual part of life and the psyche or the soul, man will reap the harvest of perfection whilst living in a physical body. You will not readily accept this truth as we are giving it to you, but we say it to you. Your Master Jesus demonstrated this truth. He taught it in His parables. He demonstrated in His miracles. He demonstrated in His crucifixion and in His ascension. What did the writer say of this experience? Writing the words of his Master Jesus he said, 'The fields are white unto harvest but the labourers are few'. There is the harvest of a spiritual life and the harvest is for you to gather, but you must have participated in the sowing of the seed of that harvest. And the harvest in your physical life is the perfection of life – perfection of body – health or holiness.

You can make all manner of excuses for ill-health, but it originates in the soul and the spirit. Perhaps we should make this clear: not the spirit, perhaps, but the mind; because spirit is absolutely pure and perfect. But ill-health and all the ills of flesh are the seeds of wrong living, wrong thinking. You break all the laws of harmony and you expect good health. Dear ones, just obey the one law of God and the Son. Love God with all your heart and all your soul and all your mind, and your brother man. Love much, for there is no living thing which God hath ever hated. Love all. Put this law into operation in your life and there will be a reaping of the harvest fields which are white, waiting for you to gather your harvest of perfect life and joy – perfect life and joy – your harvest, because it is born of your spirit – of the Son of God within your heart. Then shall man triumph over the earth, over death of the body. There will be no death. There will be no grave, no sting of parting. Life will be perfect; a perfect harvest of the spiritual seed.

May the Lord bless you in your endeavours. When you feel that uprising of joy you will be thankful and you will give and give and give out of the thankfulness in your hearts.

Peace and love be with you all. And thank you, thank you dear ones, brethren, members and friends. Thank you for making this Harvest Festival so beautiful.

Goodnight.