

# The Christs of All Time

A387 Sunday Address 18th December 1966 St Mary Abbots Place, London Festival of Carols

*Text:* MB typescript, a carbon copy. IC has annotated it heavily, and there are a few marks by YGH, but they have been ignored here.

*Context:* by the standards of most of the Christmas addresses, this is quite a long talk. On this occasion MB lists the carols, effectively giving the whole order of service. There was a processional with the Choir coming in to 'O come, all ye faithful', and then Minesta's Invocation, as usual recorded elsewhere. The Choir then sang 'Gabriel's Message', 'The Angels and the Shepherds', and 'Torches'. Minesta gave the traditional 'shepherds' reading from Luke 2 : 8-18 and added, 'Now, we interpret the Shepherds as being the Initiates, those who have seen the light and who know'. Brother Faithful gave a second reading, 'from Stella Polaris about nine years ago, and it is White Eagle talking about pine trees. We regard this reading as a tribute to this little pine tree down here, and which will bring so much pleasure to many children. White Eagle says: "In one of my incarnations I lived much amongst pine trees, trees so tall, so straight so self-reliant. They swayed in the breeze but remained upright like sentinels"'. The congregation then sang 'The First Nowell' and the Choir offered 'Ding dong, merrily on high', 'The Zither Carol' and 'Come rock the cradle' (MB adds that they were 'beautifully rendered'. After the prayers, the congregation sang 'While shepherds watched'. Then came White Eagle's message. Brother Faithful's words as White Eagle sat down are reproduced here, and so are words of thanks from Minesta that came after the congregational carol, 'It came upon the midnight clear', as a benediction. At the very end, the choir processed out to verses 3 and 6 of 'O come, all ye faithful'. There is an intriguing note at the end: 'On this occasion, all the available chairs in the Lodge were used in the main chapel, the antechapel and gallery. Brother Faithful said how sorry they were that some people had to stand, as there were no more chairs (about 5 or 6 standing?)'. Brother Faithful at the end also acknowledges the distance some of the congregation have travelled, and Minesta comments on friends being present for maybe the first time in thirty years – this must be quite a specific reference to early brothers who had perhaps lived overseas for much of the intervening period.

*General notes:* almost the whole of this address supports the theme that Christmas is a universal, not a local, festival; not just one with an unlimited geography, but one which has been celebrated throughout time. It does, however, begin with a reminder of the transience of the mortal body and the reality of the spirit body. One remarkable assertion is that when human beings are filled with spirit, having passed on, they seek to take love to other worlds; White Eagle assures us that life needs love at every level and in every place. But the gem of the address for many will be White Eagle's account of himself and his associates in what he calls his Red Indian incarnation celebrating Christmas both by watching the dawn and greeting the rebirth of the Sun/Son – out on the plains where his tribe lived. This memory is very much a North American life, not a Mayan one, it feels, and it is an almost unique reference in the Sunday addresses to the actual geography of where his people lived. There is a final reminder to see, in imagination (a faculty much stressed in this address), not just our own Christian Christ but the Christ of the Native American, the Christ of the [East] Indian, the Christ of the Chinese, and so on.

When talking of his Native American life, White Eagle says 'Many questions are popping up to me now' – this almost certainly means, 'I am hearing many questions from my listeners' – something confirmed by a later reference to such questions.

*References:* the Christmas story is referenced by White Eagle throughout. 'Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest...' is Philippians 4 : 8.

White Eagle's Christmas Message:

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We come, beloved brethren of the earthly life, to bring you all love and blessing: blessing upon your lives, blessing in your heart. We pray that the message that we bring will be your comfort, your joy and illumination, for it is Christmas time.

You are all aware of the orthodox meaning of the Christ mass. But we are going to bring to you a little unorthodox interpretation of this age-old festival. We would have you understand that the festival of Christmas is not confined to orthodoxy, nor to orthodox Christianity. We cannot divorce it from what you call Christianity, because the Christmas Festival is associated with the Lord Christ, the Christos - Christos, which is the light, the light which God has planted in the soul of man. So when you sing your carols, which are so beautiful, and here we would like to thank our Choir and the Choir Master and the organist, every one of you dear brethren who have laboured long, sacrificed yourselves in order to prepare and practise for this Festival of Carols, we thank you, we thank you, and we do so for the whole congregation, because they cannot express their appreciation in the usual manner by clapping their hands for joy, but we know how they feel in their hearts [that they would like to]. And we are giving, dear brethren of the Choir, we are giving you the message from all the hearts here assembled. Now not only those who are occupying a physical body – do not think for one moment that the congregation is limited by a few people in a physical body.

Now, my children of the earth, if you could get behind the veil of materiality and that material mind and brain, you would see, truly see, the heavenly hosts, a host of Shining Ones, angels and men, amongst this vast congregation. You would see those whom you love, who have left the physical body, and who now are in spirit. But when they come to spirit life, beyond the fact that they feel so much freer and happier, and have greater opportunities for expressing their spirit of God, beyond this freedom and this joy, the life in the spirit world is very similar, only much more harmonious and beautiful than the life on earth.

Now, how can we describe this to you? Because you do not like to think of your relatives or dear ones living in a nebulous world in a nebulous body floating about in space. And yet you cannot quite understand how these spirits can have a solid body. It is only a question of degree. You have a very solid body, it is true. You think it is a solid boy, but it is not nearly so solid and certainly not permanent, not nearly so solid as people on earth think it is. It is an impermanent body, a transient body. And you enter a physical body which travels along the journey of life. You are now on the part which is called the physical life. But remember that behind you, beyond you, above you, even beneath you, there is life – life in form – all kinds of life.

And when you are gathered together, even if there are only two or three of you on Christmas Day, remember this: that you may think you consist of only a few human friends. You may think you are alone. But we remind you that there are many layers of life and consciousness, and these different layers of life interpenetrate all life. It is like a kaleidoscope; when you understand how to do it, you may at your will slide into a different state of consciousness as a different body, and your friends and loved ones, your guides and teachers who are with you, they are occupying a different level. They are interpenetrating your own life, and if your eyes, your soul eyes, the eyes of your soul were opened, trained to see, you would see them. You would see them as real as they were when they occupied a similar physical body to your own.

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You are all accustomed to the machine of television or radio. You know that you can 'tune in' quite easily to different stations. You take it for granted. You do not think in this day and age how wonderful it is but take it for granted. You can tune in to any station you require.

Now when man has unfolded or developed or evolved those soul powers within him, he will be able to tune in to any level of life that he wishes. But you see he must first have certain kinds of knowledge, for this is spiritual law. And he must also have learned to practise in daily life that spiritual law, because it is only in this way that man's powers unfold, enabling him to reach out and reach up into those higher realms of life.

So remember, dear brethren, the value, the importance and the power of the Christ festival, and do not limit it to orthodox Christianity, although that has its place. This has its message. It has its work to do, but it is only one aspect of truth. It is only one facet of the glorious jewel of truth.

Now, my beloved ones, the festival of Christmas, as you call it, was enjoyed by the ancients. Now we say to you: millions of years ago – you will think, some of you will think, we are speaking rubbish; you will find out – millions of years ago humanity received from what sometimes are called God-men; the ancients received the same message about life and about their own potentialities in life and what they could achieve in their life. These ancients received the same message which you are receiving today. And it was by this message, this law, this truth, which was brought to them by the God-men, the angels, that they lived.

Now, these ancient civilizations have completely disappeared from the face of the earth. And it is only by occult power, spiritual power, that man will ever discover these deep and ancient truths.

Nevertheless, the message comes at stated intervals throughout time. The same simple message, but it is adapted for the particular time and age and evolution of humanity. It is a question of he who has ears to hear, let him hear; and if he closes his ears, and closes his eyes, he will remain in ignorance and in darkness. We chose the reading especially tonight so that we could illustrate to you our simple message.

'While shepherds watched their flocks by night.' Now, you immediately conceive a picture of the dark sky, the stars glittering, the browsing sheep and the sleepy shepherds, and you see the great light flash, the heavens are lit up, and the angels come, and you can almost hear the message of the angels, the same as came to the ancients more than one million years ago. Mark these words. And the message is, 'Unto you is born this Christ Day a saviour who is Christ the Lord, the lord of heaven and earth, the son of the Creator, the son of the heavenly Father and the Earthly mother'.

You see, your scriptures, your Christian scriptures, are full of symbolism. And it is only when you have yourselves learned to discover the key to unlock the door of these heavenly mysteries that you can enter and see the records of this ancient truth: God has given to every living man, woman and child the gift, the gift of the light, the Christ spirit. But it is so closely

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shrouded and locked away in his heart that it takes a long time for man or woman or child to realize this precious gift; which when he discovers it and uses it, brings to him happiness eternal, brings to him all power, the power of the spiritual love, the power to live in harmony and brotherhood.

Now this, my friends, is the core of the message. This is the meaning of the birth of Christ on earth in man's own heart. And when this comes, wars cease, cruelty is abolished. No man who has the quickening of the Christ light in his heart can tolerate cruelty in any form, whether it is to Mother Earth – which is so despoiled at present – or the animal kingdom, the birds in the air, and the fish in the sea and river. All these are God's creation, and are part of the Cosmic Life. Therefore man, who is the son of God, recognises his kinship with all life, and he cannot inflict cruelty, he cannot inflict injustice, he cannot inflict pain on his fellow creatures. He only lives to serve life, all life on earth.

When he is awakened to the life on the other planes, he still goes forth into other worlds to carry his love. You may say, 'Do these other worlds need the love of mankind?' All creatures, all beings need love. And this is the story of Christmas.

Remember, my friends, that the angels were there in the darkness waiting to bring through to mankind their message of goodwill and peace. And the sheep represent humanity; the shepherds the teachers, the leaders, those more evolved souls who are given the charge to care for the sheep. But these shepherds, you will notice, were able to respond, and they saw the light. And then a great company of angels came, and they heard the message. And there were yet amongst those shepherds some who doubted the word, and who had to rush away to find proof, which, of course, they found. But is not this a great lesson to all earthly people? There always is proof, if you seek it in the right spirit, in the right direction. Remember this.

Now, before we go, brethren, we want to speak just for two minutes about a life which we remember. Now, we are quite aware that there are friends here who cannot yet accept the truth of reincarnation. Well, it does not matter, my dears, at all. It won't make any difference to the truth. You can say, as many people have said, 'There is no life after death, and there is no communication with anyone who has passed on'. Well, you don't mean that, do you? – because most of you here have received communication. And we say to you, those who cannot accept reincarnation, well it does not matter very much at the moment; but we can tell you this, that in due time as you tread your appointed path of spiritual unfoldment and service, you will come to a point on the mountainside where you will be able to see a little farther that you could when you were down on the plains.

We, we will tell you that we, when living in the red man's body – which we loved and still love – we had a very grand festival of Christ-mass. And as we are speaking to you now, we can see our brethren of that Red Indian incarnation – not savages by the way, but men of God; men who had the vision of a life behind physical matter, men who had in their hearts a great sense of brotherhood and love for their fellow creatures.

Now there are many arguments. Many questions are popping up to me now as I am saying these words. There is so much for you to learn about the evolution of the human soul, so

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much for you to learn about the world beyond this physical world. And until you have a little broader vision you will have to be content to listen to what the old Indians say to you.

You will find out in due time our Indian brethren had their Christ. Don't think that Christians are the only people on earth who had a visitation from Christ. Christ the Light, the Son of God, Christ the Light. Think of it – the Indians had their Christ. All peoples known and unknown on this physical plane of life had the visitation of their Christ, and had their Christ mass.

Now just visualize – just imagine – our company on the plains with the great mountains protecting but not very close to us because there was a very wide plain – plateau. And there you will see all the Indians in their own little encampments. You will see the light of their fires all around, and you will see them in prayer and expectancy waiting for the coming dawn, and the dawn was the rising of the sun. And they knew that behind that physical symbol was the Son of God their Saviour, and that Saviour would teach them in their hearts to be good Red Indians, good brothers.

Now all this beauty, this truth, came to earth countless years ago, but with the process of evolution when other young souls come into incarnation, these ancient and simple truths were swept away, and there had to be more evolution and progress by these young souls.

Now, that may answer some of the questions we heard quite clearly. You know when we stand here in your midst, it is quite a battery of your thoughts and your words and your criticisms and your love, most of all, beloved friends, your love. And this is the great joy to us in coming back to this physical plane of life, because we can feel your love, and that intensifies the beauty of our heaven life. Remember this, this Christmas, your love. It will intensify the happiness of your loved ones in spirit and it will intensify the happiness of your dear friends and relatives on earth, in your earth home and your own Christmas party.

And so, beloved earthly brethren, we wish you all a blessed, a joyous Christmas. And remember to look behind the veil and use your own creative faculty, which is placed in man's brain as 'imagination'. Imagine beautiful things. What did the initiate Paul say? 'Whatsoever things are good, true and beautiful, think on these things.' Think of your loved ones with you but in a much finer and more beautiful state of consciousness than you have reached. They are close to you, oh so close; closer than ever when you have love in your heart.

And so, beloved children, the Christos, the Lord Christ, manifests at the Christmas Festival in the human body, the Perfect Human Body, even as all our Indian Brethren manifest in their Indian bodies. But remember the Indian Christ, the Christ of the Red Indian, Christ of the Egyptian life, and the Chinese and all the nations that you know; think of all these human beings with their idol – ideal – the Lord Christ, God's Son, man when he is perfected through his service and his love to his fellow beings on earth.

Peace be with you. Peace be with you. Divine Love enfold you and joy fill your hearts now and evermore.

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The Great White Spirit blesses you.

Amen.

## Brother Faithful:

I think that most all of us will go away with a far wider, a far deeper and more lasting realization of the importance of Christmas and the Christian message, not only to the West, but to the whole world.

May I add also what a very great pleasure it is to see so many of you here, more especially those of you who have come from very far away: 50, 100, 200 miles and perhaps even farther. Some who are members of some Daughter Lodge or White Eagle Group, it is a special joy. And I think it has been well repaid tonight.

We are closing this Service with a congregational carol: 'It Came Upon the Midnight Clear'.

## Minesta:

Before the Benediction, I would like to say a word to all of you, because I have noticed in this congregation a number of very old friends, some of you who came to us in the early days, thirty years ago, and you have not been for many years, but we are so happy to see you. And I feel I must express this to you from White Eagle himself, and I am afraid I shall not be able to speak to each one of you personally, but I would like you to know how very helped we have been by so many of your beautiful letters and the kind things you have said in those letters about *Stella Polaris* and the work of the Lodge.

Thank you, everyone, for your letters, your cards of Christmas greetings. Thank you for all your love and for all you have done to help us carry on this work. God bless you all, and I trust and I pray that you will all have a very happy, truly happy Christmas.

Whatever your burden or your problem, remember you are not bearing it alone, but God above is watching over you, and 'underneath are the Everlasting Arms', and 'God has given His Angels charge over you to help you in all your ways'.

And now we shall raise our thoughts to the Great White Spirit and see the rays, the Cosmic rays of gold pouring down now upon the earth.

We thank God that we are able to receive the message of the Angels.

We thank Thee God that Thou dost give us strength to live and to work and to love. May thy peace, thy Heavenly Peace, which is beyond all human knowledge and understanding, come to us and rest in our hearts always.

Amen.

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*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:*

*Nativity, winter solstice, hymns, messiah, seasonal, yule, magi, angels, devas, life after death, cycles of life, reincarnation, native americans, wildlife, natural world, inner light, communion, inner peace, inspiration, illumination, enlightenment, heaven world, world of light*

