

BEN the Son

Bad Reichenhall: Qabalistic Service Talk

May 1, 2018

Greetings to all on this beautiful morning! This part of the Qabalistic Service ritual is a talk on the subject of our retreat, BEN the Son. Today I will talk about Beth, Key 1 and Nun, Key 13 and how that relates to the concept of Ben, the Son or the Christ Consciousness.

When I am speaking at the Qabalistic Sunday Service in our Temple in Los Angeles, I like to speak from the Inner promptings I receive during the service, but today because we have 4 languages, and this talk has been translated for your benefit, I will need to restrain myself and just read the translated speech!

So let us look at Key 1, Beth, which is represented in Hebrew by the number 2 and the meaning of House. The Magician is the beginning of the process where the Life-power brings into expression, into manifested creation. This Key then represents the initiation of the creative process on all planes of existence. When we wish to create something in our world, such as a new job, a new pair of shoes or a better relationship, we focus on what it is we want with our conscious minds. Everything we create in our lives is a direct result of our conscious mind creating our reality, including everything physical, mental and emotional. So all of our physical and mental states are results of our mental imagery.

We are further reminded of this through the number one, which is also represented by this Key. The number one is a point, particularly the central point. In the Pattern on the Trestleboard, we say, "I am a *center of expression* for the Primal Will-to-good which eternally creates and sustains the universe."

This idea is further shown in the Hebrew letter Beth, which symbolizes the word house, which is a location used as an abode. This is the dwelling place for Spirit, our physical bodies as well as our personalities. Personality is the center in which the Spirit or the real Self of man finds expression. This is what the biblical passage means when Jesus said, "The Father who dwelleth in me, he doeth the works".

The title of this Key is The Magician, which refers to Hermes or Mercury who presides over magic. Hermes is the messenger of the Gods, who transmits the wisdom and power of the Gods. This also means that which is occult or has hidden knowledge. Magic is the art of transformation and it is closely allied to the Hermetic art of alchemy.

In human personality, self-consciousness is the transformer. In order to become this transformer of our reality, our world, this magical practice is that of concentration, the act of paying attention to the selected part of one's environment. For example, in the United States, the insurance companies send out recorded messages on our phones, which tell us to get the flu shot because "it is going to be a very terrible flu season". Some may react with this information in a state of fear, and go and get this flu shot thinking it is a necessary part of life, and since focusing on the flu, will probably get it, while others will listen to the message and say, well not me. I don't have time for the flu, and I choose not to get sick since I understand that I control my environment as well as my body.

If we put into action this universal principal of life, that we are in control of all aspects of our life, then why do we choose to become sick? We can choose to be well and free of sickness. When we learn to control our thoughts we control our very environment. That is when we are truly living as the Magician.

At the feet of the Magician is a garden, which is a symbol for subconsciousness. This is the garden of our manifestation of our reality. What we believe becomes our garden. If our garden is full of weeds and dead plants, then that is what we have planted based on our false beliefs. The conscious mind projects the thoughts; the subconscious mind captures the thoughts and creates the imagery into the physical world, into our garden. This Key shows a very beautiful garden, and isn't that what we all want?

This Key is about paying attention to every word, deed, belief and thought in order to create the beautiful and wonderful garden the Higher Self wants for us. The only way to do this is to clean house! That is to clean away those beliefs and thoughts in the house of our personality that no longer serve to create the joy and love the Higher Self wants for us.

Now let us look at Key 13, Nun, Death, and the number 50. This Key refers to change eternal. The number 13 is symbolic of love and unity. This is the number of two Hebrew words, Achad, meaning unity and Ahebah meaning love. This is the love power concerned with reproduction. So this Key is

attributed to the astrological sign of Scorpio, governing the reproductive organs. Scorpio is the natural ruler of the astrological house of death, the eighth house. This is same love power, which creates birth and death or physical changes resulting in dissolution and change. This is a two-fold manifestation, which has a single power.

Many fear death because they have simply forgotten who they really are, which is an eternal being having a human experience. Death is but the transformation of one thing into another. We are told that, "Dissolution is the secret of the Great Work". This dissolution is essential for the break down of form. Energy is released when previously established forms of matter break down. That energy can then be used to create new forms.

When we reach a state of development, that of being of the Christ Consciousness or Lesser Adept, Tiphareth in the center of the Tree of Life, we are able to liberate ourselves from the cycle of birth and death, or necessary reincarnation of life after life. In Tarot Fundamentals, by Paul Foster Case, lesson#29: "When one has achieved this level of mastery, one is able to maintain his physical body for many years beyond the ordinary span of human life. Furthermore, in the full perfection of this mastery, man is able to disintegrate his physical body at will, and able also to reintegrate it. For such a man, death, as the world knows death, is at an end. " Our Master R, who is behind all the work we do in Builders of the Adytum, has this ability.

Now as we can see, putting our attention on what we want in our lives, Key 1, and creating that reality, puts us on the Path to understanding that change is a necessary part of life. On the Tree of Life we see the Path of Nun connects Victory with Beauty. This is the emotional level of Love into the Christ level of adeptship. Key 1 is the path between Understanding, or the Cosmic Mother Binah into the Crown, or the beginning of manifestation.

Ben, is the Son of man, or the Christ within each of us, whether or not we have realized this as of yet. The great master Jesus who physically walked the earth over 2,000 years ago is the great example of who and what we really are. When we add up the numbers of Beth and Nun, we get the number 52, which reduces to 7. This is the number of mastery. This is the meaning of Ben, one who learns mastery in how to create the beauty we all desire in our world, that of Love and Unity in Key 13 into the understanding that we are also one with the Christ Consciousness. The goal of all of our Work in BOTA is that of moving our consciousness into the level of this Beauty, of Tiphareth, that of the Christ. This is the Path into the Son. When

we practice this goal on a daily basis, that of Love and Unity of the Most High, the Cosmic Son of Man, we will enter into Tiphareth as a Lessor Adept. Then we overcome the fear of death or transmutation into this level of adeptship.

I would like to conclude this talk from the Meditation on Beth, from the Book of Tokens:

“One and One only, am I in essence;
changeless, indivisible;
concealing within my being
the Ten Lights of divine emanation.

In this, mine unalterable unity,
am I supreme,
and none is equal unto me.
Yet though I myself remain unchanged
throughout eternity,
my power doth manifest itself in ceaseless change.

They err who speak of my changelessness in essence
as if it were fixity in operation.
That which changeth not is mine own nature
But this included the possibility
of infinite diversity in ways and works.

For the uninstructed this is a stumbling block.
Confused by words of double meaning,
they perceive not that this, mine immutable nature,
is an essence whose first ground is Life,
and not mere Being.
Thou knowest me not O Israel,
if thou regardest me only as “He who IS.”
They know me indeed who know
that I am “He who LIVETH”.

Shalom.

Soror Lisa.