

THE RITE OF INITIATION

F.L.
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The Outer Order is symbolically associated with the Black Pillar, Binah and the Path of Maim, while the Seven Stages of Initiation are typified by the Paths attributed to Ayin to Tau. For excellent reasons the Way is presented in reverse, from Malkut to Tiphareth.

As the Redeemer is symbolically born in Capricorn - and we are interested in symbolism rather than history - so we see the condition and feelings typified in the 15th Key as those felt by one who is to experience the sequence of the last seven Keys.

The sequence of "forty" follows, or is allied to, an experience of "Water". Noah, "a just man and perfect in his generations" being 10th from Adam, experiences the Flood for "forty" days. Moses, "rescued from the Waters", crosses the Red Sea to begin 40 years of trial. Christ, after the "baptism" goes into the wilderness for 40 days, then is tempted of the Devil, Ayin, Capricorn. 40 = D , A , Binah, the Black Pillar.

The goat loves to climb up on a rock - or a fence post, as Hillary, a Capricorn, climbed Everest. In the 15th Key he is shown sitting on a rock, a half cube, while the human figures are seen as well aware of their limitations and darkness.

It is only through this feeling that one is moved to tread the Path. Therefor prominent in the "temptations" are "an exceeding high mountain" and "the pinnacle of the Temple", the idea of self-excellence, exaltation.

But Ayin is referred to the eyes, appearances, and reality is only "seen" as in a mirror, inverted and reversed, so we begin in Malkuth, the 10th from Adam, to experience (not "learn about") the Seven Steps.

To "learn about" springs from the Tree of Knowledge, to which we tend naturally, as illustrated in Genesis, under the influence of "The Devil", Key 15, and the Way to the Tree of Life, under the Will of the Creator, passes through the Path of Darkness, the Outer Order, not to self-exaltation, but through humiliation to the "Mountain of the Caverns", Abegagnus. We must rather live, in the Tree of Life. We must be born of Capricorn in order: to descend into Tau. "Out of the Darkness, let the Light arise".

In the ancient Mystery Schools a candle was mounted between the horns of the sacrificial goat to form the Letter Shin of Yehoshua. The "Sacrificial" goat because he who treads the Path does so on behalf of humanity - not for himself - because this is "how it works", and the Path is also the "Via Dolorosa", trod in order to fulfill the Law - not personal gain.

AIMA drives us, often harshly, into the arms of ABBA.

The Mother implants the symbols by precept, tradition, teaching. The Father awakens them by example, inspiration and Love. You are the product of their Love.



Where Atua Temple Order