

The Esoteric Secret

Many people are surprised by our alchemical or qabalistic “revelations”. So we think it useful to explain our point of view.

The questions that arise are: what is the true nature of the alchemical secret? What are the reasons for this secrecy? Nowadays, can or should this secret be partially or completely revealed?

Let’s first be nasty and realistic: in our many meetings with supporters of secrecy, it clearly emerges that most make use of this policy to hide ignorance. We believe this is a serious error.

A persevering and intelligent work pierces gradually through all the secrets. But then should we share with others the knowledge gained that will open the door of the Temple Treasures? For if it was said: "Give and you shall receive," and if this is correct, often regarding material generosity, this is even truer in the field of Knowledge. Before addressing problems of the nature of the alchemical secret, let’s examine the valid reasons for the secrets of old.

When oppressive forces are powerful on earth, it is the duty of Adepts to ensure the salvation of Knowledge through secrecy. In the past a church or power, more temporal than spiritual, could tolerate chemical research but could not let a personal initiation system spread which could have gradually ruined it. Indeed, bringing wealth and health, such a system would have established paradise on Earth.

In all ancient books, the initiatory aspect of alchemy was totally ignored: only rare hints can be found addressing body and soul.

At a time when gold was considered the absolute wealth, the low level of economic knowledge resulted in few people able to consider that only labor creates wealth. To allow access to the "chemical" part of alchemy would have diverted too many people from productive work, and the king could not have accepted that.

Nowadays gold is as much an industrial material as it is money and religion - in the West - has no temporal power. The reasons for secrecy surrounding alchemy are removed. We know, however, that public revelation of some alchemical practices would be placing immense dangers on society.

It is not clear why some pseudo-teachers are allowed to hold the door of the Temple closed to those they dislike. In these cases, the allegedly closed doors only cover the unfathomable ignorance of those claiming to keep the secret.

This is our policy: reveal all that is useful for everyone to stand alone before the first two doors of the Temple. Say nothing about what follows, because what is in the Inner Temple, everyone has to discover for himself. Besides, no one can tell, since this is a supra-intellectual knowledge, expressed by the Word, unspeakable in human speech. At this point, there can be no problem.

The person who enters the temple and has Inner contact can only be a servant of the Universe. At this level, Knowledge is Power.

Now, to answer questions posed at the beginning of this article we will say where the knowledge given in the course of alchemy comes from.

It comes from three major sources:

- Comparative study of the various ancient texts, which provide a theoretical basis necessary before any experimentation. These texts give an opportunity to practice and experience, then enable us to sort the wheat from the chaff. This is particularly true with regard to the texts of Basil Valentine.

- Direct teachings of the alchemists who preceded us on the Path.

- Direct revelation of the Inner Being, unapproachable at first.

Despite all the circumstantial and sometimes direct evidence of the reality of alchemy, many people declare that it is an illusion. They say that modern science should have found the secrets if it was really possible. This shows a total misunderstanding of the problem. Although gradually, science reconsiders its position, we can say that official science is not concerned with and often denies the psychic and divine side of man. To date, scientific dogma states that life is created by matter. The alchemist studies the two aspects of man: the physical and the metaphysical. For him, matter was created by life for the needs of his evolution. The adept thinks if science changed its point of view, it would find, with simple means, methods and answers to questions on matter that huge and expensive modern equipment fail to give.

People who undertake esoteric work, both theoretical and practical, and have reached a certain level of achievement, make no secret of the means used to achieve this result. They know that the true esoteric secret is always protected because, being of a super-conscious nature, it cannot be transmitted by methods of ordinary consciousness. The means are given in the field of speech or writing, the result is the domain of the Word.

Jean DUBUIS