

*The biblical Little Ones, or  
Innocents, were High Initiates*



## ***Abstract and train of thoughts<sup>1</sup>***

The Herod of the New Testament stands for Alexander Jannaeus, king of Judea from 103 BC to 76 BCE, whose persecution and murder of hundreds and thousands of Initiates, the so-called “Massacre of the Innocents” led to the adoption of the event in the Bible story. 3

### **High Initiates are above human law**

Only the Little Ones understand the Mystery of the Serpent of the Great Sea. 4

Jesus, not being a High Initiate, conformed to the law of circumcision and commanded it. Paul, freed from the obligations of the human law, turned away from the old covenant and forbid circumcision. 4

Who is that “Lord” who commanded the Israelites to spoil the Egyptians of their jewels of silver and gold, and to “kill every male among the little ones”? 5



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<sup>1</sup> The Massacre of the Innocents, by Giacinto Diano

Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

— 1 Corinthians ii, 15 (NRS)

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Truly, says Rabbi Simeon ben-Yohai, that to understand the meaning of the Dragon is not given to the “Companions” (students, or *chelas*), but only to “the little ones,” *i.e.*, the *perfect Initiates*.<sup>1</sup>

The (account of the) work of the beginning, the companions study and understand; but the little ones (the perfect initiates) are those who understand the allusion to the work of the beginning, by the *mystery of the serpent of the Great Sea*.<sup>2</sup>

And those Christians, who may happen to read this, will also understand by the light of the above sentence who their “Christ” was. For Jesus states repeatedly that he who

. . . shall not receive the Kingdom of God as a *little child*, he shall not enter therein;<sup>3</sup>

And if some of his sayings have been meant to apply to children without any metaphor, most of what relates to the “little ones” in the Gospels, related to the *Initiates*, of whom Jesus was one. Paul (Saul) is referred to in the Talmud as “the little one.”<sup>4</sup>



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<sup>1</sup> Such was the name given in ancient Judea to the Initiates, called also the “Innocents” and the “Infants,” *i.e.*, once more reborn. This *key* opens a vista into one of the New Testament mysteries: the slaughter by Herod of the 40,000 “Innocents.” There is a legend to this effect, and the event which took place almost a century B.C. shows the origin of the tradition blended at the same time with that of Krishna and his uncle Kansa. In the case of the N.T., Herod stands for Alexander Jannaeus (of Lydia), whose persecution and murder of hundreds and thousands of Initiates led to the adoption of the Bible story.

<sup>2</sup> *Zohar*, II, 34b

<sup>3</sup> [Cf. *Luke* xviii, 17; *Mark* x, 15; *Matthew* xviii, 3 & xix, 14]

<sup>4</sup> *Secret Doctrine*, II p. 504; [on the powerful and profound symbolism of the Dragon]

## High Initiates are above human law

H.P. Blavatsky comments on the Occult powers of the High Initiate, who, before entering into the state of Nirvana, can cause his “remains” (sometimes, though not very well, called his Māyāvi-Rūpa) to remain behind, whether he is to become a Nirvanī, or to find himself in a lower state of bliss.

This fact of the disappearance of the vehicle of Egotism in the fully developed Yogī, who is supposed to have reached Nirvāna on earth, years before his corporeal death, has led to the law in *Manu*, sanctioned by millenniums of Brāhmanical authority, that such a Paramātman should be held as absolutely blameless and free from sin or responsibility, do whatever he may (see last chapter of the *Laws of Manu*). Indeed, caste itself — that most despotic, uncompromising and autocratic tyrant in India — can be broken with impunity by the Yogī, who is above caste. This will give the key to our statements.<sup>1</sup>

### Only the Little Ones understand the Mystery of the Serpent of the Great Sea.

In biblical esotericism, Deity in its double manifestation of good and evil. The meaning may be found in the *Zohar*.<sup>2</sup> Rabbi Simeon said:

The work of the beginning [of “creation”] the companions [candidates] study and understand it; but the *little ones* [the full or perfect Initiates] are those who understand the allusion to the work of the beginning *by the Mystery of the Serpent of the Great Sea* [to wit], *Thanneen, Leviathan*.<sup>3, 4</sup>

### Jesus, not being a High Initiate, conformed to the law of circumcision and commanded it. Paul, freed from the obligations of the human law, turned away from the old covenant and forbid circumcision.

The real reason why Paul is shown as “abrogating the law”<sup>5</sup> can be found only in India, where to this day the most ancient customs and privileges are preserved in all

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<sup>1</sup> *Blavatsky Collected Writings*, (THE DOCTRINE OF AVATĀRAS) XIV p. 377 & fn.

<sup>2</sup> II, 34b

<sup>3</sup> See also *Qabbalah*, by I. Myer

<sup>4</sup> *Theosophical Glossary*: Leviathan

<sup>5</sup> Cf. “It must be borne in mind that our present Christianity is *Pauline*, not *Jesus*. Jesus, in his life, was a Jew, conforming to the law; even more, He says:

The scribes and Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat; whatsoever therefore they command you to do, that observe and do.

And again:

I did not come to destroy, but to fulfil the law.

Therefore, He was under the law to the day of his death, and could not, while in life, abrogate one jot or tittle of it. He was circumcised and commanded circumcision. But Paul said of circumcision that it availed nothing, and *he* (Paul) abrogated the law. *Saul* and *Paul* — that is, Saul, under the law, and Paul, freed from the obligations of the law — were in one man, but parallelisms *in the flesh*, of Jesus the man under the law as observing it, who thus died in *Chrēstos* and arose, freed from its obligations, in the spirit world as *Christos*, or the trium-

their purity, notwithstanding the abuse levelled at the same. There is only one class of persons who can disregard the law of Brāhmanical institutions, caste included, with impunity, and that is the *perfect* “Svāmis,” the Yogīs — who have reached, or are supposed to have reached, the first step towards the Jīvanmukta state — or the full Initiates. And Paul was undeniably an Initiate.<sup>1</sup> We will quote a passage or two from *Isis Unveiled*, for we can say now nothing better than what was said then:

Take Paul, read the little of original that is left of him in the writings attributed to this brave, honest, sincere man, and see whether anyone can find a word therein to show that Paul meant by the word Christ anything more than the abstract ideal of the personal divinity indwelling in man. For Paul, Christ is not a person, but an embodied idea.

“If any man is in Christ, he is a new creation,”<sup>2</sup>

*he is reborn*, as after initiation, for the Lord is spirit — the spirit of man. Paul was the only one of the apostles who had understood the secret ideas underlying the teachings of Jesus, although he had never met him.<sup>3</sup>

**Who is that “Lord” who commanded the Israelites to spoil the Egyptians of their jewels of silver and gold, and to “kill every male among the little ones”?**

No one who has studied the Bible can deny for one single moment that a large proportion (if *happily* not all) of modern Christians walk indeed “in the *ways* of the Lord” — Number 1. This one is the “Lord” who *had respect unto Abel*, because the meat of his sacrifice smelt sweet in his nostrils; the “Lord” who commanded the Israelites to *spoil* the Egyptians of their jewels of silver and gold; also to “*kill every male among the little ones*,” as “*every woman . . . but all the women children [virgins] . . . to keep alive for yourselves*”;<sup>4</sup> and to commit other actions too coarse to be repeated in any respectable publication.

Hence the modern warriors who achieve such feats (with the modern improvement occasionally, of shooting their enemies out of the mouths of big guns) walk, most undeniably, “in the ways” of the Lord of the Jews, but *never in the ways of Christ*. So does the modern trader who keeps the Sabbath most rigorously, attending Divine Service thrice on that day, after treating during the whole week his hired clerks as the brood of Ham “who shall be their [Shem and Japheth’s] servants.”

So does, likewise, he who helps himself, David-like, to a Bath-Sheba, the wife of Uriah, without the least concern whether he simply robs or kills the Hittite husband.

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phant Christ. It was the Christ who was freed, but Christ was in the spirit. Saul in the flesh was the function of, and parallel of, Chrēstos. Paul in the flesh was the function of and parallel of Jesus become Christ in the spirit, as an earthly reality to answer to and act for the *apotheosis*; and so, armed with all authority in the flesh to abrogate the human law.” *Source of Measures*, p. 262

<sup>1</sup> [See “Paul an Initiate and founder of Christianity” and “Peter not an Initiate and the enemy of Paul” in the same series.]

<sup>2</sup> [2 *Corinthians* v, 17]

<sup>3</sup> *Blavatsky Collected Writings*, (ST. PAUL, THE FOUNDER OF CHRISTIANITY) XIV p. 122; [& quoting *Isis Unveiled*, II p. 574] Cf. Paul may have been “Simon the Magician.” *ibid.*, XIV pp. 113-14, 124 & *fn.* [& quoting *Isis Unveiled*, II pp. 90-91]

<sup>4</sup> *Numbers xxxi*, 17 *et seq.*

For he has every right to take for his sampler “a friend of God” — the *God* of the old covenant.

But will either of these pretend they walk in the ways of their Lord of the *new* Dispensation? Yet, he who raises his voice in a protest against the “ways” of the Mosaic God, therefore, in favour of those preached by the very *antithesis* of Jehovah — the meek and gentle “Man of Sorrow” — he is forthwith set up on the pillory and denounced to public opprobrium as an *anti-Christian* and an Atheist! This, in the face of the words:

*Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the Kingdom of Heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in Heaven. . . . And every one that heareth these words of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand and . . . great was the fall thereof!*<sup>1, 2</sup>



“Paul an Initiate and founder of Christianity,” and  
“Peter not an Initiate and the enemy of Paul,” in the same series. — ED. PHIL.]

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<sup>1</sup> [Matthew vii, 21, 26-27]

<sup>2</sup> Blavatsky *Collected Writings*, (FROM AN UNPOPULAR PHILOSOPHER) VIII pp. 263-64; [on “The Ways of The Lord.”]