

In the Midst of our Enemies

A159 Sunday Address 10th March 1946 Edinburgh Lodge Sunday Service

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

Text: from *Angelus*, October 1946, where the date and place are both given.

Context: an editorial note explains its belated inclusion in the October *Angelus* 'because it seems complementary to 'The Five Great Laws, also appearing in this issue'. The March *Angelus* had usefully announced the Minesta and Brother Faithful were due to be in Edinburgh and Glasgow from the 9th of the month.

General Notes: a slightly shorter-than-usual address, doubtless because of specific constraints in Edinburgh. The reason for the rather unusual, and possibly off-putting title may not be clear until the end, but is a reminder that the whole might be connected with the twenty-third psalm: see 'References', below. It seems likely that the said Psalm formed the short reading in this service.

References: 'Be ye perfect' is Matthew 5 : 48; 'the things that I do, shall he do also' is John 14 : 12. 'Nearer than breathing, closer than hands and feet' is a quotation from a poem by Tennyson, 'The Higher Pantheon'. The reference to St Paul and spiritual gifts probably relates to 1 Corinthians 12 : 1, but 'Question the spirits, whether they be of God' is 1 John 4 : 1. 'He has prepared a table laden with spiritual food' looks to Psalm 23 : 5, 'Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies', and thus is the quotation that best explains the title given to this address.

The paragraph beginning, 'When the will to become Christlike grows strong in the heart' is familiar from later quotation in the White Eagle books.

White Eagle's Address:

Those who have the Spirit of God will have knowledge, wisdom, understanding, power to heal, the power to create. Read this in your Bible, and learn that God has made you, man, in His own image. You will presume, and rightly, that this refers to the physical form; but we would remind you that the physical form is only an outermost manifestation of God, and in mankind at its present state of spirituality is not a very good representation. This is due to man's own lack, his own inability to allow the divine spirit to manifest through him in holiness and in perfection. Yet the Master you worship, Jesus Christ, said, 'Be perfect as your Father in heaven is perfect'. Earthly-minded people say this is impossible in an imperfect world. But then, who made the world imperfect? All God's creation in the nature kingdom is beautiful. God's creatures in the animal and human kingdom would be as beautiful if man would obey the laws of God. Instead, man breaks God's laws every moment he lives, and the result is chaos, suffering, pain and sorrow. In other words, man has been given free will, the highest gift that God could bestow upon his sons and daughters. Man has chosen to respond to the vibrations of his lower nature, to those of darkness instead of light.

My brethren, do not despair; do not think it impossible in a material world for the light of God to manifest through men. The whole purpose of creation is for divine love to shine forth from within, outwardly; and every soul which has been breathed forth from the heart of beloved Father-Mother God will eventually manifest through the flesh all the divine attributes. This has been exemplified for you in the life, in the teachings and in the works of the great Masters and, above all, in the Christ, who said, 'these things shall ye do, and greater than these shall ye do'. The world still doubts, is still unable to understand these teachings. All manner of excuses are made. The great intellects of the day turn and twist the Master's

In the Midst of our Enemies

A159 Sunday Address 10th March 1946 Edinburgh Lodge Sunday Service

words until they lose the simple power and strength of the Spirit. We say that the words spoken by Christ the Lord are true in every particular.

God is not some Being far removed from men. Do you not see that God is nearer than breathing, closer than hands and feet? What do these words mean? They mean that the spirit of God, the divine fire of life is seated within the heart of every living soul, like to a seed. Many layers are covering this seed of divine spirit. But God has given you free will to enable you to nurture this seed and to make it grow. Last winter these beautiful flowers by our side were only little brown bulbs. You could hold a bulb in your hand and marvel that within there rested a beautiful flower which would in due season come forth, perfect and beautiful in shape and colour, and richly perfumed. What a miracle has arisen from that little brown house! You, my friends, have a like treasure within your heart. You can, if you will, put forth an effort which will cause the radiant Spirit within to grow, silently, imperceptibly at first – but in due season its flower will be so strong that your body will take its form, meaning by this [that] your body will become as perfect as the divine man. Only you have it in you power to bring about this perfection. You worship God as your Creator, but God has given you the same powers as He Himself possesses to create whatever you will.

My brethren, you have all helped to create your present world. You will disagree at the outset with this statement, but it is true. You have also created your own body. You will say, 'Oh no, that is impossible'. Yet the human body changes all its atoms every seven years. Every seven years you have a totally new body, created during those seven years. During every new incarnation, whether you like it or not, you inherit the conditions you have sown in your past. Even in this present incarnation you create the conditions in which you live today. You disagree again? Let us survey your home surroundings, the clothes you wear, the books you read, the recreation you enjoy. All these things are manifestations of your spirit, your own choice. You will say, 'Oh, but I did not choose my kind of work. I did not choose the companions I find uncongenial'. Make no mistake, my dear brother [or] sister; you have created your conditions. Once you have seen that fairly and squarely, and really accept the fact with courage and sweet surrender to the wisdom and love of God, you can set about developing the divine within you, create on a higher level, on a higher vibration, a life which proves harmonious, beautiful and happy.

God created you to know the happiness which souls in heavenly places know. When the soul is released for a time from its mortal body and it aspires to truth in God in the heavens, the soul casts away its earthiness and in time ascends to planes of beauty and happiness. Now someone is thinking, 'Well, if the soul ascends to happiness, why does it ever return again to this earth?' We will tell you. The soul returns to continue its lessons so that it can, in time, so perfect itself that it is able to bring out the divine attributes down here. How can the Kingdom come, my beloved, until you, until all mankind, has learned how to create heaven on earth? All the sorrow, parting, sickness, poverty, all are the outcome of ignorance – not the production of God, but of ignorance, fear, hatred and conflict. Will you remember what we say tonight?

When the will to become Christlike grows strong in the heart, it causes an opening in the consciousness for that greater light, that greater self to descend into the physical body. You are not here on earth. You think you are? You think that because you feel a physical body,

In the Midst of our Enemies

A159 Sunday Address 10th March 1946 Edinburgh Lodge Sunday Service

that body is you. It is only an infinitesimal part of you. If you want to contact your true self, you want to go into a place of quiet to commune with your Creator in your heart. Then you will rise in consciousness. That great light is, you will find, the divine man – you, yourself, your own divinity, the real you. God! that is what you have to bring down in manifestation – or, in other words, by opening your consciousness to this divine self your whole vibrations will be raised and your body become purified.

The religion of today has lost its power, its spirit and only the letter remaineth. But there comes this great fire from heaven to quicken the spirit in the heart of all men. You are pioneers of this great work in the New Age. You, my brethren, are being given the opportunity to become creators of heaven on earth. When you are raised in consciousness to that plane of your true being, there you hold communion with loved ones, there man walks and talks with angels. St Paul told you that these spiritual gifts exist, and it is possible for you to receive messages from spirits; but he said, try the spirits whether they be of God. Only through the earth man rising upon the light of his own divine self can he touch the level of spiritual life whereon he can hold true and perfect communion with the companions of former years, not only the companions of this present incarnation but of all former lives. Then you will have all knowledge, all truth, all power – not that power which dominates over its brother man, but the power which can overcome its own limitations. This is the purpose of your life. You can seize the opportunity today or you can leave it until later; but it will be better to commence to work for the end for which God created you. The blessing of the angelic hierarchies descends upon each one. The words we hear are these, ‘No effort that you make or have ever made, from your true self or higher self, is ever lost. Every effort is a step towards the attainment of all the things which God intends for His children’. In the old words, ‘He has prepared a table laden with spiritual food’. Who are the enemies? They are of the lower self – selfishness, greed, confusion, anger, fear, passion, depress; and yet, in the midst of all these, the divine Father has prepared a table filled with glorious fruits of heaven. May the blessing of God fall upon hearts that have been quickened and are afire with divine love. God bless everyone present. 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:

sending out the light, light within, inner light, cause and effect, path of the soul, spiritual path, initiation, Aquarian Age, spiritual contact, reincarnation, rebirth