

THE
MESSAGE OF THE SUN
AND
THE CULT OF
THE CROSS AND SERPENT

Being an Epitome of the Faith of Jehovah-Elohim, for which the
Religions Judaism and Christianity were substituted.

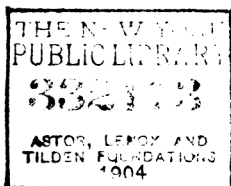
BY
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"THE CULTUS OF THE LARGER CHRISTIANITY"

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PREFACE

THE "Message of the Sun" is a preliminary statement of certain Principles of the Science of the Universe, necessarily very fragmentary and incomplete, but which will open up the broad Principles of the Truth that will appear fully elucidated and scientifically explained in the forthcoming works of the Author. Many persons are aware of the existence of the Cult of the Cross and Serpent, and are waiting for the production of the treatises, which are about to be published, on this subject. The Cult has created already a considerable stir in the world of Spiritual and Psychical thought, even though not a word has yet come forth, authoritatively, of the tenets of its founder and exponent.

So new and so profound is the teaching

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of the Cross and Serpent, embracing the whole Science of the Universe, both Physical and Spiritual, that the Author was led to write this outline as a preparatory statement that should prepare the minds of his readers for the more elaborate and detailed treatises which will unfold the marvels of the cosmogony of the Universe, revealing the facts and truths of the origin and development of all the parts of the Cosmic Universe—the Zodiac, the Planets, and all the Microcosms which make up the Macrocosm.

The Author makes no apology for the utterances found in this book, nor does he attempt to plead any arguments in favour of the tenets therein expounded. It is the Truth; and, as such, it will prevail against all the prejudice which any new pronouncements naturally arouse in the minds of those who are biassed in favour of the prevalent opinions of an Age that chaotically abounds with contrary opinions and

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antagonistic teaching. His answer to the question, "Who will show us any good thing?"—this book may offer to mankind a gleam of hope that in the Cross and Serpent something of a good and permanent character is offered to satisfy and comfort mankind, tossed by every wind of doctrine. Then let those who feel that this is so, encourage themselves in the expectation that the larger unfoldment will be indeed that "good thing," which will be the satisfaction of mankind in the problems which for ages have perplexed and troubled all true-hearted and honest souls.

The "Cult of the Cross and Serpent," which forms an appendix of the "Message of the Sun," is a short epitome of some of the general principles which relate to the truth more fully expressed in the latter. It is practically a Manifesto of the Cult of the Cross and Serpent, and intended to call the attention of mankind to the Cult, and arouse a general interest in its teaching.

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This alone is the object of this book. The reader must wait a little while longer for the full exposition and complete revelation of the Mysteries of Life and Being, which will shortly be given to the world.

“ Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are True, whatsoever things are Honest, whatsoever things are Sound, whatsoever things are Pure, whatsoever things are Beautiful, whatsoever things are Convincing ; if there be anything that appeals to you, anything that is commendable to you in them, let these things receive your full consideration.”

H. E. S.

PIAZZA MARINA, 64,
CASA DAGNINO,
PALERMO, SICILY. 12 : 3 : 1902.

THE MESSAGE OF THE SUN

I.—THE SUN-GOD

1. THE Sun is the centre of the Universe.

Around the Solar Orb revolve the Stars, in vast Planetary and Constellatory Systems.

2. From the Sun all Matter and Force originally came. From the Sun proceeds, in infinite radiation, all that constitutes the Life which is found in all Organisms, from the molecule to the planet, from the cell-atoms to the "Gods" — those lofty Celestial Beings, who have passed through all the evolutionary stages and become perfect Monads.

3. The Universe is one great complex Organism, the Macrocosm, and the Sun is its centre. The Stars (Planets and Constellations), all the great and small bodies, all the nebulous and compact Spheres, the Microcosms, revolving in their orbits in

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the vastness of Space, as well as all the great and small creatures, animate and inanimate, which constitute or inhabit each individual Sunlet or Planet, are the parts—the organs and limbs—that perform their several functions in the vast palpitating Organism of the Universe, the heart of which is the Sun.

The Sun is the Centre, Fount, and Source of all that constitutes Matter, and Force, and the elements of which all Organisms consist.

4. Without the Fires of the Sun there would be no living thing in the universe ; all would be blackness of darkness, lifelessness, emptiness. There has never been a time when there was no Sun. The Sun has never been non-existent.

5. And the same may be said of all Organisms, for are they not all various forms of the Sun, in different stages of organic evolution ? They come forth from the Sun, and they return to the Sun, in due course. From the Sun they derive life, and by the Sun they are sustained. Returning in due course, they are merged again in

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the Sun. So the Sun is constantly fed by the molecules of Matter, disintegrated by death and decomposition. The offspring supports the parent, even as the parent maintains the offspring.

6. The Sun-Fires can never die out, they recreate their own fuel, they regenerate their own gases and forces, which compose the Heat, Light, Force, and Life of the Sun. The Sun is the basis of all the Light, Heat, and Being in the universe, the central furnace of ever-consuming, ever-living, life-giving Fires; the Foundation, Source, and Constitution of *all that Is*, in the Universe.

7. The vehicle of the life-principle of the Sun is Light, that brilliant luminance that radiates from the Sun. But Light is itself a product, and not a simple element. FIRE—not that familiar counterpart of it by which we warm ourselves, cook our food, and lighten our darkness—is *the primordial element from which are derived all the forces of nature*. Fire, that is to say, not in the form familiar to mankind, of combustible matter in a state of ignition, but a simple, original element

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of inconceivable purity, power, and grandeur.

8. The lightning flash, as it expands in luminous flame across the cloud-rift and rives the air with its forked tongue, is that same primordial Fire, in its approximate form and likeness to the Sun-Fires. Yet is that approximation far removed from the original Sun-Fire. That lightning flash we call "electricity." Electricity is one of the earliest modifications of the Sun-Fires in its passage from the Sun-centre to the vicinity of the abodes of living Organisms in the Planetary Spheres. Yet is lightning a dread power of vast potency, and capable of immense destruction in the Planetary Spheres.

9. But so infinitely potent and brilliant, in its dazzling lustre, is the primordial Fire of the Sun, that, even to the farthest distance of illimitable space, it would be impossible for material beings to live in it, were it not for the manner in which provision has been made for its modification, diffusion, and radiation through the limitless expanse of Space.

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10. Space is filled up with an extremely rarefied substance, as far removed in density from the fineness of the earth's purest atmosphere, as the latter is removed from the hardest solid substance. This substance, for want of a better name, we call Ether. Ether is composed of a combination of the most rarefied and impalpable cell-atoms contained in primordial Light, and can only just be said to possess the quality of materiality. It is composed of the very finest molecules of Matter, so fine as to be incapable of detection by the aid of the most powerful microscope, and to be impossible of analysis by the most delicate chemical appliances which Science has yet invented.

11. Yet is Ether a denser and coarser substance than Light. And this Ether acts in space as a beautiful translucent veil, affording the needed light-transmitter to the Planetary Spheres and Starry Worlds in the vast expanse of Space, from the exceeding glory of the Sun, the centre light-generator of the Universe.

12. In beautiful ever-undulating waves

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of vibratory motion, Ether acts as the vehicle of Light, Heat, Colour, and Sound, in never-ceasing radiation and vibration. When the Light from the Sun falls upon the Etheric Waves, it at once alters its form, as does a ray of light falling upon a prism. Instead of continuing in the intensity of a mass of dazzling molten glory, it is separated, by contact with the Etheric Substance, into innumerable rays of Light, each ray conveying to the infinite bounds of the Universe all the elements and properties contained in the Sun-Fires, of which light is the first issue and modification—Luminance, Heat, Colour, Sound, Water, and the life-generating Principles.

13. Passing through the Ether-filled space of the illimitable Universe, the rays of the Sun-Light are rendered duller and the heat less powerful: yet they are infinitely beyond the capacity of any living material Organism to endure, neither are they constitutionally suited for absorption into material organic bodies. As the rays approach the Planetary Zodiacal Spheres (where are Life and Organic Beings), around which, in various degrees

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of density, the clouds of vapour and smoke and the infinitude of molecular organisms are exhaled from the Terrene Spheres and float above and around the Spheres, the intensity of the brilliance and heat-power of the Light Rays are tempered and modified to the capacity of the living organisms inhabiting, according to their order of spiritual evolution, the several Planetary Spheres and Zodiacal Sunlets (the Constellatory Stars).

14. The parting asunder of the Light-mass emanating from the Sun-Centre, when it falls upon the Etheric body of Space and enters in the first instance the Zodiacal Sunlets, does not imply that the Rays are detached from the Sun and become separate entities. They are the Sun in diffusion. Each ray performs its specific work, passing through its particular course of evolution in the economy of the Universe on the particular spot upon which it falls in the natural course of radiation; and, its work accomplished, its course of evolution completed, however many æons of æons it may take in its accomplishment, returns to the

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Central Source in its final evolutionary form, or, the perfect monad—Elohim.

15. Therefore let it be remembered that the Rays of the Sun are the Sun in inseparable radiation. Extinguish the Sun and the Rays would be annihilated. For the Rays are the Sun.

II.—MAN IS GOD IN MANIFESTATION.

1. EACH Ray of Sunlight contains, in itself, all the constituents contained and spontaneously generated in the Sun. Some of the constituents, in the form of certain very minute atomic cells called "gases" and "chemical ingredients," chemical science has defined and brought into use for the benefit of the human race.

2. But there are other constituents and elements of the Sunlight, transmitted to our atmosphere by the Etheric currents, that are still undetected, though to a certain extent suspected and on the verge of discovery by scientific men. There are

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still many more constituents of the Sun at present beyond the possibility of detection and definition by any appliances of chemistry, or any methods of analysis that have yet been invented or brought into operation.

3. These elements are the most potent of all the constituents of the Rays of Sunlight. Even as it is the case that, to organs of sight, far superior and more delicate than human sight, there are visible an infinitely greater number and variety of colours in the prismatic Ray, of greater beauty and delicacy, capable of an infinitely greater number of combinations than the colours visible to the naked human eye; and even as to finer and more delicate hearing faculties than those possessed by the present human race, there are musical tones and varieties of sound-combinations infinitely more subtle and melodious than can affect audibly the human organ of hearing; so, in Light, which, in an infinite number of Rays, with whose potent and, for the most part, unknown qualities our atmosphere is impregnated, pervades the

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terrestrial crust, permeating its molecular formation with the elements of vitality, fertility, and innumerable potentialities, at present, for the greater part, undiscovered by man, there are these many elements which, hitherto, the present race of men have not yet developed the capacity to apprehend. That capacity is slowly developing, as ignorance of the many heretofore unknown laws of Nature is being removed by a greater and freer application of the study of Nature.

4. Therefore, to the Light-Rays of the Sun, which are the Sun in diffusion, do the Planetary Spheres owe the Life that is on them, the matter of which they consist, and the forces which compact and consolidate their molecular and atomic formations, and cause them to revolve elliptically in their orbits, and to correspond to the influences of the Constellations of the Zodiac in the Cosmogony of the Universe. Thus does it come to pass that, scientifically, all Nature—the whole Universe—is the Sun in one or another of the innumerable forms into which its constituents

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combine in producing the countless formations and variations of Entities and Organisms, from the finest Etheric molecules to the hugest of the Planetary Spheres, from the most rarefied atoms composing the nebula, or Ether, to the most perfect development of Man.

5. The message, therefore, which the Sun conveys is one of surpassing beauty and of the utmost significance. If that message were fully learnt, if it had been fully obeyed in the past history of the race of man, there had been no cause for the suffering and anguish of this age, nor for the martyrdom which ignorance, egotism, blindness, and individualism have inflicted upon the human messengers and their disciples, who have, by knowledge, experience, love, and devotion, sought to voice the mind of the "Gods" and to reveal the mysteries of Nature and Jehovah.

6. Now, in the foregoing we have seen that, in the physical and material planes, Light, which is the Sun in radiation, is the Source of Life, Heat, Water, Matter, Force,

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and Ether, and of the derivative combinations of these, such as Motion, Colour, Sound, and Organisms. The Microcosms are the parts of the Macrocosm.

7. All that we know, scientifically, of the Sun, in the physical plane, is identical with that which may be known of God in the spiritual plane.

8. God is Light. God is a consuming Fire.

"Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord, my God, Thou art Supreme in Greatness. Thou art He who art garbed with the vesture of Majesty and Honour above the Universe. My garment is the light with which Thou concealest Thy form, and which Thou stretchest out through the etheric firmament like unto a translucent curtain. Whose rays penetrate the chambers of the waters and draw from them the clouds of moisture, the vehicles of Thy productive powers, which travel on the wings of the wind, and deposit their precious burden of Life into the foundations of the earth, so that the earth is ever replenished and shall never be destroyed. Whose Angel-Messengers are His spirits, His

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Ministers of flaming Fire, to give Life and Truth unto mankind; who dwelleth in the Shadow of Darkness that enshadoweth the earth as with a mantle."

9. Man little realises his God - origin; that in God "*all things consist*," that "*in Him we live and move and have our being*;" that "*From Him, and of Him, and through Him all things have come*." He thinks not that every molecule of our composite Being—spiritual, psychical, mental, and physical—is the product of a Light-Ray from the Sun, coming into relativity with other Light-Rays that have formed combinations of many variations, the whole constituting the complex organism—MAN.

10. Neither does man realise, as he should, that, deep in the very centre of his Being, his Soul, there is a buried Light-Ray, which is God in diffusion—even as a Light-Ray in the physical plane, is the Sun in radiation. That Light-Ray is his Spirit—the Flame of Fire—the *God-Being*, which, in full development, is destined to return to God—the Centre of Being.

11. As surely and certainly as the Rays

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of Light, which are the Sun, as they appear in all their innumerable molecular forms and entities constituting the physical body of the organisms from the lowest types of species to the highest development of Man, will, after death has decomposed and disintegrated the molecules, disperse into their previous radial elements, and pass upward through the Etheric currents to their home in their respective Zodiacal Sunlets; so surely and certainly will the Spirit of Man and of all the lesser organisms, when they have run their course, return to God, of whom, and by whom, and through whom, man, together with all things else, have come, and in whom they ever existed embryonically.

12. If this truth of man's God-being had not been forgotten, and if it were generally known and believed by mankind, entirely different relations would be established, not only between Man and God, but between Man and his Fellow-man. The truth of the mutual dependence, the natural equality, the generic reciprocity, that exists mutually between all living

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creatures, and especially between Man and Man, Race and Race, Nation and Nation, Class and Class, destroys, with one stroke of the axe, the huge and corrupt tree of social individualism, conventional classdom, unctuous churchdom, egotism, avarice, pride, and cruelty, which have made modern civilisation a worse barbarism than any modern or ancient "heathenism."

13. The pity of it is that Man has so fallen from his first and primitive state of spiritual perfection in the human plane, that he has lost the consciousness of his God-nature to such an extent that one of the cardinal doctrines of what is called the "Christian Faith" is, that man is naturally the progeny of "the devil," born in sin, conceived in iniquity, and is, in his nature, ineradicably corrupt and evil.

14. How then can children, whom everyone believes to be of such an origin and parentage, and environed, as they truly are, by evil, ignorance, corruption, and illusion, become anything else but children of "the devil," of corruption, wantonness, and evil? Such a hideous creed as this

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of original sin is, in itself, one of the greatest curses that has befallen the human race since its first inception by the "Christian Fathers," at the time of the great anti-Christian apostasy of the fourteenth century from which modern Christianity has originated.

15. Is it not sufficient that Man, from the day of his birth to that of his death, is born into and remains in the environment of evil—an accursed environment, fostered and aggravated by a religion, a "Christianity," which, in doctrine and practice, is the negation and antithesis of the true religion of Jesus Christ—but he must be told from his infancy the lie of the infernal regions, that he is born a devil, a natural alien from God, and that he cannot of his own will and purpose return to God?

16. True is it that *the human race had fallen*, but neither has it fallen spiritually, nor by heritage. The fall of man is a State derived from conditions which at present are unavoidable and inevitable, but which are abnormal, and of which

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their causes are capable of being removed. As an infant he absorbs, and corresponds to, the evil environment surrounding him, which corrupts his soul and destroys the spiritual susceptibilities and perceptions of his babe-mind and babe-flesh, thereby imprisoning his Spirit in adamant walls.

17. Thus does it come to pass, that a child loses his soul in his infancy, that is to say, his flesh and mind become corrupted and hardened by the environment which it inhales and absorbs, and his spirit becomes more and more deeply buried beneath the gross preponderance of the Animal and Physical nature.

18. Yet is his Spirit present, but forgotten, unknown, and unknowable, within the deep caverns of his inmost Soul. The Higher Ego is lost in the Lower Ego. That part of his nature—the Spirit—with which alone Man is in touch with God, is shut up and imprisoned in the adamant crust of the predominant Physical Nature.

19. Man, thus fallen, is like a Diamond deeply embedded in the earth, a thing of glory, a secret Fire containing an imprisoned

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Light-Ray of the Sun, encrusted with earth, buried in the deep ground. Beneath the earth-crust it lies, unknown, unseen—*lost*. Within the stone are stores of glorious effulgence waiting to be unearthed, to be ground on the stone of the lapidary, and cut into facets, through which the stored-up Light of the Glory of the Sun shall correspond to, and conjoin with, the Light of the Sun Rays, and, thus commingling, display the lustrous brilliancy of the lost Ray, to the Glory of its original Father, the Sun.

20. It is by an analogous process of unearthing and manipulation, at the hands of the Spiritual Artificers—the Holy Spirits of God—that the Spirit in man shall once more “*shine as the Stars of the heavens*,” even “*unto the Perfect Day*.”

21. For this purpose did Jesus Christ, the Great Master of Heaven and Earth, come into the world, to teach mankind in His day. By His Life, His Teaching, His Death, His Wounds on the Cross, His Burial, His Resurrection and Ascension, He Taught, Symbolised, and Represented *the Steps of*

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the Cross, which ascend to the Strait Gate that opens to the Neophyte or Disciple, the Path of the Serpent, which leads to Salvation, Perfection, and the Absolute Truth of the Universe.

22. *"Except a man deny himself, take up his cross daily and follow in the Steps that Jesus pursued, ascending the 'Via Crucis' which leads to the Portals of Knowledge, he cannot set free his 'Spirit' nor become one of the great Spiritual Family of Heaven and Earth";* neither can he establish Spiritual affinities with the Spiritual Beings in the Heavenly Places; nor can he be brought into union with the Fount and Source of all Knowledge, Power, Life, Light, and Love—God, the All-Being, the Sun-Centre of the Universe.

III.—THE FOUNTAIN OF KNOWLEDGE

I. WHEN we speak of Knowledge, we speak of it in its fullest and widest significance. Knowledge, though manifold in

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variety and in the departments into which it is divided, is One in origin, One in essence. From One Centre it spreads forth in ever-widening expansion, as from the Sun the Light-Rays stream in ever-widening radiation.

2. Knowledge is the Sun of Truth in the Mental and Spiritual Planes, the Spirit-Essence of Light in manifold radiation, whose Spiritual and Intellectual Light-Rays illuminate the Universe in innumerable degrees and variations, according to the Degrees of organic evolution and of Spiritual and Intellectual Enlightenment attained by each living organism.

3. The significance of this truth is greater than appears on the surface. Truth—the abstract form of Knowledge—is one and the same in Source, Origin, and Essence. Only in the Physical and Intellectual Planes does it appear to be divided into departments, under different heads, each divorced from the other by seeming contradictions.

4. The point to be remembered is, that, at the Root, and along the line of radia-

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tion, *Truth is a Unit*, one and the same thing. A Ray of Light, from the moment it emerges from the bosom of the Sun, to the farthest point of its progress through the illimitable Universe, is inseparable from the Sun, containing in itself all the properties of the Sun, and appertaining not to one plane only, but to all the planes of consciousness and being; properties, that is to say, not Physical only, but Physical, Mental, and Spiritual.

5. Each Light-Ray contains in itself, as we have observed, myriads of variations of colour—ininitely more in number than the human sight can detect. So all departments and aspects of Truth, coming from the central Source of Truth, in God, through the Light-Rays of the Spiritual and Intellectual Planes, from the moment that they leave the Sun-Centre of Knowledge in God, to the moment that they crystallise into concrete ideas in the minds of men, in the “exact” and “applied” sciences, in the dogmas and dicta of Religion and Philosophy, are One in Source and Essence. And just as a Ray of Light

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is divisible into prismatic colours, shades, tints, and innumerable combinations, so is a Ray of Truth (which is Light, in the Higher Planes, for "God is Light," "God is Truth") divisible into various branches and parts of intellectual, moral, and spiritual Thought.

6. Likewise is it with the human and animal, the vegetable, mineral, and molecular organisms of Life. They all are Light-Rays, on the Physical Plane, in process of organic Evolution, and there are no single atoms, no bodies of living Matter (there being no such thing as "dead" Matter), but what are in living union and solidarity with the Source of Matter, the Sun. A man is an incarnate Spirit of God in development, a Ray of Light (for "God is Light") imprisoned in a living and corrupted body of Matter. So is an animal, a fish, an insect, a reptile, a vegetable, a stone, a grain, a molecule, an atom, embryonically and evolutionally—all are the same in their various relative states of evolutionary organisation. The Universe, therefore, is *One Grand Organism*,

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the Macrocosm; and all the Bodies, *the Microcosms*, great and small, are "*members one of another*." And when one Member suffers, the whole Organism suffers with it.

7. Here is the very foundation of the True Ideal of Human Society, of the Right Relations which should exist, which were intended to exist, between Man and Man—Sonship, Brotherhood, Kinship, Union, Love. It is for Man, in this Incarnation, Step by Step to return to these Right Relations, to get back to this Lost Ideal. Until he does this, this world must remain as it is, deteriorating more and more, on the down-grade, to a greater abnormality in each generation that goes by, in the present evil and abnormal conditions of the world, until the end is consummated in the final æonial cataclysm.

8. Each Ray of Light has its own specific work to do in the Universe, on each Plane of being and Consciousness. It is first transmuted into gross Matter by natural processes, which are partially known in Science of Natural Law.

9. Few, even of men of Science, fully

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apprehend the fact that in the Light-Rays from the Sun is the *primordial form of all Organisms*. The Light-Rays fall upon the barren soil of Mother-Earth, and transmute it into fertile land, teeming with verdure, by reason of the combination of the fecundative properties contained in the Earth and the generative properties of the Sun, through the Sunlets, contained in the Light-Rays which penetrate into the depths of the Earth.

10. What is the fundamental Truth which this fact teaches? That the Sun is Osiris, the Father-God of the Universe, reproducing itself in the evolutionary development of every organism, from molecule to Man; and the Earth—the terrene crust of the Planetary Spheres—is Isis, the Mother-God of the Universe; and all living Organisms coming from the same Womb of the Mother-God, Earth, having all the same Father-God, Sun, are the Children of God, Osiris, the Sun-Father, and Isis, the Earth-Mother.

“God, who brought forth the World, and ALL things therein, seeing that He is the Lord of Heaven and Earth, dwelleth not in

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Temples made with hands, neither is He worshipped with men's hands, as if He needed any outward show of adoration, seeing that He is the Life of All that is, the very Breath of all organisms, and hath brought forth from one Source of Life all the Nations of men dwelling on the whole face of the earth, and hath determined their predestined evolutionary periods, and the limits of their habitation in each period; that at a certain time in the Course of their evolution they may begin to seek for God, their awakening Souls causing them to feel after Him, who is not far from every one of them, seeing that in Him they Live and Move and have their Being; as certain of your own Sages have said, 'for we are all the Offspring of God.'"

II. Nature, in her most rudimentary forms, as well as in all the most complex species of organic evolutionary beings, is nothing more nor less than the Sun-God, in material and organic Manifestation, the issue of the Correlation of Light, in its manifold combination of Life, Sound, Colour, Thought, and Force, in their innumerable and varying effects upon Matter, which is

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the Product of all, and the Mother of All.

IV.—THE ARREST OF HUMAN EVOLUTION.

1. WE have been speaking more or less in the language of the Physical Plane. But this is because the Spiritual Plane is not separate from the Physical Plane; they are cognate. The Spiritual Plane is co-ordinate with the Physical, Psychical, and Mental Planes, in the same way as Vitality is co-ordinate with a living Organism, Heat with Fire, Colour with Light, Tone with Sound. The one cannot exist without the other. The body without vitality is inert, dead. So, the Physical Plane without the Spiritual Plane is dead. A Square has Four Right Angles, and Four Lines. It would no longer be a Square if a line or an angle were removed. It would be formless.

2. The Physical Nature is the Spiritual Nature in a lower Plane. Matter in the lower orders of Nature is ever ascending

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to Spirit, the highest order of Nature. The tendency of Matter, *if unarrested by abnormal conditions and circumstances*, is into Spirit. Organisms, as they have evolved from one species to another, by the Laws of Transmutation, variation, and selection, have always evolved, on the ascending scale, from the lower to the higher. *In no instance was there any exception to this rule, save in the case of the last Evolution of the perfect Human Organism, when Natural Evolution was arrested, and a Descent took place.* It was for this purpose that Jesus was manifested, to set Mankind on the Path of Salvation, to restore him to his normal place in the Scale of Evolution, from which he had fallen through the original disobedience of Natural Laws, of this once perfectly-evolved incarnate Human Race.

3. In the Spiritual and Intellectual Planes, it is the same as in the Physical Plane. Truth, radiating from One Central Source, in innumerable Knowledge - Rays, passes into the Souls of Men, and is transmuted into innumerable concrete ideas relating

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to the different Sciences, Religions, Philosophies, and Arts, and all the Intellectual, Moral, and Spiritual departments of Human Thought. All these innumerable Rays are the Sun in Radiation in the Spiritual and Intellectual Planes, and are all inseparable from the Central Fount and Source of all Knowledge, God—the Sun of the Spiritual, as well as the Physical Planes.

4. As each Ray of the Sun contains an infinite variety of colours and shades, producing an infinite quantity of harmonious blendings and combinations, so each Knowledge-Ray contains an infinite variety of forms, aspects, degrees, and combinations of Truth.

5. If only men would see it and accept it, there is the most absolutely perfect Harmony between all these varieties, forms, and combinations of Truth, as there is the same perfect Harmony in the varieties of colours, shades, and tints in a Ray of Sunlight.

6. In other words, there exists not an atom of conflict or contradiction between any of the forms and combinations of the

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Truth, which range themselves, in the mental cells, under the various classifications of Religion, Art, Science, and Philosophy.

7. How can there come from the Laboratory of Nature anything unharmonious or unbeautiful? Observe the myriad tints and shades with which, in the small area of a simple flower-bed, the Light-Rays of the Sun adorn the flowers and foliage, the mosses and grasses. Is there any unharmonious colouring, any discordant note of sound, anywhere in the Universe, where Nature has been left alone to do her work her own way?

8. Observe the marvellous colouring of the sky at Sun-set, its scintillating Light-gradations and colour-blending vibrating in unceasing motionful coruscations over the vast horizon. Is there disharmony in all these minglings and interminglings of Light and Colour? So is it, in every department of Nature—Harmony, Concord, Beauty, Rest, in all her incessant motion and ceaseless labours.

9. Shall it then be said that only in the Physical Planes of Nature Harmony and

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Peace are maintained? That in the Spiritual, Psychical, and Mental Planes—the highest evolved forms of Nature, of God-Manifestation—Disharmony, Discord, Conflict, and Antagonism must prevail, with inevitable certainty, as if a normal condition of mutual antipathy existed in the Higher Planes? Or, shall we at once agree that wherever Disharmony, Conflict, Antagonism, Ugliness, Cruelty, and their painful effects exist, it is because *the Laws of Nature have been arrested, abrogated, neglected, and disobeyed by Mankind and by Society, who have made themselves a Law unto themselves, and have forgotten God, the Centre of Natural Law in all the Planes of Consciousness, Being, and Nature?*

10. This truly is the reason of the strange Disharmony that exists in the Spiritual and Intellectual Planes of Human Consciousness. For it is only in Man that the Spiritual, Psychical, and Mental Natures of the Organism have been developed; a development, which, naturally and normally, should have contributed, proportionately, to the Happiness, Harmony, and Progress

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of the Human Race, and that to an infinite extent, and should have secured for Humanity the Highest Glories of a state of existence only one step removed from the Heavenly. Indeed, there was a time when the Human Race enjoyed that past state of perfect bliss upon this Earth, when all the secret stores of the Earth beneath and of the Heavens above, the knowledge of the laws and forces of Nature, were in the possession and use of Man, and contributed the Perfect Happiness, Wisdom, and Power of the ancient "Adamic" Race; until, at a certain time, the Adamic Race disobeyed the inflexible Laws of Nature, and disappeared from the face of the Earth, leaving behind them their progeny, in the present Human Race—a hybrid and abnormal mixture of the previous elemental Animal, and undeveloped human species, with the Spiritual Race of Adam.

II. From that time of the Fall of the Adamic Race to the present time, the Spiritual Nature has been out of harmony with the Physical Nature, conforming to the vitiated environment of the corrupted

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state of the Earth and its organisms, and guided and controlled by the Sensuality, the Egotism, the Individualism, which have abnormally preponderated in Human Nature, through the enslavement of the soul to the first and most pressing needs of human existence, the subsistence of the body, and the pleasure of the senses.

12. With the progress of this abnormal Race of Men on the Earth, every step in advance has only aggravated the evil, and it has come to be that, in this present Age, a man's life consists solely and only of what he shall eat, what he shall drink, and where-withal he shall be clothed; how he shall stave off poverty, disease, and death from his own door, irrespective of the greater needs and sufferings of his fellow-men. Man has utterly forgotten the fact that his nature has fallen from a Perfect Organism to an hybrid Race, half Animal and half Human, and that the Human part in him, buried deep beneath the preponderant Animal, is the only Link between him and God, the only security he has for Deliverance and Salvation, the only assurance of the

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“Golden Age” returning, which can only come to pass when the Human Race has set free the Spiritual Nature, vanquished the Physical Nature, and terminated, by Eternal Reconciliation, Harmony, and Peace, the present Antagonisms of the Human Nature and the Lower Species. When that has come to pass, then, and then only, will Peace, Concord, Harmony, and Love be re-established between Man and Beast, Man and Man, Nation and Nation, Man and the Holy Spirits of God—and between Earth and Heaven.

13. It was on this account, in order to teach Mankind to restore his Spiritual Nature to its normal position in Human Nature, that Jesus Christ was incarnated as the Great Human Master. His message was, “*Seek ye, as the first and foremost purpose of your life, the Restoration of the Kingdom of God, in your nature, by restoring to the Central Throne and Pivot of your Being, the Spiritual Nature;*” which now ye are trampling under the feet of your Animal Nature. And all the behests of Body, Mind, Soul, and Spirit will be provided when ye

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have done this." For when all Mankind has found the Kingdom of God, and has reinstated the God which is within the Human Soul, then will man be in Harmony with Nature and the Universe. Nature will then respond, and yield once again to Man the secrets of the Earth and the Heavens. Then there will no more be Want, Poverty, Selfishness, Avarice, Ego-tism, Individualism, Envy, Strife, or Cruelty. For then all men, on the face of the whole Earth, will live together in Unity, Peace, and Concord. The stores of Nature, now, for the most part, hidden from Humanity, will be opened up, to the perfect bliss and benefit of all mankind. This will happen when the spirit is supreme in the nature of man, and is in touch with the universal Spirit—God in Diffusion, manifested by the Spirits of the Highest Celestial Circles, "*the Spirits of Just Men made Perfect,*" and by all the Spiritual Intelligences and the Spirit Beings in the Planetary Spheres. Man will be at the Fount and Source of all Knowledge, and that truly means, of all Power. For the Knowledge of God

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is the Knowledge of all that is worth knowing in the Universe. Knowledge, in all the Planes of Consciousness, and of all the secrets of Life, Nature, Being, Spirit, and God. Such knowledge will bring human nature into altogether new conditions of life, and into restored relativity to the Universe, enabling him to triumph over everything that has intruded and lifted itself up against man — Disease, Death, Pain, Sin, Cruelty, War, Pestilence, Hatred, and every evil thing that festers upon the earth.

V.—THE SUM-TOTAL OF TRUTH

i. We have seen that knowledge comes from the one Central Source and Fount of Light, Life, and Truth—God, the Father of All Things, Himself, the All-Being. In the human plane, knowledge, which is One, is divided into many branches or departments, just as Light, which is One, proceeding from the one Source, the Sun-God, when it falls upon the Ætheric surface, is

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broken up into Rays, separate from one another, but integrally attached to the Centre of the Sun-God, from which all Light flows.

2. Owing to the limitations of human nature, as at present constituted, until man enters into intercourse with the Spirits of God, becomes *en rapport* with God, the Fount of Knowledge, it has become a thing almost impossible for one man to attain to a full knowledge of all the Sciences and Philosophies into which Absolute Knowledge, as it comes fresh from God, has been divided. But what is still more disastrous to human nature, the different branches into which absolute knowledge has been divided, have, by the ignorance, arrogance, and even wilfulness of Man, been treated as scarcely correlative at all, and by most men as absolutely antagonistic. Perhaps the true "Men of Science" have been less guilty of this than any other men of thought and action ; yet they are not guiltless of tabooing any Knowledge coming from sources which appear to them, in their limited acquaint-

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ance with the higher fields of Science, not to appeal to the human senses; and of limiting their study of facts and phenomena to those that appeal directly to the five Physical Senses, ignoring the fact that Man in his Perfect state possesses Seven Senses, the two latter being at Present comparatively undeveloped—the Soul Sense, and the Spirit Sense.

3. The worst offenders are the Theologians and Religious Teachers. They, one and all, go on the assumption that Science is more or less false, because the *dicta* of Scientists are, more often than not, in contradiction of the *dogmas* of Theology. The consequence of this conflict between the Sciences, the Religions, and the Philosophies, which has been unnecessarily and gratuitously imported, owing to the wilful ignorance, the pride, and the avarice of men, which forbid them to alter their teaching, even if they know it to be contrary to science, for the sake of personal considerations and a livelihood, is that the Truth of God has been split up into a large number of contrary factors, detached

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from the sum-total of Absolute Truth. These have hardened into stereotyped dogmas, together with so much of the alloy of Untruth, Error, Fallacy, and Ignorance, that the pure substance of the Absolute Truth is like a buried diamond, or as the thin vein of gold-dust buried in the reef ; it is, for the most part, lost to sight, and unusable, save for more harm than good, until it has been unearthed and separated, by Spiritual processes, from all that has corrupted it—processes which themselves are unknown in the philosophies and religions of the human race.

4. Instead, therefore, of the Truth of all the Sciences, Theologies, and Philosophies being reducible to one common Factor, convertible into one Sum-Total, creating a perfect Harmony of Knowledge, Utterance, and Exposition, void of all Discord, Conflict, and Antagonism, like the innumerable but always harmonious Colours visible in the Prismatic Ray, Mankind has taken each colour, so to speak, of the Ray of Knowledge, imprisoned it in an hermetically-sealed cell of dogma, whose walls are

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built entirely of error, superstition, false doctrine, and heresy, according to the Colour of each imprisoned Ray—and there are thousands of them—and have formed them into Sects, Churches, Societies, Unions, Religions, Cults, and Philosophies, answering to the various dogmatic distinctions.

5. The Case is this, then, that at the present time, a man, to find out the Sum-Total of Truth, has practically to pass through all these various Sects, Churches, Societies, Philosophies, etc., discover the prison-cells where the Truth in each is imprisoned, grasp the Truth *and run away with it*. The Sect will not bear to keep him if he has released and seized the Truth it has so jealously guarded, and exposes it without its draperies of error. And if he announces to his fellow-religionists, scientists, or philosophers, that he has found the Truth, and begins to preach it, under the afflatus of the Truth, he will be deemed a madman or a heretic, and cast out. They will utterly fail to recognise the Truth, in the poor weakened prisoner that

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this bold man has unearthed from the cold, dark cavern beneath the beautiful structure of error and superstition which they have built over it, and stripped of its vesture of error and superstition. For error is generally beautiful, and naked Truth is generally ugly, in the sight of mankind.

6. But is there any such man living amongst us now who has had such an experience, who, having gone through an exhaustive and careful study of all the Forms of Religion, Science, and Philosophy, has at last collated all the factors and *data* of Absolute Truth, and can reasonably say that he is now *in possession of the Sum-Total of Truth—the Truth of God?*

7. Alas! alas! such a collection of Factors would then be only *Dead-Factors*, after so long an incarceration in the dark, reeking cells of modern orthodox Beliefs, Dogmas, and *Dicta* of the Churches, Philosophies, and Societies of Civilisation. And the man himself would have become as dead as his Collection of Truths, if the

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pursuit had not indeed slain him before he had concluded it.

8. The question is, whether there is not another way of finding out the Sum-Total of Truth, to reach the centre of Knowledge? Has God left mankind to grovel and grope in the chaos of darkness, in which the word of God is covered and concealed, that it cannot be found except by so great toil, at the cost of so much trouble and pain, and with such unsatisfactory results? Is there no way to God, the Fount of Truth, but by drinking from the unclean cisterns of the Religious and Philosophical schools, whose teachers are as "*the blind leaders of the blind*"? Much is said and written, and many activities are set on foot by enthusiastic and earnest people, anxious to "save the world," all of whose labours end as the "*crackling of thorns under the pot*." Every imagination of man's heart has been evoked to devise schemes and projects of Saving the World.

9. Yet, to-day, after all these "Christian" centuries, and particularly after one single Century, a phenomenal one, in all kinds of

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efforts, propagandisms, sacrifices, and expenditure for this great and noble Purpose, the world is more wrapt up in evil and misery, in cruelty and tyranny, than it has ever been in the past. The very efforts of Christian churches have only aggravated the trouble and strengthened the bulwarks and walls of the prison-house in which the Spirit of Humanity is imprisoned. And the reason is not far to seek. "*A corrupt tree cannot bring forth good fruit, and a good tree cannot bring forth corrupt fruit. First, see that your tree is good, and then let it spread its seed, to grow up in all the world, and bear fruit that will Save the World.*"

10. And the only Remedy for the present state of things—the fruit of the corruption that has grown up with the "*Christian Era*"—the only Way of Salvation—lies in Man's return to God, the Fount and Source of Light, Life, and Truth. Man must grasp the fact that God is the Fountain of Knowledge. Men must be shown that all these so-called Churches, Sects, and Religions are not only unnecessary, but positive hindrances to acquaintance with

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God; that they are corrupt fountains, "*broken cisterns*," and dribbling streams, in which the truth is lost in the mud that is stirred up, the moment men make any effort to discover it.

II. The world has been content, in times past, to take for granted everything that every preacher, teacher, philosopher, and professed exponent of "Truth" teaches, whether they are self-constituted, man-appointed, or church-elected. And all these Preachers and Teachers derive their professed Knowledge from these same muddy rivulets and streams, these stagnant pools and broken cisterns, of doctrines, theories, systems, hypotheses, and schools of thought, which perpetuate their presentments of instruction and teaching in stereotyped dogmas, handed down from generation to generation, with the vaguest and haziest notion of actual authority and reliability of the documents upon which they built their creeds and canons. Not one of them dares to move a hair's-breadth from their dogmatic expression, nor to remove a single clause from their creed,

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lest, in doing so, the whole "pack of cards" should come down.

12. It has only been the little germ of Truth, which, as we have said, has lain imprisoned and forgotten in the lower cells of their "faiths" and creeds and sectarian presentments that has saved Religions, Sects, Churches, and Philosophies from crumbling to decay long ago. For there is, in all the religions and Philosophies of Mankind, much that is Truth if stripped of the errors and fallacies that cover it. But this must be said also, that there is nothing taught, nothing expounded in any religion, sect, philosophy, or Science, that is *Truth Unsullied*, Truth in its pristine Simplicity and absolute Purity as it came fresh from the Mind of God, nor is any one Church or Sect drawing from the Source of Truth, but only from the turgid streams of corrupt teaching.

13. This does not mean that God ever intended His Truth to be mixed with Error, Knowledge with Ignorance, Science with Nescience, however satisfied men are to have it so, having habituated themselves

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to it for so many generations in the past Ages of human history, until the Error has crystallised into the accepted Truth of all mankind.

VI.—THE INCARNATION OF JESUS CHRIST, THE GREAT MASTER

1. It was in order to point out the Way of Salvation from this chaos and confusion in the Spiritual and Intellectual world, that Jesus Christ, the Great Master, was incarnated in this present Cycle of Life. That Great Soul no one in His day, except His few uncorrupted followers, understood, and in this day, no one understands. The whole conception of Jesus, which Christianity now possesses and teaches, is false and erroneous. It is, at the best, a gross caricature of Him, and, more generally, a spurious and counterfeit libel on His great character and His real personality, and a grotesque misrepresentation of His profound teaching.

2. The true purpose of the Incarnation

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of Jesus Christ, and the true manner of His Incarnation, have been almost obliterated from the New Testament as it now stands in the hands of the Christian Church. The True Purpose of His Incarnation was to teach by His preaching, and to symbolise by the crucial events of His Physical career, the True way of Salvation in the successive steps or Degrees of the "Cross and Serpent," that is to say, the processes of development by suffering and self-mortification, to gain access to the Truth, and the possession of that Power of Spirit over the Flesh, the World, and the "Spirits of Wickedness," called the "Devil." And this is the only way of Salvation by which man can¹ extricate¹ himself¹ from the evils of the world-environment, and by which the Spirit may become the master and sovereign of his nature, by conjunction and communion with the Spirits of Elohim.

3. It became true of the whole of the Fallen Race of Men, who have, one and all, followed in the steps of the fallen Adamic Race, that "*No man hath seen God*" (by

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Spiritual development and Illumination) "*at any time*" during the present Age. The Seer and Prophet departed from the world at the death of Daniel, and the Extinction of the line of Elohistic Prophets. "*The Son of God*," the "*First-Born*" of all the Sons of God in the Universe, Jesus Christ, came to make the declaration to mankind, by which, once again, and this time by the Eldest Son, the "*Heir of all Things in Heaven and Earth*," mankind may know the way to Salvation by the Steps of the Cross, and the Gate of Wisdom and Knowledge, which lead up to Union with Elohim in the Celestial Circles—a Way that has been totally perverted by "Christianity" ever since the rise of the Papacy.

4. Mankind has lost touch with God, with Elohim, or the Holy Spirits of the Celestial Circles. Jesus Christ came to show how man may restore himself to the state of human perfection lost since the fall of the Adamic Race, that would place him once again in touch with Elohim.

5. All over the world, at that time (as all

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over the wider world at the present time) in Rome, Athens, Alexandria, Jerusalem (with certain great and noble exceptions among the Greek and Latin sages, poets, and philosophers, whose minds were comparatively free from errors), mankind was lapping up, for knowledge, the false and superstitious corruptions of the True Knowledge, at the shallow, vitiated streams of False Paganism, Superstition, Judaism, and Fallacious and sensual Philosophies. All these contained more or less of the Truth of God, but were all incrustated and corroded with errors.

6. Jesus Christ taught, in parable, doctrine, and practice, the unwelcome truth that this was the case with the religious philosophies, sects, societies, and systems in Palestine, in Greece, in Rome, in Egypt. Only was there an exception in the Communities of the Magi, who still abode in certain parts of civilised Europe, until the fall of Jerusalem and the commencement of Papal Christianity, when they migrated to the East to the ancient College and Headquarters of the Cult of the Cross

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and Serpent, carrying all their ancient Libraries, and the immense Treasures of Knowledge, away from the apostate centres of civilisation. Jesus Christ dared, alone and single-handed, from the obscurity of his Galilean home—a nonentity to start with—to confront all the most potent and influential orders and institutions of the Hebrew, Roman, Greek, and Egyptian religions and seats of learning, and to denounce them as false and corrupt, poisoned by illusion, error, and fraud, and vitiated by false reasonings, superstitions, and idolatry.

7. The whole burden of the teaching of Jesus, when rightly understood, was purely and simply the exposition of the ancient occult philosophy and worship embodied in the Cult of the Cross and Serpent, which had almost died out of human memory—that same Cult and Faith as had been taught by Enoch, Noah, Moses, Samuel, Solomon, Elijah, Ezra, and Nehemiah, and in the East by Krishna, Brahm, Buddha, Confucius, and the Elohistie Prophets and Disciples of the Eastern Hemisphere who

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followed them. These latter philosophies and systems of Worship are one and all identical with the former, in detail and minutiae as in Doctrine and Practice—a fact that may be easily proved by comparing the symbols and writings of the one with the other, as they are handed down in their sacred writings faultily, and much mutilated, to the present day, in either hemisphere. The verbology differs according to the various racial types to whom they appealed; their dressing is diverse, as is the complexion of their skin and their customs. But the core and crux of all are exactly identical, the inner teaching, the symbology, the rites of worship and the forms and conditions of faith and practice and ceremony.

8. Jesus Christ brought mankind back to the Fountain-Source of Truth, Light, and Life. He taught the absolute necessity of the restoration and release of the Spiritual Nature of Man from the bondage and imprisonment of the Flesh, the World, the physical Senses, and from the domination of the evil spirits which rule the world in this age.

“If any man feels the thirst of the

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Spirit within him striving after the Water of Life which flows from the Spirit of God, through the vast fulness of the Spirits of Elohim that pass from Heaven to Earth, and by Union and contact with them ; let such a man come to Me and I will teach him how he may attain unto the Resurrection from the death of his four natures, and unto Union thereby with the Spirits of Elohim, in the Heavenly Places. For hath not the Scriptures said, " Out of his Soul shall flow the Rivers of the Water of Life " ? And was not the Speaker referring, by the " Rivers of the Water of Life," to the Spirits of Elohim, which they that believe these words and obey their import should receive, when their Spirits, by Death and Resurrection, were made One with the Holy Spirits of Elohim ? And Jesus pointed to the specific time after He had conducted His Disciples through the Astral Zone to the borders of the Planetary spheres, He should, Himself, ascend to the Celestial Circles and send down the Host of the Spirits of Elohim, to fill and possess their souls, and create the free and unbroken Stream of Spiritual Union and Oneness between the

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Spirits of Men and the Spirits of Elohim in the Celestial Circles."

9. The "Soul" is the vehicle and Repository—the inner Sanctuary—of the Temple of the Body, typified by the "Holy of Holies" in the Tabernacle of Moses and in the Temple of Solomon—in which the Spirit of Man dwells. The "Spirit of Man," the Breath ("Ruach") of God, is the Spirit of God in Diffusion, the Ray of Light in Radiation. The Ray of the Sun-Light in the diamond can only become radiant and active by being brought into relativity with the Rays of Sun-Light that fall upon the stone. This can only be done by unearthing the diamond, by grinding it on the lapidary's wheel, and by the process of cutting into facets by fellow-diamonds, as the wisdom of the lapidary decides. Then will the falling Sun-Rays of the Sky draw forth the corresponding Sun-Rays of the diamond, and the two made one will produce the change of Glory which makes the diamond the King of Gems.

10. Like that diamond the Spirit of man is buried deep in the crust of the Flesh.

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But, though unseen, and, it may be, unfelt, *the Spirit is there*, in every human Soul, in a state of development, of imprisoned luminosity and power; even as, in the dormant, undeveloped state, it lies latent in every living organism, down the scale of evolution to the earliest forms of the minutest atomic cells, in its natal Sunlet, or floating on the vibratory waves of Ether.

II. The only means, taught Jesus, by His word and His symbolic life, of raising the captive Spirit-Ray of Elohim in the human soul, is to set it free from the Flesh, the World, and from the Spirit-realm of darkness in which it is embedded, imprisoned, and controlled; that it may unite and become *One with the descending Spirits of Elohim*, and enter into the potent Circle of Fire, by which all conjoined Entities receive the "*Fulness* ('Πληρωμα') *of the God-head bodily.*" The process is similar to that of the diamond; the Cross and the Serpent (Suffering, and knowledge obtained by Suffering) are the "lapidary's wheel" of Elohim and nature. "The wheel" symbolises the Serpent, which symbolises the

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endless ascent of Illimitable Knowledge, the "cutting into facets" being represented by Degrees, or Steps, of the Cross. These truths were all symbolised, represented, taught, and expounded by Jesus Christ, the Great Master of the Cross and the Serpent, both in His life and His teaching.

12. Now this is a process, or Way, of Salvation, which cannot be performed, nor even understood, by merely placing man in connection with the vitiated, poisoned, and shallow rivulets and back-waters, in which, what purports to be the "Water of Life" is dispensed, without the Cross of Suffering, without any pretensions to the "Wisdom of the Serpent." Such "Water of Life" is the "Poison of adders," the Water of Death. It produces everywhere the same symptoms : first, *excessive excitation*, false sparodic fervour, and religious emotionalism ; second, *inertia*, with frequent lapses into feverish fervidness of religious zeal ; third, *coma*, with the mere pretence and illusion of religious reality, amounting only to disguised selfishness, pride, censoriousness, religiosity, hypocrisy, individualism,

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hardness of heart, and all the corruptions, superstitions, and perversions of "Christianity," too familiar to our eyes, in the spectacles of the Religious Disease we see all round us, in its world-wide ecclesiastical and sectarian ramifications.

13. Man must first then shake himself voluntarily free from all prevailing "Religions," "isms," and "ologies" of modern Religion and modern Thought. Or, he must suffer himself to be shaken free of them by adversity and pain—the first stroke of the hammer which nails him to the Cross. He must begin by Gethsemane—solitude, bereft of human sympathy. For who will sympathise with the man guilty of the extreme malefaction of deserting his church and creed? Yet will he have more than he knows to sympathise with him—those, indeed, who need his sympathy, just as much as he, theirs. It will be *the free-masonry of suffering*. He, who can know the anguish of the sweat-drops of that fearful agony, when, alone, we have to tread the hard wine-press and trample out the last dregs of the old vitality,

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that it may give place to the Life of Elohim, the "New Wine of the Kingdom of Heaven."

14. It is thus that Man must be prepared by the Cross of Suffering, that he may be qualified for initiation into the innermost Circles of the Celestial Planes, the *Arcana of Truth*, and become One with the Spiritually Perfect.

15. You must therefore find your way back to Jesus Christ, and that only by the Holy Spirits of Elohim, who, from the Celestial Circles, will be your Guides, your "Shekinah," or "Paraclete," even to the Gates of Heaven. You must learn what is the True Teaching of the Spirits of Elohim, as Jesus Christ taught it to his Disciples, from which the "Church of Christ" apostatised in the IVth Century of this Era of Darkness, miscalled the Christian Era."

16. You must accept and embrace the Truth, that, at the extreme cost of the Cross in your own life (as Jesus bore it in His Life), you may enter into the Supreme Glory which will follow, in coming into touch and Fusion with the Spirits of Elohim. Then

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you will find yourself no more alone, but one of a great crowd of joyful witnesses of Spiritual Resurrection and Ascension.

17. This Great Event—the Object of your Incarnation, as of that of the Incarnation of Jesus—cost what it may of shame, humiliation, grief, misunderstanding, obloquy, and ignominy—the Cross!—will mean that, with you and with all who “*take up their Cross daily, and follow the steps of the Cross that Jesus taught,*” “*out of their Souls shall flow the Rivers of the Waters of Life*”; which is, being interpreted, the Union of the Spirit with the Holy Spirits of Elohim, by which Union you shall find yourself in the Stream of full and perfect Knowledge, Power, Strength, Wisdom, and Glory; joined to the flaming Circle of the Fires of Elohim, endowed with all the Gifts of the Spirits of Elohim; and possessed of that absolute Knowledge and Power, which will make clear to you, and help you to make clear to the World, all the Knowledge of the Universe, all the Sciences of Nature and Life, the perfect Philosophies of the Cosmos, the Truth, which relates to Heaven,

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Earth, Paradise, Hades, Nature, God, the Universe, Being, Life, Destiny, and Humanity. You shall have "*no need that any man shall teach you,*" for you shall be "*Taught of the Lord.*" The "*Spirits of the Truth of Elohim shall lead you spiritually, physically, psychically, mentally, into all the Truth,*" by their Oneness with your pure and perfect Spirit.

THE CULT OF THE CROSS AND SERPENT

Being an Epitome of the Principles of the
Faith of Jehovah-Elohim, for which the
Religions of Judaism and Christianity were
substituted.

WHAT IS THE TRUTH?

§ 1. *Proofs of the Truth of Religions, etc.,
not deducible from Results, according
to Human Standards.*

1. The proof of the Truth of all Faiths, Philosophies, and Religions is not to be found in their worldly prosperity, their affluence, their numerical strength, their comparative antiquity, nor even in their moral, intellectual, and beneficent results, according to any human standards or criteria. For all these evidences are producible to prove the Truth of every false doctrine, false faith, every fetish and fundamentally erroneous Religion, Philosophy, or Cult which has appeared and

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given its contribution to the general perplexity of Mankind. Turn Eastward, turn Westward, and, wherever you look, there are innumerable Religions, Cults, and Philosophical Movements, all prospering, all wealthy, all influential, all beneficent to the souls that are their devotees. Their names are legion. In the East, there are many Sects of the Hindoos, Brahmans, Buddhists, Confucians, Taoists, Parsees, Theosophists, etc.—almost as many as there are Temples dedicated to their worship. In the West, there are Christians, divided into Catholics and Protestants, both subdivided into innumerable Churches and Sects ; there are Unsectarian Sects and Communities *galore*, Unitarians, Positivists, Deists, Agapemones, Ironigites, Zionites, Christian Scientists, Salvation Armies, Mormons, and many more curious and grotesque parodies of the Religion of Jesus, too numerous to mention. All are prosperous, all affluent, all numerically strong, all morally, intellectually, socially, and, many of them, politically, beneficent. But none of these results are tokens or evidences of their Truth.

CROSS AND SERPENT

§ 2. *The same Medley of Voices in the days of Jesus.*

2. There were just as many, and just as similar, divisions and subdivisions of Religions, and of Philosophical Sects and Churches, in the days of Jesus, the Great Master of the Cult of the Cross and the Serpent. Pontius Pilate referred to this medley of dissonant theological and philosophical sounds when he held his private interview with Jesus, and, when Jesus had said significantly, "*Every man that is living according to the Truth will hear my voice, for I am a teacher of the Truth,*" he answered, "*What is the Truth in all this noisy babble of vain sounds which all profess to be the Truth?*" And it cannot be said that any of those Sects were less prosperous, less affluent, less numerically strong, less morally, intellectually, socially, some even politically, beneficent, than are the Sects, Churches, Religions, and Philosophical Movements of this, our own Day. Yet our own Day profess to have the Truth, and to teach it, and it denounces and deprecates the teaching of these Jewish and Gentile

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Sects and Communities, even as Jesus did, and it pretends to be following Jesus.

§ 3. *The Question of Pilate.*

3. We will answer this question of Pilate, and open to the World the true teaching, not only of Jesus, but of Moses, of Buddha, Confucius, and Krishna, all of whom were Masters of the same Cult of the Cross and Serpent—that Cult which Buddhism, Hinduism, Confucianism, and Judaism, and Christianity have perverted more or less into the most ludicrous, abominable, and grotesque of parodies. We will learn, at the feet of the Master, what is the Truth, which lies buried in all these Parodies, the knowledge of which will bring Life, Love, Righteousness, and Happiness, where now reign universally (so far as this Planet is concerned) Death, Hatred, Wrong, Misery, and Oppression in the seats of the Mighty, in the Fanes of Religion, on the Platforms of Philosophy, in the Workshops of the Slaves, and in the Tenements of the Poor. We will open the universal Sore, and probe the canker to its Root. We will expose the

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secret "Worm that dieth not, the Fire that is not quenched." And we will display to Mankind *the only Remedy* to the universal Disease, without which Remedy it must only have one termination, and that a Fatal one.

§ 4. *The Cult of the Cross and Serpent is normally not a "Cult," but a normal state of Being.*

4. But where is the Truth of a Faith of Cult to be found, if in none of the standards by which mankind gauges the Truth of current Religions, Philosophical Cults, and Faiths? Truly that is a question which can only have one answer, the answer which Jesus gave to Pilate, *Silence*. There is no answer to such a question *except in the Soul of the Enquirer*. For this must be known and taken to heart, that there is no Cult, no Faith, in the Universe, except on this dark Planet, Earth. That which goes by the name of Religion is as foreign in all other Planets, and the Circles of Spirit Beings, as the Truth is a stranger to this Planet at the present time.) We may put the Cult of

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the Universe into an abstract definitive statement; we *have* to do so; for the present race of Mankind can only express a thought by clothing it in language, and therefore it is our bounden necessity to clothe the normal Life, Thought, and Activity of the Universe into language. That which normally is neither a Religion, nor a Creed, nor a Philosophy, nor a Cult, nor a Faith, has to appear as all these, yet is it none of them. A "*Religion*," in the minds of men, is a thing apart from the world-life of men, a Seventh-Day spiritual occupation—generally speaking, a relief and diversion from mundane pursuits. A "*Philosophy*" is an intellectual exploration into fields of speculation, and, generally speaking, a mental dissipation on the effervescent lucubrations of wise, or would-be wise, ignoramuses, and of well-intentioned, but misguided reformers and thinkers. A "*Cult*" is a sublimated form of a *Philosophy cum Religion*, but a thing apart from the natural and sentient life of devotees—a mild tonic to some, a sedative to others, and always a stationary finger-post pointing

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to regions beyond, to which the Microphants of the Cults are unable to give reliable guidance. A "*Faith*" is a set of creeds, done in antique and dogmatic language, and employed more as a measuring-line, by which men admit, or reject, new recruits, and constantly excommunicate those who have intellectually, or spiritually, shrunk, or expanded, beyond the prescribed limits of their tenets and formulæ. But the "Cult of the Cross and Serpent" is essentially none of these. It is the normal state of Being, and is as spontaneous, as unprescribed, and as natural, as breathing, eating, and sleeping. Therefore it is not possible to place pegs and stakes, hedges and fences, around the Cult of the Cross and Serpent, and to say, "This is the limit of the Cult here, that the boundary of the Cult there, and all outside is untruth, fallacy, and evil."

§ 5. *The Cult of the Cross and Serpent lies at the bottom of all Cults, and will be discovered only by the Destruction of the Cults.*

5. Yet will even this be taken exception

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to by the critic. For, until the Cult of the Cross and Serpent has destroyed Religions, Philosophies, Cults, Sects, and Churches, and has absorbed all Mankind in its Universe-spread Fane, the Cult of the Cross and Serpent will just do this very thing. It will put embargoes and proscriptions on all other Cults all over the World, and say, "This is not the Truth ; That is not the Truth ; This is not of God ; That is not of God." And for this reason, the Cult of the Cross and Serpent has, for Ages, been unknown, untaught, and absent from the world. It is a forgotten Truth, and lies buried in the silt of Error, Superstition, False Doctrines, Heresies, and Schisms. There is no Cult, no Religion, no Creed, no Philosophy, which represents, in either teaching or practice, the Cult of the Cross and Serpent on the Earth. Therefore, it is the first business of the Cross and Serpent to destroy, pull down, root out, and pulverise, by the Dynamic Force of the Truth, all the False Doctrines, the Errors, the Superstitions, which are the predominant features of all existing Cults, Religions, Faiths, and

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Philosophies. And when that has been accomplished, what will be the Residuum of these destroyed Cults, Religions, Faiths, and Philosophies? What else, but the indestructible Truth which all these Errors, False Doctrines, and Superstitions have concealed, and for which they have been substituted; the Substratum of the Truth; *which will be found to be the Cult of the Cross and Serpent*, shorn of all disguises, counterfeits, spurious imitations, and corruptions? Thus the Cult of the Cross and Serpent will be, first, Destructive; then, it will be Constructive. For God (Jehovah-Elohim) never destroys, but what He builds again. He always begins by Cataclysm, producing Chaos, in order to evolve Cosmos.

§ 6. *Where is the Cross and Serpent to be found on the Earth?*

6. We will, however, endeavour to find the language which will succinctly and approximately answer the Question, Where is the proof of the Truth of the Cult of the Cross and Serpent to be found? We will try to put the Infinite into the clothing of the

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Finite, the Mind of Jehovah-Elohim into the limits of Man's understanding. The proof is to be found in the "*Cross*," and in the "*Serpent*." Find me a man who has suffered for the sake of emancipating his Spirit from the World-Thralldom, and I will show you the Cult of the Cross and Serpent. Find me a man, who, because he has come out of all Cults, Creeds, Philosophies, and Religions, is persecuted, vilified, and ostracised by all "orthodox" and Sectarian Religionists and Philosophy-Mongers; and I will show you the Cult of the Cross and Serpent. Find me a man who has secluded himself in his own secret chamber, and is fulfilling the necessary conditions by which he can only purge his body, his mind, and his soul from all the evil and delusions of the World, of the evil spirits, the Astral Demons and Elementals, and their pernicious Aura, that his Spirit may become the free and accepted Master of his Nature; and I will show you the Cult of the Cross and Serpent. Find me a man who, for this cause, is deemed a Crank, a Fool, a Maniac, a Fraud, a Rogue, a Devil;

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and I will show you the Cult of the Cross and Serpent. Find me a man who is willing to forsake father and mother, wife and children, sisters and brothers, friends and relations, business and pleasures, for the sake of Jesus, and the Cross and Serpent ; and I will show you the Cult of the Cross and Serpent. Find me a man who counts not his life precious unto him, nor any ties of life, nor any amenities, prospects, or pleasures, in comparison with the Cross and Serpent, and all that it brings to him, for his own Salvation, and the Salvation of Mankind ; and I will show you the Cult of the Cross and Serpent. Find me a man who does, and says, True things, and suffers for saying and doing them, because they are mysterious, inexplicable, and mystical ; and I will show you the Cult of the Cross and Serpent. Find me a man who will not earn his living by helping a few people to be wealthy and the rest of mankind poor, who will not receive gain to himself by conforming to unrighteous economic systems, who prefers starvation and death to following after Mammon ; and I will show you the Cult of

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the Cross and Serpent. Find me a man who refuses to live a comfortable, easy life by taking a "stipend," or a salary, as a "*quid pro quo*," for preaching delectable doctrines which attract and tickle men's intellects and imaginations ; and I will show you the Cult of the Cross and Serpent. Find me a man who preaches the uncomfortable words of Jesus, and the Cross and Serpent, and makes men scowl, and grind their teeth at him, for his unsavoury and unpalatable discourses, making so great a demand upon their self-sacrifice, their humility, their devotion, their submission, their love for God and for Humanity ; and I will show you the Cult of the Cross and Serpent. Find me a man who deals with the Unseen, Sees Visions, Dreams Dreams, Prophesies future events, utters strange and mysterious words, converses with Spirits, raises pandemonium among Demon- and Elemental-possessed men and women, and proves himself to be a Higher Spiritualist, an Occultist, a Medium, a Magician ; and I will show you the Cult of the Cross and Serpent. Find me a man who pushes his

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way through a world of obstacles, of derision, of human fury, of Demoniactal rage, of contempt, of shame, of spitting, a man who is counted as the "*filth of the world, and the offscouring of all things*," by Religionists, Hypocrites, Scribes and Pharisees, Materialists, and Demon- and Elemental-possessed people ; and I will show you the Cult of the Cross and Serpent. Find me a man who "Prays" in Secret, "Fasts" in secret, receives secret communications from the Spirit-circles, performs unaccountable Psychical and Spiritual Deeds, evinces the most consummate wisdom, speaks and acts with authority, and "not as the scribes" ; and I will show you the Cult of the Cross and Serpent.

§ 7. *The "strait and narrow Path," and the "broad Road."*

7. This is the best that we can do at present, in answering such a question as the one propounded. Do you ask, "Where is there a man to be found, answering to such a description?" We answer, perhaps *nowhere*. Perhaps *everywhere*. There are, it may be,

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more men in the world who have not "*bowed the knee to Baal*" than we wot of. There may be none but ourselves. And we may have to stand alone for many a long day, before another man be found, willing to "*take up his Cross*," and follow Jesus in the "*strait and narrow Path that leads to Life*."

For "*there may be many who are called, but there are few who choose the Path*." The Road of the Religious Cults, Philosophies, and Sects is a broad one. It is carpeted with pleasant turf that is soft to walk upon. It is surrounded on either side with garlanded arbours and alcoves. Every seventh stage there are Resting-Places, cushioned Churches, Chapels, Temples, and Halls, where man may sit and listen to eloquent Preachers, hear charming singing, and be ever reminded of the easy method of "Salvation," founded by "*Beelzebub, the Prince of the Demon-rulers of the Darkness of this Age*" — a salvation founded on Shambles Sacrifices, the "precious Blood of Jesus," as it is called ; and obtained by a metaphorical and absurd quibble, called "faith," which believes that it is instead

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of a real plunge (as was taught by the early prints of Baal) into the gory fountain of a crucified Man. It is a very easy method of Salvation indeed, which simply requires the devotee to lay all his past, present, and future sins upon the "Substitute" Sufferer, and all is done that is required to be done, except to drop in every Seventh Stage, and hear the reiterated Gospel of Blood Substitution, sing hymns about it, and "pay through the nose" for such Religious Privileges, and for the extension of them to the heathen in foreign countries, who take to it like fish to water, because of the Worldly Privileges of civilisation—Mammon, liquor, lust, and guns—which follow in its wake. We know not, indeed, if there be many, or if there be few, who will choose the Narrow Path, and take up the bitter Cross, and pursue the steps of the Cross and Serpent, in preference to such enticement of Delusion, Delight, and concealed Demonism, by which all the nations are drunken and narcotised ; so that, for a man to "*come out and separate himself, and touch none of their unclean things,*" will

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mean all that we have predicted in our last Paragraph of such a man who will, for a long time, or for a short time (we know not), have to endure all these things, and what more we know not.

§ 8. *The Life and Death of Jesus the Answer to Pilate's Question.*

8. But Pilate's question, "What is the Truth?" must be answered by other than Silence after all. The answer of Jesus was Silence, not because he had no answer, but because neither the occasion was a fit one, nor was the motive of the enquiry a justifiable one, for the answer which lay on his lips to give. To Nicodemus, to the Samaritan woman, to his hundreds of Disciples, he gave another answer, a full and categorical answer. His Life was the answer in Symbol, His Teaching was the answer in Language. He stood for all the Wisdom and Truth of Jehovah-Elohim, and his Death was the culminating Symbol of the Cross and Serpent, by which he illustrated, by the manner and instrument of his death, the true Way of Salvation, by

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which only Mankind can be saved. But the Truth which was symbolised by the Life of Jesus, and the teaching which interpreted it, was taken away from Mankind soon after the Crucifixion and subsequent Translation of the Great Master. Scarcely four Centuries had passed away, and there was not a vestige, not a reminiscence, of the Truth of Jesus, the Cult of the Cross and Serpent, remaining in human memory. Such an effacement of a Movement, which, had it remained in its purity and integrity, would have long ago restored the world, its fabric, its living organisms, its human inhabitants, to the state of Purity, Normal Perfection, and the Perfect Manhood of its human occupants, stands as one of the most lamentable and sorrowful events of human history.

§ 9. *The Nicene Apostasy, to destroy the Cult of the Cross and Serpent, and to substitute the Demon-craft of Baal, modernly disguised.*

9. Therefore we have been left for many long Centuries without the Truth of the

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Cross and Serpent, without the true Gospel of Jesus. It is our business to resuscitate from the dead past the *Living Truth* to restore the lost Gospel, to bring the world back to that point in history at which the Apostasy took place, when the present so-called Christian Gospel of Salvation was substituted for the Cult of the Cross and Serpent. It is a terrible history of human deception and delusion. It began even before the death of the Apostles. If the true Text of the Letters of Paul, as well as of the Words of Jesus, as they were recorded by the Evangelists, had been preserved intact, the world would never have suffered so gross and abominable a fraud to have been practised on it, as was perpetrated by the Nicene Fathers. For in the true Text is contained verbal and distinct warning, by Jesus, and by the Apostles, of the attempt which would be made, by the instigation of the Demons of the Astral Plane, *to destroy the Cult of the Cross and Serpent, and reintroduce the Craft of Baal, adapted to modern ideas, in its stead.* In a forthcoming Work, entitled, "Jesus, the Great

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Master, Occultist, Scientist, Reformer," will be given, word for word, a literal Translation of the New Testament from the Original Documents, a copy of which is still extant, preserved in a secret corner of the Earth. This Work will "*bring to light the hidden things of Darkness*," in the shadow of which Mankind has dwelt for nearly 2000 years, and will reveal the Light of the Gospel of the Glory of God, which was expunged from the false Documents handed down by the Nicene "Fathers" to the Church of Christ, which has taken them in good faith, and on which all the Churches, Sects, and Philosophies of the Western World have been formed.

§ 10. *The Apostasy foretold by Paul, the Adept.*

10. For the sake of establishing the statement we have made, that the Apostasy which culminated in the Nicene Age was foreseen, and, in fact, already secretly operating in the Church of the Apostles before their departure, we here append one or two passages from the genuine Text of

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the Apostles' Letters, which clearly reveal the truth of this statement.

(1) Paul, to the Thessalonians (2 Thess. ii.).

Now we beseech you, brethren, by the Presence of our Lord Jesus, the Great Hierophant of the Universe, and by our gathering together unto him, through the Psychical Power, which enables us to enter his Presence in the Seventh Circle of the Spirits, that ye be not easily shaken in your minds, nor be troubled, by deceiving Spirits, or by false utterances, or by fraudulent letters, purporting to come from the Masters which tell you that the Day of Regeneration, foretold by the Great Master, is already near at hand. Let no man likewise deceive you by any human means of deception ; for I assure you that that Day will not dawn, before there first happen an Apostasy, when shall be revealed the Man of Sin, and the craft of the children of reprobation, who are the Demons and wicked Spirits of the Astral Plane. They will oppose the Cult of the Cross and Serpent, and will exalt him, who will rise to a position of greater tyranny

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than the tyranny attributed to that imaginary personage, whom they call "God," or any other phantasmagorical "God," whom the Heathen do worship. Yea, he will declare himself even to be God. Do you not remember, that when I was sojourning with you, I told you these things? But since then I have been told further of what is coming to pass, and of the reason that the Day of Regeneration must be postponed ; because this Apostasy, which is already working secretly in the Cult of the Cross and Serpent, must be made manifest in due time, and the whole mystery of Iniquity be consummated, which hath already sown itself in our midst. And the Demons, who have entered in, will go on hindering and frustrating the work of the World's Regeneration, until that time come, when he shall be driven out, when the whole operation of lawlessness and human conformity to abnormal conditions, which have obtained since the Fall of the Adamic children, shall be fully revealed, which Elohim will destroy, by the concourse of Spirits, speaking through the mouth of his

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Servants, and with the bright Light of His Presence in the Souls of his Servants. He will destroy even him whose coming is a pretended imitation of Satan, the Demiurge of the Earth, the rightful Ruler of this world. He will personify Satan the Archangel, and call himself by Satan's title, the Vicegerent of the Earth, and the Representative of God among men. And he will substantiate his pretensions by all Psychical Powers, by occult Signs and Wonders, all of which will be to substantiate lies and fraud. And he will employ all manner of deceivable means of lawlessness, by the aid of Demons and Elementals, the lost spirits of men in the Astral Plane, awaiting the Cataclysm, in which they will be dissolved; those poor lost souls who, after passing through their allotted periods of existence on this earth, and their Purgatories, and Paradises in the Circles of the Spirits, finally rejected the Loving Message of the Truth of the Cross and Serpent, by which they might have been saved. And on account of the vengeful working of these spirits against God, a strong and world-

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wide Delusion will fall upon the whole Earth, and all Mankind will be deceived into believing a Lie. And the object of the wicked and reprobated spirits, who will bring this Delusion, is, that not only they, who are condemned to final Dissolution, at the End of this Age, but all Mankind, may be condemned, with them, to the same Dissolution. For such must be the case, if men will not believe the Truth of the Cult of the Cross and Serpent, but take pleasure in the abnormal Life of Mankind in their present Fallen State."

§ II. *The Testimony of Peter, the Adept, to the Apostasy of the Nicene and Post-Nicene Age.*

II. These are the words of Paul, the Adept, and called "the Apostle of the Gentiles." He speaks with no uncertain sound, and gives the clearest warning of just what took place after the reign of Constantine, the Hypocrite; and which was fulfilled in the machinations of the "Christian Fathers" of the Nicene Œcumenical Council, from which corrupt

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assemblage and its fraudulent conduct the Christian Church, Catholic and Protestant, date all their formulas, Creeds, Canons, and Dogmas, as well as the corrupt and mutilated "*Canon of the New Testament*," around which have centred more controversies, more wars, more internecine strifes, more bloodshed, human tortures, cruelty, terror, and oppression, than around any mundane abuses of natural laws. But what says Peter, the Adept and Apostle, generally spoken of as specially set apart for the Jews ?

(2) Peter's Letter to the Brethren of the Cross and Serpent (2 Pet. i. 19-ii.).

"We have not only the Testimony of Jesus, and of the voice of Elohim, testifying to him from the Circles of the Spirits, saying, 'This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased,' but a supremely certain word of Prophecy to rely upon, for the veracity of our statements ; whereunto you are wise if ye take heed, as unto a beacon of Light which shineth continuously, until shall dawn the Day of Regeneration, and the Star of the Morning shall shine

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forth, to your heart's delight. For know this, that there is no Prophecy of the Scripture of past days, which can permit of secret manipulation, or can with impunity be twisted to mean other than it precisely declares. For these Prophecies came not, in old time, by the concoction of human intellects. They were the words of Elohim, put into the mouth of Holy Men of Elohim, who spake as they were moved by the Spirits of Elohim. But it is true that there were, among the people of those days, false prophets, who corrupted and mutilated these Sacred Prophecies, and it is the work of these false prophets which forms the basis of the present corrupt following of Moses, in the Jewish Religion, from which we of the Cult of the Cross and Serpent have come out, walking no more with them. And take heed unto this and beware ; for there shall arise among you false teachers, who shall secretly incorporate in the Cult of the Cross and Serpent damnable heresies, which shall delude and divorce mankind from the Truth which was first declared by Jesus, the Great Master, and which we have

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not ceased to preach. To such an extent will mankind be deluded, that they will even reject the Great Master, who paid with his life the price of his Testimony. And such men will bring upon the Cult of the Cross and Serpent swift destruction ; so much so that it will no longer be remembered upon the Earth that such a Cult existed. And many shall follow their pernicious teaching, and, by means of their Apostasy, the way of Salvation by the Cross and Serpent will be denounced and maligned. And they will employ feigned words, and use counterfeit means of deluding mankind into a false presentment of the Truth, that they may play into their own covetous hands, and aggrandise to themselves the wealth, and power, and pomp of the world, thus making merchandise of your Souls, under the plea of saving them from destruction. And these men will not be found out nor judged to be deceivers for a long time to come, for the knowledge of the Truth will be departed, while men shall slumber."

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§ 12. *The Testimony of John, the Adept, to the Apostasy of the Nicene and Post-Nicene Era.*

12. The temptation is great to continue this terrible forecast of Church History in this letter of Peter, which has been utterly removed from any possible clearness of meaning and interpretation by the manipulating hands of the Nicene Apostatisers. But this passage, in bulk and length exceeding the proportions of a mere small chapter of a letter, would occupy more space than our present Work will admit of. Sufficient is here given to show that Peter was not ignorant of the future history of the Church of Christ, nor that he held his tongue and left the Church in ignorance of such portentous and significant facts. But what saith John, the Adept, and the great Seer, who was the last of the Adepts of the first following of Jesus to depart from the scenes of mortality? In the book denominated the "Apocalypse," as it at present stands, is a confused medley of muddled writing, purporting to be a sort of sealed and Cryptic Book, full of imageries

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and visionary scenes, descriptive of the Second Coming of Jesus as a King and Conqueror. This Book has been handled and interpreted by many and variant exponents, and around its various interpretations have been many pitched battles of theologians and "divines," who have pitted their faculties of ingenuity beyond all possible conception, one against the other, to decipher this Apocalyphtical Cryptogram. Whereas the true Apocalypse is a plain and straightforward narrative of Prophecy, pertaining to the whole history of the world until the present day, and onward. Here again we must reserve our transcript of this wonderful book for the time when we shall be in a position to publish it *in toto*. For the present purpose, we here give a brief passage contained in one of the aged Adept's beautiful letters addressed to the Brothers of the Cult of the Cross and Serpent.

John's Letter to the Brothers of the Cult of the Cross and Serpent (1 John ii. 18, *et seq.*).

"Little Children, you know how often I

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have spoken to you of the Last Time, and warned you of the evils which shall fall upon the Cult of the Cross and Serpent, of which ye are beloved brethren. And ye have heard from the mouth of many Adepts, and some of you from the mouth of the Great Master Himself, that Anti-Christ shall come, and pose as the Successor of Jesus, and the Vicegerent of God, on the Throne of the Earth. And I say unto you that even now are there secretly working in our midst many Anti-Christ, who are the forerunners and seed-sowers of that Anti-Christ who shall herald the Era of the Last Time, which shall continue until the Servants of Elohim shall be raised up from among the people of the last time, who shall expose and denounce him with the Spirit of the Truth, which they shall receive by the pouring out of the Spirits of Elohim upon them. These Anti-Christ, which are already secretly amongst us, were once our Brethren; but they were dissemblers, not being of us in Spirit and in Truth. They took the Teachers of the Cult of the Cross and Serpent unawares, and by cunning

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guile. For had they been truly Initiated into our degrees, and become truly one of us, they would of a certainty have continued in our Teaching and Brotherhood ; for no Initiated person, once Baptised with the Spirits of Elohim, can fall from their position and remain alive upon the Earth. They are at once removed by immediate death, by the mercy of God. But these, as I said, were not of us. And many of them already have been detected and excommunicated, that they might be advertised to all the Brethren that they were deceivers and reprobates. Still are there many others amongst us who are secretly and cunningly working for the overthrow of our Cult, the Dethronement of Jesus, and the Installation of Anti-Christ in the chair of the Great Master. But I fear for none of you, who have the Anointing from the Spirits of Elohim, and are possessed of full knowledge of all things that ye need to know, through the Spirits of Elohim."

Idem (chap. iv. 1, *et seq.*).

"Beloved, do not be captivated into rashly accepting the testimony of every

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spirit who comes to you in the secret chamber, purporting to deliver the word of Elohim. For you know that Elohim employs many spirits of lesser degrees, who are in the lower Circles of the Spirits in Paradisaical Preparation for a return to the Earth at a future period, to complete their development as Perfect Men, and Sons of Elohim. And it is often the case that false and wicked Spirits, Demons and Elementals of the Astral Sphere, disguise themselves, and appear as Messengers of the Light, and deceive the Brethren by mendacious messages, purporting to be from Elohim. But you can easily detect them by putting the secret Tests of Spirit-converse, those Mysteries of your respective Degrees of the Cross and Serpent, which none but Initiates and Adepts know. I beseech you, beloved, to exercise every precaution in putting these Tests to all comers, be they human false teachers, or spirit false teachers. Because there are many false prophets gone forth into the world, with the sole object of deceiving the world by specious and cunning doctrines of

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Demons, in order that Anti-Christ may be set forth as the Great Prophet, whom the Prophets declared should come before the dawn of the Day of Regeneration."

§ 13. *All present-day Cults, the World over, are the Antithesis of the Cults of their Original Founders, who were Great Masters of the Cross and Serpent.*

13. With the above Passages we conclude. We have herein set forth the Truth—the Truth, of which Pilate satirically enquired of Jesus, and of which many hundreds of thousands are now earnestly enquiring. We have stated that the Teaching which is now offered to Mankind, in the various guises, or rather, Disguises, of all the Christian Churches, Sects, and Communities—none excepted; of all the Sects and Divisions of Oriental Occultism, and the many Religions of the East; of all Cults and Philosophies of Europe, America, Asia, and all the world over; they are popularly and publicly acclaimed—all these innumerable teachings are the Antithesis of their Original Founders,

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Moses, Jesus, Buddha, Confucius, Krishna, Taou, and every other Great Master of the Cult of the Cross and Serpent, from the first Ages of the present Human Race, until this present time. It will be our duty in the course of this Treatise to open out the Truth, step by step, point by point, and shed the Light of the Truth of Jehovah-Elohim upon the Darkness of this Evil Age.

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