

Solomon— Revelations of Truth

SOLOMON'S MISSION TO THE WORLD

LEGEND STATES that the birth of Solomon was attended by hosts of Angels singing triumphant chorals just as they did at the birth of Jesus. It is also said that the Archangel Gabriel, guardian of mothers and children, was present to bestow his blessing upon the infant.

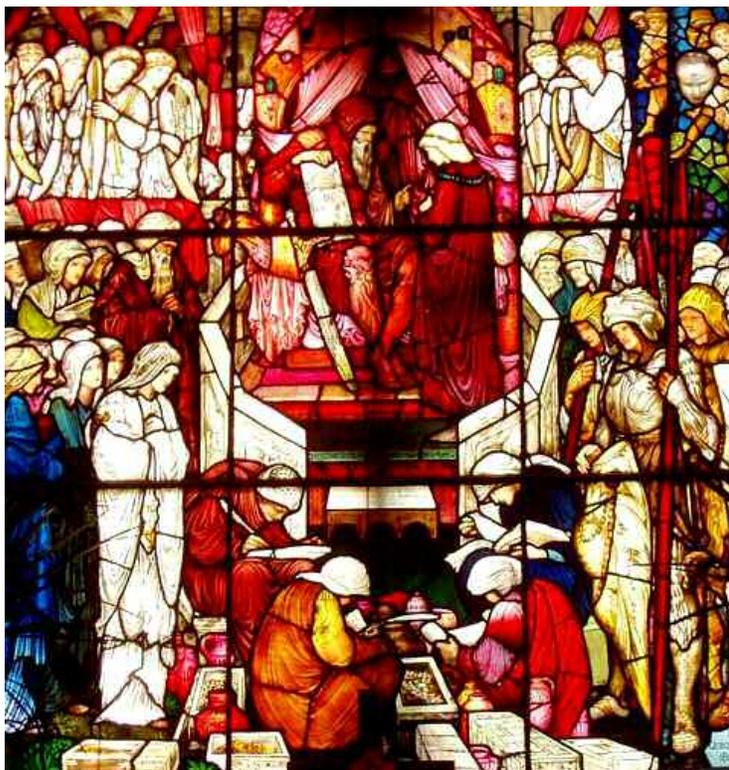
Nathan, a prophet of God who guided David in ways of Truth, was appointed teacher and guardian of the youthful Solomon. So the child grew and developed in an environment of righteousness and wisdom, thus qualifying him to perform his great work for the upliftment of mankind.

One day, when Solomon was about thirteen years of age, the Court was assembled in the majestic Hall of Cedars when an Angel appeared and placed a golden leaf in the hands of King David. Upon this leaf was inscribed questions in mystic characters. David announced, "Whoso answers these questions shall become king of Israel after me." Then he read: "What is everything? What is nothing."

Breaking the silence that followed, Solomon only made reply: "God is everything, the world is nothing." David continued reading:

"What is of most account, and what is of least?" Once more it was Solomon who made reply: "Peace is of most account, and fear is of least."

Solomon's foremost work was to build the great Mystery Temple. Teachings emanating from this Temple were to serve the entire present Fifth Root



Stained glass. Edward Burne-Jones (1833-1898) and William Morris. Trinity Church, Boston, MA

"Build the House of the Lord Thy God"

King David instructs Solomon about the building of the Temple.

Race throughout its evolutionary span. Mt. Moriah, like the Mt. of Olives previously referred to, was an area of great spiritual power. On it Solomon was instructed to erect a magnificent Temple and dedicate it in service to the divine purpose of bringing about the redemption of mankind. It was ordained that the Lord Christ should be received into this Temple, and that the wondrous meaning and mission of His coming to us should be relayed to the world therefrom. Mankind, however, did not live up to the divine precepts of Solomon and later Temple servers did not recognize the expected Messiah when He did come. Hence, the day of the Crucifixion inaugurated the doom of the Temple. It was only a matter of time before its complete destruction.

Jesus, foreseeing the fate of Jerusalem and the Temple, wept over the tragedy that was to overtake both. He knew that the city's inhabitants had failed

to achieve the high destiny which had been prepared for them. As He beheld the long centuries lying ahead, He saw a future filled with strife and ravaging wars, with their aftermath of sorrow, pain and death, before the day of their redemption. David and Solomon, both high Initiates, came to earth to work for the regeneration of the human race in anticipation of the glorious coming of the Blessed Lord. It was not they who failed. Rather, it was the entire Fifth Root Race.

Solomon, by means of his initiate powers, was able to control denizens of both the upper and nether realms. The forty-nine paths of wisdom were open to him, so mystic legends state. (4 plus 9 gives 13, the initiatory number belonging to the then approaching Christian Dispensation.) He even transmuted the vicious powers of demons into those serving the good of man. He controlled Nature Spirits and, at will, could send them to the furthest confines of the world. He delivered many persons from bondage to the evil of obsession.

The macrocosm is a reflection of the microcosm. Man's physical body, his temple, is a reflection of the solar Temple of the universe. The Master taught that it was this human temple which might be destroyed and then, through Initiation, be raised up again in three days. In mystic Masonry it is the temple built by two kings and a widow's son. The latter, Hiram or Khurum by name, becomes the Master Builder—his name meaning high, white, lifted up. King Solomon represents the heart. King Hiram of Tyre is the head. Hiram, the master workman and a widow's son, symbolizes an aspirant who is working to unite the love power of the heart with the intellect of the head.

Every masonic candidate is admonished to keep his working tools in the column of Jachin, the head. Boaz, the feminine heart column, is the fallen pillar which cannot be raised until the power of love balances that of reason. Only when love is truly "the fulfilling of the law" will the column of Boaz resume its upright position. These are the two columns that guard the entrance to all initiatory Temples, and every neophyte must pass between them on his quest for Light.

Many are the legends connected with the Molten Sea. This sea, in the form of a flower, was (and is)

supported by twelve oxen. As a "widow's son" (neophyte) becomes a "master-builder" by the alchemy of transmutation within himself, his "molten sea" becomes a crystal wherein the outlines of past, present and future are indelibly impressed. This ability enables him to transform his physical vehicle into the "flower body" of an Initiate—a work done under the guidance and instruction of the twelve zodiacal Hierarchies. It was such attainment that placed Solomon among the Wise Men of all ages. And the "lake" upon which he stood to welcome the Queen of Sheba symbolizes his own personal "molten sea."

Solomon's throne was fashioned of the fine gold of Ophir inlaid with marble and incusted with rare jewels. On each of the six steps to it were two golden lions and two golden eagles standing face to face, indicative of the Leo-Aquarian Age and its pioneers who have learned to build the glorious light body typified by Solomon's Temple. No workman was ill during the seven years that the Temple was under construction, nor was the perfect condition of their tools impaired. "When completed, the Temple shone like a golden hill set upon a silver mountain. The altar of bronze increased so that it might embrace the earth. The molten sea encompassed the spirit of all waters. The curtains caught and held the shimmering shadows of blue air, and the candlestick, the glory of celestial fire." Surrounding the Temple was a grove of golden trees bearing perpetual fruits that fell only when approached by an enemy. Within the sanctuary was an ivory wand, the touch of which gave injury to the unclean but proved harmless to the pure. A transparent wall within the interior of the sanctuary remained crystal clear on the approach of the righteous but darkened when the unworthy came near.

At the dedication of the Temple, these words were spoken by the Lord, the manifestation of spiritual law: "I have hallowed this house, which thou hast built, to put my name there forever; and mine eyes and mine heart shall be there perpetually."—1 Kings 9:3 Legends state that Solomon placed a golden key in the door of the Holy of Holies to the rhythms of heavenly music and chanting

"Open wide the doorway of the Holy of Holies, that the King of Glory may go unto his rest."

SOLOMON'S SUPREME INITIATION

“And when the queen of Sheba heard of the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the Lord, she came to prove him with hard questions.

“And she came to Jerusalem with a very great train, with camels that bare spices, and very much gold, and precious stones: and when she came to Solomon, she communed with him of all that was in her heart.

“And Solomon told her all her questions: there was not anything hid from the king, which he told her not.” —1 Kings 10:1-3

The coming of this beautiful queen of wisdom is the triumphal crowning of Solomon's life. The wisdom, of which he sings as being above the price of rubies, was at last his own possession. Before its attainment he never could have penned the matchless *Song of Songs*, the Song of the Mystic marriage—described as “a love song set to lilies.” It proclaims the final blending of the lower nature with the higher, the sublimation of the material into the spiritual. This is the highest achievement of divine alchemy. It must take place within the consciousness and life of a disciple, for it brings him into communion with those celestial planes whereon the glory of the song becomes his own personal experience.

The name Sheba means seven with its sevenfold interpretation: “the Beautiful, the Old, the One, the Giver, the Dangerous, the First, the Last.” She was the queen of all Arabian flowers. *Balkris*, her name, means benediction. Solomon spent three years in preparation for her coming. He built two mighty walls that began at the frontier of Israel and ended at the gates of Jerusalem. One was of silver and the other of gold, and between them was a crystal lake in which the entire world was mirrored. It was thereon that he awaited her arrival. Sheba came arrayed in seven robes as subtle as woven air, and she approached Solomon as he was standing on this crystal “Lake” as though he were in water. Her gifts to the king were priceless pearls while his to her were eight green rose trees of mystic Damascus, all starry with blossoms, and jars containing the waters of eternal life from the well of Siloam—the last being a phrase from an old Egyptian Mystery Temple.

“And when the queen of Sheba had seen all

Solomon's wisdom, and the house that he had built, and the meat of his table, and the sitting of his servants, and the attendance of his ministers, and their apparel, and his cupbearers, and his ascent by which he went up unto the house of the Lord; there was no more spirit in her.

“And she said to the king, It was a true report that I heard in mine own land of thy acts and of thy wisdom. Howbeit I believed not the words, until I came, and mine eyes had seen it: and behold, the half was not told to me: thy wisdom and prosperity exceedeth the fame of which I heard.

“Happy are thy men, happy are these thy servants, which stand continually before thee, and that hear thy wisdom.”—1 Kings 4-8

In the great tent of the king, guests who were assembled for the reception of the gifts were overshadowed by invisible hosts of the angelic choir. Solomon saluted the fair queen with the words: “You are holy as the Ark of God; your body is His house.” At these words of the king's salutation, many of the guests wavered and departed; but *Balkris*, Queen of Sheba, swayed and stood upright and alone in the middle of the royal tent.

“Many are called but few are chosen.”

Others also wavered and turned away, unable to walk longer in the Master's way—the straight and narrow path of Initiation which leads to the portals of the mystic Temple where gifts are bestowed upon a successful aspirant who is wedded to wisdom and has learned the glory of the house not made with hands, but eternal in the heavens. It is at the completion of this “house” that he earns the wages of the Master and acquires ability to travel in foreign countries, the supreme attainment for pioneers of the human race.

From Jerusalem, Solomon reigned over all Israel the cabalistic period of forty years. At the time of his transition his eyes beheld a vision of the future: the destruction of the earthly tabernacle because it was impermanent, transitory. Said another great Christian Initiate: “Things seen are temporal; things unseen, eternal.” Solomon, King of peace, raising aloft the sacred ring bearing the ineffable name, admonished: “Build ye the Temple invisible and eternal.” □

—Corinne Heline