

# MERCURY



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## Elementary Instruction in Hermetic Philosophy.

### No. 7. The Harmonic Planes and Correspondences.

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#### Preliminary Observations.

Let the Student—

1. Begin the study of each Instruction with a brief meditation on the presence of Our Father Hermes.
2. Engage in a daily meditation on the Permanent Mantram of the Hermetic Section which was given in the Second Instruction.
3. Study Hermetics at all times from the standpoint of the vital truths underlying the surface, instead of from the critical and academic standpoint.
4. Practice diligently the daily introspection in reverse, at the appointed time, this as a means of lessening the purgatorial career and passing the first heaven after death. Approve your own good acts as well as disapproving and disavow in your errors.
5. Use the Holy Bible and the Book of the Dead for correlative readings. When these Instructions are used in Class work, each member of the Class should come prepared to present at least two selected correlative readings. These may easily be worked out by use of the standard Concordance.

#### THE EXEGESIS OF THE SECOND HERMETIC PRINCIPLE:

As we have seen in preceding lessons, the ALL is in ALL, and ALL is in the ALL; therefore every unit in the several planes of Cosmic Manifestation, Life, and Being, (including Becoming) must be subject to identical Laws and thus show forth the Harmonics both of Involution and Evolution.

Hermeticists classify the phenomena of the known Universe under the three broad general divisions termed the

1. Physical Plane
2. Mental Plane
3. Spiritual Plane

These Planes comprehend the lower divisions of the physical world known as the (Chemical, Solids, Liquids, and Gases); the Etheric divisions of the physical world; and the lower astral, for number 1.

Number 2, includes the higher divisions of the Etheric regions or planes of the physical world, the astral, and the region of Concrete Thought, of the World of Thought.

Number 3, includes the higher regions of the astral world, the region of Concrete Thought, Abstract Thought, and the lowest of the higher regions of the Divine World.

Thus the phenomena of each blend with higher and lower planes, forming one complete unity; the higher phenomena of the physical and the lower of the mental; and the phenomena of the higher mental with the lower physical.

These Planes are more than states, conditions or dimensions. A dimension is measured in a straight line. This would not define the cosmic relations referred to. An ordinary dimension

is conceived by us as length, breadth, and thickness. The Planes of this lesson must be considered as a STATE or DIMENSION CONCEIVED AS CONSCIOUSNESS, interpreted as what is commonly designated as the "FOURTH DIMENSION". This pertains to the Third Hermetic Principle, "that everything vibrates, nothing is at rest," and will form the topic of the next lesson.

We must keep in mind however, that our concepts of the cosmic Planes must be those of States of Consciousness, and universal dimension, a condition of integral vibration.

Realizing this, we shall realize the occult truth that the Kingdom of God, is within us," the mantram set for our study during this Collegiate term.

This is a deep truth fellow students. For once realized, it brings to our conscious minds the truth that where ever we are, there also are all the conditions that make our heaven or hell, our spiritual uplift or our spiritual and mental depression.

As we gather in the unity of class study or proceed with the daily occupations of life, there are ever present all the conditions, states and dimensions of consciousness. THAT WE EVER HAVE EXPERIENCED OR EVER WILL EXPERIENCE.

In the great unity of the Divine Mind, our physical bodies are merely the outer and more slowly vibrating states of matter crystallized from the activities of spirit substance; meantime, our more ethereal vehicles are vibrating on their respective planes of being as each has, in the course of centuries and eons, become more and more highly organized and differentiated from primal conditions.



If, for instance, one of us should experience his death or transition at this moment, it would be merely the discarding of the physical or dense body. And without departing from the chair in which such one was sitting, the Ego with the Etheric and Astral Bodies and Mind Sheath would be functioning in the Etheric World. At the second death, without removing, the Ego, Astral and Mind would simply discard the Etheric Body and function in the Astral World. At the 3rd. death, the Ego and Mind would discard the Astral and function in the higher Astral World, and the Lower Thought Planes. And so on; space means nothing in cosmic relations. In the exact spot wherein each one of us now sits, all our respective vehicles function and vibrate in their respective planes, and our heaven or hell is right here and now, exactly wherever we may be at any time of our existence terrestrial or celestial.

Thus the cosmic root substance vibrates thru each of us and at every moment of our existence we are in the Kingdom of God, and the Kingdom of God is within each of us at the same time. As the man Jesus said, "I am IN the Father and the Father IN Me."

Initiation and spiritual development therefore is the process of entering into the higher states of consciousness, and this entering in, is what actually accomplishes the AT-ONE-Ment with the Father or the ABSOLUTE.

Therefore all existence on the Three Great Planes mentioned is an existence solely WITHIN the INFINITE MIND OF THE ABSOLUTE.

Some present day philosophies teach that Matter is non-existent, and the last lesson warned against allowing such teachings to give us a false concept or appreciation of the true value of Matter.

The real truth is, that Matter must not be conceived as something existent as itself, but as a form of Energy vibrating cosmic root substance at its lowest rate.

So, Hermetically, we divide the Three Great Planes of Manifestation into Seven Minor Planes, each of which are in turn sub-divided into seven sub-planes.

Thus, the Physical Plane is sub-divided into the following seven:—

- a Plane of Matter 1
- a " " " 2
- a " " " 3
- b " " Ether 1
- c " " Energy 1
- c " " " 2
- c " " " 3

- A-1, includes Solids, Gases and Liquids.
- A-2, " phenomena of Radio Activity.
- A-3, " subtle and tenuous Matter, link between Matter and Ether.
- B- includes the Ether interpenetrating all cosmic space.
- C-1, Includes phenomena of Heat, Light, Electricity, Magnetism, Attraction, Gravitation, etc., etc.
- C-2, Includes etheric forces thru which mental phenomena become possible.
- C-3, Includes the vibratory waves by virtue of which the higher evolved spiritual beings function in their relations to terrestrial conditions.

The Mental Plane is also sub-divided into the following:

- a Plane of Mineral Mentalism 1
- a " " Elemental Mind, 2
- b " " Plant Mentalism 1
- b " " Elemental Mind 2
- c " " Animal Mentalism 1
- c " " Elemental Mind 2
- d " " Human Mentalism 1

- A-1, Comprises the dimensional consciousness of the Mineral Entity, in the Trance State.
- A-2, Comprises the states of consciousness of the Elemental Spirits of Earth, the Gnomes.
- B-1, Comprises the dimensional consciousness of the Plant Entity, in its Dreamless Sleep State.
- B-2, Comprises of the states of consciousness of the Elemental Spirits of Water, the Undines.

C-1, Comprises the dimensional consciousness of the Animal Entity, in the Dream Sleep State.

C-2, Comprises the states of consciousness of the Elemental Spirits of Air the Sylphs.

D-1, Comprises the dimensional consciousness of the Human EGO in its waking consciousness, from the Elemental Spirit of Fire, the Salamander, to the present stage of developed consciousness.

This Plane of Human Mentalism like all the others is sub-divided into seven grades, of which the race today has reached approximately the fourth, a process which has required millions of years to accomplish. Of the present race, some have evolved to the Fifth Grade.

We must remember that there have been races before us who have accomplished these Grades and passed hence, to higher. Our own Race is the Fifth with laggards from the Fourth. Some Hermetists style the coming man of the Sixth Sub-Division the "Super-Man" and that of the Seventh, the "Over-Man."

One may ask why in the above tables we have interlined the Elemental Planes with the Mineral, Plant, Animal and Human. For precisely the same reason that every piano or organ has both black and white keys—to produce the perfect blending of inter and semi-tones—in the harmonic scale; they are the keys, so to speak between the various planes and grades of the planes.

The Third and last great division, the Spiritual Plane is sub-divided into seven Minor Planes, each being again sub-divided into seven, as in the cases of the Physical Planes and the Mental Plane.

These seven sub-divisions of the Spiritual Planes, are indescribable in terms of comparative phraseology. They are the habitat, grade for grade of exalted spiritual beings and hierarchies whose development and status is as far beyond man, as man is beyond the amoeba.

These seven sub-divisions of the Spiritual Plane may also be stated to be the habitat of such exalted Beings as can be described only by the term—"clothed-in-pure-energy." These sub-divisions are the realms of the Archangels, Angels, and Demi-Gods. In the lower of these sub-divisions dwell those whom we term Masters and Adents. Then come the Hierarchies of Lords of various phases of Evolution. Beyond them are the Gods, whose attributes are beyond mere human hypothesis. It is the wisdom of these lofty intelligences that is superposed upon the mortal world, guiding and unfolding its evolution, yet all these Celestial Hosts and Hierarchies must be conceived as existing even as ourselves, only in the Mind of the ALL, the ABSOLUTE.

For even *THEY* have been Mortal.

In attempting a reasonably logical concept of these hierarchies, only those whose steps were entered in the Path in previous lives, can hope to gain a clear insight, for the phenomena of the Higher Spiritual Plane is vastly differentiated from that of the Mental Plane. And then too, in contemplating the higher spiritual planes we must remember that some things may not be spoken, neither written, and that true Hermetists realize that only to those who *earn* the right to *know*, by actual perseverance in personal practice of the Hermetic Art of Transmutation of the Lower Human Principles to the Higher, will the clear vision be given, and such are unable to translate their vision in terms of ordinary speech. It is the occult truth of the Scriptural saying—regarding things which it is not lawful for the tongue of man to utter.

It must be noted also, that to Hermeticists, the word "Spiritual" itself takes on a vastly more important meaning than any attributed to it in orthodox theological parlance. To the theologian it means ethereal, lofty, sublimated, holy, reverent or religious; to the Hermeticist it means LIVING POWER, COSMIC VITAL FORCE, ENERGY AS COSMIC ROOT SUBSTANCE.

And spiritual Power it must also be noted can be used as freely for what is commonly termed "evil" as for what is as often termed