

Magic – I

T090 The Inner Teachings 8th February 1939 Pembroke Hall, London

Invocation:

The music* brings to us a vision of the Holy Grail, and as our souls aspire, we become conscious of the radiant light of heaven pouring its rays of inspiration and blessing upon us. So let us approach Christ, Son of the Father–Mother God, and pray to our Father in heaven that we may become more like His Son. Let us gather all humanity under the canopy of this heavenly radiance. No matter who or what they are, we would share with them the glories of the heavenly life. So may our Father in heaven find in us a response to the power and influence of His divine love; so may we be helped gently upward, onward, to the Kingdom of Light.

Amen.

*[*The Prelude to Wagner's Opera 'Parsifal' was played before White Eagle spoke.]*

It is difficult to return to the mental plane after that heavenly place of light and peace, but we must talk to the human mind, for you are thirsting for knowledge. Last time we were speaking of the American Indians, and briefly referred to the ancient people of Southern America. We answered certain questions about the very ancient Indian, copper or red-skinned, of the northern parts of South America, particularly the Andes. As many know, there still exist in the fastnesses of the Andes, these elder brethren, men of magical power, who have remained true to the White Magic handed down by their ancestors.

When we were listening to that beautiful music we thought of our brethren of the Andes, who, after many tests and initiations, became at last the Initiates of the Plumed Serpent. These men were initiates, learned in the mastery of the lesser mysteries. This means that they had knowledge of the centres of power in man's being, which must be mastered and wisely used, before the next step can be taken, before initiation into the greater mysteries, or the use of the initiate's inner powers to contact, or draw to the earth (for the benefit of the evolution of earth and earth's humanity) planetary forces or cosmic powers. These are intended to be brought into operation harmoniously. The men known as the Initiates of the Plumed Serpent were those who had gained absolute control over their own being. You know the injunction 'Man know thyself, and thou shalt know God and the Universe'? In those ancient days (I am speaking now of ten thousand or more years ago—nay long before that, but what does time matter—before any historical record) these men of our country were masters of magic.

I do not want any here to get scared at the word 'magic'. Some shudder at the mere mention of the word 'magic', and conjure up in their minds all kinds of sorceries, and associate them with the word. We would make clear the difference between white magic and black magic. (There is *nothing* to fear. All is natural and beautiful when you understand.) By magic we mean the control of certain invisible forces, which will bring about on the physical plane, certain physical or material manifestations. Magic concerns the power of the mind over the forces of nature. When this power, the power of the mind, is used to dominate other souls in order that the operator may gain power, of *any* kind, for himself, then that magic is inclining to the darker side. When the use of magic is made selflessly, and with love not only for one individual, but pure love for humanity, and with a simple and humble heart, that prays to be

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the instrument of God, then that is white magic. There are many degrees in magic, and a spiritual group such as Christian Science or New Thought (I take these two because they are principally concerned with the effects of mind over matter) are certainly in some degree magical.

There is also a magical power used in spiritual healing. I would add that the beloved Master, Jesus Christ, was one of the purest examples of a white magician. If you see this in the right and true way, you will understand. Jesus used his knowledge of the invisible forces—which are continually intermingling with humanity—to reach the soul of his patient, and he thus healed, he cured his patients. These healings are called in the Gospels ‘miracles’, simply because they were beyond the understanding of the ordinary man. But they were not miraculous to the brothers of the White Lodge, to those who understood how the healings were made.

In speaking of magic, I would picture the gentle, loving figure of the beloved Master, Jesus Christ. Remember that he was the way. ‘I am the Way.’* He showed the multitude, and He taught his disciples the secrets of this white magic, and they were able—after he had withdrawn his physical presence from among them—to perform so-called miracles, because they also had been initiated into the secrets of the white magic. He based all his magical works on the teachings of love in the Sermon on the Mount. Before he conveyed to his chosen disciples any inner secret, he prefixed the lesson by one of his beautiful parables, or sermons, and his very life, its simplicity and gentleness and purity, was the demonstration to the western world of the perfect way of white magic.

*[*John 14 : 6]*

In those early days in the Andes, this knowledge of white magic was given to the priests, to the Master of the Plumed Serpent. They were dwellers in the mountains—again the symbolism of regeneration, the raising of consciousness, the union between the heart and the head; the mystical marriage, which can only take place within a man’s own being. The same truth as Jesus taught in his parables! The changing of the water into wine was the perfect demonstration of the white magic. You may note the various methods by which this regeneration is symbolised. The halo in Christian mythology stands for this, while in Hinduism it is shown as the blooming of the lotus upon the head. The pictures of the great Lord Buddha show that development at the centre of the head; and in North America, and in the Andes, comes the crown of eagle’s feathers, the plumed crown, denoting the final initiation into the lesser mysteries.

So you see the same teaching is known throughout the world. In this particular school in the Andes, there was a story of creation, not unlike that which is found in your Bible. There was also the tree of knowledge of life, in a garden, with the fruits hanging on this tree; and a princess, daughter of the king, who had the urge to find this sacred tree, and when she did so, and reached out her hand to pluck its fruit, the fruit was transformed into the head of a prince. The saliva from the mouth of the prince fell into her hand, and a voice told her she would be the mothers of sons. She went home to her father, and was condemned because she was going

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to have a child. The same old story, you see. Then the princess had two sons, and these went on a long journey (read your own interpretation into the story). They set out to overcome certain princes of the earth life. They (the sons) represented the spiritual life, the higher aspect of man, born on earth to overcome and gain mastership over the earth conditions, and temptations. The earthly mind desires earthly things, desires [which] the higher mind is always struggling to overcome. The sons underwent many trials and tests, each one represented by a sign of the zodiac. (Later I will talk to our astrological class on these American mysteries, and show how they are contained within the twelve zodiacal signs.)

These were the early teachings of the Indians; the purpose of this learning was that they should know how to gain and use powers, not only physical, but in all the bodies. They learnt how to function in all bodies. The two aspects of good and evil would creep in. The good would strive to be triumphant, but the evil would nevertheless interfere, particularly when the neophyte was learning the extent of his power over his fellows; this, my dear ones, is an enormous temptation. Do not we all feel tempted to dominate our fellows, because we have a little more knowledge than they do? We set ourselves up; we think we are growing very important! Little do we think that in so doing we exercise, in a small degree, black magic over our fellows. Narrow is the path that leads to the Kingdom. It has been described as a razor's edge, and it is so easy to overbalance.

We return to our brotherhood in the Andes, and there we see their Temple of Magic, built always on high ground. The one I have in mind was more than a thousand feet above the valley, a great deal more; I see again massive white stones, in a perfect circle, and I see twelve more of these stones forming an outer circle. There was a gate, a doorway, an archway at the western entrance, and inside this outer circle was another circle. A little way in, but not right in the centre, was the seventh stone. Now the twelve stones in the outer circle represented the twelve signs of the zodiac; the stones within the circle represented the planets. Each of these stones was so shaped as to receive, during magical ceremonies, the full power from the heavens.

An interesting point—the gate at the western entrance was symbolical of human birth, and those who entered the Temple were representing birth into the earth life; within the Temple they received the influence from the heavenly bodies or constellations. These stones represented the various degrees or steps they would take in their many incarnations. They did not believe only in one short incarnation: that would have been unthinkable. The veil was so thin that they needed no proof of life after death. They knew that the soul of man would eventually traverse the circle, coming under the influence of each sign in turn, and the corresponding influence from the planets. More than this: the Temple was representative of the greater mysteries. For obvious reasons it is not right for us to tell you details of the greater mysteries, but we are permitted to say that in these greater mysteries, psychic forces were set up which caused the attraction to the earth of certain physical atoms, which would be drawn from one of the planets associated with the evolution of the earth. By this magical power the immense stones were set there, a feat which baffles modern minds. They cannot understand how these stones have been transported, because they do not appear to have originated from the surrounding country.

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[A portion of the message is here omitted, by request of the speaker.]

How were the Pyramids built, and other temples such as Stonehenge, Avebury, and others? I believe that some people have solved the riddle. They have decided that these stones were hauled by ropes, and thousands of slaves! Well, they are not correct. These stones were brought into being and into place by magical powers. *[Again a portion of the record is omitted]* After the pure magic had been taught to the younger souls, the lower self crept in, and with it the desire for power. The younger ones were enthralled by the lower self, and used their powers selfishly. When you read about black magic, please remember that the original White Brothers had no concern with this. The White Brotherhood came to various countries, not only Atlantis, but the fair land of Egypt also. The same fate overtook Egypt as Atlantis, when the magical powers degenerated into evil ways; then the power was gradually withdrawn, and the civilisation crumbled, until now little remains except the ruins of great temples. There is little left from which the student can glean anything of that beautiful early white magic.

Q. In the masonry of the pyramids, there is an exquisite accuracy of workmanship. The apertures between the blocks are so minute that they can be measured in hundredths of inches. Also in certain parts of the world, the ancients were apparently able to move blocks over 800 tons in weight—this seems to bear out what you have said.

A. Yes. The magical art is perfect in its precision. It works to certain exact cosmic law. There is no question of a block not quite fitting. By setting in motion planetary influences and cosmic forces, there naturally follows exactitude. There can be no error, I believe, in astronomical calculation, no slipshod measures in the work of the master mason upon the rough ashlar... *[Further portion omitted]*

Q. Was a concentration of sound ever used?

A. Oh, of course, yes. That is another of the secrets. By the use of sound vibration, the correct use of the sound waves, they were able to produce atoms, and collect ingredients. Sound was used for that purpose. You might almost call the stones concentrated sound. You would not be very wrong.

Q. The Plumed Serpent seems to have some connection with the zodiacal sign of Scorpio—is this correct?

A. Scorpio is symbolical of the secret wisdom, the secret innermost wisdom of life. Kundalini is symbolised by the serpent, and the kundalini power, when it rises and takes possession of the head, blossoms forth into the plumed serpent, the serpent risen and crowned by the glory of the Gods. The eagle is the ancient symbol of America, and is the higher aspect of the sign Scorpio.

Benediction:

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Imagine that we are gathered together on a mountain height, with blue stars like jewels in the sky; a deep hush falls upon our group and all the angels fold their wings, and stand in silent worship. Thy peace, O God, we feel, and we thank Thee for our creation, and for the creation of worlds.

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:

Ancient civilisations, ancient religions, ritual, illumination, astrology

