

Now, the very ancient peoples — Indians, Egyptians, Persians, Greeks, Americans, — thought of the sun as the Life-Giver to all growing things, but they knew it to be only a symbol of the True Sun — the One Light — the Self. They knew that the Self acts only through beings and that this great sun of our world was just an instrument, or lens for the True unseen Sun. And when they sang their hymns to the Sun in this cycle, it was with the thought of acting for the Self in every heart:

*That which giveth sustenance to the Universe and to ourselves, from which all doth proceed and unto which all must return — That Thou Art. In the golden vase of thine earthly body may the pure Light of the Spiritual Sun shine forth, that thou may'st know the Truth, and do thy whole duty, on the journey back to the Sacred Seat!*

At a later time, people came to think of all the forces and beings in the sun as making up one Being, which they worshipped as the Sun God — much as some of your friends, perhaps, think of “God” as a great good man outside themselves — rather than as the Real Self ‘within each and every being.

It was on the 21st of December that the Sun-Gods went down under the earth, the ancients thought, to help the Souls — the seeds — imprisoned there. Remaining for three days, they came forth triumphant in all their glory, on December 25th. And this was the new birth of their Sun-Gods. The Egyptians celebrated the Sun cycle by the singing of hymns to the image of an infant, symbolizing their Sun God, then born again.

Now it seems very fitting, doesn't it, that an Elder Brother, who was born into the world to be a teacher of the Three Truths, should have his birthday at the birth-time of the new sun-cycle? That, anyway, is what the Catholic church fathers thought, when it was given to them to decide on a day to celebrate, nearly four hundred years after the birth of Jesus. No one really knew by then when He did come — neither the day nor the year. Only very Wise Men know that, because they know the cycles.

Yet, we know something about cycles — so let us see what we shall discover by recalling that it takes the sun about 25,868 years to travel through the signs of the Zodiac. There are twelve signs; so, dividing 25,868 by 12, we find that it must take about 2,155 years for the sun to move from one sign to the other.

It seems as if the old world learns and for gets in that time, so that a wise Elder