

WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY

Corinne Heline

The Second Journey

(Continued)

Exoteric religionists worship an external God; esoteric religion directs the seeker to find the God within. The Taurean temple worship included a ceremonial wherein bulls were garlanded and deified; its inner phase (Scorpio, the opposite sign of Taurus) dealt with the serpent, or deeper wisdom. Both the bull and the serpent symbolized attributes either to be overcome or to be cultivated by the neophyte. The practice of sacrificing the bodies and blood of animals was a perversion of truths taught at the inauguration of the Taurean cycle.

The Arian Dispensation, which succeeded the Taurean, observed exoterically the sacrifice of sheep and goats, while the inner teaching specified doves for sacrifice. The dove is a symbol of Initiation. To attain Initiation, a right judgment (Libra) in relation to self is necessary; also conscious contact with the God within and a life lived in harmony with this holy relationship. Such an awakening was signified by the vision of Jacob, in which Angels were seen ascending and descending from heaven.

The externalized concept of the Piscean religion is depicted in the many miracles dealing with loaves and fishes, and it finds its most perfect expression in the incident of the gold taken by the Disciple from the mouth of the fish — another way of saying that the ideal of the Piscean or Fish Age religion is to produce, as its highest attainment through purity, chastity, and the immaculate conception. This latter takes place *within the neophyte himself through the power of the Holy Ghost manifesting in the body, consciousness and life of man.* Mary of Bethlehem

became one of the foremost disciples of the Christ and made this demonstration by becoming the Bride of the Holy Ghost. This is as yet merely an *ideal* for the majority but is most positively a step toward attainment which all must know before the true Christian Era is ushered in. It is to be understood that this attainment of Mary's has nothing to do with the birth of the holy Master Jesus.

During his sojourn in Athens, Paul continued writing his matchless Epistles, the first of which, as previously noted, was sent to the newly founded church in Thessaly. Here, in the capital city of Macedonia from which he had been driven by a mob, he established one of his best beloved works. To this church he addressed his first two Epistles in which he writes, "because ye were dear to us . . . ye are our glory and our joy."

This small center of the Christian faith was undergoing great trials through persecution. Paul states, "Timotheus . . . brought us good tidings of your faith and charity."

1 Thess. 5:5, 6, 9, 10

Ye are all children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober.

For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.

Concealed within Paul's letters are

tidings of profound import for those who are ready to receive them. The inner teachings of the New Age deal with direct preparation for the return of the Christ and also with preparation of those who will be worthy to participate in His second coming. The deeper work of the New Testament is concerned likewise with this further phase of Christian development, and closes with the vision of John depicting conditions at the time of Christ's return.

The inner phase of Aquarian development deals largely *with the power of love* which Paul, as no other save the Christ Himself, has described so magnificently in his letter to the Corinthians. The pioneers of the dawning era will manifest love as a power in the life of man and the Earth. Paul has pictured this manifestation in that most glorious of all love songs of the spirit: "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels and have not love, I am become as sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal."

The Epistle to the Thessalonians is the message of the resurrection into the new life — not, as the exoteric or orthodox church interprets it, resurrected life after death, but entrance into the New Age, the age of air (Aquarius) or of the ethers.

I Thess. 4:13, 14

But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

As we approach this New Age, the atmosphere of the Earth becomes lighter and the ethers denser; the veil between spirit and flesh grows thinner and spiritual forms become more easily discernible. Ever increasing numbers are acquiring etheric or extended vision, and are able to look beyond our plane. Soon all will know and perceive that death is but a transition; that spirit only lays aside its garment of flesh to inhabit a nobler

sphere wherein it will be clothed in fairer raiment.

*Death has not touched it at all;
Dead though the house of it seems.*

One of the finest blessings of the coming age will be a complete disappearance of all fear of death, and with it will go the grief and sorrow that this fear usually engenders. All will be able to sing with Paul: "Oh death, where is thy sting? Oh grave, where is thy victory?"

Paul states very definitely in several of the Epistles that man can become a citizen of the New Age only by preparing a body suitable for that age. This body he calls in Greek the *soma psuchicon* or soul body, a vehicle formed of subtler substance than is our present dense body.

I Thess. 4:17

Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

Paul here makes the statement that the flesh-and-blood body cannot inherit the new kingdom to which the Christ shall return. A finer body formed of the highest ethers is capable of levitation; it is a body of freedom, and not a prison house such as man's physical body today. Only those who learn to build this new vehicle will be able to meet the Christ in the air and partake of joys born of the New Day inaugurated with His return.

I Thess 5:23

And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly: And I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The spirit is immortal; it is part of God. The purpose of spiritual evolution is to build a soul by means of the spirit's activity in

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good. "The Protective Aura" has appeared in these pages before, but it bears repetition:

THE PROTECTIVE AURA

(From an old Rosicrucian Book)

Rosicrucian teachers instruct their pupils in regard to creating and maintaining the "Protective Aura," which is a shelter of soul, mind, and body against evil influences directed toward them consciously or unconsciously. This Protective Aura affords a simple but very powerful and efficient means of protection against all adverse psychic influences, "malicious mental magnetism," black magic, and is also an effective armor against psychic vampirism, or the draining of magnetic strength.

Forming the Protective Aura is very simple. It consists merely of the formation of a mental image (accompanied by a demand of the will) of yourself being surrounded by an aura of pure, clear, white Light — the symbol and indication of Spirit. A little practice will enable you actually to feel the presence and power of this Protective Aura. The White Light is the radiation of Spirit, and Spirit is master of all things.

A teacher has said: "The highest and deepest occult teaching is that the white Light must never be used for attack or personal gain, but that it may properly be employed by anyone, at any time, to protect himself or herself against adverse psychic influences, no matter by whom exerted. It is the armor of the Spirit, and may well be employed in such a way whenever the need arises."

THE GOD WITHIN US

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since we are an integral part of Him, that Love and that Light also exist within us. It may seem that these divine qualities are so deeply submerged in the morass of our egotistical personalities that they cannot possibly be unearthed. It is God's plan for us that they

will be unearthed, however. It also is His plan that *we* are to unearth them.

Since we know that this is so, no matter how impossible, long, or wearisome the task appears, we should be able to take comfort from the fact that we finally will complete it because God so wills. Knowing this, too, we should be eager to proceed with the job at hand. The days of discouragement and backsliding which lie in store for us will be followed by days of success and progress and by the triumphant moment of achievement. Let "persistence" be the motto, and let "failure" be stricken from our vocabulary. God lives within us; therefore, all things are possible.

THE SECOND JOURNEY

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form. This celestial body is made of the spiritual essence of words, thoughts and deeds expressed by man during his physical existence. Mystic Christians aver that only a life of love and service can prepare one for entrance into the new heaven and the new Earth. This teaching is corroborated by various statements of Paul.

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IN PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE

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expressing their opinions on every conceivable subject, but the only opinion worthy of regard is one that is based on *knowledge* of the matter at hand.

The growth of knowledge is related to the vital body. All knowledge, in whatever area used, necessarily must feed on life, which is derived primarily from extracts of the vital body: the creative force and the blood. Furthermore, knowledge "takes life" in the physical sense, in that individual brain-cell life is destroyed by thought. It is incumbent upon us, therefore, to exercise only the best and purest motives in seeking knowledge.