

Ancient Kabbalah: QBLH Rev. A

Given that we as an organization are seekers of light, this elocution is to provide a glimpse of the subject at hand: the Kabbalah. However, it will not create a Kabbalist of the reader, but whet the appetite to that end.

Kabbalah, the very word by sound and appearance evokes some thing foreign or hidden to our senses. The study of its essence sheds light on our own inner nature, as one of the meanings of the word is “to Reveal” and another “to Receive”. Kabbalistic wisdom and understanding stem from two principle books, the *Sepher Yetzirah* and the *Zohar*. The Sepher Yetzirah or “Book of Formation” was written around 100AD. In less than two thousand words it expands upon the origins of the universe and man’s importance within it. Additionally, the Hebrew Alphabet is stressed in this book as a key to understanding the universe. The *Zohar* or “*Book of Splendor*” is considered the Bible of the Kabbalah and its most influential work. It teaches the wisdom of Moses and, together with Sepher Yetzirah, stresses the importance of the female counterpart to God. This female principle of the deity, known as the Shekhinah is what we have come to know as the Holy Spirit of the trinity. In order for man to truly mirror the cosmic deity, it is said the complete synthesis of masculine and feminine energies – the male /female principles, must be united within ourselves. The inner secret teachings of the Jewish religion, as expressed in the Kabbalah, are equally inclusive of the male and female together. A book similar to and which preceded the *Zohar* or (*Book of Light*”), the *Bahir* (Bear rah) or “*Book of Brilliance*”, developed the idea of the feminine principle in God, in the Shekhinah, a portion of God himself: a divine entity. It also contained the theory of Gilgul.

The Kabbalah is a peculiar system of philosophy having points of contact with Freemasonry, devised during the middle Ages. It explains the nature of God based upon the Temple of King Solomon at Jerusalem and the volume of the sacred law: Kabbalism is buried in Freemasonry. Verbal communication being its mode of transmission, the doctrinal teaching is passed on from one to another. This Kabbalistic doctrine espouses all things being emanations from a divine source, that all is spirit: the Ain Sof.

There are many paths by which one may obtain spiritual enlightenment. One that closely mirrors our own traditional culture and way of life is the western path. This path may provide the seeker a wholeness of spirit. Whereas an Eastern path may lead one to imbalance due to marked cultural differences in our thinking.

The history of the most important elements of the **Kabbalah** contained in the **Sepher Yetzirah** stem from Abraham and the pact that God made with him. Isaac and Jacob next received the information revealed by God to Abraham. According to Parfitt, Joseph, the last to receive this verbal communication, died before telling anyone the secret. Fortunately Abraham had transcribed the important elements in this book, also known as the “*Book of Creation*” and hid them in a cave. Upon attainment of spiritual development by an exceptional individual human

being, it is said that the deity saw fit to reveal the wisdom handed down to Abraham. This occurred only, when it was asked for by that spiritual being, Moses. God having recognized Moses' spiritual development provided him with both the exoteric moral code in the "Ten Commandments" along with an esoteric teaching of the secrets of the Kabbalah.

Moses has subsequently been attributed to having authored the first four books of the Bible, known as the Pentateuch, under divine inspiration. Moses is additionally attributed to having written the 90th through the 100th psalms. Contained therein will be found the hidden doorway to prophecy. Through close study, the steps are provided which allow one to achieve prophetic consciousness. Two particular sections of the Bible have been emphasized as specific to the Kabbalah, the first chapter of Genesis and the first chapter of Ezekiel. The Kabbalistic code contained in these scriptures should be considered to contain some of the deepest mysteries, which may provide the seeker of truth, a window into the transcendent world. As the Rosicrucian cipher was foreign to all Royal Arch Masons prior to its explanation, so the Kabbalah is foreign to those who have not attempted to divine the Holy Scriptures. It should be noted that the "Book of the Law" is sort of an owner's manual for the cosmos, describing something about the circuitry of the universe, in theory.

The Kabbalistic diagram comprised of ten Sephiroth, meaning number or spheres on a diagram of twenty-two connecting lines is known as the "Tree of Life". There is one additional sphere not numbered, named Daath, between the top two spheres. On each line we find there is delineated one of the twenty-two letters of the Hebrew Alphabet. These twenty-two letters, which are related to the twenty-two paths, symbolically represent the states of consciousness, which are invoked when the cosmic principles the spheres represent, are connected by our awareness. The "Tree of Life" at first glance appears to be complicated, though is easily conceptualized if visualized as being composed of three triangles, with a Sephirah located at each angle. The top three spheres form a triangle with its apex up, the lower six spheres, two triangles with their apex pointing down. The arrangement of the spheres is clearly depicted on the diagram readily available to the reader, in primarily the same configuration. The center vertical column of spheres is known as the "Tree of Knowledge". This Tree becomes a guide for our body, soul, spirit and personality as we travel.

Kabbalism teaches that correspondence between a word and the same numerical value are significant – interchangeable. Each Hebrew letter is associated with a specific numerical value – each communicates three separate branches of meaning. First the letter's numerical value, second its sound (i.e. accurate) and third, its shape. These three aspects of meaning surface again and again in Kabbalistic understanding of the Bible: Our Great Light

Fratres this iteration as a revision of a paper written and presented to this body in 2001, acknowledges twenty some years of research and delving into the subject matter only to have realized that I had not completely seen the *Light*. It was only when our former Chief Adept, Chic Cicero, IX^o opened the door to enlightenment, that the **QBLH** came to life and a spiritual model for a closer relationship with God was revealed.

A progressive communion of our physical bodies with our spiritual being is the true aim of man's mystical search. Consciousness is then derived from the knowledge of the elements of Genesis and the knowledge of the spiritual link that unites them.

Fiat Lux,

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Rev. A