Tarot & Kabalah in the Gnostic Tradition – Notes 08

http://www.GnosticStudies.org/TarotKabbalah

Arcanum 5 – Heh ה



English: *The Hierarch, Hierophant, or Pope*

Spanish: *El Jerarca*. Meaning "hierarch (one who holds a position of authority), chief"

French: *Le Pape*: meaning "Pope, head of Roman Catholic church, Bishop of Rome". *L'Hiérophante*: meaning "Hierophant (an official expounder of rites of worship and sacrifice; any interpreter of sacred mysteries or esoteric principles; mystagogue)".

Meaning: Rigor (or Severity). The Law. Karma. Mars. War. Indication, INTELLIGENCE. Demonstration, Teaching, Philosophy, Science, Art.

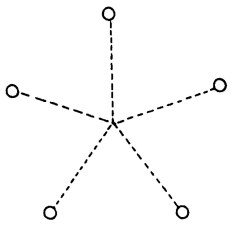
Transcendental Axiom: "I HAVE HEARD OF YOU BY EAR, BUT MY EYES NOW SEE YOU AND MY HEART NOW FEELS YOU."

Explanation of the Card: In this plate we find the Hierarch wearing his chain mail armor, supporting in his right hand the Staff of Power. He only uses the jackal mask when he is officiating, in order to carry out Justice; it symbolizes the Supreme Piety[1] and the Supreme Impiety of the Law. In the Waters of Life one finds the SCALES OF JUSTICE, indicating that the movements, actions and reactions of the Physical Body are based in Energy.

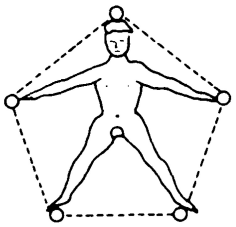
Related Explanation: The fifth letter of the sacred alphabet is Heh ה who's symbolic figure is the great priest. Heh ה is also the second letter of the mysterious Tetragrammaton יהוה. The number 5 is the number of the priest, it represents law and atonement. Kabalistic philosophy is the rational knowledge of divinity. Its method is composed of:

a. thirty-two means or instruments of knowledge which are called the 32 Paths,
b. and fifty subjects to which the science may be applied which are called the 50 Gates.

The five pointed star (or pentagram) is one of the most powerful signs of occult science. It is the sign of the Verb made flesh. According to the direction of its points, this absolute symbol represents:



a. good or evil,
b. order or disorder,
c. the blessed lamb of St. John or the accursed goat of Mendes.



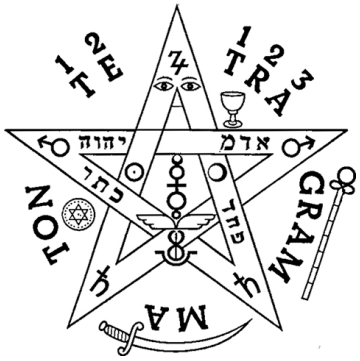
The pentagram with two points in the ascendant represents Satan; but when one point is in the ascendant, it is the sign of the Savior. It is the figure of the human body, having the four limbs and a single point representing the head. A human figure with its head downwards naturally represents a demon, that is: subversion, disorder or lunacy.

[1] Piety: devotion, piousness; compassion, mercy.

The pentagram (which in Gnostic Schools is also called the Flaming or Blazing Star) is the radiant star of Epiphany. Epiphany is the manifestation of the light, that light which creates souls. *Lumen ad revelationem gentium.*[2] *[A revealing light to the gentiles.]* This light emanates from divine wisdom; the science comes from it and it gives birth to liberty.

The pentagram is the star which the magi saw in the East that guided them to the Savior (the Child of the Virgin). It is the star of the Absolute. It is the universal synthesis which opens the aspirations of the human being to the 50 Gates of Knowing, Understanding or Wisdom (Binah).

Practice 1



Students can manufacture an Electrum in order to protect themselves from the tenebrous. In Occultism we call the Pentagram made with the 7 Metals of the 7 Planets an Electrum. Theses Seven Metals are Silver, Mercury, Copper, Gold, Iron, Tin and Lead; each corresponding to one of the Seven Planets. One makes the pentagram and consecrates it with the 4 elements: FIRE, AIR, EARTH AND WATER, and perfumes it with 5 Perfumes: Frankincense, Myrrh, Aloe, Sulphur and Camphor; these 5 substances serve to consecrate the pentagram, the first 3 to invoke the White Brotherhood, the Sulphur to repel tenebrous entities, and the Camphor to perfume and attract success. We must learn to handle these substances.

The 4 letters, Yod-Heh-Vau-Heh יהוה, must be placed upon the Pentagram and it should be worn at the neck, thus giving us extraordinary protection. During the Consecration one blows 5 breaths upon it, the Real Christonic Being of the Internal Master appears for the consecration of the Pentalpha, and the 5 Archangels: Gabriel, Raphael, Samael, Anael and Orifiel are invoked.

Practice 2

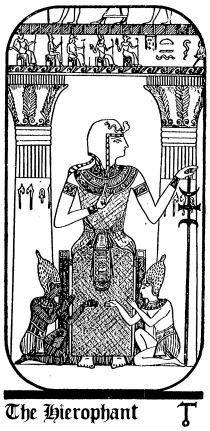
If we are able to prepare a Metallic Pentagram and consecrate it, we can also Consecrate Ourselves with the same rites and perfumes we utilized for our metallic Pentagram, because man is a Star of 5 points. All those who feel unclean, with larvae, or in misery, must utilize the 5 perfumes in order to perfume themselves, this is on the condition that they follow the Path of Perfect Chastity.













[2] This is from the beginning of Luke 2:32 in the Latin Vulgate ("A light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.")