

The Case For King Solomon

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A pretender once remarked that there is no such thing as the indispensable man except he, who has a stronger grip in the affections of his country. So he is the symbol and master architect of the era of good feeling and good times which the nation is enjoying and that his better judgment must be the plain truths and his decisions are his own, always has and always will. Such calm and balanced judgment on public morality and even treatment of all the segment of the people means peace and progress accompanied by prosperity is what the people want and insist upon more of the good things in life during this period of stress and strain.

But have we made a notable record of decency, competence and honesty in the conduct of our nation's affairs that we have brought the nation peace and prosperity? The answer is yours, my brothers. Only bear in mind that we are but men with "feet of clay" that even King Solomon of Israel who built the temple for the worship of God on Mount Moriah in Jerusalem was, after its completion and after his benevolence and greatness were known the world over as "the glorious days of Israel", like us, a man of flesh and blood died, in spite of his wealth. But as Masons, our most excellent Grand Master, not of anything else but because of his wisdom

which was narrated in the case, too trite to mention here, of a judgment he rendered in the partition of a live child disputed by two mothers. It has been said, that "the spirit of God was in him" when King Solomon made that decision.

Those were the pages of biblical times. Today, tourists said, the new Jerusalem is a small lovely town, of blocky stone houses and all its old beauty and past history are literally out of bounds — its ancient walls, its sacred places, the holy memoirs of the great days of Israel — are but momentos, yet beautiful if they are appropriated to humanity. Everything was calm in that new nation until a bomb was thrown into Jerusalem — the Eichman trial — a shameful slum of the ghetto and human stockyards at the Nazi concentration camps which resulted in the murder of six million Jews during the last war. We admire their living remnants who lost everything but their lives and to them, Israel is their last refuge, a sanctuary they are willing to die for. Indeed, thousands of them have a indelible answer to what it means to be a Jew tattooed on their forearms, as war relics and displaying the Star of David that the Nazis once forced on them to wear as a symbol of degradation. Peace has never been the result of hatred, but of love — that is the eternal law.

But to all those sufferings and in-

sults and the scene too terrible even for the hardest men to bear, the Eichman trial whose verdict was guilty showed the Jews and the world as well that Israel is a nation of Jewishness that demands and practices "justice, a proud nation among other nations. We live in age when the eye is feasted and the ear, if not starved, is kept on short rations. With apology, let me repeat in a low tone of voice what Mr. Justice Cardozo of the U.S. Supreme Court said to certain law graduates in 1925:

"You will study the wisdom of the past, for in a wilderness of conflicting counsels, a trail has there been blazed. You will study the life of mankind, for this is the life you must order, and, to order with wisdom, must know. You will study the precepts of justice, for these are the truths that through you shall come to their hour of triumph. Here is the emprise, the fine endeavor, the splendid possibility of achievement."

It serves notice on the world that the Jews whom the ancient Romans and modern Nazis failed to destroy are people, the descendants of King Solomon — from Moses to David — as written in the Old Testament and that they are an indestructible community no matter how widely they are widely dispersed, a lie to the dictum that a migratory race has little love of country and permanency of home is necessary to patriotism; who believe that "the links holding the Jews together are as indivisible as the air and as strong as the heaviest of chains". At least, they want to remain human, which is heartening, regardless of their traditions, customs and religious belief and that a Jew is not a lonely

soul lost in the wilderness and should not be subjected to criticisms for the sake of historical truth.

Such is the case for King Solomon! Being wise, he was not a blind leader of the blind and it was not strange that the ancients worshipped him, not for his laws which are right because they are his laws, but his laws because they are right. He was not a mere talker who, however fluent, is barren in the day of trial and as a distinguished Mason said — "No scepter, nor throne, nor structure of ages, nor broad empire, can compare with the wonders and grandeur of his (King Solomon's) single thought". Masons abhor hypocrisy. To commit an injustice under the guise of equity and fairness: to shun vice in public and do it in Masonic charity but close the eyes to those in distress; to teach humility and act with pride; to profess chastity and violate a neighbor's wife; to extol patriotism but afraid of being drafted; to venerate God but worship brazen idols; to be an arrogant master but a meek servant; to preach morality but maintain a harem; to advocate simple living but live in extravagance; to admire an erring brother but admonish the uninitiated; and to show that you believe in God but molest those of different faith are injustices, so infamous and cruel. Let there be no wrong judgment and no church to claim infallibility in matters of faith which circulate false Masonic retractions, a trade mark of her blind belief. But if there be such, let the judgment be not tempered with mercy!

Today, the stars which died millions of years ago are as bright and as beautiful as in their prime. Heaven is still there, *above*, as in the

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battle with Maxentius *actually* according to an account, *in a dream* according to another. About the *labarum* was an inscription in Greek: "En toto nika", *by this conquer*. The Latin version: "In hoc signo vinces", *by this sign you will conquer*, is the motto of the Order of the Temple (Knights Templar) and of the Order of the Red Cross of Constantine. Although he was not actually baptized until he was already on his death-bed in 337, still he exerted a great influence on the early Christian Church to the extent of calling the first ecumenical council, that held in Nicaea in 325, which decreed the celebration of Easter in commemoration of the Resurrection. Constantine wanted the *union* of, not a *competition* between, Christianity and sun-worship. Among the results of his influence Sunday (sun's day), the *first* day of the week, sacred to the sun-god rather than Saturday, the seventh day as commanded (Leviticus 23:3), has been consecrated as the LORD'S Day or Christian Sabbath.

On this matter it is interesting to note what the *Catholic Home Encyclopedia*, appended to the Confraternity Edition of the Bible, says (page 251): "The observance of the first day of the week as one consecrated in a special way to Christian worship *has no intrinsic connection* with the Jewish Sabbath, the observation of which *was abrogated*

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By the Law of Christ. It is an *Ecclesiastical Institute due to the Apostles themselves*. The Church's Law now involves the *Obligation of assisting at mass and resting from service work* (bodily, manual or mechanical) on this day; over and above this, *The day should be kept holy* by attending other church services, spiritual readings, etc., games and recreations are a natural relaxation on this day of rest and only cease to be commendable when they interfere with devoting worship and time which should be given directly to God Sunday is a weekly commemoration of the resurrection and is in a fast day. (Emphasis supplied)



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millenium of the ancients; and God is there watching and protecting us in our will to live that every beat of our heart pulses with the love of God. Let him who could not comprehend this thought be cast away — if it be the decree of Fate — but let him have the chance. Life is still very beautiful, as beautiful as the era of King Solomon which was noted for a philosophy of culture and famous for the building of his temple — the Temple of Freemasonry — which architecture will, philosophical as it may seem, *pass on* to the next ages.