

## A TALK IN THE PRO-ECCLESIA\*

My Dear Sisters, Brothers, and Friends:

We have met here today to witness a most important ceremony that will join together in wedlock two of our friends. It is for them a most momentous occasion, and indeed for us all, for the life or lives lived by individuals are reflected in the community; the home life is the background and basis of the public life. If our young friends, who are now starting out together on the life of matrimony, are prepared to be self-sacrificing towards one another, each always seeking for the good of the other, each striving to conform himself or herself to the other, as we earnestly hope and pray that they will, there will result a life of the most ideal companionship, which is indeed a foretaste of heaven on earth, then each of them will be blessed thereby, and together they will radiate from the home that they make an influence of the greatest possible benefit to the community. On the other hand, if each should persist in having his or her own way, regardless of the comfort and happiness of the other, they have before them a life of such misery that it is really hell on earth, and the influence radiated from such a home can only be detrimental to the community wherein they live. We shall all earnestly pray that they may beware of the rocks and shoals of selfishness that are sure to wreck the bark of life happiness, and cultivate that conjugal solicitude for each other's welfare which will lead to a life of heavenly bliss.

Marriage, then, is a hazard, and in order to understand why such a dangerous condition, which is, alas, only too often a source of sorrow, should have been thrust upon mankind, it is necessary to examine the occult records and to take a larger view of the evolutionary journey of mankind than is generally open to the great majority of people. There was a time, called by occultists of the Western Wisdom School, the Hyperborean Epoch, when man in the making was plant-like in his constitution and male-female, as recorded in the Bible. Therefore he could at that time, like a number of the plants today, fertilize himself and reproduce his kind without outside co-operation. In time the human body hardened and became animal-like in its construction. But the human spirit is a divine creative intelligence being taught in the school of life; we are all Gods in the making, and the creation of physical things by physical means is only an elementary lesson. Eventually we must learn to emulate the creative methods of God, the Great Architect of the Universe, who by His spoken Word brought all things into existence, as so wonderfully taught in that gem of mysticism, the first chapter of the Gospel of John, where it is said: "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God. All things were made by Him and without Him was not anything made that was made. In Him was light and the light was the life of men and the light shineth in darkness and the darkness comprehendeth it not."

To think the creative thought, however, requires a brain in the physical world, and to speak the creative fiat requires a larynx, and therefore it was necessary that these organs should be provided for man in the making so that he might gradually grow up to the divine stature. Therefore, the great superhuman hierarchs who have guided our evolution diverted one part of the creative force of man-in-the-making upwards so that it might build these organs. In some, they used the negative pole of this force and they became female; in the others, the positive pole of the creative force was used and they became males. But this left only one half of the creative force available for the reproduction of the race and thus, from that time mankind was divided into sexes, as we see them today, and it has become necessary for each to seek his or her complement so that the dual creative force, male and female, may be blended to perpetuate

the human species and to provide new vehicles for the egos who have lost theirs by death. And in those early days, when the guardian angels had charge of infant humanity, they gathered their wards in great temples at certain times of the year when the interplanetary lines of force were propitious to procreation and their generation was accomplished as a sacrament, a sacred religious rite.

Had this condition continued, humanity would also to this day have remained childlike and innocent, docile and happy as children. But as the brain was gradually formed, fallen angels, spoken of in the Bible as Lucifer Spirits, taught humanity the unbridled use or rather abuse of the creative function for sense gratification, regardless of the planetary conditions. Thus love gave place to lust, parturition became painful, and death more frequent. Man had fallen from a sanctified to a sinful state, and since then an age of sorrow, struggle, and strife has been upon earth, and if we analyze conditions to the ultimate today, we shall find that every form of sorrow and sickness is due to this abnormal sexual relationship. Therefore we are anxiously looking for the time of the coming of Christ for the establishment of the Kingdom of God, when there shall be neither marrying nor giving in marriage, because each shall have the power within himself to speak the creative word and death will be swallowed up in immortality.

But while we hold these ideals regarding the future condition, we must deal with facts as we find them today, and there are great and wonderful lessons to be learned within the state of matrimony. So we must do our very best to render it fruitful—physically, mentally, morally, and spiritually. We should always remember that it is a striving towards unity that can only be achieved by a forgetfulness of self. There should be in the home only one thought, one voice, and one aim in life, but this should be a composite thought, voice, and aim. Both parties should strive to blend their ideas for the common good; and if it should be found, as undoubtedly it will, that no agreement can be reached on a few points, then there should be a tactful avoidance of such subjects until time shall have changed one or the other or both. There should be a mutual respect of each other's rights, a sinking of self-interest for the common good. We earnestly pray that our young friends here, who are entering upon this great adventure, may endeavor from the beginning to live the love life which is so essential to make a home atmosphere fit for the raising of children that shall be a credit to the community. Bear one another's burdens. Young man, do not confine your interest to the shop or office and beg to be excused from sharing the worries incidental to the care of a home and children. Young woman, do not cherish the idea that your troubles and trials in the home are paramount and that your husband has no worries compared to yours. Remember, this is a partnership in anything and everything. Take an intelligent interest in his business; encourage his ambitions and spur him on to greater efforts by intelligent appreciation. The more you know of each other's affairs, the closer your partnership, easier you will bear the burdens of life and succeed in making your matrimonial venture worthwhile. And we all pray that God may give his greatest blessing to you both and that this union may prove fruitful of lessons that will elevate you physically, morally, mentally, and spiritually in the great school of life.