

# WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY

## Culmination of the Ministry

### *The Mystic Sunrise Rite*

**T**HE Rite of the Resurrection is the rite of the impersonal life. In the experiences of the mystic death the disciple becomes aware of the illusions of matter and the limitations of finite life. The Resurrection consciousness brings the realization of the oneness of all life with God. The stone of separation has been rolled away. Henceforth one who has passed into this sublime experience knows that no ill can affect a part without hurting the whole, and that no good can come to the one without at the same time benefitting all.

One who comes to know the glory of the Resurrection can never again wound or kill even his younger brothers of the animal kingdom, for they, too, are living expressions of the same divine life that lives and moves and has its being in man. In the Resurrection consciousness the passion of the unregenerate desire body is transformed into the compassion of the all-embracing spirit. The newly awakened is bathed in the golden refulgence of the risen Christ and becomes one with Him in the realization that death has been merged into the victory of eternal life.

Meditation upon the transcendent experience of the Resurrection Rite brings a deeper understanding of and reverence for the inner significance of that salutation with which the esoteric Christians greeted each other in the early radiance of the mystic Easter Dawn, in the light of their own illumination: "The Christ is our Light."

In later years the night of Holy Saturday and the morning of Easter Sunday were times of Initiation for those advanced Egos whose lives and

works are mentioned in the Gospels. And there must have been many others not so mentioned, for in the words of John's Gospel, "many other signs therefore did Jesus in the presence of the disciples which are not written in this book." Still later, St. Gregory wrote a beautiful hymn describing the Holy Mary's dedication at the mystic sunrise, and early legends declare that it was to her that the risen Master made His first appearance.

In the end of the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.

And behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it.

His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow.

And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men. And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. --- *Matt. 28:1-6.*

Matthew records the appearance of the Angel of the Lord (law) to the two Marys. Mary represents the formative or mother principle in Nature. Universal Essence manifests as spirit and matter, the two poles of Being. From the time that God as Spirit, the positive masculine aspect, externalized Himself in Nature or matter, the negative or feminine pole, the purpose of spiritual evolution has been to redeem that manifestation, or the externalized "fallen" feminine. The Holy Mary is a personalized expression of this uplifted principle.

One of the outstanding features of the New Age reading of the Bible is the universality of its appeal. To ev-  
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## THE JOY OF BEING

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To be, *beautifully*, thus becomes the origin and the embodiment of the ultimate joy of being. The more beautifully we behave, the more beautiful, in the spiritual sense, we will become, until we finally experience that most exquisitely refined pinnacle of sublime happiness which is known to those who have attained godhood.

As we join in the glad hosannas of Easter, may we rejoice, not only in the Risen Christ, but also in the fact of our own existence, and in the ultimate triumph of humanity which the expression of all that is highest within us will some day, most assuredly, bring about.



## CULMINATION OF THE MINISTRY

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ery aspirant in whom the Christ Within is resurrected, the same Angel of the Lord (law) is waiting to proclaim the glorious tidings: "He is not here, for he is risen."

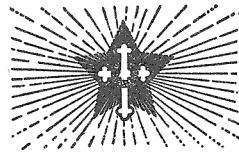
And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All Hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him. --- *Matt. 28:9.*

After the resurrection into the new life and consciousness of the spirit comes the meeting face to face. This is that most holy time of which Paul sings: "No longer through a glass darkly, but face to face."

## READERS' QUESTIONS

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philosophy enables him to advance in evolution at a very rapid rate for the reason that he is able to co-operate with the laws of Nature, and therefore avoids the ignorant violation of them which so often results in real disaster. Furthermore, he performs his daily duties in a manner which will perfect his vehicles and put him in possession of faculties which the ordinary individual may not develop in many lives to come.



## BEAN CROQUETTES

Soak 2 cups brown beans about 4 hours in warm water. Boil until soft, adding 1 cup chopped onions, and a few green leaves of celery; vegetable salt to taste just before mixture is done. Drain and put beans through food chopper; add  $\frac{1}{2}$  Tbs. unsulphured molasses, 1 Tbs. butter, a little unbleached flour, one egg, and one cup ground wholewheat bread crumbs. Form into croquettes. Roll in beaten egg, then in cracker crumbs; cook in deep vegetable oil. Serve with tomato sauce. Serves 6.

## TOMATO SAUCE

Melt 3 or 4 Tbs. butter in double boiler over hot water. Add 2 Tbs. soybean flour, 1 tsp. savory herb; simmer until thickened. Add 2 cups tomato pulp and juice, 1 small onion chopped fine, 1 small clove garlic chopped fine and crushed to thin paste, 2 Tbs. olive oil, vegetable salt to taste; cook another 5 minutes.

--- *Rosicrucian Fellowship Vegetarian Cookbook*