

Risen Christ And The Etheric Christ

Even more significant for Christianity in the long run than the twentieth-century Dead Sea and Nag Hammadi discoveries is the growing North American awareness of Rudolf Steiner's works. Virtually unavailable until the end of the twentieth century, English translations from the German archives are gradually coming into print. Both Steiner and his works have thus far been virtually unknown in traditional theological circles. No Bible commentary has yet reflected the remarkable spiritual insights of Anthroposophy. Now, ten years after first encountering a written comment about

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Rudolf Steiner, Ed Smith combines his own extensive traditional biblical knowledge with his years of concentrated study and reflection on hundreds of assembled works by Steiner. The result is the first Bible commentary in the light of anthroposophic insight. This is the first volume of a series of Bible commentary by the author. It is based on the "anthroposophic" understanding given to humanity by Rudolf Steiner during the first quarter of the twentieth century. Bible commentaries have always reflected the general line of thinking of their authors. However, the dramatic newness of anthroposophic thought means that perhaps the usual method of using a Bible commentary is not appropriate here. A large part of The Burning Bush is necessarily devoted to laying an anthroposophic, or spiritual-

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scientific, groundwork. A major assumption indulged in most Bible commentaries--that one can go directly to portions dealing with given passages of scripture and understand what is being said about them--does not fit.

The first chapter of the Acts of the Apostles describes Christ's Ascension-and a cloud received him out of their sight. As the disciples were looking up, two angels appeared and told them that this same Jesus, taken up from you into heaven, shall come again in the same way as you have seen him go. In 1910, Rudolf Steiner began a series of lectures announcing the advent of Christ's appearance in the sphere of the earth's etheric or life body. At first, he said, only a few will be aware of it, but in time more and more people--regardless of religious affiliation--will be strengthened,

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comforted and infused by the Christ's living presence. Such Damascus experiences, bespeaking a new natural clairvoyance, Steiner argues, will become increasingly common. The Christ will become a living comforter, he writes. However strange it may seem, it is nevertheless true that often when people, even in considerable numbers, are sitting together not knowing what to do and waiting, they will see the etheric Christ. He will be there, will confer with them, and will cast his word in such gatherings. We are now approaching these times... This collection contains Steiner's lectures on this theme, as well as on important related questions such as the etherization of the blood. Rudolf Steiner, the often undervalued, multifaceted genius of modern times, contributed much to the regeneration of

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culture. In addition to his philosophical teachings, he provided ideas for the development of many practical activities, including education - both general and special - agriculture, medicine, economics, architecture, science, religion and the arts. Steiner's original contribution to human knowledge was based on his ability to conduct 'spiritual research', the investigation of metaphysical dimensions of existence. With his scientific and philosophical training, he brought a new systematic discipline to the field, allowing for conscious methods and comprehensive results. A natural seer from childhood, he cultivated his spiritual vision to a high degree, enabling him to speak with authority on previously veiled mysteries of life. Samples of Steiner's work are to be found in this introductory reader in which Matthew

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Barton brings together excerpts from Steiner's many talks and writings on Easter. The volume also features an editorial introduction, afterword, commentary and notes. Chapters: Can we Celebrate Easter?; The Earth and the Cosmos; Rising Sun: Nature and Resurrection; Golgotha, the Central Deed of Evolution; Easter, a Festival for the Future.

The author encapsulates Steiner's revelations on the meaning of love and indicates the supreme importance of the greatest of all deeds of love; the Mystery of Golgotha.

Miracles, a Modern View

An Introductory Reader

David's Question

The Role of the Body in Religion

In the Light of Scientific Research and the Spiritual Science

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of Rudolf Steiner

The Mystery of the Resurrection in the Light of
Anthroposophy

The Tree of Life and the Holy Grail

Much has been written about the phenomenon of near-death experiences, but little attention has been paid to scientific research, such as that of Dr. Michael Sabom, that indicates that these are body-free or spiritual experiences. Still less attention has been paid to the parallels that exist between descriptions such as those given by George Ritchie, whose near-death journey caused Raymond Moody to begin the epoch-making study

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that brought the phenomenon into the public eye, and the work of Rudolf Steiner. Steiner spoke of the twentieth century as an age at the threshold of the Risen Christ; it is the author's conviction that Ritchie's story affords us an opportunity to recognize and enter into the meaning of this event.

The Risen Christ and the Etheric Christ
Two Lectures Given to the Anthroposophical Society of America in New York, April 22nd and 29th, 1949
The risen Christ and the etheric Christ
The Risen Christ and the Etheric Christ: Two Lectures Given to the Anthroposophical Society of America in New

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York, April 22. and 29. 1949
The Reappearance of Christ in the Etheric
Steiner Books
Carlo Pietzner speaks, out of his own ego-directed, inner experiences, about several motifs inherent to inner striving: the problem of self in relationship to the world, the disintegration of the three soul forces, the transition from sense perception to spiritual perception, the reality of evil, the condition of loneliness, and more. Looking Ahead considers Christianity in our time as it confronts the crisis of the relevance of the church and the challenge facing biblical theology. The reflections and

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observations in this book are autobiographical in nature because they mirror the personal perspective of one who for sixty-five years has sought to communicate the Christian faith with intellectual and spiritual integrity. In the process, the author provides personal contemporary interpretations of the tenets of the Apostles Creed and some of the familiar words of our common religious vocabulary. Ultimately, the summary synthesis holds that historic Christianity must and will prevail triumphantly in this era of unparalleled testing.

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The Burning Bush

**Esoteric Christianity and the Mission of
Christian Rosenkreutz**

The Disciple Whom Jesus Loved

**The Mystery, Biography & Destiny of Mary
Magdalene**

TWIN ROADS TO THE NEW MILLENIUM

**Is it Possible to Live without Food? - A
Scientist Reports on His Experiences
From Buddha to Christ**

**Rudolf Steiner's spiritual philosophy is the
inspiration for many successful initiatives in the
world today, from the international Steiner Waldorf**

school movement to biodynamic agriculture and its increasingly popular produce. Steiner developed his philosophy in dozens of books and many thousands of lectures. His teaching contains dozens of new concepts and ideas, and as a result he had often to create his own vocabulary. In this practical volume - a companion to his Anthroposophy, A Concise Introduction - Henk van Oort gives concise definitions of many terms and concepts in Steiner's worldview, from the most commonplace to the more obscure. Anthroposophy A-Z can be used as a reference guide, but also as a gateway into Rudolf Steiner's manifold world of spiritual ideas and

concepts. Anthroposophy can be seen to be a new language - a language that can lead to the world of the spirit. It was with this awareness that Henk van Oort took the initiative to write this glossary. Ultimately, he has written the sort of inspiring handbook that he wished had existed when he first became acquainted with anthroposophy over 40 years ago. HENK VAN OORT, born in 1943, trained as a primary teacher before taking a Masters degree in English at the Amsterdam University. He has taught for 40 years in primary and secondary education, including class teaching in a Steiner school, teaching English, and running educational

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courses and seminars for teachers and parents. His interest in literature and poetry has led to his appearance at storytelling and poetry seminars, and his introductory courses to anthroposophy have proved to be highly successful. Based in Bergen N.H. in the Netherlands, Henk van Oort is married and the father of three grown-up children. He is the author of Anthroposophy, A Concise Introduction. "This edition has been edited by Marcia Merryman Means, who also wrote the short introductions before each lecture"--T.p. verso. Throughout human history, ancient wisdom and traditional myths have placed human beings

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between the heavens and the underworld, describing the heavens as the light-filled realm of the gods and the source of goodness, and characterizing the underworld as a demon-filled realm of darkness and the source of evil. Modern science, however, denies the heavens and knows little of the Earth's interior -- even physically -- beyond the first few miles, after which it simply resorts to conjecture based on the extrapolation of existing sensory data. In other words, natural science fails to take into account that the Earth is a living, spiritual being and ignores the presence of its soul-spiritual qualities and influences. To remedy this, during the early

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twentieth century, Rudolf Steiner researched the psychic, spiritual, and cosmic nature of the Earth's interior. He described how the different layers of the inner Earth affect and interact with human beings living on Earth. More theologically and cosmically, he spoke of the layers of "Hell," through which Jesus Christ traveled in the period between the Crucifixion and the Resurrection, uniting and integrating himself with the Earth and with human destiny. The seven authors in The Inner Life of the Earth approach this difficult and little-discussed topic from different directions. They discuss how the forces emanating from the interior of the Earth affect

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the weather, our atmosphere, human beings, and how human behavior in turn affects them, showing that earthly and human evolution are a unity and should never be thought of as occurring separately. They also discuss the deep significance of Christ's incarnation, by which he united with the Earth to become the Spirit of the Earth. Without Christ's deed, the Mystery of Golgotha, which reunites cosmic and human evolution with the divine, human beings would be unable to work in freedom with Christ or with Sophia, divine feminine Wisdom, in her form as the Soul of the Earth, to overcome evil and help lift all creation toward goodness and

greater human, cosmic, and divine fellowship. In this revised and expanded edition of his classic debut, Sergei O. Prokofieff investigates the deepest mysteries of Rudolf Steiner's life and individuality, from 'the years of apprenticeship' and 'the great Sun period' to 'the path of the Teacher of Humanity' and 'the birth of the New Mysteries'. He discusses the earthly and supersensible aspects of the first Goetheanum, the implications of the Christmas Conference of 1923-24, and the Foundation Stone meditation that Steiner left as a legacy to members of the Anthroposophical Society. In his very personal Introduction, Prokofieff describes, in

moving detail, the events in his life which led to his discovery of anthroposophy whilst living in Communist Russia, and how eventually he came to write this extraordinary study of Rudolf Steiner. The resulting volume – a work of secondary anthroposophical literature unprecedented in its depth and significance – was first published in Germany in 1982, meeting with equal amounts of acclaim, astonishment and controversy. It is published in this paperback edition to mark the 35th anniversary of the original publication.

The Challenge of Lazarus-John

The Principle of Spiritual Economy in Connection

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with Questions of Reincarnation

**A Glossary of Terms Relating to Rudolf Steiner's
Spiritual Philosophy**

Selected Lectures

On the Esoteric in Shakespeare

**The Risen Christ and the Etheric Christ: Two
Lectures Given to the Anthroposophical Society of
America in New York, April 22. and 29. 1949**

**The Seven I AM sayings in the Gospel of St John
*According to Rudolf Steiner's spiritual
science, the greatest spiritual event of
our time is the renewal and reawakening of
our human suprasensory relationship to the***

higher spiritual worlds. The force that leads to this development--called by various names in different cultural and religious traditions--is called the "Christ impulse" by Anthroposophy, in accordance with Christian terminology. Because of new, naturally endowed suprasensory faculties, human beings are increasingly able to experience and perceive, through an act of grace, the great spiritual force of the Christ impulse. This experience is said to be a naturally given initiation, and today we

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increasingly hear of such suprasensory experiences. Today, however, a healthy approach to these "natural" phenomena requires us to comprehend suprasensory experiences with full awareness and clear thinking. This book builds an all-important bridge between the naturally given suprasensory experience and its conscious cognition. As a result, empirical suprasensory research "can investigate the different aspects of Christ's etheric becoming and appearance in a way that, both methodically and

experientially, fulfils the justified cognitive and scientific requirements of our age." This new paperback edition adds a new introductory chapter. C O N T E N T S

Turning to the Living Spirit Preface Introduction 1. The Ur-Mystery of Remembrance 2. Saul-Paul at the Gates of Damascus 3. The Conditions of the Modern Christ Experience 4. The Modern Christ Experience 5. The Knowledge Drama of the Second Coming 6. The Creation of the New Earth and Heaven of the Earthly-Human Sun 7. Christ's Appearance between "I" and

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"thou"

If, ultimately, there is only one reality, then neither religion nor science can be fulfilled until they come together on a higher plane. In this second volume of his authoritative, anthroposophical commentary on the Bible, Edward Reaugh Smith shows that there is no difference between true science and the divine intelligence sought by true religion. The model for such a union of science and religion is the spiritual science developed by Rudolf Steiner. In this union, what the senses

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show us about the physical world--when keenly observed and allowed to speak for itself instead of being abstracted into theories--become images of the spiritual world: "As above, so below." Drawing on his extensive knowledge of the Bible, the author shows us that anthroposophy provides unique insights into the biblical account. Included are essays on: Evolution Creation and Apocalypse The Four Elements As Above, So Below Fire (where Earth and Heaven meet) Light (the first form of corporeality from which all else follows)

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Blood (the meeting point of inner and outer worlds) What Is Man (how beings of the higher worlds work in forming the earthly vehicle for the human being) Plus Numerous Charts & Tables, an extensive bibliography, and an index of scriptures cited. This is an important resource for anyone who wants to dig into the deepest meanings of biblical scriptures.

In our materialistic and skeptical age, it can be difficult to take seriously the existence of real spiritual beings. Nevertheless, countless individuals --

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from the historic founders of religions to those who have been through near-death experiences -- have spoken of beings of Light, such as Angels and Archangels, and 'evil' beings, spirits of darkness. The author, basing his work on Rudolf Steiner's teachings, presents an epic picture of the forces of 'good' and 'evil' -- a battle of cosmic dimensions in which we are all intimately involved. He clarifies the pivotal role of the Archangel Michael, the 'Guardian of Cosmic Intelligence, ' who fights to hold the

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balance between the key powers of evil in our time -- Lucifer and Ahriman -- and describes other members of the evil hierarchies. He also discusses the biblical Apocalypse of St. John, the Mexican Mysteries, and much else. This book is an essential guide to meeting the challenge of evil at the new millennium. In ancient times humanity possessed an innate knowledge of the spiritual foundations of existence. Such knowledge could be acquired through inwardly accompanying the cycle of the year and its

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connected great seasonal festivals. But this instinctive knowledge had to be lost in order for human beings to discover individual freedom. In our time, as Sergei O. Prokofieff demonstrates in this comprehensive work, '... this knowledge must be found anew through the free, light-filled consciousness of the fully developed human personality'. Tracing the spiritual path of the yearly cycle, Prokofieff penetrates to the deeper esoteric realities of the seven Christian festivals of Michaelmas, Christmas,

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Epiphany, Easter, Ascension, Whitsun and St John's Tide. Basing his research on the work of the twentieth-century initiate Rudolf Steiner, he reveals how these festivals are spiritual facts that exist independently of religious traditions and cultural customs. Working with the festivals in an esoteric sense can provide a true path of initiation, ultimately enabling an experience of the Being of the Earth, Christ. The journey of study through this book can thus lead the reader to an experience of the modern Christian-

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Rosicrucian path, along which '... it is possible to take the first steps towards life in partnership with the course of cosmic existence'.

Ancient and Modern Spiritual Paths and the Mystery of Rennes-le-Château

What Is Biodynamics?

*The Reappearance of Christ in the Etheric
Rudolf Steiner's Vision of Love*

*The Anthroposophical Knowledge Drama of
Our Time*

1969: January-June

Rudolf Steiner and Contemporary

Spirituality

The Gospel of John, distinct from the 'synoptic gospels', is the most esoteric and challenging account of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. John, whose identity has been much debated, mysteriously refers to himself as 'the disciple whom Jesus loved'. But didn't Jesus love each of the twelve Apostles? Indeed, did he not love all human beings? However, the Gospel says only of Lazarus that Jesus 'loved him'. In this profound study, Richard Seddon brings together essential but often overlooked quotations from the work of the philosopher and scientist Rudolf Steiner. Steiner made no claim to divine inspiration, but described how - through the

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vigorous discipline of inner development - the capacity for spiritual-scientific research could be acquired. Rudolf Steiner, who founded anthroposophy, undertook research into many of the incidents recorded in John's Gospel, and reported his results in lectures given across Europe. In compiling Steiner's various statements, *The Challenge of Lazarus-John* reveals that John's Gospel not only gives a historical account, but also represents a path of personal development or initiation. After the prelude characterizing Creation, the Gospel describes how the Christ being descended into the physical and spiritual constitution of Jesus of Nazareth at the Baptism. Crossing the threshold

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between physical and spiritual worlds, the Gospel writer places emphasis on the development of the higher self in freedom, on the rebirth of the soul, and on the raising of Lazarus. An interlude considers the significance of the seven events referred to as 'signs', and the seven 'I am' statements in relation to higher stages of cognition. The remainder of the Gospel is seen as an expression of the seven stages of Rosicrucian-Christian initiation and their reformulation in the process of human evolution described in anthroposophy. This culminates in an examination of the spiritual processes that take place in the constitution of Jesus during the Crucifixion and Resurrection. It is Lazarus-John's personal witness of

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these events that enables him to write his unique Gospel. Drawing together such insights and interpretations, Seddon has produced a comprehensive monograph that supplements existing biblical commentaries and illumines John's enigmatic Gospel as a truly Christian path of modern initiation - a challenge to all human beings that will remain for millennia to come.

In addition to the outer manifestation of Christianity as we know it from history, there exists a second, hidden stream of Christian thought and development, sometimes referred to as 'esoteric Christianity' or 'Rosicrucian Christianity'. Displaying an intimate knowledge of his subject, Rudolf Steiner throws light

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on this once secret, spiritual movement. But rather than relying on historical tradition or teaching, he presents wisdom and insight directly from the original metaphysical sources of esoteric Christianity. In these dynamic lectures, Steiner describes the influence of Christ's power throughout history, the workings of karma, the role of the Buddha and the Bodhisattvas, as well as the vital work of Christian Rosenkreutz, Jeshu ben Pandira and other key historical figures. This new edition - indispensable for serious students of esotericism - contains all 23 lectures and addresses of the original German collection. It features previously scattered, classic lectures such as 'The Etherisation of the

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Blood', 'Faith, Love, Hope' and 'Cosmic Ego and Human Ego'.

In 1923 Therese Neumann, a nun in Southern Germany, stopped eating and drinking. Apart from the wafer given at Mass, she did not eat again, despite living for a further 35 years. Other similar cases have been reported over the years - often holy men from the East - and have taken on something of a mythical status. However, they remain obscure enough to be brushed aside by modern scientists. Michael Werner presents a new type of challenge to sceptics. A fit family man in his 50s, he has a doctorate in Chemistry and is the managing director of a research institute in Switzerland. In this

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remarkable account he describes how he stopped eating in 2001 and has survived perfectly well without food ever since. In fact, he claims never to have felt better! Unlike the people who have achieved this feat in the past, he is an ordinary man who lives a full and active life. Michael Werner has an open challenge to all scientists: Test me using all the scientific monitoring and data you wish! In fact, he describes one such test here in which he was kept without food in a strictly monitored environment for ten days. Werner also describes in detail how and why he came to give up food, and what his life is like without it. This book features other reports from those who have attempted to follow this way of life,

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as well as supplementary material on possible scientific explanations of how one could 'live on light'.

It is commonly accepted that the mission of Christ was an act that was independent of any corresponding and requisite deed on the part of humanity. Though, in part, this is true this book asserts that the future spiritual evolution of humanity was dependent on human comprehension and understanding of the Event of Golgotha.

Comprehension and understanding are defined in this work as one's capacity to spiritually follow Christ through His entire Passion, Death and resurrection. The Apostles were chosen for this very task but

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eventually failed at the critical
hour. Golgotha, Esoteric Christianity, Young Man in
Tomb, Birth of Jesus, Evolution of Christ, Richard
Distasi
Exploring the Mysteries of Nature, Subnature, and
Supranature
Learning to Experience the Etheric World
The History of the Michaelic Movement since the
Death of Rudolf Steiner - An Esoteric Study
The Imagination of Pentecost
Life from Light
An Esoteric Interpretation
Michael and the Two-horned Beast
11 lectures, various cities, January-May, 1909 (CW 109)

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These talks reveal a particular aspect of how humankind have been guided spiritually throughout history--by the life forces and astral bodies of the great initiates and avatars that were preserved, duplicated, and interwoven with the leading personalities of history. Steiner gives numerous examples of this process, but he says that such inspired people are rare today. Nevertheless, we have the possibility of elevating ourselves in the future to the point where we can receive into ourselves the "I-being" of the Christ, which is indeed our greatest goal--"not I but Christ in me." Contents: The Principle of Spiritual Economy in Connection with Questions of Reincarnation Christianity in Human Evolution, Leading

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Individualities, and Avatar Beings More Intimate Aspects of Reincarnation Results of Spiritual Scientific Investigations of the Evolution of Humanity On the Occasion of the Dedication of the Francis of Assisi Branch The Macrocosmic and Microcosmic Fire: The Spiritualization of Breath and Blood The Event of Golgotha -- The Brotherhood of the Holy Grail Ancient Revelations and Learning: How to Ask Modern Questions The God of the Alpha and the God of the Omega From Buddha to Christ The Mystery of the Resurrection approaches the deepest mysteries of the Turning Point of Time through Rudolf Steiner's spiritual research. At its heart stands the

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question of the restoration of the 'phantom' of the physical body, and its transformation into the resurrected body of Christ through the Mystery of Golgotha. The author draws a broad and differentiated picture of the tasks and possibilities that the Easter event, as well as Ascension and Whitsun, present - both for the individual and humanity. The final chapter considers the mystery of Easter Saturday, through which the two polar aspects of the Mystery of Golgotha - death and resurrection - interconnect, at the same time explaining the relationship of the Earth Spirit to the interior of the Earth. An appendix tackles the phenomenon of stigmatization from a spiritual-scientific perspective.

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Based on a talk at the New York Open Center in 1999, this book on the identity of John speaks of Christian initiation in a new way--one whose time has come. What Smith has to say is both extraordinarily suggestive and remarkably conclusive. Covering a lot of ground in a way that is accessible, the author masterfully supplies us with a range of collateral materials that is always interesting and illuminates the larger picture. Because this small book began its life as a talk to a general audience, it is blessedly jargon-free and reader friendly. It contains both sophistication or bite while working a quiet but profound revolution in the field of study that it addresses. New Testament scholars as well as those concerned in any

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way with the future of Christianity ought to sit up and take note. Anyone seeking to understand the mystery of Jesus Christ and his "beloved disciple" will find true food for the mind and heart.

This unique work – the fruit of many decades' research and experience – throws new light on the supersensible history and karma of the Michaelic movement since Rudolf Steiner's death. It describes that movement's evolution and transformation in the etheric world during the twentieth century, from the world-changing apocalypse of the 1930s and 40s through to the beginning of its incarnation on Earth at the end of last century. The book also focuses on developments in the

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practical and social work of building the community of the School of Spiritual Science, which embodies the new Michaelic movement in our time. As Ben-Aharon indicates, the Michaelic movement is searching for creative, courageous and enthusiastic souls to foster a strong community that develops – from one decade to the next – as a living organism. Based on the continuous resurrection of anthroposophy, this community strives to create a fully conscious meeting and communication with the school of Michael and Christ in the etheric world, in a form that is appropriate and demanded by the times. The transcripts of these lectures bring together the author's experiences with anthroposophy over the last 42 years in

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the light of present communications from the spiritual world. It is based on contemporary spiritual investigation and individual, lived experience. From the Contents: 'The Amfortas-Parsifal Duality of Modern Humanity'; 'The Twilight of Humanity and its Resurrection'; 'The Universal Language of Michael and the Being of Rudolf Steiner'; 'The Anthroposophical Movement in the Present'; 'The Etheric Form is Alive'; 'The Resurrection of the Etheric Christ in the 21st Century'.
Unveiling the Author of John's Gospel
"what is Man?" (Psalm 8)
Looking Ahead

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Catalog of Copyright Entries. Third Series Spiritual Science and the Logic of the Heart Easter

Our world today is increasingly characterized by speed, movement and flux. There is often a lack of sufficient time to do 'what needs to be done', and life seems to be marked by change, upheaval and revolution. But in the midst of this turmoil, say the authors, people are having conscious and semiconscious experiences of the etheric world - the world that comprises the forces of life. However, this growing sensitivity to the etheric realm only intensifies experiences of movement and upheaval. To counter such feelings, we should take hold of our inner life and strengthen the 'I' - our true self. Featuring essays

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supplemented with a substantial amount of source material from Rudolf Steiner and other authors, this book is an invaluable resource for inner development and the beginnings of true spiritual vision. We learn to practise the ability to add to every physical perception - whether of stone, plant, animal or another person - the etheric reality associated with that entity. This process leads us to become more aware of the 'after-image' and to become conscious within the etheric realm. Baruch Urieli comments that this 'is not an esoteric path but is, rather, an endeavour to bring the beginnings of a natural consciousness of the etheric to full consciousness and, hence, under the rulership of the ego'.

First published in the run-up to the new millennium, van Manen's

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seminal study remains a unique and important source for understanding the spiritual and karmic background to the Anthroposophical Movement and Society, as founded around the work of the twentieth-century seer and scientist Rudolf Steiner. In his lectures on karma given in 1924, Steiner spoke of the principal Aristotelian and Platonic traditions – and the movements based on their thinking. Van Manen studies the streams of destiny connected to these groups, and elaborates upon Steiner's presentations – also tackling the apparent contradictions in the Karmic Relationships lecture series. The author discusses the background to these groupings of destiny, beginning with the cosmic Michael School in the life before birth. He throws light on many different esoteric aspects connected to

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anthroposophy, including the archetypal representations of thinking arising from the Middle Ages; the Arthurian and Grail movements; the mystery of 'Old' and 'Young' souls; the individuals identified as 'Seekers for Christ' and 'Servants of Michael', and the 'Shepherds' and 'Kings'. We are led to the point at which the two principal groups of souls incarnate and meet together on earth for the first time ever – an event which is to take place within the contemporary anthroposophical movement. In an inspiring conclusion, the author presents his thoughts on a great Whitsun happening at the end of the twentieth century, and expounds on the tasks of the new millennium and the future of anthroposophy.

Recent works of fiction and popular history have promoted the

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idea that the Holy Grail symbolizes a physical bloodline resulting from the union of Jesus Christ and Mary Magdalene. This, supposedly, is the 'secret' that esoteric movements have kept tirelessly for the past 2,000 years. From her groundbreaking research, Sylvia Francke exposes this notion to be a blatant misinterpretation of the mystery traditions that preceded and ran parallel to the birth of Christianity. She traces the ancient spiritual paths of knowledge from the Cathars, the Knights Templar and the enigmatic Rosicrucians, to the work of Rudolf Steiner in the twentieth century. Here, she concludes, is true Grail knowledge: the Tree of Life and the Holy Grail itself explained in their metaphysical context. From her research she suggests a solution to the riddle of the sudden wealth and strange behaviour

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*of Bérenger Saunière, the mysterious priest of Rennes-le-Château in southern France. True Grail knowledge, she concludes, has nothing to do with bloodlines or worldly status, but is an ancient lifeline to the spiritual origins of creation. Its energetic forces ray up from the earth and down from the constellations and planets while interacting with individual human beings. It holds the key to the fulfilment of mankind's quest, a step to the next phase of human evolution... The recent explosion of interest in an alternative history of Christianity - the shadow Grail - prompted Sylvia Francke to revise *The Tree of Life and the Holy Grail*, first published in 1996. The result is a completely reworked and expanded book that constitutes a powerful and convincing refutation of distorted esoteric truths.*

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The first chapter of the Acts of the Apostles describes Christ's Ascension: "And a cloud received him out of their sight." As the disciples looked up, two angels appeared and told them, "This same Jesus, taken up from you into heaven, shall come again in the same way as you have seen him go." In 1910, Rudolf Steiner began a series of lectures announcing the advent of Christ's appearance in the sphere of the earth's etheric or life body. At first, he said, only a few will be aware of it, but in time more and more people--regardless of religious affiliation--will be strengthened, comforted and infused by the Christ's living presence. Such "Damascus experiences," bespeaking a new natural clairvoyance, Steiner argues, will become increasingly common. "The Christ will become a living comforter," he writes.

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"However strange it may seem, it is nevertheless true that often when people, even in considerable numbers, are sitting together not knowing what to do and waiting, they will see the etheric Christ. He will be there, will confer with them, and will cast his word in such gatherings. We are now approaching these times..."

This collection contains Steiner's lectures on this theme, as well as on important related questions, such spiritual science and etheric vision, the etheric vision of the future, "the etherization of the blood," the Sermon on the Mount and the land of Shambhala, the mysteries of comets and the Moon, Buddhism and Pauline Christianity, spirit beings and the ground of the world, and the three realms between death and rebirth. The Reappearance of Christ in the Etheric collects much of Rudolf Steiner's most

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important discussions of esoteric Christianity, especially as it relates to the central place of the Christ being in world and human evolution.

The New Experience of the Supersensible

The Twilight and Resurrection of Humanity

The Sophia Teachings

A Christian Rosenkreutz Anthology

The Risen Christ and the Etheric Christ

The Christmas Conference and the Karma of the

Anthroposophical Society

The Challenge of Evil Today in the Light of Rudolf Steiner's

Science of the Spirit

The body is crucial to religious life, but there has been

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little practical attention to how to make a helpful reality of this fact. Strong forms of philosophical dualism have been widely abandoned by post-war theologians in favour of a more integrated view of human nature, but guidance on the role of the body in Christian spirituality remains fragmentary. Focusing particularly on drawing out practical implications for religious life and ministry, this book will survey the many ways in which the body plays an important role in religions and spiritual life, drawing on scientific research, theology and philosophy.

'The power of Shakespeare lies in his evidently conscious knowledge, skill and understanding of how to

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work with the alchemical potential in the human soul in the crafting of his plays. Each play is made as an exquisitely unique transformative device for the education of the soul.' 'Books carry on conversations across the thresholds of time and space', writes Josie Alwyn in her introduction. This book is the fruit of her 'conversation' with Brien Masters - a collaboration that began more than twenty years ago, when she was learning to be a Waldorf teacher. They open their discussions with the broader theme of the role and 'mission' of drama in human development, before focusing on the central topic: the potential for metamorphosis inherent in Shakespeare's plays. This

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creative, birth-giving, transformative essence of Shakespeare – the esoteric core of his work – is vitally important to our times, they suggest, and contributes to the ongoing cultural education of the human soul. Published to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death, *Educating the Soul* offers an overview of Shakespeare's journey as a playwright in the context of evolving human consciousness. The heart of the book features nine essays on Shakespeare's most performed plays. Just as the middle act of a Shakespearian drama gives a point of transformation, so these essays represent the central, unfolding dialogue that took place between the writers

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as the book developed. This section is followed by an in-depth study of Hamlet, that sees the story as a learning process, deeply strengthened by the primary character's own education and changing consciousness. Finally, the book explores the theme of transformation through The Tempest and in relation to the archetypal 'tree of life'. Accessible to all, the motifs of the various chapters in this book are woven lightly together, enabling the reader to follow the contents in sequence, or to dip in and pick up the threads at any point.

Many people who are drawn to Buddhism today are seeking for spiritual knowledge as opposed to simple

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faith or sectarian belief. Hermann Beckh had a profound personal connection to the Buddhist path and the noble truths it contains, yet he was also dedicated to a radical renewal of Christianity. Assimilating the groundbreaking research of Rudolf Steiner (1861-1925), Beckh's comprehension of Buddhism was neither limited to historical documents nor scholarly research in philology. Rather, from his inner meditation and spiritual understanding, he saw the earlier great world religions as waymarks for humanity's evolving consciousness. In the modern world, the apprehension of Christianity needed to be grounded firmly in a universally-valid, inner cognition and experience: 'In

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this light, knowledge becomes life.' Hermann Beckh - Professor of Tibetan Studies and Sanskrit in Berlin, subsequently a founding priest of The Christian Community - first published this mature study in 1925. Having already produced the comprehensive Buddha's Life and Teaching in 1916, Beckh's sweeping perspectives combined with his extensive academic knowledge provided a unique grounding for authoring this work. As he notes, From Buddha to Christ follows a path of development, 'both of method and goal'. Thus, studying this book is itself a path of knowledge and potential initiation. Beckh's universal insights remain relevant - and if anything have gained in value - to

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twenty-first century readers. This edition features an additional essay, 'Steiner and Buddha: Neo-Buddhist Spiritual Streams and Anthroposophy' (1931), in which Beckh, for the first and last time, explains his lifelong personal connection to the Buddhist path.

An Aspect of the Spiritual Guidance of Man

A Plea for Embodied Spirituality

Leading to an Experience of the Christ Being

The Near-death Experience

Two Lectures Given to the Anthroposophical Society of America in New York, April 22nd and 29th, 1949

The risen Christ and the etheric Christ

Anthroposophy A-Z