

Esoteric History: What Really Happened?

Presentation on March 23, 2014, 4 PM at the Quest Bookshop in Seattle, by Stanton Stevens

Online resources:

<http://www.laurency.com> – All that has been translated into English is available here, as well as the entirety in Swedish.

The Basic Esoteric Dictionary, The Explanation, Knowledge of Reality, all good starting points
http://www.lucitrust.org/en/books/books_on_line - The teachings of the Tibetan, Dwal Khul, via Alice A. Bailey
<http://theosophical.org/> - The Theosophical Society, the first re-introduction of esoterics to the public.

Books:

Only two Laurency books are available in print in English (though all are in print in Swedish). Both are available at Quest bookshop, or can be ordered from the Laurency website mentioned above.

Knowledge of Reality - a review of Eastern and Western philosophies, contrasted with Hylozoics.

The Philosopher's Stone – cosmology, evolution, the stages of humanity, higher worlds

Online - Introduction to Esoteric Philosophy <http://www.laurency.com/L5e/L5e6.pdf>

Also, mentioned today's talk:

A People's History of the United States, Howard Zinn The dark underside of US history

Lives of Alcyone, Part 1, Part 2 Annie Besant and C.W. Leadbeater (Quest library) – the past lives of Krishnamurti

Return to Elysium, Joan Grant (Quest library) Her life in ancient Greece

Life as Carola, Joan Grant (Quest library?) Her life in Renaissance Italy

Winged Pharaoh, Joan Grant (Quest library) Her life in ancient Egypt

A Dweller on Two Planets, Phyllos the Thibetan (Frederick S. Oliver) An account of life in Atlantis

Website: <http://www.ancient-wisdom.co.uk/underwater.htm> about ancient ruins, perhaps from Atlantis

See Ed Alden, or ask at the bookshop desk, for a CD with all the Laurency material in English, and many Theosophical texts.

Ongoing:

Rainbow Bridge meditation group - meets every Tuesday evening in Port Townsend.

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Alice A. Bailey study group – Led by Karen Johannsen: ksjohannsen@gmail.com

Quotes:

“History doesn't repeat itself, but it does rhyme.”

— Mark Twain.

“History will be kind to me for I intend to write it.”

— Winston Churchill

“History is a set of lies agreed upon.”

— Napoleon

“Remember that all through history, there have been tyrants and murderers, and for a time, they seem invincible. But in the end, they always fall. Always.”

— Mahatma Gandhi

“History is the fiction we invent to persuade ourselves that events are knowable and that life has order and direction. That's why events are always reinterpreted when values change. We need new versions of history to allow for our current prejudices.”

— Bill Watterson

Knowledge of Reality, by Henry Laurency

Chapter 6 ANTHROPOLOGY – STEINER'S SPIRITUAL SCIENCE

2 6.9 Steiner's Akashic Records

2 All matter has consciousness and memory. In addition, every atom in the molecules has a common collective consciousness with the atoms in its molecular kind. It is in this collective consciousness that the different worlds have their respective collective memories, which can be read by those who have acquired objective consciousness in the respective molecular kinds. In the emotional world there is, beside the only exact collective memory (inaccessible to man) of the atomic world, six different kinds of collective molecular memories.

9 The “akashic records” provide knowledge of what people thought, believed, loved, and worshipped. If they provided knowledge of reality, Steiner would have recognized the atomic structure of the superphysical worlds. If they provided knowledge of the past, Steiner would not have made such disastrous mistakes as to history.

Chapter 2 The Problems of Reality, Part 2

2.13 The Systemic and Planetary Energies

11 The knowledge of the relations of our solar system and our planet to other solar systems, of the exchange of interstellar and interplanetary energies, once was one of the most important sciences in mankind's possession. The people that got farthest in this respect were the Chaldeans of some 30,000

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years ago. Fortunately, we can look forward to the time when the individuals who acquired this knowledge in Chaldea will incarnate again and once more present mankind with the esoteric “astrology”, thereby reviving the long-lost knowledge. The planetary hierarchy will provide them with the facts necessary to awaken their latent knowledge to a new life. This is what is constantly happening, being in accordance with the Law. What mankind can accomplish, it must do by itself. It is up to man to remember anew knowledge that he has lost.

Chapter 3 THE ORIGIN OF THE KNOWLEDGE AND THE FICTIONS

3.1 From the Esoteric History

8 Abuse of knowledge leads to the loss of knowledge, and ever since the planetary hierarchy was driven out of Atlantis mankind has had to “look after its own affairs”. It is, then, our present mankind that reaps what it has sown. “The history of the world is the world’s court of justice”. Violence, arbitrariness, and ignorance of life have held sway. The part of world history that we know about is the history of nameless suffering. Esoteric statistics calculates only those burned to the glory of Moloch and god at 60 million. It is, perhaps, not to be wondered at that many people’s subconsciousness gives them an instinctive feeling of age-old guilt.

Knowledge of Life One, by Henry Laurency

Chapter 5, The Planetary Hierarchy

5.13 The Secretary of the Hierarchy, 45-self D.K.

13 If mankind duly considers the work of D.K., (Alice A. Bailey’s writings – ed.) this will mean that the planetary hierarchy can come into closer contact with men, and when public opinion in this manner has come to realize that there must be a fifth kingdom in nature, then the entire hierarchy will be able to appear again, as formerly in Atlantis, and guide mankind.

14 Only then will mankind receive the true knowledge of reality and life and will realize the foolishness of going back to ancient, historical sources, which just add to disorientation. History has always hampered research. The historical man is an atavistic phenomenon.

Chapter 9, The Law

9.34 The Development of Mankind

1 What historians and archaeologists call the history of the world scarcely reaches further into the past than five or six millennia. They are not just ignorant of the facts that the Atlantean root-race is about twelve million years old and the Aryan root-race about one hundred thousand years old, but these facts are also incomprehensible to them as yet. It will certainly be long before they realize that the Muse of History is a story-teller and no stickler for the truth. Their history of the world is a collection of old wives’ tales, cock and bull stories and narratives for the mature youth. The fact that rulers in times past hired historians to glorify their and their nations’ stupidities and brutalities does not increase the content of truth. These lies live on mostly in the gossip of anecdotes. And if anybody objected, they defended the thing by saying that if it was not true it was nevertheless well put or, as Voltaire said, if it was not true it was in any case better than truth.

2 The history of the activation of consciousness during the barbarian stage of mankind, before there was any kind of civilization in Lemuria or Atlantis, can be passed over, since historians, archaeologists,

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anthropologists, and antiquarians of other kinds are not in a position to judge the pertaining facts, which partially explains their negative attitude. Ethnologists will be continually misled by fragments of ancient behavioural patterns still remaining. Their attempts at explaining “animism”, for example, remain imaginative constructions of ignorance. Of course they are also quite unable to explain the manifestations of soul to be seen in causalized anthropoid apes (soul = causal envelope).

3 Only esoteric history may afford the requisite facts about the genesis and development of the races during the 21 million years that there have existed male and female human beings on our planet. Without esoteric knowledge, biology and physiology will never be able to explain the processes of development and degeneration of organic life.

Knowledge of Life Four, by Henry Laurency

Chapter 3, Religion

3.18 Religions are About to Dissolve

4 We joyously look forward to the day when a team of causal selves will cooperate to give us the history of our planet and the history of the last zodiacal epoch, the Piscean, in particular. Then not much will remain of what is now called history.

Chapter 7, Philosophy

HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY

7.5 Introduction

1 Everything said in the history of philosophy about what was taught in the esoteric knowledge orders demonstrates how efficiently the esoteric knowledge was kept secret during the ages. It is about time the writers of history purged everything said about “what the Pythagoreans taught”, etc.

2 Scholarly authorities, who discuss the “speculation of the Greeks”, should be informed of the fact that the “Greeks” means the initiates, the only ones possessed of knowledge and understanding, and that they never “speculated”. They had learnt the difference between knowledge and speculation and that speculation is a mark of ignorance.

3 In textbooks of philosophy you may still read about the moral taints and defects imputed to the philosophers by tradition. The philosophers of whom the textbook authors approved they presented as well-mannered, and those whom they disliked they pilloried as warning examples how those must fare who held such perverse views. Honest philosophers who dared to oppose this bad practice were content to emphasize that the only right posthumous reputation of a philosopher was his work and that his manner of living was of no interest.

4 There are no manuscripts extant from philosophical authors before Roman times. Since we know that copiers took the liberty to change and “improve” what they did not understand or thought could be said better, we have every reason to take a very skeptical position to claims made as to what the “ancients” really thought. This is particularly true of the “pre-Sokratean” philosophers and of Aristoteles. It is known with certainty that Eusebios revised the original writings of the gnostic authors to fashion the gospels such as they exist in the new Testament. It will be the business of future esoteric writers (causal and essential selves) to present the originals, if they consider it worth the effort, which is doubtful. The knowledge we nowadays receive from the planetary hierarchy renders such work unnecessary. We

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receive directly what we need to know. Historical learning has therefore lost its importance. The past was different and if we need to know anything about it we shall receive that knowledge.

5 The study of the history of philosophy should have made them realize the immense limitation of human reason as to the apprehension of reality ideas. What have philosophers succeeded in doing during the 2500 years they have been active? Anyone who, after familiarizing himself with the products of the philosophers, studies esoterics and does not realize that no human brain can “invent” all these totally new facts that are in mutual agreement suits well to be a professor of philosophy. He is no mental self, however.

Chapter 22, History

22.8 What history could teach us

1 At least one thing history has taught us, if we are able to learn, and that is to mankind always been on the stage of barbarism, or in the vicinity thereof; that no nation has achieved the stage of culture and always a high risk exists that any nation anytime soon can sink into barbarism, stupidity and inhumanity.

Education in the New Age, Alice A. Bailey

Chapter 2 The Cultural Unfoldment of the Race p. 45

In the teaching of history, for instance, are we to revert to the bad old ways wherein each nation glorifies itself at the expense frequently of other nations, in which facts are systematically garbled, in which the pivotal points in history are the various wars down the ages—a history, therefore, of aggression, of the rise of a material and selfish civilisation and one which had the nationalistic and, therefore, separative spirit, which has fostered racial hatred and stimulated national prides? The first historical date usually remembered by the average British child is "William, the Conqueror, 1066." The American child remembers the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers and the gradual taking of the country from its rightful inhabitants, and perhaps the Boston Tea Party. The heroes of history are all warriors—Alexander the Great, Julius Caesar, Attila the Hun, Richard Coeur de Lion, Napoleon, George Washington and many others. Geography is largely history in another form but presented in a similar manner—a history of discovery, investigation and seizure, followed frequently by wicked and cruel treatment of the inhabitants of the discovered lands. Greed, ambition, cruelty and pride are the keynotes of our teaching of history and geography.

These wars, aggression and thefts which have distinguished every great nation without exception are facts and cannot be denied. Surely, however, the lessons of the evils which they wrought (culminating in the war 1914-1945) can be [Page 46] pointed out and the ancient causes of present day prejudices and dislikes can be shown and their futility emphasised. Is it not possible to build our theory of history upon the great and good ideas which have conditioned the nations and made them what they are, and emphasize the creativity which has distinguished all of them? Can we not present more effectively the great cultural epochs which—suddenly appearing in some one nation—enriched the entire world and gave to humanity its literature, its art and its vision?