

The Parable of the Talents and Harvest

A231 Sunday Address 7th October 1951 St Mary Abbots Place, London Sunday Service

Text: another blue carbon copy of a typescript in the same style as all 1951, corrected by AMI, and again marked 'Draft'. On the typescript, the heading is just 'White Eagle's Harvest Festival Address' and the date, but to avoid confusion the title 'The Parable of the Talents and Harvest' seems better for the present project. Roughly half way through the teaching, in the paragraph beginning 'We want you to remember this' it is unclear whether a phrase should read 'which all men of God will have' or 'which all men of goodwill have' – there are contradictory corrections.

Context: two readings, maybe delivered as one, are listed on the typescript: Matthew 25 : 14 – 29 (Parable of the Talents) and Psalm 100. There is a greeting at the end 'particularly to our dear friends from over the sea, from America. The first White Eagle Lodge in America was founded by Mrs Olive Robinson in New Jersey, USA, in 1947, so it may just be that she and members of her group are being greeted.

General Notes: this is an address of thanksgiving, but quite severe in its account of how man could wither and die away if, like the keeper of the one talent, he does not 'live' – invest his talent. It is interesting, and hopeful, that White Eagle sees the true materialistic age as already in the past (see the paragraph beginning 'Now you people at the present time' – he regards the veil between the two worlds as already having thinned since then. In the paragraph mentioned, there may be a deliberately silent allusion to the teacher Francis Bacon, who was both a deep esotericist and the father, in many ways, of empirical science. White Eagle seems to acknowledge both roles here. There is a very fine celebration of the Christ as Solar Logos near the end.

References: "As above, so below" is a popular modern paraphrase of the second verse of the *Emerald Tablet* (a compact and cryptic Hermetic text first attested in a late eighth or early ninth century Arabic source), as it appears in its most widely divulged medieval Latin translation' (Wikipedia). The phrase was much publicised by the Theosophist Madame Blavatsky. White Eagle also quotes the doxology at the end of the Lord's Prayer, 'For Thine is the kingdom', etc. 'Man shall not live by bread alone' is Jesus's response when tempted by the devil; see Matthew 4 : 4. There are quotations from the parable of the talents (for which see 'Context', above). 'Does no man condemn thee?' is John 8 : 11, the story of the woman taken in adultery. 'Judge not, that ye be not judged' is from the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 7 : 1. Without quoting it, the last long paragraph (i.e. before the valedictory words) is a substantial paraphrase of the axiom, 'the last shall be first and the first last', which is to be found in all three Synoptic Gospels (Matthew 19 : 30 and 20 : 16; Mark 10 : 31 and Luke 13 : 30).

White Eagle's Address:

Beloved brethren of the earth plane, we would that you could see the assembly of shining forms all around you now. You are not the only ones who assemble to give thanks and praise to the Heavenly King. But we come back through this physical body to bring you a message of the glorious harvest behind the veil of materiality. We come to inspire you with the glory of the Christ vision. 'For Thine is the kingdom, Thine is the power, Thine is the glory for ever.'

This is the core, the secret of all life on your earth plane. For man, the spirit of man, is the seed of God planted in the soil, the darkness of earth, and it germinates in the darkness, and it sends down roots into the earth, but it is drawn up to life and to fruition and harvest by the sun. The physical sun draws the seed of material life, of the physical life, to fruition. The Sun,

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the Christ Spirit, the Great Light of mankind, draws the seed of the spirit up through the darkness of man's life until it blossoms and fruits in the heaven world.

This is the vision that we bring to you today as you meet to praise and thank God for the harvest of the earth. Let us remember that in this thanksgiving all souls praise God and give thanks for the harvest of the spiritual life. Man does not live by earthly bread alone; that is the symbol. You people on earth regard the physical bread as real, but it is transient. Man does not live by bread alone, but by the Word of God, by the love of God – never, never forget this. When you have passed through this earth world and you leave it behind, you will see that it is but a shadow – and you will awaken into reality, into the world of spirit and the world of light and beauty. And when you awaken in that new life you will be overawed at first by one supreme truth of that life. And it will manifest in all you see, from people [and] right through the kingdoms of nature, and it will be the love of God; the love of God which is manifesting through human nature in the gentle true Christ spirit.

Now this is an illustration of what life should be on your earth plane; *as above, so below*.

Now, as man listens, particularly in this what you call modern age, to the word of experts before he applies the plough to the earth, before he prepares the soil for the sowing of the seed, the growing of the grain and the harvesting of that grain; as he listens to the advice of those who have investigated up to date the best methods of ploughing and sowing and reaping, so the wise men of all ages have listened to spiritual experts on the sowing and the reaping of life's harvest.

Now you people at the present time are in a singularly happy position, because the veil between the two worlds, the heaven world and the earth world, is growing much thinner. It is possible now for word to come through the veil to give guidance to the earth people on the methods of harvesting the spiritual harvest. There was a time, a few centuries ago, when your earth and your particular part of the earth – that is the western world – was struggling through the morass of materialism. And with the commencement of the scientific age, some centuries ago, though you may think that it is only in this time, at this time, that science is beginning to make itself felt on your earth, remember there were pioneers of the age of science who came to your earth three or four centuries ago to sow the seed: first of all material science, physical science, and then a little later of spiritual science. And as a result of the work of these Masters people on the earth today are beginning to comprehend a little of spiritual science. And under these Masters there is a band of workers, servers of the human race, who are now very close to you and to all people like you who have felt the rays of the spiritual Sun, and who are beginning to grow upward towards the light. And all people who will respond to that spiritual Sun will find, and are finding, that this Sun is a power in the life. It is not a power which dominates, but a power which glorifies the life.

We want you to remember this. Look up, look through this veil of materialism. Whatever your occupation, do not be satisfied with material methods alone but look beyond the veil into the spiritual glory, the life, the source of all good which comes to mankind. Surely, surely, if man makes the mistake of depending entirely upon his own brain and upon material methods he will find that the full power, the life behind matter will be withdrawn. It will fade

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away – and with it man himself will fade away and will be destroyed. We do not suggest [this], we are not prophesying great catastrophes on your earth. We are only giving you an illustration of the truth of being, knowledge and the wisdom which all men of God will have and have always had throughout the history of humanity on this earth planet. The veil is thinning and those behind that veil draw very close to the earth now, and they are the experts who have knowledge and experience, who have reaped the harvest of their labours. And it is not only belief that man requires, it is effort.

Now, the seed which is buried in the dark soil, if you had an instrument – and we believe that there are instruments, very delicate instruments, which show to the physical sight the growth of that seed – if you could see the growth, you would see the decided and yet beautiful effort which that seed makes to expand, and then to open and look up and grow upward through the soil until it reaches the light. This is what happens to the Christ seed in man's heart. Some brothers would call it the jewel within the lotus of the heart, the divine seed. But the effort must be made not only by the Will of God but the will of man. Man is a co-worker with God. God does not take away from man his responsibility. He has given man responsibility. God has given man talents and, according to the talents which have been given, so much will be expected of man.

And we believe that there is a query in the minds of some brethren here as to the exact meaning of the last-mentioned talent. The man who was given the one talent and who did not use that talent, but laid it aside, hid it – and when the Master came for the reaping, for a record of the man's use of that talent the man was severely admonished and told; 'That which thou hast shall be taken away from thee'. Some people think that this is very harsh; but understand this, that life is governed by spiritual law, God's law. And the law of life is growth, expansion, usage; that is the meaning of life. And if a man does not live, his life is forfeit. If a man does not live spiritually, even according to his degree of spiritual unfoldment, then he of necessity loses his life, because there is nothing to feed the life. It withers, of its own accord it withers and it has no desire [to develop]. It grows smaller and smaller until there is nothing left. The seed shrivels up and dies. 'Even that which thou hast shall be taken from thee' if thou dost not use it.

Now, beloved brethren, the law, the spiritual law of life, is that man should use his opportunities to grow and to help others to grow towards God, the expansion of spiritual consciousness, the expansion of the seed of God. This is the whole purpose of your life; to live to grow, to be of use, to serve, to help forward the whole plan of spiritual evolution of life on the earth.

Now, there are some who have five talents. How did they come to have five talents? Were they just placed in their hand by God with favouritism? Were some given more than others? Indeed no, no soul is singled out for special favour, although it seems like it on your earth plane. Do not judge by what you see on the surface. You have to develop an inner vision and insight into spiritual truth, into spiritual cause and effect. Then you know that you cannot judge any man. 'Does no man condemn thee?' said Jesus. 'Then I do not condemn thee. Go thy way, sin no more'. Break the law no more. Jesus condemned no man. 'Judge not, lest ye be judged.' Judge not, you cannot judge another man. The only man that you are qualified to

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judge is the man within, but no one else. Things are not what they seem in physical life, in physical matter. They are only truly seen, the truth is only seen behind the veil of materialism, in the world of spirit, and then only when the soul has reached a certain level of consciousness.

We want you to understand that no man is given more than he deserves nor less than he deserves, and what happens on your earth is that the man who appears to have the five talents may have earned greater opportunities, but certainly he is given greater opportunities – and to the man who is given greater opportunities, more is expected of him than the man who has less opportunity. But it is not possible for you on your earth to see where you are on the path. What you have to know is that every day that you live, you must live in deeper consciousness of God's love, God's blessing of life all around you. And whatever your work on the earth plane, whatever your task, whether it be in the commercial world, or in the academic world, or in spiritual service to man, remember that you give of the very best that is within you – not with selfish motives, but with the desire to help forward the great organisation of human progress.

Some people have said, 'My work is of a very material nature. I cannot serve God in such a state'. Most material work on earth can be glorified by the motive of the heart of the man. His motive must be for the perfection of life, the goodness of life, the harmony and the beauty of life of man on earth. If man works not for himself alone but for the good of the many, then the man who truly serves in this way is serving God, his Father–Mother, and Christ, the Son of God. And in Christ he serves all humanity and the great brotherhood of life.

Now dear ones, we will not overtire you. We will not weary you with this talk, but we bring you the power of the spirit life. We bring you this message not from ourselves, not as one individual; but we bring it to you from the great company of invisible ones, among them your own dear ones who have passed onward – for they have reached the sphere of light, and they have attained deeper wisdom and understanding than they ever had on earth. Fathers and mothers come to their children, brothers and sisters come to their brethren; husbands to wives and wives to husbands and children to their parents. All come at a certain level of spiritual life. They come close to the souls of those they love on earth, and more particularly when those souls are striving to express the best that they understand of the Christ life.

Now, the simplest child and the greatest man and woman on earth are both alike when they come into the presence of the Christ, the cosmic Christ. For the great become lowly and the lowly become resplendent with the glory of the Lord, the Son – the cosmic Son, the Solar Logos, the King, for without the life and the power of this mighty Spirit in the heavens there could be no life of any kind on your earth plane. And when all men comprehend this profound truth of life, then the whole earth will be flooded with the glory of the Sun and the harvest will be rich and rare and beautiful. The earth should not be destroyed and withered by chemicals that are put on by men who are seeking return for themselves but who have no love for the Mother God, the mother-earth, the mother-nature. Man should feed the earth with the products of the earth and above all manure the earth with the Great White Light, not only the physical sun, but the spiritual sun behind that sun, that greatest of all foods for both earth and man: the Great White Light, which your ancient brethren understood and used, for the seeds

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in the old days were planted with the application of the Great Light of God, the magic fire, the divine fire. And so our brethren worked with God, both to sow and to reap the greatest harvest of all both from the earth and the spirit of man.

And God be praised. God be praised. God be praised for all the good accomplished in life.

Our love to every one of you. Whoever you are, our love to you. And particularly to our dear friends from over the sea, from America, we greet you. We give you the hand of brotherhood and love.

God bless you all.

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:

gratitude, spiritual path, path of the soul, enlightenment, initiation, path of service, spiritual contact, nature

