

The First Degree Lecture On the Pillars in the Lodge

A

The Pillars in the Temple of the Companions; temples in the GD tradition; temples influenced by the Masonic tradition generally, with their Masonic use deriving from the importance of the Temple of Solomon.

B

Basic correspondences: the Table (Phases of the Moon mentioned last)

C

Diagrams (note uses of the Tree): Three Pillars, Counterchanging currents, Caduceus diagram; Yesod

D

Polarity: contraries, opposites, contradictories; opposition is true friendship

True correspondences: in contexts in which a unity is taken under two aspects, polar correspondences apply.

Equilibrium: not static balance, but flexibility, responsiveness, inclusiveness, and partiality (limitation)

Light and Darkness, energy and limit; Plotinus (intelligibility and opacity)

E

The General Exordium and the Particular Exordium:

The dual nature of polarity, vertical as well as horizontal -- Metatron and Sandalphon on the Tree
Sound and Silence as well as Light and Darkness, Transparency and Opacity

D

Practice: Equilibrium is the nature of manifestation. But it is equilibration -- dynamic, not static; and one's aim is to establish an equilibrating process within which one can function. But function to what end? This is the vertical component. To bring light into darkness, and thus establish meaningful manifestation.

C

Pillars used in transitions: opposites in transitional states. Goethe's color theory: flashing colors. Diagram of Light and Darkness. Etheric because formative, formational. Links into the form-taking, form-making processes of the organism and thus of the cosmos. Talismans.

B

Correspondences of Pillars with body, Temple with Body: waxing and waning moon: the shift in orientation.

A

The Pillars in the body, psyche, person: experience of dense as particularization of subtle; man and animal. Opening to a full interpenetration of light and darkness, energy and limit, opacity and meaning. The true consecrated talisman.

Some Basic Correspondences of the Pillars

White Pillar

Male
Adam
Pillar of Fire
Right Kerub
Metatron
Jachin
Sun
Fire
South
Mercy
Expansion
Light
Base in Netzach
Waxing moon

Black Pillar

Female
Eve
Pillar of Cloud
Left Kerub
Sandalphon
Boaz
Moon
Water
North
Severity
Limit
Darkness
Base in Hod
Waning moon

II Chronicles 3:17

The General Exordium

The Speech in the Silence:
The Words against the Sons of Night:
The Voice of Thoth before the Universe in the Presence of the Eternal Gods
The Formulas of Knowledge:
The Wisdom of Breath:
The Radix of Vibration:
The Shaking of the Invisible:
The Rolling Asunder of Darkness:
The Becoming Visible of Matter:
The Piercing of the Coils of the Stooping Dragon:
The Breaking Forth of the Light:
All these are in the Knowledge of Tho-oth.

The Particular Exordium

At the ending of the Night: At the Limits of the Light: Tho-oth stood before the Unborn Ones of Time!
Then was formulated the Universe:
Then came forth the Gods thereof:
The Aeons of the Bornless Beyond:
Then was the Voice vibrated:
Then was the Name declared.
At the Threshold of the Entrance,
Between the Universe and the Infinite,
In the Sign of the Enterer, stood Tho-oth,
As before him were the Aeons proclaimed.
In Breath did he vibrate them:
In symbols did he record them:
For betwixt the Light and the Darkness did he stand.