

## LESSON 18

## MALKUTH - KINGDOM

'The Tenth Path (Sephira) is called the Resplendent Intelligence because it is exalted above every head and sits on the throne of Binah. It illuminates the Splendours of all the Lights, and causes an influence to emanate from the Prince of countenances, the angel of Kether.'

The title 'Resplendent Intelligence' shows that one has reached Malkuth (by descent) and by that virtue one attains the unification with the brightness of Kether because now the Tree is a fully developed unit. The old saying "Kether is Malkuth and Malkuth is Kether" applies to this instance. The reference to the throne of Binah is complex but we must remember that Binah was the first separation of feminine polarity (from Chokmah) and hence the first stirrings of new life being formed on an as yet unmanifested level which relates to an entire Tree before manifesting in a new area of development.

Malkuth is the tenth and final Sephiroth and means Kingdom: for this is the world inherited by the completed force that has made its way from Kether. It is the optimum point of development in this plane of existence. The Tree now must go on to other areas. Malkuth is also a point of overlap as it is at the point covered by the three veils of negative existence of the next Tree. To help understand this we take the element of earth as

Malkuth and the other three elements as emanations from another plane, all of whom contribute Malkuth's formation.

The virtue of Malkuth is discrimination, a necessary object lesson for this is the grossest area of existence and a world of considerable overlaps from the four elements to the various corresponding heavens and hells. As such, discrimination is needed for existence alone, otherwise these other worlds would mix in with our own to such an extent one could not tell the difference between reality of this world and the next. Just as fire must be separated from water in the natural order of things so should other foundations making up the world of Malkuth.

The vice of Malkuth is scepticism (of other existences) which is the result of humans being bogged down on a Malkuthian level, immersed in their own sensations with little thought or action dedicated to the spiritual plane. Without the higher spiritual aspirations the soul must try and widen its scope on the material plane through a gradual build up of events, so that the entity begins to realise that there are more things in heaven and earth than just planet earth.

The magical image of Malkuth is a young woman crowned and veiled. The veil shows the hidden essence of the spiritual side of things. In alchemical terms this is the Anima Mundi and shows the first stirrings of growth in Malkuth. The unconscious activity in the astral shows a preparation is underway but it is not yet ready to reveal itself. From the esoteric concept this is

mother nature, who is guiding our destinies through the four elements but within the karmic patterns of development.

The esoteric titles of Malkuth are numerous. Some of them are:

Gates of Shadow of Death - show the karmic pattern of lives through which one never really dies.

Gate of Tears - the sorrows of learning in various lifetimes.

Gate of Justice - this shows that everything must be balanced before ascension to the next level of existence.

Gates of Prayer - show the devotional aspect of life.

Gate of the Daughter of the Mighty Ones - this shows the birth of earth itself in terms of planetary relationships.

Gate of the Garden of Eden - the entrance way to the state of the divine is through Earth's and human incarnation.

The Chinese I'Ching trigram is Kun, or Earth. The archetype it represents is the mother image and shows the passive or receptive qualities of nature. In human terms it relates to the soft body organs and coverings.

The magical weapon of Malkuth is the circle and the triangle. The circle shows the outward spiral which is growth or dispersion. The triangle at the centre of the circle shows the balanced form (of matter) that the growth is taking. It is the evolutionary process of growth controlled by the nucleus, which

is the triangle. Without the circle there would be no current to extend the growth and without the triangle the currents would have nothing to extend or grow.

Rock Crystal is the stone associated to Malkuth and is usually like ice to look at. It was used as a symbol of purity by the Church. Its relationship to the concept of Kingdom is that the purity of its appearance shows the state of entrance to heaven (as Kether) through Malkuth.

The spiritual experience of Malkuth is vision of the Holy Guardian Angel or Adonai: This title is somewhat misleading and actually refers to awareness of a higher presence within ourselves which is activated in the hermetic mystery schools at the process of initiation. It is here that man first comes into contact with the higher planes of his life. One may perceive a higher essence that some call the Christ or Adonai, though its finer details may not yet be known to us.

The Atziluthic effect of Malkuth is shown in Adonai Ha Aretz which means "Lord or Master of Earth". The effect of this world is to nourish matter and create a healthy environment for it to grow. The major effect here is that of the environment which Atziluth creates as a whole. It also stabilises the magnetic field of the Earth and stimulates growth of things in general. It has a dual function of both sending emanations (spirit) down to earth and collecting the devotions of this plane to send back up the ladder to Kether.

The effect of the Briatic world is through the archangel Sandalphon which means "Co-Brother"; from the Greek, Sandalfon or Syndelphos. He is the twin brother of Metatron and because of his remarkable height it is said he can reach his brother in Kether itself. Sandalphon influences world affairs in general from the growth of the various countries but also through the environment as well. It creates the building blocks and designs for each civilisation and gradually streamlines them.

The Yetziratic effect is through the Kerubim, the angelic choir who control the elements on the incorporeal level. The meaning of the word Cherub in Hebrew is from "whence I shall be led." This angelic choir is a rash departure from the other angels as they were formed from aspects of the purest energies of earth itself (such as gold) (Exod. XXV 18, 19: XXXVII 9) and their shapes represent aspects of the four energies of the elements themselves. These though are not elements but are placed between the angels and the elements in heirachy. They take the energies of the elements and set them in motion. They effect the earth, and man himself.

The energies of Malkuth in Assiah are the four elements and spirit. The four elements are in fact part of man and every aspect of this planet because they are the physical formation of our very existence. It is impossible to do a full length study of the elements in the small space allotted here but any good book on astrology will more than adequately deal with the sub-

ject. The best way of association on a simple scale is: fire - heat and warmth, water - cold and damp, air - warm and motion, earth - cold and solid.

The Qlippothic forces of Malkuth are personficated by the name Lilith, the evil woman. The appearance is that of a woman at first beautiful, but afterwards changes into a black monkey like demon. Legend says that Lilith roamed the Earth before Eve and was later the wife of Sammael. It was she whom Adam thought would be his first wife. When Eve was created Lilith took flight to other areas outside the Garden of Eden. She was said to be the mother of Cain. She is the enemy of infants and temptress of man. She has also other names which she revealed to Elijah: Abeko, Abito, Amizo, Batna, Eilo, Ita, Izorpo, Kali, Kea, Kokos, Odam, Partasah, Patrota, Podo, Satrina, Talto.

The vegetable drug of Malkuth is a tincture from Corn Silk and is a diuretic and demulcent that helps with problems of the urinary tract. Its action is that of breaking down and transmuting solids into liquid, which is part of the action of Malkuth. Its spiritual effect is on the lower regions of the Nephesh which stimulate it into increasing its vibratory level which in turn raises the psychic pitch of the individual.

Dittany of Crete is a perfume of Malkuth and is extremely powerful in nature. When used as an aromatic it can alter the energy level of the adepti (during magical works) so that it provides an enormous residue of magical power. When used in

works of evocation, Dittany (when directed by will) can penetrate the astral layer and pick up the correct vibration for materialisation. When inhaled for meditative works it can raise the consciousness to a very high degree of perception, but there is also a danger of possession if used inexpertly. Note that the common name for Dittany of Crete is Oreganum.

The mineral drug of Malkuth is Magnesium. It is a silvery type of metal. As a medicine it can be found in a variety of formulas such as Magnesium Chloratum which helps the liver, skin complaints, and abdominal infections. It also helps with tumours. Magnesium Phos. is good for diseases such as angina, muscle cramps, neuralgia. From the esoteric viewpoint, Magnesium is the quality of growth, it gives out life's energies.

One of the plants and trees associated to Malkuth is Willow, whose bark is used for skin conditions. An infusion of its berries is used as a sexual sedative. The relationship to Malkuth is one of refinement. Plants from the Liliaceae family are also linked here. Any type of alcohol made from the essence of Lily is said to earth people or bring them back to reality, though it must be administered carefully. Its general character meaning is to purify, and sweetness. Ivy is another association to Malkuth and shows marriage and growth true to the receptive quality of its nature.

One of the Egyptian godforms of Malkuth is Seb who was the son of Shu and Tefnut, father of Isis, Osiris, Set and Nephthys,

and husband of Nut. Seb can be also called Geb or Keb. He is usually depicted as a seated diety with a Goose mounted on his crown. The Earth was in fact the body of Seb. He was the god of the Earth's surface and the underworld, and was one of the gods of karma. He is said to have been a god of Heliopolis - the birth place of Egyptian creation - according to its inhabitants. Other associations here also are aspects of Isis and Nephthys, in their early stages of development.

The Greek godform of Malkuth is Persephone, the virgin earth. She was the wife of Hades and daughter of Demeter and Zeus. In the legend of her abduction by Hades into the underworld, the entire myth is one based on cultivation of the virgin earth so that growth will occur. Psyche is also another correspondence of note that can be equally applied here as well. Psyche (which means "Soul" in Greek) was a maiden of a beauty so great that she was carried away by Zephyrus to a place where she was joined every night by an unknown husband who turned out to be Eros. In spite of separation and many trials and tribulations the two lovers were eventually left to their own resources with the blessing of Zeus. This relates to Malkuth through marriage and union.

The Roman godform association to Malkuth was Ceres, the Roman name for Mother Earth. She was in her early stages a goddess of corn and a daughter of Saturn and Vesta. During her search for her daughter Proserpine the earth was neglected which was an unpardonable sin for the goddess of agriculture. Ceres

first appeared in Sicily which she shed her abundance on.

Mathers says: 'The Dekangle as a whole is referred to the Tenth Sephirah - Malkuth. The Dekangle naturally represents the power of the Dekad, and the Dekagram showeth the Dekad operating in nature by the dispersal of the rays of the 10 Sephiroth therein. The number of degrees of a great circle cut off between its angles is 36, the half of the Quintile astrological aspect. The Dekagram reflected from every 5th point is composed of 2 Pentagrams within a Circle. It shows the operation of the duplicated Heh of Tetragrammaton and the concentration of the Positive and Negative forces of the Spirit and of the 4 elements under the presidency of the potencies of the 5 in Binah; the revolutions of the forces under Aimah the Great Mother.'

Malkuth has in fact two grades associated to it. The first is the 1=10 Grade of Zelator (meaning "serious or zealous student") and its meaning is believed to have been applied to alchemical students. Frater Albertus, in his "Alchemists Handbook" describes some of the old Rosicrucian grades from a 17th Century manuscript which runs parallel to the Golden Dawn grades in the early stages. The candidate in the Zelator Grade has the earthy part of his aura revitalised and enlarged with increased sensitivity. During the ceremony the Zelator is "introduced" to the earth element and linked to it. This effect in alchemy is related to the blackening or melanosis, a stage of consolidation. In modern terms this is bringing forth the rational for though this Grade is related to earth, it is also related to the Sephira

of Malkuth which incorporates all four elements in it and harmonises the Zelator with his environment. (The next three grades are more planetary related).

The aura affected by this ritual is the etheric aura, which has a type of energy field that is directed directly into the physical aura during times of illness. It is a reservoir of energy to be tapped and can often be experienced as a type of "second wind" when exhaustion or depletion of vital forces is experienced. This additional energy or power force is the etheric link (in a mild form) through the power of the Enochian Tablets.

The initiatory Grade into the Order is called the Neophyte or 0=0 grade, in which the aura has a vital or life force impregnated into it. Israel Regardie likened the 0=0 Grade to the alchemical dissolution process while Dion Fortune found that after she went through this grade, her aura, which was perforated some years before by a powerful psychic, was healed. The Neophyte ritual stimulates the physical aura (which is closest to the body), by increasing the vibrational pitch of the tattwas located in the sacral or lowest chakra centre at the base of the spine. This of course has the physical function of promoting good health.

One of the creatures associated to Malkuth is the Sphinx. It is said to be the composite form of the breasts and head of a woman, the body of a bull, the paws of a lion and the wings of a

bird. From an esoteric view this figure represents the elements as the builder of life. The whole key concept is change through transmutation. One element transmuted, by the process of time, into another.

The Hindu diety of this Sephira is Lakshmi who was the goddess of wealth and power. She is often shown standing on a lotus with a lotus in one hand and gold coins in the other. Lakshmi was a goddess of joy and happiness and was considered the power behind Vishnu.

The first Heaven is called Vilon which means "veil". This refers to the veil placed over Earth itself. The Rabbinical book "Pirke Hechaloth" lists 22 angels of this Heaven under Khabel. This Heaven is one that directly surrounds us but is still invisible to our normal senses. It is the essence of the astral planes in between life and death. It is perceptible to some of those sensitive enough to recognise its existence. It is what the ancients call the astral light, that twilight area where souls meet during their unconscious moments. It is a world easily reached by those who wish to try, its main entry form is merely acceptance of its existence - a receptive state of being.

The name of the Infernal Mansion of Hell associated to Malkuth is Shaol (337) = Depths of the Earth. This world is sometimes referred to as the Well because it is the black void which the soul sinks into after death. The root ShA relates to a powerful movement in retrograde and as such is a movement which

is opposed to the Kabbalistic Universe and the Talmud. The root OL shows anxiety or sorrow and when these roots are placed together show a powerful opposing force of a sorrowful nature.

### ASSOCIATIONS

TITLE:	MALKUTH - KINGDOM
TITLE IN MICROCOSM:	FEET
ATZILUTH NAME:	ADONAI HA-ARETZ
BRIATIC NAME:	SANDALPHON
YETZIRATIC NAME:	KERIBUM
ASSIAH - PLANET NAME:	EARTH AND FOUR ELEMENTS
QLIPPOTH:	LILITH
HINDU CONCEPT:	LAKSHMI
EGYPTIAN DIETY:	SEB
GREEK DIETY:	PERSEPHONE
ROMAN DIETY:	CERES
MAGICAL VISION:	HOLY GUARDIAN ANGEL
GEMSTONE:	ROCK CRYSTAL
MAGICAL WEAPON:	MAGICAL CIRCLE AND TRIANGLE
AROMATIC:	DITTANY OF CRETE
VEGETABLE DRUG:	TINCTURE OF CORN SILK
MINERAL DRUG:	MAGNESIUM
TAOISM ASSOCIATION:	KUN
PLANT:	WILLOW
ANIMAL:	SPHINX
TAROT ASSOCIATION:	4 TENS, 4 PRINCESSES
VICE:	SCEPTICISM

VIRTUE:

DISCRIMINATION

GEOMETRIC ASSOCIATION:

DEKANGLE

THE HEAVENS:

VILON

KINGDOM OF EDOM:

HADAR

HELLS:

SHAOL

ROSICRUCIAN GRADE:

NEOPHYTE, ZELATOR

