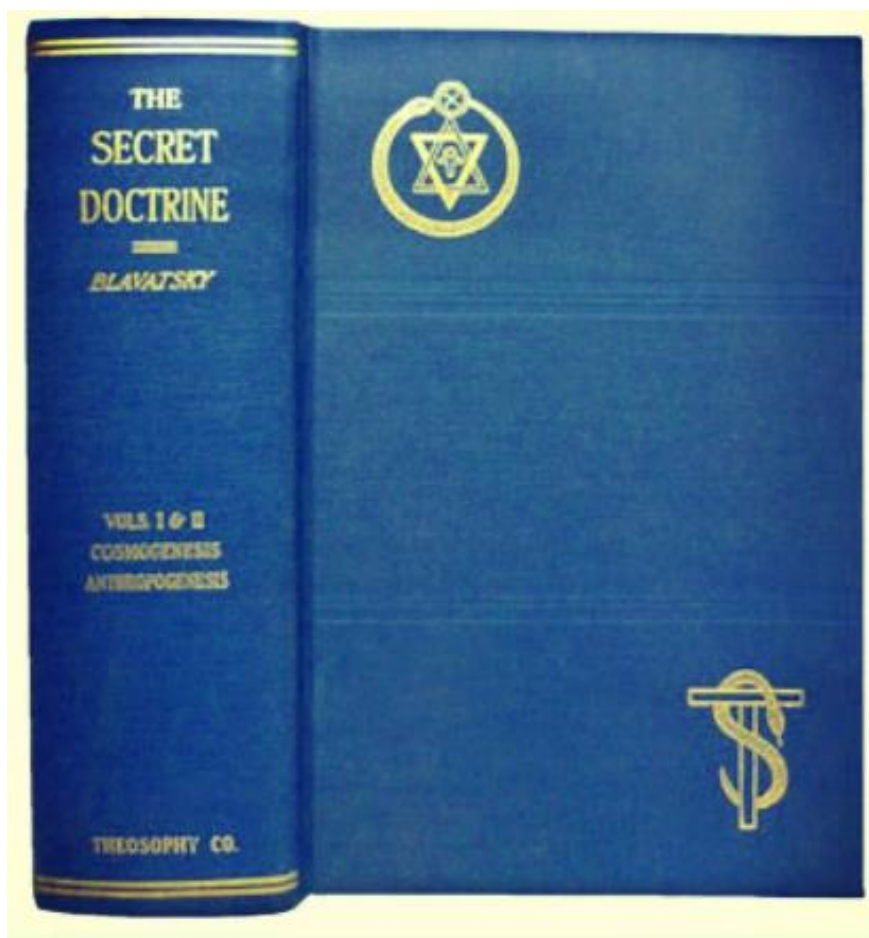


DISCOVERING *"The Secret Doctrine"*

A SEMINAR AT THE UNITED LODGE OF THEOSOPHISTS, LONDON

SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER 2015

3pm - 6.15pm



"The aim of this work may be thus stated: to show that Nature is not "a fortuitous concurrence of atoms," and to assign to man his rightful place in the scheme of the Universe; to rescue from degradation the archaic truths which are the basis of all religions; and to uncover, to some extent, the fundamental unity from which they all spring; finally, to show that the occult side of Nature has never been approached by the Science of modern civilization."

~ H.P. Blavatsky, Preface to Vol. 1 of "The Secret Doctrine" ~

SOME WORDS FOR REFLECTION

"Nothing is more plain than that H.P. Blavatsky said, on the direct authority of the Masters, that in the last twenty-five years of each century an effort is made by the Lodge and its agents with the West, and that it ceases in its direct and public form and influence with the twenty-fifth year. Those who believe her will believe this; those who think they know more about it than she did will invent other ideas suited to their fancies.

"She explained, as will all those who are taught (as are many) by the same Masters, that were the public effort to go on any longer than that, a reaction would set in very similar to indigestion. Time must be given for assimilation, or the "dark shadow which follows all innovations" would crush the soul of man. The great public, the mass, must have time and also material. Time is ever. The matter has been furnished by the Masters in the work done by H.P. Blavatsky in her books, and what has grown out of those. She has said, the Masters have said, and I again assert it for the benefit of those who have any faith in me, that the Masters have told me that they helped her write the *Secret Doctrine* so that the future seventy-five and more years should have some material to work on, and that in the coming years that book and its theories would be widely studied. The material given has then to be worked over, to be assimilated for the welfare of all."

- William Q. Judge, "The Closing Cycle"

"Speaking to those who know and believe that HPB was all the time in communication with the Masters in their retreats somewhere on the globe, I can say that a serious series of consultations was held among them as to what should go into *The Secret Doctrine*, and that it was plainly said that the book was to be done in such a manner as to compel the earnest student to dig out many profound truths which in a modern book would be announced specifically, and included in the regular course. It was also said, from the same source, that this age, being a transition one in all respects, that full revelations were not for this generation. But enough was to be given out in the manner described, and plainly, to make it substantially a revelation. All students, then, who are in earnest will do well not to pass carelessly over the pages of any part of the book."

- William Q. Judge, "About The Secret Doctrine"

"Knowledge and not belief is what H.P. Blavatsky offered. If today the world of knowledge does not to a greater extent examine her teachings it is because her many followers are denizens of the world of belief; alas! even a greater number, adopting the appellation of her system of thought, display crass ignorance of it.

"An impartial and critical study of her system of thought, not with a desire either to prove that she is right or to prove that she is wrong, but to find out what her teachings are: that is what is wanted. Do they solve the intricate problems which confront us? Do they illuminate our intelligence? Do they satisfy the yearnings of the human heart? Do they inspire us to a noble life-struggle, to a greater altruism, to a grander selflessness? Above all are they in harmony with the established facts of ancient science, proven laws of ancient ethics, profound truths of ancient philosophy? Do they illumine the obscure and make known that which is unknown today but which has been fully known in the past?"

- B.P. Wadia, "Studies in The Secret Doctrine" I, p. 6-7

"All forms of religion are pale and distorted copies of the original statements upon which they are based, the Three Fundamental Propositions of Theosophy."

- Robert Crosbie, "The Friendly Philosopher" p. 124

"The Secret Doctrine establishes three fundamental propositions:-

"(a) An Omnipresent, Eternal, Boundless, and Immutable PRINCIPLE on which all speculation is impossible, since it transcends the power of human conception and could only be dwarfed by any human expression or similitude. It is beyond the range and reach of thought - in the words of Mandukya, "unthinkable and unspeakable."

". . . there is one absolute Reality which antecedes all manifested, conditioned, being. This Infinite and Eternal Cause - . . . is the rootless root of "all that was, is, or ever shall be." It is of course devoid of all attributes and is essentially without any relation to manifested, finite Being. It is "Be-ness" rather than Being (in Sanskrit, *Sat*), and is beyond all thought or speculation."

"(b) The Eternity of the Universe *in toto* as a boundless plane; periodically "the playground of numberless Universes incessantly manifesting and disappearing," called "the manifesting stars," and the "sparks of Eternity." "The Eternity of the Pilgrim" is like a wink of the Eye of Self-Existence (Book of Dzyan). "The appearance and disappearance of Worlds is like a regular tidal ebb of flux and reflux." . . . This second assertion of the Secret Doctrine is the absolute universality of that law of periodicity, . . .

"(c) The fundamental identity of all Souls with the Universal Over-Soul, the latter being itself an aspect of the Unknown Root; and the obligatory pilgrimage for every Soul - a spark of the former - through the Cycle of Incarnation (or "Necessity") in accordance with Cyclic and Karmic law, during the whole term. . . . The pivotal doctrine of the Esoteric philosophy admits no privileges or special gifts in man, save those won by his own Ego through personal effort and merit throughout a long series of metempsychoses and reincarnations."

- H.P. Blavatsky, "The Secret Doctrine" Vol. 1, p. 14, 16-17 (Proem)

"Neither the collective Host (Demiurgos), nor any of the working powers individually, are proper subjects for divine honours or worship. All are entitled to the grateful reverence of Humanity, however, and man ought to be ever striving to help the divine evolution of *Ideas*, by becoming to the best of his ability a *co-worker with nature* in the cyclic task. The ever unknowable and incognizable *Karana* alone, the *Causeless* Cause of all causes, should have its shrine and altar on the holy and ever untrodden ground of our heart - invisible, intangible, unmentioned, save through "the still small voice" of our spiritual consciousness. Those who worship before it, ought to do so in the silence and the sanctified solitude of their Souls; making their spirit the sole mediator between them and the *Universal Spirit*, their good actions the only priests, and their sinful intentions the only visible and objective sacrificial victims to the *Presence*."

- H.P. Blavatsky, "The Secret Doctrine" Vol. 1, p. 280

"The book, *The Secret Doctrine*, is a ray of the SECRET DOCTRINE, eternal and unevolving, constant and unchanging, consistent and unvarying. The soul and substance of the SECRET DOCTRINE have to be looked for in the body of *The Secret Doctrine*, with its material organs and organisms. Not the soul in its completion, nor the substance in its entirety have incarnated in the book. Further, let the student make note of the very important fact that the Message of H.P.B.'s *Secret Doctrine* is not her whole Message. Four eternal basic principles have come into incarnation in *Isis Unveiled*, *The Secret Doctrine*, *The Key to Theosophy* and *The Voice of the Silence*. The first is like the human voice of conscience, warning and advising us to beware of the dangers of the lower self of the world of matter; then came the monumental volumes which enlighten the human head to think spiritually. *The Key to Theosophy* enables our hands to act in terms of that thinking, and, lest one-sided activity engendered should push the student into exaggerations, *The Voice of the Silence* was given.

". . . These statements ought to urge any reader to a vigorous study of *Isis Unveiled*. The same in reference to the *Key*, which is a book of practical application, as it deals with principles in the light of which our own actions can be directed along the lines laid down. Similarly, in reference to the *Voice*, *The Secret Doctrine* cannot be comprehended unless the life is lived according to the golden precepts.

". . . To study with her these holy subjects so that our minds may be knit closer together and all feel the beneficence and the grace of our common immortality, and realize, however dimly, that within us is the Secret Doctrine - to that great task and noble enterprise all are invited. To learn from the Message of H.P.B. is possible only as we serve it and the present task is, then, to inspire as many as possible to participate in the vindication and recognition of *The Secret Doctrine*. This can only be done as earnest minds ponder over its contents, and earnest hearts grow aflame to serve."

- B.P. Wadia, "Studies in The Secret Doctrine" I, p. 61-62, 64, 65

"Shall we devote ourselves to teaching a few Europeans - fed on the fat of the land, many of them loaded with the gifts of blind fortune - the rationale of bell-ringing, of cup-growing, of the spiritual telephone, and astral body formation, and leave the teeming millions of the ignorant, of the poor and oppressed, to take care of themselves, and of their hereafter, as best they know how? Never! . . . a strange idea, my brothers!"

- The Maha Chohan, "The Great Master's Letter" (U.L.T. Pamphlet #33), p. 4

"Occult Science has its *changeless* traditions from prehistoric times. It may err in particulars; it can never become guilty of a mistake in questions of Universal laws, simply because that Science, justly referred to as the "*divine*," was born on higher planes, and was brought on Earth by beings who were wiser than man will be, even in the seventh Race of his Seventh Round."

- H.P. Blavatsky, "The Secret Doctrine" Vol. 1, p. 516

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"In the twentieth century of our era scholars will begin to recognize that the *Secret Doctrine* has neither been invented nor exaggerated, but, on the contrary, simply outlined; and finally, that its teachings antedate the Vedas. . . . But it will take centuries before much more is given from it." ~ *H.P.B., Introductory to "The Secret Doctrine" Vol. 1*

UNITED LODGE OF THEOSOPHISTS
62 Queens Gardens ◉ London ◉ W2 3AH
www.theosophy-ult.org.uk