

LECTURE 6
12th March 1985

Reflecting on what I am teaching you, reflecting also on the way it is understood, I am more than conscious that some of you have not followed the previous Development Class on Revelation. This makes it difficult for you to understand some of the concepts which those who have done Revelation will easily understand. However, I shall try with all my might to make it as simple as possible. I ask you not to jump to conclusions saying you know what things mean. Sure enough, when you say that, you are missing the boat. I have found that to be true time and again. Your error may only be 2 degrees off the centre but 2 degrees are sufficient. I mention this because there is a certain heaviness in my heart because of what I perceive for the future; the future of our Centre and of mankind as a whole.

I am mindful of the words spoken by Jesus: There will be many who will say, “Master, Master”, yet they will not do what I say. The time is fast approaching where we have the knowledge in our minds but nowhere else. When occultism is perceived as a mathematical game, then you may eventually know more than I do, BUT you shall not have the power. I want you, not so much to have the knowledge, even though that is very important, I want you to have the power. Later on in life, when my task is fulfilled, you can take the power and continue on. What the world needs more than anything else at this present moment (and in years and ages to come) is people who are Christed. Those through whom the Christ can flow unhindered.

I have also made it my principle not to take anything for granted. So I will not take for granted that you know anything. So I apply the advice of my teacher who taught us public speaking. He said, “When you begin say one thing to yourself, ‘They don’t know, and you do’”. So I stand here with that principle: I think you don’t know it at all and I do. Therefore I am going to tell you. Even if you say you have heard it all before, that is okay. As far as I am concerned, you don’t know it!

Earth’s Epochs

The present earth as we understand it is divided up into 7 epochs:

1. Polarian epoch.
2. Hyperborean epoch. In this epoch the Sun separated from the earth, or, more accurately, the earth was separated from the Sun, by the Sun. We cannot go into the spiritual meaning of this for the future of the earth at present.
3. Lemurian epoch. I call it the illustrious Lemurian epoch. Different things happened here. The present Moon separated itself from us. We ourselves became separated beings, we became sexed beings, dual in nature. Also the first inkling of a self-consciousness was born into us towards the end of the Lemurian period.
4. Atlantean epoch. This famous epoch is claimed to be more advanced than we are. That ain’t so! They were advanced, if you call that advancement. Man could alter the shapes around them with their soul. If, because we cannot do that, you call it advanced, then I would say perhaps it is. But man in those days did not have the thinking abilities we have. In that sense we are ten times more advanced.
5. Post Atlantean epoch. We live in this epoch. There are two more to come which I am anxiously awaiting. Incidentally, in my communications with the higher heavens, I begged them if could I please incarnate on my own, just to give me a rest.

THE POST-ATLANTEAN CIVILIZATION

The Lemurian continent, if we may call it that, was somewhere between Australia, Asia and Africa. If you can imagine such a continent, Australia and Asia being part of it. The Atlantean continent was between Europe, Africa and present America (north and south). The islands in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans are remnants of the Atlantic continent. Perhaps it would be good to give you a regulated idea of what happened between the downfall of Atlantis until now, then you can perhaps understand what we are talking about.

There were seven cultures within the Atlantean era. From the fourth culture onwards the leaders were referred to as the Leaders of the Oracles. They were the Initiates but Initiates differ from one to the other in degree and quality. So the Leaders of the Oracles were the highest and they were not incarnate. They became incarnate after Atlantis but not during. During Atlantis, these Leaders of the Oracles (both good and evil) lived in temples of which the Ark of the Covenant (the Ark in the Old Testament) is a sort of reflection – God dwelt in the Ark.

The Migration

These Leaders led great masses of migrating people from Atlantis to different parts of the world. The most advanced group was lead eastward by the Sun Initiate, the highest Initiate, as we mentioned last week. These people were gathered by the high Sun Initiate who picked those souls who had a direct physical relationship with the first human pair referred to in the Bible as Adam and Eve. Again we haven't got time, but Adam and Eve were the only pair who survived what occultly we call the earth's winter (when the earth totally stultified). That is a very interesting story.

The first place they came to is presently called the Gobi Desert. From there they sent groups of people to different parts of the world, but mainly to Northern India. You will find some groups were left behind in Ireland because they didn't want to carry on (the Irish superstitious clairvoyance is well known to us). Groups were also left in England and we know that in certain parts of England there are people who still have strong clairvoyant feelings. Some were left in Germany and Russia (today known as White Russia) but the main group continued on to Northern India.

When we talk about the first Post-Atlantean era (Indian), we must not confuse it with present India. The reason for this is difficult to explain. Some of the traditions that the Indians still have date back to that period. Yoga comes from that period for yoga was used by the Holy Rishis in order to retain clairvoyance. They felt they were losing it because they were living in another country. Some of the Holy Indian Scriptures, such as the Vedas, are a direct echo of the earlier part of the Indian civilisation. You are mistaken if you think that Atlantis looked like today's India. The caste system is a remnant of India before the Atlanteans came in. The Atlanteans who entered into India were what is presently called the High Caste or the Brahmans.

The Incarnation of Lucifer

In China a certain event happened which bugged things up. If that spiritual (and physical) event hadn't happened, both China and India would have been at the forefront of civilisation today. This event was the incarnation of Lucifer. This was approximately the third millennium B.C. It is an occult law that: the spiritual influence that creates mankind must become physical in some form or other. Thus the Luciferic influences, which were very strong in the Lemurian period (where it started to work upon us if not before), now had to become incarnate. It became incarnate in China in a physical person. So here was the Prince of Evil incarnate in a person in China. I shall not go into the ramifications for mankind at present. We may come back to the influences of Lucifer and Ahriman in another lecture. But this event changed the whole of civilisation.

The main purpose of Lucifer, as you know, is to set you free. Free of the earth, not necessarily free of the Gods. The purpose of the Gods is to set you free from the Gods. Can you understand that slight difference? The Gods' purpose is to make you realise that you are their equal and therefore don't really need them. Lucifer's purpose is to make us see that we need him; he will set us free from the earth as long as we are subject to him, he will be our leader. If you look at the Indian and Chinese civilisations today you will find that you are dealing with a totally superstitious consciousness. They are all totally subjected to the higher spiritual powers, and they seek them continually.

This is so interesting. About 3,000 B.C. Lucifer incarnated, then, in the year dot, Christ incarnated, bringing another influence. The purpose of Christ, as I have often said, is not to teach you. It is wrong to say that He was a teacher, he was not. You can read the whole of the New Testament and find nothing new as far as teaching is concerned. All that He taught was already known to the Essenes and other groups in the mystery temples thousands of years before Him. Christ brought an influence which lies in a different area. The main one was to make us independent of the Gods and thereby strengthen our intellect and threefold soul (Sentient, Intellectual and Spiritual Soul). This in turn made us conscious of our earthly surrounding without becoming dependant on the earth nor the heavens. So that covers 3000 B.C. and the year dot, so what about 3,000 years later? We can say that between the year 2,000 and 3,000 an event is going to happen ... the incarnation of Ahriman. This will mean that the three main Gods will have incarnated. The purpose of Ahriman is to pull you into the earth. Lucifer pulled you out of it; Ahriman pulls you into it; Christ wants you to be free of both.

Ahriman

Ahriman is at work everywhere at present. He is preparing for his incarnation now, just as the preparation for the birth of Christ began approximately 2,000 B.C. In other words, the spiritual forces of Ahriman are already at work and operative. Now how do you know when Ahriman is at work? This is one of my anxieties when I look around in the world. It makes me very thoughtful. Which areas can we observe knowing that it is Ahriman? Of course, I hate to say this to you because I will sound very old fashioned and you will put it down to my age. Although I have been saying the same thing for the last 30 years in one form or another. Some of the things I have said have eventuated to a great degree. The evidence of Ahriman at work is, "You don't have to be responsible for yourself at all". When I say that the Communist and Socialist structures being erected around us are the work of Ahriman, you had better take notice. If you belong to a Union, you belong to Ahriman. If you belong to the Labour Party, you belong to Ahriman, it is as simple as that. Where the free choice of being yourself is taken away, in whatever direction, Ahriman is involved. When you become a computer number (credit cards or whatever) that is Ahriman. You are then computerised, no longer a personality. I hear fantastic stories about credit cards and there are so many of them now I can't keep up with them.

Ahriman is not only working on the physical level, he is also working on the mental levels as well. Ahriman will make you very logical and rational. My God, do I dislike logical, rational people. You can see Ahriman staring at you through their eyes. They are so logical that you have no argument whatsoever, you just stand there, as it were, in your underpants. The logic of heaven is not the logic of Ahriman. Ahriman has made things so logical that astrology has now become his tool, that is how logical it is. It is no longer a clairvoyant thing. Where astrology used to be the tool of the ancient Persians and Chaldeans who would look into the heavens saying, "Here is a pulsating being which is trying to communicate with me", now it is nothing but the configurations of the planets indicating what you are.

Incidentally, Ahriman will want to make you clairvoyant. Oh yes! It will be done through easy courses. I can see them coming up. So much money for a weekend to make you clairvoyant. It will get worse as

days go by; it will do one thing and you should keep your eyes on it (without falling for it), they will create clairvoyant people alright, each one contradicting the other. Have you ever found a clairvoyant who agrees with another clairvoyant ... never. They don't even like each other. This is very interesting; there is a clairvoyance of Ahriman and a clairvoyance of Christ. It is easy to tell the difference ... you either love Christ or you don't. Now where was I? I was swept away by the tide of my concern.

The Indian Era

The ancient culture of India dates back to 7,227 B.C. and it lasted till 5,067 B.C. So approximately 10,000 years ago these Indian people still had a very deep insight into the spiritual worlds. They didn't really want to be part of this world. One of the problems of living in a different type of consciousness is that you want to stay in that consciousness, can you relate to that? Anything else interferes with that consciousness you are part of. So the Ancient Indians, who brought with them the Atlantean consciousness (a clairvoyant consciousness) wanted to remain there so they could escape life on this earth as much as possible. It was in those days that the seven Holy Rishis came to teach them.

Let us look at the six planets around the Sun. Earth, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn. Isn't it interesting, seven Holy Rishis, one of which was the Sun Initiate, the other six related to the other planets. So one was a Mercury Initiate, another a Venus Initiate, another an earth Initiate and so on. All of them teaching the Indians.

I wrote a letter to a friend today saying that I was history conscious. History makes a hell of a lot of sense to me. If, for instance, you know the cosmic law: What goes up, must come down, then you can understand that the seven periods will repeat themselves. So there is a relationship between 1 and 7; 2 and 6; 3 and 5 and 4 stands alone, it cannot be repeated. This also means that the fourth one is the peak of, in this case, an epoch. Either you go down or you continue upward and then you become the leader of future civilisations or cultures.

The fourth Atlantean culture had the greatest influence in the Post Atlantean Indian culture. We may study these periods in greater detail one of these days. I am always hopeful, I believe that tomorrow the sun will shine. Won't you be disappointed if it doesn't? So the fourth period is always the most important in anyone's culture and in anyone's life as well. So the Atlanteans in the fourth era received a new consciousness which had to do with thinking. Sure it was only a seed but at least it was there in the fourth period. Because they were the most important ones they brought this back (or rather forward) with them and repeated it in the Indian culture. Because of this the order of development was changed in India. So instead of India being a sleepy country in those days (9,000 years ago) India now became a vibrant, living and pulsating spiritual country. This was because of the influences people brought with them, the influences of the fourth era of the Atlantean epoch.

There were other groups from Atlantis who migrated to America. There are still certain pure Atlantean groups living in America now, mainly in Northern California in the hills. They are still pure descendants of the original Atlanteans although they don't know that themselves, of course. One of these days I must ask what makes an Albino? Isn't it interesting? There is probably a scientific reason for it but that doesn't answer questions anyway. So I have given you half the answer. What causes people to have different eye colours? Why are there people with dark eyes like an inkwell. Just look into their eyes and see that inkwell staring at you. See how you feel going into the inkwell, you know you are going to be drowned but you can't help it, you have to go into it. Then there are the marvellous light blue eyes ... they are like ice, they freeze you one the spot. I mustn't continue in that vein it is not in my notes. All I am saying is that there is a group of Atlanteans in America. In fact America still remains part of the Atlantean consciousness.

The Persian Era

The next era is the early Persian period which ran from 5,067 B.C. to 2,907 B.C. Just for a moment, have a look at this present civilisation in which we live. Aren't you sick of it? Did you know that in my experience as a minister I once had a mass resignation of the Church? This resulted from a comment I made. Since then I have become wise to making comments which cause people to resign. If you all resigned, who would pay me? So it is necessary to think practically (not that I care anyway). My comment to the congregation was that as far as I was concerned they were all dead wood, useless for anything, including God. So they walked out.

Looking at the configuration of the seven periods. The fourth period can be seen as the culmination at the top which gives the choice of going down or continuing upward. If the Tarot cards, which are of an occult nature, are laid out like this, then looking at the Tarot becomes an occult exercise. If you reach the fourth point and you, as a person or part of a group, continue on but the rest of civilisation goes down, then you regard the rest as having become antiquated. Wouldn't you say that of today's civilisation? We are now living in the Fifth Post Atlantean era which means that the half-way mark has been passed. Just look at your surroundings. I hear some of you have visited other churches recently. You say it is unbelievable, they say the same thing every Sunday. Of course they do, they are antiquated, they are on the downward path while we are going upward (so far).

Therefore in every age, in every cultural period, we need a rejuvenation. We need men and women, singular though they may be, who will herald in a new future. The Persian people were not like the Indians. The Indians wanted to get away from this earth, they wanted to live in their dream land. They wanted to communicate with the higher heavens forgetting that they belonged to mother earth. The Persians thought it better to consider the earth more closely. They could see that if they sat there on their backsides with arms folded contemplating their navels, they would soon get very hungry, for how would they eat and who would cultivate the land? So they realised that if they wanted to achieve anything on this earth they had to open their eyes and do something.

So the Persian era was one of expressing life ... life as earth people not life as spiritual people. Oh they were spiritual. They still had a perception of the spiritual worlds but it slowly faded away. This was the time when the High Sun Initiate from the Gobi Desert sent a teacher to the Persian people. In those days there were creatures living everywhere but you could hardly call them human. This person is today known as Zarathustra (spelt as I was taught in Germany). This good man taught two things: Ahura Mazdao, the Good God, the God of the Sun; and Ahriman, the prince of evil.

Karma

Now Ahriman came into this world for the first time during the Atlantean epoch. Ahriman made people behave differently to the Gods' intentions; he made people stultify. He made people eventually die. Sickness came into existence in the Atlantean epoch, although death existed earlier than that. So Ahriman entered into our stream and we began to behave against the wishes of the Gods. We became more selfish. We started wars. We wanted things for ourselves, our families, our country. From that moment on we started accumulating karma. Karma was an unknown factor before the Atlantean epoch. Very few of you would have been told that you lived in the Lemurian epoch. In the thousands of readings I have done, I could count on one hand, the people who had a positive task to fulfil in that period. Karma came in because of Ahriman but it was given to us by God. The reason is simply because karma is nothing else but the rectifying of that which is wrong. Karma is the scale of justice.

On one side lies your sins and on the other is the grace which will equalise, polarise you. So karma is in fact a gift of God, as is sickness, pain and suffering. Don't be silly like the Dutch Mennonites. (The Dutch can be very silly. They are either very good or very bad, very few are in between.) In the 16th

Century a Priest by the name of Menno saw all this. He was an Initiate and a Catholic Priest who left the Catholic church, rightly so, because he saw what was happening. He started his own denomination (sounds very familiar to me) and said that because illness is a gift of God then you have to accept your illness or your pain. He said a lot more, especially on doctrinal levels, but basically he said you must accept anything that comes to you from God. You mustn't fight against it. Of course here is where he was wrong wasn't he? You can say something as a medium but people do not have to subject themselves totally and utterly to that medium in such a way that in the end they become the loser. How many people in pain have become the loser because they couldn't get rid of the pain? Because of the pain they can think of nothing but the pain. That fellow and his group migrated to Canada and from there to parts of Northern America where today you will find nothing else but Mennonites. They don't believe in wheels and their cloth must be pure linen. The men have to wear particular trousers (which take half an hour to remove). It is quite an interesting sect if you look into it.

Ahriman is the cause of our selfishness. Examine yourself for a moment. Look at your life and see in what way it is really selfish. I am not going to say one is good or bad, that is not the point. The point is that somehow we all have to live, we all have to make a living, which is very selfish, don't you think? You then think of the physical before the spiritual. But you are bound to this earth and it is necessary to make money. We have to see that certain things are necessary. Can you see what I am talking about? What I want to say is: use Ahriman but do not be married to him. It is a 'him' actually, masculine. In fact if he incarnates in the future, in the year 2,000 or 3,000 (which isn't far away is it!) it will be in Northern Europe, Norwegian, Danish or Dutch. And he is guaranteed to have red hair!

The main teaching of Zarathustra, apart of Ahura and Ahriman, was to teach people that God is out there. Direct your gaze away from yourself and see God displayed in the Universe. Comprehend the whole Cosmos as a spiritual expression of God. Of course that teaching has continued on, hasn't it? In the Jewish religion, the Christian Religion and into the Mohammedan religion. It is only of late, over the last century, that man has comprehended that God is within him as well.

The Egyptian Era

Then we come to the third era, the Babylonian-Chaldean-Egyptian period. I call it the Egyptian period and I can talk on that forever. I have been there and done that. The memory of that particular period is engraved on my consciousness. That is why I don't like Egypt. I hate the thought of it. If you go to Egypt today you will see the dirtiest people, it is unbelievable. Of all the cultures in the entire world they must be the lowest. That is where you and I came from. People proudly say to me that they were in Egypt ... forget it! This period went from 2907 B.C. to 747 B.C.

Did I tell you that an Initiate can bequeath his astral and etheric bodies to his pupils? A spiritually advanced person, as Zarathustra was, can bequeath their astral to their followers. Zarathustra gave his astral body to Hermes and his etheric to Moses. You have to understand this in its Cosmic significance. Look at all the things that have happened from 7,000 B.C. to 1,000 A.D., including the birth of Christ. Why did Moses get the etheric and Hermes the astral? I have a book upstairs called *The Hermetic Traditions*. There are even groups here in Melbourne called the Hermits or something. Do you know that the followers of Hermes eventually deteriorated to Black Magic in Egypt? That is why Moses came along afterwards. He had to rectify things. Moses was the etheric, that is, Moses played with fire. The etheric has an association with life, with fire or warmth.

The astral has an association with emotions, wishes and wants. Hermes got the astral from Zarathustra. Hermes himself was a great and wonderful teacher but his astral influences were grasped by his followers down the ages (each teacher gives something of their astral to his pupils), who took that astral power and turned it into their wishes and wants which then became Black Magic. Occult knowledge

wrongly applied becomes Black Magic. What is more, everyone, no matter how high or how low, is subject to that temptation. None of us is ever free of that temptation; to use occult knowledge and power for self.

That reminds me of a story. Jesus was running around the place with His disciples teaching them occult knowledge. It is not in the Bible but He did. Eventually they had this knowledge and perhaps Jesus had also initiated them. One day they were walking down the road and Jesus was talking to them about the fact that one or two cities would not accept them. The disciples became very angry and suggested calling fire from heaven to devour the cities. When we read that today we say how silly BUT they were capable of doing that! The Lord had to say very sharply that they were not to use occult power in that sense – to destroy for their own self-satisfaction. How many of us become angry and want to strike back? That is Black Magic, no matter how small, for if it is small it has the potential to be big. Hard isn't it? Let me tell you I have often been tempted to call fire down onto this place here, even if it was just to collect the insurance!

The same Zarathustra who lived approximately 3,000 B.C. reincarnated in approximately 600 B.C. This is the Zarathustra history speaks of. He lived at the same time Buddha lived, isn't that interesting? Buddha lived in India; Zarathustra in Persia; Pythagoras in Greece; and Confucius in China, all at the same time. Buddha was detachment. Detach yourself from the physical. Confucius was wisdom. Zarathustra was knowledge of the heavens. Pythagoras and the Greeks, knowledge of the physical body, the here and now. If you combine this whole stream, if you see it panoramically, the whole thing linking, somehow divided by their cultures and yet one, then you can see what sprang into the human race on the different levels. Zarathustra (the 2nd one) also taught Pythagoras.

The Greco-Roman Era

Then we have the Grecian-Roman period which spanned the years 747 B.C. to 1413 A.D. So the Fourth Post Atlantean era commenced in the Eighth Century before Christ and finished in the Fifteenth Century after Christ. Man's soul became dark during that period. Life on this earth was the only life he could think about. Ahriman was the prince of this world. Read Ephesians where St Paul speaks of the influences of the evil one. Man was only conscious of self, no longer conscious of anything outside self. Man developed his intellectual soul okay but didn't get very far on the spiritual levels. It was during that particular period, the darkest part of history, that Christ was born, the Christ event occurred.

The present period in which we live commenced in 1413 A.D. and will finish in the year 3,573 A.D. You and I will have been here a few times in between. If we now think that this is the darkest hour for us, just wait until you get back in 100 or 200 years' time and see if you are still smiling. I have never been quite at ease with Christian people, especially evangelical Christians, who say that you must always be joyful. I do not think that way. I think they should be crying, howling. I don't think that we can find joy on this earth. I am not saying that you should run around with tears in your eyes all the time but neither is a deep occult and spiritual religion a joyous one. Joy in that sense is only astral.

The church leaders of today would dislike me if they heard me say that they are inspired by Ahriman. That includes the evangelicals who teach that "you must come to Jesus". They don't teach you how to have Christ do they? They tell you that your sins must be washed in the blood of the lamb. When you ask them how to get yourself under the lamb to cut it so that the blood flows over you they then accuse you of being a blasphemer. They say that you must believe the gospel literally and when you ask them about the blood of the lamb they say you mustn't take it literally! The present-day religions want to teach you that you must have faith in God and in Christ. I tell you not to have faith but to proceed and see for yourself. To experience within your own soul, not by sentimental, emotional feeling that cries

“Hallelujah,” for that is emotional and although that has its place at times, you must perceive the Christ in your midst.

That is why I have pleaded for years; get together in small groups to pray and meditate for the revelation of the Christ in your midst because he is waiting to do precisely that. Once you have seen Him you will never be the same again. You will then know from what point of view I speak. I am not speaking from Steiner books. Do you know that I am starting to hate the bloody man even though he was the greatest in his day. Wherever I go Steiner is thrown at me. Why don't you throw Christ at me?

There are still 2 periods to come before we enter into the 6th epoch. Thus we cannot speak of the end of the world in the sense Orthodox Christianity does. Nor must we perceive the future of this world to be anything like the one which we have now. Gradually we shall experience a lessening of the hold of the physical and more the realisation that we are spirit and those who have worked on their spiritual bodies will be the ones who can lead and guide backward humanity into the new birth of the Jupiter existence, where Love will be the inborn characteristic.

St Paul

Let us talk about Paul. He was an Initiate and belonged to the Pharisees who were a mystical sect. However Initiates can also become stubborn. Paul belonged to that degree of Initiateship where he identified himself with his own people. He was a Jew, the purest. His real name was Saul or Saulos. It is interesting, just look at that, there was such great wisdom hidden everywhere. SAULOS changed his name to PAULOS. So it was only the 'S' that was changed to a 'P' ... interesting. After his name changed he was no longer a bigoted, sectarian person, then he embraced every religion in which God was the centrepiece. He was no longer a Jew fastened to his own nation, he became the father of the whole world. He renounced honours and a brilliant future in order to save, as he says himself, “some of them.”

On that Damascus road, you know the story, Christ appeared to him ... in a vision, and henceforth he was changed. Can you understand what I am talking about when I talk about change. You will never be changed until you see the Christ. You will bugger around in your astral and Ahrimanic consciousness until you have seen the Christ! (There Mario, now you have said it.)

He changed his name from Saulos to Paulos. Do you now that the first letter of your name indicates your personality. It indicates whether you are a harmonious or disharmonious person. Some of the people in this class think very loudly. They are saying they thought it was the whole name. That is true but the first letter is the most important one, it sets the direction. It is always the first letter of a name that carries the principle intonation which is the reason that many people, sensing the disharmony within self, change their names. It was only necessary for Paul to change the initial letter, the original gave the wrong direction.

In the Hebrew the first letter of the name Saulos was Samekh which means to be purified by fire. In the occult Tarot this letter is described as follows: “When you have been purified by fire, then the beauty of your gold will shine forth that all men may observe the Divine Light which is within you.”

The first letter of Paul's name was changed from fire, the one who devours to 'P' which in the Hebrew alphabet is the letter Pe. This is symbolised by the eight-pointed star, and 8 is the numerical expression of tremendous spiritual power. In the Tarot this letter is described as follows: "Man liveth not by bread alone, but by all that proceeds from the letter PE."

Now that is different isn't it? Instead of being purified by fire, instead of working on yourself and becoming purified, now you have to work out there ... forgetting about yourself. All that proceeds from the letter Pe comes from outside, it is an open letter. It proceeds out and that is how Saul became Paul. Samekh is closed, contained within itself, it says, "I'm alright mate, never mind you." It is easy to be purified by fire if you do it that way isn't it? Thus it may be observed how right the change of name was for Saul. He had literally been tried and purified by fire. Now, as Paul, the heights of his spiritual consciousness had so increased that words of living power poured forth from him. His letters bear the inspiration of this living bread of life that will endure as long as civilization endures upon this earth.

Paul's Initiation

Paul experienced the first Christian Initiation in the spiritual realms. Some of you may remember when I did the occult interpretation of the Gospel of St John. I said something about the fact that the last initiation of the old period is to be observed in the initiation of Lazarus. Lazarus was in the grave for three days, which, of course, was an initiation. It was the last one of the ancient kind. The first one of the new kind was Paul's. Paul was not initiated by a priest standing there, imprinting his thoughts and ideas on the soul of the initiate. He was initiated by the living, omnipotent presence of the Christ.

Thus, each page of his letters, including the Book of Hebrews, we may call the culmination of his mystic nature. You feel the abounding spell of immortality. Each sentence of his letter glows with a splendour of life eternal. But each letter contains both an inner and outer meaning. Each has milk for the babes and meat for the strong man. Paul does not belong to any age or time. He belongs to all ages and to all times. Paul placed mystic keys in each of His epistles as an aid to all those who enter upon the way. Fourteen of the 27 books in the New Testament testify to the work of this great Initiate. Every letter of Paul is indeed a picture of Paul.

There is so much I want to teach you. Why do you let me do readings the whole day instead of letting me teach you? Most of the buggers who come for readings don't use it anyway. I have so much, so much, to teach you and I have no time. When time permits, later on, we shall study the different degrees of Paul's Initiation and His ministry. Then we will realise to what height this man has risen in order to be, for us, the messenger of Light, Love and Light.

