

## *Revealing the Hidden Mysteries*

*“Fear them not therefore: for there is nothing covered that shall not be revealed; and hid, that shall not be known. What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the house tops”—Matt. 10:26, 27.*

*“And he said unto them, Is a candle brought to be put under a bushel, or under a bed? and not to be set on a candlestick? For there is nothing hid, which shall not be manifested; neither was anything kept secret, but that it should come abroad. If any man have ears to hear, let him hear”—Mark 4:21-23.*

*“No man, when he hath lighted a candle, covereth it with a vessel, or putteth it under a bed; but setteth it on a candlestick, that they which enter in may see the light.*

*For nothing is secret, that shall not be made manifest; neither any thing hid, that shall not be known and come abroad.*

*Take heed therefore how ye hear; for whosoever hath, to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have”—Luke 8: 16-18.*

**T**HESE THREE quotations from the three synoptic Gospels illustrate how three separate personalities reacted to the same thought. How very important it is for each one of us to make our own contacts with universal truth, not relying on an intermediary, because the revelations of a sec-



Opaque watercolor over graphite on gray wove paper. J. James Tissot. Brooklyn Museum

### *St. John the Baptist and the Pharisees*

*“For this is he [seen approaching from above], of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee”—Matt. 11:10. The rigorous discipline that prepares the way for Christ includes changing one’s thinking: self-transformation by renewing the mind.*

ond person will, of necessity, be colored by his own personal needs and limitations. Matthew, accustomed to working directly with people, would shout his glad tidings from the housetops. For him that was the best way to tell others of the mysteries that had been revealed to him. He knew from experience the deep need men had for the light, and the equally deep need, when once found, to express it. Yet we are reminded of what an Indian sage said to the eminent American religionist, E. Stanley Jones, when he was in India on a mission: “What the American people do speaks so loudly that I cannot hear what you are saying.” So the phrase “preach from the housetops” must not be taken too literally.

Mark also had had a mystery revealed to him. Until the time of the Crucifixion, when the veil of the Temple was rent, only those who had been chosen and had undergone rigorous training were eligible for initiation into the "Mysteries." John the Baptist is a good illustration of the old type of candidate who, through ascetic discipline, had prepared himself for baptism. But now there were enough people sufficiently evolved so that the way to spiritual unfoldment could be proclaimed openly—but only to those who had "ears" and could understand.

From that momentous time the great Christ Spirit would control this planet and He would put His teachings into the heart of everyone. He would "hide" them there, and they, through their actions, would manifest them openly. One need not be clairvoyant to look into men's faces and tell which one loves his neighbor, and which one feels hate. If a man loves money he surrounds himself with it and the things it buys; his every thought is concen-

trated on how to get it, spend it, or hoard it. If a man is genuinely interested in others, he does not need to shout it from the housetops, all people love and trust him and flock to him. Truly we acknowledge the Christ's love or lack of it in our every action.

But illumination comes only to those who have disciplined themselves as rigorously as John the Baptist had, and have opened their "ears." Christ has chosen all to be initiated and has pointed out the path, but we must learn to walk on that path alone.

Luke, the beloved physician and friend of Paul, tells us the same truth, but he cannot forbear preaching a little about it. If we do not set our light on a candle-stick and help to dispel the fogs of superstition and half truths that lurk in the dark, then that light which we thought we owned shall be taken from us. But if we do live our life "in the light" to the best of our abilities, then more and more mysteries will be cleared for us and our light will shine all the brighter until we can walk joyously along the path indicated by Christ. □

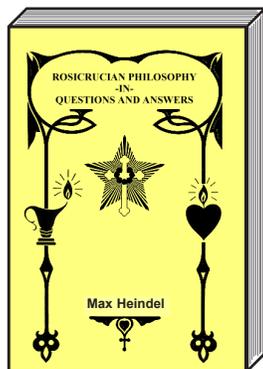
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