

7 ON ALICE A. BAILEY'S BOOK *THE REAPPEARANCE OF THE CHRIST*

¹In the following, an examination is made of *The Reappearance of the Christ* by Alice A. Bailey. Contradictory information is given even about the genesis of the book. It has been said that disciples have collaborated at the writing of the book. Elsewhere D.K. is said to be the sole author. The latter seems improbable for reasons that will be given below.

²On page 6 it is said that Christos was the first one in our history to transmit cosmic essential (22–28) energy directly to our planet. This statement seems not only improbable but even impossible. It falls down from its very absurdity to say that an individual who was preparing to acquire 43-consciousness would transmit energy from world 28, passing by all the higher powers (the planetary and solar systemic governments and still higher authorities) in the process. This is not the only place where A.A.B. attributes to Christos faculties that can have been acquired only by individuals of cosmic natural kingdoms. Everywhere the former Christian missionary shines through who could never divest her mind from old Christian fictions and who makes this colour her presentation. This does not inspire confidence in her knowledge, judgement, and exactitude. A.A.B. uses the term “god” in such a way and in such connections as to suggest to the reader familiar with Christian theology that the Christian conception of god is intended. Only in a few places in the works published in A.A.B.’s name is a more exact definition given. Generally, however, where god or Christos is concerned the concepts are too vague. Christos is sometimes presented as the mediator between god and man. Christians will, of course, take this in the old sense. The impression is that she is particularly keen on winning Christians for her teaching, and that when doing so there is no harm in letting them keep their fictions for the time being.

³Annie Besant, too, sacrificed too much of clarity and had nothing against ambiguities if they made it easier for her to proselytize. Some theosophists apparently feared that they would “alienate” readers by depriving them of their false ideas too early. There are such readers, however, as demand clarity, exactitude, facts, and refuse to give this demand up to satisfy the emotionalist’s longing for old illusions.

⁴In a practical sense, religion is feeling, and illusions are the opposites of philosophy, which is clear logical thought. There are of course those who use the term “religion” in a more extensive sense, holding that religion is the summary of love and wisdom. This is the theosophical definition of “buddhi”, essentiality (46). It is misleading, however. Wisdom and love are human concepts. Essentiality is beyond human power of conception. It is best translated by “unity” – consciousness of unity, the indestructible brotherhood of the monads in which misunderstandings are impossible. The highest the individual can reach as a human being is not unity but aspiration to unity.

⁵The esoterician knows that there is no “mediator” between god – the planetary hierarchy, the planetary government, the solar systemic government, etc. – and man. Christians are very amazed when they are told that god, about whom they fantasize so much, the supreme ruler of our planet, does not even know that they exist. He has other things to do than busying himself with those ignorant, selfish creatures. He sees to it that the planetary organization, which supervises the three aspects of existence within the planet, performs the functions due to it, that evolution proceeds according to laws of nature and laws of life. He will be aware of a human individual only when the latter has acquired causal consciousness and enters the fifth natural kingdom. A glance suffices for him to ascertain that monad’s past forms of existence in the lower four natural kingdoms, its individual character, and tasks in its future lives. In the perfect planetary organization, for which he is responsible, everything is so well arranged that no single monad can propose any improvement whatsoever. Life runs as it must according to laws of nature and laws of life and the individuals’ striving after self-realization. Life is not to

be blamed for the fact that monads having a self-acquired repulsive basic tendency are so active in obstructing the work of the planetary hierarchy and planetary government. It is on their own responsibility that they sow their bad sowing for a bad reaping. Life does its part and goes on. Mankind sows and reaps what it has sown. At the utmost, mankind can delay evolution but cannot hinder progress. More and more monads at lower stages of development work their way up to the highest stage. If the broad mass of those lagging behind do not want to keep up with the pace of development, then they must in due time continue on another globe and at a lower starting position.

⁶According to the gnostic teaching, a messenger from the planetary hierarchy, that is to say, an avatar, appears when a world epoch is approaching its end or a new epoch has begun, when the vernal equinoctial point enters a new zodiacal constellation. The two-thousand-year-old civilization (in this case the Christian one) has made its contribution to development and needs to be replaced with a new life view in better agreement with the new stage of development mankind has reached.

⁷According to the distorted view of the Fathers of the Church, Christos was thought to “return to judge the living and the dead”. This amounts to three errors in a single sentence, which probably is the statistical average of that teaching divorced from reality, not to say hostile to life.

⁸God judges nobody. Man is his own judge through his good or bad sowing, which slowly ripens for reaping. Like all individuals in all higher worlds from world 46 up, our planetary ruler is united with the all in unity inseparable. There is no death; the monad (and everything consists of monads) is immortal, but all material forms dissolve and, consequently, the envelopes of the monads as well, and we receive constantly new ones, as long as we need envelopes of that kind. The avatar – the messenger – returns to give renewed aid to the incarnated and to lay the foundation of a new life view and a new culture.

⁹According to the Christian creed, Christos sits on the right hand of the Father. Christos is the supreme head of the planetary department of education. He of course confers frequently with the planetary government and its supreme head, but the planetary hierarchy is composed of individuals belonging to the fifth and sixth natural kingdoms, and the planetary government consists of individuals belonging to the second and third divine kingdoms, except for the king who has entered the fourth divine kingdom. Christos belongs to the first divine kingdom, and will in his definitely last incarnation gain entrance to the second divine kingdom, as Buddha did before him.

¹⁰This was known by the gnosticians, the genuine ones and not any of the spurious Gnostic sects taken for genuine by historians of religion. Historians know nothing about the genuine gnosticians. What they taught in their secret knowledge societies has remained secret. It remains to be seen if anyone of the old gnosticians will publicize the doctrine. This is desirable, so that one more falsification of history is exposed. It is about time that history were rewritten by those who were present, so that we are spared those old wives’ tales, cock and bull stories, and narratives for youth of riper years which make up too large a part of history.

¹¹Avatars must appear at certain intervals. In the course of centuries, the truth they proclaim is increasingly distorted by the “learned” who take over it and adapt it to their spurious wisdom, according to the needs of those in power. This is one of the reasons why the knowledge of existence and reality has always been given, and also in the future will be given, in secret knowledge schools only. That portion of the knowledge which has been permitted for publication beginning in 1875 contains only a few basic facts necessary to remedy the current total disorientation and to provide philosophers and scientists with a basis from which to start. Still, however, most facts about the worlds of man remain to be discovered, such knowledge as would be abused to the destruction of mankind and the annihilation of life on our planet, if irresponsible people came into possession of it. That knowledge could be claimed by those who

had assimilated the knowledge already existing and who are untiringly seeking further in order better to serve life with their ever deepening knowledge. They are the true elite and the pioneers of the knowledge. It is part of the “sacrificial character of culture” that martyrdom always falls to their lot. Anyone who is ahead of his times must expect to be misunderstood and disdained, not least on the part of the ruling authorities. This is certainly unavoidable, since nobody can understand what is above his own level of development.

¹²Those who, during a long education and with work, toil, and sacrifice of all kinds, have lately acquired an enormous store of knowledge and constructed a logically reasoned system of thought, in most cases are attached to it for ever. They lack the capacity – that is to say, the time, the energy, etc. – for assimilating a new system. This being so, they become a hindrance to intellectual development in times of philosophic and scientific revolutions. What we should hope in them is that they did not face the new ideas with such frenzied opposition and such supercilious contempt. A wee bit of humility arisen out of recognition of the immensity of the task facing mankind and scientific research would not be unbecoming on them. In their next lives they will have a new opportunity of learning more, so that the inability of their age to understand the new ideas should not need to engender any complex of inferiority in them. We all have our given limitations, but they are only for a short sojourn in the physical world. We shall soon be back and then get new perspectives.

¹³There are many kinds of avatars if you mean all those who have joined ever higher natural kingdoms. Most avatars belong to the fifth kingdom. The fact that they as a rule do not appear, but have their disciples make new facts public as best they can protects them and affords those disciples good opportunities to learn and develop. Unfortunately, we cannot always expect their disciples to possess the desirable capacity, but they have gained the right to have this chance.

¹⁴Our cosmos, one of countless similar ones, has for incalculable eons been a perfect organization in which solar systems have been formed and dissolved in a steady stream.

¹⁵The new solar systems arising are formed by selves belonging to the fifth divine kingdom (15–21). Evolution within the solar systems are guided by selves of lower divine kingdoms. It stands to reason that those selves evolved in solar systems that were developed very long ago. It is of course not a matter of a few individual selves but of entire hierarchies of selves within those higher kingdoms.

¹⁶When consciousness development has progressed so far that individuals in the new systems need individual guides, such ones of the fifth and sixth natural kingdoms are transferred from other solar systems. They remain within the planets until evolution in them has enabled the élite of mankind to attain the fifth and sixth natural kingdoms and can take over the pertaining functions themselves.

¹⁷Those who in our planet supervised the human consciousness process in Lemuria and Atlantis thus were selves who had arrived from other systems. They incarnated to show men how to put their concerns to rights. In Atlantis they formed the higher priesthood and taught men how to activate their emotional consciousness. The élite among their disciples were trained to become teachers in time of the lesser developed, and so made the lower priesthood. All the teaching was done in temples where those who had the qualifications received instruction. It goes without saying that there was an enormous difference between the higher priesthood and the lower. But when after millions of year this lower priesthood had assimilated so much of knowledge that they could guide the masses and dominate them, they revolted against the higher priesthood, being led in this by such individuals as have in all times been able to rise to power and to get others over to their side. This was done, as always, with alluring promises and with the other methods too well-known throughout history. The higher priesthood was banished, and they lower priesthood took over the management of the Earth’s affairs. The last twelve thousand years of world history, of unspeakable suffering, demonstrates the result. Arbitrariness, the thirst for power has reigned.

¹⁸There were always such individuals, however, as realized that the doctrine which the lower priesthood formulated and enforced on the people could not be the knowledge of reality and life. They remained seekers and silently disliked the iniquities wrought by those in power. To enable those seekers to develop further, individuals of the fifth natural kingdom incarnated and instituted secret schools of wisdom. This happened about fifty thousand years ago, long before the planetary hierarchy had been banished definitively but when it had already become apparent how it all would end. Founders of religions appeared who tried to bring the more developed people to a realization of the need of “salvation”, or acquisition of the attraction of higher emotionality.

¹⁹The mental development of mankind – of those able to think on the basis of principles – that has taken place during the last few centuries has made possible a new method designed to develop perspective consciousness. The intellectual élite had reached the limits of their capacity for research and ended up in skepticism with a total disorientation concerning the meaning and goal of existence. Universal literacy with an incipient power of reflection in the masses demonstrated the extent of the problem and the necessity of clarifying at least those basic facts about reality which would enable mankind to be reasonably oriented. That part of the knowledge of reality, hitherto kept secret, which could be made common property without risk of abuse, has been entrusted by the planetary hierarchy to disciples who have gained the right to formulate the ideas and to publicize the facts necessary to make the ideas comprehensible. However, still only those who have remained seekers and have not been able to content themselves with any such system of thought as ignorance has constructed by speculation, who appear to be able to comprehend and understand the fundamental knowledge of reality despite its admittedly unsatisfactory formulation.

²⁰Philosophers and scientists still take a skeptical attitude. Most of them reject the new attempts with ridicule and contempt, not even bothering to examine the matter logically. Esoterics shows its agreement with reality by affording the simplest, most unitary, most universal explanations of thousands of hitherto inexplicable realities. Anyone who cannot realize this either has not examined the matter or is too narrow-minded to do so, or is the slave of his own intellectual constructions, so that he is unable to set himself free from them. This state of affairs will not be allowed to continue. Therefore, the planetary hierarchy will make energetic attempts at affording people the possibility of liberating themselves from their systems of thought and of starting to rethink.

²¹Many disciples are ready, everyone to the best of his ability, to spread the knowledge of reality and life. Not even this is sufficient, however, but the world teacher himself will come, in the midst of 45-selves, 44-selves, and 43-selves, to try and awaken common sense in those paralysed by their systems of thought. That person is in error, however, who thinks that those idiotized by the Christian dogmas will recognize the one whom they, in their false belief, adore as the “son of god”. This is particularly so because he will return in quite another way than is indicated in that paper pope which they call the “pure and unadulterated word of god” and which has deprived them of their power of judgement. They have not yet been able to see that the Buddha was right in advising his disciples not to believe but to use their discrimination; not to believe because it reads in eternal sacred writings, or because holy men said it, or because tradition taught it. The individual’s common sense is his highest resource. It errs, of course. The individual will learn from those errors, but not by believing. Authorities have no say in the weightiest problems of life. The individual must solve those problems himself. The only thing teachers of spirituality do is presenting the facts and then leaving it to the individual to form his own view on it. Blind belief without independent judgement has always been the curse of mankind. Essentiality (46) is inclusive, excludes nobody. Whenever a sect arises which sets up limits, demands that people who join it embrace a certain faith, its teaching is false. This is perhaps the only criterion of a lie of life that everybody can fully grasp.

²²You will have to be injudicious beyond remedy to call that collection of writings, authored by ignorance and compiled into a Bible by arbitrariness, the “pure and unadulterated word of god”. You will have to be very injudicious to believe that Judaism (the Old Testament) and the teaching of Christos (the Gospels – the Sermon on the Mount) are equally the pure and unadulterated word of god. You must be injudicious not to be able to see that the teaching of Christos, the teaching of Paul, the teaching of the ecumenical councils *are not* the same teaching; that Christianity or Churchianity is the opposite of the teaching of Christos.

²³By absolutizing a view of life that is conditioned by the times and a world view that is too flawed, Protestantism has definitively renounced the possibility of further revelation.

²⁴The Catholic Church, authorizing its pope to modify what the dogmas of ignorance, what ignorant ecumenical councils have laid down as the “word of god” (the so-called creeds), at least has a possible way out of the dead end of absolutization.

²⁵On each higher level of development the view of life changes. This is true of the entire path of development up to the highest cosmic level. Getting stuck on a certain level is refusing to develop. Just as the matter of higher worlds are subject to radically different, higher laws, so the conditions of further consciousness development in those higher worlds are quite different. One must be as profoundly ignorant and monumentally injudicious as a human being not to be able to grasp such a simple fact.

²⁶“We are all Gods, all the children of the One Father, as the latest of the Avatars, the Christ, has told us.” This is a statement typical of A.A.B. Her entire presentation starts from old conceptions and sayings that were comprehensible to people two thousand years ago. This constant reversion to old conceptions makes the Christians live in a world view and life view that is completely different from the one brought about by consciousness development during two millennia; makes them deal with ways of looking at things that were discarded long ago.

²⁷The esoterician trained in philosophy and science would give this idea a completely different formulation for our times. He would say, for instance: “All human beings are monads that have attained a definite stage of development, that of the fourth natural kingdom. The meaning of existence is that all monads, through self-initiated consciousness activity, acquire consciousness in ever higher worlds, and the goal is that all monads gain self-acquired absolute knowledge of the entire cosmos.” To do so the individual must get to know, and gain the ability to apply, the laws that are valid for continued development. The knowledge of the laws that the individual must apply to attain the next higher natural kingdom, the fifth, he can receive only from those who have attained that kingdom. That knowledge is necessary, and that knowledge those higher selves want to give us. The difficulty lies in the fact that mankind believes it knows the conditions, that it has taken on views that make the reception of this new knowledge difficult or impossible altogether. Men believe they know and can judge everything and refuse to examine the reality content of the facts about superphysical reality offered them. Only those who have seen mankind’s terrible ignorance and helplessness are prepared to listen to a teaching the comprehension of which is conditioned by self-emancipation from the ideologies (N.B., not ideologies), world views and life views ruling hitherto, those hypotheses of helplessness which theology, philosophy, and science have accepted as rational and in agreement with reality.

²⁸Measured by the primitive religious outlook of those times, Christos’ ways of setting people free from the views then ruling were the most expedient ones. That does not imply, however, that we who are in a position to have a more correct conception of the problem of life should go on reverting to the old ideas. To many people they have an emotional value that hinders them from acquiring exact concepts and so gaining an increasing mental clarity.

²⁹When the world teacher returns we must expect him to turn to the people of our times and to speak the language they best understand. Those who consider that the old manner of speaking must not be changed and is the only right one will then refuse to listen to his teaching.

That is always the great risk involved in being fixated on symbols of a certain kind instead of trying to comprehend and understand the content of the symbols, the relative value of the knowledge conveyed by them. His mission at that time was the liberation of the Jewish people, who had the only monotheistic religion then existing, from their totally distorted, idiotizing idea of god, and their other religious delusions. Therefore he presented god as the “Father of all, Love”, prepared to receive with jubilant gratitude all who desired to return to that house of the father from which they had went away. What were the results? Unable to grasp the completely new view of life, the Christian fathers of the church started from the ruling fictions of sin as a crime against god. God still remained the god of hatred, wrath, revenge, self-righteousness, who could not forgive without sacrifice. In the history of Christianity there certainly appeared so-called mystics who had seen through the absurdities of the church doctrine and in the manner of Meister Eckehardt, Jakob Böhme, and others tried to make more rational interpretations. The dogmas have been established, however, once and for all, and cannot be changed, and even if the mystics dared to dissent, yet the clergy forced them to remain in the old fictions. It is easy to understand that A.A.B. started from the old clichés. Being a former Christian missionary she was familiar with them, and the breakthrough to a new view would be made easier if the old imagery was retained. The simpler their intellect, the more important it is for people that they feel they are on familiar ground; if not, they will reject the new ideas without even looking at them. Not just the intellect objects, but above all the whole enormous complex of emotions associated with the things felt sacred, inviolable, incomprehensible, based on experiences of bliss in ecstasies beyond rationality. This complex is the essential criterion that the old doctrine was the only correct one.

³⁰When the new teaching has become universally accepted and emotionalists experience it from youth with their feeling, then even their ecstasies beyond rationality will be taken as proofs that the teaching is the only true one. This is one of the factors that go to explain why those who were inoculated in childhood with certain religious fictions and illusions can never wholly liberate themselves from them. The religion into which you were born is the one and absolute truth. When will people start to realize the irrationality of such convictions? Conversions from one religion to another have always seemed incomprehensible, not to say absurd, to those who remain in the faith abandoned by the converts. The explanation for this is simple, however, once you are in possession of the universal key to all the mysteries.

³¹Anyone who has during several incarnations been of one and the same religion, perhaps especially worked at the pertaining systems of illusions and fictions and so have had them very easily resuscitated, will feel irresistibly attracted to them if finding them anew. Thus when there are voluntary mass conversions from Protestantism to Catholicism in our times, this is in most cases due to the fact that old Catholics have incarnated into Protestant nations. Exceptionally it occurs that intellectuals discover that the Catholic Church is undeniably logically superior to other churches in many respects, above all in the fact that it makes a ruling pope a higher authority than that failure, the inflexible paper pope. This will prove to be of real significance when an individual of the fifth natural kingdom considers the time to be ripe to incarnate and make a career in the Catholic Church, become cardinal and appear on the so-called chair of Peter. This will provide the opportunity to purge the doctrine of lots of absurdities and to “ecumenize” it so as to enable all Christian churches to unite about a common creed. It stands to reason that this creed will not, as hitherto, conflict with facts definitively established by science, and so the way will be paved for cooperation between religion, philosophy, and science, which have up to now been fighting each other.

³²A divergence in the modes of expressions used has made itself noticeable so far. When the religiously influenced esoterician speaks about ongoing “revelation”, the esoterician with a scientific training speaks about new scientific facts. Where its problems are limited to the physical world, mankind has to solve them relying on itself. Where the superphysical worlds

are concerned, however, mankind has to depend on the facts that it may receive from the fifth natural kingdom, at least until the scientific élite of mankind has developed the faculty of objective consciousness in those worlds. As regards world 46 and still higher worlds, mankind will always be dependent on the facts given it by the planetary hierarchy.

³³Thus the world teacher will not come in order to “judge” mankind, but in order to present mankind with the necessary knowledge and in such a formulation that it can be accepted by at least a sufficient minority so that the knowledge shall not once again be taken away from mankind. This means that he cannot come at any time whatever, but that certain conditions must be met, namely that his teaching shall be heeded and put to good use. This is one of the reasons why he cannot come earlier.

³⁴Nowadays he will be able by means of newspapers all over the world, film, radio, television, etc. to reach millions of people, and not as in former days just a small group of esotericians (gnosticians, hermetists, mithraists). Certainly he came principally to the Essenes, but they refused to see him as the awaited Messiah who was supposed to make the Jewish nation master of all other nations. The Jews have not succeeded in ridding themselves of that illusion to this very day.

³⁵When Christos declared that “all people are the children of god”, they did not want to hear more of it. This is perhaps not to be wondered at. Exclusivity has always characterized all religions save Buddhism. Every little Christian sect monopolizes its modicum of “truth”, excluding all who do not believe in it.

³⁶Another condition of his incarnation is that mankind has at least realized the necessity of universal good will and right human relations. As long as nations fight each other, ideologies fanatically combat each other, common sense is banned, it is no use trying to teach men the necessity of emotional attraction, tolerance, and higher reason. One thing is certain, none of the religions or ideologies now ruling will be able to monopolize the world teacher. No dogmas contrary to reason or hostile to life will receive confirmation. It is outside the scope of this essay to point out the many absurdities of the New Testament of the Bible. If you start from the Gospels and go on to argue from their level, as A.A.B. does, it will always land you in difficulties and often in unnecessary absurdities.

³⁷In one place, on page 25, she writes, “It was the dawning of this significance of the will of God upon the consciousness of the Christ which led Him to certain great decisions, and which forced Him to cry out: “Father, not my will but Thine be done.” A few lines further down she says of Christos, “His consciousness was absolutely one with the divine Plan”. Such blunders are almost inevitably the results when you base your account now on the facts, now on the legend. The impression had is that of unnecessary confusion. Likewise her esoteric knowledge of the facts of the matter abandons her, and she relapses into such primitive theosophical explanations as she often criticized herself when in adherence to the legend she says that Christos’ surrender to the will of God brought about a sudden and great expansion of his consciousness so that the idea he received dawned upon his “soul”. Thus this is said of a monad who long ago became “spirit” and in so doing liberated itself from the limitations of “soul” (causal consciousness).

³⁸Usually A.A.B. was able to grasp her teacher’s ideas by attaining the 47:3 consciousness at the highest point of concentration. She could not keep her self-consciousness there continuously, as witness too many places in her writings inspired by 45-self D.K. Under such conditions it is not advisable to mix esoteric and exoteric reasoning. Such a presentation does not inspire confidence in an outsider who does not understand how easily such mixtures can be produced. Conducive to seeming confusion is also the fact that A.A.B. nowhere clarifies the difference between what Jeshu (46-self) and Christos (43-self) thought and said. And such a clarification is necessary if you quote the Gospels at all, where no distinctions are made between what those two individuals said, to say nothing about the overall unreliability of the

sayings attributed to those two individuals.

³⁹What the Gospels record is not what Jeshu said, but what people around him, who did not understand much, thought he said, and what oral tradition handed down of these putative sayings. As these sayings were subsequently edited by the Father of the Church Eusebios they gained nothing in reliability. Every esoterician experiences on a daily basis, when other people report his alleged statements, that he does not recognize them, that they have been turned into something quite different. If A.A.B.'s intention was to meet with approval among Christians by using their terminology, she counteracts this effect by unnecessarily disclosing the import of the symbols and depriving these readers of quite a few cherished illusions and fictions. When A.A.B. speaks it is now the esoterician speaking, now the Christian missionary who knows her Bible. Now she informs us that the Gospels are largely symbolic writings, now she quotes from learned works discussing original texts and the meaning of Greek words, even in such cases where the esoterician knows that the sayings quoted are not authentic, nay, cannot possibly be authentic.

⁴⁰“New wine must be put into new wine-skins” is a truth that esotericians apparently easily forget, finding it difficult to abandon old symbolism and to describe reality using the terminology of our times. Such mixture of two quite different ways of looking at things seems to be a characteristic trait of missionaries. These failed attempts at keeping the old sentimental or dogmatic formulations and combining them with the new exact, mental ones produce irremediable confusion of ideas, particularly in literalists of all sorts. Using that method Paul managed to destroy Christos' teaching. He started from the Atlantean falsification of the idea of god into a hateful, wrathful, jealous, vindictive god who must be atoned through bloody sacrifices and turned Christos into the divine sacrifice. To anyone possessed of a wee bit of common sense it all seems so absurd, so inhuman that he is astonished at the complete misunderstanding of this symbolism. Anyone who has fully understood what bottomless suffering this method of Paul has brought idiotized mankind should take warning from it.

⁴¹The absurd and blasphemous doctrine of prayer, which ever since Atlantis has permeated all religions, is given a rational interpretation by A.A.B. We need not pray to god for anything. All higher worlds make up a perfect cosmic organization where laws of nature and laws of life are applied with unflinching precision. The whole of that cosmic organization is a closely welded unity of monads who at all the divine stages live only to realize the meaning of existence, that is to say: the consciousness development of all monads. Praying that this work be done seems to all true esotericians as blasphemy, if it were not ignorance. There is a science of invocation and evocation, which will in due time supersede meditation as practised in India (concentration, meditation, contemplation, etc.) and, above all, religious prayer.

⁴²The one part of this science concerns the alignment of human mental consciousness development with the factors of evolution. The other part is intended to bring about the application in action of the insight gained, so that results are achieved. Neither invocation nor evocation is intended to influence the deity, which indeed would be absurd, but only mankind, collectively and individually. With a view to liberating mankind from that failed attempt at invocation attributed to Christos as the “Lord's prayer”, the following formulation of the true one has been published:

⁴³“From the point of Light within the Mind of God
Let light stream forth into the minds of men,
Let light descend on Earth.

⁴⁴From the point of Love within the Heart of God
Let love stream forth into the hearts of men.
May Christ return to Earth.

⁴⁵From the centre where the Will of God is known
Let purpose guide the little wills of men –
The purpose which the Masters know and serve.

⁴⁶From the centre which we call the race of men
Let the Plan of Love and Light work out
And may it seal the door where evil dwells.

⁴⁷Let Light and Love and Power restore the Plan on Earth.”

⁴⁸A.A.B. treats of those old terms, “god immanent” and “god transcendent”. “God immanent” meant in ancient symbolic parlance that each atom is divine in essence and will some time in the great process of manifestation acquire cosmic omniscience and omnipotence.

⁴⁹“God transcendent” had reference to the monads in all higher natural kingdoms from the sixth, or lowest divine kingdom, up. This concerns the matter aspect of existence. If the same reality is considered from the consciousness aspect, it is clear that all are divine since there is only one cosmic total consciousness in which every atomic consciousness makes up a part that can never be lost. Theologians have produced lots of balderdash, as usual, in their attempts at explaining those two terms, which they were quite unable to understand without these simple facts. Quotation-loving A.A.B. now and then brings up two quotations which, despite being continually repeated, do not become more comprehensible. The one is from Paul about “Him in whom we live, move, and have our being”. The other is taken from the Bhagavad-Gita, where god says of himself: “Having pervaded the whole universe with a fragment of Myself, I remain.”

⁵⁰A modern esoterician would explain the matter thus: since all monads in addition to their individual consciousness also have a common collective consciousness, every material aggregate simultaneously constitutes some kind of collective consciousness (collective being). Every world has its own collective consciousness, every planet, every solar system has its own. Those monads who have reached higher divine kingdoms can identify themselves with some one of those higher collective consciousnesses, become its central consciousnesses and dominant or “god” entrusted with the task of supervising the consciousness development of the monads making up that collective.

⁵¹Symbolically the matter can be expressed thus: The supreme head of the solar system can regard the seven atomic worlds of the solar system as his material envelopes and the planets as his envelope centres (chakras). The analogy between macrocosm and microcosm is obtained if man is regarded as the god of his little system, his envelopes, his envelope centres. It may be added that the higher the level the man has reached, the more efficiently the monads (of lower natural kingdoms) entering into his envelopes are influenced by his vibrations, and this benefits the development of those monads.

⁵²A.A.B. makes a somewhat unclear statement when she says, on page 36, that Christos is in us, as he was in Jeshu. This calls for a correction. A few words about Christos and Jeshu to begin with.

⁵³Christos borrowed the organism of his disciple Jeshu when he wanted to physically communicate with those who had not yet acquired higher objective consciousness. This was a case of neither mediumship nor obsession. It should be carefully noted here that only 45-selves, 44-selves, or 43-selves can borrow the organism of another in this particular manner, and that this presupposes voluntary cooperation on the part of the disciple. The disciple is present in his emotional envelope all along, and fully aware of what is going on. An ordinary medium can certainly lend his two physical envelopes (organism and etheric envelope) to

some emotional being, but is meanwhile unconscious, unaware of what is being said or done. Obsession means that a hostile emotional being violently takes possession of the organism of another and forces out the emotional envelope of the rightful owner wholly or partially. Of course Christos is not in us as he was in Jeshu. World 46 (with its 46-matter) was called “Christos” by the gnosticians. In all lower kinds of matter – 47, 48, 49 – there are 46-atoms having subconsciousness and passive 46-consciousness. Generally speaking, only the 46-atoms involved into higher emotional (48:2-4) and higher mental (47:2-5) molecular kinds can be vitalized by 46-atoms pouring down directly from world 46. When this becomes the case and the 46-consciousness of the 46-atoms in the respective molecular kinds can be apprehended by the human monad at momentary activation, the man experiences the bliss of world 46 (the essential world). A human causal self may then apprehend the “wisdom and love” of 46-ideas. When this condition becomes somewhat permanent, it is called “Christos in man”.

⁵⁴Without the facts just given, the pertaining realities will certainly remain incomprehensible to the uninitiated. The reader who understands what is said here will probably realize that a comprehensive elucidation of the concepts of “god immanent” and “god transcendent” includes these facts as well. The apostolic succession, totally misunderstood in the Christian church, is a distortion of the idea expressed by the same term used in the society of the gnosticians, which is still unknown to exoterists. This term had reference to all those who, following the example set by the gnostic apostles, acquire 46-consciousness and in so doing pass to the fifth natural kingdom.

⁵⁵The world teacher had in Palestine only begun his work. The goal he set himself was to indicate to men the path to the “kingdom of god”, or the “kingdom of heaven”, or world 46, or the fifth natural kingdom. He will go on doing so during one more zodiacal epoch to enable those who, with one-pointed determination, resolve to reach that goal to really reach it. A number of new methods for the simplest, quickest, most expedient consciousness activation will be elaborated and be taught to those who are in a position not only to comprehend but also to understand the esoteric knowledge and want to consecrate their future incarnations to the service of life and evolution. Those who believe that the fiasco of Christianity aborted the mission of Christos, those who see the falsification of his teaching as an irremediable failure demonstrate their need of esoteric knowledge without which they do not have the perspectives they need to understand the history of mankind, the errant path which mankind has taken to the one true “religion”, essentiality (46).

⁵⁶The talk of death and destruction has become so rooted that people find it difficult to realize that there is no death, only change of form. Everything is reborn, everything is made up of monads in different natural kingdoms at different stages of development. For monads to have experiences and to learn from them conditions must change, forms and their relations must shift. Life is change. Everything is born, grows, decays, dissolves. The monads are immortal. All the figures of history, provided they really existed, and many more of the “legendary heroes” than historians know, all of them remain in our planet. Most of those great ones still live in the causal world or in world 46 or world 45, but they live for no monad can die, can only change material envelope. Every human being has a causal envelope as his highest envelope. That is why all men live in the causal world in any case, if not also in lower envelopes in lower worlds.

⁵⁷The world teacher has an envelope of physical etheric matter, one of causal matter, and in addition envelopes of atomic kinds 46, 45, 44, and 43. All the members of the fifth, sixth, and higher kingdoms who have remained in the worlds of our planet to serve life in these worlds either have physical etheric envelopes or are incarnated in human organisms (although of course unknown to others than the initiates of truly esoteric orders). Thus that much may be said. What occult writers have permitted themselves, however, is making statements on the consciousness aspect of the material envelopes of those selves. Even causal consciousness is

incomprehensible to mankind at its present stage of development. It is grotesque to hear ignorance twaddling about intuition; in the process idiotizing the term “intuition” so as to mean approximately instinct.

⁵⁸A mankind idiotized to that extent should not speak of still higher kinds of consciousness. When science has given a name to a certain real thing (old or new one), ignorance assumes that the learned have also explored that thing and know all about its relations, that they “know”, know more than that the thing in question exists. When ignorance picks up a word such as “intuition”, this kind of reason says, on the basis of its knowledge and understanding, that it knows what intuition is. This is precisely the irremediable idiocy of human reason. Before you can embark on understanding (comprehension is something different), you must have become as wise as a human being can be. As wise as Sokrates was when he said of himself that he knew that he knew nothing. When mankind has reached as far, it will have met the requirements of understanding. Until then it will remain incurably conceited. The absence of this conceit is true humility. False humility is paraded and boasted by all, for it is required of them, the more of it the abler they are. Genuine humility does not even notice itself. It is a quality found in all selves higher than the human ones.

⁵⁹It is interesting to speculate on the question whether Christos will be recognized and acknowledged as the world teacher he has been for more than two thousand years and will remain for two thousand years to come. Everybody will hear of him, none will be able to say that he did not know of his existence. Most people will have seen him in physical shape or on film or on television, heard him speaking on the radio or through a voice recording. Those who await a Jewish messiah or a “son of god” coming to judge them or speaking in the manner of the Gospels, or those who await a miracle-worker, a saviour of mankind trumpeting in the skies with power and glory will not recognize him but will reject him as a “self-deceived deceiver”.

⁶⁰What would Aryans say if he incarnates as a Black man or as a Chinese?

⁶¹He is the only one to know how he comes, when he comes. He is the only one to know what message he will bring. But those who have not been able to accept any religious dogmatics or any philosophic system (the systems of skepticism included) or scientific or political ideology but have remained seekers will unfailingly and inevitably hail him as world teacher.

⁶²The Christian fathers of the Church (Origenes excepted) bear the main responsibility for the total distortion of the teaching of Christos. Eusebios, who compiled the New Testament by the orders of Emperor Constantine, has in esoteric history been designated the biggest forger in world literature. Augustine is to blame for the fact that religion has hitherto been hostile to philosophy and science.

⁶³What has Christianity, as a church religion and sect religion, in common with the “kingdom of god”? That kingdom has always existed on earth, being represented by all honest seekers who have never got stuck in any religious fold and who have acquired the highest emotional consciousness, the highest mental consciousness, and causal consciousness, to say nothing of those who have entered the fifth natural kingdom and still incarnate, unknown to those who are unable to understand them. Divine love is essentiality (46), which can be acquired in the fifth natural kingdom only. But there are in human beings the potential of something corresponding to it; attraction to all living creatures, good will, aspiration to unity, and right human relations. True wisdom is essentiality. But there is in human beings the potential of something corresponding to it: never-ending endeavour to acquire knowledge of reality and life, insight, understanding, and power of judgement, freedom from all kinds of dogmatism, independence of all human systems of thoughts and ideologies.

⁶⁴A.A.B. rightly points out on page 52 that the teaching of Christos has been falsified in that “the Christ consciousness must always be spoken of in terms of religion, of church-going and of orthodox belief”. The one true religion is the religion of love and wisdom, and it has

existed in all ages, in all nations, and in all wise men and women. The exclusive claim of Christianity is presumption and part of the satanic element of all those religions which have monopolized the truth. The “truths” that make Christians feel separate from the unbaptized heathen are among the lies of life. Any human being, whatever his profession, whatever his race or religion, whatever world view he embraces, whatever idea of god he has or lacks, is closer to the kingdom of god than many a church-goer, if he strives after right human relations.

⁶⁵A.A.B. is indubitably right when saying, on page, 55, that the reappearance of Christos before the public must entail for him something on a par with what we human beings would sense as horror and pain. It is justified to speak of “sacrifice” in that connection. It must try one’s patience to see one’s mission being stifled not so much by open enemies as by well-meaning though unintelligent parrots, imitators, and self-advertisers. The Jewish scribes in Palestine were not really as guilty to the murder of Jeshu as his followers were. Christos must expect to be met with particularly fierce hatred by those who have adulterated his teaching and made his message of salvation for all a suitable tool for satanists; and Christianity in so many respects, an idiotizing implement of torture for millions of people. He will certainly need all his divine qualities and powers to overcome the spirit of hatred, exclusiveness, and salvation egoism characterizing present-day Christianity. The fact that Christianity has moreover taught the doctrine of a “loving father” who is hateful, vindictive, self-righteous, and demands sacrifice, that is has idiotized people to believe that sin is a crime against an infinite being who exacts an eternal punishment, demonstrates mankind’s level of discrimination, its power of judgement, and understanding of what love means. He must overcome immense difficulties in clarifying the meaning and goal of life to the masses, in developing people’s mental consciousness from parroting phonograph intellect into real capacity for thought so that they can comprehend and understand his message, in setting the masses free from their emotion-laden belief complexes and inoculated ideologies bereft of intelligence that this work of his should be characterized as a miracle. It would be interesting to know if scientists hidebound by their dogmas can be emancipated from their scientific belief in their capacity to decide what “conflicts with the laws of nature”.

⁶⁶Mankind lacks knowledge of existence, reality, and life. The most recent philosophy begins to acknowledge this. It is a promising sign, for the acknowledgement of human ignorance is the first condition of real knowledge.

⁶⁷In the essence of religion lies understanding of the fact that the knowledge is “revelation”, a gift from those who possess higher insight than man has. The Hindu doctrine of avatars – messengers – who bring the light to men has much in common with the idea of Prometheus (Lucifer) who brought fire (and light, respectively). The Christian doctrine speaks of “men moved by the holy spirit” who preached god’s will. By the expression “moved by the holy spirit” the gnosticians meant the ideas of causal consciousness, which when perceived also become motive forces. According to esoterics, mankind has been taught by causal selves and still higher selves from the planetary hierarchy ever since reason began to awaken in Lemuria and later in Atlantis. The knowledge of existence can be acquired only by those who have passed from the human kingdom to the fifth natural kingdom. The knowledge of reality exists in the causal world (the world of Platonic ideas), and mankind receives that knowledge sparingly and by degrees from those human beings who have acquired the capacity to contact some causal idea.

⁶⁸Those sparse ideas, however, do not afford us unitary, systematic, comprehensive knowledge. Therefore, it is necessary to acquire the consciousness of the causal world. Until mankind, or at least a considerable minority of it, has gained access to that source of knowledge we shall be dependent on that knowledge which the planetary hierarchy considers mankind capable of receiving without putting all real knowledge at the service of power abuse and hatred and by idiotization of the knowledge else imparted. All knowledge is idiotized

when picked up by those who cannot understand it. Arrogance, conceit, belief in the judgement of their own ignorance go to form that too common quality of human beings which is called presumption. Add to this their injudicious belief in what others have told them, what authority has taught them. Whenever ignorance has succeeded in picking up a word and parroting it, the reality content, meaning, concept is lost. This is the fate of knowledge as well, and mankind has during past millennia been on such a level of intelligence that everything not held secret within a chosen élite has inevitably been idiotized. Not only ignorance and injudiciousness have been factors of idiotization, however, but also the abuse of power by the ruling castes, the distortion of facts and ideas, the tendency to falsify history in favour of all manner of dishonesty, the glorification of those in power, to mention just a few of those factors.

⁶⁹The planetary hierarchy, supervising mankind's consciousness development, also sees to it that a new religion, adapted to the level of development and potential of understanding attained, is time and again given to those who have had their religion idiotized and so have become increasingly disoriented in existence. The time has come (for the first time in human world history) to give the knowledge of existence, reality, and life such a formulation that it will not be possible any more to idiotize at least the fundamental concepts. This will relegate the speculation of ignorance to an educational chamber of horrors as a warning what will happen when the ignorant let their wisdom flow.

⁷⁰Christendom should also pay attention to the fact that the world teacher, named Christos by the Christians, will not come to misguided Christendom alone, but his intention is to be a renewer of the other religions as well, if they in themselves have prospects for intellectual development and a widening of their understanding of the true human nature. People will realize that the Christian doctrine of salvation is untenable as soon as they are clear about the fact that salvation is the individual's own work, which he achieves by gaining increased knowledge, insight, understanding, judgement concerning reality, laws of nature and laws of life, acquiring consciousness in ever higher worlds by himself.

⁷¹People will drop the Christian doctrine of atonement when they realize that the planetary hierarchy, the planetary government, the solar systemic government, etc. cannot be wrathful or need not be atoned. Those two fictions were a heritage of ancient superstitious religions in Atlantis, where the rebellious lower priesthood devised them by speculation for the purpose of controlling the masses by putting the power of salvation and atonement in the hands of the priests; a power that the priesthood knew how to exploit down the ages. Still in modern times, Anton Niklas Sundberg, a Swedish archbishop, opined that "we shall always need a hell to keep the peasants in check". Anyone who displeased the priesthood could always be singled out as the one who had provoked divine wrath and so had to be killed. Surely the world is in need of salvation but not from a wrathful god, but from its own superstitions, its illusions and fictions, which have during centuries been inoculated into mankind and into individuals ineradicably from childhood.

⁷²Those are true Christians who will be able to understand Christos when he appears again, to understand his teaching on the meaning and goal of life, how the individual must do his bit through self-realization, and people in addition must help each other so that they can all walk the path. As it is now, they largely make it harder for each other by their hateful attitude, their envy, their contempt, their moralism, with its eternal judging. Priests fable about the "will of god", as if they had access to the consciousness of the planetary ruler in his world (28), as if he "commanded" anything, as if the will of god were a ruthless power. The will of god is rather what the scientist calls "forces of nature and life", what the esoterician calls the "individual's instinctive urge to develop", his striving after insight and understanding". What the will of god actually is, his endeavour, his intentions, his tasks in his worlds, is beyond the possible knowledge or understanding of even the planetary hierarchy. The enormous emotional wave of hatred still gushing forth will be met by Christos by an even greater wave

of emotional attractive energy from world 46, directed there from world 36. In this connection attempts will be made at vitalization of the 46-atoms in human envelopes entailing understanding of what the Christians have called the “impelling power of divine love”, manifesting itself, to begin with, in the striving after attraction to all life and in the practical human life, after right human relations.

⁷³Christos promised to return when the then world epoch had come to its end. This statement, reported by the gnosticians, was later distorted by the quasi-gnosticians and the anti-gnostic fathers of the Church so as to mean “judgement day” and the “end times”. The world-epoch to which Christos referred was the Piscean epoch, the passage of the vernal equinoctial point through the 30 degrees of the zodiacal constellation of Pisces, comprising a time of more than two thousand years. It may be noted parenthetically that these astronomical epochs used by esotericians constitute the only rational division of time where world history is concerned, and it will be adopted for general use in the future. As it is now, the Jews have their own calendar, as have the Moslems, the West, etc., to say nothing of the different calendars used in olden times.

⁷⁴On page 84 Bailey says that the Sun is now entering into the zodiacal sign Aquarius, and that this is an astronomical fact as any one can ascertain by writing to any observatory. But the astronomers will inform the one inquiring that not the Sun but the vernal equinoctial point has passed into the constellation of Aquarius, and this is by no means the same thing. The Sun passes through a zodiacal sign in thirty days. There are in Bailey’s books many things said that cannot have been correctly perceived, so you should use the common sense of perspective consciousness when reading A.A.B.

⁷⁵On page 81 A.A.B. talks about the “Jewish dispensation” and says that Christos came to bring it to an end. Here we have Christian missionary again, who is still living in the illusory epoch of the Old Testament. There never was a particular Jewish religious epoch. Everything that the foremost representatives of the Jewish people correctly conceived of religion they received through their education in Mesopotamian temples. They never formed a religion of their own, unless by religion you mean the additions they made out of spurious wisdom, presumption, and hatred towards all other nations. An example of how the Jews perceived and rendered some of the knowledge they picked up in Mesopotamian temple schools is the talk in their Genesis about a time when men “walked with” god. That god, or rather, those gods were the higher priesthood of the Atlanteans, the representatives of the planetary hierarchy, whom the people with perfect justice regarded as gods, since they were so far ahead of the people in consciousness development. The planetary hierarchy is reduced to the expedient of using the instruments available to impart to mankind the facts intended gradually to permeate human ways of looking at things, so that a more correct conception of reality may ensue. Where the receiving part, mankind, is concerned this must largely proceed step by step. For the intellectual élite, being unable to accept the ideologies ruling, there are – if they have remained seekers – others resources of knowledge. It is desirable that esoteric writers of the future should think on new lines entirely, independently of the modes of presentation and terminologies used in past times. But if they cannot, then the preference should be definitely given to the scientifically trained so that we are spared distorted scientific concepts in presentations aimed at conceptual exactitude.

⁷⁶That 43-self whom Christians call Christos has been the supreme head of the second department of the planetary hierarchy and so the world teacher during the Piscean zodiacal epoch. He will remain so also during the current Aquarian epoch, subsequently to hand over the office of world teacher to his foremost disciple, a 44-self preparing to become a 43-self. Generally speaking, when a 43-self becomes a 42-self (that is: acquires a material envelope of the atomic kind of world 42), he leaves the planetary hierarchy for interplanetary or interstellar missions.

⁷⁷Possibly, other arrangements will be made so that Christos as a 42-self will remain as the supreme head of the second department or has the new 43-self deputize under his superintendence. Considering the terrible condition of mankind we could easily understand such a measure being taken.

⁷⁸The meaning of existence is consciousness development. This is true of all natural and divine kingdoms up to the highest divine kingdom, at all stages and levels of development. The stages of development reached by mankind generally, by the races and nations, appear in their cultures. When a certain form of culture has fulfilled its purpose, it has stagnated as well and become a hindrance to further progress. For a new form of culture to gain ground it is usually necessary that the old one be smashed. This happened through the French Revolution, which may be said to be still going on, and through the two world wars. The deplorable aspect of revolutions is the loss of many people and things of value that could have been incorporated with a new culture in a planned evolution. The rebellion of the masses then can find the most barbarous expressions. Typical is the reply given by the French revolutionary tribunal in response to an appeal to save the life, or at least delay the execution, of the great Lavoisier, busy with important discoveries: “The Republic needs neither scientists nor chemists!” We shall probably never know how many outstanding scientists and scholars, to say nothing of other members of the cultural élite, were murdered during the Russian Revolution.

⁷⁹On page 93 Bailey gives a good definition of nations: “Nations are the expression today of the massed self-centredness of a people and of their instinct to self-preservation.” Will can be defined as the “direction of consciousness towards a purpose”. It remains to be seen whether Christos will succeed not only in making people understand the meaning of life but also in rousing their determination to strive for the realization of consciousness development so as to acquire emotional attraction and mental synthesis and perspective consciousness. It might be interesting to know that in his coming work in the visible world he can expect the contribution not only of the planetary hierarchy at large and of those who are conscious or unconscious disciples but also of three interstellar selves, one of whom is the Buddha, with their special capacities. Immense currents of emotional (48), mental (47), and essential (46) atoms will pervade the corresponding envelopes of human beings as part of the attempt by the planetary hierarchy at rousing the pertaining kinds of consciousness and energy. The work that Christos did in Palestine in the years 75–72 B.C.E. was a preparation for the huge effort now impending for the development of mankind. As A.A.B rightly points out on page 99, the “tragedy of His appearance two thousand years ago has coloured the presentation of truth by the theologians and made them posit an unhappy story, producing a miserable and unhappy world.”

⁸⁰The genuine gnosticians, those who possessed the gnosis – that is, knowledge of existence, reality, and life – made up and still make up (those who are in incarnation again) a secret knowledge order the esoteric doctrines of which have not yet been publicized. Like other esoteric schools the gnosticians know about the different stages of the development of mankind. As for higher selves they distinguished between “sons of god” (the fifth natural kingdom, 46-selves and 45-selves) and “gods” (44-selves and still higher selves). Christos introduced the term the “children of god” for all members of the fourth natural kingdom. What is the most characteristic of Christos is that he sympathizes especially for individuals at lower stages and will do everything for their development, so that as many of them as possible will be able to reach the higher stages. It is quite conceivable, therefore, that he will incarnate into some one of those coloured races on which the white population of the southern states of the U.S.A., of South Africa, and of many other countries look down as being inferior. Those who would refuse to recognize him for that reason would miss their opportunity, and rightly. We may assume that he will not hesitate, no more than he did in Palestine, to shock intolerance, hypocrisy, self-righteousness, stupid self-overestimation, and self-satisfaction.

Those traits are sure signs that consciousness development has stopped. He never judged anyone; only ignorance and stupidity do. Everybody has the limitation of his individual character and level of development. According to the “law of good”, all do as best they really realize and understand. It is pretty little, generally speaking. Mankind really has nothing on which to plume itself. The main problem facing Christos is probably that of teaching the knowledge of reality in such a manner that as many people as possible will be able to grasp it. The world views now ruling are so primitive that human beings are not in a position to comprehend very much.

⁸¹Newspapers afford the esoterician a daily opportunity to verify general imbecility in that particular respect. Nuclear physics is exploring the lowest physical etheric molecular kind (49:4) and in doing so makes the most egregious mistakes, the helpless hypotheses quite disregarded. Since life view is always based on world view, a truth that theologians in particular seem to find difficult to grasp, the teaching is crippled if the world view must be restricted to the physical world. Then it will not amount to much more than an attempt at making people use their common sense and their hearts in religious, social, and political matters. Christos was constrained mainly to teach people about right human relations, about god, and about man having a soul. He talked about the salvation of the soul, a saying that has been dreadfully misinterpreted despite his clear teaching that this salvation consists in loving god (the sum total of the supreme good) above all and in loving our neighbour as we love ourselves. The theologians have succeeded in replacing that teaching with the demand for blind acceptance of dogmas that falsify reality and are hostile to reason. The majority of those writing on matters of life view do not seem to have made it clear to themselves that they start from a given world view that lies at the bottom of their views on life and patterns of behaviour. An esoterician does not find it difficult to decry that world view in the writers, even if they appear to be unaware of it themselves. The deplorable trait of theologians and religious people generally is that they seem too much content with that barbarous metaphysics which appears in the Pentateuch. During two thousand years mankind has been idiotized, criminalized, and satanized. It is not to be wondered at that the world today looks as it does, it is not to be wondered at that sovereign intellects turn away from such a religion. Those who murdered Jeshu in the year 72 B.C.E., the Jewish Essene sect, the scribes, and the Sanhedrin, those spiritual authorities who have always led mankind astray ever since the planetary hierarchy left Atlantis, go on blocking the way, giving stones instead of loaves, profiting, and being a high caste in society. Admitted that they did not know better, had not attained the spheres of attraction of emotional consciousness (48:3), had not acquired the perspective thinking of mental consciousness (47:5), so as to be able to grasp the essentials of existence. But the hatred they preached, with its horrendous results, should have made it clear that this was not what Christos taught. Surely that is not asking too much!

⁸²“To hate, to be separate, and to be exclusive will come to be regarded as the only sin, for it will be recognised that all the sins – as listed and now regarded as wrong – only stem from hate or from its products, the anti-social consciousness. Hate and its dependent consequences are the true sin against the Holy Ghost, about which commentators have so long debated, overlooking (in their silliness) the simplicity and the appropriateness of the true definition.”

⁸³Here A.A.B. does not distinguish between essential consciousness (46, christos) and causal consciousness (47:1-3, the holy ghost), “sin” against love and “sin” against the principle of reason. “Sin against the holy ghost” is the idiotization of reason, the repair of which can take incarnations.

⁸⁴Man’s salvation is his attainment of the fifth natural kingdom. The most important of that process is the understanding of the nature of consciousness and the application of that understanding. The entire cosmos is made up of monads, individual units. In the human kingdom the monad acquires self-consciousness, in the fifth natural kingdom the monad acquires

collective consciousness. There is one single consciousness in which every monads has a share it cannot lose, and the entire process of development through ever higher planetary, solar systemic, cosmic natural kingdoms consists in the monad's acquisition of ever widened consciousness, ever greater share in the cosmic total consciousness. The greater this share, the more monads' consciousness enters into the individual monad's consciousness. This implies, therefore, an ever greater group consciousness, embracing more and more, until the monad has gained its unity with all monads in its own kingdom and of course with all monads in all the lower kingdoms. The condition of attaining the fifth natural kingdom is thus, to begin with, common consciousness with a group, finding expression in telepathic communication and common apprehension of experiences in the worlds of man. There are already such groups and they increase in numbers. They must keep silent about this because of the skepticism and intolerance, ridicule and contempt that are abundantly poured on all who dare to be ahead of theological and philosophical or scientific authorities in knowledge, understanding, and telepathic experience.

⁸⁵It is perpetually the same old story – the pioneers become martyrs – and the learned never learn, academic opinion never realizes that knowledge is a never-ending process, that they can grasp nothing of whatever passes their knowledge of facts. They still believe they are able to decide whether that which is unknown to them is right – without examination to establish whether alleged facts are true facts – to be able to judge everything of which they know nothing. That attitude is idiotic. Philosophy proclaims that all knowledge must be “universally valid and necessary”. It is not but must be eventually through the generations. The faculty of discernment has sunk so low that in the circles of the learned they ridicule the talk of “development”. Taking that attitude they surely will not develop. The knowledge of reality and life is endless, but when you see how the little of it that has been given to mankind up to now and how it has been abused and misinterpreted, when you see how the knowledge that affords the power to handle forces of nature is abused and put at the service of hatred, you realize that more knowledge will not be given to others than those who are in a position to understand and who are willing to live in order to serve the great aim – the consciousness development of mankind, of all life. When giving more knowledge the planetary hierarchy will be forced to return to its former procedure, that of teaching it in esoteric knowledge orders. It remains to be seen whether these orders will be so secret that no outsider will even surmise their existence. It is not impossible. In that respect we have been given so many proofs that intolerance goes on ruling without cease, not only in religion, that we are justified in still wondering. It will be the fault of mankind if it misses the opportunity of having further knowledge of existence. If it is fond of the speculations of its ignorance, its illusions and fictions, and enjoys devising constantly new ones, then those backward ones will have as it pleases them. Pearls will not be cast after them, for it will be a bad sowing for those who cast them, and for those who in their rage turn on those casting the pearls.

⁸⁶The Christian churches have much to answer for this state of affairs, since they have preached lies, those dogmas falsifying reality and poisoning life. Their most serious stupidity is that they believed in fairy tales, believed what ignorance and inhumanity combined have preached through the ages. The heaviest responsibility, however, falls on those fathers of the Church who formulated the Christian doctrines and posed as true disciples of a master they never knew and to whom they bore false witness. In that case it is fair to speak of “original sin”, the acceptance of injudiciousness of all that unreliable chatter down the ages which has been called the “history of religions”. They call it scholarship, this learning about things that have been said. The new things being said are suspicious. But when they have become history, they are the subject of “scholarship”.

⁸⁷A.A.B. objects on page 125 to the ordinary talk about initiation as some kind of ceremonial admission to a pseudo-occult order. Initiation in the esoteric sense means the

individual's acquisition, by his own effort, of consciousness in higher worlds, consciousness in those organs of his envelopes which in most people are still undeveloped. The more mankind develops, the less important is the matter aspect of existence, the more the consciousness appears and makes itself felt, the more clearly is seen the finality of all in the light of the meaning and goal of life. Buddha came to set mankind free from fictionalism; and Christos, from illusionism. The work that they began must be continued until the goal has been reached. When the true knowledge of life is gained, fictitiousness and illusoriness are dropped, all those things which stupidize and brutalize, rouse hatred, fear, and hostility.

⁸⁸Our eyes are opened to the wondrousness of life. The happiness and joy of all turn life into a celebration for all. A new civilization and a new culture will be the outcome of this changed attitude to life. These two terms will be given new meanings. Civilization will be the expression of the highest attainable ideal at the lower stage of development, and culture will be the inmost essence of civilization aiming to be the basis and impelling force, not understood by all, of a civilization that attains ever higher levels.

⁸⁹The most difficult part of Christos' teaching will probably be his attempt at setting mankind free from those superstitions (religious, philosophic, and scientific) which, if permitted to go on dominating mankind, will lead to its ruin or in any case delay its development for millennia. In that sphere we must expect opposition from the majority of the leading authorities. Not the evil we witness in our times will be the greatest hindrance. That evil is the result of the confusing ideologies that have led mankind astray. The more manifest this becomes, the more the dream of brotherhood and community and right human relations will be alive and the demands for the realization of this dream will be ever greater. There are millions of people who see this and are working for a better order of things. There are millions of right-thinking people prepared to make their contribution. The only thing they need is certainty of the way in which to realize what is good and right in the most expedient way. Democracy is a piece of wishful thinking that has no basis in reality. The rational system of states is not a "world government", but certainly a league of nations the basic laws of which have been framed as a synthesis of the ideals to be found in the different political ideologies. The most important thing is that opposition is roused against all abuse of authority in religion and all totalitarianism in politics. Right must rest on the inviolability of the individual, on his freedom to think, feel, speak, and act as he sees fit, within the limits of the equal right of all.

The above text constitutes the essay *On Alice A. Bailey's Book The Reappearance of the Christ* by Henry T. Laurency.

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Endnotes by the Translator

To 7.40. The Bible, the Gospel according to Mark, 2:22, Revised version.

To 7.62. I write "Origenes", and not "Origen", on purpose, since Laurency held the view that Greek names should be cited in forms as close to their original forms as possible. The same goes for "Platon" and "Eusebios", to be preferred to "Plato" and "Eusebius", respectively.

To 7.81 "Or what man is there of you, who, if his son shall ask him for a loaf, will give him a stone?" The Bible, the Gospel according to Matthew, 7:9, Revised version.

To 7.82 *The Reappearance of the Christ*, p. 112.