



The Silver Key

The Hierophant

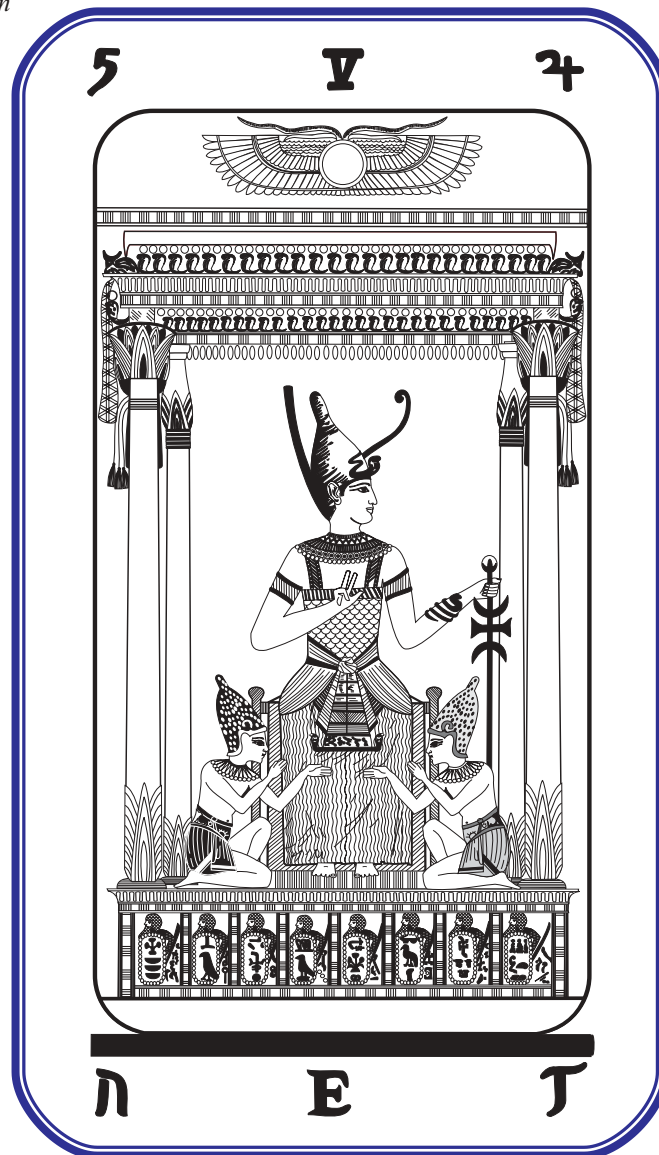
The Astrological Significance of Each Egyptian Tarot Card Part VI

Elbert Benjamine

Excerpt from June 1937 American Astrology Magazine

Except the Sun, which rules the Drive for Significance and thus the urge to live and accomplish, Jupiter, the planet of the bands, is the largest of the astrological orbs; in fact, it has a volume greater than all the other planets combined. And this huge volume well represents the importance to our lives of the thoughts and behavior which are accentuated by his benevolent rays.

The conventional hieroglyphic by which astronomers designate the planet is the cross, symbol of matter and the physical instincts, on the left arm of which is superimposed a crescent, like a new moon, symbol of mind and feeling. Such a hieroglyphic is designed to indicate that the grossness of the purely physical is under the control of mind. And so far as it goes this portrays accurately enough the part which Jupiter plays in human life, and the attitude toward the department of existence mapped in the birth chart by the house he occupies. But, for a comprehensive understanding of the planet's influence, this hieroglyphic deals too largely in generalities.



Those of the olden time, therefore, who desired to leave to us in a form most likely not to be lost, the information they so painstakingly had gained about the orbs which they called wanderers, designed Major Arcanum V of the tarot specifically to explain, in the language of symbolical pictograph, other important things they had learned about Jupiter. It is pictured as a hierophant, that is, an authority on religion, who is seated between two columns of a sanctuary. He leans upon a cross of three bars, and with his right hand makes the sign of the pentagram. At his feet kneel two men, one dressed in red and the other dressed in black. Over the sanctuary within which he is seated the protecting vulture wings are spread.

The implication is obvious that here was an attempt to describe the function of religion and to indicate its tremendous

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The Brotherhood of Light and Hermeticism

Vicki Brewer



The old Hermetic axiom, or as C.C. Zain in Course I, *Laws of Occultism* calls it, Law of Correspondences holds that,

“As it is below, so it is above;
As on the earth, so in the sky.”

As simple as this statement is, it forms the central point or axis around which the BofL Lessons, the corner piece of the Stellarian Religion, revolves. The central concept is that we live in two worlds—the inner, formative, thought-built world and the outer, result-based material world. The two worlds are inextricably linked and form the perfect medium for growing self conscious awareness.

From this central theorem flows the BofL Hermetic system of astrology, alchemy and magic. The first challenge that C.C. Zain makes to the reader of the BofL lessons is that they not accept what is written on the pages of the 21 BofL courses without testing the information for themselves. The greatest challenge is in the testing. It’s difficult enough to objectively measure events of the outer, material world. Testing the astral plane is a really big challenge! Until our inner senses are well enough developed, the most promising technique for discovering the truth behind the illusion is

learning to objectively observe the interaction between the inner plane and the outer plane. This is where humility is a must. Truly, we of the material world exist in a world of shadows. While we seek the Light, it is illusive by design.

Hence we must ever work to be true to self while understanding that what we know is ever changing.

We learn in *The Sacred Tarot* that Arcanum I, the Mercury card, represents the Philosopher’s Stone or truth.

Here the connection between Hermeticism and the BofL lessons is consolidated. Both represent a process for helping the individual create a solid foundation for progress on the material, astral and spiritual. The Hermetic perspective helps the aspiring student Hermetician to under-



stand that duality is the basis for self conscious awareness which is the requirement for entry into the spiritual world and true freedom.

Some Hermetic points of view:

1. One Law....two worlds

The natural, material world, in which each of us has been planted, is a direct reflection or mirror of the inner world. To know God or investigate the workings of Divine Intelligence, one must study Nature’s Laws. It is for this purpose C. C. Zain advocates the scientific method, a systematic and “theoretically” objective approach to uncovering nature’s secrets. Understanding that the natural world is a direct reflection of the inner world is the reason the BofL Lessons claim that Religion and Science are one and that there is but one book...the Book of Nature. This is not a denial of the subjective, inner light that moves and guides us. Rather, it is an affirmation that it is possible to attain balance by testing one’s inner guidance against what is observed about the objective world. For real progress, each of us must grow comfortable with asking, “Does this make sense with other things I have learned to be true?”

2. Good and Evil are not static states...

they interact to form intelligence and progress. That each of us enjoys the opportunity to gain Self Conscious Immortality is the result of a giant leap of faith that was undertaken by Deity when each of us was allowed to fall from the grace of the inner world and tumble into the material world. Just as each of us is drawn to experience the material world and all of its pleasures and travail, so are we attracted to the faint inner Light that offers the barest glimmer of hope for a future of eternal progress and joy on the other side of our earthly appetites. Each of us embodies both good and evil. Earthly appetites increase intelligence and enlarge capacity for choice and self consciousness. For most of us it is impossible to have a fully formed spiritual life that can stand up to the test of time without first knowing our dark side. Owning both sides of our nature empowers us to move forward under the lamp of the truth that will set us free.

3. Dogma...

If The Religion of the Stars remains true to its purpose it will never become judgmental and dogmatic because it understands that truth unfolds according to one's capacity to see and understand what is known. What is known to be true is relative...it is relative to capacity, environment and desire. It is a given that each of us will make errors of judgment. Before, disparaging self or others, remember, Deity has need of each and every one of our experiences! Because we bring our humanity to the Divine experience we help to enlarge the capacity of all life to enjoy in greater measure Life, Light & Love.

4. Morality...

The admonition to "contribute your utmost to universal welfare" is morality, Hermetic style. It is an affirmation of all of the above points and an acknowledgment that as we progress along the path we will grow in ability to discern the truly "moral" act. Morality is living in accordance to Divine Will. Something unique to The Religion of the Stars is the notion that the birth chart is a map of the soul and that each soul is endowed with a unique and divine blueprint that can be known. The chart of birth reflects God's intention for the individual and it indicates where they fit into the Grand Scheme. Within this framework, it is important to know oneself and then apply that self knowledge to advancing the larger cause of humanity and the universe...universal welfare. According to the BofL lessons, a truly moral act must be measured by each individual and not by some other person or institution. This individualized perspective must be balanced against the greater good

5. The Word...

The Brotherhood of Light Lessons, as written by C.C. Zain will, as requested by Elbert Benjamine, be maintained in their original form. Because they remain in their original form does not mean that they are the final word. The final word is found in The Book of Nature and will be discerned by the ap-

plication of the inquisitive Hermetic spirit. In the final analysis, Hermes (Mercury) is the natural antidote to religion. Whether The Religion of the Stars has much of a future or not depends upon the degree to which it helps people be more successful in their adaptation to this world and the next and to the extent it is able to attract a band of loyal supporters and advocates. If the Hermetic axiom holds true then what is learned here must also apply in the next life and what is observed there must also have some correspondence here. The challenge to each of us is to separate fact from fiction.

A fine summation of the Hermetic position can be found in Course VI, *The Sacred Tarot*:

"The Aphoresmata of The Logos"

"I. Whatever exists, exists as a Whole, as God, or is a part, or emanation from God.

"II. In the Whole as an angel, unconscious of the Whole, is an undescended spirit.

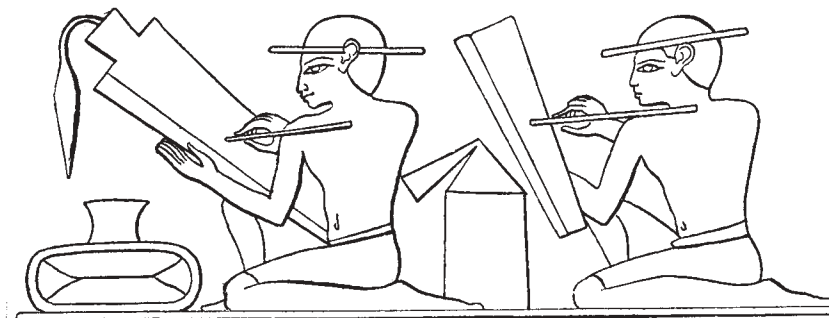
"III. Parted from the Whole, yet a portion of the Whole, and unconscious of the Whole, is the Law of Differentiation.

"IV. Parted from the Whole, with the Whole, yet external to the Whole, is a descended or fallen spirit.

"V. Parted from the Whole, with the Whole, yet conscious of the Whole and knowing it has fallen away from, and that it should, and can, return to the Whole, is the Law of Reascension.

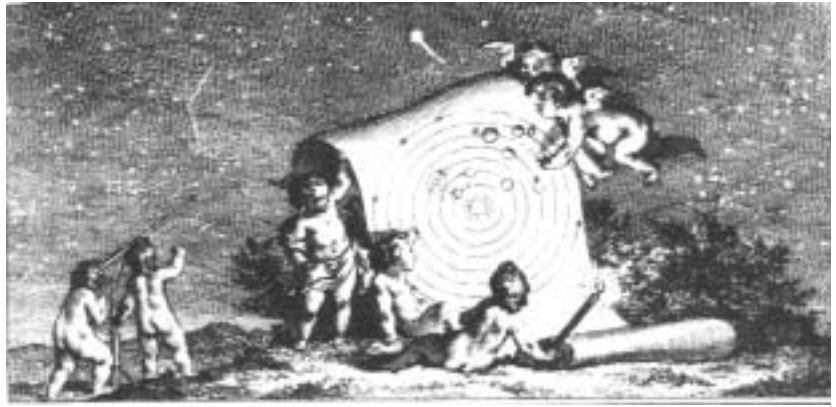
"VI. That which is parted from the Whole, turns again to the Whole, is the Law of True Repentance.

"VII. That which was parted from the Whole, and has again returned to the Whole, is a part of the Whole, remains so forever as a blest spirit, and is the Law of Perfect Atonement." ☉



Religion of the Stars

The Church of Light



Doris Chase Doane

From Modern Astrology Magazine article published in October, 1950

TO TRACE THE ORIGIN OF THE CHURCH OF LIGHT, recourse must be made to tradition. The most ancient teachings in the world are those of THE RELIGION OF THE STARS. They have been handed down to custodians from prehistoric times, and were the doctrines taught and accepted in the School of the Magi in ancient Chaldea and Egypt. The Masters of this school penetrated the inmost recesses of nature, grasped her arcane secrets, and made her forces subservient to the will of man. Astrological vibrations were no exception. The first recorded history of THE RELIGION OF THE STARS, was found in Egypt.

Since the sinking of Atlantis and Mu, at all times there had been certain people on earth who were familiar with the ancient teachings.

Sometimes the physical lineage was thin, indeed. And the only time when these teachings were brought out into full light was in Egypt, when Akhenaten reigned and adopted the RELIGION OF THE STARS for the nation as a whole. Amazing, indeed, is the fact that of Egypt's seven thousand years of history—with the one exception of the decade under the reign of Akhenaten—the people in general had no more information or knowledge about astrology, regarding life after death, or the reason for life in the first place than do most people today. The priesthood kept the populace in darkness. They eventually quelled even the powerful Akhenaten.

Many of the ancient rulers through the ages followed the pathway of initiation and went quite far in their spiritual progress. But they were barred by the priesthood from giving the spiritual wisdom to their people. For the recorded facts of that period, we are indebted to Mr. Arthur Weigall, who for many years served as Inspector General of Antiquities in Egypt. And in this connection, it is interesting to note a quotation taken from the Declaration of Principles, issued by the Brotherhood of Light in May 1915 (almost 20 years before Weigall's historical findings):

“According to our traditions, in the year 2,440 B.C. a group separated from the Theocracy of Egypt, and throughout all subsequent times, as a secret order, the name of which translated into English means The Brotherhood of Light, has been perpetuated.”

All through the various dynasties, the Priests of the Shadows, with the characteristic cunning of the Lower-Pluto forces; kept the Light from the general populace. For this intensely interesting account and its relation to the growth of THE RELIGION OF THE STARS, see the book *Astrological Lore of All Ages*. Such activity forced a secret organization.

In later times M. Theon was the head of The Brotherhood of Light in Europe for many years. And it was in the last century, shortly after the Civil War and the beginning of the present Pluto Cycle Chart, that the Teachings came to America. They were published in two books, in 1876, edited by Emma Harding Britten, entitled *Art Magic* and *Ghost Land*. Later, the two were combined into one volume. Theon and Harding were the first of a long list of founders of the modern day movement of THE RELIGION OF THE STARS.

The next step in the history of The Church of Light takes us to Scotland, where T. H. Burgoyne, the son of a physician, roamed the moors during his boyhood and became very familiar with the birds and the flowers. He was an amateur naturalist. This, in addition to the fact that he was born psychic, enabled him to contact The Brotherhood of Light on the Inner Plane and, later, to meet Brother Theon in person.

When Burgoyne came to America, he wrote on occult subjects. His articles on the Tarot were found in *The Platonist*, published during 1887 and 1888. This was more than a dozen years before Genevieve Stebbens translated the work of P. Christian on the “Ritual of Egyptian Initiation”, which was later expanded by Elbert Benjamine under the pen-name of C. C. Zain to *The Sacred Tarot*.

Now the scene switches to the British Army, where we find Captain Norman Astley. He was a widely traveled man, both here and on the Inner Plane, where he contacted The Brotherhood of Light. Later, he met M. Theon in person. They had many talks together about THE RELIGION OF THE STARS. During the 1880's, Astley met and married Genevieve Stebbens, a member of The Brotherhood of Light and a Delsarte teacher in New York. Astley had been a surveyor, and during one of his journeys had surveyed a place at Carmel, California. After they were married, he showed his bride the place. She fell in love with it, and they proceeded to build their home on the point. As T. H. Burgoyne was also a member of B of L, it wasn't long before he paid the newlyweds a visit. After many interesting sessions, they finally persuaded him to write the basic Brotherhood of Light Teachings as a series of lessons.

Twelve serious students were found who were willing to pay five dollars a month to support Burgoyne while he wrote. He lived with Captain and Mrs. Astley during this period of writing. He wrote one chapter a month, and each of the students was allowed to copy it. These chapters were later published as *The Light Of Egypt*, Vol. I. Everyday that the weather was good, Burgoyne would go out on Point Lobos to the same spot each time to write. At that time, it was an uninhabited place, surrounded by birds, flowers and the rolling surf. A place where it was easy to generate a volume of electro-magnetic energy—a place that emanated the true nature vibrations. All the lessons were written in this benign atmosphere.

When it was decided to put the lessons into book form, money was needed. So a special branch of The Brotherhood of Light called The Hermetic Brotherhood of Luxor was formed for the specific purpose of financing the venture and getting as wide a distribution as possible for the teachings.

Dr. and Mrs. Henry Wagner were members of this special group, and it was they who shouldered a great part of the financial responsibility—to the tune of \$100,000. The group was governed by a 3-member council consisting of a scribe (secretary), an astrologer and a seer. Burgoyne was the original scribe, but when he passed to the next plane in 1894, Mrs. Belle Wagner took his place. Minnie Higgins was the astrologer, and Mrs. Anderson, in whose home the meetings were held, was the seer.

In 1909, Minnie Higgins passed on, and in the spring of that year Elbert Benjamine was called to Denver, and there he was elected to take her place as astrologer on the council. In 1913, the council of The Hermetic Brotherhood of Luxor voted to close the group, and it has been out of existence ever since. However, The Brotherhood of Light continued. Elbert Benjamine had finally decided to take up the task of

writing the modern presentation of The Brotherhood of Light Lessons, after four years of persuasion. His task started in 1914, and the last of the 210 B of L Lessons was completed in 1934.

It was in 1915 that Benjamine went to Los Angeles and started private classes, but it wasn't until Armistice Day in 1918 that the first public class convened in that city. This was the official opening of The Brotherhood of Light as it is known today. Elbert Benjamine has been President of the organization ever since.....

In 1932, the united opposition of orthodox churches made it advisable to incorporate, that THE RELIGION OF THE STARS might not be at a legal advantage. Accordingly, November 2, 1932, 9:55 A.M. P.S.T., at Los Angeles, The Brotherhood of Light ceased to exist on the physical plane and legally became THE CHURCH OF LIGHT. THE

CHURCH OF LIGHT was incorporated to teach, practice and disseminate THE RELIGION OF THE STARS as set forth in the 21 Brotherhood of Light Courses. Through the years many of the now outstanding astrologers have studied and received their training through The Church of Light, either at one of the Centers or through the Home Study plan.

Maintaining an active Astrological Research Department since 1924, the Cof L statistical research approach is winning the respect of academicians. All research reports are

based upon at least 100 timed horoscopes for the event or condition considered. Thousands of students and friends of the Church have gathered the data through the years. It is possible only in this way to get enough material for research—especially so as no untimed charts are even considered by the department.

The Church of Light functions on a non-profit, cooperative basis. There is no charge for classes, lectures or other activities. The organization is supported through free-will donations. And each B of L Lesson is priced at 25 cents to enable everyone a chance to have access to them. Even in the inflationary period of the 1940's, the low price remained the same. In recent years the Church has been active in preventing anti-astrological legislation. With Llewellyn Publications Ltd., and the Rosicrucian Fellowship, The Church of Light actively campaigned to standardize astrology. These three organizations teach and practice Standard Astrology.

Perhaps the three greatest contributions to modern astrology made under the name of THE CHURCH OF LIGHT are: first, Minor Progressions (approximately one month of ephemeris time for one year of life) which Elbert Benjamine received through impression in 1910, and which have tested true in the C of L Astrological Research Department. They



add a timing element to the Major Progressions at first presented by Alan Leo.

Secondly, the recently perfected (and least polished, for there is probably much more here than meets the eye at this date) system of astrodynes, harmodynnes and discordynnes. Many people have been behind this discovery. It is a system based on orbs of aspects which will give you the most powerful planet, sign and house; the worst and the best, in a scientific manner. No more guess work.

And third, establishing the psychological equivalents within man which correspond to the planets and signs of the zodiac. Upon this basis all forms of natal problems—diet, health; affairs of each department—can be handled with a scientific approach. ❄

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power over human affairs. And modern astrologers all agree that Jupiter, ruler of Sagittarius, the sign naturally relating to the house in a birth chart which maps the section of the unconscious mind where one type of religious experience is registered, is the planet governing religion. The ninth house, however, maps those mental factors not merely relating to religion, but opinions of all kinds which are given public expression; while the position of Jupiter in the chart of birth maps mental factors which relate to faith, devotion, benevolence, good cheer, joviality and veneration; mental factors which more specifically are built into the unconscious mind as Religious thought-elements.

The hierophant pictured on the tarot makes with his right hand the symbol of the pentagram, the symbol that he has tuned in on the benevolent power of Deity and thus transmits good will and helpfulness to all. His left hand rests upon the cross of three bars; bars which represent the realms of spirit, and of astral and of matter, which correspond in man's domain to spirit, intellect and body. Thus is signified that the religious propensities of Jupiter, which when properly tuned in on, or when adequately cultivated, extend their power to every plane, influence markedly the things of life which become associated with them, and instigate changes not alone in body, but in mind and spirituality.

And this we find to be most true; for people tune in most readily on Jupiter's benevolent vibrations through that station of their astral bodies mapped by the planet's position in their charts of birth. And the department of their lives thus, associated with these vibrations, as indicated by the house position of the planet, in some manner is always subject to abundance, and unless pronounced discords prevail, also subject to much good fortune.

About those things to which the house occupied by Jupiter in his birth chart relates, the individual has a special mental attitude which often does not extend to other departments of his life. And I believe we are correct in drawing the inference that the special kind of fortune he has relative to those things is due to this special mental attitude about them. Where they are concerned he tends to be more optimistic than is his usual wont. He has an abiding faith that all will turn out well regarding them. If, for instance, Jupiter is in his

house of friends (11th), as is the case in the chart of Admiral Byrd, his good will toward his friends, his attitude of always being willing to go out of his way to do them favors, his joviality in their company, and the spirit of fine fellowship which he radiates, insures that he will have an abundance of friends, and that they will be loyal and render assistance.

Or if he has it in the house of those who labor (6th) as has Upton Sinclair and as had Woodrow Wilson, his benevolent and loyal attitude toward those who work for him insures that they give the utmost in loyalty and service in return. Woodrow Wilson's rise to a position of enormous power was largely due to the faithfulness with which those under him performed their functions. He had the utmost faith in them, and they responded by painstaking and efficient endeavor. Upton Sinclair throughout his long literary and more recent political career has held a special attitude of good will and active helpfulness toward all who labor. And these in turn have worked diligently for his political success, and have promoted the sale of his books so successfully that he is far from being poor in worldly wealth.

Whatever house of the chart of birth we find the planet Jupiter in, its position maps a powerful group of thought-cells which have had their origin in thoughts and experiences relative to the things of the department of life that birth chart house rules. These thought-cells have been built throughout the past, before the soul was born in human form, through experiences with tolerance toward other members of the group, through confidence in a higher authority, such as faith in the parents or leader, and through obedience to the ruling power, which is at the foundation of veneration and devotion. And they are added to, and altered, by other thoughts since human birth which relate to benevolence, optimism, faith and religious devotion.

Both the thinking and the behavior, relative to the department of life governed by the section of the unconscious mind mapped in the chart of birth by Jupiter are powerfully influenced by the release of energy from these so-called Religious thought-cells; The individual thinks differently and acts differently about the things of this portion of his affairs than he thinks and acts about other things, and the consequence is, he has a different kind of fortune.

Furthermore, when a progressed aspect to Jupiter in his chart is present, the stellar aerial then formed picks up the energies radiated by the planet in the sky in more than usual volume. Through this aerial, mapped by the progressed aspect, this unusual supply of energy is added directly to the Religious thought-cells in his unconscious mind. These thought-cells, which, like physical cells, have sufficient intelligence of their own to be able to perform their functions, then are able to work energetically from the four-dimensional plane to attract an event into the life having the Jupiterian quality, and affecting the department of existence shown by the house in the chart which the planet occupies.

Yet within the limits of the individual's power to feel and think the Jupiter type of thoughts, and thus to tune in on its benevolent vibrations, is he able also to energize any other department of his life beneficially with them. To habitually associate, any endeavor or phase of the existence with thoughts of faith, good fellowship, helpfulness, joviality and religious devotion is to add to the thought-cells in the unconscious mind relating to it those thought-elements which give Jupiter such power as he has to benefit. And if the feeling is maintained it tunes in on the planet's vibrations so that they are added to that compartment of the astral body much as if a progressed aspect to Jupiter were present.

It was to explain how the benevolent vibrations of Jupiter thus could be utilized to benefit any phase of life that those who designed Major Arcanum V pictured the religious hierophant making the sign of the pentagram with his right hand, while his left rests upon a cross whose upright penetrates all conditions and every plane.

But the outspread wings above the sanctuary, and the kneeling men, one black and the other red, who supplicate the aid of the religious master, have a wider significance. Man should, as the attitude of the hierophant suggests, reflect the Will of Deity; which is a concept back of most religions. The overshadowing wings represent that Omnipresent Intelligence which most enlightened beings accept as the guiding power behind all manifestation. It is through observing the direction in which creation is moving, and watching the courses of the stars for future trends, that man is able to acquire some knowledge of the Deific Plan.

It is his function to cooperate in the progressive fulfillment of that Divine Scheme of things. His efforts to do so are prompted by the religious thought-cells within his unconscious mind which are mapped in the chart of birth by the planet Jupiter. They cause him to desire a course of conduct which he considers moral, and to avoid other types of conduct which, because they are contrary to the religion or philosophy he has accepted, he considers immoral.

But whether the religion he thus has accepted is based upon the desire to perform his own particular constructive function in the Cosmic Plan, or is as narrow as the witch-burning orthodoxy which once taught that to be joyful was a sin, he

can far better fulfill its demands upon him if he is well versed in astrology.

The black [clothed] man at the hierophant's feet indicates those times when the individual errs in conduct, either through faulty judgment or through being overpowered by temptation. The red [clothed] man indicates the times when man has made the correct choice, has acted according to the highest dictates of his conscience. And true religion, as signified by the dominant position of the hierophant, should not only be able to guide him as to what conduct is truly moral and what immoral; but it also should afford him the utmost in facilities by which, when truly moral conduct has been defined, he can direct his conduct along these truly moral lines. And these things are within the province of astrology.

The birth chart unerringly maps both the strong points and the weaknesses of the individual's character. Neither of these are unalterable. That which the chart of birth reveals is the organization of the unconscious mind as it existed at birth. Subsequent experiences, unguided by astrological knowledge, tend to be such as add the same kind of thought-elements to the astral body, and thus merely accentuate the various traits of character with which the individual was born. But with a chart of weaknesses, the trends toward laxness of conduct, at hand, those given the responsibility of training the child can take special pains to strengthen these points of disadvantage; and the adult with such knowledge can cultivate those traits of character of which his birth chart reveals he has most need.

For the individual merely to resolve to live a life of moral rectitude seldom is fruitful of permanent results, else the multitudes who become converted at popular evangelical revivals would populate the land largely with holy men and women. At the time they feel the surge of great desire to live a righteous life. But mostly within a few months afterwards their lives run in much the same channels of partial goodness and partial error that they did before. Not because the desire at the time of conversion was lacking in sincerity, but because, as mapped by the planets in their charts of birth, their unconscious minds contain many other very strong desires.

It is the release of these desires stored within the unconscious mind that determines the habitual behavior. And the aspects between the planets indicate whether the desires tend to express constructively, and in a direction beneficial to the individual and to others, or to spend themselves in riotous living, in subversive activities, or in other channels detrimental to society. Yet the desire energies within the unconscious mind mapped by any planet, with proper training, can be made to express constructively instead of destructively. It must express its own essential type of activity, it is true, but there is full scope for it to express that type of activity through some avenue beneficial to the individual and beneficial to society.

Most of those who become criminals, for instance, could have been transformed into honest law abiding citizens if someone during their childhood had taken them in hand and afforded them a little training based upon astrological knowledge. The problem child, for instance, who in later life becomes a petty thief because he has never disciplined himself to make an honest living, is nearly always a child who, because of over sensitiveness as revealed by upper-octave planets dominant in his chart, has never been able to fit into the conventional methods of life. Yet unless that child is decidedly deficient mentally, which commonly is not the case, there is something he can do in which his pride is satisfied.

All have the desire for significance, all resent the feeling of inferiority. And due to peculiarities of makeup the child with heavy afflictions to Pluto, Neptune and Uranus may find it very difficult to compete in school with other children where conventional forms of learning are required. If he is ridiculed unduly, or punished because he will not study, the aversion to such effort is heightened, and he becomes completely discouraged. Soon he begins to think of himself as quite different from others, and a feeling develops which causes him to be unable or unwilling to make the effort others make to attain success in life. Cast upon his own later, he becomes a hobo and drifts into petty crime.

Yet every child not hopelessly deficient mentally has certain capabilities, that are mapped by the positions of the planets in his chart of birth, which give a certain facility in some special endeavor. Even when in his studies or the environment of his parental home he has suffered great discouragement, by tact it is always possible to get his interest and later his efforts directed into some constructive activity which utilizes the natural facility. Proper praise and encouragement when such activities have produced results bring a glow of self-esteem. In this line he finds a satisfaction for the Drive for Significance. And continued encouragement, and praise for work well done in his own line, build the habit of looking to it as something that not only can be made to lend itself to making a living, but in which he feels he can hold his head up and be respected by others.

The more bold and daring criminal frequently in his childhood was abused at home because his initiative and aggressiveness got him into mischief. The aggressive thought-cells, mapped by a prominent Mars in his chart of birth, contained so much energy that they just had to express in some form of destructive or constructive activity. When, in exuberance of spirit, the youngster led his companions in some daring exploit, he was beaten at home and made to feel miserable at school. With so much Mars energy he could not be idle, and as no proper avenue of expenditure was at hand, it was quite natural he should get into trouble.

This trouble drew the attention of the elders to him, and added to his sense of importance, even though they disapproved enough to become his enemies. But the other children, each time he was involved in some hazardous

undertaking, such as grabbing fruit from under the nose of a vendor, or breaking the seal on a boxcar to get the watermelons within, made of him a hero. And to be a hero is reward enough for any Mars child, even if in the process he incurs a thrashing.

Thus through one pleasure after another in which authority was flouted and legal restraints broken was the child conditioned to get satisfaction both for his desire for significance and his desire for adventure, in the avenues of smaller crimes. And these led on to larger ones, in which, because the hazards were greater, he considered himself a still greater hero. Until finally society had on its hands the confirmed criminal.

Yet had some one conversant with astrology taken the child early in hand and devised an outlet, such as building something, or working with tools of repair, by which, according to the other planetary positions in the chart the Mars energy could express satisfactorily along some constructive line, the same child, finding himself a hero in the eyes of other children for mechanical skill, would never have become a criminal, but a doctor or an engineer instead.

Furthermore, the individual who aims to live a moral life, but at times finds the conditions of temptation so strong as to cause him to act quite discreditably, has a powerful lever to raise himself over such periods in familiarity with astrology. His birth chart shows the trends against which specially he needs to guard; but the progressed aspects indicate to him the exact periods in which environmental pressure will be brought to bear upon him in the direction of some special weakness. Knowing before hand the nature of the condition with which he will be confronted, and when it will be present, he can fortify himself in various ways to escape the moral transgression.

On the one hand, planetary vibrations reaching a certain group of thought-cells within his unconscious mind, as indicated by the progressed aspect, may give these so much discordant energy of a kind indicated by the progressed planet, that they give powerful impulses to act, at that time, in a way quite at variance with the normal type of behavior, or to still further stimulate activities which have previously been kept somewhat in restraint. But, on the other hand, knowing the nature of the force urging him to thus act, and that this impulse will subside as soon as the progressed aspect has passed, instead of behaving like the black man at the feet of the hierophant, can shape his environment and train himself in advance, so that he will conduct himself like the white man he wishes to become.

But in the wider sense of true religion, it is not merely the premeditated acts of an individual, or those in which he is desirous of doing wrong, that are immoral. A man who in his automobile runs down and kills a pedestrian may have no desire to do so; but he has, nevertheless, injured another human being. The head of some bank, who, through its failure, leads a whole community to be impoverished, may

have no intention of causing others loss. He merely may have invested the money entrusted to him in assets which became frozen. Yet the fact remains that through the confidence placed in him, others have lost their all.

True morality, therefore, in this wider sense, can be assisted by astrology and in no other way. This is the deeper significance of the black [clothed] man of Arcanum V, representing the tendency to act, under progressed afflictions, in a manner not merely derogatory to oneself, but injurious to others; and by the white [red clothed] man of Arcanum V, representing the tendency under better progressed aspects to act in a manner helpful both to oneself and to society.

Had the man who ran down and killed a pedestrian been conversant with astrology, he would have known the danger of doing just such a thing at that time, and had he been a truly

moral man, he would have taken sufficient precaution to have avoided the accident. And had the bank president been conversant with astrology, the progressed aspects in his chart would have informed him that it was not a time in which he could invest too freely in assets which could not be quickly liquidated. And had he been truly moral, he would have foregone those financial transactions which led to the ruin of himself and others.

Arcanum V of the tarot explains quite clearly, in the language of symbolical pictograph, that no one can be most highly moral who is ignorant of the influence of astrological forces in his life.



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Church of Light

A Brief History

About the Declaration of Principles



Excerpt from September 1944 Quarterly

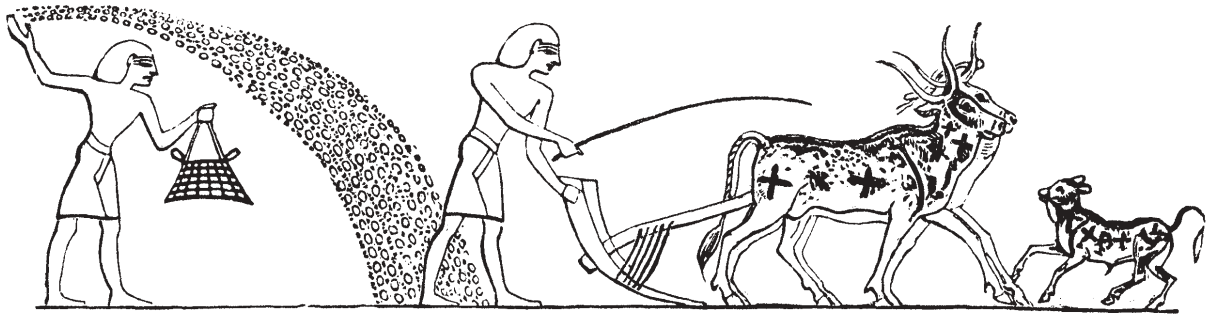
“...In its Declaration of Principles, which was written and first distributed in May, 1915, and which still may be had by anyone who will furnish his address and a three cent postage stamp, the history of THE BROTHERHOOD OF LIGHT was set forth. When on November 2, 1932, at 9:55 a.m. ST, Los Angeles, The Brotherhood of Light ceased to exist on the physical plane and legally became THE CHURCH OF LIGHT, that information was added to the history of the organization as set forth in the Declaration of Principles.

“The author of The Brotherhood of Light lessons wrote all 210 of them between March 21, 1914, and February 20, 1934, under the pen name of C.C. Zain; but conforming to legal requirements they were copyrighted by him in his legal name, Elbert Benjamine. Only lessons written by C.C. Zain and copyrighted by Elbert Benjamine are genuine Brotherhood of Light lessons.

“The lineage of The Brotherhood of Light was given in the Declaration of Principles not to claim infallibility for the lessons issued under its auspices, but to acknowledge indebtedness to it for the basic teachings set forth, for the assistance of its inner-plane members in the preparation of the

lessons, and to disclaim by the author any originality in the ideas set forth beyond their method of presentation. Ideas that ago back through ancient Chaldea and ancient Egypt to Atlantis and Mu are explained in terms of the most modern discoveries of material science. These ideas could not thus have been explained before the recent knowledge man has acquired of electromagnetism, of the principles of relativity, of the behavior of electrons, of the principles of radio reception, or before the exhaustive experiments in psychology which have been made in our universities since the beginning of the present century.

“During the Piscean Age just past, the emphasis has been upon authority. But during the Aquarian Age, to which the world is now adjusting, authority, no matter how venerable it may be, will have no weight. People will no longer take a teaching on faith or authority. Rightly, to avoid being misled by those who would exploit them, as they have thus been exploited in the past through belief accepted without proof they will demand facts, facts which they can demonstrate and with which they can prove or disprove religious tenets for themselves.....” ❄



Stellarian Honor Guard

To those who financially support the work of spreading the Religion of the Stars, we are truly grateful.

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

The **Stellarian Honor Guard** is reserved for those who contribute between \$100 and \$500 per quarter.

If you donate on a regular basis you form the solid foundation from which the church can work and grow. Thank you.

May we all grow and prosper together!

Guardian Angels

Anonymous
Barbara & Donald Baker
Steve & Bessie Carrothers
Dr. Russ Durocher
Margaret Joscher
Dorothy & Roland Wissler

Stellarian Honor Guard

Anonymous
Benjamine Badowski
Donald & Judy Baker
Patricia Beard
Paul & Vicki Brewer
Robert Gilman
Shirley & Bob Hall
Wm. H. Jeffrey
Thomas Linville
Elizabeth Mix
Raul C. Montoya
Eileen Pyzik

Patrick & Radine Ramsey
Ms. Ann Rossington
Sylvia Setzler
Barbara Sibley
Marianne Thalken

Regular Contributors

Anonymous
Victor Battaglia
Venita Bentley
Karl F. Berger
Brandi Bernoski
Victor Bobo
James Bowman
John & Marion Bronsky
Kimberly Sue Brown
Peterson
Jorrie Ciotti
Doris Chase Doane &
John Ahern
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Church of Light
Dallas/Ft. Worth
Delila Cooper
Jo Cunningham
Allan Curthoys
Ernest E. Davis
G.E. Davorenel
Erich Devonne
Patricia Feldhus
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Rick Grigg
Barbara Herndon
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Ivas Robinson
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Michael F. &
Beatrice Saucedo
Virginia & Don Schmit
Edwin Ray Scott
Aaron Stewart
Isabella Suleymanova
Janet L. Taylor
Joan Titsworth
Maria Lozada &
Dee Wellmon
Janet Ann White
Dorothy Wilson
Mark Witherall





Membership Minister

Patrick Ramsey

As a way of introducing the CofL's new membership minister, Pat Ramsey, the Quarterly is featuring a series of reflections that Pat wrote while meditating on the Tablets of AEth.

Performing his CofL work at home, Pat's wife Radine Ramsey helps with grading and mailing exams with the "not for sale award manuscripts". If you should have questions or need help with the course materials, you may either contact Pat through email at drpat@prodigy.net or by writing to him in care of CofL Headquarters.

Pat was inspired by The Sacred Scroll that is called the *Tablets of AEth* which is the esoteric tarot and is based upon the Hermetic law "As Above So Below". You may find an explanation of the Tablets of AEth at the end of Volume II of [The Light of Egypt](#) by Thomas H. Burgoyne (preceding pages). You may obtain these both volumes of these books through the Church of Light.

Pat says the series of meditations resulted from his extension of consciousness using the inspirational and intellectual ESP methods recommended by the Church of Light. As a way of promoting an exchange of ideas, he extends an invitation for you to do the same. If you write down and send in the creative work you bring back from the astral and spiritual planes, he will compile these meditations for the purpose of sharing them with the membership. ✨

Meditations on The Tablets of AETH

By Patrick Ramsey

Tablet The Second

Taurus ♉

"The red sun on the horizon of an inky sea."

The wavy grass blows in the wind across the fields as the Sun extends its glistening rays against thousands of slender strands. The truth and love of the universe extend fourth through those rays of light, like arms reaching out to embrace a dark Earth.

The light of life is made known and manifests. The ray of light arrives to embrace yet another ray of light. The two rays join and create brighter beams, like the joy of parents finding fulfillment, as the offspring become parents as well.

No longer will the light dwell among the darkness, but chooses to possess and flourish about other light. Hope dwells in the light that the darkness will cease, as the night at dawn will cease, but in this case no more night will follow.

Wealth is the inheritance of Earth, not the thing, but the love and truth behind the thing. Too much is said and not enough is felt because as the light glows across the Earth, it really glows within every soul; not outside the self, but from a point inside.

A riddle perhaps you would say, but not so. The body will return to the Earth, but the spark of light that is the soul shall move on with its great wealth of truth and love. It is a matter of perception, but to perceive not is to remain in the darkness.

Therefore choose the light. ✨



From the Light of Egypt, Vol. II by T.H. Burgoyne "...The Tablets of AETH, ...constitute a spiritual astrology, a spiritual science of the stars, void of mathematics, yet possessing all the exactitude of figures, constructed on the principles of astronomy, yet expressed by the methods of the Kabbalah....."



"The red sun on the horizon of an inky sea."

Taurus

REFLECTION

Part I: TABLET THE SECOND

Nature has shown forth her glory, as brought forth by young Horus, but her creative force is still unreflected. The sea is black and inky. The Son of God is born, but the sea of human life still remains unconscious, in primeval darkness.

The angles of the Sun and the sea are not yet in right relation to each other. A few, standing on the watch-towers of life, seeing the red glow of the risen sun, call "Look!" But the unfortunate ones in the outer darkness cry, as they beat their breasts; "No! There is no light! You do but dream!" And yet the Sun of Life has risen — the Divine light glows.

TM

Oh child of Adam! Remember that "In Him was life, and life was the light of man, and the light shineth in the darkness, and the darkness comprehended it not."



From the Archives

Work of Our Church

Reprint from The Church of Light Quarterly, Vol 18 September 1944, No. 3.

Anonymous

Editorial Comment: There are many articles in the CofL Quarterlies that do not indicate the author. Because of the time period during which this article was written, the best guess is that the author of this article was Maria Benjamine, Elbert's wife. The sexist language in this article is a reflection of the time it was written. The BofL lessons teach that the masculine and feminine principles are two necessary parts of the whole...one being no more important than the other. Although anyone who reads and understands the BofL work recognizes this difference, seeing the universal "he" still causes a little friction to those of us with sensitivity to this issue. Out of respect for and to preserve the original work, the CofL chooses not to edit for sexist language.



The primary objective of The Church of Light, and of The Brotherhood of Light which in 1932 it succeeded, has been and still is to reestablish THE RELIGION OF THE STARS on earth. This religion has as its fundamental teaching the doctrine that each should CONTRIBUTE HIS UTMOST TO UNIVERSAL WELFARE.

This teaching is derived from a comprehension of the true relation of man to his fellowman, of man to all the objects and forces in Nature, and of man's function in God's Great Evolutionary Plan.

That man may learn for himself his true relation to his fellowman, his true relation to the objects and forces of Nature not merely of the physical plane but also to those of the inner plane, and where and how he fits into God's Evolutionary Scheme as a conscious and valuable worker, the 21 courses of Brotherhood of Light lessons covering each of the 21 branches of occult science were written. These lessons were designed to familiarize people with the details of astrology, extra-sensory perception, induced emotion and directed thinking.

As soon as people become properly familiar with these four orders of facts they perceive not only that the best type of life for any individual is the one in which he CONTRIBUTES HIS UTMOST TO UNIVERSAL WELFARE, but that he is not contributing his utmost to universal welfare unless to the extent of his ability he works for freedom from want, freedom from fear, freedom of expression and freedom of worship for all the people of the world. These four

freedoms are not new ideas; they have been taught throughout the ages by The Brotherhood of Light, and from the first such lesson to be written they have been advocated in The Brotherhood of Light Lessons. It would be indeed difficult for any person to study the 21 B. of L. courses and not be convinced that these freedoms should be the inalienable rights of all men on earth.

The Nine-Point Plan For The New Civilization, sponsored by The Church of Light, and relative to which Crusade Talks are given each month in 39 different cities, is not a new idea. It is only that present conditions indicate, for the first time, that the plan may be made public with at least some hope of success, and with the definite assurance that all effort devoted to advocating it will have a commensurate beneficial influence on the future.

In the spring of 1938 The Church of Light inaugurated a Seven Year Campaign for Astrological Prestige and Legal Recognition. That campaign has been prosecuted vigorously now for six and a half years and, as indicated by the recent defeat of proposed ordinances against astrology, the results have been fruitful of good.

At that time, even more than today, newsstands and bookstores were flooded with astrological magazines and astrological books which were so unreliable that any intelligent person with very little trouble could prove that the astrology they advocated, and the things they said, were incorrect. Not only were the enemies of astrology using these wild theories and untrue statements as ammunition with which to attack astrology as a whole, but the public being brought into contact chiefly with this unreliable so-called astrology was fast becoming convinced that all astrology was equally unreliable.

In opening our Seven Year Campaign, we defined Standard Astrology, got most of the astrological organizations in the U.S. to subscribe to it in writing, and did all in our power to acquaint the public with the difference between Standard Astrology and some of the unreliable ideas palmed off as astrology. There was, and is, no attempt to force Standard Astrology on anyone. But we made it clear, and hope to continue to make it clear, what constitutes Standard Astrology, and without disparaging other systems, we have tried to show the public it should not blame Standard Astrology for the faults or unreliability of any other system. Each sys-

tem of astrology should stand on its own merits, and sound astrology should not be discredited because the public has access to such a volume of unsound and misleading astrological literature.

We were, and are, of the belief that if the public contacts Standard Astrology, it will become convinced of the facts of astrology. And we were, and are, of the belief that if the public contacts only some of the unsound systems commonly to be found on newsstands and in bookstores, it will become convinced astrology is the superstition its enemies claim it to be. Our object is to reestablish on earth THE RELIGION OF THE STARS. Yet if the public becomes convinced astrology is fraudulent, through contacting only wild and unsound astrological notions, it seems unlikely it will accept a religion one of whose five chief tenets is the facts of astrology

There are publishing houses which have facilities for placing their books on the shelves of bookstores throughout the U.S. But the smaller publishing concerns usually do not have such specialized facilities. Some of the large firms publishing unreliable books on astrology have been able to get their books on the shelves of a tremendous number of bookstores. We believe this is detrimental to the future acceptance of astrology by the public. We felt the best way to counteract this too prevalent influence of unsound astrology was to get good books on Standard Astrology on the same bookstore shelves, so that people interested in astrology might have opportunity to contact sound and reliable astrology.....

...Getting the public familiar with the facts of astrology through enabling it to contact sound and reliable books and lessons on astrology, however, is only a means to an end. That end, as already stated, is to reestablish on earth THE RELIGION OF THE STARS. All the literature printed and distributed by The Church of Light, all the classes in various subjects held in Church of Light Centers and Branch Churches of The Church of Light, and all Sunday services in these Centers and Churches, are exclusively for the purpose of religious education.

The problem which is constantly before us is how best we can disseminate The Religion of the Stars. There are other avenues, such as through the bookstores mentioned, by which the tenets of our religion can be made known to people. But the most effective way seems to be through churches.

Because in the minds of some, church has become so closely associated with hypocrisy and narrow bigotry, they recoil at the word. Yet in the minds of most the word church instantly suggests either a place of worship or an organization whose chief purpose is to disseminate a religion. As at our classes and services worship forms an essential factor at each gathering, the word church is more fitting than any other. And as our chief purpose is to reestablish a religion, there seems to be no other word that will quite so well convey to the public the nature of our organization and efforts. The Church of

Light is a non-profit religious organization incorporated to teach, practice and disseminate The Religion of the Stars.

Understanding the differences in mental bias which people have, as indicated in their charts of birth, we do not harbor the illusion all can be converted to The Religion of the Stars. But we do hope eventually to make every person in the world familiar of what the five chief tenets of The Religion of the Stars consist.

As leaders in this effort we are educating each year more and more HERMETICIANS who, having passed examinations on all 21 courses of Brotherhood of Light lessons, are willing and competent to teach others, and to disseminate The Religion of the Stars from the public rostrum. It is from such Hermeticians that The Church of Light selects its ministers.

In addition to these ministers we also depend upon the efforts of STUDENT HERMETICIANS. These are people who are willing to attend Church of Light classes, or to study B. of L. lessons at home, and gain knowledge of astrology, extra-sensory perception, induced emotion and directed thinking, and then use this knowledge to benefit as many others as possible, and through thus demonstrating the great practical value of these four orders of facts, make new Stellarians.

But it is upon the enthusiasm of the STELLARIANS themselves that we chiefly depend for making the people throughout the world familiar of what the five chief tenets of The Religion of the Stars consist. There is no more reason why a person of other religious affiliation should disbelieve the four orders of facts and the fundamental teaching of The Religion of the Stars, than that because of his other religious beliefs he should refuse to recognize that day follows night, that he is held to the earth by something called gravitation, or that he is apt to suffer pain if he eats too many green apples. These are observed facts. And he can personally observe the facts of astrology, the facts of extra-sensory perception, the facts of induced emotion and the facts of directed thinking, if he will but take the pains to do so.

Thus people can be good STELLARIANS and still be good Christians, good Jews, good Buddhists, or good Mohammedans. Many good Christians are enthusiastic STELLARIANS.

And it is upon STELLARIANS, because there are coming to be so many of them, and the number is growing each day, that we must largely depend to disseminate, not all the details, but the general precepts and tenets of The Religion of the Stars. And to them we must look largely also for the financial support with which to do the publishing and other work necessary to get The Religion of the Stars before a wider public. ☾

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Church of Light

State of the Church

2001 Financial Report

Paul Brewer

I am usually upbeat in these annual financial reports. I am always pleasantly surprised each year when we end up financially in the black. The year 2001 was, however, a very tough year overall, so there is no use coating it with sugar. We will just take our medicine and move on.

The year 2001 was a great year for spending money. Due to the imminent demise of our old business system (we were down to an old 486 with one terminal and antiquated DOS software), we were forced to implement a new business system. This included a Windows 2000 Small Business server, one (additional) new PC workstation and a new integrated fund accounting system, which included accounts receivable, order entry and inventory management in addition to general ledger, accounts payable and miscellaneous stuff. The total cost for the new business system was around \$12,000. Was it worth it? We sure hope so, but we are still getting used to it. Actually, it does give us a lot more capability than we had before, and I think that we are going to need it.

The year 2001 was also a great year for nasty inner-plane weather. Two ☉☽ aspects kept us busy with anything relating to computing equipment. Not only did we have to overcome significant obstacles to implement the new busi-

ness system (including just having to do it in the first place), but our website host crashed, and we had to move our website. There was also a significant cost associated therewith, not the least of which was the lost revenue during the month of December 2001, our biggest month.

And since Uranus rules the fourth house in the CofL chart, you might expect some problems there, too. Sure enough, we had problems with renters on the Hill, spent considerable time and expense rousting them out, and suffered additional lost rent revenue.

You can see from the Support and Revenue statement that support and revenue was down in 2001 compared with 2000. This was due to several environmental factors including 9-11. Thus, with expenses up, and revenue down, we ended up in the red, with a deficit of \$6,881. (See comparative income statement.) This is the first deficit in fourteen years or so.

Was that too much medicine? Fortunately, at the time of this writing, I can say that 2002 is looking much rosier, and we should come close to breaking even this year. We can certainly do even better than that, if everyone pitches in! ☼

Church of Light Support & Revenue			
	2001	2000	NET CHANGE
DONATIONS			
General	\$ 15,004.51	\$ 42,617.99	\$(27,613.48)
Pledge	26,383.98	2,162.00	24,221.98
New Member & Exam	5,503.04	3,408.37	2,094.67
Convention Donations	50.00	6,124.39	(6,074.39)
Advertising Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total General Donations	46,941.53	54,312.75	(7,371.22)
C.C. Zain Print Fund	10,496.27	10,731.52	(235.25)
Spanish Print Fund	21.00	89.00	(68.00)
Quarterly Fund	1,289.00	447.00	842.00
Advertising Fund	2,400.60	2,341.50	59.10
Prosperity Fund	735.00	1,296.00	(561.00)
Building Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
Equipment Fund	21.00	0.00	21.00
TOTAL DONATIONS	61,904.40	69,217.77	(7,313.37)
SALES			
Wholesale - Non-Taxable	8,212.63	8,843.50	(630.87)
Retail - Non-Taxable	16,075.21	14,727.55	1,347.66
Retail - Taxable	3,601.48	5,293.18	(1,691.70)
TOTAL SALES	27,889.32	28,864.23	(974.91)
OTHER INCOME			
Miscellaneous Income	3,027.57	152.31	2,875.26
Interest & Dividend Income	8,124.80	12,272.73	(4,147.93)
Bronson St. Rental Income	0.00	0.00	0.00
Coral St. Rental Income	12,092.00	12,163.25	(71.25)
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	23,244.37	24,588.29	(1,343.92)
TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE	\$113,038.09	\$122,670.29	\$ (9,632.20)

Church of Light
Balance Sheet
December 31, 2001



ASSETS

Cash - Gen. Acct.	\$ 10,830.49	
Less: Consol Fund Payable	<u>26,246.33</u>	
Net Cash - Gen Acct	(15,415.84)	
Petty Cash	0.00	
Smith Barney MM Account	101,616.97	
Smith Barney Inv Acct	0.00	
Colorado Checking Acct	0.00	
Inventory-General	6,826.03	
Pre Paid Postage	400.00	
Pre Paid Seed Book Donation	0.00	
Pre Paid Expense	1,512.00	
Accounts Rec - Wholesale	4,090.10	
Accounts Rec - Retail	244.04	
Accounts Rec - General	<u>1,485.50</u>	
Total General Fund		\$100,758.80
C.C. Zain Print Fund		
Cash	73,678.41	
Estates	0.00	
Inventory-CofL	45,995.69	
Inventory - New Books	<u>0.00</u>	
Print Fund Total		119,674.10
Spanish Print Fund		
Cash	1,657.94	
Inventory	<u>0.00</u>	
Spanish Fund Total		1,657.94
Quarterly Publishing Fund		0.00
Convention Fund		0.00
Advertising Fund		0.00
Prosperity Fund		22,332.76
Legal Expense Fund		0.00
Building Fund-Net		71,055.03
Equipment Fund-Net		<u>4,571.30</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>320,049.93</u>

LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES

General Fund Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ 502.16	
Retail Orders Due	(998.19)	
Sales Tax Payable	270.80	
Short Term Loans	0.00	
Social Security Payable	0.00	
FICA	196.54	
Medicare Payable	0.00	
State Income Tax Payable	11.70	
Fed Tax Payable	83.00	
Deferred Rent Revenue	<u>0.00</u>	
Total Gen Fund Liabilities		\$ 66.01

Directed Fund Liabilities

Long Term Loans (Bldg Fund)	0.00
-----------------------------	------

General Fund Balance	100,692.79
C.C. Zain Print Fund Balance	119,674.10
Spanish Print Fund Balance	1,657.94
Quarterly Print Fund Balance	0.00
Convention Fund Balance	0.00
Advertising Fund Balance	0.00
Prosperity Fund Balance	22,332.76
Legal Expense Fund Balance	0.00
Building Fund Balance	71,055.03
Equipment Fund Balance	<u>4,571.30</u>

TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BAL

\$320,049.93



Church of Light
Income Statement

	2001	2000	NET CHANGE	1999	1998
SUPPORT & REVENUE					
Donations	\$ 61,904.40	\$ 69,217.77	\$ (7,313.37)	\$ 68,156.02	\$ 79,110.14
Book Sales	27,889.32	28,864.23	(974.91)	26,548.53	35,516.58
Other Income	23,244.37	24,588.29	(1,343.92)	31,455.49	18,268.60
Total Support & Revenue	<u>113,038.09</u>	<u>122,670.29</u>	<u>(9,632.20)</u>	<u>126,160.04</u>	<u>132,895.32</u>
COST OF GOODS SOLD					
Cost of Goods Sold - CofL	7,742.90	9,599.07	(1,856.17)	8,268.79	10,668.92
Cost of Goods Sold - General	<u>4,903.37</u>	<u>5,372.20</u>	<u>(468.83)</u>	<u>4,028.23</u>	<u>5,015.78</u>
Total Cost of Goods Sold	<u>12,646.27</u>	<u>14,971.27</u>	<u>(2,325.00)</u>	<u>12,297.02</u>	<u>15,684.70</u>
EXPENSES					
Accounts Rec Adjust - Whsale	(186.57)	0.00	(186.57)	0.00	0.00
Accts Rec Adjustments -Retail	291.10	0.00	291.10	0.00	0.00
Advertising - CC Zain Books	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	797.00
Advertising - General	3,973.40	6,448.90	(2,475.50)	4,194.90	10,238.15
Bad Debts	555.62	165.44	390.18	0.00	0.00
Bank Charges & Fees	57.00	83.00	(26.00)	184.20	135.65
Bronson Street Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	618.22	460.00
Building Maintenance	0.00	850.00	(850.00)	90.00	2,414.70
Catalog Expense	1,621.50	1,591.48	30.02	552.56	2,812.62
Computer Supplies & Software	1,758.10	1,985.89	(227.79)	488.98	1,788.69
Convention Costs	0.00	5,896.14	(5,896.14)	200.00	1,299.07
Depreciation	3,007.04	4,195.38	(1,188.34)	941.43	2,090.75
Amortization	4,791.66	0.00	4,791.66	0.00	0.00
Equipment Lease	2,485.28	2,268.28	217.00	2,491.76	2,496.28
Equipment Maintenance	9.00	207.00	(198.00)	771.69	144.19
General Office Expense	2,884.64	2,409.39	475.25	4,319.97	1,612.84
Gift Expense	100.00	355.70	(255.70)	100.00	341.80
Insurance	2,673.00	2,505.35	167.65	3,038.21	3,511.08
Inventory Adjustments - CofL	2,106.09	115.00	1,990.49	(299.53)	605.86
Inventory Adjustments - Genl	376.44	1,970.44	(1,594.00)	(628.18)	(188.00)
Legal Fees	1,200.00	1,652.15	(452.15)	3,582.16	4,565.58
Merchant Serv. - CR CARD EXP	1,123.50	1,122.99	0.51	570.47	801.82
Misc Expense	2,837.79	2,725.53	112.26	3,831.70	1,745.41
Postage & Freight - Sales/UPS	(2,505.32)	(1,934.89)	(570.43)	551.27	79.06
Postage - Misc. Bulk Mailings	32.24	379.35	(347.11)	337.01	160.33
Postage - Quarterly	603.42	171.44	431.98	371.00	869.32
Postage Meter	5,400.00	6,796.80	(1,396.80)	4,710.34	3,600.00
Postcard	1,775.92	780.57	995.35	222.82	0.00
Quarterly Publication Cost	2,833.82	2,085.48	748.34	4,119.48	9,926.50
Rent	13,333.45	14,509.35	(1,175.90)	14,400.00	0.00
Reproduction Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	359.86	20.85
Returned Checks	152.65	48.65	104.00	91.15	261.58
Returns & Allowances	0.00	18.95	(18.95)	0.00	216.90
Salaries & Related Exp	40,421.38	28,645.10	11,776.28	37,300.93	33,119.12
Seed Book Project Cost	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,206.00
Ship & Handle - Inventory	276.08	258.15	17.93	102.44	217.34
Shipping Material	463.78	922.29	(458.51)	294.64	799.66
Stationary & Supplies	4,070.40	4,346.40	(276.00)	3,159.85	3,848.16
Storage - Zain Books	3,432.00	3,634.00	(202.00)	2,047.32	0.00
Taxes & Licenses	367.92	1,103.73	(735.81)	924.55	3,030.23
Telephone	3,493.00	4,324.74	(831.74)	5,188.38	3,234.17
Travel	297.28	160.00	137.28	655.00	0.00
Two Keys Project Cost	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,389.00
Utilities-2337 Coral	0.00	0.00	0.00	276.55	874.10
Utilities-2341 Coral	1,160.33	1,040.19	120.14	282.13	573.37
Total Expenses	<u>107,272.94</u>	<u>103,838.96</u>	<u>3,433.98</u>	<u>100,443.26</u>	<u>102,099.18</u>
NET INCOME	<u>\$ (6,881.12)</u>	<u>\$ 3,860.06</u>	<u>\$ (10,741.18)</u>	<u>\$ 13,419.76</u>	<u>\$ 15,111.44</u>



An important message to our readers!

**There is no subscription for
The CofL Quarterly...but,
The CofL Quarterly IS NOT FREE...**

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.

Be sure to visit the Archive Section at www.light.org...
Quarterly articles and other magazine articles from the
past are featured.

QUARTERLY DONATION FORM

Name: _____

Member/Friend Number: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Yes, I wish to make a contribution in the amount of \$ _____

No thank you... I wish to have my name removed from your mailing list.

Mail to: *The Church of Light, 111 S. Kraemer Blvd., Suite A, Brea, CA 92821*



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

Reaching the CofL is just an e-mail away!
churchoflight@light.org

Happy Summer Solstice!

Ninth House Action

In response to one of the Ninth House articles, the following discussion evolved.

CofL Member Writes:

What we really need are definitions of our terms so we know what we're talking about. If Bill Jeffrey has in mind a super-creator, but looking like a man, the Biblical fantasy, I do not believe in God. If he thinks prayer is answered by this "creator", he's lost me again. Apparently prayer is sometimes answered but it is not as simple as that. If one defines God as a force, creative, all in all, manifesting in the material world as the energy that pervades all creation, atoms, molecules, planets, suns, etc. life, beyond human understanding, ok. But there are better terms, God is more of an epithet word. I like Infinite One or just the Infinite, why must it be one? That's trying to personify it again. Yes, by our technology we have proved there is knowledge not dependent on the 5 senses. Yes, we do need another religion, namely the Church of Light which is so far ahead of anything else on the planet. Perhaps it is going to take a real catastrophe, like the war between East and West that has been going on for thousands of years to wake people up to the follies of living in the past. That reminds me of the saying, be careful what you pray for, [peace on earth] you might get it, I'll let you imagine at what expense. How do you define religion, as well? Generally speaking it means a prearranged way to think, a mind stopper. If someone can straighten me out, have at it. Light, Life and Love,

HQ Response:

Thank you for your remarks...well said. Your comments are deeply appreciated and valued and are important to keep in

the mix of the ever on-going discussion about religion and its possible, positive contribution to making better citizens of the universe as well as building a better world in which to live. Like you say, one must exercise care when asking for something. Within that concept is the acknowledgment of a force much greater than "I". I'm reminded of Lea Riffle who was a big proponent of praying for "Divine Order". He was the first person to introduce me to that idea...Lucile Truitt was also an influence in that area. I've learned that my confidence level is immensely amplified when my prayer is prefaced with that desire.

As for religion, boy does that word need redefining. If one goes back to its roots, then, as Zain says in the lessons, the function of religion is to bind back or reconnect with the creative force. That, I believe, must be the function of religion. Creation is on-going (or as Zain might say, progressively evolving) and without stagnation. Zain, in his Religion of the Stars goes another step forward by saying that Religion and Science are unified by the book of nature. With this affirmation we as individuals are free to evolve religion as we learn more about nature. Sadly, what we know as orthodoxy started out with good intention but became mired along the way. Perhaps orthodoxy stands as a reminder of the pitfalls inherent with knowing all the answers.

BJ Response to: "What we really need are definitions of our terms"

Anything we can say about "God" is going to be, at best, approximately correct. All symbols are approximate by their nature. To try to definitively describe something like "God" is a fool's task. What you call a Biblical fantasy actually cannot be proven one way or another. For all we know, God "looks like" a two-headed, green wombat. However, a person can come to some kind of description of "God" that works for him or her. C.C. Zain wrote that sometimes one's childhood religion provides the deep emotional link that will allow a person access to his/her subconscious. If relating to God as a loving father works for a person, then that would seem to be the effective way for that person.

Regarding belief and non-belief: No human activity can begin without belief. If we do not believe something, we will not begin the activity associated with that non-belief. There are several dangers regarding belief and non-belief. The first is that we may not recognize we believe something. When that is the case, we may be acting and receiving the consequences of our actions which are based on a belief structure we do not want guiding our lives.

The second danger is that knee-jerk non-belief such as that of latter day cynics (not the original Cynics who questioned everything including their own non-belief) will keep a person even from examining ideas they have decided are incorrect, even though they haven't tested those ideas. People who continue to reject astrology without testing it are not being intellectually honest. Sadly, they do not even recognize that.

"If he thinks prayer is answered by this "creator", he's lost me again."

Actually, I equate prayer with the intentional application of the power of psychokinesis. Study of the principles of effective prayer can teach a person much about what the BofL lessons call "magic" (and vice versa).

We are living a prayer at all times. If, as I suggest above, the power is prayer is psychokinesis, then we are affecting our inner and outer worlds not only by our direct actions, but also by the molding of inner plane substance guided by the thought-formed structure of our astral bodies (subconscious minds). The extent to which we are conscious of that structure is the extent we have control of what effect we are having on our world.

Whether we like it or not, we are praying. Whether we like it or not, we are working psychokinesis. In my opinion, what we need to do is become in conscious control of what we are praying for.

"How do you define religion, as well? Generally speaking it means a prearranged way to think, a mind stopper."

Sadly, the word "religion" has come to mean what you say. Recently I heard a preacher give a sermon on how much he hates "religion". Religions have two primary tasks. The first is to provide a common moral and ethical structure for a community. This is not trivial. People without morals or ethics are dangerous. The second is to teach principles involving the inner planes.

Here is an excerpt from CofL President Paul Brewer's article (also on the CofL web page), *Why Religion?*: "C. C. Zain writes in Course 12-2, *Evolution of Religion*: "The effort more adequately to adapt himself to life on earth through understanding and employing inner-plane energies, and to continue to find satisfaction for the three irrepressible drives after physical dissolution, came in later times to be called ... religion."

"Religion is thus the employment of extra-physical means to find ever-greater freedom of expression for the soul's basic drives, both on this plane and in the next life, after death of the physical form. Therefore, religion should strive to provide the most facts about living conditions, both in this life and the next, and the tools for training individuals to adapt as successfully as possible."

In addition, the origin of the word "religion" comes from roots meaning "again" and "tie" or "bind." So religion means, at root, to reconnect a person with something, usually with a higher reality. In Biblical terms, "salvation."

"If one defines God as a force, creative, all in all, manifesting in the material world as the energy that pervades all creation, atoms, molecules, planets, suns, etc. life, beyond human understanding, ok."

Frank Herbert, the author of the *Dune* books, wrote that we keep finding new words for those involving the disposal of human waste (toilet, water closet, rest room, potty, crapper, etc.). We as individuals and people in general do that because we attach emotional meanings to certain words and subjects.

In the case of "God" and "religion", I am interested in making them workable in my life. I've been hurt many times by people with warped religious beliefs. I'm aware of the damage throughout history caused by viciously insane people hiding under the guise of religion, marching behind the banner of a "God" that those humans created in their own images.

I have come to the point where I have made my peace with the words "God" and "religion". For me, this is a personal quest. It has to be, because I am the one doing it. I just want something that works for me.

Certainly labels and meanings are not universally acceptable. Inside our skins we can and should create a personal religion that works for us. It is only when we have to communicate with others that we need to agree on terms, even if we do not agree on anything else. After all, Nature is the ultimate arbiter. Reality always wins in the long run.

"But there are better terms (for "God"). (For me) "God" is more of an epithet word. I like Infinite One or just the Infinite, why must it be one? That's trying to personify it again."

Of course this use of terms is a personal choice. My current operational choice in relation to "God" is based somewhat on the concept of "Cosmic Man" taken from BofL Course III, *Spiritual Alchemy*. In that book, C.C. Zain wrote that, at our cores, we are cells in a cosmic "organism" which could be called "Cosmic Man." I think of myself as intimately connected to that being, and, at my core, similar to it in nature. I am trying to align myself at all levels with that being and its path. This could be called "following the Divine Plan" or knowing and doing "God's will for my life."

C.C. Zain wrote that sufficient boundary line energy is necessary for information to pass between inner and outer planes. One way to generate boundary line energy is through emotions. If I try to use what to me are completely non-emotional terms, I find my intuition and inner plane awareness suffers. That is not to say that I go around twitching and whooping it up, but I find that appropriate emotion-

ality must be part of my inner world if I am to be effective on either inner or outer planes..

Skeletons in the Closet... or The Elephant in the Middle of the room ... or Members Beware!

Upon the advice of two CofL attorneys, and one outside attorney who works for a state Securities Commission, the CofL is making the following information available to the membership. The purpose of this information is to make the membership aware of what appears to be predatory behavior by a former member. Here are the facts, as we know them:

In August 1999, the CofL received notice that Mildred Schuler's Last Will and Testament had been filed in Wichita Kansas. In the document, The Church of Light was named as one of her heirs. The CofL immediately called the executor, Mike Jones to inform him that he had an incorrect address for The Church of Light. Also, some time ago Mildred had told the CofL that she had made a list of memorabilia. In fact, Mildred sent such a list of items related to CofL history, among which was the typewriter that Elbert Benjamin used to write the BofL lessons, as well as other significant memorabilia and books that would be of interest to the CofL membership. Furthermore, Mildred's will referred to this list. Mr. Jones, however, informed the CofL that there was no list and that all items in her estate were to be auctioned. We told him of our interest in the typewriter, books, etc. with the intention of making it very clear that the CofL had a significant interest in being present at the auction, and that the CofL would send a representative to Wichita for that purpose. Mr. Jones led us to believe that he would notify the CofL when the auction was to take place. The CofL made numerous phone calls to reiterate its interest. Later, we learned that a "woman from Colorado" was allowed to go into Mildred's home where she spent a few days, driving away with carloads of material. Later she returned with a "u-haul truck". Mr. Jones did not attempt to inform the CofL of this plan. Neither did he return any of the CofL's phone calls. On the few occasions that he did answer the phone, he told the CofL that things were moving along, but that the house sold for next to nothing etc.

On December 21, 2001 (almost two years later) a Notice of Distribution was mailed by attorney Jones to the CofL stating that a hearing had been set for December 23rd (two days later) and stating that The Church of Light was no longer in existence and that its portion of Mildred's estate would pass to Fred Lollis of Honea Path, South Carolina.

We know Fred Lollis has a pattern of cultivating relationships with elderly people. This was not the first time Mr. Lollis' name had popped up in connection with an estate connected to The Church of Light. The most recent event, of which the CofL is aware, was with Mr. Ray M. Watson of Miami, Florida. The event occurred while Lea Riffle was president of the CofL. During that period, Mr. Lollis was a

member of The Church of Light and cultivated a relationship with Mr. Watson who was over 90 years old at the time. (Mildred was 108 years old when she passed away.) Mr. Lollis' attention coincided with a period during which Mr. Watson was attempting to negotiate a Trust Fund with the CofL for publishing the BofL books. While there was never any direct evidence that Lollis undermined Mr. Watson's confidence in the Church's ability to manage competently such a trust, Lollis' name repeatedly came up during the negotiations. He clearly was not friendly to the interests of the CofL. In fact, we learned that Lollis had presented himself to Mr. Watson as an accountant when in fact he worked as a mechanic. Mr. Watson, according to his own statements, eventually left a much smaller trust fund to the CofL than he had originally intended. Letters are on file at CofL headquarters where Mr. Lollis brags about having acquired several estates, Mr. Watson's among them.

It is difficult to imagine how Mr. Lollis could convince a Wichita, KS attorney to advocate on his behalf that The Church of Light no longer exists or is divided. A minimal amount of research would have revealed the CofL to be a non-profit California corporation in good standing since 1932. One can only conclude that shadows can sometimes easily cloud the thinking. At any rate, the CofL staff and its corporate attorney spent the Winter Holiday period from December 21st thru 23rd drafting and delivering to the circuit court in Wichita an affidavit challenging the final distribution as drafted by Mr. Jones.

In January, our corporate attorney helped us find an attorney in Wichita and we went to work. Given Mr. Lollis' history with the CofL, and his statements that his work represents the "true" Brotherhood of Light, our primary objective was to have the court find that The Church of Light referenced in Mildred Schuler's Last Will and Testament was alive and well and had suffered no division as Mr. Lollis claimed. As we progressed further into the case, it became clear that Mr. Jones, the executor of the estate, had been representing the interests of Mr. Lollis. The Court informed Mr. Jones that this was a conflict of interest and that he was treading on very thin ice. At that time, the Court demanded that Mr. Lollis must have his own representation.

As it turns out, Mr. Lollis never obtained representation nor did he show up in court, although he had called our California corporate attorney to let the CofL know that he had strong evidence against the CofL. He did cost The Church of Light several thousand dollars in legal bills, in addition to the personal time and expense incurred by two of the CofL's directors, who traveled to Wichita from Los Angeles at their own expense to protect the interests of the CofL.

Although the CofL is near the conclusion of this event, it has learned one thing. It must ever be mindful and cautious because there are people who have no ethical boundaries when it comes to satisfying their own personal interest. We share this information with you to prepare you in case Mr. Fred Lollis, or one of his cronies, comes knocking at your door.

Happy Birthday!

The Church of Light will be 70 years old this year!

Come celebrate during the 2003 Membership Conference, the weekend of June 27th, 2003....details to follow.

Congratulations to New Hermetician:

Victor Bobo

Building a Better World

☞ Allan Curthoys is teaching a class on the Tarot in Albany New York....Keep up the good work Allan!

☞ Chico California is abuzz with the work of Helen Hendon who is also teaching a class on the BofL Tarot. Great work Helen!

Building a Better World with a Better Vision!

The Church of Light Vision for the 21st Century

OUR MISSION

To teach, practice and disseminate the Religion of the Stars, a way of life for the Aquarian Age, outlined in the writings of C.C. Zain.

WHAT WE TEACH

There is a loving Cosmic Intelligence, of which we are all a part, whose infinite goodness expresses through undeviating natural law.

- There is a Divine Plan in which each person has a unique and important role.
- The Divine Plan manifests through progressive evolution.
- There is a universal moral code - Contribute Your Utmost To Universal Welfare - which, to the extent adopted by each individual, will make the world a better place to live.
- The Religion of the Stars will evolve by incorporating new information as it is discovered and verified.
- 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

after-life and the survival of the soul after death of the physical body.

OUR VISION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Our vision is to become a significant world religion in the 21st Century, and a powerful force for good and for spiritual enlightenment, by:

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

- Seeking 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;
- Developing 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;
- Promoting the importance of the four essential freedoms: Freedom from Want, Freedom from Fear, Freedom of Expression and Freedom of Religion;
- Building a sense of community and spiritual purpose which uplifts and inspires our members to Contribute Their Utmost To Universal Welfare.

Canberra AUSTRALIA

Hermetic Academy of Astrology; Julia Goldstein. Three-year course work in Hermetic Astrology. See AHA Newsletter on the CofL website or contact CofL HQ for information.

Mark Your Calendar!

Saturday, June 29, 2002, 4 p.m.:

Annual Business at CofL Headquarters in Brea, California.

Weekend beginning Friday June 27, 2003, 3:05 p.m.

Annual Business Meeting and Conference. Details in next Quarterly!!!!

If you would like to list your calendar of events let us know...we are here to help you!

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 Pagein the stardust next to the CofL Quarterly. ☞



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