

The Middle Chamber

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Earth's crammed with Heaven and every common bush afire with God. We shall devote a few sentences in emphasizing the fact that enlightened humanity and we, as Masons in particular, have long been searching in vain for a name. That, of course, was particularly the recovering of the sacred name, but after all, has it really been restored? That we have obtained the volume of the Holy Law which for a period lay hidden and neglected among the rubbish of the ruined desolated temple, we know; but have we actually discovered the sacred word itself-have we been able to penetrate the mystery of its significance? It may not be uninteresting for you to know that investigations have recently been made by scholars into this very matter, one of them-Klein-believes he had discovered the mystical name of God and its significance. His position seems to be that the name of God is ANI-WE-HU "I and he," "a combination," as another writer remarks signifying the most intimate relation conceivable between God and His people": "Ehyeh" as found in Ex. 111. 14. and translated "I am," may be quite well interpreted the eternally self-existent, and that is, perhaps, as near as we shall ever get to the Divine name. The spirit of the teachings is everything, wording is a matter of secondary importance; but when we have done as suggested we shall find that the matter is slightly involved, for what are the teachings? Here we begin. These teachings are principally exhortations to us to regulate our lives, our actions and our thoughts along certain avenues, which may be defined as moral and religious, mental and philosophical. We may spend a considerable time in working this out mentally with great advantage; the Ritual is designed to inculcate teachings, the teachings develop a system and the system is for us to act upon: the carrying out of it is a MORAL OBLIGATION to Masons. It can never to too strongly impressed upon our minds that we live in a privileged age; an age in which whole chapters of revelations of the past history, present conditions and future predictions have been brought to light for the first time in human history. What would not our ancient brethren have given to have read those chapters? Shall we, who presume to follow in their steps, neglect to do so? One thing is absolutely certain, and that is, that if we, who can acquire such knowledge so easily compared with the laborious exertions of our forerunners, if we, who can so easily know more than they did, neglect the opportunity, then comes a sudden end and a full stop to the process of acquiring of Masonic Knowledge. On the other hand such a vast expanse is opened to us that we no longer feel any surprise when told to make daily advancement, indeed, we realize that as fellow craftsmen, our work is for the "future"-from now onwards.