

The Temple Artisan

JUNE-JULY, 1942

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Published bi-monthly at Halcyon, Calif.

THE TEMPLE

COSMICALLY The Temple of the People corresponds to the Temple of Humanity.

THE TEMPLE of Humanity consists of all humans who, having awakened into a knowledge of their own divinity, have undertaken to tread the Path, and of those who devote their lives to the unselfish service of mankind.

SPECIFICALLY The Temple of the People is one of the bodies or vehicles for the manifestation of the Avatar or Christos for the New Dispensation, the dawn of the New Civilization for the races of the earth. It was founded in New York State in the second cycle of the Great Lodge movement in November, 1898, by three Masters assisted by others for the laying of the mental, physical, and spiritual foundations of the coming Sixth Race.

THE OBJECTS of the Temple are:

First: To formulate the truths of religion as the fundamental factor in the evolution of the human race. And this does not mean the formulation of a creed.

Second: To set forth a philosophy of life that is in accord with natural and divine law.

Third: To promote the study of the sciences and the fundamental facts and laws upon which the sciences are based which will permit us to extend our belief and knowledge from what is known to the unknown.

Fourth: To promote the study and practice of Art on fundamental lines, showing that Art is in reality the application of knowledge to human good and welfare, and that the Christos can speak to humanity through Art as well as through any other fundamental line of manifestation.

Fifth: The promotion of a knowledge of true social science based on immutable law, showing the relationship between man and man, and man and God and nature. When these relationships are understood we will instinctively formulate and follow the law of true brotherhood.

RELIGION, SCIENCE, AND ECONOMICS, these are the foundation stones of The Temple. There can be no true religion without its scientific basis, and there can be no right economic system not based on a science that is religious and a religion that is scientific.

Address **THE TEMPLE OF THE PEOPLE**, Halcyon, Calif.

(The Society of The Temple of the People is not responsible for any statement in this Magazine unless made officially.)

The Temple Artisan

VOLUME XLIII

JUNE-JULY, 1942

Nos. 1, 2

BEHOLD, I GIVE



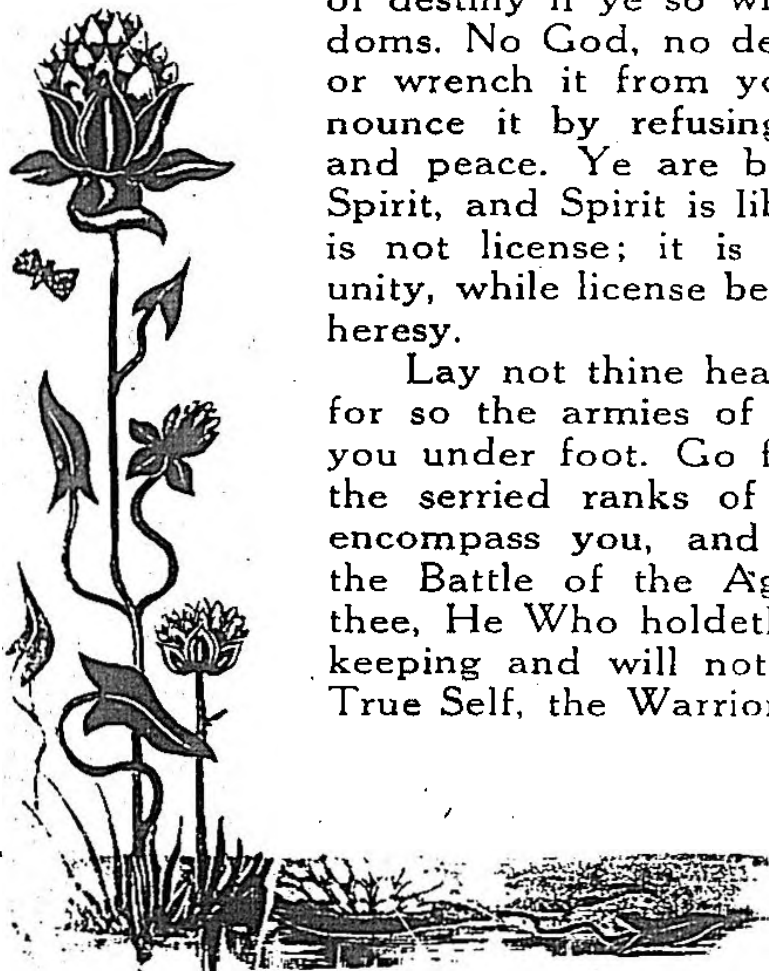
UNTO THEE A KEY

O CHILDREN OF LIGHT—LIFT UP YOUR HEADS

Free-born children of Light, what have ye to do with darkness? Darkness, the distorted offspring of hate and pride; darkness, the illusive ensnarer, the betrayer of mind, the glamor which blinds and leads into hopeless captivity the struggling soul; then leaves it to beat its tender wings against gross form until exhausted it sinks into apathy or despair.

Ye are Gods! Death hath no power over you, conditions cannot bind you. Ye are Masters of destiny if ye so will, rulers over divine kingdoms. No God, no devil can banish you from it or wrench it from you—but, alas, ye may renounce it by refusing to rule in righteousness and peace. Ye are beyond the law for ye are Spirit, and Spirit is liberty; but mark ye, liberty is not license; it is self-surrender, selflessness, unity, while license begets separateness, the great heresy.

Lay not thine head in the dust of the earth, for so the armies of the Shadow shall trample you under foot. Go forward with faith and lo! the serried ranks of the Hosts of Light shall encompass you, and together ye shall win in the Battle of the Ages. The Christ shall lead thee, He Who holdeth the hearts of men in His keeping and will not let them go, Thine Own True Self, the Warrior of Light.



THE TEMPLE ARTISAN

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY BY THE TEMPLE OF THE PEOPLE
 Entered as second-class matter July 1st, 1908, at Post Office, Halcyon, Calif.
 Address all communications to THE TEMPLE ARTISAN, Halcyon, Calif.

EDITORIAL MIRROR

Every so often in the history of mankind the Great Temple of Man becomes the Great Temple on Earth; that is, the Forces and Powers of the Spirit of God unfold their inner Light for the souls of men incarnate upon the earth. These Forces and Powers come into Form, and the great Builders, the Dhyan Chohans of constructive force and power, build them into the life of the earth, and great changes take place in the myriad lives of the planet.

These changes are moved into place and function by action of the great cyclic clock of time, karma and consciousness in the heart of man, that new worlds of strength, beauty and light may become his to be used for the conquest of his life of ignorance and viciousness.

At no time since mortal-minded man began being taught spiritual and scientific truths "from mouth to ear" by the great Teachers of the race has such a flood of this sacred instruction been poured into the world as that which began in the last century with H. P. B. and Theosophy, and which continues into this one with The Temple of The People. The mysteries of all the ages have been rolled into one profound body of Truth, wholly dependable and authoritative, and put forth under the seal of the Lodge of Light. And with it—and within it—has come the SPIRIT of the Word to impart the gift of understanding to the hearts of those who truly desire to learn. Never was the Gift so great.

And what hast thou done with it, O starved, blind and wandering man? Has this pure and priceless Light lit the flame of love, knowledge, devotion and service in your soul, or has it been thrown under foot? Lift up your heads and listen:

THE MORNING STAR SPEAKS

"The greatest effort of the Lodge in long cycles of time is endeavoring to impress itself upon you. The Morning Star has risen over the Manger wherein was born your love for one another, man and God. The Seven Conscious Planes of Initiation, the Voice of the Great Companies, the Signs of the Heavens, the All-Seeing Eye, the Enduring Heart, the Love that Never Faileth; all have been given unto you to illumine, guard, strengthen and protect that

Manger over which the Morning Star hovers to guide humanity for revelation, worship and service to the Christ . . . Unto you I, The Morning Star, speak. What answer give you to me for the Great World Mother?—HILARION"

W.

THE RIDDLE OF THE CROSS

The Arm of Nergas has been lifted. The Children of the Seven Kings are once more being destroyed. Those which do not exist are coming into being that Balance may be restored again. The Dance of Death is in operation. The Almeh are performing their magic as you pass through the initiation of Spiritual Discrimination, Knowledge of Law, Realization of Truth. It is the effort of the Forces of Evil to cast their influence upon the Dance that the Disciples of Light may be deceived by the appearances and activities of the Dance, that fear, pity and panic be caused to reign, and that surrender of Higher Discrimination be made, which surrender to ignorance is **the only true death**. By so doing the Powers of Evil accomplish their ends for the time being, and the Purpose and Plans of the White Brotherhood are temporarily defeated or frustrated: but they cannot hold such position long.

It is required that you see through the mask to the Truth beyond, that you solve the Riddle of the Cross, the Geometry of Deity, the basis of occultism, whose point at the intersection of the horizontal-vertical is the Master Key to knowledge and mysticism.

The tear drops of the Soul are hanging heavy on the Arms of Justice through perpetration of man's inhumanities to man. They cannot be removed until karma be expiated, wrongs transmuted, pain requited with deeds of mercy. They will but hang the heavier by attempted interference with the Law. The soul exacts last jot and tittle of itself if it is to rise, be freed and live anew.

The Tree of Knowledge of Life, Death and Ignorance has been planted in your midst for you to partake of the fruits of your choice. Phoenix also is making effort to manifest. Fiery combustion beyond your control may be yours for the choosing, or Union with the Flame of Purified Life. The separation of the true from the false, the sowing of the subtle germs of testing, are in process.

The Ineffable Light, the Incommunicable Word, the Magic Arcanum are yours for the seeking, yours for the listening, yours for the living.

HILARION

November 11, 1927.

THE AVATAR

The whole world is absorbed in the greatest event the man of today knows of in human history—the World War. But a far greater event than this occurred when the great entity, the Avatar or Messiah of this humanity, descended into embodiment on the astral plane, bringing the heavenly hosts of His power into the fields of human life for the succor of the children of man, and to be a Light of the Soul unto them in their fast-coming days of terror and darkness.

But this greatest of all events for the cycle passed by unnoticed. Neither the mighty nor the poor knew of it, for in all the far-flung lines of schooling in this intellectual world of ours there is no Science of the Soul. The lives of the schoolmen are material minded and their eyes are glued to the objective world. Quite outside of their ranks a few, a little handful, have caught the Light and heeded it. The ignorant and the unprepared—in spiritual science—have proclaimed the Advent, but the same ones have proclaimed it before—on the usual mistaken information—and it never came. It was for The Temple of The People to make the first and only "scientific announcement of this great event;" an announcement which is based on cosmic law and a perfect knowledge of the movements of Angels and men. For forty-four years The Temple has proclaimed the fact of this high Presence in the world and the meaning of His work today.

The world is not coming to an end; it is going on. But if it is to go on with any chances for continued social, to say nothing of spiritual, wellbeing it must learn and obey the Christly laws, which do not end with the man of clay on the physical plane but lead the heart and soul of the eternal man to his eternal destiny, if he will. To these ends this issue of the Temple Artisan lays especial stress on the subject of The Avatar by quoting from the Teachings of The Temple as follows:

In the Bhagavad-Gita we read that Krishna, a symbol of any Avatic manifestation, reincarnates among men "whenever there is a decline of virtue and an insurrection of vice in the world," and that this manifestation is for the purpose of "the preservation of the just and the destruction of the wicked." In other words, it is the saving or redeeming principle that comes into manifestation whenever conditions have arrived at that stage of disintegration and chaos that would subvert the Divine Plan if long continued.

We find analogies for this fundamental truth in alchemy, in chemistry, in biology, and in the history of all the old races of the earth. In alchemy the "elixir of life," or "alcahest," is generated when certain grades of matter have reached a prepared stage of decomposition, fermentation or dissociation of essential elements, thus liberating the spirit of light within. This might be crudely

referred to as the ferment or yeast of life. In chemistry it is a condition of nascence when atoms are torn apart and new combinations formed. Great forces are liberated at that particular moment. In biology the process is represented when certain cells or elements are grouped so that an entirely new entity comes into manifestation with vital powers and consciousness not existing before.

In races we find this manifestation taking place when the racial consciousness has reached a low ebb of morality. Then a redeeming force appears, in the form of a teacher or spiritual leader representing the Avataric Principle, according to the degree required by that particular race. Thus we have Krishna, Buddha, Confucius and others of the East; Quetzalcoatl of the Aztecs and Incas; Hiawatha of the Indians, and Christ coming to the whole world through Jesus, the Nazarene. All of these strove to unify discordant elements in the races in which they worked, or in the whole world, and to give a higher impulse to human thought and consciousness.

When the world reaches a stage of disintegration or chaos it is an indication that it is ready for this great phenomenon to occur, for, as with the atoms in the chemical reaction, a stage of nascence is imminent, and this is the beginning of a new birth, a new combination and liberation of inner forces of light, life, electricity and, in terms of the human, of higher love and divine light. All of these symbolize and actually represent a manifestation of Avataric Force which, in the Sanscrit sense, means a descent of God into or through matter.

In the year 1898 the Masters of Wisdom imparted to those in charge of the Temple work knowledge of a great event that had occurred on inner planes, namely, the descent of the Christ or Avatar from the higher plane to the lower astral by a process corresponding to that of birth. Growth and development would occur on that plane analogous to the outer plane, and this Great One would be clothed, so to speak, with forces and powers. Within thirty years of the time mentioned a full manifestation would occur, and as time went on from the date referred to (1898), humanity would feel more and more the impingement of this Avataric Consciousness.

Since 1898 a special service known to Templars of the inner degrees has been held in connection with this cosmical event, and interactions of force occur between the Avatar and those participating in this service, which have a profound occult bearing on the process of manifestation of "the Perfected Man and Master."

The nearness of a Nirmanakaya Body to the auric center of the earth would be sufficient to raise the vibrations of every

human being and even of the substance of the earth itself; and this change in vibration would raise the senses of man, especially the senses of sight and sound, to a marked degree.

There are certain correspondences between different grades or states of energy and substance which greatly aid the intellect in solving many of the most mysterious processes of nature, chief of which are processes by which spiritual light becomes manifested as light on the plane of gross matter.

What is true of the reincarnation or of the development of an Avatar is equally true of the lesser orders of life. The spiritual light which illumines the mind and soul of an Avatar illumines the mind and soul of every human being. As before said, it is but a matter of degree and of preparation for the reception of that light. The Light of the Central Spiritual Sun—spiritual light—is in actuality the light, or energy, we term the "Christos". The soul of man is primarily a reflection, so to speak, a beam of that light, clothed in energy or substance of lower vibratory rates.

In terms of Matter the first Trinity in manifestation is Light, Heat and Electricity. A composite unit of the three states of energy is the basis of the substance which clothes the reincarnating soul, or personal Ego. It is the Thinker and the Thought and the Expression. In differentiation the Thought becomes the etheric body, and the Expression is that etheric body clothed in the gross matter of the physical plane.

I have only touched on this vast subject. My purpose in doing so has been to aid in furnishing a working hypothesis by means of which some understanding of the problem presented by the prophesied return of an Avatar might, at least partially, be solved. It must be understood that whether the Coming Avatar shall appear as a reincarnation of the Ego which previously incarnated in the body of Jesus of Nazareth, in the body of a child, or in the body of a man, or whether the vibration of a race shall be so raised as to enable the units of that race to behold the Glorified Form of a Buddhi, that recognition must be by intuitive perception of the individual seer, and not by associating the form and features with those of any preceding Avatar.

In previous messages I have endeavored to show somewhat of the tremendous issues facing the present human race within the recently opened ten-year cycle* as well as the unprecedented changes which will take place in man as a whole, or in part, and even in the very substance of the earth to some degree. The rapidity with which changes are taking place in the ideas and ideals of man is not alone due to recent world-wide events. It is first of all due to the entrance of a Great Soul into Nirvana—a soul that has completed its whole round of developments—and to the nearness of another Great Soul to earthly environment. It is

said that similarly rapid changes are taking place in the flora and fauna of some parts of the earth. Naturally such changes are always taking place, but it is the rapidity with which they occur at the present time which more particularly attracts attention.

It has also been taught by Masters of High Degree that these changes will culminate to a marked extent in the year 1928, and that a point of their culmination is due to fall between certain parallels of latitude and longitude on the Western Hemisphere, directly opposite a similar point between the same parallels on the Eastern Hemisphere, thus closing a cycle of time and space which opened nearly two thousand years ago.

In a prophecy made by one of the older Sages we find the words: "The child of the East must lie in the West wind to receive the call to action." There are now many indications of the fulfillment of this prophecy. The young men of many eastern nations are rapidly receiving the call to social and political action at the present time in some of the countries of the Western Hemisphere with the avowed purpose of returning to their native lands to act according to entirely new ideals.

Knowledge of the form in which the coming Avatar is to appear to man has been withheld from him for a definite purpose. If it should prove to be, as before outlined, in the form of a Glorified Body, it will not be difficult to understand how two biblical prophecies relating to the "second coming of Christ" may be fulfilled, i. e.: "He shall come in a cloud with power and great glory," and "He shall appear in the twinkling of an eye and every eye shall behold him." Natural laws would have to be suspended to make possible the verification of those two prophecies if an Avatar were to appear in a strictly physical form. But whatever be the form, or whether that form be perceptible to inner or outer vision, one indisputable fact remains, the mere seeing of the form would count for little. It will rest upon the conscious effort of the individual man or woman as to what the final effect of that event will be upon him or her. As in former Messianic cycles the human will enforced by Divine Will must settle the question of preparation and the course of action to be pursued in the interim between now and the final event. It would be well if each reader of this article should make an individual and present issue of this subject of the Coming of the Avatar. Above all else his or her readiness for the call of the Christ will depend entirely upon individual effort and the spirit of unselfishness which actuates that effort. We can only pray that the Christ may have mercy on the one who refuses to make the effort, for there is no mercy in the Code of Laws which governs the action of the Individual Ego—the divine Self—when the human soul is brought before its Judgment Seat.

RECOGNITION OF THE AVATAR

The great test of the degree of development a human soul has reached in this Messianic cycle will be whether it is a matter of vital importance as to what form, or even whether there be any visible form, the coming Avatar will choose in which to perform his mission to man.

Unless a man has evolved to the degree where it is possible for him to interiorly recognize the presence of the Christ when His contact is made within the Auric Sphere of the earth, he might then be as easily deceived as many men are now deceived by those who declare themselves to be Avatars of the present age. If the soul of man is evolved to the degree referred to, it will be a matter of indifference to him as to whether the Avatar will appear in a physical body or not. He will know, beyond any shadow of doubt, that the One long sought is at hand when He comes, as surely as one would be conscious of an electric shock, even if there were no dynamo or battery in sight.

In the process of development one would have created within himself a psychic center of action within which a response would be aroused by the mental stimulus of any other attuned to the same key.

Perfect devotion to and intercommunication with the Christos would attune the consciousness to the keynote of the same; and every Avatar of the Christ strikes the same key, to use a homely illustration.

If you are a sensitive the presence of a beloved one in your immediate vicinity is known to you at once. You have no need to argue the question with yourself or to turn about to face the physical form of that loved one—you **know**. Then how much greater would be the magnetic attraction of the vehicle of the Christos to whom your soul is drawn?

There is always a measure of doubt or unbelief if one must see with his outer eyes before he can recognize the Truth.

THE UNKNOWABLE

From the period when the first prophetic utterances of a racial seer were revealed to a race of people up to the present time the announcement of the near precipitation of some tremendous occult force, or the coming of an Angel or an Avatar for the purpose of raising the vibratory rate of this planet, has been succeeded by a flood of imitations.

The present race as a whole has been informed that if its units are to be individually benefited by means of the advent of an Avatar they must make conditions of mind and body for the recep-

tion and subsequent use of the forces to be spread by that Avatar; and by such information as would be available aid in the development of the principles, qualities or senses by means of which alone it would be possible to perceive the action of such forces, or to recognize the prophesied one.

Immediately upon the utterance of such a prophecy by a seer there has arisen a class of pseudo-prophets, self-styled Adepts or Masters, who profess to be able to lead their followers through the great mysteries of life up to complete identification with God with whom all knowledge lies. Unfortunately, as it would seem, they have had access to ancient records of systems of philosophy wherein certain methods of procedure were outlined for the gaining of supernatural powers. Endorsement of these methods furnishes means to attract the curious and the soul-hungry and to hold them until such time as they learn, to their dismay, that they are no nearer their promised goal than they were at the initial stage of their effort. The preliminary work on which any possible success on occult lines would depend is never required by such teachers, for the training requisite for this purpose demands far more sacrifice, time and effort than either the teacher or the average student would give. Consequently, the student eventually finds himself in a similar position to that of the one who attempts to study higher mathematics without any previous knowledge of the first principles of arithmetic.

OLIVE BRANCH AND SWORD

Think you that the coming of the Blessed One will bring peace to the earth? Think you that your periods of labor, of struggle with limitations, of the temptations of the flesh will be lessened, and that the conditions now obtaining on the Devachanic Plane will be reproduced upon the physical plane? If so, great will be your disappointment.

No Avatar, no Great Leader of His People ever came to earth with an olive branch in his hand. Invariably He comes with a sword to divide the "Sheep and the Goats," to sunder the evils of ignorance from knowledge and truth. The olive branch materializes when the sword has done its work of separation, and the soul, stripped clean of all its hindrances, its vile imaginings, bows its head and says, "Take me, use me, trample me if need be, only cleanse me, purify me, lead me to the stream of living water that I, too, in turn, may give life to those who follow me."

In the days to come, what you are working for now will come to you, whether it be the things of the world or the things of the spirit. Improved conditions may and will give you improved opportunities, but those particular opportunities are for the future. Your present opportunities, improved or neglected, will bring you

peace with honor, or battle with dishonor in the coming days. The same demons of avarice, of jealousy, of hatred and despair that now pursue you so viciously will await the coming of your footsteps as they pass the portal of life's fulfillment in Devachan to death in life on the physical plane.

The Coming of an Avatar is always the signal for a harder fight than that which has preceded it; but, thanks be to the sacrifice He makes for you in His Great Renunciation, the weapons for use in that warfare are of tenfold the power and service, and your power and strength are reinforced by the power and strength of His great purpose. YOUR personal responsibility for failure will not be lessened, but to that responsibility will be added the wisdom gained by association with His successes. The goal of your ambition may still seem far away and to have increased in power and greatness to the grandeur of a universal goal, but it will be within the reach of your vision.

Lay not thine head in the dust of earth, for, so, the armies of the Shadow shall trample thee under foot. Go forward with faith, and lo! the serried ranks of the Hosts of Light shall encompass you, and together ye shall win in the battle of the ages. The Christ shall lead you, He who holdeth the hearts of men in His keeping and will not let them go.

THE CHRISTOS

Temple Teachings, Lesson No. 5

There are many to whom these instructions are sent who are not able to obtain the books containing our expositions of the Ancient Wisdom, and to whom, therefore, many of our allusions are unintelligible. More especially is this true of those who have come out from under the bondage of the modern church, and, while still holding the person and character of Jesus in reverence and love, know not just where to place Him in the scale of human life, under their changed convictions, or else are disposed to put Him on the same level with other men.

Every age has its Christ or Saviour, who may manifest under different conditions and in one or more human bodies; but by an age we must not be understood as meaning a few hundred years, for many thousand years comprise such an age as is now referred to.

In the first volume of the Secret Doctrine, in the opening stanzas of the third chapter, occur these words: "The three fall into the four." This sentence contains the whole secret of the manifestation of the Saviours of all time. Whether the Trinity of Father, Mother, Son; Atma, Buddhi, Manas; Matter, Force and Consciousness; Desire, Will and Wisdom; or Body, Soul and Spirit is under con-

sideration, is of no consequence; for in their last analysis, they are all One, and this One in Three is the Absolute, the life and being of all that is in manifestation on all the planes of the Cosmos, and each must be understood as interchangeable, though complete in itself when separated; and whichever one of the three aspects (or persons, as the church teaches them to be) manifests in time or eternity, manifests perfectly; that is, manifests with all the attributes of the other two.

This three-fold manifestation of life and being "is eternal in the Heavens," and always has been, and always will be in that state of consciousness commonly termed Nirvana or Heaven. It is inconceivable to think of It as withdrawing any part of itself, for It is a unit, It is the God.

No form of words can adequately describe the descent of this God into matter, for matter was not in manifestation until the descent was accomplished. The principle of Shadow conveys as nearly as is possible an idea of the process. The Three—that is, the THREE IN ONE—created and became all substance, all matter, by a process akin to the casting of a shadow on the physical plane, that is, by projecting the creative thought into temporary form and substance; that substance having all the attributes (in a lesser or more modified degree) of its progenitors.

To cast a shadow, a form must pass between the sunlight and the earth; the sun, the body and the earth are three different grades or rates of vibration of matter, and these constitute the agents by or through which the shadow is cast, and they correspond to three different agents and attributes of the three great creative fires, represented by the Trinity before mentioned.


Now, in order to assist you, who find it difficult to comprehend Unity in Diversity, we will take one aspect of the Trinity—the Son, which must also be considered as Cosmic Substance or Matter, in the Trinity of Matter, Force and Consciousness; as Body, in Body, Soul and Spirit; as Manas, in Manas, Buddhi and Atma. This aspect of the Son is the Christos, the Saviour, the Angel of Light that fell from heaven into manifestation, not because of evil, but to fulfill the Desire, or the Father-Principle's Will, which was the creation of Matter, its evolution, and final redemption.

Every atom of manifested matter possesses this principle; consequently, every human being; but it is dormant until brought out and developed; and can only be developed by the highest instincts of the Soul. Consequently, while we are all Saviours in embryo, it is only One in any age that is able to develop the love, the endurance and self-sacrifice necessary for such a high calling, and that One becomes the "Elder Brother" of the race and age to which he belongs.

In St. John, 17th chapter and 21st verse, are these words: "That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me and I in

thee; that they also may be one in us that the world may believe that thou hast sent me." This hope as expressed in this most beautiful and occult passage clearly demonstrates the belief held by Jesus of a final involution of matter in the same order that evolution had brought it out and up to the point where involution became a possibility.

Much of the controversy between science and religion, as well as between different divisions of religious bodies, is due to the unwillingness of one body to fairly consider the disputed points in the philosophy of the other. The ignorant Christian imagines that Jesus must lose in greatness and power if considered from the common standpoint of an evolutionary monad, such as was the beginning of the earthly life of all mankind, though he is often referred to in ecclesiastical works as "the first-born among many brethren." If he is a brother to all the rest of the human race, surely he was subject to the common laws of evolution. We do not desire to detract from the divinity of Jesus—we only desire to show the common origin of the divinity in all mankind.

H—

Blavatsky Department

This department will be confined to the teachings of H. P. Blavatsky. In it will be published, so far as possible, the views expressed by H. P. B. on any given subject. Our readers are requested to send in any questions on any subject which they wish to have elucidated, and we will endeavor to search through the writings of H. P. B. and publish her teachings on such subjects.

THOUGHTS ON THEOSOPHY

"The letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life." This is the keynote of all true reform. Theosophy is the vehicle of the spirit that gives life, consequently nothing dogmatic can be truly theosophical.

It is incorrect, therefore, to describe a mere unearthing of dead letter dogmas as "theosophic work."

When a word, phrase, or symbol, having been once used for the purpose of suggesting an idea new to the mind or minds being operated on, is insisted upon irrespective of the said idea, it becomes a dead letter dogma and loses its vitalizing power, and serves rather as an obstruction to, than as vehicle of the spirit; but, alas, this insistence upon the letter is too often carried on under the honoured name of "Theosophy."

A man cannot acquire an idea new to him unless it grows in his mind.

The mere familiarity with the sound of a word, or a phrase, or the mere familiarity with the appearance of a symbol, does

not, of necessity, involve the possession of the idea properly associated with the said word, phrase, or symbol. To insist, therefore, on the contrary cannot be theosophical, but would be better described as untheosophical.

It would certainly be theosophical work to point out kindly and temperately how certain words, phrases, and symbols appear to have been misunderstood or misapplied, how various claims and professions may be excessive or confused as a consequence of ignorance or vanity, or both. But it is quite another thing to condemn a man or a body of men outright for certain errors in judgment or action, even though they were the result of vanity, greed or hypocrisy; indeed such wholesale condemnation would, on the contrary, be untheosophical.

The one eternal, immutable law of life alone can judge and condemn a man absolutely. "Vengeance is mine, saith the Lord."

Were I asked how I would dare attempt "to dethrone the gods, overthrow the temple, destroy the law which feeds the priests and props the realm," I should answer as the Buddha is made to answer in the "Light of Asia": "What thou bidst me keep is form, which passes, while the free truth stands; get thee to thy darkness."

"What good gift hath my brother but it comes from search and strife (inward) and loving sacrifice."

∴ through H. P. B.

Reprinted from LUCIFER, Oct. 15, 1887.

The above is stressed by the Teachings of The Temple as follows:

"Unless the fundamental philosophical, ethical and moral principles of the religion or system of philosophy with which the individual man has identified himself have become the most vital thing in his life he is a failure from the higher spiritual standpoint. His success in material fields of life does not alter that fact. This is true for the reason that the spirit of man should have control of the mind and body; and he learns to control and use spiritual energy through his obedience to the dictates of his Higher Self, his God, and his devotion to those fundamental principles which are the basis of his religion. To whatever degree he fails in this respect he deprives himself of the power to function that energy in any field of endeavor. . . .

The above-mentioned basic principles or laws of spiritual, ethical and moral life are identical in all forms of religion. In whatever form of religion these laws are ignored or misinterpreted it is due to the ambition, pride, selfishness or faithlessness of one or more units of the body. It is not the governing principles of

the religion that are at fault, for they are omnipotent, changeless and eternal. To whatever degree they are ignored or disobeyed by man the power to utilize the spiritual energy on which he is dependent for spiritual and moral growth is lost. . . .

It has been said by those who know whereof they speak that spirit and matter cannot meet. This is true from a universal aspect; but, from the individual or particular aspect, spirit has built a bridge, figuratively speaking, a bridge of mind substance over which the energy awakened by spiritual action can pass to matter, and therefore to the soul and body of man. It is by means of this bridge of mind that the soul passes into the realms of spirit—the consciousness of spirit.

The religious instinct in man is aroused by the soul's desire and effort to pass back over this bridge—to regain its lost inheritance, its conscious realization of union with God. It is the increased development of this instinct by means of the basic principles of his religion which makes the religious practices of man such a vital thing in his life. A man's personal religion should be the school of his soul. . . .

There have been so many abuses of power in some orthodox religious bodies that the very word religion has become tabu to many, even to some students of occultism who do not realize that occultism—Theosophy—is religion in the highest sense of the word."

"Esoterically the word, religion, means to bind back to God;" and if one accepts the statement of Master H. that no religion is a true religion that does not embrace all the laws of all life within its scope he can readily see how the vast body of instruction, called at this time Theosophy, stands forth as "a religion in the highest sense of the word."

THE WHITE BROTHERHOOD

AND ITS CONNECTION WITH THE TEMPLE

The humanity of a "Manvantara" or period of creative energy, past, present, or future, manifests in seven major stages or grades of evolution. These stages correspond to, and are one with, the Seven Degrees of Occultism into which the Great Lodge is divided. Each one of these Degrees is divided into seven minor steps, making forty-nine in all. Every human being on "The Path," or in manifestation during such a Cyclic period, is in, or on, one of these steps or Degrees.

The Seventh Degree of the present Cycle is composed of all those people who have reached a certain definite point in spiritual development, and have been admitted into this Degree by the Masters without any self-conscious act on their part, on the outer plane of manifestation, i. e., the physical world.

The Sixth Degree is composed of those in the position of teachers or leaders of men, who are working on purely ethical lines or under some personal concept of the Infinite and Trinity thereof, but who have not yet realized their position in the Lodge or the assistance given them by higher entities because of that position.

The Fifth Degree is composed of such members of esoteric or exoteric societies for psychical research and students of Occultism as are familiar with the truth of The Lodge as a fact in natural life, and who are working consciously under the direction of one or more Masters for the advancement of the human race. Many of the most noted professional men, scientists, and investigators along all lines have reached this point, but do not realize the position of the Degree to which they belong in the great scale of life. Many belonging to the Masonic Fraternity, in past ages, were members of this Degree.

The Fourth Degree—The Temple—is composed of those who have come into close personal touch with the members of the White Brotherhood (the Initiates and Masters), whether they are members of the Temple organization or not, and who are in process of preparation for more sacred Degrees, having taken a self-conscious step in evolution.

All things connected with the three Inner Degrees are very sacred and secret, membership in them leading up to conscious union with all the component parts of the Lodge. But little can be said by us of these Degrees to any but pledged members of The Temple. By earnest aspiration and rightly directed effort, we may hope, however, to reach one or all of these Degrees, the members of which are trained Occultists, Seers and Initiates. The advanced souls, who constitute the higher Degrees are the instructors or teachers of the members of the lesser, or before-mentioned Degrees. In different parts of the world there are organized bodies under the leadership of one or more of these Initiates, the members of which have no idea of the real standing of their Teachers.

It is known to be a law, that no effort for good can be made without awakening an opposite pole of evil—so there are also to be found in the world groups of people under evil guidance that cast sad reflections on the term Occultism.
From "Teachings of The Temple"

TEMPLE ACTIVITIES AND NOTICES

The FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION of The Temple of The People will begin Sunday, August 2, and continue through Thursday, August 6. There will be a preliminary gathering on Saturday evening, August 1, in Hiawatha Lodge. The usual mid-day healing service will be held in the Temple at noon Sunday. The opening meeting of the

Convention will come at 3 p.m. If possible, comrades at a distance should unite with us in spirit during these meetings, realizing the aims and purposes of The Temple of The People, as the vehicle of the Great White Lodge on the outer plane, in holding the line of Light and Life for humanity through this great crisis in the evolution of the human race—the transition from the Old Order of Life into the New.

The following lectures were given in the Temple during the Sunday meetings in June and July: June 14, Joyce Hedin read a speech given by Vice-President Wallace over the radio, entitled, "What We're Fighting For." June 21, Ernest Harrison spoke on "Compassion." June 28, Louise Awerdick, "Spiritual Leveling in the World." July 12, Cethyl Mallory, "The Two Ways." July 19, the anniversary of the passing of B. S., first Guardian-in-Chief of The Temple, was commemorated. Harold Forgostein spoke on "Temple Buildings." July 26, Fred Whitney, "The Intermediary Planes."

TEMPLE LITERATURE

We call attention to the Temple Books, Correspondence Courses, and Pamphlets advertised on the inside cover of the ARTISAN. "From the Mountain Top" is a revelation of light, shining through Messages from Inner Spheres of transcendent truth and beauty. "The Coming Avatar" tells the truth about the great age in which we live; it should be in the hands of a people. The Yellow and Red Folios contain Messages from Masters of the Great White Lodge given to The Temple and, through The Temple, to humanity, 1926-1929.

HELPING HAND

The importance of the Helping Hand Department is again brought to your attention. All contributions, however small, will be greatly appreciated as the pressing expenses and material needs continue.

From the center of its being to the circumference of its sphere of action flows the Life Force of the Great White Lodge in steady pulsating rhythm. Back to the center flows a return wave of gratitude clothed in garments of unselfish service, devotion, and sustaining support.

"There are no little things." Even a small contribution given with the desire to help will support the work more than you can realize and bless the giver.

"That which thou givest me I will give back to thee full measure. Seek in my gift for the overflow."

Send all Helping Hand communications, contributions, and dues to The Temple of The People direct.

HEALING MEDITATIONS AT THE TEMPLE CENTER

Through healing meditations and devotional meetings for years past, a powerful center of high spiritual forces has been created in the Blue Star Memorial Temple at Halcyon. We hold healing meditations daily at high noon (12 M.; P. S. T.), sending out healing vibrations into the world, for the good of humanity. All who are interested may tune in at this hour to receive the healing forces and help a distressed world. Humanity never has been in greater need of spiritual assistance than now. Let us bear in mind that all the forces of Light are at our command if we sincerely ask for them.

MAY THE HIGH SPIRITUAL FORCES OF THE TEMPLE
CONVENTION STRENGTHEN AND UPLIFT ALL WHO
WORK AND SERVE FOR THE VICTORY OF
LIGHT AND PEACE AND THE SPIRITUAL
FREEDOM OF THE HUMAN RACE!

Temple Books and Pamphlets

Basic Principles of Brotherhood, Evolutionary Waves. W. H. Dower	\$.11
Beacon Fires [paper 40c] cloth70
Brother of the Third Degree. W. L. Garver [\$3 to foreign countries]	2.60
Coming Avatar, The25
Confession of Faith. I. J. H.25
Folios of Master Messages, Yellow and Red, mimeographed, each	2.00
both ordered together	3.50
From the Mountain Top [cloth] [\$3 to foreign countries] ...	2.50
Law of Cycles, The. B. S. and W. Q. J.25
Mirror of Destiny, B. S.25
Occultism for Beginners. W. H. Dower, M. D. [paper 60c] cloth	1.00
Path Victorious, The. B. S.30
Seven Principles of Man, The. Karma. E. Harrison11
Temple Builders Booklets, Nos. I to X, each40
Temple Artisan, Vols. VI, VII, VIII, IX, X [half leather] each	3.50
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TEMPLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSES.

By Master H.: No. 1, The Coming Avatar; No. 2, Chelaship; No. 3, Sex or The Law of Duality; No. 4, Metaphysics; No. 5, Sound; No. 6, Thought. Also special courses of instruction: No. 1A, Beginner's Course, By F. A. LaDue and Dr. W. H. Dower; No. 3A, Mysticism and Music, by Jane W. Dower; No. 4A, Basic Principles of Science, by George Harrison. Six lesson in each course. Price, \$1.60 per course, post paid.

TEMPLE LEAFLETS AND BOOKLETS, each 5c

The Awakening of Love. To the Children of the New Covenant. From the Place of Silence. The Christos. Co-operation, the Basic Law. Karma, the Law and the Redeemer. God's Hospital. Law. The Law of Cycles. Ledger of Life. Magnetic Currents of Force. The Recording. Self Responsibility and Farewell, by B. S. The Seventh Year. Seventy Times Seven. Sex—Quotations from Temple Teachings. Stewardship. True Brotherhood. The Upper Room.

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