

with the seventy elders of the people of Israel,\* and the Regents of these planets are meant, not the orbs themselves; the word seventy is a play and a blind upon the  $7 \times 7$  of the subdivisions. Each people and nation, as we have already said, has its *direct* Watcher, Guardian and Father in Heaven—a Planetary Spirit. We are willing to leave their own national God, Jehovah, to the descendants of Israel, the worshippers of Sabaoth or Saturn; for, indeed, the Monads of the people chosen by him are his own, and the *Bible* has never made any secret of it. Only the text of the Protestant English *Bible* is, as usual, in disagreement with those of the Septuagint and the Vulgate. Thus, while\* in the former we read:

When the Most High [not Jehovah] divided to the nations their inheritance . . . he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel.†

In the *Septuagint* the text reads "according to the number of the Angels," Planet-Angels, a version more concordant with truth and fact. Moreover, all the texts agree that "the Lord's [Jehovah's] portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance";‡ and this settles the question. The "Lord" Jehovah took Israel for his portion; what have other nations to do with that particular national Deity? Let then, the "Angel Gabriel" watch over Iran and "Mikael-Jehovah" over the Hebrews. These are not the Gods of other nations, and it is difficult to see why Christians should have selected a God against whose commandments Jesus was the first to rise in rebellion.

The planetary origin of the Monad, or Soul, and of its faculties was taught by the Gnostics. On its way to the Earth, as on its way back from the Earth, each soul born in, and from, the "Boundless Light,"§ had to pass through the seven planetary regions either way. The pure Dhyāni and Devas of the oldest religions had become, in course of time, with the Zoroastrians, the Seven Devs, the ministers of Ahriman, "each chained to his planet";|| with the Brāhmans, the Asuras and some of the Rishis—good, bad and indifferent; among the Egyptian Gnostics it was Thoth, or Hermes, who was the chief of the Seven

\* Numb., xi. 16.

† Deut., xxxii. 8, 9.

‡ Ibid., 9.

§ C. W. King in *The Gnostics and their Remains* (p. 344), identifies it with "that summum bonum of Oriental aspiration, the Buddhist Nirvāna, 'perfect repose, the Epicurean *Indolentia*,'" a view that looks flippant enough in its expression, though not quite untrue.

|| See Origen's Copy of the Chart, or Diagramma of the Ophites.

whose names are given by Origen as Adonai, genius of the Sun; Tao, of the Moon; Eloï, of Jupiter; Sabaoth, of Mars; Orai, of Venus; Astaphai, of Mercury; and Ildabaoth (Jehovah), of Saturn. Finally, the *Pistis-Sophia*, which the greatest modern authority on exoteric Gnostic beliefs, the late Mr. C. W. King, refers to as "that precious monument of Gnosticism"—this old document echoes the archaic belief of the ages, while distorting it to suit sectarian purposes. The Astral Rulers of the Spheres, the planets, create the Monads, or Souls, from their own substance out of "the tears of their eyes, and the sweat of their torments," endowing the Monads with a spark of their substance which is the Divine Light. It will be shown in Volume II why these "Lords of the Zodiac and Spheres" have been transformed by sectarian Theology into the Rebellious Angels of the Christians, who took them from the Seven Devs of the Magi, without understanding the significance of the allegory.\*

As usual, that which *is*, and *was* from its beginning, divine, pure, and spiritual in its earliest unity, became—by reason of its differentiation through the distorted prism of man's conceptions—human and impure, as reflecting man's own sinful nature. Thus, in time, the planet Saturn became reviled by the worshippers of other Gods. The nations born under Saturn—the Jewish, for instance, with whom he became Jehovah, after being considered as a son of Saturn, or Ilda-Baoth, by the Ophites, and in the Book of Jasher—were eternally fighting with those born under Jupiter, Mercury, or any other planet, except Saturn-Jehovah; genealogies and prophecies notwithstanding, Jesus the *Initiate* (or Jehoshua)—the type from whom the "historical" Jesus was copied—was not of pure Jewish blood, and thus recognized no Jehovah; nor did he worship any planetary God beside his own "Father," whom he knew, and with whom he communed, as every high Initiate does, "Spirit to Spirit and Soul to Soul." This can hardly be taken exception to, unless the critic explains to every one's satisfaction the strange sentences put into the mouth of Jesus during his disputes with the Pharisees by the author of the Fourth Gospel:

I know that ye are Abraham's seed† . . . I speak that which I have seen with my Father; and ye do that which ye have seen with your Father. . . . Ye do the deeds of your Father. . . . Ye are of your Father, the Devil. . . . He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth

\* See also Section XIV.

† Abraham and Saturn are identical in astro-symbology, and he is the forefather of the Jehovistic Jews.