



## The Silver Key

### *Isis Unveiled*

#### *The Astrological Significance of Each Egyptian Tarot Card ... Part IV*

Elbert Benjamine

Libra, the sign of marriage and partnership, suggested vastly more to ancient initiates than could be expressed in so simple a hieroglyphic as a feminine, or curved, line adjacent to a straight, or masculine, line. This concise and commonly used symbol merely indicates the union of positive and negative forces, the interaction of which is responsible for every conceivable kind of activity. It is equally applicable, therefore, to chemical changes, which take place in the marriage of atoms, and to centripetal and centrifugal forces which keep the planets each revolving in its appointed orbit about the sun, as it is to the most intricate of human relationships.

The Scales, by which the sign is pictured among the stars is more replete with meaning; but it gives scant information about the astrological principles which guide those who enter marriage. It presents to view two dissimilar entities united by a common purpose; two spirits, as it were, represented by the circular pans, each dangling free to move in its inde-



pendent orbit, yet both united by the beam to which both are attached. It thus indicates plainly the thought that one essential of success in marriage is a strong mutual interest in something.

But the masters of old believed marriage to be the foundation upon which society must rest, and that the edifice of society as a whole, of necessity, would be weak unless this foundation were properly constructed. Consequently, their researches embraced all its fundamental principles; and wishing to give posterity the benefit of these findings they incorporated them in symbolical pictograph on the tarot card designed to explain the marriage sign.

In this pictograph, here illustrated as Arcanum III, we see a woman seated with the head and region above the waist surrounded by a radiant Sun. Thus is the masculine potency clearly indicated. At her feet is the Moon to represent the feminine potency. And the cube on which she sits relates to

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**Winter Issue 2001**

ISSN: 009-6520  
Vol. 77, No. 1

PUBLISHED BY  
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The Church of Light Quarterly is the official publication of the Church of Light. It includes educational and inspirational supplements to The Brotherhood of Light Lessons.

There are four issues per year: Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall. Please address all communications to:

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Editorial

## Good and Evil in the Aquarian Age

Vicki Brewer

Witnessing the dawning of a new Age is an amazing privilege. It's like watching the sunrise on a crisp, clear winter morning. At first there is just the promise of coming light...then magically as the darkness releases its hold on the light a quickening glow breaks with steady beams, broadening into day and reaching across the horizon into the heavens. With excitement and anticipation all the potential laying below the shadows of the horizon slowly take form and the activities of a new day begin again.

The promise began in 1881. It birthed the potential for a new civilization formed on the principles of humanitarian ideals and technology. All this possible because of a new age based upon Aquarian KNOWLEDGE.

The promise is great and the confusion is almost greater! Since the advent of the Aquarian Age personal computer, "information overload" is a familiar concept as well as a state of mind. It's sometimes overwhelming to try and process all the bits of information into a meaningful mosaic of reality.

Stellarians are advantaged by their knowledge of the Hermetic Tradition and the tools it teaches: Astrology, Alchemy and Magic. Even more important than this grand legacy, Stellarians have the great work of C.C. Zain who helped release these tools and their message from the bondage of darkness into the LIGHT so they could continue their evolutionary process. C.C. Zain's teachings tell us there is great Wisdom from the past but more than that, today is a new day and these tools we've inherited must in-

corporate new information as it is developed and becomes useful. The 21 Brotherhood of Light Courses set the foundation for progress. In no other knowledge base does one find the integration of Astrology, Alchemy and Magic into a complete system of Soul Science designed to empower the individual, advance the cause of humanity and clarify the Divine Plan. Nowhere else does one find a religion that invites and encourages each individual to challenge its teachings and then to help systematically rebuild the body of knowledge into a renewable resource.

One of these powerful tools is The Brotherhood of Light tarot system. It is the only tarot system to fully integrate all the other branches of occult science into its process. Because of this, the Wisdom and Knowledge it holds is a rich and practical tool for personal understanding and growth. Mirroring the Initiation of the Soul, it is a particularly potent tool for sorting through all the information and issues that filter into our daily lives. Each card embodies a universal principle that can help sort the chaff from the wheat.



Because this issue of the Quarterly is dedicated to Arcanum III, it seems appropriate to apply its principles as a tool for understanding some of the complex issues that fill our lives.

Arcanum III corresponds to the astrological sign Libra. Seeking harmony, Libra emanates from the "I Balance" attitude. The card signifies Marriage or Action. It is the Action or union of opposing forces that results from seeking equi-

librium or stability within a state of imbalance. Interestingly, Libra as natural ruler of the 7<sup>th</sup> house in the birth chart is associated with war.

On September 11th the United States declared a war on terrorism. Since then Americans have repeatedly heard heads of state rally the “forces” with references to the “evil one” or the “evil doer” and making remarks such as “we will punish the evil-doer”.

All of this talk has a decidedly “Piscean-Age” moral tone associated with it. It is Piscean in the sense of the apparent desire to render justice through punishment. It is also Piscean in the sense of quickly rushing to judgement that the forces of “Good and Evil” were at play without clearly understanding the whole picture. It is Piscean in its naive assumption that the solution to the problem of terrorism is as simple as eliminating the “evil one”. Anyone who’s ever been in marriage or conflict counseling quickly learns that understanding conflict is rarely simple and that it always involves two sides who believe their actions are motivated by “right”.

Here it must be stated that the purpose of this editorial is not to challenge the tactics or motives of leadership because all the elements of this picture are not known. In fact, as the “war” progresses many principles of Aquarian Age ideals are being invoked. The intention here is to try and reframe an understanding of war or conflict from the perspective of the Aquarian Age and Arcanum III. The BofL teachings tell us the closer to the TRUTH we come, the better the fix for the problem. To be effective, The Religion of the Stars must point us in the right direction.

Of course the violent acts perpetrated against innocent people were “evil” and the outrage engendered during the aftermath fuels the war that has been waged upon “terrorism”. All the conversation about “evil” stimulates strong emotions, especially among the “true believers”. Students of The Brotherhood of Light are taught that Piscean emotions are the means by which we soar to the highest spiritual levels or sink to the lowest astral pits. Implied in both is choice. Making a good choice requires peering through the mists of emotion to gather good information.

Taking religious thinking to its next highest level requires considering “evil” acts apart from a perfectly natural emotional response. Effective Action must be inspired or balanced with the desire to understand the larger perspective of how such a horrifying event can take place.

On the practical level, Stellarians learn that Directed Thinking and Induced Emotion are the means by which we shape character and the events of our lives. We learn that our vibratory rate defines the limits of the picture we are able to see. But, on a religious level, what kind of thoughts are considered the next evolution of the Piscean “Brotherly Love” which teaches “Love thy neighbor as thyself” or “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” One doesn’t

have to go far in the history of the 2000 years after Christ to understand the meaning of the 12th house and its relationship to punishment, heaven & hell or good & evil. For that period of time much good was produced in the world of the arts and music but that there were dark times when the truth was eclipsed by selfish interest, there can be no mistake. So, what is it that sets apart Aquarian Age religion?

To answer this question requires looking at the Platinum Rule for the Aquarian Age. This code demands that behavior conform to that which “CONTRIBUTES ONE’S UTMOST TO UNIVERSAL WELFARE”. Aligning one’s conduct to this code is only possible in a climate where the “big picture” is based upon information about all sides of an issue. The attitude of Aquarius is “I KNOW”. Clearly in the last 100 years there has been a proliferation of information that is unprecedented. Many struggle with how to assimilate all the information that is available. And, during this confusion it is very important to hold a perspective that regards “Universal Welfare” as a motivating force. If this is done, surely the personal interests of all concerned will be realized. In the case of waging a war on terrorism, it is of paramount importance to consider the impact actions will have on the balance of all concerned. If the people of the world have learned anything in the past 50 years, it should be that, whatever advantage is taken of another, it will not be done in

### ☞ Arcanum III...Energy in Motion...Action



“Numerically, 3 expresses the union of polar opposites, the relation between such forces as cause vibration and change. It thus represents the universal agent, action, or word, and is typical of

fecundity. It is the union of forces of different polarity that is back of all action, all life and all intelligence.

As applied to human evolution it represents the ego joined to the body by the soul. The soul develops and makes progress because the ego is polarized to positive spirit and the body is polarized to negative matter. The interaction between these two generates the force that impels the soul forward in its journey.

On the physical plane, 3 represents man and woman in marriage. In science it stands for the dynamic laws; for the laws that govern the production and directing of energy. It is because of difference in polarity that nothing is free from change, that all nature is in constant motion.”. 🐛

darkness...the LIGHT will eventually shine on every deed. This is a lesson that all nations must heed.

But, back to “Good and Evil”. In *Astrological Signatures*, C.C. Zain has the following to say about good and evil:

*“Let us for a moment consider that what is commonly called good and evil are but other names for harmony and discord.*

*“Scarcely two people give these terms the same interpretation; for they are ever considered in relation to the ambitions and desires of the person using them, or are applied to other things the importance of which varies widely in the estimation of different people. Thus to the thief, successful in his robbery, thinks this is good because it harmonizes with his desire for wealth. An honest man calls the act evil, because it is discordant to his idea of social responsibility. Again, a shower that is looked upon as good by agriculturists may be called evil by the fashionable lady with whose house party it interferes. In the first instance it harmonized with the farmer’s interest, in the second it was discordant to the house party. The rain was the same, but the thing influenced by it was different. Good and evil are terms that imply a relation to some definite entity. In so far as an influence is harmonious to the entity it is called good, and in so far as it is discordant to the entity it is called evil. There is no good or evil aside from harmony and discord.*

*“These entities which are influenced in a manner said to be good or evil are infinite in number and compose the universe. That is, the universe is composed of an infinite number of entities and groups of entities. They are all interacting and interdependent; everything, great and small, near and distant, has some influence, powerful or weak, upon every other thing in the universe. Whether the influence exerted by one thing upon another is good or evil depends upon the mutual harmony or mutual discord.”*

Stellarians know that the proper moral attitude to take is “to Contribute Your Utmost to Universal Welfare.” But, what does Arcanum III teach us about morality and war. In a very general way, here is what Arcanum III teaches us:

- The wavy and straight lines teach that in every action (harmonious or discordant) there is polarity.
- The scales teach there is always a central issue (or third perspective) that unifies the two poles.
- Harmony is the result of establishing equilibrium between the two poles or dissimilar entities by detaching from self-interest and aligning with that, which promotes principles that supersede individual interests and provide the maximum benefit to all.

The notion of Universal Welfare implies the development of a larger perspective. As the Information Age progresses, the world and boundaries separating its citizens grow smaller and smaller. People the world over want a piece of the humanitarian birthright that is beginning to rattle their

worlds and expand their consciousness. What television’s “Ozzie and Harriet” did to the 60’s generation of Americans will happen the world over as people begin to realize that living standards vary greatly in different parts of the world. Those that have must learn to share in a manner that results in dignity for the giver and the receiver. There will be no choice because the world is watching!

What we learn from C.C. Zain is that harmony or discord—good or evil—can only be judged by its influence. If viewed from polar opposite perspectives we have two distinctly different evaluations. Is one right and the other wrong? The fact is that if we had the eyes of Jehovah from which to see we would know that each position is part of a whole scenario of Action. We would understand that both are good and both are evil—both share common ground.

To America has been given much materially. With bounty comes responsibility. That Osama bin Laden teaches terror and discord is not in dispute. That the premature release of so many souls onto the inner planes on September the 11<sup>th</sup> has taxed the resources of both the inner and outer planes there can be no doubt. That the seeds of these deeds were planted in the hearts and souls of discontent there can also be no doubt. Let us realize that discontent is born out of discord and inharmony.

To establish harmony there must be the recognition of the value and importance of all human beings on this planet. The call to the emotional response of punishment demanded by Piscean Age thinking is a tremendous waste of energy. Instead, armed with the desire to know the Truth and to Contribute Our Utmost to Universal Welfare, it is possible to undertake an examination of the facts or conditions that give rise to the kinds of discords that have been sewn in certain regions of the world. If we wish to realize the potential of the Aquarian Age Promise of a New Civilization built upon the foundation of Humanitarian Brotherhood each must do everything within their power to insure that the Nine-Point Plan (see page 9) is realized.

Each must reach out for the lamp of LIGHT and LOVE that together we may become good citizens of this new age and so that all may flourish and thrive.

So, what does Arcanum III teach us about good and evil? It teaches us that polarity is behind all action. That there is always a unifying force...we must seek it. Aquarian Age religion teaches us that “evil” is a force that is relative to circumstance and environment and that it is force that is an integral part of all life. When used properly those actions that are considered “evil” can be used to understand the underlying truth of any situation. Rather than fleeing from, or snuffing out the perceived “evil” we must seek to recondition its expression with calm understanding and the desire to KNOW its message. By not segregating acts into “good and evil” humanity can come to realize Life, Light & Love in a brighter day ☞

*Continued from Page 1*

the cross of matter where rays of sun and moon meet, and thus signifies the union of male and female forces.

But before considering what is taught in this pictograph in reference to the astrological principles that should guide human marriage, let us discuss briefly that even more familiar union, or balance between contending forces, represented by night and day. We awaken and we sleep at their behest. Light becomes a symbol of life and activity, and darkness of sleep or death. And sleep, as we now know from laboratory experiments in our universities, is the reversal of the electrical expenditure of the brain during its waking state. The electric batteries which are formed by organic cells, like the batteries of an automobile, recharge themselves when inactive. Sleep gives the brain opportunity to recharge itself.

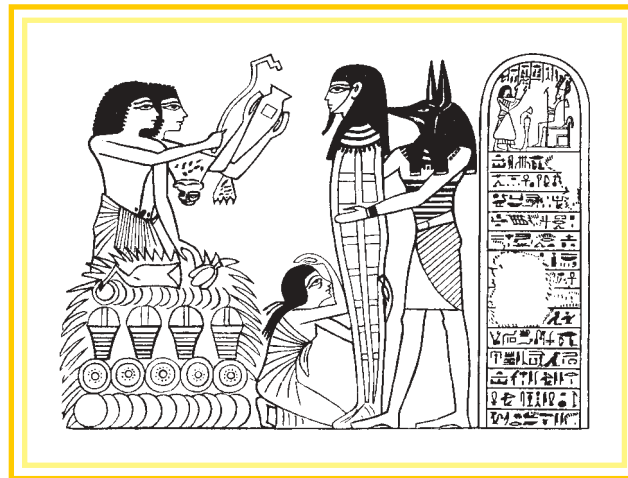
Looking at nature in a larger way, those days in which the hours of darkness exceed the hours of light may well, therefore, be placed in one pan of the annual scales, and those in which the hours of light preponderate may fill the other. Thus are day and night weighed in Libra's Scales; and the Autumnal Equinox marks the point where summer and winter signs are married, one half of the zodiac balanced against the other.

At this time the sun moves out of the harvest sign, pictographically described by Arcanum II, where the grain was cut, into the place where its value shall be ascertained. The produce of the fruitful period of the year is weighed, and the wholesome kernels are separated from the chaff. Such estimating of its worth, either of crops from the field or of those from the span of life, most fittingly takes place when the vital forces, symbolized by the sun around the upper regions of the woman in Arcanum III, have succumbed to those of cold and darkness.

The Jewish people, retaining the old time significance of this period — although their calendar in modern times has been permitted somewhat to go astray — still honor the passing of the sun each year into this sign of the Scales. This custom dates back to Leviticus 24, where it is commanded, "Speak unto the Children of Israel, saying, in the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall ye have a sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, and holy convocation." The year, of course, began with the Vernal Equinox, and Rosh-ha-Shanah is thus held the first of Tishri, or Libra.

As the day is yet observed, to still further explain its import, it may be well to quote in reference to it a paragraph from the Jewish Encyclopedia:

"Rosh-ha-Shanah is the most important judgment day, in which all the inhabitants of the world pass for judgment before the Creator as sheep pass for examination before the shepherd. Three books of accounts are opened on Rosh-ha-Shanah wherein the fate of the wicked, the righteous, and those of intermediate class are recorded. The names of the righteous are immediately inscribed, and are sealed 'to live.' The middle class are allowed a respite of ten days until Yom Kippur to repent and become righteous; the wicked are 'blotted out of the book of the living.'"



The matter of judgment, based upon the ability to weigh evidence and from a comparison of diverse factors to pass sound judgment, such as the Scales implies, is portrayed in Arcanum III by the eyes on the seat where the woman rests; indicating that through union, as more fully explained in the story of Adam and Eve, the eyes of the soul have been opened to a knowledge of good and evil.

But however important these wider aspects of Libra may be, they rank far less than those involved in the close association of people in partnership, and especially of that most intimate partnership called marriage. And here it is that the ancient masters have portrayed principles of the most practical and vital kind which we moderns have just commenced to understand.

Looking at Arcanum III, that which seems most conspicuous in reference to the woman: in addition to the twelve stars, the eagle and the scepter, are the Sun, Moon, and cube of matter which clearly represents the Ascendant. These imply that marriage when properly consummated, is not of one plane alone, but is a spiritual union, a mental union, and a union of the flesh.

The crown of twelve stars worn by the woman picturing the Venus sign indicates that the positions of the planets in the twelve zodiacal signs are factors of significance in the development and maintenance of love and matrimonial harmony. These stars adjacent to the brain proclaim that people to be companionable must have at least some interests in common. Only through kindred interests can MENTAL HARMONY be sustained.

If all the husband cares for is business and golf, and all the wife cares for is bridge and social life, they are sure to bore each other, and probably will seek companionship with those of similar tastes. Yet often it is equally disastrous for husband and wife to have abilities so closely identical that they become rivals. Not always, but all too frequently, when this is the case, each is jealous of the praise bestowed upon the other.

Commonly it is better that each have qualities which the other has not, but which the other admires. Their tastes, however, should be sufficiently alike so that they have interests in common. The best possible mental combination is when the husband and wife are vitally and enthusiastically absorbed in some interest to which each contributes an element of success which the other cannot.

To determine the things an individual will be interested in, and thus if two people will be mentally compatible, can be ascertained from the temperament, disposition and mental ability, as mapped by the planets in the chart of birth. Of chief importance in this determination are the Dominant Planet, represented in Arcanum III by the scepter of power which the woman holds; the Sun-sign, represented pictographically by the radiant sun; the Moon sign, indicated by the Moon beneath the lady's feet; the sign and planet in the Ascendant, portrayed as the cube of matter; the sign occupied by Mercury signified by the twelve stars in the region of mental expression; and the aspects made by Moon and Mercury. To indicate that the degrees occupied by the planets, and therefore their aspects as well as sign positions should be taken into consideration, the rays from the sun which surrounds the twelve zodiacal stars number thirty, the number of degrees of one zodiacal sign.

Aspirations, symbolized by the soaring eagle which the woman of Arcanum III holds before her, and on Which her attention seems centered, are the chief factors involved in SPIRITUAL HARMONY. People tend to be uncomfortable when closely associated with those whose characters are in marked contrast to their own. Similarity or diversity of character can be determined from a comparison of birth charts.

Because the dominant planet maps the dynamic stellar structure through which the most energy flows, it must be considered as of first importance in determining character. But as mapping the most deep-seated and permanent of all

the thought-elements within the astral body, the Sun-sign is next in importance in such determination. Third in importance, as indicating the type of impressions most readily received, and therefore as determining mental capacity, must be considered the sign occupied by the Moon. And finally, as least important of all as regards the real character, but of so much importance in mere personality, are to be considered the rising sign and rising planet.

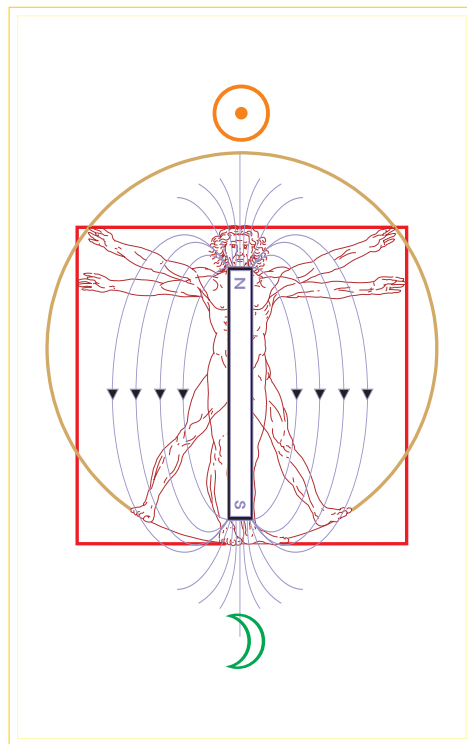
The spiritual level, including the religious conceptions, the ideals, and the many individual trends and traits, all are embraced in the character so determined. One who lives on a low spiritual level, likes riotous living, is keenly dishonest, and cares nothing for others or for the future life, is quickly irked by the companionship of a clean-living, honest and pious companion. A materialist husband is a source of incessant worry to a spiritual wife. One who cares only for the fleshpots is hardly a suitable mate for a fine-grained aesthete.

A divergent philosophy of life, because philosophy determines action, is a common source of discord between wedded people. If one is progressive, is interested in astrology and the occult, and the other is conservative enough to believe that such things are the work of the devil, it does not conduce to happiness. Many instances come to light also, in which one member of a married pair has concluded that all expression of sex is sin, while the other believes such doctrines are contrary both to sound psychology and to physical health. Both then consider the other selfish in demanding a type of life of which the other does not approve. Had they the same ideals, as indicated by the eagle, the symbol of

transmutation and sublimation, such misery would be spared.

This eagle of Arcanum III is right in the rays of the radiant sun. And the Sun-sign, as mapping the most deep-seated and permanent of the thought-elements embraced within the astral body, is a very significant factor in determining spiritual harmony. Fire and water, of course, are wide apart in their spiritual relations as revealed by the motive of their conduct. And even the degree of the zodiac occupied by the Sun, as here indicated by the eagle touching one of the thirty rays, seems quite important in this respect.

Marriage, however dependent upon mental harmony and spiritual harmony for its more complete expression, has at its foundation a physical relation. The woman of Arcanum III is seated upon, and supported by, the cube of physical



substance. And no matter how harmonious the partners are on the mental plane and the spiritual plane, their close association will be detrimental to health and disposition unless it is thus based upon PHYSICAL HARMONY.

Within the last year or two it has been definitely demonstrated that the nerve currents which with their radiations formed the etheric body, are electric currents generated by the physical cells. Each cell is a miniature electric battery, the cells of the nervous system generating more than other cells, and those of the gray matter of the frontal lobes of the brain being most powerful of all in this respect, they are enabled through higher electrical potential to direct the electric flow and thus control behavior. These electric currents which flow over the nervous system, and their radiations, are given special qualities and trends by the thoughts and by planetary vibrations. These special qualities of the nerve currents give rise to the various kinds and degrees of feeling.

Between people so closely associated as man and wife there is an exchange of these electric energies. The etheric body is a union of energies of opposite electric polarities; solar etheric energy and lunar etheric energy, as clearly portrayed in the Arcanum by the sun at the head and the moon at the feet. The nerve currents, or electrical impulses traveling over the nerves, have their vibratory rates determined, other than those given temporarily by the transient thoughts and feelings, by the thought-cells of the astral body as mapped by the planets.

The positive electric energy is ruled by the sun. Its quality, therefore, is largely determined by the Sun-sign; but to a degree also by any planet aspecting the Sun; for such a planet reaches the etheric body through the dynamic stellar structure mapped by the sun, into which its aerial leads.

The negative electric energy is ruled by the moon. Its quality is largely determined by the sign occupied by the moon in the birth chart; and to a much less degree by any planet aspecting the moon. Such an aspect implies an aerial leading into the dynamic stellar structure mapped by the moon, through which it gains direct access to the etheric body.

Any planet aspecting Mercury, at times, through the thoughts it stimulates, reaches and influences the quality of the etheric body. The conscious thoughts, ruled by Mercury, tune the etheric energies to their vibration. But this influence is pronounced only while the particular thoughts are prominent in the mind. It may, therefore, be considered not as the permanent rate to which the electric currents passing over the nerves vibrate, but merely those tuned in on temporarily. Aside from such temporary tuning in by means of the conscious thoughts, which may or may not be habitual, the quality of the etheric energies of the body may be determined chiefly by the signs occupied by the sun and moon; carrying in minor degree the vibratory rates of the planets from which these luminaries receive aspects.

In reaching the outside world and thus affecting another person with whom closely associated, however, the solar electric energies and the lunar electric energies, thus colored by planetary vibrations as indicated by their aspects, must pass over the ground-wire mapped by the degree on the Ascendant. Etheric energy which thus passes over the ground-wire to the world without is known as personal magnetism. This ground-wire itself has a vibratory quality which also is imparted to such electric energies as pass over it. Not only the sign on the Ascendant must be considered, but all the planets in the first house also, because they are closely enough associated with the ground-wire to impart their vibratory rates to it.

The magnetism of an individual, therefore, is not a simple energy, but a compound of solar electricity and lunar electricity of the quality indicated by the signs occupied, and the aspects made, by sun and moon, to which still other vibratory rates are added by the sign on the Ascendant, planets in the first house, and planets strongly aspecting the degree on the Ascendant. And each of these factors is described in symbolical pictograph, in terms of specific principles rather than in terms of electric energies, on Arcanum III.

To the extent etheric energies, or PERSONAL MAGNETISMS, have a similar vibratory quality do they the more readily fuse and blend. The magnetism of watery signs blends best with the magnetism of watery signs. It also blends in less degree with the magnetism of earthy signs; but will no more blend with the magnetism of fiery signs than oil will blend with water. Magnetism of the fiery signs blends most readily with that of the fiery signs. It blends somewhat with that of the airy signs; but refuses to unite with the magnetism of the earthy signs.

Yet if the sun in one chart is in a fiery sign and the moon or ascendant of another chart is in a fiery sign, the magnetisms, to the extent shown, are given a fiery vibration, and to that extent will fuse pleasantly. That is, for magnetic harmony, it is not absolutely essential that the Sun-signs shall be of the same triplicity, or ever of complementary triplicity, although the energies blend more completely when they are. Etheric energy of the same, or of complementary quality, will blend whether given its quality by the sun, moon or ascendant.

The strong aspect of a planet to the sun, moon or ascendant tends to color the electric energies by the quality of the planet, and thus the personal magnetism radiated is quite complex; more so because in addition to other qualities it partakes of the sex of the individual. Personal magnetisms of similar vibratory rate fuse readily, and without jar or discomfort, and if at the same time they are of opposite sex, and to the extent they are strongly sexed, there is a pronounced attraction of the one for the other. But even when of the opposite sex, magnetisms which are of too dissimilar characteristics do not fuse or blend, and often are violently destructive, one to the other; the weakest suffering most. When the vibrations are thus so divergent, as indicated by



signs which are contradictory opposites, such as Aries and Cancer, Capricorn and Gemini, or Taurus and Leo, they cannot be brought into synchronism, and they jar from their impact.

To show that the success of marriage must of necessity rest upon PHYSICAL HARMONY, the Libra woman was pictured seated on a cube representing the physical plane; but to indicate that the most important factor in this relation is that of HARMONIOUS MAGNETISM the ancients not merely pictured a radiant sun, but they gave it a size larger than any other object in the picture, and made its radiations a conspicuous feature, as if they were likewise the aura radiated by the seated lady.

When these vibratory rates are not too antagonistic and people marry, under kindness and sympathy the feelings so engendered are able to raise or lower or otherwise adjust to

each other so that they enter into a satisfactory fusion. And under such conditions, so long as the kindness lasts and hardships do not too greatly, through thoughts about them, cause a reversion to the natural birth chart vibrations, the magnetic blend will persist. But when irritations arise and financial worries absorb much of the attention, this artificial adjustment is destroyed. ☸

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Church of Light

*Reprint from the April 1937 American Astrology Magazine.  
This article can also be viewed on the CofL website in the Archives at [www.light.org](http://www.light.org)*

## Religion of the Stars

### ***The Nine-Point Plan for a New Civilization***

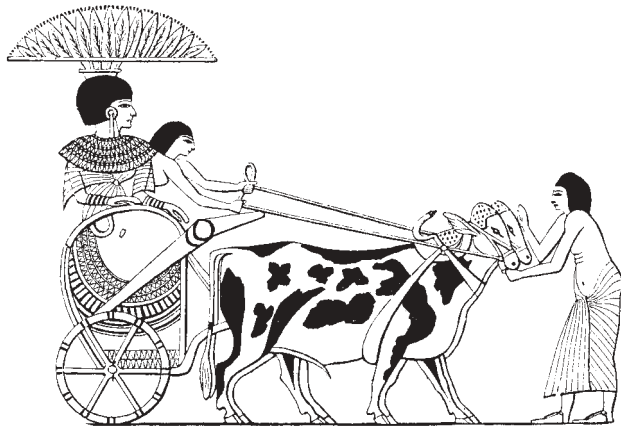
What happened on September 11, 2001 stands as a reminder to all that as members of the human family we are collectively vulnerable. Where there are pockets of poverty and want on a planet of plenty there is fertile ground to sew the seeds of hatred. The Nine-Point Plan stands as a beacon to remind us of the dignity of all and the glorious possibility of this Aquarian Age. It also reminds us of the potential for disaster if we do not take to heart the serious responsibility we have to our fellow man.

We recommend that each of you re-read the description of The Nine-Point Plane in Course II, *Astrological Signatures*, subsection "Physiology and Correspondence". ☸



That Every Person Adopt As The Constant and Dominant Motive of Their Lives To Contribute Their Utmost To Universal Welfare





## Cosmic Alchemy

# THE PURPOSE OF LIFE

Edward Doane

**W**hy was I born? Many souls ask that question when they become dissatisfied with a status quo. Casual examination, based upon a cursory glance at the physical affairs of mankind, fails to provide any answer to the problem. If the desire to know is sufficiently intense, a search is started for more information than is readily at hand, which may in time lead to the lessons offered by The Church of Light. These lessons are designed to assist one to find the answers to such questions.

To help the searching soul, we are here publishing the mantram, which, if properly meditated upon, will assist in realizing some of the purpose of being, and point the way to a happier, more useful life.

### THE CHURCH OF LIGHT MANTRAM

1. My Soul is One With the Universe, and My Spirit is an emanation from Deity.
2. I am commissioned by the Infinite One to assist in the scheme of His Creation.
3. I am assisting in the progressive evolution of creation, and in so doing my soul and its infinite possibilities are progressing in proportion to my desire to use all my powers and possibilities in Spirit and in Truth.
4. My physical organism is my natural universe, over which I alone will rule. It is my material cloak, or garment, through which I will manifest the powers of my Divine Nature.
5. I am progressing rapidly toward the subjugation of matter and the complete lordship over all submundane atoms of life, which exist only by my permission, as peaceful and obedient servants within the lower animal realms of my dominion.
6. They exist by virtue of their functions in the work of creation, which I am now assisting; but

they are, and ever must be, subservient to the higher realms of Spirit to which I by right belong.

7. I am eternal Spirit. My Soul is Immortal. No power in this infinite universe can alter my immortal nature, nor control my Soul's glorious destiny of eternal progression; because My Soul is One with the Universe and my Spirit is an emanation from Deity.

The above is from Course XXI, Personal Alchemy. It is designed to assist the individual to obtain Cosmic Consciousness. It is suggested that it be memorized and repeated at some set time, or times, each day.

Life is the manifestation of intelligence and feeling through form. Form is impossible without substance. Substance is the degree of matter on which energy acts producing change. On the various levels this matter is called physical, astral and spiritual.

The process of Creation results from the active Love and Wisdom of Deity producing eternal change in the limitless degrees of substance. Wherever one finds a manifestation of life, one also finds a degree of feeling and intelligence. One cannot say this bit of life is different in kind from that bit of life, for the manifest difference is one of degree, not of kind. Sufficient study and meditation leads to the conclusion that Life is One. The intelligence that is manifest, striving for expression through the form it is using, cannot be separated as to kind. Here again the conclusion is forced that it is a matter of degree and that eventually Intelligence is One. The feeling resulting from the effort to adapt to conditions of environment likewise fails to be differentiated as to kind, and resolves down to a differentiation in degree. Hence, the conclusion, Life, Light and Love are One.

The works of Deity are visible to the individual according to the degree of intelligence and love – feeling – expressed by the individual. As more love and wisdom are acquired, so do the extent of the works of God become manifest to the

consciousness. The process of expansion of consciousness is unending, here and hereafter, and as a consequence the unlimited scope and beauty of God's Great Plan is forever unfolding to the evolving soul.

The Whole of the Kingdom of God embraces all that is, was and will be. The individual, partaking of a degree of the Consciousness of the Whole, cannot be separated from the Whole, excepting by his or her lack of awareness of the true nature of the individual.

Being part of the Whole, and partaking in degree of the attributes of the Whole, it is not an impertinence to lift the mind to the Supreme Being and say: "Behold, My Father and I are One." This is a Truth that will stand the most critical analysis.

Creation, being the work of the Supreme One we call God, is not the chaotic hodgepodge that a superficial glance at the actions of mankind brings to view. On the contrary, it moves ahead according to the Plan of the Grand Architect of the Universe. Individuals and Nations, through lack of understanding, create chaos in physical affairs because of lack of perception of, and cooperation in, the Divine Plan. Rest assured, God is not mocked, and the work of the Eternal One will proceed according to Plan – And On Time.

Lack of understanding of and participation in, the Divine Plan leads to a multitude of errors of thought, feeling and action, which in turn bring those experiences called painful. When individuals have had sufficient painful experiences, they eventually conclude that something must be done to bring about a change. This something consists of two possible alternatives: 1. Changing the conditions to which one reacts in a painful manner. 2. Changing the habit systems of reacting to conditions. That is, reconditioning the mental processes and emotional responses so that one's attitude is changed toward people and other factors in the environment. The latter is preferred for it enables one to realize that the progress of the soul depends upon changing attitudes to correspond to the great realities of Eternal Life.

Experiences are offered to the individual soul to provide a means of education. Without experience there is no intellectual process, no feeling, no life, no existence. The importance of each experience is determined by the attitude of the individual toward it. Each event in the life, however small, contains a scintillating bit of Spiritual Gold that may be garnered by the discerning soul and added to the Spiritual Treasure, to be a permanent possession of the soul, here and hereafter.

To attempt a valuation of Life as a Whole, from the purely physical aspect alone, is much like trying to analyze a radio by inspecting the antenna or one of the small resistors incorporated in the set. It is only when life is perceived in its all inclusive and eternal aspect that some

sense begins to appear, purpose perceived, and law and order made manifest to the consciousness. When one realizes that physical existence in human form is for the purpose of educating the soul in order to fit it to fulfill a useful and conscious part in the Divine Plan, and that an expanding consciousness is capable of understanding and filling its individual place in that Plan, at a given level of its evolution, then the real reason for existence begins to appear.

Eventually each soul reaches a time and place in its journey when it asks the question, Why am I? What is my reason for being at all? Then, if the desire to know is strong enough, and the desire is for Truth Above All Else, it is in a position to begin to find some answers. One answer will be: "You are here to contribute something of value to God's Great Plan of Eternal Progression." That is, to in some manner, get on the giving end. This brings the realization that the reason for the individual being is to contribute something to life, rather than to take something from it. In due time awareness of another Cosmic Fact comes along: that it is impossible to truly give without receiving and it is impossible to truly receive without giving. In order for a soul to be useful to Gods Plan, it must be educated – gather know-how – to fill its place, hence it must both give and receive.

In time the question of value arises, and one learns that any kind of useful endeavor may be made to yield Spiritual Value. For instance, a smile and pat on the back can assist a soul to a more cheerful attitude and guide it toward a more constructive viewpoint, thus assisting progressive evolution. It, therefore, has value in the Divine Plan. None is so poor as to be without the means of a smile, a cheery word and a pat on the back.

In the limitless Creation of Eternal God, there is no end to the progress of the individual soul. The more Love and Wisdom the individual gathers, the more Usefulness and Happiness he is capable of expressing, hence the more Spirituality he has gained. One cannot imagine an end to the potential expansion of consciousness; the potential refinement and expression of the feeling called love; the potential happiness and usefulness anymore than one can imagine an end to Eternity. Consequently, progress is Eternal. The unending vistas of the glories of Eternal Life are beyond description in their magnificent beauty. Yet they are revealed to the advancing soul according to the degree of Divine Life, Light and Love that it is capable of expressing at any moment in its endless journey.

The only Absolute is God, thus the only real perfection is the Absolute. What is thought of as perfection at one stage of awareness, is perceived as non-perfection at a more advanced stage. The idea of perfection changes as consciousness expands. Thus perfection is the ever-advancing goal toward which the soul travels, but which it never reaches. It is like walking east toward the Sun upon physical earth. One always travels toward the source of physical light, but never reaches it. This continual advance toward an unreachable goal makes for constantly expanding consciousness, and a steadily increasing usefulness, therefore eternally new and interesting horizons.

In our kindergarten of consciousness on physical earth, even our most active imaginative periods are incapable of picturing more than a little way, relatively speaking, up the highway of the advancing soul. What we are capable of perceiving gives us a preview of glories to come as the soul advances in consciousness.

The Mission of the Soul is to gather Love and Wisdom so that Self Conscious Immortality may be attained and Spirituality be achieved through Happiness and Usefulness resulting from the conscious cooperation with Deity in the Divine Plan.

Since we cannot imagine the Creator, who is the Supreme Intelligence, as having made errors, or bringing individual intelligence into manifest being without purpose, we must assume that each is evolving to fulfill some useful part in the Divine Plan. Consequently, the fact that the individual IS, carries the corollary that God has a need for the individual. And the fact that the individual IS, also carries the corollary that the individual not only has need for God, but that existence as an individual is impossible without God. Hence, the best thing to do appears to be to try to find out the why and wherefore. That is, to get on the job, and to consciously ascertain what one's place is in the present stage of consciousness and try to fill that place.

Then the question arises, what about time? My time is limited. I must do this, that or the other. Time, as we know it, is derived from the motion of physical bodies. That is, Earth and Moon. When the transition to the new life comes along, as it will, concepts of time derived from physical motions must be left behind. Each individual soul has Eternity, and even as there is no end to expanding consciousness so also will one never reach the point where there is not something useful to do. If one is capable of identifying oneself with Eternity instead of Time, impatience will disappear and the realization will come that each has the opportunity – and time – to make progress.

Life is neither in nor of physical substance. Physical substance provides a means by which the soul can gain certain types of experience, essential to its education. A form which an advancing soul can use in order to gain contact with certain environmental conditions is essential to its ultimate progress. When a soul is through with a physical form, it is discarded in order to free the soul for another phase of its education, in its endless journey through the concentric spheres of the Absolute.

Each soul should realize that it is an individual, progressing to take up its own task in the Divine Plan, and that it is gaining the education which will fit it to do its own work better than any other soul could possibly do that particular task. It should also realize that in order to do its own task, it must learn to work with other souls doing tasks for which they as individuals are equally well fitted.

Even as each is part of the Divine Whole, so must each realize that he or she is no more and no less important than any other part of the Divine Whole. A Whole is: not complete with any of its parts missing, however large or small those parts may be. Thus, the least is as the greatest and the greatest is as the least.

When, in the course of its journey, a soul surrenders the individual desires to the Divine Will and resolves that thereafter it is going to do its best to find and fill its part in the Divine Plan, that the individual will shall be the Will of Deity, a great forward step is made. Yet each should realize that strength is gained through overcoming Obstacles, and that one's lack of understanding offers continual obstacles to progress, the journey up the pathway requires constant and alert effort. This effort is pleasurable because one is doing what one desires to do, and the struggle is toward an ever-higher goal. Thus, giving up a low Spiritual estate in order to gain a higher one is no more painful than giving up the footing of a valley in order to stand on a mountain peak and witness a wider, more glorious view.

During the journey each will experience times when the attention is diverted and painful feelings experienced. In those times it is well to turn to the Mantram and to the lessons in order to get the mind back on the goal and travel in the desired direction. The following quotation from Spiritual Astrology, the first decanate of Sagittarius, is one of the many that will help.

“Harp Divine, whose strings the angels tune and set in motion sweet waves of music that vibrate round the spheres, and bring to man the tidings of his once celestial state, that says in tones of heavenly sweetness to faint and struggling souls; Look up and onward, thy spirit calls thee home. God, Jehovah, is, and thou must be.” ☸

*April-July 1952 Quarterly*

*This article may be reviewed on the CofL website Archives Section at [www.light.org](http://www.light.org)*

*"Men fear thought as they fear nothing else on earth - more than ruin - more even than death... Thought is subversive and revolutionary, destructive and terrible, thought is merciless to privilege, established institutions, and comfortable habit. Thought looks into the pit of hell and is not afraid. Thought is great and swift and free, the light of the world, and the chief glory of man."*

*—Bertrand Russell*

## Mantram of the Will

or  
Synthesis of Magic

- ♁ The human **Will** (1)  
 ♃ enlightened by **Science** (2),  
 ♄ and manifested by **Action** (3)  
 ♅ creates the **Realization** (4)  
 ♆ of a power which it uses or abuses according to good or bad **Inspiration** (5),  
 in the circle that has been traced for it by the laws of universal order.  
 ♇ After having surmounted the **Trial** (6),  
 ♈ which has been imposed by Divine Wisdom, he will enter by his **Victory** (7)  
 ♉ into possession of the work it has created, and establishing his **Equilibrium**  
 (8)  
 ♊ upon the axis of **Prudence** (9),  
 ♋ he will rule the oscillations of **Fortune** (10).
- ♌ The **Force** (11) of man  
 ♍ sanctified by **Sacrifice** (12), which is the voluntary offer of himself upon the  
 altar of devotion or expiation, triumphs over death.  
 ♎ This divine **Transformation** (13) raises him beyond the tomb into the serene  
 region of infinite progress and opposes the  
 ♏ reality of **Initiative** (14)  
 ♐ to the eternal falsehood of **Fatality** (15).  
 ♑ The course of time is marked by **Ruins** (16),  
 ♒ but beyond every ruin one sees reappear the dawn of **Hope** (17) ,  
 ♓ or the twilight of **Deception** (18).
- ♈ Unceasingly, man aspires to that which ever flees from him, and the **Sun of  
 Happiness** (19)  
 ♉ will only rise for him beyond the **Tomb** (20), after the renewal of his being  
 by death, which opens to him a higher sphere of Will, Intelligence and Ac-  
 tion.
- ♊ Every will that lets itself be governed by the instincts of the flesh abdicates  
 its liberty and is bound to the **Expiation** (22) of its errors.  
 ♋ On the contrary, every will which unites itself to Deity in order to manifest  
 truth and work justice, enters even in this life into a participation of divine  
 power over beings and things **Recompense** (21),  
 ♌ eternal of **Freed Spirits** (0).



## Mental Alchemy

### **CONTROLLING YOUR MENTALITY**

H.S.D. Starnaman

One of the easiest ways to prove the worth of the Occult Sciences is to make an effort toward mental analysis and control. Truly, whatever we do, whether it is planning a skyscraper or the family breakfast, is first created in thought.

The Brotherhood of Light lessons teach that thought vibrates at a rate beyond that which is measured by material science. Whether measured or not a little candid investigation will prove that thought is the most potent of all vibrations. Thought processes are not carried on in the physical brain. The subconscious mind, termed by Occult Science as the astral brain, is the domain of thought. The subconscious mind is constantly directing unconscious body actions. Thoughts, however, are not confined to the brain of the astral body only.

The astral body, the mold around which the physical body is formed, is made up of thought centers. These centers are mapped by the positions of the planets in the natal chart. When a person becomes familiar with this chart they have an accurate picture of their subconscious or astral makeup and a fair idea of how they tend to react under various circumstances.

There are many types of thoughts in the astral body. They naturally fall into positive or negative groups, flying together into centers of energy, each composed of many individual thought trends, according to their polarity. These centers, brought into being by experiences in lower forms of life, existed at human birth. Every thought and emotion since then has added or subtracted harmonious or discordant energy.

Desires, whether expressed in action or buried in the subconscious, alter some thought center in the astral body. That center will vibrate more strongly for the time it resonates under the influx of desire and if it receives enough energy action results.

Uncontrolled mental states such as those found in fantasy thinking or the state of being driven to action without reason or will power seem almost normal to the average human being. Until people realize the energy they waste in uncontrolled thinking, they will be prone to continue thinking that way, never realizing that failure in life lies within their power to control if they cease to follow the lines of least resistance.

Suppose an embarrassing event makes you feel very uncomfortable. Immediately all previous thoughts, in sympathy or resonance with the energy aroused, fly to aid the stimulated thought center. Into your mind will come pictures of a similar pattern, of things that were associated together long ago. The present event did much more than just arouse emotion and arouse it unpleasantly. It brought into play a lot of associated thought, which is passing and repassing through the mind. In a very short time the person is daydreaming, almost oblivious of surroundings, living again in the emotions of the past, which are linked, with the discomfort of the present. The mentality for the time being is on one track, and until the switch is volitionally thrown to another trend of thought a lot of energy is uselessly wasted. The economical thing to do is to realize that the embarrassment could not be helped and the situation possibly could not be altered. Wisdom dictates that the attention be resolutely turned elsewhere.

Thought centers are entirely unique to the individual. Science has discovered ten distinctive thought trends are found in all human beings.

There is an urge for power, personal achievement, glory and aggrandizement. This center comprises the Power Urges that correspond astrologically to the Sun.

There is an urge for domesticity, love of offspring, love of home and fireside, comprising the Domestic Urges that correspond to the Moon.

There is the urge for study, mental ability, analysis and thought, comprising the Intellectual Urges that correspond to Mercury.

There is the Urge for companionship with people, the opposite sex, love, art, and beauty that corresponds to the Social Urges ruled by Venus.

There is the urge that leads to combat, to aggressive action, to destruction or construction that corresponds to the Aggressive Urges, under the dominion of Mars.

There is the urge within us all of a faith in Deity, of devotion, of Worship. Herein lie the Religious trends that correspond astrologically to Jupiter.

The caution that prompts people to have concerns for personal safety, self interest, self comfort, expresses as the Safety Urges and corresponds to Saturn.

An intense longing for individuality, difference from the rest, an ability to adapt the personality to environment, inventiveness and unusual interest comprise Individualistic Urges that correspond astrologically to Uranus.

The longing for world betterment, for the brotherhood of man and usually expressed in day dreams, constitutes the Utopian Urges under dominion of Neptune.

The urge for cooperation, for coercing others, for working for the greater good in group activity are the Universal Welfare Urges ruled by Pluto.

Every thought a person has can be classified under these groups, and as one gains facility in Mental Analysis, this classification process will not be difficult.



If an Occult Scientist finds he or she has one Urge very discordantly organized, they will substitute another that will harmonize well; another that will make friendly to each other the energies in the thought center, causing it to become useful instead of destructive. From the birth chart one will analyze the strength and weakness of

each urge, scientifically correcting what is necessary.

Aside from this astrological method, here briefly touched upon, mental analysis can be used to demonstrate Occult Truth in a very practical way.

Remember firstly: Anger, fear, hatred, timidity and so on, never manifest in a person who is completely adult. Balk a child in expression of his or her desire and they will become angry or tearful. The child expresses the emotion aroused by desire in a secondary way. The desire could not be realized. The emotion aroused by the desire demanded satisfaction. The child found the satisfaction by substitute.

When desire is strong, when it cannot be granted, when it is entirely balked, something very interesting occurs in the subconscious. The desire, besides stimulating the urge to which it belongs by association, excites all suppressed desires that are connected with other urges, and the combined energy of them all tends to drive one to action. Such action, unless intelligently diverted is usually rage, tears, or self pity . . . each a very destructive emotion. Just as the child did, the adult is acting out the aroused emotions through a secondary channel. It can be asserted that destructive emotions never manifest in the completed adult. Grown up children can and do manifest them, however!

Do not lose heart if you habitually express yourself via the secondary method. You are simply in need of mental training, especially of training that will enable you to direct your desires into channels, which are constructive and uplifting. Plenty of work on hand will give you a tool when you must let off steam that has been aroused emotionally and is going the familiar way of anger. Instead of the sharp words, silently turn to your work and vent your energy there. It is an ideal antidote, not only for temper, but also for all its kindred ills.

Understand and control grief. Analyze it. Isn't it a glorified self pity . . . a delusion . . . a snare, spoiling your usefulness, spreading gloom, affecting others?

Check, if you will to the extent of your ability each thought that comes haphazardly for one day, and you will be exceedingly busy. Analyze why the thought came; why it is discordant; where it is associated, and when the reason for its appearance is apparent, dismiss the thought.

On the road to mental culture, do not hug past emotions. Do not live them over and over. Experience is necessary for soul growth, and experience will bring emotion, constructive, or unless you watch it closely, destructive. When you have gained the value from each experience, let it go. The attitude for real living lies in taking the lessons of the past, using them to effectively cope with the present in order



to attract opportunities for wider usefulness in the future. Making each day count, to the best of your ability, takes care of your future.

As you begin, while you are reaching your stride in this new attitude, five minutes correctly used, day in and day out, is of more value than attempting too much. Your mind constructively directed for this length of time, at the beginning, will build the new habit of directed thinking and your subconscious will fall into line.

Reason out memories that hurt. Gain their lesson or experience and then dismiss them. Once an emotion is entertained, especially one that is inharmonious owing to its association in the past, look it over calmly. Draw the energy from it. It is reorganized more constructively. It will no longer fester in the dark but will work for you constructively.

Cherish your pleasant memories. They can be used very practically and effectively in the following manner: when an unpleasant, uncalled for thought creeps in, in spite of efforts to direct attention, say firmly, "This is NOT constructive thinking". The word "constructive" will bring up a picture of endeavor, achievement, and so forth. Then bring in a pleasant memory. Relive it, feel its happy emotions once more, let it seep through, with its uplifting vibrations.

As efforts continue, day dreams will continue to make their appearance. Control this situation by resolutely turning ALL the attention to the task at hand. This act will benefit the task and you will gain experience in directing the mentality. Mentality should either be relaxed and resting, or it should be actively directed . . . that is the goal!

Do not expect immediate perfection. Thoughts are character, and character doesn't change over night. These new constructive thoughts, which are gained by mental control, must be built GRADUALLY into the astral form; old emotions must be drained of their discordant energy. Hate, fear and anger must be eliminated from the habits.

Destructive emotions form the brute part of the character and are relics of incarnations in LOWER life forms. Then they were necessary for survival. Now they are something to use as a foundation. A chained brute is never safe. Only a thoroughly tamed and trained one can be trusted. Emotions must be tamed, trained, and then diverted upward. Whatever has happened in the past has happened for the best, and if life hasn't offered all that is good . . . you have learned greatly by your errors.

Realize that the lower self, diverted into harmony, builds the firm foundation of the spiritual form and leads to self-conscious immortality. Continue faithfully and daily, striving toward mental analysis and control and the attitude toward life will change.

Thoughts control what is attracted into the life. So these changed, vital, spiritualized thoughts, which are brought into being by effort and which are built upon the foundation of one's present character will attract only the Good. Truly, "Thoughts are Man's most Potent Builders." 🐾

*Reprint from the CofL Quarterly, April 1937. This article has been edited from its original. The original article may be viewed on the CofL web site at [www.light.org](http://www.light.org) in the Archives section.*

## Correspondence List Update!!

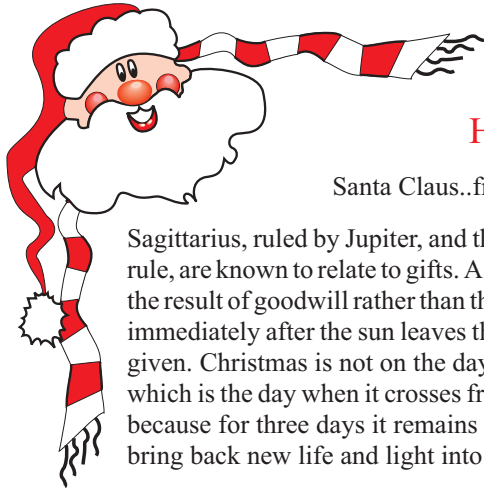
Greetings from Jessica over at Church of Light Pen Pals Central. I'm happy to announce that we finally have enough participants in the Official Correspondence List to start matching members up with their pen pals. For all of you who have signed up over the past few months, you should be receiving notification from us with the names and contact info. of your new fellow students and seekers.

I want to personally thank all of you for your desire to share with and learn from other Church of Light members as well as your for your patience as we get this program off the ground. A special thank you goes out to those of you who are not only eager to give of your time and knowledge as a Church of Light pen pal but have also made generous donations to help the Correspondence List grow and flourish.

It's possible you may only have one or two pen pals to start with, but all of us here envision the Correspondence List as a powerful unifying force for our membership. As we come together to study and discuss the Religion of the Stars, we create together the ever-expanding thought forms of LIBERTY, KNOWLEDGE and COOPERATION. We encourage all of you who are interested to fill out your application and send it in today. Best wishes to everyone in this holiday season and may your new year be filled with Life, Light & Love. (see page 23) 🐾







## Holiday Trivia

Santa Claus..from *Astrological Lore of All Ages*

Sagittarius, ruled by Jupiter, and the Sagittarius decanate of Leo, also having Jupiterian rule, are known to relate to gifts. Astrologers say that what Jupiter brings comes freely as the result of goodwill rather than through work as in the case with Saturn. Hence it is that immediately after the sun leaves the Sagittarius sign in winter is the time when gifts are given. Christmas is not on the day when the sun reaches its farthest declination south, which is the day when it crosses from the manger of the horse to the manger of the goat, because for three days it remains at this lowest, most southern point before starting to bring back new life and light into the world.

Giving it three days' grace after December 22 ensures that on Christmas Day the sun will be moving northward in declination, and that the days will have started to get longer. They will thus continue to lengthen until June 22, when the sun reaches the topmost point of the home sign, Cancer. The topmost part of a home commonly is the chimney. Therefore the sun, in coming to the home from the place where Jupiter brings his gifts, on the line dividing Sagittarius and Capricorn in winter, must touch it first at the highest spot, the chimney. And to reach it of course, he comes through the air.

In vain you will search the Bible for any mention of Christmas tree or Santa Claus. Yet that they are linked traditionally with the Centaur picturing the middle decanate of the section of the heavens relating to children seems certain. For on that day when they are prominent, it is said a child was born—born in a stable underground, as the sun yet represents. It reaches its lowest point between the horse and goat, from which time it starts to gain new strength.

Santa Claus, like the horsemen in the sky, one of which relates to the time of winter's cold and the other to the heat of summer portrays two seasons of the year. His garb is chiefly red; for as representing the constellated Centaur is he not next the fiery furnace, Crater, where the heat glows fiercest? Yet also, to denote the snow of winter, the trimming of the garb is spotless white. The gifts he brings at Christmastime are tokens of still greater gifts to come. They are the promise that abundance will follow after the time of winter dearth, when the heat from the sun will have had time to ripen crops again. Still ahead, even though the days have started in their lengthening, is a period of privation and cold. Stored supplies may become exhausted, giving rise to dark despair; yet even at the entrance of this period does he give promise of better days to come.

In his jovial manner and rotund figure he expresses the Jupiterian quality of Sagittarius, from which the sun has just moved at Christmas. This is a sign of religion. And even as Santa Claus brings promise of material gifts, so religion brings an equal cheer and promise of spiritual blessings after the hard dark days of earth are done. Yes, the days are darkest about Christmastime. They are like those other days when hope so fades that nothing seems worthwhile. Therefore it is fitting that there should be joyous news of a happy future life.

Santa, however not merely represents Jupiter's winter sign, but also a decanate of Leo, sign ruled by the sun. And anyone who has viewed the radiant rising sun on a cold and frosty morning will remember the resemblance to Santa's red circle of a face. Yet, the youngsters of the land, whose special joy he is would not recognize the rotund fellow if divested of his whiskers. They are an essential part of his makeup because at Christmas time the sun has just moved into Capricorn, the chin whiskers are the special adornment of the goat. 🐐



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Before there were 21 BofL Courses...even before The Brotherhood of Light became the Church of Light...Elbert Benjamine began publishing an Annual Newsletter (these can be read in the Archive Section of the CofL web site). From that time the annual evolved into a Quarterly. Even during the times when the CofL could barely afford to keep the lessons in print, there was a Quarterly. Until the web site was activated it was the only means by which the far flung CofL membership could know anything at all about one another. It has always been the official means for sharing CofL news and information.

There is one thing you may be sure of ...the Quarterly is here to stay. Although there have been many lovely and generous contributions to the Quarterly Fund, many of our readers have never made a contribution.

The CofL is a non-profit religious corporation and does not charge fees...however, we do find that donations keep the energy flowing! If you have enjoyed the Quarterly please consider sending a donation ....it doesn't have to be large, every dollar is appreciated. Whatever is in your heart and your means is exactly the right amount! Those who make only small contributions, but make the effort to do so, reap the greatest benefits from giving.

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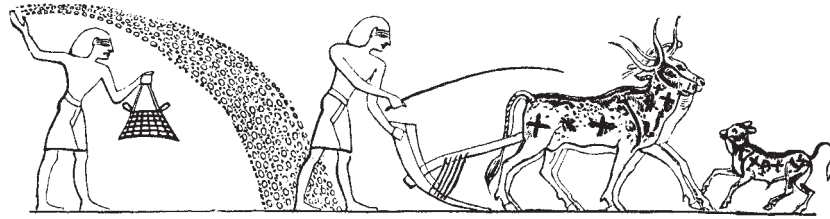
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**Guardian Angels** contribute more than \$500 in a quarter.

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## Membership Room



Don't forget...you can use the web site to make book orders and donations! It is secure and fast.

[www.light.org](http://www.light.org)

Reaching the CofL is just an e-mail away!  
[ChurchOfLight@light.org](mailto:ChurchOfLight@light.org)

### Questions at HQ

The following exchange is a response to the Fall 2001 Quarterly article entitled, "Mining for Gold.... Tools for the Alchemist". We love the questions students ask because of the terrific learning opportunities they represent.

**\*\*Question:** sent to HQ 10-13-01 (*This one is long so it will be edited for the most essential points of interest*):

"Over the past year I have focused many hours in a consistent process to transmute the negative energies associated with emotions, moods, birth chart constants and progressed constants.

I have reviewed and tried mental antidotes, conversion, ralying forces and others similar to those found in the Fall 2001 Quarterly. After close scrutiny I find the elements and Order of the Zodiac should not be changed in any way to create "perfect resolve" within the soul. What I mean is, Fire should not be used in any circumstance to resolve water...

"Let us look at the example: Discordant progressed/natal Moon. The mental antidote given is harmonious Mars thoughts (courage and initiative). I feel this is incorrect...The reason being that Mars rules Aries (fire) and Scorpio (water).

The Moon is a water sign ruling Cancer, so are we to say Mars a fire or water ruler is the opposite of negative water? No, I don't believe so. I believe the "perfect resolve" is found in the natural opposite Capricorn (Saturn). Doesn't the zodiac clearly show us the opposite of Cancer's ruler Moon is to be Saturn in Capricorn?

"It should also be taken into consideration that the Moon is of the Psychism trinity (water) while Mars is of the Life trinity (Aries) and Psychism trinity in (Scorpio). Using the zodiac as my guide I can easily find Capricorn truly as the opposite of Cancer, within the Wealth trinity (earth) and

Saturn as the ruler. Using this method it is easy to conclude that to achieve "perfect harmony" in my resolve I balance through "partnership" the perfect positive and perfect negative by perfect union to create the perfect product...so, using our example of negative Moon:

I Feel	Psychism	Emotional	Fluctuation
Cancer	Trinity	Water	Moon

The perfect resolution must be the natural opposite in equal or greater proportion than that of the negative Moon or:

I Use	Wealth	Practicality	Conservatively
Capricorn	Trinity	Earth	Saturn

I believe after much trial and error this is the "perfect" system for reducing and transmuting any negative energy/aspect. The Zodiac is universal so anyone who uses the process can apply it specifically to a mood, feeling or constant thereby removing doubt and generality.

...Looking a little closer at the given example, (negative Moon) Cancer/ "water", using the zodiac as our guide, the natural opposite is (positive Saturn) Capricorn/ "earth". Are not the elements of earth and water natural partners as are fire and air? So, it is reasonable to believe we should break a partnership to achieve something from the rules of Nature? I believe to do so is a great fallacy and will be an abnormal resolution within the soul. It may operate to pacify the negative energy/aspect at the time but I believe the zodiac is the true guide to be used "literally". The main goal to achieve Mastership is to overcome, so to overcome through resolve should be done properly the first time shouldn't it? ...."

**\*\*Answer from HQ:** This answer is in two parts.

The first part relates to what may be some confusion about the difference between the thought cells, elements or metals (Planets) that form the dynamic stellar structures and their sounding boards (Signs). From ancient times, the alchemist's work has been that of fluxing the metals (or planets) to arrive at gold. The signs add tone or flavor not energy. The signs represent the modifications that occur as a result of fluxing the metals within different mediums such as the difference between mixing in a wooden, metal,

plastic or ceramic dish. See Course II, *Astrological Signatures* for an in-depth discussion of these differences. To flux signs is chemically impossible and not something that the ancient alchemist attempted to do.

The second part of the answer relates to the actual mixing of the metals. One of our teachers gave the following response to this issue:

“Relative to your letter of October 13, I wish to give you an example of the Moon as a natural antidote for Mars. From time immemorial, Mars energy has wreaked havoc on this planet. At the origin of life, however, Mars energy was needed for the survival of man—accomplished through the sex drive and through the natural aggression of Mars to protect against predators and competitive tribes and nations.

“We are in a great school on earth. As man hopefully learned the tools of survival, positive Mars was the constructive force. However, the nature of Saturn, ruler of the opposite sign of Cancer through Capricorn, has a very powerful energy for greed and self-interest. The Moon rules the common people, as well as feeling, nurturing, and caring for the helpless. The Moon is the most powerful mental antidote for Mars that man can use. Saturn conjoined with Mars has too much greed, self-interest, self-centeredness and resentment for the two to work well together. In fact, they are the two malefics. It is like pushing the accelerator down to the floor of a car (Mars), while simultaneously applying the brakes (Saturn). That formula has caused wars and destruction from the beginning of time and is still doing so.

“Working with the Moon the lesson for salvation should be consideration for the needs of humanity—caring for those who cannot care for themselves, striving to be of assistance to needy peoples, nations etc., using the powerful Mars energy to constructively build (Mars) a working solution to survival of all to ensure all people can work out their destiny on earth.

“While we always encourage students to investigate occult matters for themselves, we cannot agree as you state in your letter that Saturn is positive and Mars is negative. Just the reverse is so. In fact, fear, ruled by Saturn, is considered the most destructive of all emotions and is a decidedly negative emotion. You don’t conjoin a negative and often wishy-washy Moon with a negative, contractive selfish Saturn for an alchemical balance. Our books go into great detail on the proper flux or balance.”

## Happy Birthday!

William Richman celebrated his 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday in October. He had company all day long, balloons, candy, cookies and lots of cards! According to Jewell he looked well and said it was his best birthday ever. Since that time, we’ve heard from Jewell that William has suffered a setback and is being hospitalized. We wish both of them well and many happy returns!

## Member Letters

\*\* 10-11-01

“I’ve been meaning to write this letter for some time. This seems to be the time for me to give thanks for the many, many life-improving lessons I have learned through the Church of Light studies written by Elbert Benjamine and the Quarterly Newsletter written by CofL Directors/Members. There are no words to describe the increases in my life and the lives of those people in and around me since putting Zain’s written principles into effect by continuous and daily practice. Before joining the CofL I considered myself a fairly devout and religious person (dominant Jupiter) but the lessons Zain placed in writing clarified the hidden mystique of the information I longed to understand in the Bible. The term “the truth will set you free” is the only saying I can think of that even comes close to explaining the excitement felt and subconsciously knowing that this is the “truth” I had been seeking for, even with some truth’s I had forgotten I had wanted to know...I look at all the people around me with a refreshing concern to assist My Utmost for Universal Welfare and the opportunity to give some of the new found “power” to make a brighter day for those I come in contact with....”

\*\* no date

“...These past few days I’ve been making certain evaluations on my behavior for the way I used to think and feel two years from today. I thought of all that I have gained from the lessons 1-9, and the things I’ve practiced from the lessons 1-9 and the manuscripts. I could also include the things I saw in one of my meditations. Through every experience from then to now, I say to The Church of Light, Thank you, Thank you very much.

## Building a Better World

\*\*Updating what is happening with our friend from Cuba... Several members responded with the desire to assist our Cuban brothers and sisters. We’ve made several attempts to contact them but have lost them. We know that eventually they will contact us again and when they do HQ will let you know.”

\*\*Some people never stop working to Build a Better World! The following was recently published in her local newspaper...she is an inspiration to us all as well as a shining example of what a life, constructively lived can do. The Church of Light is very proud of its long association with such a remarkable person!

“Doris Chase Doane has been serving the public as an astrologer for the last 65 years. To begin with she passed the 21 Brotherhood of Light Courses and became a Hermetician in the 1940’s. She also served on the Board of Directors for the Church of Light from 1942 until 1971, and has been President Honoria for the past few years. On January 10,

1945 she became a Missionary Teacher and in July 1946 she was ordained as a minister.

“Aside from doing professional work, she taught astrology in classes in seven different cities in California. Through the years she also had hundreds of students studying her Correspondence Course through the mail. In fact she has been teaching classes and private students since 1942.

From 1946 to 1971, she was a member of Astrologers Guild of America, Inc. and contributed articles to the members’ magazine.

“When she moved to San Francisco, and then later to Sacramento and Davis, California, she was still teaching astrology and reading charts for clients. In fact, she is still teaching, writing and practicing astrology to this day.

“A prolific writer, she has had over 2300 articles appearing in 99 different magazines. And she has had 80 books published (some in five languages). She has also had a monthly column on the Internet since February 15, 1997 and a question box column in AFA’s “Today’s Astrology” since the middle seventies.

“In the 1940s she joined the American Federation of Astrologers and has contributed many articles to their monthly Bulletin. In 1972 she was elected Vice President on the AFA Board of Directors. Then in 1979 she became President and is still serving in that office. It was on July 8, 1966 that she received her Life Membership.

“She was one of the original members of NCGR, a membership which was one of the first ones and still continues.”

### Course VIII Math

Within the past two years the CofL has lost three of its key volunteers. The result has been a work overload for the current staff...especially for grading the math courses. While, the CofL remains committed to serving the needs of those members who wish to learn the

math, we are no longer requiring the math as a part of becoming a Hermetician. In fact, new multiple-choice exams are being designed that will key on important concepts that will help the astrologer know when they are looking at a correctly erected chart which believe it or not many astrologers don’t know!

Some of us are sad for the change because we’ve long held that tackling the math offers an opportunity for character development that is an important part of soul development. But, like the Libra card teaches us when there are two polar positions there is somewhere a place of reconciliation. Hopefully these new multiple-choice exams will fill that place.

Before leaving this issue, we want to share a story that touched our hearts and reminded us of how a powerful desire can overcome what appears to be the most insurmountable obstacle. We recently received this from a member who passed the Course VIII math.

“I gave this course everything, everything this little mind could muster. I even meditated on questions that I did not have any clue what they meant. I ordered a book, *How to Construct a Natal Chart* by D.W. Sutton. This helped. I even practiced some electrification before meditating with instructions from the Award Manuscripts to get on the right track and understand the meaning. Reason being, there was nobody here that understood what I was doing. But, in time the picture came together and the calculations became automatic.

“I was surprised when I saw my grade. I missed one point!”

### Classes:

Canberra AUSTRALIA

Hermetic Academy of Astrology; Julia Goldstein. Three-year course work in Hermetic Astrology.

### Publishing

The CofL entered into an agreement with a publishing house in the Ukraine. The CofL Board of Directors is very excited about the possibilities of getting The Brotherhood of Light courses published in the Russian language and are most appreciative of the work of Andriy Kostenko, who initiated this project with the CofL. CofL also wishes to thank CofL members who have helped us along the way. The report we hear from Andriy is that they have finished translating the book, *Astrological Signatures*. The first book, *Laws of Occultism*, is still under translation. Their intention is to publish both works as a single volume, with both titles on the cover. It will be a hardcover edition. Their decision is based upon their most recent marketing experience, and it also means presenting the BofL material in Russian in a more respectable format than cheap paperback.

Yeah! The LIGHT moves forward!

### Congratulations to New Hermeticians!

Wayne McDonald  
Patrick Ramsey  
Peg Joscher

### Quarterly on the Web:

Look for the Quarterly on the CofL web site at <http://www.light.org>.

The Academy of Hermetic Astrology in Canberra ACT Australia

Remember to look for their Quarterly Newsletter on the CofL Home Page: <http://www.light.org>. Like the CofL Quarterly their newsletter is a pdf file and will require Adobe Acrobat Reader. Its link is located on the CofL Home Page ...in the stardust next to the CofL Quarterly. 🐾

## THE OFFICIAL CHURCH OF LIGHT CORRESPONDENCE LIST

One of the most common questions asked by new and old members alike is “Can you put me in touch with other CofL members?” Church headquarters is happy to announce an all-new, streamlined system for helping our members to connect. You design your participation to fit your needs. Meet people locally or from around the world. If you have a particular area of interest or expertise, let us know. Whether you want one on one correspondence with a single pen pal or an email list filled with new faces and ideas- it’s up to you!

On our end, the Church of Light staff is here to facilitate your correspondence needs. Based on response, we will provide a contact list for you, tailored to your requirements. If you have a change of address, or want to increase or decrease your participation, our assistance is yours. All information will be confidential except to you and the members of your contact list. The Church of Light will be here to field any questions or conflicts and basically keep things running smoothly for all involved.

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### THE CHURCH OF LIGHT CORRESPONDENCE LIST SIGN-UP FORM

#### Section One: General Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Member Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Section Two: *check all that apply*

1. Please put me in touch with members that live: locally in the same state in the U.S. world wide
2. I would like to correspond: by mail by email
3. I am interested in corresponding on:  astrology  tarot  alchemy  Church of Light information  
 Brotherhood of Light Lessons (specify which course(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
4. (Optional) My area of expertise is \_\_\_\_\_

#### Section Three: *check one*

Number of people I would like on my correspondent list:  1  2 - 4  4 - 6

*In order to discourage abuse of this service, the CofL will not provide more than 6 correspondents per list. All attempts will be made to match correspondents with others who have chosen the same number of contacts for their lists.*

Please include information on the Prisoner Pen Pal Program

#### Section Four:

- Please find enclosed my free-will donation to support the CofL Correspondence List Program
- I do not wish to participate at this time, but please accept my enclosed donation of support

The Church of Light Correspondence List shall not be used to solicit money or services from members. Solicitation of money or services, harassment and email spamming shall be brought to the attention of the Church of Light. Members under the age of 18 must include a signed letter from a parent or guardian. All information is confidential and shall not be released to anyone other than the other members of the undersigned’s contact list.

I have read and agree to the above terms of use:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

We deeply respect the cultural and intellectual diversity of our membership and are committed to providing a program to further unity, spiritual growth and philosophical expression. Join us in our mission to advance Universal Welfare and Brotherhood. Fill out and send in your form today!



The Religion of the Stars teaches that every person in the world should have Freedom from Want, Freedom from Fear, Freedom of Expression and Freedom of Religion. And, to obtain these in proper measure, each must become familiar with the Facts of Astrology, the Facts of Extra-Sensory Perception, the Facts of Induced Emotion and the Facts of Directed Thinking. Rather than working to accumulate all that one can for himself or her-

self, each must learn to take pleasure in “**Contributing Your Utmost to Universal Welfare.**”

*The Church of Light* was incorporated to teach, practice and disseminate *The Religion of the Stars*, as set forth in the 21 lessons covering each of the 3 branches of occult science, as written by C.C. Zain under the auspices of *The Brotherhood of Light*.

What is life but the angle of  
vision?

A man is measured by the angle  
at which he looks at objects.

What is life but what a man is  
thinking of all day?

This is his fate and his  
employer.

Knowing is the measure of the  
man.

By how much we know, so we  
are.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson