

The Heavenly Christmas

A288 Sunday Address 16th December 1956 St Mary Abbots Place, London
Christmas Carol Service

Text: from *Stella Polaris*, December 1957, a year after it was given. The title is from the printed version. No typescript is known.

Context: in the printed version, White Eagle does not mention the carols sung, or the choir that sang them, but paragraphs have probably been cut from the start of the address (the first paragraph does not read quite like White Eagle's characteristic opening). It is, even by the general standards of White Eagle Christmas messages, very short – another reason for supposing it has been cut, at least at the beginning and possibly elsewhere. There is a report of the service from a member who was present in *Stella Polaris*, vol VI, p. 56. One carol is mentioned, 'The Hymn of the Berries', and there seems to have been both a processional and a recessional carol.

General Notes: White Eagle begins by talking about the antiquity of the 'Christ Mass', and interestingly comments that from spirit the commercialisation of Christmas does not cause the distress it causes some people on earth. 'We can see good even in commercialism because it keeps alive the thought of Christmas.' White Eagle says that because Christmas is international, even global, it has a strong part to play in developing love between all people, bringing them together in brotherhood. There is an evocation of Christmas in the spirit world as part of a special message to those who are mourning lost loved ones at Christmas. He ends, not for the only time, with the sentiment: 'The greatest thing that has ever happened on your earth is the coming of Christ'.

References: 'God has never left man without a witness' is a regular White Eagle saying, but no source for it outside his own teaching has been found, except for Acts 14 : 17, which reads 'Nevertheless He left not Himself without witness'. 'A little child shall lead them' is Isaiah 11 : 6 – behind this discussion is Matthew 18 : 3, 'Except ye become as a little child...'

White Eagle's Address:

We come to bring the message of Christmas – the old, old message of goodwill; because peace on earth can only come to mankind through the practice of goodwill, tolerance and love to others.

This season, this festival of the Christ Mass, is more ancient than is generally realised. It comes from the remote past. During that period God has never left man without a witness. In every age a messenger of God has been born on earth. Humanity evolves slowly on a spiral of progression from the lowest rung to the pinnacle of the spiral; and according to man's collective understanding and his level of spiritual and mental development, is sent a messenger who is one of the Wise Ones. If it were not so, the race of man would not be even as advanced as it is at present.

You may have suffered many disappointments with the human and spiritual evolution of your fellows. But we of the spirit who look down upon humanity are thankful for the progress which we see is being made.

Many people think that Christmas has become over-commercialised. People say that all beauty, the mysticism and the spirituality of the season is being over shadowed by man's greed. We do not think so. We can see good even in commercialism because it keeps alive the thought of Christmas, and by this means Christmas is making a deeper and deeper impression upon the human mind.

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Long ago, the purpose of Christmas was little more than to bring brightness, to bring light and cheer to people in the depths of winter. Christmas today means far more than this. It has become deeply established in the consciousness of every man. Even though he uses Christmas for his own gain, thereby he is giving as well as gaining. Think – what would your country be like if the outer world did not take notice of Christmas? Were there no gaiety, no present-giving, no fun, no merriment, would not the mystical spirit fall fast into the background and in time give way to yet another form of materialism which would be much worse? We beg of you to remember this and to feel in your hearts the spirit of tolerance and goodwill.

It is true that at this season we who live on a higher plane of life come very close to our dear human brethren. We then mingle with you more freely than at other times, because unconsciously your thoughts come to us. They rise to contact, even if briefly, a heavenly state of life. You like to hear the carols sung. You like to enter into the happiness and excitement of the children. Perhaps, even against your own will and in forgetfulness of your personal sorrows, you are lifted closer to our world – even into the spirit world. Was it not said in your Christian Bible and also in other scriptures, ‘A little child shall lead them’?

Man must come down to the simplicity of a little child if he would receive in his heart the mystical and holy understanding of Christmas. A little child brings and wins love. All of you know this, whether you are parents or not; for you realise that the purity and innocence of children should always bring and win love. They are indeed nearer to the heaven world, from which they have so recently descended into incarnation, and bring to the earth people some of the heavenly purity, divine love and joy. Remember man’s own deep need for a simple childlike faith. No man can crash the gates of heaven, because the gate can only be unlocked from the human side of life; and the key which unlocks it is in your heart and is called love. In love lies the key which unlocks the door of all heavenly mystery. Does not your own experience tell you that when love has triumphed in your heart over any injustice you have suffered, you have found a wonderful abiding peace and happiness? Do you not agree that what we say is true?

In your world today great and wonderful changes are coming. We rejoice because their coming indicates that man is responding to the spirit of goodwill and brotherhood. You may not agree with us at present, but you will before very long. That is why we say to all, pray for a clearer vision that you may see the coming of the Lord Christ.

For this is a festival by no means confined to your own country, and all over the earth this Christmas Light is beginning to stimulate in the human heart feelings of brotherhood. This will presently overcome all war – the great end that the Lord Christ was born upon your earth to accomplish. Although man evolves slowly, progress is sure; and Christmas gives him his greatest opportunity to respond to the outpouring of love from the Christ spirit.

It is true; in the heavens the Christ Circle, the angelic, the shining ones, are even now singing praises to their Creator; and also the angels of love, wisdom and power are working without ceasing to assist mankind on the upward spiral.

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Those of you who are bereaved we cannot forget at any Christmas, and our message is specifically for you. In the world in which your loved ones now live, they celebrate Christmas in a manner far, far more lovely than anything you would imagine on earth. In the course of these wonderful celebrations the Cosmic Christ himself descends in their midst wearing a human form. The form is used because Christ loves humanity; and my children, he loves with a greater, purer, sweeter love than you can ever realise.

Before you sleep, try to remember that if your hearts aspire, purely and simply, to join the company of heaven, you too may be fetched by angels – by your own angelic teacher and guide – and so witness and even participate in this Christmas celebration. So on earth, whatever you are doing, remain alert and in your heart keep the simple trust of a little child. We shall surely come and your loved ones will rejoice in your effort to overcome the separation caused not only by physical death but by your own inadequacy – your own refusal to attempt to penetrate the dark veil of materialism and join with them in celebration of the blessed Lord's Christmas.

The angels now gather all around us. They are pouring forth their love to you. I hear voices saying, 'Mother, I shall be with you at Christmas...' 'My dearest husband, I shall be with you...' 'My darling sister and brother, I shall be close...' 'My loved one, I shall join with you...' These messages are from our world to yours.

The greatest thing that has ever happened on your earth is the coming of Christ. May His peace, love and happiness bless you all this Christmastide. The Great White Spirit be with 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:

Christ Mass, messenger of God born on earth in every age, spiral of evolution, commercialization, key to heaven is in our own heart, follow the child, angels bend near the earth, thinning of the veil, communication with loved ones possible, Cosmic Christ in human form in world of spirit, global Christmas means brotherhood