

Esoteric Bible Studies

BY CORINNE S. DUNKLEE

TEXT

24. Then the Lord rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from the Lord out of heaven;

25. And he overthrew those cities, and all the plain, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and that which grew upon the ground.—*Genesis, 19th Chapter.*

INTERPRETATION

As esoteric students we are endeavoring to find the very heart of the great secrets of the Bible. For remember, its mysteries are concealed, not revealed. The Bible was never intended to be an open word of God. In order to find the key to its mysteries we must learn to say with the early Greeks: "Man, know thyself."

In the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah we find the same power that destroyed the continent of Atlantis, and this same power man has within himself, by the use of which he may become a devil or a god. "*Daemon est Deus inversus.*" This is the power which man has used destructively through the ages, the power that has bound him to the wheel of birth and death. When he learns to use this great force constructively, it will lead him to find the New Jerusalem with its Tree of Eternal Life. Sodom and Gomorrah that are fallen must become Jaichin and Boaz that are lifted up and have become the two columns that support King Solomon's Temple, or the Temple of Wisdom, *which again is man himself.*

Sodom and Gomorrah correspond to the two principles within man. The Hebrew letter G holds the great mystery of the feminine principle. This principle is symbolized by generation on all planes of manifestation, the mystery of the interblending of the Divine with the hu-

man. G in Hebrew symbolizes a hollow tube or a canal. It refers to a twofold potency, generation and regeneration. Through this potency the soul may sin and die, and through it man may find eternal life. The letter G, or *gimel*, also symbolizes the throat where ideas formulated in the brain become objectified. We see in another guise the symbol of the great power of generation and regeneration when the latter has become the former. The destruction of Gomorrah is the story of the *misuse* of this power.

"Except the Lord of Hosts had left unto us a very small remnant we should have been as Sodom and we should have been like unto Gomorrah. Hear the word of the Lord, ye rulers of Sodom. Give ear unto the law of our Lord, ye people of Gomorrah."—*Isaiah 1: 9-10.*

"Verily I say unto you. It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city." (*Math., 10:15*). Thus spake the greatest Teacher of all in referring to this same matter.

Throughout the Bible, that wonderful book depicting the evolution of man, we are given in many different ways the effects of the *misuse* of the great creative force. This is the unpardonable sin, the sin against the Holy Ghost, and always results in degeneration. The inspired writers of the Bible also paint for us many glorious pictures describing the new heaven and the new earth which man shall find and know when he realizes his supreme heritage—"to be made in the image and likeness of God." This can only be as he learns to demonstrate the powers of regeneration.

S or *Shin* was one of the mother letters or fundamental characters of the ancient Hebrew alphabet, the other two being A and M. When the dot was placed on the left hand prong of S, the letter repre-

sented *sin* which was also the ancient name for the moon. Long ages passed after the Hebrew period before man could receive the concept of the woman clothed with the sun and *with the moon under her feet*. When we understand the true meaning of this symbol, Sodom and Gomorrah will have become celestial cities which no materiality can mar or devastate.

The marvelous wisdom of the ancient Egyptians depicted the state of humanity as that of a man blindfolded and walking toward a precipice at the foot of which a great crocodile with open mouth is waiting to devour him. A certain wise teacher refers to this Egyptian picture as a symbol of the flesh and its gratifications, and adds that it is only as man becomes wise that he learns the law. "A wise man will hear and will increase in learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels."—*Proverbs*, 1:5.

Does not this picture from ancient Egypt describe the condition of the vast majority of humanity today? Yet the lesson it contains was given to man thousands of years ago. Evolution is a very slow process: a thousand years are with the Lord but as a day. Our Bible carries lessons similar to this in the book of Jonah and also in the parable of the Prodigal Son.

The power that destroyed the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah can destroy man only as it is misused within his body. Such destruction shall cease in the world only as this power is conserved and used constructively in the body. (*See Cosmo-Conception*, Chap. 18).

Heed the admonition of one of the divinely inspired books which says, "If thou shouldst ask me what to study, I would say, Thyself. And when thou hadst studied well and shouldst ask me what next to study, I would reply again, Thyself."

Astrologically Sodom and Gomorrah represent the power of Taurus and Scorpio used on the lowest plane of manifestation.

Thoughts on the Path

BY MARY T. MOLYNEAUX

Receive advice gladly, thankfully, whether it be from a source visible or invisible.

Weigh it with the scales of both mind and heart, and be guided in its acceptance or rejection by the spirit within.

We are working our way out of bondage, toward freedom and independence of thought, word, and action.

Freedom — *in-dependence* — is won through repeated efforts to throw off the yoke that holds us back—the yoke of our imperfections.

We cannot take the last step out of bondage into freedom until we have gained wisdom without alloy, perfect wisdom, an emanation or attribute of love divine.

The pathway to freedom lies through the rocky passes and over the rugged hillsides of self-mastery. We make many mistakes through following the wrong path, repeatedly stumbling and falling by the wayside, receiving bruises and lacerations, until experience enables us to detect the path called right, and we have proven our ability to guide our footsteps, surmounting the peaks of evolution and passing through its wilderness toward the Promised Land of our God.

Infinity

BY FREDERIC R. BROWN

O silver stars, you ever seem to me
Like beacons o'er Life's vast eternal sea.
Your witching beams glow with a mystic
light

Upon the earth through dark, unfath-
omed night.

Your rays speed swiftly to us, charged
with force

That often changes lives, and turns the
course

Of tribes and nations, influencing all
To rise to lofty heights, or swiftly fall.
Beyond the stars dwells Life's great
mystery

That sways men's lives and rules their
destiny,