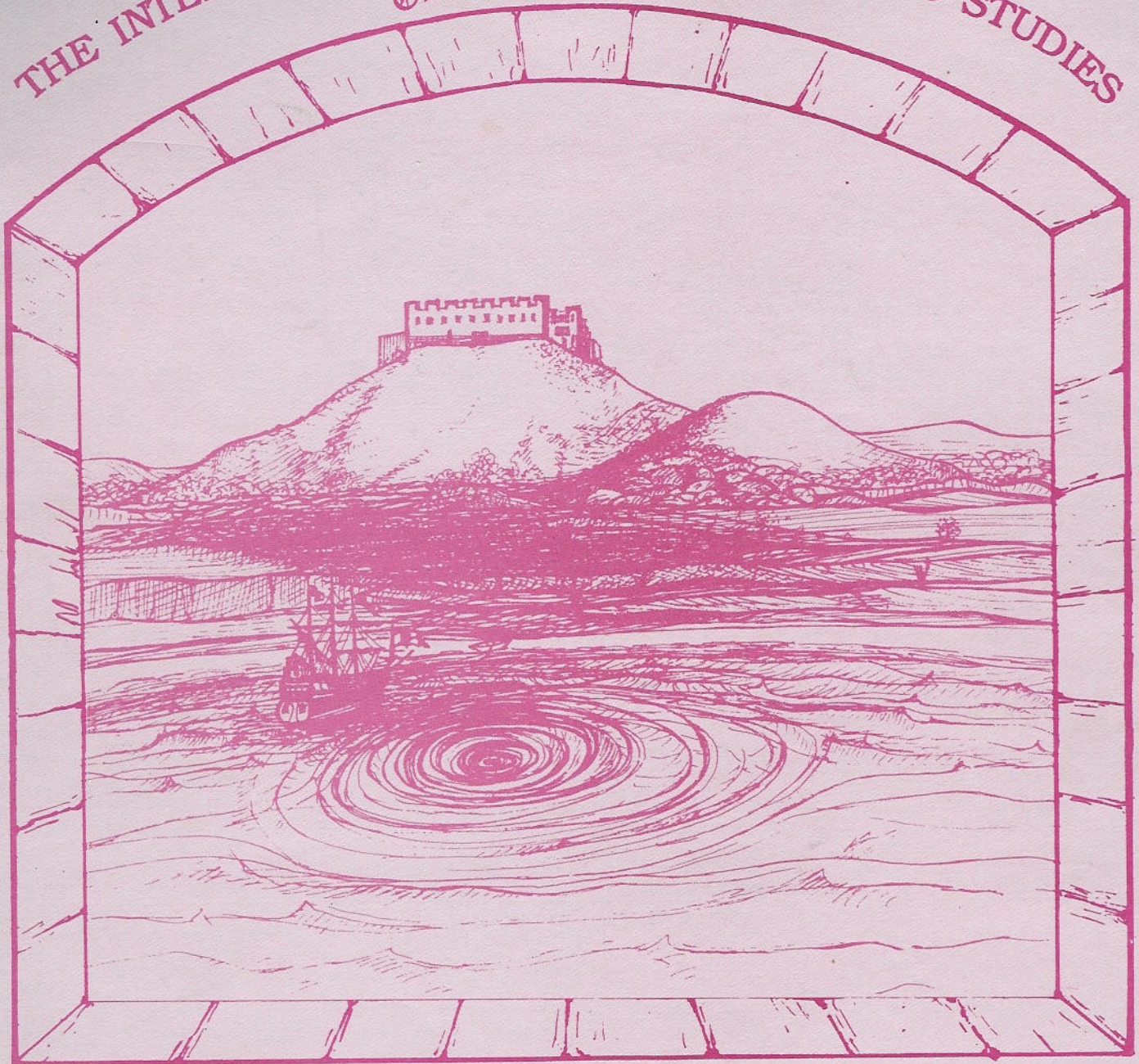


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THE INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF ESOTERIC STUDIES  
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PLANE III

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LIBER # 74 IT'S A CLEAR NIGHT

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SIXTH DEGREE

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DEVOTED TO THE ADVANCEMENT AND MYSTICAL ENLIGHTENMENT OF MAN



# The Arcane Discipline

DISCIPLINA ARCANI

CLASSIFIED

The Discipline used in the Hidden (or Inner Church) was called The Arcane Discipline and was in definite practice in the Christian Church between the 1st and 4th Centuries. Those who followed it were known as the Arcane or Gnostic Christians and they kept their doctrines secret and taught the exoteric doctrines along the same lines as the Ancient Mysteries.

In circa 46-52 AD there existed a College of Roman Artisans at Chichester, England, which had originated at Rome and Alexandria, when the Romans left England the members of the College broke up and migrated to various towns and formed the Guilds devoted to the work of building, and from them came what was known as the Guilds of Operative Masons. At the same time we know that the three Archdruids became Archbishops, and the Chief Druids became Bishops, this was done upon the acceptance of Christianity by King Lucius in 155 AD. These bishops, monks and priests of the Christian Britons became known as the Culdees, the Servants of God, and they carried the Arcane Discipline with them and embodied it within the framework of Celtic Christianity.

From the beginning of the 18th Century all trace of the Arcane Discipline and the Gnostic Tradition seemed to have faded from public knowledge, but it still remained in Europe, it became a closely guarded secret among the Adepts of the Hidden Church. Some researchers into this Arcane Discipline try to tell us that the term Disciplina Arcani is a modern invention; but as the theologians of the organised church seem to always try to hide the facts from the general public and present-day church members; they only encourage a continual disregard for church authority when the cover-up is exposed.

As researched and quoted by the Rev C Riggin in a recent lecture, it is known that in the mystical tract "Cloud upon the Sanctuary" by Karl von Eckhartshausen, who lived around the middle of the 18th Century, that the Arcane Discipline was known about during that period: as he says, "The great mystery of the redemptive power of Jesus Christ has always been the subject of the teachings of the Inner Church. Centuries ago, this teaching was known as The Disciplina Arcani. In the Inner Church, all rites and ceremonies of the outer had their origin, although the spirit of these sacred truths was withdrawn into the inner leaving the outer in possession of the letter only. It should be understood from what we have said that the purpose of the mysteries of the Inner Church are not to be understood in the context of achieving some moderate improvement in our human condition or in the social sphere .... What does the Inner Church wish to set up in the common world? Nothing at all, because the Inner Church does not have its origin or foundation in

it. 'My Kingdom', says its Great High Priest, 'is not of this world.'"

The work of the Arcane Discipline is indicated as follows - the process of the realisation of the God Within takes place in four stages:

- The first is the Mercurius Vivus, the path of Purification;
- Secondly, the Prima Materia, the Purification of the animal nature;
- Thirdly, the Lapis Philosophorum, the Purification and control of the emotional nature; and then finally,
- The Tinctura, whereby the mental body is illuminated by the Divine Soul.

These changes can only take place when you permit the Prince of Light to descend into your personality where it will destroy the illusions of the mortal self.

St Paul, the great Christian Teacher, points out that even though we understand all mysteries, have all knowledge and powers to do mighty and wonderful things but do not possess Agape, or Divine Love, we are nothing. This love is the same Love of which the Master Jesus spoke and cannot be attained without the transcendence of the illusion of isolated ego-identity. It is the experience of the ONE. Such is the work of the Disciplina Arcani - the training of individuals to become as God expressing Himself on Earth for Divine Love is the fulfilling of the LAW.



**THE PRE-NICENE CATHOLIC CHURCH \*\*\*\*\***

**The Essene/Gnostic "Chrestian Ekklesia".**

The Pre-Nicene Catholic Church was introduced by the late Richard, Duc de Palatine in September 1953. The main objects of this action were, to quote: "To restore to the Church the Gnostic Teachings as held by the Fathers of the Church up to and including 325 A.D. such as Re-incarnation, Karma, the path of initiation, life after death, etc. To encourage the independant interpretation of the Sacred Scriptures in the Light of the Ancient Wisdom", and to: "Bridge the gap between Orthodoxy and Metaphysics. To teach its members how to attain health and happiness by the knowledge and precept of Right Thinking, Right Action and Right Living in their daily lives as Love, Health and Service" and finally - "To encourage the free interchange of ideas and co-operation between all people to make the ideal of Universal Brotherhood a living reality".

The discovery of the Qumrum Scrolls, including the controversial "Temple Scroll", and the library at Nag Hammadi has helped to prove that modern Christianity has strayed far from its original path.

Recent books like "The Myth of God Incarnate", "The Death of Classical Paganism", "Jesus the Magician" and other works on Apollonius of Tyana, John the Essene and James the Just reveal the uncertain facts surrounding early Christianity and we feel that it is because of the present view of the scriptures that Christianity finds itself at the crossroads of indecision and ineffectiveness.

True Gnosticism has nothing to do with ritual orgies and magical ceremonies to "get rich quick" as those who seek to depreciate it would have one believe. Neither can all that which has been written about the early Gnostics be regarded as truth. It has been from the fourth century onwards that the organised church waged a campaign of persecution and hatred towards those who did not accept its own dogmas.

The Gnosis refers to a special kind of knowledge. Not to a knowledge as understood in a secular sense; but to a deeper understanding of God, Man and the Universe. Gnosis is the word used by St. Paul in his writings and the word can be found no less than fifteen times in the Epistles to the Corinthians.

The Nag Hammadi Library proves that those who followed the teachings contained therein tried to live by standards which many christians would find difficult to follow today. To live according to the true Gnosis of God one has to follow a path of Purity, Honesty and of Consecration to Truth. Our Church seeks to provide for those who desire such a path.

This Church is an inheritor of the True and Ancient Doctrines that have come to us through from pre-flood days. Through from ancient China, India, Egypt, Greece and the British Isles and these Doctrines have been modified to help those in this day and age, with its special problems, who feel the need for alternatives to worldly philosophise.

The Gnostic teachings differ from those of the orthodox churches inasmuch as we place more reliance upon the manifestation of Truth from within ourselves and in the Divine Laws as they operate within the Universe Itself and not upon the theologies of priests and theologians. We do not place too much importance on the historical content of the scriptures as we do in the inner meanings of them.

This Church possesses the Apostolic Succession through from the early Apostles and also the Right of Succession through from the early "mystery" schools. We own no church buildings so we hold meetings and services in our own homes at the moment.

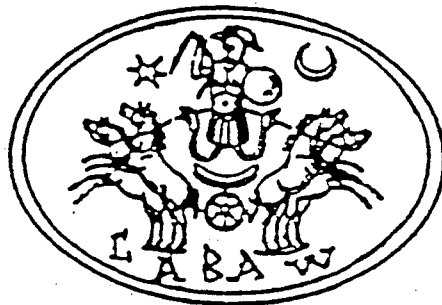
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APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION -  
FACT OR FICTION?

- by -

RICHARD, DUC DE PALATINE



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**APOSTOLIC SUCCESSION - FACT OR FICTION?**

- by -

Richard, Duc de Palatine

**Personal & Confidential**

Many readers may express astonishment to find us discussing a subject which apparently does not deal with Gnosticism or Immortality. In their opinion they consider that the matter of Holy Orders in the Christian Church and the Occult Orders are totally unconnected, and that the former has nothing to do with a person seeking Immortality. In this respect they are utterly mistaken. The Church and Occultism are actually two sides of the same Wisdom Religion or Gnosis. The former is the theoretical version, and the latter its practical application.

There was always an Outer Ecclesia (Church) to meet the needs of those who were in a hurry. Conversely there could be found the Christian Ecclesia functioning for those who were spiritually capable of understanding the true nature of Man and his relationship to the universe, and who could enter into a form of discipline which would enable them to experience their Immortality at first hand. This was effected by means of a pageant of Initiations as a symbolical enactment of the Mysteries of Life, not only in their entirety but also in the wealth of their varied detail.

For some very deep and sinister reason the theologians have always

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①

refused the layman the right to know that his Christian religion was not founded by Jesus of Nazareth, but stems from the time of Emperor Theodosius of 381 A.D.

②

Thus, any attempt made by the layman to know and understand the true history of his Church was rewarded with death. It was the averred policy of the Latin, Greek and Protestant Churches to persecute and finally destroy all laymen who dared to question the foundations of Christianity.

③

One thing which has come out of all this opposition to honest and impartial investigation into the origins of Christianity is that there existed at Alexandria in Egypt about 355 B.C. a Mystery System having for its Saviour a Christos named Serapis, who was simply Osiris of Ancient Egypt renamed.

It was Alexander the Great, the conqueror of Egypt, who established the Mysteries of Serapis. He embodied the essentials of all the previous Mystery Schools and Cults into one system of personal salvation. The Mysteries of Serapis were based mainly upon the Gnostic philosophy of Pythagoras. Thus the real object of the Pythagorean Gnosis was to teach men in 'The Things That Are,' and then to permit them to experience 'The Things That Were.' As a conse-

quence, the man so blessed entered into Immortality.

(4) The serious student of Gnosticism knows that his philosophy was started by Pythagoras in the 6th Century B.C. It did not emerge at the end of the 1st and the beginning of the 2nd Centuries A.D., as the opponents of Gnosticism claim. Furthermore, the student knows better than to believe that Gnosticism was or is an alien or heretical religion directed against Christianity. Two vital historical facts militate against such a baseless claim. Gnosticism was in existence long before the supposed birth of Jesus; and it was at the Council of Nicea in 325 A.D. that Constantine the Great transformed the Cult of Jesus into the Religion of Jesus. This means, in fact, that it was the Religion of Jesus which was the alien religion to the Pythagorean Gnostic Philosophy. But these facts, based upon irrefutable historical evidence, have been deliberately withheld from the ordinary layman of the Church.

By the time of Theodosius, the fashioners of the new Religion of Jesus took over the ordinary vocabulary of the civic and political activities of the Roman Empire. For instance, 'Sacramentum' (sacraments) was originally the sacred oath of the Roman Armies; 'Leitourgia' (liturgy) was originally the public service of the



religio licita of the Roman State; the 'Kleros' (clerics) were the officials, and the official meeting place the 'Ecclesia' (Church), and the principal spokesmen 'Episkopoi' (bishops). The Ecclesia was the general assembly which transacted political laws etc. It will be seen that even by the end of the 4th Century A.D., the Cult of Jesus had no religious foundation or usage until they took over from the Pagans. Therefore, the Christian doctrine of 'The Apostolic Succession' must have been derived from the Pagan system of 'The Right of Succession.'

5

There is sufficient evidence in the existing writings from pre-Apostolic days to show that there existed a class of men called 'The Bishops of Serapis and Christos,' who served the Soter as the Saviour of Men from the Demons or Aeons of this world. It was known that they were Initiates of the Mysteries of Serapis; that through them they were able to awaken the Christos-Soul within them thus enabling them to experience the Immortal State. Once receiving the final Initiation in the Mysteries of Serapis they became known as 'Chrestes,' the Outer Circle of the Inner God. It was through this final Initiation that they were granted the Right of Succession which enabled them to become mediators between God and Man. They formed themselves into what was

known as 'The Chrestian Ecclesia' or The Community of Chrestes (Good Men), who received the common title of 'Christos'.

These Chrestes were famous for their purity of life, honesty and power over the visible and invisible forces of nature. Caligula, Emperor of Rome, banished the Serapaens, Chrestes and all the magicians from the Roman Empire: they were known under the generic title of 'Gnostics' or 'Knowing Ones,' but they were not considered as being a religion, but simply the 'Cult of Chrestes.' Following the assassination of Caligula, Claudius ascended the Imperial Throne. Suetonius, who hated Claudius and the Serapaen Cult and their powerful bishops, sought their banishment from Rome.

⑥ It was at Antioch that a large number of Serapaen followers were located. In order to avoid exile, they changed their name, in 44 A.D., from that of 'Chrestians' to 'Christians.' The psychological effect of this name change on the Chrestians of the Jewish Temple is made quite clear by Lactantius when he says that it is only through ignorance that people call themselves Christians instead of Chrestians:

"... qui propter ignorantum errorem cum immutata litera Chrestum solent dicere."

Lactantius was followed by Justin Martyr, Clemens Alexandrinus and then Origen, thus proving beyond cavil that the original Christians knew themselves as 'Chrestians' and not as 'Gnostics' as their Christian opponents claimed. This means that the Antiochan Jewish Chrestians changed their name to avoid persecution and exile at the hands of Caligula and that they were non religio licita of the Roman Empire.

Thus it came to pass that at the Council of Chalcedon in 381 A.D., the adherents of the old Chrestes Cult were duly proscribed and considered heretics of the 'Christian' Religion! - a religion which had been founded and enforced by Constantine the Great, and which composite religious system had become the religio licita of the Holy Roman Empire from 325 A.D.

7

It was the work of Eusebius, Bishop of Caesarea, to fabricate a suitable history of the 'Christian Church' at the expense of secular history and the records existing before the meeting of the Council of Nicea in 325 A.D. and all the records available during and after the following council of 381 A.D. It was this Eusebius who formulated the doctrine of the 'Christian Apostolic Succession,' but, in so doing, he gave no historical details except those provided by Irenaeus, Bishop of Symaria. Yet

the latter could not furnish one single valid proof of the historical existence of The Apostolic Succession. Consequently he resorted to endless lies, forgery and the deliberate falsification of events, so naturally Eusebius followed in his wake. We know that Jesus did not establish a 'Church' and no method of Succession, yet, in 38 A.D., we find one Bishop, James the Just, praying for the sins of Israel in the Holy of Holies. Remember that such a place was reserved solely for the Jewish High Priest. Eventually, because of jealousy, Ananias slew James the Just. Why? What was a Bishop doing there if Jesus did not found a Church? The theologians are reluctant to explain this historical event in the light of Christian history.

From the Councils of Nicea and Chalcedon, and the Second Council of Nicea held at Constantinople, the Catholic faction of the Ecclesia felt secure when they saw all the references to the hated Gnostics suppressed or muzzled. Bear in mind that the accusations of the Patricist accusers of the Gnostics were not based upon the direct evidence of an eye-witness or upon any manuscripts claimed to be Gnostic. In fact, there is no historical evidence to show that the followers of the Gnostic philosophy called themselves 'Gnostics.' Such writers as Payne

Knight, C. W. King, Gerald Massey, Godfrey Higgins and Olshausen of Germany could not find any direct evidence that there was ever a religion called 'Gnosticism.' Furthermore, in the writings of Irenaeus, Tertullian, Sozomen, Eusebius, Theoderet and Epiphanius there is no definite proof that the philosophy of the Gnosis was even a religion 'per se.'

8

In the IIth Century there appeared hundreds of so-called Gnostic sects, orders and even ecclesias which brought out many wonderful creeds, systems and cults which the Roman Church grouped under the generic name of 'Gnosticism.' The Church, fearing that the Truth would be restored, tried to exterminate them under the rigorous execution of the Constantinian and Theodosian Laws of 325 and 381 A.D. The greatest guilt of these cults in the eyes of the Church was their syncretistic viewpoint and their refusal to accept the traditional account of the life and crucifixion of Jesus of Nazareth. Scholars of the Medieval Church were cornered at every step by their no less acute adversaries, these Gnostic groups. Thus, they boldly sheltered behind blind faith, and, in answer to their merciless and historically founded logic, fell back upon an imaginary tradition invented by lying, constant acts of forgery and the perpetual stunt of deliberately



| falsifying existing facts.

From the fall of the Western Roman Empire in the 6th Century to the beginning of the 11th, The Pactio Secreta advanced and then protected the emergence of the Gnostics in every century against the encroaching doctrinal and temporal power of the Pope of Rome. Even as late as the time of Charlemagne, the Serene Highness of Gaul (the Franks), this enlightened Emperor resisted the claims of the Pontifex Maximus of Rome and claimed that he received his 'Right of Succession' to the Crown of the Franks from The Pactio Secreta, the Guardians of Serapis at Alexandria in Northern Egypt. Therefore, even at the time of the Emperor of the Franks (8th Century A.D.), The Pactio Secreta was known to exist as the 'Council of Nine' who always remained in the background of the successive Orders of Chivalry such as The San Grael, The Templars, The Order of The Golden Swan, The Brothers of Light, The Brotherhood of The Rosae Crucis and The Illuminati of Avignon and Bavaria. Therefore, these related Secret Fraternities from the 8th Century to the present day have their foundations upon the Gnostic philosophy derived from the Mysteries of Serapis in 355 B.C.

Both the so-called Christian

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Church and the Secret Fraternities under the guidance and protection of The Knights of The Pactio Secreta stem from the one root doctrine: that of the Mysteries of Serapis, the heirs to all the Mysteries of the ancient and classical world. These Mysteries possessed a hierarchical system of officials who were initiated and then raised in their Offices through certain occult matters, forms and intentions in order to ensure the correct transaction and transmission from the Geometrical Man to the Mathematical Man. This method of the transmission of the Power of God to Man was always known as 'The Right of Succession.' The fact that James the Just of Jerusalem was a Bishop of the Christos indicates that this method of transmission of the Power of God to Man was known long before the alleged birth of Jesus of Nazareth. This event further points to the fact that we are dealing here with an older Cult of Joshua (Jesus) which the Christian theologians have taken great pains to suppress and keep from the people.

The teachings and allegories of the precursors of the Christian Ecclesia represented the passing of the human soul of Man into the tomb of flesh and his eventual return to his Immortal Nature. Their friends and foes alike were

forced to admit that these assemblies were most beneficent, greatly promoting virtue in human life, and producing the Immortal Poets, Sages and Saints. It was also common knowledge that these Mystery Systems or Lodges were in their totality the representation in drama and symbol of the journey of the human soul through all the intricate windings of this mortal life, from birth to death. But the Christian Church, once it began to reject the Gnosis in the form suitable to the IIth Century onwards and banished it altogether, had no more secrets to give out.

In the I2th Century, the Catholic Church began in earnest to effect the total destruction of these pseudo-Gnostic sects and cults. It was aware that not all the people of Europe were faithful to the Cult of Jesus. Far from it. Most of the intellectuals and nobles still clung to the Old Religion and the old hierarchical system of Episcopi and Clerics derived from the original Chrestian Ecclesia, and who were in total opposition to the Roman Christian Ecclesia based in Rome.

These undoubted Bishops of Serapis and Christos in Europe, even to the beginning of the I3th Century, were known as 'Episcopi Vagantes.' In order to control or reduce their influence, the Roman Church tried every possible means to deny them their Ancient Rites,

while at the same time promoting the bishops who obeyed the temporal and doctrinal Church in Rome. Again, it was known that these Episcopi Vagantes were the Initiates of the Old Religion. By the 15th Century, these Gnostic Bishops; that is to say, 'They Who Knew the Truth,' were demoniated 'witches and heretics.' In 1488 Pope Innocent VIII set the full force of the temporal and doctrinal Church against them, and he was followed in 1521 by Pope Adrian IV, who, in his 'Decretal Epistle,' denounced them and their 'heretical' assemblies throughout Europe. In the Migne Library of the Fathers it states clearly that Innocent VIII was fully determined to eradicate the pestilant and heretical Episcopi who repudiated the tradition of Jesus and Peter and still followed the prototype of Jesus - Jeshu ben Pandira of 69 B.C., and those who still held to the blasphemous Book of the Toldoth Jeshu. He also stated that at all times The Knights of The Pactic Secreta were to be rooted out and destroyed. He was, of course, referring to the ancient Order of Roman Knights who defied the action of the Church Council of 381 A.D.

It now becomes abundantly clear that the 'Christianised' followers of Jeshu ben Pandira, who now operated under the pseudo-ensign of 'Jesus of Nazareth,' took great pains to eradicate all poss-

ible references to and links with the original Chrestian Ecclesia of before 44 A.D. It is amazing how the theologians of the Christian Church kept this tell-tale rebuttal of the claims that Jesus of Nazareth founded the Christian Church and instituted the 'Apostolic Succession' on the Day of Pentecost.

Again it is obvious that Clemens Alexandrinus and Origen were fully aware of the Latin term 'Initiate' and its use up to the year 878 A.D. They also knew of the Chrestians up to 44 A.D., and of those Bishops who refused to accept the new dogma of Eusebius that Jesus was both the Son of God and then God Himself, and yet blasphemous dogma was forced upon the dissenting Bishops by threats from Constantine, the first Christian murderer to be saved by the bloody atonement of a myth in time. The 2nd Church Council of 381 A.D. and its decrees amply show that the Christians after 44 A.D. were and still are the real Apostates from the original faith which existed from the very origin of the human race. This again proves beyond all cavil that it was the Chrestian Gnostics who constituted the original Ecclesia, and who could and still do claim an unbroken and legitimate Line of Succession from the Hierophants of Serapis, called by Emperor Hadrian 'The Bishops of



Serapis and Christos.'

The term 'Initiate' comes from the Latin 'Initiatus': one who had been prepared by special ceremonies and received into the Mysteries and Secrets of the Kingdom of God. The later Christian term 'Ordinand' means the same thing, and is bestowed according to a certain rendering of Matter and Form. In the Christian form of Initiation, the peculiar types of oil used to open the centres in the head, throat and heart had the action of fissioning the human soul safely from the body during the rites. It has been suggested by some experts that the oil of the amanita muscaria mushroom was the catalyst which enabled the candidate to effect the proper separation of body and human soul. Thereby, the soul could receive and then experience certain post mortem states of human consciousness out of the body. At the same time, it could receive the final and absolute proof of its personal identity with its Hero-God who would grant to the Initiate certain geometrical powers which could be used in the service of his brothers upon re-entering the human tabernacle. There is ample evidence to show that this Mushroom Ceremony was used well before 4,000 B.C. in Egypt, and

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the actual ceremony differs little from the Chrestian Gnostic method of effecting the Right of Succession.

The present form of the ceremonial to pass this Right of Succession from one Episcopus to another, now commonly known as 'The Christian Apostolic Succession,' is, in reality, an empty ceremony. It is used today simply as a means of conferring an office. It does not effect, as it once did, the correct transaction of projecting the human soul of the Bishop Elect from the mathematical world into the geometrical world of design where the Christ Principle is to be found. Thus, the candidate, once effecting the fission of the body and the soul, and finding himself within the Christos, does receive the power and glory of his Office from the Christ Himself. Two things are required for this action to take place within the Abstract or Christos world: the consecrating Bishop must have been consecrated by an already-consecrated Bishop who can prove his Line of Succession, and the Bishop must have the right intention to transfer to the Bishop Elect from the Bishop himself the power of his own awakened Christos-Soul in order to awaken the Christos-Soul of the Bishop Elect. The Bishop Elect must be erudite in the Gnosis of himself and of his Soul, and must be fully prepared to make

the transaction between the human and the Divine during the course of his consecration.

It would appear that in 44 A.D. the Jewish Christians, wishing to disassociate themselves from the secret and forbidden Mushroom Cult, discontinued its use in their ceremonies of conferring the authority of the Christos, and began to use olive oil and balsam as a substitute. Yet they still continued to use outward instruments which were used by the Mushroom Cult, such as the umbrella over the Christ (Host) on the altar. Consider this: if Jesus stated that He came to give nothing new but only to fulfill, then either the Christian system of consecration and ordination is an empty charade or it is based upon an earlier and non-Christian Sacred Ceremony of conferring Spiritual Power and Office.

12

When we come to deal with the Secret Assemblies espoused by The Knights of the Pactio Secreta after the IIth Century in Europe, it was possible for the Grand Priors of the Order to continue the Sacred Ceremony of the Mushroom, and the anointing with any kind of oil was deleted from their ceremonies. The transaction of Power was then effected by the determined and disciplined will of the Grand Master of each successive manifestation of the

True Religion. The first of the Chivalric Orders instituted by The Pactio Secreta was that of the San Grael. In this Order of Chivalry, as in all the successive orders, their workings in their totality represented the journey of the human soul through all the intricate windings of this mortal life, from birth to death, and from each of the Initiations the candidate received more than a hint of that which lay beyond.

Again, we find by a close analysis of the many rituals which have been allowed to be made public, that at a certain point in each ceremony or ritual, the candidate was permitted to make the fission between the mortal body and the human soul, and from this, and from the projection of the human soul into the Christos-Soul, he was permitted to receive first-hand knowledge and experience of the nature of the Quest as depicted in each Order. As always, when the Order becomes known to the public, certain of the Knights retired from the public Order to perpetuate the original nature of the Quest - the Finding of the Essential Man.

To summarise, one can see that the Mysteries of Serapis concerned themselves with the nature of the Essential Man, and the method whereby the human man could become restituted with this Essential Self.

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Their descendants, the Chrestian Gnostics, followed the same Quest but in a simpler form, assisted by the ancient Sacred Mushroom Rite. After 44 A.D., certain sections of the Chrestian Movement apparently feared the effect of the civil oppression of the Mushroom Cult and changed their name from 'Chrestian' to 'Christian' at Antioch, which was, at that time, a vital centre of the Mushroom Cult. It was also a procuring place for the sacred amanita muscaria which was vital to all the fertility cults in Asia Minor. We know that Lebanon was the main source of supply of the mushroom, just as Mexico was the source of the drug used in the Mayan and Aztec ceremonies and sacrifices.

13

History is very definite on this point: It was the Christianised Church which broke away from the Chrestian Ecclesia in 44 A.D. Thus, in order to establish herself as the Supreme Authority of God on Earth - minus the sacred ceremonial to effect this transaction, you will note - she began a process of persecution and condemnation of the source of her own authority, namely the Mysteries of Serapis and the Chrestian Gnostics.

In the 4th Century the Christian Church usurped the power and authority of the ancient Hierophants and Episcopi, and simply perpetuated this line of



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the Right of Succession of power and authority in her priests and bishops only, but with a difference: she retained the outward forms but lost the inward operating principles. We must also keep in mind that such men as Simon Magus, Marcion, Cerinthus, Valentinus, and Basilides lived well before such Christian Bishops as Tertullian, Irenaeus, Hippolytus, Epiphanius and Eusebius; therefore, logic and tradition proves that it was the later Christians and their bishops who were surely the heretics, and not the so-called Gnostics. In fact, the concept of the Apostolic Succession was invented by the 4th Century Bishops after they had outwardly destroyed the Gnostics.

17

Again we must bear in mind these irrefutable facts: To say that there is a 'Christian Apostolic Succession' is a palpable fraud. There is no factual evidence that the man Jesus ever instituted such an idea; nor can there be found any statement of Jesus intimating that he founded a religion or a church. There is not one word of St. Paul which could be construed as indicating that he knew of the existence of Jesus or of any Succession from his person. The records of the 2nd Church Council of Nicea, held in Constantinople in 787 A.D., clearly prove that the Christian Church stole the livery of the Mysteries of Serapis from the Christian Gnostics, the

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Essenes and the Mithraic Mysteries and called them 'Christian.' In fact, Jesus never founded a 'church' or 'ecclesia' while he was alive, and the Gospels were written about a hundred years after his supposed death. It was

Paul, an initiate of Bacchus at Tarsus, who founded the Church. Why are the ordinary laymen of the Christian Church not told of these important facts?

St. Augustine, who is generally regarded as being one of the outstanding leaders of the early Christian Church, states:

"What is nowadays called the Christian religion was in existence among the ancient people until Christ Himself, having appeared, they began to designate as 'Christian' the True Religion which had hitherto been in existence."

This statement alone shows that the Christian Church is but the illegitimate continuation of the Christian Ecclesia, except that the names, seasons and times have been changed to fit the framework of the new legend of Jesus of Nazareth.

With the outward destruction of the Gnostic Christian Ecclesia in the IIth Century, it was the Secret Fraternities who perpetuated the Gnostic Philosophy and its

operating principles in their pristine purity and maintained a continuity of Hierophants and Grand Masters, coming down to the present exposition of The Pactio Secreta. In fact, the purest form of Gnosticism (the Mysteries of Jeshu) can only be found within these Secret Lodges of Adepts, and here we are not speaking about the public bodies which have nothing of value to give to their people except a decadent rehash of that which has always been, is, and ever will be.

So it is obvious that the ancient term 'Initiation' and the modern term 'Ordination' have the same meaning and purpose. In both cases, it is an expansion of consciousness and the granting of certain powers by means of a Sacred Oil or Drink. In both cases they require the instruments of Matter and Form. 'Form' is the Imposition of Hands, and 'Matter' is the Prayer of Intention. But in recent centuries the third requirement, that of the catalytic form of oil or drink, has been deliberately overlooked or disregarded as being too dangerous. So they have substituted the action of thought. Unfortunately, in the majority of instances, the thought is overclouded by the 'love of status before the public,' or, in the Fraternal Lodges, by the honour of being referred to as the 'Worshipful Master.' It is within the

Church, Masonry, Rosicrucianism etc. that one finds the evil of class distinction the rule of the day. They have forgotten the 'Man of Sorrows.'

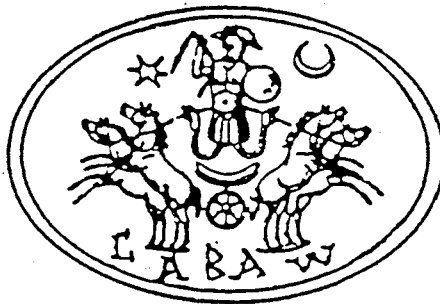
The above means that the Initiator, ~~be~~ he a Hierophant, Master or Bishop, is possessed, or should be possessed, of the plenitude of all power and authority, the former from the Indwelling Christos and the latter from the Holy Spirit, the two channels being interchangeable and having the same meaning, according to the intention of the would-be Initiator.

The writer, having reached the highest Offices in the Church, in Freemasonry, and in many other Lodges and Rites, is now in the position to have second thoughts about their efficacy. That is his personal opinion, but he knows that his detractors will use this against him. If they do, then they will reveal their own emptiness and ignorance of the purpose of their Great Master.

THE EASTER MASS

- by -

RICHARD, DUC DE PALATINE



THE SANCTUARY OF THE GNOSIS  
London & Halifax

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From time immemorial all nations and cultures have established external forms of ritual based upon the internal workings of the Essential Self within the human personality. The intent was twofold: to remind us that we are an Immortal Self and not a frail mortal self, and to use such a ritual as a means to assist us to become free from the limitations of the lower self and to aspire towards immortality and thus reside forever in the Bosom of the Father. The action we must make towards Immortality is a process from within outwards, and not as the modern Christians claim, from outwards inwards in order to gain the Kingdom of God within.

Candid and unprejudiced scholars of Christianity are agreed that the Christian religion did not commence with a man called Jesus of Nazareth, but was in existence from the very origin of the human race, as Augustine, Bishop of Hippo states. The Christ or Christos represents the Immortal Pilgrim ever resident within the human heart of every man; thus it was the work of the Pilgrim to transform the human Jesus-Self into the Image of the Christos. In this ancient and ever-present process, the Crucified Self within the body must crucify the flesh and then come off the Cross to be reborn as the Ineffable Self resplend-

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ent in the Glory of the Supreme Deity. The teachings shown in the Christian Drama can only be understood through the many myths, symbols, systems of numbers, the references to the various signs of the Zodiac, and a firm grasp of how the Christian religion evolved out of The Mysteries of Serapis at Alexandria in Egypt some 300 years before the Christian era.

Christianity, like all the religions which preceded it, tells of the original Virgin State of Man before he made the descent from his immortal dwelling place into the dark tenement of the mortal body. He (Man), being of the Father and yet one of the Sons of the Father, was pure and immaculate. Having all the Wisdom and Power of the Father, he was clothed in matter, and thus, being so, he forgot his Divine Nature. Therefore, in very truth, every man is born of the Father and not of the will of man. Each person is a potential God. Latent yes, but God gave to Man knowledge and the means whereby he could recall his Immortal Nature and take steps to recover it.

Therefore, the whole drama as played out on earth by Jeshu ben Pandira in person represents the journey of the Christos-Soul through all the intricate windings of this mortal life. That is to say, from man's first incarnation to his last, and by the efforts in each incarna-

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tion, the Soul gains more than a hint of that which lies beyond. We can see that reincarnation is both a symbolic as well as an actual enactment by every person of the Mysteries of the Kingdom of God, not only in its entirety, but also in the wealth of the varied memories or traces which are programmed in the Divine Soul.

The Master Mind who formulated the Christian religion did not invent it. All He did was draw the essentials from all the religions of the world and arranged this drama of the Christos-Man in such a manner that it would be impossible for sentient man to forget his Immortal Nature. As a practitioner of the Gnosis, we believe that Jeshu ben Pandira, who lived from 105 - 71 B.C., was one of the Superior Sons of God. Seeing mankind struggling in the labyrinth of human life, he decided to make the descent to earth. He took upon himself the form of a man and lived this eternal drama in just one life in the hope that by his example we would follow Him and attain our own rightful place in the Nature of the One which is the All.

There is sufficient historical evidence to warrant the assumption that Jeshu was well-versed in the Wisdom of the Egyptians at Alexandria. He thus took the outline of the Mysteries of Serapis for His future effort, changing the Egyptian name for the Divine Soul of 'Serapis' into that

of 'Christos.' He encouraged many of the students and followers of the Pythagorean Gnosis, and began to teach and perform miracles in the Name of the Indwelling Christos. This fact becomes evident when the Christian Jesus is made to say, "It is not I who do these things, but the Power within Me." It follows then that the words 'Christos,' 'Serapis,' 'Osiris,' 'Christ,' 'Bodhi,' 'Bacchus,' etc. all refer to the Immortal Soul of Man, which could not be a man, but which had no father, no mother, no beginning or end of days, which was and is Eternal in the Heavens, as stated by Paul.

It was in 44 A.D. that the Jewish Christians changed their name from 'Chrestian' to 'Christian'. This of course caused a very far-reaching change, and its future results were to prove fatal to the later Christians. The word 'Chrestian' refers to a 'Good Man,' who had resurrected the Christos Power within him. Thus this Power had granted him Divine Powers and the authority to command the Powers of Nature to obey him. Through this, Man would be, as St. Paul says, "Changed in the twinkling of an eye." In other words, having reached the vital stage of his transformation, he gained Illumination, or the Inner Power to recall through the 'Circle of Eternity' all those memories he had accumulated by his many incarnations. At the same time, the man so blessed by his

own Efforts, by the Power of his own Christos-Soul was able to perform wonders yet undreamed of by man today.

Even from the 3rd Century B.C., the idea of calling a man 'Christos' or a Christ was considered blasphemous, and he was put to death by the state for his indiscretion. When Constantine the Great called the first Christian Council at Nicea in 325 A.D., he commanded all the assembled Bishops, on the pain of death or exile, to accept this new blasphemous dogma of calling Jesus 'divine' and declaring him to be the only Son of God. The Bishops who came to this Council were at first shocked to hear this blasphemy. Out of about 300 Bishops attending the Council only 22 accepted this infamous doctrine (figures obtained from the Planar at Istanbul). Thus, under the threat of death, the rest of the Bishops reluctantly agreed for fear of their lives.

The new Constantinian Nicene Church performed a terrible act against the Children of God. Constantine absolutely denied the teachings of Christ that asserted "Ye Are Gods." By so doing, this despot denied the human right for all men to become eventually Sons of God without distinction of race, colour, creed or sex. Thus, the Christian and Gnostic concep-

tion of the Brotherhood of Man and the Fatherhood of God was destroyed at this Council. And again, the present adherents of this blasphemous and distorted version of the Teachings of the Christ or Christos have set every man against his brother.

The Knights of The Holy Grail, The Knights Templars, The Cathari, The Albigenses, The Rosicrucians, The Illuminati and The Freemasons all refused to accept the 'crucified Jesus' of Golgotha, an event of which history is silent. Their only crime was that, at least to them, the cross of the human body was obnoxious and a hindrance to the attainment of The Great Secret of The Divine Self - The Pactio Secreta! Instead of adoring the cross on Good Friday, the members of the above-mentioned Orders trampled on it and then spat on it in token of their denial of the limiting nature of the human body.

Here is another item which will numb most Christians: All of the offshoots of The Pactio Secreta considered the Creator of this World as the Evil God - Rex Mundi - since he caused the Sons of God to be thrown into dark and human tabernacles to die to the Father and become enslaved to Jehovah. Hence the Gnostics considered the flesh to be evil, and for that reason alone. Lucifer, The Bright Star of The Morning,



the Divine Christos, born of Venus, the Star of the Sea of Universal Space, descended and granted to mankind the hope and possibility of being saved from the cruel and sadistic Jehovah. At Easter we should be giving thanks to Lucifer, the Son of the Father and Venus for helping to rescue us from the darkness of the Jehovah of the Kabbala.

On the Resurrection morn it was Judas, the earthly form of Lucifer, who forced Jesus (man) to partake of the Grail of Human Suffering. Then, in a state of intoxication of the senses, he enabled the Divine Self to be torn from the cross of matter, and then be free to descend, falling in the hell of the body to quicken us, and then be enabled to rise from the Tomb of the Body, clothed in his Robe of Glory, granted to him by his Mother, Venus, and the Sun - his Father. This is clearly shown in the Revelation of John of Patmos.

It will now be seen that the Drama of the Christ is a spiritual one which is enacted out within the Temple of Man, wherein God the Father is never absent, and in very truth it is only through the Immortal Son of God - the Christos - that the whole of mankind, past, present and future, can be 'saved.' Again it will be in very truth that the Elect of God - the 144,000 - be saved at the next deluge.

(Using the Kabbalistic system of numbers taken from 'The Chaldean Book of Numbers', reduce every letter of the alphabet. You will find that Adam, Noah, Moses, Joshua, Jesus and Paul can be reduced to the single digit of Nine. Nine is also the number for Man, and, of course, so is 144,000 when the zeros are ignored).

Thus we find that it is Mankind who falls into matter, is crucified by matter, and will be saved by matter. Matter is again Mary, the Virgin Mother of the star actor in the Christian Drama.

Therefore, all ye Sons of the Living God, Arise! Take up your Palms of Victory and march to the Place of Martyrdom by the flesh, and know that ye all without the loss of one iota of God shall be saved by your own efforts through the Power of the Christos. The Christos within is not concerned with races, creeds, colours or the three sexes. Nor is It concerned with your dignities, powers, knowledge, abilities or capacities for they are things of this world and concern only the temporal and doctrinal conceptions of the world of Jehovah, the God of Lies and Deception. The Christos-Soul represents the Immortal Church Triumphant, eternal in the Heavens of which the Unknown God is the Supreme Regent for our small universe. Lucifer, the Brightest Son of God, and Venus, the Brightest

Daughter of God, who gave us their Divine Son, the Christos, to reside within our hearts for ever more.

A final note: The Knights of the oldest and grandest of all the Chivalric Orders have this sacred motto: "Honi soit qui mal y pense!" ("Evil be to him who evil thinks.") What we have written here are facts based upon irrefutable historical and documentary proofs. If by doing so we have taken upon ourselves the hatred of our orthodox Brethren within the philosophic, scientific and religious disciplines, and of those who claim to love Truth above all things, then let them take note of their own estate and think well before they condemn us or our revelations as being evil. Remember, The Pactio Secreta is not, will not be, nor has it ever been a physical body, but is a spiritual body of Knights who have pledged to safeguard The Great Secret of the Eternal Father resident within every Companion's heart.

It is humanly impossible to reveal the various layers of meaning of this Grand Drama of Man. There are also levels upon levels of silence demanded by The Knights of The Great Secret. Woe be to him who becomes indiscreet!