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INTRODUCTION: The Zodiac and the Rays

What we have to say first on this subject is entirely of a preliminary nature. We seek to lay the ground for a somewhat new approach_ a far more esoteric approach_ to the science of astrology. Certain things we may say will probably be regarded by the academic and uninspired astrologer as revolutionary, or as erroneous, as improbable or unprovable. As yet, however, astrology has not really proved itself to the world of thought and science, in spite of many definitely demonstrable successes. We would ask all of you, therefore, who read and study this section of [-----] to bear in mind the above comments and to preserve a willingness to consider hypotheses and to make an effort to weigh a theory or suggestion and to test out conclusions over the course of a few years. If you can do this, there may come to you an awakening of the intuition which will translate modern astrology into something of real moment and significance to the world. It is intuitional astrology which must eventually supersede what is today called astrology, thus bringing about a return to the knowledge of that ancient science which related the constellations and our solar system, drew attention to the nature of the zodiac and informed humanity as to the basic interrelations which govern and control the phenomenal and subjective worlds.

1. Three Basic Statements.

The statement is frequently made that astrology is an exact science but that is far from correct in spite of the many mathematical computations. Astrology is based, curiously enough, upon illusion for, as well you know, the zodiac is naught but the imaginary path of the sun through the

heavens, and this as it appears from the standpoint of our totally insignificant planet. The sun is not, as stated, in any sign of the zodiac. It simply appears to be so as it passes between our little sphere, the Earth, and the constellations at any particular time or season.

In ancient days it was believed that the earth was the centre of the solar system and that around it revolved the sun and all the other planets. This was the exoteric knowledge and position, though not the esoteric understanding. Later, when further discoveries brought more light to the human mind, our planet was decentralised and the truth was more clearly seen, though much remains as yet to be discovered and may even be of as revolutionary a nature. From certain astrological angles, a similar process of decentralisation must take place and the solar system must no longer be regarded as a point around which the zodiac revolves or through which the sun passes in its great cycle of approximately 25,000 years.

Astrologers with insight may deny that this is the commonly accepted attitude. Yet_ for purposes of clarity and in connection with the general public_ the inference is permitted and accepted by the ignorant. Upon this theory anent the zodiac rests very largely what we call the Great Illusion, and we would have you bear this in mind as you study with us the newer approaches of this greatest and oldest of all the sciences. Astrology is a science which must be restored to its original beauty and truth before the world can gain a truer perspective and a more just and accurate appreciation of the divine Plan, as it is expressed at this time through the Wisdom of the Ages.

The second statement which we would make is that astrology is essentially the purest presentation of psyientific truth in the world at this time, because it is the science which deals with those conditioning and governing energies and forces which play through and upon the whole field of space and all that is found within that field. When this fact is grasped and the sources of those energies are better comprehended and the nature of the field of space is correctly understood, we shall then see a far wider and at the same time a more closely related horizon; the relationships between individual, planetary, systemic and cosmic entities will be grasped, and we shall then begin to live scientifically. It is this

scientific living which it is the immediate purpose of astrology to bring about.

At present, the position of the average believer in astrology is that he/she is an individual of importance (at least to himself), that he/she is living on that important planet, the Earth (important to humanity), and that, through astrology, he can discover his destiny and know what he ought to do. In making this comment, we do not refer to those few astrologers who possess real esoteric knowledge. They are few in number indeed, and only a handful of them are to be found practising at this time. The modern investigator likes to believe that on him impinge and through him flow all those energies which come from the sign in which the sun "finds" itself at the time of his birth. He regards himself also as responsive to the forces of the various planets as they govern the houses in his horoscope and he believes that his life trends and circumstances are thus determined. This makes him feel himself to be a factor of isolated importance. Modern interpretations fail to emphasise the importance of the rising sign (the ascendant) and this has been due to the fact that few have been as yet ready to function as souls; small allowance has been made for the energies which play upon our planet all the time from other constellations or from the many "hidden" planets. Of these, the Ageless Wisdom claims that there are around seventy in our solar system.

We desire to give you a truer and more accurate picture. This has now become possible because group awareness, group relations and group integrity are coming to the fore in the human consciousness. As this takes place, the personality which is individual, separative and self-centred will recede increasingly into the background, and the soul, non-separative, group conscious and inclusive, will come more and more to the fore. Interest, therefore, in the individual horoscope will gradually die out, and increasingly the planetary, the systemic and the universal picture will stand out in the awareness of the individual; he will then regard himself only as an integral part of a far more important whole and his world group will interest him far more than himself, as an individual.

We shall not, therefore, deal with the subject of esoteric astrology from the standpoint of the horoscope at all. Universal relationships, the interplay of energies, the nature of what lies behind the Great Illusion, the deluding "Appearances of things as they are," and the destiny of our planet, of the kingdoms in nature and of humanity as a whole_ these will constitute the major part of our theme.

It is immaterial to us whether modern astrologers accept or reject these presented ideas.

- We will endeavour to give you certain facts as the Hierarchy recognises them;**
- we will indicate, if we can, the subjective realities of which the outer illusion is but the phenomenal appearance, conditioned by men's thoughts throughout the ages;**
- we will emphasise the fact of the livingness of the Sources from which all the energies and forces which play upon our planet flow and emanate;**
- we will endeavour, above all else, to demonstrate to you that all-pervading unity and that underlying synthesis which is the basis of all religions and of all the many transmitted forces;**
- we will seek to remove you, as individuals, from out of the centre of your own stage and consciousness and_ without depriving you of individuality and of self-identity_ yet show you how you are part of a greater whole of which you can become consciously aware when you can function as souls, but of which you are today unconscious, or at least only registering and sensing the inner reality in which you live and move and have your being.**

This brings us to the third statement, which is so basic and fundamental that we would ask you to pause and contemplate it, even though you grasp not its full implications as yet. The Ancient Wisdom teaches that "space is an entity." It is with the life of this entity and with the forces and energies,

the impulses and the rhythms, the cycles and the times and seasons that esoteric astrology deals. [---] stated this in [---]. We would remind you that there is an astrological key to [---] which cannot yet be given in completeness. We can, however, give you some hints and suggest some lines of approach, and these, if carried in the consciousness of the illumined astrologers, may enable one of them at a later date to discover that key and then_ turning it on behalf of humanity_ reveal the fourth great fundamental of the Ageless Wisdom of which three are already given in the proem of [---].

Space is an entity and the entire "vault of heaven" (as it has been poetically called) is the phenomenal appearance of that entity. You will note that we did not say the material appearance, but the phenomenal appearance. Speculation about the nature, the history and identity of that entity is useless and of no value. Some dim idea, providing analogy even when eluding specifications, might be gained if you will endeavour to think of the human family, the fourth kingdom in nature, as an entity, as constituting a single unit, expressing itself through the many diversified forms of man. You, as an individual, are an integral part of humanity, yet you lead your own life, you react to your own impressions, you respond to exterior influences and impacts, and in your turn you emanate influences, send forth some form of character radiation and express some quality or qualities. You thereby, and in some measure, affect your environment and those whom you contact. Yet all the while you remain part of a phenomenal entity to which we give the name of humanity. Now extend this idea to a greater phenomenal entity, the solar system. This entity is itself an integral part of a still greater life which is expressing itself through seven solar systems, of which ours is one. If you can grasp this idea, a vague picture of a great underlying esoteric truth will emerge into your consciousness. It is the life and the influence, the radiations and emanations of this entity, and their united effect on our planetary life, the kingdoms in nature and the unfolding human civilizations, which we shall have briefly to consider.

The subject is so vast that we have been faced with the problem of the best method whereby to handle it. We decided on brevity, the concise statement of facts (facts to those of us who are working on the inner side

of life, but which must rightly be only hypotheses to you) and the avoidance of detail and of detailed discussion. *We will endeavour to work from the universal to the particular and from the general to the specific, but our emphasis will always be on the universal and the general, and not upon the particular and specific.* It will rest with those of you who are students of astrology to make due application of the truth to the specific. It is definitely in this connection that modern astrology has gone astray. It has reversed the true and right procedure and has laid the emphasis upon the specific and particular, upon the personal horoscope and the individual destiny, and has not laid the emphasis upon the great energies and their Source. These sources are ultimately responsible for the manifestation of the specific. This position and presentation of truth must be altered.

In esoteric astrology we are, therefore, dealing with the Life and Lives which inform the "points of light" within the universal Life. Constellations, solar systems, planets, kingdoms in nature and microscopic man are all of them the result of the activity and the manifestation of energy of certain Lives whose cycle of expression and whose infinite purposes lie outside the comprehension of the most advanced and illumined minds on our planet.

The next point for each of you to grasp is the fact that the ether of space is the field in and through which the energies from the many originating Sources play. We are, therefore, concerned with the etheric body of the planet, of the solar system, and of the seven solar systems of which our system is one, as well as with the general and vaster etheric body of the universe in which we are located. We employ the word "located" here with deliberation and because of the inferences to which it leads. This vaster field, as well as the smaller and more localised fields, provides the medium of transmission for all the energies which play upon and through our solar system, our planetary spheres and all forms of life upon those spheres. It forms one unbroken field of activity in constant ceaseless motion_ an eternal medium for the exchange and transmission of energies.

In connection with this, and in order more correctly to understand, it will be useful to study individual man; in this way we can arrive at a faint comprehension of the basic and underlying truth. Students should never forget the LAW of Analogy as an interpretive agency. Esotericism teaches (and modern science is rapidly arriving at the same conclusion) that underlying the physical body and its comprehensive and intricate system of nerves is a vital or etheric body which is the counterpart and the true form of the outer and tangible phenomenal aspect. It is likewise the medium for the transmission of force to all parts of the human frame and the agent of the indwelling life and consciousness. It determines and conditions the physical body, for it is itself the repository and the transmitter of energy from the various subjective aspects of man and also from the environment in which man (both inner and outer man) finds himself.

Two other points should here be added. First: the individual etheric body is not an isolated and separated human vehicle but is, in a peculiar sense, an integral part of the etheric body of that entity which we have called the human family; this kingdom in nature, through its etheric body, is an integral part of the planetary etheric body; the planetary etheric body is not separated off from the etheric bodies of other planets but all of them in their totality, along with the etheric body of the sun constitute the etheric body of the solar system. This is related to the etheric bodies of the six solar systems which, with ours, form a cosmic unity and into these pour energies and forces from certain great constellations. The field of space is etheric in nature and its vital body is composed of the totality of etheric bodies of all constellations, solar systems and planets which are found therein. Throughout this cosmic golden web there is a constant circulation of energies and forces and this constitutes the scientific basis of the astrological theories. Just as the forces of the planet and of the inner spiritual man (to mention only one factor among many) pour through the etheric body of the individual man upon the physical plane, and condition his outer expression, activities, and qualities, so do the varying forces of the universe pour through every part of the etheric body of that entity we call space and condition and determine the outer expression, the activities and qualities of every form found within the cosmic periphery.

The second point we would make is that within the human etheric body there are to be found seven major force centres which are in the nature of distributing agencies and electrical batteries, providing dynamic force and qualitative energy to the man; they produce definite effects upon his outer physical manifestation. Through their constant activity his quality appears, his ray tendencies begin to emerge and his point in evolution is clearly indicated.

This "control of form through a septenate of energies" (as it is defined in the *Old Commentary*) is an unalterable rule in the inner government of our universe and of our particular solar system, as well as in the case of individual man. There are, for instance, in our solar system, seven sacred planets which correspond to the seven individual force centres in man, the seven solar systems, of which our solar system is one, and in their turn the seven energy centres of the One to Whom we have referred in our other books as the One About Whom Naught Can Be Said.

Much has been given in the books of which the average astrologer remains profoundly unaware. It is essential that he learns to think in larger Wholes and to be more deeply concerned with the emanating Sources and with the eternal persistent Causes than with the effects of these Sources upon that ephemeral creation, a human being and his temporary existence upon a most unimportant planet. As he seeks to do this, he will discover for himself the signs of the essential divinity of man_ a divinity which is to be found in the infinite grasp of man's consciousness when illumined by the light of the soul and in his power to project his thought into the consciousness of those manifold Lives Whose "energetic movements" he must perforce share because his small modicum of energy is an integral part of Theirs.

There is one aspect of energy for which the modern astrologer makes very little allowance, and yet it is of paramount importance. This is the energy which emanates from or radiates from the Earth itself. Living as all human beings do upon the surface of the Earth and being, therefore, projected into the etheric body of the planet (for the reason that "man stands erect") man's body is at all times bathed in the emanations and the

radiations of our Earth and in the integral quality of our planetary Logos as He sends forth and transmits energy within His planetary environment. Astrologers have always emphasised the incoming influences and energies as they beat upon and play through our little planet, but they have omitted to take into adequate consideration the emanating qualities and forces which are the contribution of our Earth's etheric body to the larger whole. This we will consider later, but we felt the necessity of calling your attention to it at this time.

Another point which should here be noted is that the influence of the moon is purely symbolic in nature and in effect and is simply the result of ancient thought and teaching (descended to us from Lemurian times) and is not based upon any true radiation or influence. In those far off times, antedating even Lemuria and constituting in Lemurian days simply an ancient tradition, the moon appeared to be a living vital entity. But we would have you bear definitely in mind that today the moon is nothing more than a dead form. It has no emanation and no radiation of any kind and, therefore, has no effect of any kind. The moon, from the angle of the esoteric knower, is simply an obstruction in space_ an undesirable form which must some day disappear. In esoteric astrology, the effect of the moon is noted as a thought effect and as the result of a powerful and most ancient thoughtform; nevertheless, the moon has no quality of her own and can transmit nothing to the Earth. Let us reiterate: The moon is a dead form; it has no emanation at all. That is why the moon is spoken of in the ancient teaching as "veiling either VULCAN or Uranus." This hint or inference has always been here and astrologers would do well to experiment with this suggestion we have made anent the moon and (instead of working with the moon) let them work with VULCAN when dealing with the undeveloped or average man and with Uranus when considering the highly developed man. They would find some interesting and convincing results eventuate.

Students would also do well to remember that the twelve constellations which constitute our particular zodiac are themselves the recipients of many streams of energy coming to them from many sources. These blend and fuse with the energy of any particular constellation and_ transmuted and "psyientificly refined"_ eventually find their way into our solar system.

We would like to call attention, at this point, to some comments we made in [-----] which are apposite and helpful. We are somewhat paraphrasing:

"Astrology is concerned with the effect produced in the substance of the sheaths by the influences, vibrations, etc., of the various planets. These are, esoterically, the influences of the solar centres. The forces, emanating from the solar centres, play upon the planetary centres.... This is hidden in the karma of the Heavenly Man. When true esoteric astrology comes into being, more anent this will be given. Astrological students are today only learning the ABC of this stupendous subject and are occupied with the exoteric fringes of that great veil which has been thrown wisely over planetary lore."

([-----], p. 1051)

The following is a list_ incomplete but adequate for our purposes_ of the major influences which find their way from far distant Sources into our planetary life and produce definite effects upon individual man and humanity as a whole.

1. The constellation of the Great Bear.
- I.
 2. The Seven Sisters of the Pleiades.
 3. Sirius, the Dog Star.
-
1. The seven solar systems of which ours is one.
- II.
 2. The seven sacred planets of which ours is not one.
 3. The five non-sacred planets or "hidden" planets.
-
1. The seven planetary centres.

III. 2. The seven centres of force in the human etheric body.

IV. 1. The twelve zodiacal constellations.

We thus have a ninefold energy impact. This is a major chart but it should be remembered that there are other impacts of relative insignificance.

To these would be added other streams of energy which definitely play upon and affect our planetary life, such as those coming from that great star, Betelgeuse, or from Antares and other stupendous suns and solar systems which are related to the constellations of the zodiac and whose force reaches us through these constellations and not directly.

Besides these, it should be remembered that technically we should also add the radiatory influence which comes direct to us from the planet, the Earth, upon which we live. Then, and only then, can you have a fairly complete analysis and picture of the energies to which the etheric body of man (conditioning the physical body which is pre-eminently automatic and negative in its reactions) must and does ever respond. An understanding of that response and the conscious intelligent control of individual reactions are supremely necessary to man but only become possible at a fairly advanced stage of development and as he/she nears the Path (technically understood). Man learns first of all to control his reactions to the planets as they rule and direct his personality affairs from their different "stations" in the twelve houses of his horoscope. There are two ways in which this is done:

First: By having the horoscope duly cast and then taking steps to determine what should be done to negate the planetary influences where it is deemed desirable to control the personality reactions. This has to be done by the applied power of thought. This necessitates complete confidence in the understanding and interpretation of the astrologer and the recognition of the exact moment of birth. One wonders if these

conditions of the exact moment and the completely wise astrologer are ever to be found as yet.

Second: By consciously assuming the position of the spiritual Observer, and by cultivating the power to respond to the Soul. Then, from the angle of that Soul, the man must learn to control circumstance and the attendant reactions of the personality.

The following attitudes and positions taken by the esoteric astrologer should also be noted:

1. That the planetary influences indicate the trend of the outer life circumstances. When correctly interpreted for the average man and for the unevolved man, they can and do indicate the personality destiny and fate; they do condition and completely control the man who has no conscious soul experience. The moment that a man becomes aware of his own soul and is endeavouring to control his own "path in life," the influence of the planets, per se, definitely weakens and steadily becomes less and less; his personality chart appears inconclusive and often most inaccurate. It is the force flowing through the planets and not the force of the planets themselves which then governs and controls. The man then becomes receptive to the subtler and higher energies of the solar system and of the twelve governing constellations.

2. That the Sun sign, as it is called, indicates the nature of the man, physical, mental and spiritual. It holds the secret of the personality ray and of the man's responsiveness or lack of responsiveness to the Soul, the real man. It indicates also the integration already achieved and the present point of unfoldment of the soul qualities, of the present available equipment, of the present life quality and of the immediately possible group relations. It indicates, from the angle of the Ageless Wisdom, nothing more. This is a reversal of the usual astrological position. The reason that we proffer this is that humanity is enough evolved so that the astrology of the soul will become possible before long; it constitutes_ from

many points of view_ a reversal of normal procedure. This is both wise and necessary, and also inevitable. Astrologers will eventually be divided into two classes: the exoteric astrologers who will be occupied with the horoscope of the personality, and the esoteric astrologers who will be occupied with the purposes of the soul.

3. That the rising sign indicates the remoter possibilities, and the spiritual goal and purpose of the immediate incarnation and of the immediate succeeding incarnations. This sign concerns itself with the struggle of the spiritual man "to carry on" from the point achieved so that when the life energy is temporarily exhausted and the "death of the personality" takes place, the man finds himself "nearer the centre of his life, closer to the centre of his group and approaching the centre of divine life," as the Ageless Wisdom expresses it. This particular phrase "death of the personality" has two definite connotations:

a. It may mean the death of the physical body, which is inevitably followed by the two stages of the death of the emotional vehicle and the subsequent dissipation of the temporary and ever-changing form which the quota of mental energy has assumed during incarnation.

b. The subjective and mystical "death of the personality." This is a phrase indicating the transfer of the focus for the distribution of energy from the personality (a definite centre of force) to the soul (another definite centre).

We realise that these concepts are not in line with the usual astrological postulates. However, astrology would not be wasting time if it experimented with these ideas for a while. Astrologers might discover some most interesting and arresting problems and perhaps arrive at an accuracy which is at present unknown. It might be of some service if we enlarged somewhat upon this point:

In connection with the sun sign, the rising sign and the effect of the thoughtform relating to the moon, the position of esoteric astrology is as follows:

1. The sun sign._ This sign indicates the present problem of the man; it sets the pace or the established tempo of his personality life; it is related to quality, temperament and the life tendencies which are seeking expression during this particular incarnation, and it is suggestive of the rajasic or the activity aspect of the innate man. Fundamentally, the forces here found are indicative of the line of least resistance.

2. The ascendant or rising sign indicates the intended life or immediate soul purpose for this incarnation. It holds the secret of the future and presents the force which, rightly used, will lead the man to success. It represents the sattvic or harmony aspect of life and can produce right relationship between soul and personality in any one incarnation. It thus points the way to the recognition of the force of the soul.

3. The moon._ This type of force (coming from certain planets and not from the moon) indicates that which is past. It, therefore, summarises limitation and the present handicaps. It governs the physical body and shows where the prison of the soul is to be found.

The next statement which we would like to make, and which grows normally out of the above, is that the zodiacal, the systemic and the planetary energies act either as hindering or as stimulating forces, according to the type of vehicle or body upon which they play; the nature of these vehicles and their capacity to attract, to respond, to reject, to absorb and to transmute is entirely dependent upon the point in evolution attained and also upon the general planetary condition and psychology to be found in the human family at any given time. An instance of the latter can be seen today in the world where the forces, beating in an almost violent and somewhat new measure and tempo upon our planetary life, are evoking a greatly intensified response from the world thinkers, thus

stimulating them to earnest effort along ideological lines and, at the same time, are drawing forth from the masses and the little evolved people nothing but terror, a miserable fatalism, widespread physical depletion and many other undesirable reactions from the form nature. An understanding of these hindering or stimulating effects can be easily grasped by those who can comprehend the nature of the activities of the planet, Saturn. This is the planet which conditions primarily the point in evolution where choice definitely becomes possible, where rejection of opportunity or its acceptance can consciously be undertaken, and the shouldering of personal responsibility becomes a recognised fact in a planned and ordered life. This point in the human evolutionary process is spoken of in the *Old Commentary* in the following symbolic phrases:

"Amid the whirling forces, I stand confused. I know them not, for, during all my past, they swept me up and down the land wherein I moved, blinded and unaware. From place to place and point to point, they drove me up and down the land and nowhere was there rest.

I know them now and here I stand and will not move until I know the LAW which governs all this movement up and down the land. I may revolve and turning face the many different ways; I face some wide horizons and yet today I stand.

I will determine for myself the way to go. Then onward I will move. I will not travel up and down the land nor turn in space. But onward I will move."

There is another revolutionary idea which the esoteric science of astrology brings to its modern and exoteric aspect: In the greater cycle of man's many incarnations, he/she_ as is well recognised_ passes through the zodiacal circle from Pisces to Aries, thus retrograding through the signs as he follows the sweep or path of the Sun's retrogression. This phrase has always disturbed us, but the apparent retrogression, based upon the precession of the equinoxes, is all an integral part of the Great Illusion. The moment a man begins to emerge out of that illusion and is no longer subject to the glamour and to the effect of the world maya, that

moment the motion of the great Wheel of Life is reversed and he/she then begins (slowly and laboriously) to work in the opposite direction.

- He then passes through the signs from Aries to Pisces.
- He begins patiently and consciously to function as a soul struggling towards the light until finally he/she emerges at the end of the Path in Pisces as a world Victor and a world Saviour.
- He then knows the significance of the triumph over death because he/she has surmounted and overcome desire.

This reversal of the way a man travels through the signs of the zodiac will necessitate a readjustment of the method employed by astrologers when they are casting a horoscope of senior aspirants, of disciples and of INITIATES.

According, therefore, to an individual's point of evolution upon the Path or (in other words) the individual's place upon the wheel of life, the practising astrologer will arrange the interpretation of the horoscope. *It will require the work and the thought of the intuitive astrologer, dependent upon soul contact and much meditation, to determine the processes of astrological interpretation for those who are active and living souls at some one or other of the final stages upon the Path.* The casting of the horoscope of the average man or the undeveloped man presents no such difficulties.

It might be added in addition that the signs of the zodiac are concerned primarily with the life expression of the Heavenly Man (as far as our planet is concerned) and therefore with the destiny and life of the planetary Logos. They are also concerned with the great man of the heavens, the solar Logos. We refer in this last instance to their effect as it makes itself felt in the solar system as a whole and with this effect there are few astrologers at this time fit to deal. We would remind you that to the lives who inform these great constellations and whose radiation _ dynamic and magnetic_ reaches our Earth, this effect is incidental and unnoticed. The primary effect that they have is upon our planetary Logos and this effect reaches us through Him, pouring through that great planetary centre to which we have given the name of Shangri-Lha. It is, therefore, capable of evoking the major response from the monads, and these monads express themselves through the kingdom of souls and through the human

kingdom; it consequently expresses itself through the Hierarchy and through humanity as a whole. This is a point of real importance and should be noted and connected with all the teaching you have had upon this most interesting theme of the three major planetary centres. It is the work of the zodiacal influences to evoke the emergence of the will aspect of the Heavenly Man and of all monads, souls and personalities who constitute the planetary body of expression. This statement means but little to you today but it will mean much to those students who, in a few decades, will study what we are here saying. Properly understood, it accounts for much that is happening in the world at this time.

As these influences pour through our planet and thence to the centres of force upon the planet, they produce a dual effect:

1. They produce an effect upon advanced man, galvanising the centres above the diaphragm into activity and enabling him to respond to the radiation and the activity of the Hierarchy.
2. They produce an effect upon unevolved man, enabling him to function as an ordinary, unenlightened human being.

It should be noted here, however, that all the energies_ zodiacal, systemic, and planetary_ have a definite effect upon all the lives in all forms in all kingdoms of nature. Nothing can escape these radiatory and magnetic influences. The goal of evolution for humanity is to become consciously and livingly aware of the nature of these energies and begin to know them and to use them. This is the field of psyientism as the Hierarchy has always told men. It might be stated that the disciple has to become consciously aware of the planetary influences and begin to use them for the carrying out of soul purpose. The INITIATE has to be aware of the zodiacal influences which emanate from outside of the solar system altogether. These can be recognised as

- a. A vibration, registered in one or other of the seven centres.
- b. A revelation of a particular type of light, conveying a specific colour to the INITIATE.
- c. A peculiar note.
- d. A directional sound.

The whole story of the zodiac can be picturesquely yet accurately summed up in the following statement: There are three books which the three types of human beings study and from which they learn:

- 1. The Book of Life_ INITIATES_ the 12 constellations.
- 2. The Book of Wisdom_ Disciples_ the 12 planets.
- 3. The Book of Form or of Manifestation_ Humanity_ the 12 Creative Hierarchies.

In summation, it might be said that:

1. The zodiacal signs affect primarily the man who lives below the diaphragm. This is the ordinary average man. These signs thus condition four of the centres:

- a. The base of the spine.
- b. The sacral centre.
- c. The solar plexus centre.
- d. The spleen.

2. The inner group of solar systems, working in conjunction with the zodiacal signs, affect primarily those who live above the diaphragm. They, therefore, condition:

- a. The heart centre.**
- b. The throat centre.**
- c. The ajna centre.**
- d. The head centre.**

3. Three of the energies work through the head centre but only after the third initiation.

There are one or two other points which might be noted here also. We note them for your enlightenment. Out of all the many energies which impinge upon, pass through and produce effects upon our planet, esoteric astrology emphasises the following four types of force because they affect what might be called the personality of our Earth:

1. The quality of our solar system. God is a consuming fire but God is also love. This is the teaching of both esoteric and exoteric truth.

2. The quality of the Logos of our planet as it pours through the chains, the rounds, the races, and the kingdoms of nature.

3. The quality of the Earth's complementary planet, which is the Earth's polar opposite, esoterically considered. This planet is Venus.

4. The quality of the attraction of the three planets which produce an esoteric triangle of force.

We have several times used the phrase "pass through" the centres and forms. This concept necessitates the idea of distributing centres to which the incoming energies may go and from which they may pass out again as radiation. Some idea of this might be grasped if we gave you the new proposition (new to you though old to esotericists) of the centres in the human etheric body. The four centres above the diaphragm_ the heart, throat, ajna and head centres_ are basically and primarily receiving centres. The centres below the diaphragm_ the base of the spine, the sacral, solar plexus and spleen centres_ are galvanised into activity by the four higher receiving centres. This, when accomplished, demonstrates as personality and physical magnetism and influence until the time comes when there is a reversal in the way of passing_ as a soul_ around the zodiac. This is symbolised as the revolution of the sun around the zodiac from Aries to Pisces instead of the reverse movement, from Aries to Taurus. This is repeated in the human frame and the four lower centres eventually return that which has come to them. They thus reverse the process normally followed and the centres above the diaphragm become radio-active, dynamic and magnetic. This is an intricate psyientific study and is concerned with the response of the etheric body to the incoming energies. It relates finally the lowest centre at the base of the spine to the highest centre, the head centre. This is a correspondence to the relation of the Earth to the Sun. Think this out.

As we work and study over these matters, let us bear in mind always the fact that we are considering the seven rays and their inter-relations in the cosmic process. We are concerned esoterically with:

1. The seven rays and the twelve signs of the zodiac.
2. The seven rays and the twelve Creative Hierarchies.
3. The seven rays and the planets as they govern the twelve houses of expression.

As we ponder and think and as we correlate the various aspects of the teaching, we shall find three propositions emerging which govern the inflow of life to the planet and to the individual man. These have been laid down earlier in [-----] but it might profit us to state them here:

Proposition One_ Every ray life is an expression of a solar life and every planet is therefore:

- 1. Linked with every other planetary life.**
- 2. Animated by energy pouring into it from the seven solar systems, of which ours is one.**
- 3. Actuated by three streams of force:**
 - a. Coming from solar systems other than our own.**
 - b. Our own solar system.**
 - c. Our own planetary life.**

Proposition Two_ Each one of the ray lives is the recipient and the custodian of energies coming from

- 1. The seven solar systems.**
- 2. The twelve constellations.**

Proposition Three_ It is the quality of a ray life_ manifesting in time and space_ which determines the phenomenal appearance.

Before we penetrate further into the consideration of our theme, we would like to emphasise two points:

First of all, that we are considering esoteric influences and not astrology, per se. Our subject is the seven rays and their relationship to the zodiacal constellations or_ in other words_ the interaction of the seven great Lives which inform our solar system with the twelve constellations which compose our zodiac.

Secondly, that we have necessarily to study these energies and their interplay from the angle of their effect upon the planet, and incidentally, their effect upon the forms in the various kingdoms of nature and particularly in connection with the fourth kingdom, the human, and with individual man_ average man, the disciple and the INITIATE.

We shall enter into no definitions in connection with technical astrology, nor shall we use the many technical terms. If, in the presentation of this vast subject, and in the process of indicating the attitude of the Ageless Wisdom to this new and coming (yet very ancient) "science of effective energies," as it has been called, we may present a new approach, or point out an unsuspected relation and from the standpoint of the Ageless Wisdom correct what are deemed errors by the Teachers on the inner side of life, we are am hoping that some astrologers may be found who will be sensitive to that which is new. We are believing that there are investigators along astrological lines who will be open-minded enough to recognise possible hypotheses and then to make fair experiment with them. May we repeat: we are not writing a treatise upon astrology, but one upon the seven rays and their equivalent and corresponding energies, upon the effects of ray energy and the interplay of these energies with, and their effect upon, the various planetary forces, particularly those of the Earth. We are looking for these fair-minded astrologers to make due experiment with the factors and suggestions which we may indicate. With this in mind, let us proceed.

We have pointed out that these energies fall into three groups:

- 1. Those coming from certain great constellations which are to be found active in relation to our solar system and which, from the most ancient days, have always been related in myth and legend to our system. To these constellations, ours is related in a peculiar way.**
- 2. Those coming from the twelve zodiacal constellations. These are recognised as having a definite effect upon our system and our planetary life.**
- 3. Those coming from the planets found within the periphery of the Sun's sphere of influence.**

From a certain point of view, one can generalise largely and say that these are the correspondences in the solar system to the three great centres of force which produce and control manifestation and evolutionary progress in the human being:

- 1. The great exterior, yet controlling, constellations are analogous to that centre of force which we call the Monad and to its universal will-to-power which is distinctive of the first divine aspect.**
- 2. The twelve constellations might be regarded as embodying the soul aspect and, for the present, their effect upon the individual must be regarded and should be studied in terms of consciousness and of the development of the life of the soul. This is in essence the will-to-love.**
- 3. The planets, twelve in number (seven sacred planets and five non-sacred), are effective (using the word in a technical sense) in relation to the external life, environment and circumstances of the individual. Their force contacts should be interpreted largely in terms of the human personality, the third divine aspect. They thus exemplify the will-to-know.**

We would have you remember that we are talking entirely in terms of consciousness and of the responses and reactions of the individual to the forces which impinge upon him. The effect of the emanation of our planet, the Earth, is a correspondence to the effect of that aggregate of atoms and molecules which we call the dense physical body and of its response to the pull and the attraction of any or all of the subtler bodies.

As regards the influence of the seven solar systems, we should suggest (more we cannot do) that they are linked up astrologically with the

constellations, the Great Bear, the Pleiades, and Sirius. They are intimately related to them, but their exact effect is a transmitted one and cannot be noted as producing noticeable results, as yet, upon humanity and the other kingdoms in nature. The effect of the three great constellations also cannot be noted by individual man until such time as he becomes conscious of the monadic vibration, after the third initiation. There are many potent influences playing upon our solar system and the planet all the time but_ as far as man is concerned_ his response apparatus and his mechanism of reaction remain what is called "psyientificly unresponsive," for they are not yet of a quality which will permit any noticeable recognition, either in the dense or subtler vehicles or even by the soul. Later in the evolutionary process, recognition and response will come, but for all astrological purposes and recognisable produced effects, they may be regarded today as non-existent except as they react upon the fourth kingdom of nature as it constitutes a living unit in the body of the planetary Logos. As little conscious effect is produced by these forces as the effect of a high moment of contact in your morning meditation produces an effect upon the atom or cell in the little finger upon one of your hands. There may be a general response and stimulation throughout the entire body, but the intelligent atom makes no conscious response. The vibration is of too high a character.

Speculation along these lines is profitless. A vast system of interlocking energies is in active and rapid circulation throughout the whole cosmic etheric body_ of which our systemic etheric body is an integral part_ but speculative research along the indicated lines and the following of obscure trails are utterly futile until the main highway of approach has been constructed and followed. The general outline of the astrological way is all that is possible today, until the time when man can think in larger wholes and has a more synthetic capacity. We shall confine ourselves to the vast field of energies which we have outlined for your consideration and shall consider only the major forces which are in circulation. This will suffice for our day and generation. We are concerned with energies which can and do evoke response and of which man can be aware and, in many cases, is today aware.

It might be useful here to comment in a wide and general way, and with many necessary reservations, upon the broad sweep of some of these responses:

1. Undeveloped humanity is primarily conditioned in its life and circumstances by the influence of the lesser zodiac and thus by the position of the planets in the twelve houses.
2. Average intelligent humanity and those nearing the Path of Discipleship and upon the Probationary Path respond consciously to
 - a. The planets, affecting their personalities.
 - b. The Sun sign, as indicating life trends which are already established and which constitute the line of least resistance.
 - c. The rising sign in a small measure. This indicates the life goal for that particular life cycle or else over a period of seven lives. The last two constitute the Greater Zodiac.
3. Disciples and INITIATES can begin consciously to respond to all the above influences, handling them constructively, plus those potent yet infinitely subtle forces which pour into our solar system from the three major constellations referred to above. In the early stages, the response is in the subtler bodies and the brain fails to register them, but after the third initiation, there is a recognition of them upon the physical plane.

Bringing the theme back to the subject of this treatise, which is that of the seven rays, we would point out that these rays have a close connection with the seven stars of the Great Bear (again always the four and the three as a secondary differentiation) and to the seven Sisters, the Pleiades. The first constellation is the agent of positive force to the planetary Logos and the other the relayer of the negative aspect. There is, therefore, a direct interchange of energies between the lives of the seven planetary Logoi and the stupendous and unfathomable Lives Who inform these major constellations. Great interlocking triangles of force can be found existing between the seven planets and these two groups of seven stars each. It will eventually be discovered that the innermost secret of astrological deduction in the planetary sense is connected with these "sacred triangles," and they are_ in their turn_ represented by the triangles (shifting and changing) which can be constructed in connection with the seven centres.

In casting the horoscope of the planet (which will some day be possible) it will be found that the line of these forces and of our planetary response to them is of a more potent effect than is the influence of the zodiacal constellations upon the human unit. This is due to the immeasurably advanced point in evolution of the planetary Spirits Who have (in Their individual lives) largely transcended the influence of the twelve constellations and are becoming rapidly responsive to the higher vibrations of their great Prototypes, the "three intimate constellations," as they have esoterically been called. This is a correspondence in the lives of these great Entities to the manner in which an advanced individual can offset the influence of the planets and thus so dominate his personality life that prediction and certainty, as to activity and circumstance, are no longer possible. The soul is dominating, and the planets cease to condition the life. So it is with the constellations and the planetary Logoi. They can offset the lower influences as They awaken to and respond to the infinitely higher vibrations of the three major constellations.

2. The Creative Hierarchies.

It might here be appropriate if we interpolated a chart or a tabulation which may be found suggestive of some of these interlocking energies which play through, traverse, return, stimulate and energise every part of our solar system. They only evoke conscious response where the vehicle of expression and of response is adequate to the impact, and this statement is true of the solar Logos, the planetary Logoi, and of all forms in all the kingdoms upon our planet. Unconscious reaction will of course exist, but it will be on a general or mass scale, and much of it pours through to us from these distant constellations, via the fifth Creative Hierarchy. This Hierarchy, being on the verge of liberation, is to be found on the intellectual level of consciousness and can, therefore, be used as a focal point and a transmitter of the higher energies to our solar system and to the planet. If you make a careful study of the chart of the *twelve Creative Hierarchies*, you will note that this Hierarchy is influencing, and is influenced by, the *seventh Ray of Magical Order and of Ceremonial Organisation*. The basic function of this ray is to relate spirit and matter and produce the manifested form. The sign of the zodiac with which it is closely connected is that of Cancer, the Crab, which is a mass sign and one of the "gates" into manifested life.

The following information anent the Hierarchies may prove useful. It has been gathered from various sources.

We might here remind you that the seven planes of our solar system are the seven subplanes of the cosmic physical plane. The four Creative Hierarchies which have achieved liberation are now to be found focussed upon the cosmic astral plane; hence their potency even when out of manifestation. The fifth Creative Hierarchy exists on the highest etheric level and will join the other four Hierarchies when the sixth Creative Hierarchy has measured up to cosmic opportunity and is itself nearing liberation. The following is a tabulation showing some of the astrological relationships in connection with

1. The constellation of the Great Bear.
2. The Pleiades or the Seven Sisters.
3. Sirius.
4. The seven solar systems.

TABULATIONS I AND II The Twelve Creative Hierarchies:

TABULATIONS I AND II

THE TWELVE CREATIVE HIERARCHIES

THE FIVE KUMARAS	No. Down	Name	Ray	Sign	Energy	Comments	No. Up
	1	Unknown	III	Pisces	Intelligent Substance	None	12
	2	Unknown	IV	Aries	Unity thro' effort	None	11
	3	Unknown	V	Taurus	Light thro' knowledge	None	10
	4	Unknown	VI	Gemini	Desire for duality	None	9
	5	Unknown	VII	Cancer	Mass life	Veiling the Christ	8

Hierarchy 1 to 4 inclusive (12 to 9 inclusive) have reached liberation. Regarded as abstractions. *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire*—Page 261
 The 5th Creative Hierarchy is on the verge of liberation. It is active on the intellectual plane.

THE SEVEN CREATIVE HIERARCHIES IN ACTIVE PLANETARY EXPRESSION

THE SEVEN CREATIVE HIERARCHIES IN ACTIVE PLANETARY EXPRESSION

	Nos. Down	Ray	Name	Sign	Energy	Comments	Nos. Up
THE SEVEN STATES OF BEING--UNDER KARMIC LAW	6	I	Divine Flames Divine Lives	1. <i>Leo</i> Planet-Sun Colour-Orange	Parashakti Supreme energy	Fire-Air Logocic Plane	7
	7	II	Divine Builders Conferring soul (C.F. 605) Burning sons of desire	2. <i>Virgo</i> Planet-Jupiter Colour-Blue	Kriyashakti Materialising ideal	Ether Monadix Plane	6
	8	III	Lesser Builders Conferring form (C.F. 605) The triple flowers	3. <i>Libra</i> Planet-Saturn Colour-Green	Jnanashakti Force of mind	Water Atheic Plane	5
	9	IV	Human Hierarchy The Initiates Lords of Sacrifice	4. <i>Scorpio</i> Planet-Mercury Colour-Yellow	Mantrikashakti The WORD made flesh. Speech	Solar Angels Agnishvattas Buddhic	4
	10	V	Human Personality The Crocodiles Makara, the mystery	5. <i>Capricorn</i> Planet-Venus Colour-Indigo	Ichchhashakti Will to manifest	Fire Mental Plane	3
	11	VI	Lunar Lords Sacrificial Fires (C.F. 378)	6. <i>Sagittarius</i> Planet-Mars Colour-Red	Kundalini shakti Energy of matter Form	Water Astral Plane	2
	12	VII	Elemental lives The Basket of Nourishment. The Blinded Lives	7. <i>Aquarius</i> Planet-Moon Colour-Violet	Note	Earth	1

NOTE: Much in this chart may seem obscure and even innocuous. For instance:
 a. Sagittarius coming between Capricorn and Aquarius. This is a temporary emphasis and will change in another world cycle. This is one of the mysteries revealed at Initiation.
 b. The inactivity of the five Hierarchies who are out of incarnation, having achieved liberation, is only on the lower planes.

1. The Hierarchy of Creative Powers is divided esoterically into seven (4 and 3) within the Twelve Great Orders.

2. Three Hierarchies are_ in this greater cycle_ of profound significance, the fourth or human Creative Hierarchy and the two deva / angel Hierarchies, the fifth and the sixth.

3. The fourth Creative Hierarchy is in reality the ninth and that is why it is called the Hierarchy of INITIATES. This can be seen by referring to the chart.

4. We are told in [-----] that in the ninth, tenth and eleventh Hierarchies (counting from the bottom upwards) lies the clue to the nature of Agni, the Lord of Fire, the sum total of systemic vitality.

5. Much light can come to the earnest student through a study of the numbers connected with these Hierarchies.

a. The first 5 are regarded as pure abstractions.

b. Hierarchy One has the numbers_ 6.1.7.

Hierarchy Two has the numbers_ 7.2.6.

Hierarchy Three has the numbers_ 8.3.5.

Hierarchy Four has the numbers_ 9.4.4.

Hierarchy Five has the numbers_ 10.5.3.

Hierarchy Six has the numbers_ 11.6.2.

Hierarchy Seven has the numbers_ 12.7.1.

It is necessary to take note of this as in [---] reference will be found to the Hierarchies under different numbers. This serves to conceal, but it will also confuse the student.

6. The first four Hierarchies achieved liberation in the first solar system. Their influence reached our Earth through the medium of the fifth Creative Hierarchy.

7. These are, therefore, related to the four rays which work as minor rays of Attribute under the great major third Ray of Active Intelligence.

8. Pisces is seen at the head of the list of zodiacal signs because it is governing the present great astrological world cycle of 25,000 years. It

was also one of the dominant signs, influencing our planet at the time of individualisation when the human kingdom came into being. It is basically related to the first or highest Creative Hierarchy which is, in its turn, related to the third Ray of Active Intelligence. It was the product of the first solar system. The development of illumination through an awakened intelligence is the first goal of humanity.

9. The fifth Creative Hierarchy (also numbered 8) is on the verge of liberation. It is peculiarly connected with the tenth Creative Hierarchy, with the constellation Capricorn and with the human personality which veils and temporarily hides the Christ principle behind both form and mind. Eight is, under some numerical systems, regarded as the number of the Christ.

10. The Greater Builders and the Lesser Builders, working on the second and third planes of our solar system, have their activities reflected in the work of the Lunar Lords and the elemental lives.

11. You will note that the human Hierarchy (on chart 9-IV-4) is assigned no particular element as it has to fuse and synthesise them all. This is part of the great tests of initiation under Scorpio.

12. This chart is drawn up in relation only to the fourth Creative Hierarchy, the human. It is not drawn in relation to the other planetary manifestations.

(The chart has been compiled from the very limited stock of knowledge that has thus far been revealed on the subject, and it is as correct as possible under the circumstances.)

Each of the seven Hierarchies of Beings, found within the Twelve, Who are the Builders or the Attractive Agents are (in their degree) intermediaries; all embody one of the types of force emanating from the seven constellations. Their intermediary work, therefore, is dual:

1. They are the mediators between Spirit and matter.
2. They are the transmitters of force from sources extraneous to the solar system to forms within the solar system.

Each of these groups of beings is likewise septenary in nature, and the forty-nine fires of Brahma are the lowest manifestation of their fiery nature. Each group also may be regarded as "fallen" in the cosmic sense, because involved in the building process, or the occupiers of forms of some degree of density or another.

Hierarchy I. The first great Hierarchy is emanated from the Heart of the central Spiritual Sun. It is the Son of God Himself, the First Born in a cosmic sense, even as the Christ was the "Eldest in a vast family of brothers," and the "first flower on the human plant." The symbol of this Hierarchy is the Golden Lotus with its twelve petals folded. [...] I. 233-250. III. 565.

It should be remembered that this Hierarchy is literally the sixth, for five hierarchies have passed on, being the product of the earlier system, that wherein Intelligence or Manas was the goal. The five liberated Hierarchies are in their totality the sum total of manas. It is the Hierarchy which is the fifth in order, and which we are told is in process of achieving final liberation, or taking its fourth Initiation, which is the cause of certain phenomena upon our planet which has merited our planet being called the "Star of Suffering." There is a karmic link between the animal kingdom and the fifth Creative Hierarchy of the earlier system which makes itself felt in man in the necessary crucifixion of the animal physical nature,

particularly along sex lines. We must remember that the Hierarchies work under the LAW of Attraction; it is the law of the Builders.

This first (sixth) Hierarchy has for its type of energy the first aspect of the sixth type of cosmic electricity, and wields special power, therefore, in conjunction with the lowest fire, or "fire by friction," as it makes itself felt on the sixth plane. These lives are called "the burning Sons of Desire" and were the Sons of Necessity. It is said of them in the *Old Commentary*. "They burned to know. They rushed into the spheres. They are the longing of the Father for the Mother. Hence do they suffer, burn, and long through the sixth sphere of sense."

Hierarchy II. The second Hierarchy is closely allied with the Great Bear. We are told that They entered through the second ventricle within the Sacred Heart, and are (as we are told in [---]) the prototypes of the Monads. They are the source of monadic life, but They are not the Monads; They are far higher.

This Hierarchy, which is literally the seventh, is the influx into our system of those Lives who in the first solar system remained on their own plane, being too sinless and holy to find opportunity in that very material and intellectual evolution. Even in this, they will find it impossible to do more than influence the incarnating Jivas, imparting to them ability to realise the nature of group consciousness, the quality of the seven Heavenly Men, but not being able to express themselves fully. Some clues to this mystery will come if the student carefully bears in mind that in our solar system and our seven planes, we have only the physical body of the Logos, and that that physical body is a limitation of the expression of His threefold nature. The first (sixth) Hierarchy might be viewed as endeavouring to express the mental vibration of the solar Logos and the second, His emotional, or cosmic astral, nature.

This second (seventh) Hierarchy has for its type of force the second aspect of the seventh type of force from out of the many. Some idea of the

relative point in evolution of the solar Logos may be gained by study of the varying aspects of force which He is demonstrating in this particular incarnation. It is this energy which drives the Monads through into physical incarnation, for it makes itself felt on the seventh plane. The energies which are functioning are those which the Logos has unfolded, and are the gain of previous incarnations. Gaps necessarily occur, and certain types of force are lacking because He has as yet much cosmically to gain.

It is the energy of this Hierarchy which results in the manifestation of the Divine Androgyne, and in the seven centres of force which are the seven Spiritual Energies.

Hierarchy III. The third Creative Hierarchy (or the eighth) is a peculiarly interesting one. They are called "the Triads" for They hold in themselves the potencies of triple evolution, mental, psychical, and spiritual. These Triads of Life are inherently the three Persons of the Trinity and the flower of the earlier system from a certain angle. From another angle, when studied as the "flower of the earlier Eight," They are the eightfold points awaiting opportunity to flame forth. They are the devas who are ready for service, which is to give to another Hierarchy certain qualities which are lacking. This Hierarchy is regarded as the great donors of immortality whilst Themselves "standing aloof from incarnation." Lords of Sacrifice and Love are They, but They cannot pass out of the logoc etheric body into the dense physical vehicle.

This third Hierarchy wields the third aspect of electric force of the first type of cosmic energy. They stand for a recurrent cycle of that first type symbolised by the number 8. The formulae for these electrical energies are too complicated to be given here, but the student should bear in mind that these Hierarchies express:

1. Septenary cosmic energy.
2. Cosmic prana.

3. Solar energy or electric fire, solar fire and fire by friction.

Each Hierarchy manifests a triple energy or an aspect of each of the above, and that necessitates a ninefold differentiation, for the two first are triple, as is the third. It is the rejection of the Triadal lives by units in the fourth Hierarchy, that of the human Monads, which precipitates a man eventually into the eighth sphere. He refuses to become a Christ, a Saviour and remains self-centred.

We have dealt with the first three Hierarchies which are regarded as ever "seeing the Face of the Ruler of the Deep," or as being so pure and holy that Their forces are in realised contact with Their emanating source.

We now take up for brief consideration two Hierarchies which closely concern ourselves, the human self-conscious entities. These two groups are literally three, as the fifth Hierarchy is a dual one, and it is this which has led to some confusion and is the psyientific significance behind the ill-omened number thirteen. They are the "Seekers of satisfaction" and the cause of the second fall into generation, the fact behind the taking of a lower nature by the Ego. The fourth and the fifth Hierarchies are the ninth and tenth, or the "INITIATES" and the "Perfect Ones." All human beings, or "Imperishable Jivas," are those who evolve through a graded series of initiations, either self-induced or brought about on our planet with extraneous aid. They achieve through a "marriage" with the order next to them, the fifth. They are then completed or perfected, and it is owing to this psyientific fact that the fourth Hierarchy is regarded as masculine and the fifth as feminine.

Hierarchy IV. The fourth Creative Hierarchy is the group wherein the highest aspect of man, his "Father in Heaven" finds place. These lives are the points of fire who must become the flame; this they do through the agency of the fifth Hierarchy and the four wicks, or the two dual lower hierarchies. Thus it can be seen that where man is concerned, the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh Hierarchies are, during the cycle of incarnation,

his very self. They are the "Lords of Sacrifice" and "Lords of Love," the flower of Atma-Buddhi.

In studying these Hierarchies, one of the most valuable lessons to be learned is the place and importance of man in the scheme. The Hierarchy, for instance, which is the essence of the intangible Life of Spirit, the principle of Buddhi, is the esoteric cause of the cosmic marriage of spirit and matter, based on the love and desire of the Logos, but each Hierarchy also expresses itself through one particular manifestation which comes to be regarded by the finite mind of man as the Hierarchy itself. This is not so, and care must be taken to distinguish between these Hierarchies.

They are latent germs of force centres and manifest subjectively; they warm and vitalise groups of forms; they flower forth and express themselves through the medium of a form, or another Hierarchy. These Hierarchies are all interrelated and are negative or positive to each other, as the case may be.

As is stated in [---], I. 238, this Hierarchy is the nursery for the incarnating Jivas; and it carried in it the germs of the Lives which achieved the human stage in another solar system, but were not able to proceed beyond that owing to the coming in of pralaya, which projected them into a state of latency. The condition of the Hierarchy is similar, only on a cosmic scale, to the condition of the seeds of human life held in a state of obscuration during an interchain period. The three other Hierarchies dealt with (first, second and third) were those who have (in previous kalpas of logic manifestation) passed beyond the human stage altogether. They are, therefore, the arupa or formless groups, as the remaining are the rupa groups or those having forms.

The fourth Creative Hierarchy, or the ninth, must ever be regarded in this solar system as occupying what might be considered as the third place,

First, the Lives or the three Persons of the Trinity.

Second, the Prototypes of man, the seven Spirits.

Third, man or the lowest manifestation of the self-conscious Spirit aspect.

This needs to be carefully considered and has no reference to the form aspect but solely to the nature of the Lives expressing themselves through other lives who are also self-conscious, or fully intelligent. This, certain of the Hierarchies are not.

The four lower Hierarchies are all concerned with manifestation in the three worlds, or in the dense physical body of the solar Logos. They are Those who can discard or pass through the etheric body of the solar Logos and take forms composed of either gaseous, liquid, or dense substance. The others cannot. They cannot fall into physical generation.

Students must bear in mind that from the standpoint of the Logos, the solar Angels on the mental plane (the fifth subplane of the cosmic physical plane) are in physical incarnation, and what is called the "second fall" applies to this. The first fall has reference to the taking of a form of cosmic etheric matter, such as is the case with the Heavenly Men, the prototypes of the human jivas. In this latter case the bodies used are called "formless" from our standpoint, and are "vital bodies," animated by cosmic prana. In the case of ourselves and the remaining groups, the forms are composed of substance of the three lower planes (that which the Logos does not regard as a principle) and, therefore, matter responding still to the vibration of the earlier system. This means that the four lower Hierarchies are links between the life of the past and of the future. They are the present. They had not finished their contacts with the active intelligent principle of the preceding kalpa, and so must continue such contacts in this. They will work out of it in this system, the four will

become the three and they will then be the three higher arupa Hierarchies of the next system.

Before continuing our consideration of the particular Hierarchies, it is necessary to point out that in these Hierarchies, certain of them are termed "dominant hierarchies" and others "subsidiary hierarchies." By this is meant that certain of them are expressing themselves in this solar system more fully than the others, and this necessarily entails the consequence that their vibration is more to be felt than that of the subsidiary groups. The dominant groups are the second, fourth and fifth, and this because:

a. The second is the great expression of duality, of the Son as He vitalises the Sun.

b. The fourth is the Hierarchy of human Monads who are the mediators or the synthesisers; they express the gain of System 1 and the goal of System 2.

c. The fifth or tenth is closely linked with the five liberated Hierarchies, and is an expression of their synthesised life. It might, therefore, be said that the fifth Hierarchy serves as the representative of the five liberated groups, and the fourth is the representative group in this system, whilst the second represents (for man, or these two groups united) that which is the Spirit aspect, the Father, the Unknown.

Hierarchy V. The fifth Creative Hierarchy is, as we know from study of [---], a most mysterious one. This mystery is incident upon the relation of the fifth Hierarchy to the five liberated groups. This relation, in connection with our particular planet, which is not a sacred planet, can be somewhat understood if the history of the Buddha, and His work is contemplated. This is hinted at in the third volume of [---].

The relation of the fifth Hierarchy to a certain constellation has also a bearing upon this mystery. This is hidden in the karma of the solar Logos, and concerns His relationship to another solar Logos, and the interplay of force between Them in a great mahakalpa. This is the true "secret of the Dragon," and it was the dragon-influence or the "serpent energy" which caused the influx of manasic or mind energy into the solar system. Entangled closely with the karma of these two cosmic Entities, was that of the lesser cosmic Entity Who is the Life of our planet, the planetary Logos. It was this triple karma which brought in the "serpent religion" and the "Serpents or Dragons of Wisdom," in Lemurian days. It had to do with solar and planetary Kundalini, or Serpent fire. A hint lies in the fact that the constellation of the Dragon has the same relation to the ONE greater than our Logos as the centre at the base of the spine has to a human being. It concerns stimulation, and vitalisation with a consequent co-ordination of the manifesting fires.

A clue to the mystery lies also in the relation of this fifth group to the two contracting poles. They are the five-fold Links, the "Benign Unifiers" and "the Producers of the Atonement." Esoterically, they are the "Saviours of the Race" and from Them emanates that principle which_ in conjunction with the highest aspect_ lifts the lower aspect up to Heaven.

When these mysteries are carefully studied, and due application made to the lives of the greatest exponents of the at-one-ing principle, it will become apparent how great and all-important is their place in the scheme.

It is for this reason that the units of the fifth Hierarchy are called "The Hearts of Fiery Love"; They save through love, and in Their turn these lives are peculiarly close to the great Heart of Love of the solar Logos. These great redeeming Angels, Who are the Sons of Men on their own true plane, the mental, are ever, therefore, pictured as taking the form of twelve-petalled lotuses_ this symbology linking them up with "the Son of Divine Love," the manifested solar system, which is said to be a cosmic twelve-

petalled lotus, and with the logioic causal lotus, equally of a twelve-petalled nature.

We have, therefore, a direct stream of energy flowing through:

- a. The logioic twelve-petalled egoic lotus, cosmic mental plane.
- b. The solar twelve-petalled lotus.
- c. The planetary logioic heart, also a twelve-petalled lotus.
- d. The twelve-petalled human egoic lotus on the mental plane.
- e. The twelve-petalled heart centre in a human being.

Or, to word it otherwise, energy flows direct from:

a. The solar Logos, via three great cosmic centres:

1. The central spiritual Sun.
2. The heart of the Sun.
3. The physical Sun.

b. The heart centre of the planetary Logos, situated on the fourth cosmic etheric plane (our buddhic plane).

c. The egoic lotus of a human being on the mental plane, which is literally a correspondence to the "heart of the Sun." The monadic point is a reflection in the human system of the "central spiritual Sun."

d. The heart centre of a man on the etheric plane of the physical plane, which is in its turn a correspondence to the physical Sun.

Thus the tiny atom is linked with the great central Life of the solar system.

This fifth Hierarchy is equally, under the law, a distributor of energy to the fifth subplane of each plane in the system, only it must be borne in mind that, in the three worlds, it is the fifth subplane counting from above downwards, whilst in the worlds of superhuman evolution, it is the fifth counting from below upwards. This Hierarchy wields, as we know, the dual aspects of manas, one in the three worlds and one which makes itself felt in higher spheres.

It is necessary to bear in mind that all these groups are (even when termed "formless") the true forms of all that persists, for all are in the etheric body of the solar Logos or planetary Logos. This is a point requiring careful emphasis; students have for too long regarded the form as being the dense physical body, whereas to the psyientist the physical body is not the form, but a gross maya, or illusion, and the true form is the body of vitality. Therefore, these Hierarchies are the sum total of the vital lives and the substratum or the substance of all that is. We might regard the subject as follows:

a. The four superior groups are the Hierarchies expressing themselves through the three cosmic ethers, the second, third and fourth.

b. The two lowest groups are the lives which are found functioning as the involutory matter (organised and unorganised) of the logoc dense physical body, the liquid and gaseous, with the living substance of the four higher subplanes of the systemic dense physical body.

c. The fifth Hierarchy has an interesting position as the "mediating" body between the higher four and those which are found on the lower three subplanes. There is a vital and significant correspondence to be found between the seven head centres and the seven groups of egos on the mental plane, and there is an psyientific analogy between the three head centres (pineal gland, pituitary body, and the alta major centre) and the expression of these seven groups of egos in the three worlds. This is a most esoteric fact, and all students meditating upon the laws of at-onement must take this analogy into consideration.

It is useful to remember the place of these Hierarchies in the scheme, and to realise that upon the sum total of these vital bodies is gradually gathered the dense manifestation which we regard as the evolutionary matter. The forms are built (from the form of all atoms to the body of the ego, from the form of a flower to the vast planetary or solar lotus) because the Hierarchies exist as the aggregate of germ lives, giving the impulse, providing the model, and procuring, through their very existence, the entire raison d'être of all that is seen on all planes.

Hierarchies VI and VII. These sixth and seventh Hierarchies which provide the substance forms of the three worlds have a vital use and a most interesting place. From the logoc standpoint, they are not regarded as providing principles, but from the standpoint of man they do provide him with His lowest principles. They hold the same relation to the Logos as the dense physical body does to man, and all that concerns the evolution of man must (in this particular place) be studied as going on within the physical, logoc vehicle. They deal with the display of physical energy; with the working out in the physical vehicle of all divine purposes, and with the physical organisation of a certain great cosmic Life.

Particularly is this so when we view the two Hierarchies under consideration. They are the lowest residue of the previous system, and the energy of that matter (liquid, gaseous and dense) which the vibration of the logoc permanent atom (on the plane adi) attracts to itself in the building of the divine form. For purposes of clarification and of generalisation, it might be noted that the seventh Hierarchy is the life or

energy found at the heart of every atom, its positive aspect, and the sixth Hierarchy is the life of the forms of all the etheric bodies of every tangible object. The function of this Hierarchy is well described in the words of the *Old Commentary*:

"The devas hear the word go forth. They sacrifice themselves and out of their own substance they build the form desired. They draw life and the material from themselves, and yield themselves to the divine impulse."

[----], pages 1196-1207

TABULATION III

I. *DYNAMIC ENERGY* Electric Fire

| Cancer

1. Sirius..... | Saturn.....Fifth Creative
Hierarchy

| Capricorn (the 8th Unknown)

The Cardinal Cross

2. The Great | Aries

Bear..... | Sun, veiling VULCAN.....Second
Creative Hierarchy

| Libra (the 11th)

Unknown

The Cardinal Cross

| Gemini

3. Pleiades..... | Mercury.....Fourth Creative Hierarchy

| Sagittarius (the 9th) Unknown

The Mutable Cross

All the above energies are called into play as far as man is concerned during the major initiations and upon the Path of Initiation.

II. MAGNETIC ENERGY.....Solar Fire

4. The 7 solar | Taurus
systems..... | Mars.....Third Creative Hierarchy

| Scorpio (the 10th) Unknown

The Fixed Cross

All the above energy is called into play as far as man is concerned whilst he/she is in training as a disciple and upon the Path of Discipleship.

NOTE: It is not revealed through which signs of the zodiac the first or twelfth Creative Hierarchy pours forth its energy.

Before continuing with the analysis of the tabulations and showing the inter-relations existing in this particular zodiacal cycle between the twelve signs of the zodiac and the twelve planets, there are certain things which we would like to point out here in connection with these zodiacal constellations. They are in the nature of generalisations, but the specific and the particular can be deduced from them.

First of all, we would point out that the twelve planets, governing the twelve houses, concern primarily the physical plane expression of the man; they affect potently the personality aspect; their influence, plus inherited karmic conditions, produces those environing states and those circumstances which give opportunity for the development and eventually the control of the form side of life.

Secondly, the twelve constellations are concerned primarily with the stimulation of the soul within the form, producing subjective activity which, in its turn, causes changes in the outer expression, through the fusion of the energy of the constellation with the energy of the planets. The effect produced falls into two stages:

1. The first stage wherein the sun sign dominates the man and he/she is gradually fitted to respond to the soul. His latent possibilities for this life are unfolded. The effect of the sun sign is sometimes called "the potency of the Sun of Probability."
2. The second stage wherein there is increasing response to the energies, concealed by the rising sign. They evoke the unexpected and produce the hastening of the evolutionary process and the unfoldment of the inner life. The rising sign is termed in the language of esotericism "the Sun of Possibility."

Through the effect of the energy flowing from the zodiacal signs the man is prepared for the "crisis of orientation" wherein he slowly and gradually reverses his mode of progress upon the wheel of life and begins consciously to travel back to his source. He then goes from Aries to Pisces, via Taurus, Scorpio and Capricorn, instead of moving from Aries to Taurus via Sagittarius, Leo and Cancer. The triplicity of constellations mentioned in these two great routes around the zodiac have a definite and momentous effect and are called "paramount signs of influence." During this process the mental principle, the discriminating mind, is developed

and in this specific connection (not in a general connection) the emphasis is laid upon the influence of Aries, Gemini and Libra. Under that influence the man learns to overcome desire through experiment with and experience of every kind of desire and selfish impulse. Thus gradually, and with infinite pain, the human soul learns to function first as a member of the human family, and, secondly as a spiritual entity, the divine soul.

You will see from the above that certain positions taken by the esoteric astrologer reverse the position of the orthodox astrology of today. The reason for this is that in the descent of ideas from the plane of ideas, they become "reversed" upon the astral plane and subject to the great illusion; astrology must eventually free itself from this reversal.

A right understanding of the effect of the various energies and forces will make it apparent that, when the conditioning planetary forces, the expanding energies of the sun sign and the driving energy of the rising sign are all being controlled and directed by the illumined spiritual man, you will then have a soul upon the very verge of liberation.

Eventually the energies of the twelve constellations and_ at a final stage of experience and development_ of the three great constellations which condition the solar Logos are blended with the innate energies of the seven rays or of the seven planetary Logoi. This marks a point of perfection. These extraneous energies (We refer here to those of the major constellations) are relayed to the Earth via the seven sacred planets and the five non-sacred planets, and when there is the complete fusion of the related energies and, therefore, full expression, a great world period comes to an end. For a long time during this cycle of reincarnations and periods of manifestation, the human being is conditioned almost entirely by the activity of the non-sacred planets. These, as you know, are five in number:

The Sun (veiling a planet)

The Moon (veiling a planet)

The Earth itself

Mars

Pluto

Man_ speaking symbolically_ is the "five-pointed star and, at the fiery points, the forces of the man pour out and upon each fiery point appears a centre of reception." This is of course pictorially expressed, but the meaning is clear. However, as man nears the Path of Discipleship the influence of the sacred planets becomes increasingly effective, until after the final and fifth initiation the non-sacred planets have no effect, though the INITIATE wields their energies potently as they pour into and through his vehicles of reception, of response and of expression, for all three activities and purposes must be noted.

The energies of the twelve constellations are blended with those of the twelve planets, but their power to evoke response, and to be consciously received, recognised and employed, is dependent entirely upon the type of response mechanism of the planetary Life and of the individual man. It has been rightly said that consciousness is dependent upon the vehicles of consciousness, upon their point of development and upon the ability of the individual to identify himself with the energies and impulses which are reaching him, and is not dependent only upon that which is already a recognised part or aspect of himself. It might be said that the higher response to the realities and qualities revealed and made possible by the impact of energy from the zodiacal signs is somewhat dependent upon the waning influence of the planets to hold down the consciousness aspect of the man. Ponder upon this, for it embodies a deep esoteric truth.

Thus, two potent streams of energy_ cosmic and systemic_ reach man via the conditioning planetary centres of force (the seven planetary schemes in the solar system and their corresponding seven centres in the planet on which we live) and pour into the symbolic "twelve houses" through their medium. It is for this reason that our solar system is spoken of as one of "intrinsic duality" (love-wisdom) and that the major task of man is the

"regulation of the pairs of opposites." The theme of duality, therefore, runs through the whole story of man's development. Upon all the three planes of human unfoldment the reconciliation goes forward.

1. Upon the physical plane we find the merging of the dense and the etheric forces. This is consummated upon the Path of Purification.

2. Upon the astral plane there must come the resolution of the pairs of opposites. This is consummated upon the Path of Discipleship.

3. Upon the mental plane the Angel of the Presence and the Dweller on the Threshold are brought face to face. Their synthesis is brought about upon the Path of Initiation.

What is true of man in this connection is true also of humanity as a whole, of the planetary Logos of the Earth, as of all planetary Logoi, and of a solar Logos. The analogy between the fusion of the pairs of opposites, for instance, upon the physical plane can be seen in the conscious and directed fusion of the planetary forces with the energy of any specific planet or group of planets. The analogy, involving discrimination to regulate and offset the force of the pairs of opposites upon the astral plane, can be seen when the energies of the sun sign and of the planets are perfectly directed and adjusted. The analogy can also be carried forward onto the mental plane and when the energies of the sun sign and the rising sign are coherently blended and expressed (in the case of both the individual or a planetary Life) there comes a point of crisis wherein the soul and the personality are brought face to face. The Angel of the Presence, distributing solar fire and holding focussed electric fire, and the Dweller on the Threshold, expressing and utilising fire by friction, know each other "with intimate psyientific knowledge." The door then stands open wide through which the life and light of the three major constellations can_ after the third initiation_ be psyientificly available to the INITIATE, be he/she a liberated human being or a planetary Logos.

When astrologers understand the true significance of the constellation Gemini, the Twins, and the dual forces which pour through this sign (the "forces in conflict" as they are sometimes called or "the quarrelling brothers") and beat upon our planetary life, then the true method of resolving the dualities will be known.

It is interesting to note also that seven of the symbols which express the twelve signs of the zodiac are dual in their nature, and duality can be inferred from them.

- 1. The two horns of the Ram in Aries.**
- 2. The two horns of the Bull in Taurus.**
- 3. The figures of the Twins in Gemini (two lines).**
- 4. The two claws of the Crab in Cancer.**
- 5. The two scales of the Balance in Libra.**
- 6. The two Parallel Lines of force in Aquarius.**
- 7. The two Fishes in Pisces.**

These seven constellations are, therefore, closely related to six of the seven sacred planets and to one non-sacred planet. There are two signs which are simple figures and have no significance of duality. They are

- 8. The symbol for Leo, which is simply the Lion's tail.**
- 9. The arrow in the symbol depicting Sagittarius.**

They embody the idea of isolated separation and one-pointed desire. Two signs are definitely triple in construction and this has a clear meaning to the esotericist.

10. Virgo is a triple sign.

11. Scorpio is also a triple sign, closely resembling the symbol of Virgo.

These two signs are crucial in the experience of the human being, indicating as they do the function of the triple form and the liberation of the man imprisoned in the form, through the tests in Scorpio wherein he proves to himself and to the world the reality of that which Virgo has veiled or hidden.

12. The symbol for the sign Capricorn is most mysterious. It conceals the mystery of the Crocodiles, or Makara. It is constructed in an inaccurate and definitely misleading manner and should be regarded as a mystery and therefore not to be defined.

These signs and their relationship to the sacred and non-sacred planets will be considered later.

To sum up: Man will, therefore, have to be studied as a threefold entity, a composite individual, expressing (in the three worlds):

- a. The spiritual soul, reflecting the Monad.
- b. The human soul, reflecting the divine soul.
- c. The form nature, which should be the revealer of the two higher.

Three Creative Hierarchies condition the man in incarnation, the 4th (or 9th) the 5th (or 10th) and the 6th. These, in collaboration, create man and, at the same time, constitute the field of his expression. Man is consequently a blend of electric fire, being a divine Flame, and becomes eventually responsive to the three major controlling influences; he is also solar fire, being a solar Angel in manifestation. He then becomes increasingly responsive to the influences of the twelve constellations. He is likewise fire by friction and comes under the influence of the planets. The tabulation below may make this somewhat clearer:

I. Electric Fire._ Path of Initiation_ 4th Hierarchy; full soul expression; monadic life.

GOAL: Identification with the Monad. Produces responsiveness to the three constellations.

II. Solar Fire._ Path of Discipleship_ 5th Hierarchy; full life experience; soul life.

GOAL: Identification with the Soul. Produces responsiveness to the twelve zodiacal constellations.

III. Fire by Friction._ Path of Evolution_ 6th Hierarchy; life experiment; human life.

GOAL: Identification with the Personality. Produces responsiveness to the planetary influences.

3. The Great Wheel and Spiritual Unfoldment.

Before we give you the remaining part of the chart which deals with the constellations as conductors of cosmic energies or as transmitters of

their own energy, we would like to remark that much that we shall say will be based upon:

1. The wheel of life and the path of man, the human being, as he/she passes through the signs according to the mode recognised by orthodox astrology. He, as well as the planets, apparently retrogrades through the signs and appears to pass through the constellations from Aries to Taurus. But this is all part of the Great Illusion.

2. The wheel of life and the path of man, the divine or spiritual soul, as he passes through the signs of the zodiac according to the mode studied by the esoteric astrologer. This is the Path of Reality as the other is the Path of Illusion. This carries the disciple around the path from commencement in Aries to consummation in Pisces.

The present method is based upon the temporary truth that ordinary man is subject to the illusory nature of manifestation and "as he thinks, so is he." When, however, he/she becomes Hercules, the Sun God (or solar Angel), he/she begins to reverse the process (again only apparently) and a definite reorientation takes place. The Teachers on the inner side, therefore, study the horoscope only in its relation to the following three entities:

1. The horoscope of the planet itself as the expression of the life of the planetary Logos. This involves the studying of the horoscope of the spirit of the planet as well as of the informing Life and their joint relationship and interplay. The spirit of the Earth is to the planetary Logos of the Earth, for instance, what the personality (or form nature) is to the soul of man. The two horoscopes are superimposed and the "planetary pattern" then emerges.

2. The horoscope of the human family, of the fourth kingdom in nature, regarding it as an entity, which it essentially is. This is in reality the study of two horoscopes, as in the above case;

- the horoscope of the kingdom of souls, of the divine sons of God upon the mental plane, and
- the study of the entity which is the coherent life of the form side of the fourth kingdom in nature.

This is again done by superimposing the two charts. These charts are drawn on a large scale and on a transparent material of which humanity knows nothing. Upon these charts are noted the pattern which emerges when "soul and personality are brought together" and present conditions, possible developments and relationships, and the immediate future objective appear with clarity.

3. The horoscopes of disciples. The Masters do not study the charts of ordinary undeveloped man. There is no profit in so doing. This involves again the study of the two horoscopes of the disciple under inspection_ one of the soul and the other of the personality. Again the process of superimposition is utilised. In one horoscope, the new orientation and the embryonic reorganised inner life will be noted and studied, and in the other the outer life and its conformity or non-conformity to inner conditions will be the subject of attention. Thus the life pattern will emerge, possibilities will be indicated, problems will disappear, and the immediate next step will clearly show forth.

It thus becomes apparent again to what an extent the "principle of duality" enters into everything. It is a shifting dualism, according to where the emphasis may be placed, but this dualism is present until the last and final initiation_ present in the later stages of the evolutionary process, in the adjustment of form relations but not present in the consciousness of the disciple of advanced degree. That is the major point to be grasped.

A third point must here be made, following upon the two earlier emphasised. A great part of our study will be occupied with the relation of the six constellations in the upper half of the zodiacal wheel to the six which are found in the lower half; we shall consider the energy which is a human being (note that phrasing) as it travels clockwise from Aries to

Taurus and then_ reversing the process_ travels from Aries to Pisces. We will consider the dualities provided by one of these constellations and its opposite; we will study, therefore, the great qualities provided by a constellation and its opposite sign. We will take up these points in the following manner:

1. From the standpoint of commencement in Aries until the man_ through many turnings of the wheel of life_ reaches the point of reversal and reorientation. The man progresses from the point where, in Cancer, he forms a part of the mass with the mass consciousness, inchoate and unfocussed, and with no recognition of objective (except the satisfaction of instinctual desire) until in Scorpio he becomes the triumphant disciple, having found himself in Leo. Then comes the Crisis of Reorientation which may take a long time and constitute an interlude of many lives of struggle.

2. From the standpoint of the man upon the probationary path, seeking the light, struggling through the signs (as the *Old Commentary* expresses it when considering this point):

"He turns from right to left, and then again from left to right. He revolves in giddy fashion upon an axis of desire. He knows not where to go or what to do. The sky turns black."

At this point, the sign Gemini begins potently to play its part in the life of the disciples, with Sagittarius gradually "piercing the heart with his arrows, and then upon the flight of the arrow, the man reaches Capricorn." Then comes the Crisis of Renunciation.

3. From the standpoint of the pledged disciple and INITIATE who traverses again the Path of the Sun and finds that that which he has discovered himself to be in Leo finds its crown in Aquarius. The separative individual consciousness becomes the group consciousness in Aquarius, and he

begins to comprehend the significance of that basic combination of signs, that "triangle in the consciousness" of humanity:

Cancer	Leo	Aquarius.
Mass awareness	Individual awareness	Group awareness.
Instinctual consciousness	Intelligent consciousness	Intuitive consciousness.

Then, from the standpoint of achievement in Capricorn, he works for several lives around the zodiacal path, descending into the sea of the mass consciousness to become what is called in the ancient books "the Crab, who clears the ocean of matter which flows around the soul of man," and eventually to become a functioning world saviour in Pisces. He descends into the world of men to save mankind and to further the plan. He is then "the fish who swims free in the ocean of matter."

The INITIATE has always to express, in each sign of the zodiac,

- the consummation and the spiritual fruit of earlier life experience, world experiment and soul achievement.
- Selfishness has ever to be translated into living active service, and
- desire has to demonstrate its transmutation in the purity of spiritual aspiration for identification with the will of God.

There are one or two points which must be dealt with in order to enable you to study with certain definite ideas clearly formulated in your minds. We have hinted at them in some of our earlier books but it will be of service to refer to them again and to expand the ideas somewhat. We would have you carry them in your minds as you read and study.

We have frequently referred to the fact that the entire science of astrology is based upon a non-existent condition. It has no basis in material fact and yet is eternally based on truth. The zodiac is, as you well know, the imaginary path of the Sun in the heavens. It is therefore largely an illusion, from the exoteric point of view. But at the same time the constellations exist, and the streams of energy which pass and repass, intermingle and interlock throughout the body of space are by no means illusions but definitely express eternal relationships. It is the misuse of the various energies which has created the illusion. This illusory path is consequently as much a reality to humanity today as are the personality illusions of any individual. These illusions are due to the polarisation of the individual upon the astral plane.

It is interesting also to note in this connection that_ due to the precession of the equinoxes_ a fourth type of force is brought to bear upon the planet and man, but one which is seldom recognised and given due place in the horoscope. The month and the sign, or the place of the Sun in the heavens, do not really coincide. When we state, for instance, that the Sun is "in Aries" it conveys an esoteric truth but not an exoteric fact. The Sun was in Aries at the beginning of this great cycle, but it is not in exactly the same position today when it is "found" in that sign.

Also it should be remembered that as it is necessary to know the moment of birth and the place of birth in casting the horoscope of the individual, so in order to have a perfectly correct understanding and accurate deductions in connection with the constellation, the planets and our Earth there should be a fixed time from which to reckon. That fixed time is as yet unknown in exoteric astrology, though the Hierarchy possesses the needed information and it will be made available when the right time comes. It is the knowledge of this inner information which constitutes the basis of the statements which we have made or will make which will seem revolutionary to the orthodox investigator. There has to be a constant rectification of the earlier conclusions of humanity and of this the outstanding instance is the statement in the Bible that the prime date of creation is 4004 B.C. This is recognised as an error by modern science but is still believed by many.

We earlier gave a hint upon which definite astrological computation could be based when we gave the time of the "Great Approach" of the Hierarchy to our planetary manifestation when individualisation took place and the fourth kingdom in nature appeared. We placed that stupendous event as happening 21,688,345 years ago. At that time the Sun was in Leo. The process then INITIATED upon the physical plane and producing outer physical events took approximately 5,000 years to mature and the Sun was in Gemini when the final crisis of individualisation took place and the door was then closed upon the animal kingdom.

It has been stated that Sagittarius governs human evolution, as the Sun was in that sign when the Hierarchy began its Approach in order to stimulate the forms of life upon our planet. Sagittarius, however, governed the period of the subjective approach.

The Sun was in Leo when physical plane individualisation took place as a result of the applied stimulation.

The Sun was in Gemini when this Approach was consummated by the founding of the Hierarchy upon the Earth. This is one of the great secrets which the Masonic Rituals typify, for the symbol of the sign, Gemini, is the source of the concept of the two pillars, so familiar to Masons. It might therefore be stated that, symbolically speaking,

1. Leo governs the E\ A\ degree.
2. Gemini governs the F\ C\ degree.
3. Sagittarius governs the degree of M\ M\ up to the episode of the raising of the Master, and that Capricorn governs the final part of the ceremony and the H\ R\ A\

It is always confusing to the beginner who has not yet a developed and trained intuition to reconcile the seeming discrepancies and apparent contradictions which appear in the teaching of the Ageless Wisdom. This same difficulty will be met with in the science of astrology and some reference to the matter is in order at this point. We would remind you of the psyientific truism which states that interpretation and right understanding are based upon the stage of the development of the individual. [---] remarked in [---] that for some people the highest principle of which they can be consciously aware might be a very low one for another person. The constellations and the planets which govern them may, and do, have one effect upon the mass and another upon the average individual man, and still a third effect upon the disciple or the INITIATE. As the various energies and forces circulate throughout the etheric body of our solar system, their reception and effect will depend upon the state of the planetary centres and upon the point of unfoldment of the centres in individual man. That is why the various charts and tabulations can differ so widely and different planets can appear as ruling the constellations. There seems to be no fixed rule and the student gets bewildered. Orthodox astrology posits one set of planetary rulers, and they are correct as far as the mass of humanity is concerned. But the disciple, who lives above the diaphragm, responds to another combination and it is with these that we shall principally deal. That is why the three charts here given do not appear to coincide. They are drawn up to express the situation in regard to three groups:

1. The mass of people who conform to orthodox and recognised astrological conclusions.
2. Disciples and advanced individuals, conforming to the conclusions of esoteric astrology.
3. The Creative Hierarchies, giving the interim situation in this world cycle.

TABULATION IV. THE ORTHODOX ASTROLOGICAL RELATIONSHIP

CONSTELLATIONS AND PLANETARY RULERS IN CONNECTION WITH ORDINARY MAN

Constellation	Ruler	Ray	Related to		
1. Aries	Mars	6th ray	Scorpio.	Same ruler.	
2. Taurus	Venus	5th ray	Libra	"	"
3. Gemini	Mercury	4th ray	Virgo	"	"
4. Cancer	<i>Moon</i>	4th ray	none.		
5. Leo	<i>The Sun</i>	2nd ray	none.		
6. Virgo	Mercury	4th ray	Gemini	"	"
7. Libra	Venus	5th ray	Taurus	"	"
8. Scorpio	<i>Mars</i>	6th ray	Aries	"	"
9. Sagittarius	Jupiter	2nd ray	Pisces	"	"
10. Capricorn	Saturn	3rd ray	none.		
11. Aquarius	Uranus	7th ray	none.		
12. Pisces	Jupiter	2nd ray	Sagittarius	"	"

a. The non-sacred planets are italicised.

b. All the rays are represented except the first. This is interesting, as the mass of the people move within their horoscopes and the will aspect is latent but unexpressed.

TABULATION V. THE UNORTHODOX ASTROLOGICAL RELATIONSHIP

CONSTELLATIONS AND PLANETARY RULERS IN CONNECTION WITH DISCIPLES AND INITIATES

NOTE: In charts connected with the PATH, progress is from Aries to Pisces through Taurus, etc.

<i>Constellation</i>	<i>Ruler</i>	<i>Ray</i>	<i>Related to</i>
1. Aries	Mercury	4th ray	Virgo Same ray.
2. Taurus	VULCAN	1st ray	Pisces " "
3. Gemini	Venus	5th ray	none.
4. Cancer	Neptune	6th ray	Scorpio " "
5. Leo	<i>The Sun</i>	2nd ray	Aquarius " "
6. Virgo	<i>The Moon</i>	4th ray	Aries " "
7. Libra	Uranus	7th ray	none.
8. Scorpio	<i>Mars</i>	6th ray	Cancer " "
9. Sagittarius	<i>The Earth</i>	3rd ray	Capricorn " "
10. Capricorn	Saturn	3rd ray	Sagittarius " "
11. Aquarius	Jupiter	2nd ray	Leo " "
12. Pisces	Pluto	1st ray	Taurus " "

NOTE: In connection with disciples and the zodiacal signs, *Gemini* and *Libra* are two constellations which_ through their rulers_ express 5th and

7th ray energy. For some psyientific reason, they remain unrelated to any other of the signs.

The relation between the other constellations through the planets, as expressing the rays, is as follows:

1. *Taurus and Pisces*, through VULCAN and Pluto, are related to *Ray 1*. Transmutation of desire into sacrifice and of the individual will into the divine will.

The World Saviour

2. *Leo and Aquarius*, through the Sun and Jupiter, are related to *Ray 2*. Development of the individual consciousness into world consciousness. Thus a man becomes a world server.

The World Server

3. *Sagittarius and Capricorn*, through the Earth and Saturn, are related to *Ray 3*. The one-pointed disciple becomes the INITIATE.

The INITIATE

4. *Aries and Virgo*, through Mercury and the Moon, are related to *Ray 4*. Harmonising the cosmos and the individual through conflict, producing unity and beauty. The birth pangs of the second birth.

The Cosmic and Individual Christ

5. Cancer and Scorpio, through Neptune and Mars, are related to *Ray 6*. Transformation of the mass consciousness into the inclusive consciousness of the disciple.

The Triumphant Disciple

We would call attention to the fact that in Tabulation IV, the relationship is between the planets which rule, and in Tabulation V the emphasis is laid upon the conditioning ray.

TABULATION VI. PLANETARY RULERS IN 3 TABULATIONS

Constellation	Orthodox	Disciple	Hierarchies
1. Aries	<i>Mars</i>	Mercury	Uranus.
2. Taurus	Venus	Vulcan	Vulcan.
3. Gemini	Mercury	Venus	<i>The Earth.</i>
4. Cancer	<i>The Moon</i>	Neptune	Neptune.
5. Leo	<i>The Sun</i>	<i>The Sun</i>	<i>The Sun.</i>
6. Virgo	Mercury	<i>The Moon</i>	Jupiter.
7. Libra	Venus	Uranus	Saturn.
8. Scorpio	<i>Mars</i>	<i>Mars</i>	Mercury.
9. Sagittarius	Jupiter	<i>The Earth</i>	<i>Mars.</i>
10. Capricorn	Saturn	Saturn	Venus.
11. Aquarius	Uranus	Jupiter	<i>The Moon.</i>
12. Pisces	Jupiter	<i>Pluto</i>	<i>Pluto.</i>

TABULATION VII. UNORTHODOX CONSTELLATIONS, RULERS AND RAYS IN CONNECTION WITH THE HIERARCHIES

<i>Constellation</i>	<i>Ruler</i>	<i>Ray</i>	<i>Related to</i>
1. Aries	Uranus	7th ray	none.
2. Taurus	Vulcan	1st ray	Pisces Same ray.
3. Gemini	<i>The Earth</i>	3rd ray	Libra " "
4. Cancer	Neptune	6th ray	Sagittarius " "
5. Leo	<i>The Sun</i>	2nd ray	Virgo " "
6. Virgo	Jupiter	2nd ray	Leo " "
7. Libra	Saturn	3rd ray	Gemini " "
8. Scorpio	Mercury	4th ray	Aquarius " "
9. Sagittarius	<i>Mars</i>	6th ray	Cancer " "
10. Capricorn	Venus	5th ray	none.
11. Aquarius	<i>The Moon</i>	4th ray	Scorpio " "
12. Pisces	<i>Pluto</i>	1st ray	Taurus " "

NOTE: Aries and Capricorn in conjunction with 7th and 5th ray energy stand alone. The other constellations and rays are related in every case.

- a. Ray 1_ Taurus and Pisces, through Vulcan and Pluto.
- b. Ray 2_ Leo and Virgo, through the Sun and Jupiter.
- c. Ray 3_ Gemini and Libra, through the Earth and Saturn.
- d. Ray 4_ Scorpio and Aquarius, through Mercury and Moon.
- e. Ray 6_ Cancer and Sagittarius, through Neptune and Mars.

In view of all the above, and starting with the basic fact of the Great Illusion it should be remembered that the accuracy of astrological prediction and interpretation will be based upon three factors:

1. The potency of the thoughtforms which have been built up in connection with the twelve signs. These thoughtforms were originally constructed or anchored upon the mental plane by the Hierarchy in Atlantean days and they have steadily gained in power ever since. They serve as focal points for certain forces and enable the individual, for instance, to be in touch with great reservoirs of energy which then definitely condition him.

2. The intuition of the astrologer. The casting of the horoscope serves to put the astrologer en rapport with the individual, but this is of small service to either party unless the intuition and sensitivity of the astrologer is actively present.

3. The capacity of the astrologer in any specific period to respond to the changes which are all the time taking place, such as the gradual shifting and changing brought about by the precession of the equinoxes, or the slow shift of the pole of the planet. To this should be added that_ as man evolves_ the mechanism of response or the vehicles of consciousness likewise steadily improve. His reactions, therefore, to the planetary influence and to the energy of the various constellations change with equal steadiness and allowance must be made for this. It is consequently essential that the modern astrologer begin to study the point in evolution of the subject, *prior* to casting his horoscope. He must ascertain his approximate place upon the path of evolution. To this end, the study of the rays is most necessary through an investigation as to quality and characteristics and life objectives.

Astrologers will eventually be able to cast the horoscope of the soul, which is sensitive to different combinations of forces to those controlling the personality life. The disciple and the INITIATE respond distinctively to

the incoming influences and their response differs from that of the undeveloped man or the self-centred person. This will have to be recognised. Those who "live below the diaphragm" and who react to the incoming energies through the medium of the lower centres will have a very different type of chart to that of the disciple and INITIATE. It will require a different mode of interpretation. We have referred to this before and would remind you of some of the points which we made.

1. Disciples upon the Path of Discipleship are strongly influenced by *Mercury* and *Saturn*_ one bringing illumination and the other offering opportunity.

2. At the various initiations, the influence of the planets affects the candidate in a totally different manner than earlier. Cyclically the energies from the constellations pour through the planetary centres.
 - a. At the first initiation, the disciple has to contend with the crystallising and destroying forces of *Vulcan* and *Pluto*. The influence of Vulcan reaches to the very depths of his/her nature, whilst Pluto drags to the surface and destroys all that hinders in these lower regions.

 - b. At the second initiation, the candidate comes under the influence of three planets_ *Neptune*, *Venus* and *Jupiter*. The three centres_ solar plexus, heart and throat_ are actively involved.

 - c. At the third initiation, *the Moon* (veiling a hidden planet) and *Mars* bring about a fearful conflict, but at the end the man is released from personality control.

 - d. At the fourth initiation, *Mercury* and *Saturn* again bring about great changes and unique revelation, but their effect is very different to the earlier experience.

e. At the fifth and final initiation, *Uranus* and *Jupiter* appear and produce a "beneficent organisation" of the totality of energies found in the INITIATE'S equipment. When this reorganisation is complete, the INITIATE can then "escape from off the wheel and then can truly live."

All this time the energy of the sun (veiling a sacred planet, hitherto unknown) is steadily and persistently reaching the man via the solar angel.

The Nature of Esoteric Astrology INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

It will be apparent to you after studying the foregoing that one of the results which should emerge under the impression of this new approach to astrological diagnosis (as far as the individual is concerned) will be the more correct casting of the horoscope of advanced human beings_ disciples and INITIATES. This has not hitherto been accurately possible. It will only come about, however, if there is wise and right experiment and investigation.

We have posited two sets of rulers for two types of people:

1. The orthodox and generally accepted series of planetary rulers for the undeveloped and average man.
2. A new combination of rulers and constellations for those upon the Path.

It will be necessary to remember nevertheless that there are an infinite number of permutations possible, of complexities and relationships, due

to the vast number of possible combinations existing in the path of life of the individual and dependent upon his stage of evolutionary unfoldment. These might be divided into three groups through a broad, but necessarily inadequate, generalisation:

1. Average and undeveloped man, living below the diaphragm and with the emphasis of the incoming energies and forces focussed either in the solar plexus or in the sacral centre.

2. A large number of people who are in an interim stage, with the energies and forces focussed mainly in the lower centre but at the same time playing quite frequently through the throat centre and evoking a faint response from the heart and the ajna centres.

3. People upon one or other of the final stages of the Path, with the emphasis passing rapidly away from the lower centres into the higher triad and with the highest head centre in process of awakening. These people also fall into two major groups:

a. Those who are using the solar plexus centre as a vast clearing house for the incoming energies and who are beginning to work through the throat and the heart centres, with the goal of completely awakening the ajna centre.

b. Those who are using all these centres, but in whom the heart centre is fully awakened and the triangle of force in the head (from the ajna centre to the head centre and from the head centre to the centre found in the medulla oblongata) is beginning to function.

When these centres are all awakening, their simplest combinations are the following triangles. The Science of Triangles underlies all astrological deduction as well as the centres in the human body. This you know, but the four triplicities of orthodox astrology are only the rudiments of this true science, which lies behind the orthodox interpretations. copy

| 1. Base of the spine.

I. | 2. Sacral Centre.

| 3. Solar Plexus Centre.

| 1. Throat Centre.

II. | 2. Heart Centre.

| 3. Ajna Centre.

| 1. Ajna Centre.

III. | 2. Head Centre.

| 3. Centre in the medulla oblongata.

Unfortunately the organising principle is not as simple as the above tabulation would make it appear, for the emphasis, the focus and the mode of arranging and of vitalisation, and the appearance of these esoteric triangles vary with the ray type. This Science of Triangles of Energy underlies the new esoteric science both in astrology and in the science of laya-yoga or the science of the centres. Both this ancient yoga and the still more ancient astrological science have now to be studied upon a higher turn of the spiral. Up till the present time, the teaching about the centres has been inherited from Atlantean times and couched in the old forms and formulas which are basically unsuited to our present greatly advanced stage of development. The same can be said of orthodox

or exoteric astrology. Both these sciences must be reoriented and rearranged, and astrology must be based upon a deeper understanding of the relation of the planets_ sacred and non-sacred_ to the centres and to certain prominent "cycles of polarisation" emerging as the fore-ordained results of "periods of crisis." This last sentence embodies a basic and important statement of truth.

1. Centres and Triangles of Force

There are, as you well know, five non-sacred planets, and seven which are regarded as sacred. These twelve planetary lives (with their own cycles, points of crisis and moments of polarisation) are closely related to the seven centres. The five centres up the spine are related to the five non-sacred planets, but in unevolved or average man, are focussed almost entirely upon the astral plane and in the astral body. It should be noted that:

1. Two of the non-sacred planets (the Earth itself and the Moon) are connected with two centres which in the highly evolved man are not of dominating importance:

a. The spleen receiving pranic emanations from the planet on which we live and concerned with the etheric and physical bodies and their physical relation.

b. A centre in the chest related to the thymus gland. This centre becomes inactive in the advanced man but has a connection with the vagus nerve, prior to the awakening of the heart centre.

2. Two of the other non-sacred planets_ Mars and Pluto_ function in connection with the sacral centre (Mars) and the solar plexus (Pluto). This latter planet becomes active in the life of the man who is "becoming alive

in the higher sense, his lower nature passes into the smoke and darkness of Pluto, who governs the lesser burning ground, in order that the man may live in truth in the higher land of light."

3. The Sun (standing here for VULCAN, which is a sacred planet) governs a centre in the front of the throat which is related to the para-thyroids and not to the thyroid gland, which is related to the throat centre. This centre in the front of the throat falls into disuse as the creative period of throat activity begins. It acts as a "mediator" between the higher and the lower creative organs (between the sacral and the throat centres) and leads eventually to that creative activity which is consciously that of the functioning soul. VULCAN was one of the first creative workers among men. He was also related to "Cain who killed his brother." The symbolism underlying these ancient myths will be easily interpreted by the intuitive student.

Some of the tasks which we propose to undertake in this section of our Treatise on the Seven Rays are as follows:

1. Consider why five of the seven rays express themselves through two sets of planets_ sacred and non-sacred_ and also which centres these two groups of rays govern. Thus we shall relate:

a. The seven centres in man's etheric body.

b. The seven centres of the fourth Creative Hierarchy of which the seven races are the expression.

c. The seven planetary centres.

d. The seven and the five planets which are the centres of energy in the solar system, responsive to the energy of the twelve zodiacal constellations.

These planetary centres will be studied from two angles:

a. From the orthodox angle.

b. From the angle of discipleship and initiation.

2. Consider the energies of the three major constellations as they each pour through three of the zodiacal constellations, thus forming great interlocking triangles of force. Thus nine of the zodiacal constellations are involved, and these in their turn fuse and blend their energies into three major streams of force upon the Path of Initiation. These three streams of force pour through:

a. Leo, Capricorn and Pisces.

to

b. Saturn, Mercury and Uranus (the Moon).

to

c. The head, ajna and heart centres.

to

d. The throat, the solar plexus and the base of the spine.

It should be remembered that the sacral centre and the spleen are primarily connected with the planetary emanation of the Earth itself.

3. Consider the three great cosmic Crosses:

<i>The Cardinal Cross</i>	<i>The Fixed Cross</i>	<i>The Mutable Cross</i>
a. Initiation	Discipleship	Evolution.
b. The Planetary Logos	Humanity	Kingdoms in Nature.
c. Cosmic Initiation	Solar Initiation	Planetary Initiation.
d. Spirit	Soul	Body.
e. Life	Consciousness	Form.
f. Monad	Ego	Personality.
g. Three Initiations	Two Initiations	Ordinary man.
(INITIATES)	(Disciples)	

and the relation of these three Crosses to the twelve planets and the general sweep of the soul in incarnation.

4. Elaborate the subject of the interplay between the three groups of ruling planets as given in Tabulation VI. These, in the totality of their effects, are the agencies through which the purposes of God are wrought out.

Before proceeding with the more technical aspects of our subject, we would like to elaborate this theme of the zodiac, its story and symbolism from the more philosophical and spiritual angle, giving you the subjective picture of man's progress as he passes on "the sweep of the sun along the path of life." This is a technical phrase and refers to the activity of a sun, a planet, a hierarchy or a man, after there has been a "moment of crisis,"

resulting in a "period of polarisation," leading inevitably to a fresh surge and sweep onwards. These three words_ crisis, polarisation and sweep_ are the basis of cyclic law and govern the evolutionary process. From the point of view of humanity, the passage of the Sun around the zodiac is apparently a slow and laborious process, taking approximately (on the plane of time) 25,000 years. From the angle of the inner vision, it is a sweep around the Path of Life, taking only a moment of time and "obliterating past, present and future in the radiant glory of the work accomplished."

2. The Crosses and the Signs

We will follow man from sign to sign as he_ in travail and pain_ forges the equipment and develops painfully the mechanism which will enable him to arrive at a major moment of crisis in his cyclic life wherein he will begin to free himself from the *path of the great illusion* along which he/she has travelled for aeons from Aries to Taurus, via Pisces and_ reversing himself_ will begin to travel the *path of light* from Aries to Pisces, via Taurus. This changing experience is expressed for us most beautifully in the sixth section of the *Old Commentary*.

"The Cross of many changes (the Mutable Cross. ---) continues with its whirling, carrying crucified thereon the form of a man in whom is found the seed of all illusion.

But, from the Cross whereon he has been slain_ e'en though he knew it not_ the man climbs down and feels his way (with pain and many tears) on to another Cross_ a Cross of blinding light, of fiery pain, of bitter woe, and yet the Cross of liberation. It is a stationary Cross, fixed in the Heavens, and guarded by the Angel.

Behind the Cross, another Cross appears, but that he/she may not reach (the Angel guards the way!) until the Bull has rent and torn the man, and

then_ the light shines forth; until the Serpent dread has wrestled with the man and brought him to his knees, and then_ the lifting up into the light; until *the Lion* has been tamed, the secret of the Sphinx revealed, and then_ the revelation of the inner light; until the man has lifted up his water-pot and joined the ranks of those who are the *Water-bearers*, and then the flowing of the stream of life will fill his water-pot and drain the rancid pool and cleanse its source and thus reveal the hidden way which leads unto the innermost light, hid by the final Cross. Then, from the Cross of man, the INITIATE finds his way, passes the Angel and leaves behind the inner torn veil, mounts the major Cross and passes into day, the final *day*. The wheel for him stands still. The sun and stars, for him, fade out. A great light is seen and..."

The three crosses on Mount Golgotha were Biblical symbols of these three astrological crosses, the Common or Mutable Cross, the Fixed Cross and the Cardinal Cross.

We would ask you to remember that though we shall trace the progress of the man from sign to sign around the zodiacal way, yet there is not necessarily this ordered sequence of travel or the smooth passage from sign to sign as we may portray it. All souls come into incarnation in the sign Cancer. By this we mean that the very first human incarnation was always taken in this sign which has been recognised down the ages as "the doorway into life of those who must know death," just as the constellation Capricorn is ever regarded as another door and is called esoterically the "doorway into life of those who know not death." As the ages slip away, the man passes into and out of all the signs, the particular sign being determined by the nature of the personality ray which itself changes, as you know, from life to life. In those signs he learns the needed lessons, broadens his horizon, integrates his personality, begins to sense the conditioning soul, and thus discovers his essential duality. When he is upon the Path of Discipleship (and here we include the Path of Initiation) psyientific rumour says that he then becomes conditioned by the tireless Watcher, the soul, and is subjected (during the final stages of the path) to exactly twelve incarnations, passing one in each of the twelve signs. In

them he has to prove himself, attaining great moments of crisis in each of the constellations of the Fixed Cross in particular. From point to point, stage to stage, and finally Cross to Cross, he fights for his spiritual life, in all the twelve houses and all the twelve constellations, subjected to countless combinations of forces and energies_ ray, planetary, zodiacal and cosmic_ until he is "made anew," becomes the "new man," is sensitive to the entire range of spiritual vibrations in our solar system and has achieved that detachment which will enable him to escape from the wheel of rebirth. He has accomplished this by mounting the three Crosses_ the cross of the Personality or the changing form, the Cross of the Disciple or the eternal soul, and the Cross of the Spirit. This really means that he has passed through three momentous crises in his life cycle.

I. The Crisis of Incarnation The Mutable Cross

The Mounting of the WheelPersonality and form life

The Cycle of Rebirth in Form Experience

Manifestation of Manhood

II. The Crisis of Reorientation The Fixed Cross

The Changing to the 2nd Cross . . . The life of the soul

Preparation for the 2nd Birth Consciousness

Manifestation of Christhood

III. The Crisis of Initiation The Cardinal Cross

The Transfiguration The Life of the Spirit

Manifestation of Divinity

In our study of the interlocking system of energies, in so far as they affect and condition a human being, the theme of the Three Crosses is of

profound and practical interest, especially as they provide those points of crisis wherein a man steps off the ordinary path of evolution and treads the path of discipleship or_ after the third initiation mounts a third Cross. It will underlie our thought and all that we have to say. A steady recollection of the twelve basic energies (five major and seven minor which are in reality, and apart from astral reversion due to the Great Illusion, seven major and five minor) will be of value. These work out into human expression via the Lords of the twelve signs and the twelve planetary Rulers. These twelve basic energies emanate from the seven stars of the Great Bear (transmitted through seven stars of the Little Bear); two of them come from Sirius and three from the Pleiades. This set-up (if we may use such an unorthodox term) will be the condition of the major solar sphere of influence at the end of the Great Age of Brahma, as it is esoterically called. In the "interim or interlude of evolution" (which is the inadequate translation of an psyientific phrase given to a world cycle in the Masters' Archives) these energies are stepped down into forces and are literally sixteen all told_ from the angle of manifestation, we would remind you_ and make literally: $7+7+2=16=7$. In these numbers the mystery of our evolutionary process lies hid. Always, however, the emphasis must be laid upon the Rays of Energy and Quality as they pour through the zodiacal constellations and the planets. The new astrology therefore is necessarily based upon an understanding of the rays. The following tabulation is fundamental in its implications in this connection and upon it all that we have to say will be based.

Seven stars of the Great Bear are the originating Sources of the seven rays of our solar system. The seven Rishis (as They are called) of the Great Bear express Themselves through the medium of the seven planetary Logoi Who are Their Representatives and to Whom They stand in the relation of prototype. The seven Planetary Spirits manifest through the medium of the seven sacred planets.

Each of these seven Rays, coming from the Great Bear, are transmitted into our solar system through the medium of three constellations and their ruling planets. The following tabulation makes this clear but must be interpreted only in terms of this present turn of the Great Zodiacal Wheel (25,000 years):

TABULATION VIII

<i>Ray</i>	<i>Constellations</i>	<i>Planets</i> (Orthodox)	<i>Planets</i> (Esoteric)
I. Will or Power	Aries, The Ram	Mars	Mercury.
	Leo, the Lion	Sun	Sun.
	Capricorn, the Goat	Saturn	Saturn.
II. Love-Wisdom (veiling a planet).	Gemini, the Twins	Mercury	Venus.
	Virgo, the Virgin	Mercury	Moon
	Pisces, the Fishes	Jupiter	Pluto.
III. Active-Intelligence	Cancer, the Crab	Moon	Neptune.
	Libra, the Scales	Venus	Uranus.
	Capricorn, the Goat	Saturn	Saturn.
IV. Harmony through Conflict	Taurus, the Bull	Venus	Vulcan.
	Scorpio, the Scorpion	Mars	Mars.
	Sagittarius, the Archer	Jupiter	Earth.
V. Concrete Science	Leo, the Lion	Sun	Sun.
	Sagittarius, the Archer	Jupiter	Earth.

	Aquarius, the Watercarrier	Uranus	Jupiter.
	Virgo, the Virgin	Mercury	Moon.
VI. Idealism. Devotion	Sagittarius, the Archer	Jupiter	Earth.
	Pisces, the Fishes	Jupiter	Pluto.
	Aries, the Ram	Mars	Mercury.
VII. Ceremonial Order	Cancer, the Crab	Moon	Neptune.
	Capricorn, the Goat	Saturn	Saturn.

It will be obvious to you how much correlating work and how much readjustment of ideas will be needed as the new astrology is worked out into practical usefulness and eventually substituted for that now holding sway. This new astrology really embodies five sciences:

1. The Science of the Rays.
2. The Science of Esoteric Interpretation which is carried out through
3. The Science of Triangles.
4. The Science of the Centres.
5. The Science of Destiny.

This latter science will be based upon the four previous ones and will constitute an interpretation of the future which will be founded on a correct understanding of the rays_ personal and egoic_ of the influence of the triangles_ zodiacal, planetary, racial and human. These latter triangles are arrived at by a study of the individual human centres. When all this has

been ascertained and worked out in the new style of horoscope which will be later developed, then the Science of Destiny will be applied and the future indications discovered. Of this, the personal progressed horoscope is the embryonic seed.

Some indication of relative values can be gained by a consideration of the human triangles as given in [----], which suggested the following:

"It would repay the student to contemplate the interesting succession of triangles that are to be found and the way in which they must be linked by the progression of the fire before that fire can perfectly vivify them, and thence pass on to other transmutations. We might enumerate some of these triangles, bearing always in mind that, according to the ray, so will proceed the geometric rising of the fire, and according to the ray, so will the points be touched in ordered sequence. Herein lies one of the secrets of initiation, and herein are found some of the dangers entailed in a too quick publication of information concerning the rays.

1. *The pranic triangle.*

- a. The shoulder centre.
- b. The centre near the diaphragm.
- c. The spleen.

2. *Man controlled from the astral plane.*

- a. The base of spine.
- b. The solar plexus.
- c. The heart.

3. *Man controlled from the mental plane.*

- a. The base of spine.
- b. The heart.
- c. The throat.

4. *Man partially controlled by the Ego, advanced man.*

- a. The heart.
- b. The throat.
- c. The head, i.e., the four lesser centres and their synthesis, the ajna centre.

5. *Spiritual man to the third Initiation.*

- a. The heart.
- b. The throat.
- c. The seven head centres.

6. *Spiritual man to the fifth Initiation.*

- a. The heart.
- b. The seven head centres.
- c. The two many-petalled lotuses.

All these different periods show different triangular radiations. We must not infer from this that when the fire is centred in one triangle it is not demonstrating in others. Once the fire has free passage along any triangle it flames continuously, but always there is one triangle more radiant and luminous than the others, and it is from these glowing triangles of light, issuing from wheels and vortices of fire, that the clairvoyant and the

teachers of the race can appraise a man's position in the scheme of things, and judge of his attainment. At the culmination of life experience, and when man has reached his goal, each triangle is a radiant path of fire, and each centre a wheel of living fiery force rotating at terrific speed; the centre at this stage not only rotates in a specific direction, but literally turns upon itself, forming a living flaming iridescent globe of pure fire, and holding within it a certain geometrical shape, yet withal vibrating so rapidly that the eye can scarcely follow it. Above all, at the top of the head will be seen a fiery display that seems to put all the other centres into insignificance; from the heart of this many-petalled lotus issues a flame of fire with the basic hue of a man's ray. This flame mounts upward and seems to attract downward a sheet of electric light, which is the downflow from the spirit on the highest plane. This marks the blending of the fires and the deliverance of man from the trammels of matter."

[-----] (pp. 169-171)

At present, charts are set up on the basis of the personality condition or of the personality ray, if the astrologer is fortunate enough to know or to guess it accurately; if, however, the subject is an advanced person, then the chart will be frequently wrong as the planets which govern in the case of ordinary or undeveloped man have ceased to influence the spiritual man and the disciple. Average man is primarily conditioned in the events of his physical plane life by the position of the planets in the twelve houses and they are, in their turn, conditioned by certain karmic influences which the advanced man has overcome, or is overcoming. The horoscope will be cast eventually on the basis of the soul ray, and then the zodiacal signs which govern the activities and the influence of the present group of planetary Rulers will be considerably lessened. New planetary potencies (conveying zodiacal energies) will control and take precedence of the old ones, thus putting the man in touch with different forces. Finally the time will come when he will be sensitive to the whole range of vibrations; charts will then be set up which will be called "*charts of the crosses*" and not simply indications of planetary influences in the twelve houses. We question whether there is any living astrologer capable of doing this as yet. These are the kind of charts by which the Masters gauge Their disciples and they are most interesting; we touched upon them somewhat earlier in this treatise. These "*charts of the crosses*" are the ones that are prepared prior to the third initiation, at which time the man begins his

"approach" to the Cardinal Cross of the heavens. We would here remind you, e'en though it is a piece of useless information, that the fifth major initiation of our planet is the first cosmic initiation, just as the third initiation is the first systemic. The two first initiations are planetary in their implications. The above statement has deep and esoteric astrological significance.

"The TriFesta" and "the Nines" Movement

w/in

The NEW WORLD RELIGION

1919-2025 *1

^{1*} 1919-2025: Let us indicate the possibilities of such spiritual events intended to offer study to disciples and initiates at the close of this century [20TH] and the beginning of the next century, up until 2025 A.D., attempt to prophesy the nature of the coming worldwide Festivals and lay a foundation for future teaching around the year 2025. There will be three such major Festivals each year, concentrated in three consecutive months and leading, therefore, to a prolonged annual spiritual effort which will affect the remainder of the year. These will be:

A. TriFesta = APRIL, MAY and JUNE FULL MOONS

B. "The Nines" = JANUARY; FEBRUARY; MARCH (depends on April); JULY; AUGUST; SEPTEMBER; OCTOBER; NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER FULL MOONS.

TriFesta

1. The FESTIVAL OF EASTER. This is the Festival of the risen, living CHRIST,

- the Teacher of all men and
- the Head of the Spiritual HIERARCHY.

- He is the Expression of the LOVE OF GOD.

On this day the spiritual HIERARCHY, which He guides and directs, will be recognised and the nature of God's love will be emphasised. This Festival is determined always by the date of the FIRST FULL MOON OF SPRING and is the great Western and Christian Festival.

2. The FESTIVAL of WESAK. This is the FESTIVAL of the BUDDHA, the spiritual Intermediary between the highest spiritual centre,

- SHANGRI-LHA, and
- the HIERARCHY. The BUDDHA is the expression of
- the wisdom of God,
- the Embodiment of Light and the Indicator of the
- divine purpose.

This will be fixed annually in relation to the FULL MOON OF MAY, as is at present the case. It is the great EASTERN Festival.

3. The FESTIVAL OF GOODWILL. This will be the Festival of the spirit of humanity_

- aspiring towards God,
- seeking conformity with the WILL of GOD and
- dedicated to the expression of right human relation.

This will be fixed annually in relation to the FULL MOON OF JUNE. It will be *a day whereon the spiritual and divine nature of mankind will be recognised.*

On this Festival for two thousand years

- The CHRIST has represented humanity and has stood before the HIERARCHY and in the sight of
- SHANGRI-LHA as the God-Man, the leader of His people and

- "the Eldest in a great family of brothers" (Romans VIII.29)

Each year at that time He has preached the last sermon of the BUDDHA, before the assembled HIERARCHY. This will, therefore, be a festival

- of deep invocation and appeal,
- of a basic aspiration towards fellowship,
- of human and spiritual unity, and
- will represent the effect in the human consciousness of the work of the BUDDHA and of the CHRIST.

These three Festivals are already being kept throughout the world, though they are not as yet related to each other and are a part of the unified spiritual Approach of humanity. The time is coming when all three Festivals will be kept throughout the world and by their means a great spiritual unity will be achieved and the effects of the Great Approach, so close to us at this time, will be stabilised by the united invocation of humanity throughout the planet.

“The NINES”

The remaining full moons will constitute lesser festivals but will be recognised to be also of vital importance. They will establish the divine attributes in the consciousness of man, just as the major festivals establish the three divine aspects. These aspects and qualities will be arrived at and determined by a close study of the nature of a particular constellation or constellations influencing those months. For instance, Capricorn will

- call attention to the FIRST INITIATION, THE BIRTH OF THE CHRIST IN THE CAVE OF THE HEART, and
- indicate the training needed to bring about that great
- spiritual event in the life of the individual man.

We give this one instance to you in order to indicate the possibilities for spiritual unfoldment that could be given through an understanding of

these influences by expanding them into their larger undying relationships. The minor festivals will emphasise the interrelation of the Whole, thus lifting the divine presentation

- out of the individual and the personal,
- into that of the universal divine Purpose;
- the relationship of the Whole to the part and of the part
- to that Whole will be thereby fully expresses. Humanity will, therefore,
- invoke the spiritual power of the Kingdom of God, the HIERARCHY;
- the HIERARCHY will respond, and God's plans will then be worked out on earth.

The HIERARCHY, on a higher turn of the spiral will invoke the "Centre where the WILL of GOD is known," thus invoking the Purpose of God. **THUS WILL THE WILL OF GOD BE IMPLEMENTED BY LOVE AND MANIFESTED INTELLIGENTLY; FOR THIS MANKIND IS READY, AND FOR THIS THE EARTH WAITS.** [L8r, more on the NINES as Esoteric astrology.]

Thus, the TWELVE annual festivals will constitute a

- revelation of divinity. They will present a means of bringing about relationship, first of all,
 - during *three months*
 - with the *three great spiritual Centres*,
 - the *three expressions of the divine Trinity*.

Tri9's

Your major spiritual activity must now be turned into work at the time of the Full Moon. Each month spend your periods of inner recollection in getting ready for the work of the five or the three days of the Full Moon period:

1. The **WESAK FESTIVAL** (the Vaisakha Festival) @ the **MAY FULL MOON** is a ritual in which stands for the **Great Day of the Illuminated Buddha**. No cost is too great to pay in order to be of use to the **HIERARCHY** at the time of the **FULL MOON OF MAY**, the **WESAK FESTIVAL**; no price is too high in order to gain the spiritual illumination which can be possible, particularly at that time.
2. The **FESTIVAL of the RISEN CHRIST, EASTER Sunday**, @ the **APRIL FULL MOON**, stands for that inclusive, serve-the-servers/love-ye-one-another Brotherhood exemplified by Christ, whilst the
3. The **FESTIVAL of HUMANITY** @ the **FULL MOON of JUNE** stands for making its major annual approach to **God** under the guidance of **Christ**.
4. The other full moons in each month constitute lesser festivals in which certain spiritual qualities necessary for the expression of **Discipleship** and **Initiation** are considered and emphasised.

PREPARATION: TriFesta = 5 days

1. THE **TWO DAYS** OF PREPARATION AND INTROSPECTION.
2. THE **DAY** OF THE FULL MOON WITH ITS OPPORTUNITY TO TUNE IN WITH YOUR FELLOW DISCIPLES IN THE WORLD_ AKA SYNTHES EARTH ASHRAM_.
3. THE **TWO DAYS** OF ATTEMPT TO CAPITALISE ON THAT WHICH HAS BEEN SUBJECTIVELY GAINED-_ MAKING IT OBJECTIVE IN YOUR CONSCIOUSNESS.

The gain of this exercise, if successfully carried out, in the development of your inner sensitivity would be immeasurable and its usefulness to your fellow disciples would be greater than you know.

The next few months are intended to be (for all disciples in all Ashrams) a period of preparation for fuller service.

PREPARATION: The NINES = 3 days

1. THE *ONE DAY* OF PREPARATION AND INTROSPECTION.

2. THE *DAY* OF THE FULL MOON WITH ITS OPPORTUNITY TO TUNE IN WITH YOUR FELLOW DISCIPLES IN THE WORLD_ AKA SYNTHES EARTH ASHRAM_.

3. THE *ONE DAY* OF ATTEMPT TO CAPITALISE ON THAT WHICH HAS BEEN SUBJECTIVELY GAINED-_ MAKING IT OBJECTIVE IN YOUR CONSCIOUSNESS.

Thus, the TWELVE annual festivals will constitute a revelation of divinity. They will present a means of bringing about

- relationship, **FIRST** of all, during three months with
- the three great spiritual Centres,
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The minor festivals will emphasise the *interrelation of the Whole*, thus lifting the divine presentation

- out of the individual and the personal,
- into that of the universal divine Purpose;
- the relationship of the Whole to the part and of the part to that Whole will be thereby fully expressed.
- Humanity will, therefore, invoke the spiritual power of the Kingdom of God, the HIERARCHY;
- the HIERARCHY will respond, and God's plans will then be worked out on earth.
- The HIERARCHY, on a higher turn of the spiral will invoke the "Centre where the WILL of GOD is known," thus invoking the Purpose of God.
- **THUS WILL THE WILL OF GOD BE IMPLEMENTED BY LOVE AND MANIFESTED INTELLIGENTLY; FOR THIS MANKIND IS READY, AND FOR THIS THE EARTH WAITS.** [L8r, still coming as promised, more on the NINES as Esoteric astrology.]

To sum up therefore: on the basis of the fundamental truth already recognised the NEW WORLD RELIGION will be built.

The great theme of the NEW WORLD RELIGION will be the *recognition of the many divine approaches and the continuity of revelation which each of them conveyed*; the task ahead of the spiritually minded people of the world today is to *prepare humanity for the imminent and (perhaps) the greatest of all the Approaches*. The method employed will be the scientific and intelligent use of *Invocation* and *Evocation* and the recognition of their tremendous potency.

RELIGION is the NAME GIVEN to:

- **THE INVOCATIVE APPEAL of HUMANITY and**
- **THE EVOCATIVE RESPONSE of the GREATER LIFE to that CRY.**

Man invokes divine Approach in various ways:

- by means of the inchoate, voiceless appeal or invocative cry of the masses and also
- by the planned, defined invocation of the spiritually oriented aspirants, the intelligently convinced worker, disciple and initiate_
- by all, in fact, who form the NEW GROUP OF WORLD SERVERS.

The science of *Invocation* and *Evocation* will take the place of what we now call "prayer" and "worship." Be not disturbed by the use of the word "**SCIENCE**." It is not the cold and heartless intellectual thing so oft depicted. It is in REALITY the INTELLIGENT ORGANISATION

- Of SPIRITUAL ENERGY and
- Of the FORCES of LOVE, and these, when EFFECTIVE,
- Will EVOKE the RESPONSE of SPIRITUAL BEINGS WHO can AGAIN WALK OPENLY AMONG MEN, and
- Thus ESTABLISH a CLOSE RELATION and a CONSTANT COMMUNICATION between HUMANITY and the SPIRITUAL HIERARCHY.

In order to clarify, it might be said that Invocation is of three kinds:

1. there is, as stated above, *the massed demand, unconsciously voiced, and the crying appeal, wrung from the hearts of men in all times of crisis such as the present.* This *invocative cry* rises ceaselessly from all men living in the midst of disaster; it is addressed to that power outside themselves which they feel *can* and *should come* to their help in their moment of extremity. This great and wordless *invocation* is rising everywhere today.

2. Then there is the *invocational spirit, evidenced by sincere men as they participate in the rites of their religion and take advantage of the opportunity of united worship and prayer to lay their demands for help before God.* This group, added to the mass of men, creates a huge body of invocative applicants and at this time, their **massed intent** is in great evidence and their **invocation** is rising to the Most High.

3. Then, lastly there are the trained disciples and aspirants of the world who use certain forms of words, certain carefully defined invocations and who_ as they do this_ focus the invocative cry and the invocative appeal of the other two groups, giving it right direction and power.

All these three groups are, consciously or unconsciously, swinging into activity at this time and their united effort guarantees a resultant evocation.

This new invocative work will be the keynote of the coming world religion and will fall into two parts.

1. There will be the invocative work of the masses of the people, everywhere, trained by the spiritually minded people of the world (working in the churches whenever possible under an enlightened clergy) to

- accept the fact of the approaching spiritual energies, focussed through CHRIST and His spiritual HIERARCHY, and

- trained also to voice their demand for LIGHT, LIBERATION and UNDERSTANDING.

2. There will also be the skilled work of **invocation** as practised by those who have trained their minds through right **meditation**, who know the potency of **formulas, mantrams and invocations** and who work consciously.

They will increasingly use certain great formulas of words which will later be given to the race, just as the Lord's Prayer was given by the CHRIST, and as the New Invocation has been given out for use at this time by the HIERARCHY.

This new religious **science** for which prayer, meditation and ritual have prepared humanity, will train its people to present at stated periods throughout the year_ the voiced demand of the people of the world

- for relationship with God and
- for a closer spiritual relation to each other.

This work, when rightly carried forward, will evoke response from the waiting HIERARCHY and from its Head, the CHRIST. Through this response, the **belief of the masses** will gradually be changed into the **conviction of the knowers**. In this way, the mass of men will be **transformed and spiritualised**, and the two great divine centres of energy or groups_ the HIERARCHY and HUMANITY itself_ will begin to work in complete at-one-ment and unity. *Then the Kingdom of God will indeed and in truth be functioning on earth.*

It will be apparent to you that it is only possible to indicate the broad general outlines of the NEW WORLD RELIGION. The expansion of the human consciousness which will take place as a result of the coming Great Approach will enable humanity to grasp not only its relation to the spiritual life of our planet, the "One in Whom we live and move and have our being," but will also give a glimpse of the relation of our planet to the circle of planetary lives, moving within the orbit of the Sun and the still greater circle of spiritual influences which contact our system as it pursues its orbit in the Heavens (the twelve constellations of the zodiac). Astronomical and astrological investigation has demonstrated this

relationship and the influences exerted but there is still speculation and much foolish claiming and interpretation. Yet the churches have ever recognized this and the Bible has testified to it. "The stars in their courses fought against Sisera" (Judges V.20). "Who can withstand the sweet influences of the Pleiades?" (Job XXXVIII.31). Many other passages bear out this contention of the **Knowers**. Many church festivals are fixed by reference to the moon or a zodiacal constellation. Investigation will prove this to be the case and when the ritual of the **NEW WORLD RELIGION** is universally established, this will be one of the important factors considered.

The establishing of certain major **festivals** in relation to the Moon and in a lesser degree to the zodiac will bring about a strengthening of the spirit of invocation and the resultant inflow of evoked influences.

- The truth lying behind all invocation is based upon the power of thought, particularly in its telepathic nature, rapport and aspect.
- The unified, invocative thought of the masses and the focussed, directed thought of the **NEW GROUP OF WORLD SERVERS** constitute an outgoing stream of energy.
- This will reach telepathically those spiritual Beings Who are sensitive and responsive to such impacts. Their evoked response, sent out as spiritual energy, will in turn reach humanity after having been stepped down into thought energy and in that form will make its due impact upon the minds of men, convincing them and carrying inspiration and revelation.

Thus has it ever been in the history of the spiritual unfoldment of the world and the procedure followed in writing the world Scriptures.

Secondly, the establishing of a certain uniformity in the world religious rituals will aid men everywhere to strengthen each other's work and enhance powerfully the thought currents directed to the waiting spiritual Lives. At present, the Christian religion has its great festivals, the Buddhist keeps his different set spiritual events, and the Hindu has still another list of holy days. In the future world, when organised, all men of spiritual inclination and intention everywhere will keep the same holy

days. This will bring about a pooling of spiritual resources, and a united spiritual effort, plus a simultaneous spiritual invocation. The potency of this will be apparent.

"Thus God dwells in all,
From life's minute beginnings, up at last
To man_ the consummation of this scheme
Of being, the completion of this sphere
Of life: whose attributes had here and there
Been scattered o'er the visible world before,
Asking to be combined, dim fragments meant
To be united in some wondrous whole,
Imperfect qualities throughout creation,
Suggesting some one creature yet to make,
Some point where all those scattered rays should meet
Convergent in the faculties of man....

When all the race is perfected alike
As man, that is; all tended to mankind
And, man produced, all has its end thus far:
But in completed man begins anew
A tendency to God. Prognostics told
Man's near approach; so in man's self arise
August anticipations, symbols, types
Of a dim splendour ever on before
In that eternal circle life pursues.
For men begin to pass their nature's bound
And find new hopes and cares which fast supplant
Their proper joys and griefs; they grow too great
For narrow creeds of right and wrong, which fade
Before the unmeasured thirst for good; while peace
Rises within them ever more and more.
Such men are even now upon the earth,
Serene amid the half formed creatures round
_Paracelsus by Robert Browning.

For some years now the spiritual HIERARCHY of our planet has been drawing nearer to humanity and its approach is responsible for the great concepts

- **of freedom which are so close to the hearts of men everywhere.
The dream**
- **of brotherhood,**
- **of fellowship,**
- **of world cooperation and**

- of a peace, based on RIGHT HUMAN RELATIONS, is becoming clearer in our minds. We are also visioning
- a new and vital world religion,
- a universal faith which will have its roots in the past, but
- which will make clear the new dawning beauty and the coming vital revelation.

Of one thing we can be sure, this approach will, in some way_ deeply spiritual, yet wholly factual_ prove the truth of the immanence of God.

1. The churches have emphasised and exploited the extra-territoriality of Deity and

2. have posited the presence of a God Who is

- creating,
- sustaining and
- creatively active, but at the same time *outside His Creation_ an inscrutable onlooker*. This type of transcendent Creator must be shown to be
- FALSE and this doctrine must be countered by the
- MANIFESTATION OF GOD IN MAN, THE HOPE OF GLORY.

It is this surely that the expected Approach will demonstrate; it will prove also the close relationship between God Transcendent and that in "Him we live and move and have our being," because, "having pervaded this entire Universe with a fragment of [Himself, He] remains."

GOD IS IMMANENT IN THE FORMS OF ALL CREATED THINGS; the glory which shall be revealed is the expression of that innate divinity

- in all its attributes and aspects,
- its qualities and powers,
- through the medium of humanity. On the fact

- of God and
- of man's relation to the divine, on the fact
- of immortality and
- of the continuity of divine revelation, and upon the fact
- of the constant emergence of MESSENGERS from the divine centre, the NEW WORLD RELIGION will be based.

To these facts must be added man's assured, instinctive knowledge

- of the existence of the Path to God and
- of his ability to tread it, when the evolutionary process has brought him/her to the point of a fresh orientation to divinity and
- to the acceptance of the fact of God Transcendent and of God Immanent within every form of life.

These are the foundational truths upon which the world religion of the future will rest. Its keynote will be **Divine Approach**. "Draw near to Him and He will draw near to you" (James IV.8) is the great injunction, emanating in new and clear tones from CHRIST and the spiritual HIERARCHY at this time.

- It is, in fact, the recognition by the part of its relationship to the Whole, plus a constantly growing demand for increased awareness of that relation;
- It draws forth the recognition of the Whole that the demand has been made.
- It is the impact of the vibration of humanity_ oriented specifically to the Great Life of which it feels itself a part_ upon that Life and the responsive impact of that "All-surrounding Love" upon the lesser

vibration.

- It is only now that the impact of the human vibration can dimly be sensed in SHANGRI-LHA; hitherto its most potent activity has only reached the HIERARCHY.

Religion, the science of invocation and evocation as far as humanity is concerned, *is the approach (in the coming New Age) of a mentally polarised humanity.* In the past,

Religion has had an entirely emotional appeal. It concerned the relation of the individual to the world of reality, of the seeking aspirant to the sought-for divinity. Its technique was the process

- of fitting oneself for the revelation of that divinity,
- of achieving a perfection which would warrant that revelation, and
- of developing a sensitivity and a loving response to the ideal Man, summarised, for present day humanity, in the CHRIST.

CHRIST came to end the cycle of this emotional approach which had existed since Atlantean days; *He demonstrated in Himself the visioned perfection and then presented to humanity an example_ in full manifestation_ of every possibility latent in man up to that time.*

THE ACHIEVING OF THE PERFECTION OF THE CHRIST-CONSCIOUSNESS BECAME THE EMPHASISED GOAL OF HUMANITY.

Today, slowly, the concept of a world religion and the need for its emergence are widely desired and worked for. The fusion of faiths is now a field for discussion. Workers in the field of religion will formulate the universal platform of the NEW WORLD RELIGION. It is a work of loving

- synthesis and will emphasise the
- unity and the

- fellowship of the spirit. This group is, in a pronounced sense, a channel for the activities of the
- CHRIST, the world Teacher. The platform of the NEW WORLD RELIGION will be
- built by many groups, working under the inspiration of the CHRIST.

1. Man is an animal, plus a living God, within his physical Shell. [- -], II, 85. [- -], II, 284.

a. Man is the Macrocosm for the animal, therefore he contains all that is meant by the term animal. [- -], II, 179, 187.

b. Divine consciousness is received from the living God. [- -], II, 103.

c. The animal forms the basis and the contrast for the divine. [- -], II, 100.

d. The light of the Logos is awakened in animal man. [- -], II, 45.

2. Man is the Tabernacle, the vehicle only, of his God. [- -], I, 233, 281; II, 316; III, 66.

Compare [- -], II, 174. Read Proverbs VIII.

Study Biblical description of Tabernacle: _

a. Outer court, the place of animal sacrifice and purification.

b. The Holy place, the place of consecration and service.

c. The Holy of Holies.

The first corresponds to the life of the personality.

The second to that of the Ego, or Higher Self.

The last to that of the Monad, or Divine Self.

3. Man contains in him/herself every element found in the universe. [- -], I, 619; III, 584.

a. All in nature tends to become Man. [- -], II, 179.

b. All the impulses of the dual, centripetal and centrifugal force are directed towards one point_ Man. [- -], II, 179.

c. Man is the storehouse...he unites in himself all forms. [- -] II, 303.

d. The potentiality of every organ useful to animal life is locked up in Man. [- -], II, 723.

4. Man tends to become a God and then God, like every other atom in the universe. [- -], I, 183.

Compare the atom and the Microcosm, man. Illustration: [- -], I, 174. Every atom has seven planes of being. [- -], I, 205. Read [- -], I, 201.

a. Every atom contains the germ from which he may raise the tree of knowledge. (Of good and evil, therefore conscious discrimination). [- -], II, 622.

b. It is the spiritual evolution of the inner immortal man that forms the fundamental tenet of the psyientific **sciences**. [- -], I, 694.

c. Atoms and souls are synonymous terms in the language of the initiates. [- -], I, 620-621.

5. Human beings...those Intelligences who have reached the appropriate equilibrium between Spirit and Matter. [- -], I, 132.

Read also carefully: [- -], I, 267, 449; [- -], II, 190.

a. On the descending arc Spirit becomes material. [- -], I, 693.

b. On the middle turn of the base both meet in man. [- -], I, 214, 271.

c. On the ascending arc Spirit asserts itself at the expense of the material.

d. This is true of Gods and of men. See [- -], II, 88.

- e. Man is therefore a compound of Spirit and matter. _[- -], II, 45.
f. In man the intelligence links the two. _[- -], II, 102, 103.

1. **CHURCHMEN NEED TO REMEMBER THAT THE HUMAN SPIRIT IS GREATER THAN ALL THE CHURCHES AND**
2. **GREATER THAN THEIR TEACHING.**
3. **In the long run, that human spirit will defeat them and**
4. **PROCEED TRIUMPHANTLY INTO THE KINGDOM OF GOD, leaving them far behind unless they enter as a humble part of the mass of men.**
5. **NOTHING UNDER HEAVEN CAN ARREST THE PROGRESS OF THE HUMAN SOUL ON ITS LONG PILGRIMAGE**
 - **FROM DARKNESS to LIGHT,**
 - **FROM the UNREAL to the REAL,**
 - **FROM DEATH to IMMORTALITY and**
 - **FROM IGNORANCE to WISDOM.**
6. **If the great organised religious groups of churches in every land, and composing all faiths do not offer spiritual guidance and help, HUMANITY WILL FIND ANOTHER WAY.**
7. **NOTHING CAN KEEP THE SPIRIT OF MAN FROM GOD.**

The churches in the West need also to realise that

1. **BASICALLY THERE IS ONLY ONE CHURCH, but it is not necessarily only the orthodox Christian institution.**
2. **God works in many ways,**
 - **through many faiths and**
 - **religious agencies; this is one reason for the elimination of**
 - **non-essential doctrines.**
3. **By the emphasising of the essential doctrines and**
4. **in their union will the fullness of truth be revealed.**

5. THIS, THE NEW WORLD RELIGION WILL DO AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION WILL PROCEED APACE, AFTER THE REAPPEARANCE OF THE CHRIST.

N.B. [Note Bene / Note well] that the **EASTERN FESTIVAL** of **WESAK** (Vaisaka) and the Christian day of remembrance, **GOOD FRIDAY**, will fade out of the consciousness of humanity in due time; they are both festivals related to aspects of the first Ray of Power or Will. The abolition of the fear of death and the establishment of a close relation of the **HIERARCHY** with **SHANGRI-LHA** will render obsolete these ancient ceremonial rites.

3. Spiritual Effects of the Zodiacal Constellations.

We are now going to outline to you the spiritual effect of the passage of a soul around the wheel of experience. We will attempt to consider, in the case of each constellation, the general effect upon a soul_ undergoing the experience_ from the orthodox angle as he travels from Aries to Taurus, via Pisces, and then_ as the disciple, coming under other influences_ travels from Aries to Pisces, via Taurus. Thus the usual process is reversed and the man reorients himself and "faces the East," as it is esoterically called. He expresses then in the highest possible manner the qualities of his soul ray as, in the first case, he expressed the quality of the personality ray.

It is not possible for us to be more specific. We seek only to give certain spiritual implications and hints and to convey a general idea of the effect of the great illusion upon resultant conditions and, secondly, the result of the great tests which every disciple eventually undergoes as he/she reverses the wheel of life.

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NINES1.9 PISCES, the FISHES FULL GLOW NOTEBOOK,

This sign is also dual. In Aries we have the duality which is attached to the bringing together of **SPIRIT** and matter in the great creative activity of

manifestation at the beginning of the evolutionary cycle, whilst in PISCES we have the fusion or *blending of SOUL and form* as far as man is concerned, producing the *manifestation of the Incarnated Christ, the perfected individual SOUL, the completed manifestation of the microcosm*. Thus the greater and the lesser polar opposites_ the human being and GOD, the microcosm and the Macrocosm_ are brought to their destined expression and manifestation. Until man is nearing the goal, these words mean but little though a study of the sign PISCES in the two ways intended may reveal much that is significant and suggestive. The goal of Deity, the emergence of GOD'S PLAN and the nature of His eternal purpose is for us only a subject of interested speculation. There is a possibility that this PLAN and purpose may be vastly different to our surmise which is based upon our formulation of a Deity who is the product of our mental processes and of devoted idealism (two of the three aspects of the personality nature), and the attempt to interpret His infinite purposes in terms of our own finiteness. Let us always remember this. The mechanism for divine perception has not yet been developed in the human family on any large scale and is only achieving some measure of usefulness in the INITIATE of the third degree.

This duality of PISCES must be studied in relation to its three keynotes which are

1. Bondage or captivity.
2. Renunciation or DETACHMENT.
3. SACRIFICE and DEATH.

In the first cycle of experience upon the WHEEL, the SOUL itself is in captivity to substance; it has come down into the prison house of matter and linked itself to form. Hence the symbol of PISCES, of the two fishes linked together by a band. One fish stands for the SOUL and the other for the personality or form nature, and between them is to be found the "thread or sutratma," the silver cord which keeps them bound to each other throughout the cycle of manifested LIFE. Later on, upon the

reversed WHEEL, the personality is brought into captivity by the SOUL, but for long aeons the situation is reversed and the SOUL is the prisoner of the personality. This dual bondage is brought to an end by what is called the final DEATH, when the complete RELEASE of the LIFE aspect from the LIFE of form takes place. It should be borne in mind also that the SOUL itself is of the nature of form from the standpoint of the Monad, though it is a form far subtler than any that we know in the three worlds of human evolution. There is also a dual renunciation referred to in these key words, for first of all the SOUL renounces the LIFE and LIGHT of the Monad, its source (symbolized by the words "the Father's home"), and descends into the ocean of matter; then, reversing itself, the SOUL renounces the LIFE of form, the personality centre. The SOUL detaches itself (in consciousness) from the Monad, the One, and functions from its own centre, making its own new and material attachments. Then, upon the reversal of the WHEEL, it proceeds to detach itself from the personality and re-attach itself in consciousness to the One Who sent it forth. Such is the climaxing story of PISCES. The Lords of Will and SACRIFICE come down into manifestation, sacrificing their high position and opportunities upon the higher planes of manifestation in order to redeem matter and raise the lives by which it is informed (the lower Creative Hierarchies) to the status of Themselves in so far as They constitute the fourth Creative Hierarchy. This is the subjective purpose, underlying the SACRIFICE of these divine Lives Who are ourselves essentially, Who are qualified by KNOWLEDGE, LOVE AND WILL, and ANIMATED by CEASELESS PERSEVERING DEVOTION. They seek to bring about the DEATH of the form in its psyientific significance and the consequent RELEASE of the indwelling lives into a higher state of consciousness. Of this process, all the world Saviours_ past, present and to come_ are the manifested symbols and the eternal guarantees. It is in such recognitions as these that the mainspring to the LIFE of SERVICE must be sought. People born in this sign are frequently to be found serving the race and ministering to its needs upon some level of consciousness. Thus they are prepared for the final SACRIFICE in PISCES which "absorbs them back into their originating Motive," as the *OLD COMMENTARY* expresses it. It is for this reason that the LIFE of SERVICE and the directed intention to serve constitute a scientific mode of achieving RELEASE. In Aquarius, the sign of WORLD SERVICE, the lesson is finally learned which produces the world Saviour in PISCES. Hence our constant emphasis upon SERVICE.

When the individual man enters upon his cycle of incarnations, and emerges in the sign Cancer, which is found in the Cardinal Cross, he metaphorically mounts the Mutable Cross and his long term of imprisonment in form begins and the lessons of servitude must be learned. He goes on learning until he has transformed servitude into SERVICE. He alternates between the pairs of opposites, both from the astral, emotional angle and from the point of view of the four arms of the Mutable Cross. The fluid, sensitive temperament in PISCES_ mediumistic and psychically polarised_ must be stabilised in Virgo, in which sign mental introspection and critical analysis become possible and serve to arrest the fluidity of PISCES. These two signs balance each other. We might study the dual process taking place upon the WHEEL through the medium of the Mutable Cross of which PISCES forms a part in the following manner:

1. PISCES_ Here the beginner upon the way of LIFE starts with a material receptivity which will enable him to respond to all contacts in the cycle of manifestation. He/She is, at this stage, negative, fluid and endowed with an instinctual consciousness which contains within itself the potentiality of the intuition. But the seed of the intuition is dormant. The mind which is the instrument of reception from the intuition is, at thi stage, unawakened.

2. Sagittarius_ Here the ordinary man begins to demonstrate a tendency to become more focussed and the fluidity and negativity of PISCES become concentrated upon the attainment of that which is desired. The man demonstrates one-pointed selfish instincts and though he/she may be, for instance, friendly and kind, it is through a desire for popularity. This is a good expression of the individual Sagittarian subject and shows also the tendency of the SOUL to turn all evil eventually into good. The lessons of LIFE are being learned and experiment is going on.

3. Virgo_ In Virgo, the man who was fluid in PISCES and emotionally selfish and full of desire in Sagittarius, begins to focus still more intently and to reason and think. The latent SOUL is becoming interiorly active; a germination process is proceeding; the hidden man is making his/her

presence felt. The intellect is awakening and instinct_ after passing through the emotional stage_ is being transmuted into intellect.

4. Gemini_ In the undeveloped man or the average man, the experiences undergone on three arms of the Mutable Cross have brought him/her to the stage where the "dream of LIFE" can be CHANGED into the recognition of the REALITY, and the Great Illusion can be seen as undesirable and untrue. The sense of duality is, at this stage, instinctual but becoming increasingly real and steadily more complex. The man begins to dream of stability, of ordered CHANGES and of union with that which he senses to be the most real part of himself. The mystical vision emerges into his consciousness and he becomes aware of the higher self through the first faint flickerings of the intuition.

The experience upon the Mutable Cross lasts a long time, and carries the man always back again and again into the sphere of influence of Aries which, through the ruling activity of the first ray, both strengthens the will of the man (no matter what his ray) and ends cycle after cycle with the "WORD of destruction." Again and again, he enters into the sign PISCES and finds his way around the great WHEEL until the experience of CHANGE and of mutability and the establishing of the transmutation process carry his consciousness from the instinctual and intellectual stages to the faint beginnings of the intuitive processes in Gemini. Then comes a great process of polarisation and a moment of transference, after which the influence of the Fixed Cross causes reversal and the lessons gained upon the Mutable Cross have to be worked out and the effects demonstrated upon the Fixed Cross. It must not be thought that, in the early stages of unfoldment, experience is gained only through the Mutable Cross. The man lives in and experiences in all the signs, but the influences pouring through the Mutable Cross have a more potent effect upon him than those pouring in the early stages through the Fixed Cross. It is only when the SOUL is becoming more alive within the form and the man is aware of his duality that the energies of the Fixed Cross supersede in effectiveness those of the Mutable Cross, just as after the THIRD INITIATION the energies of the Cardinal Cross begin to control the man and are of more insistent incentive than those of the other two crosses.

When the SOUL is, therefore, becoming more active, the effect of the Fixed Cross will be seen working out in the four signs along with the effects of forces of the Mutable Cross for "that which is dominated and relinquished is held firmly and transformed."

Gemini_ The man upon the reversing WHEEL in Gemini becomes increasingly aware of the intuition and increasingly under the influence of "the Brothers who live in the LIGHT," as the Twins are sometimes called. The LIGHT of the personality dims and the LIGHT of the SOUL waxes. The fluidity of PISCES and the undeveloped Gemini gives place to the responsiveness of the personality to SOUL impression and consequent stabilising of the LIFE on the physical plane.

Virgo_ The mind, under the influence of Virgo, which has been analytical and critical, CHANGES to that quality of mind which is best described by the words, ILLUMINATION and revelation. The Christ to whom the Virgin must eventually give birth is recognised as present in the womb, though not yet born. LIFE is recognised. The process of the revelation of the Christ consciousness is carried intelligently forward and the selfish aspirations and experiments of the undeveloped man give place to the SELFLESSNESS of the illumined and intuitive disciple.

Sagittarius_ This is now the sign of the one-pointed disciple. The LIFE of fluid response to matter becomes that of the focussed response to SPIRIT and preparation for INITIATION in Capricorn. The arrow of the mind is projected unerringly towards the goal.

PISCES_ Here, at the final stage, PISCES stands for the DEATH of the personality and the RELEASE of the SOUL from captivity and its return into the task of the world Saviour. The great achievement is finished and the final DEATH is undergone. "There is no more sea" says the ancient book, which means inevitably the "DEATH of the fishes" and the RELEASE

of the imprisoned LIFE into *new forms or new cycles of the divine Adventure.*

This Mutable Cross, of which PISCES is one of the arms, is predominantly the Cross of "repeated incarnations," of varied experiments under the various signs and orthodox rulers, and of those many experiences which lead to successive and continuous expansions of consciousness. It is therefore the cross of the Son of GOD, the incarnating Christ, though it is, in relation to this Cross, the Cross of the planetary Christ, just as the Fixed Cross is that of the individual Christ in each human being, and the Cardinal Cross is that of the cosmic Christ. It might here be noted that the Cross with which we are here concerned is that of the mass, and that the consciousness which it exemplifies is that of the instinctual consciousness and its merging into the intellectual consciousness; it is the Cross of the anima mundi and of the human SOUL before the consciousness of duality is clear in the mind of the man and before transfer is made on to the Fixed Cross. It is consequently more closely allied to the Cardinal Cross of the Heavens, for the mass consciousness, which is the significant consciousness of the Mutable Cross, becomes the group consciousness or the synthetic consciousness of divinity, after passing through the interim period or the "vital interlude" of the intense self-consciousness of the man upon the Fixed Cross. This human interlude is in the nature of a cross section in the development of consciousness, but the main emphasis is the unfoldment of the mass consciousness of all the kingdoms in nature into the group consciousness of the three highest kingdoms through the mediatorship of the human kingdom which, through its peculiar and specific type of awareness, can relate the higher and the lower expressions of divinity. It is here and in this connection that the sign PISCES is of much importance, as it is the sign of mediatorship. Mediumship in its true meaning is expressive of the mass consciousness—impressibility, negativity and receptivity. These points will become clearer as we study the signs and their many inter-relations. The thought we wish to convey to you here is that at this stage the influence of PISCES on the involutionary arc, and as the SUN retrogrades through the signs, is felt largely in the anima mundi and in the hidden, incarnated and imprisoned Christ; the germ of the Christ LIFE is psychically impressed, becoming constantly more sensitive to these psychical impressions, swept by desire which ever CHANGES, constantly aware of all impinging contacts, but

unable as yet to interpret them correctly, for the mind has not been awakened adequately in Virgo. This hidden Christ is unable to free itself from "contact with the Water." That point is eventually reached and is being reached with great rapidity in the present human stage where another and major CHANGE is deemed desirable and this is the result of the many lesser CHANGES. CHANGE is ever needed but the method CHANGES itself from the constant variability and mutability of the Mutable Cross to certain CHANGES of a major kind which are brought about by a more permanent and directed LIFE tendency.

The man at this stage has within him the potencies and the characteristics of the indwelling Christ, but they are not manifesting and are only latent possibilities for he is as yet entirely controlled by his form nature (the prison) and his environment. The hidden powers of the SOUL are negative and the powers of the form nature are positive and beginning to find increasingly potent expression. The natural spiritual tendencies of man are inhibited (for PISCES is often a sign of inhibition and hindrances) and the natural animal and personality powers_ particularly the emotional_ are the obvious and visible qualities of the man. A good deal of symbolism connected with the latent Christ and the outer expressive personality can be seen if a study is made of the Biblical story of Jonah and the whale. We have not time to enlarge upon it here, but it is a parable concerned with the PISCES stage of consciousness and the awakening of the Christ consciousness with the consequent dispute which that entails. Jonah stands for the hidden imprisoned Christ, alive to the perils of the situation, and the whale of large size stands for the bondage of incarnation and for the personality.

It is in this dual sign that the imprisoned SOUL and the personality enter upon that process which will transmute

1. The lower nature into the higher manifestation.
2. The lower psychical powers into the higher spiritual faculties, i.e.

- a. Negativity into positive SOUL control.
- b. Mediumship into mediatorship.
- c. Clairvoyance into spiritual perception.
- d. Clairaudience into mental telepathy and finally inspiration.
- e. Instinct into intellect.
- f. Selfishness into divine SELFLESSNESS.
- g. Acquisitiveness into renunciation.
- h. Self-preservation into selfless WORLD SERVICE.
- i. Self-pity into compassion, sympathy and divine understanding.

3. Spiritual and mental inhibition into SOUL expression and mental sensitivity.

4. Devotion to the needs of the self into developed devotion and response to the needs of humanity.

5. Attachment to environment and to personality conditions (identification with form) into DETACHMENT from form and ability to identify with the SOUL.

The ordinary low-grade medium is the outstanding example of the worst aspects of PISCES_ negativity, impressionability, animal and emotional sensitivity with complete undevelopment of the mental principle. It would be of interest to find out two things scientifically:

1. Whether the majority of the lowest kind of medium (trance mediums in particular) have PISCES dominant in some powerful manner in their charts.

2. Whether those mediums who are becoming more positive and more self-controlled and who are beginning to get a glimpse of the higher correspondences in their work_ mediatorship and interpretive activity_ have not got Virgo appearing somewhere with real potency and activity. This might indicate the awakening of the mind, in the first instance, and eventually that there was a shift in the influence controlling them, from the orthodox planetary rulership to that of the more esoteric planets. It might be added that spiritualism and the work of the spiritualistic movement are under the influence of PISCES with Cancer rising, or in some stages with the reverse_ Cancer with PISCES rising.

As regards the rays which express themselves through the planetary rulers and which absorb or collaborate with the influences of the sign PISCES and thus influence our planet and humanity, we find a most interesting situation. Two major rays express themselves through the rulers of PISCES, orthodox and esoteric: The first Ray of Will or POWER, focussed through Pluto, and the second Ray of LOVE-WISDOM. It is the interplay of these dual potencies which:

1. Produces the duality of this sign.

2. Brings about the major problem of PISCES_ psychic sensitivity.

3. Causes the lure of the Path, in the first instance the path of evolution and later the lure of the probationary path with the consequence that transference to the Fixed Cross (which is all that we can intelligently comprehend) begins really in PISCES; though impulsed (if we may use such a word) in Aries it begins and ends in PISCES.

4. Precipitates the process of transmutation and eventual escape through DEATH.

5. Unfolds the significance, activity and beauty of DEATH and of the work of the destroyer.

From this it will be apparent how important and powerful is this sign. Through its orthodox ruler, JUPITER, that force is brought to bear which "brings all together" and_ in this case_ relates the two fishes and binds them together in a functioning relationship. It is the activity consequently of the second ray force which relates SOUL and form and brings the two together, and this magnetic potency is peculiarly descriptive of the activity of PISCES. From another angle and in a dual sign, this can also be seen working out in Gemini. In PISCES, there is demonstrated the captivity angle of relationship and the two fishes are unable to escape from each other; in Gemini there is also a definite relationship between the two brothers but there is no connecting band, and in that relationship is latent free choice and free determination. In connection with a lesser duality found in every human being, that of head and heart, of mind and LOVE, and of will and wisdom, the work of JUPITER is to develop these two qualities and bring them into synthetic interplay. Eventually there has to be the complete fusion of LOVE and mind before a world saviour can manifest and function efficiently, and this is pre-eminently the final result of the forces of the Mutable Cross, as they work out the qualities RELEASED by the planets active in PISCES, Sagittarius, Virgo and Gemini. These planets are:

- 1. Orthodox_ JUPITER and MERCURY.**
- 2. Esoteric_ Pluto. The EARTH. The Moon (hiding VULCAN) and VENUS.**

As you know, Pluto stands for DEATH or the region of DEATH; the EARTH stands for the sphere of experience; the Moon or VULCAN stands for the glorification, through purification and DETACHMENT, of matter, and VENUS stands for the emergence of the LOVE principle through the

directing power of the mind. Students will find it interesting to work out the implications for themselves. Orthodox astrology assigns only two planets to these four signs, which in itself indicates a definite interplay. JUPITER and its influences indicate that the way of incarnation is the "beneficent" method of evolutionary unfoldment and that the way of LOVE-WISDOM (2nd ray) is the way for humanity to go. MERCURY indicates that the line of least resistance for humanity is HARMONY through conflict, for MERCURY expresses the fourth ray ENERGY which is buddhic, intuitional and expressive of the Christ, as MERCURY and the SUN are one. But the esoteric planets are more explicit in their inferences and man appears, when ready for their influence, to be responsive in a fourfold way which he is not in the earlier stages. They embody the recognitions and the reactions which condition man's consciousness when he is preparing to transfer off the Mutable Cross and mount the Fixed Cross. He comes, therefore,

1. Through VENUS_ under the power of mind, transmuted into wisdom through the instrumentality of LOVE.

2. Through the Moon_ under the bondage of form in order through form experience to achieve RELEASE and the "uplift of matter" in VULCAN.

3. Through the EARTH_ under the influence of planetary experience (which is different to individual experience) in order to transmute his personal consciousness into group awareness.

4. Through Pluto_ under the destroying power of DEATH_ DEATH of desire, DEATH of the personality and of all which holds him between the pairs of opposites, in order to achieve the final LIBERATION. Pluto or DEATH never destroys the CONSCIOUSNESS ASPECT.

Six planets, therefore, govern the Mutable Cross as far as humanity is concerned and this in itself is significant, for six is the number of the great

work of the period of manifestation, is the number of "the Beast," which is the lower nature as far as man is concerned, and is all that which seeks to destroy the higher LIFE, but also that which can be *controlled* and *directed* finally by the SOUL. The significance of numbers enters into this science of esoteric astrology, and numerology, as it is, per se, a branch of esoteric astrology. LOVE_ MIND_ EXPERIENCE_ FORM_ HUMAN UNDERSTANDING_ DEATH: these are the *keynotes* of the *fourth Creative Hierarchy*, the *human kingdom* and they are embodied in the planetary influences which pour through these planets from their allied signs. Through the activity of these forces which work at this stage through the Mutable Cross, man is brought to a great Crisis of Polarisation and to a point of basic CHANGE for which all the earlier and many CHANGES have prepared him.

It is these words also which, from a different angle, govern the processes undergone upon the PATH of DISCIPLESHIP and of Probation. The task of the disciple is to understand their significance in a practical and effective manner and to deal with the energies which these planets RELEASE, subordinating them to the energies RELEASED by the Fixed Cross upon which he stands, and thus increase their potency through psyientific combination. It is by achieving intelligent and active response to the energies RELEASED and earlier mastered through the experience of the Mutable Cross, and by relating them to the potencies let loose upon him whilst crucified upon the Fixed Cross, that he learns to prepare himself for the twelve great tests in all the twelve signs for which the experience of the two Crosses prepares him.

PISCES governs the feet and hence the whole thought of progress, of attaining the goal, and the treading of the Path of Return has been the underlying spiritual revelation of the great cycle through which we are passing; also, in the PISCAN Age, the lesser cycle out of which we are at this time moving, it has been the origin of all the teaching given by the world religions anent the various stages of the Path of Return. Some astrologers hold also that PISCES governs the generative processes. They are essentially correct because once a man is nearing or upon the Path he should become increasingly creative in the higher sense and the physical generative processes should give place esoterically to

regeneration and to creation upon the mental plane instead of only upon the physical plane. This higher creative functioning becomes possible under the influence of **ASPIRATION** and intuition. This begins to take place when the four esoteric rulers supplement the activity of the two orthodox rulers. It is interesting to note that the astrologer, Alan Leo, suggests **NEPTUNE** as an alternative to **JUPITER**. He sensed and touched upon a mystery of **INITIATION** though he did not realise the magnitude of his discovery. **NEPTUNE** focusses the influence of **PISCES** as it concerns humanity as a whole and not just the individual man, but this only takes place towards the final stages of the **PATH** of **DISCIPLESHIP**. Today humanity is moving rapidly towards the position of the **World Disciple**, and intuiting this, he suggests **NEPTUNE** as an alternative to **JUPITER**.

Esoterically, the reason that **VENUS** is exalted in **PISCES** is connected with the relation of **PISCES** to the sign Gemini, of which **VENUS** is the esoteric ruler, and also in relation to the fact that **VENUS** is the **EARTH'S** alter **EGO** and is closely related to the human kingdom. This subject is too vast and complicated to be elaborated here, but the point should be remembered. The Fishes in **PISCES** are bound together, as we have seen, and this is a symbol of the captivity of the **SOUL** in form, prior to the experience upon the **Fixed Cross**. The Twins in Gemini are symbols of the same basic duality, but the experience of the many changing incarnations has done its work, and the Band (uniting the two fishes) is in process of dissolution, for part of the work of Pluto is to "cut the thread which binds the two opposing lives together." It is the task of **VENUS** to "reunite the severed lives but with no binding thread." Therefore, **VENUS** is exalted in **PISCES** and at the end of the greater cycle, the Sons of **GOD** who are the Sons of **Mind** are raised up into glory through experience and crucifixion because they have learned to **LOVE** and truly reason. The influence of **PISCES**, Gemini and Virgo is eventually fused and blended (symbolically the **Cross** must always become the line and then the point). Sagittarius, which is governed esoterically by Mother **EARTH**, produces those conditions whereby the **Path** itself achieves glorification. Consequently, you have at the end of the age (we refer here to a greater round of the zodiac and to no shorter cycle), the glorification of **VENUS**, of Virgo, the **Virgin**, and of Mother **EARTH**_ two planets and one constellation_ and all these are potencies which produce definite **CHANGES** in the solar system. They represent the three divine potencies of matter and of substance,

plus the force of Sagittarius driving them on to a still greater consummation. There is a wide and interesting field of research to be found in the relation of

1. the planet VENUS_ ruler of the constellation Gemini.
2. The EARTH on which we live, called often "Mother EARTH."
3. The Fish-GODDESSES of the sign PISCES.
4. Virgo, the Virgin.

Gemini and Sagittarius are connected through their ruling planets (because the EARTH is more closely related to VENUS than to any other planet) and thus again you have the six potencies which produce RELEASE from the bondage of form, entered into in Cancer as far as the mass of humanity is concerned (by this we mean the birth of the human kingdom) and in PISCES as far as the individual is considered.

In pointing out the significance of the above facts, we are not considering the orthodox astrological reasons for the exaltation and the fall of certain planets in certain signs, we are concerned with the effect of the waxing and the waning influence upon the subject, man. Bear this in mind and_ at the same time_ remember that we are occupied with the Great Illusion which it is the major task of man in this particular world cycle to master and dissipate, and so to inaugurate the reign of the Real. It is the revelation of the Real which is the task all INITIATES undertake after the final experience of the twelve final tests in the twelve signs. Therefore, when we find that the power of MERCURY is lessened in PISCES and that it finally "falls" in that sign, what is the esoteric and spiritual meaning? Simply, that after the stage of INITIATION in Capricorn, as the result of the reversal of the WHEEL and the consequent experiences, and after the TRIUMPH of Scorpio, the power of the mind lessens steadily till finally (like other aspects of form LIFE in the three worlds) it comes to an end and its meaning and illuminating aspects between SOUL and physical brain are no longer required. The man, coming definitely into full SOUL consciousness, requires now no mediator but deals directly himself with

his emanating source. MERCURY is then met with again under another name, this time as the SUN, mediating between the higher aspects_ SOUL and SPIRIT_ for MERCURY and the SUN are One. Through MERCURY, the mind is illumined and relation is established between personality and the SOUL. As MERCURY, the SUN_ the mediator_ shifts to a still higher plane and is no longer mediator between two different stages in consciousness but between LIFE and consciousness itself; this is a very different matter and effects the higher understanding. This will necessarily be incomprehensible to you at present for it is not a mediatorship between differences but a fusion of what is already related. Are you any the wiser for that statement?

The same symbolic mode of interpretation must govern also our understanding of the three decanates. Both Leo and Sepharial give a list of the decanates and between them there is much resemblance but there is, however, an important difference. Leo approaches the closer to the esoteric interpretation of astrology whilst Sepharial is purely exoteric. According to Sepharial, the three decanates are governed by SATURN_ JUPITER_ MARS, presenting opportunity to work off KARMA and to be successful in so doing and indicating the method employed, that of conflict and of war. Leo gives us JUPITER, the Moon and MARS. He indicates, therefore, the success which is incident to proved DISCIPLESHIP and consequent readiness for INITIATION, the seeing of the vision with which JUPITER rewards the disciple, and the experience which VULCAN confers. VULCAN has been hitherto hidden, but its influence has steadily superseded all lunar control, for the personality or form side of LIFE is lost to sight in the radiance of the SUN, the SOUL. The LIGHT of VULCAN and the LIGHT of the SUN are one LIGHT and these three_ MERCURY, VULCAN and the SUN_ stand for a SYNTHESIS and a radiance which eventually dims the LIGHT of MERCURY and it "falls" into the background and VULCAN too becomes invisible and only the SUN remains. We have consequently a vision of the SUN, the experience of the personality and effort, which is the mode of attainment governed by MARS.

The keywords of this sign are obvious in their implications. Where the personality is concerned and the WHEEL rotates in the normal manner for

the ordinary average or undeveloped person, the WORD is "And the WORD said, Go forth into matter." The command of the SOUL to its instrument during the earlier stages of evolution goes forth and the response comes immediately from the one who "blinds the SOUL to TRUTH, holding it in durance vile." These words you are amply able to interpret for yourselves and from your own standpoint which is the only standpoint of SERVICE to you, indicating to you what lies behind upon the path of evolution, the point upon the Path where you now stand and the immediate step, vision, experience and effort which lie ahead.

In closing what we have to say about the constellation PISCES, we would, at this point, make one practical suggestion which will save students much trouble in the long run. Gather together, as you read, the statements we make anent any particular sign, planet or major constellation. You will then have right under your eye the information needed on any specific point and can study successfully this complicated transitional astrology. The science of astrology's foundations have been tested for millenia of years and have proven correct and its experts are wiser and more synthetic and selfless in their application of the science than are any other group of scientists. We refer here to the true esoteric astrologers who stand behind the astrological movement in the world today. We would ask you to remember this and to regard yourselves as beginners, leaving conclusions on one side until you have grasped more of the essentials and the theory. For this exoteric astrology may have prepared you, in some cases.

End The NINES 1.9 PISCES the FISHES FULL GLOW NOTEBOOK