

# The Christian Mysteries

T046 The Inner Teachings 19th May 1937 Pembroke Hall, London

## Invocation:

Infinite, immeasurable Love, we open our souls to Thy inflow. We bow before Thee, great Father, and as we worship, our hearts become purified by Thy indwelling spirit. May Christ Thy Son rise up in every soul! O Father God, we pray for the incoming of Thy wisdom, and would breathe out upon humanity the spirit of Christ. O God, may we love more perfectly, may we find a true humility in the service of our brother man\*. May the vibrations of these our brethren be so raised during this hour of communion that each one present may feel the contact with the angelic brethren, with the Great White Brotherhood of heaven. Peace be with all these Thy children.

Amen.

*[\*See the introduction for an explanation of gender issues in editing these teachings.]*

We bring a message tonight on the Christian mysteries. We have already touched this subject, having recently spoken on the mysteries of Egypt, Greece and America, dealing with each but superficially. In completing our series with the Christian mysteries, we shall incorporate the former mysteries which preceded Christianity. We would have you open your mind and heart to universal truth. It is impossible to confine the teaching of Christ, the Son of God, to orthodox Christianity. We would not detract one iota from the beauty of the teachings of Christianity, and in throwing greater light upon the Christian faith we do not destroy, but rather enlarge and beautify it for all. View Christianity then not merely from the aspect of orthodoxy, but as a universal truth forming the very centre and heartbeat of the Ancient Wisdom.

In ancient religions we already find the cross, adopted as the symbol of Christianity; the story of the crucifixion may be found in all parts of the world. The three degrees of freemasonry\* portray the Ancient Wisdom, the three initiations which all must pass on their 'return journey', or before they can be resurrected into the fuller life, or find reunion of their true self with God, the Father–Mother of all creation.

*[\*White Eagle refers to masonry as a form of universal truth or teaching, with no specific reference to the freemasonry of today.]*

Christianity has come to us from the mysteries of Egypt, for in Egypt one of the great initiations was the hanging of the candidate from a cross placed upon the altar, until the physical consciousness had vanished. The physical body was then laid in a coffin, and it was assumed that while insensibility remained the soul was released to wander in higher realms and become acquainted with the spiritual mysteries of the soul life. After three days the body was resuscitated, was brought back, and the candidate having passed the tests of the inner planes or in the spirit world, was welcomed by the brethren as one of themselves.

Many present will immediately recognise this ceremony. Remember, by the crucifixion the body was hung upon the cross, symbolising that the physical aspect of man must be crucified before the soul could be released. This same ceremony can be traced in the teachings on

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Krishna in India, for this great soul, whilst meditating by the side of the holy river, was shot by his enemy and his body hung upon a tree. Instead of the body decaying as the enemy expected, it was transmuted, was spiritualised, and restored to the companionship of the angels in the higher world.

As far as Mexico we find the symbol of the cross, and temples there built in the form of this cross, again symbolising the crucifixion of the physical or lower nature of man. As we told you, when touching the mysteries of America, our people knew Christ, even as you of a Christian country know Christ. Christ was also the Son of God to the Mexican, the saviour who came to reveal the pathway of light—Quetzalcoatl, the Christ of the Mexican people and the Mayan race. No, my children, the Christian mysteries are not confined to orthodox Christianity.

The crucifixion portrays the very heart of the Christian mysteries. The crown of thorns placed upon the head of the saviour symbolises the suffering of the soul imprisoned in the physical body. The crown of thorns, pressed upon the head, signifies the suffering which reason and the cold intellect of man must endure before finding the Christ within in the simplicity of love and service to God and to man.

In the crucifixion of the body of the Saviour between two thieves we read again the mystery of the three degrees\*, portrayed in all ancient mysteries, the degrees of body, of soul and of spirit. We picture the spirit, the Christ, between two thieves, the 'body' and the 'soul', recognising as the soul the thief on the one side to whom Christ said 'Today thou shalt be with me in paradise', while on the other side hung the thief (the body of man) who would have none of the spirit of Christ, the first knowing something of Christ's wisdom, sweetness and beauty; the other having nothing in Christ.

*[\*Stages of initiation, found in ancient freemasonry]*

Do you see the symbolism? In every man takes place the crucifixion, the suffering and release of the spirit before it can be reunited with universal love; the crucifixion of the soul until it finds submission to the divine Light; the death of the body, the thief which had nothing in Christ nor in the soul of man.

We do not rob you of your Christian faith when we show it as again a representation of the Ancient Wisdom come to you of the western world. There is only one Christ, and His symbolism is found in every religion, in all the mysteries. We trace this religion far beyond Arabia, Persia and Egypt, back indeed to the first dwellers on this earth. We trace in the Christian mysteries a form of worship brought by ancient and beloved brethren who came to this earth plane from a planet of love and light, and see how unevolved man used these mysteries to clothe his own frail conception of the birth of Christ, the Son of God in man.

These mysteries portray again the Sun worship of the ancient peoples, the birth of the Sun, the crossing from death of winter into birth and life on December 25th. We see again portrayed the resurrection of the Sun, of life, about the 25th of March, and at autumn, at the

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fall, to adopt another symbolism, we see again the coming of certain ruffians to Hiram Abiff, his passing into the chamber of death. The Christian mysteries contain the truth of man's creation, the path he must travel, the death of the lower self, the rebirth of the higher self, the perfect universality of the love of Christ in every man.

When the crown is pressed upon the head, the blood streams from the wounds, does the Christ within us feel the torture? Remember, there is no separation in spirit, no separateness. What Christ suffers today in you is that which He has suffered throughout the ages. We see the release of the life force, of the vital fluid in the streaming blood which fell upon the earth, and in the pierced side the streaming forth of life again, the blood the vital body, and the pure water of spirit.

Yes, all the world looked for a saviour; all generations and civilisations were taught to hunger for his coming, and in their own way, according to their mentality and understanding, so the saviour came. But Jesus of Nazareth, that great adept and master who had been prepared for his great mission long before this earth plane was peopled, was ready to provide the physical vehicle for the great Christ Spirit to manifest through, to bring to the earth the great baptism of the Christ Spirit. The actual teaching brought through Jesus of Nazareth was but a re-presentation of the Ancient Wisdom. There is no new truth—it was truth born with the earth's creation, but never was it brought to such an apex of spiritual power as with the three years' ministry of Jesus.

Unless you have certain knowledge through contact either with one of the White Brotherhood, or through a mystery school, you cannot fully understand nor appreciate the significance of the Christian teaching.

Two thousand years ago, and still Christianity is only understood by the few! But it was ever so; ever the outer courts and the inner Holy of Holies. But the Holy of Holies is never barred to he who comes humbly and unadorned. The man who truly seeks the light has but to knock, and the door is opened to him and he is received; on either side a companion, a deacon, will lead him into the temple, step by step until he comes before that altar upon which burns the everlasting flame, the divine Sun.

These mysteries are presented to man on the outer planes first, that his mind may grasp the inner truth; then he turns again, and seeks the light burning upon the altar. He finds only one way—the way of the cross, the crucifixion, and ultimate resurrection and reunion with the companions of former toils. O the wonder of this ancient teaching!

How comes it that Christians teach the salvation of man through the suffering of the One? This can never be; the suffering of the One cannot redeem—save only in this way: the suffering on Calvary is that of the same Christ within *you*, and every soul must climb the Hill of Calvary and be crucified. None can save another; each must pass the way of crucifixion and be saved through the love of the Christ within.

Benediction:

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O God our Father, make us pure in heart, humble in mind, courageous in spirit, and above all, increase in us our love for the Christ, and thus our love for all men who dwell in Christ's heart. May these Thy children accept the path of light with gratitude and thanksgiving in their heart, thanking Thee for the revelation of the purpose of life's endurance. And we rejoice, O Father God, in the promise of their resurrection and reunion with the Beloved in heaven.

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:*

*Ancient civilisations, ancient religions*

