

THE OCCULT SIDE OF THE WAR

PART III

“The Sixteen Paths to Destruction”

In the concluding paragraph of our article on this subject last month we stated that man is now going through the most dangerous period of his development: “The Sixteen Races” and that the war has saved humanity from an infinitely worse fate than the wholesale slaughter now going on. The facts are as follows:

During the development of humanity in our present earth period, the earth had changed to afford man the environment appropriate to his changing constitution, and evolutionary requirements. The great divisions of time occupied in these changes are called epochs. The Polarian Hyperborean, Lemurian, and Atlantean Epochs have passed, and we are now in the Aryan Epoch. When this is past, another Epoch called the new Galilee will be ushered in. During the two first Epochs man was as innocent of individuality as children in a family, but at the end of the Lemurian Epoch, some were different from the majority, and might be called a Race. There were seven races in the Atlantean Epoch, five have been born and two more are due to make their appearance in the Aryan Epoch and one will be born in the beginning of the New Galilee. With the last of Sixteen Races, mankind will be again united in Love and Brotherhood, but while the leaders of evolution had plenty of time to guide humanity through the early Epochs, where long spans of time were consumed in evolution of a certain faculty, the races are comparatively evanescent, and there is a great danger that some may become so enmeshed in the race ideal that they fail to proceed to the next higher stage, therefore the Sixteen Races are called the **“Sixteen Paths to Destruction”**.

The most far reaching changes in the geological formation of the earth and the physiological constitution of man, took place in the latter third of Atlantis, when the Aryan Epoch was about to be ushered in, for these Epochs always overlap one another, so that one begins before the preceding one is entirely past. The changes were as follows:

1. The dense mist that hung darkly over Atlantis, condensed, and rain filled the basins of the earth, leaving the atmosphere clear. Then the rainbow, a phenomenon impossible in a foggy atmosphere, became visible for the first time.
2. Respiration that had been performed by gill-like organs, during the Atlantean Epoch, changed then to the present method of directly inhaling the air and absorbing part into the blood, namely the fiery oxygen.
3. Then man also began to see his fellow men in clear sharp contours, each different from himself.

These geological and physiological changes have had, as said, far reaching consequences, and are directly responsible for individual oppression and war as we shall see.

During the earlier Epochs when the spirit was molding the vehicle it was destined to inhabit, man-in-the-making had almost no physical consciousness, and even in the early and middle third of Atlantis when the spirit had entered its dwelling the consciousness

was focused principally in the spiritual world, the dark fog made it impossible for the Atlanteans to clearly perceive each others body, but they saw the soul, they also “walked with God,” the Divine Hierarch who guided them as a father, for he was visible to them as a spiritual entity; therefore all was peace.

Then came the flood and cleared the atmosphere with the following results:

Those who had evolved physical sight, saw their fellow men clearly, they learned to differentiate between **Me** and **Thee**, **Mine** and **Thine**, laying the basis for selfishness and strife. **Hence humanity as a whole could no longer be guided by one leader**, but was subdivided among a number of **race spirits** who as “powers of the air,” took control of the larynx and lungs of the people. With every breath they breathed this race spirit, till it permeated their whole being, their vocal chords vibrated in its peculiar key, making the speech of one group different from that of other races, it enveloped all its people as a cloud, coloring both them and the landscapes with its own specific color vibrations, and this was sensed by all its charges as a sacred bond which binds them to each other and to the land which they inhabit. So strong is the grip **upon lung, larynx and land** held by the race spirit, that its people will fight to the last breath for the **mother tongue** and the **fatherland**.

This fellow feeling instilled by the race spirit in its charges is called **patriotism**. It was the aim of the race spirit, by fostering the love of **family**, to educate mankind to loving its **nation**, or compatriots. Through **patriotism** they hoped to engender **altruism**, which transcends all imaginary boundary lines on the map in an endeavor to embrace all in **universal love**.

But instead of accomplishing this noble purpose, patriotism, the love of kin and country, has fostered in many a hate of all other nations and a desire to persecute others and subject them for its own aggrandizement. And in-so-far as any race, nation or people have done that, it has proven subversive of the universal good, for it should be remembered that races are an aspect of the personality only, the **bodies** alone are stamped with the racial characteristics, but the **spirits** are under no such illusory restrictions when disembodied.

Thus there is great danger that through excessive patriotism the spirits may become so enmeshed in the fetters of family and country, that they will not leave the race when the evolutionary impulse moves on, they may endeavor to perpetuate the race indefinitely, seeking to embody themselves repeatedly therein as the Jews have done, and thus go to ruin in one of those sixteen paths of destruction as the Elder Brothers call the sixteen races. Therefore Christ said: “I come not to bring peace but a sword,” and therefore the Christian nations have been the most militant upon earth, perhaps with the exception of the Mohammedans, which are akin to them, and there is ample testimony in almost every war to show that a number of people have had their spiritual vision opened at least temporarily, so that war has always been a means of removing the spiritual cataract, which blinds us to the unity of all Life.

In the three earlier Epochs, man did not know he had a body, though he used it as we use our lungs, regardless of the fact that we have never seen them, he was unconscious of birth and death also, though he went through both repeatedly, for his consciousness was focused in the spiritual world and remained unbroken by the vicissitudes of the body. But at the dawn of the Aryan Epoch when the atmosphere cleared, he perceived himself physically, he also learned that the consciousness that animates a body leaves it cold and

dead after a longer or shorter period. The veil of flesh hid the spiritual world, where the so-called dead dwell, from sight, as a spiritual cataract which grew more dense as time went by, until nowadays those who do not positively deny the existence of the inner world have resigned themselves to the idea that nothing may be known of the state of the so called dead.

Because of that false idea, that blindness, intense grief at the loss of loved ones who have passed from our physical sight has clouded the eyes of all the world. Tears have flown in streams from the eyes of the mourners, but not in vain, for **each tear softens the spiritual cataract, each pang of pain at the loss of a loved one is a cut by the knife of the great surgeon**, who is endeavoring to restore our spiritual vision, that we may continue our companionship with the friends who have dropped the mortal coil. And as surely as the desire for growth developed and perfected the alimentary canal, and the pre-existent light built the eye for its perception, **so surely will also the intense longing for our loved ones that have passed over the threshold of death, break down the scale and open our spiritual vision.** Those who live the so-called “higher life” and are fortified in times of trouble by a more advanced understanding of the phenomenon of death, often feel that the intense grief of the bereaved ones who are ignorant of these facts, is unbecoming and detrimental to the passing spirit. And so it is, when expressed in the death chamber during the first few days after the change, but at the same time, this intense grief and the strain incident to the approach of death is the means whereby the multitude who travel the path of evolution will eventually bridge the gap and regain spiritual consciousness. Thus it takes the place of the exercises given in the mystery schools.

Creation of the bodily prison-house immured the spirit and shut out the spiritual world from its ken.

Destruction of the Disciples body as **a living sacrifice** restores his conscious touch with the invisible world, awakening his spiritual vision, by a process of **white magic**.

Destruction of another’s body by **sacrifice in war** has the same effect. The fumes of the blood, the screaming shells, the cries of the wounded and dying, whether audible or inaudible, but surcharged with the most intense pain and grief are felt by all as a psychic power having the tendency to draw every one of the participants to the very brink of the Great Divide, and what wonder that their eyes were opened temporarily and they see the denizens of the super-physical realms who are always among us, but particularly whenever and wherever someone is passing the borderline from our sphere to theirs.

Moreover those who have passed out are not passive either, **their longings to be seen of their loved ones is a great factor in establishing communication.** Many cases are recorded bearing out this fact, a mother, for instance, materialized and called her little tots away from a well that was being dug, though not possessed of the secrets of initiation. Her **intense desire** wrought for her a temporary physical garment. How much more, when months or years of slaughter have raised the nervous tension of millions of people, all longing for intercourse with some loved one in this or in the other world, shall this great desire result in awakening permanently the spiritual sight of a number of people too great to be ignored?

In every death chamber we are close to the portal of the invisible world, and great numbers of those who are passing out see their loved ones waiting around the bed to welcome them, rejoicing when death has released them from the body, and they are born

on high. The nervous tension felt by the ordinary man and woman is then extraordinarily high, and conducive to bring about the slight extension of the vision required to perceive the waiting throng, and were it not for the unreasoning horror which causes them to flee when manifestations do occur, and to hide the fact that they have seen something, many would then and there know that there is no death, but that the continuity of life is a fact in nature.

This process is slow, however, and periodically people sink into a state of unbelief and indifference, and wars are then permitted in order to accelerate evolution, by the wholesale slaughter that severs spirit from body. People are then turned from the pursuit of pleasure to face the facts of Life and Death.

Therefore, the war will do more than a thousand years of preaching, to end the age of agnosticism and turn the people to God, moreover when this touch with the spiritual world has been restored there can be no more wars for all will learn that there is in reality neither Jew or Gentile, Greek nor Roman, that all races are illusive and evanescent manifestations and we are all the children of God, thus through carnage the danger of destruction in the races, will have passed and mankind will set about in earnest to express the ideal of the next race which is Universal Brotherhood.

Thus it is the purpose of war to awaken the spiritual vision through grief and intense longing for those who have passed over. It is also the purpose to cause those who have gone to endeavor to return and to engender spiritual vision in all combatants, by the strain and stress of battle, thus re-establishing communication by the two worlds, robbing death of its terror, and fostering elevating ideals instead of the sordid concerns of concrete existence.