

CANDLEMAS

(E.S.S.G) 2 = 9 Rituum Officium - Seasonal

In Memorium:

Basilides of Alexandria, (1st - 2nd Century C.E.)

[See short biography in Winter Solstice Ritual]

I Consecration of the Quest

II Installation of the Gate

A) Opening the Temple

III Seasonal Ritual

1. Introduction

Prior to working these rituals, the Temple members must say a Mass (High) and set the Four Angles with the Host fragments.

The members must have read and discussed the character of the Abraxian Gnostic System and this becomes the subject of an initial meditation which shall set the atmosphere for the following.

2. Introit

The Celebrant bows and gives salute to the Northwestern Angle, in honor of the season of Candlemass. All members bow in following and the celebrant says:

The threshold stands ready, awaiting the opening of the gate. And at each cross-quarter a newly established philosophy is fulfilled, a gnostic revelation is understood, a magickal current evoked; all unto the endless and eternal spiral of the evolution of consciousness.

I fulfill the Gnosis of Abraxas, which is represented by the resurgence of the five emanations, calling the spirit back into a holistic embrace of Unity.

3. Gnostic Revelation

The Celebrant begins to circumambulate the magick circle widdershins, slowly while saying the following:

From the source came all various factions of the Spirit, and these, through the divine intermediary known as the Christos (the masters and mistresses of attainment), lost not the knowledge of their origin in the midst of their wanderings. Therefore, as the five emanations have dispersed the essence of the seed of the one Spirit throughout all universes, then shall all factions of the Unity rise up together and join to the place of origin, the center of all manifestation. For the knowledge of the sublime origin is secretly transmitted to all those whose eyes see clearly and whose hearts are released. These initiates stand ready and wait for the moment ordained from the beginning of time, that is the moment of the summoning of the Spirit.

The first Emanation, which will begin the process of resurgence, is the Logos or the Word of Truth that shall unlock the hearts and minds of the initiated. The word of God is the key and is discovered in various mediums which can be found and perceived by a myriad of individual spirits waiting for reunification. For the word of god is a symbol of transformation, and once it is beheld, it becomes a revelation which forever rends the illusion of time and space -- thus worlds dissolve.

The second Emanation is Phronesis, which is the awareness of that we are a Spirit. The key has opened the gate, which having opened, reveals the multifaceted universes and their divine model -- the Archetypal Source of manifested reality.

The third Emanation is Dynamis, which is the the power of the Will of the Spirit. There is only one direction to which the will aspires, and it is unto the threshold of Unity, wherein all the factions behold each other as a compounded reflection -- reflecting. The will causes one to go ever forward, to grow and evolve through purification.

The fourth Emanation is Sophia, which is the beauty of the Light and its goodness. It is the knowledge of the Spirit which is conferred after one has tasted the transcendent ambrosia. The soul is enraptured with bliss and receives the final blessing of illumination.

The fifth Emanation is Nous, which is the original thought emitted by the Source that is nought. For herein is the All united within itself -- for the Spirit has left the material universe and ceases to be. What remains has found its place of rest and all is restored to its associated level. Thus is peace and completion given through Abraxas.

3. Seasonal Vortex

The Sentinel in the Northeastern Angle makes the sign of the Hexagrammic cross and vibrates the letter *Thav* and intones the word *Thavunah* (Insight), and says:

The light that is not reveals itself and a vision is born of fire and spirit. And I saw the eye of the Sun which casts away the shadows of doubt and purges the soul of despair. In this fashion are the secrets of the spirit made known and all ignorance is illuminated. For the light is the life of the spirit -- and the mysterious eye of the Sun is the channel for this immeasurable life.

The Sentinel in the Northwestern Angle makes the sign of the Hexagrammic cross and vibrates the letter *Shin* and intones the word *Sheriruth* (Obduration), and says:

The light that is not reveals itself and a vision is born of fire and spirit. And I saw the lightning bolt, which is the hand of the glory of the spirit, the wand of authority and the staff of wisdom. What this power has fashioned by the ordination of its will, shall endure, continue to grow and ultimately prosper. Only the will of the spirit is eternal.

The Sentinel in the Southwestern Angle makes the sign of the Hexagrammic cross and vibrates the letter *Gimmel* and intones the word *Gomey* (A papyrus reed), and says:

The light that is not reveals itself and a vision is born of fire and spirit. And I saw a veil parting, and revealed therein was the sigil of the opening of the way, and it was engraved with gold upon the purest of white marble. Those who beheld this sign are also shown the password and the key which opens the threshold between universes. For the initiate is drawn into the realms beyond by the inspiration of the spirit.

The Sentinel in the Southeastern Angle makes the sign of the Hexagrammic cross and vibrates the letter *'Ain* and intones the word *'Amoq* (Mystery), and says:

The light that is not reveals itself and a vision is born of fire and spirit. And I saw a curtain part at the utterance of the secret word of power -- Iao, and therein was revealed an ornate door surrounded by two pillars which support an engraved pyramidal cornice. The pillar on the left is made of black onyx and the one on the right is fashioned of white alabaster. But the door is dark and mysterious, it remains sealed except to the one who has the key and knows the password. The door leads to the places beyond the material -- for it is the door of perception.

The Celebrant in the Center of the circle makes the sign of the hexagrammic cross and vibrates the letter ***Tet*** and intones the word ***Teheir*** (Purity), and says:

The light that is not reveals itself and a vision is born of fire and spirit. And I saw beyond the door and therein was a dias of five steps and a small ancient altar stood within its center. On either side of the altar stood two bronze braziers from which a delicate perfumed incense smoke perfectly fumagated the atmosphere. The chamber was bright with the light of the spirit emanating from far above the altar, yet from no discernable source. And I heard a voice, and it said: I am the thought that said I am! The beginning is the end and the end is beginning!

The Celebrant joins the Northeast, Northwest, Southwest, and Southeast nodes to the Ultra-point in the center of the circle. He says:

Thavuna, Shariruth, Gomey, 'Amoq, Teheir Thav, Shin, Gimmel, 'Ain, Tet Thashega'at! - through the powers of the sigil, the rod and the solar eye, the door to the mysteries is opened, revealing the inner chamber of the one Light which is nought. From the source all things proceeded through the five emanations -- and through them we are joined to the one true spirit.

4. Penetrating the Gate Threshold

Then all participants meditate in silence while the celebrant sets the three talismantic gate keys; one in the Southeast Angle (The Hermit IX), in the Western Watchtower (Strength XI), and in the Northeast Angle (Justice VIII), with the appropriate Tarot trumps placed on each.

The Celebrant draws an invoking spiral in the Southeast, charging the gate key therein and says:

(Atu IX)

To discover the true self, we must set ourselves appart from others, and consolidate our lives for the spiritual purpose. To be composed and still allows for the clarity of insight and vision.

The Celebrant draws an invoking spiral in the Western Watchtower, charging the gate key therein and says:

(Atu XI)

That which stands against our spiritual aspirations is our self; our most worthy opponent. The passions obscure the intellect and distort the light of the spirit. Through control of the self is found the way of purity and wisdom.

The Celebrant draws an invoking spiral in the Northeast, charging the gate key therein and says:

(Atu VIII)

The word is written but once, and the events continue without pause. Actions release actions, and thus to impulsiveness are we doomed. We must break the chain of habits which enslave us and become like the stylus that writes the sacred scrolls -- a pure channel for the spirit to act through.

Then the Celebrant makes the sign of the parting of the threshold in the center of the circle and advances through this threshold and stands in the gate absorbing the blessing therein. He departs and then each participant takes a turn entering, standing and departing the threshold. Then the celebrant closes the gate and draws sealing spirals to the Northeast, the West and finally, the Southeast. Then is the gate closed.

All members complete the ritual with meditation upon what has been revealed.