



The Square Above Temple Order



Of the letter Ayin by Frank Salt

OF THE LETTER AYIN.

AYIN, the EYE, Sight, is clearly a picture of the optical system. A small YOD in each of the two top lesser squares, not touching, are each linked down from the center to the square below, where they join just below the junction of the two lower lesser squares and the two upper squares. From that junction runs a small bar into the lower left lesser square having a square left end. The bar, then lies in the lesser square of the Bride, the final HEH of IHVH, assigned to earth

"THE PURELY MATERIAL AND PERVERSE", the Key-word. AYIN is assigned to Capricorn in the Zodiac, the Goat, an Earthy Sign. It has the numerical value of 70, seemingly very different from the material significance it has.

Hieroglyphically it is the two eyes linking into the subconscious mind or brain in the material "quarter" of the Great Square. "Don't judge by appearances" is the message of AYIN. "The Letter killeth, the Spirit giveth Life", in other words.

Symbolically Jesus was born at night, in December, the darkest part of the year, under Capricorn, in a stable, the animal nature. The Goat has long been associated with the Mysteries, and today Masons speak of "riding the goat" when referring to the first initiation. Anciently a goat, Capricorn, was used, a candle being tied between its horns to form the Sacred Letter SHIN, yet to be introduced. The candle also symbolised Light dawning in Darkness.

An uneasy sense of doubt, a fear of the unknown, even a fanatical defense of the literal scripture, a desire to probe the dark places of the mind as in Spiritualism, all sorts of unusual activity accompany this first step of Initiation. Fundamentalism flourishes. We must be right, the Letter of the Levitical Law must be enforced. Believe or die! Few dare to question Authority. Some surrepticiously dabble in queer things, Oija boards, fortune telling, automatic writing, getting messages etc.

That uneasy feeling is the quickening of the Spirit within. Strange philosophies begin to grow often fanatically defended, the tyro philosopher cannot afford to be wrong, to find he has clutched at a straw. To be wrong is bad, evil. The host of books flooding the market in the last 100 years bears witness to the prevalence of this uneasy feeling of darkness. It is natural. It is the first feeble attempt to peirce the veil of appearances, Seeing is no longer believing, the outward form must have an inner livingness. The masonic candidate enters the lodge "in a state of darkness". Only when we are aware of the Darkness can we begin to grope for Light.

(Note:- As "The purely material and perverse," AYIN is transliterated in several ways - as if to confuse us. It may be AA, OR, NGH, OI, OU. As said, the Hebrew Letters were devised primarily as a system of mystical symbols, not intended to be read as we read our books.)