

A New Year's Message

A068 Sunday Address 7th January 1940 Pembroke Hall, London New Year reopening service

The text of this address is as issued in the magazine Angelus after it was given, apart from correction of errors

Text: from February 1940 *Angelus*. The opening words seem to have been shorn of White Eagle's usual greeting from spirit.

Context: the heading in *Angelus* confirms that this was an address in the Lodge, and 7th January was indeed the first Sunday of the year.

General Notes: the opening paragraph is an interesting reiteration of what White Eagle said in more detail in his talk of 31st May 1934, entitled 'The Language of the Gods'. At other times he reminded his listeners that when silence prevailed, they might hear other members of the Brotherhood speaking besides himself.

There is a rare reference at the end of the second paragraph to the powers of darkness operating in the wartime conflict. Nonetheless, and characteristically, White Eagle comes back to the bird singing outside the chapel at the end of the talk – which always seems to get his attention more than sirens and bombs.

White Eagle also gives, at the end of the address, a very interesting threefold 'rule' for a morning practice.

White Eagle's Address:

On earth, language is a necessary form of communication, one with another, but in the world of spirit to which we are all journeying, there is no need for the spoken word. When we desire to bring to you a message, for a moment we feel the limitation of language. We hesitate to make a noise, and try to convey to the heart rather than to the mind the message of truth. We feel that the spoken word shatters, dissipates for a moment, the vibrations of colourful beauty which are being directed upon you. So you understand our hesitation. When you notice this in future, remember that you are, in those moments of silence, being bathed in colours, in spiritual essences. You may, if you will, absorb the unspoken wisdom into your soul.

We stand at the beginning of another year and it seems desirable that we should bring a special New Year's message. Sometimes it seems difficult to find a fresh theme to quicken your interest and your aspiration to higher things and particularly when your country is in a state of unfriendliness with another. You naturally react to influences now fighting actively, through mankind, against the power of peace and love, the Spirit of Christ.

Nevertheless, the Spirit of Christ is knocking at the heart of mankind. The gentle figure of Christ stands outside the Door of the World – of worldliness – holding in His Hand the Light, [and] upon His lips the words, 'I am the LIGHT'. But the world, and even the followers of Christ, are so busy that they do not always hear. Not hearing, they forget that man, from the highest to the lowest, cannot walk without the Light of all things, the greatest need in life.

If you think for a moment, you will know that this is true, for all have many perplexities. You come sometimes to us to ask for advice and guidance, bewildered with the affairs of earth and, feeling the urge, the need, the longing for the guidance of the Light. But, beloved brethren, God has already given you that Light. In terms of old fashioned Orthodoxy, "God

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gave His Son to the world". Is not Christ the Light? In these advanced days, of course, this simple statement of truth is lightly passed over. The man preoccupied with physical science has no time for such a faith as this. Nevertheless, God gave His Son to be mankind's light and guide, not through one incarnation only, not merely through your present Christian incarnation. The Light of the Son of God has been repeatedly revealed through the Ancient Wisdom and the teachers of the past. But do not confuse our words. We tell you in deep sincerity that the Christ Spirit is the Son, and the only Son of God, which has manifested again and again and again.

Today we watch, and there are many others who yearn over humanity. We see confusion of thought, confusion in religion and confusion in the government of men. We watch the impression made upon the minds of men by each new teaching. We watch the insatiable desire for sensation and excitement. Yet there can be only the one truth, only one true teacher. It does not matter whether the instrument is one of the prophets of old, of the teachers of Far East. It may come from the priests and teachers of Egypt, the White Brotherhood and the priests of the Great White Light in Atlantis. It may be spoken by a Christian preacher of today. There is only one truth and not any of these teachers should vary in essentials. According to the evolution of the race, the culture of the country, the preparation of the mind and soul of the pupil, the teaching will coincide. Its essence will be the same. There is no new truth. You can lay what you read and what you hear from our lips (and from the words of others) by the side of the simple teaching of the Master and it will harmonise. There will be no discrepancy, no contradiction. For every wise man, every philosopher who has touched the heart, the "I AM", finds the same truth, the only truth. Such truth is not to be obscured by fine words and baffling language. It is simple. It is so plain.

This is our very earnest message; a New Year message to all true aspirants and all true and faithful pupils of the Master. By the Master, we refer to the Son of God, the Light of the World and that gentle Christlike spirit which dwells within you. To find truth you do not need to rush into libraries or acquire great mental culture. You contain within yourself the treasure of the ages. Do you not realise that you have lived not a few score years, nor even a few centuries, nor a few thousand years, but for literal *ages*. During the immense process of your life, your soul has been impressed by life's experiences, by contacts in many countries with many people. You have learnt to use not only physical, but soul observation. You have been absorbing experiences down the ages and this treasure lies deep within. But, beloved brother, it takes a great deal of courage and perseverance to open up the secret chamber. It cannot be done with safety through magical practices, but only through spiritual work upon yourself and work which takes form as *service to humanity*.

The world is encompassed with selfishness. Men who live conscious of only this physical body live in grave clothes. The Master Jesus taught you this in the miracle of the raising of Lazarus. "Lazarus, come forth!" At the Word of Power, Lazarus raised himself from the grave of materialism and faced his Master. Mankind lives in a world of death whilst it continues in materialism and what is called "common sense" which believes that spiritual aspirations and spiritual ways are impractical and unbalanced. They are the only true, wise,

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sensible methods for the progress of man and of life on earth. Why not, when spiritual laws govern both the universe and your earth plane? Also do not fall in to the error of thinking that material laws are all-powerful. They are not. They have a way, you know, of showing their weakness and being discarded.

To this latter part of our message, we call your attention and ask for your earnest and quiet interest.

A man stands by your side as the New Year opens, holding in His hand the Light. He promises you, my brother, my sister, Illumination. He promises to guide you. These words of His can be a rule for a new life: "Rise, little pupil, each morning, with the will to let the light of God shine forth from your life". The second rule: "Rise each day with the desire to be a mirror, that other men, looking into, may see themselves reflected as the Master sees them". This is important. You may have found that according to your actions, attitude and bearing towards your brother, you draw from him the like quality. Thus if your brother is able to see himself, the true self, which the Master sees, because your actions have called for the Christ in him, you fulfil the rule.

Such simple teaching, but so profound.

And the third rule: "Rise each day realising that you are a guardian of God's love" - in other words, a guardian of the Christ Spirit, which has been placed in your heart at your creation. You are the guardian of this precious gift of Love.

This is our message and very simple it is. If you can get it across to the world in your life you will be truly great and worthy guardians of the love, the truth and the teaching of the Master of Masters, of the King of Kings: He who is coming amongst you in the near future.

We wish you peace. What is the message that little bird outside is singing? Joy! God's Voice, Joy! Peace be unto you all and peace will crown this year. Peace be in your heart.

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:

power of thought, eternal love, in my father's house, eternal truth, World War II