

**STUDIES IN OCCULTISM: A
SERIES OF REPRINTS FROM THE
WRITINGS OF H. P. BLAVATSKY.
NO. V: THE ESOTERIC
CHARACTER OF THE GOSPELS**

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THE ESOTERIC CHARACTER OF THE GOSPELS

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From *Lucifer*, November, December, 1887,
February, 1888.

THE ESOTERIC CHARACTER OF THE GOSPELS

“. . . Tell us, when shall these things be?
And what shall be the sign of *thy presence*, and
of *the consummation of the age*?"* asked the
Disciples of the MASTER, on the Mount of
Olives.

THE reply given by the "Man of Sorrows,"
the *Chrēstos*, on his trial, but also on his
way to triumph, as *Christos*, or Christ,† is
prophetic, and very suggestive. It is a warn-

* *Matthew xxiv, 3, et seq.* The sentences italicized are those which stand corrected in the New Testament after the recent revision in 1881 of the version of 1611; which version is full of errors, voluntary and involuntary. The word "presence" for "coming" and "the consummation of the age" now standing for "the end of the world," have altered, of late, the whole meaning, even for the most sincere Christian, if we exempt the Adventists.

† He who will not ponder over and master the great difference between the meaning of the two Greek words *χρηστός* and *χριστός* must remain blind forever to the true esoteric meaning of the Gospels; that is to say, to the living Spirit entombed in the sterile dead-letter of the texts, the very Dead Sea fruit of *lip-Christianity*.

ing indeed. The answer must be quoted in full. Jesus . . . said unto them:—

“Take heed that *no man* lead you astray. For many shall come in my name saying, I am the Christ; and shall lead many astray. And ye shall hear of wars . . . but the end is not yet. *For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; and there shall be famines and earthquakes in divers places.* But all these things are the beginning of travail . . . Many false prophets shall arise, and shall lead many astray. . . . then shall the end come. . . . when ye see the abomination of desolation which was spoken through Daniel . . . Then if any man shall say unto you, *Lo, here is the Christ*, or there; believe him not. . . . If they shall say unto you, Behold, he is in the wilderness, go not forth; behold, he is in the inner chambers, believe them not. For as the lightning cometh forth from the East, and is seen even in the West, so shall be the *presence* of the Son of Man,” etc.

Two things become evident *to all* in the above passages, now that their false rendering is corrected in the revision text: (a) “the coming of Christ,” means *the presence of CHRISTOS* in a regenerated world, and not at all the actual coming in body of “Christ”

Jesus; (*b*) this Christ is to be sought neither in the wilderness nor "in the inner chambers," nor in the sanctuary of any temple or church built by man; for Christ—the true esoteric SAVIOR—is *no man*, but the DIVINE PRINCIPLE in every human being. He who strives to resurrect the Spirit crucified in him by his own *terrestrial passions*, and buried deep in the "sepulcher" of his sinful flesh; he who has the strength to roll back *the stone of matter* from the door of his own *inner sanctuary*, he has the risen Christ in him.* The "Son of Man" is no child of the bond-woman — *flesh*, but verily of the free-woman — *Spirit*,† the child of man's own deeds, and the fruit of his own spiritual labor.

On the other hand, at no time since the

* For ye are the temple ("sanctuary" in the revised N. T.) of the living God. II Cor. vi, 16.

† Spirit, or the Holy Ghost, was feminine with the Jews, as with most ancient peoples, and it was so with the early Christians. *Sophia* of the Gnostics, and the third Sephiroth *Binah* (the *female* Jehovah of the Kabalists), are feminine principles — "Divine-Spirit," or *Ruach*. "*Achath Ruach Elohim Chimm*." "One is *She*, the Spirit of the Elohim of Life," is said in *Sepher Yesirah*.

Christian era, have the precursor signs described in *Matthew* applied so graphically and forcibly to any epoch as they do to our own times. When has nation arisen against nation more than at this time? When have "famines" — another name for destitute pauperism, and the famished multitudes of the proletariat — been more cruel, earthquakes more frequent, or covered such an area simultaneously, as for the last few years? Millenarians and Adventists of robust faith may go on saying that "the coming of (the carnalized) Christ" is near at hand, and prepare themselves for "the end of the world." Theosophists — at any rate, some of them — who understand the hidden meaning of the universally expected Avatars, Messiahs, Sosioshes, and Christs — know that it is no "end of the world," but "the consummation of the age," i. e., the close of a cycle, which is now fast approaching.* If our readers have forgotten the concluding

* There are several remarkable cycles that come to a close at the end of this century. First the 5000 years of the *Kaliyuga* cycle; again, the Messianic cycle of the Samaritan (also Kabalistic) Jews of