

As we demonstrated in our previous books, the rituals used today by Freemasons are the only major living oral tradition of the western world. They are based on once-secret information that is older than anything in the New Testament, having been taken directly from Jewish traditions that predated the fall of Jerusalem in AD 70. Although they have been deliberately changed by English Freemasons for political reasons over the last 300 years, the story of a major near extinction event, the biblical Flood, has always been at the very heart of these rituals. The first line of our first book, *The Hiram Key*, quoted the *Daily Telegraph* of 1871 which said: '... Freemasonry dates from before the Flood ...'

Before they were deliberately censored by English Freemasons in the 18th and 19th centuries, the higher rituals of Freemasonry unequivocally stated that they preserved the arcane knowledge of the Jewish High Priesthood, which was ancient even at the time of King David and King Solomon.³⁵ As we have already mentioned, these Masonic rituals, which are memorised word-for-word by Freemasons, still make frequent reference to a worldwide Flood,

³⁵ Knight, C. and Lomas, R.: *The Hiram Key*, Century, 1996

and an entire order is dedicated to preserving verbal traditions about Noah, the builder of the biblical Ark that survived the deluge. There are also lists of characters from a civilization that is said to have existed before the catastrophic deluge, such as Tubal-Cain – the man who, Masons are told, invented agriculture and the ploughshare.

The oldest records of rituals are those of the original Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, which have not been in general use since 1813. Throughout these old rituals there is frequent reference to the biblical character called Enoch, with Masonic degrees devoted entirely to him, telling his story as the man who was told by the angel Uriel that he must save the secrets of civilization from a global disaster.

Stories of a global flood are so widespread across the world that it is hard to dismiss them all as mere coincidence. Could there actually have been such a monumental disaster that wiped out a previous civilization – as described in ancient Freemasonic ritual? Such a cataclysm could certainly make sense of the apparent contradiction in the emerging evidence of man's early development.

However, we could not understand how all of the world could possibly be flooded when it has a fixed amount of water. Soon, though, thanks to a chance conversation with Dr Jack Miller, a leading geologist from Cambridge University, we would have our attention directed towards an entirely different field of study.

Our analysis of the failings of prehistoric theory seemed to be pointing towards the pre-existence of knowledge. Given that modern techniques of post-rationalizing supposed histories from the remnants of past peoples have so spectacularly failed, perhaps it is time to examine the 'official' histories of real people to reconstruct our origins.

Across the world there are ancient oral traditions that claim to record extremely distant events. They have been studied by anthropologists but largely ignored by archaeologists, who seem to believe that unearthing artefacts is the only legitimate means of understanding distant

peoples. Many oral traditions contain symbolic elements that may themselves be clues to real events, so it might be wrong to dismiss such stories as tribal myths.

Given all this information, our starting point had to be the ancient stories of Enoch contained in the rituals of Freemasonry, the Bible and other Jewish texts.

CONCLUSION

Technological developments over the last 30 years have thrown our understanding of prehistory into disarray.

Neanderthal man, often depicted as our ancestor, diverged genetically from the modern human race between 500,000 and 600,000 years ago. About 300,000 years ago the human population was reduced to a very small number, so much so that one single female from this time became a common ancestor to all living humans.

New archaeological discoveries have found art objects as old as 250,000 years, suggesting that language itself may be older than had once been thought. This is confirmed by linguists who have shown that language has long been innate in humans.

Technological development is older than most people realize. There is hard evidence of a 26,000-year-old manufacturing economy in Europe.

Improvements in the technology of dating have shown the megalithic stone structures of western Europe to be far earlier than the cities of Sumer and Egypt.

Experts believe that there was a single global language which may have existed as recently as 15,000 years ago.

Ten thousand years ago there was a sudden, world-wide leap forward in technology which cannot be explained in terms of normal incremental change.

It seems possible that the development of human technology is subject to occasional catastrophic changes which interrupt an underlying process of steady incremental change.