EGOIC LOTUS WEBINAR COMMENTARY #7 – Michael Robbins

## Abstract

Egoic Lotus Webinar Commentaries 7. This webinar is about 1 hour long and covers *Esoteric Psychology Vol I* pages 324-326. Program 7 continues to offer a discussion in detail of the Eight Stages of Adaptation—the production of "conscious control" by the soul of its form. This program studies Stages of Adaptation 6 through 8—from the Stage of Adaptation which is that of the aspirant or probationer to the final stage which is that of the higher initiates and of the Great Companions—the Masters of the Wisdom. We continue to compare theses Stages of Adaptation with the Ten Soul Groups from EP II.

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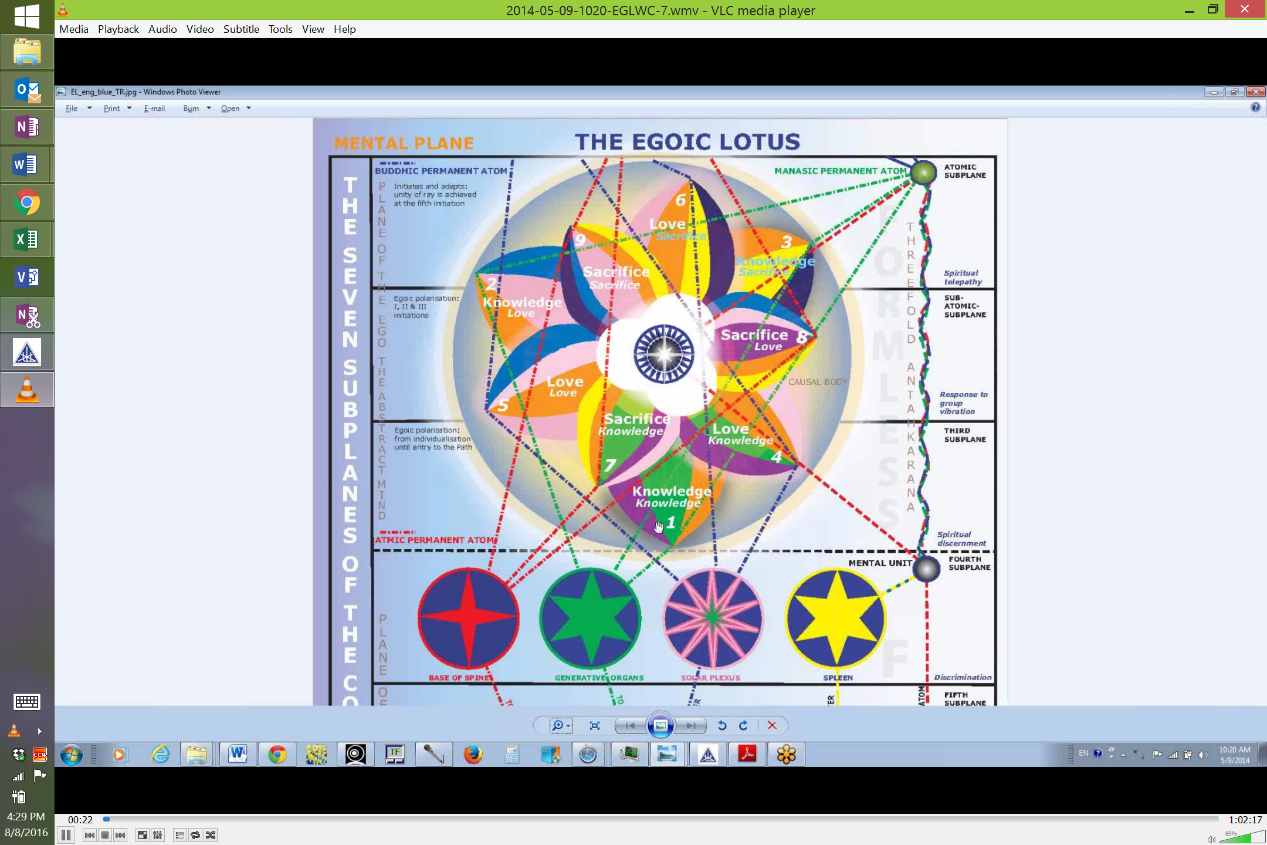
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## Transcription of Egoic Lotus Commentary #7

We are dealing with the stages of adaptation. Perhaps it's good to just take one more look or occasional looks at the Egoic lotus with its 3 tiers of petals: The Knowledge Tier, 1, 2, and 3; the Love Tier, 4, 5, and 6; and then the Sacrifice Tier, 7, 8, and 9 appearing to go in a different direction, more counter-clockwise along with the zodiac.



We simply assume these are the Synthesis petals and that this one would be the knowledge synthesis, and this one the love synthesis and this one the sacrifice synthesis. Along with the 24 points found in the center and the 8 pointed star which shows both the cardinal cross and the mid-points of the fixed cross. The power points as they are called.

1:23 So I think we have now studied stages of adaptation #1 through 5. We are on #6. We have also studied the soul groups or the human groups of which there are 10 and we have tried to link the stages of adaptation that we have studied with those 10 soul groups. We have also learned a little bit about the different petals as we have gone along but our focus has not been exactly on those petals, more on these various groups. When it comes to these stages of adaptation, well, just to review:

1. The 1st one is unconscious adaptation. And there is very low level - he calls it the adaptation of the man who is primarily the unintelligent animal.
2. Then comes the unconscious adaptation of which there are faint flickers of mental perception and sometimes the title here for this stage (#2) of quite selfish adaptation is animal cunning.
3. Then we have looked at the 3rd stage. It's a purely selfish adaptation. Aware of motives. The man is making the best of circumstances and there are some good actions but the motives behind them are really governed by the desire for comfort. So we can call this conscious selfish adaptation.
4. Then he goes into the 4th stage of adaptation which spans many different types of adaptation - all the way from selfishness to the nth degree to a point where there is an awakening realization of the right of other people to a similar degree of comfort and harmony that the man himself is enjoying. So he still maintains his desire for personality life but he hopes that his purely selfish interests do no real damage to others. Well it's not yet the truly good person and there is no motivation that is entirely altruistic here. It is not an altruistic motivation. We have called it enlightened or intelligent self-interest. We hear this discussed in political circles - enlightened self-interest, intelligent self-interest.
5. Then after moving to this group that has spanned quite a number of different stages, we move into the 5th group where we have goodwill entering. And D.K. says really good man, not just the one who seems to be good but the one who actually is. He still has his selfish intentions but he is really struggling here and to demonstrate some measure of love. It seems to correlate quite well with some of the factors found in the 6th petal. There is the element of conscience entering which causes the struggle. And this is not just the earlier love of family which is quite instinctual and is found even in the Hall of Ignorance. This is motivated love which recognizes the rights of others and consciously strives to adapt itself to those recognized rights. But this is important while tenaciously holding on to the rights of the personality which tells us that both the later 5th and the 6th petal are involved here. Neither one of them, until completed, signifies the 1st degree. So we know that many aspirants are selfish and this seems to be the beginning of a kind of stage of aspiration. Then we come to the point where we really are and where the true aspirant enters.

## Stage of Adaptation #6

6:10 So this is the 6th stage of adaptation. Let's first see what D.K. says about it:

“6. Then we have the work of adaptation as carried on by the aspirants of the world who are theoretically convinced of their group relation, of its paramount importance, and of the need of every personality to develop its powers to the fullest capacity in order to bring real value to the group and to serve adequately the group need. In true esotericism, there is no such motive as "killing the personality", or of disciplining it to such an extent that it becomes a dead poor thing. The true motive is to train the threefold lower nature, the integrated personality, to the highest demonstration of its powers, latent or developing, in order that those powers may be brought to the helping of the group need, and the personality of the aspirant may be integrated into the group. Thereby the group life is enriched, the group potency is increased, and the group consciousness is enhanced.” EP I, 324

**Then we have the work of adaptation**, which is the intelligent control of self and of the environment. It’s important to keep in mind what is adaptation. And of course with the purpose not just of surviving as it is in the earlier days but with the purpose of bringing forth the Divine Plan. So this *. . .* ***carried on the aspirants of the world who are theoretically convinced of their group relation****.* D.K. is here pointing out the kind of fallibility that accompanies the life of the aspirant where one has the theory but one cannot quite live it and so ends up still being selfish and not group conscious. So it's the work of adaptation as carried *. . .* ***by the aspirants of the world who are theoretically convinced of their group relation, of its paramount important and of the need of every personality to develop its powers to the fullest capacity in order to bring real value to the group and to serve adequately the group need.***So one does not want to control others; one wants to bring forth the gift of others, the gifts of their causal body, the gifts of their soul toward the contribution of the group.

8:21 So, this is more than the average nice good person which found in #5 of the soul groups. They are the good, well-intentioned. They are the nice people. They are easily regimented. They are sheep of the human family. It is more than that. And it's more than stage of adaptation #5 where you have the average, really good man as it is said, but still quite selfish. These people are in fact aspiring to be unselfish, the aspirants are aspiring, even though they have still something in their nature which is selfish. The really good man is not necessarily aspiring to be unselfish. He is simply trying to balance the selfish pursuits which he wants to follow with the realization that other people have a right to follow similar selfish pursuits. Such as person can think, "Well look everybody is selfish so we simply have to give everybody the right to be selfish." But these are aspirants of the world and it's more than the average really good man. This correlates with the 6th and 7th soul groups (the 6th is the creative thinkers and the 7th are the aspirants). These are not just the nice people because the nice people don't really attempt to discipline themselves and already we have seen discipline entering even in stage of adaptation #5.

10:24 So here are the people who are wanting you to be able to develop and honoring your right to develop - realizing its importance and not just doing that because if they don't do it they will not be allowed to follow their own selfish inclinations. No, they have a higher sense of values here - this stage of adaptation #6. In true esotericism, there is no such motive as "killing the personality",. . . I think we all remember what happened with the Virgo labour when Hercules seized the girdle of the amazon queen who was going to offer all she had to him and he killed her. And this was an injudicious thing to do because after all she represents the personality and the personality is precisely the instrument of the soul in these lower 3 worlds. You see all the time people who say that they are spiritual and through their personality they apparently have very little to offer so what is the use of being spiritual if you can't really improve the world through what's coming through your personality.

So ***. . . there is no such thing in true esotericism, . . .*** you know you have to watch the adjectives here ***. . . . of “killing the personality,” or of disciplining it to such an extent that it becomes a poor, dead thing.*** ***The true motive is to train the lower threefold lower nature***. . . and immediately, of course, with training, we have the appearance of the sign Virgo, which interesting that this is the 6th stage of adaptation and Virgo is the 6th sign and it correlates with the 6th soul group and also with the 7th. But the training factor enters and the motive is . . . to train the threefold lower nature, the integrated personality, to the highest demonstration of its powers, latent or developing, . . . So there is petal 5 entering here and the sign Leo which correlates with petal 5, where we have the full self-expression of the individual and in petal 6, a real training of that self-expression does occur. So this is the honoring of the light, the capacity, the quality all that has been built and developed in other people and trying to evoke it and every really good leader does that. I mean because people feel very joyous when they can express their true abilities and they turn out to be much better workers, much more highly motivated and can contribute much more to the whole when they are allowed to express that which is within them, so for those people who wish to stifle others for the sake of self-discipline or conformity to some standard to which everyone must give obedience, they are not really bringing forth the best of others and they won't get the best results.

13:41  The true motive is to train the threefold lower nature, the integrated personality, to the highest demonstration of its powers, latent or developing, in order that those powers may be brought to the helping of the group need, and the personality of the aspirant may be integrated into the group. It is quite interesting when the gifts can be offered, integration into the group becomes easier. I don't mean that they should be dominating other people. And that only one person should be allowed to give his gifts. So let's just say when the gifts can be offered there can be better integration into the group.

Thereby the group life is enriched, the group potency is increased, and the group consciousness is enhanced. My sense of this is that it is before the 1st initiation. It's the stage of aspiration. The 6th petal is that which is worked on before the stage of initiation. There is a lot of work being done in the 7th petal when the 1st initiation does occur. So this is awakening to group conditions before the 1st degree and we no longer simply have the herd impulse. These people are individuals and not members of the mass or herd. They are correlated then with the 6th group to a degree of the souls where we have the creative thinkers emerging and correlated with #7 which is the stage of aspiration in the soul groups. These are the souls who are such an order that they can pass on the probationary path. And even when we have these writers, artists, thinkers and so forth in soul group #6, he says of them, they are the world aspirants, so especially in the latter part of the development of the 5th petal, the world aspirants come into focus and then #7 is the probationary group of souls. The probationary groups are little in advanced of the aspirants per se.

16:54 So what do we have here? The path of aspiration is beginning. Some of the physical disciplines of the 1st degree are found such as fitness and things of that nature. We go on and D.K. says more here.

“What is therefore to be seen going on in the life of the true aspirant today (his developing recognition of group responsibility) can also be seen going on in groups, in organisations and nations. Hence the many experiments. A process is going forward whereby these groups, large or small, are being subjected to a housecleaning, to a discarding of the rubbish of old and worn-out ideas, and to a period of disciplining and training which must precede all real group life. When this process is over, we shall have these groups approaching each other in a new and real spirit of cooperation, of religious fusion, and in an international attitude which will be new indeed. Then they will have something of a surer and greater value to offer to the whole. Within all these groups which are struggling towards this newer realisation and integration, and which express what we might call "the sixth stage of adaptation,", are those who are already at the seventh stage.” EP I, 324-325

So what else does he say? ***What is therefore to be seen going on in the life of the true aspirant today,. . .***  and that is what he seems to be calling these people in this 6th stage of adaptation, . . . (his developing recognition of group responsibility). . . Let's just say it's impossible to be strictly selfish and to be an aspirant. Or it's impossible to be majorly selfish and be a true aspirant. Actually what D.K. once described as the true aspirant, all true aspirants have taken the 1st initiation, but there is variability in how this term is used and here we do not yet seem to be dealing with those who have taken the 1st initiation. Although maybe toward the end of it, we might.

This . . .can also be seen going on in groups, in organisations and nations. And hence the sense of group responsibility found within groups themselves. Hence the many experiments. A process is going forward whereby these groups, large or small, are being subjected to a housecleaning, to a discarding of the rubbish of old and worn-out ideas,. . . And this is what D.K. called the house cleaning. . . . and to a period of disciplining and training which must precede all real group life. So real group life begins in earnest at the 1st degree, so we are definitely talking about Virgo preceding Libra. As I mentioned in the earlier program, when Dale Rudyhar said when does group consciousness really begin? It begins in the 2nd hemisphere of the zodiac, moving from Libra through Pisces. So this is the Virgo house cleaning which must be effected before it is possible for individuals to relate to groups and for groups to relate to groups, otherwise, all of the outworn idea prevent a really cooperative exchange.

19:48 So ***. . .*** a discarding of the rubbish of old and worn-out ideas, and to a period of disciplining and training which must precede all real group life. It's all so clearly Virgo. And when we are dealing with the #6 we do run into that necessity for self-discipline and group discipline. When this process is over, we shall have these groups approaching each other in a new and real spirit of cooperation,. . . and obviously that is the Libran impulse - as a sign of true cooperation. So, . . . of religious fusion, and in an international attitude which will be new indeed. And D.K. tells us that Libra is increasing in the planetary horoscope so there is no real need for concern, he says. Well obviously you would expect this with the coming in of the Age of Aquarius - the various air signs are going to become more powerful. Now why it should be Libra particularly in the planetary horoscope? Is it because Aquarius is increasing in the planetary horoscope or simply because Libra in its own right is increasing in the planetary horoscope?

Then they will have something of a surer and greater value to offer to the whole. Right now there are many groups which are selfish or are divided between selfishness or self-interest and altruism and those that are truly selfless. So there is a movement towards selflessness in groups, just as D.K. warned us away from the possible creation of truly selfish which would be much more dangerous and effective than the selfish individual. And we do see that in many of these groups that are simply out for their own self-interest. They are very powerful; they have a lot of financial and global power and they are exploiting the environment and as D.K. would say, wrecking the world. Within all these groups which are struggling towards this newer realisation and integration, and which express what we might call "the sixth stage of adaptation," are those who are already at the seventh stage. So we have unselfish groups, social groups - socially responsible groups and individuals and this is correlating very well with the 7th of the soul groups - the 7th out of the 10, where we have those who are really on the probationary path.

23:00 And even there might be some of that going on the 8th group - those who are truly upon the path of discipleship. As I say there is no exact, one-to-one correspondence and D.K. tells us that the connections, well the kinds of things he could otherwise describe are so many and offer a kind of bewildering complexity. Let's say . . . this newer realisation and integration,. . . that describes pretty much the 6th stage of adaptation and is what aspirants and probationers are attempting to do, whether the aspirant who is the individual or the aspirant who is the group. So let's just say, aspirants and probationers are attempting to do this. Then there are those who are ready for the 7th stage and how is this going to be described? And how will we after all describe what is the 6th stage about which he spent, basically it's the aspirants of the world, and I suppose to a degree the probationary disciple. Even in stage 6 you find the probationary initiate, so they are attempting to quite their bad habits - aspirants and probationers. This pretty well describes stage of adaption #6.

## Stage of Adaptation #7

 “7. Here we have complete unselfish adaptation to the group need and purpose. Those who have reached this point in their evolution are decentralised as regards their own personality life. The focus of their mental attention is in the soul and in the world of souls. Their attention is not directed towards the personality at all, except in so far as is needed to force it to adhere to group or soul purpose. These servers who are expressions of soul radiance and attractive power are knowers of the Plan, and in every organisation they constitute the new and slowly growing group of World Servers. In their hands lies the salvation of the world.” EP I, 325

25:08 Now we have transcended selfishness. We are going into the 7th stage. ***Here we have the complete, unselfish adaptation to the group needs and purposes.*** And he says this is characteristic of the new group of world servers. To be a true member of the new group of world servers is already a high achievement. D.K. is basically saying that one has to be of the 2nd degree and be on the lookout for those who are approaching the 1st and approaching the 2nd degree. So this would span the soul groups 7 and 8 and maybe even some of 9. Perhaps the 8th soul group and the true initiates are here found. Maybe more of group 9 is important. And group 9 are the true initiates. Not just necessarily the probationary initiate, because the probationary initiate does not necessarily realize the fallacy of my soul and your soul. But the true initiate does. So let's read a little bit about this.

***Those who have reached this point in their evolution are decentralised as regards their personality life.*** So, at the 3rd initiation the ancient domination of the personality is overcome. Whether the stage of decentralization as regards their personality life is the same thing as initiation, it might be a little bit preliminary. So let's see what the Tibetan says and we'll come back here. ***The focus of their mental attention is the soul and in the world of souls.*** ***Their attention is not directly towards the personality at all, except insofar as is needed for it to adhere to group or soul purpose.*** ***These servers are expressions of soul radiance.*** ***. .*** You know radiant lotuses come to mind and are knowers. . . .and in every organisation they constitute the new and slowly growing group of World Servers. Of course the world servers can be found even at the 3rd degree and in a sense the entire group has at its nucleus, even initiates of the 4th degree. So he emphasizes here the new group of World Servers. The 8th soul group is that of disciples, practical mystics and then the souls who are initiates into the Kingdom of God, so we are in a sense here going beyond the stage of aspiration because we have complete unselfish adaptation.

28:21 So they have reached this point in their evolution and are decentralized - the lower ego is not causing a problem. They are not motivated by the personality. Have they completely ended the ancient domination of the personality? Well maybe not all members of the new group of World Servers have but 3rd degree initiates have. So we are always told to take our eyes off our personal self - this is part of our occult training. And the personality has a lot to do with the solar plexus center and its personal desires, but decentralization is going to lift that focus to the heart center. At the 2nd degree decentralization can occur because there is disidentification from the desire nature. So it looks like these people are minimally of the 2nd degree being true members of the new group of world servers, not simply men and women of good will who are trying to do good things, but people who are truly motivated by service but not by what service can bring to them. There is a definite movement at the 2nd degree from the solar plexus to the heart center and it's this heart center which is going to give the ability to overlook the personality, think about the needs of others, and be selfless in fulfilling the recognized needs of others and of the world. So this is the 7th stage of adaptation and it's taking us quite high into the probationary initiate status and even into the status of the true initiate. Because there is a big leap here. It leaps from #7 to 8 in the stages of adaptation and in #8 we already have the very high initiates and the Masters.

So the focus here of their mental attention is not the fulfillment of desire, not the development or expression of the personality, rather it is in the soul, and in the world of souls, and this will mean the mental attention is focused upon the Divine Plan. It is still mental attention and it is not necessarily total polarization within the soul because we are still dealing with perhaps initiates of the 2nd degree who are not yet fully conscious on the level of the causal body but it is very much a focus in what the soul seeks to do through the mind. It is like 3rd degree but beginning a little earlier and perhaps makes it way to the 3rd degree. This kind of attention to the soul, is in the soul and in the world of souls, the kind of attention to at least to the soul is beginning at the 1st degree when the buddhic force moves strongly into the causal body and even the Monad can be detected in its presence in the causal body but not by the man in his brain consciousness.

So their attention is not directed towards the personality at all. Does this mean they have achieved that great domination, overcoming of the personality life, the ancient domination, well maybe not quite but almost. Here is the statement that the Moon which represents the personality falls in Scorpio and Scorpio represents the 2nd degree, the 3rd degree, and even the 1st degree. So these are not probationary disciples that we could find more so in the 6th stage of adaptation. These are true disciples, probationary initiates and even high probationary initiates who have somehow managed to really decentralize their life. So many people between the 1st and the 2nd degree, they are still very concentrated upon the personality and fixing it of its imperfections that they have noticed and going through the various types of disciplines. But no, this group is really focused on the larger picture. We might stage say in the stages of ACLRI: alignment, crisis, light, revelation and integration, they are focused in the stage of revelation because they have done a lot of fixing of what the light reveals.

33:15 So let's just say the stage of revelation in the ACLRI process is indicated. They may pay some attention to the personality in the sense that it has to serve the group. So this is real discipleship and these are servers who are expressions of soul radiance - remember how we discussed this - the radiant lotuses beginning at the 1st degree and increasing with every more radiance. The lotuses with perfume more at the 2nd degree, although the radiance continues to increase and then finally the lotuses of revelation - if radiance increases sufficiently, it becomes the power to reveal. So these are Knowers. And attractive power. They express themselves radiance and attractive power. They are Knowers of the Plan. Is this in a first-hand manner or a 2nd hand manner? Beyond the 3rd degree it is possible to know the Plan more in a first-hand manner. It doesn't have to mediated to one through one's teachers, but before that, at the 2nd degree, the plan may come down as given by the higher initiates and Masters, but at least one knows what one has to do with respect to the Plan. A true Knower of the Plan might be one more of the 3rd degree***. . . . and in every organization they constitute the new and slowly growing group of world servers.*** Of course initiates of the 3rd degree can be members of this group of world servers and even a nucleus of the 4th degree. ***And in their hands lies the salvation of the world.*** So they are adapting the environment, adapting themselves for the sake of serving and saving the world. This is quite a different kind of adaptation.

35:46 So this is different from the stage of adaptation #6, where there was so many struggles towards the new realization and integration. This was the stage of aspirant and also probationary disciple where house cleaning had to be done, but by stage #7 of adaption they have succeeded in this house cleaning and when we say, complete, unselfish adaptation it places one in the ranks of high probationary initiates and even initiates: initiates of the 2nd degree and of the 3rd degree. When is the major blow against selfishness overcome? It's at the 2nd degree and here we have complete, unselfish adaptation. So the major blow against selfishness has been overcome.

So now we have studied 7 stages of adaptation and we are going into the 8th and final stage of adaptation. The final group in this scale of adaptation is that of the higher initiates. And I am not sure if he really considers an initiate of the 3rd degree a higher initiate. The initiate of the 3rd degree was the *true* initiate. Higher initiates. And so I tend to want to say, those of the 3rd degree who are approaching the 4th degree and also of the 4th degree.

## Stage of Adaptation #8

“8. The final group in this scale of adaptation is that of the higher initiates, the perfected Elder Brethren and Great Companions. They are perfectly adapted to Their personalities, to each other and to world conditions; but as a group They are learning how to adapt the forces of nature, the energies of the rays and the potencies of the zodiacal signs to the world need and the world demand in a practical manner and at any particular time. It is here that the work of the disciples of the world, and of the higher types of aspirants, proves helpful as a field of experiment, and it is in the new group of World Servers that the process of adaptation goes on.” EP I, 325-326

39:30 So earlier he was talking about probationary initiates and initiates of the 3rd degree and the Great Companions. The Great Companions, of course, are the Masters of the Wisdom. So this particular stage of adaptation is not so much about correlating with the 9th group, well yes, to an extent it correlates with the 9th group but when he talks about the Great Companions, these are definitely the souls of the 10th group. They are the Master of Life or Perfected Adepts. So going on, ***They are perfectly adapted,***. . . so that suggests, does it not, the Master is called an Adept - ***They are perfect adapted to Their personalities, . . .*** - their personalities however might even be a Maya-Arupa. An almost 4th degree initiate would still have a personality, maybe even a 4th degree initiate would still have a personality if taking of that degree did not end up in death of the personality and the destruction of the causal body. It's kind of interesting. Can the causal body be destroyed and the personality still remain as it is for the remainder of that incarnation? Because there are those who do survive the destruction of the causal body. They survive with their personality nature and their physical nature, the destruction of the causal body. So it would seem that the personality would remain. And that the destruction of the causal body, maybe especially in the East does not always mean the death of the individual physically speaking.

They are perfectly adapted to Their personalities, to each other, . . . the Masters work in harmony, in deep cooperation, . . .and to world conditions;. . . which they completely understand. . . . but as a group They are learning how to adapt the forces of nature, the energies of the rays. . . how to intelligently control, I think that's what we have looked at here as adaptation, the forces of nature, . . . ***the energies of the rays*** and the potencies of the zodiacal signs to the world need and the world demand in a practical manner and at any particular time. So they really do know the times and seasons and what is called all knowledge on the 3rd subplane of the atmic plane is pretty well belonging to them in quite full measure, because to be a Master is to have atmic skill and those particular abilities that pertain to the Master from the atmic plane are theirs. And so we often theoretically say well this planet, this sign, this ray operates in such a way but can we actually wield them. So the Masters actually know the cycles and how to adapt and use the subtle energy for the good of the world. They can wield these energies at least in a certain form within the 3 worlds. They are divine manipulators in a positive sense of the word. Intelligent directing and controlling and arranging of energies.

43:38 It is here that the work of the disciples of the world, and of the higher types of aspirants, proves helpful as a field of experiment,. . . As we are doing our work as aspirants and disciples, they who are adapting these subtle energies to world good can use us, experiment through us, and see to what level we can be used as instruments. So, It is here that the work of the disciples of the world, and of the higher types of aspirants,. . . not just the selfish type, who are so concerned about their own state, . . . proves helpful as a field of experiment, and it is in the new group of World Servers that the process of adaptation goes on. So the Masters are using the New Group of World Servers as an instrument to work upon the adaptation of world circumstances. The Servers do not stand alone. So much of their inspiration and what they conceive of what they may do is coming from the thought process of the Masters. So here we have in stage of adaptation #8, the initiates and Masters.

Adaptation, the intelligent control of self and circumstances to achieve certain ends at first unfocused and then selfish, and then increasingly selfless, and then finally in line with the Divine Plan and purpose on our planet. As one who must adapt are asked how are we using our intelligence in the world and our willpower and our magnetic force to change the configuration of things so that in this world of becoming the purposes and patterns in the world of being are ever more closely approximated. So you can look at that in your own life, could you not? And you could try to see to what extent you are achieving approximation in your own life through your intelligent ability to adapt, approximation to the Divine Plan. In your relations, in your service, in your various life activities, how much is it really a reflection of the Divine Plan?

46:53 I guess we have been reviewing this and of course you can review, we have certain rubrics, certain titles which give what the stages of adaptation mean:

* # 8 is the High Initiates and Masters,
* #7 is the 'True Disciples and Probationary Initiates,' (high disciplic)
* #6 are the 'Aspirants and Probationers'.
* #5 we still have selfishness but giving room for the selfishness of others, more than the nice good person.
* # 4 we have a span of stages from the nth degree of selfishness all the way to trying to do no damage to others, maybe we could call this the beginning of harmlessness.
* #3 we have a man who is more socially successful. He is the thinker, but he uses other people and his environment in order to create satisfactions and comforts for the personality. He may appear to be quite a nice and good person but there is selfish motive behind it.
* #2 we have animal cunning and thievery and living by one's wits and victimizing others for one's own satisfaction. It is partly instinctual and partly thought. There is some mental perception and by the time we return to,
* #1 we have the adaptation which is entirely instinctual. Man is primarily the unintelligent animal. He is governed by instinct and he puts some of the less experienced types of human beings into this category.

He doesn't go as low in these stages of adaptation to the very first soul group which D.K. says are the nature of throw backs and demonstrate atavism, something that is not of this day or period at all.

49:43 Now we will look at the last several things that he says. Talk about speed reading here, right?

"I have endeavoured to outline these stages of the process of adaptation in terms of consciousness, viewing the subject therefore philosophically and psychologically. It should be remembered that this process, as it goes on in consciousness, produces (surely and inevitably) corresponding changes in mechanism and structure, and in sense perception through the apparatus of the body. On these changes I lay no emphasis in this treatise, for they are beautifully dealt with by modern science, which is steadily forging ahead in the right direction." EPI, 326

I have endeavoured to outline these stages of the process of adaptation in terms of consciousness, viewing the subject therefore philosophically and psychologically. What are the changes in the man's inner attitude, how he sees the world and how he responds to what he sees? ***It should be remembered that this process, as it goes on in consciousness, produces (surely and inevitably) corresponding changes in mechanism and structure, and in sense perception through the apparatus of the body.*** Consciousness comes first. And it is so difficult in the modern age for us to convince people that what changes they hope to achieve in their physical body actually begin with consciousness. And life after life, well they are probably not going to believe in reincarnation overall, these changes occur because changes in consciousness have engineered the outer changes when the physical apparatus is remade, reengineered at each approaching incarnation. So, in esotericism and in occultism, consciousness always comes first and is considered to be more real than its effects in the outer worlds.

***On these changes I lay no emphasis in this treatise, for they are beautifully dealt with by modern science, which is steadily forging ahead in the right direction. I lay no emphasis in this treatise, for they are beautifully dealt with by modern science, which is steadily forging ahead in the right direction.***

***On these changes,. . .***  which are the changes in mechanism and structure, and in maybe in the manner in which one perceives with the senses., because think about it. The senses are not only found on the physical level, those 5 senses, they are also found on the astral level and the mental level and even before one is an initiate of the 3rd degree, these other senses can be certainly awakened. People sense many usually hidden factors. ***On these changes I lay no emphasis in this treatise, for they are beautifully dealt with by modern science, which is steadily forging ahead in the right direction. I lay no emphasis in this treatise, for they are beautifully dealt with by modern science, which is steadily forging ahead in the right direction.*** One has to be so very patient in this question of occultism and human unfoldment. The Masters do not count time as we count time and you know even a few years seem a long time to us and for them they think in terms of centuries and even in terms of processional ages.

“I lay the emphasis upon consciousness as the pre-disposing factor, and on the developed sense of awareness which produces an inner demand for improved equipment. The improving of equipment as a result of the demand of consciousness is the secret of the evolutionary impulse, down the ages. This inner demand in man awakens the centres, and the awakening of the centres determines the response of the endocrine system, governs the nervous system in its threefold capacity, and also the blood stream. Thus the outer form or mechanism is ever an indication of the point of evolution of the inner subjective and spiritual man.” EP I, 326

I lay the emphasis upon consciousness as the pre-disposing factor, and on the developed sense of awareness which produces an inner demand for improved equipment. know if only I could do this, if only I could do that and that faculty, the necessary faculty, fulfilling the ‘if only’ is worked up in between lives. There is, of course, some improvement in the general understanding and even of the equipment to a limited degree in a particular life, but the real change so that the equipment acquiesces to the demand of consciousness is going to occur between lives and then new and more fit vehicles will come forth.

***The improving of equipment as a result of the demand of consciousness is the secret of the evolutionary impulse, down the ages.*** Well that is such a statement. You kind of wonder why people who go in for cryogenics and for preserving the physical body, just as it is, with all of its limitations so that in some time in the future they may be awakened to life, you kind of wonder why they do that because they are imprisoning themselves, well they can't really do it anyway, but they are depriving themselves of the improvement of equipment which occurs between lives in cooperation with the Solar Angel and the building devas and so forth, and they don't have the faith in reincarnation and to realize that ever more suitable equipment will be forthcoming because they, as immortal spirits, have demanded greater and fuller expression.

***This inner demand in man awakens the centres, and the awakening of the centres determines the response of the endocrine system, governs the nervous system in its threefold capacity, and also the blood stream.***

55:00 Demand awakens the centers. This is the key. And then all the other subsidiaries follow accordingly. And the endocrine system and the nervous system respond likewise and that means with what follows there is more adequate equipment. ***Thus the outer form or mechanism is ever an indication of the point of evolution of the inner subjective and spiritual man.*** Quite a statement and when you think about it, the outer equipment can improve during a particular incarnation but there are probably limitations upon the degree of improvement that can be achieved, sometimes maybe astonishing improvement, but the real type of improvement that we hope for where the awakening of the centers and the response of the endocrine glands and nervous system, that the real improvement is going to occur because of reengineering with the devic lives and under the supervision of the Solar Angel which will occur between incarnations.

I think that is going to be the end of our work with the stages of adaptation. We will be mentioning them. I have been trying to a long time, and sometimes succeed, to memorize them so I have them at my disposal. So this is the end of Egoic Lotus Webinar Commentary Program 7.

The Great Invocation.