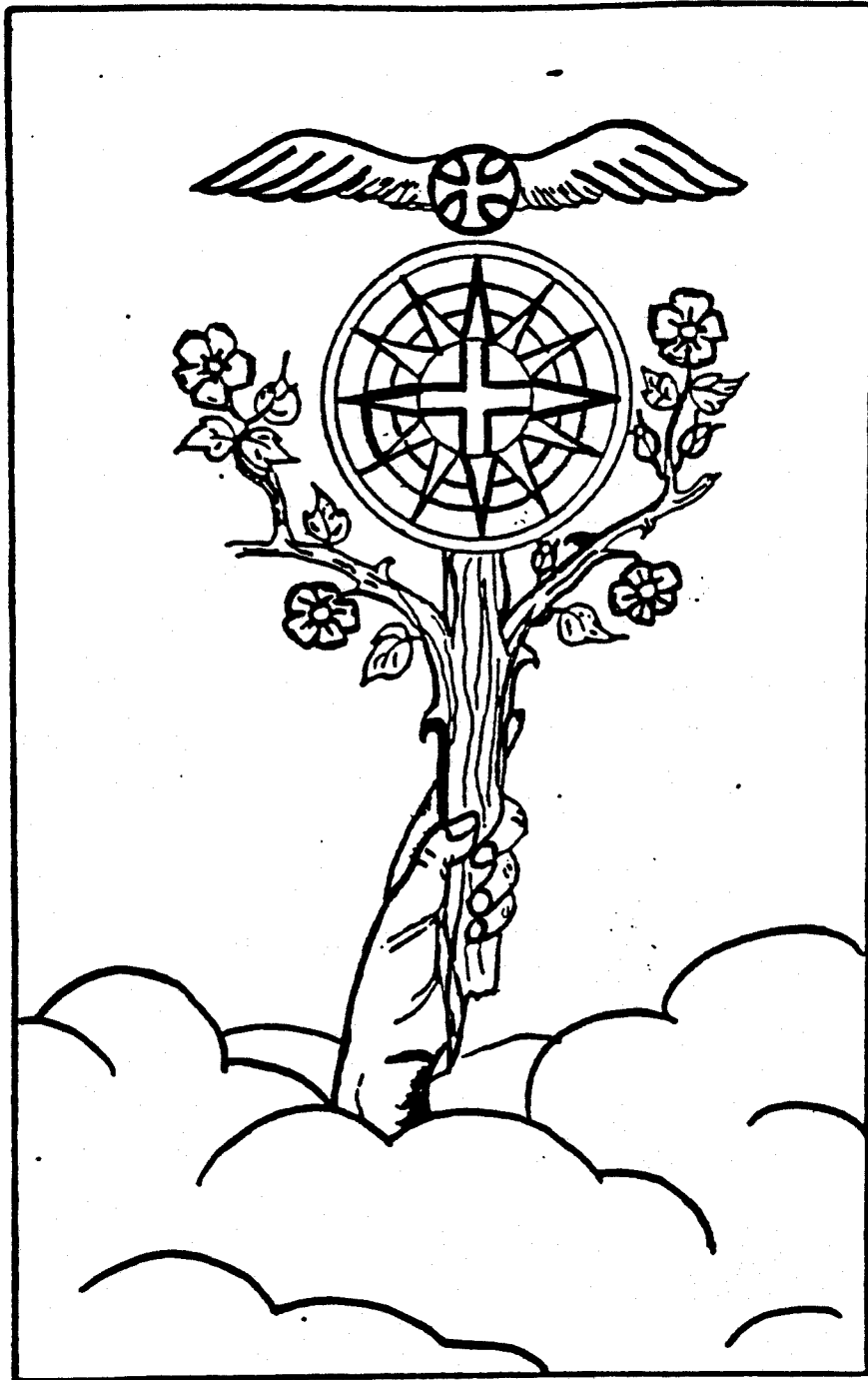


LESSON 82

ACE OF DISKS



## LESSON 82

## ACE OF DISKS

## "Lord of the Powers of Earth"

A white radiant angelic hand, holding a branch of a Rose Tree, whereon is a large pentacle formed of five concentric circles. The inner most circle is white, charged with a red Greek Cross. From this white centre, twelve rays, also white, issue. These terminate at the circumference, making the whole something like an astrological figure of the Heavens. It is surmounted by a small circle, above which is a large Maltese Cross, and with two white wings; four roses and two buds are shown. The hand comes from the clouds as in the previous Aces.

The Maltese Cross within a winged circle shows the solar aspect so necessary for the growth of matter, with hints of propriety as it shows higher growth patterns (indicated by the wings). The cressent shaped ends of the Maltese Cross allude to the moon forming the shape of the circle which it is within, depicting the wheel of change and showing the forces distributed around the circumference. So here we have both the solar and lunar which is symbolic of the union of spirit and matter. The winged cross is a reflection of the ladder by which the soul can reach its Higher Self and is the doorway between the celestial and earthly worlds, this is analogous to the Ain Soph Aur between Assiah and Yetsirah. The wings symbolise spirituality (the power of spiritual elevation), while the cross within and encompassing

the circle shows man standing in the centre (and encompassing) the cosmos.

However, the number 7 is also shown here as a reflection of the 7 roses on the bush below, by the 4 points of the cross alluding to the 4 incorporeal elements plus their union of the Sun and Moon which is represented by the invisible intersecting fire and water trines, signifying the number 3 ( $4+3=7$ ), and below which is the manifested 12 rayed star around a circle which contains within it a more concentrated cross, the Calvary Cross; and the generation of this is shown by  $4 \times 3 = 12$ .

The above symbols represent alchemically the "Aurum Aurae", but the wings are symbolic of quicksilver, showing their volatile nature, and that total unification is yet to take place.

The flowering branch symbolises the biblical story of the Rod of Aaron, which although separated from its root continued to bear flowers. In Heb. Ch.ix, 3 & 4, it says: 'And after the second veil, the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of All; Which had the golden censer, and the Ark of the Covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant;'. This rod was considered to be a rod of power representing the subjective spiritual mind that operates on the higher mental sub-plane, ministering to the development of the causal body.

The branch in the Ace of Disks, grows 7 flowers; 4 fully opened roses alluding to the 4 corporeal elemental divisions, and 3 rose buds relating to the unmanifested trinity, to Salt, Sulphur and Mercury who when united are represented in a perfect and entire body. In the "Praxis Spagyrica Philosophica" it says: 'Accordingly God brought forth nature by way of a natural union and birth, so it can work, sustain and produce itself. Through mutual assistance it can now bring forth everything decreed by a heavenly influence and impression upon it. It will show itself through material manifestation, substance and being, out of whose mixture arise the elements as water, air and earth. Within the three lies hidden the fourth element of fire. Through the coc-tion of fire is brought about a soul, a spirit and a body. Through this union we will find them as Mercury, Sulphur and Salt. These three, when united, represent a perfect and entire body no matter under what form. Everything in the world is separated into three, namely: animalia, vegetabilia and mineralia.'

These roses are ambivalent as they represent both heaven and earth and life and death in their symbology. Alchemically they are the Work, and the rebirth of the spiritual. There are also 8 leaves on this branch which show the incorporeal and corporeal depicting above and below. The 8 leaves relate to regeneration: 'And the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations'. Rev. Ch. xxii, 2. and symbolize the manifested, the known, true ideas, and a new state. Adding the 4 full roses and the 8 leaves one has  $4+8=12$ , the twelve rayed star.

There are 3 branches off the main branch, 2 side branches and one main central branch, which reflect Ace of Wands. The branch that once represented the raw material (in the Ace of Wands) has now become the wand that invokes and directs, and the manifested tool of the Will. On the top of the central branch is the red central cross which shows the balanced elemental forces of Heh final - the central or end product (matter) of the 4 incorporeal elements, and 5 concentric circles which give the effect of whirling motions of energy descending onto the cross and radiating therefrom. The circle around the cross also shows the material aspect of Rose Cross philosophy embodied in the Rosicrucian Order of the R.R. et A.C. - the physical outlet for spiritual truth.

The cross within the 12 rayed star (the Dodegram) is symbolic of the 4 rivers of paradise, Pison, Gihon, Hiddekel and Phrath (which have been discussed in the lessons on the elemental Paths). The Dodegram is not only representative of the 12 zodiac divisions, but the twelve tribes who are attributed to the 12 zodiac signs. This is described during the Golden Dawn grade ceremony of Practicus:

'And a River Naher went forth out of Eden, namely from the Supernal Triad, to water the Garden (the rest of the Sephiroth), and from thence it was divided into four heads in Daath, whence it is said "In Daath the depths are broken up and the clouds drop down dew." The first Head is PISON, which flows into Geburah (whence there is Gold). It is the River of Fire. The Second Head is GIHON, the River of Waters, flowing into Chesed. The Third is

HIDDEKEL, the River of Air, flowing into Tiphareth, and the fourth, which receiveth the virtues of the other three, is PHRATH, Euphrates, which floweth down upon the Earth. This River going fourth out of Eden is the River of the Apocalypse, the Waters of Life, clear as crystal proceeding out of the Throne of God and the Lamb, on either side of which was the Tree of Life bearing 12 manner of Fruits. And thus do the Rivers of Eden form a Cross, and on that Cross the great ADAM, the Son who was to rule the Nations with a Rod of Iron, is extended from Tiphareth and his arms stretch out of Gedulah and Geburah; in Malkuth is Eve, Mother of all, the Completion of all, above the Universe she supporteth with her hands, the Eternal Pillars of the Sephiroth. As it was said to you in the Thirtieth Path, "And above the shoulders of that Great Goddess is Nature in her vastness exalted.".

In the Ace of disks we have the alchemical representation of the first and last matter, for the Ace of Disks is in the world of matter, it is the Kether of Assiah and is the force that brings about the manifestation of matter, although not actual matter itself. The Great Waters have now been transmuted into Mother Earth shown by the clouds at the bottom of the card, from which the angelic hand holding the branch issues, and are now the mists over the earth, but as yet not fully manifested, as portrayed by the height of the clouds.

The Ace of Disks is coloured in the colours and complementary colours of the Earth element. The branch and leaves are

Vivid Green with Black used as shading and shaping. The Disk and its rings are Black and Green: the outer ring is Black, the next ring is Green, the next is Black and the 4th is Green. The innermost circle is Brilliant White. The 12 rayed star is Brilliant White and the Calvary Cross is the complementary Red to the Green in its full pigmentation. The Maltese is the same Red as the Calvary Cross. Its circle is Brilliant White as are the wings on either side of it with Black used to give these shape and definition. The hand, roses and clouds are also Brilliant White and the background of the entire card is the complementary Red (to the Green circles in the disk). In shading, it starts as with the exact complementary pigmentation around the outer edges of the card and gradually becomes translucent red until the card is pure white as it approaches the central disk or pentacle.

In this card both Green and Black are used to illustrate the colours of the Earth element which is the Second Order teaching of these elemental colours. Green signifies growth, energy rising up from the face of the planet towards the universe showing the force of the growth rays coming from within the planet itself. The Black shows the element of Macrocosm, rays coming down onto the earth, which shows the outside influence of the universe and its effect on the Green vegetation. Black is contraction, i.e. the continual formation of matter, and Green is expansion. Both the Black and Green are analogous to the cycles of nature, birth, growth and death, which complete the cycle of regeneration, which is all part of the earth element in its totality.



The White roses show purity of spirit and aspiration - the rose is the 'flower of light'. These five-petalled roses represent the five elements as the microcosm. You will note in the Ace of Disks the reversed circumstances to the Ace of Wands. The Green has now become the object of substance and materiality and the Red has become the surrounding space, so from the gestation in the womb is borne a child of the same nature who carries within it the blueprint of cosmic knowledge shown by the Black and Green disk, and by the White dodegram and the Red Cross which shows an eternal link with the higher planes (also shown by the White winged globe and Red Maltese Cross).

The Ace of Disks is the "Root of the Powers of Earth", and the earth element is generally considered Lunar in nature, a cold, passive and feminine element. With fire it is warmth (although fire and earth cannot be united without a medium), with air it is dry and with water it is heavy, cold and damp. The earth element is symbolic of material forms, the physical body and senses, and is concerned with the basic necessities of survival. It symbolises the world of limitations, of structural reality and manifestations. The Ace of Disks is the first entry into earth and shows that the outcome has already been defined but not yet taken place.

## DIVINATION

In divination the Ace of Disks is neither good nor bad, it all depends on the individuals intentions, however it does show the manifested. It also does not always represent monetary wealth, but shows a wealth of the soul and an overall contentedness.

ON MATTERS OF the Physical Body; Selfhood; Self Projection; new ideas; new beginnings; reactions to outside stimuli; the life force; first encounters:

Under the above matters the Ace of Disks is very fortunate. It shows someone able to invoke all the necessary help they need in order to attain their goals, which means taking a chance in life. There is sureness of an outcome in any new project, and a definite positive outlook towards the fulfilment of ones hopes. Ones state of being in its primal essence is perfect contentment. Ideas, plans and new beginnings will come to fruition when you receive the Ace of Disks here, and in general to all personal questions the answer is a positive one. "Fruition".

ON MATTERS OF possessions and personal attitude towards such; personal estate and resources both physical and material; principles and feelings; management and projection; commerce, personal, commercial, governmental and national financial affairs directly relating to the self:

In this position the Ace of Disks foretells the receipt of the fruits of life in all their material forms. It tells of good fortune and good times to come. Most of all though, the Ace of Disks here shows that there is great peace and contentment in a state which is without possession of material goods. This is classed as a possession of life itself where there is no need to own any material object, or have security, for security comes from within, ones inner self, in its comfort in the outer world (the cosmos) as its garden without the limitation of materialism. Nevertheless, in the above matters, this card represents profits. "Beholding Life".

ON MATTERS OF short journeys; communications; relationships; brothers, sisters, neighbours; humour; identity; early education; books; correspondence; enlarging ones field of activity:

Here the Ace of Disks represents fraternal relationships with family and neighbours. These are pleasant and jovial occasions where future plans of gatherings are made. Short journies are prosperous and safe from accident and delay. In matters of education this card shows an aptitude for learning and understanding the teachings of mankind. One also sees ones identity in harmony with the cosmos, finding the ways of the universe easy to understand, but only as seen from the perspective of mankind. In matters of correspondence, you will receive news or communication in due course. The Ace of Disks shows that one will be able to enlarge ones field of activity but this will be within the confines of the material world. "Fraternities".

ON MATTERS OF the end of one stage and the commencement of another; the home and private life; buildings; land; parents; security; emotions; significant shifts in lifes directions; concerning the soul; the occult in its practical terms; divination:

The groundwork for a new direction in life has already been made and the direction already manifested, but not yet commenced. The home and private life is complete and fulfilling, and parents have provided in the best way possible for ones development in this incarnation. There is good fortune in buildings and property, house plans are drawn up, purchase negotiations for property are made. The Ace of Disks shows that this is a time of security and emotional stability. No matter what the activity in the above matters, the querent will act in a matter of act way to ensure success. In relation to the occult, the Ace of Disks shows the plans or preparation for practical application. In relation to the soul the opportunity is there to go forth to meet the Higher Self. "Pre-determination".

ON MATTERS OF love given; creativity of selfhood; the creative will; children; entertainment; recreation; speculation; sports; the arts; gambling; fulfilling potentiality:

Under the above matters there is the appreciation of the good things in life. In speculations, sports, gambling, etc you will find profit and in fields of entertainment there is enjoyment. The Ace of Disks shows the desire to take recreation

and to appreciate ones surroundings. Your creative will is strong and can achieve many things. Now is the time to create so don't hesitate, the potential is there. This card is fortunate for love and procreation, and children will provide fulfilment in life. Win or loose, you will fulfill your needs. "Creative Will".

ON MATTERS OF sickness (generally due to work problems); employment: employees; relationships within the work environment; conflicts; service; ones sense of service; the acquiring of skills; psychology:

The ace of Disks here shows stability and a forthright attitude in the above matters. In matters of employment, decisions have already been made and commitments given. How you act from now on is up to you, for you alone will make or break your future. The potential of attainment in your work or service is there for the taking and beneficial relationships will be formed. Under adverse conditions the Ace of Disks represents a stoic character who may be for or against your cause; this will be shown by the surrounding cards. There is material comfort in areas above mentioned and endurance through adversity. "Stoicism".

ON MATTERS OF marriage and divorce; contracts; the other party; competitors, adversaries, and known enemies; partnerships; public relationships; social interaction; the law of compensation; what is lacking; the workings of karma:

The Ace of Disks shows the uniting or joining of couples

though it does not necessarily mean their marriage. In relationships there is material gain, and people living together for a period of time. This is a card of chance in the above matters and there is no promise of a good outcome for all parties, only the possibility of it. However, there is growth through relationships. Contracts and agreements have a prosperous future; partnerships are formed with intentions of material gain. Social interaction is very pleasing. This card represents here the law of material limitations within the workings of Karma. One must consciously come to terms with these limitations in order to make them work for oneself. "Coition".

N MATTERS OF death and rebirth; accidents; effects of others; crime and retribution; legacies; wills; others estates and finances; joint resources; moods; sex; spiritualism; rejuvenation; mysticism; transformation; psychotherapy:

Here the Ace of Disks shows sexual relationships. Essentially there are benefits from these relationships, but mentally and emotionally on a conscious level some would not consider this so; in the long run there is growth through these relationships. Business ventures are foretold to be fortuitous and financial gain through legacies, estates and joint resources. In matters of crime the results could be bad either way as the Ace of Disks is a whirling force which can be used for good or bad. As a whirling force this card shows rejuvenation of vital energy and a comeback to a situation. Spiritualism and Mysticism are confined to the limits of this world and matters concerning

therapy prove beneficial. "Rejuvenation".

ON MATTERS OF religion; metaphysics; philosophy; higher study and education; legal systems; morals; institutions of learning; long distance travel; exploration; public communications; the collective mind:

Here the Ace of Disks shows an unconscious linkup with the collective mind and how all actions, thoughts, social protocol, etc., are influenced by the collective mind. In matters of study there may be difficulty in settling down to achieve anything, as the mind wanders from subject to subject amongst the wonders of the created world around one. There is good intention towards study and education, and all is achievable if one applies ones will. On matters of travel there is safety. The problem here is identification with the cosmos but not enough to define this identification with a structured outlet, such as organised religious beliefs. "Undefinitive".

ON MATTERS OF public honour; status; ambitions and goals reached; achievements; profession; the other parent; causes for disgrace; recognition; identity:

In this instance the Ace of Disks shows bright prospects in ones profession. But, this is also the position of wishful thinking, fantasies and illusions of wealth and fame, which exist only in the mind. One of your parents tend to become, in your mind, a mythological character or hero. This psychological

concept of 'transference' is usually due to the parent not being with you either physically, mentally or emotionally. Disgrace is caused by excessive materialism, a lack of faith in anything beyond the material world, or fixed and narrow behaviour patterns. One's ambitions are high but there is little impetus to follow them through. Nevertheless the Ace shows potential fortune. "Wishes".

ON MATTERS OF friends; income; social alliances; legislation; one's attitude; group activities; government, counsellors; love received; spiritual and intellectual aspirations; ideals; fulfilment; what you yield and how you benefit others:

The Ace of Disks here acts as a whirling force in the above matters. It sets affairs in motion or continues the motion of affairs already underway. There is appreciation of the better things in life and it shows aspirations towards wholeness. Through the means of matter one works towards what one aspires to. There is a love of life and a general feeling of fulfilment. Those receiving the Ace of Disks here can be lucky charms for all with whom they come in contact. There is a promise of good times to come, deep friendships and monetary gain. "Lucky Charm".

ON MATTERS OF responsibility and contribution to others; humanistic concerns; karmic debts; unresolved problems; hidden resources; the unconscious; sorrow; health afflictions; secret enemies; hospitals; secret societies; self undoing; total identification:



The Ace of Disks shows that problems have now resolved themselves. All the pent up emotion on the conscious level and anxiety one has had over a project now comes to an end as ones plans start to materialise. From a sectarian aspect it shows that one has transgressed from all previous study and analysis to a concrete decision on what course he or she will take. This also stems from ones lifes patterns. A final decision has been made and you are ready to embark upon the actual practical construction of a project. From a Kabbalistic viewpoint it signifies the crossing over from the theoretical aspect of Yetzirah to the material of Assiah. In matters of health wholeness comes with purity of mind. Through your will you can make yourself complete, however the reality of your physical limitations and subjection to the ailments of material existance becomes very evident. "Transgression".

Ace of Disks: "Lord of the Powers of Earth" "

(Aurum Aurae)

In 1st position: "Fruition"  
 In 2nd position: "Beholding Life"  
 In 3rd position: "Fraternities"  
 In 4th position: "Pre-determination"  
 In 5th position: "Creative Will"  
 In 6th position: "Stoicism"  
 In 7th position: "Coition"  
 In 8th position: "Rejuvenation"  
 In 9th position: "Undefinitive"  
 In 10th position: "Wishes"  
 In 11th position: "Lucky Charm"  
 In 12th position: "Transgression"

---oo0oo---

**MEDITATION ON THE ACE OF DISKS:**

Let the Student first study the overall picture of the card, then study each detail. Study the colours.

Now let the Student look at the card and feel its vibrations.

Write down your overall impression.

---oo0oo---

**exercise**

Now paint this card with the above described colours. An outlined drawing is supplied with this lesson.

---oo0oo---

## ADDENDUM

The colours of the Aces represent the colours of the four scales, King, Queen, Prince and Princess and their basic colours are linked to the elemental colours of the Enochian tablets. The Ace of Disks for example is not painted in the four colours (of the elemental weapon which will be discussed in detail in later lessons) as they are the colours of Malkuth of the Queen Scale and the Disks relates to the Princess Scale. The Stella Matutina considered that the Minor Arcana related to the elements, where the Golden Dawn related them more to the Planets and Signs. A lot of confusion was brought about by the publication of the Wang/Regardie Tarot which though modified used the colours of the Stella Matutina and not that of the Golden Dawn. This information came via the Whare Ra temple, which Regardie did not have access to until 1983, and by this time the cards had already been painted and issued. The main reason for the change in colours (according to Mrs. Felkin, head of the New Zealand Order) was that the use of the correct colours proved too difficult and time consuming and in many instances beyond the artistic temperament of many of the members to paint. P.Z.