<u>Priest 2:</u> In preparation for our 125th Temple Convention, which starts in 6 days, let us enter the silence with these words of the Master, given under the auspices of fourth GinC, Pearl F.Dower, Gold Star:

The Master's Message to the 1947 Convention

My Children:

As you gather today for your Forty-eighth Annual Assembly, to partake of the Holy Feast and Its sacred appointments, as you gather around the Altar in brotherly love, sincere purpose, and high aspiration, hearken to the Heavenly Hosts, sounding and resounding the Song of Life, and join in with the higher vibrations of Universal Love and Harmony. Hearken to the overtones, the higher octave, as it penetrates and interpenetrates every atom of life. Hearken to the Message of the Christos, radiating Its unifying and harmonizing forces to suffering humanity. Can you not detect the higher notes and their cosmic purpose, attuning to the orchestra of life, vibrating in tones of spiritual upliftment and Power?

You may say, how can one reach that height of consciousness in the midst of a world full of disunity, confusion, fear, doubt, and unbrotherliness? You can only find the cause of life's complex problems and struggles by climbing higher and treading the upper road, sounding the upper notes in the scale of life and translating discord into harmony. The full keyboard of life is composed of both discordant and harmonious notes, but those who seek the Mountain Top must vibrate with the higher chords in the realm of celestial harmonies in order to transmute the fleeting lower vibrations.

The great majority of the human race is bound by the lower mind — desire and intellectual reasoning — without the aid of the Divine Spark of the Higher Mind, and so must grope in the darkness until evolving to the point where, through soul awakening, is awakened interiorly the desire to know more of the Divine Intelligence and Its Universal Purpose.

In order for humanity to know and perceive the process of Divine Intelligence, the development of the Higher Mind is necessary. The Higher Mind is the link between God and Man, between the impersonal and the personal, and between the immortal and the mortal. Intellectualism belongs to the lower mind, as its process involves reason alone, and so

analyzes without the Light of the Higher Mind. Such reasoning eventually consumes itself until the Soul becomes awakened by the Divine Spark, and then it inherently desires to develop the higher powers. The lower mind reasons, and the Higher Mind works through intuition, the Knower, so the lower mind is limited in its reasoning until joined with the higher intuition. Then it knows without reasoning because it partakes of the Divine Knowledge. The lower mind aids the Higher Mind in contacting matter for its evolutionary unfoldment. When the Divine flame of Spirit ensouls the lower mind, it is able to understand the real purpose of life. The Higher Mind enables the Soul, after it has become awakened by the Divine forces, to know and realize its fundamental unity with all life. It inherently desires to develop the higher intuition and longs for the higher knowledge.

That deep-seated longing to come closer to the Great Reality, the Center of all Being, stems from the Higher Mind, where one interiorly loves all and is ever striving to become One with the Whole.

To gain the power of a true occultist, to which all Templars should aspire, and be That which functions these higher forces as a living power in daily living, requires true alignment with the inner forces and the drawing of these higher qualities to oneself by the law of attraction. This in time enables one to identify with the higher forms of substance and force, and so to correlate consciousness with these higher forces on all planes of one's being. Developing these interior powers of discrimination enables one to know these Truths from the Universal Soul plane, where higher intuition functions the necessary forces to know the occult Truths and to consciously realize the hidden laws back of all life, and to know there is only one way to reach spiritual heights, the Path that leads to the footstool of the Gods. So all aspirants for true occult knowledge must be obedient to the fundamental laws of Life. The power inherent in all aspiring occultists has been gained over a long period of time and reveals itself through the Light of understanding of the Higher Mind, Divine Thought.

Let us hold a meditation on the words of the Master.

Priest 2 sits. AMEN.

After meditation, Priest 1 stands and reads:

Those joining a real occult group such as the Temple always find the way hard; for as each disciple truly aspires to reach the higher state of consciousness, they immediately run against the lower forces of negation, which are set in action to oppose them. The higher one climbs, the greater are the obstacles, until by a long process of true effort they have been overcome and transmuted. All are tested every step of the way as to sincerity of purpose, wisdom of action, and unselfish motives; but as the aspirant goes on with the determination never to surrender, the Higher Mind is able to function and so guides and helps lift them up and out of the lower forces that try to discourage, instill fear, confusion, doubt, and despair, endeavoring to separate brother from sister and nation from nation.

As each aspirant follows the true course on the long and winding path of life and travels the upper road, functioning the qualities of the Higher Mind, they are enabled to glimpse the Cosmic Vista and the Great Forces at work for the benefit of all humanity. There, each is enabled to catch the overtones of the orchestra of life and instinctively listen, heed, and obey the higher impulses and work with the constructive forces of life. Fear, doubt and uncertainties and all the lower forces of humanity fade amid the higher realms where higher thoughts and actions hold sway.

Through the maze of the world's unrest, fear and confusion, there is a greater power of reconstruction moving onward and upward for the ultimate release of the earth's bondage. It is so decreed that the Avataric mission clear away the forces of separateness and disunity. It is so written in the heavens that the New Order must clear away the old conditions for the manifestation of Universal Kinship. Do not lose courage or faith if the hour be long delayed, for such is the way of the Divine Law. While seeming defeats cloud the outer vision, it is only seeming, as the great evolutionary plan of unification goes on. All of you who work for that Great Cause help to harmonize the discordant elements more than you realize.

As a group under the Lodge these many years, you have helped in many crises. As you continue to work together in harmony, love, and unity, great is the accomplishment along the higher lines of endeavor, and great is your opportunity to vibrate with the higher forces. If you could see with your inner eyes, you would realize that the unifying forces are working in ways

unknown to the lesser evolved. If you were able to glimpse the inner cosmic view, you would know, understand, and ever keep striving to follow the upper path. Let not the lower forces draw you downward. If you would use your higher intuition, you would know that the great stream of life courses on, carrying out its appointed destiny towards the goal of spiritual attainment. The law moves steadily on and takes all with it, whether it be the wreckage of the outer self or the reward of interior effort, and all carried out in accordance with the laws governing the Great Plan and Purpose of Divinity. The Great Law works with the Divine forces, not in terms of seemingly outer achievement but in terms of obedience to the Higher Laws.

Each and all of you who aspire to the higher life and who have taken a vow to the Higher Self must build in the spiritual qualities in accordance with Karmic Law, in order to become real occultists. None can pass the inner doorway without vibrating the forces of the Higher Light, without realizing the fundamental law of Unity and the absolute obedience to the laws of Centralization and Discipleship. The greatest aid in this spiritual quest is the power of a pure heart. It will take you on to greater heights where all else fails. Motive renders the final decision in which direction any disciple will travel along the pathway of life.

In appraising Spiritual values from the Mount Supreme, what have you to offer to the Heart of the Great World Mother? What have you to offer to the Christos in Its Universal Mission of unifying all the races of the earth? What have you to offer to the Temple and its world mission? What have you to offer to the Temple Group in united service, unselfish love, and devotion to the Great Cause? What have you to offer in strengthening the bonds of Love, Harmony, and Unity among yourselves? What have you to offer to a confused and suffering world? You will find the answer in the inner sanctuary of your Higher Self.

In leaving, I surround you with my deep love and blessing. Keep within the circle of protection in and about you at all times for your help and guidance. Remember, yours is the heroic path and requires constant vigilance, every step of the way.

Your Father-Brother,

— Hilarion

Let us hold a meditation on the words of the Master. **Priest 1 sits.**