

*Speech Delivered by Rev. Carl R. Hewitt
at his Ordination
Sunday, June 2, 1974*

Friends, Believers, and Disbelievers:

My heart, my life, my hopes are with you now, as before the Ordination, and yes will be even after I have left this Mortal World.

Few of us attain what we hope for, some do and are cheerful ...Others succeed to an empty unmeaningful success.

As I move forward in my Spiritual Life — my larger hopes are with you, I hope that you will grow with me, ... Learn to accept with me ... and learn to accept hardship with me. But most important, learn to find yourself as I am learning. So that each of us may gain self acceptance of what is us, and what is to be.

Today, we have in front of us, and have presented in many forms, many, many symbols. This Service itself— is a symbol— but way beyond that— each of us here and our lives is a symbol. The young girl leading the entrance procession told you by symbolism that truth, peace, purity, and Jesus lead the way for their followers. The candle represents the entrance of light into a dark world. How far that candle throws its beams— so shines a good deed in a naughty world these are the words of Shakespeare. The white and the Dove symbolize the peace and the kindness of Jesus while here in his mortal form.

I hope you have noticed the nine white streamers in front of you, each is symbolic of the nine Principals, by which we believe, by which we are. Notice that they radiate out from one Central Point. Friends, that central point is you. When you believe, when you practice, you are radiating those nine Principals to the world, to your family—and to your loved ones.

My hope then for me, and for you this day — that each of us in our way may be the central point of those Principals. Did you also notice a Gold Ribbon here in front of you? That is a Symbol — a hope for our Brothers and Sisters, who are now in the World of Spirit. It is in honor of all the Mediums and Ministers of the world who gave so much of their time and effort to bring the Truth of the Continuity of life to all mankind. To bring to the world what that great Medium Jesus the Christ tried to get across to all the people: “What you see me do you will be able to do and even greater things shall you do.” The Gold Ribbon is our thanks, it is our prayer in honor of their dedication their

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lives of giving to others. It is our way of saying thanks and asking that we—in the future—may be worthy of a portion of that Gold Ribbon dedicated to us.

What do all these symbols mean? If you have no faith, if you do not believe—then in truth they mean nothing, they are just cloth, just wax, and just a mass of man's works. But when you believe, these symbols become a part of life, yes of your life and mine.

They cease to be mere objects—we have enough of those—instead they are an indication of meaning, of light, of truth in this dark world.

Did you ever consider all around you are symbols—not just at this ceremony. How about the beautiful sunrises that you have seen? How about the beautiful sunsets? How about the Faith in a Child's trusting eyes? How about the peace and serenity you'll find at a beach, when you are alone there, with only the birds as companions? How about the stars, how about the endless ocean waves that break, and gives up their very life in front of you? You see them at their peak and their height of glory, and then you see them break on the shore, and give up their energy. Are not these all signs, are not all these symbols of a greatness, and a vastness of life? The big thing is that you, yes you, can also be as much a symbol of glory, of greatness, and of faith.

When you arrive at your shore, to give in your great moment, and to die when called to hit the shore—are you arriving with faith, with Glory in your heart? Yes, symbols are everywhere, you see them in front of you, but they all star with you and your heart and faith.

Talk is cheap, but belief is sure. Believe! Practice in your life, so that those banners may spread from you to eternity.

As today, I am accepted in the Ministry, I humbly receive the Joys and yes--the burdens that this new step envisions.

We are all searching, we are all walking—yet—we are divided.

My hope is that the only divisions for us may be how we ourselves, answer the call, but not the path we are to follow.

Then may we walk the road together — each at his own pace, and each with his own style —but may that path always bind us together in Spiritual Love, Generosity, and Meaning.

Thank you!