

Tarot & Kabbalah in the Gnostic Tradition – Arcanum 10 **(Supplement)**

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Philosophical Masonry or Hermetic Initiation¹

KABALISTIC QUOTATIONS.

Q. – What is a kabalist?

A. – One who has learned, through tradition, the sacerdotal (or priestly) art and the royal art.

Q. – What does this motto: *omnia in numeris sita sunt* signify?

A. – That everything lies in numbers.

Q. – In the number 10, what signifies *unity*?

A. – God created and animated matter expressed by zero which, alone, has no value.

(This implies that 1 signifies unity and that 0 signifies matter, which was animated by God)

Q. – What is the most confused figure?

A. – *Zero*, emblem of *chaos*, the unformed mixture of the elements.

Q. – How do you understand the unity?

MORAL ORDER.

A.— A verb incarnated in the bosom of a virgin,
a religion.

PHYSICAL ORDER.

A spirit corporized (or given a body) in a
virgin earth, nature.

Q. – How do you understand the number 10?

A.— The ten precepts of the law.

The ten precepts of nature.

Q. – What is the most perfect number?

A. – The number 10 because it contains the *unity* which has made everything and the *zero*, symbol of matter and of chaos, out of which everything has emerged; it is comprehended then, in its figure, to be the created and the uncreated, the beginning and the end, power and force/strength, life and nothingness². In the study of numbers are found the correlation of all things: the power of the creator, the faculties of the creation, the alpha and the omega (ΑΩ) of the divine science.

¹ These Catechisms are from Ch. 6 of *Esoteric Studies in Masonry*, Vol. 1 and were originally in French.

² Literally ‘néant’ means “nothingness, nought, nil”

The 'Tithe' and the Magical Symbolism of the Number 10

We cannot leave the study of the magical and symbolic Number 10 without referring to the biblical obligation of the tithe, to which Abraham subjected himself voluntarily, in his relations with the Initiate King Melchizedek... According to the chapter 14 of Genesis:

[17] The king of Sodom went out to meet him (ABRAHAM)...

[18] And Melchizedek, King of Salem – he was a priest of the God Most High – brought out bread and wine.

[19] And he blessed him and said: "Blessed be Abraham by God Most High, maker of heaven and earth;

[20] And he blessed be God Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hand!" And Abraham gave him a tenth of everything."



In its EXOTERIC or public aspect, the obligation of the Tithe in Jewish legislation is the universal duty that all the brothers of the Path have of contributing faithfully with a part of their income –it must not be less than a Tenth– in such a manner freely chosen that they consider to be the most appropriate and effective way to sustain the Cause of Truth and Justice...

In its ESOTERIC or secret aspect, the Tithe symbolizes the balance of payments in the sphere of Neptune... It is unquestionable that there we must settle our accounts with the enemies of King Lycus (The Lords of Karma). It is indubitable that all of us assassinate the God Mercury, HIRAM, and it is not possible to resurrect him inside ourselves before paying up for the abject crime...

Therefore, the tithe becomes a practical and necessary complement to the dynamical principle that originates from the deep study of the tenth commandment, that is: Consider as a Source, Fountain and spiritual Providence of the whole Interior and Divine Center of our Life, the Mysterious 'Yod' that is hidden in the middle of the Central Delta of the Sanctuary of our Being...



This point concerning the Tithe is clarified by the evangelic words of Mathew (Ch. 6 v.19-21):

"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasure in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes, and where thieves do not break in and steal. **For where your treasure is, there will your heart be...**"

Chapter 3, verse 10 of the Book of Malachi (the last book of the Old Testament) says:

"Bring the full Tithes into the Storehouse, that there may be food in my house; and thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of Hosts (*YHVH Tzabaoth*), if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing."