

"Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from the seven Spirits which are before his throne." —Revelation of St. John

> UR SOLAR SYSTEM in its entirety may be thought of as the Cosmic body of God. From this great Creator, the Father of All, are sent forth Seven Great Beings. These Beings

are divine Intelligences inferior only to God Himself, but superior to all other beings within the solar system. Each Being is regent over a part of the entire system, and is at the head of a certain part of the work belonging to the great scheme of evolution. These regents are referred to as planetary rulers. They receive their

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energy from the one Life of all, and each manifests individually, depending upon the evolutionary requirements of the beings over which it rules.

Esoteric astrology recognizes the important part these seven great Intelligences play in the destiny of man. Let us endeavor to learn of the various ways in which each planetary spirit influences humanity, and how each works to instruct the virgin spirits which come under its particular sphere of influence.

Uranus is the Great Awakener. The cosmic Christ focuses the love ray of God upon this planet, and the planetary spirit ruling it steps the vibration down until it is possible for humanity to receive it and respond to the influence of this great Being, causing them to become more Christlike in their daily lives. Uranus symbolizes the Christ Spirit, or life spirit, within each of us.

The positive seat of the life spirit is in the

pituitary body, and the negative seat is in the heart. Thus it is that the pituitary body is the spiritual center through which the aspirant may transmute the earthly love of Venus into the all-embracing love of Uranus which leads to Initiation.

Considering this planet from the exoteric side, we discover that it

gives originality, independence, and the love of freedom. It brings sudden and unexpected happenings into one's life and is always prominent in the horoscopes of inventors, electricians, and scientific investigators.

This great planet is stirring the hearts of mankind, whether or not they are conscious of it. It is endeavoring to awaken the Christ Spirit within each one of us. It is no wonder that we think of Uranus as bringing light to the world.

Saturn is the next planet which we will consider. Through the influence of this planetary spirit we learn to sing with the Psalmist, "Blessed is the man whom thou chasteneth, O Lord, and teacheth him out of thy law." If we would evolve we must bring forth fruit as the result of having lived.

The work of this planetary spirit is very difficult, for Saturn is the planet that obstructs and denies. But it also gives the stability which is most necessary for evolutionary progress.

Saturn was the first planet to make its influence felt by humanity. From the exoteric standpoint, Saturn has a close relation to the physical body, having much to do with the building of form. It is he who binds the Spirit to earth through the physical body. This planet rules the pneumogastric nerve along which the dense seed atom travels when it leaves the body at the time of death; and in this way it is connected with the end of life. Therefore, we often find Saturn illustrated as Father Time, holding the hour glass in one hand, and the sickle in the other. Saturn is the bridge between In Christian eschatology one Saturn variant is the angel with the sharp sickles who gathers the the real and the unreal, the human clusters of the vine of the earth and cast darkness and the light. them into the winepress of God's wrath. (Rev. 14)

On the physical plane this

planet governs old age; and in the human body it rules the joints, the bones, and the knees. It is the crystallizing effect of Saturn which man must learn to control before he can reach the Christ stage of perfection. It is through the influence of this formative power on humanity that we have the farmer, the builder, the miner, the mineralogist, and the sculptor.

Saturn

We must refer esoterically to its symbol to understand the meaning of Saturn. Here we find that the cross of matter is placed over the signature of the soul, the half circle. The Spirit for the time being seems to be subjected to matter, which brings sorrow and suffering until it learns to replace selfishness with sacrifice. No one is able to raise his consciousness to a higher level until he has passed the tests given by this sign.

To the majority, this planet will long be a malefic -the tester. But the students of spiritual astrology, who see its higher aspects, soon learn to recognize its truly beneficent service. The more spiritual we grow, the more we will appreciate the work of this planet, for then we will learn that it smites but to heal. And in time we find that it is through the

influence of this powerful planet that we learn true value; learn that material wealth has no inherent value; understand that the only real wealth refers to the powers and faculties that develop the fruits of the Spirit.

Next we will study the influence of Jupiter. Most of us are familiar with this planet's personification as recounted in mythology. In the Greek pantheon, Zeus (Gr. dios, Skr. deva, divine) was foremost of the gods on Mt. Olympus. Jupiter is the planet of expansion. Just as we need sunshine in order to live, so do we need the influence of Jupiter to urge us to expand.

In the physical world, Jupiter inclines the individ-

ual to occupations connected with churches, religious bodies, higher forms of education, and the law. The expansive phase of this planet is denoted also by its influence upon financial matters, for it is called the planet of fortune. Jupiter governs the liver, arterial circulation, and the deposition of fats.

The fact that Jupiter rules the ninth house is sufficient to show us that all mental and spiritual growth comes from within, and if we wish to expand our consciousness, we must apply our minds to the study of the higher philosophies of life.

Esoterically, we find the symbol of Jupiter reveals much. The crescent over the cross denotes

that the Spirit has risen above the limitations of the cross of matter, and therefore has become free. It indicates that the higher self is in control and is no longer concerned with material things, but has turned its attention to religion, philosophy, and the higher sciences.

Mars, sometimes called the god of war, when well aspected impels us to direct our energies along constructive lines of endeavor.

We know that our earth is the only planet where the problem of sex exists. In recognition of this fact, God has provided the force needed to

carry us through this experience, in the energy furnished us by Mars. It is this planet which teaches us that only through the proper use of all the creative forces of the body and mind can man understand the quotation, "Innocence cannot be virtue; man is only that which he has conquered."

On the physical plane Mars rules war, surgery, and engineering. In the human body it governs the motor nerves, the left hemisphere of the brain, muscular movements, the motor segment of the spinal cord, and the red blood corpuscles.

The esoteric interpretation of Mars brings us again to the study of symbolism. Here we find the

cross of personality above the circle of Spirit, denoting that the Spirit is in bondage to matter. We are made in the image of God, and destined to become like Him. We are all tempted and crucified upon the cross of matter, until we learn to lift the cross from the material plane.

The story of Job helps us to realize the power of this planet, for like Job, we too must learn to realize that within each individual lies the greatness of God and the power of the Spirit to triumph over matter

When the personal self surrenders to the higher self the cross and the circle become reversed and form the symbol of Venus, the goddess of love.

Fleet (wing-footed) Mercury with double serpent caduceus and winged petasos, symbolizing quick thinking.

Mars will fight, but Venus does not need to battle for her rights for the Spirit is above the cross and therefore has the balance of power which brings about true progress. The Venus ray produces actors, artists, poets, and musicians.

Venus teaches us harmony on the material plane by her influence focused through Taurus, and balance on the mental plane by her Libran propensities. So it is that the Spirit, through the mind, eventually learns to master the things of the earth. Through the Venus-Taurian influence we are

taught the value of harmony in building physical bodies; through the Venus influence focused through Libra, we learn that refinement of the mind brings wisdom; and through her exaltation sign, Pisces, we find her teaching us the great importance of spiritualizing love. Next let us consider the god of wisdom, Mercury. The influence of this planet

The influence of this planet is mostly directed toward the development of logic and reason. Mercury instructs us how to direct our desires and emotions into constructive channels. All development depends upon some guiding factor, and at our present stage of evolution, the mind is the safest guide in directing our advancement. The

mind connects the Spirit with its body, and is the power that controls the emotions.

It is through the mind that the Spirit is able to gain the experience it needs in its different bodies, for it is the mind that directs the activities of our daily lives. Exoterically it is the influence of this planet that informs and impels merchants, salesmen, agents, lobbyists, advertisers and writers.

When we learn the lesson Mercury wishes to teach us, an etheric organ in the head and throat will have been built, which will be the creative organ that will make it possible for man to speak the word of Life. \Box

-Frieda G. Nolting