Tarot & Kabalah in the Gnostic Tradition – Notes 07

http://www.GnosticStudies.org/TarotKabbalah

Arcanum 4 – Dalet ד

English: *The Emperor*

Spanish: *El Emperador:* meaning "Emperor, ruler, sovereign, monarch".

French: *L'Empereur:* meaning "Emperor, sovereign". *Le Vainqueur:* meaning "Victor, winner, conqueror, vanquisher".

Meaning: The Sovereign. Command. Progress. Success. Mercy. The Work with the Cross of Initiation. The Tetragrammaton יהוה.

Transcendental Axiom: "BLESS THE WORK OF YOUR HANDS; AND PUT HEART INTO THE LABOR OF THOUGHT."

Explanation of the Card: From the forehead of the Emperor the Serpent emerges, symbol of Mastery; the crown is formed with an asp (or venomous snake), the THERMUTHIS, belonging to Isis, our Particular Divine Mother Kundalini. Upon his head is a hat with 4 points, 4 angles, representing the 4 Elements, the 4 Gospels, the 4 Vedas etc. We also have in the hat the Alembic, the Receptacle: the sexual organs; the Stove, the Muladhara Chakra: the spinal column, and the Distiller: the brain. In his right hand he holds the Staff of Power. He is seated upon the perfectly worked CUBIC STONE, a product of the previous Arcanum. Within the Stone is the cat, the Fire. In the Waters of Life we find the Staff of Power, the Vertebral Column.

Related Explanation: According to consecrated doctrine, there are three forces in God, and these three forces are but one single God. Three and one give the idea of four, because unity is necessary in order to explain the three. In Hebrew, the name of God has four letters יהוה, which are really three, since one of them is repeated twice. This symbolically expresses that the affirmation of the triple-unity supposes the number four.

The great magical Arcanum depends upon an incommunicable axiom which is kabalistically enclosed in the four letters of the Tetragrammaton יהוה, of AZOTH (AZאת) and of INRI. The law which governs the spiritual worlds is the manifestation of God's secret (which is the mystery of creation). The whole magical science consists of the knowledge of this secret. When a person has discovered it, they will be able to comprehend all the secrets of nature by analogy: *progress is in direct proportion to resistance*. The absolute movement of life is thus the perpetual result of two contrary tendencies which are never opposed (hieroglyphically expressed by the cross +).

All the diverse manifestations of form come from the 'primeval substance'; there is, then, only one material element, and this element always manifests itself through the quaternary of its forms. These four elementary forms correspond to the following four philosophical ideas: Spirit, Matter, Movement, Rest. The great magical agent is revealed by four kinds of phenomena, and has been subjected to the experiments of profane science under four names: caloric, light, electricity, magnetism. The magical elements in alchemy are: sulfur, salt, mercury, and azoth; in hieroglyphics: the lion, the eagle, the man and the bull; in ancient physics: fire, air, water, and earth. In the magical science, we know that water is not the ordinary water and that the fire is not simply fire, etc. These expressions hide another meaning...

The Great Work, the Magnus Opus, would be impossible without the Elementals. Therefore, we need to become familiar with the ELEMENTALS OF NATURE. Every Alchemist needs to work with the Elementals of Nature. When profound meditation is intelligently combined with the state of slumber, this allows us to enter into the Elemental Paradises of Nature.

Practice 1

FIRE: Light a fire then vocalize the Mantram INRI. This mantram is vocalized in two separate syllables: IN – RI (prolong the sound of each letter). Concentrate on the fire that you have lit (on the candle, on the oil lamp or on the charcoal), meditating profoundly upon the fire. Fall asleep meditating on the fire. Invoke *Samael*, your friend, who will assist you in this practice. Then vocalize the "S" as an affable and fine whistle (like the buzzing of a rattlesnake).

Practice 2

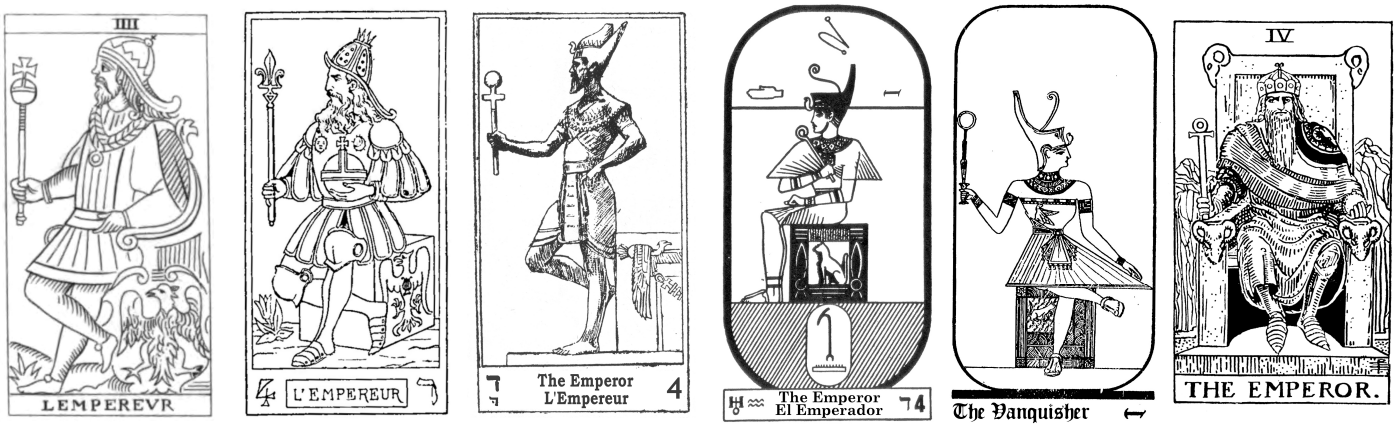
AIR[1]: Seated on a comfortable chair or laying down (face up) with the body relaxed, you will profoundly meditate on the Air. Blow towards the four cardinal points of the earth. Pronounce the letter "H" many times as if imitating a very deep sigh. Then fall asleep while meditating on the Genii *Michael* and *Sabtabiel*. In this way you will come in contact with the Sylphs.

Practice 3

WATER[2]: Before a cup of water, get into the state of slumber while meditating on the Water. Thereafter, while still in a state of slumber, vocalize the letter M as follows: Mmmmmmmm, with your lips hermetically sealed (this sound is like the bellow of the bull, yet it is a prolonged sustained sound that does not decrease like the bull does). The letter "M" is the mantram of the Waters. This is how you put yourself in contact with the creatures of the waters. Thereafter, invoke the Genie of the waters; the genie's name is *NICKSA*.

Practice 4

EARTH: Profoundly meditate on the Heart-Temple of the center of Earth. Meditate on the Genie of Earth whose name is *CHAMGAM*. Beseech him to put you in contact with the Gnomes that inhabit the depths of Earth. Call the Genie of the Gnomes who's name is *GOB*. Fall asleep while concentrating on that Genie. Vocalize the mantram "I.A.O."



[1] For the full practice, see Ch.4 of *Esoteric Course of Kabalah* (aka *Alchemy and Kabbalah in the Tarot*) by Samael Aun Weor

[2] For the full practice, see Ch.4 of *Esoteric Course of Kabalah* (aka *Alchemy and Kabbalah in the Tarot*) by Samael Aun Weor