

WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY

The Mystic Interval

We have stated that Peter is the head of the work in the Christian Mystery Temple; this, however, has special reference to the initiatory work done in the Western World (in Europe particularly) and during the Piscean Age which is now drawing to its close. When the Disciples apportioned the known world amongst themselves as fields for missionary service, Rome and the European Empire fell to Peter. He was the apostle to the West. Hence, church history still retains fragmentary references to the peculiar role which this great disciple plays in western Christendom, in that Peter is considered to be the founder of the Church at Rome and apostolic succession is traced from him in all orthodox communions. Legend has it that Peter holds the "keys" to the "gates of Heaven", and that after death each soul as it enters those gates must undergo the scrutiny and examination of this foremost Disciple of the Lord Christ

Such statements are but half truths based upon the esoteric fact that the European Mysteries of Christ were placed under his direction "for the Age." The Bible offers numerous keys to the Initiations of Peter.

And it came to pass, that as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, he stood by the lake of Genneserat,

And saw two ships standing by the lake; but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing their nets.

And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship.

And when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught.

And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night and have taken nothing; nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net.

And when they had done this, they enclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake,

And they beckoned unto their partners who were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both ships, so that they began to sink.

When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord.

For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of fishes which they had taken.

And so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; henceforth thou shalt catch men.

And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him. —*John* 5:1-11.

During the current Piscean Age the majority of people have been able to receive only an external concept of Christ's life and mission. The New Age demands a truer understanding of His work and the Book of Books. Exoteric Christianity has not been able to deliver us from chaos and confusion. The human race is no longer content to worship merely an external Christ. In order to become Christ-like we must develop the Christ within. This is the work of the New Age and the inner process, involved was revealed to the few by the Christ. This inner work and teaching is concealed within the various works and events of His life.

It is for this reason that much of His work with the Disciples is recorded as having been done in boats and on the water. The incident recorded in the foregoing passage is concerned with a definite process belonging to the inner preparatory work of true discipleship. The repeated reference in the New Testament to fish relates to the process of Initiation. It was after this incident recorded in Luke that the Twelve were chosen. (*Cont.*) . . .