

# WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY

## Initiation of Eutyclus



And we sailed away from Philippi after the days of unleavened bread, and came unto them to Troas in five days: where we abode seven days.

And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

And there were many lights in the upper chamber, where they were gathered together.

And there sat in a window a certain young man named Eutyclus, being fallen into a deep sleep: and as Paul was long preaching, he sunk down with sleep, and fell down from the third loft, and was taken up dead.

And Paul went down, and fell on him, and embracing him said, Trouble not yourself; for his life is in him.

When he therefore was come up again, and had broken bread, and eaten, and talked a long while, even till break of day, so he departed.

And they brought the young man alive, and were not a little comforted.

—Acts 20:6-12.

These verses give an excellent example of biblical passages which, on the surface, seem inconsequential, but when interpreted in the light of occult philosophy contain profound and significant truths. This particular passage refers to initiation, an inner experience during which the candidate is taught to use the spiritual power he has stored up by purity, love, and service to others.

The coming of the Christ as indwelling planetary Spirit of the earth made initiation possible for all. "It rent the veil which the Race Spirit had hung before the Temple to keep out all but the chosen few, and it made the Path of Initiation free thenceforth to whomsoever will. . . . As the blood flowed on Calvary, it bore with it the great Sun Spirit, Christ, who by that means se-

cured admission to the earth itself and since that moment has been its Regent. He diffused His own desire body through the planet, thereby cleansing it from all the vile influences which had grown up under the regime of the Race Spirit. . . . We owe it to Him that we are able to gather for our desire bodies purer desire stuff than formerly. . . . Since Christ came, purifying the desire body of our planet, the connection between all human dense and vital bodies has been loosened to such an extent that, by training, these vehicles are capable of separation. Therefore, initiation is open to all."

The apostle Paul, emulating his adored Teacher, gathered together his followers wherever he went and spent as much time as he could instructing them according to their needs. That some were ready for initiation is evidenced by this incident. The "upper chambers" referred to many times in the Bible are symbolical of the high states of consciousness reached by those who had prepared themselves. *Sleep* and *death* were words often used to refer to the condition existing when the candidate was being initiated into the higher realms. The silver cord had not been severed, but the attention of the candidate was focused for a time upon a higher plane.

The young man Eutyclus was evidently ready for initiation into a high degree, as indicated by the reference to "the third loft." It is taught that the lesser initiations correspond to the layers of the earth. "There are nine such strata and the central core, making ten in all. These strata are revealed to the initiate gradually. One stratum becomes accessible to him at each initiation, so that at the end of the nine lesser initiations he is master of all the layers, but has not yet access to the . . . core."