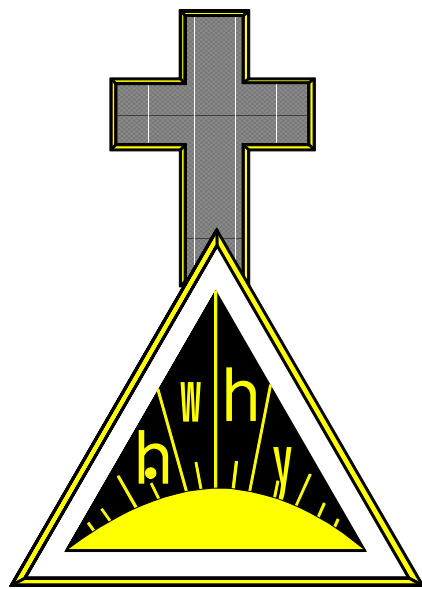


The Hermetic Order Of The
GOLDEN DAWN^{Intl.}

**THE ELEMENTS OF THE
TREE OF LIFE**



PRACTICUS 3=8

In the Zelator grade we studied the various elements found in the Qabalistic Tree of Life. In the Practicus grade, we will elucidate more succinctly and clearly on this subject.

Primordial elements are found in rtk. They are undifferentiated, they are potential elements. They are the potential of all things that exist from the Primordial Point of rtk. If you remember, rtk also has the symbol of the Swastika. But in rtk, the Swastika is rotating so rapidly that the arms aren't seen. It appears as a single dot or point.

Primal elements are the Tetragrammaton or YHVH applied to the four worlds of the Qabalah. The word Primal can be used for primary. The primary elements of Fire, Water, Air and Earth, are symbolized by the Tetragrammaton. This is a way to help us differentiate these energies from the other elements found on the Tree. No matter what world we are talking about, whether it be Briah or Yetzirah, y Fire (when we are talking about Primal elements) is attributed to Atziluth, h is attributed to Briah, v is attributed to Yetzirah, and the final h is attributed to Assiah.

Specific elements are the Tetragrammaton or YHVH as applied to hmkj , hnyb, trapt, and tklm in any one of the four worlds. For example, if we take the world of Atziluth, the Primal element is that of Fire. However, there are four Specific elements; Fire Specific of Fire Primal, Water Specific of Fire Primal, Air Specific of Fire Primal and Earth Specific of Fire Primal. Essentially this is an elaborate breakdown system.

Transitional elements are the Tetragrammaton of the y, h, and v which are applied to the paths on the Tree of Life and are constantly in transit between the sephiroth.

Astral elements are the Tetragrammaton or YHVH as applied to the four lower sephiroth that create the astral plane.

The Base elements are found in tklm. These are the outpouring of the other elements into physical manifestation.

In addition to these six basic breakdowns, we also have sephirotic elements where each sephira has a general elemental quality. All of the middle sephiroth are classified as Air with the exception of tklm which is the combination of all the elements coming together. This explains in the breakdown of the elements why we are attributing hmkj to Fire. hmkj is the projective force of rtk. It is the masculine aspect of rtk. Therefore, it would be attributed to Fire much as the male phallus and the Fire Wand are also attributed to Fire as an outward symbol.

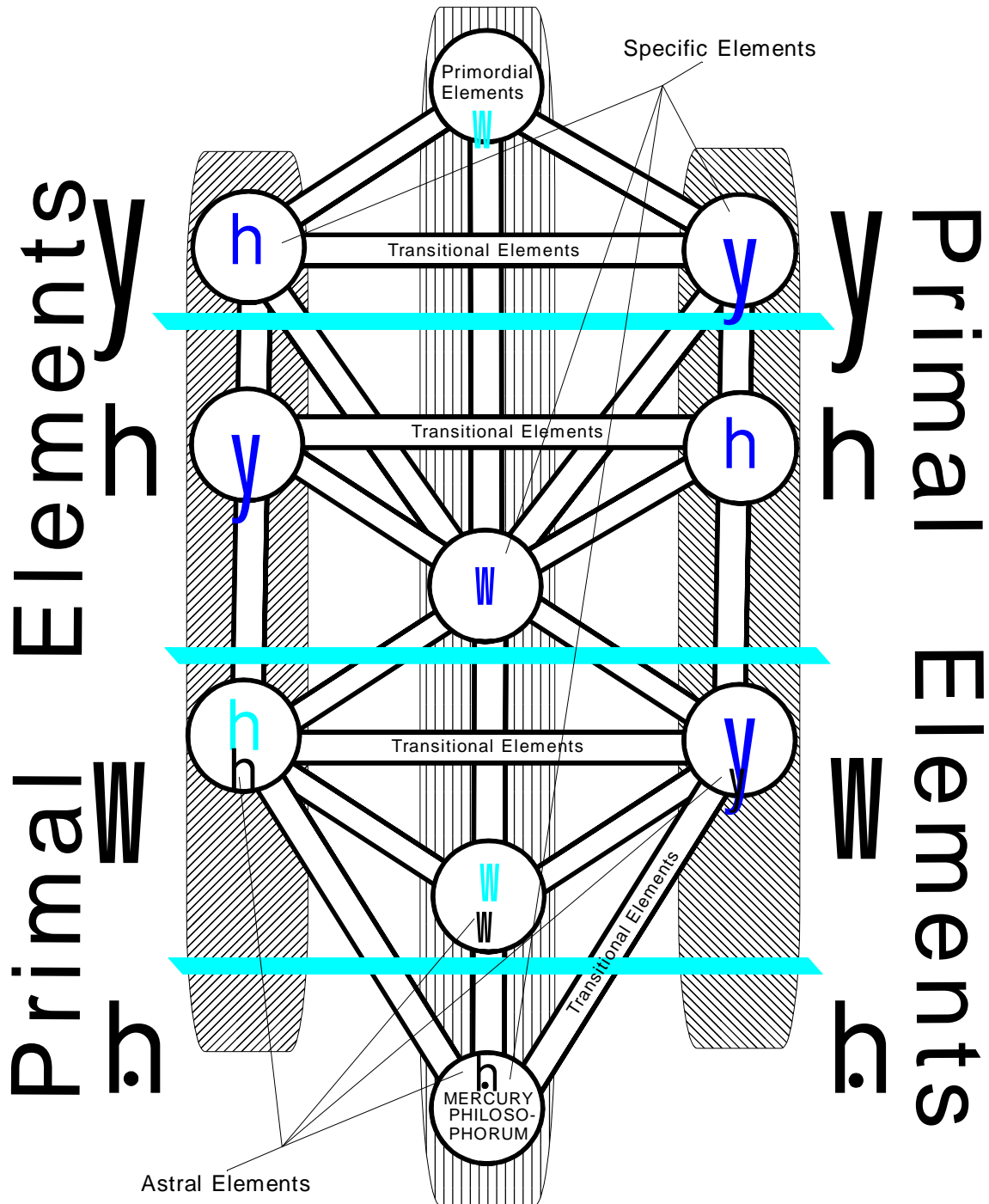
hmkj is a sephirotic element that is attributed to Fire where hnyb is attributed to Water. As we cross the Abyss, the next sephira encountered is dsj. Here we have the Jupiterian influence and the benevolence, filled with mercy and love, which is attributed to Water. hrwbg is attributed to Fire. trapt is attributed to Air as explained earlier. jxn, filled with desire and all of its influences of Venus, is attributed to Fire. There is an invisible line of connection between hrwbg and jxn, both Fire, but very different kinds of Fire. The sephirotic element of dwh is attributed to Water. This is evident to the Practicus because the Practicus grade is attributed to the element of Water. dwsy is Air flowing down into tklm which is the combination of all of the elements coming together which includes final h which is Earth.

The Practicus should now be able to understand how these elements break down. An example would be the sephira of dsj . The Primal sephirotic element there would be Water. The four worlds would manifest as such. Thus the y or Atziluth would be Fire Specific of Water Primal etc..

This information will be very helpful later on in invocational work and in magical application as well as providing a greater and in-depth understanding of the number cards of the Tarot. One brief example of this is the four of wands. It is y Specific of Water Primal, or the beginning aspect, because we are talking about the world of Atziluth in dsj . Thus if we look at the title of the four of wands we see "The Lord of Perfected Work," which is Venus in Aries. Don't let this confuse you because each card in the Tarot has its own zodiacal influence that is connected to the Tree of Life but is not directly part of the Tree of Life.

This is a brief lesson. You will need to know the element of each sephira. Mathers pointed out that the number cards actually run parallel to the sephiroth on the Tree of Life. They are not literally in the sephiroth. You need to constantly review the basic elements that are found on the Tree of Life because they are important to future magical understanding and workings.

Elements on the Tree of Life



NOTE: The Specific Elements only point to Chokmah, Binah, Tiphareth and Malkuth. The larger size hebrew letters differ from those found in the Astral Elements. Also the Transitional Elements are found on each path, including those labeled as such.