## 3.5 MEDIEVAL PERIOD AND RENAISSANCE

According to Livingstone, shortly after Islam was founded by Muhammad, it became perverted by the same occult, Gnostic influences affecting Europe; a group from Haran (in southeastern Turkey) "known as the Sabians." The Sabians translated Greek works of mathematics, astronomy and the philosophies of Hermeticism and Neoplatonism into Arabic. They believed in salvation through gnosis, worshipped the demonic powers believed to govern the planets and translated astrology, and other mystical teachings, into the Islamic world [emphasis added]. This mystical version of Islam is known as "Sufism." Sufism became the central belief system, and the Imam became the leader of the Shi'ite (or Shiah) sect of Islam. Livingstone expounds, "This office of Imam was thought to have passed on directly from Ali, to the sixth Imam, Jafa as Sadiq, and then on through to the twelfth Imam, who disappeared in 873 AD. The Shiah majority, following twelve Imams, were known as Twelvers. Some of Jafa's followers, however remained loyal to his son Ismail, and came to be known as Seveners, or Ismailis." The Ismailis created a method of indoctrination that would later be used by the Illuminati, "Though they professed outwardly to represent Islam, the Ismailis were committed to Islam's destruction. Therefore, they devised grades of initiation, wherein the leaders could adhere to heretical Gnostic beliefs, while restricting the lower levels to professing some degree of orthodoxy" [emphasis added].

Most of the Ismailis were loyal to the Fatimid dynasty, "who established their own caliph and moved their capital to Cairo in 973 AD." However, a fatal spilt occurred in the Ismailis "over the succession to the Fatimid Caliph al Mustansir, who died in 1094 AD. The Egyptian Ismailis recognized his son, al Mustali, but the Ismailis of Iran and Syria" recognized his older son, Nizar. The followers of Nizar (Nizari) were led by Hasan Sabbah. After Hasan disgraced himself with the Egyptian Ismailis, he gathered more followers and moved to the "fortress of

Alamut in Persia, on the Caspian Sea" and created his infamous society, the "Assassins, deriving their name from the Arabic hashishim, or 'eaters of hashish." The "Assassins" fought an "international war of terrorism against anyone that opposed them, but eventually turned on each other. . . . Finally, in 1250 AD, the conquering Mongols . . . annihilated the Assassins." However, the Nizaris were survived by two rival lines, "The minor line died out by the eighteenth century, while the major line, led by an Imam called Aga Khan, moved from Iran to India in 1840. His followers, who are estimated to number in the millions, are still found in Syria, Iran, and Central and South Asia, the largest group being in India and Pakistan, where they are known as Khojas" (Livingstone 2007:69-74).

Livingston next traces the Mithraic/Kabbalistic/Illuminati bloodline, specifically to

Europe [emphasis added]. Charlemagne's descendents were supposedly related to "Rabbi

Makhir, a Jewish Exilarch from Baghdad . . . who became the father of Guillaume the Gellone."

This bound the "European aristocracy with Davidic lineage, by which occult societies . . . have claimed represented the secret of the Holy Grail" (Livingstone 2007:62). These various bloodlines then reconnected with the Gnostic heresy of their fathers in Europe (Paulicianism); which became "Catharism" among the Guilhemids in southern France, "influenced by a Kabbalistic text known as the Sepher ha-Bahir" and "Bogomilism" (taken from both Manichaeism and Paulicianism) in Bulgaria and the Balkans (Livingstone 2007:79) [emphasis added]. As part of this plan, "In 970 AD, the Byzantine emperor John Tzimisces, himself of Armenian origin, transplanted as many as 200,000 Armenian Paulicians to Europe, and settled them in the Balkans, which then became the centre for the spread of their doctrines" (History of Macedonia, http://www.historyof Macedonia.org/RomanMacedonia/SlavstoOttoman.html/) - (Livingstone 2007:67).

The Sinclairs were Normans, descended from "Rollo the Viking, a Norman Viking leader, who married Poppa of Bavaria, the granddaughter of William of Gellone, and from whom descended the Dukes of Normandy." Rollo came from Orkney, a collection of small islands north of Scotland, whose bloodlines have been traced back to Scythia. From their Norman descendents came St. Margaret Queen of Scotland, who when she married "Malcolm III of Scotland, who was descended from Aidan, the father of King Arthur, the joint Saxon and Khazar heritage was joined to the Scotlish." *All of this then led to the formation of the bloodlines of the Sinclairs and Stuarts that would take Mithraism/Kabbalism/Illuminism into the Crusades and the development of the Knights Templar* (Livingstone 2007:75-7) [emphasis added].

During this Medieval Period, most of the laity trusted in the clergy of the Church for their spiritual nourishment and guidance. Unfortunately, many of the clergy abused that sacred trust and power and fell victim to Satan's lies, deceptions and half-truths themselves; thereby, allowing much of the Church to follow them into the superstitious darkness that characterized the period. According to Dorries, as Islam began to solidify and increase during this period, Eastern and Western Christianity began to fall farther and farther apart until the "official split" of the Church in 1054, East in Constantinople and West in Rome. This generated the Crusades, with their goals being: 1) to defeat the Muslims threatening Constantinople and save the Byzantine (East) Empire; 2) to reunite the Eastern and Western churches; and 3) to reconquer the Holy Land from the Muslims. The result from the eight crusades was a dismal failure to Christianity and an increase in the distrust, separation and animosity between Christians, Jews and Muslims (2002:38).

Livingstone continues his historical narrative with the following. In 1099, the Princes' Crusade (led by the representatives of the Guilhemids) captured Jerusalem. Then in 1118, the

Templars were founded in Jerusalem by "a French nobleman, Hughes de Payens, and eight other soldiers, who took the name, Poor Knights of the Temple, from the Temple of Solomon, from where they were first stationed." This became one of two orders of crusading knights—the other being the Knights Hospitallers of St John. The Templars supposedly learned their occult teachings from the Sabians, the Assassins, the Cathars, and the Kabbalistic Bahir; which combined to form the foundation for the "Medieval Kabbalah" (Livingstone 2007:81-3) [emphasis added]. In 1229, the Pope established the Inquisition to destroy the Cathars. In 1244, the Cathars were finally destroyed, "when more than 200 Cathar priests were massacred by the Crusaders." In 1291, Jerusalem was retaken by the Muslim leader Saladin, "and nearly all of the Crusader holdings in Palestine came into Arab control." The Templars moved their headquarters to Cyprus. In 1307, Pope Clement V ordered the arrest of the Templars in every country. In 1312, the Templars' property throughout Europe was given to the Hospitallers, or confiscated, and many Templars were executed or imprisoned. In 1314, "the order's last grand master, Jacques de Molay, was burned at the stake" (Livingstone 2007:84-5). Despite all of this, the Templars survived through the Sinclairs in Scotland, the House of Lusignan in France and the Plantagenets in England.

Livingstone continues with the following narrative. The House of Plantagenets ruled England from 1154 and Ireland from 1185, and their symbol was the five-petaled rose, "to recall the five-pointed star, of pentagram of Lucifer." This comes from the teachings of the Kabbalistic book, the Zohar [emphasis added]. The tradition of the Templars took on a new symbol through Edward the III of England by the formation of the "Order of the Garter, founded in 1348." This society was formed as "a society, fellowship and college of knights," which was inspired by the King Arthur and Round Table legends. But, "As historian Margaret Murray pointed out, the

garter is an emblem of witchcraft . . . *Murray believed that all the Plantagenets were witches*. *She said Edward III founded two covens*" [emphasis added]. The primary line of rule of the Plantagenets ended in 1399, with the deposition of Richard II. Then, "Two secondary lines ruled from 1399 to 1485 as the House of Lancaster . . . whose symbol was the Red Rose . . . and the House of York . . . was the White Rose." In 1485, "Henry Tudor, exactly thirtieth male-line descendant of King Arthur, became Henry VII on England. . . . Thus, both the Red Rose of Lancaster and the White Rose of York were merged to a single ten-petaled flower, to form the Tudor Rose" (Livingstone 2007:94-99).

The House of Lusignan titled their heirs, the Counts of La Marche. The most famous of this line was Guy de Lusignan, "King of Jerusalem," through his marriage to Sybilla, and who "was defeated by Saladin at the Battle of Hattin in 1187." After Guy was released from prison, Richard the Lionhearted sold him "the Island of Cyprus," where the Templars and Knights Hospitallers moved. In 1309, the Hospitallers captured the island of Rhodes and became known as the Knights of Rhodes. Then, they were forced to move to Malta by the Ottoman Turks and "were renamed as the Knights of Malta." The Lusignans maintained control of Cyprus until 1489 (Livingstone 2007:92-4). While this was going on elsewhere, the rise of the Sinclairs was occurring in Scotland: "In 1441, King James II Stewart appointed William Sinclair to the post of Heredity Patron and Protector of Scottish Masons." Sinclair was also responsible for designing the "most sacred site in Freemasonry, Rosslyn Chapel . . . which has often been rumored to be the burial site of the Holy Grail, being the remains of Mary Magdalene" (Livingstone 2007:87).

Dorries continues with the Eschatological Gospel's response to this medieval influx of the Babylonian Mysteries cult religion ideology. During this Medieval Church Period, true Christianity began to shrink back behind the walls of monasteries, kept safe by the monks of various orders (Franciscan, Benedictine, Dominican, Jesuit, etc.). However, from these contemplative and reflective environments came the rise of the Scholasticism of Anselm (1033-1109), Peter Abelard (1079-1142), Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153), Peter Lombard (1095-1169), and finally Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274). Following this, came the decline of Scholasticism and the rise of blind faith and allegiance to church dogma or "churchly positivism" generated by Duns Scotus (1264-1308) and William of Ockham (1300-1349) – (2002:38-40). This then became the church environment in which Martin Luther found himself, and therefore saw the need for the Protestant Reformation. This also became the fertile environment for the resurgence of modern witchcraft in the fourteenth century, modern secular humanism at the turn of the fifteenth century and Rosicrucianism later in the fifteenth century.