## EGOIC LOTUS WEBINARS, VIDEO COMMENTARY – 51, Michael Robbins

**Abstract**

Egoic Lotus Webinar Commentaries 51: Part 3 of Synthesis for petal 7. This webinar is about 3 hours, 5 minutes long.

Program 51 offers the third of the commentaries for the Synthesis of petal 7. In terms of the 80 point outline we have been using, it takes us from Point 31 to Point 58. Petal 7 is deeply implicated in the preparation for and taking of the first initiation—requiring both strenuous and abnormal efforts on the part of the candidate and also the application of the Rod of Initiation by the Bodhisattva. It is the first of the sacrifice petals and comes under the category of Sacrifice/Knowledge. The method of sacrifice used to serve is through will and knowledge especially. Through the work accomplished in this petal the disciple begins to connect in a more disciplined manner with the soul or Higher Self and expresses this contact in service. This program discusses why the various astrological signs and planets are associated with the tasks to be accomplished.

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8:55 –

**Transcript.**

Hello friends.

It's been a little while, and now we're coming back to the center of the synthesis for petal number seven. It's the sacrifice-knowledge petal, the sub-knowledge petal of the sacrificed tier. Very important for the first initiation, the first petal, I believe to which the rod of initiation is applied with strong reflex effects upon the fifth petal and also the sixth in the love tier.

We're here at the beginning of egoic lotus webinar commentary number 51 and it is the synthesis for petal number seven. We have just been looking at the order of the series of astrological signs associated with the petals if one begins with the first petal at Aries, and we find and we have discussed Libra in this respect. It is quite an extensive discussion here, in relation to the sign, and if we were to go clockwise, which is not the way of the normal zodiac as we understand it, we would find Libra as well.



So moving backwards through the signs in clockwise order, with Aries, Pisces, Aquarius, etc., we would also find Libra. My thought here is I wonder how much sense it would make to go clockwise or backwards from the fifth petal onwards, because at that point the angel of the soul is a downward-gazing soul. The solar angel is taking an active interest in the man from the time work is being done there, and especially I suppose once the stage of aspiration is reached.

What could be emphasized however, is the contrary motion of the wheel. It is a rending process caused by the man seeking to bring his energies forward towards the higher chakras, and yet the tendency of the personality to drive the fiery energies below the diaphragm and continue its opposition to the rising of the man and the rising of his energies.

When you have these signs determined, for instance, in this petal, we will have the sign Libra, and in Libra one goes towards the heavenly marriage (that is the counter-clockwise indication of Libra and the other more towards ordinary unions and the ordinary social types of activities which lever represents.

In the next petal we will reach petal eight, in a way it's a Scorpio petal. Yet, if we were to go clockwise that is backwards through the zodiac, we have Virgo. Now of course Scorpio and Virgo are very connected as the double *M* signs. If we were to go to the ninth petal in the counter-clockwise, natural zodiacal mode, we will have Sagittarius. Representing the clockwise wheel we will have Leo and of course there could be a big struggle there between the ahamkara of man, the simple ‘I am’, and the third initiation tendency towards ‘I am That’.

Usually we talk about the rulership of a petal by a sign. We don't differentiate between oriented towards the higher oriented towards the lower of the pairs of opposites. But perhaps in this case when we're dealing with petals beyond the fifth which definitely relate to the path of probation or discipleship on the path of probationary initiation.

Perhaps the sign indicated by the clockwise motion tells us something of how the tendencies in that petal could work against the advancing tendencies.

0:05:30 The ordinary Libran tendencies which lead us towards all kinds of unions in the world of form could in that sense oppose the tendency towards of union with the soul the heavenly marriage and so forth. I believe that's one theory that we can advance.

Now if we go on to the number 32, and we begin with Pisces and proceed in clockwise order. From one perspective, we are cleaning up continuously and analyzing ourselves to be rid of glamor because we are at the period of the first initiation, we have much to cleanse in the physical nature. From the higher perspective so much depends upon how an individual will use the available energy the quality of the form. This is the birthplace of the Christ in a sense, this is the place of the first initiation, the physical glamour’s are being somewhat reduced, the physical disciplines are continuing, trying to sort out the confusion and get clear.

Well, Virgo helps with this most definitely, and there's a sense in which we're also sorting out our aspirations and our desires and trying to discriminate aspiration from desire that certainly continues at the time of the first degree but it's a kind of interesting there is a tendency perhaps to fall back into materiality he said of Virgo he has so ordinary man from not the truly spiritual man from matter rain and so if this is that in a sense ruled by Virgo in the counter-clockwise manner, instead of going ahead to the marriage with the soul, there could be the tendency to fall back into the form of a matter of personality which has a lot to do with the material Virgo energy.

See that's an attempt to interpret the sign as part of the clockwise wheel. Virgo is part of the clockwise wheel. I haven't done that very much in any of these signs, I just talked about that the general tendencies, but now when we're moving into an area of the egoic lotus where the tendency is definitely to move forward on the path of discipleship, path of probationary initiation. It is probably interesting to consider what the counterpulls might be, because the combat between the dualities is very strong on this path of probationary initiation. There is always a burning ground before the initiation in which we have to fight with previous tendencies which do not want to see the consciousness advance.

I think we can understand how that would work. Any sign can be used for better or for worse in the drama which every petal presents, and the drama of the duality only intensifies as we move towards the third initiation before which we find what the Tibetan describes as a fearful conflict. This is on page 71, I believe, of *Esoteric Astrology,* ‘a fearful conflict’, and the fearful conflict I suppose it relates to relinquishing the ordinary sense of self and merging into the larger self; it's a loss of the foundational sense of selfhood and that I suppose can be quite a terrifying thing and also the fear that comes in the face of what we might call in relation to the ninth petal, the Tibetans has called it actually, *the utter sacrifice of all forever.*

0:10:00 There is even a sense in which Virgo and Libra were once one sign, and not as much is discussed about that one sign as about the Leo-Virgo unity, as one sign mainly of the sphinx. But we can see here how the preparation for the birth of the Christ proceeding under Virgo would apply. And all of the house cleaning that must be done and especially physical purification and achieving a new type of balance in the chakras of the etheric body under Libra. So a cleansing and balance would go together in this taking of the first initiation.

Are there other signs (this is number 33) other signs implicated here for the seventh petal and what is the meaning of their involvement? So I've listed quite a few signs, maybe really all of them relate to the taking of this initiation. Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius, Capricorn and Pisces. I haven't mentioned Aquarius but we could probably find a way in which that is also, let’s see, one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, and what have I left out? Areas towards Gemini, Cancer, I've had a thought the sign Aquarius, but of course we can always find the relations. Even with a viable third ray for Cancer, and the third ray association with Aquarius and the increasing abstraction and mentalization involved in this petal and the joining of some kind of group consciousness. This can be found in Aquarius. We know that at the first degree the soul begins to really asserted itself, and if assertion is along the line of group consciousness, hence the Aquarius implication.

There are greater or lesser degrees of involvement of the various signs. With Aries we have the first initiation. This is the plunge we might say into the new kingdom, the kingdom of God, the spiritual kingdom, as it's called. And Aries always is the sign of initiation, eventually it will be the preeminent sign of initiation, taking over from Capricorn after the development of increasing sacredness of the earth.

So, whenever there is a new area of life to be entered, Aries is there found. So very definitely at the first initiation. Taurus, from one perspective here, is all about the accumulation of knowledge and subsequent elimination. We definitely have Vulcan of the first initiation, the esoteric ruler of Taurus, and the hierarchical ruler.

There's not only ray four, it has a lot of ray four, and via Venus ray five. So increasing light in general the light of the soul beginning to shine in the mind and in the personality in general, increasing light at the ajna center, the integrated personality is being subjected to the light of the soul and to the will of the soul. Vulcan, let's call it the will of the soul.

In Taurus, the way of determined orientation to the things of the soul and spirit, first the soul. Taurus connected with what the Tibetan calls ‘enlightened, enthusiastic will’, and maybe even more so for petal eight at the second degree. … Also Taurus and the control of the physical body. We found this in the Labors of Hercules, the control of the sex instinct was a prominent subject in the Taurus labor of Hercules. So Taurus drove the bull which represents the instinctual nature to the island of the one-eyed men and that would finally represent the third degree when one becomes truly one eyed.

This is just in general, there's more that can be discussed here for Gemini, but we have the soul personality dialog, the higher mind in relation to the lower mind, and this petal is all about sacrifice through knowledge, and Gemini equips us with a great deal of knowledge and versatile use of knowledge. With Gemini the versatile use of knowledge for second ray purposes as this sign is prominently on the second ray. So we have the end of this some of the third ray involved here as well, but when we talk about the application of all knowledge to the control of the lower man and to service, Gemini can be considered to be prominent here.

Here's another reference to Gemini, which is important:

***The secret of Gemini has to be grasped at the first initiation because it is the mystery of the relation of Father, Mother and Child.*** ***The birth of the Christ child upon the physical plane is the consummating glory of the Gemini force. EA 388***

***The secret of Gemini has to be grasped at the first initiation because it is the mystery of the relation of Father, Mother and Child.*** [*Esoteric Astrology* 388.] This is a very different approach to Gemini and to the first initiation. Usually we talk about the relationship of father, mother and child, in terms of Virgo. ***The birth of the Christ child upon the physical plane is the consummating glory of the Gemini force,*** which is largely at this time a second ray force. So it is the bringing of the soul into incarnation and we would normally associate that with Virgo, but the Tibetan instead associates that with Gemini as well.

Mercury is the son of mind who is the Christ and Mercury is very strong in both Gemini and Virgo and it is the ruler of Gemini and Virgo and exalted in Virgo as well.

This takes us back to the days of individualization and why it is occurring. It is creating a new kingdom which is a blending of the fifth kingdom and the third. We are intent upon the Christing of matter and we start this with individualization. Isn't it interesting how important the sign Gemini is at the time of individualization?

Gemini, Leo, Cancer – those three signs are very prominent at this time of coming into the state of our individual consciousness through the intervention of the solar angel of course. …

The solar angels are deeply connected with Gemini and especially with the higher of the twins, Pollux, the one who represents the spiritual kingdom. So we will start at individualization and we will help transform the earth Gemini, the earth is the hierarchical ruler, to Gemini help transform the earth and make it a sacred planet. Becoming a first degree initiate is part of the process of preparing to make the sacred planet or the Christed planet. I think when we look at Gemini, Sirius and the Earth, we have a very important triangle. Or if we look at Sirius, Gemini, Venus as a triangle in relation to the earth we understand the kind of forces which are contributing to the sacredization of the earth.

The gates are the pillars of Hercules. We are entering incarnation, we are leaving incarnation. The beginning of the first initiation is the triumph in humanity of the second ray over the third. Gemini in a way is connected with the third ray, but even more especially with the second ray. At this time and we are making sure through Gemini of the dominance, and the grounding, of the landing, of the embodiment of this Christ force.

0:21:00 I think Gemini is very connected with the first initiation really, I mean the Christ is being brought into incarnation on the earth, and the earth here is in a way of the personality of the human being, it's Christ being born in matter and the earth represents matter and form, both. So it's kind of a union between the second and third ray. We might say that the lower part of Gemini represents the third ray and the higher part the first ray, that's from one perspective. Then once there is a soul-personality union then the higher part of Gemini represents the first ray and the lower part of the combination of the second and third ray, or the soul-infused personality.

Now, when we consider Cancer, Christ was born in a manger and Cancer is the sheepfold, is the manger where the animals of the personality are to be found, four lunar elementals. So in this sense the Christing of the individual at the first initiation in a vehicle, in a vessel, shows the connection of the sign Cancer representing the vehicle at the first initiation.

There are other ways that that Cancer can be associated with knowledge, through its third ray and through its seventh ray. It represents an embodiment of the second aspect within the third aspect. The seventh ray really is the concretization of the form in such a way that it can receive the Christ force.

Leo actually rules the first initiation. We are said to take this initiation in or under the sign Leo. Meaning if it's our sun sign, or it's in the rising sign, we are taking the first initiation under the sign Leo.

So this is a birth of a new type of individuality, which is in a way the seed of group consciousness and eventually in Leo it will be said ‘I am That’, not just simply ‘I am’, and this will represent group consciousness and this certainly is confirmed in a significant way at the first initiation that we can associate with this petal.

Virgo, of course counting backwards from Pisces we find it, and we're told when DK describes the various crises that this is the crisis of the birth place. Virgo represents the crisis of the birth place. Discipleship is really beginning at this point, in earnest, and in a way we're stepping off the path of probation or discipleship onto the path of true discipleship which will see us making a strong pledge, keeping our pledge, continuing as an accepted disciple and working towards the stage of accepted disciple, so it fits very well at the seven petal because the path is beginning in earnest at this petal.

Libra we have discussed pretty thoroughly. It's in a sense the pivot point between the Kingdoms. Between the well Libra is another one of those signs associated both with the fourth kingdom and with the fifth kingdom as well. So in its association with the fourth kingdom it brings in the fourth ray. In its association with the fifth kingdom it brings in the second ray, and it's only later when we're studying some of the paths of higher evolution that we understand the connection of Libra, also with the second ray. Also in as much as it brings in Divine Love and Understanding it's connected with the second ray. So the pivot point is, as I said, once they were one sign.

Talk about the law of nature of Libra here, we are at this point to become citizens of the fifth kingdom the kingdom of souls, the kingdom of God, and there are new laws to be applied in a new kingdom; new laws for a new kingdom. Especially laws of the soul.

0:26:40 The law of magnetic impulse is especially connected with Libra, but also all of these laws in general. Libra is the sign of the law, of regulating our behavior in a just and true manner with all others in relationship. What law is, is a force which holds the pattern of the archetype. Law is a force which holds the archetypical pattern. If we don't have law we have the expression of patterns which are non-archetypical and therefore the will of God, or the purpose of God as expressed in archetype, will not be fulfilled upon the Earth in the lower worlds. We will have all kinds of other patterns and they may be very dissonant with the archetype of pattern which is intended to manifest.

This is just a little bit about each. If you are born in or under a particular sign, you can study your sign in relation to the tasks which have to be fulfilled in order to bring about the fulfillment or the unfoldment of this first petal before, during, and following the first initiation.

Now with Scorpio. Well even with Libra, sex, money and comfort. These are the heads of the Scorpio, but with Libra also we have the tests of sex, and money, and comfort. These are heads of the hydra. But in Scorpio these tendencies are really tested. So we have the tests, we have the strong tendencies towards sex, money and also comfort. I was there's an old saying I'm not sure it's really true, but there is a saying in astrology that if it's got a lot of *L*’s, ‘Lazy Libra loathes the duster’. Meaning it doesn't like to clean up so much as as Virgo does. Of course, that's just a generalization and I'm sure there are many Libran people who love the duster. But anyway that's how the tradition goes in relation to that sign. So we have the strong tendencies related to the sacral center which is ruled by Uranus, and also being the esoteric ruler of Libra, and in Scorpio these tendencies are tested out.

There's a testing potency of Scorpio found in relation to three initiations and then found in another way following the third initiation, but at first this testing tendency is very present, and the physical tests are what we're passing through at the first initiation.

0:30:35 If I were to go to around page 542 of *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire,* something like that.

1. **The Petal of Knowledge *for the mental plane; its unfoldment marks the period wherein the man consciously utilizes all that he has gained or is gaining under the law for the definite benefit of humanity. TCF 541***

It talks about the ***petal of knowledge for the mental plane; it's unfoldment against the period marks a period where a man consciously utilize this as all he has gained or is gaining under the law for a definite benefit of humanity*** … okay that we know. I think we have to look rather at page 823, let us try that, and here … 822:

1. ***Petal 1...The Will to sacrifice through knowledge on the mental plane, and thus intelligently to dominate the entire threefold lower man. TCF 822***

***… The will to sacrifice … on the mental plane, and thus intelligently to dominate the entire threefold lower man.*** That's where the control comes in at the first initiation, and especially the physical part of the threefold lower man is dominated and that physical part relates very much to Uranus which is the esoteric ruler of Libra. Of course Saturn is the big planet in Libra, being both a hierarchical ruler and as well the exalted planet, and so is a very Saturnian sign, it has a lot to do with the third aspect of divinity of which the physical body is the best in a way representation just as the astral body represents the second aspect and the mental body represents the first aspect of divinity.

There is the association of Scorpio always with the first three initiations, and it does appear here testing us out in terms of sex, money, and comfort. It’s not that these tests are completely resolved in first degree but they are resolved with sufficiency to allow man to continue his progress and to prove that he is not the complete victim of anyone of these tendencies in the instinctual nature. They are really associated with the sacral center, very definitely.

Now, Sagittarius? Well, we're becoming the one-pointed disciple at the time of the first degree and Sagittarius indicates and rules the first two degrees. DK talks about initiations one and two especially in relation to Sagittarius. We're setting our sights upon the higher mind or even upon the abstract mind wood with which Sagittarius is connected; the free and expansive mind which is separated from form and so the power of abstraction is quite strong in some of the more highly developed Sagittarians. Our orientation is definitely towards the kingdom of God and knowledge is being focally applied to control the physical nature especially as Sagittarius is connected with the physical nature. It is ruled actually by the earth esoterically and we do find many Sagittarius into the physical disciplines and exercise of the physical body in general. So we're using our higher abilities to control the etheric-physical nature which has a lot to do with Earth and Earth is the ruler esoterically of Sagittarius and hierarchically of Gemini.

We could ponder on this and find other ways in which it works, but let's just say the vision of the soul is coming in very strongly now because we are taking the first initiation, and that higher of the pairs of opposites we are reaching towards it, it's becoming a very real goal and objective and these of course are the words associated with Sagittarius.

All right I seem to be going through all of the different signs, I guess the different petals that in the sacrifice tier have five colors, and they are more complex. Just as we rise through the chakras they have more petals and more potency is connected with them. So it's no wonder that we can find a way in which every sign of the zodiac is importantly connected with the tasks associated with the petals of sacrifice.

0:36:40 Capricorn is a classic here, this sign is connected with the birth of the Christ. We know that Christmas or the birth of the Christ occurs at the Capricorn time of year, the winter solstice. It represents not only the heights appreciated on the mountaintop, but also the density of matter and the Christ or the great second ray force is born here in the density of matter. So it's a very sacrificial type of process whereby the great lord of the second aspect is firmly incarnated in the density of matter, at the time of Christmas, and there is the great promise for all of us in terms of the Christ unfoldment in our nature.

Aquarius? I did mention it’s more about group consciousness and we're still entering the regime of group consciousness with the process of initiation. Aquarius is definitely connected with the kingdom of souls into which we are entering and we are oriented towards the hierarchy which has been called the Society of Organized and Illumined minds. Were beginning a life which will take us towards the impersonality of Aquarius; it is one of the more impersonal signs and towards the hierarchy and initiation leads us into membership in the spiritual hierarchy of the planet.

So Aquarius does apply. We are stepping into the kingdom of souls. All of hierarchy and that kingdom is ruled by Aquarius, in a sense and it's all about the new. Aquarius, just one of those signs that gives us a fresh view of life and a new type of energy participation after we have fulfilled our obligations in Capricorn. And it's very connected with the etheric body. This sign is, as is Gemini. I should have mentioned that. There's a lot of cleaning out of the etheric body at the time of the first initiation and we have to learn how to really control the physical body from the etheric body at that time, governed by the mind. Instead of being such physical beings, we are starting to become more ethereal, more etheric beings, and in that way Aquarius would fit with this connection to the first initiation. If they'll even petal even Aquarius exercise the brick where is Gemini they all fit here prominently in well when.

We come to the last sign, Pisces is involved and we are certainly strongly under the law of sacrifice, the whole path of initiation is the law of sacrifice. … Pisces in relation this petal involves Pluto which is the esoteric ruler and hierarchy ruler of Pisces and we can begin at this stage of the first degree and a little before to use these esoteric rulers. We are beginning the path of relinquishment, and Pluto we have been told is extremely strong pre first initiation indicator along with Vulcan. We are cleansing ourselves from the past. Via Pluto we cleanse our psyche and energy system from past influences they come up and are dissipated.

0:41:20 We are transferring onto fixed cross here. So many things that can be said here transferring onto the fixed cross. And Pisces is the sign of transfer off the mutable cross to the fixed cross. We find it to be a transitional sign from the high areas of the later mutable cross onto the fixed cross. This really begins in earnest at the first degree with entry into the kingdom of God. I mean, there's a lot of overlapping going on here, and as we are true probationary initiates and really struggling to get ourselves in hand, fixed cross influences are already coming in, but by the time we have taken the first degree we are mounted upon the fixed cross in all truth and actuality.

We've really seen how all twelve signs can be related to the theme which are occurring with the development and unfoldment of the seventh petal. Now we've been told that quite a number of those who are students of esotericism and many people in the world have taken this first degree. Doesn't necessarily mean that because we are a student of esotericism we have absolutely taken the first degree but many have and so the development of this petal and working within it to achieve a new type of balance and etheric control is relevant to many people and this utilization of whatever we have gained in terms of knowledge to the control or the discipline of the physical body and generally of the whole personality is relevant to those people who have taken or are taking the first degree.

I think that gives an idea at least and that's what we want to have and then every student of the wisdom will have to work this out in his or her own life. It' so vitally important to see where we stand and what we are really doing. The next step ahead has to be understood, but also in the larger context of our particular task in a particular life or series of lives. If we could have a good idea of what that life is supposed to accomplish, what our karmic liabilities are that have to be overcome, but the general series of lives in which we are engaged is meant to accomplish then we are beginning to enter into the consciousness of the solar angel, which we are told sees a few lives ahead, a few lives backwards, if he focuses on those. Maybe you could see more if it were profitable and then can direct the man properly towards what must be accomplished.

Now the next category of signs implicated on the basis of color. Well, because we look at the color again right and we have yellow, orange, green, violet, and rose. Five colors.

So it's see here we have Gemini always connected with the yellow and we've seen how this new relationship between soul and personality is kind of –



… there is also the yellow of the law of sacrifice.

Pisces? Well rose color is much connected with Pisces, but also the color lavender is the color DK actually gives, but the devotion and the sacrifice and the relinquishment, and the elevation of desire, all of this is colored by the idea of rose, the transportation of the astral body. Leo for orange and the increasing vitality conferred as the soul, takes a stronger volcano and grip upon the personality and vitalize as it through the etheric body.

Capricorn for green of course also. Well, yeah Capricorn is particularly green. I suppose the violet is connected because of the seventh ray and really understanding how to use the third aspect indicated by green for purposes of the second aspect.

Cancer is related to violet and for the magical embodiment which starts to happen in the first degree. Even the throat center begins to be ruled by the seventh ray, the seventh ray is the major ray for the first initiation and it really indicates the embodiment of the Christ, the birth of the Christ in the manger, which is Cancer again.

0:47:00 Major great constellation most implicated? One of the three great constellations which are three major centers I believe in our local One About Whom Not May Be Said.

Canis Major? Well Sirius within Canis Major the Great Bear, and the Pleiades may be the most central of all. So Sirius really comes in here, Sirius is behind all of our initiations. Our entire initiatory regime is an expression of Sirian energy and the Great White Lodge are sometimes called the Blue Lodge on Sirius. So now we are really beginning our method of Sirian training and when we really are in a sense on the probationary path with respect to Sirius, once we take the third initiation we become a disciple. Once we take the fifth initiation we become it a true first degree initiate in relation to Sirius. So we are definitely on that that Sirian path. We don't know whether we will succeed or not because some people do veer off after the second degree and fail to follow through, but at least this is the type of hierarchical training inspired by Sirius to which we are submitting.

How is the Great Bear involved? Well it is the practical source of the Will aspect of the seven rays for us. The rays are becoming important and the soul ray is now earnestly contending with the personality ray in specific ways according to the ray. We can know something about this. Not everybody will at the time of the first initiation, but increasingly the science of the rays will help people understand the interplay between the higher and lower pairs of opposites within themselves.

Also the Great Bear is associated with the divine will and with the monadic aspect and of the first initiation that monadic aspect takes up its residency more prominently within the soul even though we're not aware of that in our brain consciousness. So it least at this point we can consciously begin to work with the seven rays in a meaningful way. Of course, this depends on the school of training in which we find ourselves in right now, not so many people know about the seven rays but increasingly it will be oneof the foundational sciences of the new and accepted esoteric psychology.

Also at this point our seven head centers are becoming strong. And we work with those seven head centers on the way towards the third degree, and will increasingly towards the third degree. But take a look here in *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire*, page 170 or so, spiritual man to the third initiation. The seven head centers and five of the centers are probably opened by the time we take the first initiation. So the seven rays via Vulcan are very strong. We connected with the developing of these controlling head centers.

Now, there may be 21 centers after all, in a sense, I have not made a truly intelligent and determining decision about whether we can differentiate seven centers within the head from a kind of ajna series of centers which mounts upward toward the crown and may also be a seven. Certain books on the chakras seem to have specified that there are these other centers which are not centers within the head at all. So centers above the head centers, centers in the head, all of that has to be sorted out we do know at least the location of the other and the chakra more normally discussed. So the seven rishis of the Great Bear who are the source is the practical source of the seven rays for us they do control the seven head centers.

0:52:20 Here it looks a little like a tangent here [laughing], but astrology is very much related to the third ray, and the science of the rays, to the second ray, and the science of being to the first ray, where we determine that being is not this and not that, but it is something other than that altogether, or other than this. This way of divine refusal. Here we have the science of the trinity in which the three are one of the one of the three. Oneness is manifesting through three threes, this is all about the science of being. We use the way of divine refusal to arrive at oneness. Eventually the idea of the great zero or the ‘no thing’ as pure being. Well that might have been one of those little interesting discussion tangents we went to at that point.

With respect to the Pleiades, in a sense we are beginning to leave the mother aspect behind. The Pleiades represents that mother. From another point of view, the solar angels are related to the Pleiades in terms of the second ray, since the Pleiades are the source of cosmic buddhi, or at least to us, the Dragon and the Pleiades are sources of cosmic buddhi. So we are entering another type of relationship with the Pleaides which is not the usual material relationship. Those are the three great constellations. We could probably talk about other constellations that are maybe part of the One About Whom Not May Be Said.

Orion is in our own local system of seven major stars and more I suppose he's also a center and maybe a kind of solar plexus center, I think in the One About Whom Not May Be Said, and there are other constellations as well the Little Bear has to be included. There's a lot of mystery connected with atom around page 50 that of *Esoteric Astrology,* that mystery is somewhat explored.

I'm not sure whether we can work out yet in a totally definitive manner what are the major constellation centers in our local One About Whom Not May Be Said, but certainly Orion and our local system of seven stars and Little Bear on Sirius maybe on its own, but also maybe as part of our local system of seven. The Great Bear and the Pleiades are all part of this.

Constellation of the Centaur, I wonder, we've been thinking about that in connection with the sacral center. That's that's a great big science and deals with things so far beyond our ken, so far beyond what is practical for us to engage in, in terms of energy that while it makes for interesting speculation, there's no way that we can confirm these factors.

When we talk about Orion as the great hunter, Sirius following Orion, the loyal dog following Orion, it means a special relationship between our local system of seven major stars of our local cosmic logos and whom are full of course is our center and the great constellation Orion, in a way we seem to be following Orion, if we are a solar plexus center then perhaps we are in a way following after a major heart center in this great Being. But there are so many different ways of looking at Orion, we all have to realize that these great super cosmic logoi have their own series of rays, a personality ray, a soul ray, and a monadic ray. So we can see and understand them under different aspects, just as we can see and understand our locals zodiacal constellations under different aspects.

Zodiacal constellations has its role as the heart and the head center here in this great Being, our local super cosmic logos. But all of that is part of cosmic fire and I have speculated upon this in my discussions commentaries on *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire* and also even be an *Esoteric Astrology* book where I've made minute if often ignorant commentaries, I hope not too ignorant, but with such a vast subject some ignorance is obviously bound to show. But I've gone through it page by page, paragraph by paragraph, almost word for word, and some of these things have there been discussed.

Well are there other constellations that we can implicate here? We’ll go through this first and then look at the table of decanates. Canis Major of course contains Sirius, it is as I say, the loyal dog following the Hunter. I mean it is oriented towards the Christ. Of course in one sense in Canis Major is what for us is the Christ force and that is Sirius. But there's a Sirius itself is oriented toward something higher and those fantastic stars in Orion, all of them first magnitude stars, tell us something about that orientation.

It is said that the Great Bear, especially the seven stars, were featured in the headdress of the pharaoh and Orion in the headdress of the pharaohess; looks like a combination of the first and second ray.

There is this kind of triangle we might call it, well it's more than just a triangle, but Sirius, Venus, the Christ, that's one kind of triangle but we have to remember our own sun is involved in that and so is Gemini. So we might have Gemini, Sirius, our sun, Venus, and the Christ in a fivefold and very important relationship.

We are told we really don't experience the direct energy of Sirius until the third degree, so what we receive is a kind of attenuation or reflection, a kind of a transforming in a downward manner of the Sirian energy. But nevertheless all initiation is under Sirian influence, so at the seventh petal with the first initiation becoming so prominent it's important.

Now the Southern Cross is involved here, it's connected with Libra, Libra being one of the signs of the Christ, I believe, and the Christ as the Prince of Peace is we can say is found all the three initiations.

Ara of the altar, in Sagittarius relaying your lower nature upon the altar and sacrificing it and rendering it submissive and a servant to the higher nature. Sagittarius you're beginning to have the arrow in Capricorn, interestingly, beginning of the Via Dolorosa.

Pegasus in Aquarius, you're beginning to fly high and to leave the earth behind, your aspiring towards the soul and spirit heights.

Andromeda. You may be the chained woman, but you are in process of being liberated by Perseus who is found in Aries, he's cutting you free so you are freer from matter.

I said something here, Taurus and Gemini might be related to Sirius and Orion because Sirius is the hunting dog of Orion. We'll have to take that for what it is worth. What I'll do is I'll turn to these table of decanates, I think that could be interesting, I mentioned some of them and when it comes to that I'll pass over them relatively quickly.

Let's see if there are any other of these constellations which we can relate to the first degree?

Cetus, the Sea Monster, of course when we come into the period of the first initiation we are freeing ourselves from the lower tendencies and there's a lot of purgation that goes on in those lower realms with Pluto and Vulcan, penetrating to the depths. So Cetus will no longer have so much power.

Cassiopeia is the unthroned queen and matter will be toppled from the throne eventually as the initiation process proceeds. We are already striking a major blow for the soul against the third ray reign of matter.

Perseus the hero in Aries, well he will free us in three steps from the head of the Medusa and maybe it takes even four steps, but we are using the mind increasingly which is related to the seventh petal, it’s the knowledge petal of the sacrifice tier, and we're learning how to see our past represented by the Medusa through the reflection of the soul-infused mind.

Eridinus, a ribbon is the River of Souls in relation to Taurus well through the process of reincarnation which we are becoming more certain of as we reach the first degree of certain schools of thought we have the opportunity for advancement.

Auriga, the charioteer, we are trying to pass rapidly upon our way.

Orion bringing enlightenment in a sense, and we are oriented towards the light and away from the darkness of matter-form.

Lepus, the hare, will we clean ourselves up? Will we run away from the Hound of Heaven? That is something that every disciple has to face. To see me because he was always an aspect of his or her nature which is running from the demands of the soul.

Canis Minor, the eager aspirant. At this first initiation, all true aspirants have taken the first initiation says that the Tibetan. Canis Major is oriented towards Sirius and the greater dog were oriented towards the soul is playing an increasingly important part in our life.

Argo, we are among the aspirants and we are taking a great Hero's Journey accompanied by our fellow aspirants.

Ursa Minor is related to the small group of aspirants and disciples, it's also the manger in a certain sense, and we are becoming oriented towards Ursa Major and the higher will through the seven rays, this is at the first degree.

Hydra? Well, hydrous, it's pretty much the same as Cetus, we are learning how to overcome that lower water snake.

Crater is the cup. Our causal body is being consciously built now and we are also under Corvus, receiving the words of karma. The Black Crow. The messages of the gods, and we are more aware of how the world of the soul and the world of the gods is intervening into our life.

Coma Berenices – many sacrifices are required. We don't make all the sacrifices at first, in the seventh petal, other petals are more important.

1:07:00 Bootes? In a way how conscious of our spiritual harvest. Different people understand Bootes and the Centaur to be either in this manner the matter presented or reversed when it comes to the Centaur we are learning how to spear our lower nature or the wolf and place it upon the altar. When it comes to Bootes, it does represent the Christ force, we are harvesting from normal experience that which can be used to increasingly express the Christ force.

The Southern Cross, in Libra, it has to do with the orientation towards the Christ force.

Lupus? We are the victim in our personality nature, we are the sacrifice, we are the wolf, that highly predatory creature, who has to be laid upon the altar of sacrifice, and then eventually we will be crowned with Corona Borealis. We are crowned but not in the highest sense, the Shamballic sense, but every initiation is a kind of crowning and involve the head center.

With Serpens along with Hydras and also Cetus, these are all symbols of the lower nature which we are learning how to control. With Ophiucus, which is the central being here, again it is possible to reverse this. Some feel that Ophiucus, a Christ-like figure, should represent, or is it Hercules. Conventionally understood Hercules is the figure found in the third decanate, and let's just say or is it Ophiucus?

Anyway the Serpent Handler manages to heal the effects of the lower nature. We are getting a grip upon ourselves we might say and increasingly this will be so at the three initiations all of them ruled by Scorpio. In one sense Hercules becomes the triumphant disciple at each initiation. And so the triumph here is to a reasonable extent over the physical nature.

The Lyra? It's also related to the seven rays and the seven-stringed Lyra of Apollo. We're becoming more aware of the influence of these seven energies, it's also the solar angels falling from above and helping with the individualization process making it possible really at the dawn of the fourth kingdom on our particular planet. So certainly we are becoming aware of the descending solar angelic energy it makes us want to sacrifice that which is lower in our nature and lay it upon the altar of sacrifice whereby it is transmitted and will eventually become a subsidiary quality of the soul.

Draco is such a huge constellation, it is the source of cosmic buddhi. Interesting. That the dragon has not only the seventh ray connected with it, and all of the magical dragon-like processes which is so popular now that the seventh ray is coming in, but is connected with the second ray of wisdom with the whole idea of dragons of wisdom and we're on our way towards that in the initiation process, but not so strongly just yet.

Sagitta, the arrow of pain, is accompanying us now as we begin to tread the path which will make us a member of the fellowship of Christ's suffering.

Delphinus. Are we freeing ourselves from the water and can we play in the lower levels of our personality? Can we rise into the air towards us towards the sun? It’s starting.

Aquila, the Eagle. Each initiation is a type of triumph but really at the third initiation Aquila is most important.

Cygnus is the swan outside of time and space. It is a great constellation and it represents all that is transcendent. I think perhaps in its full nature, not yet. But Pegasus the winged horse is related very much also to be the lesser dog, Procyon, its eagerness to go ahead and here, the eagerness to fly high and to fly towards the sun. The sense of liberation starting not yet with us entirely.

Pisces Astrinus. It is a redemptive. Constellation the Southern Fish found at the base of the river, Eridinus, the River of Souls. It is the redeemer and we are subject to the Redeemer.

The band? We're learning in what ways we are violent and how soul and personality have been bound to each other, and how the soul has been especially bound to the personality. But this band in Pisces represents the opportunity to free the soul from its bondage to the personality and turn the tables entirely and make the personality the subject which is bound through the Soul.

I mentioned Andromeda, we are becoming increasingly unchained. The hero has not entirely freed us, it's a sequential process.

Cepheus, the King, not yet. Not yet is he the initiator. At the third initiation it is Sanat Kumara who we can consider Cepheus, the King, who will be considered the initiator.

So that's a run through the constellations which can be considered. … We have run through the extra-zodiacal constellations, all of these are ambient energies, they are stellar energies and even beyond stellar they are super-stellar in a way but they do as any sidereal astrologer can tell us, they do have an effect upon man. So let's say that every Aries person has to deal with his Cetus is the Sea Monster, the great unconscious elemental forces that wants to swallow the nascent soul, and have to deal with the fact that it matter sits enthroned as the Queen Cassiopeia and she has to be dethroned in a sense – matter can no longer prevail – and that there is the hero in every Aries type.

Interesting, Joseph Campbell, who wrote about the hero's journey, a hero with a Thousand Faces. He was an Aries and Interestingly enough although he was a strong academic and led his life in the academic sphere he developed this whole idea of the hero impulse.

So within every Aries type is the archetype of the hero. These are archetypes, archetypes are embodiments of cosmic and systemic energies, presented often in pictorial form and in relation to a story, or a great story, a myth, and they tell us a way of living in the world, a way of being. And they describe for us how we might carry forward the pattern that they represent, in the lower worlds and thus achieve some degree of triumph represented by the archetype.

Well right. Now we have lots to do, lots to do.

Number 37. The synthesizing planet most associated with is sacrifice tier? It would be Uranus, Saturn is more material, although Uranus is a seventh ray planet. In fact, it has a strong connection with sacrifice really they all do, all three can show up in three different ways, in three different tiers, but when we're considering the nature of this tier, it is most associated with the first ray rather than the third, and the monadic ray of Uranus (the Tibetan seems to be telling us on page 420 of *Esoteric Psychology,* Volume 1), it is the first ray.

So we are being awakened through Uranus, awakened through initiation. We are being awakened also that our brother is our equal, we might say there in Libra, and a fellow spirit in the great brotherhood in relation to Aquarius. Well we're being awakened to our true Self. Uranus has four relations. It is the hierarchical ruler of Aquarius, it's the veiled, hierarchical ruler of Leo. It is the esoteric ruler of Libra equality and it is the ordinary ruler, orthodox ruler, exoteric ruler, of Aquarius. So in all those respects it is active here, but let's just say the Uranian rod of initiation is not yet applied until the ninth petal and the Neptunian rod of the boddhisatva is being applied at these petals. Uranus in terms of the three planets is most associated with a kind of liberation which comes through sacrifice. That is the key, we must bind ourselves in order to be free. …

1:19:36 We have the Shiva, Vishnu, and the Brahma, they're all involved of course, in some way muted or more emergent at every tier, but Shiva is involved here. It is the liberating effect Uranus, Shiva. So we can say that sacrifice restores us to conformity to our heavenly prototype or archetype. Uranus is that; Uranus is that heavenly prototype or archetype. Through sacrifice we unbind ourselves to the lesser patterns which have conditioned us and which prevent us from truly conforming to archetypal living.

Uranus is associated with being we might say and we eventually sacrifice everything in order to be pure being deceived her being we sacrifice everything except your being pure being *be* indestructible, it cannot be sacrificed. But in a way it is, isn't it, as with the habit of bestowing itself upon all of its emanations which have forgotten who and what they are.

It's kind of interesting that some people associate Neptune with Shiva, and one can understand that because of the great destructive power of Neptune, to call in the pralaya, and Shiva carries the Trident which is of course Neptune's symbol. There's a lot of combinations and permutations that we can enter into here because there is the sense in which every three is actually of nine. So every aspect has the other two aspects subsidiary to it as well. That is expressed in the words that Brahma and Vishnu are in Shiva and Vishnu and Shiva in Brahma. And Brahma and Shiva are in Vishnu. So three is the nine and the nine is the number actually which represents the cycles of the third grade so even in this sacrifice petal we are beginning to awaken and by the time we reach petal number nine.

We choose the one sense in Aries petal. We have Uranus is the hierarchical ruler, Aries awakening us to the meaning of pure being which is achieved in a foundational sense at the third degree with which Aries and Uranus are both associated. Uranus in one sense is very strong here, but also Saturn, the planet of privation and sacrifice, must be active at the sacrifice petals, and so must Neptune which being the planet of the second ray of fundamentally and brings in the soul aspect and loosens, dissolves our bonds from all material identifications now.

What division of the synthesizing planetary triplicity is most associated with this petal? Uranus sub -Saturn because Saturn is always associated with knowledge, because of its third ray monad as of this is the sub knowledge petal of the general sacrificed tier. Uranus is involved here too with reversing the wheel electric fire is beginning to come in in the petals of sacrifice very muted and quite latent for the first two petals, but actually beginning to demonstrate more strongly here in the ninth petal associated with the third initiation.

So all the inner tier, not the innermost tier, but the inner here, can be connected with Saturn, Neptune is the Christ who appears at the first initiation, Neptune vision of Christ. There's an equivalency so all three are involved we must fulfill the law under Libra at this petal, and also under Saturn, we must meet the Christ who is Neptune and start on the path in the New Kingdom which is Uranus. So all three will meet here, interestingly enough Uranus and Saturn have a strong connection with Libra which is perhaps the paramount sign found in revelation through this seventh petal. Well, the temptation to expand further.

1:36:30 Now we're going to deal with number 39, the neighboring planets most associated with the petal? It is Mercury. Mercury associated more with the previous solar system even than with the present solar system with which Venus is most associated.

Mercury is associated with the color yellow. The sacrifice is yellow. Sacrifice has a lot to do with reconciling the pairs of opposites and bringing to be the lower of the pair into harmony with a higher Mercury sacrifice. Yellow restores sight to the blind. That's what initiation is all about when the time of the first initiation. Mercury leads into the mysteries and the mysteries in a way beginning here at the first initiation. It leads us to greater sight. We could say that the entire tier is connected with Mercury because yellow is found in each one of the petals.

We have used the planets Mars, Venus and Mercury, they are the neighboring planets, neighboring the earth we might say and we also have a place of course for Venus in relation to the petal because the angel of the presence or the solar angel is coming into very definite rapport, not perfect rapport, but definite rapport, with the aspiring personality, but we'll save that archetype really for the next petal. Mercury sub-Mars. Aspiration to propagate the knowledge of the spirit to utilize the knowledge of the Spirit. Mars as a fairly material planet to energetically apply with full aspiration the knowledge that we have been gaining. All knowledge gained here is used for service purposes.

We justify our aspiration, and we have the energy that is often found at the time of the first initiation when the Martian sacral center is reoriented towards the throat. It's not just Uranus towards Saturn had to throat center its Mars toward Saturn at the throat center and even Mars towards Uranus, because Uranus in a suspension will be ruling that throat center via the seventh ray at the first initiation, or will provide a substantial stream of energy controlling that throat center. So we have the reorientation of Mars. It becomes truly aspirational and magnetized by Venus. The soul is Venus-Mercury or Mercury-Venus, the divine hermaphrodites. So we'll call it Mercury sub-Mars, the next petal Mercury sub-Venus, and the next petal Mercury sub-Mercury.

Number 41: Is there a sun- polarity most associated with this petal? The sun. We're leaving the lunar nature behind. As it says in rule five for aspirants found in *Initiation Human and Solar* and also in *The Rays and the Initiations.* The solar angel is becoming the sole luminary in the microcosmic sky. …

***Let the applicant see to it that the Solar Angel dims the light of the lunar angels, remaining the sole luminary in the microcosmic sky. RI 20***

***Let the applicant see to it that the Solar Angel dims the light of the lunar angels, remaining the sole luminary in the microcosmic sky.*** Even the word *soul* is a play upon words. Sole and soul, very much the same, and speaking of that and in hinting at the idea that there is a sole soul, or one soul. So the solar angel is dimming the light of the lunar angels here at the first degree, especially the first lunar angel associated with the physical body and is becoming a sole luminary in the microcosmic sky.

What is the microcosmic sky really? We can call it our sphere of personality awareness, our sphere of consciousness. When we are within the personality, when we as a soul, an extension of consciousness within the personality, are becoming aware of something greater. This is the reaching of the personal microcosm towards something larger. It is still the microcosm of course. As long as we are an individual emanation we are a microcosm.

So whatever the monadic consciousness may be, it is the microcosm, but this monad-in-extension is so far immersed in the personality that we're used to having these lunar vehicles or these lunar objects as luminaries in our microcosmic sky. We have to subdue that lunar influence and the sun or the soul becomes for the moment the sole luminary in the microcosmic sky and then we can even consider the Monad as a higher type of sun.

Interestingly that the name for India is Chandra, which means the moon and does that suggest Indians or those on the Indian continent coming in from the moon chain? Well so many of them right now have not come in from the moon chain but are earth chain monads and have a connection with Jupiter and Venus actually.

Let's take a look at this. Saint Paul was a Scorpio and the moon is falling in Scorpio and he was all was in a way battling between the Christ force and the lunar force. The body of death was the lunar force and the Christ force was the victorious Christ in him that had to win this particular battle. He certainly had a strong element of struggle in his nature, and maybe the fact that he was a (I believe) a first ray monad intensified this struggle. Certainly Scorpio was a big part of that. Really for him the first initiation was not an issue but still there was some remnant of conquering the physical body it seemed, but the second and third, and maybe even the fourth initiations were for him were issues. He may have been one of those who moved from the second to the third and thence to the fourth at the close of his life.

1:34:00 So from the time we have entered the fifth petal, there's a certain Sun-Moon polarity fighting it out in the fifth petal, but from that time on the sun is ascending, and even though there's a strong lunar component to the sixth petal because the moon is the esoteric ruler of Virgo, still the sun is gaining the upper hand. Each one of us could look at our lives and ask, ‘Well, in this ongoing struggling polarity in the life of man, the battle between the sun and the moon, how is it going for us? Are we attracted to the lunar life and attempting to fulfill it? Or, is the sun (representing the soul or the Spirit) really gaining ascendancy in our lives?’

There's all kinds of ways to evaluate ourselves and how we're doing on the path and what remains to be done. We certainly have all of this idea of self conquest, which has to be lived through. The Buddha would have us overcome ourselves, our lower selves, as one who had conquered a thousand armies, the Buddha would have overcome our lower selves and Christianity would, and I think the internal meaning of *jihad* is the same, to really overcome the inner self. It's been externalized of course by those with lesser understanding of the inner psychological process. So everything is extroverted and the higher aspect of man is not understood. But all of that is cleared up in due course of time.

The sun-moon polarity. We are definitely involved with the sun ascending at the first initiation and we continue to ascend, it reaches the top of the mountain, we might say, the third initiation then drops into becoming in a way a midnight sun at the fourth initiation. The sun at midnight, I think has a strong connection. The sun at midnight has a interesting connection with all initiations, and maybe the midnight hour is very appropriate for the moment of initiation no matter what the initiation might be but certainly the submerged sun at midnight seems to be associated with the fourth.

What has happened to the inner God, to the higher God, to the God upon which we depended so much? What is happening to the solar angel? The solar angel will become in a way invisible because it has winged its way back to the heart of the sun. But after the crucifixion at the midnight hour we might say, comes the resurrection at dawn which is mastership. A kind of resurrection. Also the seventh, the decision, a type of resurrection which is a higher thing altogether.

Number 42: Planets which may be implicated, and the reasons for that implication? Some of this I have discussed, but let's focus specifically upon the planets. It looks like I've included every one.

Have I included the moon? Well, not really, and really it's not a planet either.

Vulcan. The will of the soul is coming in we're getting a grip upon the physical nature which a Vulcan represents. The head centers are becoming more powerful, the head center is power and it's ruled, for the disciple, by Vulcan, crossing to rule by Vulcan and we are on our way to overcoming the kinds of desires, which will be definitely conquered by the time we reach the second initiation, in which Vulcan again will show up. So through Vulcan we slowly overcome desire and the soul establishes its control over the personality, as was indicated in *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire, …* page 823.

***The will to sacrifice through knowledge on the mental plane and thus intelligently to dominate the entire threefold lower man. TCF 823***

Yes, ***and thus intelligently to dominate the entire threefold lower man.*** Vulcan plays a great role in this domination of the threefold lower man by the will of the ego or soul, higher ego.

Mercury? Well, we're sharing our knowledge and we continuing to learn. ***The will to sacrifice through knowledge on the mental plane and thus intelligently to dominate the entire threefold lower man.*** We see there's lots of Mercury here in this statement, and interestingly, of the Mercury sub-Mars kind of petal.

Mars itself is associated with the five senses and with the concrete mind, so the accumulations of the concrete mind also are here used in a sacrificial manner under the guidance of Mercury, which can begin to become intuitive. When at the first initiation we are associated with the siddhi on the third sub-level of the mental plane. So maybe we are beginning a bit to be read the presentation of the senses as if it were a symbol, which means we are engaged in spiritual reading and spiritual discernment. We are on the path of discipleship. The path of discipleship is ruled by Mercury and Saturn. Some have said that is really the path of accepted discipleship, which is specifically ruled by Mercury and Saturn. Maybe the path of probationary discipleship is more emotional, and is ruled by as the second and fourth rays, but then again of course Mercury is related directly to the fourth ray. But I suppose we can say, in an important sense, the path of discipleship does begin here at the first initiation. And Mercury and Saturn will come in strongly. The third and the fifth rays.

We're sacrificing through knowledge here under the Mercurian color yellow, and we are dialoguing with, we are conversing with the soul, we're getting an idea of that higher stream of light which comes from the soul is a very Geminian, Mercurian process.

Here is a kind of interesting connection, the yellow connected with the previous solar system could be the fourth ray, but maybe represents the third ray of that system and it may be a bridge (the fourth ray is a bridge) and we're interested here in the Jewish group coming from the previous solar system. They are the nomads – of course, they are not necessarily in Jewish bodies at this time, but they came from the previous solar system and they are represented and were persecuted under a yellow star of David. This connects them both with the fourth ray and the third ray. Their personality is on the third ray, but I've often wondered whether the monadic ray of the Jewish group is not the fourth ray and thus connected with the color yellow.

1:43:00 Humanity is changing now from third, previous solar system, methods into present solar system methods. Mercury is a bridging planet, it is connected both with the previous solar system at hand the presence of a system and is was leading us into the mysteries, which are characteristic of the present solar system. It's restoring sight to a blind eye. This is certainly happening at that first great revelation which we call the first initiation or the birth of the Christ in the heart.

Well that's enough about Mercury and of course its connection to the third ray, which is strongly connected with this petal having to do with knowledge. Mercury has so many different levels of which it operates. It does operate concretely in the realm of ordinary, concrete knowledge, but it operates in terms of knowledge of the soul, the knowledge of the abstract realms as well. And it operates in relation to intuition and also into a kind of blinding revelation of the law on the atmic plane. Mercury and Saturn again in that sense with Saturn being the ruler of the atmic plane, representing the law.

What about Venus in relation to petal number seven? Venus is gradually overcoming Mars, Mars is the threefold personality united, often in an aggressive stance against the soul which is attempting to dominate. But Mars is about selfishness and Venus is about altruism, at least archetypally. Venus is more advanced than Mars, so be selfish instincts come in under Mars. Venus is a planet of altruism where we begin to care for the other to whom we are magnetically related in soul. Venus is the symbol of the solar angel and the whole solar angelic host is deeply connected with the Venus vibration. Venus is a planet of Solar Fire and also in its fifth ray sense a planet of knowledge. Venus is really part of the entire higher mental plane. We are certainly communing with the higher mental plane when we are communing with the higher ego, the angel of the presence, of the solar angel.

So the kind of knowledge which we are particularly interested in, in relation to Venus, is the knowledge of the soul and here at the first initiation we are gaining that type of knowledge. We understand from the sequence of words associated with the five initiations the very first words: know. Know what? Know something about the soul: know, express, reveal, destroy, resurrect. Some type of deeper knowledge of the soul is coming in with this idea of knowing which is what Venus can give us. More intimate knowledge of the soul. Venus rules Libra and this is strongly a Libran petal, if we begin at the first petal with Aries and go either clockwise or counter-clockwise.

1:46:45 Venus also rules the fifth ray of the hierarchy of solar angels which is becoming engaged with the man at this point. The particular solar angel which has the man under supervision is now interacting with him in a very strong way under Gemini, which Venus also rules in a sense, and Capricorn too, hierarchically, the first initiation under Capricorn has an implied Venus operating with that process. When the first initiation comes, Venus representing the solar angel. The fifth creative hierarchy is definitely involved and that's coming in at this seventh petal. We can call the Christ Neptune, he is called Neptune- Vishnu, but He's also called Venus, the morning star, or Lucifer the morning star. So Venus is the Christ in a sense, Venus is love and wisdom which we are encountering in fuller measure here in the hall of wisdom which we have been entering now and have now entered for sure on the fixed cross.

Someone talked about the pipes of Pan. Interestingly enough a five, I think it's a pentatonic scale, and not the full seven notes that we find in our current octave. Pan is a son of Mercury, Mercury involved in this petal. Hearing and seeing, hearing the note so as not to be bewildered. Two pipes in the pipes of Pan. This is sort of an obscure discussion and I'm not sure exactly where it leaves, but of course the contrast between the five and seven is very important. The seven has to do with the pentatonic scale and the regime of matter-form, and the third ray. The sevenfold scale has to do with the seven rays and the second ray system, and it's the way we divide the scale at this time, so we are moving in a sense from the non-secrad five into the more sacred seven at this seventh petal. We are in a way beginning to leave Brahma behind, the emphasis upon the third aspect, we are leaving that behind.

We've done Vulcan, Mercury, Venus, in relation to this seventh petal.

What about the Earth? It is the esoteric ruler of Sagittarius, Sagittarius being one of those elemental signs, fire element, that can be considered as beginning this series of sacrifice petals. Certainly ruling the first initiation and the second. Our motive here is service and this service is related to the earth, earth is considered to be the field of service where we direct the various energies with which we may have come in contact. This petal has a strongly third ray nature and the earth gives a lot of the third ray. Of course on the earth there is the struggle between the second and third ray, earth and its third ray personality. She is me and thus it is as well in the seventh petal where the third aspect is gradually being overcome by the second aspect through the initiation process. Earth represents the personality and Venus is the redeemer. As we say here, we're making our Earth sacred and we must be down-to-earth to take initiation: we need a body, we need a brain; earth is that body and brain, and so we are embodying the Christ principle in matter-form, which the Earth here represents.

I think that's the basic idea. We have to be practical, initiation is a practical process, and it means that the world of the soul actually has come down to earth and anchored itself on Earth. We do need a physical body and brain for that to occur. Initiation five, we learn interestingly can be taken without a physical body and brain may be taken elsewhere and certainly that may be true of higher initiations. But as we are really seeking to externalize the hierarchy and manifest the divine plan through the matter and formal tendencies remaining from a previous solar system, it is good and often necessary that this be embodied in the densest substance, that our higher potentials be embodied in the densest substance represented in part by the Earth. Although the earth has a strong etheric representation as well … this is associated not only with the dense physical body but with the etheric body. Yet here we are dealing much with the etheric body at this first initiation in this seventh petal. The relationship between three and seven is very strong where we could expand upon and dilate this, but let's just say that we have to enter practical service. The necessity of entering practical service at the first initiation.

Now we come to Mars, a non-sacred planet, not as sacred as the Earth, not yet, but there's still plenty of aspiration here in the first degree and every initiate of whatever degree fights the good fight, fighting for higher values and maybe we begin to learn under Mars, can we internalize Mars? And not just direct it outward can we internalize Mars and not just direct it towards an outer enemy. The enemy is within and if we are really involved in the spiritual struggle, we will recognize that.

Mars also indicates here, since it rules that hierarchy called the lunar lords (the creative hierarchy) the reorientation of the lunar lords through aspiration. Now in a way this has been going on ever since work in later petal five and work in petal six, but here it has to be taken in all seriousness. We become the true aspirant at the first initiation so, becoming the true aspirant at the first initiation. Also we have to struggle with the entire personality especially through its lowest vehicle, which is always represented by Mars. Mars rules the dense physical body. Really every vehicle within the personality is ruled in some way by Mars and also in some way by the moon, but here you know the sacral center is very important and we are overcoming the lowest type of tendencies. So here at the first degree at the first degree. We are over coming the lowest tendencies of the personality. Some form of domination of an aspect of the personality.

Mars is important in terms of its discipline. All of us have this issue of disciplining the lower man and especially that very first type of discipline, physical discipline is so important in our modern day and age. We have the sacral center almost over-stimulated because the coming in of Uranium powers in the Age of Aquarius, and the seventh ray which is connected via Uranus to the sacral center and we see things are in many ways getting out of control in a licentious manner.

So we have to find ways to bring all of this it's under rhythmic control according to a higher purpose. Mars is not that type of tendency. There's not a lot of rhythm in Mars, but there's a lot of energy and if we can bring this energy under rhythmic control, maybe using Uranus, using Saturn, we can channel it through higher aspiration towards real accomplishment. So that's how we consider Mars at the seventh petal.

Now what would it mean if you are involved in seventh petal processes and you look at your Mars and how it's operating in your life? You have to bring it under a certain type of discipline and according to the nature of the sign in the house and the aspects. So the type of discipline which you must assert will be represented or will be indicated.

What about Jupiter? Well, Jupiter is the Great Beneficent, for the benefit of humanity. We do have Sagittarius strongly associated with this petal, and Jupiter is the ruler there, and a certain type of giving begins, let's just say. The planet of philanthropy, and we begin to experience the Jupiterean compassion and inclusiveness – not in any full measure yet because it's only the first degree – but these things are growing in us and the first initiation brings in the regime of the great second ray. Christ is a representative of the second ray, and he is the initiator at the first two initiations.

So it’s the whole regime of the soul, which is generically out of a second ray, which is being brought into expression. Jupiter in a sense is the great second ray planet of our solar system, Neptune far more esoterically okay, but Jupiter normally. So we think of the generosity of the hierarchy in the initiation process this giving this bestowing, this offering of opportunity and we through service really begin to offer opportunity. We are pouring forth, becoming generous, Jupiter bringing all things together as a planet of group consciousness including the many as if they were the one. It represents the heart center which is activated at the first initiation. We're going beyond the small ‘I’, we're becoming more inclusive, we're not simply the ‘I am’, we're beginning to understand a little bit about the ‘I am that’. The Jupiter archetype also represents the soul is certainly involved in the expansiveness of the causal body. We're starting to give, in a way that is not hoping for things in return. In petal six we still hoped for things in return, when we were working there, organizing and vitalizing. By the time we've reached petal eight we do not hope for anything in return, and so I would say the petal seven is a transition here.

2:01:00 Consciousness is expanding as the initiatory regime begins and we're having that attitude that this is not just all about us as a little personal ego, because a much bigger picture here and through the rites of initiation we are coming in touch with this greater vision of the truth which Jupiter confers and which naturally affects our behavior and increases our will to dominate the threefold lower man. Not just to show we can do it, but so that we can make sure that the forces of the lower threefold man do not interfere anymore with the higher energies, we can begin accessing from a greater and larger world that Jupiter represents.

Well there’s lots of ways that Jupiter can be involved in it is connected with higher mind and also with the ability to understand it from the abstract mental point of view, it's a philosophical planet looking at all things in a bigger way, and as we learn to sacrifice, the bigger picture starts to enter our life and people do what they do because of the philosophy of life that they have. They think life is a certain thing and they operate accordingly and when our vision of life, our conception of life changes our conception, of a process in which we are involved, then our actions change as well. So I think that Jupiter has a strong effect.

I think what we would do astrologically, we would say, for example, ‘look, I know I'm working on the first initiation, I am submitting my lower self, or I'm driving my lower self into strenuous and abnormal efforts, I'm on the path of probation, petal number seven is showing signs of opening. Here I'm on the verge of taking the first initiation, how can I use this in a conscious way. Each one of my planets deliberately, consciously, not just waiting for what's going to happen to me or when a certain planet comes into strong aspect, but actually using the planet deliberately to accomplish the tasks associated with your next area of achievement which is indicated by the petal process that I am passing through.

So you might not know anything about the egoic lotus and you might just know a little bit about initiations and still be able to accomplish the same thing, but the richness of the energies and forces involved, are indicated in the egoic lotus and so we get a much more articulated view of what is actually happening during this developmental phase. I guess from the study of the egoic lotus in this way people should gain more realistic picture of where they stand in the discipleship and probationary initiation process. It's so easy to exaggerate where one is, but DK says that the beginner is always more self consciously conceited than the more experienced disciple. But when we begin to see what the requirements really are we can gain a better understanding of what is required of us, and where we actually stand, that realistic view of where we actually stand and what we can actually do. These are important things and will save us from the glamour, the inflations, of wrong thinking that so many of us disciples may find ourselves involved in if we're not careful.

Let's go on and see Saturn related to the seventh petal. I think in lots of ways, looks like it. So this Saturn is one of the major planets ruling the path of discipleship which we are beginning in earnest as we are entering the spiritual kingdom, kingdom of God. We are learning detachment from the elemental life and Saturn provides us with that as well the discipline which leads to achieved detachment.

Saturn is also the law and we are sacrificing all knowledge we have accumulated, and we are told under the law we are operating lawfully not just according to the impulses of the astral body. We are aware of what the law of karma is, more so here, at the seventh petal, such a Libran petal. We are trying to give appropriately and proportionately of our accumulations according to the laws which we are now aware including a growing a knowledge of the laws of the soul. So Saturn is the planet of rules and we are presented with the rules to be obeyed. I would say that the first degree initiate is very cautious in that respect is very rule conscious.

Perhaps we can begin to apply in some measure those fourteen rules for initiation as they apply to the individual candidate, not the group rules necessarily. As I said, the law of rebirth is becoming – well, in the way that Cancer is related this petal, we begin to work consciously with the law of rebirth. Now it depends on whether we are schooled in esotericism in occultism or we are passing through the first initiation without that type of knowledge. But if we do we begin to consciously work with the law of rebirth and we understand it in relation to the law of karma which is very Saturnian. Our actions and reactions have become very important considerations in this very Libran petal, which is at once so Saturnian. So Libra is really, strangely, the most Saturnian of all the signs as it's doubly ruled by Saturn.

Law is the adjustment of matter to spirit. You give here so as to make possible the right adjustment of matter to spirit. We're giving according to the law of spirit, but even more the law of the soul. But more at first to the law of the soul. So the soul we begin to understand as a karmic agent. Indeed it is. It is in a way a lesser lord of karma.

What we have here is intelligent giving of all we have accumulated and Saturn, intelligence and the third ray. We can associate Saturn with the general laws of the soul. Each one of the planets has an association with one of the laws particularly, and it's hard to tell exactly which one. But think about it, certainly the law of sacrifice is strongly related to Saturn, so is the law of service, and so is the law of group progress ruled by Capricorn, interestingly, and maybe even the law of repulse, so there are ways to associate a number of the planets with the different laws of the soul. But in general, Saturn is law and we are entering under the laws of the soul, the first of which is sacrifice, making a choice, about what is lesser and what is greater, and learning how to relinquish the lesser for the greater.

With Saturn we are entering the fixed cross here in earnest. It's all about that willing to stay on the fixed price and not grasp for yourself. Saturn and Sanat and sacrifice, they all go together. Sanat Kumara, the Great Lord who limits Himself for the sake of others. When we look at Saturn in a high mode of expression it can be described in this way. Self limitation for the sake of others in the group. No initiate is going to become an initiate without that type of voluntary self restriction, at least restriction of the lower part of his nature. No initiate achieves without sacrifice.

What laws are involved here? Law of the soul, the law of karma, the law of intelligent giving and in this Libran petal, right human relations, the golden rule, these are applied under the law and they are promoted. The whole idea of, I would call it, will call it, this we call the law of altruism, where we're considering the other as equal to ourselves, and maybe later even as more important.

Saturn is what is right and what is correct and we're learning here at the first initiation and continuing to learn after that to square ourselves, our behavior, our thoughts, our words, with the law, and with the rules, and with the plan. All of those are ruled by Saturn, laws, rules, and the divine plan is in a way atmic in origin. The atmic plane is ruled by Saturn. Saturn in a way a cold planet to help us learn to be impersonal over the Martian heat of personalism. We’re really coming in touch now with law and the rule at the seventh petal.

Here there is the description of discriminated giving, as appropriate. You can see how Saturnian that is. In the discipline of service (and not just random acts of service which are unintelligently motivated by the feeling nature) we're being trained, the meek are inheriting the earth; Alice Bailey said the word ‘meek’ means to be trained. So it is a trained effect of Saturn here, and we're learning to – this is so interesting here – we're learning how to restrain ourselves and re-train ourselves, restrain and retrain. The lower elemental nature is restrained under the law under Saturn, under right proportion, under Libra and new patterns are being devised which are correlated with the laws of the soul, and hence we are retraining ourselves in new modes of thought, word, and deed.

With the first initiation we strike a major blow against comfort and of course a lot of your physical disciplines are very uncomfortable to the physical body. Sex, money, and comfort while Saturn can work as a restraint of sex appropriate use, appropriately timed. The right planned use of money, that is very connected with money, and kind of making sure that comfort which is acquiescing to the demands of the lower self does not get the upper hand.

2:14:21 I think we can see there was quite a bit of Saturn involved in this petal, in its relationship to Libra, and its relationship to the third aspect, and in general to the disciplines of initiation. The Tibetan has told us that as we progress our life becomes more outwardly bound and more inwardly free.

Speaking of the freedom, we come to Uranus, but we cannot really reach Uranus as we rise upon the shoulders of Saturn. So Uranus being the planet of re-volution will initiation is a revolution, it’s really the result of the volution of the turning of the wheel in a different direction. We're now progressing upon the wheel of consciousness. We have not yet finished with the wheel of form and the rending strife between the two makes the life of an aspirant-disciple very conflicted.

We're dealing with the sacral center in a new way I think under Uranus. I think it has some lower connection to a lot of perversions which are rampant today under the misinterpreted Aquarian, Uranian impulse, but at the same time, we dealing with the reorientation of the sacral center towards the throat and with a new type of creativity which can come in at the first degree when the throat center becomes of these partially ruled by the seventh ray which would implicate Uranus, necessary.

We are dealing with creation and procreation, but it's procreation and creation both in line with the soul's purpose and not just simply random satisfaction, because you only live once and you have to grab everything you can get, you know, once reincarnation comes into understanding by a majority of human beings they will regulate their life – there is Regulus for Leo in the first degree – in a new way. We’re beginning the whole process of transmutation, changing the quality of matter under Uranus. Our new method of creativity can be called re-creation.

Electric fire is coming in but not so noticeably, at least on the soul level it is noticeable, but we're entering the new kingdom, everything new is Uranian and there will be a new heaven, a new earth, the seventh ray brings heaven to earth thus creating the new earth in terms of the new heaven. Well, that's a creation and still a higher plane. When we go to the plane of archetypes (which is ultimately the logoic plane) is Uranian, but also the monadic plane. We have thoughts which are in the mind of God and to us it seems new, but we don't need to recreate there, we simply need to express what is there found. So we are being welcomed into the spiritual kingdom, the kingdom of souls the fifth kingdom, the fixed cross, all that. A new kind of kingdom with new possibilities and the possibility of remaking ourselves in line with the higher archetypes and to change the nature of our creative life so it isn't motivated by personalism and by our earthly experience and by our solar plexus, but is motivated from meditative contact with the heavens. The heavenly one is Uranus.

So this is contact with the heavenly one to bring forth a new type of creativity. Uranus is one of the rulers of Libra, esoteric ruler and important in terms of turning things in a new direction or speeding onward the reversing wheel until it becomes the wheel which is truly reversed, which is probably occurring after the midway point between the second and third initiation.

Neptune and the seventh petal? Well Neptune is the Christ and the Christ is who we encounter at the first degree and this is giving us the possibility of being highly motivated by the divine idealism of the soul.

Mysticism is still prominent at the first degree, not yet are we truly the occultist, but I suppose it depends very much on the ray. We are beginning that movement from Neptune to Uranus to transform the mystic into the spiritually knowledgeable person, the occultist.

Neptune is a planet of deep sacrifice, of letting go, it's even the idea of relaxation which is so Neptunian is about letting go of our usual personality grip upon our elementals and allowing a higher energy to flow through. If the hands are to open and give, it’s often a Neptunian gesture. Factoring in the hands, it is sometimes very clenched, it's kind of interesting, people with strong Saturnian in their palmistry or physiognomy, their hands sometimes grasp. With Neptune there is a more relaxed, flowing through. So we're not trying to hold on for our personal self we're learning the meaning of relinquishment which is one of the major Neptunian themes.

02:20:40 The Venus relations are very strong there and Neptune is the higher octave of Venus, both are connected with the rose. Neptune is it connected with the solar angels and their sacrificial attitude. Neptune is the custodian of the solar flames and Venus represents the solar flames or solar angels. So the relationship with the solar angels is just coming in here much stronger and it will increase with the entire initiatory process. I think a strong Neptune can be an indication that something important is happening in terms of initiation and it even more so at the second degree because it represents the connection with the heart of the sun. Neptune is definitely a solar fire planet, and as we undergo the first initiation the avenue for love to flow into the Neptunian emotional nature is increasingly open and maybe by the time we reach the second initiation the door to love will really be there and the astral nature will carry that vibration of love.

There's so much work to be done between the first and second initiation and so it's really proportionally a period ten times longer. Well you see how I arrived at that, the Christ archetype lives to be 33. And from the birth to the baptism, a Neptunian baptism, that was a first initiation period of 30 years, and so with each of the successive initiations we have kind of a proportion of 30 to 1; 30 to 1; 30 to 1. Or even 30 to 3 which is a 10 to 1 proportion. Those are not exact numbers but they are indications of this very long process which occurs between the first and second degree and many people I think who think they are beyond this 30 year process are maybe just at the end of it, and have not really broken in to the second degree, at which point one enters the stream, of course the stream again is Neptune, the water.

So it's very important indicator that this first initiation petal where the attitudes of the soul are being adopted and where the Christ who is really Neptune in a very high sense is met for the first time.

What about Pluto? We were told how important it is before the time of the first initiation; it is all about eliminations. We have to get a lot out of our system; there's a lot of poison in there that has been accumulated in the bottom of the aura over the many, many millions of years and it has to be purged we have to eliminate and cast out of our system those substances, those combinations, which will prevent the reception of the soul.

Vulcan and Pluto? Pluto rules for the disciple the base of the spine center and Vulcan rules the crown. Whether or not totally active in any final way here, but they are beginning to be active, so we purify and eliminate and we begin to repulse. We're not functioning fully under the law of repulse which requires some antahkaranic work because it's a soul law connected with the spirit triad, and there is no real spiritual triadal connection until the antahkarana is reasonably built. But repulse is occurring with detaching, it's the planet of death and we’re killing out desire, coming to the gradual death of the personality. So one aspect of the personality living for itself, it is the physical instinctual nature is being killed out here and higher possibilities are taking its place. The appetites are what we are learning to kill out at this point of the first degree.

Well the base-crown relationship? Yes it begins, but actually doesn't come into full fruition until the fifth initiation. It's kind of interesting. At which point the base of the spine is the ruler of the initiation.

Pluto represents the burning ground, I suppose especially when combined with Mars, represents the burning ground before every initiation and Uranus the final burning ground. So there is a great burning ground for all of humanity before the first degree and for every individual disciple as well. We are passing through the refiner's fire, we are ejecting from our system so much that is useless or inhibiting. This happens of course in relation to the sixth petal as well, but if it continues the purification continues. I can see that the power of Pluto would continue all the way to the fourth degree and the instrumental in bringing about a kind of death at the fourth degree, a death unto life.

So the fire of will and aspiration create the burning ground plus the fire added by the solar angel. I think we can see the importance of Pluto here as there are many eliminations still to achieve and we have to somehow subdue the normal sacral and solar plexus responses and Pluto can be instrumental in that but even more instrumental with respect to the solar plexus after the second degree.

What about the Sun? This is a strong sun petal and we are becoming a self consciously, a Son of God in the initiation process. The rulership of Leo is found here, and the sun is exalted in sign number one. Leo rules the first initiation, sun is important, the sun is exalted in Aries which has to do with the entry into the kingdom of God. Aries and Leo – it’s a lot about the hero's journey, the soul or God, He is Hercules, he is the would be initiate. He is the disciple who is the initiate-to-be.

As far as the moon goes it begins to fall away it will be struck down in an important way at the eighth petal and continues to fall all the way through to the destruction of the causal body when the entire lunar nature is consumed.

2:28:50 Well that is a discussion of the various planets in relation to the process of the seventh petal. Ideally we have to really look at a person's involvement in life, see what the life looks like and somehow through spiritual discernment, spiritual understanding, understand the petal process in which that person is engaged probably, and of course an over-lapping process I would say.

My colleague Niklas has his own methods here and he says that the planet involved here is strongly Uranian. We've already given the idea of Uranus and why it is so important in helping to achieve increasing freedom in the revolution.

Now when describing the last petal I went through these color stages of human development and what I see here is that I haven't really been elaborated on this, but we are in the long narrow cave and we are moving towards the rosy cross, but are still a long way from it and we are hearing the waving the cries of our fellow human beings and we are and we are attempting to serve.

So we have passed through the red, we have passed through the green, we have passed through the orange and we are moving in the dark cave towards the rose and the blue.

What musical note might be sounded here? … I want to make sure I have this correct … if the note sol the ring if a soul or beginning with C. If the no G.. And *sol* continuing to resound on the way to the third degree with the note *fa* … of the personality lessening as we move towards the third degree.

… I'll have to go get my pitch pipe at this point … [toning interspersed] … it’s the note *sol* is the G note – *do, re, mi, fa, sol* – that’s the G note, and that will increase, it is in a way a blue note, it will increase until the third degree and actually beyond. But the note *fa* – *fa, sol, do, fa* is the green note is decreasing as the personality is decreasing in its power relative to the soul. So it's green blue, green blue, like that, and that blue note is increasing in intensity. Another red note will come in later with the monads.

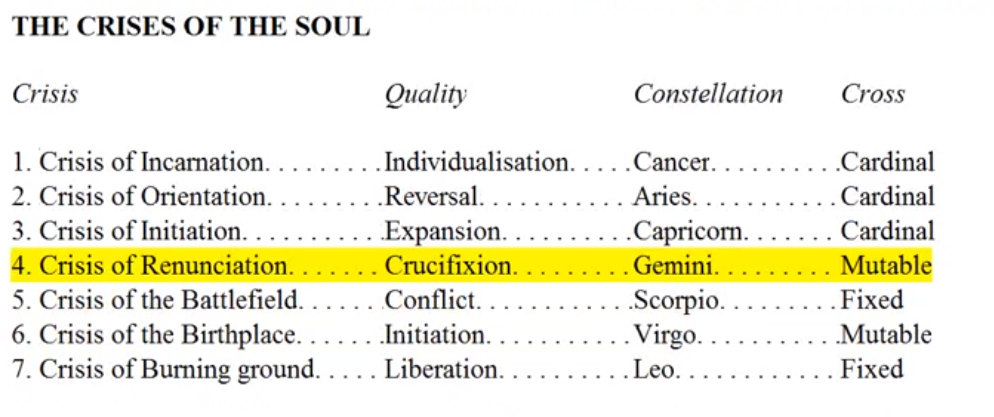
Is there a musical chord involved here? I would say: *do, mi, sol*, or C, E, G. *do, mi, sol …* This is the triad that indicates the growing integration of the personality by the soul, and maybe what we have here is the *mi* is quite strong at first: *do MI sol.* But increasingly becomes like this, *do mi SOL*. with the soul being stronger. Basically we're going from red to yellow to blue. The *do* is red, the *mi* is yellow, and the *sol* is blue.

This is just an indication of notes associated with the exact science of how to use these notes and exactly what frequency we should use to represent them. It’s not yet in our hands, but we do know the sol note and also the *sol* note, and also the soul note is growing in power. A very interesting science. In terms of healing, the Tibetan tells us he will be one of the first to really emerge because the fourth ray method using sound will be one of the practical healing methods in the coming age and the fourth ray will be getting stronger to help support this starting in 2025.

What crises, if any, are characteristic of the state at this stage? The Virgo crisis of the birth place, and it is particularly the birth of the soul, consciously within the personality which is occurring here in a way that long ago with individualization, there was a kind of birthplace experience, but it was all rather unconscious and now after the cultivation of the inner soul within the personality, it is coming to birth it is coming into emergence, it is seen in his own right.

Now there is also the crisis of initiation? It is coming in under Capricorn and if not you have the full crisis but is entrance into the kingdom of God, and this crisis will increase in intensity all the way to the fifth degree and even beyond.

What about the crisis of orientation? I think all of this is found around *Esoteric Astrology* … 470, … where the crisis are listed:



Libra is also listed in terms of the crisis of decision, and Leo is connected with the crisis of individualization. Capricorn always with the crisis of initiation. So the crisis of orientation is the reversal, it’s the new way of travelling, and we are continuing our reversal, continuing to tread more strongly the wheel of consciousness rather than the wheel of form. In the beginning, when the reversal is occurring, the wheel of form is rolling clockwise in a more powerful way than the wheel of consciousness moving forward, but eventually equilibrized at some point. You kind of wonder whether this is not a point of equilibrium in this seventh petal with the wheel of consciousness as strong in its movement and momentum as the wheel of form and then gradually the wheel of consciousness, and probably by the time we reach the midway point between the second and third initiation that wheel of consciousness becomes definitely more powerful than that of form.

We're reversing, we're orienting towards the new kingdom and the crisis of reversal is still underway. I'm wondering about Jimmy Carter and the initiatory process when he became … this was interesting, he had so many Libra – he was like Gandhi in that way – he had the sun and ascendant in Libra as did Gandhi and I suppose this is somehow pointing out to the time of his election and whether or not it related to the the age 63. I think he was younger actually when he was elected but there's something about a crisis in his life here at the age of 63. It's hard to remember all of these things. I provided a lot of them but some of them came from the group and were not along my own train of thought so more difficult to remember in that respect. …

2:39:30 Cosmic Law associated with this petal? Well really the Law of Attraction is the strongest because we are coming under the auspices of the soul whose basic law is the law of attraction. Some of the law of synthesis. We are beginning with the factor of synthesis because at the time of the first degree we are told that the first synthesis petal is opening to a degree, and we are synthesizing many, many millions of years of living under the aspect of knowledge. The first synthesis petal deals with the synthesis of knowledge rather than of love or of will, but they will come in short order. So synthesis is used to a degree involved here and the note of the Law of Economy is sounding less strong.

Number 49. Is there any systemic law associated with this petal? Well I'm mentioning here the laws of disintegration, magnetic control, fixation, sacrifice and death. That seems like a lot doesn't it? Well the law of disintegration is gradually working as a third ray law, it involves Saturn, Libra and the third ray. Of course it really comes in very, very strong at the fourth initiation but already we are beginning to disengage from the power of the personality.

Magnetic control is the fourth systemic law and it's associated with the solar angels and as the soul begins to control the personality, which it certainly starts to do at the first degree, that law comes into expression.

The law of fixation as solar fire is fixed in the mind which is held steady in the light.

Law of sacrifice and death? We are beginning to die to the material life, the life of the lunar lords, lunar compulsion, and the solar angels becoming the sole luminary in the microcosmic sky. Most of us have a pretty microcosmic sky, we are not yet the higher types of spirits for whom the macrocosmic is a great reality.

Now, importantly, number 50. What soul law, if any, is most associated with this petal? The law of sacrifice, magnetic impulse, service, and repulse. Let's see to what degree. The law of progress? We're not quite there, even though group consciousness is coming more strongly into realization. The law of sacrifice – what is being sacrificed is the impulses of the lunar lords, being sacrificed. The physical and emotional at first, and maybe some preoccupation with the lower mind just for its own sake. A higher purpose is operating here.

We're at the beginning of the sacrifice petals and dealing with maya, which is if you're physical and with some degree with glamour, which is emotional certainly. There's a lot of battling with glamour going on between the first and second degree and even taking initiation can heighten certain glamours, but definitely this is a sacrifice a petal. So obviously the law of sacrifice applies to all of them. The first degree tells us that we are sacrificing the unharnessed, unregulated tendencies of the instinctual physical nature.

What about the law of magnetic impulse, the second law of the soul? We're having some group response here, but it even operates more in the next petal I would say. We're dealing with fellowship, starting that. In masonry we call that the FC degree or fellowcraft degree. There's a lot of magnetic impulse will come in but even more so again at the second degree this is just the beginning of some of these laws but definitely sacrifice is there.

The law of service? Well, we're learning how to love our fellow human beings and under the soul we're beginning to serve the very first requirement. In the individual rules for initiation, we search within the heart’s deep cave and if there we find the fire burns bright, warming our brother and not ourselves, then the hour is right to stand before the initiator.

The law of service. It is the beginning of more selfless service. Remember we were serving in the sixth petal with expectation of return, this is the beginning of service properly motivated, and with decreasing expectation of return. Of course, I suppose there's a lot of people around the first degree who maybe have that *born again* experience, maybe it comes even before the first degree, but they certainly expect a reward, the reward is in heaven, they will achieve heaven because they have accepted Christ. So they serve quite selflessly but with the background expectation that heaven is there already and the reward of the acceptance. Maybe also the reward of all their good works, that ongoing debate about whether to save by faith or by works. It seems in occultism that the emphasis is more towards the work than towards the faith, or at least we have to prove our faith in works.

Is the law of repulse here? We are via Pluto repulsing certain tendencies, but we're not really connected with the spiritual triad which is necessitated in the full expression of the law of repulse. The law of repulse is the first of the triadal laws of the soul because the antahkarana in the sense in which we normally understand it, connecting the manasic permanent atom to the mental unit has to be somewhat built here, and it's not yet built at this point. The lower antahkarana is there which is initially connecting the the personality to the egoic lotus, to what we call the soul. Triadal thinking is occurring later, not so much repulse, that needs the triad. So certainly the law of sacrifice is there, the incipient magnetic impulse is there, increasing services is there and we are doing some repose where we're not really under the law of repulse yet.

The astrological triangle most associated with the petal? I'll leave it go at saying there are so many of them. If we turned to page … 170.

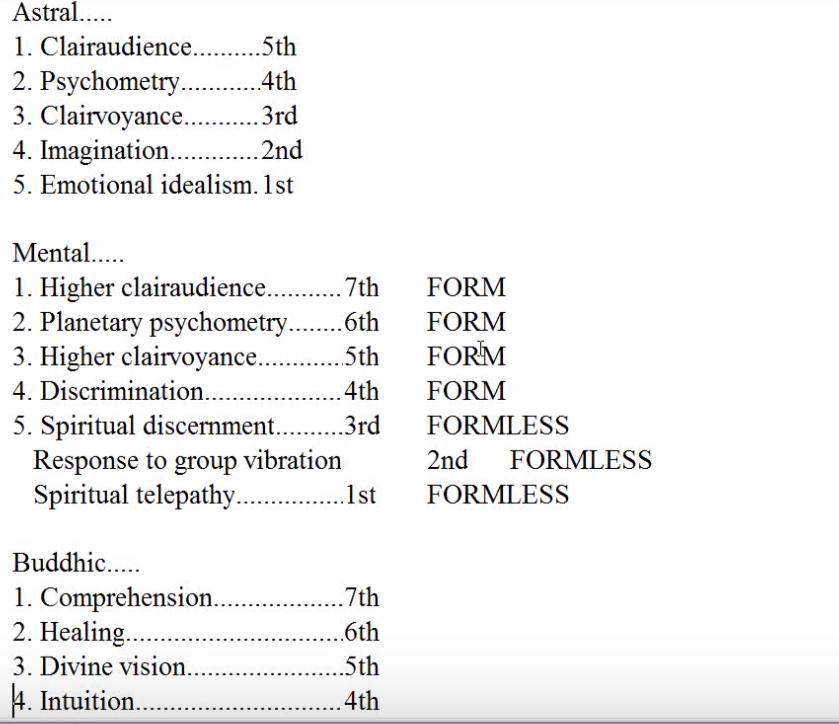
2:48:20 We have spiritual man to the third initiation. Heart for fellowship, throat for a new type of creativity, and the fifth, sixth, and seventh head centers taking some degree of control. So the will, the Vulcanian will, is coming in. This is the major triangle, I think. We can also look at the ajna, heart and solar plexus. The ajna for the integrating personality, the heart for fellowship, with solar plexus for aspiration.

There's many things we can do. We can talk about the throat center heart center and the solar plexus. A new form of creativity under the sacrificial law of the soul is coming in. We create on behalf of the planet and our desires are becoming subdued. The heart is revealing those who we may serve so indeed it is so, so many. But the head center, the throat, and the heart seem to be the ones that are indicated here, with the solar plexus subsiding. Although it can put up quite a big fight there and I'm sure that if you're a Scorpio going through the second initiation, you know you have a solar plexus because it is revealing its head. The desire nature is very strong and you have to find a way to replace it with that which the intuition has revealed. So it’s the big battle between selfishness see that in the solar plexus and love seated in the heart. Especially we have the seven – let’s just say the head centers, heart and throat. I think those are very important here, and we are advanced man at this point, becoming ever more intelligent under the auspices of the soul, connected with the heart. And the will of the soul is directing through the head centers and the other triangles as well but the main one that the Tibetan gives here is this.

I suppose there also could be a triangle this important: the ajna, the throat and the heart. I think there we have a real integrated spiritual intelligence growing under the inclusive impulse of the soul workings of the heart center. Every person has a particular triangle which is most accentuated, brightest we might say, while other triangles are not necessarily dim but just less bright. So once we've established a certain triangle as bright, we move on to the next one which will receive emphasis and the one we had established as bright will seem less bright compared to the new triangle on which we are working. Eventually that is. And by as by seeing what triangle is really focal in the life of the individual again the master can determine the degree of evolution.

So what do we have here. Number 52. The senses and their extensions most associated with this petal? The esoteric sense may be coming in, that is the intuitive sense, it is the seventh sense, it's not the common sense. In petal six we are really being quite realistic using the common sense, the integrating mind, and we are certainly understanding ourselves as an aspiring personality who has many things on the physical plane to work out. Petal seven might be considered it is the seventh sense, the beginning of the effort here it’s related to spiritual discernment, but also revealed to all three of those higher siddhis on the higher mental plane. So we begin to as it were the voice of the soul, the voice of the silence, the voice of conscience, the still small voice. And the sense of touch is being amplified because ‘I feel the touch of the soul increasingly’. So touch is there, hearing is there, but except in that initiation, ‘I do not see the soul; when I face the Christ, I face the soul’. But that was a special heightened circumstance and so it does not come through in the same way in normal life. But vision of course is increased.

The various senses involved here, they are extended. And, if we go to *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire,* page 188 we see these extended senses and we understand that some connection with sustained discrimination between soul and personality. Spiritual discernment is coming in.



2:55:00 There is heightened response to group vibration, it will increase. I suppose a modicum of spiritual telepathy which again will increase as the initiations are taken, especially spiritual reading, spiritual discernment is coming in here. Maybe not so much yet the buddhic and atmic extensions of the senses. Maybe some of the buddhic extensions of the senses will come in with the a petal in the atmic extensions will be reflective at least with when the ninth petal is unfolding.

Number 53, what guna is most associated? Rajas, just giving way to sattva. Under Libra, Libra is a very sattvic type of influence and learning to live with the balance life between the soul and personality. Not yet has the second initiation occurred which will strongly tip the balance. The Golden Rule is coming in here at the first degree. We're learning to tread that narrow path which is Libran. It’s the Christ path between the pairs of opposites.

Our growing awareness of karma again is suggesting sattva coming in, but there is a balance here at the seven petal. By the time petal eight is really unfolding it’s the soul saying, ‘I will command everything, I will take everything,’ but we're not there yet.

Rajas gives us the idea of the active personality. The more the soul comes in there's a degree of sattva. From another perspective the entire personality is considered tamasic. The soul is considered rajasic and the spirit is considered sattvic, but we're not so much dealing with the spirit at this point.

Any advanced meditation themes which can be associated with this petal? These are themes involving soul fusion, real soul infusion, and I would say no, not really yet. I mean the theme of isolated unity is not strong. It's too early in the game. The theme of inclusive? Really, we'll have to wait a little bit for that. Maybe some reflection of presented attributes, we give the sense of what the world needs and we try to present those attributes. The third petal would be associated with the third aspect. It’s the first petal for third aspect and presented attributes here, is that profound meditation theme, more for the advanced meditator, which is associated with the third aspect. The law of service which is strong in this petal is under the third law. In a sense that has to do with materialization of an inner impulse, it actually is connected with a sixth ray, but six and three are strongly related as we have discussed. So maybe there is some initial reflection of the idea of presented attributes. You don't simply have to be on the third ray or one of the rays have attributes to work with presented attributes. DK gives an example of how the Christ in the Buddha on the second ray in their soul nature worked with presented attributes.

Any of these major themes can be correlated with a souls on any ray, but there's more the tendency of the first ray type to be associated with isolated unity, of the second ray type to be associated with inclusive reason, and of the third ray type (maybe including the seventh) to be associated with present attributes, and yet they have a kind of generality as well.

I think we discussed the greater constellation that might be involved here. We did discuss the Pleiades and the fading influence of the Pleiades in one respect, how strong Sirius is coming in in another respect, because of the path of initiation and then also the Great Bear, because the seven head centers are becoming prominent and the Great Bear through Vulcan is ruling those will centers which are controlling all the other chakras.

In terms of chelaship. It is the phase particularly of chela in the light, which is the first degree phase and as we move on into later work in the seven petal and in the eighth, we become the – well, I don't think I should say that. Chela in the light is one, but I think I made a mistake here I want to say that little chelaship is still important because it represents the first degree. I don't know hard skipped over that but anyway the little chelaship is undertaken here with the first initiation and the unfolding seventh petal and as we work torward chela in the light becomes a possibility. We make our contacts on the physical plane, we contact a senior disciple, whether consciously or unconsciously, and there is a chela in the light, close to the Master, who is making reports upon our progress.

What book are we into here? Is it of the book of form, … it is the Book of Wisdom I would say. There are three books, the book of form, the Book of Wisdom, and the Book of Life. We are just entering into the Hall of wisdom, just entering it, so because of contact with the soul increasing in our meditation and in our service we are understanding something of a higher wisdom coming from the higher of the pairs of opposites.

I have a little interpellation here from *Esoteric Astrology,* these are the three books:

1. ***The Book of Life—Initiates—the 12 constellations.***
2. ***The Book of Wisdom – Disciples – the 12 planets.***
3. ***The Book of Form or Manifestation – Humanity—the 12 Creative Hierarchies. EA 23***

***The Book of Form or Manifestation – Humanity—the 12 Creative Hierarchies. The Book of Wisdom – Disciples for the 12 planets.*** And eventually ***The Book of Life—Initiates—the 12 constellations.*** And I don't think we can really say we enter that until after the third initiation and then just in the very preliminary stages. So entering the hall of wisdom as we are, emerging from the Hall of learning, the hall of wisdom is associated with the final tier and also to a degree with some of the steps up to the final tier. We are true disciples at this point and the planets are controlling in a sense but also it's the esoteric nature of the planets which are operating and this is very important. Esoteric rulerships begin to fade in and we have to not relinquish the meaning of the exoteric rulerships, that would be a mistake, but we do learn that a new relationship with the planets is possible. We get new streams of energy, we have new objectives and new capacities related to the esoteric planets or the way that the planets reflect within our form bringing out the higher potentials of the form.

I think the best that I can do or should do at this point is to call this program completed. This would be the end of egoic lotus webinar commentary 51. It’s part three of the synthesis for petal seven, about three hours and four or five minutes.

I think my voice needs a little rest here before I go on, and the beginning of egoic lotus webinar commentary program 52, will be part four of petal seven. We have another ten pages of this document to go, and another 22 items to go, including the comprehensive final item 80 which are the miscellaneous statements.

I will be with you shortly and we'll call it a day on this one and go on with the program number 52 … okay, see you then. Bye bye.