

Philosophic Encyclopedia

Core Concepts

Christian Rosenkreuz And The Order Of Rosicrucians

[21/21]

Ancient Truths In Modern Dress

Having encountered among the public a widespread desire to learn something of the **Order of Rosicrucians**, and as there is a lack of understanding of the important place occupied by the **Brothers of the Rose Cross** in our Western civilization, even among students, it may be well to furnish authentic information upon the subject.

Everything in the world is subject to law, even our evolution is thus encompassed; spiritual and physical progression go hand in hand. The sun is the physical light bringer and, as we know, it apparently travels from east to west bringing light and life to one part of the earth after another. But the visible Sun is only a part of the sun as the visible body is a small part of composite man. There is an invisible and spiritual Sun whose rays promote soul growth upon one part of the earth after another as the physical Sun promotes the growth of form, and this spiritual impulse also travels in the same direction as the physical Sun; from east to west.

Six or seven hundred year B.C., a new wave of spirituality was started near the western shores of the Pacific Ocean to give enlightenment to the Chinese nation and the religion of Confucius is embraced to this day by many millions in the celestial kingdom. Later we note the effect of this wave in the religion of Buddha, a teaching designed to stir the aspirations of millions of Hindus and western Chinese. In its westward course it appears among the more intellectual Greeks in the lofty philosophies of Pythagoras and Plato, and at last it sweeps over the western world, among the pioneers of the human race, where it takes the lofty form of the Christian religion.

The Christian religion has gradually worked its way to the westward, even to the shores of the Pacific Ocean and thither the spiritual aspirations are being massed and concentrated. There they will reach a point of culmination, prior to taking a new leap across the ocean and inaugurating a higher and more lofty spiritual awakening in the Orient than now exists in that part of the earth.

Just as day and night, summer and winter, ebb and flood, follow each other in unbroken sequence according to the law of alternating cycles, so also the appearance of a wave of spiritual awakening in any part of the world is followed by a period of material reactions, so that our development may not become one-sided.

Religion, Art and Science are the three most important means of human education, and they are a trinity in unity which cannot be separated without distorting our viewpoint of whatever we may investigate. True Religion embodies both science and art, for it teaches a beautiful life in harmony with the laws of nature.

True Science is artistic and religious in the highest sense, for it teaches us to reverence and conform to laws governing our well-being and explains why the religious life is conducive to health and beauty.

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True Art is as educational as science and as uplifting in its influence as religion. In architecture we have a most sublime presentation of cosmic lines of force in the universe. It fills the spiritual beholder with a powerful devotion and adoration born of an awe-inspiring conception of the overwhelming grandeur and majesty of Deity. Sculpture and painting, music and literature inspire us with a sense of transcendent loveliness of God, the immutable source and goal of all this beautiful world.

Nothing short of such an all-embracing teaching will answer the needs of humanity permanently. There was a time, even as late as Greece, when Religion, Art and Science were taught unitedly in Mystery temples. But it was necessary to the better development of each that they should separate for a time.

Religion held sole sway in the so-called "dark ages." During that time it bound both Science and Art hand and foot. Then came the period of Renaissance and Art came to the fore in all its branches. Religion was strong as yet, however, and Art was only too often prostituted in the service of Religion. Last came the wave of modern Science, and with iron hand it has subjugated Religion.

It was a detriment to the world when Religion shackled Science. Ignorance and Superstition caused untold woe, nevertheless man cherished a lofty spiritual ideal then; he hoped for a higher and better life. It is infinitely more disastrous that Science is killing

Religion, for now even Hope, the only gift of the gods left in Pandora's box, may vanish before materialism and agnosticism.

Such a state cannot continue. Reaction must set in. If it does not, Anarchy will rend the Cosmos. To avert a calamity Religion, Science and Art must reunite in a higher expression of the Good, the True and the Beautiful than obtained before the separation.

Coming events cast their shadows before, and when the Great Leaders of humanity saw the tendency towards ultra-materialism which is now rampant in the Western World, they took certain steps to counteract and transmute it at the auspicious time. They did not wish to kill the budding Science as the latter has strangled Religion, for they saw the ultimate good which will result when an advanced Science has again become the co-worker of Religion.

A spiritual Religion, however, cannot blend with a materialistic Science any more than oil can mix with water. Therefore steps were taken to spiritualize Science and make Religion scientific.

In the thirteenth century a high spiritual teacher, having the symbolical name **Christian Rosenkreuz—Christian: Rose: Cross**—appeared in Europe to commence that work. He founded the mysterious **Order of Rosicrucians** with the object of throwing mystic light upon the misunderstood Christian Religion and to explain the mystery of Life and Being from the scientific standpoint in harmony with Religion.

Many centuries have rolled by since the birth, as **Christian Rosenkreuz**, of the Founder of the **Rosicrucian Mystery School**, and by many his existence is even regarded as a myth. But his birth as **Christian Rosenkreuz** marked the beginning of a new epoch in spiritual life of the Western World. That particular **Ego** has also been in continuous physical existence ever since, in

one or another of the European Countries. He has taken a new body when his successive vehicles have outlived their usefulness, or circumstances rendered it expedient that he changes the scene of his activities. Moreover, he is embodied today—an **Initiate** of high degree, an active or potent factor in all affairs of the West—although unknown to the World.

He labored with the **Alchemists** centuries before the advent of modern science. He, through an intermediary, inspired the now mutilated works of Bacon. Jacob Boehme and others received through him the inspiration which makes their works so spiritually illuminating. In the works of the immortal Goethe and the masterpieces of Wagner the same influence meets us. All undaunted spirits who refuse to be fettered by either orthodox science or orthodox religion, who fling away the husks and penetrate to the spiritual kernel regardless of vilification or of flattery, draw their inspiration from the same fountain as did and does the great spirit which animated **Christian Rosenkreuz**.

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His very name is an embodiment of the manner and the means by which the present day man is transformed into the **Divine Superman**. This symbol—

"Christian Rosen Kreuz"
[The] Christian Rose Cross

—shows the end and aim of human evolution, the road to be traveled, and the means whereby that end is gained. The black cross, the twining green stem of the plant, the thorns, the blood red roses—in these is hidden the solution of the **World Mystery**—Man's past evolution, present constitution, and particularly the secret of his future development.

It hides from the profane, but reveals to the **Initiate** the more clearly how he is to labor day by day to make for himself that choicest of all gems, the **Philosopher's Stone**—more precious than the Kohinoor; nay, than the sum of all earthly wealth! It reminds him how mankind, in its ignorance, is hourly wasting the actual concrete material that might be used in the formation of this priceless treasure.

To keep him steadfast and true through every adversity, the **Rose Cross** holds aloft, as an inspiration, the glorious consummation in store for him that overcometh, and points to Christ as the Star of Hope, the "first fruits," Who wrought this marvelous **Stone** while inhabiting the body of Jesus.

Upon investigation it has been found that there was in all systems of Religion a teaching reserved for the Priest-craft and not given to the multitude. The Christ also spoke to the multitude in parables, but explained the inner meaning of these parables to the disciples, to give them an understanding more suited to their developed minds.

Paul gave "milk" to the babes or younger members of the community, but "meat" to the strong who had studied more deeply. Thus there has always been an inner and an outer teaching, and this inner teaching was given in so-called **Mystery Schools** which have changed from time to time to suit the needs of the people among whom they were designed to work.

The **Order of Rosicrucians** is not merely a secret society; it is one of the **Mystery Schools**, and the **Brothers are Hierophants of the Lesser Mysteries**, Custodians of the Sacred Teachings and a spiritual Power more potent in the life of the Western World than

any of the visible Governments, though they may not interfere with humanity so as to deprive them of their free will.

As the path of development in all cases depends upon the temperament of the aspirant, there are two paths, the mystic and the intellectual. The Mystic is usually devoid of intellectual knowledge; he follows the dictates of his heart and strives to do the will of God as he feels it, lifting himself upward without being conscious of any definite goal, and in the end he attains knowledge. In the middle ages people were not as intellectual as we are nowadays, and those who felt the call of a higher life usually followed the mystic path. But in the last few hundred years, since the advent of modern science, a more intellectual humanity has peopled the earth; the head has completely overruled the heart, materialism has dominated all spiritual impulse and the majority of the thinking people do not believe anything they cannot touch, taste or handle. Therefore, it is necessary that appeal should be made to their intellect in order that the heart may be allowed to believe what the intellect has sanctioned. As a response to this demand the **Rosicrucian Mystery Teachings** aim to correlate scientific facts to spiritual verities.

In the past these have been kept secret from all but a few Initiates, and even today they are among the most mysterious and secret in the Western World. All so-called "discoveries" of the past which have professed to reveal the **Rosicrucian** secrets, have been either fraudulent, or the result of treachery upon the part of some outsider who may, accidentally or otherwise, have overheard fragments of conversation, unintelligible to all but those who have the key. It is possible to live under the same roof and on terms of the closest intimacy with an **Initiate** of any school, yet his secret will always remain hidden in his breast until the friend has reached

the point where he can become a **Brother Initiate**. The revealing of secrets does not depend upon the Will of the **Initiate**, but upon the qualifications of the aspirant.

Like all other **Mystery Orders**, the **Order of Rosicrucians** is formed on cosmic lines: If we take balls of even size and try how many it will take to cover one and hide it from view, we shall find that it will require 12 to conceal a thirteenth ball. The ultimate division of physical matter, the true atom, found in interplanetary space, is thus grouped in twelve around one. The twelve signs of the Zodiac enveloping our Solar System, the twelve semi-stones of the musical scale comprising the octave, the twelve Apostles who clustered around the Christ, etc., are other examples of this grouping of 12 and 1. The **Rosicrucian Order** is therefore also composed of 12 Brothers and a 13th.

There are other divisions to be noted, however. We have seen that of the Heavenly Host of twelve **Creative Hierarchies** who were active in our scheme of evolution, five have withdrawn to liberation, leaving only seven to busy themselves with our further progress. It is in harmony with this fact that the man of today, the indwelling **Ego**, the microcosm, works outwards through seven visible orifices in his body: 2 eyes, 2 ears, 2 nostrils and a mouth, while five more orifices are wholly or partially closed. the mammary glands, the umbilicus and two excretory organs.

The seven roses which garnish our beautiful emblem and the five pointed radiating star behind, are emblematic of the twelve **Great Creative Hierarchies** which have assisted the evolving **Human Spirit** through the previous conditions as mineral, plant and animal, when it was devoid of self-consciousness and unable to care for itself in the slightest degree. Of these twelve hosts of

Great Beings, three classes worked upon and with man of their own free wills and without any obligation whatever.

These are symbolized by the three points in the star upon our emblem which points upwards. Two more of the Great Hierarchies are upon the point of withdrawal, and these are pictured in the two points of the star which radiate downward from the center. The seven roses reveal the fact that there are still seven **Great Creative Hierarchies** active in the development of the beings upon Earth, and as all of these various classes from the smallest to the greatest are but parts of One Great Whole whom we call God, the whole emblem is a symbol of God in manifestation.

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The Hermetic axiom says: "As above so below," and the lesser teachers of mankind are also grouped upon the same cosmic lines of 7, 5 and 1. There are upon earth seven schools of the **Lesser Mysteries**, five of the **Greater Mysteries** and the whole is grouped under one **Central Head Who is called the Liberator**.

In the **Order of Rosicrucians** seven **Brothers** go out into the World whenever occasion requires; appearing as men among other men or working in their invisible vehicles with or upon others as needed; yet it must be strictly kept in mind that they never influence people against their will or contrary to their desires; but only strengthen good wherever found.

The remaining five **Brothers** never leave the **Temple**; and though they do possess physical bodies all their work is done from the **Inner Worlds**.

The **Thirteenth is Head of the Order**, the link with a higher **Central Council** composed of the **Hierophants of the Greater**

Mysteries, who do not deal with ordinary humanity at all, but only with graduates of the **Lesser Mysteries**.

The **Head of the Order** is hidden from the outside world by the twelve **Brothers**, as the central ball mentioned in our illustration. Even the pupils of the **School** never see him, but at the nightly Services in the **Temple** His presence is felt by all, whenever He enters, and is the signal for the commencement of the ceremony.

Gathered around the **Brothers of the Rose Cross**, as their pupils, are a number of "**lay brothers**"; people who live in various parts of the Western World, but are able to leave their bodies consciously, attend the services and participate in the spiritual work at the temple; they having each and every one been "**initiated**" in the method of so doing by one of the **Elder Brothers**. Most of them are able to remember all that happens, but there are a few cases where the faculty of leaving the body was acquired in a previous life of well-doing and where a drug habit or a sickness contracted in the present existence has unfitted the brain to receive impression of the work done by the man or woman when away.

Initiation

The general idea of initiation is that it is merely a ceremony which makes one member of a secret society; that it may be conferred upon anyone willing to pay a certain price, a sum of money in most cases.

While that is true of the so-called initiation of fraternal orders and also in most pseudo-esoteric orders, it is altogether an erroneous idea when applied to initiations into various degrees of truly mystic **Brotherhoods**, as a little understanding of the real requirements and of their reasonableness will readily make clear.

In the first place there is no golden key to the temple; merit counts but not money. Merit is not acquired in a day; it is the cumulative product of past good action. The Candidate for initiation is usually totally unconscious that he is a candidate, he is usually living his life in the community and serving his fellow man for days and years without any ulterior thought until one day there appears in his life the teacher, a **Hierophant of the Lesser Mysteries** appropriate to the country in which he resides. By this time the candidate has cultivated within himself certain faculties, stored up certain powers for service and help, of which he is usually unconscious or which he does not know how to properly utilize. The task of the initiator will now be plain; he shows the candidate the latent faculties, the dormant powers and initiates him into their use; explains or demonstrates to him for the first time how the candidate may awaken the static energy into dynamic power.

Initiation may be accomplished by a ceremony, or not, but let it be particularly observed, that while **Initiation** is the inevitable culmination of prolonged spiritual endeavor, whether conscious or the reverse upon the part of the candidate, it can positively never take place till the requisite inner development has accumulated the latent powers which **Initiation** teaches how to use dynamically, any more than pulling the trigger can cause an explosion in a gun that has not first been loaded.

Neither is there any danger that the teacher may overlook anyone who has attained the requisite development. Each good and unselfish deed increases the luminosity and vibrant power of the candidate's aura enormously, and as surely as the magnet attracts the needle, so will the brilliancy of that auric light bring the teacher.

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It is, of course, impossible to describe in these articles intended for the general public the stages of the **Rosicrucian Initiation**; to do so would be a breach of faith and it would also be impossible for lack of words to adequately express oneself. But it is permissible to give an outline and to show the purpose of **Initiation**.

The **Lesser Mysteries** deal only with evolution of mankind during the **Earth Period**. In the first three and one-half **Revolutions** of the **life wave** around the seven **Globes** the **Virgin Spirits** had not yet attained consciousness. In consequence of this fact we are ignorant of how we came to be as we are today. The candidate is to have light upon that subject, so by the spell of the **Hierophants** during the period of **Initiation** into the first degree, his consciousness is turned towards that page of the **Memory of Nature** bearing the records of the first **Revolution** when we recapitulated the development of the **Saturn Period**. He is still in full possession of his every-day consciousness; he knows and remembers the facts of Twenty-first Century life, but he is now consciously watching the progress of the evolving host of **Virgin Spirits** of which he formed one unit during the **Saturn Revolution**. Thus he learns how the first steps were taken in the **Earth Period** towards the goal of attainment which will be revealed to him in a later step.

Having learned the lesson as practically described in [a previous article](#), the candidate has acquired firsthand knowledge upon this subject and has come into direct touch with the **Creative Hierarchies** in their work with and upon man; he is therefore able to appreciate their beneficent labors in the World and is in measure able to range himself in line with them; becoming thus far their co-worker.

When the time has arrived for him to take the second degree, he is similarly caused to turn his attention to the conditions of the second **Revolution of the Earth Period**, and as depicted in the **Memory of Nature**; then he watches in full consciousness the progress made at that time by the **Virgin Spirits**, much as Peter Ibbetson, the hero of a book. "Peter Ibbetson," by George du Maurier; it is well worth reading, for it is a graphic description of certain phases of subconsciousness—watched his child life during the nights when he "dreamed true." In the third degree he follows the evolution of the third, or **Moon Revolution**, and in the fourth degree he sees the progress made in the **half-Revolution** we have made of the fourth.

There is, however, 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.

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**.

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

When in the olden system 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, and the three and one-half days refer to the stages gone through, they are not by any means days of twenty-four hours; the actual time varies with each candidate, but in all cases he is taken through the unconsciousness development of mankind during the past **Revolutions**, and 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 "firstborn."

Having become familiar with the road we have traveled in the past, the **fifth degree** takes the 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**. The densest of these is located in the **Region of Abstract Thought**, and is in reality the "**Chaos**" spoken of elsewhere in these articles. This **Globe** is also the **Third Heaven**, and when Paul speaks of being caught up into the **Third Heaven** and of seeing things there which he could not lawfully reveal, he was referring to the experiences of an equivalent of this **fifth degree** in the present **Rosicrucian Mysteries**.

After being shown the end in the **fifth degree**, the candidate is made acquainted with the means whereby that end is 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.

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

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In order to rout a common misconception we wish to make clear to students that we are not **Rosicrucians** because we study their **Teachings**, nor does even admission to the **Temple** entitle us to call ourselves by that name. A lay brother, a pupil, for example, would under no circumstances call himself or herself a **Rosicrucian**.

We know well, that when a boy has graduated from grammar school he is not therefore fitted to teach. He must first go through high school and college, and even then he may not feel the call to be a school teacher. Similarly in the school of life, because a man has graduated from the **Rosicrucian Mystery School** he is not even then a Rosicrucian. Graduates from the various schools of the **Lesser Mysteries** advance into five schools of the **Greater Mysteries**. In the first four they pass the four **Great Initiations** and at last reach the **Liberator**, where they receive a knowledge concerning other evolutions and are given the choice of remaining here to assist their brothers or enter other evolutions as **Helpers**. Those who elect to stay here as **Helpers** are given various positions according to their tastes and natural bent. The **Brothers of the Rose Cross** are among those **Compassionate Ones**, and it is a sacrilege to drag the **Rosicrucian** name in the mire by

applying it to ourselves when we are merely students of their lofty teachings.

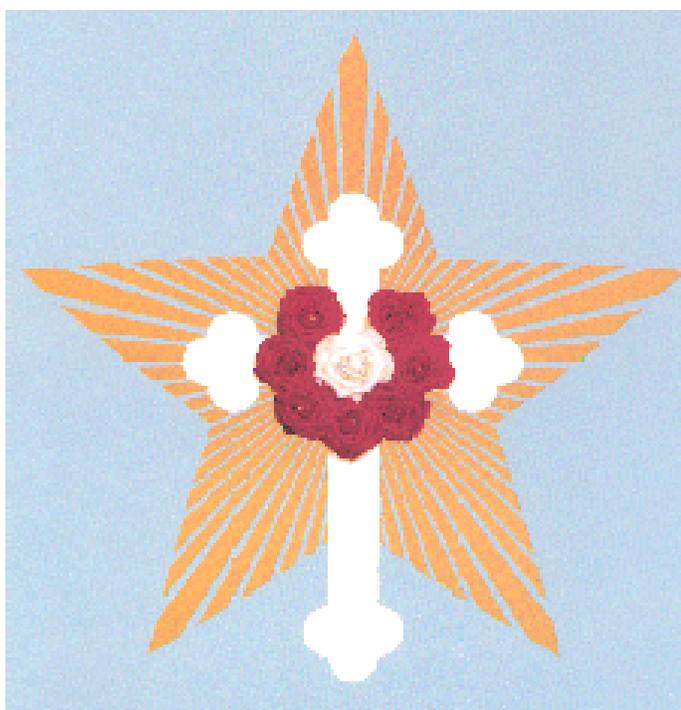
During the past few centuries the **Brothers** have worked for humanity in secret; each night at midnight there is a Service at the **Temple** where the **Elder Brothers**, assisted by the **lay brothers** who are able to leave their work in the World (for many of them reside in places where it is yet day when it is midnight in the location of the **Temple of the Rose Cross**), gather up from everywhere in the Western World the thoughts of sensuality, greed selfishness and materialism. These they seek to transmute into pure love, benevolence, altruism and spiritual aspirations sending them back to the World to uplift and encourage all Good. Were it not for this potent source of spiritual vibration materialism must long ago have totally squelched all spiritual effort, for there has never been a darker age from the spiritual standpoint than the last three hundred years of materialism.

Now the time has come, however, when the method of secret endeavor is to be supplemented with a more direct effort to promulgate a definite, logical and sequential teaching concerning the origin, evolution and future development of the World and man, showing both the spiritual and the scientific aspect: a teaching which makes no statements that are not supported by reason and logic; a teaching which is satisfying to the mind, for it holds out a reasonable solution to all mysteries; it neither begs nor evades questions and its explanations are both profound and lucid.

But, and this is a very important "But," the **Rosicrucians** do not regard an intellectual understanding of God and the Universe as an end in itself; far from it! The greater the intellect, the greater the danger of its misuse. Therefore, this scientific, logical and exhaustive teaching is given in order that man may believe in his

heart that which his head has sanctioned and start to live the religious life.

The **Rosicrucian** method of attainment differs from other system in one especial particular: It aims, even at the very start, to emancipate the pupil from dependence upon others, to make him or her self-reliant in the very highest degree, so that he or she may be able to stand alone under all circumstances and cope with all conditions. Only one who is thus strongly poised can help the weak.



The Rosicrucian Emblem

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The Symbolism Of The Rose Cross

When inquiring into the meaning of any myth, legend or symbol of mystic value, it is an absolute necessity that we should understand that, as any object in the three-dimensional world may, or rather must, be viewed from all points to obtain a full and complete comprehension thereof, so all symbols have a number of aspects.

Each viewpoint reveals a different phase from the others, and all have an equal claim to consideration.

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Viewed in its fullness, this wonderful symbol contains the key to man's past evolution, his present constitution and future development, together with the method of attainment. In the form where it is represented with a single rose in the center it symbolizes the spirit radiating from itself the four vehicles: the **dense (physical) (physical), vital and desire bodies plus the mind**; where the spirit has drawn into its instruments and become the indwelling human spirit. But there was a time when that condition did not obtain, a time when the **three-fold spirit** hovered above its vehicles and was unable to enter. Then the cross stood alone without the rose, symbolizing the condition which prevailed in the early third of **Atlantis**. There was even a time when the upper limb of the cross was lacking and man's constitution was represented by the Tau (T) that was in the **Lemurian Epoch** when he had only the **dense (physical), vital and desire bodies**, but lacked the mind. Then the animal nature was paramount. Man followed desire without reserve. At a still earlier time, in the **Hyperborean Epoch**, he was also minus the **desire body** and possessed only the dense (physical) and **vital bodies**. Then man-in-the-making was like the plants: chaste and devoid of desire. At that time his constitution could not have been represented by a cross. It was symbolized by a straight shaft, a pillar (I).

This symbol has been considered phallic, an emblem showing the licentiousness of the people who worshiped it. Truly it is a symbol of generation, but generation is by no means synonymous with degradation—far from it—the pillar is the lower limb of the cross,

symbolical of man-in-the-making when he was plantlike. The plant is unconscious of passion, desire, innocent of evil. It generates and perpetuates its species in a manner so pure, so chaste, that properly understood, it is a model for fallen and passionate humanity to worship as an ideal and it was given to earlier races with that intent. The Phallus and Yona used in the Greek mystery temples were given by the **Hierophants** in that spirit, and over the temple was placed the enigmatical words: "Man, know thyself," which motto, properly understood, is similar to that of the **Rose Cross**, for it shows the reason for man's fall into desire, passion and sin, and gives the key to his liberation in the same way that the roses upon the cross indicate the path of liberation.

The plant is innocent, but not virtuous; it has neither desire nor choice. Man has both. He may follow desire or not as he wishes, that he may learn to master himself.

While he was plant-like, a hermaphrodite, he could generate from himself without the help of another, but though he was as chaste and as innocent as the plants, he was also as unconscious and inert. In order to advance he must have desire to spur him on, and a mind to guide him, and therefore half his creative force was retained for the purpose of building a brain and a larynx. He had at that time a round shape similar to that of the embryo, and the present larynx was a part of the creative organ which adhered to the head when the body straightened out. The connection between the two is seen even today in the fact that the boy, who expresses the positive pole of the generative force, changes his voice at puberty. That the same force which builds another body when it is sent outwards builds the brain when retained is equally clear when we consider that sex mania leads to insanity, while the profound thinker will feel little inclination for amorous practices. He uses all

his creative force to generate thought instead of wasting it in sense gratification.

At the time when man commenced to withhold half his creative force for the above mentioned purpose, his consciousness was directed inwards to build organs. He was capable of seeing these organs and he used the same creative force then under the direction of **Creative Hierarchies** in planning and in executing plans of organs, that he now uses in the outer world to build airships, houses, automobiles, telephones, etc. Then he was unconscious of how that half of the creative force was used which was sent outwards for generation of another body.

Generation was carried on under the guidance of **Angels**. At certain times of the year they herded the growing man together in great temples and there the generative act was performed. Man was unconscious of the fact. His eyes had not yet been opened, and though it was necessary for him to have a partner who had the half or other pole of the creative force available for generation which he retained to build organs within, he did not at first know his wife. In ordinary life he was shut within himself so far as the Physical World was concerned, but it was different when he was brought into such intimate and close touch with another, as in the case of the generative act. Then for the moment the spirit pierced the veil of flesh and Adam knew his wife. He had ceased to know himself—thus his consciousness became more and more and more centered outside himself in the outside world and he lost his inner perception. That cannot be fully regained until he has passed to the stage where it is no longer necessary to have a partner in generation, and he has reached the development where he can again utilize his whole creative force at will. Then he will again know himself as he did during his stage of plant-like existence, but with this all important difference that he will use his creative

faculty consciously, and will not be restricted to using it solely for the pro-creation of his own species, but may create whatever he will. Neither will he use his present organs of generation, but the larynx will speak the **Creative Word** as directed by the spirit through the coordinating mechanism of the brain. Thus the two organs built by half the creative force will in time be the means whereby man will eventually become an independent self-conscious creator.

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Even at the present time man molds matter both by thought and voice, as instanced in scientific experiments where thoughts have created an image on photographic plates, and where the human voice has created geometrical figures in sand, etc. In proportion as man becomes unselfish he will release the creative force held in leash. That will give him added thought power and enable him to utilize it for upliftment of others instead of to plan how to degrade and subject others to his will. He will learn how to master himself and cease to try to master others, except it be done temporarily for their good, but never for selfish ends. Only one who has mastered himself is qualified to rule others, and competent to judge when that should be done, and what is best for them.

Thus we see that in time the present passionate mode of generation will be again superseded by a pure and more efficient method than the present, and that also is symbolized in the **Rose Cross** where the rose is placed in the center between the four arms. The long limb represents the body, the two horizontals, the two arms, and the short upper limb, the head. The rose is in place of the larynx.

The rose, like any other flower, is the generative organ of the plant. Its green stem carries the colorless, passionless plant blood. The blood red rose shows the passion filled blood of the human race, but in the rose the vital fluid is not sensuous, it is chaste and pure. Thus it is an excellent symbol of the generative organ in the pure and holy state to which man will attain when he has cleansed and purified his blood from desire, when he has become chaste, pure and Christ-like.

Therefore the **Rosicrucians** look ardently forward to the day when the **roses shall bloom upon the cross of humanity**, therefore the **Elder Brothers** greet the aspiring soul with the words of the Rosicrucian Greeting: "**May the Roses bloom upon your Cross,**" and therefore the greeting is given in the meetings of students of **The Rosicrucian Teachings** by the leader to the assembled fellow-students who respond to the greeting by saying "**And on yours, also.**"

John speaks of his purification (1st Epistle, 3:9) and says that he who is born of God cannot sin, for he keepeth his seed within him. It is an absolute necessity to progress that the aspirant should be chaste. Yet it must be borne in mind, that absolute celibacy is not required of man until he has reached a point where he is ready for the **Great Initiations**, and that is a duty we owe to the whole to perpetuate the race. If we are mentally, morally, physically and financially able, we may approach the act of generation as a holy sacrifice laid upon the altar of humanity, but not for sensual pleasure. Neither should it be performed in an austere, forbidding frame of mind, but in glad giving up of oneself for the privilege of furnishing a friend seeking rebirth with the body and environment he needs for development. Thus we shall also help him cultivate the blooming **roses upon his cross**.

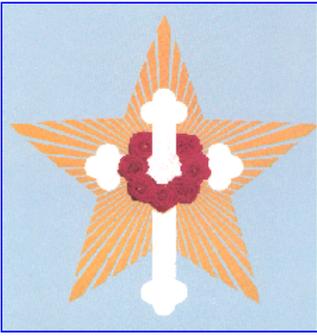
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