

# WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY

## Culmination of the Ministry

### *Gethsemane*

**T**HE Agony Rite in the garden may well be termed the Rite of Transmutation. Christ's agony was caused by His effort to attune His vibration, that of a luminous Archangel, to the limiting confinement of the Earth that He might become its indwelling planetary Spirit. When He opened Himself to the Earth rhythm all the powerful and sinister currents of evil that abound in the world swept over Him. He not only felt their crushing weight but saw, in kaleidoscopic vision, their origin and purpose. Lust, anger, and bitterness seared Him like flames, while greed, selfishness and hatred bore down upon Him as leaden weights. The sorrow, anguish, and suffering caused by man's wrongdoing wounded Him to the very depths of His loving and compassionate heart.

The limit of agony even an Archangel can know was brought about as pictures of the future passed before His vision, and He saw how few of humanity's vast multitudes would recognize the meaning of His coming or the real significance of His purpose. He watched with profoundest sorrow as the dark veil of materialism blinded the modern world; then its consequent failure of discernment, its restlessness and fear. The blindness and ignorance of the masses as to His mission, the crystallization and ever-narrowing concept of those avenues which were formerly dedicated channels to His service, brought His Agony Rite to its culmination in the prayer: *Let this cup pass from me: nevertheless, not as I will.*

Gethsemane was on the Mount of Olives because the mount marks the most highly charged of Earth's areas. What the Christ accomplished in that highly charged Garden beneath the overshadowing wings of Angels and Archangels was

of profound significance for all mankind. It was the time when the whole program of planetary evolution received an added and powerful impulse destined to carry it farther upon the ever-ascending spiral.

To this Mount of Olives, vibrant with spiritual power, John the Beloved, and Mary, the Holy Madonna, made frequent pilgrimages when they no longer knew the Master's physical presence. This was a favorite retreat for meditation and prayer, and it was to this place that she often called the Disciples for instruction. Here the gates of heaven opened for these holy men and women and communion with the Celestial Hosts became more readily accessible.

### *The Betrayal*

References: *Matthew 24:14-16; Luke 22: 1-6.*

Only Matthew and Luke mention the betrayal by Judas, the lower nature, which ever seeks to sell the higher to the priests or material power. The never-ceasing wonder of the Bible is that its every incident finds a complete parallel in consciousness at whatever level we wish to place it. It holds for all the degrees from the birth of the Christ in the mind of man up to the birth of the new spiritual body of the Initiate, and the still higher attainment when the great Initiator is followed into the Temple of Light that is His own home world.

The betrayal was preceded by the Last Supper, the occasion for the highest spiritual teaching imparted by the Master. The lowest and the highest, the gamut of human accomplishment, is encompassed in one chapter of this Book of Books. Judas, of the tribe of Judah (Leo), signifies the heart when linked to the lower sense life; the Christ, the supreme sym-

*(Continued on page 216)*

Sun by precession of the equinoxes first entered the celestial sign Pisces, humanity experienced the phenomenon of the pure Piscean influence. The Disciples of our Lord were described as "fishermen," and our Lord washed the Disciples' feet. His first miracle, likewise, was performed on water—the turning of water into wine. Baths and ablutions among the people were then the standard method of treating disease; and our Lord performed miracles, as indicated by the sign Pisces, ruled by Neptune, the planet of the miraculous.

Later, as the Sun entered the Piscean-Cancer era, the emphasis in therapy shifted to treatment by way of the stomach; and drugs and potions came into practice. Following this has come our present Piscean-Scorpio era, and with it the dominance of surgery, ruled by Scorpio, in the treatment and management of disease.

The Sun, by precession, is, however, now nearing the end of the sign Pisces, and will enter into Aquarius about the year 2500. This changing influence is

already beginning to revolutionize medical thinking, and will eventually usher in an era of deeper concepts in regard to health and disease, and the conquest and cure of cancer. A New Age is dawning, and Astro-diagnosis, once in its infancy, is destined soon to come into its own.

*EDITOR'S NOTE:* Other students of Astro-diagnosis have found that Neptune is also often a factor, especially when in evil aspect to Sun or Mars.

#### WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY

*(Continued from page 213)*

bol of Leo, is this same heart power at one with the Spirit.

Matthew's is the Gospel of the Dedication. It is the only Gospel in which the thirty pieces of silver are mentioned. Silver is a feminine metal belonging to the Moon, and the number three is the complete dedication of the threefold aspect of man to evil symbolized in the character of Judas Iscariot, even as the gifts of the Three Wise Men signify the consecration of this same threefold aspect to the higher nature of Christ. It is the divine plan that Judas, or the lower nature in man, shall eventually destroy or redeem itself and thereafter be supplanted by Matthias, the higher self.

*(Continued)*

#### THE CHILDREN OF TAURUS, 1973

*(Continued from page 218)*

psychism should be avoided.

From May 12 to 21 Venus opposes Neptune, portending opportunities to learn strict honesty and trustworthiness through close associates.

The Sun and Mercury are in conjunction from May 13 to 21, favoring the mentality and memory on the days when the orb of aspect is three degrees or more.

From May 16 to 21 Venus trines Jupiter, favoring the accumulation of wealth and the enjoyment of all the luxuries of life. The nature is optimistic, generous, and hospitable, and a happy marriage is favored. Talent for music may be present.

### Your Child's Horoscope

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