

Gershom Scholem's study of the subject in Jewish mysticism; Henry Corbin's (in French) on 'sympathie et théopathie' in Islam; Walter Otto's on the place of *Sympathie* in the formation of primitive myth. Finally we have two more 'scientific' papers: one by Max Knoll on endogenous rhythms and biological time, which ties together some recent scientific discoveries and hypotheses with some ancient symbols and myths; the other, by Adolf Portmann, expounds some marvels of biological adaptation which suggest the astonishing *Sympathie* which exists between certain animals and their spatio-temporal environment. The volume is as handsomely produced as its predecessors, and includes a number of fine plates and illustrations. All the contents are in German unless otherwise stated.

VICTOR WHITE, O.P.

ÉLIE LE PROPHÈTE, 2 vols. (Les Études Carmélitaines, chez Desclée de Brouwer; 200 B. Fr each.)

Two volumes, six hundred pages, all about Elias: it hardly seems possible, certainly not readable, however distinguished the numerous contributors. Even the magnificent pictures, both from nature and from art, can hardly entice us to face the copious letterpress.

Unless of course we have already fallen under the Prophet's spell. And some powerful spell he has certainly exercised, and over devotees of several faiths. His 'spirit and power' (Luke 1, 17) are not yet extinguished; and Jung is here, with letters to the Editor, to explain how and why he 'constellates an archetype'. Elias in his fiery chariot has somehow got mixed up with Helios, and we are shown ancient pictures which could represent the Prophet or the Sun-god or both.

So there is no lack of subject-matter, and no need for padding. We have, first of all, the topographical background: then the Old Testament and New Testament texts which concern Elias, followed by studies of each. Then Elias in the Greek Fathers, in the Latin Fathers, in the Syriac Fathers. The cult of Elias in the Eastern Churches and the Western: the iconography of Elias.

Then, in the second volume, Elias as an archetypal figure; Elias as the legendary founder of the Carmelites (very honestly and sensibly treated, with full documentation), their model and patron. This is followed logically by an important theological article on prophecy in the Church and its relationship to the contemplative life. Then, Elias in Jewry, Elias in the Koran, and Elias elsewhere in Islam. Finally an appendix on some bizarre Elias-cults in Paris and London in the last century. Altogether one of the best of *Études Carmélitaines*, and, after all, eminently readable.

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