

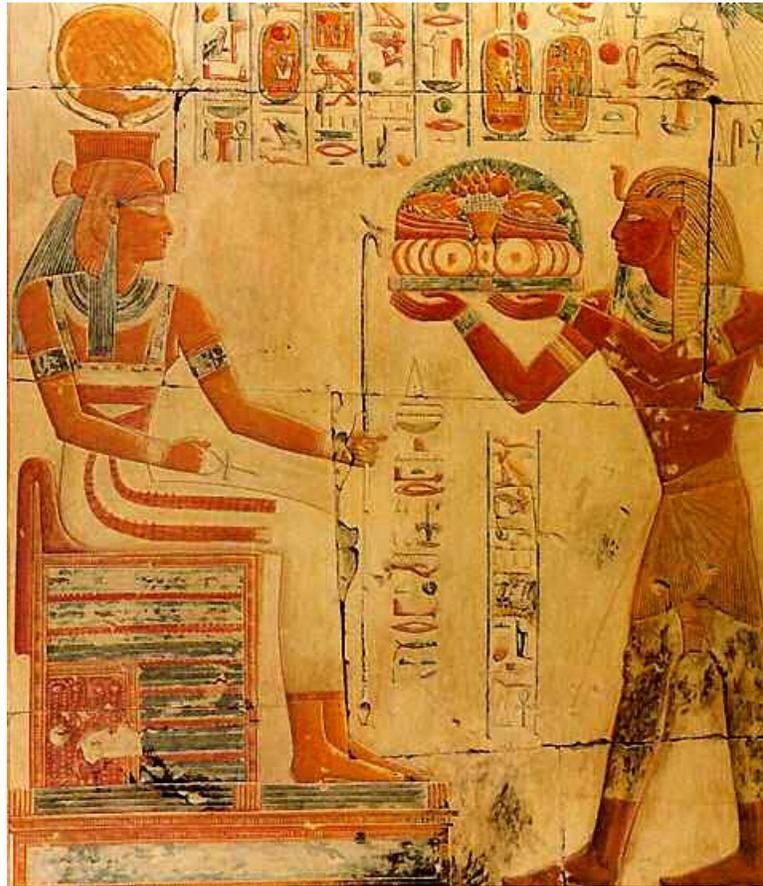
Evolution as Shown in the Zodiac

Part 3

JESUS TAUGHT the multitudes in parables but explained the mysteries of the Kingdom to His disciples. Paul gave spiritual meat to the strong, but the milk of doctrine to the multitude, for there has always been an exoteric and an esoteric side to every religion. Taking Taurus, the sign of the Bull, to symbolize the worship of that animal as practiced in Egypt, Persia and other countries at that time, then we shall find that the opposite sign, Scorpio, symbolizes the esoteric doctrine of the priesthood, who were the guardians of the ancient Atlantean Mysteries.

In this connection we will note first that the sign Scorpio is represented in the pictorial Zodiac by a Scorpion or Serpent, and we wish to impress particularly on the student's mind that the Scorpion has its *sting in the tail*, while the Serpent has the *venom in its teeth*. This is very significant, as we shall see presently.

On looking up the word "serpent" in the Bible, we shall find that there are about seven words that have thus been translated; but one of them, which was borrowed from Egypt, is *Naja*. This word is found on the old tablets in the ancient temples of Egypt where Osiris, the Sun God, is hailed when arising from the primordial deep. He was then crowned with glory and has the Uraeus Naja, *an emblem of cosmic wisdom*. The Uraeus was a part of a serpent's body, with its head depicted as protruding from a point in the forehead just above the nose, where the human spirit has its seat; and



Relief, Temple of Seti I, Abydos

Isis

Wife of Osiris, Isis is shown, as is her sage-servitor, with the uraeus.

Christ therefore referred to the ancient Serpent-Initiates when He said: "Be ye wise as serpents."

In ancient Egypt the King wore a crown adorned by a *double serpent, Uraeus or Naja*, which seemed to protrude from his forehead when the crown was placed upon his head. This was to symbolize the fact that he held the double office of King and Priest by virtue of his sublime wisdom. In India, also, the guardians of the Mystery Teachings were called Nagas or Serpents. In the Icelandic "Eddas," the Northern Vedas, Siegfried, the truth seeker, slays the serpent, tastes of its blood and then becomes wise.

Nor, to elaborate on the statement made above, is it necessary to go outside our own religion for

proof that the serpent is the symbol of wisdom, for the Christ Himself said: "Be ye wise as serpents." The serpent is certainly not sufficiently sagacious to warrant a literal meaning of this saying; but when we understand that when the creative fire is drawn upwards through the serpentine spinal cord it vibrates the pituitary body and the pineal gland, connecting the Ego with the invisible worlds by opening up a hidden sense, the allusion is perfectly clear.

There is, however, a lower phase of spiritual development, symbolized in ancient times by placing the Uraeus or serpent at the navel, to show that the mediumistic faculties in the solar plexus had been developed. Mediumship is a negative phase of spiritual sight or hearing possessed by a person who, under the control of an outside intelligence, prophesies. This undesirable phase of seership was represented in the Zodiac by the symbol of the Scorpion, which has the sting in its tail. In the Serpent Initiate the Creative Cosmic Fire was drawn upward through the head to serve a spiritual end; in the medium the creative energy is expressed for selfish, sensual ends through the procreative organ ruled by Scorpio.

The point between the eyebrows, whence the serpent of wisdom protrudes, is *the seat of life*, whereas all that opens the womb is subject to *the sting of death*, contained in the Scorpion's tail.

If we now turn with this information to our Bible, we shall find that a great many things, previously obscure, will become clear. As said, the Egyptian word for this Uraeus or serpent is *Naja* and it was borrowed by the Israelites who expressed the negative faculty of mediumship by affixing the feminine ending "oth," giving *Naioth*; while those able to function consciously in the spiritual worlds were given the positive, male plural ending "im," and were called *Naim*.

If we read the nineteenth chapter of first Samuel with this understanding we shall readily see that the incident there narrated was of a mediumistic nature. David had become afraid of Saul and he



Die Bibel in Bildern, Julius Schnorr von Carolsfeld (1789-1853)

Saul and the Witch of Endor

King Saul prevails on the mediumistic ability of the witch of Endor, who had "a familiar spirit," to conjure the prophet Samuel to foretell future events. Note the serpents—behind Saul and issuing from the skeleton.—1 Samuel 28:6-21

went with Samuel to "Naioth." This is supposed by Bible translators to be a place, and maybe a village was so named. But if that was the case, it was because the people who lived in that place were Naioth, or mediums. They were called prophets in the chapter before us, and it is significant that as soon as anyone came within their camp, he commenced to prophesy or speak under control. Even Saul, who came there, anxious to get David away that he might slay him, was seized by the spirits and prophesied, to the amazement of all present.

In the New Testament we are told that the Christ went to the city of Nain and there raised *the Son of a Widow*. In the Latin Testament, this city was not called Nain, but *Naim*. And it is very significant that all three, Naim, Naioth and Endor, where the sorceress that assisted Saul is supposed to have lived, are in the same locality by Mount Tabor.

Every Freemason knows that the brethren of that Order are called "Sons of the Widow." And it is stated in the Bible that Hiram Abiff, the Master Builder of Solomon's Temple, was the Son of a Widow, a cunning craftsman. We cannot in the present article repeat the Masonic Legend which tells

the reason why. This we have given in the book *Freemasonry and Catholicism* and also in our books on the Rosicrucian Philosophy. But suffice it to say that in the Bible story to which reference has been made, we have one of the Naim, a Widow's Son or initiate of the old Serpent School, for the priests of Egypt were *phree messen*, children of light. Each had within, the ancient Serpent Wisdom. But a new religion was being inaugurated, and it was necessary to raise the ancient Initiates to the Mysteries of the coming Age. *Therefore, the Christ, the Lion of Judah, Lord of the new Kingdom, went to the Widow's Son of Naim and raised him up by the strong grip of the Lion's paw.*

We may here emphasize that the first Initiate under the new system was Hiram Abiff, the highest Initiate of the old system, who, by this new initiation given him by the Christ, became a Christian, pledged to bear the Rose and the Cross, which were the symbols of the New Mystery Teachings of the Western World, and he was then given the symbolical name, Christian Rosenkreuz.

Thus from the time when the Sun entered the sign Aries by precession, it became a crime for the chosen people to worship the bull exoterically, or to partake of the esoteric Serpent wisdom. And for a similar reason *it is idolatry when people of the West take up the Eastern religions, Hinduism, Buddhism and kindred teachings.* For in the Aryan Epoch, only the Aryan Religions, the religions of the Lamb, have the proper effect on the human evolution. All previous systems are detrimental to the Western people; and in time those also who are now in the East, the Orientals, will be forced to embrace this religion, or be left far behind in evolution.

THE ARYAN EPOCH

Aries—Libra (♈—♎)

The Aryan Epoch may be divided into three eras; but they are all served by the religion of the Lamb. The first division covers the time when the Sun, by precession, went through the sign Aries, the Lamb. Jesus was born when the Vernal equinox was in about seven degrees of Aries; so the twenty-three degrees which lie on the other side belong to the Old Testament period, when the chosen people were in captivity and lost in the wilderness of

the world; the new religion had not then found its place. Then the Christ came and inaugurated this new teaching definitely. He came not to destroy the old prophecies and the law, but to give us something higher when they shall have been fulfilled. The sign opposite Aries is Libra, the scales or balance of Justice; and therefore we are told in the new religion that there will come a day of judgment (♎), when Christ shall appear to give to every man according to the deeds done in the body.

PISCES-VIRGO

(♊—♍)

Christ was the Great Shepherd (♈), but He called His disciples to be "fishers of men," for the Sun by precession was then leaving the sign of the Lamb and entering Pisces, the sign of the fishes. Therefore a new phase of the Aryan religion was opening up. The Bishop's miter is also in the form of a fish's head.

The New Testament, therefore, does not mention the Bull or the Lamb, but references to the fishes are numerous. We also find the celestial virgin (♍) prominent and the wheat ear of Virgo is the Bread of Life, to be gained only through immaculate purity. Thus Christ fed the multitude on fish (Pisces) and loaves (Virgo).

Before the time of Christ, the new religion of the Lamb (Aries) could get no foothold. Moses, the erstwhile leader, could not bring the chosen people to the "promised land." That was reserved for Joshua, the son of Nun. "Joshua" is Hebrew for "Jesus" and the Hebrew word "Nun" means "fish" (Pisces). It was thus foretold that the religion of the Lamb (♈) would attain prominence during the precessional passage of the Sun through the sign Pisces, the fishes.

This prophecy has been fulfilled, for during the two thousand years which have elapsed since the birth of Jesus, the Western religion has been taught by a celibate priesthood, worshiping an immaculate virgin, symbolized by the celestial sign Virgo, which is the opposite of Pisces. This same priesthood has also enjoined the eating of fish and forbidden the of flesh (♈, ♉) on certain days. When the children of Israel left the flesh pots of Egypt, where the Bull (♉) was slain, they left it by the blood of the Lamb (♈). But in the Piscean

dispensation no shedding of blood is enjoined and flesh eating is condemned as a sin at certain times, for man is now taught to forsake the lusts of the flesh and also lusting after the flesh.

This ideal was tried under the Aryan dispensation, when the chosen people were yet in the Wilderness, so called, but without success; they would not have the heavenly manna. Now, however, man is being weaned from the cannibalistic practice, and in the seven hundred years which remain before the Aquarian age is definitely ushered in, we will, in all probability, have made great strides, both in overcoming the lust of the flesh and the lust after the flesh. For Virgo, the immaculate celestial virgin, and the ears of wheat contained in the sign, show both these ideals as profitable to soul growth at the present time. Jupiter, the planet of benevolence and philanthropy, which rules Pisces, has been a prominent factor in promoting altruism during the past two millenniums.

Aquarius—Leo

(♊—♌)

It is often said, and rightly so, that the boy is father of the man. And on the same principle we may say that the Son of Man is the Super-Man; therefore, when the Sun by precession enters the celestial sign Aquarius, the water-bearer, we shall have a new phase of the religion of the Lamb, exoterically; and the ideal to be striven for is shown in the opposite sign, Leo.

The Moon, which is the habitat of the autocratic Race Ruler and Lawgiver, Jehovah, is exalted in Taurus, the sign of the Bull, and all Race religions, even the Mosaic phase of the Aryan religion of the Lamb, demanded a sacrificial victim for every transgression of that law. But the Sun is exalted in Aries, and when the great Sun spirit, Christ, came as High Priest of the Aryan religion, He abrogated sacrifice of others by offering up Himself as a perpetual sacrifice for sin.

By looking to the mother ideal of Virgo during the Piscean Age, and following the Christ's example of sacrificial service, the immaculate conception becomes an actual experience to each of us, and Christ, the Son of Man, Aquarius, is born within us. Thus, gradually, the third phase of the Aryan

Resurrection

That they have my densest body burned
And its remains superbly urned;
Or them on flowery meadows scattered
Has long since little mattered.
How could they know who poked the fire
Freeing deathless Music from the fleshly lyre,
Know in the rising, hot purple smoke,
The mortal coil of silver broke
To set me finally free,
A chord found in the Crystal Sea.—
Know in Love's warmth I ascendant
Had gained the Realm transcendent.

If a few would grieve for me who sinned,
Let them be comforted. Hear the Wind!
Four strive and blow the earthly leaven,
But One streams through the Trees of Heaven.
Rejoice! We here walk this Wind of Spirit.
Lift up your hearts. All hear It.
The Holy Breath is blinding bright white
From the radium throne of God
And none are blind—all have sight.
Rejoice, sojourners in the vale of Nod.

—By Paul T. Roper

religion will be ushered in and a new ideal will be found in the Lion of Judah, Leo. Courage of conviction, strength of character and kindred virtues will then make man truly the King of Creation, worthy of the trust and the confidence of the lower orders of life as well as of the love of the Divine Hierarchs above.

This, the mystic message of Man's evolution, is marked in flaming characters upon the field of heaven, where he who runs may read. And when we study the revealed purpose of God, we shall in turn learn to conform intelligently to that design, thereby hastening the day of emancipation from our present cramped environment to the perfect liberty of free Spirits, risen superior to the law of Sin and Death, through Christ, the Lord of Love and Life,

It is for us to decipher this message, and solve the Riddle of the Universe. □

—Max Heindel