ON RECORDING HISTORY

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Were we to endeavor to leave some record of our present civilization to be read 10,000 or 100,000 years hence, what medium would we use? What would best withstand the ravages of Time? Should our present-day languages disappear from the face of the earth, how would we communicate? How could we make any future civilization understand?

These may have been questions in the minds of the Atlanteans, presuming that they really did exist. The public is generally incredulous of their existence, saying we have no proof. If they existed, they ask, then why do we not find some evidence of them and their reputedly high Culture? Instead, we find only stone weapons of primitive peoples. But, asks the Master, what would be the chief materials of a highly civilized people? What are the main materials of our own civilization? Probably metals and plastics. How long do they last? It is doubtful we have so far developed any metals, alloys, plastics or other materials that would remain intact for 10,000 years. In contrast, what are the chief materials of a primitive people? Stone and ceramics, the latter easily broken, so stone remains. It stands to reason then that records of primitive peoples endure where those of a great civilization may be lost.

But perhaps the Atlanteans did leave a record of their civilization, or if not they, then some other great culture has left its mark in the form of the Great Pyramid of Giza. It is probable that its builders consciously sought to leave a monument to their civilization, a permanent record, whether or not there were also other motives for its erection. In the last centuries its secrets have begun to be uncovered, throwing light on its builders, telling a remarkable story, and perhaps there are still many secrets to be revealed. Could there be more chambers and passages yet undiscovered in that great mass of stone? What is the significance of the off-center locations of the King's and Queen's chambers? And why is its construction attributed to the Atlanteans? And why not the ancient Egyptians?

Most evident, perhaps, is the remarkable workmanship that has gone into its building. The stones are fitted with a precision scarcely equaled today, and must have called for extraordinary tools or skills or some peculiar knowledge, and these the ancient Egyptians seem not to have had. Such workmanship is not evident in any of the other pyramids which are but imitations, now badly crumbling. The type of stone used in the Great Pyramid is not found in the region and appears to have been carried a great distance. Neither are the others the same shape, nor of a shape that bears any discovered significance, whereas the Great One is most revealing in its measurements. The others were used for tombs but in this one the sarcophagus was empty, and it is assumed that this was used as an initiation chamber. Evidence points to the fact that ancient Egypt had no known civilization capable of building this monument.

When was it built? Presumably at a time when the polar star, Alpha Draconis, was able to extend a ray of light directly down the main entrance passage, a condition which is possible about every 25,000 years, or once in a sidereal cycle. This position of the star then suggests that the structure

may have been built more than 25,000 years ago, perhaps even 50 or over 75,000 years ago, which last date is hinted in *The Secret Doctrine*. Presumably the great civilization of Atlantis began its decline at least 25,000 years ago, and by the time of the last inundation, the sinking of Poseidon around 12,000 years ago, had become decadent to the point of appearing quite primitive.

Precisely what messages can we read here and how? Most amazing, perhaps, has been the translation of its measurements. It has been found that its unit of measure, the cubit, is one tenmillionth of the semi-polar diameter of the earth. One of its measurements gives us the distance of the sun from the earth; another, the exact number of days in a year; still another, the length of the precession of the equinoxes. Space here does not permit enumeration of its many findings in the measurements, nor the methods employed in arriving at these conclusions, although there are abundant references.

The Great Pyramid might have been built on the continent of. Atlantis itself, or perhaps a similar one was, which of course would now be lost. Just why was this particular site picked? For one thing, the hot, dry atmosphere has preserved it against erosion; for another, it is on the longest longitudinal line of land in the world, a factor which may bear on its preservation from upheavals within the earth itself. However one wishes to interpret the messages of this great structure, here is the evidence of a great ancient civilization. Its measurements were neither accidental nor coincidental, but by design. Its builders were scientists, astronomers, mathematicians, speaking in the language of mathematics, a universal language which any may read in any day of time. This language never becomes obsolete. Thus may we read history.