

THIRD

EDITION

*The
Christian
Mysteries*

BY

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THE CHRISTIAN MYSTERIES

Introduction

This book is the third of the present series of works written under the direct Illumination of the personality and it deals with the Gnostic Teachings within the Christian Religion and also with the foundations of Gnosticism and the methods adopted by the Catholic Party to suppress the Wisdom Teachings and erect in their place a carnalised version of the cosmic and mystic Christ Ideal. There is sufficient evidence remaining in the extant writings of the Pre-Nicene Fathers to show that the Church was originally Gnostic in its leanings and was simply a new version of the Wisdom Tradition which found its way into Christianity through the Wisdom Tradition within the Jewish, Grecian, Egyptian, Chaldean and Indian Mystery Religions. It was left to Paul the Gnostic to blend the simple 'Sayings' of the Christ into a Universal Religion.

The extant documents and the traditions prevailing within the Church show that there are two versions of the Christos, one, that of the Jewish Gnosticism which was bound by the Mosaic Law, and the other a blending of the various Mystery Cults of the nations around the Mediterranean Sea. The former was an exclusive religion dogmatic in its approach to the Teachings of the Christ whilst the Gnostics were all inclusive in their approach, hence we have seen that there was and still is a conflict between the Wisdom Religion and the narrow dogmatic Churchianity of the present day. We have given a number of proofs taken from the writings of many of the early Church Fathers to substantiate our claims that the Religion of Christ is totally apposed to that of the religion of the Churches of the present day. However, we will leave the Reader to come to his own conclusions.

Many of the opinions and statements given in this book are forthright and scathing against the distorters of the Wisdom Religion within the Christian Tradition, but the student for the Light cannot compromise between truth and falsehood, he must at all times stand on the side of the ABSOLUTE TRUTH no matter what personal opinions and feelings are, he must ever stand as a Champion of the Light and fight falsehood and deception with all his might and the inner conviction of the God is the Truth and there is nothing else but God and the Knowledge of God is Wisdom. We have searched through hundreds of volumes which have been published during the last 50 years in the hope that one of them was sufficiently Illumined by the Divine to give the inner meaning of the Mysteries as a personal experience, we have read such Authors as Rudolf Steiner, Cyril Scott, P.D.Ouspensky, G.de Purucker and Manly Palmer Hall, but they are all intellectuals and their works are barren of any real knowledge of the Mysteries.

Easter Sunday.
London. 1958.

Richard, Duc de Palatine.

THE CHRISTIAN MYSTERIES or THE PRE-NICENE CHURCH.

"Where do we find in history that "Messenger", grand or humble, an Initiate or Neophyte, who, when he is made the bearer of some hitherto concealed truth or truths, was not crucified and rent to shreds by the 'Dogs' of envy, malice and ignorance? Such is the terrible Occult Law; and he who does not feel in himself the heart of a lion to scorn the savage barking, and the soul of a dove to forgive the poor ignorant fools, let him give us the Sacred Science".

THE SECRET DOCTRINE, Book III., page 90.

In the ancient world around the Mediterranean Sea, for about five hundred years before the Christian Era and during the first hundred years of the life of the Church, many great Souls made their appearance. Among their number might be listed, Solon, Thales, and Socrates of Greece; Amenhotep IV of Egypt; Plotinus; Proclus; Apollonius of Tyana; they all had one message to give to the world - THE WISDOM RELIGION, which is the basic teaching underlying all religions, past and present. It tells of man and his fall into matter, and the plan for his redemption, the knowledge of the inner worlds, his latent powers, and the future of himself and of the planet.

All these great Souls were to become leaders in the philosophic and religious history of the world. They were all, excepting Socrates, Initiates of the Mysteries of Egypt and Greece, the Samothracian, Mithraic Mysteries and those of Adonis and of Osiris and Isis, among others. These Mysteries, were the dramatic presentation of the ancient and yet ever new truths of the Wisdom Religion, given by the philosophers and religious leaders in the manner best suited to their hearers. To the mass of the people, they were given under the guise of biographies of the gods and goddesses, symbols and allegories, but to the tested and accepted pupil they were given direct and in all their beauty under the title of the "Mysteries". Jesus says in MARK c.iv.v.11: "Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the Kingdom, but unto those that are without, these things are done in parables."

All of these Schools, Teachers and Philosophers had much to give to the infant Christian Religion. The intellectuals of this new but old faith who came to be known as the "GNOSTICS", that is, the 'knowers', agreed that the direct knowledge of God was incommunicable to the untrained, and they claimed that the only way to effect this knowledge, was either by initiation into a holy community, or by a qualified teacher and it was thus that under the veils of symbols and sacraments of the Church, they taught the "GNOSIS", the Kabalah of secret tradition or the knowledge which has never been without its devotees. Their tenets are the same as those which are still taught in the Orient.

These Gnostics or Primitive Christians(?) have been unhesitatingly proclaimed by history to be the most refined, learned and enlightened men - See Gibbon's DECLINE AND FALL OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE.

Among the groups of early Christians or Chrestians, as they were originally known, which followed the teachings of the Wisdom Religion were numbered the Essenes and Ebionites, the Cerentians and Nazarenes, of which communities occult research has shown that Jeshu ben Pandira was a member. Pliny the Elder (circa 70 A.D.) in his HISTORICA NATURALIS, Book 5, Chapter 17, when speaking of the Essenes, says that they were a mysterious sect of healers and a branch of the Nazarenes who lived near the Dead Sea for many hundreds of years. These Essenes were one of the many Gnostic Sects and were linked to the Gnostic Sects and were linked to the Nazarenes whose School flourished in Babylonia, the home of the Magi. One has only to recall the visit at the birth of Jesus of the Magi or, as they are called in popular tradition and fiction, THE THREE WISE MEN OF THE EAST, to see the direct connection which Jesus had with the ancient Tradition or Gnostics and the Gnosis. Lightfoot of the apologetic criticism in England says that it is improbable that Jesus was never a member of the Essene Community. Ginsberg in his article "Essenes" in Smith and Wace's DICTIONARY OF CHRISTIAN BIOGRAPHY, has shown that Lightfoot's Commentary on COLOSSIANS is contradictory in its context.

If Dupont-Sommer's statement in his book THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS: A PRELIMINARY SURVEY, to the effect that "The Teacher of Righteousness" died about 65 B.C., and Jesus of Nazareth died about 30 A.D., the former date is verified by secular history in the person of Jeshu ben Pandira who was an Essene, and the date of Jesus is maintained by dogmatic but not factual history, but if we restore the hundred years which was dropped out of our calendar then Jesus and Jeshu are one and the same person. The Scrolls infer that man is a portion of the Spirit of God, which agrees with the claims of the Gnostics and Nazarenes, that God the First Mystery, infused into matter through the Logos or WORD, a portion of His own Divine Spirit which animates and moves every particle of matter, both seen and unseen, and is not St. Paul made to say: "In Him we live and move and have our being." ACTS c.17.v.28. The inference is too blatant to be ignored by any Student of Light, but to the Theologians, such a claim would destroy the conception of the uniqueness of Christ, more especially since when we read the Scrolls and the authorities, we find that "Christ or Christos" is not an individual name, but a generic title of "Office" which is applied to all Initiates who have reached a certain degree, in other words the term 'Jesus Christ' does not signify a personal name, but simply the "name" or "power" which the great teacher, the Christ, used.

The Fathers of the early Church, that is to say the early centuries of the Church, among whom we find Origen and Clemens

Alexandrinus, Synesius, Chalcidus, Marcion, Valentinus, and Basilides, do not hesitate to proclaim the teachings of the Wisdom Religion as given by the Primitive Christians - the Gnostics, Essenes and Ebionites. Whilst on the other hand, such Fathers as Irenaeus, Eusebius, Ambrose, Tertullian and Epiphanius launched a bitter campaign of calumny, lies and accusations against the real Teachers of the early Church as we will see later on.

Marcion founded a Gnostic sect to which he had given his name, he was a very devout Christian as long as no dogma of human creation came to mar the purely transcendental concepts of the primitive Christians. He denied the historical facts of Christ's early birth, incarnation and passion, etc., claiming that they were simply the carnalization of the metaphysical allegories and ancient symbolism. Marcion accuses the Fathers of "...framing their doctrines according to the capacity of their hearers, fabling blind things for the blind, according to their blindness; for the dull, according to their dullness; for those in error, according to their errors." He followed the teachings of the Mysteries blended with certain aspects of the religion of Buddha and Brahma, the GUPTA VIDYA, the Esoteric or Secret Science. He, like all true followers of the Light, gave not his teachings to the public but insisted that they could only be obtained by initiation into the Mysteries.

The Fathers hated Basilides who was the founder of what was known as the most philosophical of all the Gnostic sects: he was devoted to the contemplation of divine things and based his teachings upon the Hebraic version of MATTHEW. The orthodox or Catholic section of the Church reviled him but his work continued. The 24 volumes of his INTERPRETATIONS OF THE GOSPELS - were burnt by the Church in the canonical tradition which continues to the present day when, though they may be burnt, books which try to teach any doctrine contrary to their own, find their way into the INDEX EXPURGATORIUS (The List of Forbidden Books to Catholics). Draper in his CONFLICT BETWEEN RELIGION AND SCIENCE, on page 161, says: "In 1559, Pope Paul IV instituted the "Congregation of the Index Expurgatorius", its duty is to examine books and manuscripts intended for publication, and to decide whether the people (Roman Catholics) may be permitted to read them...those books which it is unlawful(?) to read; but, this being found insufficient, whatever was not permitted was prohibited - an audacious attempt to prevent all knowledge, except such as suited the purposes of the Church, from reaching the people...The Protestant (church)...could not act in such a direct and resolute manner. Its mode of procedure was (and still is), by raising a theological odium against the offender, to put him under a social ban - a course perhaps no less effectual than the other."

Jesus of the Gospels makes this statement: "Blessed are they that have been persecuted for righteousness sake; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye when men shall reproach

you, and persecute you, and say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad; for great is your reward in heaven; for so persecuted they the prophets that were before you." MATTHEW c 5, v 10-12. We suggest to the Churches, the so-called champions of the Christ, take heed, for the Law of God is just and the wheel will and is now slowly turning against thee.

Clemens Alexandrinus, one of the early Fathers and a devoted disciple of Ammonius Saccas - "The God-Taught", left to posterity many writings, defending the new religion against the attacks of the Pagans and others, he admitted that there was in the Church an inner teaching based on the older Mysteries. Because this admission was contrary to the doctrines which the Church was then fostering many of his books were burnt and others tampered with to such a degree that it was made to appear that he was calling the old Mysteries evil and diabolical, when in reality he used these terms against those of his own day which were the continuation of the degenerate Schools of the first century before the Christian Era in which the purity and beneficent ideals of the teachings had been replaced by pride and the lust for power.

Origen, a man of great intellect, was perhaps the greatest of the Fathers. He was one of the greatest exponents of the early Church and he also admitted the fact of an inner teaching, maintaining the existence of the Mysteries of Jesus and giving much information concerning their nature and teachings. In his DE PRINCIPIIS, he says: "The Scriptures have a meaning, not only such as is apparent at first sight, but also another (MARK iv:11), which escapes the notice of most men. For such is written in the forms of certain Mysteries, the Image of Divine Things, respecting which is one opinion throughout the whole Church, that the Law is indeed spiritual; but that the spiritual meaning which the Law conveys is not known to all, but to those on whom the grace of the Holy Spirit is bestowed (illumination) in the words of wisdom and knowledge." No wonder Origen was condemned by the Church, he told too much for the orthodox party, so he had to be got rid of. Nice champions of the Christ! Origen claimed that Jesus was not sufficient for salvation but that the Path led through Gnosticism, which could only be obtained by an intense study of the ancient philosophies of the world. The Church demands blind faith in their man-made dogmas, whilst the Gnostics demanded that we seek Interior Communion with God by the Gnosis. It was he who admitted and maintained that the pseudo-historical Jesus of the Gospels was in reality Jeshu, the son of Pandira or Pather and Maira which latter name has been translated into Mary. See SEPHER TOLDOTH JESHU.

However, as time passed we find the writers of the Church altering the once grand and majestic knowledge of God's plan for mankind into the story of a man called Jesus. In their work of formulating a history (devoid of any historical foundation), they tried to make this ancient Tradition fit in with their humanised

story of an Ideal, an Ideal and a man of whom contemporary history is strangely silent. In their frantic endeavours to obliterate any trace of the original story of the Christ and His teachings, they mutilated the extant monuments and destroyed priceless libraries which stood in the way of their carnalisation of the spiritual ideal of the Mystic Christ within the human heart of man.

Draper, op.cit., says: "The Christian Party asserted that all knowledge is to be found in the Scriptures and in the tradition of the Church; that, in the written revelation, God had not only given the criterion of truth, but had furnished us with all that He intended us to know. The Clergy, with the Emperor at their back, would endure no intellectual competition." He goes on to say about the wonderful library of the Serapion: "Emperor Theodosius...despatched a rescript to Alexander, enjoining the Bishop, Theophilus, to destroy the great library, which had been collected by the Ptolemies and had escaped the fire of Julius Caesar...was by that fanatic destroyed."

Let us for the moment dwell upon the wonderful spirit of Historical Christianity. Hypatia, the daughter of Theon, the mathematician, was an expounder of Plato and Aristotle. Cyril, the Christian, went to her accompanied by a mob of many Christian 'monks', she was stripped naked in the street, dragged into a Church and there killed by a club at the hands of Peter the Reader. The corpse was cut to pieces and the flesh scraped from the bones with shells and then burnt. The fate of Hypatia was intended as a solemn warning to all those who attempted to study the Wisdom Religion or the Gnosis. Henceforth there was to be no freedom for any form of human thought. That was in A.D.414, the "spirit of Christ" which incited the mob then is the same spirit which incited the bloody record of Historical and Political Christianity to the present day. It is the struggle between bigotry and philosophy, Somatic and Mystic Christianity, Black and White Magic.

THE SECRET DOCTRINE, Book II, page 221, says of this struggle between the Wisdom Religion and Ignorance and Blind Faith: "The Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, is but a series of historical records of the great struggle between Black and White magic, between the Adepts of the Right Path, and those of the Left, the Levites, the clergy of the brutal masses." White Magic or Gnosticism is the practice of the highest virtue, it is devoid of selfishness, love of power, of ambition, or lucre, and is devoted to doing good of the Will of God and is the science of communicating with the supernal mysteries of nature and revered only the attributes of the one Unknown and Nameless Principle. Fanatics and the followers of the public religions will do anything to enforce belief in their god or images, as is evidenced by the candid and unbiased history of the present Christian Church."

It is not our purpose to enter into a long discourse concerning the un-Christian and un-God-like actions of the Vicar

of Christ who resides in Rome and who proudly sits in the Pagan Chair of St. Peter(?) and who to make sure that he will sit upon this heathen chair, enlists the aid of princes, either Catholic or Protestant to suppress those who have the temerity to think for themselves. We are concerned with the fight for truth within the framework of Christ's Church, and as Lessing says: "There is a great difference between the Christian Religion and Christ's Religion; between the structure of dogmatic erection by Greek philosophy on a Jewish soil, and the faith held by Christ Himself, which consists of course, in the basic truths of the Wisdom Religion; it breathes the spirit of universalism, freedom of conscience, and is free from the constricting bonds of narrow dogmatic beliefs and intolerance."

With regards to the fight within Christianity of the White and Black forces, it amplifies the above, by St.(?) Augustine, the Christian Bishop of Hippo, when he says: "Wondrous depth of thy words! whose surface, behold! is before us, inviting little ones; yet as they a wondrous depth, O my God, a wondrous depth! It is awful to look therein; and awfulness of honour, and a trembling of love. The enemies thereof I hate vehemently; O that thou would slay them with thy two-edged sword, that they might no longer be enemies to it: for so do I love to have them slain unto themselves, that they live unto thee." This of course is the quintessence of the teachings of the Church, but not, and we repeat, not of the Christ Himself, who bade us love our enemies.

The process of altering history to fit in with their conception was carried over a number of centuries. Thus, in the eight century, we find George Syncellus, the Vice-Patriarch of Constantinople, accusing Eusebius of falsifying the synchronistic tables in order to justify the dates given to the new Christian history. Baron Bunsen has verified the justness of the accusation and states that Eusebius had undertaken in a very unscrupulous and arbitrary spirit to mutilate history. Eusebius himself, in his writings, showed an outlandish and contemptible attitude when he admitted that he had lied and forged for the glory of God and the Church. Let us read his actual words: "...it is an act of virtue to deceive and lie, when by such means the interests of the Church might be promoted." ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY, Book I, pages 381-2. The Reader is invited to read the whole of the quotation in full. A strange god who wishes his people to break one of his own commandments! Professor A Wilder well proves this, in his article, PAUL, THE FOUNDER OF CHRISTIANITY, in the magazine EVOLUTION, New York, when he says: "Such men as Irenaeus, Epiphanius, and Eusebius have transmitted to posterity a reputation for untruth and dishonest practices; and the heart sickens at the story of the crimes of that period." Good God! Is this the results of the teaching of the Lord Christ? If it is, then Christ is definitely a messenger of the Evil One. Nay, they are the results of vain, ignorant and intolerant priests serving the selfish interests of their imperial Patrons. One has only to study the histories

of the various so-called Churches of Church and one would wish that they were not born.

From this we will glean some idea of the lengths to which the Fathers went to decry the Wisdom Religion, the teachings of the Pre-Nicene Church, which commenced with the Apostles and ended when the Council of Nicaea was convened. It was at one of the Councils that we are told that the Fathers resorted to a simple feat of magic(?) to choose the future Canonical Gospels. When no agreement could be reached on this subject it was agreed that the choice should be left to the Holy Ghost. All the books, many hundreds we are told, which were being considered were taken to the Church and placed upon the altar, the church being locked (?). In the morning, after a night of intense prayers, it was found that most of the books were neatly stacked under the altar while the four which co-incided with the new story were on the table itself. These of course, became the new Canonical Gospels! THE GHOST HAD DONE IT AGAIN. Our Spiritualist Friends must be green with jealousy at this remarkable feat of a SHADOW to move the correct books. To what depths of degradation the Fathers brought the religion of Christ we will never know until impartial history is written by those who are unafraid to tell the truth. The reason why the candid truth has not been written before this is due to the political influence of the Church in Catholic countries, and partly because many authors have no wish to upset their readers for fear of losing sales of their books. We are not concerned with the sales of our books but fundamentally with the TRUTH no matter how much it hurts, how many corns we may tread upon or what action the Church may take against us. The fact remains that what we have stated is written in the history of the Church and in secular history.

We have now come to the end of our glance at the history of the Church of Christ, we know that many of our Readers will heave a sigh of relief and hope for more pleasant things to come in the following pages, they will if they have conquered their human conceit and prejudices, receive a glimpse of the underlying beauty and truth in the Religion of Christ and not the religion of the Churches. One of many tests you can apply is that when the Church declares that you are a 'heretic', you may be sure that you are right.

We are now taught that Christianity began with the doubtful crucifixion of Jesus on the Cross, but if we investigate the historical background of this most important event we will find that the only verification we have of it is that which is contained in the Gospel narratives, whereas secular history has nothing to say on this. Even those who are in the position to mention Jesus - namely, Josephus, Justus of Tiberias, and Philo are silent on the subject. Josephus is supposed to have mentioned Jesus, but these passages are now recognised as forgeries, even by such Catholic writers and scholars as P.Lagrange and Mgr.

Batiffol. "At the beginning of the second century there were three well-known passages from Suetonius, Tacitus, and Pliny the Younger. The authenticity of all three are suspect. But even if they were authentic, and were derived from earlier sources, they would not carry us back earlier than the period in which the gospel legend took form, and so could attest only to the legend of Jesus, and not his historicity." Edouard Dujardin. ANCIENT HISTORY OF THE GOD JESUS.

"As to the archaeological evidence, the oldest paintings in the Catacombs (Rome) not only display no features that confirm the gospel legend, but represent Jesus under forms that are inconsistent with it." op.cit. We do know that there was not a person upon whom the new religion was originally based, but we affirm that it was Jeshu who was born a century earlier than the supposed Jesus. The writer, although a Christian Bishop, makes the claim as those of the Gnostics before Nicaea, that the teachings of Christianity have always been in existence and that they became known by their present title when Christ the World Teacher descended from His high level of spiritual consciousness and used the body of the Initiate Jeshu (Jesus) ben Pandira, we are told by reliable history, was born approximately 120 B.C., according to some sources and others 105 B.C., but the date is of no consequence here, and that he died by stoning on the wall of the City of Lud or Lyddia in 70 B.C., according to the Jewish documents, vide G.R.S.Mead's DID JESUS LIVE 105 B.C.

This Jeshu was, we are told by the traditions, initiated into the Mysteries of the known world. This would account for the striking similarities of the teachings of Jeshu and those of the other and older religions. Canon Streeter, in his work, THE BUDDHA AND THE CHRIST, quoting Newman, says: "A great portion of what is generally received as Christian Truth is in its rudiments, or separate parts, to be found in heathen philosophies and religions." Jesus has actually said: "I have come not to destroy the Law but to fulfil.", in other words, He did not come into the world to bring a new message but to bring to its people a part of the Ancient Law or the Wisdom Religion which was intended to lead them to the greater fulfilment of the Plan of God, which is EVOLUTION, from the Spirit down to matter and then finally back to the Spirit.

It is not commonly known that Jesus with His disciples instituted His own Mysteries. However, before the plan for this could be completed He was taken from them. It is from the statements of the Fathers and Bishops of the Church that we glean what information we have of the existence of the Christian Mysteries and its system, and especially from the writings of St. Paul, who again and again refers to the Mysteries when he says: "...by revelation, but the unveiling had been made known unto me the mystery." His statements regarding his "knowledge in the Mystery of Christ", clearly shows that he was initiated into them and

when we find him addressing the Colossians thus: "...the Mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but is now made manifest in His Saints", he is referring to the Ancient Mysteries and the Communion of Saints, and he advises his hearers to pray "...that God would open to us the door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ." Jesus in MARK c.4 v.11., also makes the same inference. Now this is in line with the Mysteries, for those who could not be admitted were given the stories and myths of the gods as a means of teaching the Wisdom in the method best suited for them, but those who were not satisfied with the pranks of the gods sought the knowledge of the esoteric teachings in the Mysteries or in the Mystic Schools of antiquity. Jesus shows only too clearly that He had two teachings, one for the mass of His hearers and the other for His disciples, or as Origen aptly says in his work, ORIGEN CONTRA CELSUS:",,for privately, to His own disciples did Jesus open up all things, esteeming above the multitudes those who desired to know His Wisdom.

Paul also tells Timothy: "The things that thou hast heard of me among ~~my~~ witnesses" - the sacred oral teachings given in the assembly of Initiates - "...the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also." He also states, that he is already perfect and an adept, "let us, therefore, as many as be perfected, be thus minded. My little children, of whom I have travailed in birth again until Christ be formed in you." GALATIONS c.4 v.19, and in this he indicates many times, Another of the indications which he gives in GALATIONS c.2 v20: "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me"; here he tells us of the struggles of initiation and after he had attained that union with His own Divine and Immortal Soul, he says: "I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand, I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness (wisdom)," this can be taken in two ways, firstly, when he has completed the cycle of incarnations and purified the body, the Divine Son of God comes down into the mortal frame, he has achieved the AT-ONE-MENT with the Crown, the Divine within. The other aspect of this process is that taught by the Brotherhood of the Illuminati. The Divine within every man is the Christ Consciousness within the Soul Vesture, if one endeavours to put into practice the teachings of the Brotherhood - that is, the qualifications - there will occur the process of purifying the human personality, once this has been done and the body is spiritualised, then all barriers between the Divine Christ within and the Human Soul are swept aside and the way is open for the Divine to enter the human tabernacle and make it forever Its dwelling - Illumination occurs and the individual becomes a demi-god on earth and a god in the heavens.

To Paul and the Gnostics, it was the Gnosis which opened the WAY for man to return to his former abode of bliss, just as the Christ is made to say: "If I be lifted up, then I will lift

all men up unto me," the Path by which we are lifted up is the "WAY" and did not Christ say: "No man cometh to the Father, but by me." Paul by his conversion in a mystic trance was lifted up into the Christ and KNEW, in fact he had interior communion with God, DIRECT. Judging by the words of Paul in GALATIANS, he had completed his task when he became a pillar in the temple of God; was finished with his earthly evolution and, the journey completed, he will not come again to this material body. But, should our reader attempt to travel the WAY, he will find, as did the Author, that the way was opened and the Christ did come into the human tabernacle and illumined it with His light and wisdom.

According to St. Clement, the Gnostic of the Pre-Nicene Church: "... (the Gnostic) avails himself of the branches of learning as auxilliary preparatory exercises", and he further says: "... he who is conversant with all kinds of wisdom will be ore-eminently a Gnostic." He gives the qualifications for becoming a Gnostic when he says: "The Gnostic will be deeply learned... Now the Gnostic must be erudite... a man may be a believer WITHOUT LEARNING, so also we assert that it is possible for a man without learning to comprehend the things which are declared in the faith... Some who think themselves naturally gifted, do not wish to touch philosophy or logic, nay more, they do not wish to learn natural science. They demand bare faith alone... So also I call him truly learned who brings everything to bear on the truth, - so that, from geometry, and music, and grammar, and philosophy itself, culling for him desires to be a partaker of the power of God, to treat of intellectual subjects by philosophising." Clemens Alexandrinus in his STOMATA.

The Gnostic then must be learned in all wisdom and learning before he can attain the ILLUMINATION OF THE DIVINE WITHIN. What a refreshing change from the blind and irresponsible faith of the present-day Christians who demand dogmatic faith and faith alone and scorn the Wisdom of the Father. But, alas, it is so, the Catholic relies solely upon the pronouncements of his 'infallible' Pope and refuses to recognise all other forms or avenues of knowledge. The Protestant relies for his knowledge upon the Bible, a bible which is a translation of translations of the originals which are now lost! What a sorry mess the sublime wisdom of Christ has fallen into. Can there be a way to restore them? Yes, by reaching the supreme goal of all the Mysteries, that of the ILLUMINATION that interior communion with God direct, as John of the Cross says: "... the body is somehow spiritualised by contemplation." Reitzenstein says: "Gnosis was not a philosophy in the generally accepted sense of the term, or even religious philosophy. It was immediate knowledge of God's mysteries received from direct intercourse with the Deity - mysteries which must remain hidden from the natural man, a knowledge at the same time which exercises decided re-action on our relationship to God and also on our nature or disposition." vide., G.R.S. Mead's QUESTS OLD AND NEW.

Now let us turn to the Cross of Jesus which had for so long been the symbol for the Christ Crucified. To the Student of the Wisdom Religion the riddle of the cross is resolved, not as a symbol of the Christ in time, but as the symbol of man bound to matter; this meaning is given in ISIS UNVEILED, Book II, page 508: "The philosophical cross, the two lines running in opposite directions, the horizontal and perpendicular, the height and breadth, which the geometrizing Deity divides at the intersecting point, and which forms the magical as well as the scientific quaternary, when it is inscribed within the perfect square, it is the basis of the occult. Within its magical as well as the master key which opens the door to every science, physical as well as spiritual. It circumscribes the four points of the cross, which represent in succession, birth, life, death, and immortality." On page 506 of the same work, we read: "Attach thyself", says the Alchemist, "to the four letters of the ineffable Name and there, although thou mayest not discern them at first... the incommunicable axiom is kabalistically contained therein, and this is what is called the magic arcanum of the Master."

As we have said, the four letters of the Ineffable Name, JHVH, are but symbols for the four vehicles of the human personality, and it is by the cross of Jehovah that man is crucified to these vehicles. H.P. Blavatsky says in THE SECRET DOCTRINE, Book II, page 589, when speaking of the enigma of the cross of the Light of the Mysteries of Initiation: "The Initiated Adept, who had successfully passed through all the trials attached, not nailed, but simply tied in a couch in the form of a TAU. In Egypt, of a Svastika without the four additional prolongations, the four equal armed + (cross) - and not the Svastika, in India, plunged deep into a deep sleep - the "Sleep of Siloam", as it was called to this day among the Initiates of Asia Minor, in Syria, and even in higher Egypt. He was allowed to remain in this state for three days, and three nights, during which the spiritual Ego was said to 'confabulate' with the 'gods', descends into Hades, Amenti, Patala - according to the country - and do works of charity to the invisible Beings, whether Souls of men or elemental Spirits; his body remaining in the Sarcophagus in the King's Chamber of the Great Pyramid of Cheops, and carried during the night of the approaching third day to the entrance of the galley, where at a certain hour the beams of the rising Sun struck full in the face of the entranced Candidate, who awoke to be Initiated by Osiris and Throth, the God of Wisdom."

One has only to look at the older forms of the Credo which except for the change of names, could be claimed as substantially Christian. However, since they are very much older than the Nicene Creed, we can only logically conclude that the latter was borrowed from the former. The CREDO which Robert Taylor translated from the Greek in his DIEGESIS reads as follows:

"I believe in Zeus, the Father Almighty,
"And in his son, Iasios Christ or Lord,
"Who was conceived of the Holy Ghost,
"Born of the Virgin Eleckra,
"Smitten by a thunderbolt,
"Dead and buried,
"He descended into Hell,
"Rose again and ascended up on high,
"And will return to judge the living and the dead,
"I believe in the Holy Nous,
"In the Holy circle of Great Gods,
"In the Communion of Divinities,
"In the expiation of sins,
"The Immortality of the Soul
"And life everlasting."

There have been many of these Credos prevailing for hundreds of years although in these forms they were for the mass and would appear to give the story of their Saviour, in reality they refer to the Initiations given in the Ancient Mystery Schools and if one be a Mason of the Third Degree he will readily see that the above is the basis for his Degree.

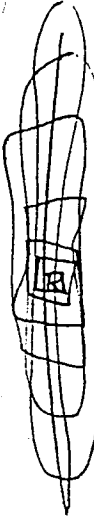
The Reader will be sufficiently struck with the similarities between this and the drama of the crucifixion of Jesus and His resurrection on the third day at dawn, and His statements to Mary Magdalene to see this latter story is but a copy of the earlier dramas of Initiations. Since the early compilers of the Christian Mysteries were well versed in the Wisdom Religion and the various esoteric Traditions prevailing at that time, it can easily be seen from what remains of the original teachings that when translating the earlier manuscripts appertaining to Primitive Christianity, they used this conception very dexterously, taking considerable pains to hide the true meaning from the profane.

Eliphus Levi, in his DOGME ET RITUEL DE LA HAUTE MAGIE, Book II, page 88, says that the sign of the cross was used in the Christian Mysteries as a mark of recognition among the Adepts and Neophytes and he hints that the latter were called CHRESTUS, a name taken from the word CHRESTOS, the man of tribulations and sorrow, as we have mentioned elsewhere: "The sign of the cross adopted by the Christians does not belong to them exclusively. It is also Kabalistic, and represents the opposition and quaternary equilibrium of the elements. We see by the occult verse of the PATER-NOSTER...that there were originally two ways of doing it, or, at least two very different formulas to express its meaning: one reserved for the priests and initiates; the other given to the neophytes and the profane. This, for example, the initiate carrying his hand to his forehead, said, TO THEE; and then he added, BELONG; and continued, carrying his hand to his breasts, THE KINGDOM; then to the left shoulder, JUSTICE; to the right shoulder, AND MERCY. Then he joined the two hands, adding THROUGHOUT THE

GENERATING CYCLES - "Tibi Sunt Malcut Et Geburah Et Chesed Per Aena" - an absolutely and magnificently kabalistic sign of the cross, which the profanations of Gnosticism (Catholicism) made militant and the official Church completely lose." We must here make it quite clear that whilst the real esoteric Gnostics kept the pure Wisdom, there were exoteric bodies who had lapsed into heresy. Levi being persecuted by the Church sometimes gave the opinion that he was with the Roman Church, but with a careful study of his writings it will be seen that by the false Gnostics he means the Orthodox Body of the Church - ROME and its shadow and aper, the PROTESTANT CHURCHES. The interpretations of the sign of the cross, as given in the Pre-Nicene Gnosto-Catholic Church are based entirely upon the knowledge of the occult power of the unseen universe, and follow the practice of the priests of Osiris.


The Gnostics always maintained that man was crucified on the Cross of Love, and the Mysteries represented this sublime concept as regenerated man, the mortal, crucifying the man of flesh and passions upon the earthly bed of torture to become re-born in the CHRISTOS. By so leaving the lower self tied to the Cross of Initiation like and empty 'chrysalis', the DIVINE became free. According to the Hermetic teachings the cross was represented as sevenfold and represented respectively, light, heat, electricity, terrestrial magnetism, astral radiation, motion and intelligence. We will note that Plato made the same division when he spoke of the NOUS being crucified in the sky between the sun and moon; the spirit and matter, etc. The Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of Freemasonry wears on their gloves the sun and the moon symbols respectively, and so did the Bishops of the Primitive Church as shown on some of the ancient carvings in the various Churches it would therefore appear that the early Church did have this knowledge. Another method or symbol of this cross is given in REVELATION c.10 v's 3-4: "The seven thunders uttered their voices ...I was about to write...I heard a voice from heaven saying unto to me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write not." This paragraph refers to the seven heavens or regions of the occultists, which are divided into forty-nine sub-regions or heavens, and Jesus says in the Gnostic Treatise, PISTIS -SOPHIA, on page 378, in a translation by G.R.S.Mead, when referring to the seven regions: "Nothing therefore is more excellent than the mysteries ye seek after, saving only the mystery of the seven VOWELS and their forty-nine POWERS, and their NUMBERS thereof, and no name is more excellent than these." We will find that these seven are called the SEALS of REVELATIONS and the Sephoreth of the Kabalah. According to Hermes, we find that Hermes Trismegistus "fished with a net of forty and nine knots", which means the web of the universe or the Cross of Matter, and again we read that Noah was in the Ark for forty and nine days, according to the original translation, the forty is but a blind to veil the real meaning from the profane.

We will now take the Reader and the Student into the very



depths of the Wisdom Religion and try to see the real meaning of the "thirty and three years of Jesus" before he was crucified on the cross of matter. "The bulb of the thermometer or the lowest vertebrae of the spine is in the bowl or the Dead Sea, which in the body is the sacrum, and is called the Lake of Asphaltum (Cauda Equina); wherein is congealed mercury or quicksilver, which may be refined or raised by heat. Thus mercury rises to the 33rd degree and goes over the top, reaching the shadow of the Most High; for instance 3 times 3 equals 9; thus 90 degrees in the shade. Hence Jesus lives for 33 years and is the Messenger of the Gods and is raised up the spine until it reaches the Cerebrum and then ascends out of the body of Jesus the MAN, to the Most High. See Duc de Palatine's THE GREAT PARABLE, on page 15, Jesus says "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Light", and we are further told that the Kingdom is to be found within man. If this being the case, then Jesus is the petroma (rock or oil) of the body and it takes 33 years or degrees for the HUMAN SOUL of man to reach the Unity with the Divine Immortal Soul, the real Messenger or "Legatus of God". See CHRIST OR JESUS by Duc de Palatine.

These 33 steps or stages within the Christian Mysteries are very clearly and definitely marked in the Life of Jesus. They are also the 33 degrees of Masonry. These steps refer to the MYSTIC WAY within and never without, they have ever been called the "WAY", the "TRUTH", and the "LIGHT" within the human tabernacle; and we will see that Jeshu (Jesus) the Disciple travelled this wonderful Path and He bid us to follow Him. This "Way" has never changed from the time that our Spiritual King instituted it some 16½ million years ago when man was still in the early stages of his human career.



Mary B. Barrie, M.A., in her little book entitled Gnosticism, on pages 59-60, describes this enigma very well: "In one of the Gnostic systems the first pair whose birth established the Law of Pairs is called Profundity and Thought - (The Divine Will and Thought). From Thought were born three pairs, the Deities as it were of the Three Regions, the First Six, or the higher aspect of Solomon's seal (Spirit, Soul and the fourfold personality), and also when we consider their dual nature the Ogdoad or Eight. The names of the three pairs are as enigmatical as those of the first pair and are (1) Mind and Truth (God the Father), (2) Logos and Life (God the Son), (3) Man and Assembly (God the Holy Spirit), the further "emanations" from these pairs are a little uncertain, but they were born from Logos and Life (the three and the seven creative hierarchies). There is also some uncertainty about whether the twelve were born from Logos and Life or from Man and Assembly (We say from Man and Assembly, since the Holy Spirit or Third God is the creator of the lower spheres). The twelve however complete the number of the archetypal emanations or AEONS (proceeding from the divine seence and celestial beings). Adding the eight, ten and twelve we get thirty with the first three (in the One) make up the thirty three." Anyone who has the slightest conception of

Occultism will immediately interpret the above enigma. This conception was obviously taken from the VISHNU PURANA, as the Rishi Parasara says: "These classes of thirty and three divinities... exist from age to age, and their appearance and disappearance is in the same manner as the sun sets and rises again." The key is obviously MAN - Jesus, the half-god and half-man then is the Sun-God. Here we see a direct inference to the meaning of the thirty and three degrees in the Masonic system and we wonder if our Masonic Brothers, especially the Sovereign Grand Inspector Generals, are aware of the real meaning of the forty Pillars in King Solomon's Temple, which are commonly accepted as representing the forty virtues, or the real meaning of the seven main officials or Officers who serve the Temple. The meaning of this puzzle can be found within the human and solar temple, provided you pronounce the Holy Name which is that of your Divine and Spiritual Father within the human temple.

Gerald Massey gives what may be considered as the best evidence of the antiquity of the cross and its meaning, remembering that this writer was an 'adept' of the British Museum and a MATERIALIST who could not understand the many layers of meaning which underlie the myths and symbols of antiquity, but we quote him as saying in his very remarkable book THE NATURAL GENESIS, Book II, page 427: "The value of the Cross as a Christian symbol is supposed to date from the time when Jesus Christ was crucified. And yet in the 'Christian' iconography of the Catacombs, no figure of a man appears upon the cross during the first six or seven centuries. There are all forms of the cross except that - the allegorical starting point of the new religion. That was not the initial but final form of the Crucifix. During some six centuries after the Christian Era the foundation of the Christian Religion as a Crucified Redeemer is entirely absent in ART! The earliest known form of the human figure on the cross is the crucifix presented by Pope Gregory the Great (crowned about 604) to Queen Theodoline of Lombardy, now in the Church of St. John at Monza, whilst no image of the Crucified is found in the Catacombs of Rome earlier than that of San Giulio, belonging to the seventh and eighth century...THERE IS NO CHRIST OR CRUCIFIED; the Cross is Christ (correct). The Cross, and not the Crucified, is the essential object of representation in its art, and of the adoration in its religion. The germ of the whole growth and development can be traced to the Cross. And that Cross was pre-Christian, is PAGAN and HEATHEN in half a dozen different shapes. The Cult began with the Cross, and Julian was right in saying he waged a "Warfare with the X"; which he obviously considered had been adopted by the A-Gnostics and Mytholators to convey an impossible significance. During the centuries the cross stood for Christ, and was addressed as if it were a living being (As does the Roman Church on Good Friday). It was divinised first and humanised last." Alas the Official Church has become prey to the folly of humans and an insult to the Divine Man of Sorrows.

Before we leave the subject of the cross we affirm with Origen and St. Clement that the redemption of man from the Cross of Matter does not depend upon the acceptance of the physical crucified Christ but rather upon the freeing of the Christ within us, and in this light only can the dark sayings of St. Paul the Initiate be understood and his ignorance of the Historical Christ of the Canonical Gospels be fully justified. We have been accused by many Roman Catholics of issuing invectives against their Church, now this is stupid and based upon emotional prejudice, TRUTH, no matter how much it may upset an individual, must be told and a simple history book concerning ecclesiastical matters will show the true nature of the various Churches and their un-Christian acts against the Man of Sorrows. Away with the hypocrites and let us have honest truth and spiritual discernment.

Emperor Hadrian himself writing in a letter to Servianus, was so little impressed with the tenets or importance of the new sect that he shows that he believes the Christians to be worshippers of Serapis, who was viewed as the representation of the Anima Mundi, but the Christians carnalised the 'Son of God' and his 'Father', finding no better model for him than the idol of a Pagan myth! King, in his Gnostics AND THEIR REMAINS says of Serapis: "There can be no doubt that the head of Serapis, marked, as the face is, by a grave and pensive majesty, supplied the first idea for the conventional portraits of the Saviour." Payne Knight's ANCIENT ART AND MYTHOLOGY says: "Serapis is represented as wearing his hair long, formally turned back and disposed in ringlets falling down upon his breast and shoulders like that of women. His whole person, too, is always enveloped in drapery reaching to his feet." This, too, is the familiar and conventional picture of Christ.

Let us now see if we can piece together the fragments of the workings of the internal worship of the Christ and the 'Mysteries of Jesus'. We are told by Origen that the Christian Mysteries were based upon the so-called heathen Mysteries and to prove this point we will deal with the Hierarchy of the Catholic and Masonic Sections drawing a parallel between the responsibilities of the various Officials of the Mysteries and their representatives and try to see how the former operated.

If the Masonic teachings be based upon the ancient workings of the Mysteries and they have seven main officials to work a true and regular lodge, then the Right Worshipful Master represents the ruler of the Lodge as the Priest rules his particular Church; the Worshipful Senior Warden represents the Deacon in the Church; the Worshipful Junior Warden, the Sub-Deacon; each trio represents the Trinity in operation in the lower regions. The Senior Deacon is shown in the Church by the Acolyte and signifies the mental body of man; the Junior Deacon and the Exorist is he who represents the astral or emotional vesture of man and the Inner Guard and the Office of Reader, the etheric or vital double, while the Tyler of the Lodge and the Doorkeeper symbolise the

physical body. This is the same working and arrangement which prevailed in the 'Mysteries of Jesus'. During the workings of His Mysteries the neophyte was obliged to develop within himself the qualifications of the various officers which also in another sense represented the various bodies of man. As the Doorkeeper was required to control his emotions and passions so that he could consecrate them to the service of the Divine Soul, his symbol is the two-edged sword of KARMA. As the Reader he had to purify his mind and develop its latent powers and he used the Book of the Law. In the office of Exorcist he was commanded to gain mastery over his personality and make it an instrument in the hands of the Higher Self, his symbol was a bell, as used in the rites of exorcism and this could refer to the VOICE OF THE DIVINE WITHIN. When made an Acolyte he was required to rule his mind and quicken his spiritual faculties and intuition through the Light of Love and Divine Wisdom, and he had the cruet for his symbol for as the wine is poured out in the Holy Sacrifice, so he must pour his life out for Christ's people.

Those having the rank of Sub-Deacon and that of the W.J.W., are obliged to purify and control their higher mind and by training open the channel between the higher and lower minds so that the intuition can speak to the personality. His symbols are the amice, maniple, tunicle and the Book of the Epistles and by these symbols he is assisted to express the Soul. The rank of Deacon and of the W.S.W., are required to open the channel to the intuition-
al world, the worlds of the Christ Consciousness, and once this has been accomplished the Christ is born within the Soul of man, and his symbol is the White Stole crossed signifying that he has accepted part of the Yoke of Christ. When a man attains the rank and office of the Priest and the R.W.M., he should be the embodiment of the Christ or the Spiritual Soul within, the SUN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS then will ever shine through him. He now wears the full Stole around his neck indicating that he has accepted fully the Yoke of Christ and is His man in the outer world. We have given the symbols for the Officers of the Church only, as to give the meaning of the symbols in the Masonic system would be an infringement of our own Obligations.

When a man reaches the sublime degree of the 33rd in Masonry and that of Bishop in the Church he is now able to initiate others into the Mysteries and is the representative of the Triple Logos in the outer world. The symbols of the Bishop are interesting to the Student. They are the Mitre, a channel for the dual forces of manifestation; the Crozier, the Rod of Power wielded by the Lord Christ; the Pectoral Cross, signifying the Cross of matter on which we are crucified; the Ring, to indicate that he wedded to Christ's Church and the Holy Oils which act as a channel for the passing on of the Power of Grace, all truly wonderful in their meaning and purpose. For a fuller exposition of these symbols the Student is advised to read THE SCIENCE OF THE SACRAMENTS by the late Bishop C.W. Leadbeater. The Church took the

workings of the Mysteries for the conferring of spiritual power and authority upon its Bishops and Priests as has also been done with the Masonic System. Both the Church and Masonry as well as the Mysteries represent the field of evolution for the operations of the Soul in incarnation, and by the fulfilment of the Mysteries within the Lodge and Church and within the mortal frame of man will be attained the Goal of Perfection - PERFECTION within the Consciousness of the Father. But enough of this, for we have no intention of revealing those secrets which we are bound to keep inviolate.

We can now appreciate the reasons why the Roman Church and certain Protestant bodies condemn Masonry and all Societies which teach the Wisdom Religion in some form or another, it is simply because they stand as silent witness and reproach to the baseless claims that Christianity is unique and the only religion which can give salvation to the world. SALVATION FROM WHAT, MAY WE ASK? Nevertheless, the time has come for those brave Souls who KNOW to assist in the tearing aside of the veils of ignorance and for the TRUTH to be proclaimed again to the world. Away with the shameless hoaxers of the people; away with the shams; away with man-made doctrines which have ever caused mankind to be turned away from the Inner Living Reality within - THE GNOSIS OF THE SOUL.

The Mysteries were divided into five sections or grades and the neophyte was obliged to progress from stage to a higher until he had reached the sublime goal of the Mysteries. It was during each one of these stages of initiations or expansions of consciousness that the candidate was given instruction by means of symbols and by rituals. The five stages were carried into Christianity by many of the Fathers. Since Jeshu or Jesus did not have time to complete them in full, although tradition has it that He instructed His disciples for about eleven years from the astral plane, it was left to St. Paul and the Gnostics to finalise them and formulate His teachings into the "Mysteries of Jesus". The five steps which are given in the Gospels are in the main those of the older Mysteries.

The first stage or the BIRTH was when the neophyte was given the preliminary instruction, there he was taught how to control his passions and emotions. He was then in the position to receive the BAPTISM or lustration or the washing of water; this symbolises the washing away of the sins of past incarnations. At this stage the candidate is obliged to take upon himself more and more of the debts from the past and as he progresses along this system of discipline he becomes stronger to face this increase of Karma. Water has always symbolised the astral or emotional region or the emotions, so the second initiation deals with the operations of that region or the emotional region. The scene is set, Jesus (man) the future "anointed one" has reached the mid-point between the astral (water) and the mental (fire) and the bathing in the waters symbolised that the neophyte has conquered

the emotions and passions and is ready for the influx from the mental region, the descent of the Holy Ghost (breath) or the Dove of the Divine Soul. When the neophyte had taken this second step, he was subjected to twelve tests and temptations of the serpent or animal nature, who is ever ready to tempt the new-born "son of god" to use his new found powers of the Soul for his personal self. Once he has overcome these tests he was ready to use his powers of the Soul for the good of his brothers. The next step was when the neophyte was lifted out of his mortal frame and became united with his Divine Soul for the moment and knew that he was in very truth the embodiment of God. This is the stage called the TRANSFIGURATION or the Illumination of the Soul, the candidate now knows without a shadow of a doubt that he is not the body, but the Spirit which is one with the Father. He now turns his face towards the final battle between the lower self and the Divinity within, this stage is called the CRUCIFIXION. The final stage was when the neophyte finally ASCENDED or became united with the Higher Self or the Christ within is ascended or linked fully with the Divine Spirit within, he now becomes a PERFECTED MAN.

We have seen that within the framework of Primitive Christianity the "Mysteries of Jesus" were performed and that they were held in secret places or lodges, as is the Pre-Nicene Gnostic-Catholic Church, today. They held to the Wisdom Religion and carried with them the elements of this Wisdom, with the change of names, etc., but the essentials were all there. Thus in spite of the command of Constantine the Great, that his Bishops must alter the new religion, so that it would fall into line with his state policy which was to use the new religion as a means to hold together his crumbling empire as have so many other princes during the last two thousand years. The true Mysteries were still celebrated for the next three hundred years until they were finally closed by the command of the Church backed by the legions of the Eastern and Western Caesars.

We will now ask ourselves a few pertinent questions regarding the first Christians and try to unravel this problem which has been attempted by so many of the Christian historians. The first question we must ask ourselves is, Who were the first Christians? Clements Alexandrinus states in the CLEMENTINE HOMILIES: "There can be little doubt that EBIONITE GNOSTICS were the purest form of Primitive Christianity."

The Ebionites were pupils and followers of the early Nazarenes, the Kabalistic Christians and Gnostics, and we find Josephus stating that: "...our Nazarene Sect is known to have existed: 150 B.C., and to have lived on the banks of the Jordan and on the eastern shore of the Dead Sea." This is verified by Pliny the Younger, Roman Governor of Bythnia in Asia Minor. S. Munck in his PALESTINE, states that the Nazarenes were the same as the Galileans and it would appear that the railing Hebrew prophets were initiated into the so-called Pagan Mysteries. The word NA-

ZARUAN means simply, 'many millions of years', and refers to the Chaldean "Ancient of Days", we will also note that a NAZAR was one who was consecrated to the service of God, the One Supreme God, the Kabalistic AIN-SOPH, or the "Aged of Aged." It was to Galilee that the man Jesus went, and taught, it was here that most of His miracles were performed, and here He spent most of His time, also his mother and brethren were all Galileans. This would seem to indicate that either Jesus was a Galilean or one of the Essenes who lived in this part of Palestine. Norborg, in his translation of THE CODEX NAZARÆUS, LIBRA ADAMI, APPELATUS SYRIAC TRANSCRIPTS, says in brief, that the Ebionites were the first Christians. Renan in his VIDE DE JESUS, shows that the Ebionites had Jesus as one of their members and later on he says that Jesus was a Hellenised Jew. It appears that the words "What good can come out of Nazareth" might really mean a "Nazarene" and if so, here again we see the handiwork of the Fathers, for nowhere in any of the oldest manuscripts does the word "Nazareth" appear as a village or a town in Galilee.

St. Jerome finds the Ebionites along the East of the Jordan and against the Arabians and this is verified by Paul in GALATIANS I: 17-21, and again in Chapter 11 v.11 of the same Epistle. Epiphanius, the Gnostic renegade who, in an attempt to save his own skin and court favour with the Catholic Party, betrayed his associates by turning State's evidence. He did this by belying the Gnostics who according to many authorities at the time were the most learned of men whereas, it was generally known that the Leaders of the Catholic Party were ignorant and crude. This has been verified by writers concerning the Bishops who attended the infamous Council of Nicaea. In his work, CONTRA EBIONITES, he says: "Ebion had the opinion of the Nazarenes, the form of Cerinthians", this latter sect founded by Cerinthus, the direct pupil of Simon Magnus or otherwise Paul, who taught that the world was not created by the First God and was ignorant of Him Who was above all things. Here we will see that this School taught the Mystery Tradition or the Wisdom Religion. Epiphanius goes on to say that the Ebionites held the appellation of Christians. It will now be seen that the Ebionites were the first Christians and were a branch of the Nazarenes who in turn were linked to the School of the Magi in Babylonia. It is interesting to note that it was here that we learn that Pythagoras gained a considerable amount of his training and knowledge, and on the other hand, the Ebionites were considered as a Jewish "mystic Sect".

From the statements of the early Fathers it can be definitely proved that the early Christians were the Gnostics and according to St. Augustine, writing in the fourth century A.D., Christianity has always existed in some form or another from the earliest times.

The second question to be asked is: What Evangel did the Gnostics use: Jerome states that he found the authentic and orig-

inal evangel, written in Chaldean letters by Matthew the Apostle publican (,), in the library collected at Caesarea by the martyr Pamphillius, and he states: "We have received permission from the Nazarenes, who at Beraea in Syria, used this evangel, to translate it", and he adds; "In the evangel, which the Nazarenes and Ebionites use, which recently I translated from Hebrew into Greek, which was called by most persons, the genuine GOSPEL OF MATTHEW;" We have attempted to seek advice from many of the Christian divines and historians regarding this genuine evangel but we have been told that it was either burnt or was spurious. We hardly think that Jerome would make such an assertion if he had not translated this evangel. We feel that it is either from ignorance or fear that our Christian authorities evade this question and its contents will show how correct our own assertions are. What do you think, good Reader?

Jerome writes in his letter to Bishops Chromatius and Helidorus that: "...a difficult work was enjoined, since this translation has been commanded me by your Felicities, which St. Matthew himself, the Apostle and Evangelist DID NOT WISH TO BE OPENLY WRITTEN." This would seem to substantiate our earlier assertion that Jesus did give His apostles a "secret doctrine." We claim that Jerome knew that this original Gospel of Matthew was the only true doctrine of Christ and that he deliberately altered it to fit in with Historic Christianity, remembering that he lived in the fourth century. The reader is invited to enquire into the character of this zealous Christian Father and how he fostered upon the Christians at that time this spurious Greek version of Matthew now held in such veneration by the present-day evangelists. It will be seen that even at the end of the fourth century the carnalization of the Idea of the Spiritual Christ was complete.

The Church (Catholic) has been in the past very liberal with her actions in making her "saints" and we find Delehaye of Belgium, one of the historians of the Church, advising us that the majority of the stories of Christian martyrs and saints are either pure fiction or pious religious romances based upon a grain of obscure fact! The Catholic Professor Ehrhard, also verifies Delehaye's assertion in his DIE ALTCHRISTLICHE LITERATUR, on page 556: "He (Delehaye) puts all accounts of Roman martyrs in the third class of ACTS OF MARTYRS, which we may describe as religious romances." Coming from one of the Church's own authorities it makes us wonder if the whole structure of Official Christianity is also a religious romance. One of these so-called saintly men. "Saint" Gregory of Nazuanzen, writes to another of the "saints" (Jerome), "Nothing can impose better on a people than verbage; the less they understand the more they admire!", this statement coming from one of the most respected and saintly men of the Church, will speak for itself and we need not comment upon this any further. We can only re-affirm our statement that Jesus did in fact teach a secret doctrine which is verified by His many statements and it is

certainly not what we have today. We can now ask the shade of Jerome and others in their manufactured heavens, what was the original source of their inspiration. Was it for greed, for power or was it the fear of the Wisdom Religion which they could not understand that caused them to mutilate and destroy all traces of this Wisdom?

We have shown that Jesus the Initiate of the Mystery Schools would naturally wish to carry this Wisdom to His people and we will see in "CHRIST OR JESUS", how this was done and the penalty He was to pay for this act of charity. It would have been better in many respects had Jesus not come, and if He could have seen how His work would be distorted and misrepresented by His ministers to His people, we doubt if He would have made the sacrifice.

One will find that the birth and life of the man called Jesus is a faithful copy of the lives of all great Saviours of mankind, as the writer of PAPAN CHRISTIS has amply shown, and this has been verified by the anonymous writer of SUPERNATURAL RELIGION. We will note that in the case of Christ and Buddha especially, the similarities are startling. Both of these Beings felt dissatisfied with the dogmatic spirit of his century, both broke with the traditional law of the priestly caste; each aimed at a social as well as a religious reform. It was for these same reasons that the Lord Christ caused the birth of Christianity and we have found that a few small but very compact communities centered around the Mediterranean, believing as their forefathers had done, that Christ or the CHRISTOS was a mighty Ideal to be lived up to, tried to live accordingly, Christianity as taught and lived by these early Christians for the first three hundred years was based upon a philosophical way of life, leading its followers to seek all things that are true; to know all things, no matter how hard it was to learn; to dare all people for truth's sake; above all to have faith which is born out of experience and lastly to keep silent before all lest the NAME OF THE MOST HIGH became besmirched by the profane. They also held that it was not by faith alone that a man can reach the goal but by works and the discipline of the various vehicles by learning and by meditation upon holy things and a life of purity based upon the precepts of RIGHT THINKING, RIGHT LIVING, and RIGHT ACTION or COURAGE, Determination and Light, the quintessence of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount.

The true Gnostic or Christian makes no claim that he alone is right or that his teaching is the only one required or necessary for salvation. He demands that no one accept the statements of himself or anyone else on faith, but insists that every one should prove these things for himself. Alabaster, in his WHEEL OF THE LAW, on pages 43-47, sums up the teaching of the Buddha in the matter of belief: "Do not believe in anything because it is rumoured and spoken of by the many", says the Buddha; "do not think that it is proof of its truth." Christians and Masons please

take note) "Do not believe merely because the written statement of some old sage is produced; do not be sure that the writing has ever been revised by the said sage, or even be relied upon (including the Christian Bible). Do not believe in what you fancied, think not, because an idea is extraordinary, it must have been implanted by a deva (angel), or some such wonderful being. Do not believe merely on the authority of your teachers and masters, or believe and practice merely because they believe and practice. I (Buddha) tell you all, you must of yourselves know that this is evil, this is punishable, this is censured by wise men; belief in this will bring no advantage to anyone, but will cause sorrow; and when you know this, then eschew it." To believe in the written word as the criterion for truth is also false, THE TRUTH IS WITHIN YOURSELF. As Robert Dale Owen says: "The worship of words is more pernicious than the worship of images, grammatology is the worst species of idolitry. We have arrived at an era in which literalism is destroying faith...THE LETTER KILLETH." May our Protestant and Evangelical Brethren please take note of these words and more especially our Catholic friends who swallow the pronouncements of their "infallible" Pope sitting on the PAGAN CHAIR OF (St) PETER.

The Gnostic is himself and asks others be tolerant to those who hold different faiths, as he realises that there are many paths to God or GOOD and that all paths lead to that IDEAL which he calls God. The Gnostic knows that he cannot teach anything new under the sun and he endeavours to understand the whole according to his experience and to progress towards that mighty goal which always lies before him, no matter how long he takes to attain it. He knows that all men will reach that goal no matter how far they may stray from the "STRAIT AND NARROW WAY" that leads to God.

We question the right of our orthodox brethren to foster upon their people the idea that they alone hold the one true doctrine. By doing this, they base their truth upon an untruth. Or is it their fear that of their people becoming aware of the "other" teaching it would mean the death sentence of the various established churches which is responsible for their frantic endeavours to label anything appertaining to occultism or kindred subjects as "heresies" and in some cases cause them to forbid their people to read of them under the major ban of excommunication or a social theological odium? We have just recently seen this attack made upon a Mrs Knight of Edinburgh in respect to her broadcast talk over the British Broadcasting Commission. This good lady tried to show that one could be good without believing in a "god". This caused great consternation to MOTHER GRUNDY, that English personalification of what is called PUBLIC OPINION, whose motto is "Let us be respectable at all costs, even if it kills us." The newspapers and the Anglican Church, called by the Freethinkers, MOTHER DAMNABLE, were on their toes against this good woman who had the courage to tell the world her views.

It would be wise to explain to our Overseas Readers that in this country under the ACT OF TOLERATION, every man and woman has the full liberty to worship God as they feel correct and according to their conscience. However, should a person dare to refrain from worshipping the god of the Anglican Church they are branded as fanatics and heretics. It is a pity that those opponents of Mrs Knight and the adherents of the Wisdom Religion do not diligently read and study the history of their particular brand of Christianity from its conception to the present day. They would, if they are real lovers of Truth and social justice and tolerance surely become disgusted with the historic shambles which masquerades under the name of Christianity.

The Reader is well advised to read two short volumes, THE CHURCH AND SOCIAL PROGRESS, by Marjorie Bowen, which tells of the Crimes of the Anglican Church against the ordinary man and woman and society and Joseph McCabe's THE SOCIAL RECORD OF CHRISTIANITY, in which on page 125, he says: "Queen Victoria pointing to the Bible saying: 'There is the source of England's greatness.'" What did the Church of England do? Read THE BISHOPS AS LEGISLATORS by Joseph Clayton, a Churchman, with a preface by the Rev. Stewart Headlam, who calls it a record of 'crimes and follies of the bishops.' IT IS. No Bishop supported the Bill for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in 1809. Only three attended the House of Lords when, in 1815, a Bill was introduced to Prevent the Use of British Capital in the Slave Trade. They took no part in the discussion of the Prevention of Cruelty to Cattle Bill in 1824. In 1832 fifteen of them were still on the Opposition, though even the king was intimidated, of the Parliamentary Reform Bill. Two only voted for the Bill for the total Suppression of the Slave Trade...They opposed every measure to relieve the workers...Lord Shaftsbury...said..."I can scarcely remember an instance in which a clergyman has been found to maintain the causes of labour in the face of the pewholders.' This book shows an appalling array of crimes against men in the name of the Man of Sorrows. Although Imago writes: "...for Jesus Himself prescribed that the Rule of life which the Society (Jesuits) follows, first by His example, and afterwards by His works", one has only to read the disgustingly, licentious, hypocritical and demoralising precepts of the Jesuits contained in his own book THE PRINCIPLES OF THE JESUITS, DEVELOPED IN A COLLECTION OF EXTRACTS FROM THEIR OWN AUTHORS, London, 1839, to see how hypocritical and misleading the Church really is. Finally, the Pre-Nicene or Gnostic Church taught all men and women that they have within themselves the power, and the capabilities, to cure sickness and worry, and the Church Spiritual never failed in its teachings to meet the individual at every level of consciousness.

The writer, being the Prince-Primate of the PRE-NICENE GNOSTO-CATHOLIC CHURCH, and a lover of the Wisdom Religion and of the Gnosis, is now endeavouring to form a Church Community based upon the wonderful teachings and precepts of the Gnostics.

He wishes to offer to his people not mere words, but the priceless gems of the Wisdom of the past in a guise which will appeal to the modern thinker and which will enable them to find the Fount of Eternal Peace and Happiness, and cause the Christ to live within themselves as the Hope and Glory. He knows that to do this he will have to face the uncharitable forces of orthodoxy and their man-made doctrines, but he is humble in the knowledge that he is privileged to follow in the footsteps of so many great predecessors in this work of the Wisdom Religion.

G.R.S.Mead in his volume QUESTS OLD AND NEW, says "Gnosis was not a 'philosophy' in the generally accepted use of the term. It was the immediate knowledge of God's mysteries received from direct intercourse with the Deity - mysteries which must remain hidden from the natural man, a knowledge at the same time which exercises decided reaction on our relationship to God and also on our nature or disposition." (From Reitzenstein). It was the power or gift of receiving and understanding revelation, which finally culminated in the direct unveiled vision of God and the transformation of the whole man into a spiritual being by contact with him. The ground of the idea of the Gnosis does not seem to be very different from that of the latter 'Mystical Theology', which originally meant the direct, secret, and incommunicable knowledge of God received in contemplation" (from Dom John Chapman, vide THE GNOSIS OF LIGHT, the Rev.F.Lamplugh, B.A., translation of THE UNTITLED APOCALYPSE).

Just as this globe was formed from the Darkness and brought into Light, so the Gnosis has been at last allowed to leave the veiled cover of the Secret Brotherhoods and come out into the open daylight of the Truth, just as your Human Soul has to leave the darkness of the personality and be restored to its Pure Light. Ignorance is the darkness and the Gnosis is the Light which will lighten the darkness.

END OF PART ONE

The Reader and Student should also read THE INNER MEANING OF THE MYSTERY SCHOOLS to gain a clearer comprehension of the matter contained in this section.

THE WISDOM RELIGION IN CHRISTIANITY

T H E P R O O F S Part II.

In the preceeding pages we have tried to show that without and within the framework of Primitive Christianity, the teachings of the Wisdom Religion are to be found by those "who have eyes that can see and ears that can hear." We have continually stressed the claim that the PRE-NICENE FATHERS OF THE CHURCH did teach the "Gnosis" or the Wisdom Religion and although we have given no definite references for the reader to check for himself, we will now endeavour to present some of the statements made by these Fathers in support of our claims. The foundations of the FRATRES LUCIS itself was based upon certain great Mystics in 1498 coming together to form a Brotherhood for the continuity of the Gnosis and they have commissioned the Brotherhood of the Illuminati to act as a channel through which the aspirant can gain admittance to the Fratres Lucis. There is no other way but through this Brotherhood.

The Gnostics were the Primitive Christian Philosophers who formulated and taught the GNOSIS or KNOWLEDGE which could only be obtained by INITIATION into the Spiritual Mysteries of Jesus. As with the Sacred Schools of the ancient world so it was with the Gnostics, as Clemens Alexandrinus tells us that: "It is not lawful to reveal to the profane persons the Mysteries of the Word." He goes on to say that "Purity is only a negative state, valuable chiefly as a condition of insight. He who has been purified in Baptism and then Initiated, in the LITTLE MYSTERIES becomes rife for the Greater Mysteries, for the Gnosis, the scientific knowledge of God." In regards to FAITH, he states: "Knowledge is more than faith, faith is a summary of urgent truths, suitable for people who are in a hurry; but knowledge is scientific faith", when speaking of the meaning of MATTHEW c.7 v.6., he says: "For it is difficult to exhibit the really pure and transparent words respecting the true light to swinish and untrained hearers."

Origen, the famous pupil of Clemens, writes of the "popular, traditional faith: What better method could be devised to assist the masses?" Here, Origen, tries to show that unto the mass, the symbols and allegories are the best methods of instruction but that the underlying meaning of the semi-historical events can only be revealed to those in whom the birth of the Christ Consciousness has occurred."

St. Paul makes constant reference to the Secret Doctrine of Christianity. We suggest that our Readers study I. CORINTHIANS, c.3 v1: "And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ", and in the same Chapter, verse 10, he continues: "According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a WISE-MASTER BUILDER, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man heed how he buildeth thereupon." The words "Master-Builder" is very

suggestive, for every Initiate of all the Mystery Schools was named and called "a master-builder." Those who are Masons and Rosicrucians will, if they belong to a regular Rite, understand what we mean by this term. Within the Church as within the 33rd Degree Masons, the "Overseer" wears a pair of gauntlets and upon them is worked both the symbols of the sun and moon, this linking the Church with Masonry and through them to the Mystery Schools.

J. Gordon Rylands in his work, A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE FOUR CHIEF PAULINE EPISTLES, on page 37, sums up the evidence for Gnosticism being taught by the early Church when he says: "Until men had come to a knowledge of God, the Gnostics believed that righteousness was impossible for them. Ignorance of God and false worship were the roots from which grew the evil passions of men (THE WISDOM OF SOLOMON, c.14 v.26, says: '...worshipping of idols...is the beginning and cause and the end of all evil). The principal function of the Saviour in all the sects was to bring men to the knowledge of God; and, however much of the original simple idea had been elaborated in the Gnostic Systems of the 2nd century, the facts that the Logos is prominent in all of them, and that in the APOLOGIES and in the FOURTH GOSPEL the Logos is identical with Christ, while Sophia, Achamoth, Wisdom is closely connected with the Logos, may be held to prove that the Gnostic Christ was evolved from the Logos of the Wisdom Literature. The Logos is named Christ by Philo. A further opinion which separated Gnostics from Jews is general and afterwards from the Catholic Christians, was that matter is essentially corruptible, and that men can secure eternal life only through receiving a portion of the immortal Spirit, Pneuma of God. According to some, the Pneuma was introduced into the material world by Achamoth from Sophia (We read that Valentinius separated Achamoth and Sophia as a separate Being.) Others, however, taught that it could be obtained by mystical union with the Logos - Christ (This is identical to the teachings of the Brotherhood of the Illuminati). THEY PRACTISED SECRET RITES WHICH IN IMITATION OF THE GREEKS, THEY CALLED THEIR MYSTERIES. IT IS (possible and) PROBABLE THAT IN THESE MYSTERIES THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF CHRIST WERE ENACTED, AND BY SOME SYMBOLIC ACT THE WORSHIPPER ACHIEVED 'UNION' WITH CHRIST, thus securing a share of the Pneuma. The Christian would become progressively more 'pneumatic' until he has completely liberated from the lusts of the flesh." This is identical to the beliefs held by the Pre-Nicene Gnosto-Catholic Church in London. Here we have one of the cardinal tenets of the Wisdom Religion, and it says that man must travel the "strait and narrow way" or the Path of Holiness, which leads to Eternal Bless, or Nirvana of the Buddhists in their secret teachings of BODHISM.

He goes on to say: "In the Gnostic schemes of salvation the Christian is redeemed through the Gnosis and by becoming a sharer in the Holy Spirit. To bring these within his reach was the redemptive work of Christ, not for the justification (of a) faith; and nothing of the kind could have been taught by the

Gnostic. In the early Gnostic doctrine indeed, before the appearance of the Gospels, the death of Christ was not localised in place or time (See the ODES OF SOLOMON for further evidence of this). It was brought about directly or indirectly by evil supernatural beings. These are angels or archons who had created and ruled over the material world (See Paul and PISTIS SOPHIA for reference to this same idea). According to Carpocrates, the world was made by inferior angels, and it was they who slew the visible form of Jesus (See Irenaeus, CONTRA. OMN. HAER., Book I, c.25 v.1, otherwise it is the same as the teachings of the Wisdom Religion). In the System of Basilides the world was made by the archons (archons of this aeon) of whom Jehovah was the chief (Irenaeus, ibid, c.24 v.4), and they were the enemies of the Supreme God and his Christ." The teachings of the Gnostic Paul was similiar; as we read in the FIRST EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS, c.6 v.7-8: "We speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, which none of the Archons of this Aeon (was is translated in our versions or "princes of this world", but is in reality the 'primordial planetary spirits) knew; for had they known it they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory." Valentinus termed the Devil, the Archon of this world; and Ignatius wrote, warning his readers against Satan: "Be not anointed with the foulness of the doctrine of the Archon of this aeon (an emanation from the Divine substance, one of the genii of this world, its creator)." EPHESIANS c.18 v.1. Iamblichus in his DE MYSTERIES, Book II, Chapter 3, gives the full meaning of the Archantes or Archons, Iamblichus was a great Theurgist, mystic, who lived an excellent and holy life and was a great in mystic learning.

The statement of Jesus in MATTHEW c.7 v.6, and in MARK c.4 v.10-11 also verifies our claim that Jesus did teach the Wisdom Religion. In JOHN c.16 v.12, he says: "I have yet many things to say to you, but ye cannot hear them now", the direct truths of the Mysteries were not yet given to the disciples. In ACTS c.1 v.3, we see an indication of a secret tradition or knowledge: "...speaking of things pertaining to the Kingdom of God." To ask either a Catholic or Protestant to accept the esoteric wisdom contained in the New Testament would be impossible; simply because their eyes are blinded by the fables of the Church of Rome and the falsehoods which she has fostered upon her people, and her edicts against any form of study of the early Christian literature. She claims that she and she alone has the true knowledge, but this cannot be held in the light of modern research in many fields of spiritual knowledge, yet Catholics are mental slaves to the Church for all the advances of knowledge and scientific research. Protestants are simple parrots aping the Church of Rome, but both blind their people, one by insistence upon blind and obedient faith and the other by their parsons (not priests) being solely intellectual and good social mixers and not spiritually awakened.

THE EPISTLE OF POLYCARP, c.7, says: "...that nothing is

hidden from you; but to me this privilege is not yet opened", we suggest that Polycarp was not yet initiated into the Mysteries of Jesus. Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, says that he is "not yet perfect in Jesus Christ, for I begin as a disciple, etc..." He goes on further to speak of the High Priest or Hierophant, of whom he asserts that he had been trusted with the secrets of God. It is strange to hear this coming from a Catholic Bishop!

The Hierophant was the revealer of the Mysteries of Life and Death in the so-called heathen Mysteries and this title belongs to the highest Adepts in the temples of antiquity who were the teachers and exponents of the Mysteries; as Bro. Kenneth R.H. McKenzie writes in THE ROYAL CYCLOPAEDIA OF MASONRY: "In Hebrew and Chaldaic the term was PETER, the opener, discloser, here the Pope is the successor of the Hierophant of the Ancient Mysteries, and sits in the PAGAN CHAIR of St(?)Peter, he may sit there, but has he the power and knowledge of those whom he has displaced, posterity shows not. Bower in his HISTORY OF THE POPES, Vol. II, page 7, says that in the year 1662, when the chair was being cleaned, 'The Twelve Labours of Hercules' was shown upon it, this was removed and another put in its place, but in 1795, when Bonapart's troops occupied Rome, they again examined it and found, perhaps to their horror, these words: "There is no Deity but Allah, and Mahomet is his Apostle", but we will quote the Appendix of ANCIENT SYMBOL-WORSHIP by H.M. Westropp and C. Staniland Wake, so much for the authenticity of the 'Chair of Peter' history proves that it is not or could it be the original chair which Peter sat upon. The same kind of chair was used centuries before in the rites of the heathen Mysteries, another link with the Mysteries, the reader will agree. Reber in his CHRIST OF PAUL states definitely that Peter was never in Rome and brings historical facts to prove his case.

Referring to Clemens Alexandrinus again, we find this remarkable passage which is repeated in several of his works that his writings "were a miscellany of Gnostic Notes, according to the time philosophy." In his book THE STOMATA TO CLEMENT, he says: "The Lord allowed us to communicate of those Divine Mysteries and of the Holy Light, to those (initiates) who were able to receive them", again he says: "We profess not to explain things sufficiently - far from it - but only to recall them to memory...since a task is not easy to those not experienced; these I revive in my commentaries...I will try and speak imperceptibly to exhibit secretly, and to demonstrate silently." The truth of the Wisdom Religion then is to be held in silence, perhaps the Catholic reader will go to his Confessor and ask his permission to read the contemporary writers of this period, but he will be told, "You may not, as the Church does not wish you to." WHY? NEED WE ASK?

Later on in the work referred to above, he says: "...it is requisit therefore, to hide in a Mystery the wisdom spoken, in which the Son of Light is taught...bidding them to receive the

secret traditions of true knowledge...not enjoining us to communicate to all without distinction what is said to them in parables...Instruction, which reveals hidden things, is called ILLUMINATION, (this is the purpose of the Brotherhood of the Illuminati), as it is the Teacher only who uncovers the lid of the ARK (or ARGHA, the Fount of True Knowledge)." Clemens refers to Plato, who must have coloured his teachings, when he quotes: "We must speak in enigmas; that should the tablet (petroma) come by mischance on its leaves either by sea or land, he who reads may remain ignorant." Here we see Clement referring to the PETROMA, from which the Hierophant reveals the last revelation to the neophyte for initiation. We will also see that the word PATAR or PETER locates both of them (Jesus and Peter) in the circle of initiation and definitely connects them with the Wisdom Religion, and since Clement was also an Initiate of the Pagan Temples he would naturally understand the true meaning of the Tablets.

Our claim that with Christianity there are two teachings is also verified by Origen's: "...the milk for babes and the strong meat for those who could take it", and he infers that, while it is true that there are INNER TEACHINGS in the Church which are not revealed to the general public, he also defended the Church against the attacks by Celsus, who accused it of being a secret organization, by replying briefly, "we have taken what is best from the older religions, DOES THAT INVALIDATE THE TRUTH? WE ARE ONLY FOLLOWING THE TRADITIONS OF OLDER RELIGIONS AND PHILOSOPHIES IN THIS RESPECT." In the same work by Origen, ORIGEN CONTRA CELSUS, he says: "...for privately, to His own disciples did Jesus open up all things, esteeming above the multitude those who desired to know His wisdom."

Origen, referring to the Scriptures having two meanings, says: "The Scriptures have a meaning, not only such is apparent at first sight, but also another, which escapes the notice of most men. For such is written in the forms of certain Mysteries, the image of Divine Things, respecting which there is ONE OPINION THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE CHURCH, which the Law is indeed spiritual; but that the spiritual meaning which the law conveys is NOT KNOWN TO ALL, but to those only on whom the grace of the Holy Spirit is bestowed in the words of wisdom and knowledge." DE PRINCIPIIS. Surely this statement is conclusive to any honest searcher for the Truth, that Christianity did have two teachings, one for the mass and the other for those who were prepared to be trained and initiated into them through a mystic community.

Marcion, the devout Christian Gnostic accuses the Church Fathers of teaching the people according to their ability to understand the teachings of the Christ without due regard to the true Gnosis of the Mysteries of Jesus. Tertullian wrote against this Father and accuses him of deleting from the Gospels all references to the physical Christ. It is very unfortunate that Marcion's two known works, ANTITHESIS and APOSTOLICON were done

NOTE: The name, BROTHERHOOD OF THE ILLUMINATI has been changed to: BROTHERHOOD OF THE PLEROMA.

away with by the Fathers. We infer that these two books revealed to much of the tampering of the Gospels and Epistles of the New Testament for the liking of the Post-Nicene Fathers, for Marcion, being a follower of Paul, would teach only the Gnosis which is so hateful to the Fathers and the present-day Divines of the Churches, we can well understand their fears and sympathise with them, but the Truth must be told.

The writer of CRITICAL ANALYSIS, op.cit., on page 412, says: "The Gnostic systems of Marcion and Valentinus in the middle of the 2nd century...have been elaborated to a degree which implies development over a considerable time...The Catholic writers of the century do, in fact, trace back the Valentinian gnosis to the time of Simon Magnus - that is to say, to the days of the Apostles. Marcion asserted that he had derived his form of the gnosis from the teaching of Paul...and admitted by theologians, that a Jewish Gnosticism was in existence at the beginning of the first century...The Pauline Gnosticism appears to have come under the influence of the Greek Mystery Religion, and the Gospel story reacted upon it also...That the writer of ACTS has not been able to disguise the fact that Paul, when he went to Rome, remained quite apart from the Christian Church there and taught indepently...Theologians have not been able to find any evidence of Christian Gnosticism in the first century, like that of the second century would have come down to us clearly labelled "HERESY"... But Christianity in the Catholic sense did not exist in the first century. There is no canonical doctrine; and consequently no heresy...The Christian Gnostics of the first century are not to be found in communities antagonistic to a united Catholic Church which did not then exist...The Pauline Epistles survived through their having been rendered innocuous by extensive catholicization. Early Pauline Christianity was not only Gnostic but Docetic. The fact has been deliberately obscured by catholic theologians, and by the composition of Paul of Catholic speeches in the ACTS OF THE APOSTLES."

The DOCETAE were an early Christian Sect of Gnostics who claimed that Christ' body was either a phantom or, if real, of celestial origin, so that He acted and suffered in appearance only, and thus not in fact, this fact of Christ not being a mortal man was prevalent among all the Gnostic Sects as history proves.

St.Paul, states in the SECOND EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS in the original Gnostic rendering: "But if our gospel is yet veiled, it is veiled to them that are perishing, among whom the god of this aeon hath blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that the Light of the Gospel of the glory of Christ, who was the image of God, should not dawn upon them. Seeing it is God, who shined in our hearts to give the light of the Gnosis to the glory of God in the face of Christ."

Professor A Wilder, in his PAUL AND PLATO, puts forward one very remarkable statement and for us, a very precious observation. In his Epistles to the Corinthians, he shows Paul abounding with "expressions suggested by the initiations of Sabazious and Eleusis, and the lectures of the (Greek) philosophers. He designates himself an 'Idiotes' - a person skilled in the word, but not in the gnosis or philosophical learning. 'We speak wisdom among the perfect or initiated', ... 'not the wisdom of this world, nor of the archons of this world, but the divine wisdom in a mystery, secret - which none of the archons of this world knew.'"

And it is in ISIS UNVEILED, on page 90, that H.P. Blavatsky gives some very interesting details concerning Paul's references to the Wisdom Religion: "What else can the apostle mean by those unequivocal words, but that himself as belonging to the mystae (initiated), spoke of things shown and explained only in the Mysteries? The 'Divine wisdom in a mystery which none of the archons of this world knew', has evidently some direct reference to the basileus of the Eleusian initiation who did not KNOW. The basileus belonged to the staff of the great Hierophant, and was the Archon of Athens; and as such was one of the chief mystae, belonging to the interior Mysteries, to which a select and small number obtained entrance." See Taylor's ELEUSIS AND THE BACCHUS MYSTERIES. The magistrates supervising the Eleusians were called 'archons'.

In reference to Paul's statement that he "was a wise mater-builder", H.P. Blavatsky in ISIS UNVEILED, Book II, pages 90-91, of the quotation in I. Corinthians c.3 v.20: says: "The expression, master-builder, used only once in the whole Bible, and by Paul, may be considered as a whole revelation. In the Mysteries, the third part of the sacred rites were called EPOPTeia, or revelation, reception into the secrets. In substance it means that stage of divine clairvoyance when everything pertaining to this earth disappears, and earthly sight is paralysed, and the soul is united free and pure with the Spirit, or God. But the real significance of the word is 'overseeing', - I see myself. In Sanscrit the word EVAPTO has the same meaning, as well as to obtain (but no human agent). The word EPOPTeia is a compound one, to look upon, or an overseer, and inspector - also used for a master-builder. The title of master-builder or mason in Free-Masonry, is derived from this, in the sense used in the Mysteries. Therefore, when Paul entitles himself a 'master-builder', he is using a word pre-eminently kabalistic, theurgic and masonic, and one which no other apostle uses. He thus declares himself an ADEPT having the right to initiate others."

The office of SOVEREIGN GRAND INSPECTOR GENERAL in Masonry has the same meaning, he has the right to initiate others at sight and reveal the final mysteries at his discretion. The Bishop of the Church was called an "Overseer" and he alone has the right and authority to consecrate Bishops and ordain Priests. All of

this has come directly from the 'heathen' Mysteries. Scattered throughout the literature of the first three centuries of the Christian Era, the student will find veiled hints, direct references to the old Mysteries, all of these references have been deliberately obscured by the Post-Nicene Fathers and by the present-day Theologians for fear that the truth will out and they will be proved humbugs.

Now we give our final reference in support of our claim that there is, and was, a hidden wisdom in Christianity. We quote one of the Sons of the Roman Church in support of our claim, one who, for his pains and researches, was excommunicated from the Church. Eliphús Levi, the Abbe Louis Constance, who writes: "A great misfortune befell Christianity. The betrayal of the Mysteries by the false Gnostics (the Bishops and Clergy), that is, those who knew, are the Initiates of Primitive Christianity, these caused the Gnosis to be rejected, and alienated the Church from the supreme truths of the Kabalah, which contains all the secrets of transcendental theology... Let the absolute science, let the highest reason become once more the patrimony of the leaders of the people; let the sacerdotal art and the royal art take the double sceptre of unique initiations, and the social world will once more issue from its chaos. Burn the holy images no longer, demolish the temples no more; temples and images are necessary for men; but drive the hirelings from the house of prayer; let the blind be no longer leaders of the blind; reconstruct the hierarchy of intelligence and holiness and recognise only those who know as the teachers of those who believe." THE MYSTERIES OF MAGIC, as translated by A.E.Waite.

To show how the Church tries to withhold the Truth, in reference to the finding of the Dead Sea Scrolls in 1948, John Allegro (12th Jan. 1958) says: "There has been some quite inexplicable delay in the publication of some of the findings in the Dead Sea Scrolls. I am not suggesting there is anything sinister in the delay, but it is a fact that some of my colleagues are apparently reluctant to make some of the findings public." We suggest that since Father Roland de Vuax - a Friar of the Roman Catholic Dominican Order directs the editing of these Scrolls, that if he can help it, the full details of the Scrolls will never come before the public. Let us not forget the Spanish Inquisition which was ruled by this same Dominican Order and which burned thousands of priceless manuscripts in Spain and murdered in the name of the Man of Sorrows literally thousands of individuals who dared to contradict the dogmatism of Roman Christianity. Can it be that the Church of Rome is using the Dominican Order to withhold the facts from the people?

John Allegro is an assistant lecturer in Semetic philology at the Manchester University, notwithstanding he being an agnostic we think his opinion concerning the hold-up is justified.

Thus we have seen that Christianity has an Inner Teaching for those who seek, and for those who have realised that the outer shell called Historic Christianity is but a shell and a veil to hide the Wisdom Religion, and for those who will give themselves completely to the study of the Wisdom which will lead them towards God, the Central Spiritual Sun of Righteousness.

"But if the Gnostics were destroyed, the Gnosis, based upon the secret science of sciences, still lives. It is the earth which helps the woman, who is destined to open her mouth to swallow up medieval Christianity, the usurper and assassin of the Great Master's doctrine. The ancient Kabala, the Gnosis, or traditional secret knowledge, was never without its representatives in any age or country. The Trinities of Initiates, whether passed into history or concealed under the impenetrable veil of mystery, are preserved and impressed throughout the ages. They are known as Moses, Aholiab and Bezaleel, the son of Uri, the son of Hur, as Plato, Philo and Pythagoras, etc. At the transfiguration we see them as Jesus, Moses, and Elias, the three Trismegisti; the three Kabalists, Peter, James, and John - whose revelation is the key to all wisdom. We find them in the twilight of Jewish history as Zoroaster, Abraham and Terah and later as Henoah, Ezekiel, and Daniel." ISIS UNVEILED, Book II, page 38.

Perhaps mother earth has opened her mouth to spew out the Dead Sea Scrolls and perhaps the heir to medieval Christianity is desperately trying to shut her mouth for fear that she will be revealed as the distorter of the True Religion of Christ.

In the next volume of this Series, THE INNER MEANING OF THE MYSTERY SCHOOLS, we will be dealing with the early foundations of what we now know as Primitive Christianity and will further show how the Churches have played their part as the usurper of the True Transcendental Theology - the WISDOM RELIGION OF THE AGES.

THE END

We must ask our Reader to accept our apologies for the bad typing, but our normal typist is ill, and in order to have this series of books for the American Lecture Tour of the Author, he has been compelled to print this book, himself.

R. Duc de Palatine.