

Contemporary Mystic Christianity

Bible Self-Study Supplement

Death of Joseph

Genesis 50:24-25

And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die; and God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which he sware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying God will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from hence.

So Joseph died, being an hundred and ten years old: and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.

Joseph died at the age of one hundred and ten years. Seventeen of these years he lived in Canaan; for ten years he was a servant of Potiphar; three years were spent in prison; for eighty years he ruled all the lands of Egypt. The number one hundred and ten is the tenfold power of eleven, the master number of attainment. He arrived at its high status after seventeen years of preparation, ten of service, three of trial, and eighty years of fruitful work for humanity. World service followed his years in prison, the time when, in terms of soul experience, every external aid is withdrawn leaving only inner resources of the spirit to be drawn upon. If these be uncovered and developed, as they

were in Joseph's case, new power is available wherewith to minister to the needs of the world.

Joseph typifies the man in whom the higher Christed mind has become operative under the guidance of the Sagittarian Hierarchy, the Lords of Mind. He has entered into a superior condition and assures his brethren that God will surely visit them and bring them out of this land (material mindedness) into the land (Christed mind) which He swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Joseph and Zion Compared

The Bible gives its deepest message in symbols. The same truth is presented in many ways, under different figures and allegories. It is as though it were written in many languages so that if a reader should fail to get its meaning in one tongue, he may, perchance, grasp it in another.

An illustration of this is the symbolical use it makes of the man Joseph and of the city of Zion. Both are representative of various phases through which humanity passes in its struggle toward the light. Both are symbols of Initiation. When these facts are recognized, it is not surprising that there should be so many similar references to the two. Some of these parallels have been cataloged in the follow

ing passages taken from the Talmud, a holy book of the Hebrews:

Israel loved Joseph — Genesis 37

The Lord loveth the gates of Zion — Psalms 47

Joseph's brothers hated him.

My heritage is unto me as a lion in the forest, it crieth out against me, therefore I hate it — Jeremiah 12

Joseph speaks of making sheaves.

There are sheaves in connection with Zion — Psalms 104

Joseph dreamed.

When the Lord turned again the captivity of Zion we were like them that dream — Psalms 124

Joseph was asked, "Wilt thou rule over us?"

Say unto God Zion they God ruleth — Isaiah 52

Joseph was asked if his father and mother would prostrate themselves before him.

They shall bow down to thee with their faces toward the earth — Isaiah 52

Joseph's brothers were jealous.

Thus said the Lord of Hosts. I was jealous for Zion with a great jealousy — Zechariah 8

*Joseph went to inquire about the peace of his brothers.
Zion went to seek the peace of the city where she is
captive — Jeremiah 29*

*Joseph's brothers saw him from a distance.
The same is said about Zion — Psalms 83*

*Joseph was stripped of his coat of many colors.
Concerning Zion the prophet says: "They shall strip me
of thy clothes — Ezekiel 4*

*Joseph was put into a pit.
They have put me alive into a dungeon — Lamentations
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Joseph was pulled up from the pit.

*Jeremiah, in connection with his prophecy about Zion,
was put in a dungeon and drawn up
therefrom — Jeremiah 38*

*Lamentations were raised about Joseph.
And in that day did the Lord call for weeping and
mourning — Isaiah 22*

*In the case of Joseph consolation was rejected.
Labor not to comfort me — Isaiah 22*

*Joseph was sold. The children of Judea and Jerusalem
have you sold unto the Grecians — Joel 4*

Joseph is described as handsome.

*Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth is
mount Zion — Psalms 48*

Joseph was the greatest in his master's house.

*The glory of the latter house shall be greater than the
former — Haggai 2*

The Lord was with Joseph.

*Now mine eyes shall be open and mine ears attend unto
the prayers that are made in this place — II Chronicles 7*

Grace and loving kindness was shown to Joseph.

*Concerning Zion, God says: "I remember the kindness
of thy youth, the love of thy espousal." — Jeremiah 2*

*Joseph was rendered presentable by changing his
clothes.*

*When the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the
daughters of Zion — Jeremiah 3*

Joseph was met by an angel.

*Behold I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare
the way — Malachi 3*

— Corinne Heline