

# Introduction to Gnostic Kabbalah – Notes 6

<http://www.gnosticstudies.org/index.php/kabbalah/intro-to-gnostic-kabbalah>

## **Kabbalah: Letter, Number and Symbol**

The Kabbalah is the science of signs and their correspondences. The science of signs begins with the science of letters. Letters are absolute ideas. Absolute ideas are numbers. Numbers are perfect signs. In using ideas with numbers one can operate upon the ideas just as one can operate upon a number and arrive at the mathematics of truth. The tarot is the key of letters and numbers.

The 22 keys of the tarot are the 22 letters of the primitive kabbalistic alphabet. In Kabbalah everything is Number and Mathematics. **The Number is Holy, it is infinite, because in the Universe everything is measure and weight.** For the Gnostics: God is a Geometrician.



## **The Language of Symbolism**

All of nature's laws exist within ourselves and if we do not discover them in our interior, we will never discover them outside of ourselves. The human being is contained in the Universe and the Universe is contained in the human being. What we experience within ourselves is real, because only the consciousness can experience reality. **The language of the consciousness is symbolic, intimate, profoundly significant and only those who are awake can understand it.** Whoever wants to awaken the consciousness, must eliminate all the undesirable elements which make up the Ego, the "I", the Myself; because the Essence is bottled therein.

With this language, we establish the connection, the road and the communication with the invisible worlds. In this language and writing of light is the synthesis of all of the mysteries of creation, conservation and renovation. The paths to obtain this language of light are:

|                       |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| Faith.                | Renunciation. |
| Knowledge of oneself. | Church.       |
| Childlikeness.        | Purification. |
| Modesty.              | Observation.  |
| Prayer.               | UNION.        |

## **The New Science: Willpower, Faith and the Great Work**

To really merit or deserve something from God, one must obey God. But in order to obey God, one must have an independent will... Thus, human life and its innumerable difficulties have as their goal (in the order of eternal wisdom) the education of the human being's willpower. The dignity of the human being consists in doing what one wills, and in willing the good, in accordance with the science of the truth, "the real". Remember that in pure esotericism 'good' is all that is in its place and 'bad' is all that is out of its place. **The "Great Work" is the creation of the true human being through one's own efforts, and is based on conscious works and voluntary sufferings.** When we cooperate with God's work, then we can complete ourselves by perfecting ourselves through the act of our liberty. This Work is the inner conquest of ourselves, of our true liberty in God (our free-will). Therefore, if we want the perfect emancipation of our willpower, then we need to disintegrate all those "I's" that live in our interior. As long as our Consciousness is trapped in the Ego, we cannot know the Truth. As we work upon ourselves, we experience inner change and develop faith in our relationship with God. Faith proves itself and establishes itself through absolute devotion. Every Alchemist, Kabbalist and Psychologist should have faith. Faith is not empirical, we have to create it. It is created by studying oneself and experimenting with oneself. Let us study the Epistle of James, since it is for those who are working in the Great Work.

# Hebrew Letters and their Gnostic Associations

| Numeric Value | Kabalistic Value | Modern Hebrew | Hebrew Letter Name | Associated Hieroglyphic and Primitive Sign/Letter   | Gnostic Tarot Association             | Gnostic Symbolism or Meaning                                |
|---------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1             | 1                | א             | Aleph              |  2 4 5   | The Magician                          | Willpower, that which initiates, <b>AIR</b>                 |
| 2             | 2                | ב             | Bet/Beth           |  3 4 5   | The Priestess                         | Beginning, Occult Science, the Source                       |
| 3             | 3                | ג             | Gimel              |  2 7 5   | The Empress                           | The Fashioner, the Verb, Creation, Production               |
| 4             | 4                | ד             | Dalet              |  4 5 5   | The Emperor                           | Command, Progress, Success                                  |
| 5             | 5                | ה             | Heh                |  3 3 3   | The Hierophant                        | The Law, Karma, Mars, War                                   |
| 6             | 6                | ו             | Vau                |  2 2 3   | Indecision/<br>The Lovers             | Struggle between Love and Desire                            |
| 7             | 7                | ז             | Zain               |  2 2 3   | Triumph/<br>The Chariot of War        | Fight, Battle, Difficulties                                 |
| 8             | 8                | ח             | Cheth              |  2 2 3   | Justice                               | Ordeals, Hard Tests, Equilibrium                            |
| 9             | 9                | ט             | Teth               |  2 2 3   | The Hermit                            | Solitude, Individual Work, Suffering                        |
| 10            | 10               | י             | Yod/Jod            |  2 2 3  | Retribution/<br>The Wheel of Fortune  | Laws of Irradiation and Absorption                          |
| 11            | 20               | כ             | Kaph/Kaf           |  2 2 3 | Persuasion/Courage                    | Strength, the Work with the Force of Love                   |
| 12            | 30               | ל             | Lamed              |  2 2 3 | The Apostolate/<br>The Hanged Man     | The Great Work, Sacrifices & Suffering                      |
| 13            | 40               | מ             | Mem                |  2 2 3 | Immortality/Death                     | Death of the "I", Total Change, <b>WATER</b>                |
| 14            | 50               | נ             | Nun                |  2 2 3 | Temperance                            | Transmutation of the Sexual Waters, the Fish                |
| 15            | 60               | ס             | Samech             |  2 2 3 | Passion/The Devil                     | Satan, the Tempter, the Luciferic Fire                      |
| 16            | 70               | ע             | Ayin               |  2 2 3 | Fragility/The Tower                   | Tragedy, Calamity, the Exit from Eden                       |
| 17            | 80               | פ             | Peh                |  2 2 3 | Hope/The Star                         | Venustic Initiation, the Morning Star                       |
| 18            | 90               | צ             | Tsadik             |  2 2 3 | Twilight/The Moon                     | Secret Enemies, Hidden Danger                               |
| 19            | 100              | ק             | Qoph               |  2 2 3 | Inspiration/The Sun                   | A Great Alliance, the Philosopher's Stone, Self-Realization |
| 20            | 200              | ר             | Resh               |  2 2 3 | Resurrection                          | The Cosmic Initiation of the Soul                           |
| 21            | 300              | ש             | Shin               |  2 2 3 | Transmutation/<br>The Lunatic or Fool | Total Demoralization, the Dog or the Tiger, <b>FIRE</b>     |
| 22            | 400              | ת             | Tav                |  2 2 3 | Return/The World                      | The Crown of Life, the Return to the Light                  |