

MICHAELMAS

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

In Memorium:

Valentinus of Alexandria, (110 - 180 C.E.)

[See short Biography in Autumn Equinox 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 Sophian 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 Southwestern Angle, in honor of the season of Michaelmas. 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 Sophia which entails the restoration of wisdom from amidst the darkness of ignorance and the redemption of the human soul.

3. Gnostic Revelation

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

Achamoth wandered alone in the darkness, having been banished from the Pleroma but still remembering its glory and still possessing her passion to perceive the one source which she had received from her creator, the Aeon Sophia. Yet she was without shape, a formless thing that did not comprehend and was without sight.

“Sometimes she mourned and grieved, for she was left alone in the darkness and void; sometimes she reached a thought of the light which had left her, and she was cheered and laughed; sometimes she feared; at other times she was perplexed and astonished!”

The Christos took pity on her and was extended through the cross to give shape and form unto her substance. And the Holy Spirit quickened her inner light and bestowed upon her an imperishable integrity. However, the greatest gift came from the Paraclete, Yeheshuah, who healed her passion, bestowing upon her the wisdom of the knowledge of the Absolute, which separated her from her passions, causing them to become matter, and through the conversion of matter, intelegence. From these came forth all sentience, but from Achamoth herself, came forth the emanations of spiritual light which endowed a portion of imperishable light in every sentient being.

Therefore was the physical or hylic, the intellectual or psychic, and the spiritual or pneumatic. The hylic represents the material which is necessarily perishable. The psychic represents the extension by which the spiritual and physical are bonded. The pneumatic represents the spiritual which shall be united with its source, the pleroma, when released from the hylic through the psychic. For redemption is therefore worked upon in the psychic by the active redemptive Aeon known as Soter (Healer), and Lutotres (Redeemer), but called Yeheshuah (Deliverer). For to be purified, to be made known of the presence of the spirit itself, to open the eyes and see the world of truth, to evoke the power of the spirit upon the land, and to understand one's purpose and meaning - these shall cause redemption to occur. And redemption precludes the highest achievement which is union with the absolute. And when all the lights of the one spirit join together, thus shall our mother Achamoth be redeemed and united with the Source through becoming the bride of Yeheshuah in the bridal chamber of the Pleroma.

3. Seasonal Vortex

The Sentinel in the Northeastern Angle makes the sign of the Equal Arm cross and vibrates the letter **Beta** and intones the word **Baptisma** (Purification) and says:

[First Repentance of Sophia: Pistis Sophia]

O light of lights, in whom I have trusted from the beginning, hearken now, therefore, O light, unto my repentance. Save me, O light, for evil thoughts have come upon me. I gazed, O light, into the void; I saw a light there, and I thought, I will go into that region to take that light. And I went forth, and fell into the midst of the lower Chaos..

The Sentinel in the Northwestern Angle makes the sign of the Equal Arm cross and vibrates the letter **Pi** and intones the word **Pneuma** (Spirit) and says:

[Second Repentance of Sophia: Pistis Sophia]

Light of lights, in whom I have trusted, leave me not in the darkness until the end of my time. Aid me, and save me, in thy mysteries. Incline thine ear unto me, and save me. May the power of the light protect me, and carry me to the aeons of the height; for it is thou who shalt save me...

The Sentinel in the Southwestern Angle makes the sign of the Equal Arm cross and vibrates the letter **Omikron** and intones the word **hOrama** (Vision) and says:

[Third Repentance of Sophia: Pistis Sophia]

O light of powers, give heed and save me. let them that seek to take away my light be destitute, and let them dwell in darkness. Let them that seek to take my power be turned into chaos, and let them be ashamed. Let them descend speedily into the darkness, who constrain me saying, “We have mastered her”. But let all those who seek for the light, rejoice and be glad.

The Sentinel in the Southeastern Angle makes the sign of the Equal Arm cross and vibrates the letter **Mu** and intones the word **Magia** (Magick) and says:

[Fourth Repentance of Sophia: Pistis Sophia]

O light, in whom I have trusted, hear my repentance, and let my voice come into thy

dwelling-place. Turn not thy image of light from me, but regard me. if they constrain me, haste thee, and save me, when I shall cry unto thee, for my time passeth away as vapor, and I am become as matter.

The Celebrant in the Center of the circle makes the sign of the Equal Arm cross and vibrates the letter **Tau** and intones the word **Telos** (fulfillment), and says:

[Last Repentance of Sophia: Pistis Sophia]

Save me, O light, by thy great mystery; pardon me my transgression in thy remission; give unto me the baptism; remit my sins, and purify me from my transgression. And my transgression is this lion-faced power, which hath never been hidden from thee; for because of it am I descended. “Tis I alone who have transgressed among the invisibles, in whose regions I was; I have descended into chaos, I have transgressed before thee, that thy statute might be accomplished.”

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

***Baptisma, Pneuma, Horama, Magia, Telos!
Beta, Pi, Omikron, Mu, Tau; Baphomet!***

And so Achamoth was purified, introduced to the spirit within who opened her eyes so that she might evoke the power of the aeons and find therein her destiny, which will be enacted in the bridal chamber of the Pleroma.

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 Priestess II), one in the Western Watchtower (The Moon XVIII), and one in the Northeast Angle (The Chariot VII), 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 II]

The spiritual process which gives us signs and omens, the speech of the Absolute, generates self meaning so that we may become aware of the transcendental plane.

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

[Atu XVIII]

The fear of the unknown blasts our spiritual resources, it is the mind slayer which we must overcome through self empowerment.

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

[Atu VII]

Beyond the fear of life which keeps us oppressed is the life lived in truth which is full of the light of the spirit and the beauty of the truth revealed - the spirit of life enfolds us and we know the secret mystery of the imperishableness of the spirit. In this fashion are we free from corruption and forever blessed with the purity of the knowledge of our destiny - union with the spirit.

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.