

# **MICHAEL AND THE NEW ISIS MYSTERIES**

**‘I AM THE PAST, THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE  
EVERY MORTAL SHOULD LIFT MY VEIL.’**

**LECTURE GIVEN BY  
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IN DORNACH, SWITZERLAND  
23-24<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2013  
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## PART I

**'The World is a riddle and the human being is the solution.'** 13th January 1918.

*In all primordial mystery traditions there were schools in which pupils were shown how to achieve certain conditions that humanity would only achieve in the future. In these mystery schools there were great penalties for those who divulged their secrets ahead of time. But what is secret knowledge in one age, known by a few, becomes the general knowledge of another age and recognised by the many. What was once esoteric, becomes exoteric and a new round of esoteric knowledge begins. And so has it always been.*

*On January 6<sup>th</sup> 1918 Rudolf Steiner gave a lecture in which he unveiled to the world a heretofore hidden mystery. A mystery whose unveiling, in previous epochs, would have cost an uninitiated postulant his life. This was The New Isis Myth in which The Statue of the Representative of Man has a central significance, particularly because it poses a riddle. Rudolf Steiner tells us that there is another statue of Isis living 'behind' this statue. He says we must not think he means this symbolically, but that this is actually true. These coming lectures will, I hope, make some steps towards solving this riddle through our understanding of The New Isis Myth.*

Before we begin I want us firstly to recall our trip to the Statue of the Representative of Man yesterday. We sat before it quietly and I asked you to do four things:

Firstly I asked you to look at the statue with interest and to allow all the positive spaces to make an impression on your soul, to write down or draw what you could see.

Secondly I asked you to look at it again, but now to observe all the negative spaces, the dark hollowed out spaces, where there is darkness instead of light. I suggested that you might imagine it like an xray, so that where there is space one sees form and visa versa.

Thirdly I asked you then to enter into yourselves allowing the image of the statue to rise up again in your mind's eye to bring forth one detail after another detail until you had built up the image of the statue but this time with feelings added.

Fourthly I asked you to close your eyes and try to remember everything in detail but now in a backward order.

After that I had you look at the statue again but this time allowing it to fade before your eyes.

Today let us take a moment to 'imagine' the statue in our mind's eye again. Can you tell me what sort of pictures have remained? What feelings accompany it and what will to action rises up for you?

These four ways of looking at the statue are related to four kinds of thinking:

Pure thinking - Observing/Sensing

Opposite thinking - Reversing or Imprinting

Dialectic thinking - Recreating or Remembering

Backwards thinking - Returning and dissolving

Why did I have you do these exercises?

Because when Rudolf Steiner gave the Isis Myth he asked those present for their impartiality and requested them to be free from prejudice. Free from the sympathies and antipathies that creep into our intellectual thoughts. Above all he wanted it to be brought before the eye of the soul in pictures.

My intention yesterday was that we become more engaged in our will, because it is our will that should be stirred to an experience of the true nature of Isis who lies hidden in the statue. For the statue is like outer nature, it stands before us like a riddle that we have to solve and the solution is only found in our own souls. The inscription exemplifies this, it says:

'I am the past, the present, and the future...every mortal should lift my veil.'

Rudolf Steiner is giving us a hint when he says this inscription is written where the statue stands in 'readiness' because readiness implies an action is forthcoming, perhaps signalling a change. It implies that we must look to the will element in ourselves if we want to lift the veil.

Before we do, however, we should take a look at the old Osiris Isis Myth, which Rudolf Steiner recounts for us in the lecture cycle entitled *Ancient Myths*.

Osiris and Isis were a pair of Gods whose influences were originally experienced by the priests to be working from the world of the fixed stars. Osiris was Christ, seen from Orion, and Isis was Sophia seen from Sirius. Later on the Priests could only see as far as the planetary sphere and so Osiris descended to the Sun and Isis to the Moon. Later still only the elements could be experienced by the priests and these gods descended to the sphere of the chemical ether, the music of the spheres, where Isis was seen as the World Mother, the spirit of nature here below, and related to all we see outwardly and feel inwardly about nature while Osiris was the imaginative clairvoyance of the stars, the spiritual world above.

Isis = Lower gods of nature

Osiris = Higher gods of the stars

When Imaginative consciousness gradually faded, the general population of human beings could only see through outer senses. The spiritual world became veiled by the physical world and even the ancient Priests understood that to lift this veil was only possible by one who could find his immortal counterpart, either after death or during living initiation in which a death condition was induced.

Rudolf Steiner tells us that this tragic loss of consciousness is expressed in the Osiris Myth in the account of the death of Osiris. Osiris is killed by Typhon (Ahriman) and sealed in a coffin that is carried away by the Nile. Osiris is found again by Isis at Byblos in Phoenicia; Phoenicia

being the land of written symbols that express, in their substance, the abstract word and writing of Typhon. This language and writing had replaced the language of star imagination, that is, the priestly consciousness of the light patterns that travelled from star to star in geometric patterns in the night sky. Isis brought Osiris back to Egypt but Typhon tore Osiris into fourteen pieces, which according to Rudolf Steiner is related to the fourteen phases of the moon from new moon to full moon, and so, connected to the development of the spinal cord and brain<sup>1</sup>. From this time on Osiris became the Lord of the dead so that only those who 'died' could see Him. Isis bore Osiris a son whose name was Horus, but when Horus saw that Isis had allowed Typhon to escape her bondage he tore the crown from Isis and replaced it with cow horns. Typhon was then defeated in two battles with the help of Hermes or Mercury.

Let's look at this more closely:

In primordial times there was no need for a faculty of memory because the human being could gaze out up to the sky at any time and perceive what he needed to know there. The thoughts of the gods were plainly visible to the clairvoyant eye and understood by the soul. There was also no need for thought because the human being was one with the will working in the world and this will compelled the human being to appropriate actions. Human beings were one with all they saw and sensed, they breathed in the spirit and breathed it out again and it left no lasting impression in the soul. This was, however, an unfree relationship. If the human being was to develop an ability to think, feel and will anything on his or her own, to gain independence, it was necessary for the spiritual world to pull away, and for human consciousness of the spirit to dim. This left the human being vulnerable to a Luciferic temptation we call 'the fall'. Rudolf Steiner tells us that Lucifer had fallen behind himself on 'old' moon where the Astral body was being elaborated and now on earth he needed the human astral body if he was to develop his ego further. In particular he needed to 'see' the world through human eyes. It is for this reason that he insinuated his way into the human soul making the astral body 'heavy' and creating a polarisation in the physical body in two sexes:

#### MALE AND FEMALE.

*It was through the Luciferic Spirits that he came to have this interest, to crave for the impressions of the earth. These Spirits impelled him into the earthly sphere by pervading his innermost member, his astral body.*<sup>2</sup>

By the time humanity had reached that epoch which served as a higher recapitulation of Lemuria - Egypt - Lucifer had entered deeper into that aspect of the soul being elaborated by Isis - the Sentient Soul.

*Lucifer anchored himself in the sentient soul; and there he remains.*<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> There are 28 cranial nerves in the human being and 14 is one half of 28 It is important to keep in mind that Rudolf Steiner also tells us that Osiris was the capacity related to perceiving spiritual light, that is breathing in light, and Typhon the new capacity that killed this ability by way of the breath – that is breathing in air instead of light.

<sup>2</sup> Lecture by Rudolf Steiner, Lecture 22<sup>nd</sup> of March 1909.

<http://wn.rsarchive.org/Lectures/DeedChrist/19090322p01.html>

<sup>3</sup> Ibid

However by opening human eyes to the material world, Lucifer also gave Ahriman, who lived in the world of matter, access to the human being, in particular the burgeoning Intellectual Soul.

*It was in this second soul-member, the intellectual soul — the transformed part of the ether-body — that Ahriman established his footing.<sup>4</sup>*

The influence of these beings led to a further polarisation:

#### YOUTH AND OLD AGE.

The young experienced imaginations of the world and the cosmos, which only later in life, in older age, they could inwardly understand with the faculties of inspiration and intuition.<sup>5</sup>

As time passed, however, a further polarisation occurred and the experience of 'wholeness' was no longer possible in the one human being, meaning that some developed a tendency more to having imaginations, while others were only capable of having inspirations and intuitions.

This led to another polarisation:

MAGI (Kings) and SHEPHERDS (priests).

The Magi could still look up to the stars to see the conversations of the upper gods through the faculty of ecstatic 'Memory'. They induced a memory of their journey through the astral world of stars and planets before birth. This memory helped them to understand the patterns of light they could see moving outwardly in imaginations from star to star - the thoughts of the beings dwelling on the stars and planets.

The Shepherds, for their part, could still feel the will of nature weaving within them as a revelation of the spirit of the lower gods. This was an after death experience, a future experience one could say, of the spiritual complement of the world as it can be known with the faculties of inspiration and intuition.

Magi = Memory of the past - Birth mysteries

Shepherds = Revelation of the future - Death mysteries

The Imaginations of the magi were acquired by way of the Sulphur process in the human being, (the 'Soma' juice taken for inducing ecstatic visions is a hint of this) while the Inspirations and Intuitions of the Shepherds were acquired by way of the mercurial process and the salt process respectively.<sup>6</sup>

Salt – Intuition – Will

Mercury – Inspiration – Feeling



Shepherds

Sulphur – Imaginations – Thought

Magi

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<sup>4</sup> Ibid

<sup>5</sup> Rudolf Steiner Lecture, Jan 1, 1918

<http://wn.rsarchive.org/Lectures/GA180/English/SBC1971/19180104p01.html>

<sup>6</sup> Ibid

Later when the Egyptian perceived the earthly world and the world of stars he/she experienced an inner feeling, a sympathy or antipathy as a result of the development of the Sentient Soul whose nature now had acquired a luciferic stamp. It is here in the Sentient Soul, that Lucifer's influence is said to have 'killed' Isis.

Isis had developed the Sentient in tune with the spirit of the sun. The cow horns with the sun disc inside them or else the golden crown are a picture of this connection of the Spirit with the Sun. Lucifer however had denied the Holy Spirit of the Sun and his influence in the Sentient Soul eventually killed the soul's consciousness of the Spiritual light, the moral forces behind all natural things, so that only the cow horns remained, a Luciferic physical light - a reflector of the spirit. Lucifer's influence eventually created the faculty of memory in human beings.

*'But what is it that really happens in the soul when memorising is called to the assistance of the naturally unfolding faculty of memory? It is a case of summoning Lucifer to our aid! It is indeed a Luciferic force which is thus summoned to the aid of memory.'*<sup>7</sup>

Lucifer's memory faculty relies on the physical brain, which reflects everything just as if it were a mirror, automatically, each reflection rising up in what we now might call a concept. In the meantime, Ahriman had begun to elaborate the intellect into a faculty for grouping these concepts and arranging them - the arranged concepts we call thought and the faculty for creating thoughts out of concepts is the Intellect.

Lucifer = Physical Senses - Memory  
Ahriman = Physical Brain - Thought

One could say that concepts are Lucifer's pictures of the world torn from reality (Osiris) and stripped of their moral content by memory, which turns them into concepts. These concepts are then arranged and grouped as thought and later language, inspired by Ahriman/Typhon.

Memory not only killed the Revelatory spirit consciousness of nature in the Shepherds but it also killed the old Memory knowledge in the Magi. The spirit was gradually forgotten and human language began to express only physical experiences. It was for this reason that the priests, fearing a complete severance from the spiritual world decided the only way to remember the language of the gods was to set what they could see in the night sky down on clay or wood. These patterns eventually became the letters of the alphabet.

- The Old Revelation through inspirations and intuitions, of the spirit in nature, was transformed by Lucifer<sup>8</sup> into a new faculty of Memory, which enabled the formation of the dead pictures and abstract thoughts of natural Science. Lucifer killed Isis the living spirit in nature with Light<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> Rudolf Steiner, Lecture August 26 1916  
<http://wn.rsarchive.org/Lectures/GA170/English/APC1948/19160826p02.html>

<sup>8</sup> The Michael Mystery Lecture 22

<sup>9</sup> Known sometimes as Persephone and other times the Goddess Natura.

- The Old Memory of the time before birth which enabled the imaginations of the speech/thoughts of the gods to be understood was transformed by Ahriman gradually into the dead letters of the alphabet which are expressed outwardly as ordinary speech, and inwardly as Mathematics and Geometry. Ahriman killed the living spirit in the word (Osiris) with Writing/Language.<sup>10</sup>

And so, despite having opposite aims, Lucifer and Ahriman worked hand in glove.<sup>11</sup> And their influence could have led to a complete and irreversible materialisation of the soul had Christ, Osiris, the sun god, not entered earth evolution via Isis.<sup>12</sup>

The Mystery of Golgotha created the potential for a reversal of this materialisation of the soul and severance from the spirit. Christ entered world evolution carrying the Macrocosmic ego which, when His blood flowed from the cross, united with the etheric body of the earth and thereby with the etheric body of human beings. This ego substance has the power to bring consciousness to the dead pictures and thoughts reflected by the physical brain which crowd the soul making it materially dense. The Ego has the power to raise human consciousness from the physical brain by way of redemption of the faculty of memory and the faculty of thought.

Let's look at this more closely.

In the intellectual soul the ego feels itself separate from the world. Through this faculty, connected as it is to the physical body and the physical world around us, the ego compares concepts and judges their truth by way of thought/language. In fact we rarely think in pictures, we mostly hear our thoughts in our heads, like a narration, an inner dialogue that judges the things we see. This intellectual faculty of judgement helps us to group thoughts together into ideas. We then write down our thoughts and ideas in order not to forget them. Letters have become mere symbols that we also group together and connect to create a word that expresses a thought born out of concepts that are dead Luciferic pictures. These abstract thoughts and ideas may not even correspond to reality, because Ahriman has further removed them from their origins. It is for this reason that Ahriman is called the *King of Lies*.

And yet it is by way of all of the above that with Michael's help we can find the spiritual world again freely by using Lucifer's picture concept-making faculty in the soul and Ahriman's thought 'lies' to rise up out of the physical brain and experience a higher wisdom.

*Not until Thoughts took their print in the physical body, and consciousness extended only to this physical imprint, did the possibility of Freedom first begin.*<sup>13</sup>

When we see a circle, for instance, it is immediately met with a concept 'Circle'. This concept was created out of a distillation of every circle we have ever seen and every judgement we have made about its laws. We see the circle and we make a new judgement 'yes this is a circle'. This is thought - we say it to ourselves. We make the judgement with language. So, if I were to say

<sup>10</sup> Rudolf Steiner 6 January 1918. <http://wn.rsarchive.org/Lectures/GA180/English/SBC1971/19180106p01.html>

<sup>11</sup> We hear this partnership between Lucifer and Ahriman in the legend which tells how it was Thoth Hermes – a being associated with Lucifer – who showed the Pharaoh a new invention destined to replace the Egyptian hieroglyphs, an invention which he called writing, a writing that describes only the material nature of the world.

<sup>12</sup> See my lectures of Heavenly Eve and Earthly Eve

<sup>13</sup> Rudolf Steiner, The Michael Mystery III

[http://wn.rsarchive.org/Books/GA026/English/APC1956/GA026\\_c03.html](http://wn.rsarchive.org/Books/GA026/English/APC1956/GA026_c03.html)

that a circle is a figure in which all points are equidistant from the centre you would not need me to prove it by quoting some great mathematician, because you have already made concepts with which you can test or judge the truth of what I say - this is the work of the ego.

As an aside, I have sometimes been asked why I quote Rudolf Steiner so much and my answer is this: I will stop quoting him when I feel that enough concepts have been created to judge my statements independently and freely without the need for an outer authority. But the time for outer authority is nearing its end. We should be able to make our own inner judgements about what we hear, even in the realm of morality.

At present morality is, in a certain sense, imposed on people from the outside by way of laws. In the future this will not be so. Enough higher concepts will have been created in the soul to inspire morality purely out of an inner understanding of what morality is and what it is not. Just like we say a square has four sides because we have created the concepts that recognise this inwardly, one day we will recognise morality through moral concepts that shall live in us.

But who is the true creator of our concepts, thoughts and ideas? Is it Lucifer? Is it Ahriman? In fact it is the ego, the ego which Christ brought down to earth and which has entered into human souls. The Ego has given us the possibility of saying I. It is what holds Lucifer steady on one side of the memory mirror and Ahriman on the other side.

Our Ego has developed, through the action of sensing and thought (through Lucifer and Ahriman) a store of wisdom regarding the external natural world. One could say that Natural Science is an accumulation of all we know about everything we have seen physically and continue to see physically in the world, be it mineral, plant, animal, or human. This is what is called empirical knowledge, that is, knowledge gained through objective experience. One can understand why Natural Science only 'loves' what is seen and generally does not take an interest in what is not 'seen' because such things are considered subjective, not empirical. Only those things capable of being grasped universally by thought, by the physical brain are considered 'scientific'. But the ego has the power to reach a higher knowledge than the empirical knowledge it has accumulated about the material world. It has the power to raise itself to an empirical knowledge of what does not exist in the physical world through the power of imagination, which uses intellectual wisdom as a bridge,<sup>14</sup> accessing the will through thought. Rudolf Steiner calls the organ of this 'will' consciousness - the Consciousness Soul. That part of the soul that is capable of acquiring knowledge about the entire human soul.

Sentient Soul - knowledge of God

Intellectual Soul - Knowledge of the world

Consciousness Soul - Knowledge of the Human being.

And through this knowledge it enables the human being to rise to three further stages of knowledge:

Imaginative Knowledge - Will consciousness - Higher Thinking/Seeing

Inspirational knowledge - Feeling consciousness - Higher Feeling/Sensing

Intuitive knowledge - Ego consciousness - Higher Memory/Knowing

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<sup>14</sup> One sees this exemplified by the snake's sacrifice Goethe's Fairy-tale of the Green Snake and the Beautiful Lily.



Since the Renaissance we have been developing this faculty and its most important task is to lead our consciousness from ideas to ideals.

We see this struggle for a higher consciousness exemplified in the statue of the Representative of Man. Ahriman lies below in the realm of thought, Lucifer is above in the realm of the senses and we stand in the middle, or rather the 'ideal' Christ-like human being possessed of a free ego stands in the middle in the realm of higher sensing and thinking/speaking.

What is an ideal?

Our ordinary ideas are born out of the mirror images and dead thoughts about the physical world. True ideals, on the other hand, are the direct perception of the moral order, the 'ideals', the will of the world; an imaginative perception of the unseen spiritual world. Ideas do not compel us and so they leave us free to act or not to act, to love or to hate.

*'All real existence in the consciousness has compelling power. Only pictures cannot compel. Anything that may take place through the impression made by a mere picture will be quite independent of the picture itself. Man becomes free, when with his Spiritual Soul he lifts himself out of the realm of real Existence and emerges in a non-existent Picture-realm.'*<sup>15</sup>

When we use the idea-creation to freely reach with our will to true spiritual ideals through spiritual 'seeing' this will call forth in us a love for the good free action - Good Will.

We come to a new supersensible vision when we bring consciousness to our will, when we use the etheric body, the organ usually used for thinking and memory, as an organ. Such a vision is free and individual and warmed through and through and yet as empirical as sensory perception, though it follows spiritual laws. Michael, the great Sun Archangel, has prepared the way for this higher faculty by sacrificing the Cosmic Intelligence, all the thoughts and communications of the gods concerning Christ, the Logos, after the Mystery of Golgotha. He allowed the intelligence that heretofore had been his charge to fall directly to humanity where it entered the human head and became Logic. From that time on, human beings began to feel they were masters of their own thoughts and not merely vessels for higher beings. Michael, the champion of human freedom, was laying thereby the foundation for the creation of free, living concepts, concepts capable of clearing away the dead pictures of Lucifer and the dead thoughts of Ahriman that had pulled a veil over spiritual vision. Concepts which can meet the spiritual world with understanding because such concepts, if not grasped with Ahrimanic abstract shadowy thinking, or with Luciferic flights of fancy, but with feeling-will, have the power to transform the etheric body into an organ of imaginative cognition.

*'Michael's mission is to convey to men's ether-bodies those forces by which the Thought-Shadows may again acquire life.'*<sup>16</sup>

What is this intelligence in our time?

In our time the cosmic intelligence in its purest form is found in Spiritual Science or Anthroposophy, the spiritual counterpart of Natural Science. When we allow Spiritual Science,

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<sup>15</sup> The Michael Mystery Lecture XXII, Rudolf Steiner.

<sup>16</sup> Rudolf Steiner, Michael Mystery III

[http://wn.rsarchive.org/Books/GA026/English/APC1956/GA026\\_c03.html](http://wn.rsarchive.org/Books/GA026/English/APC1956/GA026_c03.html)

the living soul of Isis/Anthroposophia to enter into us in living pictures, warmed through and through by our feeling/will they transform our Astral body and our Etheric body. This intelligence creates pictures that become new concepts that do not compel us but leave us free, they do not inform us about physical laws but about spiritual laws - one could say they are, in a sense, physical 'lies' - but that is how Michael uses Ahriman! For instance take the Rose Cross mediation, one does not see roses growing on a cross in nature, but when we create this 'lie' inside us, it has the power to lift thinking away from the physical brain.

So we see how Michael uses Lucifer and Ahriman to create new concepts that are above physical 'reality' through Spiritual Science. Firstly Michael helps us to transform the picture forming 'magic' of Lucifer in our Astral body into new living pictures in our memory. And secondly he helps us to transform Ahrimanic lying in our etheric body into phantasy - the ability to create inner thoughts and ideas about things that don't exist in the outside physical world. (This Rudolf Steiner tells us is a form of dialectic thinking)

Both faculty of thinking and memory are thereby transformed into a higher organ of cognition, an organ that can see the future and understand the past respectively, while still living in the present. This is organ of cognition Rudolf Steiner calls, the Etheric heart.

Michael's intelligence, when taken in with warmth engenders in us a deep interest, a deep love that entices us to rise out of the physical body to unite with what we don't see, it is a desire to lift out of ourselves selflessly and to perceive the spiritual world - this selflessness is the power that leads to Intuitive thinking and Imaginative or moral cognition.

*'The excess of power, which thus streams up — but through Lucifer — out of the inner man, will be changed in the Michael Age into Imagining power. For, little by little, the power of spiritual Imagination will make its way into the general intellectual consciousness of mankind. That 'present instant' consciousness however, which Man now possesses, will not be thereby burdened with any weight of lasting reality. It will continue to live in pictures that come and go. But with his Imaginations Man rears himself aloft into a higher spirit-world; even as with his Remembrances he reaches inward, into this own human being. Man does not retain the Imaginations within himself; they are engraved in permanent cosmic-existence; and thence he can reproduce them ever afresh in the passing pictures of his mental life.'*<sup>17</sup>

*'As we liberate our thinking from the body, we feel as though our thinking were snatched away from us, as though it expanded and spread out in space and time. Thinking, which we normally say takes place inside us, unites with the surrounding spiritual world, streams into it, and achieves a certain autonomy from us similar to the relative independence of the eyes, which are set in their sockets rather like autonomous organs. Thus, although our liberated thinking is connected with our higher self, it is so independent as to act as our spiritual organ of perception for the thoughts and feelings of other spiritual beings. Its function is thus similar to that of our eyes. Gradually, the thinking processes, normally limited by our intelligence, become independent from our being as spiritual organs of perception.'*<sup>18</sup>

Now this sounds a difficult and abstract thing to do, to rise up with our will, but the truth is, it is by no means difficult. In our time this capacity is already here, many are being born with natural clairvoyance. We observed this ability in our workshop. We do it all the time we are just not conscious of it. Why is that? Because Rudolf Steiner warned that by the middle of the last century humanity would be collectively crossing the threshold unconsciously.

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<sup>17</sup> Rudolf Steiner, Michael Mystery III

<sup>18</sup> Lecture 26 May 1914 <http://wn.rsarchive.org/Lectures/PresDead/19140526p01.html>

This Consciousness of the unseen is called 'Gemut', or the new faculty Goethe called Anschauende Urteilskraft - it is the faculty of spiritual perceptive judgement. A faculty of seeing and feeling and knowing the spiritual world which we gain by lifting up out of ourselves, in particularly out of the physical brain.

*'Clairvoyant perception begins with the emancipation of the power of our thoughts from the physical body and continues with the freeing of our thinking and feeling. Clearly, then, we can know and truly experience encounters with other spiritual beings only by leaving our body and by immersing our own feeling and willing soul in the spiritual world.'*<sup>19</sup>

In our workshop this morning we experienced this quite naturally. We saw the after-image and the complementary colour. We discovered that these are the impressions we make as a response to meeting the spiritual world, which is populated by beings. Beings of nature slip into us with every sensory impression whether we notice them or not. They live enchanted in nature and enter into us and are enchanted inside us. They make impressions inside us that go deeper by way of memory to the physical body where they become concepts that are seized by Ahriman, concepts are spiritual beings stripped of spirit substance. Rudolf Steiner calls them phantoms. These concepts we carry around with us everywhere we go, only leave us at death to become enchanted into us again at birth when from the world ether we gather up our etheric body again to enter into a new life. These are elemental beings that form the whole which Rudolf Steiner Calls - The Double. Only seeing them in their spiritual reality releases them. Until then these dead concepts, which have been converted by Ahriman and Lucifer inside us, make us spiritually ill - they make us materialists and atheists.

The process we experienced this morning was objective, in other words, we all experienced it similarly because pure thinking is literally the opposite of ordinary thinking. It is a process that occurs outside us to begin with and only then do we bring the objective experience, the spiritual 'ideal' living behind all sensory things into our etheric bodies where it has an objective life in us.

*He must regard thinking as a purely subjective activity that is able to project an abstract picture of Nature. But directly he senses the way in which the idea lives and is active in his inner being he regards himself and Nature as one Whole, and what makes its appearance in his inner being as a subjective element is for him at the same time objective; he knows that he no longer confronts Nature as a stranger, but he feels that he has grown together with the whole of her. The subjective has become objective; the objective is wholly permeated with the spirit.*<sup>20</sup>

Why do we see the spiritual world as after images inside us as complementary colours? Because in the spiritual world we see the opposite, the complement of what exists in the physical world - hence our exercise in opposite thinking.

*Think, for example, of a physical human being. To Devachanic vision he appears like this: what the physical senses perceive, vanishes, and light flashes up in the sphere immediately around the physical man, where otherwise there is a void; in the middle, where the physical body is, there is an empty, shadowy space — like a kind of negative. Animals and human beings appear here in negative pictures; blood appears as green — its*

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<sup>19</sup> ibid

<sup>20</sup> Rudolf Steiner, Goethe's conception of the World Chapter IV

*complementary colour. All formations which are physical in our world are present in the Archetypes of Devachan.*<sup>21</sup>

*When we enter the Devachanic world the astral world remains fully present; we hear the Devachanic, and we see the astral, but under a changed aspect, offering us a remarkable spectacle. We see everything in the negative, as though on a photographic plate. Where a physical object exists, there is nothing; what is light in the physical world appears dark, and vice versa. We see things, too, in their complementary colours: yellow instead of blue, green instead of red.*<sup>22</sup>

These elemental beings that are endowed with soul and enchanted into all of material life are beings of will and they carry into us, through our senses, the wisdom of the Holy Spirit, they are permeated with spirit.

*'One may go back into times when thoughts were realized directly with the I. Then however they were not, as now, shadowy; they were not even merely living; they were endowed with soul and permeated with spirit. Which means, that Man did not think thoughts; he realized a direct perception of concrete spiritual Beings.'*<sup>23</sup>

In the past spirit lived in the element of fire, later it could be found in the element of air. In our time the spirit has left the air and risen higher for the sake of freedom, and is found in the element of light. In a sense we 'breathe' in the light of Lucifer with our physical eyes and the light of the Holy Spirit of wisdom with our spiritual eyes through the auspices of the elemental will beings. The elemental beings enter into us carrying not only the dead Luciferic sentient light, which slips into the Memory and is converted to thought by Ahriman but also the light of the Holy Spirit.

*The pictures which he has before his soul of the physical world outside, are not now conveyed by the sense-organs. They are a direct proof of the fact that, through and beyond the sensory connection, Man has all the time another connection with the natural world around him — one that is not conveyed by the outer senses. It is his connection with the Spirit which finds embodiment in the outer world of Nature...In the age through which Man has just passed in cosmic evolution, scientifically minded persons began to maintain the view that color, sound, heat-impressions, are not really in the World, but in Man. The supposed 'red color' is not — they say — a thing outside, in the real world-environment of Man, but merely the effect produced in the man himself by an unknown something. The truth however is the direct opposite of this. It is not that the Color together with the Eye is part of the human being; but that the Eye together with the Color is part of the World. Man is not passively taking into himself, all through his life on earth, a current of impressions from his earthly surroundings; but rather, he himself is growing out, from birth to death, into this world outside him.*<sup>24</sup>

Wisdom lives in the Light.

So we must overcome Typhon and develop a new form of Yoga - the old form will no longer do, since the spirit is no longer to be found in air. We must develop the faculties of breathing in the Holy Spirit again through Higher Perception, Osiris, which entails a kind of breathing out of our own will being and imprinting it in the etheric world. Because in this new interaction with the

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<sup>21</sup> Rudolf Steiner Lecture 26 May 1907

<http://wn.rsarchive.org/Lectures/GA099/English/RSP1966/19070526p01.html>

<sup>22</sup> Rudolf Steiner Lecture, 23 August 1906

<sup>23</sup> Rudolf Steiner Michal Mystery Lecture III

[http://wn.rsarchive.org/Books/GA026/English/APC1956/GA026\\_c03.html](http://wn.rsarchive.org/Books/GA026/English/APC1956/GA026_c03.html)

<sup>24</sup> Michael Mystery Lecture 15. [http://wn.rsarchive.org/Books/GA026/English/APC1956/GA026\\_c25.html](http://wn.rsarchive.org/Books/GA026/English/APC1956/GA026_c25.html)

spirit we reverse the Luciferic imprint of the world in our souls by imprinting our imaginations on the etheric world,

*Man does not retain the Imaginations within himself; they are engraved in permanent cosmic-existence; and thence he can reproduce them ever afresh in the passing pictures of his mental life.*<sup>25</sup>

How do we do this?

When the thoughts of the gods, their speech and communications from star to star, enter into their offspring - the elemental beings - these thoughts are transformed into the will of worlds.

Cosmic Thoughts of starry Worlds becomes World Will in nature.

When this Word Will enters into the human being it is transformed into Spiritual Thoughts/imaginations and when these enter the human Will they inspire an activity, a spiritual warmth, which is etherised in the blood and which rises up to the larynx to become Spiritual Speech - a direct Communication of the humanised Cosmic Intelligence.

One could say this is a form of reverse cultus.

We can only do this because of what we observed this morning. We noted that the first etheric imprints of the spirit vanish very quickly, this is because Michael helps to dissolve them. He clears the path from the head to the heart to give us independence. Why does he do this? It is his task to prevent Lucifer from materialising light inside us in order to create in us a homogenous spirit soup. This would interfere with our ability to discern outer from inner so Michael 'clears them away'. For it is only by way of our own effort that we are to learn to recognise and discern the difference between our own etheric body and the etheric world. Only by 'knowing' ourselves in this literal way, only by becoming conscious in the will can we find our way to pure independent spiritual perception.

The physical world is the riddle and we only find the answer to it within us. We create within us the spiritual complement of the world. The natural world is really here for this purpose so that we can rise higher through having perceived the 'living ideals', nature's super-sensory counterparts. Therefore, if we wish to find our true selves we must will our thinking body out into the etheric world, if we wish to find the etheric world we must bring this will of the world into our organ of thought our etheric body. In this way we do not lose our independent life, but we add to this life a communion with spiritual beings. The elemental beings do this for us. They help us to find our etheric bodies and the etheric world; they sacrifice themselves to enable our connection with Christ.

We will look at this more closely tomorrow when we explore the Isis Myth.

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<sup>25</sup> Rudolf Steiner, Michael Mystery III

# MICHAEL AND THE NEW ISIS MYSTERIES

## PART II

This morning in our workshop we experienced our voices, sound and warmth. I wanted us to have a sense for how we find the Astral Body and the Ego, so that we could bring what we said yesterday into wholeness.

Etheric body - images

Astral body - sounds

Ego - warmth

Experiencing through the etheric body = Imaginations

Experiencing through the astral body = Inspirations

Experiencing through the ego = Intuitions

Rudolf Steiner tells us when we are born into physical existence we must develop three capacities in succession: First we must learn to walk, then we learn to speak, and only then do we develop our thinking. If we are to be born into the spiritual world we must develop these backwards through the power of the ego. We learn to release the power of thinking in the etheric body and use it as an organ of spirit Vision as we saw yesterday. Now we learn to release the power of speaking in the Astral body and use it as an organ of Spirit Hearing, and finally we must release the power our ego and use in order to develop a Spiritual memory, an intuitive power. When we loosen the power of thought through our deep interest in what we don't see it becomes a selfless organ of imaginative perception. This organ perceives images that do not exist in the physical world but complement the physical world. Today we may have sensed the power of speech and the power of the ego in warmth. These can also become loosened through Devotion or love.

Let's take a closer look at this.

We spoke about how the Holy Spirit enters into us through elemental beings with every perception. Similarly, every time we speak soul spiritual forces, Holy Spirit forces, also flow into our nerves, and our organs uses these forces make an imprint in us that is more inward than the imprints of perception. In the same way we have to quieten physical thought to perceive the 'unseen' through the organ of thought, the etheric body; we have to make the physical organs of speech inactive, if we are to hear the 'unheard' through the organ of sound - the Astral body.

*'Similarly, through devotion we can gradually separate out that power of the soul we use in language, in speaking. As I am speaking to you now, I am using a soul-spiritual force that flows into my nerves and speech organs and uses them. Through the exercises described above, we can unfold this same power when the entire speech and nervous system are completely inactive. In this way, we discover in the depths of our soul a faculty we know nothing of in our everyday life, because it is employed in speech and the use of our speech organs. When we are not using this faculty, it lies dormant deep within our soul, but in spiritual research, it is drawn up and separated by spiritual chemistry, so to speak, from our physical speaking. If we learn to live in this weaving, hidden activity of language creation, we can recognize what we may call, perhaps inaccurately, the perception of the inner word, the*

*spiritual word. As soon as we can control this hidden power, we can also detach our thinking and feeling from our personality, leave ourselves behind, and enter the spiritual world. Then we can perceive feeling and willing outside ourselves just as we did within us. We begin to know beings of will and feeling in the spiritual world, and we can perceive our own willing and feeling only when they are immersed in these beings.'*<sup>26</sup>

In imaginations we observe beings of will with our thought body.

In Inspirations we observe and feel will beings and feeling beings with our Astral body.

In Intuitions our I/ego is one with will beings, feeling beings and thinking/ego beings.

This relationship of the human being with the word, will have a deep connection with the second part of this lecture, when we recount the New Isis Myth.

Let's now approach the Isis myth with these new concepts.

The Myth begins, Rudolf Steiner tells us, in the land of Philisterium, the land of those who are guided by materialism/Intellect. On a lonely hill there stood a building, which in a certain sense was an open secret, meaning that it revealed the secrets of the mysteries openly for those who had eyes to see them. The centrepiece of the building was to be a statue that represented a group of beings: the ideal Christened human being, Lucifer and Ahriman. When people came to this temple to look at this statue, this being the age of natural science, which relies only on the senses and intellectual thought, they saw only what was perceived through their senses and did not realise that this statue was only a veil for another statue, an invisible statue that stood behind it. This was the statue of the new Isis. The Isis of our age.

Some had heard about this invisible Isis and thought that she must be 'signified' in the combination of the three beings. We could say that these people, fond of abstractions, said to themselves: 'These three beings together are like thinking feeling and willing which live inside the human soul and Isis being the human soul itself is invisible, in the same way that the brain must remain invisible if there is to be thought and reflection, or in the same way that the eye must be invisible if it is to see. But they missed the point entirely! Why? Because the statue did not signify anything at all! It was something real in itself! The etheric Statue of Isis exists behind the Representative of Man. This is a riddle that needs an answer. An answer which only the human soul can provide. A riddle, which points to the evidence that the capacity for 'seeing' its solution, lies in the human soul itself. Those who had developed the ability to will their thoughts into this statue and to see this new Isis realised that she was asleep. She was a sleeping new Isis. Some were even able to read the inscription, which is found where the statue stands 'in readiness' (remember what I said in connection to the will):

**I am the Human being, I am the Past, the Present. Every mortal (who becomes conscious of his/her immortality) should lift my veil!**

One day a particular day a visitor came to see the statue. He returned time and again to see it and the sleepy Isis thought that this visitor was a benefactor. In other words, she sensed that he could see her and that he might disenchant her from her sleepiness. One day she even formed an illusion, which was shared by the visitor. They both believed that he was the father of her spiritual offspring - colour. But this was not an actual truth. Actually the sleeping Isis knew nothing of the nature of her offspring and so she dragged it throughout the world, in all its manifold colours, going into foreign lands with it, here and there, until she had dragged it

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<sup>26</sup> Rudolf Steiner May 26 1914

about so much it fell to pieces - fourteen parts to be precise.<sup>27</sup> When the new Typhon, the visitor, noticed this state of affairs he gathered the pieces together and with all his profound knowledge of natural science created a whole being again out of the fourteen pieces. That is, he created a being of luciferic light. He condensed the spiritual colours into light, light that obeyed mechanical laws, the law of the machine, and created an illusion of 'wholeness'. This light when it entered the soul looked like it had life but it was dead. It enabled the perception of a dead spiritual cosmos and a soulless nature through the nerves and senses. Since this dead mechanistic being of worlds had been created out of 14 pieces, it could now reproduce itself in the human being fourteen-fold, in that part of the human being that Lucifer had created in the etheric body - the memory. That is, the human being could take nature, the world into itself and make many pictures of the material world, each stamped with a reflection of Lucifer, his light.<sup>28</sup>

Isis for her part watched this process in a dreamy way. She knew that she was responsible for what had happened because she had not realised her offspring's true nature. One day, however, she received her original offspring again, in its true form, its genuine form - this was the Holy Spirit, which she received from a group of elemental spirits, spirits of nature. But we are told she received the Holy Spirit through an illusion - the original 'child' from which the numerous offspring of Typhon had been created, the physical light falling on objects. She had received the Holy Spirit when the elemental beings had entered into the soul with the Luciferic light perception. Isis however, became conscious of the spirit through them and this sudden clairvoyant vision brought a realisation that she was still wearing the cow horns despite having become a new Isis. Part of her was still connected to the Luciferic spirit that had separated himself from the Cosmic Holy Spirit that strives to the Sun-being of Christ.

This clairvoyant understanding in the etheric body summoned Typhon himself, Lucifer - some say Mercury, to her consciousness. Lucifer is summoned because he is found in the etheric body and when consciousness enters there we experience him.

Rudolf Steiner tells us this:

*You see, for the pupil in occultism it is a question of experiencing himself in the ether body. And when the pupil has come to the point of experiencing himself in this way in the ether body, then this experience is indeed a profound one! It falls at once into two distinct experiences. It does not remain whole and single. And these two experiences have to be expressed by two words. We have to say that the pupil experiences first, death and second, Lucifer.<sup>29</sup>*

**Why Mercury? Because Mercury is the occult Venus.**

Because of the power of her clairvoyance Lucifer/Typhon was obliged to place a crown on her head, in the place where the old gold crown had been which had been taken from her by Horus. This crown was a paper crown embellished with all the wisdom of natural science. In the mind's eye one sees this as the symbols of mathematics and geometry and also of writing - all symbols stripped of spirit. Isis may see the light of the Holy Spirit, the cosmic intelligence of Christ but she is still cut off from the language that would connect her with the cosmos and the Divine

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<sup>27</sup> This is a complement of the earlier 14 in the Osiris legend which now makes 28 and it also points to twice the 7 colours of the rainbow taking in their complementary colours.

<sup>28</sup> Do we see a connection here with computers in their picture making quality and their (Ram - Antichrist) memory? Instagram, Facebook etc.

<sup>29</sup> Rudolf Steiner Lecture, 10 June 1912. <http://wn.rsarchive.org/Lectures/ManOccult/19120610p01.html>



Sophia who regulates and harmonises the cosmic intelligence from the Sun because external Natural Science is Luciferic and Theology is Luciferic.

The strength of her clairvoyance however entered deeper into her and enabled her to gain an understanding of what is described in St John's Gospel as the Logos - the living Word - the spiritual language of Christ, the Cosmic Intelligence. At this point she understood the significance of the Mystery of Golgotha: that it had rescued the human soul from materialism and this understanding arose in her through the Johanne Gospel concerning the power of the Macrocosmic Ego who was the true Word in the soul. The power of the Mystery, the power of the Ego, now took hold of the paper crown and changed it to a gold crown of genuine wisdom.

*What the Word, the Logos, has come to be in the course of evolution can be understood only when the Logos is again related to the Christ and we become conscious of the fact that our body, being the instrument for utterance, forces the truth downwards to the point where, on our lips, it undergoes a partial death; we bring truth to life again in Christ when we are conscious that we must spiritualise the words, imbue them with spirit-reality. This means that we must be mindful of the spirit-reality — not take language merely as language, but at the same time 'think' the spirit-reality expressed in it. That is what we must learn to do!*

Let's explore, with our store of concepts the idea of 'Thinking the spirit reality in language'.

As we noted before we are always making luciferic pictures of the world and the cosmos which become concepts, these concepts are judged and combined to create a thought - but we don't think in pictures generally, we think in words as we said, but words that express our experience of concepts stripped of their spiritual nature. In our speech, though we are more connected with the physical body, we are sleepy. Speech is a sleepy dream-like occurrence. The cosmic Intelligence of the Gods, the death of the Holy Spirit in Geometry and the death of the Holy Spirit in Natural Science, were communicated through a language that was also dead.

*"The evolution of the Consciousness Soul exposes the "Word" to danger from two directions. On the one hand it is made the vehicle of social understanding, and on the other it serves to communicate logical, intellectual knowledge. In both spheres the "Word" loses all value of its own. It has to be adapted to the "sense" of what it expresses. That the tone, the sound and the formation of the sound possess a reality of their own has to be forgotten."<sup>30</sup>*

So, in a sense, bearing in mind what I said yesterday, we realize that if we are to re-enliven language, we have to reconnect the living spirit to our words by changing our thinking, or rather turning our thinking organ - the etheric body into an organ of sight. We have to use the etheric body to bring into the soul the spirit reality living behind everything in the world and in the cosmos. Then, in the same way we can think because we bring oxygen into our blood through our lungs, we will think and speak in a higher way because we'll have brought the Holy Spirit into our etheric body through our senses.

The lungs and the senses have been deeply connected since the Moon period of earth evolution. In our mid brains we have a small organ called the Pineal gland, which primarily regulates our waking and sleeping rhythms by way of serotonin and melatonin.<sup>31</sup> We also have the Pituitary gland, which although it has many functions, primarily regulates our warmth, our inner being in relation to the outside world. These are the Castor and Polux of our inner sky.

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<sup>30</sup> Rudolf Steiner, *The Course of My Life*, Chapter XXXIV

<sup>31</sup> See the Authors lectures on the Michael Mystery and Bradford Reily's excellent article <http://rileybrad.wordpress.com/2010/11/18/pineal-neuropsychology-and-the-christ-event-by-bradford-riley/>

*'There are also remnants of old Moon in the cerebrum's pineal and pituitary glands; on old Moon they were what the lung and heart are in man today.'*<sup>32</sup>

### The Pineal Gland and the Pituitary Gland.

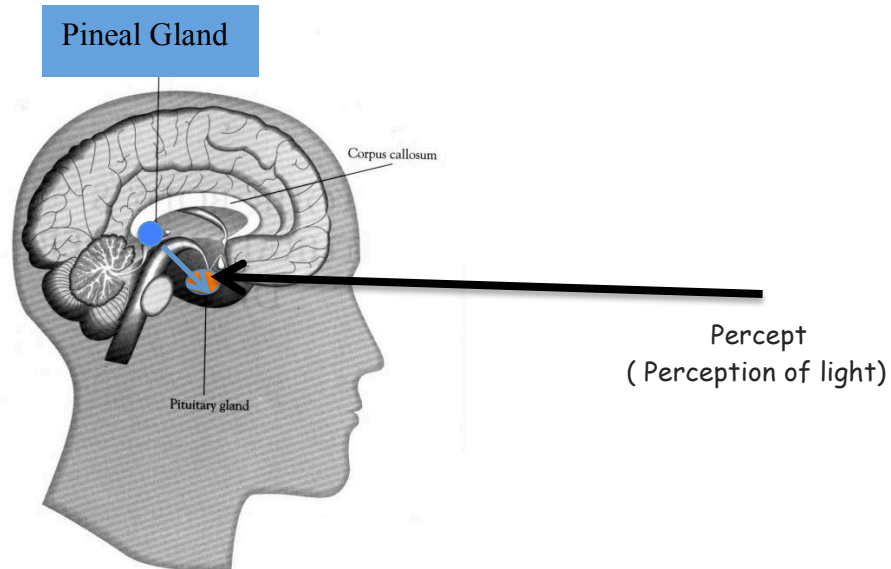


Figure 1. The Pineal Gland Lies at the Exact Center of the Brain

Today it is the pineal gland in particular, which we must develop if we want to experience higher sense perceptions by way of spiritual light. Through the pineal gland, the old lungs on the moon, we create the two petalled chakra situated on our brow, an organ that can perceive spirit light and colours. But to do so we must learn to breathe differently - metanoia. We must learn to breathe in spiritual light through our sense organs and into our etheric body - we must learn to think the spiritual reality into us so that we can also speak differently, spiritually, etherically. That is the secret of connecting the Holy Spirit with Christ the living Logos who lives in our hearts, in our will, our etheric bodies.

The Pituitary gland, unlike the Pineal gland is more connected to feeling and will. It is the potential creator of the Etheric heart at the back of the head through an etherisation of the Holy Spirit of Christ in us. This leads to true conscience or moral cognition. From the etheric heart will come the new concepts from which we will construct a new spiritual language filled with the warmth of the spirit.

Pineal = New Magi

Pituitary = New Shepherd

In a higher sense one could say that Michael also helps to clear the path from the pineal gland to the pituitary gland, by way of the spiritual concepts that we take into our souls through Spiritual Science. These enable us to make a conscious use of the 'brain sand' that we create with every material thought in the pineal gland and bring about the birth of an intuitive consciousness.

<sup>32</sup> Rudolf Steiner, Lecture 30 September 1905. <http://wn.rsarchive.org/Lectures/FoundEsoter/19050930p01.html>

*If humans could make conscious use of the salt within them, then they would have intuition.*<sup>33</sup>

Heart thinking results in 'heart-speech' or moral speaking, speaking the Logos through the larynx and thus giving birth to Christ or morality in the individual human soul. That is the task, which the Maitreya Buddha will have in the future; to bring a new form of speaking that arises through a spiritualisation of the entire etheric body by Christ - the faculty of Budhi or Life Spirit.

The foundation for the creation of a new etheric heart is the beginning. This will be the result in the transformation of clear thought into clear unclouded perception of Spirit, which is etherised into warmth through a sulphur process of combustion or sacrifice facilitated by our I. Uniting our I consciously, thereby, with Christ-love-will in us. That is, creating Good will - love for the good action. The Holy Grail is really nothing other than the head illumined by the human Christened etherised cosmic intelligence whose warm rays of etheric light inscribe new pictures into the astral light.

Below left a drawing of the etheric heart surrounding the physical heart by R.S. Below the earth - the physical body. Around it the stars - the Astral body, We also see the impulses that move from Pineal gland to Pituitary gland, sickle moon to full moon, creating the etheric Sun heart in between.

Below a picture by Rudolf Steiner of the etheric heart at the back of the head. The etheric heart lives between the smaller etheric body and the larger Astral body.



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*The next step is connected with warmth. Man's activity is to be sought in what streams out from him as inner warmth. Out of what proceeds from warmth: passions, impulses, instincts, desires, wishes and so on, Karma arises. Just as the parallel organ to the ear is the organ of speech, so the parallel organ to the warmth of the heart is the pituitary gland, the Hypophysis. The heart takes up the warmth from outside, as the ear does sound. Thereby it perceives world warmth. The corresponding organ, which we must have, in order to be able to produce warmth consciously, is the pituitary gland in the head, which at the present time is only at the beginning of its development.*

<sup>33</sup> Rudolf Steiner, Lecture 4 January, 1918

<sup>34</sup> The Formation of a New Etheric Heart Organ in the Light of the Present Michaelic Mystery Culture as Rudolf Steiner Required it for our Age in his Lectures "Die Sendung Michaels und Die Offenbarung der eigentlichen Geheimnisse des Menschenwesens" by Ruth Haertl, [http://www.rsarchive.org/RelArtic/GoldM/etheric\\_heart.html](http://www.rsarchive.org/RelArtic/GoldM/etheric_heart.html)

*Just as one perceives with the ear and produces with the larynx, so one takes up the warmth of the world in the heart and lets it stream forth again through the pituitary gland in the brain. Once this capacity has been achieved, the heart will have become the organ it was intended to be. There is a reference to this in words from 'Light on the Path': (22) 'Before the soul can stand in the presence of the Masters, its feet must be washed in the blood of the heart.' Then our heart's blood streams out as today our words stream out into the world. In the future, warmth of soul will flood over mankind. Somewhat deeper in evolution than the warmth organ stands the organ of sight. In the course of evolution the organs of hearing, warmth and sight, follow in sequence; the organ of sight is only at the stage of receiving, but the ear already perceives, for instance in the sound of a bell, its innermost being. Warmth must flow from the being itself. The eye has only an image, the ear has the perception of innermost reality. The perception of warmth is the receiving of something that rays outwards. There is an organ which will also become the active organ of vision. This is today germinally present in the pineal gland, the Epiphysis, the organ which will give reality to the images which today are produced by the eye. These two organs, the pineal gland and the pituitary gland as active organs, must develop into the organ of vision (eye) and the organ of warmth (heart). Today fantasy is the preliminary stage leading to a later power of creation. Now man has at most imagination. Later he will have magical power. This is the Kriya-shakti power. It develops in proportion to the physical development of the pineal gland.'*<sup>35</sup>

Light divine,  
Sun of Christ,  
Warm  
Our hearts,  
Enlighten  
Our heads,  
So that good will be  
What we  
From our hearts beget,  
What we  
Through our heads  
Will to achieve.

(Translation: Frank Thomas Smith)

One could say this Holy Spirit in us 'turns' the heart, creating an etheric vortex and by way of it a counter-space, a fifth chamber in the heart from which will come the etherised blood that is capable of uniting with the etheric Christ stream living inside us. It is this etherised blood that will create the new etheric moral heart organ, the fount of eternal life and light not merely for ourselves but for the world of physical and spiritual beings.

If we are to hear the Word of the spirit, carried by elemental beings into our souls and blood, we must quieten our speaking. Then we will notice as we may have done today how we are always making gestures with our larynx in response to every sound we hear. Just like we create afterimages in our etheric body, we create echoes, after effects of what we hear in our astral body. And just as we kill the spirit in the images we see in order to create ordinary thought, we kill the living word in order to speak words that express these dead thoughts. In the creation of new concepts, concepts about the 'unseen' spirit in the world we also create new thoughts and new ideas, but these ideas must become spirit filled realities and a new language must arise to express them. That is, we must begin to perceive the spiritual word not only as imaginations but

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<sup>35</sup> Rudolf Steiner, Lecture 30 September 1905. <http://wn.rsarchive.org/Lectures/FoundEsoter/19050930p01.html>

also as inspirations. We must learn to feel/hear within us the gestures of the spiritual world with the etheric counterpart of our larynx, which communicates to us the spirit - the ideal.

*'Spiritual Science is there to impart, in every domain, the stimulus connected with the deepest spheres of human life. In this sense, Spiritual Science will fulfill the dreams of the greatest men. It will be able to conquer the supersensible worlds through thought, and so to pour out the thoughts into sound pictures so that speech can again become an instrument for communicating the vision of the soul in supersensible worlds. Then Spiritual Science will fulfill, in ever-increasing measure, a saying relating to this important region of man's inner being: Immeasurably deep is thought, and its winged instrument is the word.'*<sup>36</sup>

Every idea that does not become an ideal, every word that is not 'winged' in a true perception of the natural world and a true expression of the language of the stars, the word, kills something in the soul, it either kills the living image of the spirit, or the living word in us.

The new heart language the 'Ur' or as some alchemists have described, the 'bird' language, will express the spirit warmed by the ego, this spirit will unite those of like-mind-heart in a new community a new Jerusalem. It will be a moral force in the future that will enter each individual human being as a Whitsun experience. Christened words carried by the Holy Spirit in our thoughts and words will reach into the hearts of those listening to teach them morality, to imprint moral concepts into the souls of those who listen, concepts that can resonate in their astral bodies as the warmth of love. Thus will the moral science be added to natural science which has been stripped of spirit by Lucifer and Ahriman.

Isis/Anthroposophia is the embodiment of the Cosmic Intelligence on earth. She lives in our soul, according to Rudolf Steiner, in the realm of the Word in us in the heart and larynx. We grasp the intelligence through the word only because Anthroposophia Isis has fashioned in us organs of consciousness and therefore speech.<sup>37</sup> Through her in our larynx we birth the Logos in our speech.

*'But that sense of being firmly rooted in the spiritual world is experienced when by earnest striving man attains what I have called the "deep silence of the soul." As regards the force which normally serves him as modified breathing-power, man must learn not to spend this power in the breathing-process for forming words of vocal speech but, as indicated in "Knowledge of Higher Worlds and its Attainment," to hold back what wants to pour itself into words. At the same time, however, he must strive inwardly to maintain that activity which otherwise finds its outlet in the spoken word. This is how he must achieve the inner silence. And when the soul does not stop at point 'nought' of this silence, but descends still more deeply into the negative region of silence, to the level below experienced silence, when by the strength of the spirit we hold in check the forces which want to press on into our breathing and our speech, and when at the same time we inwardly foster the impulse to speak but hold back the words before they take possession of the larynx — to put it differently, if we practise silence while developing the inner potentiality of speech — then we not only gain an inner stillness but the deep silence of the soul. In its relationship to speech, to the spoken word which sounds in the outer, physical world, this deep silence corresponds not merely to the degree of 'nought,' but to the negative potency. Then out of this deep silence there sounds what the spiritual world has to say to us, what — to use an ancient word — the Logos wants to reveal from out [of] the universe. Then we no longer speak, but have become the instrument through which the Logos speaks.'*<sup>38</sup>

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<sup>36</sup> Rudolf Steiner Lecture, January 20, 1910. <http://wn.rsarchive.org/Lectures/19100120p01.html>

<sup>37</sup> Many thanks go to Richard Distassi for his explorations of this mystery.

<sup>38</sup> Rudolf Steiner Lecture 21 April 1923

<http://wn.rsarchive.org/Lectures/GA084/English/LZ0290/19230421p01.html>

Michael gave us the intelligence that entices the Holy Spirit to the soul. Isis/ Anthroposophia has fashioned our consciousness for understanding it, and our larynx for speaking it out, as the Holy Spirit (higher breath) of Christ (higher Word).

For it is not Christ we lack, according to Rudolf Steiner, it is the Sophia of Christ, the consciousness of Christ the living Word/Logos.

St John at the foot of the cross was asked to take the Sophia into his soul, to breathe the spirit into his soul and through her to voice the 'words' of his gospel which correspond to the true living spirit of the Logos. This was an archetype of what we must all accomplish by bringing the activity of the Magi (past) and Shepherd (future) together again so that we find Christ in the present. We bring together again what had become polarised by Lucifer and Ahriman since Lemurian and Atlantean times: the starry knowledge acquired through memory and the nature knowledge acquired through inner revelation. We do this in the present, in the soul that is mindful of what it contains, in other words, conscious of the spirit of Christ we become free both from the natural world and the world of the stars.

*'After both have been laid aside — both Earth-world and Star-world — Man stands before himself as a being of Soul and Spirit. Here he is no longer World; here he is in the truest sense Man. To awaken to what he here experiences is Self-Knowledge, even as it is World-Knowledge to awaken to perception in the Sense and Thought organism.'*<sup>39</sup>

I am the past, the present and the future...

True human Love is a union with the immortal.

Every mortal (who discovers his immortality) should lift my veil.

That is why Rudolf Steiner tells us that our task is to harvest from the mortal world fruits for the immortal.

*'Those who have eyes for such things could not but be aware of the revolution that took place in respect to men's Thought-life during the last third of the nineteenth century. Before this, Man could only feel the Thoughts arising and taking shape out of his own being. Ever since then, he can rise above his own individual being, he can guide his mind into the realm of the Spirit; and there Michael meets him — Michael who from of old is past master in all Thought-weaving. He frees the thoughts from the region of the head; he opens a free way for them to the heart; he sets free the springs of spiritual fervour from the hearts of men, so that Man may live in full soul's devotion to all that he may learn in the light of Thought.'*<sup>40</sup>

*'In respect of real existence, Man, when forming a mental conception, is wholly reliant upon what he has become in the course of his cosmic and earthly past. In human evolution, the path here points to that Abyss of Nothing over which Man leaps in the moment of becoming a free being. Michael's action and the Christ-Impulse make the leap possible. Christ has made that leap possible by leaving behind the Cosmos and bringing to earth the higher ego, and Michael has made it possible by surrendering the Cosmic intelligence to humanity so that through the human being the higher ego living in us, the Christ, can connect to the Will of the world in our will. Cosmic Intelligence can only unite with Christ again through human intelligence — that is through the human will, the*

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<sup>39</sup> Michael Mystery Chapter 15 [http://wn.rsarchive.org/Books/GA026/English/APC1956/GA026\\_c25.html](http://wn.rsarchive.org/Books/GA026/English/APC1956/GA026_c25.html)

<sup>40</sup> Rudolf Steiner Michael Mystery Chapter I

*developed power of spiritual perception.*<sup>41</sup>

The Michaelic elemental beings who make this possible are represented in the statue of the Representative of man by that funny little being that is carved out of the top left hand corner of the statue, a kind of modern day half serious half humorous creature. He reminds me of Asmodeus without which the Temple of Solomon could not have been built. Asmodeus is the king of the elemental beings. Here he has the task of pointing to the Isis statue and I mean this quite literally. If one could hear this being, Rudolf Steiner tells us, one would hear it say that human beings have strayed far from the true nature of language and the word because of Intellectual thinking and abstraction. This being would go on to say that the a perfect example of what is happening to human beings today is secreted into the image of the owl staring into a mirror which is connected to a being called Till Eulenspiegel, a buffon who enacts all sorts of foolery because he takes things literally. Words, ideas and ideals have been removed from their original source and because people don't know this they behave like Til Eulespiegel. They use language foolishly.

Wisdom, the fundamental essence of the Goddess Isis or Pallas Athene, has been estranged from the human soul, which only knows the symbol of wisdom, the owl. But the owl that sees only itself expressed in the mirror is the wisdom of natural science which only sees the inward mirrored concepts of the physical world - natural science sees nothing but an image that is not real and calls this wisdom, a wisdom that becomes language - a materialised word.

One could say that this being is saying that if we want real knowledge, real wisdom we have to awaken Isis.

*We must approach Luciferic Natural Science and seek there the coffin of Isis; in other words, in what natural science gives us we must find something which stimulates us inwardly towards imagination inspiration and intuition. In this way we acquire the help of Christ within-Christ, who remains hidden for us in darkness if we do not illuminate him with divine wisdom.'*<sup>42</sup>

Christ lives between Lucifer and Ahriman in our souls and in the statue of the Representative of man. Hidden behind all three, somewhat between Lucifer and Ahriman and resting alongside Christ and just below the Elemental being lies the sleeping Isis. She is there invisibly and perhaps a little humourously, the little elemental above looks on wondering if we are going to use our abstract thinking and language to concoct an idea that she is merely symbolic when she is not symbolic at all. He will laugh at us if we do because she is really there and if we do see her this means we are not Lucifer but the prince charming that has come to awaken her from sleep! Tomorrow we will go to the Representative of Man. Tomorrow carrying these new concepts with us like our spiritual offspring we will sit before the statue, remembering that as we are gazing at it we are using Luciferic powers. That if we want to see her truly, if we want to awaken her in our souls we must become creative we must not be passive and allow Lucifer to do his work, we must rise up with our etheric bodies and look not to the reliefs that catch the luciferic light, but to the shadows, for just as she is locked into the shadows of our souls into that sleepy part of us, so is she literally locked in the shadowed recesses of the statue. And there, where the statue stands in readiness - (will) awaiting transformation - is the inscription.

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<sup>41</sup> Rudolf Steiner Michael Mystery Chapter XXII  
[http://wn.rsarchive.org/Books/GA026/English/APC1956/GA026\\_c22.html](http://wn.rsarchive.org/Books/GA026/English/APC1956/GA026_c22.html)

<sup>42</sup> Rudolf Steiner, Lecture 24 December 1920

I am the past (Lucifer), the Present Christ and the future (Ahriman) every mortal who has found his immortal self should lift my veil - lift the veil.

I leave you with this mantra given to the School of Spiritual Science in 1914:

*To things I turn myself I turn myself with ray senses; —  
Sense existence, you deceive me! —  
What flees existence as nothing:  
For you it is existence and reality;  
May what must seem like nothing to you Be disclosed to my inner life. —  
(I must attain this: it's the taking of a position towards the new, outer world.)*

*Ex Deo nascimur*

*Spirit light warm me Let me feel myself volitionally in you.  
Well thought, truly known things  
How do shining I experience you  
May weaving of error, badly thought things  
Show itself to shining soul  
That I may be weaving in myself.  
(That's a questioning and experiencing in the new existence within.)*

*In Christo morimur*

*Shining I and luminous soul (- oneself -)  
Floats over real developing being  
What was thought, what was known  
Now becomes dense spirit existence  
And what seems like existence to the senses  
Lives in the ocean of divine reality  
Like aery existential bubbles.  
(In anticipation of truth. It's a guessing, a feeling of the new self.)*

*Per Spiritum Sanctum reviviscimus*