

# The Hidden Years of Jesus

T029 The Inner Teachings 2nd December 1936 Pembroke Hall, London

## Invocation:

Infinite, all-pervading love, Thou who art the beauty, the light and the wisdom of life, we pray that all Thy children here assembled may be responsive to the rays of love, that each heart may open as a flower to the sunlight, and that in the expansion of love within, they may contact the realms of truth and power. Give unto our waiting hearts the gift of understanding.  
Amen.

To make clear the subject of tonight's talk, we would remind you that the mysteries of life are embraced in the ancient teachings of masonry\*. Call these teachings by any other name, but the story of the soul's creation and progress on the path of life is set forth in the ancient school of masonry. Throughout the ages these teachings were guarded, and only the initiated few penetrated the veil. A like foundation can be found in all the Eastern teachings.

*[\*White Eagle refers to masonry as a form of universal truth or teaching, with no specific reference to the freemasonry of today. A question and answer at the end of this teaching clarifies this.]*

We have especially to deal this night with the life of the Master, Jesus of Nazareth. Some think that the portrayal of that beautiful life is merely an ideal. They consider it likely that Jesus never actually lived, and in any case, so much mystery surrounds his life that it is questionable whether the story as related in the four Gospels is reliable after so many teachers and translators have handled the original records. We would have you bear in mind that in the life of the Christian Master is portrayed the life of Everyman, the path of evolution which awaits every soul. An ancient saying proclaims 'As above, so below'—and we put it to you that the presentation of Christ's life is a bringing down to earth of an ideal, or a spiritual man of the heavens. And thus step by step may be traced in the birth, the initiations and the crucifixion, the *exact* path to be followed by the soul of man.

In the ancient days the teaching of freemasonry differed widely from today. The preparation before the candidate's entry into the lodge was for a far longer period, and years elapsed between the degrees of initiation, as compared with the few months allotted in modern days to the ushering of the candidate into the inner school.

This thought brings us to an episode in the life of Jesus when he was twelve years old. The picture is presented of a boy of that age, talking with the wise men, who hung entranced on his words. In the ancient teachings however, the 'age of twelve' had an esoteric meaning; it was no period of twelve years, but meant that after the candidate had passed through his preparation and first initiation, he was received into the Halls of Wisdom: the halls of wisdom to which the candidate is admitted after passing through the Hall of Learning, the place to which he is raised by initiation, by that inflow of power and light which the Masters and angelic ones focus upon the candidate in order to quicken his perception and his understanding of universal truths. Having entered he listens; listens to the wise men talking, and contributes his knowledge and his wisdom.

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Jesus 'at the age of twelve', at a certain point at 12 noon (those who have ears to hear will understand), at high noon, was called into the temple of wisdom, and there we find him with the wise men. He is reported to have answered his earthly parents in a strange manner, so it would seem: 'Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?' Couple these words with those used in his ministry, when he taught that a man must leave all, leave his mother and his father, be divided against his family, must give up all to follow the heavenly Father. Thus he expressed this inner truth—'I have no place in the world of men; I have to be about my Father's business'.

[\*Luke 2:49]

According to Christian tradition, nothing is reported of the Master's life between the age of twelve and the age of thirty, and his ministry lasted three years. Here again, we touch an esoteric truth. The age of thirty-three: three and three. You have a degree in your Masonic schools—three, three—another important landmark on the path, for that period, or that 'age' (I am not speaking of earthly years, remember) marked the great initiation of his life—that moment when he passed the highest degree possible for man to pass in relation to the earth path of evolution. Please understand this, this does not imply that there are no greater heights to climb beyond; we merely refer to the *earth* path of evolution.

And now, the period after the age of twelve, or after the time when he became an initiate in the Halls of Wisdom, let us remember that the Master Jesus was born into a brotherhood; he belonged to a group of advanced souls, his life was a continual preparation and, I was going to say, initiation. His life presented the soul-path, as we have already said, of the ordinary man, which takes thousands of years. It was a presentation to the Western world, simple, cogent, vital, of the esoteric meaning of life. Whereas before the coming of Jesus these mysteries were kept sacredly guarded, now the way was opened for all souls to follow the path, freely, openly; whereas in the past the way of initiation had been confined to the few, now it is opened freely; with the rending of the veil in the temple (how striking a symbolism!) the inner mysteries were revealed. Thus every man who so wishes can read in the life of Jesus the mystery of the universe—and of himself.

Now we return to the hidden years; we come back again to where we find the Master Jesus in the school, in the Hall of Wisdom; we picture him in the temple at Jerusalem—again, a hidden meaning—in the City of Jerusalem, the City of Light, and in the temple of light. In this temple Jesus wandered (I use that word for a purpose), wandered for many years.

There are records which are not read by the uninitiated, unknown by scholars, but kept, nevertheless, and preserved in the temples in the East. When humanity is ready, is sufficiently enlightened, it will be told of these records; they will be made, what you would call, general property. Jesus travelled into far countries, into Persia, India, Tibet. He visited the wise men—again we refer to the wise men who journeyed from the East. To many this is nothing more than a pretty fairy story, but much truth and wisdom lies behind that visit of the wise men, the Masters of the sacred lore, who knew of the coming of Jesus, who knew of his mission; in time he travelled to them and learned much concerning psychic and occult lore.

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He visited Egypt—it sounds dogmatic for us to be saying these things so definitely, but we submit the knowledge which we have read, not in books on earth, but in the records of the soul.

We find Jesus going through periods of training, of preparation. Remember, in those days the whole life of a man was given up to the search for truth, to the preparation and to the whole development of his soul, whereas in these days, and the rush of modern life, when man\* has to earn his daily bread, he perhaps surrenders an hour or so a week, after his daily toil, to apply himself to spiritual growth. This will not always be; for when man realises his true nature, then his present life of toil will become a life of growth, development of the spiritual powers within him, and in the ritual of daily work he will find opportunities to pass the portals of initiation, and to mount, step by step, that ladder which leads him to the eternal heavens, and to freedom.

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

A question has been asked as to whether Jesus ever visited this country. We are reluctant to make statements, but there are certain places in Great Britain where the power is concentrated, places that have been consecrated, and the point of attraction was made by a Master. Search for yourself and you will discover the meaning of this. A place such as Glastonbury is sacred—many of you have experienced the power and the blessing and the glory of the rays which fell thereon, and have no need to ask questions with your mind as to the visitation of the Master. Only open yourself, your soul, and you will be answered. And concerning another sacred place in the north—Iona; there is no need to question, if you are open to the rays of power and light and truth which fall upon that little isle. You may travel in your country to the west, beyond Glastonbury, follow the coast to the west, and you will feel—you do not need to be told. Jesus wandered amongst the wise men in the Halls of Wisdom, seeking knowledge and development of this inner power so necessary later for his ministry.

Before we close, briefly we present the picture again to your minds: the birth, crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus—a perfect presentation of the path of man; as above, so below. These things do not remain in the heaven worlds. In the plan of the great Architect of the universe, these truths are brought through into physical manifestation and presented very clearly and very simply to the younger children of the race.

Q. When you say Jesus wandered in the Halls of Wisdom, do you mean on the etheric planes, or on the physical?

A. I use the term ‘halls of wisdom’ meaning the place where he would learn the secrets of the earth; we also mean that he wandered over the earth which, to those who know, is a great hall of wisdom.

Q. Were those centres of power already power centres before he went there, or did he take the power?

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A. Speaking purely of the West, could I say that, in a sense, he would baptise or consecrate the place and attract the cosmic rays to that centre because of his presence? In the East there were already established the centres of wisdom and power. He would be able to contribute, to increase, the power. Every soul who attains to wisdom and light is always impressing the ether around with his beauty and power. You have only to visit certain places to feel a presence—an atmosphere, you call it. How did it come? Created through the vibrations and the beauty of some man's soul, enhanced by the rays which he draws to that place because of the light which he himself is radiating. This brings us to another point. Every soul has a light; that light may be bright and radiant or it may be a mere flicker, but when it attains to a certain radiance, it attracts other lights to it. Other Great Ones in the heaven world see the light, and immediately that light of earth becomes a focal point attracting the power and the light of the more advanced souls—the Elder Brethren of the human race.

Q. You spoke of masonry, and we take it that Jesus was a mason; although Roman Catholicism proclaims Jesus, it disclaims masonry?

A. I speak of masonry in the universal sense. When you approach the inner mysteries, you see in masonry the clearest representation of the inner mysteries. I do not mean to imply that only by passing through a masonic lodge on your earth can a man enter the mysteries. Masonic teaching today is just an outward symbol but contains universal truth from which you cannot escape, whichever path you tread. With regard to your question about the Roman Catholic Church, there are still Christians by name who, whilst allying themselves with Christ's teaching, will deny him. Great truths are brought down into the crudities of the lower mind, are distorted and misrepresented.

Q. Was the Master Jesus an adept in a previous life?

A. Oh most certainly, yes. But it is not necessary for me to tell you not to confuse the Master Jesus with the Son?

Q. What initiation did he take—Egyptian, Indian, or all?

A. The universal initiation. Yes, he passed through a great preparation in Egypt. I will leave it at that. Records will be found in Egypt bearing this out.

Q. The Arthurian Legends?

A. King Arthur, with his Knights of the Round Table, was an adept with his disciples of a school of the inner mysteries linked with Glastonbury and the Master Jesus.

Oh beloved brethren, when the minds of men turn from the beloved life of the Master Jesus it makes us sad. The Christian presentation may be inaccurate, but the simple story of the birth and the life of the beloved Master we know is true. To see it misrepresented and distorted by the intellect of man is like feeling the nails of his crucifixion. Jesus the Master still lives, still

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works amongst men, and he is still to be seen in his vital body by those who have the clairvoyant vision. He may not be far removed from this little group tonight; his presence, his form and his love still bless you. Open your hearts, beloved, to the simplicity and sweetness of his life. Do not let it be torn from you by those who do not know and who have yet to become as little children, before they can enter into the kingdom of heaven.

### Benediction:

We call upon the angels who obey his command; we pray that God may send them to our waiting hearts. May the heart of everyone present be revitalised, be touched and made a living fire with love for the Master who gave the greatest gift that he had to give for his brethren. And so, O God, bless these Thy children with Thine eternal peace.

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:*

*Christianity, religion, Judaism*

