

Rosicrucian Insights

The Seven Rosicrucian Stages of Higher Knowledge



By G. E. Carlin

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The Rosicrucian path of esoteric training leads to the acquisition of higher consciousness, divine wisdom and spiritual enlightenment. We study to develop inner strength, confidence, and certainty as we prepare ourselves for our progression into the higher planes. In the Rosicrucian belief, the stages of Higher Knowledge consist of seven stages in which only the first must be first be accomplished before advancing to any of the other stages, as the order of stages depends upon the character, personality, experiences, and abilities of each person.

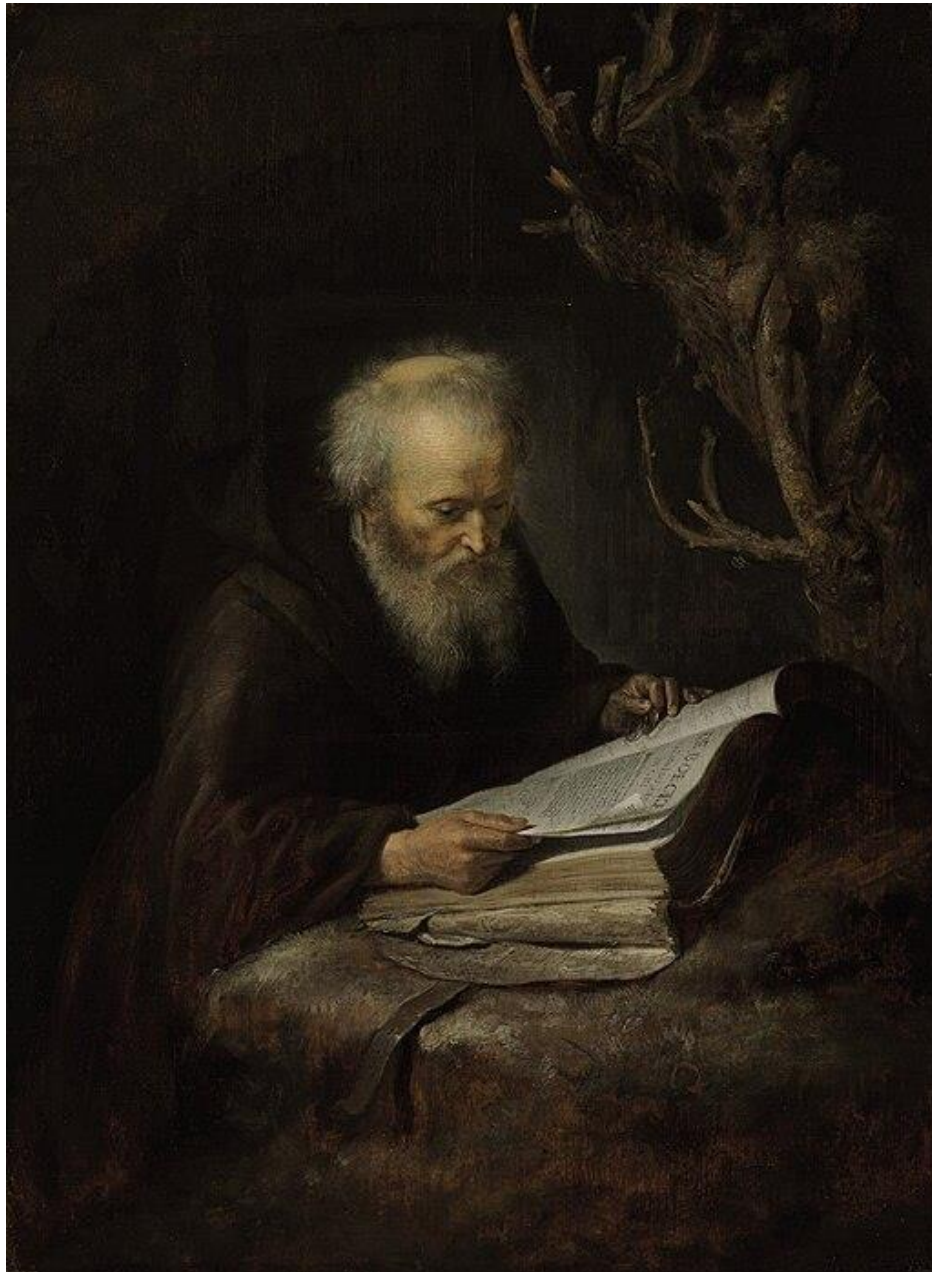
The Seven Stages of Higher Knowledge:

1. *Study*
2. *Imaginative knowledge*
3. *Inspired knowledge, or reading the Occult Script,*
4. *Preparation of the Philosopher's Stone,*
5. *Correspondence between Macrocosm and Microcosm*
6. *Living into the Macrocosm*
7. *Divine Bliss.*

During the medieval times when a person wanted to explore a deeper understanding of life and achieve spiritual enlightenment, they went through a *Christian Initiation* that was based on devotional faith. However, by the fifteenth century, a new form of initiation was introduced by Christian Rosenkreutz which focused on the acquisition of knowledge through our spiritual senses instead of accepting purely by faith. This new form of initiation did not completely eliminate the *Christian Initiation* but extended it so it became more practical for candidates who would no longer have to remove themselves from the world and they could maintain their everyday life. In essence the new initiation could be considered a “*Christian-Rosicrucian Initiation*”. While over time, the Christian Initiation become less available to humanity to the point that Rudolf Steiner claimed that it had been closed.

Steiner described the Rosicrucian Initiation as a cross between the Christian Path and the Yoga Path. Yet, he contends that parts of the path had been developed before advent of Christianity and that this path of esoteric training was ideal for the people of the West. As we spiritually advance, we learn to see the truths that already exist all around us in the natural world. For Steiner, the Path to Higher Knowledge is achieved by “*studying the spiritual science and by devoting ourselves entirely to the inner life of the soul through serious meditation and concentration.*” Then as we spiritually develop, we naturally begin to devote ourselves to a life of service to God and our fellow man. Therefore, as we proceed through the *Seven Stages of Higher Knowledge*, we will ultimately come to experience a Oneness with God, The Father, or the process by which our body or microcosm experiences a unity the divine macrocosm. Then just as man had in previous times we will once again have access to our creative powers so that we can to more than Christ had done before us for humanity so as to hasten our spiritual evolution to produce our needed higher states of consciousness within new bodies for the coming age.

Stage One: Study



The first stage of obtaining higher knowledge is ***Study***, however, this is not simply study to learn about the concept and principles of our physical world but to explore the higher worlds. Rosicrucian study looks deeply into understanding the cosmic principles, Natural Laws, the invisible worlds; the method of evolution for humanity and our planets; initiation and the needed study and work for the progression of spiritual development; esoteric Christianity, mysticism, occultism, and Hermeticism; and methods and practices of acquiring divine wisdom and self-realization. In our studies there will be times when we work with teachers but we must also learn to develop our thinking skills and self-awareness to the point that a teacher is not needed.

In studying Rosicrucianism, the attitude of mind of how we study is just as important as the content. As Max Heindel points out we need to abandon our efforts to evaluate new information based upon how well it supports our own ideas and beliefs and always being skeptical of anything new so that instead we can approach new ideas with an “*attitude of trust*” or a “*child-like faith*”. In Rosicrucian study we need to keep ourselves open without any prejudice so that we can experience the truth of the “*teaching from within*”. When we are genuinely studying new things, our minds have to remain in a “*fluid state of adaptability*”. Then we can accept that all things in life are possible and we need to look beyond the “*established facts*” to open ourselves to new perspectives and possibilities. Therefore, a critical key to our study will be to learn how to take in the energy of natural forces so that we can transform our environment. Yet, anything we study we also need to judge and evaluate once its study has been completed.

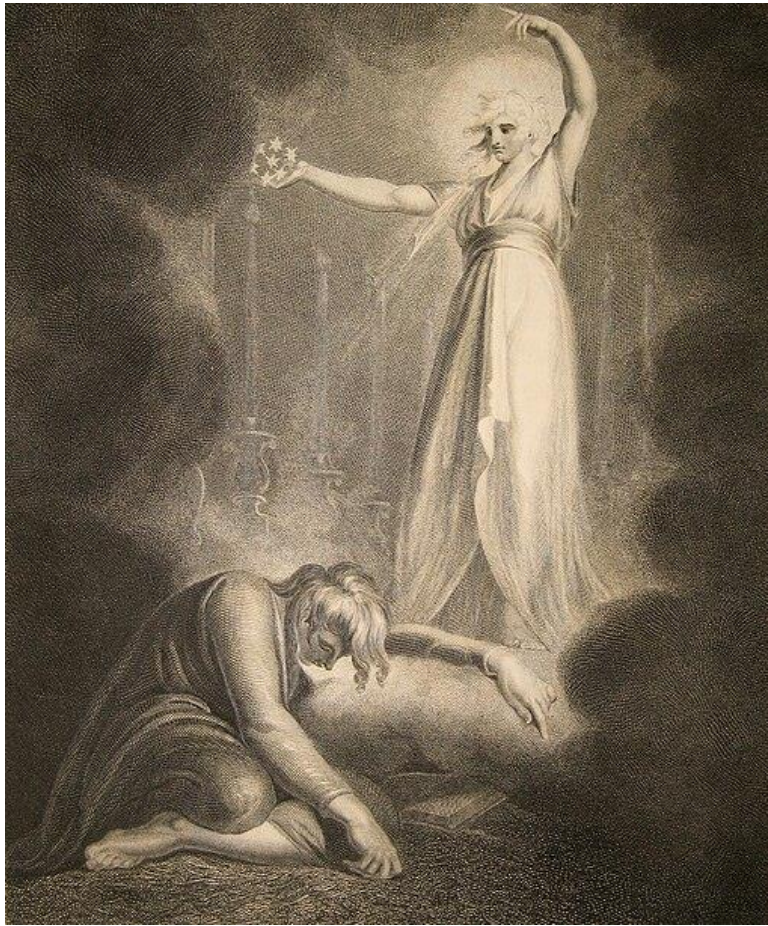
In Rosicrucian study, our study is based upon information that comes from beyond our senses, *pure thought*. It is an impersonal study in which facts stand on their own without trying to bring emotions or feelings out but allowing them to come out on their own. To be effective study must be an active process, it is an *action* that always produces a *reaction* when acted upon by the mind. In addition, Rosicrucian study also requires us to train our thinking and create habits in which we think intellectually with consistency and our thoughts create new thoughts that flow in a logical progression. Ultimately, in our higher studies the goal is to place new things within our minds so they can transform us and make us ready for the next step in our spiritual advancement. Then as we continue to analyze Rosicrucian and other spiritual texts, we can discern the knowledge and truth needed for our initiation and to help us to understand God’s will and how we fit into His divine plan. To further our growth in studying it also involves a meditation element so that what we can take what we learn and internalize it and make it personal.

Study for Higher Knowledge is an outcome of intellectual curiosity in which the aspirant conducts extensive enquiry so that they begin to understand spiritual truths and wisdom that conform to the universal laws and the way of life necessary to come to self-realization and a Oneness with God. Therefore, study is not just of books and of highly developed people, it also requires a careful attention and focus on the mind and its thoughts. Ultimately, our thoughts become our reality therefore we have to be extremely selective as to what we pay attention to, as the mind will do two things: move us in the direction of our thoughts and as a result will cause us to change. The mind is always working to take the spiritual knowledge we have obtained and move it into our hearts so it becomes a way of life for us and we can get past our fears and doubts as well as not get caught in any unnecessary drama from others. Yet, it is also important to understand that some of the knowledge and wisdom we derive from study is for a later time in our lives, seeds that one day will germinate to provide what is needed at that time and that we must always approach our studies with the proper expectations.

My Prayer for Rosicrucian Study

O True Light, Lord of Divine Wisdom, as I come to study to derive higher knowledge help me to always discern the truth and develop the capacity to train my thought patterns so that they may be objective, consistent, and logical. Allow my spiritual studies to deepen my inner strength, confidence, and my self-awareness so that my mind is renewed and my whole being is transformed by new spiritually nourishing habits. For then I can study pure thoughts beyond my physical senses and delve into the application of sacred patterns and symbols to communicate with higher Spiritual beings who are able to assist me in my spiritual advancement. As I am fully aware it is only through my devoted and persistent studies that the knowledge, I acquire can travel from my mind to my heart so that it may be reflected in the way I now chose to live my life. Therefore, my Lord keep my focus on what is true, noble, and praiseworthy so it always allows my mind to touch and feel the truth of it and I can align with the universal conscience that helps to keep us blameless in our character and intentions. Through humility I keep myself open to the possibility that new ideas that are beyond the established facts and conform to the truth of the teaching from within can flow in me and trigger a precession of new thoughts that fill my heart with bliss. As this will provide the way to connect to the energy of the natural forces that we can use to transform our environment and regulate the thoughts and ideas we bring into our consciousness as this will ultimately become our reality, our opening to enter the mind of God, to see how one thought connects to another, building the energy of the natural forces to purify and mold the astral body so that we might develop its organs of perception for the Higher Worlds. Therefore, My lord, I ask that you pour Your wisdom within me so that I can merge a meditative element into my studies so that from knowledge comes wisdom and understanding in which my thoughts continue to grow and further awaken within my consciousness that which is needed to continue its transformation so that I might develop my true connection to the Christ-within so that my mind may now have access to study all of the spiritual information from the cosmos so that I can work as You worked in fulfillment of Your plan for humanity. Amen.

Stage Two: *Imaginative Knowledge*



The second stage of Rosicrucian Higher Knowledge is Imaginative Knowledge or what may be referred to as our key to the Higher Worlds. At this stage we look beyond the physical appearance of objects and begin to recognize that everything contains something spiritual within it regardless of whether it is living or nonliving. We now move past our physical senses and develop the ability to explore the higher worlds with clairvoyant senses so that we perceive images within ourselves from the spiritual world that help us to gain the knowledge we need to develop meaning in our lives. Some of us may see images within our minds like watching a movie on a screen while others may see only select images or symbols. Ultimately, imaginative knowledge has its effects on the etheric body and then is passed on to the blood so that it may develop us spiritually and provide any needed healing.

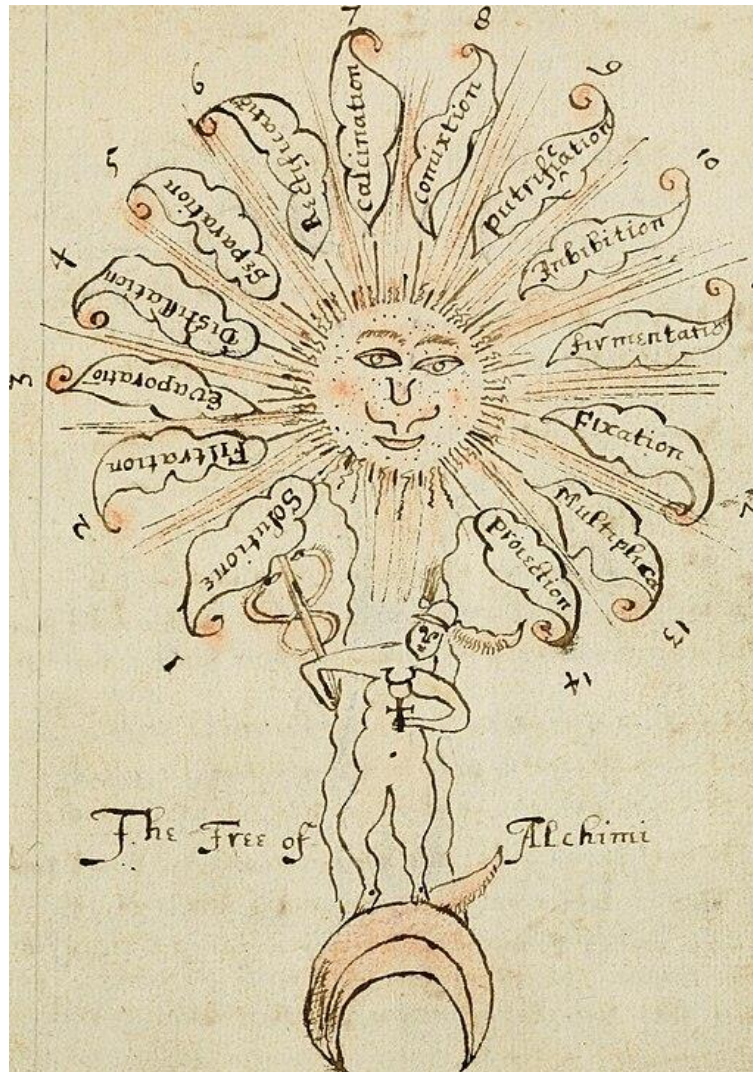
Rosicrucians learn to study nature because they understand that “*everything that takes place in nature is an expression of soul and spirit*” and once they learn the codes of nature, they can now speak its language and now are free to explore its mysteries. Everything in nature becomes symbolic in meaning and produces thoughts within us, metaphors for what they stand for or the character of their inner being. For example, certain flowers may be tears and speak to the pain and suffering of the Earth Spirit deep within the core of the Earth who is saddened by the lack of growth in humanity.

Rosicrucians utilize exercises such as concentration to release our astral senses from our physical senses and then develop the astral senses so that we may receive imaginative knowledge and insights. The training of our astral sense is often accomplished through meditation practices in which the thoughts that are awakened in us from nature and the symbols they produce germinate within our hearts and grows the needed spiritual knowledge. However, even scripture from the Bible or texts from other spiritual writings trigger images within our minds that can be used as a source of imaginative knowledge. Then we can change our thinking into “*an organ of touch for the soul*” so we can feel our way around in the spiritual world and enter into a mutual relationship in which imaginative knowledge is our “best teacher”.

My Prayer for Imaginative Knowledge

O Beautiful God, Door to my Imagination, help me as I gaze upon nature so that I may see your symbols and pictures that contain Your truth so that they may be brought to life in my soul and then stir my intuition to its fruition. You have placed a spiritual presence within every object and by their external presence You have also embedded a metaphor that if we are attuned can stimulate our thoughts and feelings to Your reveal Your Word. The landscape we traverse in honor of Your glory is awash in a sea of parables that hold the inner meaning to Your mysteries and our needed self-knowledge. Therefore, my Lord allow me to venture beyond the physical and perceive the world with my spiritual sight, so I that may see through the outer expressions of objects and people and now see them in my soul as key elements of cosmic and spiritual knowledge. Let my imaginative knowledge settle upon my etheric body and find its way into the blood so it may bathe my body with the power and guidance to shift my thinking into an active process so that it now becomes a tool of feeling for the soul, an organ of touch, to experience and learn within the Higher Worlds, well beyond the laws of nature and even into the future and ultimately into the true being of ourselves and the world. I am certain that the process of acquiring our imaginative knowledge is the only portal to creating memories within our souls where the concepts of our spiritual understanding can be organized, assembled, and interconnected to reveal their true meaning. Therefore, my Lord, open my soul to new thoughts and ideas from my mediation and guide me as my invisible teacher in producing the needed forces within my soul so that through my spiritual exercises I may learn to transform my passive thinking into active thinking that will be the source of my Initiation-knowledge. For then I can in my contact with the spiritual world establish a relationship in which I can make sense of the altered visions of this new world and the Higher beings that are attempting to communicate to me through this new reality. In Your greatness, Trust me and allow Your images to work upon my soul and bring forth Your truth so Your divine communication can now commence through my intuition and provide the direct knowledge need for spiritual advancement in the Higher Worlds through my development of imaginative knowledge. Amen

Third Stage: Acquisition of the Esoteric/Occult Script



Through our work with our spiritual exercises, we are able to enter the spiritual worlds and within these higher worlds we are surrounded by higher beings, many of which are there to help us however, there are also some that serve only themselves. As we venture in the astral world, we have to be able to recognize and understand the various symbols and combination of symbols so that we may understand in a sense where this would place us in the physical and higher worlds, our life, or even a time period and what we should then understand or learn so as to spiritually advance. This is what is referred to as “*reading the esoteric script*” and it is essential to our functioning in the astral world. In essence, the “script” is a key to all the symbols and their representation or meanings and how they might apply to our lives. It is important that we learn in reading scripts to see groups of images or pictures and create an internal system by which we then can determine their relationship so that we can then derive our understanding (somewhat similar to interpreting the relationship between planets, signs, and houses in astrology).

The Second Stage of Higher Knowledge: *Imaginative Knowledge* may be thought of as “spiritual sight” while the Third Stage of Higher Knowledge: *Acquisition of the Esoteric/Occult Script* is our “spiritual hearing”. As we learn, each image in

the astral world has lines of force that project outward and connect to other images, forming specific shapes or figures that then acquire specific colors by the powers of our imagination. In addition, these shapes or figures produce “spiritual tones” and just as each planet in our solar system or “heavenly orb” produces specific tones and the combination of all planet tones produces a glorious celestial symphony as the images of our esoteric script will do the same.

As Heindel would say, we acquire esoteric knowledge because of our abilities to see and hear within the higher worlds which we then put together using logic and reason to produce our understandings. Ultimately, this is the method by which we conduct our investigations and obtain our spiritual truths and “[t]hrough spiritual hearing, one grasps the intrinsic spiritual quality of beings and environments.” Or put simply, we learn to read images such as individual letters and sounds as individual tones that we “read” by putting the letters or tones together to form words/sentences and chords/celestial music. The ultimate purpose of this “hidden script” that we are reading in the Higher Worlds is so that Higher Beings can work with the spiritual seekers to find Oneness in God and drive them upward in the evolution of humanity.

My Prayer for Acquisition of the Esoteric/Occult Script

Our Lord Most High, Composer of the Celestial Symphony, assist me by activating my spiritual hearing as I work with my spiritual exercises to enable myself to learn the mysteries of the Higher Worlds. Allow me to take in the signs and symbols of the astral world so that I may move them around in my mind until I see how they fit together, the relationships they represent at all levels of consciousness, and the story they ultimately tell so as to provide insights in my search for truth. During the process allow the astral world to become alive in my mind so that I may see the letters that are used to form words and hear the sounds that merge together to produce the harmonies of the celestial music so that together they produce the esoteric script that I now have the ability to read. In the beauty of the esoteric script, grant me the power to envision the lines of force shooting out in all directions to form new images, connecting to other images to form wonderfully complex shapes and figures that take on different colors and emit different spiritual tones so I can enter into life's sacred stream so the hidden script can reveal its true meaning. Help me to change my perspective to focus on the letters and tones of the astral realm as that will be the source of the Higher Beings who will come to me as I allow the words and harmonies to build and join forces in operative statements that open the pathway from my mind to my heart so that I will resonate with their intended communication. Therefore, my Lord be patient with me as I learn to read the esoteric script for the present and for what You will place in my future, reminding me to always pay attention to the Spiritual Beings about me to acquire the knowledge and wisdom of the esoteric script that is essential to my spiritual advancement so that I may then be counted as part of the humanity that has sufficiently evolved to help serve others in their upward journey. Amen.

Fourth Stage: *Preparing the Philosopher's Stone*

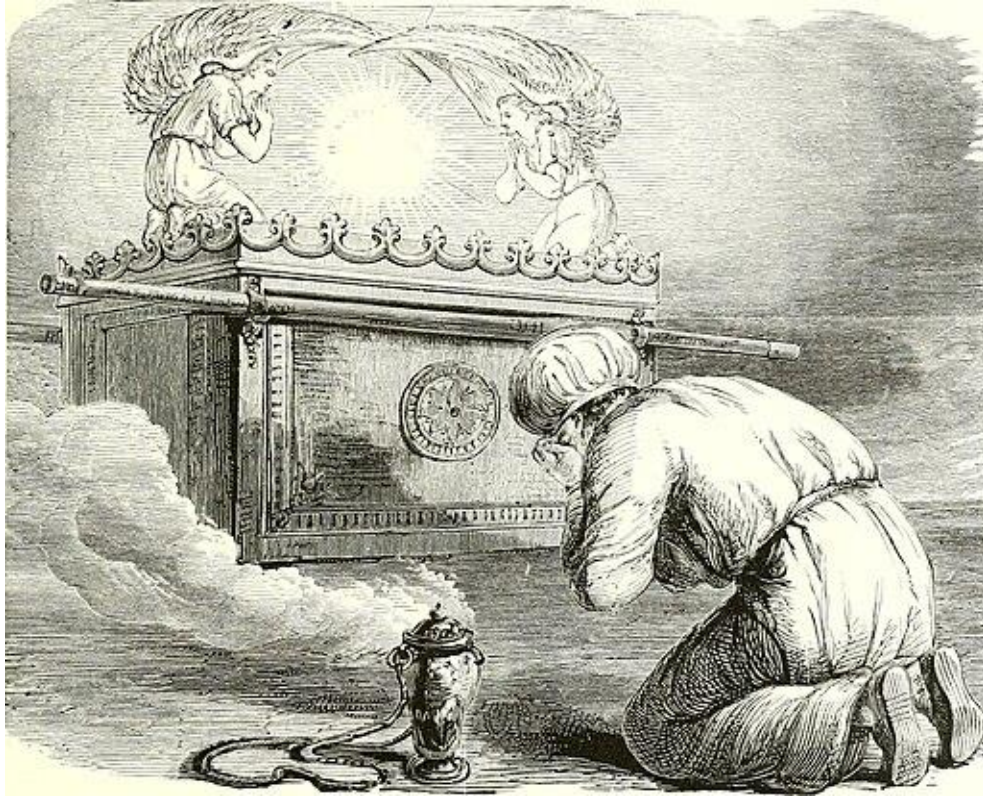
The Fourth Stage of Higher Knowledge is also referred to as “*Bringing Rhythm into Life*” or “*Living in the Spiritual Element*” however, Preparing the Philosopher's Stone might best capture the full meaning of this stage. If we start by considering rhythms, it is clear that all of the natural world conforms to rhythms. These rhythms help to ensure the survival of the individual as well as the species. For example, the seeds of plants will germinate at specific times once certain environmental conditions have been met while the estrus cycle of mammals ensures that new offspring will be produced and at the optimum times of the year to ensure their survival. Yet, man is not bound by natural rhythms, however, we will need to develop certain rhythms in our spiritual practice such as the blooming of Aaron's Rod if we wish to develop the philosopher's stone.

In terms of *Living into the Spiritual Environment*, this is when we have the ability to work with Higher Spiritual Beings during our spiritual practices. It goes beyond what we envision in our minds and speaks to a “connection” that is developed within us so that the higher spiritual beings can begin to message us through our intuition to provide us with needed knowledge at the right times. Yet, as we work to develop the Philosopher's Stone we will be working with Higher Beings and their ability to transmit knowledge to us until we can learn to become independent and create on our own so as to best teach and serve others. For spiritual aspirants, preparing the Philosopher's Stone is the process by which we create our Soul Body (I Corinthians 15:44, the “soma psuchicon”) or what is more commonly referred to as the Golden Wedding Garment (Matthew 22:1-14). As Heindel states, “*You must learn to turn your whole creative energy upward to be used under the direction of your intelligence entirely.*”

For Steiner, there is an emphasis on special breathing techniques to help us prepare the Philosopher's Stone and the development of an organ that will allow us to process our carbon dioxide waste back into oxygen much in the same way plant respiration uses carbon dioxide and releases oxygen. This will then provide a carbon source for the building of our bodies, once again following the ways of the plants so humanity becomes more plant-like especially when we can then follow suit in a pure, chaste form of reproduction. By this secret process of preparing the Philosopher's Stone one moves to a higher consciousness that thrusts humanity into the higher worlds.

However, for Heindel there are no breathing techniques and his process requires that we learn to regenerate ourselves so we once again “*become a Hermaphrodite spiritually*” because when humanity existed previously as physical hermaphrodites, we had the power to create. Yet, in many ways the original hermaphroditic man was plant-like with all their creative powers turned upward so as to give them the ability to create in the physical world but without knowledge, a conscious, and a free-will to pursue things as he would like. By evolving into unisexual beings in which half of our creative energy was used to develop and maintain a brain and larynx, we gained our intellect but lost the ability to create from ourselves because half of our creative force now had to be directed downward so as to fulfill our “*desire and sense-gratification*” placed within us by the Lucifer Spirits. When we develop the ability to again raise both

halves of our creative forces to the brain and larynx, then this dual creative force will now have the power to transfigure our bodies into a new celestial body, the philosopher's stone so that we can create again (for altruistic purposes) in both, the physical and spiritual worlds. Ultimately, we are preparing ourselves become the Philosopher's Stone.



My Prayer for the Preparation of the Philosopher's Stone

My Father, Great Architect of the Universe, I pray that You will help me to learn how to turn all of my creative energy upwards so that it is completely under the control of the intellect of my mind and I will now wear the Golden Wedding Garment. Allow me in this preparation to understand that I must now spiritually become a hermaphrodite as humanity was in the past so that I can create from myself. Teach me to turn the second half of my creative force that is currently being directed downward to gratify my senses and fulfill my desires so it now reverses its course and moves upward within my spinal canal as a spinal spirit-fire. Let this dual creative force, the serpent of wisdom, continue to rise to my larynx and then to my brain so that my pituitary body and pineal gland will begin to vibrate creating a key to open the spiritual worlds so that I may share my thoughts, feelings, and emotions with all the Higher Beings. In this preparation of the Philosopher's Stone which is guided by Your love and mercy, I ask that You provide the living water for the blooming of Aaron's Rod to set forth so my brain and spinal cord can now be sustained as the tricolored serpentine spinal fire awakens the two Cherubim from Ark of the Covenant, my pituitary body and pineal gland. How I am lost in wonder as the stream of blue, yellow, and red lights ascends through my spine cord branching at the pons of my brain into two separate streams. The yellow light of the Son now blends with the blue light of the Father and enters my pineal gland while the red of the light of the Holy Spirit also blends with yellow light to enter my pituitary body. With my two glands awakened and now sending their message of love, the two streams of color merge to form a new color that cannot be described, the Holy Shekinah Glory and I am blessed to feel its light now growing in my body and extending outward into my auric field completing my preparation to become the Philosopher's Stone. Therefore, my Lord, having purified myself accept my initiation as I have put aside my passions and desires that were implanted within me by the Lucifer Spirits so that I may demonstrate only my love and faith so I may fulfill Your will. Know that I am seeking You with constant prayer in my heart, hear me as I knock upon Your temple door, and allow me to now become an "independent creative intelligence", with a new celestial body so that I might create for others, be a teacher in service to my fellow man. Amen

Note: S.R. Parchment, a prominent student of Max Heindel, who later founded the *Rosicrucian Anthroposophical League* provided a more depth description for the Preparation of the Philosopher's Stone.

Fifth Stage: *Knowledge of the Microcosm*



In the microcosmic theory, man is seen as microcosm in which we exist as a “*little world*” in which all parts and compositions of our body have analogous structures in the universe. Everything within us is linked to something outside of us. Plato asserted that both man and the universe have a body and soul, the universe is an “intelligent organism”, and there are parallels between the body and soul of man and the universe. While later philosophers referred to man in terms of being a microcosm as a “*miniature heaven*”. Paracelsus believed everything in the universe had an equivalent within the body of man. He reasoned that man also contained stars within himself and the constellation of these stars produces man’s spirit and his soul came from the planets. Therefore, there is the Hermetic axiom, “*As above, so below*” for if we know what happens to an object outside of our bodies that corresponds to something within us, then we can expect the same to happen to our corresponding body part or composition. Therefore, if we understand our own bodies then we understand the world outside of ourselves.

In the heliocentric model of the solar system planets revolve around the sun just as we move around God in developing our relationship with Him. Therefore, happenings in the universe and cosmic symbols become extremely important in understanding what we will have to go through in our own lives. The world is like an encyclopedia and can tell us whatever we want to know. If we consider Christ as a cosmic symbol then it follows our lives will have to go through everything He did while He was on earth in order for us to spiritual advance.

Heindel uses the example of the spinal cord as an example of how our bodies are “microcosms of cosmic forces”. Our spinal column is governed by three celestial influences, the Moon, Mars, and Mercury in which the spiritual forces have specific effects required for our spiritual growth, i.e., the Moon encouraging intuition and Mars and Mercury controlling desire and intellect. Heindel then uses the concept that the body is as a microcosm to explain how “*the spine bridges the material and spiritual realms, facilitating the ascent of the “Spinal Spirit Fire”*” so that humanity can then use their dual creative force to create for altruistic purposes.

Prayer for Knowledge of the Microcosm

My Heavenly Lord, Creator of the Universe, You have created our earthly bodies as a mirror to reflect the workings of Your universe. Our body parts and their composition correspond to that which is outside of our bodies and therefore what occurs in the heavens will also materialize within us in our analogous anatomical structures and surface within our physical, mental, and spiritual realities. Therefore, my Lord help me to fully understand the meaning of the words “As above, so below” so that I can comprehend all of Your mysteries and prepare myself for what I must participate in order to experience the life You lived. Being only a little world revolving around You the Ultimate Creator my Lord, help me to see the physical and spiritual worlds as only one so that I may understand how the forces of the universe are interacting with each other and how this translates to my body and its effect upon my life. Awaken my mind to the celestial symbols that are found throughout the microcosm of my body that are attuned to the cosmic forces of the universe. For as I look upon the magnificence and beauty of the universe You created allow me to see Your signature in every heavenly object, let me feel Your presence in each of Your expressions, and as I seek let me find myself within the same objects, so that I may discover they represent our Oneness. What a marvelous gift it is to be a microcosm of You my Lord, so that we are capable of having a loving and compassionate relationship with all of humanity as we gaze upon all the shining stars of the evening sky and then glance upon the Moon to understand the deepest and most sincere needs of our fellow man. For every part of each of my vehicles is a patchwork of Your creations from all parts of the universe from all different time periods. Therefore, my Lord, allow me to discover the unknown places of wisdom, forces, and power that reside in my microcosm so that I might use them in expressing Your divine love. Amen

Stage Six: Union with the Macrocosm



The macrocosm is our universe and at this stage we are working to become one with the universe and its cosmic energies. Everything that is within our bodies, our microcosm, has come from the macrocosm. If we want to connect with the universe we have to know and adhere to the spiritual laws such as the Law of Analogies, “*As above, so below*”. Then we can merge with the universe and spiritually advance ourselves so that we can experience all the joy and harmony it has to offer. It is our responsibility to put all of our efforts into establishing union with the macrocosm which ultimately requires that we “*Know thyself*” because the only true knowledge of the macrocosm comes from within and learning about our own microcosm.

Yet, this is not an easy path as it requires that we get beyond our own world and immerse ourselves in the macrocosm and accept that it is part of who we are and we need to do whatever it takes to become One with it. We need to take advantage of the opportunity each night when in our deep sleep when our desire body leaves our microcosm to explore and learn in the macrocosm where we can enter into all beings so that we may connect as one in unity with the macrocosm so that we can then feel the “*expression of the divine Spirit of the Earth.*” Ultimately, God the “*Great Light-giver*” is the ruler of the macrocosm and when Christ was first found by the wise men, they “*followed a star that led them to this great spiritual Light.*”

In our union with the macrocosm, we also want to move out of darkness and find the light as it will “*strengthen and invigorate human soul-forces.*” This will be needed so we will have the faith and courage to withstand what Jesus willingly endured for humanity. When we understand the symbolism of the macrocosm even as we look to our past then we shall fully understand how it applies to our microcosm. As eventually, if we progress with our understanding then we will ultimately become the macrocosm ourselves.

My Prayer for the Union with the Macrocosm

O Lord, the Source of All Creation, help me as I seek to connect with the Universe through You the Great Light-giver so that I may be One with the Macrocosm. Open my heart so that I may learn to Know Myself so that I may tap into the divine knowledge of the macrocosm that lies within my own microcosm. Then each night guide me as my desire body leaves my dense body to penetrate into the higher spiritual worlds so that I might have unity with You my Lord, the ruler of the macrocosm. As the three Wise men followed the light from the Star of Bethlehem, put forth Your spiritual Light in the macrocosm so that I may feel its energy touch upon my corresponding organs and structures of my microcosm so that my spirit now extends into the universe so that it may meld with Your Light so that it now becomes a new Light that can shine in places that never knew Light before. From the power of the macrocosm strengthen my soul-force so that I may imitate the way of Your Son, endure the same suffering and pain He experienced on Earth, and die to myself so that I also may also be reborn from the cross. Therefore, my Lord, refresh me so that I can join with my fellow man and accept that they are all a part of me as I am a part of You. Show me how You used the vital components of the macrocosm to create myself as a little world of Yourself. For in my union with macrocosm I open myself to Your sacred knowledge and cosmic energies so that our union fills me with joy and harmony. As it is only when You allow my microcosm to envelop all that is within the macrocosm, to come to a Oneness in our union, that I can become as You, a Great-giver of light in macrocosm so as to love and serve humanity. Amen

Seventh Stage: *Attaining Bliss in God*

When we attain bliss then we are living a life this is unified with God the Father. As Heindel reminds us, *“our first parents sinned and were exiled from their previous state of celestial bliss, placed under the law, made subject to death, and became incapable of escaping by their own efforts.”* Therefore, our view of life must now change and we now have to see ourselves as being in service to humanity and seeking beyond all else to work for the “perfection of love”. As Steiner writes, we *“voluntarily perform[s] all his deeds in accordance with the will of the whole cosmos.”* Now we should focus on the spiritual aspects of life and on *“attaining beatitude”* in which we experience the ultimate happiness and joy in life because we have chosen to accept Jesus and carry on a life that honors Him even when it means it will be difficult and at time involve pain and suffering, but we will never doubt because we have true faith and hope. Bliss involves undergoing a transformation in which we now can place ourselves into any object or being and come to understand their thoughts, feelings, and experiences and then unite in compassion with all physical and spiritual beings during times when we feel powerless or sense the impermanence of our current physical bodies as well as in times of thanksgiving and praise.



Bliss is not only an inner peace or happiness it is God gifting himself to us as He wants to share His life of goodness and awaken our true inner joy when we accept our His salvation. Bliss like God is all around us and God desires us to have it, we simply have to see it within ourselves and it is so, and trust in our resurrection.

Everything in life is ultimately part of a form of “*Conscious Bliss*” in which a universal attraction brings every piece together to form an “*Eternal Conscious Bliss*” so that we may reside in the presence of God.

Bliss does not come from obtaining something or being rewarded it comes when we serve a higher purpose and have a new perspective on life in which we can do anything because God has provided us with all the knowledge, skills, and materials we need to accomplish any task. In addition, Heindel states that we must “*aspire to tread the path of peace to the serene bliss of the gods.*” Bliss comes with our self-realization of our Higher Self and by showing it through a life of gratitude. It requires us to overcome our lower self and rise within our higher self. Our higher purpose must always be focused on connecting with God, our source, for then bliss becomes eternal, an unchanging reality that is the basis for understanding and living within and as the macrocosm itself always feeling the truth of God. Yet, it is important to remember that “*only what the human being feels of his own accord can fill him with bliss.*”

My Prayer for Attaining Bliss in God

Lord of All, Source of Happiness and Bliss, allow me to always be within Your presence so that my awareness rests only upon inner peace and the profound joy that You have so graciously bestowed upon me. By following Your ways, I have experienced my death and resurrection so that You could enlighten my mind to a new perspective of expressing unconditional goodness within the world and always working to live a life of a higher purpose in service to humanity. Together in unity, I no longer stand burdened as Your Light grows within me so that my life freely flows in the present never returning to taste the bitterness of sorrow because I am overwhelmed with a deep sense of gratitude in everything You set before me to experience my Lord, and that fills every space and organ within my microcosm with an eternal conscious bliss. Lord, You are my Source, help me to overcome my lower self so that my Higher Self seeks only to serve the will of the macrocosm through the perfection of love. You earnestly taught us the beatitudes so that humanity would understand how to live according to Your will so as to deepen our relationship and establish our unity so that we could then live in a new heaven and a new earth that offers eternal life with You my Lord in Your kingdom of love and mercy where we will always fear not. Therefore, my Lord allow the Holy Spirit to blossom and set forth the fruit of the Spirit, unleash the feelings and passion of love, peace, and joy and by Your right hand allow me to know the pleasure of living as a child of Your kingdom. For I only wish to live a righteous, merciful, and peaceful life in which each of my acts and deeds expresses a true sympathy to all beings and fulfills Your will as the Ruler of the Macrocosm. Lord, Through Your divine love and mercy place within my heart Your eternal bliss and its unchanging reality that will allow me to always savor the divine bliss of universe by living in Your source and experiencing the totality of creation and the blessedness of our unification to fulfill the mission of man's evolution. What a wonderful gift we have blessed with me with. Amen