

The Temple of Isis

T087 The Inner Teachings 7th December 1938 Pembroke Hall, London

Invocation:

Eternal and almighty Spirit of the light, our Father God, to Thee we pray that we may receive illumination and understanding. We pray that the great power of the light may be with us, so that we may bring through the Ancient Wisdom, the truth eternal in the heavens. Oh may the power be with us this night to give to our brethren that which is given to us for them to receive. We thank Thee, everlasting Father God, for the revelation of life.

Amen.

It is the desire of those in the band working in this Lodge, to bring you more understanding of Egyptian teachings. So little is known in the outer world of the true significance of the great land of Egypt, and what lies behind those crumbled temples of the past. Although research continually proceeds, such research of the outer mind is concerned only with remnants and ruins, and the secrets of the great mysteries of the past will remain hidden. The man* of science, indeed, will fail to recover the lost secrets.

*[*For editorial policy around gender, see the introduction]*

The silence of the Egyptian desert itself is both grand and wonderful; the rays of the sun falling upon the pyramids, upon the sands of the desert, contain the great mystery of life. In the land of Egypt is housed all the wisdom, not only of this world, but of the solar system of which this world is a part.

We hardly know where to commence the story. May your mind, or your spirit, absorb some of its beauty and truth! This little talk is prompted by the familiar story of the flight into Egypt of Joseph and Mary and the babe. Little have we told you of the inner meaning of the birth of the Son of God, Christ, who is the Lord of both heaven and earth, and beneath the earth—the Lord of All. His birth is very beautifully symbolised in the Christmas story, which tells of the coming into physical manifestation of the Son. Here again can be recognised the ancient symbolic tale of the birth of the Sun into physical form. I will go so far as to say that all the Christian symbolism but repeats the story found in the Egyptian mysteries.

The Egyptian mysteries have been handed down from the Golden Age. The Egyptian teaching that once was held sacred in the great Sun temples of Atlantis is the story of the Father and the Mother God, the story of the Sun and the Moon: Osiris, the Father, the King, the Sun; Isis, the Mother, the Moon; Horus, the Child, born of the Father–Mother God. The mystery of life is contained in this story. But there has been a dismemberment, a scattering of the original story, or shall we say of the ‘body’ of Osiris. For one of the Egyptian legends tells of the destruction, or murder, of Osiris, and the scattering of his body into many parts—seven, or fourteen—and the search which Isis, the Mother, continued throughout her life for these fragments. May we add that Osiris is *still* dismembered and the search still continues for these lost fragments of his body.

This story comes from the mystery schools of the initiates.* Throughout history can be traced the handing down by the adepts, or sages, or God-men, of an account of the creation of the

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world and of humanity, and of the so-called fall of man, of the tempting of man by the serpent. There are many aspects; a fragment is found here, a fragment there, and until one has earned the key of the mysteries, all seems disjointed. But the sages are ever passing through to the tried and tested candidate a little more knowledge, a little more help on the way, as man journeys towards the great Hall—or shall I call it the ‘Temple’? —of Isis.

*[*What White Eagle refers to by the term ‘mystery schools’ is best understood from others of these teachings, in particular no. T 065.]*

This is one interpretation which may be helpful. Osiris was known as the King of Egypt—the King of that which had become the Land of Light, because with the sinking of Atlantis preparations were made to transfer the secrets to Egypt. Egypt was thereafter known by the adepts as the Land of Light, the repository of all the ancient secrets which tell of the evolution of the *whole* cycle on this earth plane. Some think Osiris was some mythical king. Others point to the statues and memorials to Osiris and to Isis in Egypt and suppose that the King, Osiris, and his Queen sister, Isis, were once actual beings. You have asked this question of me before. I want to make this clearer. Osiris is the King of the Land of Light; he is King of Egypt; in prehistoric Egypt, the King, the Pharaoh, represented Osiris to the people, because the light of Osiris or the knowledge of the inner mysteries was revealed by the wise ones to the King, to the Pharaoh. So the Pharaoh symbolised Osiris, and Isis was the Mother.

We touch this very briefly; Osiris was the Light, the King; Isis was the Temple, the Church. Christianity claims exactly the same symbolism, in which the Church becomes the bride of Christ, and Christ the bridegroom. Osiris was lured or enticed away by one called Typhon*. Do we see yet another presentation of Genesis, the snake, the serpent tempting? But in the Egyptian story, it was Osiris who was lured away to die. We may read in the symbol of Typhon the serpent, the lower mind of man, his ambition, the desire for power. This desire for power, this ambition, caused the overthrow or the dismemberment of Osiris, and the scattering of that ancient, precious and only true Light (or wisdom) across the face of the earth. I suggest that the fragments of these mysteries were salvaged, accepted and practised by certain mystical schools, all over the world. Thus we get remnants of the original pure truth of Osiris and Isis finding representation in different forms in religions, ancient and modern, across the earth.

*[*The Egyptian name for the one who lured Osiris to his death was Set. He is however sometimes identified with Typhon, who in Greek mythology was a serpentine giant who attempted to overthrow Zeus and was defeated.]*

When we say, occasionally, that you are or have been priest or priestess in the Temple of Isis, it means that the soul has been in contact, perhaps only with the outer or lesser mysteries of the temple, but that the soul has been initiated, at some time, in the temple of the one and only true mistress of life. Do not think of the Temple of Isis as being some building, any more than of the Great White Lodge as some temple on the earth plane. Think of the Temple

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as being the universal temple of the mistress of all life. Then you will come a little nearer to true understanding of the meaning of initiation into the Temple of Isis.

What has all this to do with the flight of Joseph and Mary and the babe into Egypt? We would explain that freemasonry presents the same ancient story, handed down from the first masonic school or temple—shall we say, from the Temple of Isis?—the story of the creation, the birth and journey of the soul in its search for the key of life, symbolised in Egypt by the cross with the circle crowning it, the key of life which was laid upon the breast of the accepted brother. From the beginning this story has come down, and is now, in broken form, to be found in lodges and masonic brotherhoods all over the world.* It is not permissible for us to go more deeply into this, sufficient for you that it is the story of the search for the missing key, the missing word, the lost secrets, which the priests knew had been scattered through the fall of man.

*[*It is important to link White Eagle's statements with the ancient teaching of masonry, not with any specific masonic school at the time this teaching was given.]*

Joseph and Mary are supposed to have fled from Palestine to Egypt to escape the vengeance of the King, who had ordered all first-born sons to be destroyed. Do you see the same symbolism—the Egyptian symbolism—portrayed? In Herod we recognise the mind of earth, the ambitious mind or Typhon. Jesus himself told of the sending of various teachers and wise men ('stewards' to the estate, as it was put in the parable) and the people destroyed them one after the other; then the Father said: 'I will send my only Son, and see if they will listen.' Throughout the ministry of Jesus you will find the truths of Egypt repeated again and again in His parables.

To repeat: Herod symbolises Typhon—the spirit of ambition, greed, and lust, which is always seeking to destroy the Son of God, to destroy all that is spiritual, pure, and innocent, the simple and the childlike. Materialism at its crudest and most harsh would slay this young babe. Do you not see it in your modern world—King Herod ever striving to destroy all appertaining to the spirit? So the angel warned Joseph and Mary to flee from the kingdom of Herod and to journey forth into the Land of Light. The angel is saying the same to you today. Flee from Herod's kingdom, the kingdom of the world, and journey across the desert—again the desert, you see—the desert of Moses, the wilderness, or lonely places through which man must wander as he searches for the Promised Land, the land flowing with milk and honey, the land of truth and freedom, the land of spiritual power and abundance. Thus Joseph and Mary journeyed forth. We tell you from our side of life that there is even more in this story than this, for it was always customary in those days—the custom still exists in some lodges—to bring the child, the newly born babe of a brother, to be dedicated, to be initiated into the mysteries of the brotherhood. Thus Joseph and Mary, already brothers and initiates in the brotherhood of the Essenes, took the child into the Temple of Isis, and there the child was received, consecrated, linked, if you like, with those holy and sacred, eternal mysteries of life.

When all was safe—when the child had grown strong and proof against the tempter (the lower mind) he was brought back again. Then nothing could interfere. He would go forward,

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from strength to strength, unfolding the knowledge which he had brought with him to the earth plane, but which had to be brought through into the physical consciousness, as it always must. This is *your* search. You may be wandering in the wilderness, but remember the words given to Moses, ‘I will give you a pillar of light by day, and a cloud of fire by night’* (or similar words) ‘I will lead you always; I will never leave you without a witness’.** God never leaves His children without a witness; the light shines by night and by day; the light of the Sun, the light of Osiris, of God the Father, and the light of the Mother, Isis, the messenger, the inner messenger.

*[*Not an exact biblical quotation, but see Exodus 13 : 21]*

*[**The thought of never leaving humanity comfortless is at John 14 : 18 but the term ‘witness’ is used in the same context is at Acts 14 : 17]*

We see but the ashes of great Egypt; we see Typhon there, entering into and destroying the work and the life of Osiris; we see that the Light, the truth, was scattered, and then the temples, the great earthly buildings, crumbled and fell, because the priests were possessed by the evil one, by the spirit of ambition and power. Therefore the spirit was gradually withdrawn and the temples decayed—but only, we tell you, until Isis, the great Mother of the mysteries, has gathered again all the lost secrets of Osiris. Then we shall see the great temples again rebuilt—not only that Temple of Osiris in the heavens, in the Universal, which still remains inviolate, but we shall see that Temple brought through again into physical manifestation, and again there will be life and power in the great Brotherhood of Light, of Osiris, King of Kings.

Q.Should we take it that the temptation and the scattering of the fragments was all in the plan? That when that happened humanity was getting deeper and deeper down into matter, the human brain incapable of absorbing all the mysteries; therefore one section took one part and one another, and that when humanity climbs upward again, we shall be in a state to absorb all the mysteries?

A.God is omnipotent, and holds within His hand the plan from beginning to the end. We can *never* depart from that central truth. Therefore, logically, we must accept the theory that the dissipation or distribution of the complete truth, the Light, the body of Osiris, was in the plan, because only through the temple of the mysteries, the Temple of Isis, can humanity work back again, thus bringing into perfection the Light within, because man himself is Osiris. Within man lies all truth: ‘Man, know thyself, and thou shalt know God, the Light, and His Universe.’* The candidate for the inner knowledge is gradually able to find himself, a little here, a little there, in one incarnation one aspect, in another, another aspect. No one contains all the truth. But we *do* say that the true Egyptian mysteries, the mystery school of Atlantis, contained the whole, but not the later Egyptian mysteries.

*[*An enlarged rendering of the words over the entrance to the Delphic Oracle]*

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Q.Re: the connection of the 'fragments' of Osiris with the letters of the alphabet, and the debasement of speech and sounds etc.

A.That is, of course, one fragment. When we come to speech, words, sounds, we touch the very innermost. Of course, the search *is* for the lost word, the sacred letters, the sacred sounds. The importance of correct speech is little recognised today, but is one of the inner mysteries which will gradually be revealed. We would suggest the importance in daily life of choosing correct and beautiful words and sounding them clearly and as perfectly as you can. By so doing you touch the vibrations of life itself.

Benediction:

Let us raise our hearts in thanksgiving to God, the great spirit of life. O, we thank Thee, eternal spirit, for the wondrous revelation of the purpose of our creation; our hearts leap with joy, and we humbly bow in worship. May Thy strength abide with us, and grow within us, that we may journey onward in humility, and in faith that beyond the mountain heights we shall see the sunlight, and dwelling in this Light, we shall see and know Thee, the eternal Father and Mother and Child.

Amen.

The search matches with either words and phrases, which appear in the text, or the following 'key' words and phrases, which are similar in meaning to those in the document:

Ancient civilisations, myths, Bible, feminine, balance