

WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY

The Mystic Interval

The Risen Christ

THE Christ appeared thirteen times to His disciples during the forty days between the Resurrection and the Ascension. These were not visions nor were they mere social visits; on each occasion He demonstrated occult principles He had previously taught them, and also instructed them in yet deeper mystic truths.

The Apocrypha states that the first appearance was to the Virgin Mary. The remaining twelve appearances were to the following: (1) Mary Magdalene, as related by John; (2) the three Marys; (3) Peter at the tomb; (4) the Two on the way to Emmaus; (5) the Disciples in the Upper Room; (6) again a week later in the Upper Room to the Eleven; (7) the Seven Disciples fishing on the Sea of Galilee; (8) the Disciples (*Matt. 28:16-20*); (9) the Five Hundred in Galilee; (10) James (*I Corinthians 15:7*); (11) Joseph of Arimathea; (12) Paul (*I Corinthians 15:8*). Some of these appearances were in an etheric body; others in a physical body. (A Master's vital body is so strongly magnetic that it can attract physical atoms readily and easily.)

Until the silver cord, which connects the vital and physical bodies, is severed after death, the etheric body possesses the power of attracting dense or physical atoms. This explains why the life-like form of one who has just passed over in death is so frequently seen by near relatives or friends of the departed Spirit. The power of etheric manifestation is strong enough during this period to become thus visible to others. For this manifestation distance offers no hindrance, as distance is almost non-existent to the etheric body. After the

severance of the silver cord, however, the vital body no longer possesses this attractive power; the image vanishes, and the body is dissolved. The Christ possessed a soul body not subject to dissolution; consequently, He was able to enter the Upper Room through closed doors and there attract sufficient atoms to form a physical body, and dissolve it at will when leaving. Physical walls are no barrier to the etheric vehicle.

"All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." This was Christ's first utterance to the assembled Disciples after the Resurrection. By this He meant that He had now, through the sacrifice upon Golgotha, become the indwelling Planetary Earth Spirit, and that all Earth evolution was under His direct guidance.

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen. *Matt. 28:18-20*.

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

--- *Mark 16:17-18*.

Christ's admonition to baptize in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit was a call to the complete consecration of the Will (Father), the Love-Wisdom (Christ), and the Activity (Holy Spirit) principles. The first two principles, when united, complete the transmutation of the lower or carnal man into the higher or celestial nature. One who has received this Baptism of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit becomes a first-hand knower and manifests the powers of the Initiate.