

THE LIGHT-VESTURE OF THE NEW MAN

THE APOCALYPSE  
OF THE NEW ERA

FIVE AQUARIUS  
RENEWAL CONFERENCES

BY

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AND

JAN VAN RIJCKENBORGH

- I BILTHOVEN 1963
- II CALW 1964
- III BAD MUNDER 1965
- IV BASEL 1966
- V TOULOUSE 1967

ROZEKRUIS PERS - HAARLEM - THE NETHERLANDS

THE LIGHT-VESTURE  
OF THE NEW MAN

THE APOCALYPSE  
OF THE NEW ERA I

FIRST AQUARIUS RENEWAL CONFERENCE

RENOVA, BILTHOVEN 1963

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1989

ROZEKRUIS PERS - HAARLEM - THE NETHERLANDS

International School of the Golden Rosycross

Lectorium Rosicrucianum

Bakenessergracht 11-15, Haarlem, The Netherlands

Translated from the Dutch:

Het Lichtkleed van de Nieuwe Mens

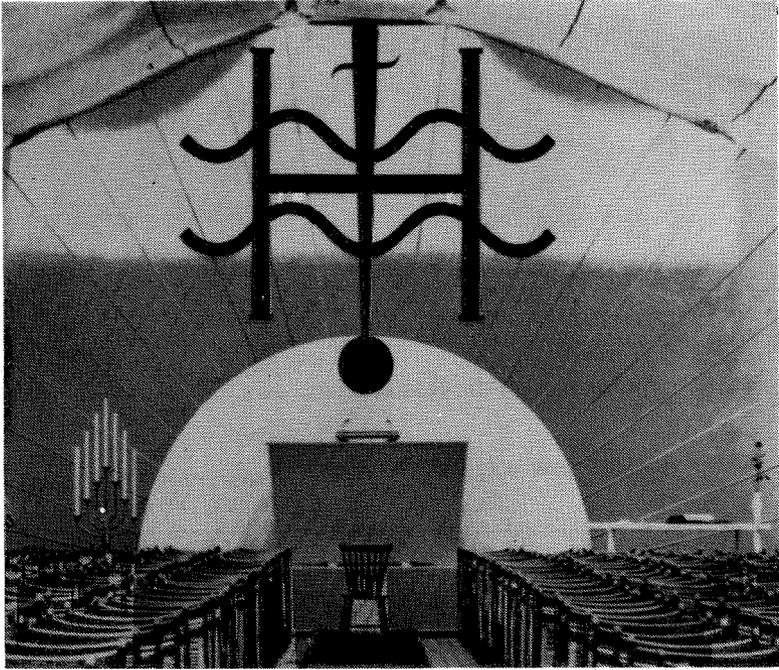
Second Revised Edition, 1985

**ISBN 90 6732 035 8**

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*The symbol of our Aquarian work of renewal*

## PREFACE

Aquarius is now making its apocalypse felt in the currents of universal life governing the evolution of the human life-wave, with liberating but also unmasking and revolutionary effects on the whole of mankind. It was for this reason that the Spiritual School of the modern Rosycross invited its pupils from all over the world to attend a gathering at its conference centre 'Renova', in The Netherlands, so that they could prepare themselves for the far-reaching changes that were to come.

In accordance with its task and mission, the modern Rosycross addresses itself to those who seek to understand the signs of the present times and indicates the ancient path leading to the glorious fulfilment of man's true destiny. That is why we decided to publish the contents of this Aquarius Renewal Conference in an unabridged form, including the rituals.

It is our profound prayer that this publication may contribute towards a deepening understanding of the path of the Water Bearer. Those who truly see this path and hear the voice of the Water Bearer will follow Him with joy and gratitude. May the harvest be truly abundant.

Catharose de Petri  
J. van Rijckenborgh



## THE LIGHT-VESTURE OF THE ROSICRUCIAN

### *Opening Words*

Now that it is granted to us to begin this wonderful conference and to welcome you in this place, which for a few days will serve as the focal point of the Aquarius Renewal Feast, we would like to emphasise the tremendous significance of this mighty gathering and the great responsibility to be borne in the coming days by all of us, as pupils of a true Spiritual School.

We have come together from many parts of the world to bring an exclusive task to a good end to receive a unique mission in the service of the Universal Chain of Brotherhoods. For this reason, we call you to great vigilance and devotion, because in a large gathering such as this, one's attention can easily be distracted by all sorts of insignificant things.

Therefore, may we ask you not to allow this to happen! Our being together, which could be described as a mass meeting, should enhance our concentration and multiply our spiritual strength ten-fold, with corresponding results. We trust that this will happen, brothers and sisters! May this be the great and glorious blessing of this conference!

Let us pray for each other:  
that the flame of this fire of mercy

may radiate as an imperishable sign  
over our dark lands. Amen.

*Votum*

We, who are taken up into the Magnetic Body of the Sevenfold  
Spiritual School of the Lectorium Rosicrucianum, raise ourselves to  
the Light of Lights, so that the new soul-power in us may be set free  
unto new life. Amen.

*Prayer*

O you eternal, imperishable light:  
break our bonds  
and liberate us from the delusions of matter.  
Draw us up to your radiant heart of love,  
and purify us with the fiery flames of your fire of grace.  
Make us aware of the majestic glory  
of your universal manifestation with the world and mankind.  
Link us with all who suffer,  
with all who seek and strive for liberation,  
so that, if they have not yet found you,  
we may extend to them what we have received from you,  
and for them we may convert the cross of nature  
into the cross of liberation,  
upon which the roses of unfading beauty  
unfold in your unwavering light. Amen.

## *Ritual*

As you know, a microcosm is exactly like a macrocosm. Think, in this connection, of the hermetic axiom: 'As above, so below.'

In the macrocosm there are planets, suns and zodiacal systems which together form a unity, which are interdependent and kept in motion by one central Sun. The same structure can be seen in the microcosm. Here too are planets, suns and various systems which have a task to fulfil in the unity of the microcosm. The whole of this manifestation in space, which extends into and loses itself in what for us is an unfathomable infinity, is upheld by a system of laws.

It will be clear that the all-manifestation is a unity; that all forms of manifestation merge into each other and are therefore interdependent. Disturbance of this order would be fatal to the great unity. This will become clear if one thinks of the fact that insignificant causes can sometimes have tremendous effects in our bodies.

Imagine how it would be if, through an arbitrary intervention of the inhabitants of some other planet, a strange celestial body were to be born or drawn within our solar system. The result would be a disturbance of the entire solar system. And suppose that, through an arbitrary creation by our sun, not in harmony with the all-manifestation, new manifestations were to control our solar system. The result would be a disturbance of the universe. So it is logical that a divine law of nature intervenes to correct, isolate and neutralise every disturbance which occurs in the universal manifestation. In this connection, the Bible says: 'It is more profitable that one of your members should perish, than that your whole body should be cast into hell.'

The microcosm is a universe on a reduced scale, and the spirit is the central sun, the invisible sun of our system. In prehistoric times, creations emanated from this central, microcosmic sun which were

in harmony with the divine plan of creation. One of these creations is called the 'heavenly man'. Seen from an astro-philosophical point of view, this heavenly man consisted of a primordial sun with a twofold aspect: sun and moon, and five planets. This sevenfold system had a spiritual focus, a light radiation which was also sevenfold in appearance, and a manifested form, a glorified material aspect, also sevenfold in nature. This was the image of the heavenly man, about whom one may read in the Book of Revelations: 'the angel with the seven stars in his right hand', an image which testifies to a positively-controlled planetary cosmic life.

At a certain moment in prehistoric times an unholy creation emanated from the central microcosmic sun. This creation corrupted the entire microcosmic system, thus rendering it unholy. The heavenly man was incited to forced actions and to an experimental life outside the Universal Plan.

The heavenly man was a mighty spirit, capable of causing considerable harm in the macrocosm, had he been kept in manifestation. That is why he was neutralised through divine intervention; he gradually diminished and was compelled to manifest himself through three new sevenfold cycles, which were adapted to the unholy creation. From this resulted dialectical man, who is not even a shadow of the original man, and whose radius of action is completely curtailed. He was imprisoned in the dialectical life-field, made captive in a certain stratum of the earth, with only a small part of his former freedom left: the freedom to fall still deeper, and the freedom to regenerate.

However, regeneration cannot take place by itself, but only through the love and mercy of God, who does not forsake the works of his hands. The first victory of the Holy Spirit over present-day man is: that he comes to an understanding of his own state. 'Man, know thyself!'

For many years a call has sounded via our Spiritual School throughout the world. It is the call for man to understand the mystery of the Kingdom of God. Those who hear this call and respond to it will be enabled to set foot on the path of return to the original, Immovable Kingdom. Amen.

### *First address*

Well, brothers and sisters, now that we have assembled for the first time during this conference in this so grandiose temple tent for the celebration of the Aquarius Renewal Feast, it is of great importance that all of you should fully understand for what purpose we have gathered here; the reason why we speak of a feast. It is a feast which claims all our attention and for which all of us have long been preparing ourselves with ever greater concentration.

We are aware that we have come to the dawn of a new day; a new era of totally new experience both for the world and for mankind. And you will understand without needing to be told that this new day will place a new demand upon all of us: the fulfilment of a completely new way of life. For this, a new way of acting, a new directedness will be necessary. We ourselves as well as our fellow human beings will have to react positively to that requirement by our actions. If our reaction is negative; then the new development will take us by surprise and will drag us along in its tide. We base this statement on the fact that a new intercosmic radiation field is encompassing our world and has now developed sufficient intensity and power to bring about visible and demonstrable effects. These effects, in combination, will bring about a total revolution for the world and mankind, within a relatively short timespan; we believe within a period of development which will last about eighteen to twenty years.

This entire development was prophesied long ago and is embodied in the metaphysical lore of practically all peoples. It has been invested and interwoven with many fantastic stories, legends and symbols. Prophecy, fantasy and symbolism took shape and as a result, what will come to pass has been shrouded in a garment of hazy historical events. In this way the various theologies arose. By their differences of opinion they have kept mankind divided, and, as you know from world history, this has cost much bloodshed and has also led to the chaos we know so well in today's churches. The course of coming events will put an end to all this by focusing everyone's attention on the one great reality about which we spoke at the beginning of this service. Understand well that, as a 'group, we can philosophise together on lofty subjects and undertake tremendous flights of fancy. However, it will now be so that the things upon which we focus our attention will be put before and anchored within every human being.

In this way a place will be created for that one great truth from which no mortal being will be able to escape, namely the truth concerning himself and his ultimate destiny. True reason will replace all speculation, and true, living religion will conquer the heads and hearts of countless people without having to resort to the customary methods of propaganda and publications.

It would be good to describe this one, universal religion straight away. The spiritual attitude of the future, which is now emerging, will bear the signature of the living Rosycross, and the name of Christian Rosycross will be on the lips of many as a wealth of living, provable concepts, as a demonstrable reality. For this name refers not so much to any person alive or previously living, but more to a state of being that has to develop within every human being. It is a state of being which in the dim past was thought to be forthcoming, then was considered desirable, and in our age has been imitated by many seekers and also by speculators, with all the consequences of this.

This state of being will become a necessity in the very near future. It will become the only possible way of life for every human being, and it will be decisive for what we call life or death. All this relates to the present condition of our light-vesture. The things we are discussing now need to be divested of all fantasy and apocalyptic garb, for we must face the naked reality.

In our philosophy man's various vital fluids are referred to as the 'light-vesture'. This is formed from the blood and its system, the nerve fluid and its system, the endocrine system, the serpent fire and the flame of the consciousness. Even in a natural state of being each of these fluids emits its own very powerful etheric light. That is why we speak of a light-vesture. It is also the reason why, in the Gnostic Gospel of the *Pistis Sophia*, her light-vesture is continually mentioned. You should understand that this concept has been known to insiders throughout the ages.

Every human being wears a light-vesture. From this it is clear that the quality and nature of these interacting vital fluids determine one's level of vibration. They determine one's general orientation with respect to life and also, most importantly, one's state of health. Health and sickness are always directly related to the state of one's light vesture. So the quality and nature of these vital fluids also determine whether one will remain in the ordinary, familiar, earth-bound animal state, or whether one will have regenerative - and therefore liberating - possibilities of transcending the ordinary animal state.

This transcendence of the animal state, this arising, this resurrection out of the animal state of the light-vesture, will be imperative for every human being in the coming times. Owing to the impact of the new radiation field, this necessity will shortly become highly acute. However, we would like to emphasise that the transcendence we mean is not in any way an automatic process of development

comparable, for instance, with the transition from childhood to adulthood. No, all of us are confronted *with* a personal choice. That is why, during the last year, we spoke with such emphasis about the new attitude to life. Which of you is already practising this new attitude to life? Have you already made the one decisive choice?

We say to you: this choice is not merely desirable and cannot be made in a state of exaltation or religious ecstasy; no, in the very near future it will become, quite soberly, an absolute necessity. It is in this light that the new attitude to life should be understood. The new attitude to life must be chosen by each one of you personally. This process must be lived and experienced by you in its entirety. That is why we speak of self-realisation. This process of transcendence, this resurrection process, this self-realisation, is bound up with the great and glorious mystery of Man, in the highest, monadic sense of the word. That is why we have had to speak to you for so long about this feast of the beginning ascent, of the beginning resurrection from the nature of death: because each one of you has to make a definite decision. Each one of you must enter into that process. Or not, with all the consequences!

For there are but two roads: the road of regenerative ascent, and that of degenerative descent. *Now* you are still free to choose between these two roads. And since none of us can tell how much time mankind still has to make this all-decisive choice and to make it a reality by the new way of life, our Brotherhood considered it of the greatest importance to choose a date during the two very critical months of August and September 1963, which mark the beginning of the above-mentioned intercosmic development, to call all the brothers and sisters who belong to the Spiritual School in truth and reality, to attend this mighty convention at Renova. So, brothers and sisters, it is by order of our Brotherhood that we have called you together.

In addition, it is our task to confront you, clearly and concisely,

with the spirit of the ascent now beginning. It is our mission to guide you, if possible, to a very concrete decision, and we are also directed to tell you that it has been granted to us to invoke the blessing of the Brotherhood, the Universal Brotherhood, upon this decision, this resolution which will affect every aspect of your life.

We have to emphasise that in the coming days this blessing will be poured out over all of us if, from within, you make this one positive decision and then enter, on that basis, into the great process of self-realisation. For, as will now be clear, the fundamental thing is for you to be taken up into a mighty process.

By so doing we shall be able to lead the whole of mankind into a new, mighty course of development which, as we said, will be characterised ever more clearly and distinctly by the signature of Christian Rosycross. That is why we are again drawing your attention to your light-vesture. And without losing ourselves in extensive explanations we ask you: What are you doing about the care of your light-vesture, as pupils of the Rosycross?

If we were to examine this now, at this moment, we would probably encounter rather poor results, generally speaking. 'On the positive side, it might appear that you are a vegetarian and practise certain reforms in your life as a result. But did you know that the results of your vegetarianism are almost entirely neutralised as far as your light-vesture is concerned by all the other harmful substances circulating in your blood? Your ordinary food intake alone is sufficient to cause this. We are thinking, here, of the many chemical and synthetic substances added to our food these days.

And what are you doing about the care of your nerve-ether, which in our modern times is placed under the most terrific tensions? And what are you doing to ensure that your spinal spirit-fire functions correctly? Has it ever occurred to you that you have a task to perform in that respect?

A matter which may be somewhat more familiar to you is the care of the endocrine system - for it is gradually dawning on mankind that almost **all** illnesses are directly related to disturbances of the endocrine system, disturbances which people generally try to neutralise by means of so-called 'medicines' or, if need be, with surgery.

And what would you have to say about the proper care of your 'consciousness-flame'? Have you **ever** even heard of it? People say: 'My consciousness is, my consciousness exists, and that's that.' And people say: 'This type of person is like this, and that type of person is like that. This is his character and that is her character.' And that is the basis on which we associate with **one** another.

But what we want to say to you is: get used to the fact that the whole of your fivefold light-vesture **forms** one indivisible system. We want to impress upon you **that** all the conditions man sees and experiences as illness are caused and maintained by disharmonies in the light-vesture. Hereditary influences giving rise to disturbances will disappear if you place your entire light-vesture firmly under the **relevant** laws of life. And if you do this while you are still young, you will certainly overcome all these hereditary influences. Illnesses and weaknesses which have existed right from birth will quickly cease to **cause** any obstruction, if only one sees to it that **one's** light-vesture functions in the right way.

Perhaps this idea is quite new to you. Yet the helping Service of the Rozenhof is based entirely on this fact. And when, from time to time, the Rozenhof receives a letter expressing gratitude for its help and a miraculous rescue which **has** frequently attracted the attention even of outsiders, the credit for this is often to be ascribed largely to the **sick** pupil himself who, **driven** by his condition, has given his light-vesture **that** to which it is entitled by virtue of its nature. We can assure you that the **physicians among us will have** tremendous successes in the near future if they try, in the most absolute sense, to **give**

their help to the light-vestures of their patients. And, they should understand that, if they really want to help, their own light-vesture should function properly as well.

What is the light-vesture, then? ; you might ask. It is the representative in the body, in the material self, of the **etheric** double.

We use the term 'etheric double' to make clear that the material self lives solely by means of that double, that vital body. Man lives by the grace of the etheric body, and in particular by the grace of his light-vesture. The material atoms of which the material self is composed do not exist independently, but depend on their co-operation with the etheric atoms. That is why it is logical to say that it is only possible for a living being to express itself in this material world because of the presence of the light-vesture.

It is equally rational to say that the task of the light-vesture is not only to animate and maintain the material body. That is purely incidental. The true calling of the light-vesture is much higher, but the fulfilment of this calling is dependent upon the way in which you use your light-vesture here and now, and in the near future.

If you realise this, you will also feel the need to prepare your light-vesture for its great and so glorious task. Keeping your material body in a state of cleanliness and purity is of great importance. All the care you give your material body is therefore excellent and highly commendable. But of far greater importance is the proper care of your light-vesture. In the near future, this will be the most important task for all of us. We need to prepare our light-vestures for their great and glorious task.

That is the central idea underlying our Aquarius Renewal Feast. In that we find the key to the ascent now beginning.

## *Closing Words*

The cornerstone Jesus Christ is the original power, the reality of being of the Kingdom of Heaven. This power adapts itself completely the state of being of each one of us, impelled by the love of God, which seeks that which is lost.

As soon, then, as we are found **ready** to build **upon** this one cornerstone, the great process of change will begin. It is a daily birth **and** a daily dying. It is a daily resurrection and a daily **being** touched by the Divine Plenitude.

We call the touch `Jesus'.

We call the possibility `Christ'.

We call the cause `the love of God'.

And the temple of the spirit itself,  
the light that shines from the temple in all its fullness,  
it is the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## *Final Prayer*

Chosen as heirs by the mysteries of salvation, and counted among the inhabitants of the treasure-chamber of the light: We hope and pray that all of us may use, unto life, the key to the inner sanctuary. Amen.

## II

### THE FIVEFOLD NEW WAY OF LIFE

#### *Opening Words*

Before the countenance of the holy Seven-Spirit,  
in the name of the Tri-Unity of the Light,  
in the power of Him who is throughout all ages:  
Christ Jesus our Lord,  
we offer ourselves in sacrifice  
upon the altar of the universal Gnosis,  
and we dedicate the holy work  
to the Gnosis, the Spiritual School and its pupils,  
unto true redemption and liberation. Amen.

#### *Votum*

Honour, praise, glory and worship  
be to God the Father,  
and to the Son,  
through whom the Spirit manifests itself,  
from the beginning of time, now and in all eternity.  
Amen, yes, Amen.

## *Ritual*

We may safely state that the rebirth of the soul can only come about in the magnetic field of a gnostic Spiritual School. Our Spiritual School, which is already sixfold in manifestation, possesses such a magnetic radiation-field. Having to live outside such a magnetic field means that one only has recourse to one's biological faculties. In the radiation-field of Christ, the biological faculties of the pupil on the path are interpenetrated by radiations of spiritual power emanating from the universal life, and 'his weakness is filled with the power of Christ'. In other words, the Holy Spirit is at work in the power-field of the Spiritual School.

The statement that 'our Spiritual School possesses a magnetic radiation-field,' could be a dogma for many pupils, for not everyone experiences the touch of that radiation field consciously. However, it is necessary for all pupils to know what a magnetic Body is, how it is composed, and how one can discern its presence.

First of all we must define the radiation-field of the Universal Chain of Brotherhoods and, secondly, the power-field of the 'Sent Ones'.

The radiation-field of the Universal Chain of Brotherhoods is populated by entities who have attained a state of life on a higher level than the natural one. They have been liberated from matter. They form an order of increasingly pure, holy and divine beings; one great hierarchy of human spirits who are consciously able to impel the light of the Holy Spirit to activity. So we can call them direct members of the Body of Christ. They become 'one of us', and for that purpose they bore a light-shaft between our natural state and the Kingdom which is not of this world.

That is how this hierarchy of the light manifests itself, and it draws around itself a circle of 'Sent Ones'. This circle is linked directly with

the divine light that shines into this world of death in order to save what threatens to be lost.

Where do the 'Sent Ones' come from so suddenly? In them speaks not only what we call 'preremembrance', but at the same time a certain predisposition, a predestiny, even though they are still imprisoned in biological fetters.

From the *Fama Fraternitatis R.C.* we learn that the Universal Doctrine descended with Adam, right from the very first moments of the Fall. This means that ever since the first second of the Fall, efforts have been made to save mankind and a circle of 'Sent Ones' has existed. Of course, in those early times, man's body was not so crystallised as it is now. His heavenly body had not yet died and his dialectical system was still in the process of development.

In that situation a group of human beings arose from among all the others, in whom was imprinted something else in addition to pre-remembrance - a certain sensitivity to the touch of the heavenly Hierarchy. As soon as the Hierarchy willed it, this faculty would begin to speak in the 'Sent Ones'. The ancient mystics called this predisposition 'the treasure of the wondrous jewel', thereby referring to a certain activity of the serpent-fire.

In every period of human development a number of these predestined entities who are ennobled to it by their way of life and who, for whatever reason, have risen to such a mission, are used as Sent Ones. As we said, every Sent One bears within him the wondrous jewel; his serpent-fire is in that particular condition. The spirit-soul nucleus in the head has its foci in the heart, head and pelvis and as such is Holy Spirit in its effect.

There are many who carry the jewel within them and yet are not eligible to work as Sent Ones. Why not? Because their jewel is too tightly locked in dialectical fetters; because it is still too closely bound to matter and dialectical appetites. Eventually, once such a

person has become 'burnt out' with respect to nature, once he has reached a dead end within himself, the jewel may perhaps begin to speak again.

You should understand the words 'burnt out with respect to nature' in the right way. There are those who are bound to the wheel of birth and death who come into the world with the firm decision, from youth on, to devote themselves to the soul and through it to serve others, come what may. Such persons can also be used as Sent Ones. All the others will first have to be healed of their self-inflicted wounds in the radiation-field of Christ, before later being permitted to be Grail-bearers, with youthful and dedicated vitality.

All Sent Ones bear the same signature: they serve from their youth onwards; they dissociate themselves from dialectical lower life, and they work in a state which is as pure as possible. By all these things they show that they are burnt out with respect to nature. For them, dialectical life no longer offers any basis.

Well then, a bonafide Spiritual School is formed by a group of Sent Ones who are known to be reliable. There are various grades of Sent Ones, but it is very difficult to describe them because they have such highly individual variations. However, with the help of others, every Sent One constructs a force-field, a magnetic field of work with which the Universal Chain of Brotherhoods links itself at the appropriate time.

Seen as an order, the Brotherhood of the Golden Rosycross is a higher unity. For the rest, there is a wide diversity of brothers and sisters who are sent out to many different countries and who are quite independent as to their missions. All of them, however, have this in common:

- they are bound to one another by their mission;
- they are bound to Jesus Christ by the jewel;
- they are bound to their task by their attitude to life.

By this threefold fellowship the brothers and sisters recognise each other.

The predisposed entity takes up his task relatively early in life. Around him, he spreads the light of the jewel he bears within him, and in that light he makes his first preparations. If these preparations find favour in the eyes of the Chain of Brotherhoods, the Hierarchy forms a link with the light of the jewel; with the light that the jewel produces, spreads and radiates. In this way the magnetic field is formed.

In the force-field of the Sent Ones there should be active, among other things: the merciful soul-power of Christ, and the creative essence, which is the fire-ether emanating from and generated by the Holy Spirit. As a result of the activity of the reflecting and light ethers and of higher astral substance, abstract thoughts develop in the magnetic field, so that the divine radiations can express themselves therein as the Universal Doctrine without being deformed in advance by any concrete thought.

Brothers and Sisters, you are being called by such a magnetic field. As soon as you have made your personal decision, you will be admitted to such a force-field. Your conscious link with the Magnetic Body of the Spiritual School must be made on the basis of the three-fold fundamental law of the Christ-mysteries:

Unity – Freedom – Love. Amen.

### *Second address*

As stated in the first address, the condition of your light-vesture is decisive for your entire future. If you allow this statement to penetrate deeply into your consciousness, you will feel the urge to put your hand to the plough for, as you should realise very clearly, man's

personality is animated by this interplay of vital fluids. As you now know, the light-vesture is called to a higher good, to a higher order, to a state of life which is lasting, eternal. That is why your light-vesture, your soul-garment, must be resurrected. In this resurrection your light-vesture must rise out of this nature of death. The entire resurrection of Christ is comprised in this Mystery. The etheric man is the **man of the future**.

'Of course,' you will say, 'after death we will exist in a much more subtle vehicle.' No, friends, that is not what we mean! The process of arising about which we are speaking is a process in which the entire personality, and thus also the material body, participates. And the way in which this process works can now be explained to you, for the near future will give proof of it.

As you know, our philosophy states that the material atoms, the atoms from which the material vehicle is formed, are hollow and permeated by etheric atoms which are prismatic in shape. We would like you to visualise this image clearly: the hollow material atom, interpenetrated by the prismatic etheric atom. Through this link, the material atom comes to life. So the life of the material atom is totally dependent on the etheric atom with which it is permeated. The material atom lives by the grace of the etheric atom. From this one can deduce that matter in general, everything that is manifested in matter, is dependent upon a law of vibration. And as a result, the various atoms acquire different properties, which they then manifest in their respective ways. So whenever we work with the various kinds of etheric atoms in the ordinary ways known to man, the material atoms are manifested as solids, liquids and gases.

The situation is quite different, though, when the vibration quality of the seven kinds of etheric atom is intensified, becoming increasingly dynamic and fiery. In other words, when the fifth ether increases in potency and becomes dominant in your life, as is hap

pening in our times, the properties of the material phenomena known to us as solids, liquids and gases will change entirely.

We are explaining this in such a scientific way in order to show you that the philosophy of the Rosycross is a clear, although as yet unknown, natural science. When the fifth ether begins to affect the world and human development, the minimum result will be that material phenomena become less dense; they will dissolve and free themselves completely from their present material bonds.

This process of spiritualisation, of the transformation of matter, is threefold. The legend of Jesus Christ's resurrection in three days, too, stems, from this universal knowledge. This legend tells us how, at a certain moment, people came to the grave to find the grave stone removed and the grave completely empty.

Contrary to its aim, however, this legend has completely crystallised the universal knowledge. People speak of a miracle, but what happened was not at all miraculous. For when the vibration level of the co-operating etheric forces becomes more rarefied this always gives rise to what is called 'transfiguration'. And this is, among other things, the gradual changing of material phenomena into etheric manifestations. That is why the tomb of Jesus the Lord was found empty according to the resurrection legend. His physical body had disappeared: it had passed through the essence of death and risen into an entirely new, different life.

So you see that the philosophy of the Rosycross comes to you through the Christian revelation of two thousand years ago. The unfoldment of the Christian revelation is nothing else than the actualisation of the philosophy of the Rosycross. That is why the Spiritual School of the Rosycross, too, always emphasises the fact that it is absolutely Christ-centred. For the course of development which began with the inception of Christianity inevitably had to end in a time like ours, in which an intercosmic radiation-field will bring all

mysteries into the light of day and reduce to nothing all the myths and legends, replacing them with reality itself.

Dialectical man calls the process of Christ's resurrection a miracle. But you should now understand that every human being is capable of this miracle, by virtue of his light-vesture, providing that vesture and its vital fluids comply with certain laws. That is why it is said from time to time in the holy language: 'Be my followers'. Not followers in the sense meant by the church, but followers in an absolute, revealing sense.

So, if we now proceed to study the light-vesture more closely, we will discover that the entire miracle of life is bound up with it. The microcosm with its central principle, the monad, is intimately connected with the heart sanctuary. From the beginning of life onwards, the monad is thus always able to manifest itself in the material human being by means of the magnetic faculty of the sternum and thereby to make contact with the thymus, an endocrine gland located behind the sternum. Then, provided the pupil has created the right conditions, the thymus is laden with this miraculous force which must then rise into the head sanctuary to shed its light there.

Do you see how this activity points to the Christian revelation? For is not everything in the life of Jesus the Lord, as described in the New Testament, focused on that one place, the place of the skull, the hill of Golgotha? Strip the veils of illusion from the legend and you see the one, liberating reality! The *Via Dolorosa* leads from the heart to the head sanctuary, to the hill of Golgotha.

If the heart is really capable of absorbing this power of the monad, the conditions necessary for renewal are created. Then the wondrous jewel mentioned in the ritual begins to shine in the head sanctuary. Then the candidate becomes fit to stand on the scales and stand the weight of the seven weights. You probably know this metaphor from

*The Alchemical Wedding of Christian Rosycross.* It is the fundamental process which will lead to the further expansion of our light-vestures.

If you think of the five fluids of which the light-vesture is composed, you will understand that apart from being a process involving the secretions of the endocrine glands and the purification of the blood, this path leading from the heart sanctuary, the birth-place of Bethlehem, to the hill of Golgotha is above all a process involving the nerve ether, which is a process of exceptional significance. By this we infer that the nerve fluid, the nerve ether, must be absolutely open to such a touch by the light.

Imagine how it would be if the heart sanctuary had been ignited by the fire of the spirit and this fire had risen to the place of the skull, to spread from there throughout the light-vesture, but you had polluted your nervous system, your entire nerve ether.

And this is by no means beyond the realms of possibility. Just think of the tensions of our times, of the frantic efforts many make to maintain themselves socially or to climb up the social ladder. These things place the nerve ether under the most terrific tension and then it is absolutely impossible to bring about the elevation of your light-vesture. You cannot serve two masters! You cannot open yourself to the light of the spirit and at the same time cling, for example, to all your social aspirations. You cannot combine the two.

If the nerve fluid is insufficiently under control, the blood is generally also polluted and the head sanctuary and therefore the *consciousness* will offer insufficient possibilities for liberating life. You need to know these things, here at our Aquarius Renewal Feast, because if, during these days, you decide to link yourself completely to the Spiritual School, you will have to purify your light-vesture in one way or another.

Think, in this connection, of the fact that three crosses stood on

the place of the skull, on the hill of Golgotha: the cross of the Lord in the middle, with the crosses of the two murderers on either side. This is a beautiful symbolic story of tremendous reality for every human being. If you have completed your way of the cross of roses and the light of the spirit is shining from the pineal gland at the top of the head sanctuary, at the top of the serpent fire, then, if all is well, it will also be possible to distinguish the two murderers,

Who or what are the two murderers'? The first is the I-central self, with its rock-hard I-central behaviour. It must be totally liquidated, never to rise again. And there is also another murderer, the second murderer, who can be explained from the psyche of present-day man. When, as a young person, you enter this world you are, as it were, kicked and pushed into all kinds of habits. You are forced to don the strait-jacket of this world, the straitjacket of convention. And you trudge along, you jog on. But where to? You do not know. You are only certain of one thing: that death will be at the end of it all. What will happen then, only heaven knows! So it seems to you in that situation.

And once, as a young person, you have donned the strait-jacket of convention, many good qualities are stifled, many of the possibilities latent in you are killed, murdered; many aspects of your being in which outsiders see a promise for the future are neutralised. That strait-jacket, which makes you stand in obedience to the nature of this world, neutralises every higher possibility within you.

So if you then decide to walk the path of the Christian revelation, the path of the living Rosycross, the cross of the second murderer is erected alongside the cross of the neutralised I-centrality. From this second cross, your long neglected higher potentialities confess in deep humility: 'Lord, we have recognised you!' And then the words resound: 'Today I say unto you, one day you shall be with me in the new state of life.' Do you now understand the meaning of the three

crosses on the hill of Golgotha?

If you go on following the same course as mankind in general, the functions of your head sanctuary will be completely isolated. They will crystallise into stereotyped activities, into cliches which will make it impossible for the nature, the directedness of your light-vesture to be changed in a positive way. Then the serpent fire which, among other things, controls the nervous system, will not be able to lead you to liberating initiatives. Is it not so with many of you, that although you believe in the values and powers of the other realm, although you are inwardly certain about them and able to discuss them scientifically, you no longer have the strength to take any positive, liberating initiative? That is so because you have delayed plunging the sword into your own being for so long. The will, seated at the top of the serpent fire and corresponding with the pineal gland, then remains bound, orientated towards the old things, towards the habits of the old life. And your eyes, which are also controlled by the pineal gland, finally see only the values of the old world; they remain directed downwards, to the horizontal line.

We are telling you this, we must tell you this, to make it clear that if you want to share in the new possibilities of our times, you will have to change completely and open wide the door of your heart. And you will have to do it very soon; straight away, in fact! For 'what the heart does not want, will not gain entrance to the head'.

Your heart should be absolutely free of criticism. Criticism causes the most serious poisoning of the nervous system imaginable. All the barriers which arise within you as a result of criticism must be removed. There are countless people just like you as far as their state of being is concerned. They work as you do, they are linked with the group as you are, and they too are laden with taints and personality faults, just as you are. Your heart should be absolutely free with respect to all of them; free from aversion, free from criticism.

And in addition your heart should no longer be darkened by all those feelings of hatred you so often cherish. You must banish this lovelessness utterly from you, for it renders your heart completely inaccessible. So now you will feel with us the need to change all that as quickly as possible; not with cultural motives, for when your light-vesture is not functioning properly, all culture is only a cloak you have put on, which will soon be torn or taken away. No, certainly not with cultural motives, but motivated by the touch of the new intercosmic radiation-field which, as we have explained, now encompasses us and our fellow human beings.

We have discussed with you the twelve-sided, pyramidal, zodiacal radiation' field which, after the eclipse of the twentieth of June last, entered into a state of ever increasing activity. The radiation caused by this eclipse will increase day by day in the coming year, thereby linking the new radiation-field irreversibly with our field of life with all the consequences.

This new radiation-field will have a direct influence on the head sanctuary of every human being, and particularly on the pineal fire-circle situated at the top of the head. So the all-important question is: will the process of change to which every single human being will be subjected, be positive or negative in its effect? Everything depends upon each human being's current ability to react. We will now describe how things are likely to develop. You will then be able to see for yourself how much reactions differ, how they will lead one human being to a resurrection, an arising, and another to an absolute fall.

First of all, then, let us suppose that your light-vesture is sufficiently prepared. (If you want an example of this, think of the detailed explanations given in the gnostic gospel of the *Pistis Sophia*.) In that case, you will have attuned your will completely to the will of God.

Your entire light-vesture will be trying to receive the breath Of God and to understand God's will. And you are prepared, from within, to take every measure, to make every change in your life necessitated by your pupilship. In short, you have attuned yourself harmoniously to the radiative influences surrounding us, in so far as you are able.

If that is your personal state of being, you would perhaps be able to meet the monad with great openness, for with the help of the new radiation-field all still existing shortcomings are bridged, as it were. (The monad is the spirit itself, the highest and most divine aspect of man. The monad is the true child of God, the divine spark itself.) And then immediately, the new morning would dawn for such a candidate. The entire light-vesture would then be irradiated by a wonderful, glorious light. And the whole of the material garment would be enveloped in that light, in that golden wedding garment. In the holy language, the light-vesture which is united with the monad is rightly called 'the golden wedding garment'. It is the new soul figure. And when this union of the light-vesture and the monad has become firm and strong, a wealth of new qualities develop, which previously were absolutely impossible.

Two of these emerge very quickly. The first we would like to call the liberation of the light-vesture from the material garment. The material garment still exists, but the light-vesture is freed from it. The light-vesture still works with the material garment, but is no longer bound by natural laws. The second new quality is the liberation from the three-dimensional, the liberation from the gravitational forces of the lower nature, as a result of the setting free of the light-vesture. And this makes possible, if desired, an absolute ascent and a meeting with the Brotherhood of Life in the clouds of heaven. We hope to explain what we mean by this in our final address. The negative process about which we have remained silent until now, the forced development of those who do not prepare their light-vesture in time,

will then also become clear to you.

If you want to purify your light-vesture in the way we have been discussing, we advise you to take on a fivefold new attitude to life.

First of all, you will need to remember that genuine liberation will never happen if you stay at home in your chair or if you are only concerned with your books; if you remain an arm-chair scholar. If you do not do anything for your fellow human beings, the blessing will always fail to come and the light will recede from you. That is why the fundamental requirement for all true pupils of the Community of the Rosycross is always the shedding of the blood; to lay your sacrifices upon the altar of service, to toil for your fellow human beings, if necessary until you drop. That is the requirement! There is no easy way to the liberating life! The shedding of the blood was also the great and glorious example set for us by all our forefathers in the community of the living Rosycross: the shedding of the blood, inspired by the one central thought: Jesus Christ.

Only when you decide to shed your blood as a sacrifice for the world and mankind will the so necessary tranquillity develop in your nerve *ether* as the second aspect of the new attitude to life.

Thirdly, as a result of this, a nerve radiation will emanate from you which will always enable you to render assistance to those in need.

And fourthly, if you persevere in this work, you will find the staff of Moses set firmly in your hands. Then you will be able to govern the serpent fire and by means of it go onwards to the final goal.

Fifthly you will receive insight; insight that cannot be given to you by any human being; the true insight that you yourself must win, aided by the light within you. But, and you should hear this well and never forget it, this inner light only develops through the shedding of the blood, in the footsteps of Christ.

## *Epilogue*

So we intend to be diligent in doing everything  
that will advance the blooming of the rose of the heart,  
and in refraining from anything that could obstruct this process.  
And we seal this decision:

Let us enter the mysterious state  
of the new attitude to life.  
Unveil this mystery with us.  
Stand with us in that life!

Then the result will be revealed:  
the extinguishing of the fire of hell.  
And together, we shall approach  
the hidden fire of God's altar.

## *Closing Blessing*

Brothers and Sisters,  
we pray for each other,  
that we may become living testaments  
of the light-forces  
which bring about transfiguration within us. Amen.

### III

## THE RETURN OF CHRIST AND THE MANIFESTATION OF THE NEW ETHERS

### *Votum*

Mercy, peace and love be multiplied in you,  
by God our Father,  
in Jesus Christ our Lord,  
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

### *Prayer*

We place ourselves here, Lord, before your countenance,  
and do not ask for more light,  
but for ears to understand your word of love.

No greater power is our yearning,  
but the right use, from day to day,  
of what our souls have already received from your hand.

We do not ask for new talents, Lord,  
but only the ability  
to quench the thirst of others  
at the inner fount  
which you have brought forth within us. Amen.

## *Ritual*

When the Universal Brotherhood of the Sons of God begins to work on behalf of a life-wave, such work is never experimental and not at all subject to speculation. Such work is always founded on a plan, which is put into operation at precisely the right moment in time, and which will succeed completely. Thus, when the Brotherhood of the Sons of God began its work for mankind in the Aryan period, with the aim of making known the one truth, and enabling it to find acceptance, its success was assured in advance.

Seen in the long term, this work is threefold; it has three phases. In the first phase, the Universal Chain worked *for* mankind, in the second phase it worked *with* mankind, and in the third phase *through* mankind.

This means that in the initial phases of the Aryan era, when man's racial body was only barely suitable for expressing his awakening consciousness in the material sphere, and when there was as yet no question of a really conscious way of life, it was the Sons of God who regulated and guided young mankind's course through life and all the related processes. So at that time, this sublime Brotherhood literally worked *for* mankind.

In the second phase, young mankind's consciousness was sufficiently grown and developed and man lived through his nadir on earth. The intellect developed sufficiently for man to be shown the truth that lies at the foundation of all existence. From that time onwards, the Sons of God came into direct contact with mankind. You will understand how necessary that was, for how would human beings have come to know the truth by themselves? It had to be made known to them by those who actually lived out of the one truth!

Thus began the mighty and glorious period spoken of in legends, the period in which the gods appeared on earth and lived among

mankind as true kings and priests. And thus the truth came to dwell among us, to call us to our true Fatherland.

Then, the third period was born: mankind had been told about the truth. Man had seen the living truth take shape in many. The great breakthrough had become a reality. Now man had to prove that he could reach liberation in his own strength. From then on, truth would have to be made known in and through man himself. The human king-priesthood came into being. And the Sons of God withdrew to their own regions, so that from there they would be able to give all the necessary help and guidance.

So it should be clear that since time immemorial there has always been an unshakable, indestructible hierarchy of human king-priests, completely in harmony with and linked to the Universal Chain of the Sons of God. Think of the Order of Melchizedek. Think of Christ Jesus our Lord: a Son of God, born of man. The passage of time has dimmed to some extent their message to mankind, but the truth lives! It exists, in and throughout all ages, and there will always be those who proclaim it. Amen.

### *Part of Chapter 90 of the Gospel of the Holy Twelve*

Again the Twelve were gathered together in the circle of palm trees, and one of them, Thomas, said to the others: 'What is truth? For the same things appear differed to different minds, and even to the same mind at different times. What, then, is truth?'

And as they were speaking Jesus appeared in their midst and said: 'Truth, one and absolute, is in God alone, for no man, neither any body of men, knows that which God alone knows, who is the All in All. To men is truth revealed, according to their capacity to understand and receive. The one truth has many sides, and one sees one side

only, another another; and some see more than others, according as it is given to them.

Behold this crystal: how the light is manifest in twelve faces, yes, in four times twelve, and each face reflects one ray of light, and one regards one face, and another another, but it is the one crystal, and the one light that shines in all. But to each, it is the truth as the one mind sees it, and for that time, until a higher truth shall be revealed unto the same; and to the soul which receives higher light, shall be given more light:

Wherefore condemn not others, that you be not condemned. Many shall say unto me, Lord, Lord, we have been zealous for your truth. But I shall say unto them; No, but you were zealous that others might see as you see, and none other truth beside.

Faith without Love is dead. Love is the fulfilling of the Law. The truth is the might of God, and it shall prevail in the end over all errors. But the holy law which I have given is plain for all, and just and good. May all observe it, to the salvation of their souls.' Amen.

*Third address*

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in tongues, as the Holy Spirit gave them to speak.'

You are probably familiar with these words from the Book of Acts. We are using them now to bring us right to the core of the subject which we wish to discuss and which has led us to attend this conference. And we say to you: a new radiation-field, emanating from

the supernature, encompasses us and our fellow human beings. When sufficiently strong, this radiation-field acts on the light-vesture we have been speaking about. It touches us in the head sanctuary, in that part that corresponds with the pineal fire-circle. When we undergo this touch, a variety of impressions develop, which we experience as auditory or visual impressions. We hear a sound like a clap of thunder, or we see rays of light, light-activities, which communicate themselves to the whole group.

Such an experience is perfectly understandable and logical, for the organs of the head sanctuary are capable of receiving the most subtle impressions. That is why, even in the beginning, those who have become spontaneously receptive to impressions of the supernature through serious preparation, are affected by these impressions in a most powerful way, and they experience them in their head sanctuary as sound and as light. But all this is only the beginning, a first glimmering of what is to come. If you attune your will in the only right way to the approaching new era – the new era upon which we all need to reflect – the pineal fire-circle will open completely. In this state of openness the monad will then be able to descend into the fire-circle and link itself, unite itself, with the pineal gland.

In case you do not yet know how to understand this 'openness', we would ask you to cast your mind back to the talks we gave on the alchemical wedding of our Father Brother Christian Rosycross. Remember how the governing king of the system, the ordinary I-being with all its aspects and affinities, must be destroyed before there can be any question of this openness.

However, once this openness has been obtained at the top of the serpent-fire and the monad, the living spirit, can descend into the fire-circle, then at that same moment, your entire 'light-figure', your entire being is shaken and engulfed in fire and flames, and through this fiery force your light-vesture is cut loose, detached completely

from your material figure.

Perhaps you can imagine how everything in you is changed in this mighty process of upheaval. We told you earlier that the light-vesture is the etheric representative in your material body. Well, in the new state of being that we are trying to describe, this light-vesture continues to carry out its task within the material body. But in addition it has been given total freedom of action. The light-vesture in you is then detached, set free and is, as it were, drawn up through the pineal fire-circle, while you remain in an entirely conscious state. This is the state of being described in the holy language as being 'in the world, but, no longer of the world'.

The spirit, the monad, pervades every aspect and atom of the light-vesture. And the spirit then has its focus in the pineal gland, of which the will and the consciousness are the representatives.

Perhaps you will understand that when, in this way, eternity has been born in time, when the spirit has manifested itself in time, all temporal aspects of the light-vesture are, as it were, swallowed up. The entire nature of the light-vesture, of all those vital fluids, is completely attuned to the living spirit that has entered. At that same moment, it is so difficult to say how – Paul speaks of a moment, a twinkling of an eye in which all this develops, in which the spirit is received and everything changes – at that same moment the stage of transfiguration begins and the brother or sister concerned exists in two worlds: in the world of mortality and in the supernature. But remember, this does not happen through some kind of trance state, by means of some miserable occult surrogate. It is not an openness in the regions we call the 'reflection sphere', but a nascent, clear and totally new consciousness; it is a participation in the world of the living spirit, in the regions where the Brotherhood exists, in the regions of the sixth and seventh grades.

It means to possess one's ordinary, familiar body, and yet to be free

of it, independent of it. It means to be independent of any bodily sufferings you might undergo, independent of any trials which that body might undergo. It is to be free, alive and real. This the state of which Paul said: 'Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.' Death is then overcome. When its time has come, the material body will then simply be laid aside. When the light-vesture withdraws to the regions of the spirit, the falling away of the material garment will take place in a very special manner. Or it will disappear in a mysterious way, as the Bible says of many figures of the past. The way in which this disappearance takes place depends on how far advanced the transfiguration processes are. For it is a sanctifying, healing spirit, that comes to you in the monad with an entirely new course of development, as soon as it has freed you from the so-called 'living' state. At the moment you still experience this 'living' state as a vibrant life, even though in reality it has nothing to do with what man calls 'life'.

Only that other state, which arises from the entry of the spirit into the pinealis, is true life. So do not cling to this earthly existence, as if with both hands, for ever since the beginning you have been called to the one, true life.

If you can now imagine to some extent the process that leads to true life, you will understand that those who receive the monad in their pineal fire-circle, those who undergo the radiation of the monad into their light-vesture, speak with other tongues from that moment on: the tongues that the spirit gives them to speak.

Do you understand these words? We do not mean that mediumistic babbling, the kind of speaking in countless accents and dialects that goes on in those negative spiritualist meetings. (It is incomprehensible that there are still people who want to participate in that sort of thing!) There is no question, here, of overshadowing by some

entity or other; but of beginning to speak the one universal language of the spirit. This language can be understood by all who truly seek the spirit.

We have studied the Universal Doctrine together for so many years now that you will be able to imagine that when the monad descends and associates itself with the pinealis, filling the entire head sanctuary, all aspects, all organs in the head, will change. It should also be clear that the throat chakra, that wonderful organism which, as it were, supports the head sanctuary, will then also be governed by the spirit.

This higher creative organ will then be rendered completely open and will — indeed it must begin to speak in other tongues. As soon as this important centre begins to function in the intended way, the language of the spirit is always proclaimed by means of the spoken word. This makes clear what is said — about God, for example - in all holy language: 'He speaks, and it is. He commands and it is there.'

So what becomes active is the great, universal magical faculty. Such a state of being is always imitated by speculators. That is why we ask you: Do you understand now in what universal way 'the spirit speaks to the community?'

So now you have received the central message of the Aquarian Renewal Conference:

the manifestation of the spirit;

the descent into man of the word of God, of the spirit of God;

participation in the Sonship; the return of Christ;

the initiation into the mysteries of the universal Rosycross, and the

institution of the one, true, universal Church which is to begin now, in our era, in our time, as a result of the descent of an appropriate atmosphere, which surrounds you and your fellow men.

The situation we are now experiencing has arisen many times in human history whenever a harvest had to be gathered and brought into the barns. In connection with this process, one can thus literally speak of the return of Christ, a return that is absolute and complete.

In our next talk we will try to tell you what the Holy Spirit is in actual fact. Then you will see that all manifestations of the Holy Spirit must develop in a systematic way. One speaks of a return of Christ, of a harvest that must be brought into the barns. But the coming harvest that is now beginning is entirely different from all previous ones.

Now we have outlined the most ideal and perfect way of reacting to the intercosmic touch, as a result of which a face to face meeting takes place. But to reassure you we must say that all those who are not, or have not yet been taken up into this mighty process, need not think that the blessings will pass them by, that they perhaps stand on the negative side of things, on the negative side of the dividing line which is growing wider and wider. No, for there are various gradations of positive development. All of you will be able to enter the one Kingdom. We can say that without any mystical exaltation, provided that, in our time, in our era, you really set your hand to the plough. For anyone who does not do that will irrevocably be cast into the negative development of things.

During one of our recent temple services in Haarlem we spoke of the forthcoming general results of the new radiation-field, results that will affect every human being in the world. Also, during one of the services of this Aquarius Conference, we recalled that step by step, etheric sight will shortly begin to develop. For when this new rad-

iation-field touches the pineal fire-circle, the minimum result will be a strengthening of the activity of the thalamus, particularly of the delicate nerves which connect the pineal gland with the eyes. Among other things, this could result in eye problems for those who have not yet heard of the preparation of the pineal fire-circle. So in the near future you are likely to hear of all kinds of diseases of the eye. On the other hand, the development of etheric sight will become more widespread, but remember that by this we certainly do not mean spiritual sight. We have explained before what spiritual sight is. It is a development limited exclusively to the pineal gland which is connected with the monad.

Etheric sight always develops via the ocular nerves. A subtle action on the part of certain organs alters the activity of the eyes, and this altered activity is what we call etheric sight.

You will understand that this etheric sight alone will bring about tremendous changes. In fact, it will cause nothing less than a world revolution involving all nations. For imagine how it would be if, having previously only seen material things, the other planes of life surrounding us suddenly became visible, so that the space in which you lived was suddenly enlarged. And imagine how it would be if this happened to the whole of mankind! You would have gained participation in an entirely different field of existence with a strikingly differentiated form of life that, as you should bear in mind, in fact determines material life. For we have already explained that, seen from a material point of view, you live by the grace of your etheric double.

Well, the etheric plane, the etheric part of the reflection sphere, will gradually become visible to the whole of mankind. Every human being will participate personally in it. Life in the reflection sphere with all its aspects and also its inexpressible delusiveness, will thus become open to all mankind. The curtains will be drawn back from

the stage and all will discover that life in the etheric realms has no higher basis whatsoever, and that reflection sphere life consists entirely of delusion.

Furthermore, and this will be less pleasant, people will discover all the etheric scum, all the etheric vermin that feed and live on your light-vesture. Such vermin are far more invidious than the vermin of the material sphere. Present day methods of hygiene are not in the least effective against them. If your hands are dirty you can wash them. If you feel dirty, you can take a bath. But even if you were to take hundreds of baths one after the other you could not free yourself from the dirt of the etheric sphere, which may assail you on all sides.

The modern culture Of bodily cleanliness would not help in the least. The only possible remedy lies in your way of life and only in that. This will become the hygiene method of the near future. For if your light-vesture is changed through your behaviour, an entirely different radiation will emanate from you and this will repel all the etheric vermin.

You will understand that when this new development is Manifested to mankind, all pride, all delusion, all self-conceit will fall away. Man will know that although he is called to the very highest, he is nevertheless often and in many respects the most sunken and strongly earthbound being. This psychological situation will bring about a powerful psychological reaction which will be expressed in the form of a new urge to seek. Man will try to find a way out of the situation he now begins to recognise. He will try to find other forms of hygiene and other methods of obtaining relief. People will start applying quite different values in their lives, values which, as we said, can only have to do with one's attitude to life, values which affect not only outward things, but above all one's inner life.

Now that you have heard all this you can imagine what an extremely remarkable and interesting future and what an exceptional

development the whole of mankind is approaching, purely by virtue of the fact that the new intercosmic radiation-field, that the Holy Spirit, is going to touch the pineal fire-circle.

And we must say that until now we have discussed only one aspect of the effects that will be set in motion when the whole of mankind has etheric sight. But there will in fact be innumerable lines of development, countless 'unmaskings'. We could study these, and will undoubtedly have the opportunity to do so in the near future, aided by the facts. We could spend hours sketching for you the various aspects of the coming unmasking; and we are not exaggerating when we say that all this will result in a total social revolution.

Do you think that anyone would dare to appear on a platform if everyone could see how his light-vesture was functioning, and the etheric forces to which he was bound? He would certainly not dare to step onto the platform if he did not at least measure up to some minimum standard! So the new psychological development will serve greatly to advance the truth!

This unmasking process will unfold in the coming days, months and years. And in this conference we have a task with respect to this unfoldment. We have described what will happen to those who are already able to enter the liberating life. We have seen that the new world is opening for those who can genuinely be called pupils of a Spiritual School.

And now you will understand that what we have been speaking about will result in the alteration of the entire nature of the Spiritual School in the coming months and years. It will no longer suffice for us to talk to you and leave it to you to decide what to do about what you have heard. In the near future, a Spiritual School will have to become a community of men and women who are really making the new way of life into a fact. Only then will they form a helping,

constructive force in our world which is changing so much. An entirely new teaching, adapted to the new conditions, will develop in the Spiritual School. This teaching will be based entirely on facts, the truth of which can be recognised immediately by everyone.

So now we must describe the minimum conditions with which you will have to comply now, today. These conditions are for those who, although in fact still open *to* a liberating course, have not yet satisfied these minimum requirements, for whatever reason it *may* be.

And do you know why? The reason is always the same! When the call resounds: 'Go out to meet the bridegroom!', everyone is so terribly busy. 'First I must do this; I still have to see how he or *she* is; first I must make sure that is alright; my social position demands that I first arrange this or that, because one cannot just leave things in the lurch', and so on and so on. That is how it is described in the holy language. And practice proves it. Everyone *is* so awfully busy, everyone is busy doing anything and everything, while the most important thing, the highest thing of all, is pushed into the background. This must *now* become a thing of the past!

And now we would like to describe the development of those who know the way, but *who* are determined not to follow it. We remember how once, years ago, we met a young man who said to us: I know you are right. I know very well that the path you are walking is the right one. But I am not going to do it. I simply will not do it!' He explained this with all the decisiveness he could muster. This man, who knew the way and the process but very decidedly did not put it into practice, came to a very sad, indeed a terrible end.

We are telling you this not only to warn you, but also to emphasise the great seriousness of our purpose and the gravity of our times. Now the important thing is: all or nothing! We hope to hear *your* decision tomorrow.

### *Final Prayer*

Let your hearts be completely open,  
and, now that the struggle is over;  
give heed to the voice from within.  
Lift your wings — out of the realms of delusion.  
Go to your Father in the present.

The sword of the Holy Spirit drives evil away;  
the adversary flees from you.  
And, purified and cleansed,  
the journey fulfilled,  
the Son of the Fullness  
shows the fulfilled requirement. Amen.

### *Closing Blessing*

Brothers and Sisters,

Know that unity with the universal sevenfold spirit is only established when the basic vibration flows from the centre of a reality of being which is in Christ.

And it shall come to pass that all those who call in this way shall be blessed or, in other words, illumined by the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## IV

### THE COMMUNITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

#### *Votum*

We shall find each other in the radiant light of the divine spirit,  
and we know that if we are truly united here  
on the basis of the living soul state,  
we shall be able to understand and fathom completely  
the words that are spoken. Amen.

‘O rich depths of the wisdom and knowledge of God,  
how unsearchable are his judgements,  
how untraceable his ways.  
For who has known the thoughts of the Lord?  
Or who has been His counsellor?  
Or who has ever made a gift to Him, to receive a gift in return?  
For from Him and through Him and unto Him are all things.  
To Him be the glory in all eternity. Amen.’

#### *Rosa Mystica 69*

Three candelabra, burning brightly,  
the three times seven lights,  
cannot light the path of salvation  
without great effort on our part.

The black veils of night  
hold us captive.  
There is no help that can silence  
the burning of desire.  
Until the great battle begins  
in the sanctuary of the heart,  
and the I extinguishes the candelabrum,  
the cause of all suffering.

A new light will then begin to shine,  
with three times seven colours.  
And the heart will give forth fragrance  
like a garden of roses.

Then the candelabrum in the head  
will greet the spirit.  
And behold: the new-born soul  
now goes to meet her God.

### *John 1*

‘In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. It was in the beginning with God. All things were made by the Word, and without the Word was not anything made that was made. In the Word was life and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not accepted it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for a testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but he was sent to bear witness to the light.

The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world knew Him not. He came to his own, and his own people received Him not.

But to all who received Him, who believe in His name, He gave the power to become children of God; who are born not of the blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only begotten son from the Father, full of grace and truth. John bore witness to him, and cried: 'This was he of whom I said: He who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.' From his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. The law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.'

### *Ritual*

'Let your light so shine before men, that they see your good works and glorify your Father, who is in heaven.'

Anyone who truly 'lets his light shine before men', in the way meant by the Universal Doctrine and in the way expressed in all holy language, must do so with a growing new state of consciousness. The I-consciousness, the consciousness known and possessed by man, is only capable of expressing itself in the spheres of the nature of death. It is quite impossible for such a consciousness to enter the reality of the true life and bring into it a conscious soul-state.

It is therefore clear that anyone who truly wishes to be a pupil of a gnostic Spiritual School must lay aside the old state of consciousness, after a certain period of preparation and orientation, in order to give the new state of consciousness the opportunity to manifest itself.

We refer to this process as the ascent of a mountain. When this process succeeds, and the pupil has thus genuinely gained participation in the new state of consciousness — which is at the same time a living, sparkling soul-state the pupil has then become a disciple. He then possesses a new light-power, emanating from his own inner being. With this light-power of the living soul-state he must go out to the world and mankind. *That* is the light which must shine before men!

Only with that light can seeking human beings be helped and thus enabled to attain liberating results more quickly.

Only with that light can those who are held captive by evil be freed of their chains and thereby given the possibility to be born as seekers.

Only with that light can the totally destructive activities of evil be held within the limits set by natural laws.

Only with that light can the spheres in which mankind lives be sufficiently cleansed and enabled in truth to be fields of development for those who in the depths of their being must still be called children of God.

If our Spiritual School, too, is to take up the place to which it is called in this mighty, glorious work, then at least the members of the fourth and fifth aspects must testify and demonstrate that they possess that light.

So it should also be clear to each one of us why, after the many years of orientation and preparation that have been granted to us, the call is now addressed to all of us to: 'Let your light shine clearly before men, so that they may see and experience the results of your work.' Amen.

#### *Fourth address*

‘And then the sign of the Son of Man shall appear in the heavens.’

You will probably know these words from Matthew 24, and are also familiar with the rest of that chapter. It is a sombre page of the New Testament. In fact, this prophecy had a very scientific basis. All those who are taken up into the light-field of the doctrine of the Universal Brotherhood know the past, present and future. They know how things develop.

That is why, just like the author of the Gospel according to Matthew, they always put things in a concrete way, making their predictions in terms of an immediate *now*. The brothers of the past knew, though, that the Day of the Lord could not come at simply any moment for, as we said, they knew how things develop. But they also knew that every human being had to prepare himself for it. That is why they made their predictions in terms of an absolute, eternal present.

We, too, explain things for you in that way, because the time has now come. What the ancients predicted will be fulfilled in our time. Then you will know that the Brothers of old were not simply filled with exaltation. For how often have you thought, perhaps, that: ‘Two thousand years ago this or that was prophesied and it still hasn’t happened. Could it just have been a story?’ But now you will perhaps understand why the prophecy of things that would happen now was made several thousand years ago.

The great processes of change going on in the atmosphere of our world, that can be felt everywhere, have become visible to us. They include ‘the sign of the Son of Man’, for atmospheric conditions determine the radiation-values that hold sway over mankind at any particular moment. The development of things then takes hold of your light-vesture and influences it, giving rise to the need for it to

be brought into a certain condition. In this way, the whole course of events, the entire fate of mankind, is determined. Radiation-values drive mankind to manifest itself in a particular way: that is why these influences have to be admitted to your light-vesture, regardless of whether this is accompanied by harmony or disharmony.

So you see, the fate of mankind is determined by cosmic and intercosmic light-forces. The Son of Man is the living spirit. The Son of Man is everything that lives and has its being in, by and with the spirit. The Son of Man is therefore the living Brotherhood itself. We all possess a light-vesture out of which we live and exist. So it follows quite logically that whenever the universal, divine life from which we have all come forth has something to communicate to mankind, and a particular period that is coming to an end must be followed by a new unfoldment of fate, all this happens by means of a special radiation-field, that surrounds mankind and influences every aspect of its activity and behaviour.

The light-vesture of God surrounds the light-vestures of mankind, and it is necessary for all to bring themselves into harmony with it. No one can avoid this necessity, no one can escape being influenced. So the most important thing is to ascertain how the light-vesture of God will affect you, and above all, what your state of being is at that moment, for that will determine the result. So your state of being will determine the whole of your future fate. For and you should remember this - the Brotherhood of the Light never acts arbitrarily!

In time, everyone receives what he needs. For the new radiation-field that surrounds us emanates from the love of God, even though we may need to experience this love as a heavy burden, as a punishment. In keeping with its aim of impelling all mankind towards a higher good, the new radiation-field surrounding us possesses everything man needs and is able to assimilate.

So consider this: many of you have been in the Spiritual School

for many years. And now the most important question is: Have you really made the right use of all those years? Have you applied all your faculties to bring about the realisation of the true self in the only right way? If that is not the case, then it is understandable that the new radiation-field will not be able to touch you in a harmonious manner. But nevertheless, whatever disharmony manifests itself in your life, it should be understood as the greatest possible grace that could be given to you. There is no such thing as punishment. There is no such thing as vengeance. But the love of God cannot be opposed. If you experience its touch as disharmony, as a whiplash, then that is what is necessary or useful for you.

Before going further, we need to mention again that there are twelve human developments. In one (esoteric) sidereal year all twelve developments, all twelve influences have their effect on mankind's course of development. In each one, mankind ought to fulfil a certain task. One speaks in this connection of twelve aspects, of twelve zodiacal influences, and also of twelve brothers who are with and around us.

The Age of Aquarius, which is now approaching, is fully supported by the other eleven brothers. That is why, in actual fact, we see a twelvefold zodiacal pyramid coming into being. In the twelvefold course of development, consisting of twelve periods of time, there are always seven forces, seven etheric manifestations which act in a sanctifying and thus healing and liberating way. This healing etheric body of seven forces, emanating from the twelve brothers, the twelve signs of the zodiac, is descending again, in our time, and is touching us, seeking to save us or, at the very least, to be of service to us, to help us.

In each of the twelve periods of human evolution in a sidereal year, the Body that touches us differs from the one that preceded it, and

also from those in the periods of existence that will come after it. And the regularity, the chronos of this fulfilment of the laws of the universe, cannot be held back by anything or anyone, even though, for instance, it might not suit someone at a particular moment. Everyone, including the president of the United States and the leader of the Soviet Union, will have to comply with it; every single person, no matter what their position on the social scale. The Holy Spirit comes to all, and the sevenfold Body of the Seven-Spirit enters into everyone.

If we now invoke the sacred body of our Father Brother Christian Rosycross for the time has come! – this body will touch and affect us in whatever state of being we happen to be.

We use the term `Rosycross' because our light-vesture is a cross-shaped system of power centres. If you stretch out your arms and legs, you can see clearly the star-shaped phenomenon in which the cross with roses must take form. That rosy-cross therefore surrounds our light-vesture, a light-vesture with many power centres or roses which manifests itself as a five-pointed star.

Well now, this entire system of the rosy-cross which lives in us must devote itself to the Christ; it must entrust itself to the Christ-being and attune itself to Him, becoming completely one with Him. That is why we speak of `Christian Rosycross'.

And now that we are placing ourselves in that radiation-field, and all seven aspects of the holy Seven-Spirit are touching us at this moment, it is the sign of the Son of Man that we may greet when the monad enters our system, as God out of God, as Spirit out of Spirit.

Nevertheless, even if this is not yet possible, it is always a mighty force of purification which strikes us as a sword. When the Spirit is outpoured, no one - remember no one is passed over. It may well be a sword that will strike us, that will cleave through us, a sword that cuts our light-vesture right open and makes us see in the greatest

clarity what has kept us until now from changing the blessings received into truly eternal values. And those who undergo this reaction will receive the grace to fulfil the great holy work, the *mysterium magnum* required of all of you, through this special radiation power. In whatever state of being you find yourself, remember that all of you are capable of fulfilling the great work through the power received this morning. But at the same time, do not forget that we do not know how much time is still left to you for that!

Perhaps you have now realised why, about two thousand years ago, with the help of the authors of the New Testament, the preparations for this time were begun: 'Prepare yourself! It is time! The day has come! Be watchful, that you enter not into temptation!'

The brothers stated things in that way in readiness for the present day, with their gaze directed towards the time that is actually coming now. So no one can say: 'I did not know.' It is possible that you have already delayed your positive reaction far too long.

So you should realise clearly that the modern Community of the Holy Spirit, the Community that lives and exists out of the Holy Spirit, exists from within. But remember that it is not our aim to bring you into a state of exaltation, of mystical ecstasy. No, we want to face up to these things as soberly as possible. We want to approach them coolly and scientifically. And we beg you to listen carefully, for we have received this task and what we are going to say to you is dictated by the Spirit:

The community of some three thousand souls present here in this Temple is receiving to the full the merciful gifts of the Holy Spirit. Everything that is given here is intended for all of you without exception. We are all receiving the modern gifts of grace from the Holy Spirit and of the Holy Spirit. And therefore, either you have

already entered, or you are approaching. The entire community of those who have entered and of those who are approaching the innermost being of the Spiritual School, are all in the grip of this outpouring of the Spirit. All are taken up into this radiation field; all, without exception.

'How is that possible?' you may ask. Well, consider the image transmitted to you by our modern Spiritual School.

Above the Spiritual School stands the Community of Life. And from time to time we may invoke the Grand Master of the Universal Chain, under whom are grouped: a Council of Elders, a Community of the Golden Head, the Priestly Community known as the Ecclesia, and those who are preparing themselves to belong to the priestly community – the members of the School of Higher Consciousness.

In addition we possess a community of professing pupils, which is already very strong; a community of probational pupils, a community of preparatory pupils, and those who still populate the Forecourt; and in addition we also possess our living youth community.

All these aspects are taken up into what we generally describe as the Community of the Rosycross. Upon this entire community, upon this whole Living Body, the merciful gifts of the Holy Spirit are outpoured. So none of us need be weak, or think that he is weak. For we are all immeasurably strong in this community, in this modern community of the Holy Spirit.

Why that is so we would now like to explain. In our Spiritual School we refer to the Holy Spirit as the Seven-Spirit, as you know. In the passage of the twelve eras which together form a circle without end, in a constant progression, seven forces approach us which are manifested unceasingly, as seven rays of divine reason, in order to establish in time the plan of God for the world and mankind. So it is never possible for the divine plan for the world and mankind to cease functioning for some reason. Obviously, the aim is that we all co

operate harmoniously with the intentions of the plan, but if this does not happen, all opposition is swept out of the way, as if by a mighty storm wind –not as a punishment, but in order to eliminate everything that is no longer capable of reacting.

Think for a moment of the mighty symbol above the place of service in the Temple in Haarlem. You see there, in that symbol, the light-vesture of every human being depicted as a five-pointed star, as a truly living rosycross. This shining star is surrounded by the zodiacal circle, the circle of the twelve brothers, who always manifest themselves to mankind in ever changing forms and from whom proceed the seven times seven ether gradations of the Holy Spirit.

The seven times seven touches are ultimately intended to fill completely the light-vesture of every human being. The emblem above the place of service in Haarlem is thus not a symbol from the past, as is sometimes thought, but a symbol that encompasses past, present *and* future. For just as the twelve periods of human evolution succeed each other, from sidereal year to sidereal year, so too the seven times seven aspects of the Holy Spirit, with an ever increasing intensity of light power, will some time in the distant future ultimately bring the outpouring of power to its maximum.

So you will understand that the outpouring of the Holy Spirit concerns an indivisible, mighty power which has always been and always will be the same. This revelation of God in man travels a path with mankind, a process of development. This entire course of development of the God in us, of God manifested in our light-vesture, is indicated *by* the symbol in the Temple in Haarlem.

This way, this path, must always be *chosen*. Man must really *want* to follow this path. That is why in the Spiritual School we always ask anyone who applies to become a pupil the essential question: 'Are you prepared to accept the consequences of your choice?' If not, then the person concerned does not belong in the Spiritual School. Every

human being is heartily welcome to join the Spiritual School, but the consequences of the path need to be accepted. That is how we put it, and that is how we *must* put it, out of and through the Holy Spirit. The touch of the Holy Spirit does not compromise. It must be undergone, with all the consequences.

The human being who invokes the Holy Spirit is thus bound to follow the path of the twelve brothers. He must decide positively to do so and demonstrate that decision in his way of life. For the Holy Spirit works only in a liberating way; the Seven-Spirit can only be truly liberating if the path to liberation has been genuinely chosen.

If this choice is not made, the Seven-Spirit is only a higher natural force, which merely carries him along in the perpetual rotation of the wheel of birth and death and in the lawful, natural course of the ages.

However, if you consciously accept the outpouring of the Seven-Spirit, It touches you in your light-vesture. And in time you will find yourself unable to deny this influence. If, however, you reject this touch, disharmony will always inevitably arise in the various vital fluids; from this are to be explained the various health disturbances which affect man. If you take this disharmony away, the illnesses will disappear too, and, as you know, this will also put an end to death.

If a person has truly made his choice and has therefore received the Spirit in his light-vesture, he is held to that decision; he is bound to it. For by the outpouring of the Spirit into his system, his system is changed, or is in the process of changing. So if the person does not abide by the new law, which ought to govern his course through life, it is plain that the greatest difficulties will arise.

If, on the other hand, a person decides to receive this mighty power, this divine force, and to comply absolutely with the divine laws, then the Seven-Spirit does not descend upon him in its full potency; with all its forty-nine aspects, for who among us would be able to withstand such an impact! No, the Holy Spirit manifests itself

to such a person in a potency to which he is suited by virtue of his state of being. So we receive only what we are able to assimilate, only that with which we are able to comply. Just think in this connection of the parable of the talents. Whether you have ten talents or only one, you will be judged according to what you have received.

We want you to realise that in the course of time there are moments in which the normal development of natural life-processes is changed dramatically. We are now rapidly approaching such a moment: a crisis affecting the whole of the world and mankind, an intense revolution. We expect that this process will reach its height during the next eighteen to twenty years, as we have already stated. It could also happen much faster. So do you now understand that we have no more time to lose with respect to this situation? That is why we are holding this conference! And please also understand at the same time that we have no desire whatsoever to force you.

We hope that none of you will be taken by surprise by the strength, the forcefulness of coming developments. For it is clear that unprepared mankind will be confronted with a number of great difficulties. That is why the Universal Brotherhood is exerting itself to the utmost to spare the greatest possible part of mankind from the effects of that boundless might.

This accounts for the presence and activity of the modern Spiritual School. The Spiritual School of the Rosycross always appears whenever the times are changing. And it comes in a variety of guises so that no one might be hindered from participating in its work. For the experience of preparatory pupilship is an art that everyone can learn. If you are prepared, in accordance with your state of being, to walk the path we show you, accepting all the consequences, then you will be spared the dialectical downfall inherent in the processes of this nature, and you will immediately be granted participation in the

community of the children of God. We recommend that you read, in this connection, the prophecy that shines from so many pages of the holy language. What was once written there as prophecy, is now becoming reality. And we repeat that when such a moment of crisis approaches, the Spiritual School always appears in order to go out to that which threatens to be lost (and in reality, being lost should be unavoidable only for very few human beings) and to bring into the sheepfold all those it can find.

The Spiritual School forms a Living Body, with seven aspects, seven gradations, from preparatory pupils to above the Council of Elders. The Council of Elders forms the sixth aspect, as you know, but above that exists a seventh aspect, and some in our Community represent this seventh aspect. It is *now* that the proposal goes out to this Community, from the least pupil to the most advanced, to accept the laws of the Holy Spirit and to apply them from within.

By accepting this proposition and putting it into practice, this group will immediately form a very singular community, quite apart from the rest of mankind. To them the words we quoted earlier will be addressed: 'Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father, who is in heaven.'

Suppose that, at this moment, you resolve, with all the power that is in you, to open yourself for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Then you will receive this Spirit in your own being, in your own rosycross. In that same moment, you will be allowing the light of the Community of the Golden Rosycross to shine in the midst of this dark world. And in the wake of coming world events, countless people will approach the Spiritual School in order to enter, if possible, this living Community of liberated ones. For if you will go with us, this Community will follow a straight path, a path quite distinct from everything else, a path leading straight upwards. The strength of each one of us will then be available to all. The strong will then in truth

stand for the weak, for the magic of God's love will see to this.

But let us impress upon you once again, that for all this to happen there is but one, absolute requirement: that you take the decision to enter this Community of the Holy Spirit, and make your decision a reality through your way of life. Only then will the Spiritual School be formed in truth and reality. Only then will the Spiritual School begin to fulfil its objectives. And only then will the Spiritual School really be able to bring home all those who belong to the Living Body:

Generally speaking we cannot complain as regards the purity of our Spiritual School in the present situation. In general it could be said that we form a fairly satisfying example. But now the great crisis is approaching and the question of 'to be or not to be', will soon become acute in the community of the children of God, we must ask all those who claim to belong to this modern Community of Christian Rosycross to give a definite promise and to come to a positive decision.

If you are willing to do so, then the first modern Christian Community of this era will truly become a fact, a Christian Community that really understands the full significance of Christianity and puts it into practice. If you are willing to go with us, brothers and sisters; on the paths of the future, we ask you to rise from your seats.

*We resolve to place ourselves under the wings of the Holy Spirit. We resolve and we promise each other to dedicate the rest of our lives to the Community of the Holy Rosycross and to give proof of this by our entire way of life. Amen.*

It is good, brothers and sisters, very good.

*Final Prayer (Revelations 22: 17-21)*

And the spirit and the bride say: Come!

And let him who hears say: Come!

And let him who is thirsty come,

let he who desires take the water of life without cost.

I warn all who hear the words of the prophecy of this book:

If anyone adds to them; God will add to him the plagues described in this book.

If anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

He who testifies to these things says:

Yes, I am coming quickly. Amen.

Yes, come, Lord Jesus!

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.'

Amen.

*Closing Blessing*

Brothers and Sisters,

As mankind, we stand anew in the phase of the actual outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

We hope and pray that you, who have been touched by this Spirit, may bring the task of your pupilship to a good end. Amen.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

*The Aquarius Renewal Conference ended with a gathering in the Temple during which some questions asked by pupils were answered. These questions, and the answers given by J. van Rijckenborgh, are printed here for the benefit of the interested reader.*

### *1. The Aquarius symbol*

*Question:* What does the *Aquarius* symbol mean?

*Answer::* We and our fellow human beings stand at the beginning of a new era. This era is opened, governed and, at the appropriate time, ended by means of an intercosmic radiation field that surrounds *us* completely. We refer to the beginning of an era as 'sunrise', as 'dawn', the sign of the beginning of a new day. From the moment at which the red of dawn can be perceived, the world *is* affected by the rays of this new era, which consist of the seven times seven radiations of the Holy Spirit. The golden points that you *can* see *on* the blue background symbolise the descent *and* the activity of the Holy *Spirit*.

As we have explained during this conference, the Holy Spirit follows a path with mankind. Right from the dawning of the human manifestation, the Seven-Spirit has been leading mankind along this path. Well, the nature of this path in this period of human evolution is determined by the sign of Aquarius. Aquarius is indicated in our

emblem by two wavy lines which symbolise the living water that is poured out over mankind, the Living Water that is given to us without cost', as the ' Bible puts it. In this way our emblem accentuates the approaching Age of Aquarius, which has now almost come. It is, as you know, a symbol for one of the twelve signs of the zodiac; the sign which affects mankind and the earth via the ruler of Aquarius, the planet Uranus. In the symbol, within the sign for Uranus,' you can see a sword which pierces the earth, the world. So the symbol shows that Aquarius and its ruling planet, Uranus, work together completely.

Uranus is called a mystery planet. Among other things the planet Uranus has a great part to play in the unfoldment among mankind of the mysteries we have discussed with you during this conference. Uranus breaks man open. Uranus leads mankind along paths which are totally outside this earth, above this earth. That is why those who are strongly under the influence of the planet Uranus and who react negatively to it, always show eccentricity, peculiar characteristics they do not know how to handle and which they try to express in some kind of eccentric way. This inclination is a typical result of the negative influence of Uranus. Those who react positively to Uranus show quite different behaviour. However, we are unable to go further into this, for as with practically all the other things covered by our philosophy: one could spend hours and hours talking about it without ever coming to an end.

## *2. The Brotherhood of Life*

*Question:* During the New Year's conference at Calw our Grand Master stated that during the Aquarius Feast entities belonging to the preceding Brotherhoods would be among us, and would not only be

seen in a spiritual sense, but also physically. There is now speculation among us as to what precisely was meant by that.

*Answer:* We remember having spoken about that during our gathering in Calw. With respect to our Aquarius Feast we can tell you that it far exceeded our expectations and has succeeded in the most complete sense, having surpassed by far the Wesak festivals of ancient times. By this we mean that the preceding Brotherhood has indeed been among us. We are also convinced that many of you have experienced impressions of this. The Brotherhood, if we may say so with emphasis, was existentially with us. The Brothers and Sisters of the New Realm were with us in a very special way. Perhaps you were sitting next to such a Brother or Sister during a service. Surely you did not think that they would pass before you in a procession, here on the place of service? That would be out of character. The Brotherhood of the New Land comes among us if it is urgently necessary for them to do so. And it is certain that you will have come into contact with such Brothers and Sisters many times without knowing it, if you are at least serious pupils. In this connection we can refer to the Bible.

It is also possible that with regard to some of you it can be said: 'Their eyes were held, so that they knew Him not.' Did they not experience Him? Well, friends, such things are always for your own good! We emphasise that everything we have been permitted to transmit to you from this platform was first received by us and then given out again. There has never been a meeting under the aegis of the Brotherhood of the Rosycross of which could be said: 'Today they have forgotten us; today they were not there.' The Brotherhood of Life watches over us all by day and by night. And so, friends, if you have not yet experienced the inner life as you would so much like to have done, as you would have wished, we say to you: bide your time in tranquility and keep the vows we have made together. At the right moment these things will open up for you.

We need to break right away from the idea, put about by various mystics, that all the liberated Brothers and Sisters will appear before us at a given moment clad in white robes, It is not like that at all! Similarly, the idea that all the liberated ones stand about singing and waving palm branches from dawn till dusk might afford us a few moments entertainment if we were to see it one day, but in no time at all we would be bored. The point is that you need to see all this from a totally different standpoint. Contact with the Universal -Brotherhood takes place daily, but in most cases your eyes are 'held', so that you do not see them, or at least not in the way we think they should be seen.

We hope to be able to speak much more about these things in the near future, using actual facts as our basis. Finally we would like to repeat that with respect to this conference we are not in the least disappointed about anything, but on the other hand, our expectations have been exceeded.

### *3. Our children*

*Question:* Can you give us more information about the possible reactions of our children to the great changes that are to come?

*Answer:* What we would like to say in answer to this question, is that in the coming times you must watch over your children very closely and carefully. For in all the upheaval of these times, in which the great adversary about which we have often spoken, will exert itself to the utmost, anything is possible with regard to your children. It will be as if a typhoon were approaching and one has to race to gather together everything that is of value and try to find a safe place to keep it. Just think for a moment of that terrible flood disaster that happened

a number of years ago in Zeeland and western Brabant. Without hesitation, each family was forced to choose the right direction to escape death. We are conveying this image to you with respect to your own children. You do not need to stand over them like a dragon, and try to control them that way, for that cannot be done with children of today. The child of today cannot be treated in an authoritarian way. That is impossible. Up to a certain point, the child is too free for that, too liberated.

You will need to surround your children with daily care, with great love; you will need to talk things over with them and try to protect them from all possible attacks. And above all, take care of your children with respect to television. If there is anything you will need to forbid, and forbid emphatically, it is watching television. For what happens? When certain programmes are being shown, the little friends call to each other: 'Are you coming? It's going to start in a minute!' You will need to teach your children not to be drawn into all that, to have absolutely nothing to do with it. For in our times there is nothing more dangerous to the child than that. We have sent you various publications about this\* and warned you in various ways. So please be careful with respect to these things!

It goes without saying that as long as the child remains in the radiation-field of the parents, so long as it is still with you and remains literally under the wings of its father and mother, it is your personal way of life that is of fundamental importance. The important thing is not how you behave in the outside world, in society and so on, but above all: how do you behave when you are at home? Is there a serene atmosphere in your home? If your children grow up in a serene home that complies with at least a minimum requirement, you will be helping them beyond measure.

\*See: *Television as a Danger for the Individual*, Rosycross Press, Haarlem, the Netherlands.

#### *4: Handicapped children*

*Question:* I understand the causes of sickness and disability among mankind, but would you please explain how sickness and disability among children is to be accounted for?

*Answer:* In connection with this question, you know what a responsibility lies in particular upon the shoulders of the chemists who with their experiments have developed many drugs which have ultimately proved to be extremely harmful to the coming generation. If you are the parent of a handicapped child, that is a considerable burden for you. And we feel with you the pain of it, the suffering you must undergo because of it. But nothing happens by coincidence. You are aware that human life is governed by laws. If you have a disabled child, do not ask what is the cause, for it simply cannot be traced, although if it could, you would find it absolutely rational. You can never lay the blame on others, but should seek the fault always in your own reality of being.

If you realise this, then in humility you can decide on the basis of reality to begin to profess your pupilship wholeheartedly, to *live it*, so that your child, your handicapped child is embedded, surrounded in the glorious light that comes to you by way of the Brotherhood. What better fate could your child wish for? Then it will always be good and you will always be able to accept wholeheartedly everything you suffer, all the sorrow that is sent to you. And if there is any possibility for your child to be helped with his handicap, well, then you know about the work of the Rozenhof. The helping service of the Rozenhof will then do everything possible to be of service to your children.

The most important thing, however, is your own state, that which goes out from you to your children. For when a clear drop of water,

a totally pure drop of water, 'falls into a muddy ditch, then you see nothing more of it and its purity is lost. Therefore we repeat: try from below upwards, from within outwards, to enable the light to find entrance in your family, in your house. Then you will receive all the help it is possible to give.

### *S. The great adversary*

*Question:* I have been in the School for six years. I have welcomed it from within and recognised it as the only way of salvation. Yet at certain moments there arises a complete resistance in me, accompanied by feelings of fear, presumably the primaeval fear of the animal-I. This happens, for example, when I hear mighty mantrams or when I meet representatives of the Golden Head. This condition causes me much suffering, for I do not want it, but it still comes to the surface from within my system. Would it be better for me to return to preparatory pupilship?

*Answer:* No, friend, *it* would not be better. For what seems to be happening to you? When the light touches us, we make the great adversary more wakeful. You should not see this adversary as a devil that exists outside you, but as an inner resistance that is inside you. The fact that your adversary is agitating against you and causing tensions to arise in you proves that the light is intervening in your life.

Think in this context of the gnostic gospel of the *Pistis Sophia*, of the intense struggle that she has to engage in and that is depicted in such wealth of detail in that gospel. The Pistis Sophia is – if you think, for instance, of her songs of repentance – cast into the deepest doubt on various occasions and finds herself in the same situation as yours, although she expresses it in different words: 'Would it not be better

for me to stop?' For right in the beginning she penetrates behind the veils of the thirteenth aeon, but is then driven back to her natural place. For one cannot omit anything on the path! One must overcome everything, and the adversary within you exerts itself right up to the last moment.

How did the adversary in your system come into being? Well, that can quite easily be understood. You will know that this life is not the first one you have lived. Many lives lie behind you, many conditions of existence in the nature of death. And in this nature of death you have transgressed the laws of the Lord many times in the past, and have done many things in the wrong way. That is logical, for otherwise you would not be sitting here. And that applies to everyone.

It is as a result of all this that a sinful being, an adversary, has come into being and grown within man. It is a living, astral situation which and this is not nice to hear - does not die but *is* reanimated *in* man at each new birth, with the animation of each new personality. *That* is why we are sitting here, and *that* is what we have to reckon with, as we can also read in the Bible in connection with Jesus the Lord. Before he walked his *via dolorosa*, He had to settle accounts with the satan in Him.

Jesus the Lord gave us the example, and so it must be with all of us: we must settle accounts with the adversary in us. Therefore, questioner, do not be troubled. Have absolute confidence in your pupilship, for during these days you have received everything you need to deal with this fatal adversary in such a way that it will never come back.

The adversary in you is a being of delusion, but nevertheless a being that lives, in the same way as the reflection sphere lives but is nevertheless a total delusion. If you want another example, think of Gustav Meyrink's book, *The Angel in the Western Window*. Think of the central character in this story who, even though he stands in

the court of initiation, is confronted there with his adversary. The adversary, which manifests itself in various guises, appears in that story in the form of a most beautiful woman, who beguiles him into a situation which could have proved fatal. But just in time he begins to reflect, and suddenly realises that this wonderful, seductive woman is no longer there: she has disappeared for ever. A mist rises, full of rottenness and death, and with that the struggle is ended. Had he gone one step further, he would have fallen into an abyss, so the story tells.

In many respects, this story gives a very clear image of reality. So, questioner; it would be foolishness to say: 'I will simply go back to preparatory pupilship, for in most cases, though not all, this is the beginning of the end. This thought is being suggested to you by your adversary! It is the adversary within you that suggests: 'Don't bother to try. You just won't succeed. You are not strong enough!' And it entices you with thoughts of all sorts of so-called 'pleasures' of ordinary nature, such as your cigar. So do not go back to preparatory pupilship. Just persevere!

## *6. The twelve powers of the zodiac*

*Question:* We have received the divine message with profound thanks and the fact that we are now permitted, and able, to walk this path fills us with joy. May we ask you with what sign the twelve zodiacal powers begin? Is it with Aquarius? And why do we speak of the *modern Rosycross*?

*Answer:* We use the word 'modern' to show that the Brotherhood of the Rosycross, the Brotherhood of Life does not work now in the same way as it did, for example, a few hundred years ago. We told

you earlier that the zodiacal developments and the accompanying touch of the Seven-Spirit cause mankind to travel a path of development. That is why the situation changes in each different period of time and why, at a particular moment, the things we tell could differ entirely from what was told by a classical Brotherhood hundreds of years ago.

People in the West generally say that the zodiac begins with Aries and ends with Pisces. But this is an arbitrary demarkation, for in fact there is no beginning and no end. The zodiacal developments we described enclose the fields of development as if with a 'circle of eternity', and a circle does not have a beginning or an end. *We* can say, indeed we *must* say that 'We will now begin with the sign of Aquarius. That is what is necessary for us now.' As we said, the zodiac surrounds us as a chain of twelve brothers, and these twelve brothers possess all the wisdom and abilities which were originally placed at man's disposal, from the dawn of his manifestation. But in fact the accent always changes to different aspects. How many times has mankind already been through an Age of Aquarius? But the Age of Aquarius now approaching will be entirely different from those of the past. That should be very clear to you. For we do not live in a static universe; the unfoldment of the divine universe is very dynamic. It always goes on, always impelling and raising the world and mankind, and all the other life-waves, to ever greater glory and majesty. And no creature can understand where that will ultimately lead.

### *7. The touch of the Holy Spirit*

To close, we would like to read part of a letter: 'For some time I have experienced a touch of the Holy Seven-Spirit, in services in Haarlem

as well as in the Renova Temple. My blood reacts to it and I become very warm. Someone who knows about this thinks it is a very good sign. Now I would like to ask the cause of this, since the higher consciousness has not yet emerged in me...!' Some possible causes are then suggested.

*Answer:* Dear friend whose question this is, may we tell you that you are making a complete mistake? The touch you are experiencing is not from the Holy Spirit. If the Holy Spirit touches a brother or sister, he or she reacts in an entirely different way. For such a person, what matters is: to be or not to be; all or nothing. What you have apparently experienced is the result of particular tensions coming to the surface in you. Possibly, there is something wrong with your thyroid gland. People who have thyroid trouble always have serious difficulties, including problems of maintaining body temperature at the right level.

During these days, it will have been possible for the Seven-Spirit to touch you strongly. However, an individual can only be touched if his head sanctuary is 'open' in a particular way, especially with respect to the cerebral cavity in which the pineal gland is situated. This cavity is connected with the will. So what matters is that you submit your entire will to God, that you can truly pray, from within: 'Lord, your will be done.' If God's will is done, and your light vesture permits it, then the monad will descend into your light vesture.

We heard that some brothers and sisters asked one of our speakers to give them a mantramistic prayer. Dear friends, you must be careful with such things! You should never use a mantram unless your light-vesture measures up to a certain minimum requirement, or in other words, unless you are walking the path of renewal with a definite, clearly demonstrable attitude to life. Then the time will come

when you can really pray: 'Lord, your will be done.' However, it is out of the question that the Holy Spirit would seek to touch you if you had not demonstrated a positive change in your attitude to life. The touch *of* the Holy Spirit would then only be experienced as a nuisance.

It will be something quite different when, shortly, the intercosmic radiation-field touches the whole of mankind; when any further delay cannot be tolerated, when the unfoldment of things can no longer be held back. Then everyone will have to pay the price of his or her attitude to life!:

### *Closing words*

Brothers and Sisters, we can find no words to express our gratitude for the way in which we have been united with you all during our Aquarius Renewal Conference.

When, shortly, you are on your way home, you can be certain that the blessings of the Brotherhood will be with you. May the Brotherhood be near to you on all your paths, also during the difficult moments of your life. Amen.