

**THE  
CHURCH  
OF  
LIGHT**

**Points of Interest:**

- The Planet Mars
- Astrological keywords
- Alchemical Meditation
- Birth Chart Analysis
- Tarot Card Spread
- Membership Room
- Stellarian Honor Guard:  
Third Quarter 2008

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# Quarterly

Volume 84, Issue 1

Winter 2008-2009



## Astrology - Mars

Christopher Gibson

**M**ars the fourth planet from the Sun is a terrestrial planet with a thin atmosphere. It is often referred to as the “Red Planet” because of its reddish tinge. Mars’ surface features include volcanoes and rifts, like what would be found on earth, as well as impact craters such as we might see on the surface of the Moon. Its seasonal periods and rotational cycle are similar to that of earth. Mars takes 687 days to orbit the Sun, and spends just slightly over 57 days in each sign of the zodiac. In July 2008,

water in the form of ice was discovered by the Phoenix Mars Lander.

To the ancient Greeks, Ares was Mars the God of War which rules the sign of Aries and Scorpio. Mars has two small and irregularly shaped moons, fittingly named after two of the sons of Ares, Phobos (fear) and Deimos (dread). Ares represented the unpredictable violence of war which could express as bloodlust and savage warfare. Ares’ *quadriga*



Mars - Diego Velasquez  
1639-41

or chariot was pulled by four fire-breathing stallions. In Sparta he was propitiated before battle.

*(continued on page 4)*

## Transmuting Iron

Peter Tourian

**I**f we look carefully, we will see that the various glyphs that designate the 10 planets of Astrology can be formed from three elementary symbols. The circle which represents the Sun, is without beginning and without end. It is timeless, eternal, and positive in nature. In this sense, it represents well the timeless, eternal Spark of Deity which inhabits each of us: the Spirit. The

crescent which is so familiar as the mutable, moldable Moon also aligns well with the Mind in a human being, as the Mind moves instantaneously from one subject to another, constantly shifting its focus. Also, the negative Moon is incapable of producing its own light, but rather reflects the light it receives from the Sun, in the same way that our minds act as mirrors for the deeper, more subtle Spirit

within. Finally, the cross, ancient symbol of the Earth, represents the meeting place of the Spirit and the Mind. It is literally and figuratively the intersection of the positive expressions of our Spirit, as interpreted and molded by the negative, receptive Mind. It is the material testing ground within which the Spirit, through its

*(continued on page 9)*

## Stellarian Honor Guard

*For the quarter ending September 30, 2008*

Regular Contributors form the solid foundation from which The Church of Light can grow. This column honors those who financially support the work of spreading the Religion of the Stars, Guardian Angels contribute more than \$500 in a quarter. The Stellarian Honor Guard includes those who contribute between \$100 and \$500 per quarter. We are grateful for your generous contributions to The Church of Light.



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## Editorial

Christopher Gibson

**“Whatever you do, or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius and power and magic in it.” — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe**

Life has a way of continually reminding us that in order to get anything done, we need not only an idea or goal, but the initiative to fuel us toward accomplishment. Initiative is considered to be the best quality of Mars the featured planet in this issue of the Quarterly. Initiative is the motivating force behind any first step or action. Initiative derives from the Latin *initio* or beginning, and it shares its origins with such words as initial (the first letter in a name) and initiation (the formal rite of admission into a society or community).

Initiative is essential in the process of initiation as it requires a boldness of will in order to set out on the path of self-discovery and illumination. A neophyte must first feel impelled to seek out the mysteries. The admonitions found in *The Sacred Tarot*, which represents stages on the path of initiation, continually instructs us to the proper use of the will.

Our personal growth demands the use of positively directed desire. Initiative and self-directedness are necessary characteristics of a Stellanian. Our religion is not one where students are coddled or spoon-fed. On the contrary, to advance in the C of L one must be self-directed in order to study and pass each of the Brotherhood of Light Lessons. For some this might be as little as two and one half years, for others this may take thirty years. What is more important than the speed with which one passes the courses is whether or not that member actually applies what he or she learns to his or her life. This requires initiative. Once one achieves the status of Hermetician it requires initiative to work on their Lucidic Degrees. The Church of Light is a religion where spiritual progress is in direct proportion to the individual's self-motivation and volition of will.

Initiative shows itself in many ways among our membership. Our ministers and teachers create services and curriculum and volunteer their talents for classes and workshops. The Order of the Sphinx, our Hermeticians group, functions through a completely volunteer staff. The Order saw the need to promote the 2009 convention and took up the challenge of funding the printing of the convention brochure. Recently a group of local members took the initiative to create a yard party in order to tidy up the Church's gardens and parking lot. Another anonymous member became aware of our need to both update our website and our non-profit accounting system and generously sent a check for the needed amount. These are just a few recent examples of how our organization functions with individuals who identify a need and set about making things happen. There are many other unsung heroes out there who without attracting the attention of others do their best daily to spread the light and advance the Church. As we tear off the final pages of another calendar we should contemplate where we want to express boldness and initiative in the coming year.

♂



## Mars Associations

Thought-cell: Aggressive  
 House influence: Strife  
 Metal: Iron  
 Gemstone: Hematite and Brimstone  
 Color: Red  
 Musical tone: C

## Mars Figures

Arms dealers, athletes, bodybuilders, bodyguards, bouncers, boxers, coaches, construction workers, daredevils, defense industry workers, emergency medical technicians, firefighters, iron workers, martial arts instructors, machinists, mechanics, military, paramedics, police officers, servicemen and servicewomen, surgeons, weight lifters, welders, wrestlers.

## Positive Mars Traits

Active, animated, ardor, assertiveness, bold, brave, chivalrous, competitive, constructive, courageous, dynamic, eager, energetic, enthusiastic, excitement, fearless, fervor, fierce, initiative, intense, intrepid, lively, muscular, passionate, productive, resilient, robust, strong, valorous.

## Negative Mars Traits

Accidents, aggression, anger, antagonism, argumentative, brutal, catastrophes, cruel, destructive, disasters, emergencies, fevers, fury, harmful, harsh, hasty, hostile, impatient, impetuousness, impulsive, injurious, intimidating, intolerant, rage, rash, surgeries, unfriendly, violence.

## Mars... (continued from page 1)

In medical astrology, Mars rules the muscular system, the genital and adrenals, and the production of testosterone. Martial arts refer to training for combat, and martial music is that which is used on the battlefield. The symbol for Mars ♂ is said to be derived from the spear and shield of the war god. This symbol is used in biology to represent the male sex and is also believed by some to represent the male genitalia. Among the Romans, Mars was well-liked, unlike his Greek counterpart. He rivaled Jupiter as the most honored god. Under the stellar religion of the Babylonians Mars was Nergal, the fiery god of war and destruction. Mars continues to be referred to in everyday language when we speak of martial law, martial arts, or martial music. The name Martin means “dedicated to Mars.”

The English word Tuesday comes from Tyr's day. Tyr the Old Norse god of combat and heroic glory was equivalent to the Roman Mars. *Martis Dies* or “Mars' Day” became *mardi* in French, *martes* in Spanish, and *martedi* in Italian. The month of March was also inspired by the god's name. In Hindu astrology the deity Mangala who rides a ram and rules Tuesday also corresponds to the planet Mars.

In Hermetic astrology, Mars governs the Aggressive Urges of the soul which express as passion, eroticism, competitiveness and combativeness. The 1st century poet Marcus Manilus, coined the term “lesser malefic” to describe the Mars' tendency towards misfortune. He is attributed one fourth discord, and associated with accidents, injuries, aggression, impulsiveness, and assertiveness. The aggressive passions of Mars are said to be at home in the competitive sign of Aries and Scorpio the sign of passion and death. Mars has difficulty expressing in Taurus and Libra, the signs opposite his home signs, ruled by peaceable and gracious Venus. Mars is exalted in the sign of Capricorn where his unruly nature is disciplined into the constructive expression of building up rather than tearing down. Opposite Capricorn lies Cancer the sign of Mars' fall. The aggressive nature of the planet brings conflict to this sign of quiet domesticity and nurturing. Mars' harmony is in the masculine and demonstrative sign of Leo, while his inharmony is in argumentative Aquarius.

Although Mars innately carries one quarter discord, the aspects he forms with other planets contribute to his constructive or destructive nature within any given chart. The best quality of Mars is initiative. Without Mars' energy we would have no passion or desire for accomplishment. The worst quality of Mars is harshness. The house in which Mars is located is considered to be subject to strife. Harmonious expressions of Mars will correspond to the descriptions given under Positive Mars Traits in the sidebar. Discordant Mars characteristics are listed on this page under the caption Negative Mars Traits. The beginning student as well as the seasoned professional can expand his or her vocabulary by using a thesaurus along with the positive and negative key words listed on this page.

Mars governs persons who work in hyper-masculine activities involving physical strength and stamina as well as those activities that are geared towards defensive or offensive protectiveness. See the Mars Figures column in the sidebar for ideas.



## Alchemical Mars



“Iron is valuable alike for destruction and construction. But to be useful in spiritual alchemy it must be reduced to its first matter in spiritual substance. It must be used not merely as a weapon of physical defense, but to destroy the pernicious and licentious thoughts that menace the soul. It must be used to tear down and destroy such forms of belief and such social conditions as threaten the spiritual life of society; and tempered to a sword of finest steel it must be turned against the legions of darkness that infest the lower astral realms. Placed in the reverberatory furnace, from time to time, it must then be forged into an implement of construction. Positive, aggressive spiritual thoughts must dominate the soul, must labor to spread the light of truth, must incite to persistent effort in behalf of society, and must become true constructive instruments in the erection of the edifice of the cosmos.”

*Spiritual Alchemy – C. C. Zain*

## Alchemical Meditation

by Christopher Gibson

I, (your name here), am a dynamic, passionate, and courageous being. I embrace every opportunity to take action on behalf of my spiritual well-being. I discover constructive outlets for my passions and my physicality and make my life a meditation in motion.

I (your name here), am attentive to any habit system that I might have of becoming easily irritated, annoyed, or angry, and I am quick to replace these emotions with an attitude or living a completely constructive life. I always build up, rather than tear down. I replace destruction with construction.

Everyday I assert myself in the direction of that which is right and true. I am willing to stand up where I see tyranny and injustice. I exercise courage in those situations where I otherwise might want to run away.

At those times when anger, strife, or harshness threaten to disturb my mental harmony, I quickly retrain myself to nurture others rather than to fight with them. Without resorting to violence I can bring positive changes to my community.

I accept the fact that constructive effort is behind all accomplishment, both here and in the hereafter, and I effort daily on the behalf of the protection of the weak and helpless. I willingly become a finely-honed tool in the hands of a benevolent Creator to help shape a better world.

So shall it be!



## Dominant Mars Personality - Jean-Claude Killy

Christopher Gibson

**“I will always be someone who wants to do better than others. I love competition.”**

**- Jean-Claude Killy**

In the natal chart the planet Mars expresses as the aggressive urges of the unconscious mind. These urges find their outlet in expressions of defense and offense, combativeness and competitiveness. Persons who have to work boldly in the face of danger firemen, policemen, military personnel, and

paramedics frequently have Mars prominent in their natal chart. Jean-Claude Killy the French alpine skier and triple Olympic gold-medalist who so loves competition has Mars as the most powerful planet in his chart. In the following brief biography we can see that his life has been shaped by the martial dynamics of accidents, athleticism, combat, competition, dare-devil tendencies, impulsiveness, initiative, injuries, and passion.

Killy was born in St. Cloud, France, August 30, 1943, at 5:10 a.m. His father Robert was a French pilot during World War II. At the end of the war, Robert Killy moved his family to the ski resort of Val d'Isere, near the border with Italy. At the time of the family's move the planet Venus which rules Libra the sign on Killy's Fourth House of home and family was forming a semi-sextile to his progressed Ascendant. In Val-d'Isère Killy's family opened a ski shop. It seems natural that by the age of three, Killy began his career skiing off the roof of his snowbound home.

In 1950, shortly after the birth of his brother Mic, Killy's mother abandoned her family in order to live with a lover in the Southern Alps. Through this early family loss Killy learned to depend on no one but himself. In Hermetic astrology the mother is represented in a chart by both the Moon and the Tenth House. In Killy's chart the Moon is powerfully positioned in the First House in Leo and forming a square aspect to Mars in the Tenth House. This could be a significant astrological indicator for the abandonment by his mother.

Unable to raise three children on his own, Robert Killy sent Jean-Claude to a prison-like boarding school in Chambéry. Longing for the freedom of the mountains, Killy would occasionally cut classes and hitchhike eighty miles to Val-d'Isère in order to ski. At the time

	☉	☽	♀	♂	♃	♄	♅	♆	♇	♈	♉	♊	♋	MC	ASC
☉	☉	♂ 7.33 0.00	♎ 0.16 0.16	♂ 2.32 0.58	♂ 7.49 -9.36			☐ 7.14 -7.14		♎ 1.20 1.20	♊ 3.30 3.30				
☽				☐ 6.84 -8.54		♄ 4.95 2.48	☐ 1.47 -1.47	♎ 1.38 1.38		♊ 11.03 11.03	♂ 1.25 0.00				
♀			☉ 9.67 7.25	♁ 7.25		☐ 0.12 -0.18	♁ 2.31 2.31	♂ 8.79 0.00	♁ 1.36 1.36	♁ 1.36 1.36					
♂							☐ 0.18 -0.14			♁ 2.62 -1.96	♎ 0.90 1.12				
♃							♂ 6.63 -1.66	♁ 7.46 5.59	♁ 2.69 2.02						
♄						♎ 1.01 -1.01	♁ 1.58 2.38	♎ 0.32 -0.16	♂ 2.53 1.26						♂ 10.70 5.35
♅							☐ 2.33 -3.50	♎ 1.52 -2.28	♁ 2.99 1.49	♁ 0.71 -1.06					
♆						♁ 6.52 -3.26	☐ 0.09 0.09	♁ 4.95 4.95	♁ 1.28 1.28						
♇									☐ 1.34 0.00	♎ 3.62 -3.62					
♈									☐ 1.49 -1.49	♂ 5.23 0.00					
MC															
ASC						♁ 1.30 0.65									

**Data**  
 Rodden Rating: AA. Astro Databank Source: "Gaquelin Book of Charts."



## Jean-Claude Killy Timeline

Year	Event	Progressed Aspect
1945	Moves with his family to Val d'Isere	♀ √ ASC p
1946	Learns to ski	♂ □ ⊙ r
1950	Mother leaves the family	♂ ✕ ♀ r
1950	Father becomes sole provider	♀ ∘ ⊙ p
1957	Father remarries	♀ √ ♀ p
1958	Drops out of high school	MC □ ♃ r
1960	Joins French national ski team	ASC ✕ ♃ p
1960-61	Wins slalom, giant slalom, downhill, and combined gold medals at French junior championships	MC △ ♀ r
1961	Automobile accident, best friend dies	♂ ✕ ♃ r
1962	Suffers a broken leg, misses world championships, earns no medals in the Olympics	⊙ □ ♃ r
1966	Wins downhill and combined at world championships	♃ △ ♂ r
1966-67	Wins 23 of 30 races, including the World Cup overall title	⊙ π MC r & ⊙ √ ♃ r
1967-1970	Enjoys a brief career as a race car driver	♃ ∘ ♃ p
1968	Participates in the Grenoble Olympics and wins gold medals in downhill, giant slalom, and slalom. Awarded Alpine skiing World Cup champion	⊙ ∠ ASC r
1972	Played the role of a ski instructor in The Great Ski Caper	⊙ △ ♂ r
1973	Marries actress Danièle Gaubert	♀ √ ⊙ p
1977	Founds the ski apparel company Veleda	MC ∘ ♂ r
1983	Stars in Copper Mountain: A Club Med Experience	⊙ ✕ ASC r
1987	His wife Danièle Gaubert dies of cancer	♀ □ ✕ r & p
1992	Oversees the 1992 Olympic Games in Albertville	⊙ △ ♃ r
2000	Made a Grand Officer in the <i>Ordre national de la Légion d'honneur</i>	MC ∘ ♃ r

Later in 1961 Killy's triumphs would turn to tragedy; while driving without a license, he rolled a borrowed car on an icy road. His best friend, a passenger in the car died in the accident. Killy has Saturn the planet of loss and remorse in his Eleventh House of friends. No doubt, he would have been quite despondent at having been the cause of his

friend's demise. The progressions active at the time of the accident included Mars (the planet of accidents) moving through his Eleventh House of friends while forming a sextile aspect to Jupiter, the co-ruler of his Eighth House of death.



In 1962, Killy's progressed Sun, the planet of vitality and honors was forming a square aspect to his natal Saturn, the planet of restrictions and loss. During this year he contracted amebic dysentery and hepatitis while performing his compulsory military service with the French army in Algeria. Weakened by his ailments he did not place in any of the Olympic competitions that year. Killy has a predominantly harmonious natal chart, only his Sixth House of health and Seventh House of marriage reflect any discord. For a man with an abundance of passion and energy any time spent in recuperation would feel particularly restrictive.

From 1966- 1968 Killy was at the top of his game. This was reflected in his chart by his progressed Sun forming a semi-sextile to his natal Moon and an inconjunct to his natal MC. At the world championships in 1966, Killy won the downhill and the combined medals. During the 1966-1967 Season, he won 23 out of 30 races.

During the 1968 Olympic Games in Grenoble, France, while clocking speeds of more than 80 miles per hour, Killy won three gold medals. That Olympics brought France's national ski team a record haul of nine medals. Killy went on to become one of the most recognized skiers in his generation. However, the Olympics didn't pass without controversy. At a time when the Olympics prided themselves on all amateur athletes Killy was heavily

criticized for featuring company trademarks on his equipment, which were published in post-race photographs. Considering that the Sun is the most discordant planet in his chart it is difficult for Killy to attain achievements without also attracting controversy. During the Olympics his progressed Sun formed a semi-square to his natal Ascendant.

November 2, 1973, Killy married French actress and model Danièle Gaubert in Archamp, France. Gaubert was to die of cancer almost exactly fourteen years later on November 3, 1987. At the time of their wedding Killy's progressed Venus was in a semi-sextile to his progressed Sun. At the time of Gaubert's demise his progressed Venus was square Uranus, the chief ruler of his Seventh House of marriage.

With his dominant Mars in Gemini in his Tenth House, Killy has gone on to have a diverse and competitive career. He is well-know for his commercial endorsements of Chap Stick® and less recognized for his brief stint as a race car driver and actor. Killy opened three ski shops in Val d'Isere with his brothers and in 1977 he founded Velea a ski apparel company. Killy maintained an ongoing relationship with the Olympics and was one of the organizers of the 1992 Winter Olympics in Albertville, France. Killy continues to work with the International Olympic Committee.



### **Transmuting Iron** *(continued from page 1)*

corresponding Mind, plies its wares-honing, refining, and above all, learning.

The conventional symbol for Mars is an angled arrow overriding a circle. However, this was not always so. Originally, the symbol for Mars was a cross mounted upon a circle in vertical alignment, indicating that the Spirit was trapped under the domination of physical desire. And in many cases, when the *energy, zeal, and enthusiasm* represented by Mars is corrupted, this is exactly what is observed. Those with a corrupted Mars might be slaves to lust, violence, or anger. In any case, more material desires are oppressing any loftier, spiritual motives.

*Desire* is a key word which it is essential to examine when considering Mars. Desire, in and of itself, is neither good nor

bad, but rather is usually judged so based on the effect of its efforts. For example, if a person works hard, studies often, and ultimately becomes an excellent surgeon, she is generally regarded in high esteem, as having mastered a skill which can be of great benefit to others. However, if another individual works just as hard, studies perhaps even more often, and becomes a skilled thief, we would hardly consider him in the same light, because the fruits of his efforts are singularly selfish, and often inflict pain and suffering on those around him.

Thus, while there is *in both cases* a strong and persistent desire, we regard their results as polarized examples of success and failure, respectively. The doctor's desire assisted her in becoming of great service and utility to her fellow man, while the thief's equal or perhaps even greater

desire made of him little more than a menace. However, notice that in both cases desire had to be present, and this is of critical importance.

Regardless of the individual's penchant for good or bad, kindness or malice, **desire must be back of all actions.** The result of a lack of desire is a state of apathy or amotivation—a state in which nothing at all gets done. Indeed, this is a critical point within which a diversion of opinion might be noted between Church of Light teachings and certain Eastern disciplines. At least superficially, many Eastern disciplines teach that it is worthwhile to wipe out all remnants of desire. However, those who take the time to peer more deeply into such trains of thought will see that their true points of view are often largely consistent with our own. Acknowledging that nothing at all occurs without the precedent desire to accomplish it, it is not the blunting of desire which is sought, but rather its polarization towards good and pure acts that is paramount.

In the same way, the **energy** which is represented by Mars can be employed for good or ill. And equally as true for this case as the last, the commensurate results will be colored and hued based on our interpretations of their goodness or badness. For this reason, those who wish to embark upon the spiritual life should not for one instant seek to weaken either their energy stores or their inborn desires. Rather, while encouraging vigorous and vital energy flows, such individuals show take special care to cultivate those desires in the direction of righteous thought, feeling, and action.

The difficulty presented by Mars is that so often he is quick to succumb to more parsimonious paths by which to gain his satisfaction. “Why foster a deep and meaningful relationship with one person when you can taste the variety of pleasure offered by many?” he might argue. Or “why quibble about words of kindness and nicety when you can much more effectively communicate your sentiments frankly and bluntly, without worrying about how those

words are received by their listener?” Indeed, Mars, as is again characteristic, often sacrifices politeness for promptness.

However, with its focus on direct, decisive, immediate thought or action, Mars betrays the importance and place of his softening counterpart, the gentle, docile, vulnerable Moon. As an example, consider whether it is sufficient simply to say something, or if thought should be given as to how it might be interpreted by the listener. If you were pulled over by a police officer, would you opt for the Martian, “Why did you pull me over, huh?”, or the more delicate, diplomatic, “Hello, Officer. How are you this evening? Do you mind if I ask why you pulled me over?” Make no mistake: the choice in this instance could be the difference between “getting off easy” or getting put in the slammer over night! Hopefully, this anecdote illustrates the importance not only of direct, but also, diplomatic parlance.

Therefore, while being sure to honor the Martian instinct to survive, to fight through, to overcome, at the same time, we would likely consider our lives very hollow if this were the totality of our experience. We also yearn to understand the softer side of life, as expressed in this case by the embracing, defending Moon. Not only relationships of convenience—self-serving and egotistical as they might be—are necessary, but also relationships in which our focus is on giving, nurturing, and protecting others. Our hearts seek out not only communication that is direct and frank, but also conversation that is undertaken simply for the pleasure of it, with no point or premise. Indeed, in this as in all cases, it is not the extreme observation of one or another polarity which leads to happiness, but rather the balanced harmony of all needs, as overseen and directed by wisdom. Through the balance of hard and soft, tough and timid, action and even in its time, inaction, the best of opportunities for happiness and success is created.

♂

**If you wish to see C.C. Zain's work grow, please remember The Church of Light in your Estate Planning.**

Philanthropic organizations reach greatness because those who believe in them support them.

Please do your part to make The Church of Light a great benefit to humankind!

## Church of Light Winter 2009 Schedule of Classes

10 Tuesdays, January 27 – March 3

### The Planets in Astrology

This 10-week course taught by Christopher Gibson will analyze each of the 10 planets beginning with the Sun and ending with Pluto. We will explore the significance of each planet as it relates to folklore and mythology, alchemy, its expression through each sign of the zodiac and each house in a horoscope. Essential dignities and planetary aspects will be included. Each participant will be provided with a copy of their natal chart and have the opportunity to apply what they learn to their chart.

Classes will be offered at Church of Light Headquarters at 2119 Gold Avenue, Albuquerque on Tuesday evenings from 6:30—8:30 pm. There is a suggested donation of \$8 per class. Call 505-247-1338 for a brochure or calendar of events.



## Medical Astrology with Paul Bergner

February 13 – 15, 2009

This weekend intensive on medical astrology will use sample horoscopic charts and medical histories to demonstrate the influence of the discordant planets in the chart, on health. Topics covered will include the use of Astrodynes© in diagnosing natal predispositions, the impact of progressed aspects, and the onset of disease. The astrological signatures of the various methods of natural healing and ways to use them to counter the discords inherent in the constitution will be discussed.

Paul Bergner has practiced Astrology since 1971, and natural healing since 1973. He has engaged in doctorate level studies at the National College of Naturopathic Medicine in Portland Oregon. He is owner and director of the North American Institute of Medical Herbalism in Boulder, Colorado; which offers clinical education to professionals, in medical herbalism and clinical nutrition. He has authored seven books on medical herbalism, clinical nutrition, ethnobotany, and naturopathy. He has served as faculty at Naropa University, The Tai Sophia Institute, Seven Bowls School of Nutrition, and the Scottish School of Medical Herbalism. Paul, who first joined the Church of Light in 1986, is one of our most popular and engaging speakers. We are privileged to have him return.

Suggested Donation \$100. The workshop is limited to 20 participants, preregistration is strongly advised.

### Medical Astrology Program

Friday February 13 -7- 9 p.m. - The Foundation of Medical Astrology

Saturday February 14 - 10 a.m.- 6 p.m. Sample Charts and Application

Sunday February 15 - 10 a.m.- 1 p.m. Sample Charts and Application



## Sunday Services Albuquerque

Sunday Services are held on the third Sunday of the month at 11am.

Liturgy includes an opening and announcements by Rev. Paul Brewer, a discussion on the relationship of the sign of the zodiac to the current season and holidays by Rev. Christopher Gibson, a homily on a topic derived from Spiritual Astrology by Rev. Meg Dissinger, the Healing Ritual and petitions with Rev. Vicki Brewer. Musical accompaniment is provided by Meg Dissinger on guitar and occasionally we have vocals by Radine Ramsey.

### 2009 Schedule of Services

January 18 - Until Death Us Do Part  
February 15 - Crossing Over  
March 15 - Minerva's Shield



## Sponsorship Program



The Church of Light offers a Sponsorship Program for financially disadvantaged members. Sponsors agree to financially assist a member in their C of L studies by contributing their membership fee, supplying lessons, and donating for the exam processing fee as the student studies the lessons and passes exams. To remain in the sponsorship program, an enrolled member must pass an exam once every six

months with a grade of 75% or better. The next course is mailed only upon completion of the previous course.

Currently there are approximately eleven people on the Sponsorship Program waiting list. We are interested in developing a list of members who would be willing to occasionally be called upon to make a New Member donation of \$25.00, to purchase a book, or make an exam processing donation. If you are willing to occasionally sponsor one of these needs, please submit your name, e-mail address or phone number to our Membership Minister, Rev. Patrick Ramsey at [drpat@prodigy.net](mailto:drpat@prodigy.net) or call the office during our regular office hours. All contributions to the Sponsorship Program are tax-deductible.

## Ft. Worth Branch Church Activities



### 2009 Schedule of Classes

The Fort Worth branch of The Church of Light offers classes on the first and second Tuesdays of the month from 7-9 p.m.

### 2009 Schedule of Services

Sunday services are held on the third Sunday of the month from 11 a.m. - 1p.m.

All classes and services are held at Owl's Clover Bookstore, 3037 James Ave., Fort Worth, TX.

## Save the Date



The Church of Light Convention Committee is busily preparing for next year's Convention to be held June 19-21, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Church of Light conventions are great opportunities for building camaraderie and learning from expert Church of Light mentors.

The conference theme "A Magical Mystery Tour" will take the participant on a mystical journey through the Brotherhood of Light teachings on astrology, alchemy, and the tarot.



The Best Western Rio Grande Inn, 1015 Rio Grande Blvd., NW, Albuquerque, NM, 87104-2031, Phone 505 843 9500

Every year conference planners host pre-conference tours for those attendees planning to make New Mexico their summer vacation destination. This year our locations will be Bandalier National Monument and Museum Hill in Santa Fe.

### Different Branches/Same Tree:

## The Shared History of the Theosophical Society and The Church of Light

In this presentation author K. Paul Johnson will explore the historical relationship between the Theosophical Society and The Hermetic Brotherhood of Luxor, the predecessor organization to The Brotherhood of Light. His research will center on the role of Emma Hardinge Britten and her adept sponsor "Chevalier Louis" whose writings were foundational to both the Theosophical Society and The Church of Light. This presentation will include a screening of Madame Blavatsky: Spiritual Traveller, a documentary by Toronto filmmaker Donna Zuckerbrot.

K. Paul Johnson, author of five books, joined the Church of Light in January 2006. His second book, *The Masters Revealed: Madame Blavatsky and the Myth of the Great White Lodge* (SUNY Press, 1994), is the background for the discussion which appears in the film *Madame Blavatsky: Spiritual Traveller*. The last of his three books in the *Western Esoteric Traditions* series from SUNY Press was *Edgar Cayce in Context*, published in 1998. Before retiring in 2008, Johnson was the director of three public library systems in southern Virginia. He has a keen interest in the Alchemy courses in the Brotherhood of Light lessons.



## Tarot Correspondence — The Lightning



### Divination

Expresses in the spiritual world, the knowledge of good and evil. In the intellectual world, the balance between liberty and necessity. In the physical world, the antagonism of natural forces, the linking of cause and effect.

### Admonition

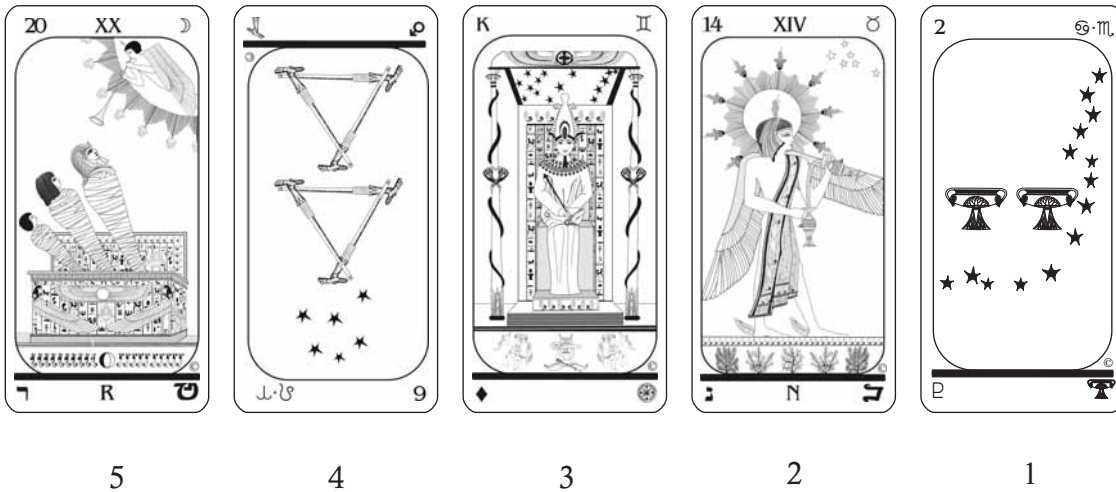
Remember, then, son of earth, that for the common man, the allurements of vice has a greater fascination than the austere beauty of virtue. If The Two Paths should appear in the prophetic signs of thy horoscope, take care of thy resolutions. Obstacles bar before thee the path thou wouldst pursue, contrary chances hover over thee, and thy will wavers between two resolutions. Indecision is, above all else, worse than a bad choice. Advance or recede, but do not hesitate; and know that a chain of flowers is more difficult to break than a chain of iron.

### Astrology

Venus governs the affections and the social relations. It gives love of ease, comfort, luxury and pleasure. It is not essentially evil, but in seeking the line of least resistance it may be led into vice. When it thus fails to resist the importunities of the wicked, it comes under the negativeness of Arcanum II, and is then under the dominion of Arcanum XV, or Saturn, which is the second decave of VI.

Excerpts from *The Sacred Tarot* by C. C. Zain

## Tarot Spread Example: Yes or No Spread



### Tarot Spread Interpretation

**Question: “Will the Church of Light book marketing efforts for 2009 be successful (increased book sales & distribution)?”**

- 1) The distant past of the matter is represented by the Deuce of Cups which is read as “a work of love.”
- 2) The recent past of the matter is pictured by Arcanum XIV, The Alchemist which is read as “Regeration and Persistent Effort.”
- 3) The third position in the “Yes or No Spread” indicates the present and is worth two points. Here we have the King of Coins, a man of Gemini temperament.
- 4) The fourth card signifies the near future of the matter inquired about. This is represented by the Six of Septers (reversed) which is read as “Music, Art or Drama.” The inner meaning is “Ambition.”
- 5) The fifth card in the “Yes or No Spread” indicates the distant future and the outcome of the matter inquired about. Arcanum XX, “The Sarcophagus” which is read as an “Ascension or Awakening.”

### Summary

In the “Yes or No Spread,” cards which fall upright represent a “Yes” answer while reversed cards designate a “No” answer. All the cards are worth a value of one point with the exception of the center card which is worth two points. This reading contained only one “No” card.

This bodes well for the project at hand. The “work of love” described here is the Brotherhood of Light Lessons, the “opus majeur” or great work of C. C. Zain. Zain considered himself as an amanuensis or scribe who wrote down ideas in the lessons that were revealed to him by the *Inner-Plane Brethern*. Arcanum XIV, The Alchemist symbolizes a new staff member who is making it her pet project to create more visibility for our books. The King of Coins is the methodical process of updating ISBN numbers and creating an internet and bookstore presence for the lessons. If we are careful that our ambitions are not greater than the support-staff in place to fulfill the work we will experience an unexpected elevation and be able to grow our organization.

By Christopher Gibson

## THE CHURCH OF LIGHT

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**Remember  
The  
Church of Light  
when planning  
your estate.**

### Contribute Your Utmost to Universal Welfare

# Vision Statement

## OUR MISSION:

To promote Universal Welfare and the exaltation of humankind through the teaching and practices of the Religion of the Stars as outlined in the writings of C.C. Zain.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

A loving Cosmic Intelligence, of which we are all a part, whose infinite goodness guides us through undeviating natural law.

A Divine Plan manifests through progressive evolution in which each soul has a unique and important role.

A soul is completely moral when to the maximum extent of its abilities it adheres to the universal moral code: Contribute Your Utmost to Universal Welfare.

The realization of the soul's Mission and the attainment of Self-Conscious Immortality is the goal toward which each soul moves.

Love is the way to life. Unselfish Love alone makes immortality possible.

Through the proper exercise of one's mentality using Directed Thinking and Induced Emotion, it is possible to control one's own life and destiny, both here and hereafter.

Astrology is the Golden Key that unlocks the door to understanding the Soul's true character and potential.

The safe development of extrasensory perception (Extension of Consciousness) is the best tool for realizing each individual's mission in the Divine Plan and for verifying the survival of the soul after death of the physical body.

Religion is the sister of Science, and it evolves by incorporating new information as it is discovered and verified.

## OUR VISION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY:

We are a powerful force for good and for spiritual enlightenment and expand the reach and experience of our members because:

We provide reliable and verifiable information regarding the nature of the soul and its relationship to Deity and other life forms;

We seek out reliable and verifiable information regarding life on higher planes of existence, especially in regard to the transition we call death and the nature of the next life;

We develop increasingly advanced tools and training in astrology, extrasensory perception, directed thinking and induced emotion toward the end of maximizing each person's happiness, usefulness and spirituality;

We promote the importance of the four essential freedoms: Freedom from Want, Freedom from Fear, Freedom of Expression and Freedom of Religion;

We build a sense of community and spiritual purpose which uplifts and inspires our members to Contribute Their Utmost To Universal Welfare.