A257 Sunday Address 8th November 1953 St Mary Abbots Place, London Remembrance Sunday Service

Text: another MB typescript – this time a top copy – once again headed 'London Lodge' and not marked 'Draft'. There are no contemporary markings.

Context: Remembrance Service, with another reading of verses from the Psalms: 29 : 1-4, 7 and 10-11, and 30 : 1-8 and 10-12 (these Psalms begin 'Give unto the Lord , ye mighty' and 'I will extol Thee, O Lord'). There is once again a communion at the end.

General Notes: this is an unusually long address. The opening carries a statement that may have startled even those familiar with White Eagle: 'It is man on earth who is dead, not those who pass out of the physical body into a larger world'. White Eagle deals with the likelihood of his audience feeling that they were a chosen company by reminding them of the enormous range of spheres of life beyond the one human beings recognise. White Eagle also lifts his audience out of a not-unusual Remembrance concentration upon those lost from one's own country. And he explains why he speaks to his audience as though they were children. Becoming as a little child is one of the underlying themes of this address. One of the unusual comments in the address is how quickly, after the Sun Men withdrew, humanity descended into quarrels and bloodshed. After this point, he turns to the Remembrance of those lost in war (with some reminders that 'Armistice Day' relates first of all to the 1914-18 war: 'the day so many years ago when the agony of war ceased') and offers the strongest reassurance about the continuation of life at the astral level. The premise of this address is very striking: that if men and women could contain their own warlike natures and look to God, constantly, warfare at the international level would be unknown. The strength with which this is pressed home is remarkable.

A fine summary sentence in this teaching is that man does not need intellectual learning: 'you only need to love God and to have an open mind, and to believe that there is no death'. Another fine apophthegm follows: 'God will satisfy your reason, but you must go first to God and not first to reason.'

References: the phrase 'the touch of the hand, the sound of the voice' near the beginning is an echo, maybe an unconscious one, of Tennyson's poem '*Break, break, break*': 'But oh! For the touch of a vanished hand, And the sound of a voice that is still!' Tennyson's grief over the loss of his friend Hallam was legendary. The idea, 'Unless ye become as a little child' (Matthew 18 : 3) is several times repeated, in various forms. The injunction, 'Love one another' appears more than once in St John's Gospel, but the key reference is 13 : 34. White Eagle alludes to St Paul teaching about the glory of the world beyond; there will be many references for this, but one leading one is 1 Corinthians 12, which begins with the well-known phrase, 'Concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant'. Another reference in this address is to the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah, destroyed because not a single honest man could be found in them: the story is told in Genesis, chapters 18 and 19. The phrase 'wailing and gnashing of teeth', near the end, is from Matthew 13 : 42. It goes without saying that the communion at the end harks back to the Last Supper.

White Eagle's Address:

Beloved brethren, brethren of our spirit, we come to you this night with love beyond your earthly knowledge at present.

We are speaking for a host of shining spirits. And amongst them are your own dear ones whom you have lost in this present physical life – but only for a while, dear ones, only for a short while. They come to you this night in glory, as well as in human understanding. For

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although they have lost their physical bodies they have another body which is just as substantial to them as the physical body which you think is dead.

We would dispel all the mists about death. There is no death. And what you see [as] the shell lying still after consciousness has been withdrawn from it, it is only like a dress which has been discarded. And you will say that is all very well, White Eagle, but we have lost the touch of the hand, the sound of the voice; the place in our home is vacant. Yes, dear ones, to you it appears to be vacant, that is all, but it is not vacant. Your loved ones come to you very frequently. It is man on earth who is dead, not those who pass out of the physical body into a larger world, to greater powers; those who pass on into the Halls of Learning and who meet their Teachers. For in our world there are many teachers. But the teachers always give the truth, the simple ancient wisdom, which has always been given to people on earth who were ready to receive it.

It is a mistake for you to think that in your present age you are receiving new truth and that you are specially chosen to be told about the life after death. No, the knowledge of the life after death has always been with man. And messengers from our world, from the world of spirit, have always been coming to your earth plane bringing comfort and spiritual light and knowledge. Do not for one moment think that you are in a New Age because of man's attainments. Intellectually and scientifically man is better equipped today than he was in the beginning to receive communication from a world of spirit – from other worlds – not only those spheres immediately surrounding your earth planet, but from other worlds in your solar system.

Dear ones, you may feel that you are a chosen company. You may feel very happy in this knowledge, but we would say to you that there are spheres of life beyond, far, far, beyond your physical sphere and beyond this earth planet. Oh, you do not know yet the life which awaits you in due time when you have learnt the lessons which this earth life has to teach you!

And those you have lost – many of them lost in a way, such a way that you could not know how they passed from the physical body – to you, to you my dear ones, we bring assurance that in the world of spirit no one is overlooked. There is always preparation made in the new home for every soul who passes into it. There are no lonely ones on arrival in the spirit world. Remember that those who come over to our world are not only British people. All the souls on earth who are released from the body come over to the World of Spirit, and in every country as you would call it in the spirit world there are those who welcome the new arrivals. Your dear ones who left you suddenly – who were lost in the air and never heard of again; who were lost in the sea and whose remains were never discovered; those who were killed in battle leaving no remains – no physical remains – all these, on arrival in the spirit world, found themselves with companions, who very soon became dear friends to them. Do not think that your dear loved ones wandered about alone and lonely. God is merciful. God is Love. He does not cause His children to suffer. He takes care of them.

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Now, you think we are speaking as one talking to a child, but this is what you earthly people need. What is the use of us speaking to you in highly scientific and intellectual language? You have had enough of that, too much of that on your physical plane at the present time. What you all crave for is simplicity. You crave for knowledge which touches your heart and raises your consciousness to a world above the dark material world in which most of the earth people are living. So, we speak to you in simple language, giving you simple truth that those you think are dead and those you mourn as lost are not lost and they are not dead. And they have very beautiful companions. They are moving forward on a path of spiritual progress. And they are never separated from you whom they love, although you, by your own thoughts and your attitude towards life, cut yourself off from them. That is the only difference. You cannot see them. You cannot feel their touch and you cannot hear them with your physical senses because they are living in a different dimension from you. And you cannot hear, nor see, nor feel a world – a plane of life – in a higher dimension, and that is the only difference.

But we said a little while ago that this knowledge of life after death has always been with man since the very beginning of life on this planet. Why do we say this? For this reason; that in the beginning of life on this planet man was not alone in the material world as he is today. There were great teachers – god-men – highly-evolved souls, who came to this earth from other worlds, not spirit worlds – oh no, oh no, not physical worlds, they were more highly advanced. They were the elder brethren, you would call them, and they were here to help the souls who came into incarnation in the beginning on this planet. And they gave them knowledge. They taught them about spirit and spirit life and also about their own inner powers. Man was taught that within himself was a power – call it what you will – but it was the Power of God's Son, the Son of God in man. And that Power was man's light, and if he would follow the Light he would not know pain – nor unhappiness, nor sorrow. If he would follow the Light of the Son of God which was implanted in him, he would rise into a fuller, a more glorious consciousness of life and of his own powers. This is the truth, my children, we speak to you this night.

We will not go through the whole history of the human race, but most of you know what we have to say to you – that with the passing of time men became overweighed with materiality – some will call it selfishness. They lost the vision glorious. They lost the word of God. They lost the vision of the Son of God within them. Pain and suffering came to the world and quarrels and battles and bloodshed and wars, and the earth planet passed through a terrible time. We have no hesitation in telling you that this earth planet is the lowest and the darkest at present. But it will rise into the Light as humanity itself strives to find the Light. There is a great pull between love of God and love of self and self-preservation; the pull of the earth and the lower nature against the unfoldment or uncovering of the Son within man's heart.

Dear children, think of these things that we say to you tonight and use your inner vision, the vision which the great Master, St Paul, spoke of – the celestial vision – the vision of the higher body – and see all round you the great host of happy faces, the throngs of shining spirits who come to you tonight because you remember them, because for a brief space all your countrymen are remembering the Day so many years ago when the agony of war ceased.

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All are remembering those gallant souls who suffered and who went on with what they felt was their duty. They gave us what they had to give, stoically believing that they were doing something which was going to release their loved ones and their country from the grip of something dark and ugly. All the very finest and noblest in them was aroused. And remember this, that in the spirit of self-sacrifice and self-denial they went onward. Mercifully, they were released. Mercifully, they were received into a world far more beautiful than the one they left, the one they were fighting in.

Now, many of you wonder what was the fate of these men – and some women. We repeat to you again that they were received by loving guardians and companions. They were very gently and lovingly treated. Many of them did not know that they had lost the physical body – *many* of them – and they were not rudely awakened or shocked by the knowledge. They were very gently healed and prepared and led along a path which caused them to think for themselves. And then the very finest and the best again rose to the surface and to every one of them came a vision of God and the God-life. The desire was born in them to follow that God-life so that they could help loved ones who were still on the earth. And they were not unhappy because you were left on earth. We have told you God is merciful. These souls came to you when you too were released from your physical body – your body was sleeping – and as soon as your body is asleep you are released from it. You are in exactly the same position as those you love who have forsaken the physical body altogether. The only difference is that you can go so far and no farther in the world of spirit. You are attached to the earth. Your life has not been lived out on the earth; therefore you cannot come beyond a certain distance from your physical body – but you are with them and they with you.

You do not understand time on your earth. You count time by the rising and the setting of the sun. You count time by a functional calendar. You do not understand that time is Eternal. Time is ever-present. There is no past, no future – all is now. There is no time in the world of spirit, and your loved ones are with you. You re-live in your mental body, in your mental state; you re-live intense happiness. We have heard you relating to your friends what a wonderful time you had with your brother or your husband and that has all passed, that has all gone. 'Oh, we had such wonderful holidays, we did this and that, but it is all over.' That is where you make a big mistake, because these things are not over. All the lovely memories you have are still alive and you are still able to re-live your experiences of happiness and joy and pleasure because your dear ones are still living in the astral world; a world of feeling and emotion and desire. And it is not a dark world – astral means light – they are in a world of light – in many instances, a world of intense beauty and perfection of form.

Now we could go on telling you a great deal about the astral plane and the world that your dear ones live in, but we have said enough to set you thinking. Do not let your reasoning mind, your very material mind, destroy the vision glorious. Do not let it destroy the truth of being. Remember what we say, that in the very beginning god-men from other worlds came to your earth and instructed man in his own inner powers and how he could look through the curtain of materiality in this world of light.

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Now you do not need to go to anyone else for your vision. You must have your own vision. And the way to get this vision is to remove the bandage, the blindfold which is over your eyes. Jesus said – and you all believe in the truth of the words of Jesus – he said; 'Unless ye become as a little child, ye shall in no wise enter the Kingdom of Heaven'. There it is. He did not say you have to make a great study, a great scientific study, you do not have to study all the ethers and the different planes and the science of the universe. You do not need all that, dear children: you only need to love God and to have an open mind, and to believe that there is no death. And to believe that you are here on this earth plane for one purpose and this purpose is to grow in the consciousness of God. You have grown to self-consciousness. You have to grow more and more. You have to expand in consciousness, the consciousness of God. Life is consciousness. The more your consciousness expands in the God-life, the more your inner powers will unfold.

Now, my children, the whole point of our message to you tonight is this. The earth at the present time is, shall we say, at the crossroads. It appears to be in a rather precarious state, from the material viewpoint, but man – humanity – is on the threshold of great opportunity; the opportunity to follow the Son of God, or the light within his heart. If man will become as a little child and turn to God, the Great White Spirit, for all his needs - if only man would think a little more of God and a little less of his material life and the problems which confront him - the problems of what his next-door neighbour is doing - whether it is in the next door to your house or in the next country. If only man would centre his whole spirit upon God, believing, knowing, that God is the Supreme Being, the One that has all Power and all Wisdom and all Love. If man would daily, from the moment he wakens in the morning to the time he lays down his body on a couch at night, if he would think: 'God, dear God, dear Father, I have a problem. Which is your way? Which way will you have me take?' the answer would be given. But man makes everything so complex by argument and reason which he thinks he should use. God will satisfy your reason, but you must go first to God and not first to reason. 'Dear God, Thou wilt give me the answer to all my questions. Thou art the Life. Thou art the Life. If we can live in Thee, in Thy Love, Thou wilt heal the sickness of mind and body.'

When man is separated from God through his own foolishness, his own weakness, then he is out of harmony with God's law. Then comes confusion – wars. Wars do not start on the fields of battle or in the sky. Wars start in the human heart and in the human life. And this is what man has to learn. It is not your governments and the governments of other countries which commence these wars. It is you, my child, my brother, my sister, in your own heart. If you lived harmoniously, if you lived all the time in faith and belief in God's love – it is no use arguing the point with your mortal mind – your material mind, saying 'oh, but – oh, but'. There are no buts. There is one viewpoint – God is Love. What did Jesus come to tell you? 'Love one another'. You say; 'But I do love my brother – but my brother does not love me'. What your brother does is not your concern. You love. You love life. Do not get up in the morning and say; 'Oh, this is a hateful day. I hate it. It is a dark day. What a horrid day!' Get up in the morning and say, 'Thank God for greater opportunity; another day, another opportunity to learn, to love and to serve'.

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How can we put it to you, dear ones, how can we make it more plain? We can only say to you, put it into operation. Try, try the gentle art of loving, thinking the best, not thinking the worst, not imagining that your brother is plotting a war against you. We are not speaking of international war. We are speaking of the individual life, because this is the beginning. Herein lies the secret of man's evolution – man's spiritualisation. Man has got into a great state of materiality. He materialises everything in your world. But the purpose of his life is to spiritualise everything and, until man (and woman and child) learn to spiritualise life – spiritualise himself – until he does that he is as one in chains, chains of darkness and ignorance, and he bears on his back a very heavy burden, which he has put there himself. Then he says, 'What is God doing? There cannot be a God of Love, or we should not be suffering like this'. Did not your old Christian Bible tell the story of the two cities that were just over-ridden with materially-minded people? When God sent a Messenger warning them of what would happen if they did not change their ways, He said to the Messengers, 'If you can find ten just men in the city, it can be saved, or even less' – but the Messenger could not find one.

Now then, this is your challenge, your responsibility, on this Day of Remembrance. When you look back and you see the suffering and the pain, the sickness, disease, famine, terror, fear, all the things which the body brings – this day, children of earth, look up to God! Oh, if only all your countrymen, all the people on your earth could be roused to look up to God, to the Supreme Light, to the Great White Spirit, to the source of all love, all harmony, all beauty, all healing! For God is the great Healer for all human suffering and pain, and God is the Peacemaker. God looks to His children, His sons and daughters on this earth plane to allow Him to use them as lighthouses, as channels for His Light and His Life. Very soon the cry of 'war, war, war' will fade away. There will be born a new world on earth – a new world. There will be no darkness, no materiality. The very atoms of the earth will be charged with this power, this light, this glory of the heavens. It has happened before. The world, the earth planet will become not only the golden planet, it will become ethereal – very, very much finer ether will penetrate the earth life. The earth will become as other planets – spiritualised, glorified.

Oh, you have a wonderful life before you all! Your loved ones who are listening to our poor words will rejoice when they see you looking up, upwards. You know, you say, you people of earth, the material-minded people want to be convinced of something material. Now that is not true, because if man and woman have within themselves God-consciousness, and if you are touching that, it will quicken and expand. But it does not quicken or expand through material darkness. Look up, seek the highest. Seek truth in your heart. And in your highest aspirations see God in your daily life. Look to God. Put your hand in the hand of God. You will find full and perfect satisfaction and joy. The dark curtain between you and the world of spirit will grow thin. It will vanish altogether and you will not have weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth. You will have shining faces, gentle voices, loving lives, friendship and brotherhood and the secrets of nature will give to you the wherewithal to beautify your life.

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And in time, there will be no death at all, not even of the physical body. There will only be resurrection and the ascension into worlds of great glory.

Help one another. Help us to help you. Keep the flag flying here over this humble, simple little building! You are needed by the hosts of messengers who come to help the world, to help humanity to be released and illumined and glorified. So mote it be.

May the peace of divine love be with you, be with you now. May you never lose it; never – and you never will as you love, love, love and, above all, love God.

Dear ones, before we leave you in the company of these Shining Ones, lay your hearts bare. Here in your midst and in their midst is the Form of the Son of God. You are part of Him. He breaks the bread and says; 'Take, eat, my cosmic Body, the Bread of your life'. He takes the cup shaped like His Heart, overflowing with His spirit – the wine, the Life. Sip – Holy, Holy, Holy communion of spirit; spirit with Spirit. This can only take place on a certain level.

The Lord of Hosts blesses you and keeps you in the consciousness of this Communion.

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:

life after death, reincarnation, contacting loved ones, world peace, armistice, spiritual contact, inner light, light within, experience of death, eternity, intuition