

WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY

Culmination of the Ministry

The Empty Tomb

THE empty tomb has been the cause of much speculation among orthodox Christians. Its meaning, however, becomes plain when studied esoterically. The atoms of the body of Jesus, pure and holy as he was, vibrated at a much slower rate than the vibratory forces of the Christ Spirit. Consequently, frequent acceleration of the atoms of Jesus' body had to take place during the three-year Ministry. This acceleration of the vibrations of the atoms would have shattered the physical body of Jesus had not the powerful will of the Master, assisted by the skill of the Esenes, held it together. Had the atoms of the body been asleep, as those in the bodies of ordinary humanity, it would have required a long time for the physical form to disintegrate after it had been vacated by the Christ; but in the case of Jesus the atoms had become so highly charged with life that they quickly found their full freedom as soon as the integrating Christ Spirit left the physical body at the time of the Crucifixion. When we learn to make and keep our bodies fully alive, we shall not change atoms or bodies so often, nor will the work of disintegration be so long a process.

The stone rolled away from Jesus' sepulchre was a great circular rock moving in a groove like a mill stone which, when rolled over the entrance, closed it like a door. The Romans sealed it by drawing cords in front of it, the cords being fastened on each side of the tomb by wax or clay so the authorities would know if the tomb had been entered. Such a stone would require several men to move it.

The stone rolled away means esoterically

the complete overcoming of materiality and all obstacles that prevent attainment of that complete self-mastery which opens the way of Initiation. This overcoming is always accomplished through the resurrection of the Christ Power within man himself.

The earthquake recorded as having occurred when Christ arose from the tomb was caused by the change of atomic vibrations in the Earth as the great Sun Spirit freed Himself from its confines. The same phenomenon took place for the same reason when He entered the Earth at the time of His Crucifixion.

In the Ritual of the Empty Tomb, the Christ as the Wayshower for all mankind demonstrated to His followers the final and most difficult work to be accomplished on this physical Earth: the transmutation of matter into spirit. When this has been learned, man will have gained mastery over sickness, age, and death. In esoteric terminology, this attainment comes with the Initiation belonging to Earth, the densest of the four elements. It is the last of the Four Great Initiations.

In the early morning hours of the first Easter, several women came to the empty tomb besides the blessed Mother Mary and Mary of Magdala. These included the Virgin Mother's sister; also Mary, the mother of James and Jude; and Salome and Joanna. These women were all there in preparation for experiencing the illumination that follows upon passing through the Rite of the Resurrection. The two Angels that they saw guarding the open grave represent the purified desire body and the luminous etheric

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own." He believes it highly probable that many other life forms exist in the universe. He posits the relationship of all life, even going so far as seriously to refer to humanity as "brothers of the boulder." He suggests that the often seemingly intelligent behavior of animals might be due to something more than "instinct," thereby coming closer than many students of animal behavior to the notion of Group Spirits. He states that Nature "tolerates the continuity of a life stream only if it adjusts itself to progress and change," but leaves unsaid the fact that the least-evolved physical forms of a life-wave are inhabited by its least progressive members. He deplores the "vain" and "greedy" prayers still commonly offered privately and in some places of worship.

The book is illuminating with regard to both factual material and speculations. It indicates the degree to which one segment of the scientific community is approaching the metaphysical realm, albeit with conjectures still based largely on purely physical evidence. --- D. F.

SHEP, THE HAND-ME-DOWN DOG

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If Shep's problem is beyond your abilities, please take it to your Boss --- and heal him.... Thank you very much.... Amen."

New Jersey nights are usually mild and only our screen doors kept the world outside. When I entered the kitchen in the morning, the screen door was the only division between the inside and the outside. Sitting on the top step, staring into the kitchen, Shep awaited me. I knew he was in perfect condition.

I went out the screen door and he came to me, his eyes steadily x-raying me. He lowered his head, nuzzling my hand while he steadfastly regarded

me. In a depth fashion he communicated that he knew I had prayed his recovery into manifestation. He knew my love for him.

I readied a feast for him, raw egg beaten up with some of his particular food, and it was consumed completely. I believe Shep knew about my prayer. His Boss conveyed a message.

Shep and I had a special relationship from that day. He always met my car. He would wait slightly in the background until Kutha finished her exuberant greetings, then he would move forward with something akin to reverence. There was a different light in his eyes after that prayer, and we had a oneness, a kinship beyond the requirement of words or gestures.

Although Shep is now gone --- or incarnated in another body --- I am grateful for my personal experience, evidence of the kinship of all life.

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Kinship with All Life was reviewed in the *Rays*, April, 1970. --- Ed.

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body of the ready candidate. That even greater attainment was awaiting these women appears from the words the Master addressed to them when He bade them "Go on into Galilee and I will meet you there." According to the Zohar, "The complete resurrection will begin in Galilee. The resurrection of bodies," it goes on to say, "will be as the uprising of flowers. There will be no more need of eating and drinking for we shall be nourished by the Glory of the Shekinah."

The Essenes, who so reverently preserved the knowledge of the Easter Mysteries, continued throughout the years of their group activity to keep the night hours of Holy Saturday and the sunrise hour of Easter sacred with prayers and hymns of praise.

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