

*Wisdom revealing
herself to the Elect*



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It is true that the Druses believe in and expect their resurrection day in Armageddon, which, however, they pronounce otherwise. As the phrase occurs in the *Apocalypse* it may seem to some that they got the idea in St. John’s Revelation. It is nothing of the kind. That day which, according to the Druse teaching “will consummate the great spiritual plan — the bodies of the wise and faithful will be absorbed into the absolute essence, and transformed from the many, into the ONE.” This is pre-eminently the Buddhist idea of Nirvana, and that of the Vedāntin final absorption into Parabrahm. Their “Persian Magianism and Gnosticism” make them regard St. John as Ōannēs, the Chaldean Man-Fish, hence connect their belief at once with the Indian Vishnu and the Lamaic Symbology. Their “Armageddon” is simply “Ramdagon,”¹ and this is how it is explained.

The sentence in *Revelation* is no better interpreted than many other things by Christians, while even the non-Kabbalistic Jews know nothing of its real meaning. Armageddon is mistaken for a geographical locality, viz., the elevated tableland of Esdraelion or *Armageddon*, “the mountain of Megiddo,” where Gideon triumphed over the Medianites.² It is an erroneous notion, for the name in the *Revelation* refers to a mythical place mentioned in one of the most archaic traditions of the heathen East,

¹ *Rama*, of the Solar race, is an incarnation of Vishnu — a Sun-God. In “Matsya,” or the first Avatāra, in order to save humanity from final destruction (see *Vishnu-Purāna*), that God appears to King Satyavrata and the seven saints who accompany him on the vessel to escape Universal Deluge, as an enormous fish with one stupendous horn. To this horn the King is commanded by Hari to tie the ship with a serpent (the emblem of eternity) instead of a cable. The Taley-Lama, besides his name of “Ocean,” is also called *Sha-ru*, which in Tibetan means the “unicorn,” or one-horned. He wears on his headgear a prominent horn, set over a *Yung-dang*, or mystic cross; which is the Jaina and Hindu *Swastika*. The “fish” and the sea, or *water*, are the most archaic emblems of the Messiahs, or incarnations of divine wisdom, among all the ancient people. Fishes play prominently a figure on old Christian medals; and in the catacombs of Rome the “Mystic Cross” or “Anchor” stands between two fishes as supporters. “Daghdae” — the name of Zarathushtra’s mother, means the “Divine Fish” or Holy Wisdom. The “Mover on the Waters,” whether we call him “Narayan” or Abathur (the Kabbalistic Superior Father and “Ancient of the World”), or “Holy Spirit,” is all one. According to the *Codex Nazaraeus*, *Kabbalah* and *Genesis*, the Holy Spirit when moving on the waters mirrored himself — and “Adam Kadmon was born.” *Mare* in Latin is the sea. Water is associated with *every* creed. Mary and Venus are both patronesses of the sea and of sailors — and both mothers of Gods of Love, whether Divine or Earthly. The mother of Jesus is called Mary or Mariah — the word meaning in Hebrew *mirror*, that in which we find but the reflection instead of a reality, and 600 years before Christianity there was *Maya*, Buddha’s mother, whose name means *illusion* — identically the same. Another curious “coincidence” is found in the selections of new Taley-Lamas in Tibet. The new incarnation of Buddha is ascertained by a curious ichthyomancy with three goldfishes. Shutting themselves up in the Buddha-La (Temple), the Hubilgans place three goldfishes in an urn, and on one of these ancient emblems of Supreme Wisdom shortly appears the name of the child into whom the soul of the late Taley-Lama is supposed to have transmigrated.

² It is not the “Valley of Megiddo,” for there is no such valley known. Dr. Robinson’s topographical and Biblical notions being no better than hypotheses.

especially among the Turanian and Semitic races. It is simply a kind of purgatorial Elysium, in which departed spirits are collected, to await the day of final judgment. That it is so is proved by the verse in *Revelation*.

And he gathered them together into a place called. . . . Armageddon. And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air.³

The Druses pronounce the name of that mystical locality “Ramdagon.” It is, then, highly probable that the word is an anagram, as shown by the author [E.V.H. Keene] of *An Introduction to the Apocalypse*. It means “Rama-Dagon,”⁴ the first signifying [the] Sun-God of that name, and the second, “Dagon” or the Chaldean Holy Wisdom incarnated in their “Messenger,” Ōannēs — the Man-Fish, and descending on the “Sons of God” or the Initiates of whatever country; those, in short, through whom Deific Wisdom occasionally reveals itself to the world.



³ xvi, 16-17

⁴ *Ram* is also womb, and valley; and in Tibetan “goat.” “Dag” is fish; from Dagon, the man-fish, or perfect wisdom.