

The Rising Star

IN DAYS OF OLD wise men of the East, Magi, after patiently scanning the heavens for many years, finally discerned the *Star*, the long-looked-for *Star* which proclaimed the birth of Christ. Today wise men again watch and wait for the *Star*. They keep strict vigil lest the beaming stranger that is to herald the coming of our loved Lord escape their notice. But other wise men know of another *Star*, which they see and follow, for where it rests surely the Christ spirit has come to birth. Let us look upon and describe those who bear the *Star*, so that all who have “eyes to see” may recognize them. Of these not one shall be lost, for they are the elect of God, the jewels of His crown, and precious in His sight.

Let us go therefore unto the Bethlehem of man’s mortal mind, and there in a manger, among the beasts of his lower nature, we shall find the young Child, the Christ within. The inn of man’s mind is too full of guests to give place or welcome to the newly born Christ, therefore in obscurity and lowliness it must come to life. But wise men know the dwelling place of the infant Christ spirit, and to it in marveling reverence they bring their gifts.

Again, as in the distant past, Herod, the chief

dignitary and ruler who sits upon the throne of man’s mortal consciousness, knows and fears this babe, for he has heard that it is destined to become king and to rule the world. Therefore does he seek to destroy the young child. This Herod, whose name is also envy, malice, and selfishness, causes his evil servants to search for and destroy all the infants of virtue within the city of man’s mortal mind. Charity and humility are slain, and the fair children called honor and justice are crushed.



Planet Art

Jan Gossaert, c.1503

The Adoration of the Kings

Esoterically, the three wise “men” are the three human vehicles whose experience garnered during earth evolution is brought to fruition as soul essence and offered to the Christ Child of the spiritualized Ego.

Hope is killed, and love lies bleeding. Cruel and foul are the hidden crimes that for centuries have stained the streets of the city of God called man, in order to kill the infant Christ spirit that has been born in it.

But though every good impulse be slain, naught can harm the holy Christ child within. For a time it lies hidden in the higher consciousness of immortal mind, where it surely grows in beauty and in power. At the appointed time it will come forth, clad in the majesty and purity of God Who sent it, to ascend the throne of the city of its Father, even the city called man, to rule in justice and peace the virtuous inhabitants of his mortal being.

Excellent in beauty and glorious in manifestation is the golden Star that the wise man can easily see enveloping the humble king who rules the kingdom of himself with justice and wisdom. Honor is upon his brow as a crown, and a light that cannot be hidden comes from the joy of God's love within his heart. In his hand is the scepter of power. Through him the gifts of God come to bless the nations of the earth.

But they that do wickedly and walk in the delusive path of sin see not the golden Stars which envelop the princes of the earth. They do not perceive that the children of the King of Heaven walk in their midst, nor that the Sun of Righteousness is thus sending its luminous brightness to glorify the path of man. This is the light of the Christ spirit, the light that now shines in the darkness of the unregenerate mind of man, a light that the uninitiated have no power of comprehending, for in their mental obscurity they perceive it not. But the wise men who now come from the east and the west, the north and the south, pay reverent homage to those who have the Christ born within.

Truly those who bear the Star of Christ are deserving of great reward, and these words will surely be said unto them: well done, good and faithful servants, enter now into the joy of thy Lord. But these anonymous kings of men in their selfless love offer themselves as a sacrifice, even to go again into a world that will trample and persecute them, revile and despise them, crucify and hate them. Again they go to lead the way and show a light in the night of earth. They have willingly

Wayfarer

In Christ there is no East nor West,
In Him no South nor North,
But one great Fellowship of Love
Throughout the whole wide earth.

In Him shall true hearts everywhere
Their high communion find.
His service is the golden cord
Close binding all mankind.

Join hands then, brothers of the faith,
Whate'er your race may be—
Who serves my Father as a son
Is surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both East and West,
In Him meet South and North,
All Christly souls are one in Him
Throughout the whole wide earth.

—John Oxenham

declined to enter into the bliss of eternal peace for the sake of their brothers and sisters, who, in their ignorance, thank them not, nor do they see the illumined rays of these servants of the Most High who have come to waken them and remind them that Christ's salvation is what they unknowingly have always been seeking.

Oh, Father God, listen to the adoration of those who see and follow the Star. Listen to the song of our gratitude for the knowledge that has been given to us and for the sign of the Star. Give us the victory over sin, and hasten the day when all shall know and love Thee. Speed the time when the Holy Spirit in full power shall breathe upon all flesh, and of every man shall it be known and said that this Thy son, who was dead in trespasses and sin, is now alive, and that he has come home to Thee; for the Star about him is shining brightly, by which all may see that in him the Christ has risen. □

—Isabel MacLachlan