

REINCARNATION IN CHRISTIANITY

A LIST OF SOME OUTSTANDING BOOKS

The following is a list of books narrating, elaborating and explaining the Truth of Reincarnation in the great Christian Religion.

1. **"Mansions of the Soul, The Cosmic Conception" - "Complete Explanation of Reincarnation, The Soul's Rebirth On Earth"** - by Dr. H. Spencer Lewis (AMORC, San Jose California) (Rosicrucian Library Vol. XI) (1930 - 1948 - five editions)

As the title and sub-title of the Book convey, this is a book, containing the spiritual and mystical foundation of the cycles of rebirth and reincarnation, how they operate and manifest in the human lives, Karmic Evolution and other allied mystical facts.

The author was an eminent member of the Rosicrucian Order, a branch of ancient mystical wisdom, with its own Secret Doctrines. The present book, although draws materials from those Doctrines, presents a rational and intellectual treatment. (Rationality means taking the mind wherever the truth leads and not closing it when the truth knocks the door of mystical phenomena.)

2. **"The Gospel of Jesus." "In Search of His Original Teachings" by John Davidson.** (Element Books, 1995)

This is a grand treatise on the mysticism in Christianity, strenuously researched, objective, provocative, illuminating. Stephen Broughton, Founder Member of "Sea of Faith" writes that this is the image of Lord Jesus as the mystic, the spiritual Master, the Gnostic. The present Satanic times have deliberately covered up the spiritual Christianity with their material and selfish thinking. The author removes the veil, and places before our eyes the real splendor of Christianity and the mystical Truths taught by one of the great Religions sent by God according to His Divine Plan.

The history of different versions of the New Testament narrated in the article on Reincarnation in the present Issue, has drawn heavily from this book.

Chapters Eleven and Twelve of the book are on: **"Sin and Satan"** and **"Did Jesus Really Teach Reincarnation?"** This provides an immense wealth for arriving at a positive answer to that question.

I have observed, since decades, that many researchers of mysticism and the mystical thought are trained in modern science, particularly theoretical physics and biology. Rene Weber, Ken Wilber, David Bohm, Fritzgroff Capra, Paul Davis, Ian Marshall and Danah Zohar, Rupert Sheldrake, Illya Prigogine, Erich Jantash, Lyall Watson are a few of them; so also **John Davidson**, who had a post at the Cambridge University's Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics, for 17 years!

3. **"Reincarnation, The Cycle of Necessity" by Manly Palmer Hall** (The Philosophical Research Society Inc., Los Angeles - 1967)

The materials in this book are drawn out from the deep sea of mysticism and yet presented in an amazingly simple and readable style. The author is an acclaimed and authoritative researcher on various branches of Occultism, Mysticism, Secret Teachings and other allied matters. He had in 1928, published a large size volume, **"The Secret Teachings of All Ages"**, with the descriptive title: **"An Encyclopedic Outline of Masonic, Hermetic, Qabbalistic and Rosicrucian Symbolical Philosophy Being an Interpretation of the Secret Teachings Concealed Within the Rituals, Allegories and Mysteries of All Ages."**

It has come out in 1975 as the Golden Anniversary Edition. Between 1928 and 1975, five further editions

were published. Reprint in a reduced format was published 15 times. There are 48 Plates and 188 Illustrations. It is a treasure for all students of Mysticism.

The present book written by such an erudite savant on Reincarnation must be, you may think, a heavy reading. But it is not so. It is beautifully readable. Simple in style, it conveys and stamps in the reader's mind the truths, facts, and philosophy of Reincarnation. Two of its Chapters are: Reincarnation in the Old and New Testaments. One is on Islam. One is on "the Reborn Lamas of Tibet". There are others, like "Soul Mates", "Memory of Past Lives", "The Laws Governing Reincarnation", "Forgiveness of Sin Versus Karma", "Nirvana".

4. "Why Jesus Taught Reincarnation" "A Better News Gospel" by Herbert Bruce Puryear (New Paradigm Press, Arizona - 1992).

Look at the title. It conveys no doubt that Jesus did teach reincarnation and asks why. The book is full of Biblical quotations. The theme is that the official orthodox Christianity is not Biblical. "Without reincarnation the teachings of Christianity depict God as arbitrarily unloving and unforgiving of "non-believers. ---- With the concept of reincarnation, the gospel becomes truly good news for every child of God, for every soul." The author elaborates this from the Bible itself. Each of the seven Chapters has the heading from a Biblical maxim, like "Ye are Gods" (John 10:34); "Ye must be born again" (John 3:7); "Ye shall receive Power" (Acts 1 :8); "Be ye therefore Perfect (Matthew 5:48). Each chapter is woven around a maxim, and the Truth about the evolution and perfection of the soul through Karmic reincarnations is developed step by step. Really a master piece ringing with sincerity.

The author H. B. Puryear is a clinical psychologist and ordained minister. He is connected with Edgar Cayce movement; but the book is independent of Cayce Readings.

5. "Reincarnation in Christianity" - "A New Vision of the Role of Rebirth in Christian Thought", by Geddes MacGregor (Theosophical Publishing House - a Quest Book from Theosophical Society in America - 1978). **"Reincarnation as a Christian Hope"** is his another book. (Macmillan, London 1982. Later, Barnes and Noble.) Author is Anglican Priest; Professor Emeritus, University of Southern California; recipient of many honours like Special Preacher at St. Paul Cathedral and Westminster Abbey; Doctor of Humanities from Hebrew Union; Doctor of Divinity from Oxford. He has authored several other books on Christianity. He was the Birks Lecturer at McGill University on "The Christening of Karma". (What a stimulating subject!)

The present book is considered as a classic work on the subject. The theme is that reincarnation is not only compatible with Christianity, but is its important teaching. Convincing arguments are advanced on the rationale of reincarnation and the objections are effectively answered. Beautiful quotations are presented from the Bible, as also early Christians. Materials are set out from other Religions, Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish, Islamic.

6. "Reincarnation, a New Horizon in Science Religion, and Society" by Sylvia Cranston and Carey Williams. (Julian Press, 1984). This is a store house of information and materials, on Reincarnation from Science, Psychology, Philosophy and the Religions Jew Christian, Hindu and Buddha. "Jesus and the Christian Vision", is a short chapter of 25 pages in this 381 pages book, but very cogent and persuasive with evidence from New Testament and Christian Gnosticism.

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