

The City of Golden Light

A190 Sunday Address 21st March 1948 St Mary Abbots Place, London Sunday Service

The date of this address is conjectural (see below), while the text is as issued in the magazine Angelus after it was given, apart from correction of errors

Text: from Angelus, September 1948.

Context: an unusually lengthy address. Traditionally, the address in the September magazine would have been given at the beginning of July. Yet in this address the Vernal Equinox is mentioned as a current happening, so it must be from the spring. Normally we might expect a service on Easter Day, 28 March, but this does not read as an Easter address. It could be the first Sunday of the next month, i.e. 4 April, but given that the Anniversary service fell on 22 February and a service on the first Sunday of the month would have been only a week later we have followed conjecture and guessed that White Eagle spoke at a service on the third Sunday in March – which would have been right on the vernal equinox. In the later 1940s there seems to have been no Easter service held at all. There is a reference to ‘she who led you in prayer’ and this probably implies that JGH or YGH were in the Chair rather than IC.

The reading is stated to have been about the Ascension, and so May or June would have figured but for this reference: Ascension Day in 1948 fell on Thursday 6 May. However, there is no reason a reading containing the Ascension story could not have been chosen in March, albeit on what would have been Palm Sunday.

The reading was probably Luke chapter 24, although Acts 1 : 1-11 also tells of the Ascension. The address also mentions the earth’s harvest, but if it is a harvest address it would have to be one from a previous year – and would more usually have then been chosen for the October magazine. It’s more likely that the prayer, mentioning Divine Mother, celebrated the lusciousness of spring. Another hymn sung at this service, according to what White Eagle says, was probably George Herbert’s ‘King of Glory, King of Peace’, which contains the lines ‘Seven whole days not one in seven, I will praise Thee’.

One counter-indication to the March date would be the sentence, ‘The earth at present is full of fear’. The blockade of Berlin by the Soviet Union began on 24 June. However, the Cold War had been strongly in people’s fears since the middle of 1947, and thus we do not need to turn to the Berlin blockade to explain the reference. There is no recorded service for July 1948, however, and so the date of 4 July is only negated by the references to the springtime.

General Notes: at the beginning, White Eagle seems to imply that ‘those [human beings] who have divested themselves of the darkness of a selfish earthly life’ then become angels. That would be in contradiction to his more regular teaching that angels are a separate lifestream. It is thus more likely that what he means here are not angels in the sense of ‘winged beings’ but individuals from the human lifestream who have effectively shed their chains and continue as beings of light only. This is confirmed by White Eagle immediately turning to the story of the Ascension.

In its vision of ‘the City of Golden Light’ this address is somewhat parallel to the one given on 7 March 1948, referring to ‘the city of light’ and the King of Glory entering into it – so close, indeed, as to further the idea that they were given a fortnight apart, in March 1948.

References: the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah is told of in Genesis chapters 18 and 19. ‘Seek ye first the kingdom of God’ is Matthew 6 : 33. Setting up a golden calf – that is, an idol – is the practice Moses deprecated in Exodus chapter 34. ‘Seven whole days not one in seven, I will praise Thee’ is from George Herbert’s hymn (see ‘Context’). For the sources of the Ascension story, see ‘Context’; both Luke and Acts contain elements of the story which White Eagle refers to here. White Eagle adds ‘the Comforter’ but Acts offers ‘Holy Ghost’, which is the same (Luke has ‘power from on high’). The man caught up in the chariot of fire was Elijah (2 Kings 2 : 11). The episode in the War to which White Eagle refers was presumably the Battle of Britain, although it was Dunkirk that most of

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all captured 'the British spirit'. White Eagle has his Bible slightly wrong in referring to John being freed from prison. Although Peter and John are clearly working together in Acts 4, it is actually Peter, in Acts 12, who is set free by an angel. There are a number of stories about John escaping death, but they are non-Biblical.

White Eagle's Address:

If you could switch your senses over from this earth vibration, and tune them like a wireless receiving instrument to receive another station, you would both hear and see on your television set those who, because they have divested themselves of the darkness of a selfish earthly life, we call angels. A period comes in the passage of the soul when it scatters the unwanted dark atoms which it had accumulated on the earth and, leaving behind all that in the physical life which had outlived its purpose, rises into realms of great beauty and light.

Our reading tonight has been about the ascension of the Christ. All the experiences which the Lord Christ underwent in this earthly life symbolise the progress of every human soul and will indeed be experienced by every soul.

The earth at present is full of fear. A number of you here fear for the future of mankind, but this is foolish; for fear thoughts tend to find expression in some catastrophe, or to create the very conditions which are feared. A story in the Bible tells about the Lord saying if He could find only a few just men in the condemned cities of Sodom and Gomorrah He could save those cities, but even those few souls through whom the spirit of the Lord could work were not forthcoming, so the cities perished.

The symbolism contained in the teaching of Christianity has as its aim to show mankind that man is created in God's own likeness – in a form identical with that which the Master Jesus the Christ wore, a form identical with that which all the masters and avatars or saviours of mankind have used; and it is through human form, through humanity itself, that God will bring forth His spirit.

We noticed when prayer was offered tonight, she who led you referred to the earth and its harvest. We would make use of this idea: for the earth has always been worshipped as the great mother. The earth is like a womb which is impregnated by the seed of life. We see nature bringing forth flower and beauty at this springtime of the year, the vernal equinox, which is why the ancient ones have always held their festivals at this season, praying to the great White Spirit to bless the earth. Because without a baptism from the divine fire of the Father-God, from whom the life-force comes, there could be no spring equinox, no growth; the mother would be unable to bring forth her child. The Divine Father in His great love pours forth the spirit of life in rain and sunlight and from such a baptism the food which feeds humanity results. Without harvest there would be no sustenance for man, but God in His care and love for you, His children, never fails.

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God never fails, my children, but man often fails; man is failing today in his usage of Mother Earth. When man treats the soil naturally and kindly then God will bless his labours abundantly, and beautiful fruits will be brought forth as a harvest.

Man at present is breaking spiritual law and tending to live by intellect alone, and by the powers which intellect appear to give into his hands; but you will see how power of intellect will destroy life instead of helping the advancement of the spirit. It is right that the mental age should come and man develop his mental capacity, so long as he does not put intellect foremost. 'Seek ye first the kingdom of God', the Master said. The spirit of God must be worshipped as in days of old. Man must not set up a golden calf. He must worship in spirit and in truth, putting the spirit of Christ foremost. Then the mental body, which is in process of development, will be enriched and will be enabled to comprehend spiritual verities. You cannot understand spirit with the mind alone. You can only comprehend spirit with the spirit, which is the light of God resident in the human heart. It is necessary for man first of all to develop this spirit within by service to his brother man, by love towards all creatures. By this development he is working with God, is allowing himself to be the instrument of God. Through man the ideal of perfect life which is held in the heart of God will gradually permeate all form, manifesting through man himself and then through the nations and through the wide world.

Our reading tonight contained a description of the beloved Master ascending with his disciples to the high places, to the hills. He took them to the hilltops and there blessed them, and told them to return to Jerusalem, and to wait until the spirit, or the Comforter came. A wonderful piece of symbolism is contained in this story, for the 'City of Jerusalem' represents a state of consciousness to which you have all at some time attained. When you had entered into the city you were in a state of spiritual ecstasy, had entered into golden light. Jesus said to his disciples, 'Go to the city'. In other words go, seek that place of illumination, the golden city and wait there until you receive the Comforter, the spirit of truth which is coming.

Many of those who go to the golden city have little patience and get tired of waiting, so go back to their material work and forget all about the heavenly life. A hymn you were singing tonight said something about the worship of God, not one day in seven but every day, so that the glory of God should irradiate the individual worshippers and so bless the whole earth. This is the meaning of the disciples going to Jerusalem and waiting. In the same way when you come to a service you may be raised in consciousness into the heavenly spheres. Do not forget your experience here in this Lodge. Let it remain with you; go to Jerusalem in spirit, and remain there. While you can do this you will always be conscious of spiritual companions. You will not be dragged down into materiality and shadow, in harmony and unhappiness. So long as you remain in the city of golden light, you will become consciously united with Christ, with God. You will know the meaning of the ascension. You will be caught up into a state of happiness of which nothing can rob you. We know, we know, my children, that you feel that it is too much to aspire in this manner. But countless souls have reached this state while still living in a body, and as a result of that realisation of the God-life

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they have transmuted the very physical body that they were using. This is the real meaning of the ascension.

We do not want to disturb or shock you, but must speak of the things which we have seen for ourselves. Was there not a man in your own scriptures who was caught up in a chariot of fire and disappeared from the gaze of the people? The chariot of fire means the spiritual power and light, and it is what some occultists describe as the Fire initiation. Jesus used this as a symbol to teach mankind the way all souls must travel.

Do not concentrate on darkness. Be not filled with fear, but rather concentrate upon the spirit of God, and be one of His servers. There comes a point in the life of all when you are quite unable to deal with some material situation, when you do not know what to do for the best, are unable to make a decision. Some people like to come to the spirit friends and guides, to ask for guidance at such times. You see you feel that there is truth within you, that it is the spirit (or a spirit, as you think) which can solve your difficulty. You do not realise that it is not some spirit to which you should turn, but *the* spirit of God, the Great White Spirit that we worship. This is when man learns that spirit is all powerful, and mind and body but the instruments of the spirit. This is what your world has yet to learn and what it is slowly learning.

Let us look back a few years to an episode in the war, when this little isle of Britain appeared to stand alone surrounded by formidable enemies. The real enemy was fear. That occasion was a call, not to the mind, not to the body of the nation, but first and foremost to the spirit. For months this spirit of the people of this ancient isle blazed forth. Strength came not from natural circumstances but from the spirit which worked through the people to give them strength, to inspire their minds, to direct their energies. The materialist will say that the Britisher only used his common sense; and that it was the character of the people which saved them. But the British character is the spirit of the people; and God worked through this spirit.

You as a people must never forget this episode, never allow materiality or intellectuality to mislead you; because as surely as you do, there will be a crumbling, a dissolution of the spirit of the people, which is the spirit of God. Do not forget that you have a heritage, far more ancient than historians conceive. This glorious spirit quickens both you and this very land, but only for so long as the people concentrate upon and remember that they are sons of God, and must act as sons and daughters of God. They must be wise and kind to the soil of this land and from the soil upwards; they must learn to be kind to one another; to be good and wise in their treatment of their physical vehicle, their body. They must look abroad and count all men as brothers. They must look abroad and must know that in every man and women dwells a divine spark of spiritual life, like to that which is within themselves. They must know that by putting forth goodwill towards all men they are creating goodwill for themselves, and so are moving forward towards that time when there will be one world government and all countries live at peace in brotherhood. You cannot expect other countries to regard you with brotherly feelings if you are cruel to any living creature. To be treated as a son of God, you must become a son of God. When [you are] faced with problems you cannot

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solve, we say to you that the solution for which you search lies in the spirit. If you allow your spirit to direct your daily actions you will find a solution.

Sometimes you come up against a problem that seems quite insoluble by mind or indeed by any material means. On such occasions surrender in truth and sincerity to the Great White Spirit. Give the power into the hands of the Spirit; know that where man fails, the power of God will not, cannot fail. The story of John who was in prison may illustrate what we mean. His friends were very fearful for John. But he was a man of God and surrendered with the simplicity of a child to God's will and to God's wisdom; and behold the angels came, and his prison doors opened and his fetters fell away, so he walked forth a free man. The story is told in the Scriptures.

Many a like illustration of the power of God can be found even in the last war, when you were told, as you were being told today, that everything rests with you. You are asking, 'What can I, one individual, do?' Remember the story of Sodom and Gomorrah. Keep strong in your faith in God's power and love. You know, as well as we, that there have been countless illustrations of this power of the spirit releasing the prisoner and healing the sick, freeing the soul from pain and suffering. You have wondered why it is that some are healed and others are not healed? You can be quite sure that the reason lies with the individual soul. For every soul has to learn certain lessons. Every soul has to become strengthened by the spirit, and until that soul will receive its power and will allow the spirit to work it, then the soul must shoulder the burden of its karma. Do not think, my children, that karma is something which necessarily comes from past lives. Karma can be made this very moment, and may face you in a few hours' time. Karma is the law of cause and effect. If you put into operation the cause – whatever it maybe – the effect is sure to follow. You cannot escape, because this is the law of sowing and reaping, in spite of the fact that many people believe that they can get away with it, thinking 'It does not matter, I shall not have to answer for this action. It will not affect me at all'. There is no escape from this law of cause and effect. So we see suffering and illness eventuate because a cause has been sown. It may happen through ignorance, but ignorance has to learn. God will forgive ignorance because the soul of man is here in the flesh to learn. Yet ignorance is no excuse, for it has to be dispersed before wisdom can dawn.

Does this seem a hard law? We assure you it is not so, we assure you that it is a law of infinite mercy and infinite love, for it works through man's life in a beautiful way, bringing light out of darkness, order out of chaos. My children, this is the teaching which you will find right through your Scriptures.

The final realisation of the soul is symbolised by the moment of ascension when the soul is freed from all the ties that have held it over its long past and it goes from its Lord and Master to the hilltop and there rises unfettered into the light and glory of God's Kingdom – the ascension from earth into heaven.

God bless you, my dear ones. God bless every brother and sister in this congregation. Remember the companions who encompass you, the loved ones, the angelic ones, the saints

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and teachers who fill your heaven. They are with you and will help you by the power of the spirit and the love of God. God bless 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:

positive thought, faith, mother goddess, divine mother, intuition, light within, spiritual contact, initiation, light in Britain, flowing, sending out the light

