

STUDIES IN THE COSMO-CONCEPTION

The Purpose of Initiation

Q. Does reviewing the past complete the candidate's first degree initiation?

A. No, there is a further step taken in each degree; the pupil sees in addition to the work done in each Revolution also the work accomplished in the corresponding Epoch during our present stay upon globe D, the Earth.

Q. How would these be classified?

A. During the first degree he follows the work of the Saturn Revolution and its latest consummation in the Polarian Epoch. In the second degree he follows the work of the Sun Revolution and its replica, the Hyperborean Epoch. During the third degree he watches the work as performed in the Moon Revolution and sees how that was the basis of life in the Lemurian Epoch.

Q. What does he see in relation to our Earth?

A. During the fourth degree he sees the evolution of the last half Revolution with its corresponding period of time in our present stay on Earth; the first half of the Atlantean Epoch which ended when the dense foggy atmosphere subsided, and the Sun first shone upon land and sea. Then the night of unconsciousness was over, the eyes of the indwelling Ego were fully opened, and he was able to turn the Light of Reason upon the problem of conquering the world.

Q. What stage in evolution had man then reached?

A. That was the time when man as we now know him was first born.

Q. Were not candidates entranced for three and one-half days in earlier times?

A. When in the olden systems of initiation we hear that the candidate was entranced for a period of three and one-half days, reference is made to the part of initiation just described. The three and one-half days refer to the stages gone through; they are

not by any means days of twenty-four hours.

Q. How long a time is required for such initiation?

A. The actual time varies with each candidate but in all cases he is taken through the unconscious development of mankind during the past revolutions.

Q. Is it not said that he is awakened on the fourth day?

A. When it is said that he is awakened at the time of sunrise on the fourth day, that is the mystical way of expressing that his initiation into the work of the involutory career of man ceases at the time when the Sun rose above the clear atmosphere of Atlantis. Then the candidate is also hailed as a "first-born."

Q. What does the fifth degree reveal?

A. Having become familiar with the road we have traveled in the past, the fifth degree takes a candidate to the very end of the Earth Period, when a glorious humanity is gathering the fruits of this Period and taking it away from the seven globes upon which we evolve during each day of manifestation into the first of the five dark globes which are our habitation during the Cosmic Nights.

Q. What does this teach the candidate?

A. After being shown the end in the fifth degree, the candidate is made acquainted with the means whereby that end is to be attained during the remaining three and one-half Revolutions of the Earth Period, the four remaining degrees being devoted to his enlightenment in that respect.

Q. What advantages does this give the candidate?

A. By the insight he has thus acquired he is able to co-operate intelligently with the Powers that work for Good, and thus he will help to hasten the day of our emancipation.

Ref. *Cosmo*, pp. 526-528