

Keynotes of Max Heindel's Teachings

MAX HEINDEL STATED that “The Rosicrucian Fellowship has been charged by the Elder Brothers with the mission of promulgating the gospel of the Aquarian Age, and of conducting a campaign of education and enlightenment, so that the world may be prepared for what is in store.”¹ He frequently reiterated that The Rosicrucian Fellowship is to be the herald of the Aquarian Age.²

The Aquarian Age is to be an age in which the Christ is born within each individual.³ Aquarius is governed by the planet Uranus⁴ and Uranus promotes independence.⁵ Thus, people will want freedom in the Aquarian Age. The Aquarian Age will foster the development of originality, creativity, and pioneering.⁶ The sword had its reign in the Piscean Age, but science and reason will rule in the Aquarian Age.⁷

Aquarius is governed by Saturn and Saturn promotes diplomacy and justice.⁸

Thus, in the Aquarian Age, when conflicts arise attempt will be made to determine *by means of reason* what is the logical and just solution.

The Aquarian Age will also stimulate the development of an all-embracing love and altruism.⁹

Max Heindel gives a number of indications as to the directions in which people need to move if the Aquarian ideals are to be realized. It is the purpose of this article to tabulate some of these indications.

Developing the Christ Light Within

Max Heindel states that “all limitations must have been swept away before we can hope for success in the quest for truth.”¹⁰ A wall of creed inhibits the flow of universal light and knowledge.¹¹ In order to find Truth “we must leave father and mothers, creed, dogma, conventionalities, preconceived opinions and worldly desires behind; we must never fear conflict with established authorities, but we must follow the inner voice through fire if need be.”¹² The Spirit of Truth can only be awakened by one who is fearless and free.¹³ He adds that we will never find Truth in his or any other books. So long as we run after outside teachers, we are simply wasting energy.

Books and teachers may arouse our interest and urge us to live the life, but only in so far as we make their precepts a part of our inner selves are we really seeking in the right direction.¹⁴ Where then are we to find Truth? Max Heindel says, “There is only one answer—within.”¹⁵ We must learn to follow the Christ within,

and that Christ is different for different people.¹⁶ Self-reliance is the cardinal virtue which aspirants are required to cultivate in the Western Mystery School. No one is allowed to lean on Masters, nor to blindly follow Leaders. The Brothers of the Rose Cross aim to emancipate the souls that come to them; to educate, to strengthen, and to make them co-workers.¹⁷ No one who is a 'leaner,' can at the same time be a helper; each must stand alone.¹⁸

How are we to find the Christ Light within? We must attune our inner nature to the Christ vibrations of Love and live a life of sacrifice and service.¹⁹ We must perform the exercise of Retrospection so that we learn to recognize our mistakes and to judge between right and wrong.²⁰ We must learn to perform the exercise of Concentration because only in proportion as the mind is stilled can the spirit reflect itself in the threefold body.²¹

Individual Freedom

The baby must crawl and fall; it must rise, fall again and hurt itself. The experience is unpleasant but unavoidable, and far to be preferred to the consequences of tying the infant to a chair to save it from falling; then its limbs would become useless. This is why in The Rosicrucian Fellowship there must be *absolute personal freedom*.²² Each must become master of his own fate and captain of his own soul.²³ It is contrary to the divine plan in any way to coerce a man into doing that which he does not want to do.²⁴ Liberty is the most precious possession of the soul.²⁵ There is no greater crime than to fetter a fellow-being in any manner.²⁶

The Elder Brothers take care that pupils do not obligate themselves to them or any one else.²⁷ The Elder Brothers never under any condition demand obedience to any mandate of theirs or command pupils to do this or that. At most, they advise, leaving the pupil free to follow or not.²⁸ The Elder Brothers never urge, never praise, and never blame. The urge must come from within the pupil.²⁹

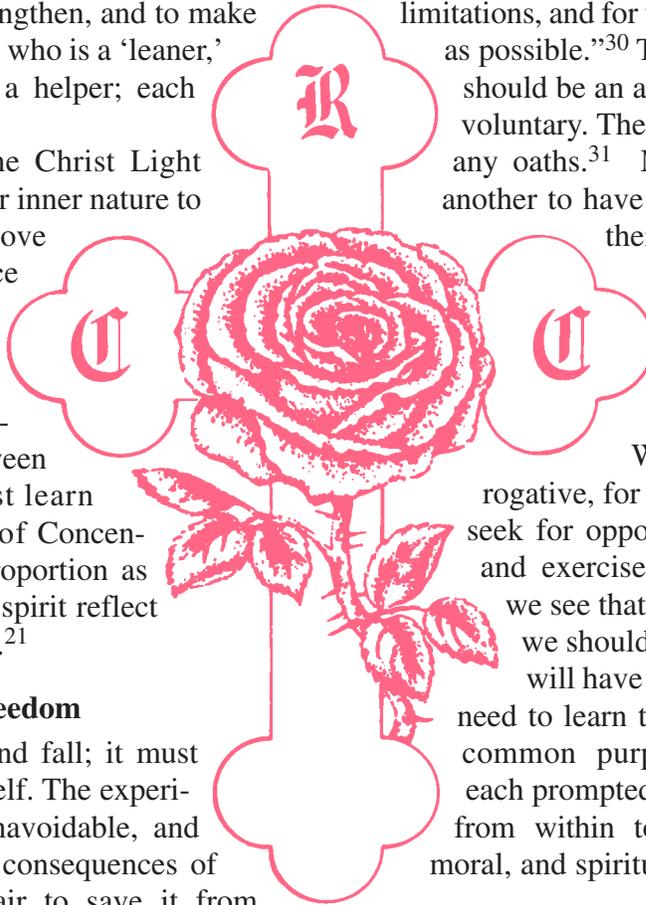
Within the Rosicrucian Fellowship the Teacher recommended that the organization be made as loose as possible because "in the measure that the free will of members is interfered with, the object of the Rosicrucian Order, to foster individuality and self-reliance, is defeated. Laws and by-laws are limitations, and for that reason should be as few as possible."³⁰ The Rosicrucian Fellowship should be an association which is entirely voluntary. The members are not bound by any oaths.³¹ Members must permit one another to have free will,³² must not force their opinions on one another,³³ and must be careful not to infringe upon the rights of one another.³⁴

Individual Initiative

We, ourselves, have a prerogative, for we are divine.³⁵ We should seek for opportunities to initiate actions and exercise our creative powers.³⁶ If we see that a task has to be performed, we should say to ourselves: Someone will have to do that. Why not I?³⁷ We need to learn the lesson of working for a common purpose, without leadership, each prompted alike by the Spirit of Love from within to strive for the physical, moral, and spiritual uplift of the world.³⁸

Conflict Resolution

Although we seek the Christ Light within, our vision of it may yet be imperfect. Therefore, individuals who exercise their right to free thought may sometimes find their ideas as to what should be done may be in conflict with the ideas of others. What then is to be done? Max Heindel states that might does not make right,³⁹ and that "the harmless life is an absolute essential prerequisite to the helpful life."⁴⁰ The sacred spear, which symbolizes the creative power in man, including the power of speech, must never be used to hurt, only to heal,⁴¹ and gentleness is an ideal to be striven for.⁴² Thus, conflicts are not to be resolved by force. There is another way. The sword had its reign in the Piscean Age, but science (reason) will rule in the Aquarian Age.⁴³ The principle of arbitration of difficulties



needs to be established,⁴⁴ and tact and diplomacy are always better than force.⁴⁵ Peace is a matter of education and to achieve it people need to learn to deal charitably, justly, and openly with one another, as nations as well as individuals.⁴⁶

Universal Brotherhood

Max Heindel states that “The Fellowship disregards national and racial differences, endeavoring to join all together in a bond of love,”⁴⁷ and he recommends that people practice Universal Brotherhood by never mentioning or recognizing differences of nationality, for we are all one in Christ.⁴⁸ He urges people to look beyond the sharply differentiated forms which blind them to the inalienable unity of each soul with all others,⁴⁹ and to forget the often unprepossessing exteriors of others, and serve the divine essence hidden within.⁵⁰

Max Heindel adds that as long as one is tied to the family, the nation, the tribe, one is siding with the old blood, the old ways, and cannot amalgamate into a Universal Brotherhood. That can only come when people marry internationally, because when there are so many nations the way to unite them is through marriage.⁵¹

May we all strive to achieve the goals of the Aquarian Age as Max Heindel has outlined them for us. □

—Elsa Glover

Note: All references in this article are to books written by Max Heindel and published by the Rosicrucian Fellowship, Oceanside, CA

1. *Teachings of an Initiate (TI)*, p.58
2. *Questions and Answers, Vol. 2 (2Q&A)*, pp. 366, 465; *Rosicrucian Mysteries (RM)*, p.12
3. *Message of the Stars (MS)* p. 28
4. *Simplified Scientific Astrology (SSA)*, p. 81
5. *MS*, p. 348
6. *MS*, p. 348; *2Q&A*, p. 361
7. *Gleanings of a Mystic (GM)*, p. 82; *TI*, p. 56
8. *SSA*, p. 81; *MS*, pp. 248-249
9. *MS*, p. 347
10. *MGO*, p. 92
11. *MGO*, p. 81; *Letters to Students (LS)*, p. 69
12. *LS*, p. 71
13. *LS*, p. 71
14. *LS*, pp. 98, 205
15. *LS* p. 98; *Web of Destiny (WD)*, p. 84; *TI*, p. 29
16. *2Q&A*, p. 501
17. *Mysteries of the Great Operas (MGO)* p. 23; *WD*, p. 36
18. *LS*, p. 61
19. *Ancient and Modern Initiation (AMI)*, p. 40; *GM*, p. 159
20. *Rosicrucian Christianity Lectures (RCL)*, pp. 183-184

OPPORTUNITY

They do me wrong who say I come no more
When once I knock and fail to find you in;
For every day I stand outside your door
And bid you wake and rise and fight and win.
Wail not for precious chances passed away.
Weep not for golden ages on the wane.
Each night I burn the records of the day.
At sunrise every soul is born again.
Laugh like a boy at splendors that have sped.
To vanished joys be blind, and deaf, and dumb.
My judgments seal the dead past with its dead,
But never bind a moment yet to come.
Though deep in mire, wring not your hands
and weep,
I lend my arm to all who say, “I can.”
No shamefaced outcast ever sank so deep
But he might rise and be again a man.

—Walter Malone

21. *RCL*, pp. 179, 184-187

22. *LS*, pp. 51-52

23. *LS*, p. 61

24. *LS*, p. 27

25. *LS*, p. 72, 94

26. *LS*, p. 72

27. *LS*, p. 94

28. *TI*, p. 151

29. *2Q&A*, p. 226

30. *TI*, p. 150

31. *TI*, p. 150

32. *LS*, p. 29

33. *LS*, p. 94

34. *LS*, p. 94; *RCL*, p. 265

35. *LS*, pp. 19, 134

36. *LS*, pp. 207-208

37. *LS*, p. 12

38. *LS*, p. 53

39. *GM*, p. 38

40. *RCL*, p. 200; *MGO*, p. 59

41. *AMI*, pp. 44-45; *MGO*, pp. 65-66

42. *TI*, p. 95; *LS*, p. 10

43. *GM*, p. 82

44. *LS*, p. 226

45. *GM*, p. 119

46. *LS*, p. 226

47. *LS*, p. 156; *Freemasonry and Catholicism (F&C)*, p. 88

48. *LS*, p. 167

49. *GM*, p. 70

50. The Rosicrucian Temple Service

51. *F&C*, pp. 54-55