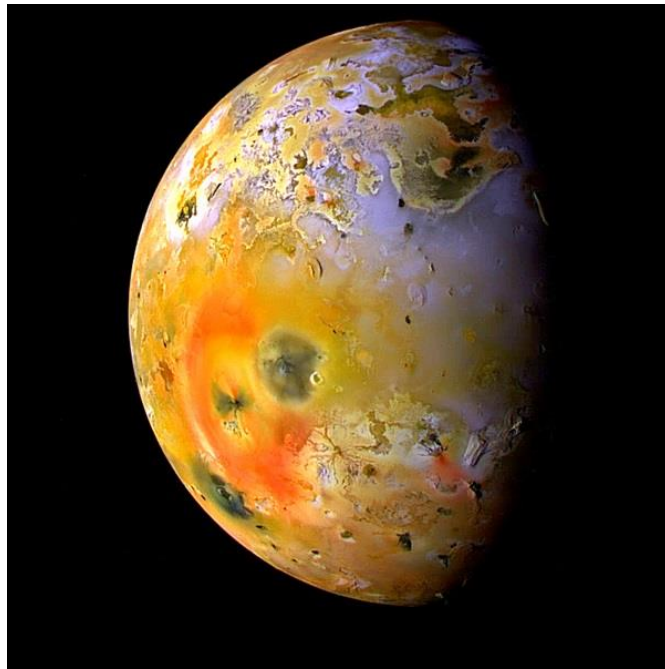


Anthroposophy and the Eighth Sphere



Lecture excerpts by Rudolf Steiner
Selected with commentary by Andrew Linnell

Anthroposophy and the Eighth Sphere

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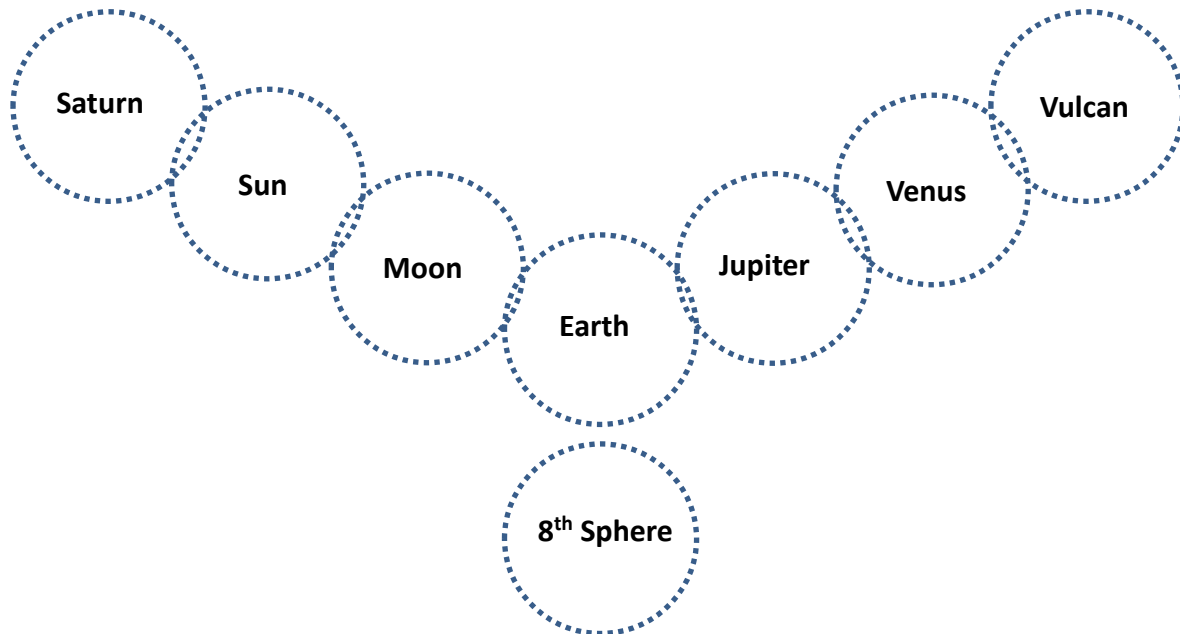
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What is the Eighth Sphere?

It is not visible to the physical senses. But it is visible to clairvoyance and has been known for ages by trained mystics. In recent times, it has come to the attention of the general public because of a number of podcasts and blogs that speak about the Eighth Sphere as a kind of hell.

In his book *Occult Science*, Rudolf Steiner spoke about seven stages of human evolution. These he called the seven “planetary conditions” where cosmic conditions differed so greatly that each could be considered a cosmic incarnation or a separate solar system. Our current situation consists of a sun with planets orbiting it. Our initial cosmic situation consisted only of varying warmth. Its esoteric name is Saturn. The beings who today are the Achai were upon the human stage of Old Saturn. Likewise, those who are today the archangels were upon the human stage of the next planetary condition whose name is Sun. The angels were upon the human stage of Moon. We are now upon the human stage of Earth which has two cosmic periods called Mars which was followed by the current period called Mercury. In the future, the successive planetary conditions will be Jupiter, then Venus, and lastly Vulcan. Note that this sequence matches the days of the week: Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. In addition to these seven planetary conditions, or spheres, Steiner also spoke about an eighth sphere that has come into being during the Earth planetary period. “If the Eighth Sphere is to be described, it must be described as a realm in which we are living all the time.”¹



Of those who read about the Eighth Sphere, many will come to associate it with the Catholic concept of Hell.² While there are some similarities, we will find significant differences. The danger

¹ *The Occult Movement in the Nineteenth Century*, lecture 5, 18Oct1915, GA 254

² “Beside these there is an Eighth Sphere to which everything goes that cannot make any connection with this continuous evolution. This already forms itself as predisposition in the devachanic state. When a human being uses

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for Anthroposophists is that they link the Catholic concept of Hell with the concept of the Eighth Sphere and stop their knowledge seeking there. Many a Christian has offered their 10% tithe out of fear of ending up in Hell. Will Anthroposophists do something similar to avoid a destiny with the Eighth Sphere? We must remember that fear feeds Ahriman. Like every spiritual impulse in the Consciousness Soul Age, a double-edged sword exists here.

We find in Rudolf Steiner's works that the Eighth Sphere serves a necessary role in evolution to free us from being held back by the dead thinking we do today. Our thoughts that are totally connected to physical "reality" are capable of being whisked away by Lucifer or Ahriman into this Eighth Sphere. But "the Eighth Sphere cannot be anything that belongs to the material world."³ In the course of earthly evolution, all matter will eventually be dissolved, but nothing from our thinking will be lost. In this way, one can see the Eighth Sphere as a blessing - like a cosmic garbage collection service. In the course of evolution, just as humanity had to push down the animal kingdom in order to rise higher into becoming humans, so shall another separation take place where advancing humans must push down on the physical to ascend to a new life in the etheric. This is described in Matthew 25 as the separation of the sheep and goats. A part of humanity will be unable to ascend because it will cling to materialism believing that the only reality is the physical.

As a result, some people will "fall" into the Eighth Sphere. Is this imminent? Three lectures by Steiner are listed below. From these, it appears that our "shadowy" thoughts are already descending into it. But the fall of humans into it comes at a time in the far future, when ample opportunities for "being saved" have occurred during the 6th and 7th Post-Atlantean Cultural Ages and even during the next Epoch, the 6th Great Epoch, individuals will be saved from a fate that restricts their evolution to the Eighth Sphere. Should Lucifer and Ahriman succeed, they will unceasingly "draw from the Earth's substances whatever they can snatch, in order to form their *Eighth Sphere* which then, when it is sufficiently advanced, will be detached from the Earth and go its own way in the Cosmos together with Lucifer and Ahriman." But Mankind can overcome this. "We ourselves are involved in the battle. Lucifer and Ahriman battle against the Spirits of Form, with the aim of wresting mineral substance from us everywhere. ... This alchemy by which [what was] mineral substance is sent over into the *Eighth Sphere* is taking place all the time behind the scenes of our existence. ... a prospect looms as a consequence of this intention of Lucifer and Ahriman that the whole evolution of humanity may be allowed to disappear into the *Eighth Sphere*, so that our evolution would take a different course. ... The Spirits of Form created a counterweight that consists in this: into the "space", as it were, of the *Eighth Sphere*, something was inserted which works against this *Eighth Sphere*. ... We are surrounded everywhere by the Imaginations

the life on earth only to amass what is of service to himself alone, only to experience an intensification of his own egotistical self, this leads in Devachan into the condition of Avitchi. A person who cannot escape from his own separateness goes into Avitchi. All these Avitchi men will eventually become inhabitants of the Eighth Sphere. The other human beings will be inhabitants of the continuing chain of evolution. It is from this concept that religions have formulated the doctrine of hell." - *Foundations of Esotericism*, lecture 14, 9Oct1905, GA 93a

³ *The Occult Movement in the Nineteenth Century*, lecture 5, 18Oct1915, GA 254

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into which the aim is that mineral materiality shall continually be drawn. There lies the reason for the sacrifice made by Jahve or Jehovah — the precipitation of substance far denser than the other mineralized substance. This was established by Jahve as Moon, as *the counteracting agent*. ... Jahve or Jehovah, then, must be regarded as that Being who even in the physical domain has ensured that not all materiality can be drawn away by Lucifer and Ahriman. And then, at the right time, equal care will be taken by the same Spirit that the Moon shall re-enter the Earth when the Earth is strong enough to receive it, when the danger is averted by the development that has meanwhile taken place.”

“This will give you an inkling that the *Eighth Sphere* is to be observed within the Earth Sphere. It cannot properly be drawn either above or below; to depict the reality it would have to be sketched into the Earth Sphere. I have often given a crude example to express what is here meant. Just as the physical air is around us, so is the Spiritual around us; we have to look for the Spiritual within what is actually physical in our environment. Hence it must be presumed that just as the spiritual is round about us, so we must also look for the *Eighth Sphere* in our environment. This means that an organ enabling man to perceive the *Eighth Sphere* would have to be developed, just as his physical senses enable him to perceive the material Earth. He could then experience the *Eighth Sphere* quite consciously; but unconsciously he is always within it just as we are always within the air, even if we are not aware of it. And if we have developed an organ for experiencing the *Eighth Sphere*, we are conscious of it around us. So that if the *Eighth Sphere* is to be described, it must obviously be described as a realm in which we are living all the time.” (From Reference 2 below).

Three References:

1. *Foundations of Esotericism*, [lecture 14](#), 9Oct1905, GA 93a
2. *The Occult Movement in the Nineteenth Century*, [lecture 5](#), 18Oct1915, GA 254
3. *The Mission of the Archangel Michael*, [lecture 3](#), 23Nov1919, GA 194

Rudolf Steiner's Elaboration of the Eighth Sphere

Interpenetration of the Eight Spheres During Evolution

“If we disregard the human being for a moment and consider those beings which we always have called, in the order of the hierarchies standing above us, the Spirits of Form, the Creative Form Beings, then we shall have to say that we, as human beings, shall only reach the sphere which we ascribe to our Divine Creator Beings when the Earth has passed through three further stages of evolution, which you will find designated in my *Occult Science* as Jupiter stage, Venus stage and Vulcan stage, and shall have reached the eighth stage. Thus, these Creative Spirits are at the stage which we human beings shall have reached after the Vulcan evolution. This is their sphere which belongs to them just as the fourth sphere belongs to us. But we must think of these spheres as being inserted into one another, as interpenetrating one another. Thus, is I designate the sphere of which I have just spoken as the eighth sphere, we do not live only in the fourth but also in this *eighth sphere* through the fact that our Divine Creators live in this sphere together with us.” — Rudolf Steiner, *The Mission of the Archangel Michael*, lecture 3, GA 194 (Anthroposophic Press, 1961).

The Mineral Kingdom and the Eighth Sphere

An editor's footnote from lecture 6, Manicheism, *The Temple Legend* offers this: “This difficult occult concept [of the Eighth Sphere] had already been explained by Rudolf Steiner, as for instance on 31st October 1904, in the following way: ‘In the first half of the fourth Round, mankind developed the capacity for adapting his senses to the mineral kingdom for the first time. In the second half of the fourth Round, he redeemed the mineral kingdom. But a part of this remained behind and was excluded, because it was no longer of any use to mankind. That constitutes the *eighth sphere*, which is no longer of use to the development of man but can be used by higher beings.’ (From previously unpublished notes).”

“On the Old Moon certain pictures were present. These should have passed over to the Earth as something everywhere perceptible. But Lucifer and Ahriman retained them for themselves. Lucifer and Ahriman wrested from the Earth certain of its constituents and made them into Imaginations, so that these Earth-substances became, not Earthly formations, but Moon formations. Into our Fourth Sphere, therefore, there has been instilled a sphere that is really a Moon-sphere but is filled with Earthly substantiality and is therefore a bogus creation in the Universe. To the seven Spheres, *an Eighth*, created in opposition to the progressive Spirits, has been added. The necessary consequence of this is that the Spirits of Form must do battle on the Earth for every morsel of substantiality capable of mineralization, lest it should be wrested from them by Lucifer and Ahriman and borne into the *Eighth Sphere*.

In truth, therefore, our Earth — the Fourth Sphere — is simply not what it appears outwardly to be. Were it really to consist of atoms, all these atoms would still be impregnated by formations belonging to the *Eighth Sphere* — which are perceptible only to visionary clairvoyance. These formations are present everywhere; so too is the specter-like content of the *Eighth Sphere* which

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can therefore be perceived just as actual specters are perceived. All earthly being and existence are involved here. Lucifer and Ahriman strive unceasingly to draw from the Earth's substances whatever they can snatch, in order to form their *Eighth Sphere* which then, when it is sufficiently advanced, will be detached from the Earth and go its own way in the Cosmos together with Lucifer and Ahriman. ... The most perfect of all is our organ of thinking, the brain and the skull, and there the battle of which I have spoken is the most vehement, precisely because this human head, this human brain, is fashioned as it is; and it is so fashioned because at this place in our body, Lucifer, and Ahriman too, have been the most successful in wresting mineral substance from us. Physical substance there is more spiritualized than anywhere else. The formation of our skull is due to the fact that it is there that most has been wrested from us. Hence it is precisely through the head that we can emancipate ourselves from our organism to the greatest extent. We can soar upwards in thoughts; we can distinguish between the good and the evil. And for that very reason, Lucifer and Ahriman have there been the most successful in wresting away substantiality; in the so-called noblest organ of man, they have been able to wrest away the greatest amount of mineralized substantiality. This alchemy by which mineral substance is sent over into the *Eighth Sphere* is taking place all the time behind the scenes of our existence.” (From Reference 2 above).

Are the Asuras also involved with the Eighth Sphere?

“Asuras are spirits of the very greatest egoism who remained behind during Saturn evolution. They want to condense matter and compress it ever more so that it can't be spiritualized and brought back to its original condition. They're the dregs of the planetary evolution that goes from Saturn to Vulcan. The asuras inhabit the moon [along with Yahweh] and from there they work on the men whom they want to drag down into the eighth sphere and thereby tear away from progressive evolution and its goal — the Christ. All those who strive towards the *eighth sphere* will eventually live on a moon [during the Jupiter planetary condition].” (From *Esoteric Lessons*, [lesson 15](#), GA 266).

Many Anthroposophical writers have associated the Internet with the Eighth Sphere. I think there is much more to this. In the Consciousness Soul Age, loneliness is an important experience, i.e., being All One (alone). Loneliness has been recognized as a social illness of our times. In 2018, the UK commenced a new ministerial post, that of Loneliness. However, we must come to find our "soul within our soul," namely our Consciousness Soul. It is a path where we must be tempted towards egoism on each side of the path. One can see the worldwide web, Facebook, chatrooms, ChatGPT, and social media all as a means for us struggling humans in the consciousness soul age to be within our loneliness and yet still find our cosmic buddies wherever they may be upon the world. Spatial dimensions are being overcome. Even time dimensions are being 'blurred'. In the 1890s, people met face-to-face but did they truly meet? Right up to the start of the internet, our relationships were drifting towards ego-satisfying acquaintances. Michael "ruined" our easy relationships based on race, ethnicity, nationality, and gender. He is forcing us into cosmopolitanism. He also intends for us to develop cosmic thinking to add to our current thinking that is bound by materialism to “the rock” as Prometheus was.

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Change is tough. When humans during Lemuria had to enter a physical body, they found it far too painful. They ran away to other planets where they could remain a spiritual being among the spiritual beings of their adopted planet. During Atlantean times, procreation evolved from asexual (or bisexual) to sexual. Offspring no longer looked and acted just like the single parent. The bloodstream began to change. And on top of this, the atmosphere dramatically changed. It was once heavy, a mix of water and air - so heavy that humans built "ships" that sailed through it using seed-power. But again, everything we humans then knew changed. The air separated causing the water to fall and flood the earth. Pain, death, suffering resulted. The Gods did this to us for our benefit. They also gave us Karma as a blessing, out of their love for us.

Sexual procreation will have ended 2160 years before the return of the moon. This return brings back to the earth hardened matter that Yahweh has preserved from being swept into the Eighth Sphere. The moon's return will be sometime near the year 8000. During this last Post-Atlantean Cultural Age (PACA), we will need the help of the fallen spirits of darkness to help us maintain a physical presence upon the earth so that we can finish working on our karma. In the 6th PACA, our lowest member will be our etheric body. We will have become immature angels by then. To get there, we still have a long way to go before the year 6000 AD when birthing ends. Our change will be tough, but it must happen.

Are we alone? No! Just as many spiritual beings guided our descent, many are now arriving to help us with our ascent. Steiner gave these beings a name: Vulcan beings (and more). These were beings who went with the Elohim to form the sun and to evolve further there. As the sun evolved, the higher beings had to "evict" beings lower than them when the conditions evolved to where it became inappropriate for these "lesser" beings. These beings then formed Venus and Mercury while some, the Vulcans, were "homeless" regarding a physical planet. They have existed just outside of the Moon sphere. Their story is told in the Greek myth of Hephaestus. They have been trying to work with us, to become involved in earthly evolution, in part for their own sake, for their evolution. They need us, but we are "rude" to them, we ignore them. However, artists have perceived their presence - the result is our Superheroes including Spock who was named by the authors of Star Trek, a Vulcan!



What is Rudolf Steiner's Picture of the Future?

Well, it is not a picture of utopia! I'd love to give you a rosier forecast, but, as you will hear, Steiner implored us to be honest about such things.

Several anthroposophical authors and bloggers have written about the year 1998 and how it was the third beat of the 666-year cadence of the beast mentioned in Revelations. Steiner worked with the Hebrew letters whose numeric value, like Roman numerals, adds up to 666. These letters give the beast a name; that is, Sorat. Previous beats have been in the years 666 and 1332. The next will be 2664 AD. Some have speculated that the Incarnation of Ahriman must have happened in 1998 and he may still be growing up. If so, he'd be 23 now. We must realize, however, that Sorat is not equivalent to Ahriman. They are different beings with different goals.

In my view, Ahriman's incarnation will come later when there will be a greater build-up of Artificial Intelligence, when the Internet of Things is fully in place, when prosthetic limbs can operate via impulses from the mind, and when embedded devices in the brain are commonplace. That will be in, perhaps 300 years from now. Then, when his incarnation does happen, its effects will be vastly more penetrating.

Steiner often spoke of the end of our Post-Atlantean Epoch coming as the result of a War of All Against All (WAAA). This will not be a war of all nations against all nations, but every individual against every other individual. Ego development will need to proceed greatly before such a war can break out. Steiner mentions that the surface of the earth, at that time, will become covered by spidery beings who will arise to an artificial life through an endowment given by us humans. These spiders will have a kind of artificial life that could be placed between the mineral and the plant kingdom. They will be full of intelligence – an Ahrimanic intelligence. As much of humanity ascends to a new life where our etheric body will be our lowest bodily member, those ascending will cast off their physical body. Their Ahrimanic double will thus take over this body. Steiner called this, The Second Fall. Not only will the Ahrimanic double fall but so will all humans who were unable to ascend. They will no longer be able to maintain the physical form given to us by the Elohim (Exusiai in Greek).

If you are imagining that those people who will fight this WAAA look anything like we do today, let me ask you to wipe away that image. Life in this future time will be as different as life was in the Lemurian Epoch from what life is today. I will try to give you a new image.

Our future will evolve from out of our current threefold inner nature. Our current pictures and concepts are forming our future. We arrived, necessarily, in the 15th Century at a time when materialism rose to dominate scientific thought and science came to dominate our cultural life. Steiner called this thinking that is based only on our sensory perceptions and materialistic concepts, dead thinking. He describes how, before birth, our thinking was alive. But our physical body becomes, at birth, the coffin for this living thinking. Steiner sought ways to awaken us to develop

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living thinking. On this subject he wrote in a letter to members, “People who in their previous earth-lives were familiar with thought in its inspired form — who were servants, that is, of Michael — felt themselves drawn to this voluntary communion with Michael when they returned to earth-life at the close of the nineteenth century. They looked upon him, who had been their old Thought-Inspirer, as their guide henceforth in the higher form of thinking.

“Those who have eyes for such things could not but be aware of the revolution that took place in respect to men's Thought life during the last third of the nineteenth century. Before this, Man could only feel the Thoughts arising and taking shape out of his own being. Ever since then, he can rise above his own individual being, he can guide his mind into the realm of the Spirit; and there Michael meets him — Michael who, from of old, is the past master in all Thought-weaving. He frees the thoughts from the region of the head; he opens a free way for them to the heart; he sets free the springs of spiritual fervor from the hearts of men, so that Man may live in full soul's devotion to all that he may learn in the light of Thought.

“The Age of Michael has dawned. Hearts are beginning to have Thoughts. The springs of spiritual fervor no longer flow from the darkness only of mystical feeling, but from clear soul-brightness — Thought-informed and Thought-sustained. To understand this, is to receive Michael into the heart. Thoughts which seek today to grasp the Spirit must spring from hearts that throb for Michael, the fiery Thought-King of the Universe.”⁴

The Eighth Sphere

Because of this dead thinking, Steiner described how more and more of our human substance will be carried off and deposited into a cosmic waste basket he called the **Eighth Sphere** – where the other seven spheres are the seven planetary conditions that we humans will experience from Old Saturn to Vulcan. This Eighth Sphere began with Earth evolution as the leftover dross from Old Moon. The Fourth Sphere arises out of the Third through the fact that the Spirits of Form add their activities to those of the Spirits of Movement (see diagram below). From the start of the Fourth Sphere, Lucifer and Ahriman have snatched mineral substantiality out of Sphere Four and infuse it into the remains of Sphere Three, the Old Moon, but now with materiality that belongs properly to the Earth. Instead of pure Imaginations being there, the Imaginations are densified by the infusion of a mineral element that has been wrested from the Earth. This Eighth Sphere is really a Third Sphere that is filled with Earthly substantiality. Just as all prior Spheres are with us, so is the Eighth Sphere with the Earthly Sphere. The separation occurs when this Fourth Sphere transitions to the Fifth, Jupiter.

Each of the Seven Spheres consists of seven Epochs. When the current Epoch completes, the Eighth sphere will also contain beings unfit for the ascent into the Sixth Epoch because they are unable to dissolve their material part.⁵ Yahweh withdrew the moon to ensure that Lucifer and

⁴ R. Steiner, *Letters to the Members*, “At the Dawn of the Michael Age”, GA 26

⁵ R. Steiner, *The Apocalypse*, lecture 8, GA104, pg. 146 and *The Occult Movement in the Nineteenth Century*, lecture 5, 18Oct1915, GA 254 (<https://wn.rsarchive.org/Lectures/GA254/English/RSP1973/19151018p01.html>)

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Ahriman could not draw away all materiality to the Eighth Sphere during the period of evolution we are now in. At the right time, Yahweh will steer the Moon to re-enter the Earth when the Earth and Mankind have become strong enough to receive it. This is destined to be approximately 8000 AD.

The Next 4000 Years

Over the next 4000 years, our evolution will progress through two more zodiac signs. Using Steiner's timetable, we were in Aries at the time when Christ was upon the earth. Since 1413, we have been directed by forces from Pisces. Around the year 3573 AD, we will enter Aquarius and 2160 years later, Capricorn. What did Steiner say about these next 4000 years?

One might first ask how did he see such a future? If we look at figure 1 and picture here the middle

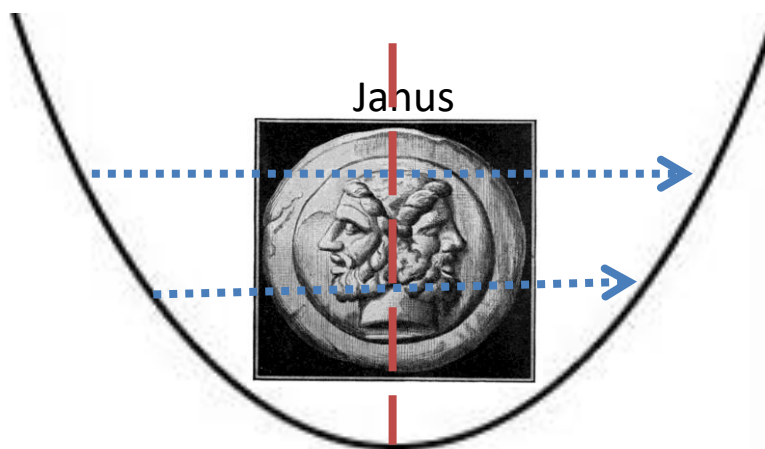


Figure 1: Janus Face, Future Completes the Past

line splitting the dual face of Janus, we can understand that a spiritual impulse in the past helps to determine what must happen in the future where it must complete. Note, this is not the same thing as a recapitulation. Rather, this is a completion of what was begun; that is, the fulfillment of an earlier spiritual initiative. Here in figure 1, we have the general descent of man into matter and now we are just past the beginning of the ascent.

Completions of Spiritual Initiatives

More details are illustrated in figure 2 below. During Lemurian times, the Fall of Mankind occurred. Here, in the middle, was the Atlantean Epoch. This was when earth evolution reached its midpoint. Then, we progress to our current Epoch. Two more will follow before human evolution on earth comes to an end.

Each of the previous Epochs ended with a God initiated disaster, but our future disaster, Steiner warned, will be human initiated. Steiner called it, as we have heard, the War of All against All. We should ask, how can that come about? Can it be avoided? Where is human freedom? As with karma, Steiner claims that this future is cosmic necessity in the 'what' and human freedom lies in the 'how'.

The Loosening of the Etheric Body

Over the next 4000 years, there will be a loosening of the etheric body from the physical body. We are returning to the etheric-physical relationship that existed near the end of Lemuria. As the etheric body loosens, what will happen to our physical body? Steiner mentions that this body is

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already withering, and this will accelerate. This actually began at the time of the Mystery of Golgotha but only very gradually at first. Over these past 2000 years, a clairvoyant can see the

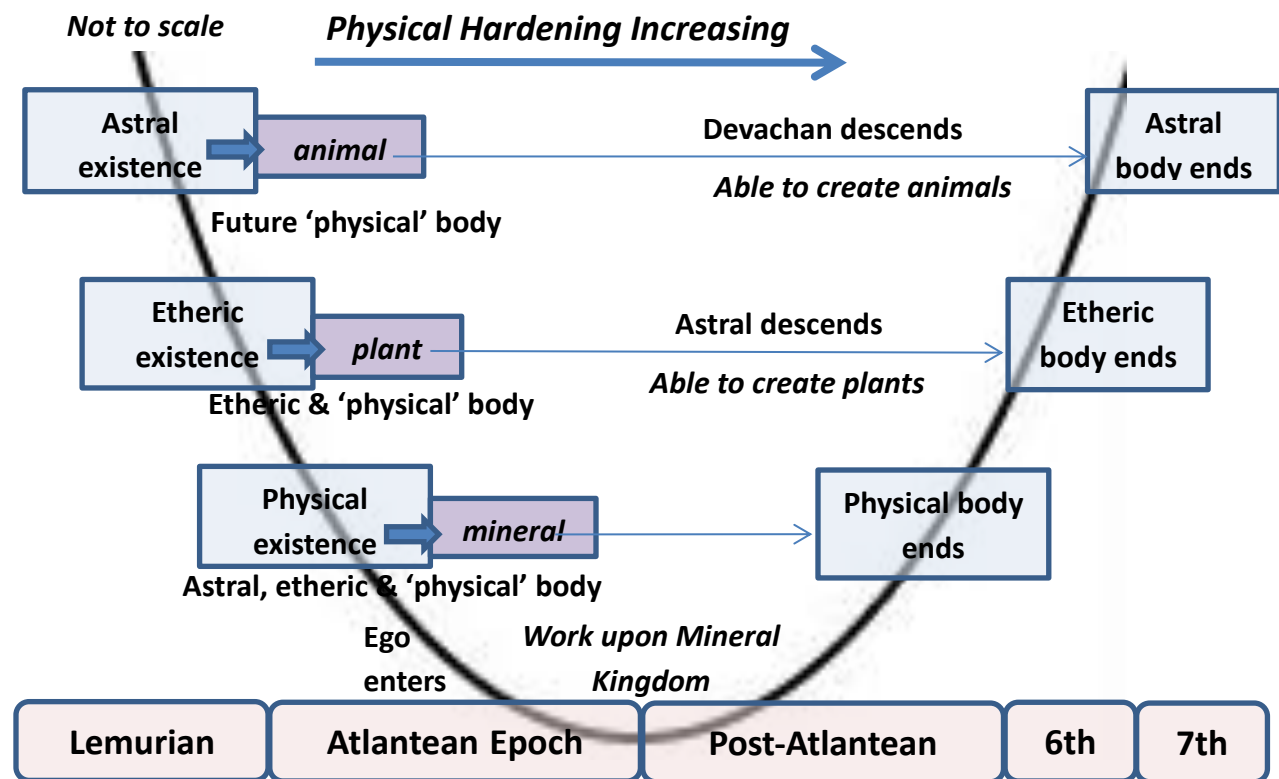


Figure 2: Spiritual Initiatives During the Epochs

degradation. Over the next 2000 years, this trend will hasten. The physical body will wither more as it becomes more rigidified, harder, and more mechanical.

In the Sixth Epoch, new conditions for existence will come about. Humanity will no longer have physical existence but will 'slide' up to take on a more conscious awareness of our astral existence. In the Seventh Epoch, we'll ascend further, or it might be better to say, Devachan will descend into our consciousness.

"If man does not resolve to absorb what is to descend from the spiritual world, he will pass completely over to the shadowy side of his intellect" [and into the Eighth Sphere]⁶

What new conditions for life are coming in these next 30 years that will affect the physical body or be a response to the withering of our body? How will these changes evolve in the next 4000 years?

⁶ R. Steiner, *Evolution of Human Freedom and Personal Consciousness*, Dusseldorf, 19Jan1905

Prostheses

In recent decades, it has become common for mechanical joints to replace aching and aging joints, for kidney dialysis, hearing aids, pacemakers, and various prostheses. What will we see in the near future?

What began as a device to help the handicapped, now becomes proven technology. Later, with further improvements, we come to a time when such prostheses will give an individual superhuman strength. If that's the case in 30 to 100 years, will people then seek to replace their natural limbs with artificial ones? Much of our current aging population are told to consider joint replacement. Likely a time is coming when natural limbs will be replaced by prosthetic limbs as a matter of course. For what now begins altruistically, to help those who lost a limb or have become paralyzed, will become a proven technology. As our bodies continue to wither, the temptation to replace our limbs with prosthetic limbs will be far stronger than the temptation today to do a knee replacement for an arthritic knee. We will come to do this as a service for our children, likely before they are 18. It will be deemed better for their human strength, for gender equality, for securing jobs, or for superiority in their sports – or as prevention from some new feared disease. For example, today many women with BRCA fear breast cancer to the extent that they will have their breasts removed in order to prevent the later onset of breast cancer.

The End of Sexual Procreation and the 7th Post-Atlantean Cultural Age

What pictures do you have of the next 4000 years? Peace, love, and harmony lead most lists. The attainment of Heaven on Earth. But few of us are aware of what Steiner labelled as “iron necessity” for our future. This list of “iron necessity” includes:

- By the year 5700, sexual procreation will have ended!
- A separation of humanity⁷ will already be underway by 5700 with some able to ascend to a new life existence without a physical body while others remain convinced that the physical is the only reality.
- Before the year 8000, the “war of all against all” will have been waged.
- As this war is waged, “The Second Fall” will have begun.
- Immediately following this war will be the return of the moon when all life upon the physical realm will have ended.
- After the moon returns, we will enter the Sixth Epoch [about the year 8000 AD] in a new existence without physical bodies, where our lowest bodily member will be our etheric body.

⁷ Matthew 25 calls this the separation of the sheep and goats

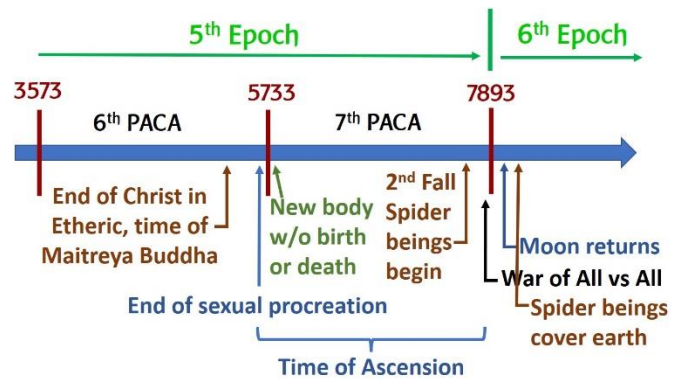
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Why can't we fix civilization in order to live and evolve in the physical? Because those guiding beings intended for physical to be a realm wherein we could develop freedom. They did not intend for us to remain in the physical. The physical provided an environment where every being has its own separate space. We came to experience reality as me inside my body and everything else is "out there." This sojourn in the physical

was meant to be only so long as it took humanity to develop freedom. Evolution must lead on to our goal of agape-love⁸ offered out of this freedom. Our desires for comforts have largely been attained. We like it here. Even more so, we love it here. And so, we begin to forget that we are cosmic beings who have come to our human stage for our evolution. So, just as the civilization of Atlantis had to be destroyed, so must our Post-Atlantean Epoch's civilization come to a destructive end.

"Indeed, the materialistic tendency of our age and the insistence to accept only the physical world as real are connected with humanity's further descent into the physical. However, things must not remain like this. We must ascend again into the spiritual world, bearing with us the attainments and fruits we have acquired in the physical world. It is the task of anthroposophy to offer people the possibility of ascending once again into the spiritual world."⁹

Thus, the goal of human evolution is not to remain in the physical but to progress to where the physical can be left behind. The period of time for humanity to evolve within physical bodies was meant to be temporary. It must come to an end. That coming ascension foretold in Matthew 25 will be heralded in by the Maitreya Buddha. Ascension begins in about 3000 years and will last a bit over 2000 years. It will be a time when some are able to cast aside their physical body like a snake casting aside its old skin and thus begin a new existence with their etheric body as their lowest bodily member. Preparations for this must begin now. What? Prepare for the end of sexual procreation? Prepare for a War of All Against All? How can we prepare for this? Doesn't this imply that transhumanism will have a role in this future?



Note: PACA=Post-Atlantean Cultural Age

Falling into the Eighth Sphere

Like everything in the Consciousness Soul Age, a double-edged sword exists here. The danger for Anthroposophists is that the Catholic concept of Hell is replaced by the concept of the Eighth

⁸ Agape-love is mentioned multiple times in the Gospel of John meaning a deeper, spiritual love meant in Christ's words to "love one another as I have loved you [John 13:34]."

⁹ Rudolf Steiner, *The Universal Human*, lecture 1, 4Dec1909, GA 117

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Sphere. Many a Christian has offered their 10% tithe out of fear of ending up in Hell. Will some Anthroposophists seek “to tithe” their way out of a destiny upon the Eighth Sphere?

It is our "shadowy" thoughts that are totally connected to physical "reality" that "fall" into the Eighth Sphere. Although "matter" will eventually be dissolved, nothing from our thinking is lost. In this way, one can see the Eighth Sphere as a blessing - like a cosmic garbage collection service for our dead thoughts.

When might people "fall" into the Eighth Sphere? Is it imminent? From my studies, it appears that our thoughts which retain a connection to us are already descending into it. But the fall of humans into it comes at a time in the far future, when ample opportunities for "being saved" have occurred during the 6th and even the 7th Great Epochs. But for some who freely choose this destiny, the door opens during the Sixth Post-Atlantean Cultural Age (3573-5733 AD). This will be the period of Philadelphia when human beings will found communities truly based on brotherly love. Its members will be those who know what it means to say, “No longer I, but Christ in me.”

Counterbalances

Rudolf Steiner frequently spoke about the necessity of preparing for a future that is consistent with the divine goals of human evolution. He said that such preparations must begin now and continue through the remaining cultural ages of this Fifth Epoch. It is the task of Anthroposophy to be the preparer of a future that aligns with the goals of those divine beings who have guided our evolution. As such, we need to find counterbalances for each new wave of technology. "The great problem of our time is that people slide into the ahrimanic sphere without having the support of the Christ force. ... We can only become sure of ourselves as human beings if we walk the road created by the whole of technology, but do not let our lives be governed by the products of technology and grow to become able to behold the Christ-power that can become part of us to enable us to inwardly overcome those products of technology." In our times, this Christ-force is the key to all balancing and all transformations.

Steiner's Representative of Man expresses how mankind, and each individual, can bring the polarities of Lucifer and Ahriman into balance. Lucifer seeks to lead us into the bliss of the spiritual world too soon, before our maturation within the physical realm is complete. Ahriman aims to keep humanity dependent upon the physical realm as our only sense of reality. But this cannot be a static balance for it must exist within the march of time, within the course of our lives and within the course of evolution. Lucifer has had his incarnation about 3000 BCE when he gave humanity much wisdom. Christ, we know, has had his incarnation. Now the time has come when Ahriman must have his incarnation in the flesh. His incarnation should not be opposed as it, like Lucifer's, will serve human evolution. Thus, a Dancing with Polarities would be apt expression for this balancing act needed during our times. To maintain this balance while proceeding towards Ahriman's incarnation in the flesh, we need to develop counterbalances for each of the further stages technology's destiny. It is not for us to become neo-Amish nor to bemoan modern life. A heart-space between Lucifer and Ahriman where Christ can exist must be constantly remade by each individual.

"Everybody is obliged to undergo the battle; in its effects it is experienced by everybody. There would be no greater fallacy than to say: We must rebel against what technical science has brought to us in modern life, we must protect ourselves from Ahriman, we must withdraw from this modern life. In a certain respect such an attitude would be an indication of spiritual cowardice. The real remedy lies, not in allowing the forces of the soul to weaken and to withdraw from modern life, but in so strengthening these forces that its pandemonium can be endured. World-karma demands a courageous attitude to modern life, and that is why genuine Spiritual Science calls at the very outset for effort, really strenuous effort on the part of the human soul."

It is a Rosicrucian gesture to live in the environment of one's times. To do so, we must find appropriate counterbalances. I will highlight some important counterbalances that apply to you as an individual but also to humanity in general.

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1. Christ Consciousness becomes one's archetype. Christ consciousness within is the key to constantly refinding the balance and for all transformations. "The great problem of our time is that people slide into the ahrimanic sphere without having the support of the Christ force. ... We can only become sure of ourselves as human beings if we walk the road created by the whole of technology, but do not let our lives be governed by the products of technology and grow to become able to behold the Christ-power that can become part of us to enable us to inwardly overcome those products of technology."
2. Spiritual Science is itself a primary counterbalance. For example, as we venture into sub-Nature, so must we balance this by ascending into super-Nature.
3. Modern Life Practices:
 - Practice spirit awareness.
 - Eurythmy where in the movement we experience the etheric.
 - Daily 1-hour Walk outdoors (not on a tread mill).
 - Singing such as in a choir or speech formation.
 - Gardening – something more than merely looking at Nature, get your hands dirty.
 - Outdoor play (children need at least 2 hours/day) especially in the winter months.
 - 20-20-20 Rule. If you are often working in front of a computer screen, then, for your eyes, every 20 minutes, look out a window at nature that is at least 20 meters away and look for at least 20 seconds before returning to your screen.
4. Refined Breathing, an as-yet undeveloped counterbalance that uses the breathing of the four ethers analogously to how yoga practices breathe air.

The undeveloped counterbalance for the future was called by Rudolf Steiner Refined Breathing. There exists a relationship of thinking with breathing that is expressed in these words from Steiner: "The lung is an organ that also has forces of head formation within it, though to a lesser degree. The whole human organism has everywhere these same forces, but in varying intensities. ... The head is an advanced respiratory organ. Having moved beyond the lung stage, it represses air-breathing and, instead of taking in air, takes in etheric forces through the senses."

During the course of our evolution, the substance of our breathing has changed with changes in our bodily makeup. On Old Moon, we breathed fire instead of air. Just as today we breathe oxygen in and carbon dioxide out, on Old Moon we breathed fire in and cold out. "Just as no human today breathes fire, so future men will no longer inhale air. It will be Light. The development of *Refined Breathing* helps to prepare this for the sake of our evolution. Today, *Refined Breathing* is only an indication by Steiner. It needs a lot of work from us to bring it to the state of truly being the New Yoga.

Today, we exhale vapor which our inner being has permeated. What is present in what we exhale is the spirit we've built up by our thoughts. This watery element has been placed there by one's etheric body. Why this is so important? Because the sum of our moral-imbued exhalations becomes the foundation materials for the forming of the environment and bodies of the beings upon the human-stage of Jupiter. A clairvoyant can see in one's exhalation the morality present within that

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person. What we exhale today contains the result of our inner work. In the future, all will be able to see another's morality in their breath. Unconsciously, we are already at work in the preparation of Jupiter. More and more, we need to make this conscious.

In summary, we are called upon to be pioneers, to be the preparers of the future. Ahriman and technology have roles that provide the resistance for us to build strength for our coming cosmic tasks. Bemoaning technology comes from spiritual weakness. Rather, we need to face Ahriman and technology with soul strength and find the appropriate counterbalances.

Facing evil is a necessary part of our evolution. But, without Christ active within us, we are no match for the powers of Lucifer, Ahriman, and the Asuras. Anthroposophy is a path that leads one to discover that they are truly cosmic beings where earth has been provided to us by God for our development. Only out of spiritual science, aware of our evolution and the necessity of evil, can we find the needed counterbalances. As one, Rudolf Steiner offered this meditation:

AUM. One wards off bad influences when one says it in the right way; it connects man with the creating Godhead, the three Logoi. The evil beings who want to tear men away from the Godhead can't stand it. AUM must be spoken with the awareness:

Primal Self from which everything came

Primal Self to which everything returns:

Primal Self that lives in me

Towards you I strive.

Peace-peace-peace = AUM.

A is atma, U is buddhi, M is the wisdom that directs the higher self to AUM.

(From *Esoteric Lessons*, [lesson 15](#), GA 266).

On Wrestling from Ahriman What the Future Will Need

It all amounts to this, that modern man only speaks truly of himself when he says that he hovers perpetually between two extremes: between the Ahrimanic on the one side, where he is presented with an outer delusion, a Fata Morgana, and, on the other, the Luciferic element within him which induces the tendency to illusions, hallucinations and the like. The Ahrimanic tendencies in man to-day live themselves out in science, the Luciferic tendencies, in religion, while in art he swings between the one extreme and the other. In recent times the tendencies of some artists have been more Luciferic — they are the expressionists; the tendencies of the others have been more Ahrimanic — they are the impressionists. And then, vacillating between all this, there are the people who want to be neither the one nor the other, who do not rightly assess either the Luciferic or the Ahrimanic but want to avoid both. — “Ahriman — no! — *that* I must not, will not do, for it would take me into the realm of the Ahrimanic; that I must not, will not do, for it would take me into the realm of the Luciferic!” They want to be virtuous, avoiding both the Ahrimanic and the Luciferic.

But the truth of the matter is that Lucifer and Ahriman must be regarded as two scales of a balance and it is we who must hold the beam in equipoise.

And how can we train ourselves to do this? — By permeating what takes Ahrimanic form within us with a strongly Luciferic element. What is it that arises in modern man in an Ahrimanic form? It is his knowledge of the outer world. There is nothing more Ahrimanic than this knowledge of the material world, for it is sheer illusion. Nevertheless if the Fata Morgana that arises out of chemistry, out of physics, out of astronomy and the like can fill us with fiery enthusiasm and interest, then through our interest — which is itself Luciferic — we can wrest from Ahriman what is his own.

That, however, is just what human beings have no desire to do; they find it irksome. And many people who flee from external, materialistic knowledge are misconceiving their task and preparing the best possible incarnation for Ahriman in earth-existence. Again, what wells up in man's inmost being to-day is very strongly Luciferic. How can we train ourselves rightly in this direction? — By diving into it with our Ahrimanic nature, that is to say, by trying to avoid all illusions about our own inner life and impulses and observing *ourselves* just as we observe the outer world. Modern man must realize how urgent it is to educate himself in this way. ... [We] must find the state of equilibrium between the Ahrimanic and the Luciferic. The Ahrimanic regulates us always — even in soul and spirit — rectilinearly; the Luciferic brings us always into curving or circular movement and diversifies us. If we have a one-sided tendency to monotheism, if we strive to the whole world as a unity, then Ahriman tugs us by one ear; if we become monadists, one-sided monadists, explaining the world out of many, many atoms or monads only, without unity, then Lucifer is tugging us by the other ear. — In fact, to one who has insight things are like this: when monists dispute with pluralists, monadists, then the man who is actually disputing is generally quite guiltless, for behind him, if he is a monist. Ahriman is pulling him by the ear and whispering

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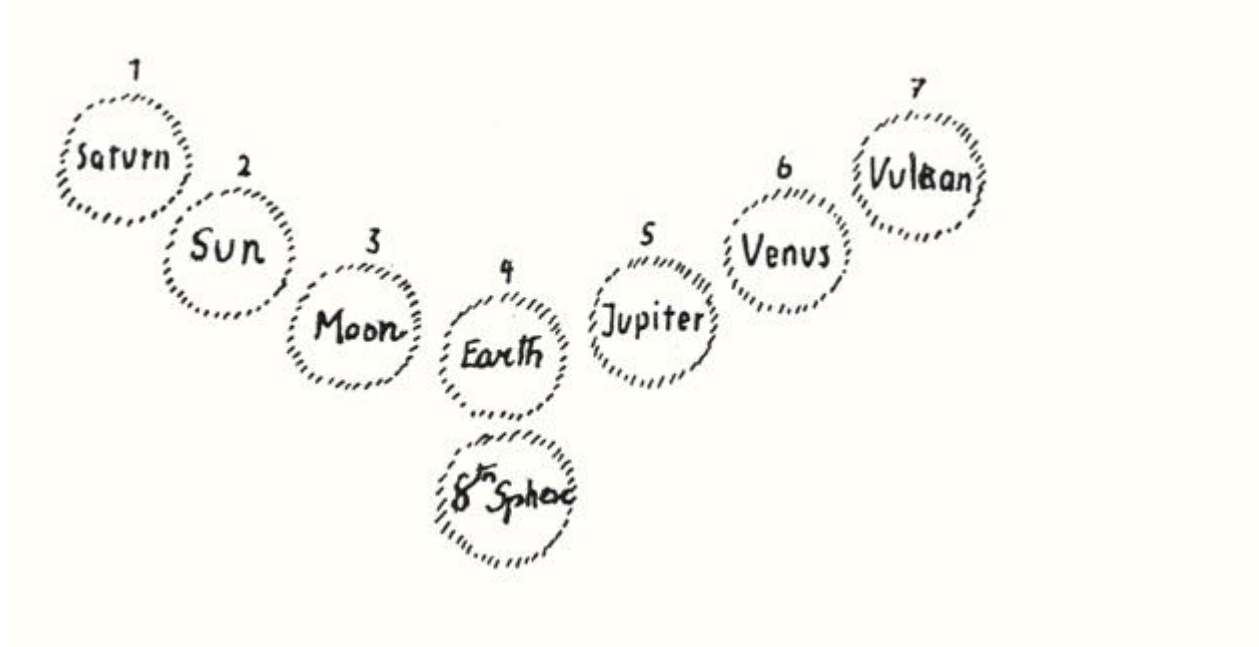
all the fine reasons the self-believed logic which he presents for his monism; and if he is a follower of Leibniz or some other monadist, —Lucifer is there and whispers all the fine reasons for the manifoldness of spiritual beings. What must be sought is the state of equilibrium, unity in multiplicity, multiplicity in unity. However, that is less easy and convenient than to seek either the unity or the multiplicity; as it is altogether less comfortable to seek a state of equilibrium than something where one can just rest in laziness. Men become either sceptics or mystics. The sceptics feel that they have fine minds that can doubt everything, the mystics feel that they are permeated by the divine and that with love and knowledge they can embrace all things in their own inner being. The Sceptics are, in fact, pupils of Ahriman and the mystics pupils of Lucifer. For what mankind must strive towards is the state of balance; mystic experience in skepticism, skepticism in mystic experience.¹⁰

¹⁰ Lucifer and Ahriman, lecture 2, 21Sep1918, GA 184, <https://wn.rsarchive.org/GA/GA0191/19191102p02.html>

How the Eighth Sphere Comes About in Our Times

From this you will be able to conjecture, even if not fully to understand, that what is called the Eighth Sphere can have nothing directly to do with anything within the material world — that is to say, what can be perceived by man's senses and thought out on the basis of sensory perception has no part in the Eighth Sphere. So, it will be useless to look for the Eighth Sphere anywhere in the material world.

You now have indications by means of which some approach can be made in thought to a conception of the Eighth Sphere. I have said that the Eighth Sphere has something to do with the residue left from the Old Moon and its evolution. So much you can gather from the studies we have pursued in the course of time. I tried to make it clear in the lecture yesterday that on the Old Moon, man's natural mode of perception was visionary and imaginative in character, so that any substantiality to be discerned in the Eighth Sphere must be found with this kind of vision. That is to say: it must be presumed at the outset that the Eighth Sphere is found by way of visionary Imaginations.



How was it that the expression “Eighth Sphere” came to be used? — You know that human evolution takes its course through the seven spheres of Saturn, Sun, Moon, Earth, Jupiter, Venus, Vulcan. We will conceive that besides these seven spheres there is still something else which lies outside them and yet is in some way related to the Earth. Here, then, we have a sphere, visible only to visionary-imaginative clairvoyance, which stands there as an Eighth Sphere over and above the seven which constitutes the domain of the ordered and regular evolution of mankind. All such sketches are, of course, purely diagrammatic; one is obliged to draw separately spheres which can only be observed each within the others. For you will certainly have realized from our studies that as long as a man is within the material world, makes his observations through the senses and thinks with the intellect, he is standing in the Fourth Sphere, the Earth Sphere. If he develops his faculties

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of soul sufficiently to be able to see the Third Sphere, the Moon Sphere, then he takes a far flight—but not in the spatial sense. He observes, not from another place, but physically speaking, spatially speaking, from the same place. These seven spheres ought therefore in reality to be drawn within one another. They are successive stages and states of evolution and, fundamentally, such a diagram is of no other value than as if one were to say: human beings develop from birth to the seventh year in a first stage, from the seventh to the fourteenth year in a second stage, and so on. The being who has developed from the first to the seventh year cannot be thought of as separate from the being who is developing from the seventh until the fourteenth year. Neither is it correct to think of the seven successive spheres or stages of the Earth's evolution as separate from each other.

This will give you an inkling that the Eighth Sphere is to be observed within the Earth Sphere. It cannot properly be drawn either above or below; to depict this reality, it would have to be sketched into the Earth Sphere. I have often given a crude example to express what is here meant. Just as the physical air is around us, so is the Spiritual around us; we have to look for the Spiritual within what is actually physical in our environment. Hence it must be presumed that just as the spiritual is round about us, so we must also look for the Eighth Sphere in our environment. This means that an organ enabling man to perceive the Eighth Sphere would have to be developed, just as his physical senses enable him to perceive the material Earth. He could then experience the Eighth Sphere quite consciously; but unconsciously he is always within it just as we are always within the air, even if we are not aware of it. And if we have developed an organ for experiencing the Eighth Sphere, we are conscious of it around us. So that if the Eighth Sphere is to be described, it must obviously be described as a realm in which we are living all the time.

Now, as I said, all that I can do in these introductory studies is to give some general information—the rest will emerge as we proceed. First of all, you can understand that what is around us as the Eighth Sphere is accessible to Imaginative-visionary clairvoyance. To develop Imaginative clairvoyance without perceiving something of the Eighth Sphere is impossible. The reason why it is so difficult to speak of matters such as the Eighth Sphere is because really clear and discriminative clairvoyance is possessed by so very few. In the Eighth Sphere we have to do with Imaginations, and what constitutes the essential nature of Earth-evolution — that is to say, the Fourth Sphere — is not present in the Eighth Sphere. The essential nature of the Fourth Sphere is constituted, as I indicated yesterday, by the mineral impregnation of this world-body. That we are able to live on the Earth is due to the fact that this Fourth Sphere has been mineralized: we live in a mineralized environment; what is perceived through the physical senses can be coordinated by the intellect. But we must conceive that the mineral element is totally absent from the Eighth Sphere.

When we eliminate the mineral element in thought, all that remains is a later stage of the Old Moon evolution, for whence could anything else originate? But evolution proceeds; something that is perceptible through Imaginative, visionary clairvoyance but could be nothing else than a residue of the Old Moon—that would be no Eighth Sphere. All that could be said would be that something has been left behind by the Third Sphere.

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In order to have some inkling of facts relating to the Eighth Sphere, let us keep the following in mind. In the course of its regular evolution, the Third Sphere became the Fourth Sphere; that is to say, a transition of the third elemental kingdom — for that is what we must call it — to the mineral kingdom took place. The mineral element was added. Otherwise, we should have to conceive of the Old Moon as a sum-total of substantiality, imaginatively perceptible! It must therefore be assumed that the regular progression from the Old Moon to the Earth, from the Third Sphere to the Fourth Sphere, consists in what was formerly only imaginatively perceptible becoming materially perceptible, that is to say becoming mineralized. As the Eighth Sphere there remains, to begin with, the Old Moon element, but owing to a particular happening this Old Moon element undergoes a change. What took place in order that the Fourth Sphere might be able to arise from the Third is clearly described in the book *Occult Science*, where it is said that to the activities of the Spirits of Movement are added those of the Spirits of Form under whose guidance the whole process of the transformation takes place. [\[note 2\]](#) We can therefore say that the Fourth Sphere arises out of the Third through the fact that the Spirits of Form add their activities to those of the Spirits of Movement.

If the Spirits of Form had achieved everything that their own nature desires and moreover is able to achieve, when the mission of Sphere Three was fulfilled in the Cosmos, Sphere Four would have arisen quite naturally from Sphere Three. That is obvious. But we know that Luciferic and Ahrimanic spirits are at work — and they hold back for themselves something of the Old Moon substantiality, wrest it away, as it were, from the Spirits of Form. The fact that Lucifer and Ahriman do so is indicative of their essential nature. Thus, as Sphere Three is advancing to a further stage, something is wrested from the Spirits of Form by Lucifer and Ahriman; into this part that is wrested away, Lucifer and Ahriman penetrate, instead of the Spirits of Form. The activities of Lucifer and Ahriman are added to those of the Spirits of Movement and, as a result, Eight arises out of Three.

Something else, then, must be there, not merely the Old Moon, and this “something else” which comes into being as well as Sphere Four is constituted by the fact that mineral substantiality, as it comes into being, is wrested away at the moment of the birth of the Fourth Sphere. Thus, when the mineral comes into existence out of the Imaginative substantiality, it is snatched by Lucifer and Ahriman and made into Imagination. Instead of an Earth arising from the remaining Old Moon substantiality, a cosmic body takes shape whose birth is due to the fact that the substantiality wrested from the Earth is made into what has come over from the Old Moon.

Now recall how I have described the conditions pertaining to the Old Moon, in the book *[Occult Science](#)*. In the Old Moon there was as yet nothing mineral. Had mineral substance been present, that world-body would have been an Earth, not Moon. Sphere Four comes into being through the birth of the mineral element. In that Lucifer and Ahriman approach, snatch mineral substantiality out of Sphere Four and infuse it into Sphere Three, the Old Moon is recapitulated, but now with materiality that belongs properly to the Earth.

Mark this well: instead of pure Imaginations being there, the Imaginations are densified by the infusion of a mineral element that has been wrested from the Earth. Densified Imaginations are

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thus created. We are therefore drawn into a world of densified Imaginations which are not lunar in character because they have been densified by materiality belonging to the Earth. They are ghosts, specters — that is to say, behind our world there is a world of specters created by Lucifer and Ahriman.

Let me express it schematically, as follows: On the Old Moon certain pictures were present. These should have passed over to the Earth as something everywhere perceptible. But Lucifer and Ahriman retained them for themselves. Lucifer and Ahriman wrested from the Earth certain of its constituents and made them into Imaginations, so that these Earth-substances became, not Earthly formations, but Moon formations. Into our Fourth Sphere, therefore, there has been instilled a sphere that is really a Moon-sphere but is filled with earthly substantiality and is therefore a bogus creation in the Universe. To the seven Spheres, an Eighth, created in opposition to the progressive Spirits, has been added. The necessary consequence of this is that the Spirits of Form must do battle on the Earth for every morsel of substantiality capable of mineralization, lest it should be wrested from them by Lucifer and Ahriman and borne into the Eighth Sphere.

In truth, therefore, our Earth — the Fourth Sphere — is simply not what it appears outwardly to be. Were it really to consist of atoms, all these atoms would still be impregnated by formations belonging to the Eighth Sphere — which are perceptible only to visionary clairvoyance. These formations are present everywhere; so too is the specter-like content of the Eighth Sphere which can therefore be perceived just as actual specters are perceived. All earthly being and existence are involved here. Lucifer and Ahriman strive unceasingly to draw from the Earth's substances whatever they can snatch, in order to form their Eighth Sphere which then, when it is sufficiently advanced, will be detached from the Earth and go its own way in the Cosmos together with Lucifer and Ahriman. Needless to say, the Earth would then pass over to Jupiter as a mere torso. But man, as you realize, has his established place in the whole of Earth-evolution, for he is mineralized through and through. We are permeated by the mineralizing process, which is itself drawn into this battle, so that morsels of this substance can be continually wrested from it. Therefore, we ourselves are involved in the battle. Lucifer and Ahriman battle against the Spirits of Form, with the aim of wresting mineral substance from us everywhere.

But the strength of the process varies in the different regions of our organism. We are diversely constituted; some of our organs are more perfect than others. The most perfect of all is our organ of thinking, the brain and the skull, and there the battle of which I have spoken is the most vehement, precisely because this human head, this human brain, is fashioned as it is; and it is so fashioned because at this place in our body, Lucifer, and Ahriman too, have been the most successful in wresting mineral substance from us. Physical substance there is more spiritualized than anywhere else. The formation of our skull is due to the fact that it is there that most has been wrested from us. Hence it is precisely through the head that we can emancipate ourselves from our organism to the greatest extent. We can soar upwards in thoughts; we can distinguish between the good and the evil. And for that very reason, Lucifer and Ahriman have there been the most successful in wresting away substantiality; in the so-called noblest organ of man, they have been able to wrest away the greatest amount of mineralized substantiality. This alchemy, by which

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mineral substance is sent over into the Eighth Sphere, is taking place all the time behind the scenes of our existence. — To begin with, I am simply communicating information; corroborations will emerge more and more clearly as our studies proceed.

If everything were to run without a hitch for Lucifer and Ahriman, if they were everywhere able to wrest as much as they wrest from the organ of the head, Earth-evolution would soon reach a point where Lucifer and Ahriman could succeed in destroying our Earth and in leading over all evolution of worlds into the Eighth Sphere, so that Earth-evolution as a whole would take a different course. Hence Lucifer endeavors to unfold his greatest strength of all at the place where man is the most vulnerable, namely, in his head. The stronghold which it is easiest for Lucifer to capture is the human head; and everything that is similar to the head in respect of the distribution of the mineral element, so that it can be drawn out in the same way, is equally exposed to the danger of being dispatched into the Eighth Sphere. No less a prospect looms as a consequence of this intention of Lucifer and Ahriman than that the whole evolution of humanity may be allowed to disappear into the Eighth Sphere, so that this evolution would take a different course.



That, you see, was the intention of Lucifer and Ahriman from the beginning of Earth-evolution — to let the whole of this evolution disappear into the Eighth Sphere. It was therefore necessary that a counterweight should be created by those Spirits who belong to the Hierarchy of the Spirits of Form. The outer counterweight they created consists in this: into the “space”, as it were, of the Eighth Sphere something was inserted which works against this Eighth Sphere. To present this correctly, we must show the Earth here, and the Eighth Sphere here (see diagram). The Eighth Sphere belongs to our physical Earth in the sense indicated. We are surrounded everywhere by the Imaginations into which the aim is that mineral materiality shall continually be drawn. There lies the reason for the sacrifice made by Jahve or Jehovah — the precipitation of substance far denser than the other mineralized substance. This was established by Jahve as Moon, as the counteracting agent. It was substance of extreme density — and this density was described by Sinnett as

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substance of a far denser physical-mineral character than exists anywhere on the Earth. Hence Lucifer and Ahriman cannot dissolve it away into their world of Imaginations. And so, this Moon circles around as a globe of dense matter, solid, dense, indestructible. If you read carefully enough, you will find that even the descriptions by physicists of the Moon given tally with this. Everything that was available on the Earth was drawn out and placed there in order that there should be enough physical matter incapable of being wrested away. When we look at the Moon, we see there in the Universe a substance far more intensely mineralized, far physically denser, than exists anywhere on the Earth. Jahve or Jehovah, then, must be regarded as that Being who even in the physical domain has ensured that not all materiality can be drawn away by Lucifer and Ahriman. And then, at the right time, equal care will be taken by the same Spirit that the Moon shall re-enter the Earth when the Earth is strong enough to receive it, when the danger is averted by the development that has meanwhile taken place.¹¹

¹¹ *The Occult Movement in the Nineteenth Century*, lecture 5, 18Oct1915, GA 254, <https://wn.rsarchive.org/GA/GA0254/19151018p01.html>

Our Daily Bread

Sunday-Sun-Wheat

Monday-Moon-Rice

Tuesday-Mars-Oats

Wed-Mercury-Millet

Thursday-Jupiter-Rye

Friday-Venus-Barley

Saturday-Saturn-Corn



Note: some Waldorf trainings list oats for Friday and barley for Mars-day.