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We recognize the real man to be the conscious, thinking part in us, that is, the "soul," which has two spheres of action and consciousness—one interior and spiritual, the other external and physical. When both spheres of consciousness are obtained, man will understand the use in everything, and will cease from selfish struggle and combat with his fellow, and thus help to bring about a new order of humanity to spread over and to control our earth. We know that there are many who look forward to this goal, and THE CHRISTIAN ESOTERIC is sent out for the purpose of uniting them in a concerted effort to attain it, with the hope that the time will come when these will gather to one center set apart for their education and perfection, so that the highest possible ultimates may be reached. This magazine therefore, together with our other publications, expounds the doctrine and supplies the methods that, if carefully and zealously applied, develop and awaken the faculties of the soul, enabling one to become conscious of the Spirit, wherein is a knowledge of all things necessary for man's use and true well-being.



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VOLUME XLIII OF THE ESOTERIC SERIES

THE GOSPEL BY JOHN

BY ENOCH PENN

"IN the beginning was the Word (Logos)."

In beginning creation there is first the thought formed in the mind. The thought is, so to speak, a blue print of something that is to be made. Thoughts are formed of the life, and when formed with a definite purpose, that purpose gives to the thought an urge to manifest itself in this material realm. Therefore it was said at creation: "And God said let there be, . . . and it was so."

"And the Word was with power and the Word was a power."

In the abstract the word God, means simply power, a power supreme in its own realm of action. It is the purpose held in the mind when the thought is formed that is the power in a thought.

The first creative thought in beginning was "Let there be light." Because of the power that was in the word a light "shined in the darkness." In the presence of greater minds lesser minds become enlightened.

The second creative thought or word was "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters . . . and it

was so." The "firmament" appears as the "astral light;" it is the life, and when formed into thought becomes the mind, of the world. Of this life of the world—which is the life of men, in which life men live as birds live in the air, or as fish live in the sea—men form thoughts. Every thought formed causes an increase of consciousness, which consciousness is the light of (intellectual) life, and the sum of one's thoughts cause the normal consciousness. And the sum of a thinker's thoughts constitute his mind. Every thought in the mind has in it more or less of an urge impelling the thinker to corresponding action.

The aggregate of the thoughts, impulses and emotions of men formed of and in the life of the world become influencing forces impelling men generally to action in accord with them. Every thought formed in and of the world-life has in it more or less of an urge to manifest itself among men in action.

The last creative word spoken at creation in the beginning was relative to man, and was expressed in the words "Let us make man, in our image, after our likeness," and let them dominate all nature. This was the word (logos) to which John referred as manifested in the man Jesus when he said: "That . . . which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life."

As every thought of man has in it a power urging the thinker to manifest it, so the creative thought "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness," has in it a God-power which is manifesting thruout mankind, for man is growing into the "likeness" of his Creator. The Creator is a mind capable of imagining man and of holding that thought until man becomes a God-man. This the prophet saw and announced in the words: "As I have thought, so shall it come to pass. As I have purposed, so shall it stand." That this purpose concerning man shall not fail we see by the words, "I change not, therefore ye

sons of Jacob, are not consumed." Therefore man must and shall attain to Godlikeness.

"All things were made by it."

Everything created was first a thought formed in the mind of the Creator, formed by the imagination. And those thought-forms had in them a power to become facts in nature. For, "In it [the thought, the Word] was life." And this power in the thought "a man like God" is that which urges man onward to his destiny, Godlikeness, and one becoming Godlike is called "the word of God," because he is an embodiment of the word "Let us make man." Apparently this urge in man which never ceases was that which the philosopher Schopenhauer called "the will."

"There was a man sent from God, whose name was John."

John came to teach men of that word which was the light in man. This light was always in the world, ready for man to see it when he gained the ability to do so thru the awakening of the faculties of the soul. But this light which "shined in the darkness" men did not understand. But the "light shineth in the darkness, and the darkness comprehended [overcometh] it not." Men do not understand that that life, seen by the eyes of the soul as a light, could cause them to become like God, in character, and in powers.

"As many as received it [that Word] to them gave it power [ability] to become sons of God."

Jesus said, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh. And that which is born of the Spirit is Spirit." To become born of God, to become a son of God, is to awaken into consciousness in the Spirit-world and to be consciously a spirit. As man is now a mind-center in the life of this world, when "born again" he then becomes also a mind-center in the Spirit-world.

"Even to them that believe INTO his name."

This light which the opening eyes of the soul sees, is

the Holy Spirit—we read that “God is light”—given to man to cause him to become a son of God. It is given as an anointing, a chrism, a christening, and is therefore called an anointing, and the one receiving it is called an anointed, a christ. They who become christs have believed INTO that name of the son of God. That light of the Spirit is a portion of God-life, given to man to cause him to become a man like God, having the power to dominate the forces of nature.

“Who were born, not of the will of man,
but of the will of God.”

For the God-power in that anointing light is the will of God. And it is by laying hold of that God-will that man gains God-powers. Because the name of God is, “I will be what I will to be,” and they who become sons of God thru receiving that light gain of the powers of God, the Spirit cried thru the prophet, “There is none that stirreth himself up to take hold of my name.” Because Jesus laid hold of that name thru receiving of that Spirit-light, and had become a son of God, an embodiment of the word “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness,” John refers to him as the Word of God, the word of life. John said of him, “The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.” And because the word of God “liveth and abideth forever,” they who become the embodiment of that word have eternal life. Because of this Jesus said of his life, “I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it [up] again.” And he might have added, “To prove to you that the son of God has eternal life, I have been commanded of my Father to lay it down and take it up again.” “He rose for our justification,” justifying us in our faith that we also by following his example can become sons of God and attain to eternal life.

The question then arises: By what means, or by what method of operation does this Word of God enter into man and make of him a son of God? In I John iii 9 we read: “Whosoever is born of God does not miss the mark, for his seed remaineth in him.” Here we have the thought

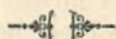
that the power which makes man a son of God is in his seed, this is evidenced by the fact that this seed planted in the womb brings forth a man capable of becoming like God, capable of becoming a son of God; and the mark set for man to reach is Godlikeness, Divine sonship and eternal life. Then the process by which man receives the Holy Spirit from God which causes him to become a son of God, making him an anointed one, a christ of God is: that Holy Spirit enters the seed, and if "his seed remaineth in him" that Spirit-life begins to awaken the soul to a consciousness of God and the Spirit-world and of them that dwell therein. If the seed in which that Spirit-life is lost that Spirit-life is lost with it, and that opportunity to rise one step nearer to Godlikeness and Divine sonship is also lost. One has missed (sinned) that opportunity to take that step nearer to Godlikeness. While one thus continues to miss (to sin) these opportunities of becoming a son of God he has no hope of attaining eternal life. This was why the sons of God mentioned in Genesis vi lost their Divine sonship and their hold on eternal life when they gave up their seed in the generative relation and sons were born to them. Also it was the reason why it was said of the 144,000 who "follow the lamb whithersoever he goeth," "they were not defiled with women, for they are virgins [pure ones]."

We would state this Gospel of Christ, this good news of the anointing, whereby one becomes reborn a son of God, in a more complete and scientific manner. Every month when the moon comes into the sign the earth was in at the time of one's birth, God gives to that one a new germ of soul-life, and in that germ of soul-life is an urge toward Godlikeness. This receiving of the monthly germ of soul-life is referred to in the Bible in the allegory of the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits and yielded one of the twelve kinds of fruit every moon. Because to receive and to retain that germ of soul-life gives to one a more abundant and higher life, the eating of the tree is

*God is true
husband.*

*A son of God when the power (life) in the seed is
used to rebuild his body.
A son of man when the life power in the seed
is used to form or is lost.*

said to give life, and it is called the tree of life. If this soul-life is retained it feeds the soul and in time causes the faculties of the soul to awake, and the consciousness of the soul to increase until it begins to be more or less conscious in the soul-realm, and then the soul begins to awaken to a consciousness of and in the Spirit-world, and sees the angels of God and finds them near to comfort and help those striving toward Godlikeness and eternal life. Then the time comes when Jesus will appear to his faithful one as he promised, saying: "I will manifest [show] myself to him." Again, in time there will appear to the faithful one those God-men, the Elohim, who said, "Let US make man in OUR image, after OUR likeness," they who constitute God, the Creator, the Father, and this will be the fulfillment of the promise Jesus made, "The pure [clean] in heart shall see God."



THE advice of one of the Great Teachers to his disciples,—*"Keep wide awake,"* tersely expressed the necessity for tireless energy if one's purpose is to be accomplished, and it is equally good advice to the salesman as to the saint. *"Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty,"* and liberty is the reaching of one's fixed ends. It was the same Teacher who said, *"If anything is to be done, let a man do it at once; let him attack it vigorously."* The wisdom of this advice is seen when it is remembered that action is creative; that increase and development follow upon legitimate use. To get more energy we must use to the full that which we already possess. Only to him who puts the hand vigorously to some task do power and freedom come. —James Allen,— *Book of Meditations.*

WHY SHOULD WE EXPECT A TIME OF TROUBLE?

BY H. E. BUTLER

(THOSE persons who write us that they are distressed and harassed by a conflict of interests, due to trying to follow the leading of the Spirit, and yet not being able to see clearly where their worldly duties and obligations end, can find helpful suggestions in this article. For their benefit it was written, and for their benefit it is republished.)

All the prophets down to the Christ have prophesied that at the time of the closing of the present dispensation and the dawning of the new, or, if you please, at the time when the old order of life must pass away and the divine order be established, there would be a time of trouble "such as hath not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, nor ever shall be." And there is a reason for that time of trouble, for the presence of those who are obtaining unity with the Father will be to those who are allied to the natural or elemental world as a consuming fire, and their presence will create anger and excitement and a foreboding of evil. This condition, according to the record, was to a limited extent apparent when Jesus was on the earth.

We read that when Jesus approached those who were possessed by devils at times they cried out, sometimes falling down and writhing upon the ground; at other times begging him to depart from them and inquiring whether he had come to torment them before the time. We read also that one who was not a disciple attempted to cast out an unclean spirit, and it became furious and would have destroyed him.

There is a natural antagonism existing between the spirit of this world and the spirit of light. As the Apostle said, "The carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be."

Now when the time arrives—if it is not already upon us—that the spirit of the heavens begins to descend

upon the earth, the earthly man whose mind is wholly of the earth, earthy, whose mind is of the spirit of the mundane, will feel the pressure, will realize that the things his hope is in are slipping away, and that his place is being usurped by another. Which, of course, is a fact; for we know that they who are carnally minded have an intuition, a psychic perception that is keen, discriminating and accurate. But how to interpret that which they discern is quite another problem. They can interpret it from their own standpoint, it is true, but all such interpretations are colored by their own desires and wishes; and when anything opposes their desires, when they meet that which is not in harmony with them, long years of drill in the business world has taught them that it is necessary they should rise up with the power of their will and overcome every obstacle, fight their way thru and accomplish that which they have set before them.

But how can they fight against God and the light of his Spirit and his holy angels? They cannot fight them because they have come to believe, deep down in their hearts, that there is no God, no spirit-world, and that there are no angels; and if they do believe that there is a God, they think he has nothing to do with the affairs of men. Therefore when they find themselves being disturbed, broken up, and cast down, they will naturally look for the cause of this disturbance, and no amount of argument will convince them that it is due to the approach of the kingdom of God and his righteousness. Therefore they will look at their fellow-men as the cause of their difficulties, and it can readily be seen that such a mental attitude will "set all men every one against his neighbor," and that such a condition will verify the words of the prophet: "Neither was there any peace to him that went out or came in, because of the affliction." And not only will this affliction, this combat and struggle be in the business world, but every man and woman who loves anything of the material world and its interests will feel that these

things are being taken away from them, and their whole nature will rise up in combat against their nearest neighbor, for they will not be able to conceive of any cause of their trouble but their fellows.

Thus we think that it becomes obvious to any one who will think, that a time of trouble, terrible destruction and overturning must necessarily come, before the earth is fitted to be the abode of the just, to be the home of a race of men and women made in the likeness of God.

Have we any evidence that this condition is already beginning? We think that every Esoteric student has had abundant evidence of this fact. . . .

About the year 1881 the new dispensation began, the divine truths began to be perceived by a few of the most mature souls, and gradually these truths have been unfolding in the minds of the people until now there are tens of thousands, if not hundreds of thousands, who are in full sympathy with the Esoteric teachings, many of whom have never heard of them, but they have been instructed by the angel of God, and the light of the New Dispensation is now sufficiently strong upon the earth so that the evil doer is everywhere greatly disturbed and perplexed. As the Revelator said, "And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which corrupt the earth."

By merely a cursory glance at the nations we see that they are beginning to be angry. For a number of years the great stress of diplomacy and national thought in general has been to keep the world at peace, to be careful not to disturb the equilibrium of the nations. At present we hear a great deal said about the danger of disturbing the peace of the world. There is a feeling among the national heads that if war should be brought about now, it would involve the whole world. Not only is this feeling of

danger and general depression felt by the nations, but it is felt by almost all individuals. There never has been a time in our history when so many committed suicide as at present. The great strain and the feeling of anger and disgust are causing hundreds of men, women and children to destroy their own lives. Fifty years ago if a child committed suicide it was the greatest wonder of the time, not but that it occurred once in many years, but now it is not an uncommon occurrence.

Yes, the Christ has come to the world in a special manner and his angels are diligently at work among the people, preparing them for the great change, for well they know the result of their approach to earth and of the illumination of the minds of God's people with the great truths concerning the kingdom of God.

Therefore Jesus said, looking forward to this time, "Except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened." In order to shorten the time, the work must be hastened. The work has been going on so gradually and so stealthily that the world has not perceived it. There has been a purpose in the criticism and the censure that have been thrown upon the Esoteric work; namely, that the attention of the world should be turned away from it, and it be regarded as of little or no importance, and those who are being prepared by the Spirit are impressed to be quiet, to keep, as it were, in obscurity.

Some years ago, before I began public work, I felt very restless; my soul was anxious to begin to assist the people into the light, and I prayed: O Lord, where are thy people? And the Lord opened my eyes and caused me to look out into the natural world. The natural sun was shining and the people were rushing hither and thither, busy with their own interests, but here and there was a place of shadow and I was bidden to peer into those places, and there I saw persons who, while they were in the midst of the world, were yet hidden from it and

the people paid no attention to them, and the Lord said unto me, "These are my people." So it was made evident to me that God had a people to-day as he had in the time of Elijah. You remember Elijah said unto the Lord, "The children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only am left; and they seek my life to take it away." And the Lord said unto him, "I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him."

Even so at the present time the Lord has reserved to himself not seven thousand, but at least one hundred and forty-four thousand, who are held by his Spirit as under the protection of his hand; who are being led, illuminated, instructed and prepared for the coming of his kingdom, and when the time comes for the final work, then will the work be *hastened*. In great wisdom YAHVEH Elohim has been preparing the work to avoid as much suffering as possible and to protect his people as far as possible, and to carry them thru the time of trial into his kingdom of eternal peace and light.

But at this point we meet the adversary that we have often referred to; namely, the dark forces of the invisible world. God's children who have been hidden away are not hidden from these dark forces; they are not saved from the hour of temptation, but they are tempted and tried, and the only salvation from the hour of temptation is by each individual consecrating his life so perfectly to God that he has no other desire, no other anxiety, but to know and to do the will of God.

(Those who are willing and obedient followers of God will be led by supreme wisdom, by the angels, in such a way that the trials, temptations and struggles will not seriously affect them.) Tho the things they naturally love in this world be taken away from them, tho their nearest and dearest friends become their enemies, tho all

that the world holds valuable be taken from them, if their confidence in God is perfect, they will be supplied with all that is necessary. As Jesus so wisely said, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things [the things necessary to supply the body] shall be added unto you."

Those, however, who desire to hold to the things of the world and, as they say, to do their duty to their family and relatives, and whose minds are so thoroly polarized in that direction that they can not discern the leadings of the Spirit, will have great trouble and great trials, which will be unbearable in many cases; for every link that binds God's people to this world, to those who belong to this world or to the interests of this world, *must be severed*. For the word is, "Thou shalt have no other gods along with me." You should have no other power in which to trust; you can trust in nothing but in the Spirit of the Highest; and when you let go of the world, place perfect confidence in God, and are ready to follow the guidance of His Spirit wholly, you will find that the apparently insurmountable obstacles in the way of duty to family and to the world in general will gradually slip away from you, but if you hold to them, then the evils that are coming upon the world will come upon you; but if you refuse to struggle and simply do your duty before God, not before man, then whatever comes to you will work together for your good.

Here is a narrow line; as Jesus said, "Straight is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." The passage from the old age of labor, sorrow and death into the new age of life, light and immortality is "narrow, full of difficulties and many evils," and the only escape from these evils, trials, and temptations, as they are called, is to let go of the world and of every person in the world, and to ally yourself absolutely to God. This does not prevent you from doing your duty; it does not mean that you should leave your

wife, your husband, or your children, but it does mean that you should place them in the hands of God, and if they leave you or are taken from you, consider it as the will of God.

All that we can say is, let nothing stand between you and obedience to God, to the light of God's mind shining into your soul, and if you make your central object the seeking of God and his righteousness, keep that thought uppermost in your mind, then will the way open before you so gradually and so naturally that you will be among those of whom the Spirit by the psalmist said, "When YAHVEH turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like unto them that dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing; then said they among the nations, YAHVEH hath done great things for them. YAHVEH hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad."

We know that if you consecrate your life to God and are willing to do his will, and love God and his kingdom more than all else, you certainly will have guidance that is unmistakable, and if you cannot recognize the guidance, you will have the way open before you so that there will be but one way for you to go. For on the one hand there will be the transgression of God's law and the inevitable destruction of all that you hope for in a spiritual way; while on the other hand, tho the way may look dark, yet it will be evident that it is the will of God and, from the spiritual standpoint, the true way for you to go. "Choose you this day whom ye will serve." Thus God and his angels will lead his people out from the old, dark world that is now being consumed by the fires of its own passions, into the new and everlasting kingdom of God.

May the spirit of wisdom illuminate your intelligence.
(Bible Review, Vol. IV, p. 311, April, 1906.)



QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO THE BIBLE

(AND OTHER SUBJECTS)

WITH ANSWERS BY ENOCH PENN

THE MYSTERY OF THE KINGDOM

Question.—I have just been reading the words of Jesus to his disciples, "To you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God." What is a mystery? As a Christian I have always been taught that if I accepted Jesus as my Savior that I would go home to heaven when I die, there to meet my loved ones. And so I ask, What is the mystery that the words of Jesus imply we should know?

Answer.—It would seem that the mystery is the means and the method whereby men are to prepare themselves for the kingdom of God, and the manner of the coming and establishing of that kingdom. It is true there is no mystery—that is, there is nothing particularly needful for one to know, if simply to believe that Jesus is our Savior is sufficient, but it is possible that there is much more to entering into the kingdom of heaven than this.

To enter into the Spirit-world, and to be consciously one among the heavenly ones is one phase of entering into the kingdom, but the Church not only does not teach men how this is to be accomplished, but they do not know how men are to attain to a Spiritual consciousness. Frankly, the Christian Church does not insist on knowledge, but it insists on belief. They call it faith, but it is simply credulity.

ATTAINING A SPIRITUAL CONSCIOUSNESS

Question 1.—As a nurse I cannot agree with your statement, "No one save those who are healthily sexed can hope to attain to a spiritual consciousness and eternal life; only these can live the regenerate life."

Answer.—If you will study carefully I John iii 9, 10 we think you will see that the statement is correct. Man receives once every month a portion of new life from God

—This was figured by the “tree of life,” which bare twelve manner of fruit, and yields one of each kind of that fruit every month. This new life is given to man to enable him to grow into Godlikeness and learn to control the forces of nature. This new life enters the seed, and if the seed is lost that new life is lost with it. Therefore they who lose their seed for any reason, whether it be weakness, disease, or from whatever cause, they can not grow into Godlikeness, and they must fail (sin) to attain the ultimate the Creator has designed for them. In I John iii 9, 10 to which we referred it reads, “Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin [does not fail], for his seed remaineth in him.” The verse ten reads, “In this [fact that they do not lose their seed] the children of God are manifest.”

Question 2.—What about all those persons who have part or all of the organs of reproduction removed?

Answer.—If you will read Deut. xxxiii 1, you will see that such persons who were emasculated were not allowed to enter into the temple among the “congregation of the righteous” to worship God. To our mind this symbolizes that since they are not allowed to approach God to worship him, it is because they are not able to receive from God that new life which would enable them to come to a knowledge of God. Therefore they are unable to attain to eternal life.

Question 3.—What are they to do?

Answer.—They can develop as far as they can in this life, and as far as they develop they will have that much when they begin again in a new and complete body.

Question 4.—Was it not God's will? or it would not have happened.

Answer.—We can not know to what extent those in the Spirit-world interfere with the ordinary processes of nature. But we have no reason to believe that it is God's will that such things, or any other evil, shall happen to anyone. The vital thing is, not what we think is right,

or what should be, but what are the natural laws relative to the matter in question. If one becomes born of God, that is, gaining a spiritual consciousness thru retaining the seed, which John so clearly states, then only they who are healthily sexed, and who have such control of their sex-nature that they do not lose their seed, which John so clearly states, then only they who have such control of their sex-nature that they do not lose their seed, can hope to become born of God and be accepted among those in heaven as one of them.

If you will read Leviticus chapter 15, you will find there that they who had a "running issue," that is "gleet" or "whites" were unclean and were not allowed to be among the righteous to worship God. They who had a loss of the seed, must first wash themselves with water, and wait until the next day, before they were permitted to enter the temple to worship God. It is useless to think that piety, and any form of worship will "save" one, only they who keep the natural laws relative to the growth and development of the soul can hope to attain to eternal life. Some of the most pious persons are the most unclean, and because of this their piety counts for nothing.

HEAVEN

Question.—Your statements about heaven are to me very confusing; and I wish you would be more explicit, and see if you can make the matter clearer to me.

Answer.—You are as much in heaven now as you ever will or can be, for in God, the Spirit, "we live and move and have our being." To a man who is both blind and deaf, this is a dark and silent world. Because you are not able to see the light of the Spirit of God, even tho you live in it, you are unconscious of it. That is because the eyes of your soul, and the ears of your soul are not open that you are not conscious of the Spirit in which you live. But if you will live in the regenerate life faithfully it will be but a matter of time until your eyes will open, and you

will be able to see the light of the Spirit, and afterwards you will be able to see those who dwell in that light. And as well, when the ears of your soul open you will be able to hear in that realm. It is a matter of awakening your inherent abilities. And you will awaken these when you have followed the teachings of Jesus and the prophets of Israel far enough. How long it will take will depend upon from where you start, and the faithfulness with which you try.

We read, "We shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is." This is only another way of saying that we are able to see those whom we are like. That is, when one develops into the likeness of the angels, that one will see the angels, and they will come to him and will associate with him as a fellow.

SEEING AND KNOWING IN THE UNSEEN

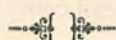
Question.—I note in the book "Millions Now Living Will Never Die," published by the "International Bible Students Association" this statement:

"The brave young men who went to war and died upon the battlefield have not gone to heaven, nor to eternal torture, as the creeds of Christianity would make their loved ones believe. They have not shed their bodies and gone floating about in space, as the spiritists would make men believe. They are dead, waiting for the resurrection; and in due time they shall be brought back to the condition of life and restored to their loved ones and be given a full opportunity to accept the terms of the new order of things and live forever."

And I remember reading not long ago the statement made in a Los Angeles periodical that the dead have no consciousness, nor will they have until the resurrection day. Spiritualists say that "the dead are alive," and that they try to communicate with their loved ones. And somewhere in your magazine you made the statement that "usually the dead are at first fully conscious, and do not even know that they are dead." What I should

like to ask is: How are we to know which to believe? Of these who teach so differently, which one knows?

Answer.—Jesus said to Nathaniel: "Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the son of man." This statement of Jesus implies that they who follow him will in time be able to see and know for themselves some of the things occurring in the unseen, in the cause-realm, the soul-world. Which is equivalent to saying that if anyone really desires to know these things for himself he can find out by following the teachings of Jesus. Otherwise he must depend upon what others say.

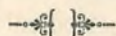


"Why fear tomorrow, timid hearts?
Why tread the future's way?
We only need to do our part
To-day, dear child, to-day.

"The past is written; close the book
On pages sad and gay;
Within the future do not look,
But live to-day, to-day.

"Tis this one hour that God has given,
His NOW we must obey,
And it will make our earth His heaven
To live to-day, to-day."

—Lydia Ward.



A man would do well to carry a pencil in his pocket, and write down the thoughts of the moment. Those that come unsought for are commonly the most valuable, and should be secured, because they seldom return.—Bacon.

THE SIGNS OF THE ZODIAC

BY HENRY PROCTOR,
F. R. S. L., M. R. A. S., A. V. I.

DR. Seiss, of Philadelphia, after extensive research, wrote a book entitled: "The Gospel of the Stars," in which he says: "That the tremendous astronomical wisdom embodied in the great Pyramid of Gizeh, first impressed me that this ancient story of the Stars must have come from a divine source." Astronomy, he regards as the soul of ancient religions; but for ages, he remarks, "the whole field has been given over to superstitious astrology which has befouled a noble science — a sacred domain of God; and when I look at the deep and almost universal hold which a spurious and wicked treatment of this field has so long had on mankind, I have been the more led to suspect the existence of some original, true, and sacred thing at the back of it. There is no potent system of credulity in the world which has not had some great truth at the root of it, and there is reason to think that there is, after all, some great original divine science connected with the stars." He concludes that they are a divine alphabet, and that Genesis is significant of this when God says: "Let them be for signs." God has spoken in the stars; the ancients knew how to read from that great book, the inspired legends of the heavens. Suns, stars, planets and constellations are the letters and words of a divine alphabet. From time immemorial the sidereal heavens have been divided into twelve equal parts, each dominated by a sign of the zodiac. "Up to the time of the Reformation all our important churches possessed a zodiac. V. le Duc, the official architect of Napoleon III, said that in the medieval days every church in France had its zodiac. There are many uses to which it has been applied. Some have even said that it was the very origin of religion. It was extensively used in the Patriarchal Church (the first Church), and in the Hebrew Church (the second Church), and in the early Christian Church." This zodiacal arrangement has laid hold with tenacity on the minds of

men in all ages. In all eastern countries especially the Zodiac is a most potent influence from an astronomical point of view. No boy can have a name without reference to the Zodiac, nor can his partner in life be selected for him without it being consulted, insomuch that every birth, marriage and death among hundreds of millions of people is influenced by the Zodiac.* The names of the twelve constellations which constitute the Zodiac are as follows:

(1) Aries; (2) Taurus; (3) Gemini; (4) Cancer; (5) Leo; (6) Virgo; (7) Libra; (8) Scorpio; (9) Sagittarius; (10) Capricorn; (11) Aquarius; (12) Pisces.

Hiram E. Butler, founder of the Esoteric Fraternity, which has its headquarters at Applegate, California, has formulated by a revival of some of the ancient knowledge on this point as revealed in the Bible and elsewhere, what he denominates the science of "Solar Biology," which demonstrates very clearly the particular kind of influence which the heavenly bodies exercise over the character and destiny of every person born into the world. This science which has been proved true in thousands of cases in all parts of the world, is set forth with every detail in his great work on "Solar Biology." It is useful in a variety of ways. It enables parents to know for just what business their children are best adapted, and how to educate them, and is also a guide to all persons in the preservation of health and strength, also an important aid to success and to the attainment of the great object in life, *viz.*, usefulness and happiness. It also aids in prolonging the life of old and young. It is of special importance to physicians, enabling them to attain great success, through having in their possession a certain key to knowledge, concerning the nature and peculiarities of their patients, such as heretofore has been available only to those few that were possessed of rare intuitive discern-

*Transactions of the Victoria Institute, 1906, pp. 236-238.

ment. By this means too any one can read their own character, discern their own weaknesses, learn their own capabilities, and consequently be better fitted for the battle of life. From earliest ages the voice of Wisdom has always cried: "Know thyself," and told us that "the proper study of mankind is man," and this science is the greatest possible help to this desirable end. "Solar Biology" is not the revival of an old superstition, but an exact science, which shows us, in very clear and specific manner, the use of the signs of the Zodiac. At first it would appear absurd to believe that the characters of men could in any wise be read by reference to the heavenly bodies. But when we duly consider all the facts of the case, we can come to no other conclusion than that it must inevitably be true. For we all know, first of all, what a tremendous influence is exerted on the earth by the moon. It is the moon which is the principal cause of the phenomenon of the tides, and this influence is assisted or retarded by the sun, according to their relative positions. Then again we are all familiar with the known influence of the moon on the minds of men, as indicated by the word "lunatic," which signifies "moonstruck," (German, "Mond-suchtig;" Hebrew, "Moon-smitten, Muccey-yareakh"). Epileptics and all mentally afflicted persons are worse at new and full moon.

The moon has an influence on the circulation of the blood, the rising and falling of the sap in trees and plants, and even on the ripening of cereals, which latter explains the phrase in the blessing of Joseph as to "the precious things brought forth by the moon." So we see that all plant and animal life on the earth is influenced by the moon as well as by the sun. If this be so, then a similar influence must be exercised by all the heavenly bodies. And this has been the belief of mankind thruout the ages, and from the dawn of history the signs of the Zodiac have been used almost universally to denote the twelve oceans of ether thru which the earth passes in its yearly circuit

around the sun. The symbol of the universe has always been that of a MAN, and the twelve signs of the zodiac of our solar system embrace in orderly arrangement the functions of a Grand Man, and each sign of the zodiac is related to one of the twelve departments or functions of every person's body, thus: (See foot note).

	to the	Rules from
1. Aries.	Head.	21st March to 19th April.
2. Taurus	Neck.	19th April " 20th May.
3. Gemini.	Arms.	20th May " 21st June.
4. Cancer.	Breast.	21st June " 22nd July.
5. Leo.	Heart.	22nd July " 22nd Aug.
6. Virgo.	Solar Plexus.	22nd Aug. " 23rd Sept.
7. Libra.	Reins	23rd Sept. " 23rd Oct.
8. Scorpio.	Sex Functions.	23rd Oct. " 22nd Nov.
9. Sagittarius.	Thighs.	22nd Nov. " 21st Dec.
10. Capricorn.	Knees.	21st Dec. " 20th Jan.
11. Aquarius.	Nerves and Framework.	20th Jan. " 19th Feb.
12. Pisces.	Feet.	19th Feb. " 21st Mar.

Consequently those born under Aries (21st March to 19th April), belong to the head of the grand body of humanity. They are natural reasoners, thinkers, philosophers, and scientists. Those under Taurus are characterized by the cerebellum and the neck; under Gemini by the arms, under Cancer by the maternal and domestic functions. Those born under *Leo* being characterized by the heart, have an unusually fine love nature, and so on for Virgo. Libra, Scorpio, *et cetera*, they are each characterized by that part of the body of humanity to which they belong. (B. R., Vol. V., p. 385).

It will be observed that the dates when the earth passes into the signs sometimes change. This is because on leap year the 29th day is added to the month of February. As a matter of course this disarranges the times, especially of those signs near the beginning of the year, and for this reason the date is sometimes one day ahead of the ordinary date.

PLANETARY INFLUENCES FOR OCTOBER

There is necessarily considerable repetition in stating the planetary influences from month to month, as the larger planets remain in a sign of the zodiac for a considerable time.

All the Planetary Positions given are Heliocentric.

URANUS IN SCORPIO

Uranus is now in the sign Scorpio, and while in Scorpio it will turn the attention to the undesirable effects on the body of sexual indulgence or of any loss of vitality thru that function. The perception of these undesirable effects of the loss of vitality will prompt to restraint of the sex-impulses and give an inclination to chastity. This is because the attention will be attracted to the changes in the feelings thru changes in the vitality of the body.

It will also disincline to express the mind fully, giving a tendency to hide one's thoughts, with the inclination to carry out one's plans in silence and secrecy. These influences will be most perceptible to persons born in the sign Scorpio, from October 23rd to November 22nd of any year, and by persons otherwise qualified by Scorpio. And particularly now by persons born on or near November 1st.

SATURN IN VIRGO

Saturn is now in the sign Virgo; and while in Virgo, it prompts to a critical examination and reconsideration of previous conclusions.

The chief characteristic of the sign Virgo is Discrimination, the faculty of perceiving differences, and Saturn being largely the embodiment of the creative principle Transmutation, which causes changes from state to state, many changes in the thoughts, opinions and plans of the people generally, may be looked for. The tendency to change will be felt most strongly by persons born in the sign Virgo, between August 23rd and September 23rd, and especially at the present time by those born on or near September 10th; many persons born at this time of the year are now experiencing decided changes in their lives.

Since Virgo rules the stomach, and, therefore, largely the digestion and the appetite, rich and tasty food nicely served appeals to them; because of this the food and the conditions under which the food is partaken will attract increased general attention while Saturn is in Virgo.

JUPITER IN GEMINI AND CANCER

Jupiter will be in the sign Gemini until October 17th, and while in Gemini Jupiter will give illumination of mind and receptivity of new thought in the direction of new and great undertakings. Because of the influence of Jupiter we may safely look for many new ideas and plans among the people, with the energy to attempt to carry those plans into execution. For this reason we may see the present "New Deal" ideas for the economic recovery not only to continue but to increase in number.

This position of Jupiter improves the language and inclines to oratory; this in itself will incline many otherwise silent ones to voice their opinions. So strong will be the inclination to express thought in words that many voluble persons will be inclined to talk for talk's sake. How far this awakening of the minds of the people to the receptivity of new thought will result in improving the present untoward economic conditions remains to be seen; let us hope that it will not result in making confusion worse confounded. Jupiter being the embodiment of the creative principle Fermentation, while it is in the sign Gemini, all those who were born in that sign, between May 21st and June 21st, will find their natural restlessness and dissatisfaction much increased. Persons born on or near June 21st now feel the disturbing influence of Jupiter most fully.

On October 17th Jupiter will enter the sign Cancer, and while in Cancer Jupiter will increase very much the ideals relative to the home, which will create more or less dissatisfaction with the present home conditions. It will incline the people to want bigger homes, which will in a measure turn the minds of the people to domestic science.

It will tend to improve the general health, and increase the general love for children.

While Jupiter is in the sign Cancer those persons born in Cancer, between June 21st and July 22nd, will feel its disturbing influence.

MARS IN AQUARIUS

During October Mars will be in the sign Aquarius and while in Aquarius it will turn the family love toward the people, and will give the feeling "the world is my family." This will tend to increase the tendency toward Socialism. It will increase the desire to travel.

EARTH IN LIBRA AND SCORPIO

Until October 23rd the earth will be in the sign Libra, and while in Libra it will tend to increase among the people foresight in business, and also the tendency to speculation. In a general way it will brighten the intuitions and will give a desire to see justice and fair-dealing toward all by all.

On October 23rd the earth will enter the sign Scorpio, and while in Scorpio it will tend to improve the general health. There will be an inclination to maintain the old standards of life.

VENUS IN GEMINI AND CANCER

Until October 14th Venus will be in the sign Gemini, and while in Gemini it will incline to the study of books and to intellectual pursuits. During this time it will prompt those born in Gemini, between May 21st and June 21st, to greater love for and appreciation of the opposite sex.

On October 14th Venus will enter the sign Cancer, and while in that sign it will concentrate the loves upon home and family, and will increase the general love for children. It will increase in those persons born in the sign Cancer, between June 21st and July 22nd, their love for and appreciation of the opposite sex.

MERCURY IN LIBRA, SCORPIO, SAGITTARIUS,
CAPRICORN, AQUARIUS AND PISCES

Until October 4th Mercury will be in the sign Libra, and while in Libra it will tend to maintain the general health and improve the intuitions relative to business affairs.

On October 4th Mercury will enter the sign Scorpio, and while in Scorpio it will improve the general health by increasing the general vital energies.

On October 10th Mercury will enter the sign Sagittarius and while in that sign it will increase the general physical activity.

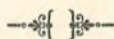
On October 14th Mercury will enter the sign Capricorn, and while in Capricorn Mercury will maintain the physical activity and love of travel and will turn the attention largely into business channels.

On October 19th Mercury will enter the sign Aquarius, and while in that sign it will maintain the general physical and business activities and it will incline the people to seek sensational pleasures.

On October 25th Mercury will enter the sign Pisces, and while in that sign it will still maintain the general activity and will increase the inclination to walk and be on the feet and travel.

A SUMMING UP

The general trend of the planetary influences for October will maintain the physical and mental efforts to improve the present condition. Thruout the month the tendency to a general physical activity will tend to maintain the general health, which condition will still improve after the earth enters the sign Scorpio. During the latter half of the month the attention of the people will be largely turned toward improving the home and the domestic condition. On the whole the general tendency is upward.



explosives just waiting for the match! It looks queer to me that the Government is to fortify Robben Island (Island of Seals) which lies across the entrance to our harbor here. It was once used as an isolation camp for lunatics and lepers.

One could never endure the tiny fraction of the world's sorrows which we contact personally, without a deep sense of the overshadowing and indwelling of the great Christ-Spirit. On Tuesday mornings, such as this, I sit in the office of the City Mission to enable the minister-in-charge to visit, investigate, *etc.*, so I see enough to realize how thankful I must be for all the blessings I have.

I have kept on "going to school" all down the years. I am still studying in my spare hours. The more I read the more I marvel at the unsearchable riches of God and of His love.

Many thanks for sending me the magazine which I read thoroly before forwarding to my friend, who is now in Rhodesia. I enclose a contribution for your consideration. An inspiration suddenly came to me, from the passage read at the meeting which I attended on Sunday night. I wrote it out yesterday while awaiting my pupils. I have but two now—a Jewess learning English, and a young lad being coached in mathematics.

Last summer some disgruntled person fired the forests on our lovely mountain and spoiled its appearance. Hundreds of acres of valuable timber belonging to the Governmer t were destroyed.

Goodbye for now, with love to all.

Yours sincerely,

Florence A. Cooke.

Editor's Note.—We are grateful to these friends for the contributions mentioned in their letters, but lack of space delays their publication until later.



Monthly Ephemeris (Time of Cusp Transits).
Washington, D. C., (Civil Time) Oct., 1936.

moon	sign	day	hour	minute
☾	♈	2	3	17 a. m.
"	♊	4	3	30 a. m.
"	♌	6	6	21 a. m.
"	♍	8	0	38 p. m.
"	♎	10	9	54 p. m.
"	♏	13	9	12 a. m.
"	♐	15	9	40 p. m.
"	♑	18	10	29 a. m.
"	♒	20	10	29 p. m.
"	♓	23	7	52 a. m.
"	♈	25	1	19 p. m.
"	♊	27	3	0 p. m.
"	♌	29	2	26 p. m.
"	♍	31	1	42 p. m.

Heliocentric Cusp Transits of Planets

☼	♎	23	9	28 a. m.
♀	♏	14	7	0 a. m.
♂	♎	4	11	30 p. m.
"	♑	10	0	14 a. m.
"	♒	14	6	37 p. m.
"	♓	19	5	5 p. m.
"	♈	25	7	14 a. m.

On the 1st of the Month

♈	in	♓	12°	27'	22"
♊	"	♎	28	36	29
♌	"	♍	19	44	9
♍	"	♌	7	14	25

For every added degree of longitude east the sun time is 4 minutes later in the same day,
and for every added degree of longitude west it is 4 minutes earlier.

These tables are in each number of this magazine in order that those who desire to regenerate their bodies may have the data that will help them in their efforts.

SOLAR BIOLOGY

ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES OF STUDENTS

Question.—On page 184, Vol. I, Revised Esoteric, I find the following statement: "For thru this science (Solar Biology) we know what mental condition governs, or is governed by, each and every function of the human body; so that when we find a function diseased, we know what mental condition produced it, and are thus enabled to find the remedy."

Again on page 51, Vol. II, Revised Esoteric, I find the following statement: "... and realize also the need and use of Solar Biology, which reveals to us the kind of thought that arises in each function of the body."

Now I am positive that the writer of the parts quoted knew what he was writing about. Therefore the failure to understand must be mine. Will you kindly tell me, for example, what kind of thought arises in the function of the lungs? or in the stomach? or in the liver?" B. N.

Answer to B. N.—Your questions are not easily answered, save in a general way. To illustrate the idea expressed on page 184 of the "Revised Esoteric." We know that with the brain (the head) we think and dream day-dreams—for most of our thinking is but allowing thoughts to flow thru the brain without purpose,—and if a planet, Venus, for instance, is in Aries, Venus in Aries turns the brain to dreaming, idealizing things pertaining to the love-life. So strong is this tendency that those who have Venus in Aries dream such beautiful dreams of the love-life that when it comes to the practical matter of marriages, these persons hesitate and shrink from the reality. And for this reason persons with Venus in Aries very commonly do not marry: for they realize that the real will not likely measure up to the ideals in the dreams in which they have indulged.

Taurus being the embodiment of the senses, Venus in Taurus turns thoughts of the love-life to dreams of the sensations of loving and of being loved. And by going thru all the twelve signs of the Zodiac, considering each sign separately as to the characteristics pertaining to that

part of the body, we can see the effect it has to direct the mind relative to the loves.

This same thing is true relative to the positions of the other planets. Mars being the embodiment of the mother nature—and we know that nothing is more fierce than the mother protecting her young from danger—we have but to consider the manner in which mother-love would manifest itself under conditions pertaining to the mannerisms and prominent characteristics of each sign.

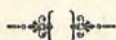
Jupiter pertains largely to the occupation, and those who were born in the sign Sagittarius, they being active physically, are thus urged by Jupiter to great physical activity. For this reason we find that Jupiter in Sagittarius inclines to great executive ability. Also in the other signs its energies manifest according to the direction of the activities of the sign.

By going thru all the signs and considering their general course of action, and considering the creative principle of which the planet under consideration is the embodiment, one can easily see why Solar Biology makes the statements regarding the effect upon the character of the various planetary positions that it does.

In order to study the underlying principles of the science of Solar Biology, and not simply to memorize the text in the book, one should carefully consider the action in human life of the Seven Creative Principles. These seven principles are Force, Discrimination, Order, Cohesion, Fermentation, Transmutation and Sensation. By considering the character of the twelve signs, and what effect the different creative principles would have in combination with those characteristics, we can see what effect any planet has upon a person when we know the sign in which the planet was at the time of that person's birth. By considering the matter from this standpoint we are able sometimes to find characteristics which are not mentioned in the book Solar Biology. For because the Science of Solar Biology covers such a vast field of knowledge it was

necessary in putting it into book form, that the statements in the book be condensed. To further explain what we have just said we quote from Solar Biology itself: "This system gives us more than two hundred and thirty millions of distinct characteristics, made up in the time of one cycle of the planet Uranus, which is about eighty-four years, which when multiplied into the different organic qualities and race conditions, gives us an almost unlimited variety of human types.

"The constant rapidity with which the thought formations are made by the changing position of the sun, moon, and different planets, and incarnated in human form, are beyond the possibility of ordinary conception; yet the mechanism of this system is so simple that we can read and know them, not only during the one cycle of Uranus, but during all future cycles, within the space of 2152 years" ('Parental Conditions,' Solar Biology, pages 255-6).



LETTERS

Villa Lux, Switzerland.

Dear Friends:

I have not written to you for a long time, being overwhelmed with work, but wish to thank you for your courtesy in sending me your magazine.

Today I enclose a short article, written two days ago, which may possibly suit your magazine. You are the great advocates of PURITY and therefore it ought to appeal to you!

The terrible events in Spain—where I have friends, who have probably been massacred—cause me great anguish. I greatly fear there will shortly be a universal conflagration. The forces of evil let loose on our poor earth are terrible! I send you as "printed matter" some

papers, dealing with present conditions. If more copies are desired, they are at your free disposal.

The "Toldoth" is ghastly and very few people seem to have heard of it. If you would like an original copy for your library, I will gladly supply it.

Yours with kindly thought,

(Princess) M. Karadja.

Cape Town, S. Africa.

Dear Friends:

I really feel ashamed when I see that your last letter is yet unanswered. I find life in town inimical both to correspondence and meditation, as there is always something to be done and somebody to meet.

Yes; we are frequently visited out here with terrible swarms of locusts. We have a vast desert north of the Union of S. A., where these pests breed, and hatch out after any chance downpour, for these parts are not absolutely rainless (three years ago they were flooded inches deep.) Then we know and await! The Government wisely spends thousands of pounds on their wholesale destruction, so that they are not so great a menace as formerly, when, it is said, the primitive Boers refused to destroy them for fear of displeasing the Almighty. Later on they *did* drive sheep, etc., to and fro over the swarms while unable to move—for the temperature must be over 60° F. or so before they are sufficiently warm to wake up and fly. Nothing will induce the Desert Bushmen to destroy the hatchings—they see in the swarms great stores of luscious food (Ugh! their scent alone is unspeakable!) This year we have been punished with "armies" of the armyworm, which is even more difficult to combat. Heavy rains in the eastern districts have largely destroyed these during the last week or two. All our season has been strange; we have had a cool, wet summer—a thing almost unknown in Cape Town—or the Peninsula—which is usually all but cloudless for three months.

Europe seems to be in a parlous state just now—the

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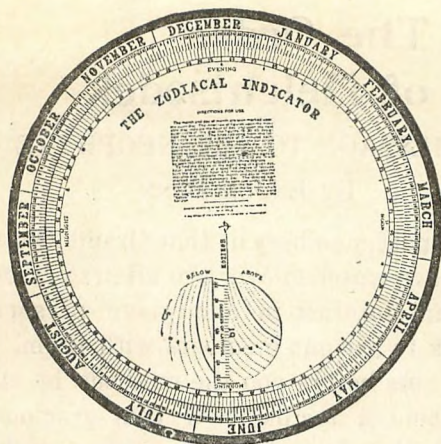
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