

THE VERMONT LODGE OF RESEARCH #10

THE TEMPLE LEGEND- Part 3 SOLOMON-SON OF ABEL/SETH

This is a portion of the approximate content of the first section of the Temple Legend as published by Charles Heckethorn in his book SECRET SOCIETIES:

There was a time when one of the Elohim created a human being whom he called Eve.

That Elohim united himself with Eve and she gave birth to Cain. After this, another Elohim, named Jehovah, or Adonai, created Adam. Adam also united himself with Eve and from this union came Abel. Thus we see that Cain is a direct descendant of the gods, but Abel is a descendant of Adam and Eve who are human. The sons of Cain were subjected to the sons of Abel, as a punishment for the transgression of Eve.

The sacrifices which Abel made to Jehovah were pleasing to him, but the sacrifices

brought by Cain did not please him because the birth of Cain was not ordained by him.

The result was that Cain committed fratricide. He killed Abel and for this he was excluded from communion with Jehovah. He went away into distant lands and founded his own race there. Adam again united himself with Eve and from this union came Seth, also mentioned in the Bible, who took over the role of Abel. Thus we have two generations of mankind: the race of Cain, who was a descendant of Eve and one of the Elohim, and the other race which had human parentage and was brought into existence at the command of Jehovah. Among the descendants of Cain are those who have been creators of art and science, as,

for instance, Methuselah, the inventor of the Tau script, and Tubal-Cain, who invented the furnace and taught the use of working of metal ores and iron. He dug subterranean caves in the mountains to save his race during the deluge, but only tubal-Cain and one son survived. In this line of descent, stemming from the Elohim, were all those who trained themselves in the arts and sciences. Hiram also descended from the race of Cain, and he was the inheritor of all that had been learned by the others of his line in technology and art. He was the most significant architect we can imagine.

Out of Seth's line came Solomon, who excelled in everything which came from Jehovah.

He was endowed with the wisdom of the world and all the attributes of calm, clear, objective wisdom. This wisdom can be expressed in words which go straight to the human heart and can uplift a person, but it is unable to produce anything tangible of a technical nature, in art or science. It is a wisdom which is a directly inspired gift of God-(revelation in the scholastic sense).

The wisdom of Solomon can be expressed in the symbolism of the temple. What is this symbolism? Humanity lived before in the Ages of Lemuria and Atlantis. The ark that Noah built

was destined to preserve mankind for this present Aryan Age. Why are the dimensions of the ark given in so precise terms in the bible ? The ark was built so that the human body in the present age would have the right proportions. Man carries within him the measurements of Noah's ark expressed in the ratio's of 300 long by 50 width and 30 depth. Expressed in minutes of a circle, this relates to a body six feet long, the foot being 10 degrees and the degrees being five minutes. This amounts to a length of 60 degrees or 300 minutes; a width of 50 minutes and a depth of 30 minutes, the same dimensions as the ark.

The human body will be different in next ages after the present Aryan. What is the thought form that will build up man's future body? It is the dimensions of Solomon's temple! So it is the divine plan of those great leaders of mankind, the sun-heroes and fathers we saw in the Mithras degrees, to implant this thought form into the folk dreams of humanity many thousands of years in advance, to prepare the human temple in the future. This is called in masonry the "building of the temple." All of western civilization is by nature a temple cult.

The Knights Templar revived the idea in the 12th and 13th centuries of building King Solomon's temple, but they were destroyed by the French king, Philip the Fair. Their legacy was preserved on one level by Scottish freemasonry and on a higher level by their successors, the Rosicrucians. The Rosicrucians implanted into the two grade rituals of Scottish masonry, at some time, the third degree brought over by King James I to England in the early 17th century. This third degree was the shortened story of the Temple Legend of King Solomon.

In the Temple Legend, we have two characters. King Solomon represents the Abel/Seth generational line descending from the union of Jehovah and Adam, then Adam and Eve, begetting Abel. The other line is represented by Hiram Abiff, a descendant of the Cain line who is skilled in the arts and crafts. The Old Testament derives from the priestly Abel line and represents female intuitive wisdom. Male wisdom was not able to attain to intuition. It confided itself to building and work, constructing buildings and making tools from metals. The Cain Hiram line represents the male wisdom which is manifest in masonry. The whole female sex is excluded from masonry. Freemasonry created the Temple legend as a counter part to the Bible Legend. Solomon, with all his wisdom, could not build the temple himself, he needed the help of Hiram, the artificer. So these two generational lines came together in the building of the Temple of Solomon. This pattern

repeats itself throughout history.

This is the story of King James I of England. As we learned in the lecture on John the Baptist, with his incarnations in Phinehas and Elijah, the egos of certain great individualities reincarnate over successive lives carrying on a particular impulse or tradition. King James bore the incarnation of the great King Solomon, but in a unique way. In him the two generational lines of Abel and Cain were partly joined into one personalty, his Gemini nature was two fold. James was naturally born into the priest-kingly line of Abel, but he was also a mason of the highest degree and importance. As a representative of the Cain-Hiram line, he didn't build much as king, the Solomonic Castle at Whitehall was much a failure. So it was not a full union of the two lines. However, he ushered in a renewal of the masonic brotherhoods that will last for centuries.

THE TWO NEW AGES

Archons of the Epochs

We discussed in the MYSTERIES OF MITHRAS lecture the nature of the sun's sidereal great year cycle of 25,920 years caused by the precession of the equinoxes which in turn is caused by the wobble of the earth's axis due to the gravitational pull of the sun and moon. The vernal equinox stands in one of the twelve zodiacal houses for a period of 2,160 years.

Each astronomical cycle of 2,160 years is followed some 1,200 years later by a 'cultural epoch or age' or what was called a 'religious age' because each was accompanied by a particular messiah or sun hero. The ancient wisdom recognized that a change from one precessional cycle to another reflected a change of consciousness from one level to another. The creative hierarchies located in each of the constellations pour forth spiritual impulses to guide humanity and to commence such a new age, give birth to an avatar, manu, messiah or Naros.

We also briefly discussed how these cultural epochs are related to the present Aryan Age. Before the Aryan age was the Atlantean Age also of seven cultural epochs each of 2,160 years. Before that, humanity as we know it, began in the middle of the Lemurian Age. So humanity has lived so far in three epochs of the Lemurian Age, seven epochs of the Atlantean Age and so far five epochs of the present Aryan Age, with a sixth and seventh coming in the future. The dates for the five Post-Atlantean cultural epochs are as follows:

1. Cancer begins 7227 BC Hindu/Indian
2. Gemini 5067 BC Persian
3. Taurus 2907 BC Egyptian/Chaldean
4. Aries 747 BC Greek/Roman
5. Pisces 1414 AD European

We can see that a new Anglo-Saxon European cultural epoch begins in 1414 AD and will last for 2,160 years. So we can say quite accurately that the beginning of the 15th century is truly the Dawn of a new Epoch. We learned also in the MITHRAS lecture that individuals are guided by guardian angels, that nations are guided by archangels and now we can say that the cultural epochs are guided from the next hierarchy by individual Archons. These archons guide and direct the change of human consciousness that rises to a higher level during each successive epoch.

There is a special relationship between each successive epoch. The seventh is a recapitulation of the first, the sixth a recapitulation of the second and the fifth a recapitulation of the third. The fourth is unique. In this way human history becomes cumulative with the results of each epoch becoming incorporated into the next and raised to a higher level.

The third epoch was the Egyptian- Chaldean and so our fifth epoch must also recapitulate it as a resurrection of the Egyptian culture in our time. This is the task of Hermeticism. However, this recasting of the spiritual influences into our age appears in a materialistic form reflecting the tenor of our age. For example, many of the priests in the Egyptian temples of initiation were reborn in our age as scientists. This is fitting since they were the most intelligent leading men of their society, so they become in our society.

If you don't believe me take a look at Johannes Kepler. He of course set the stage for modern astronomy with his three laws of planetary motion. However, he did so by resurrecting the ancient Egyptian astronomical wisdom into a modern materialistic form. In his treatise *HARMONICES MUNDI*, he wrote of himself,

“ I have stolen the golden vessels of the Egyptians to build a shrine to god out of them far beyond the boundaries of Egypt. I write this book for today's readers as well for those of the future. If it has to wait one hundred years for its reader, god Himself has waited six thousand years for him who looks at His creation with understanding.”

There is not any better example of the resurrection of Egyptian wisdom than that of Kepler who personally acknowledges that his modern book of astronomical science was stolen from the golden vessels of the ancient priest's temple. He was the model for all future science.

This brings us to the modern task of masonry. What is the repository of the ancient wisdom of the Egyptians ? Masonry of course. The symbols of the first degree, such as the apron and the two pillars, are all taken from the ancient rituals of Egyptian stone craftsman. The seven fold stairs of the second degree compels the candidate to pursue the seven sciences so this wisdom may be recast into modern form as done no more majestically than by Kepler. The ritual of the third degree, recast by the Rosicrucians, is a decree to rebuild the ancient temple wisdom of Solomon and to find the lost word. And it is King James, Solomon reincarnated, who stands at the threshold of the renewal of the masonic brotherhoods !

Arch-Angels of the Mystical Chronology

The first of the two new ages beginning in the 15th century relates more to the task of Hermeticism and freemasonry. The second of the new ages begins in the 16th century and relates more to the Rosicrucian impulse behind the reformation and European enlightenment.

In 1508 there was written a "little book on mystical chronology" by a certain Johannes Trithemius (1462-1516), Abbott of Sponheim. His sources had been a similar manuscript written by Peter of Abano (1215-1313) who was a learned scholar and translator of the Kabbalistic and astrological books of Rabbi ibn Ezra. The first English translation of the little book was by the English magician, William Lilly. Later it surfaces in the occult writings of the Frenchman, Eliphas Levi (1855) and passed on by him to Anna B. Kingsford and Edward Maitland, two more English, but Christian occultists. From Maitland, the book passed on the W. Wynn Wescott, all of whom were members of the T.S. and close friends of the good Madame H.P.B. Indeed, there is a small footnote to Trithemius in volume I of the SECRET DOCTRINE, although not another word of it is mentioned. Wescott published it in 1896, presumably as a magic ritual for the members of the Golden Dawn.

The subject matter of the book was a treatise on the “ intelligences or spirits who move the spheres called a “ spirit of the age.” This concept is very similar to the *Zeitgeist* concept made famous from Hegel’s Philosophy of History. In German, *ZEIT* means ‘time ’ and *GEIST* means ‘spirit.’ For Hegel, the *Zeitgeist* is an individual spirit that describes the intellectual, cultural, ethical and political climate, ambiance and morals of a particular national era. This spirit of a nation is one of the manifestations of the World Spirit. That Spirit is essentially alive and active throughout mankind's history. The spirit of a nation is an intermediate stage of world history as the history of the World Spirit. The World Spirit gives impetus to the realization of the historical spirits of various nations.

Now, I don’t know if Hegel had read the mystical chronology, but his national spirit corresponds to the archangel of the nation and his world spirit corresponds to the archon of the epoch. For Trithemius, in each cultural epoch of 2,160 years, an archangel of a nation is raised to the next higher hierarchy in the place of an archon. There are seven planetary archangels and they rule for approximately 1/7 th of the epoch or about 354 years and 4 months. It’s a wonderful divine plan of the hierarchies. Imagine in the USA if the senate majority leader was regularly elevated to the position of president for six months to learn the duties of that job. Things would go much smoother in the Senate !

Trithemius begins the cycle in the beginning of humanity with the archangel Oriphiel as planetary ruler of Saturn. He then describes what happened during his rule. He then proceeds with each of the successive archangels through their terms to complete one 7 epoch cycle and then another seven epoch cycle. Beginning the third cycle we have as follows:

1. Oriphiel, from 245BC to 109BC;
2. Anael, from 109BC to 463 AD;
3. Zachariel, from 463 to 817;
4. Raphael, from 817 to 1171;
5. Samael, from 1171 to 1525;
6. Gabriel, from 1525 to 1879; and
7. Michael, the sun spirit beginning 1879.

What is interesting is that in describing the last third of the rule of Samael, he says that

there will be a break from unity with “ a new religion being instituted.” On 31 October, 1517, Martin Luther affixed to the castle church in Wittenburg, which served as the black-board of the university, his Ninety-five Theses which history tells us began the protestant reformation which ended with the Treaty of Westphalia in 1648. This was also the period of the groundswell of the Rosicrucian movement. Dame Yates tells us in her book THE ROSICRUCIAN ENLIGHTENMENT that “ the movement as it developed in Germany did take on an anti-catholic bias . They were magical, hermetic, Cabalistic Lutherans.” They were greatly disposed to defeat and destroy the pope and the catholic church and replace it with a more humanistic and secular christian religion. We will see more of this bias in the saga of the Battle of the White Mountain.

Entering the new Age of Gabriel beginning 1525, we see profound intellectual changes coming into Europe. The actual Spirit of the Age of Gabriel was Giordano Bruno, thru whom the spirit lives and speaks. He was born in 1548 and died at the stake in 1600. Dame Yates wrote a wonderful book about his life which is a must read. She described him as a revolutionary ex-Dominican friar who “ preached an approaching reformation of the world, based upon the return to the Egyptian religion taught in the hermetic treatises. He was imbued with the deepest Egyptianism, which was demonic and revolutionary, demanding a full restoration of the Egyptian-Hermetic religion.” Trithemius had also said that “a great religious sect will rise up to replace the ancient cults.”

Like Kepler, Bruno also recast the ancient wisdom into the modern forms. He traveled to all the major universities of Europe and lectured on the Copernican heliocentric theory of the solar system and its three motions. He told his audiences that most of the stars in the heavens were not single points of light, but huge galaxies, full of millions of stars. The professors were astounded ! He told that man was made from out of the cosmos, a macrocosmic being condensed into a seed or monad to enter physical life and that this monad expands again when the human dies. His Monadology was later developed by Leibniz, who was said to have joined a Rosicrucian society in Nuremberg in 1666. He reformed Hermeticism the way that Apollonius of Tyana reformed the ancient mystery centers during Christ’s lifetime.

Bruno was probably not a Rosicrucian. The archangel Gabriel represents intelligence which re-cast in the modern form, becomes modern science, in the tradition of Francis Bacon and

Comenius. Bruno ushered in the modern approach to science by first crushing all previous conceptions as to the nature of man and his place in the universe. And after him, the universe is a very large space of millions of galaxies. And it is King James, Solomon reincarnated, who stands at the threshold of the renewal of the Egyptian sciences recast into modern forms !

YOUNG JAMES

James Charles Stuart was born on June 19, 1566 at Edinburg Castle in Scotland. His father, Lord Darnley, was murdered before young James was one years old. His mother, Mary Queen of Scots, subsequently ascended to the Scottish throne, but she was forced to abdicate in favor of her son when he was only 13 months old. Reformation leader John Knox preached the sermon at his coronation. James' mother, Mary, was imprisoned in England by her cousin Queen Elizabeth and 19 years later, in February of 1587, was executed for her part in the conspiracy to assassinate the Queen. King James never knew his mother.

And so, like many monarchs of the time, King James was not raised by his parents but rather by tutors. Of his four tutors, perhaps one of the most influential was George Buchanan, a staunch Calvinist. It was under Mr. Buchanan's strict teaching methods that King James became one of the most learned and intellectual men ever sit on a throne. Buchanan was 64 years old when he began tutoring the young king. He taught him Greek, then Latin and history, composition, arithmetic, geography, dialectics, rhetoric and theology. Certainly a primer in the subjects of the seven sciences on the steps of the second masonic degree. King James spoke fluent Greek, Latin, French, English, and Scots and was schooled in Italian and Spanish. The King once remarked, that he could speak Latin before he could speak his native Scots. Because of his linguistic capabilities, King James typically did not need a translator when conducting business with other heads of state.

At age eight it was said of him that he was “the sweetest sight in Europe for strange and extraordinary gifts of ingine, judgment, memory and language.” He once spontaneously translated a chapter from the bible from Latin into French and then into English. When James made his formal entry at age 13 into Edinburgh as the Scottish King VI, a central scene from King

Solomon's life was acted out in front of him. He was initiated into the masonic Lodge of Scoon and Perth in 1601, at the age of 35, where his portrait hangs to this day. After the death of Queen Elizabeth, he ascended to the throne of England in 1603 as James the First.

THE BATTLE OF THE WHITE MOUNTAIN

We discussed in the last lecture of the TEMPLE LEGEND that England under the reign of King James became the hotbed of Rosicrucianism, speculative masonry and generally led Europe in the progress of the enlightenment. How did this come to pass, when the birthplace for these movements was in Germany? Father CRC was incarnated into Germany, the Rosicrucian manifestos were first published there and Germany had a long history of craft masonry dating back to at least 1250.

At the beginning of the 17th century, the Rhine lands and those south to the Danube were largely Catholic, while Lutherans predominated in the north, and Calvinists dominated in certain other areas, such as west-central Germany, Switzerland and the Netherlands. However, minorities of each creed existed almost everywhere. In some lordships and cities the number of Calvinists, Catholics, and Lutherans were approximately equal. The Bohemians, desperate for allies against the Holy Roman Emperor, applied to be admitted into the Protestant Union which was led by their original candidate for the Bohemian throne, the Calvinist Frederick V, Elector Palatine. The Palatinate was a collection of small German states located on both sides of the Rhine river under administration of the Holy Roman Empire. The Bohemians hinted that Frederick would become King of Bohemia if he allowed them to join the Union and come under its protection. However, similar offers were made by other members of the Bohemian Estates to the Duke of Savoy, the Elector of Saxony, and the Prince of Transylvania. The Austrians, who seemed to have intercepted every letter leaving Prague, made these duplicities public. This brazen and desperate plea unraveled much of the support for the Bohemians, who had seriously overplayed their cards. In 1619 Frederick V accepted the throne of Bohemia.

A Bohemian revolt had been in progress for a year when Frederick took the throne. The revolt began when two Catholic councillors had been sent to Prague to run the government in the

absence of the King. They were seized by some Bohemian Hussites, subjected to a mock trial, humiliated and thrown out the castle window landing in a pile of manure, which saved their lives. Had the rebellion stayed local, it would have soon ended. However, after the death of Emperor Matthias, the new Emperor Ferdinand was compelled to call on his nephew, King Philip of Spain for assistance. In a short time, this religious conflict drew in most of the nations of Europe into the 30 years war.

The Battle of the White Mountain took place on November 8, 1620. An army of 15,000 Bohemians lead by Christian of Anhalt were routed by a catholic army of 27,000 lead by a combined army of Ferdinand II, the Holy Roman Emperor, and the Catholic League. At the battle scene, Christian deployed his army on the slope of a hill blocking the road to Prague. According to legend, a monk delivered a picture of St. Mary which had been defaced by the Protestants. This enraged the catholic troops and in just two hours of fierce battle, the Catholic Leagues army cut through the center of the enemy embankment on the hillside and smashed the rebel's army. With the Bohemian army destroyed, the victorious army entered Prague and the rebellion was quenched. King Frederick fled Bohemia with his wife Elizabeth. He had been king only one winter and he hence came to be called the Winter King. This dealt a serious blow to Protestant ambitions in Germany. Most citizens welcomed the restoration of Catholic monarchy. Bohemia had been subject the past two centuries to Hussite and other Protestant dissent.

The protestant cause was quick to blame King James on the brutal defeat of his son-in-law, the Winter King. They argued that he should have sent in a large British army to save the day. In fact, James was broke. He spent his entire reign fighting with parliament over money support. Parliament only gave the monarchy the same stipend of a century before. Since the King controlled the royal navy and the navy controlled the seaports, James only significant source of income came from illegal taxation of imports and exports.

After the defeat of the White Mountain, James did call a Parliament in 1621 and ask to fund a military expedition to Bohemia to rescue Frederick and restore the protestant cause. However, Parliament was more ambitious and wanted to declare war on Spain to steal its new world gold as Queen Elizabeth had done in the past. James was provoked and closed the assembly.

The problem this little battle ignited was the following 30 years war between the catholic Holy Roman Empire and the protestant countries. Europe and particularly Germany were devastated by famine and extensive destruction of entire regions. The participating countries left the war virtually bankrupt. In Germany, the populations in many states had been reduced by 50 percent. The male population suffered even greater losses. The Swedish army alone destroyed some 2,000 castles, 18,000 villages and 1,500 towns. So it was not possible for the Rosicrucian enlightenment to continue in Germany, it had to relocate.

What did this protestant defeat mean to the Rosicrucian enlightenment ? Since he moved the capital from Vienna, Prague had become the center in Europe for the study of the occult arts of the kabbala, magic and alchemy under the rule of Emperor Rudolph II. This was a hermetic golden age. An incredible collection of esoteric philosophers and Paracelcian doctors either lived there or visited there. This included such famous men as Michael Maier, Giordano Bruno, Heinrath Khunrath, Comenius and Oswald Croll. Tycho Brahe and Johannes Keplar had also been summoned to Prague by Rudolph. As we were told in the last lecture, John Dee spent eight years here.

This followed the tradition set by Charles IV who preceded Rudolph as emperor. He was said to be the “ last initiate emperor on the throne of Europe.” He constructed the famous Karlstein castle which he intended to be a “Grail Castle ” which he used as a private retreat and meditation center.

King James had given his daughter, Elizabeth, to the cause. She married the White King and they accepted the crown of Bohemia in St. Vitus Cathedral in 1619, the last official act of the Hussite clergy. This coronation marked the achievement of those who wanted to put into action the new age reforms spoke of in the Rosicrucian manifestos. The White King hoped to create a brilliant culture deeply committed to the Hermetic and Rosicrucian philosophy as well to the scientific method in the development of the new sciences. Unfortunately for the severely protestant cause of speculative freemasonry and Rosicrucianism, both the national church and the state of Bohemia disappeared after the ignominious defeat at the battle of the White Mountain.

THE KINGDOM OF SOLOMON

It was not just at the end of the failed protestant experiment in Bohemia that the tide of the masonic and Rosicrucian movement moved to England, in fact it had been a hot bed for the pre-enlightenment ever since James became King in 1603. James could truly be called the “freemason king” as did Robert Lomas in his spectacular book THE INVISIBLE COLLEGE. Lawson says of Sir Francis Bacon,

“ He had never been a particularly good scientist but in the latter third of his life he took an interest in techniques for studying nature. It was, however, only after the arrival in England of King James that this interest in science developed. ”

Why this profound change in Sir Bacon, whom in his own right is considered one of the greatest scientists and philosophers of his age and any age of western civilization ? More than patron, he was a spiritual inspirer and not just of Bacon and Shakespear, but in Central Europe in the lives of Jakob Boehme and the Jesuit poet, Jacobus Baldus. (All of whom actually looked quite similar in their faces) Thousands in England and Europe looked at him as the incarnated soul of Solomon. He was truly the “ King Solomon of Britain.”

James while he was King of Scotland in 1590 visited Tycho Brahe at his island retreat at Hven, Sweden. He wrote three sonnets about Tycho. Tycho’s more famous student, Johannes Kepler, dedicated his main work HARMONICE MUNDI to King James saying “ no more suitable patron for my work than the great king, who has shown his special fondness for the philosophy of Plato.” Kepler was considered a Rosicrucian by Dame Francis Yates because his circle of friends had published the three German Rosicrucian manifestos in 1614-16.

Robert Fludd dedicated three volumes of work to the Solomon king. In his most important work the dedication is addressed to,

“ TER MAXIMUS, emperor of the heavens and the earth, a shining ray of the divine light, to whom the truths of nature revealed in this book are dedicated, which open a way to the heavens as by Jacob’s ladder, and are presented to the deity on earth, King James.”

James personal physician was sir William Paddy and his attending physician was the scientist Sir William Harvey, who discovered of the circulation of the blood. Both of these good doctors were friends of Rudolph’s physician, Michael Maier. Maier in fact also came to England

and stayed for five years.

Maier arrived just before Christmas and immediately went to the King with an unusual Christmas greeting card. It was on a 33 X 24 inch parchment on which was drawn an eight petalled rose emblem with a cross in the middle. A musical score was enclosed and there were also four poems, of which two were addressed to James. This card was undoubtedly the earliest known Rosicrucian symbol to appear in England. As I mentioned in the last lecture, although the Rosicrucian manifestos were not printed until 1614, there were circulated in manuscript form years before. Maier was corresponding friends with a certain August von Anhalt who had received a copy of the FAMA in 1610. Curiously, the brother of August was Christian von Anhalt, the general of the army of Bohemian rebels who were defeated at the Battle of the White Mountain years later. These are what we can call “brothers of the rosy-cross.”

In 1614, Isaac Casaubon published an important study on Hermeticism dating the manuscripts to an age after the birth of Christ, not before, as part of an ancient Egyptian corpus. This widely read text was dedicated to King James. A biography of the poet William Donne stated that “Casaubon came to England at the King’s invitation.”

At the beginning of the 17th century, there were three leading figures in England, Shakespear, Bacon and King James working in the spheres of art, science and religion. In his revolutionary book, THE ADVANCEMENT OF LEARNING, Bacon actually compares James to Hermes Trismegistos saying,

“There is met in your majesty a rare conjunction, as well of divine and sacred literature, as of profane and human: so as your Majesty standeth invested of that triplicity, which in great veneration was ascribed to the ancient Hermes; the power and fortune of a king, the knowledge and illumination of a priest and the learning and universality of a philosopher.”

Bacon in this book also compares James to King Solomon saying, “You rival Solomon in so many things.” Bacon’s NOVUM ORGANON is also prefaced and dedicated to James saying, “This regeneration and renewal of the sciences is rightly due to the times of the wisest and most learned of all kings.”

Likewise, with Shakespear, it has been often written that the play MACBETH was called ‘King James play’ for its dealth with the history of the Kings of Scotland and the first joint ruler of

the thrones of Scotland and England. The play MEASURE FOR MEASURE was performed in 1604 before the King in his Solomon's temple at Whitehall. The character Vincentio very closely resembles James as the enigmatic character who dressed up and role played the court of Solomon. Frances Yates wrote that the character of CYMBELINE was in fact that of King James.

Its very clear that thousands of persons, of all persuasions, throughout all of Europe called James the 'Solomon of Britain.'

Dame Francis Yates called "The Battle of the White Mountain a crucial event in European history. The defeat was total. The victory riveted the Hapsburg domination on Europe for another generation and initiated the 30years war. James I conducting his foreign policy by divine right and without consulting parliament was beginning a chain of events which would eventually destroy the Stuart monarchy." The citizens of England wanted desperately to have helped save the Winter King and his monarchy, but James split with Parliament, for many reasons, and the protestant cause went abandoned. This defeat weighed heavy on his heart in his last years. It just may have broke his heart. He was mostly ill for the years after the defeat. James consolidated his affairs so as to have his son Charles succeed him. He died on March 27, 1626. At his funeral Bishop John Williams of Lincoln preached the sermon, observing, "King Solomon died in Peace, when he had lived about sixty years...and so you know did King James"

IN CONCLUSION

In conclusion, there is one more comparison between King James and Solomon, which is quite incredible in its own right. In the Old Testament, Solomon has many personal faults. Our Temple Legend version from Heckethorn even makes him complicit with the murder of Hiram in jealousy over Queen Sheba. This plot was never brought forth in the third degree. It was his fall from grace that Jehovah warned him,

"But if you go and serve other gods and prostrate yourself before them, I will renounce this house and Israel shall become a byword and an object lesson before all peoples and this house shall become a ruin."

God must have foreseen what was coming in Solomon's life, for he had many personal faults, including fornication with many hundreds of foreign women. Later in III KINGS 9, 11-13,

Jehovah becomes furious with Solomon and says “ Because you have done this, I will tear the kingdom from you.” However, Jehovah relents and stays the punishment saying, “ Nevertheless, for the sake of your father David I will not do this in your day, I will tear it out of your son’s hand.”

Here is the final correspondence. With James this destiny of Solomon also came true. It was not during the reign of King James that his kingdom was destroyed and divided, but during that of his son, Charles, that England was racked with revolution and civil war. Jame’s son Charles was beheaded by Cromwell on the balcony of a castle, befitting the fallen King, the banquet hall of the Solomonic Whitehall !

Respectively submitted,

By: Stephen Cosgrove

February 4, 2009