

# *Chiliasts, Millenniumists, Millenarians*



CONFUSING WORDS SERIES  
CHILIASTS, MILLENNIUMISTS, MILLENARIANS

From *Blavatsky Collected Writings*, (COMMENTARY ON THE PISTIS SOPHIA) XIII p. 78.  
Frontispiece: Marvellous Sauce (1890) Jehan Georges Vibert, Albright-Knox Art Gallery.

[PS 243] “. . . A day of Light is a thousand years of the World, so that thirty-six myriads of years and half a myriad of years of the World are one year of Light (1) . . . ”

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(1) [*Year of Light.*] Theosophists acquainted with the doctrine of cycles of manvantaras and pralayas, and of the days and nights of Brahmā, will have no difficulty in finding the key of the mystery which has puzzled the so-called Christian Church from the time that its lower principles separated themselves entirely from their higher light, the Divine Gnōsis. The absurdities of the Chiliasts, Millenniumists and Millenarians are a striking proof of the materialism of Patristic theology, which has been re-edited and kept up to date down to this very day. This thousand physical years absurdity in various aspects, mostly with the physical return and reign of Christ on earth, was supported by the greatest lights of the Church. We find among its supporters such names as Papias, the co-disciple of Polycarp and a hearer of John, Irenaeus, Justin Martyr (who imagined that the thousand years would be spent in Jerusalem “rebuilt, adorned, and enlarged”), Tertullian, Victorinus, Apollinarius, Lactantius, Severus and Augustine. How different the nearer tradition of the Gnostics was from the later misunderstandings, may be seen from our text, and any further explanation is almost superfluous.

