

# White Eagle's New Year Address

A234 Sunday Address 6th January 1952 St Mary Abbots Place, London New Year Reopening Service

*Text:* an original typescript, blue ink, the same style (MB's) as the constant for 1951, except that this is a top copy and does not bear AMI's corrections. There is no published version so far as is known, even though marks on the script in YGH's hand suggest that it was prepared for publication. The phrase a few paragraphs from the end, 'The light is light', may have been meant to read, 'The light is life'. Towards the end is the sentence, 'You know it deep in here (the heart)'. We have kept this from the typescript, but it is most likely that White Eagle did not utter the words 'the heart' but simply tapped his breast. When at the end he said 'this is the tabernacle, the body' something similar may have gone on.

*Context:* a typescript note above the heading lists the readings as Matthew 5 : 2-10 (the Beatitudes) and Revelation 21 : 1-7 ('And I saw a new heaven and a new earth'). There is reference to a hymn but nothing to identify except a quotation at the end which might imply that 'O life that maketh all things new' was sung – it would have been appropriate for New Year. It somewhat fits with the words at the beginning, too, although there is no hint of 'the lost secret of life' except the general appreciation of the real life penetrating the illusion.

There is a thank you at the end to those who have, among other things, cleaned the Lodge over the Christmas break. The early people's group in the Lodge, the 'Eaglets' made it an act of service to give the Lodge a regular spring clean and this may be behind the thank you. It is an early reference to the Eaglets if so.

*General Notes:* White Eagle notes at the outset some scientific advances – a little confusingly, since some are obvious achievements of science and others seem to have been discoveries in non-scientific realms. The address carries strong messages about the need people have of each other if they are to grow spiritually, including the very attractive saying, 'The happiness of human life can only be attained through communion one with the other'. This section of the address also explains well why White Eagle so keenly promotes group meditation. There are further echoes of the hymn, 'O life that maketh all things new' – especially the line 'One in the freedom of the truth' – in the paragraph about the soul needing to find freedom, which is another central concept of this address. There is a nice phrase towards the end, 'a free spirit in the spiritual universe'.

There is a reference in the later part of the address to recent bereavements, but it is not known who is referred to. Clearly White Eagle felt confident to talk to them directly about the joy they might be experiencing behind their pain, and to broaden this into an evocation of the great spiritual awakening that bereavement can bring about.

*References:* 'Blessed are they that mourn' will have been read out in the reading of service – it is Matthew 5 : 4 – and likewise 'The tabernacle of God is with man', which is Revelation 21 : 3. 'O life that maketh all things new' is the first line of the hymn by Samuel Longfellow (brother of the poet H. W. Longfellow), 1819-92.

## White Eagle's Address:

Beloved children, at the beginning of this year, the New Year, we would bring you once more the message from our world of spirit. A message of hope, of love and beauty. The message of wisdom and blessing to every one of your lives. And as you were singing that beautiful hymn the thought came from the Group behind us, [that] so many, many years has humanity been searching for the secret, the lost secret of life. Many religions have come and passed away and the same message continues to come through in different forms to the people of earth.

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We still see pain and suffering. We see bodies distorted with pain and disease. We see lives sad and weary, so much suffering on earth and yet humanity has not yet been able to realise the life which it has, nor the life in which it lives. Humanity is in the centre of a great power. Your scientists are beginning to tap the resources of nature to find unknown quantities. They are beginning to discover waves of light and sound, and it is realised now that within the universe is all healing power, healing rays which manifest at different levels and at different vibrations, and you are beginning to find that every man and woman and child, according to the vibration of its soul and physical body, is able to receive these invisible healing rays. But you know that the wise men and women, sages of all time, discovered that they could receive waves of spiritual life, waves of wisdom, knowledge which completely changed the vibration of their human life, their physical body. Now, this is no new truth. It is as old as creation. When we see that you are suffering from many causes of the physical life, we desire so very deeply to help to relieve your suffering. We desire to help you not only to receive the radiations from the higher spheres of life, but to unfold within yourselves the centre, the focal point which is the attraction which those rays will follow.

This night you are all met in service to the Great White Spirit, to God, to the Source of Life. People come to a place of worship because it is customary to do so, but some come to a place of worship because they seek, through the communion of spirit, to realise the great power – the spiritual power of God, the directing force of life. It is true that some find it more congenial to be alone, to be away in the country or in a quiet lonely place. There they feel that they can touch the vastness of the spiritual forces. But we would remind you all that whilst it is true that in the silence and in the stillness alone you may be able to touch the music of heaven, you will not find complete satisfaction in that way.

Now the Master Jesus Christ came to the earth to teach mankind the joy of brotherhood, the joy of the simple human life. The happiness of human life can only be attained through communion one with the other; not only brotherhood of the spirit but companionship, human companionship on earth. Now some may not agree with what we say. Never mind if you do not agree with us. You have your way; you will allow us to have our way too. For we have found as we have journeyed onwards into the spirit world that after a period of aloneness, stillness and isolation we found the need for our brethren. We found the need for companionship and comradeship and we know that this is a law, a spiritual law of life. It is the grand truth that we are all one and in the One all live. It is through this true companionship that the love of God is experienced.

Now when you come together as a group, you come together to worship, you help one another. Whether you are conscious of it or not does not alter the fact that you help one another. The combined auras, the blending of your auras, the at-one-ment of spirit, the tuning of all assembled to the one central point, gives something which you cannot find in splendid isolation. Indeed we are going so far as to say that splendid isolation is utterly impossible in life, either here or hereafter. Man has to learn the value of brotherhood, of companionship, spirit with spirit, human life with human life. And, in this service tonight, together as one being, we seek the blessing of the Eternal Spirit that each present may receive the pure white ray and be lifted up from the confines of the material world, so that every soul may seek the freedom of that spiritual world.

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Yes, we know that in due time man will be released from a physical body so that he can come forward, but unless he has attained knowledge and learnt the rudimentary lessons of life, he cannot be set free and he cannot go forward. So what man is learning here on earth is the way to that freedom that you all hope for. But no man can be free unless he has discovered freedom within himself, unless he has attained the power to free himself at all times from the bondage of material conditions and limitations. And until a soul has done this (and he can only do it on earth in a physical body), until he can do this through successive incarnations, he still remains bound and chained to himself, to the earth. So we see that there is a way for man to attain freedom from all pain and suffering, all bondage of the flesh. And this, dear ones, is what you are earnestly seeking. All of you know it *here*, but now you have to know it in your life. It is to be a spontaneous living of life, of freedom, which is the only happiness. It is the true happiness.

Now, you wonder why we have talked at length on this subject. It is because you now stand at the beginning of a New Year and, if you would go forward into light and happiness, health and achievement, you must look for your guide. Man cannot go out into the dark night without a light. Man must have a guide. Now, being very human, man needs, or he likes to feel, that he has a guide: a man, maybe a woman, but a human personality who walks by his side. It is the natural instinct of the soul to need a guide. Now you will answer, 'Yes, God is my guide'. God is the Light Bearer, and God shines through every human soul that wills to allow God to shine through it, though your guide may take the form of a human friend, a spirit friend. But remember that through that friend it is the light of God which is shining, and that is your guide which lights your pathway as you go forward into the unknown, into perhaps darkness. But as soon as you realise that there is no darkness where the light of God shines, there will be no darkness for you, and you will move along your path, your appointed path, with the light of God shining before you, from the light of the lamp within you. By your side, either side, will be friends true, each carrying the light to light your way. And the light is the light of God shining through you all.

Dear ones, we are very mindful in this service of sadness, sadness through bereavement. Some of you have lost those you love very dearly. They have left you. They have gone out into the great limitless world of spirit. You wonder where they are, but you will agree that in your bereavement, in the sorrow which has touched your life in the past year, something else has come to you. It is difficult to explain it in words – maybe you have not even thought about it, but now we speak maybe you will realise something that has touched your heart. It is not wholly suffering, but mingled with your sorrow of bereavement is a joy; a joy which could not come to you unless you had suffered the parting and all the difficulties of the life accompanying that separation, the breaking up of home, maybe a complete change of conditions. There has been and still is the tendency to cling to the past.

Now, my dear ones, we refer you to those words of Jesus; 'Blessed are they who mourn'. What did he mean by these words? Now, if you analyse your own hearts you will know that in spite of loss, material, physical loss, you have changed in spirit. Your soul has changed. Something very fine and beautiful has been born in you as a result of your suffering and separation from your loved one – and you feel, although you may not say it, you may, you

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will hardly admit it to yourself, but if you analyse your feelings, you will admit that something blessed, sweet and beautiful has come into you. And though you may wonder with your earthly mind where your loved ones are, you know that they are near you. You know that they cannot be separated from you. You know it deep in here (the heart). The earthly mind is enquiring, analysing all kinds of evidence. Is it true? It does not matter if it is true or not. What does matter is that deep within you feel a closer link with your loved one. And if you will pursue that true inner feeling, it will lead you along a path of light to a great illumination, to a great happiness quite indescribable. You will know then the meaning of the words; 'Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted'.

You see, beloved brethren, these truths which have been taught through the ages in different forms – they are all truths concerning the inner life of man, but man in his ignorance tries to interpret them in an outer form. You must turn within and you will find that jewel. O dear ones, we speak to you in tender love. Do not think that we do not understand the loss of the physical body, but do not you understand that it is to enable you to develop a greater realisation of eternal truths, of the eternal life? Your loved one cannot die, cannot be separated from you. He is with you, and his spirit walks by your side and rejoices with you, and understands even if there are difficulties around you. He or she knows that these difficulties will pass as the clouds pass over the sky. He or she can see the whole panorama.

You are closed in a little box, but that box can have the lid off and its sides broken, and you will see the whole picture of the Eternal Now. Oh, we would have you not think of past, nor future, but try to live in God's life *now*. Do not look forward to some wonderful Jerusalem that is to come. Realise now the glory of the life of the Son of God. What did we hear in the reading tonight? 'The tabernacle of God is with man and God will come and dwell with man in his tabernacle.' This is the tabernacle, the body. Wherever you live, whoever you are, you are in the house of God: that is God's tabernacle. You may not be on this plane. You may be on the astral plane or mental plane or in the celestial worlds, but, wherever you are, the light of God cometh and dwelleth with you. And the man or woman who can look up into the face of the Master and see radiance, see the love of His face, is never, never bereaved and never alone. For that face is the face of his own beloved, always present, smiling, because that soul has realised the love of God and all that has limited him has vanished while he is free – a free spirit in the spiritual universe. This is what we want you to realise.

And do not listen to us tonight and think that our words are lovely, whilst [we are] uttering them. You may think otherwise. Some may think that what we are saying is true and lovely and then tomorrow forget. Now, dear ones, make a great effort on waking every morning to look up into the face of God. God is a spirit, but the light and love of God shines through form and through the human face. Look for it. Seek it every day and try and be the form, the face that God uses to shine his Light upon your fellow creatures.

Now, beloved children, look upward into the light. Realise the light is all around you, only you shut it out. The light is light and the light is pouring [upon you] now; the light which maketh life, which maketh all things new. And, if you can get this, you will have a happy, happy New Year, and your New Year will be lived in the eternal Now, the consciousness of that steady ever-burning flame, the light which will never leave you. Whatever experience

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lies before you, the light is with you and there is no looking back. All is eternal present. All is in the eternal Now.

And so may you be blessed, and blessed with a richness. Many of you are doing work now. You do not realise you are doing God's work. You are looking forward to something better but it is now that you are doing the very things God wants you to do.

We would speak now of the work which devoted brothers and sisters have done in this Lodge. We in spirit tenderly thank you for your labours. You will be refreshed and blessed and you will bless many others, although the work may have been hard and tiresome. We know this, but we who have come amongst you in these material surroundings thank you for beautifying your Lodge and our Lodge. Bless you. God bless you – and bless you, dear ones all, for this clean sweet beginning of the New Year.

May you all be happy, happier and happier and happier.

Goodnight. God be with you.

*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:*

*heal thyself, power of silence, community, unity, group work, teacher, master, mourning, grief, life after death, living in the present, light within*