

## The Christian Mysteries – V

T070 The Inner Teachings 16th February 1938 Pembroke Hall, London

### Invocation:

We enfold you all in the great universal love and peace. Together we raise our hearts to the life glorious. We visualise the grand brotherhood of man\* and angels in the spheres of light and count no thing, no experience, useless, for we know that we journey on the path leading to the life of the spirit, the life eternal. With this thought filling our hearts and minds, we feel the inspiration to become more like the radiant brethren, ever serving, serving, serving, their younger brethren. We respond to the outpouring of the love of this grand company, and so together we kneel before the throne of the almighty Father God. May we learn, O God, not to count the cost, but to continue in our humble, simple way to serve Thy great plan for the evolution of all Thy creatures.

Amen.

*[\*For editorial policy around gender, see the introduction.]*

Be still. Make a supreme effort to forget your outer selves. If you will raise your thoughts to the realms which we have brought to your vision, you will lessen nervous strain, all sense of your physical body. We want you to dwell in the higher vehicles, in the spiritual bodies which you learn to use, and concentrate upon the centre of wisdom, love and power.

We tonight speak upon the apostolic succession, the remission of sins and the anointing with oil. We claim no more authority for speaking as we shall than you have in thinking according to your own intuition. We do not say ours is the only truth but that according to our vision, this is what we see. Accept nothing that we say unless the light within guides you to do so. Indeed, never accept blindly what another soul says. Learn from your intuition.

Let us first bear in mind that the Christian church as known today is very far removed from the early Christian brotherhood formed by certain initiates and disciples of the Christ light. As we have already explained, there are two aspects of Christianity: the outer shell and the inner spirit. Unfortunately, the outer shell is accepted by ordinary people as forming the complete church of Christ. So much mystery, however, remains around the original Christian brotherhood that scholarly research into its origin has yielded little. The ancient records are either destroyed, or kept (those that remain) in the secret places; they are held by the initiates, those who dwell behind the scenes. You know what we mean? Other records which could have revealed a certain amount to humanity were destroyed, but they were merely the copies; the real secrets upon which Christianity is based are held by a secret brotherhood; when humanity is ready to receive the secrets of the Christian magic, they will be given. For two thousand years, roughly speaking, humanity has had only the outer truths of the Christian teaching, with the result that the Christian church of today has become like a shell, with the kernel extracted, but the inner truths are not lost, and at the right time, when the world is ready, this Christian magic will come back.

What has all this to do with apostolic succession? You want to know if any power can be bestowed upon the officiants of the Christian church in any way different from the power—or the blessing—which can come to any other man through illumination. Before going further we would remind you that in forms of magic (of which mediumship of a type may be

## The Christian Mysteries – V

T070 The Inner Teachings 16th February 1938 Pembroke Hall, London

included) there is always the power to pass on, for a certain time, the magical gifts. For instance, it is possible for a physical medium to transfer to another for a short period the power of materialisation, or other physical phenomena. We speak from experience; power can remain in a trumpet used for direct voice communication between the astral and earth plane and can be utilised later by astral entities without the medium who first generated that power being present. Thus a residue of power can be transferred and used, temporarily.

If such a power can be passed on or transferred, so also can power be transmitted from the higher vehicles of man, the higher planes of life. Now then: in the early Christian brotherhood, the secrets of *Christian* magic (we emphasise ‘Christian’ magic) were revealed to the closer disciples. These were not ordinary men but advanced souls. As you know, the physical body tells very little about the soul; because an individual is humble and simple and apparently of no account, do not make the mistake of judging such a one as being unevolved. A soul without earthly education or social position (which rightly understood are only strata of experience wherein the soul learns certain lessons) is not necessarily poor in spiritual things. Let us not judge any soul by its simplicity or apparent ignorance on the outer plane. The disciples gathered to form this early Christian church were evolved souls; they had developed or brought into activity those higher vehicles of life, those higher bodies—the intuitional and the spiritual, the celestial bodies. They had had revealed to them certain forms and ceremonies which would put them in touch with a reservoir of power and love and wisdom generated on the higher planes of life for distribution to humanity, to help men on the path of evolution.

Some of you are privileged to be in the Brotherhood group and have felt your higher vehicles being stimulated by this power. As a soul develops, or unfolds, on the path of evolution, it learns from its teacher certain ways by which it can still further progress, how it may harness this power and direct it for the healing of men, or perhaps for the saving of a soul. Think this over, those engaged in the healing groups. Pupils are still being taught in their higher selves how to receive and use this power of white magic in a simple form. This same principle applies to Christian magic. That tremendous outpouring of wisdom and love and power, that Great White Light then sent forth to the earth plane was for the express purpose of founding the great new religion of Christianity. Certain forms and ceremonies used linked the higher vehicles of the disciples to the reservoir of Christ force. This Christian magic undoubtedly was given, and we think it likely that that force inspired the early church for some centuries. Then the contact gradually lessened, but even today it is not altogether lost. It is so powerful a thing, this Christ force! We can only describe what happens simply: if a soul goes to the reservoir great in capacity to receive, that soul will come away filled with life force, but if the capacity be only as a thimble, the soul can only contain a thimbleful. If through certain magical forms and ceremonies the higher spiritual bodies, the spirit-consciousness of some evolved person, is put into touch with that reservoir, through those higher vehicles (or spirit-consciousness) the magical power—the White Light, or the Christ force—can pour to another soul.

In this way the power is transmitted. The officiant in the Christian church may be evolved and can receive to a great degree this Christ force. It can be used to bless and to heal. On the

## The Christian Mysteries – V

T070 The Inner Teachings 16th February 1938 Pembroke Hall, London

other hand, the soul participating in the ceremonies may not be sufficiently in tune, or in contact, to receive that light and power at all. You will recognise this slackening, or lessening, of the Christ force in the orthodox church by the fact that little spiritual healing is being done. The centres—the heart, the head, the throat and so forth—have to be cleared and vivified for the full contact and use of this Christ force. Some will ask, ‘Is it not possible for any ordinary individual not ordained by the church to make contact with that same power?’ We say, ‘Yes; it is possible for a layman’—some will contradict us here. Only remember that while we think it possible for a pure and rare soul to be open to this Christ force, these ancient ceremonies and rites, if potent, should automatically link the officiant on to that reservoir of power, although he or she may be an unconscious channel.

What is meant by the priest or officiant having the power to forgive sins? Against this you read in your New Testament the words ‘whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap’\*. How is it then that Christ speaks of the remission of sins or that the officiants of the orthodox church claim power to thus remit? Do you not think it means this: that the Christ force when poured down upon a soul—and the channel used may be an officiant of the Christian church—will stimulate in the spiritual bodies, or in the soul, an aspiration to the Christ light which will, perhaps, gently direct that soul from evil and inspire and help it towards the path of progress? The Christ force helps that soul to respond to its own higher self, and in that sense the soul is enabled to overcome, or to wipe out, sin. This may explain the sudden conversions which apparently sometimes take place. The sins of the individual are forgiven because that soul has responded to the stimulation of the Christ force. Actually it has remitted its own sin, although the Christ force has enabled it, helped it to wipe it out.

[\*Galatians 6 : 7]

Now the anointing with oil. This is a very ancient mystery. Much could be said, but we must leave you to think it out. Just a pointer: the oil is poured upon the head; the head, as you know, is one of the power centres of the body; the monks used to shave their heads, to wear the tonsure, the idea being that it opened the head, made it clear and free for the reception of power from on high. The fact that it was the head that was anointed with the mystical oil suggests, surely, that it symbolised the wisdom of the Holy Ghost descending upon the head centre, indicative that the initiate had succeeded in conquering, overcoming, all the lower self, and transmuted the God life, or the creative power which rests in the lower organs or lower centres of man, to the head. The oil is, then, one of the ancient mystical usages. ‘Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over’\* —words of the psalmist, but also the words of the initiate who has been shown the vision of the kingdom of God.

[\*Psalms 23 : 5]

Q.Would this anointing ceremony help in the brotherhood groups?

A.I thought I had made it clear; oil is used on the outer plane, but the word ‘oil’ has a mystical meaning. ‘Oil’ on the higher planes does not mean the actual physical oil.

## The Christian Mysteries – V

T070 The Inner Teachings 16th February 1938 Pembroke Hall, London

Q.Do you think that this spirit of brotherhood is perhaps in some places coming back into the church? The Anglican church now is practising ceremony, and in some churches they are healing.

A.I think it likely that the grand and beautiful buildings erected will be used again by the new Brotherhood. But did not our dear Lord teach us a parable about putting new wine into old bottles\*? Think about that. There will have to be a great deal of cleansing of the inside of the cup, will there not?

*[\*Matthew 9 : 17]*

Did we make it clear that the purpose of this apostolic succession was the formation of churches, or receptacles, on the earth plane for the receiving of the Christ power? We recognise how far the orthodox church has travelled from the original plan, as is always the case with great religions designed originally by the Great White Brotherhood to help humanity. After a time they become shells, because the human aspect has crept in and killed the spirit.

Q.Is it the last flicker of the old church?

A.In every aspect there must be progress and change. We do not go back—always forward. Great changes are coming. Behold the Bridegroom cometh! Remember that parable, the wise virgins, with their lamps filled with oil—again the oil, the mystical oil in their lamps, and whilst the foolish virgins went for a fresh supply, the bridegroom came. Who and where are the foolish virgins who wander, seeking for a fresh supply of the mystical oil, while the wise ones wait upon his coming?

*[\*Matthew 25 : 1-13]*

Q.Does not a soul, when linked with the Christ light, remit its own sins?

A.By the Christ power coming into the heart and illuminating the soul, the sin must go. It is an automatic result, but the soul has to respond to that light; although the sin is washed clean, the soul will have the desire to repay its debt. The very light of Christ will make that soul eager to go to its brother and say: ‘Brother, I have sinned; let me repay you my debt’. Thus we come into the realm of karma. Because it is cleansed, it does not mean the soul is freed from all responsibility. That would be breaking the Law. This is why the Master said, ‘Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap’, while in the next chapter or so the gospel speaks of the remission of sins. The two aspects blend perfectly when the light gives understanding.

### Benediction:

Let us respond, beloved brethren, to the power which is now pouring upon us—that great love of Christ, our Lord. Forgive us our trespasses; help us to forgive those who have

## The Christian Mysteries – V

T070 The Inner Teachings 16th February 1938 Pembroke Hall, London

trespassed against us. The peace of God be upon all here assembled, and remain, through life eternal.

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:*

*Apostles, Bible, psychic*

