

## From Service into Oneness

A379 Sunday Address 23rd January 1966 St Mary Abbots Place, London New Year Service

*Text:* blue typescript by MB (top copy) heavily annotated for publication by IC, who has written in a title, 'We are with you instantly at your call'. The address indeed appeared in the April issue of *Stella Polaris* the same year, with this title and following IC's emendations. The typist herself added a question mark over the word 'cloud' in IC's comments from the service itself, but it does not seem an unlikely word for WE to use. A centred star before the communion derives from the typescript; it is not clear whether there was a long pause here, or whether the typist was simply marking a new section. The new title, 'From Service into Oneness' is chosen for this project.

*Context:* according to MB, the first hymn was 'Now thank we all our God', no. 350 in *Songs of Praise*, doubtless to the famous seventeenth-century tune 'Nun Danket'. Minesta's Invocation was once again recorded separately. The reading seems to have been in two parts: first, Aquarian Gospel 74 : 16-24 and second, an excerpt and a prayer from chapter X of *THE RETURN OF ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE*. Brother Faithful's introduction noted that it had been given about thirty-six years before, which would take it to about 1930. This makes it very early in the White Eagle canon. The actual prayer was typed out by MB and is reproduced here with Brother Faithful's words that came after it. Then followed the hymn 'O brother man, fold to thy heart thy brother'. The words are by Whittier and the tune would undoubtedly have been Parry's 'Intercessor'. There were two other musical items before the address. First, the Whittier hymn was followed by the Choir and a soloist singing the words 'Let the rays from a Sun or a Star radiate afar: So from this place the light reaches those who suffer'. The normal prayers followed, and then the Choir and soloist sang the hymn/anthem, 'Lead me Lord', probably with words and music by Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-76).

After the address, Brother Faithful gave a longer-than-usual comment, reproduced here, and introduced the final hymn, 'These things shall be!' (no. 312)– the words of John Addington Symonds, sung undoubtedly to the tune Galilee. Once again Minesta's benediction was recorded separately and the Choir ended the service with what is described as the 'Threefold Amen'. Possibly, this is the one known as the Dresden Amen, used by Wagner in *Parsifal*. This is an amen using a seven-note sequence and it is possibly the same item as the one MB refers to in other address scripts as a 'seven-fold amen'.

*General notes:* this a truly remarkable address, full of fresh insight and encouragement without going over familiar territory. Abiding themes are service, aspiration to the highest level, and the achievement of Union. There is teaching about the Star symbol, about the New Jerusalem to come and how to create it by thought, and the information that the year ahead is the year of service, of brotherhood. It is also about suffering, and the need to be strong before suffering. White Eagle speaks of the eternal divine principle of moving from suffering into joy, but also about the Aquarian age principle of working in groups. He also offers a most beautiful picture of what it is like to move into the Oneness, and what contentment is like. Lastly, there comes again a very personal call to service for each member of the congregation, and a very personal and powerful communion.

*References:* none.

### Prayer included with the Reading:

O Thou who art the Author of all good things; Thou Who art ever present, ever loving, wise and all powerful; we would come into Thy Presence. May the rays from Thy being permeate our very souls. May the light of Thy beauty illumine our minds, and may the power of Thy greatness enfold us in loving arms, so that we become one with Thee.

Bless this work; may no shadow of doubt or fear fall across the light which Thou hast ordained shall come to the people of the earth. Amen.

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### Brother Faithful:

‘Bless this work’ – the prayer out of which this Lodge has come. May no shadow or doubt of fear cloud the understanding; and that is the charge laid upon those who sustain this work in our present day.

### White Eagle’s New Year Address:

Beloved Brethren, we speak from the world of spirit: the invisible world to many people on earth, but a very real world. We wonder how many of you comprehend the activity which is now taking place in that higher ether. We come to you via that higher ether, and you are only just beginning to realize that your thoughts take form in that higher ether.

Present here with you now is a vast congregation of shining spirits who have left the earthly body, but who are still working for mankind on earth. And when you as a community unite in thought to send out the Light of the Star, your invisible friends are with you and they are amplifying your own thoughts of good, your good thoughts, your thoughts of love and brotherhood.

Now, as you already know, the symbol of the Lodge contains the six-pointed Star, and this symbol is that of brotherhood. It is the symbol of the Christ spirit; and the Christ spirit is brotherhood and love. Now, as you stand at the beginning of another year you need help, every one of you. We cannot talk to you about your individual problems, but we can in truth tell you that all human problems are common; that every man, woman and child on earth has its problem and you have your particular problem. Many of you are confused and worried about how to act in your particular life. And the answer, my brethren, is to give yourself into the charge of the angels of God. Try and feel the strength, the power of God holding you up. And moreover, never neglect a quiet time each day when you withdraw from the noise and tumult of the physical life into the silence of the heart temple and there firmly allow your subconscious to dwell on the light, on the perfect form of Jesus the Christ. Feel his tender love flowing into you, enfolding you, leading you onward: ‘lead me on to the Golden City’. Now, do we mean the actual City of Gold, or do we mean a Golden City in a spiritual sense? Well, we mean both; because when you reach the Golden City in your innermost being, which means when you have realized the glory of the Christ life, you will find that there is an actual Golden City, the City of Jerusalem.

Now many people are confused about this issue. Is there a beautiful golden world in form, or is there only this state of consciousness? The answer is, that whatever a man has achieved in his innermost soul he is able to create form with the power which he has achieved. And so it is that when man passes away from dense matter through the higher ether into a more perfect state of living he cannot help but think beauty. Form is created by the thoughts issuing from man’s soul. Thus you will understand man creates his own hell or his own heaven.

And now you stand at the beginning of a fresh year. And in this Lodge we wish to give a particular message to all our brethren, members and friends. We speak to you perhaps –

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perhaps as an elder brother – but certainly one who understands your problems, one who is with you instantly by the call of your spirit. We talk to you as our beloved family in this White Eagle Lodge and we want to say to you that this year will be one of particular opportunity for service to mankind – because it is the year of brotherhood. We want to stress, we want to emphasise this note in this Lodge. The work before you, and before all of us in the higher ether, is to continue to serve humanity. By serving humanity, by serving the creation, all the kingdoms – by which we mean the lowest kingdom, the mineral, the vegetable, and then the human, and then the etheric, and then the angelic – by serving all these kingdoms of God we are serving each other; and to serve each other means that that service rebounds to the individual. Now this is a divine law; you cannot do good without doing good yourself, but the motive of the service is the important point. You do not serve your brother man in order to get something for yourself; you serve creation and humanity, because you have within your heart tenderness, pity and love for all life.

Now, as you evolve, you will find that your spirit impresses your mind and impresses your nervous system with a sense of love, so that you cannot injure anything. You cannot go against what is called conscience, because that is the voice of God, or the Christ within you. You feel, you feel the suffering of another, but you must not collapse under these feelings. You must learn to be wise and strong in looking upon suffering. And in going to alleviate sorrow and pain you grow in grace and in strength in your heart, so that you instantly *know*, you know the need of all living creatures.

We have emphasised the point of brotherhood as the keynote for the new year. And we would just here like to refer to the fact that the future, the future is opening the path to the new age of Aquarius, the age of brotherhood. And you will find from the very – shall we say the outermost rim of human life – you will find the tendency towards union. You will find that people will be more and more working in groups. You will find that we shall be holding more and more groups within the Lodge, because it is in group work that the Aquarian age will be established, for humanity will learn through group service. It will learn this most beautiful unification of mind and spirit with other souls.

Now, when man advances onto higher spheres, after purification, and a certain amount of elimination of all the lowest atoms, he will enter the world of infinite perfection and harmony. And when the soul enters that world, it realises one infinite eternal truth, that he – it – the soul, the microcosm, is 'It', the macrocosm. It knows that it is at one with all life, with God and in love, abundant, abundant love, beauty, harmony of action, harmony of vibrations which make up its life. The soul knows that while it can look upon this beauty of form everywhere, it can also feel that it is that form. It knows that there is infinity before it. It lives and breathes and has its being in infinity and eternity. And that state of mind and heart and life is one of absolute harmony and peace and joy.

Oh yes, a question is coming up to me, instantly, asking, 'What about the suffering of mankind? How can any soul be happy in the consciousness of perfect love whilst there is suffering and cruelty at lower levels? We answer to that question by saying that when the soul has reached that pinnacle of happiness and joy it can see a complete whole, not just one or two conditions of pain and suffering. The soul then lives to alleviate pain and suffering. Some

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people say God must suffer. God is beyond all suffering. And when the soul reaches that level of God-consciousness it lives, breathes, healing and love, is living all the time to bring about the evolution of the unformed and unperfected into perfection.

On Earth, you are consumed by your own physical emotions and your idea of suffering. But we assure you, dear brethren, that the Earth people encased in a suffering body find it very difficult to see beyond that suffer[ing], but the soul freed from the material and physical bondage, the soul that is free in the light, understands that God is love – however confused the physical aspect is.

Now the God life is working: a great and infinite and beneficent power which is slowly, slowly bringing right and goodness out of wrong and darkness. And you yourself have to get to that pinnacle of awareness of love.

Now, brethren of the Lodge, we who are so close to you in the spirit are around you, impressing you, giving you courage and strength to go on, knowing in your heart that all is working together for good. Never doubt this – and we are speaking not only to you as a community, but to you as an individual – because as we have already said, we know human heartache, [and] we know that all pain is gradually dissolved in the light. And God is such a beneficent power that He slowly but surely brings to each individual heart divine love, peace and contentment. This does not mean – contentment does not mean – self-satisfaction; contentment means content in God, content in God.

When you send out the Star, which we watch you do from our level of life, we can see the devotion and the pure light in your hearts which is directing the light of the Star into the world. We, who have worked for brotherhood amongst the tribes and nations for many a long year, and in many past incarnations, we are now working with your help to bring into our brother's heart everywhere the light and the peace of the Christ spirit. We shall go on working, we shall work and work. We shall all work to bring about the brotherhood of life, doing what we can on the physical plane. It is no use talking about brotherhood, you must have brotherhood in action – which means that you must teach others the way of kindness and love, not by preaching, but by example.

And so, the message to you at the beginning of your New Year is to be led by the light of God; to gaze up into the heavens and see the blazing, the radiating six-pointed Star; and to follow that Star the whole of your journey until the end. And we have told you that the end is the union, the comprehension of union with the Whole. So mote it be.

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Beloved, dearly beloved brethren, when you come to the spirit land, if you are quickened in the comprehension of God, you will see God in everything, in every form of life – in every form, God. Wonderful, wonderful, oh wonderful, wonderful, children: the works of God. May the Great Spirit of the Christos manifest here to every one of you, for He stands in an immense form, shining with the light of heaven. Picture Him, and as you picture Him in your imagination see that Form becomes real – picture Him.

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Have the vision of the Lord Jesus Christ in the white robes of purity, offering to you the Bread and the Wine. Take, eat the Bread of Heaven. Take, sip the Wine of Heaven with understanding – feel the love of His spirit radiating all through you. We are at one – all as one – one vast Brotherhood in the Great White Spirit.

The Spirit Company wish you all a happy, happy and ever more happy New Year. Happy in spirit.

Amen.

### Brother Faithful:

When most of us enter on a new year I suppose we feel a slight uncertainty, a secret qualm, or even a fear lest something unhappy or disastrous should happen to us during that coming year. And this we do not acknowledge to each other, but most of us feel it. And surely our strength lies in some heartening message which can sink into the heart and there abide, and there be built in, as it were; because then, if trouble threatens, and only then if it is there we have something to turn back to, something to respond to, something to sustain us. And such a message as this, coupled with New Year good wishes, such a message as this we have heard tonight.

And so, we come to our closing hymn, no. 312, 'These things shall be! A loftier race'.

*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:*

*Six-pointed star, star symbol, difficulties, pain, organisations, communities, life after death, eternal life, pilgrimage, sacred places, spiritual unfoldment, spiritual development, light within, inner light, communion, inner peace, intuition, illumination, enlightenment*