

The Bible and Mythology

The Story of Orion

BY CORINNE S. DUNKLEE

ORION IS not only one of the largest of the constellations to be seen in the heavens, but is also one of the most vivid and impressive.

The ancient legends describe Orion as being a giant of huge proportions and tell us that he was the greatest hunter in the world.

This mighty hunter roamed the world ridding it of wild beasts clad in his magic *Lion's Skin* which protected him from harm. (The lion is the symbol of Leo and the meaning of Leo is love.)

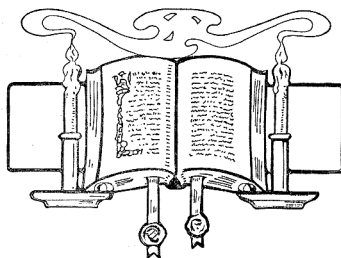
His death was finally caused by the sting of a poisonous serpent which Juno had commanded to spring out of the ground and punish him for his unparalleled boasting (Egotism, that sin which caused the fall from heaven of the bright and morning star. And also it is the most subtle test which confronts the one aspiring to Initiation at the present time).

When Orion was placed in the sky he was permitted to bear with him his lion's skin, which is to be seen hanging on his arm. His sword still swings from his girdle and his great club he raises above his head.

Longfellow sings:

“Begirt with many a blazing star
Stands the great giant, Algebar,
Orion, hunter of the beast.”

Situated in the heavens near the constellation of Taurus, the Bull, who appears ever to be charging him with his golden horns, Orion, the mighty hunter,



defends himself apparently, and compels the Bull to retreat before the onthrusts of his glittering star-club as they move across the sky.

The first view of Orion and Taurus may be obtained in the east near midnight during late October and all through the months of November and December. Their battle is then being waged in the south. By the middle of May they disappear over the western horizon. “But earthbound winds could not dismember thee, nor shake thy frame of jewels.”

The lovely Grecian legend tells us that he became the lover of the fair maiden of the dawn, Aurora, and in the mid-summer was always to be seen on the eastern horizon to greet her as she opened the gates to herald the approach of the Sun God, the King of the Day.

The three bright stars which are visible in the constellation of Orion are popularly known as the “Belt of Orion.” In the Book of Job they are referred to as the Bands of Orion.

They have also been called the Three Wise Men who are watching for that strange star in the East. For at this particular time of the year they are especially prominent.

Astronomers tell us that one of these stars is of a combined white and pale violet color, another of a topaz yellow, and the third, composed of an exquisite variety of pale delicate colors.

In the figure of Orion we find a prototype of Nimrod who was the great hunter mentioned in the Bible. He lived in Babylon which word means Confusion,

and was instrumental in helping in the building of the Tower of Babel, which is the story of the deification of the power of the concrete mind, the intellect. It is this step in the evolution of man which has ever brought division and confusion upon the earth.

Nimrod typifies the man of the Atlantean Epoch.

“The fourth, or Turanians, became tall with pride, saying, ‘We are the kings, we are the gods.’”

Out of rare earths and metals and of black and white stone, they cut their own likenesses and images life-size, and worshiped them.

Shrines were placed in the temples in which the statue of each man in gold or silver was adorned by himself.

Rich men kept retinues of priests for the care of these shrines, and offerings were made to these statues “as to gods.”

God was forgotten.

The worship of the Ego was supreme. Humanity had not yet learned to heed the commandment which was later given through Moses,—“Thou shalt have no other gods before me.”

The present condition of the world with its conflicts, its inharmonies, “its wars and rumors of war,” shows us that man has not yet learned this lesson.

APHORISMS

BY A. P. H. TRIVELLI

The Teacher is the servant of the pupil.

There is no higher authority than your own experience.

Self-forgetting service is the realization of the freedom of the Spirit.

Do not worship personalities. Personalities have names. Worship spirituality.

The true Teacher never makes an appeal to an authority. The appeal is to yourself.

Every Teacher is only a temporary Teacher. One only accepted—that one is yourself. You are your own Eternal Teacher.

Absolute negativity is reflected in relative positivity. The creation of the relative positive reality is the reflection of the self-activity of the absolute negative Spirit.