

The Mystery of the Lost Word

BY THE TIME of the Babylonian Captivity of Judea, which followed about a century after the Ten Tribes of the North, or Israel, had been carried away into captivity by the Assyrians, Palestine had become a more or less homogeneous nation, in the sense that the several ethnic strains present in the land had become assimilated, and that from this melting pot had come those whom we now call the Hebrew people. This process had been going on for about a thousand years, from the time of Abraham to the time of the Babylonian Exile. New incursions of foreign peoples continued to take place from time to time, however, and so, even up until the time of Christ, there would be pockets in which immigrant blood still remained in an original unassimilated state.

Yet the great mass of the population had become the Hebrew nation. The dominant ethnic strain was that of the Amorites, whose king type is the great and mysterious Melchizedek, who ruled at Salem (Jerusalem), and to whom Abraham pledged his allegiance, and whose language (in dialect) Abraham adopted. Bible scholars today are investigating the possibility that Abraham, instead of being Aramean, as formerly supposed, and as stated in some passages in the Bible, was in reality of the same blood as Melchizedek, that is, Amorite. This is the tall, powerful, redheaded race which has continued to throw up into history the various great heroes, such as Samson and Simon bar Kocheba. The latter was eight feet tall, and the



Die Bibel in Bildern, Julius Schnorr von Carolsfeld (1789-1853)

Moses Before the Burning Bush

From out of the fiery aura Moses hears the archangel Michael speak.

Bible seems to show that Samson was in similar proportion. Jesus of Nazareth is traditionally thought to have been at least six feet tall.

In the Bible and Apocrypha we are told that Judah and Dan resembled the Amorites, so much so that they could disguise themselves as Amorites and mingle among the enemy undiscovered.

Dan, like Judah, was one of the southern tribes, but being unable to defend the territory assigned to it, which was near that of Judah, migrated to the North, where it became the twin tribe of Naphtali. Hiram Abiff, the Master Workman of Solomon's Temple, was of these two tribes, according to the Bible.

The term "Canaanite" really includes the several races which had settled in Palestine from early times. The Philistines, Greco-Cretan in origin, are thought to have entered Palestine at about the same time the Hebrews came with Moses and Joshua, which explains the continuing warfare between these two peoples. The Phoenicians called themselves "Canaanite," and they spoke a form of the

same Western dialect spoken by Melchizedek, and which Abraham adopted. Aramean is the Eastern dialect of a so-called Semitic language basic to the peoples of Mesopotamia, Syria, and Palestine. The Western, or Amorite, dialect is therefore the root of what we today call Hebrew. If recent scholars are right, Abraham learned and retained this tongue while still in Babylonia.

What was the cement which bound these peoples into one nation? It was the religion of Moses, the great lawgiver, educated and trained in Egypt, which created the Hebrew nation. Nowhere in history is the power of an idea more clearly shown than here, where the teaching of the great Egyptian Initiate brought a people and a nation into being. We have seen the same process repeated in the United States of America.

But an organized religion is basically a system of ideas or concepts. What was the concept which had the power to create a nation dedicated to the coming of a world savior in the Time of the End? It was the concept of the *Immanence* of Godhead, the understanding that God who created the universe is in everything and is everywhere present; but that He is also transcendent—is not limited by His creation but above and beyond it. This is the primal Mystery Teaching of the Old Testament.

The *Name of God* conveys this concept, but it is not merely one Name; it is a composite of many Names. Its root, however, is the Hebrew word *ehyeh*, signifying Eternal Existence. In the English translation of the Bible this is given as *I AM*, or *I AM THAT I AM*, while the root spelling is usually given, combined with vowels, as Jahweh, Jahve, or Jehovah. It is not the fault of Moses that later Hebrews took this Divine Name to mean only their own tribal gods or nature gods. The High Priests and the King always knew the truth—that the Name meant the Supreme God of the universe, the God of all races and beings, and not merely a god of the various Hebrew tribes.

Each race which comes into being upon the Earth, however, does have its own archangelic ruler or genius, and the Archangel Michael was this Genius of the Hebrew Race-Idea. It was he who appeared to Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, who gave to Moses the God-Name and the great



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The Archangel Michael

The Archangel Michael is the Race-spirit of the Jews (Dan 12:1).

Teaching of the Mystery of Eternal Being. We read the story in the third chapter of Exodus, where Moses saw a bush that was burning yet was not consumed. The “bush” burned because it was in fact not a bush at all but the auric streamers of an Archangel; for the Archangels are fiery Sun Beings. Then, the Bible says, “God called to him out of the bush.” That is, a voice spoke to him, out of the fiery streamers of the archangelic aura.

Here, instead of saying “God spoke,” it would be more correct to say “the god spoke,” meaning Michael the Archangel. He was, however, speaking God’s will for the future Hebrew nation, and in this sense we may say that “God spoke.”

The archangelic Voice went on: “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” He then commands Moses to lead his people out of Egypt and back to the land of Canaan. To this Moses objects: “If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, *The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you*, and they ask me,

What is his name? what shall I say to them.” Then the Archangel replied: “I AM WHO I AM. Say this to the people of Israel, *I AM hath sent me unto you* ...this is my Name forever and thus am I to be remembered throughout all generations.”

The point to be observed here is that the Archangel has not, in fact, given his name at all. He says, “I Am who I am.”

The Name of God given to Moses, and which is not, of course, recorded on any written or printed page, signifies, as we have said, eternal existence; and this concept seems so abstract and vague that orthodox scholars have come to look upon the Hebrew reverence for the Name as a sort of superstition. Because the real spelling and pronunciation of the Name had been lost, it is spoken of as The Lost Word, for the Lost Word of Masonry is nothing else than this, the true pronunciation of the Name of God. Of the Archangel Michael the Bible says, “My Name is in him,” because he represents the tutelary deity of the Hebrew nation, who represents God to that people. In astronomical terms, the Tetragrammaton is inscribed upon the fiery golden disc of the Sun.

Take note that it is not the Name but the Concept which has the power. The Word, or Name of God, is expressed in all of creation; it is the Archetypal Sound which maintains universes and unfolds the processes of evolution; but behind the universal tone, or sound, is the archetypal Concept or Idea.

The Concept of Godhead is the single most powerful Idea which the human mind can entertain, and although, truly, human speech can pronounce neither the Sound of Creation nor the Name of an Archangel, yet there are certain sound-patterns which were anciently known to Initiates in the Mysteries which did have the power to produce miraculous effects.

Modern science is only now beginning to understand the hidden power of sound, especially in the supersonic range of vibrations which are inaudible to the human ear. In this supersonic range the voices of the Creative Hierarchies, which are

collectively God, continue to chant the life-song of our universe. In ancient times there were collections of sacred Words, all of which together equated to Godhead, the various patterns of which taken singly could be applied to a variety of phenomena on the Earth plane. Some Words were words of healing; some commanded the Nature Spirits; some invoked the aid of Angels and Archangels; only a few pierced to the Throne of Godhead itself, into the pure reaches of Infinite Being.

From this we understand why the priesthood tried to keep the Mystery of the I AM a deep secret. The I AM was no feeble superstition of a barbaric and priest-ridden people. It was a real sound-pattern of unimaginable power. However, as the

nation and its priesthood degenerated, the symbolic marks which stood for this sound pattern ceased to have any meaning, for the true pattern could be transmitted only in Initiation. It was not something that could be “handed down,” either in

writing or verbally. The Word had to be “lived” before it could be “spoken.” The Initiate must become the Word, which was then incarnate in flesh and blood.

Such was the accomplishment of the greatest Initiate of the human race, the man Jesus of Nazareth, the descendant of the kings of Judah, in whose flesh and blood the Tetragrammaton-Concept had become visible and tangible upon Earth; and who became the vehicle or carrier for the mighty Christ Spirit, to the uplifting of the entire planet and all the living beings upon it.

As the Aquarian Age approaches, which is the Age of the Son of Man, knowledge of the Mysteries of sound will become a common possession of the illumined, regenerate human race. The first step of that knowledge is the understanding that we are, as Virgin Spirits, the potential Image of God. Gazing upon the glory of Godhead we say rightly, I AM THAT. Such was the Wisdom Teaching of the great Masters who wrote the Bible, and such is the Wisdom Teaching today. □

—Kent Lorimer

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