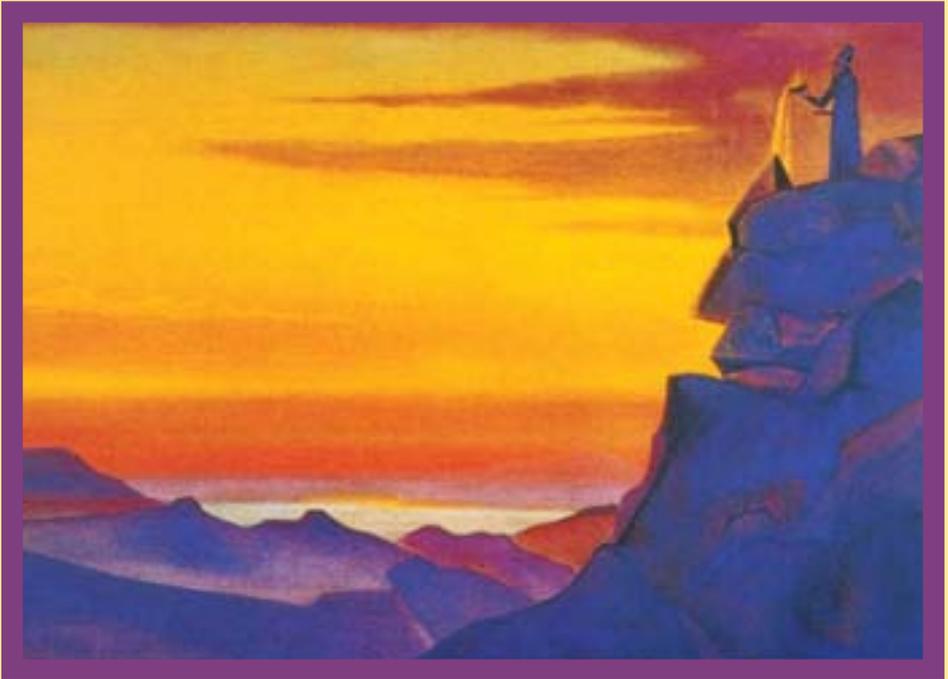

CLIMB THE HIGHEST MOUNTAIN SERIES

The Path to Immortality



Mark L. Prophet • Elizabeth Clare Prophet

Authors of *The Lost Years of Jesus*
and *The Lost Teachings of Jesus*

CLIMB THE HIGHEST MOUNTAIN SERIES

The Path to Immortality

Mark L. Prophet · Elizabeth Clare Prophet

The Everlasting Gospel

SUMMIT UNIVERSITY  PRESS
Gardiner, Montana



THE PATH TO IMMORTALITY

by Mark L. Prophet and Elizabeth Clare Prophet

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Note: Our understanding of life and the universe is that all things are in polarity: plus/minus, Alpha/Omega, yang/yin, masculine/feminine. The worlds of Spirit and Matter are in polarity as two manifestations of God's universal presence. In this relationship, Spirit assumes the positive-yang-masculine polarity, and Matter assumes the negative-yin-feminine polarity. Thus, we have used masculine pronouns to refer to God and feminine pronouns to refer to the soul, the part of ourselves that is evolving in the planes of Matter. Also, in order to avoid the sometimes cumbersome or confusing expressions of gender-neutral language, we have occasionally used masculine pronouns to refer to the individual. These usages are not intended to exclude women.

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*And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven,
having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that
dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred,
and tongue, and people,*

*Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory
to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and
worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea,
and the fountains of waters.*

REVELATION

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Preface

THE *PATH TO IMMORTALITY* IS THE seventh book in the Climb the Highest Mountain series. In this volume we will explore some of the mysteries of creation and their application in the Macrocosm of the universe and in the microcosm of man.

This study penetrates beyond the veils of mortal existence to reveal man as a spiritual being—spanning the planes of Spirit and Matter. Through this understanding, we can come to know what immortality *really* means, and also the path by which we may reach that goal.

For immortality is not simply a magical formula (though such a formula may exist), nor is it something that automatically happens in the rapture of the end times. In fact, immortality is a spiritual-material science—one that has been discovered by mystics through the ages. A door to that science is opened in these chapters. Not everything can be written, but the keys are given that will unlock new dimensions of being for those who apply them.

Chapter 4 of this volume moves on to an exposé of entities, the unseen forces that so often divert us from our spiritual path and divine plan. This is a subject that is often overlooked by the spiritual seeker, but with the knowledge provided here and with determined use of the tools that are given, the student of the Masters can find a new freedom of soul and Spirit.

This volume concludes with “The Messengers.” In this chapter, Mark and Elizabeth Prophet speak of their own calling as Messengers and place this in the context of the ongoing cycles of God’s revelations to man.

The Climb the Highest Mountain series has been outlined by the Ascended Master El Morya in thirty-three chapters; this book contains chapters 20 through 24 of the complete work. The concepts presented here build upon the foundational material in the six books that precede it. This volume in turn provides a foundation for what will follow in the remaining two books.

If this is your first exploration of the Climb the Highest Mountain series, we welcome you to your study of these teachings from the Ascended Masters, which have been called the Everlasting Gospel, the scripture for the age of Aquarius. For those who are taking up this book after reading previous volumes, we wish you God-speed in your continuing journey to climb the highest mountain.

THE EDITORS

Introduction

“**A**ND I WILL PRAY THE FATHER, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.”¹

The Comforter who comes to teach us all things is the very Presence of the Holy Spirit. In the Person of that Holy Spirit we always find the Person of the Christed One.

The promise of the comfort of the Lord Jesus Christ to us has never failed you or me. We may not always have been aware of the presence of that Person or of the great teaching imparted to the inner soul. But the teaching is there, and we are not left comfortless. We find comfort through many avenues that are the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit.

One of the great sources of comfort that has come to me in this life and in previous lifetimes has been an understanding and a perception of the Law of Cycles. The Law of Cycles is magnificent to behold. But if we are not aware of its presence, we are just as bereft of it as we are bereft of the Holy Spirit.

Finding not that Spirit in the sacred fire breath or the beating of our hearts, we know not that we have had the visitation of the Lord. Not perceiving the Law of Cycles all around us, within us, without us, in the microcosm and the Macrocosm, we therefore do not sense the shadow of the Almighty that is ever upon us.

It has long been known that history repeats itself, and that we should learn its lessons well. Not only does history unfold in cycles, but the corruption and concealment of history's highest wisdom signals cyclic death of nations. Indeed, the ship of modern historians is lost in its own sea of academic encrustation. On board its decks archaeologists squint to see the horizon. And lost with them all, theologians—too blinded by twisted dogma to navigate by heaven's stars.

Will this ship of blind leaders of the blind crack and sink once more, to take our civilization to the bottom of the sea? The Masters man the Lighthouse beacon, searching for the ship. But time after time, man has failed to recognize the Brotherhood's source of Truth, driving the benevolent adepts behind closed doors and secret glyphs.

The cycles of man on earth tell the story of our beings. Records hid in mountain chambers hold the history of our planet. Once again the Masters choose to dare the scorn of science. "If any man have ears to hear, let him hear. . . . Take heed what ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given."²

The race consciousness is compartmentalized in man but unified in the universal sense that all consciousness merges into one. Its streams and tributaries flow into one ocean of consciousness, and individual expansion of consciousness is brought about through mastering the art of flow beyond the personal level.

One of the factors that creates a veil between the microcosm and the Macrocosm is that each individual must work from his own level of consciousness, and his consciousness is limited by his own residual concepts. While he may aspire to a higher state of consciousness, his entire understanding concerning his physical environment, natural science, law and the humanities, as well as his search for spiritual mastery, must evolve from his present state of experience and consciousness.

There are, however, means whereby the individual can be lifted temporarily from a lesser state of consciousness to a much higher one. It is possible for man to bypass whole flights of cosmic achievement in order that there might be engendered within him upliftment, inspiration and a subsequent storing in the memory body of fragments of heaven that will be found useful in the attainment of higher planes of consciousness.

Vital consciousness possesses the quality of *flow*. Like a majestic river, it moves along the shores of identity where recognized markings provide a delineation of experience, even as a clock marks the hours. Poets, writers and composers of music tell of moments of intense inspiration when they are attuned to Nature and are able to experience a release of intelligence far beyond their ordinary mind. These states cannot always be invoked at will, and times seem to manifest whimsically.

In Truth, the markings along the shores of Identity and its manifestation are arbitrary, and planes of consciousness are of wide and mingling latitudes. Nevertheless, “as Above, so below”: the consciousness of mankind below, when attuned with higher octaves, may experience simultaneously a taste of the bliss experienced by the soul in her own higher perceptions, of which in normal consciousness the outer self is unaware.

While many people, for example, may use the facilities of a research library, such aids in the hands of a scientist can be

employed more effectively than they would be by the layman. In a similar way, the Ascended Masters wield greater power from their plane of consciousness than do unascended mankind, and their power can and does affect the billions of lifestreams upon earth when it is called into action. The Law states that the call compels the answer. Without the call, heaven has no right to interfere in mortal free will.

When we study planes of consciousness, we find that whereas an animal possesses awareness of others and of his own environment, man is Self-conscious, possessing not only awareness of the outer self and of circumstances, but also of his internal world. Directly behind his inner world is the plane of consciousness where an individual moves from self-centered goals and selfish love to a relatively selfless love, offering himself to the cause of bringing happiness and enlightenment to his fellowmen. Needless to say, he will ultimately share in all the good that he sows.

Humanitarians fall into two classes: those who seek to benefit society and future generations through material means—education, social, political and economic—and those who seek to influence the course of human events spiritually and in a manner calculated to bring in a Golden Age of enlightenment. The spiritual values that human life may hold stem from the inheritance of one's spiritual achievement and from current environmental influences of a spiritual nature. These factors culminate in service both to God and to man's real progress.

Above the environmental level, we see shining through the belt of cosmic consciousness and higher awareness the first designations of the adept—an individual versed in the alchemy of purity, service and love that denotes one holding a degree of proficiency in the spiritual arts. The adept is able to magnetize (to draw forth) great benefits to himself, his contemporaries, society in general and the work of the spiritual Hierarchy.

Without spiritual values, humanitarians fall short of the mark, and at best can only perpetuate a materialistic civilization.

Beyond the plane of what we term the “neophyte adept” are several grades. One is that of the unconscious adept. Even though the inner attunement of such an individual is not perceived by his outer self, he serves the cosmic plan upon earth, standing as a bulwark against destructive and manipulative forces that would rob mankind of their spiritual inheritance. In this group are individuals of many professions, including ministers and priests whose dogma would not permit total acceptance of the Truths of this work and the Ascended Masters, yet who do uphold the high moral standards and social responsibilities that heaven advocates.

Beyond this degree is that of the master adept—one who possesses conscious knowledge of his own position and attunement with the spiritual Hierarchy upon the planet. The adept on this level also enters into karmic and cosmic councils, helping to decide what is the best course for the Hierarchy to take in order to assist the evolutions of the human family and to move all of life toward the highest spiritual goals.

In addition, the master adept is often able to intercede for another person, either on the basis of his friendship with God or on the basis of personal petition for the needy by direct apprehension of divine grace (as Abraham found favor with God). The master adept maintains a high plane of consciousness at all times.

Above this level in the Hierarchical scheme are the unascended masters, those blessed individuals who, while having attained great strides in spiritual and natural evolution, are still limited by the veil of flesh as to that which they can accomplish. Possessing great spiritual insight and a desire to serve, these also are planetary links between the humanity of earth and the Hierarchy. Without them, communication

would be very difficult for many.

These blessed souls act as mediators at the level of the Holy Christ Self and serve in the same capacity between the Divine Presence and the unascended, relatively imperfect patterns of the human. The unascended master functions as mediator between an emerging humanity and the mighty Hierarchies of Light known as the Great White Brotherhood*—the spiritual legions, the cosmic league of affinities, comprising Cosmic Beings, Elementals, Angels and Ascended Masters. Those working in this group hold a very high responsibility and opportunity for service. Theirs is a specific plane of consciousness.

When dealing with the ladder of Light (a metaphor symbolizing the stages of initiation), which scales the many planes of consciousness, a specific number of steps is possible of attainment to the consciousness from that of the common man to and including the grade of the Ascended Masters. Beyond the level of the Ascended Master consciousness is what is known as the Buddhic consciousness, and beyond the level of the Buddha there are other planes. In fact, the steps, or planes of consciousness, attainable by man are infinite: we have received definite proof of this from the great spiritual heights of Life within the so-called Royal Family of the Central Sun.

Once an individual has entered into the victory of his ascension in the Light, he is free to go on and pass through initiation after initiation, being changed, as Saint Paul said, “from glory unto glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.”³ In

* The Ascended Masters of the Great White Brotherhood, united for the highest purposes of the brotherhood of man under the Fatherhood of God, have risen in every age from every culture and religion to inspire creative achievement in education, the arts and sciences, God-government and the abundant Life through the economies of the nations. The word “white” refers not to race but to the aura (halo) of white light surrounding their forms. The Brotherhood also includes in its ranks certain unascended chelas of the Ascended Masters. Jesus Christ revealed this heavenly order of saints “robed in white” to his servant John in Revelation.

the realm where time and space are compressed as marks of revelation, achievement and service, the godly, dwelling in a paradise of immortal perfection, are constantly invited to move forward into the transcendence of the Godhead. There is no ultimate anywhere in the universe, and the higher planes of consciousness are all a part of the great Tree of Life, seen in one form in the ancient legend of the tree Yggdrasil.* It is the Tree of Heaven in whose branches the birds of the air come and nest.⁴

The Tree of Life that is in the midst of the Paradise of God bears cosmic fruit, and those counted worthy to eat of the fruit of the Tree of Life do indeed live forever.⁵ How this can be attained and how man can expand in consciousness and its planes—from the subterranean levels of the flesh and blood that can never inherit the Kingdom of God⁶ to a spiritual state where veil after veil drop from before the eyes of consciousness in the blessedness of Divine Oneness—is the wonderful story of the living Christ unfolded for the students of the Ascended Masters.

The first Adam truly is of the earth, earthy, but the second man (the Christ) is the Lord from heaven.⁷ This teaching from Saint Paul in itself shows the evolution of the universal man, Adam Kadmon, and the evolution of the individual man, you and me. It shows that as we have borne the image of the earth, so we shall bear the image of the heavenly.

Down through the years, it has been the pleasure of the Masters to present planes of consciousness, ladders of Light, and other dramatizations calculated to hold before the con-

* In Norse legend, the universe is supported by a great ash or yew tree, known as Yggdrasil. The tree extends through all the nine worlds (through every plane of consciousness). It is watered by a sacred well, a winged dragon gnaws at its roots, and an eagle sits in its branches. The image of the world tree is also found in ancient Slavic mythology, which holds that the universe is held by a giant oak tree, and in the Hindu image of the banyan tree.

sciousness some markings of record in order that men might establish a reckoning as to where they are in their search for God. In this work, under the auspices of the great Masters, it has been our determination to illustrate, in part, a principle of flow that was brought to our attention some time ago by the God and Goddess Meru, whose retreat is near Lake Titicaca in South America. According to the principle of flow, consciousness advances quite naturally to assimilate new and transmutative concepts that enable individuals to win their victory over outer circumstances.

However, as long as the weight of mankind's concern is for mere academic knowledge, as long as men seek to "measure their progress with a micrometer," as one of the great Masters has commented, so long will they be caught up in the mechanics of attainment, rather than the fruits thereof.

Through our remarks on the planes of consciousness, we hope to make it possible for individuals to lose the sense of littleness that often plagues the children of earth. Men ought to enter instead into that largesse of heart that rejoices in the accomplishments of another, in the accomplishments of the Masters of Wisdom and those of the blessed Creator himself.

Through the concept of flow, it will be seen with the inner eye that God is ever releasing great bursts of Cosmic Light into manifestation all over the universe, and through the Eternal Fount right within men's hearts, Life knocks at the door as cosmic opportunity. If one can but develop the technique of flow, progress will come automatically and systematically. It is not so important, then, to judge one's progress by the attainment of a specific plane of consciousness as it is to search out how one can eliminate negative karma-making devices from the human psyche.

The practice of tolerance, forgiveness and pure love, the amplification of Ascended Master qualities of service to the

Hierarchy and to one's fellowmen, and the recognition by men that the greatest progress is often made by the greatest service will eliminate certain impediments from the disciple's path. Thereby, the way is smoothed and planes of consciousness unfold as a rolling terrain whose course is ever upward toward the summit of each individual's existence.

That which lies behind in the plowed furrow will then not be so important as the open field ahead. By the grace of forgiveness of oneself and others, the love of God will be accepted. Man will stand face to face with the Creator. The only begotten Son will stretch forth his hands to God, who will open the gates or, if necessary, break the dams of human emotion that have barred man from God, and he will let flow, buoyantly and joyously, all of the Good that God is. With the childlike sense that all is right with God and thus all must come right with the world, man receives vestments of renewed opportunity to prove by deeds the actuality of the Logos.

This act sweeps the personal self and all humanity along in the great love tide of the consciousness of the Eternal Father and brings more complete awareness of the nearness of the Mother of the World. Thus, concern for planes of consciousness vanishes in the great onrush that is progress, and Life is seen as opportunity's manger opening an endless way, wholly engrossed in the miracle of just being.



MARK AND ELIZABETH PROPHET
Messengers of the Masters

Chapter 1

The Law of Cycles

*And I looked, and, behold,
a whirlwind came out of the
north, a great cloud, and a fire
infolding itself, and a brightness
was about it, and out of the
midst thereof as the colour of
amber, out of the midst of the
fire.*

*Also out of the midst
thereof came the likeness of
four living creatures. And this
was their appearance; they had
the likeness of a man.*

EZEKIEL

*The galaxy is spinning out its spiral arms in space.
The cosmic magnet drives the heart of worlds—
fluids of life pulsating in a rhythmic ebb and flow.
Chromosomes align in precise array.
Behold the miracle of creation!*

*Gaze into the deep night sky
and see the pulsar beating in perfect time.
Drink the words of the poet
as he sings in perfect rhyme.
The electron in cyclic rhythm with the proton.
The planets in rhythm with the sun.
The solar system in rhythm with the galaxy.
Reverberations of the spheres in space
echo in the silence of our meditation.*

*There is harmony in God's creation!
There is rhythm.
There is flow.
And cycles turn the wheels of time
as the Great Mother nurtures the procession of life.*

ELIZABETH CLARE PROPHET



The Law of Cycles

Discipline for a Purpose

“**I** HEARD THE DISCIPLINE OF GOD, AND I perceived it as the manifestation of his order. Out of the chaos and dimension of mortal mind and confusion, I perceived the luminous orb of Christed intelligence strike as from the star Alpha Draconis deep onto the pyramidal line.

“And I saw the chamber of the King; and I saw the chamber of the Queen; and I saw the pyramid of lives; and I saw the Master Mason draw his line; and I saw the security of the divine geometry.

“I saw the cubit stone, and I saw the measure of a man; and I saw that every man must strive to fit the master plan. And knowledge was needed and a torch, and the chamber must be traversed; and initiation must come; and man must pass from death unto Life. For the sun and the stars and the

luminous orbs of creation are concentric focuses, orbs of Light—masses of Light, masses of energy, of density, of outpicturization. And man is so and knows it not, for the whirling galaxy within is also under dominion.

“As ships without rudder or compass or captain, so do compassless lives cross uncharted seas, and individuals are lost, hearing not the voice of the Ancient Mariner, the voice of Truth that parts the veil of mortal lies and leads men to pass from the bondage of Egypt across the Red Sea beyond the Desert of Sinai and into the Land of Promise.

“In an age when the world is marked by a lack of discipline, and rebellion against order is everywhere manifest, right while the secular society continues to exhibit a certain stability to which men look, I think it is essential that order be examined by mankind as heaven’s first Law.

“If order is heaven’s first Law, how can we, then, permit men to contemplate chaos or disorder as giving rise to something of virtue. The very power of the Mind of God that framed the world was to draw energy into a cohesive whole so that design, by Universal Law, could manifest through a cosmic geometry in the myriad forces of nature with all of their many patterns: helices, cones, squares, circles, ellipsoids, triangles, polygons and other geometric forms. The use to which nature has put all of these figures ought to show mankind that the Mind of God has, indeed, drawn upon the laws of cosmic geometry to produce in the world of form a perfection of order that is very beautiful in structure.

“The contemplation of universal order by mankind ought to show that no happenstance was involved in the mysteries of creation, but only a magnificent pattern of delight, of order, of intent and of purpose.

“The Great Pyramid of Life rises from the giant square of the Divine Architect’s Mind, a Mind that contains all right

angles and produces out of the four corners of substance the beauty of perfection, rising from the spheres of mortal dimension.

“Let men understand the meaning of this; for the base of life is in form, but it rises out of form. The social order, the order of nations and even the order of Hierarchy—all are constructed geometrically; and the cubit stones that compose these divisions are held together by the power of love that deems no sacrifice too great.

“You, then, to whom the Word is given, you who aspire to the disciplines of the Spirit, should understand that a tightly knit order of things is essential, because without the closeness of the cubit stones, the pyramid would not adhere; without it, even the pressures of roots and grass would separate stone from stone. Therefore, you will understand that the closely knit construction that smoothes the way for each stone to fit against another is the compassion of God. It is the design of the Grand Architect that smoothes the way and enables harmony to exist in the consciousness of mankind. And one day mankind will become ‘Divine-kind,’ for this is the purpose of all creation.”¹

Penetrating the Secrets of Creation

We approach the Law of Cycles with reverence for the Creator whose Self-expression it contains. All evidences of its outworking in man, the earth, the elements and the stars are but the tracings of his Being, footprints in the sands, tracks in the upper snows. Wherever we behold his markings as cyclings of infinity tumbling through the finite coils of time and space, there he has been. There his awful, wonderful Presence is—just beyond the veiled spirals of his creation.

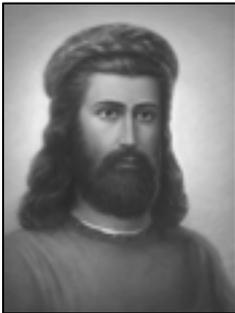
Attempting to penetrate the Law of Cycles, we find secrets

sublime and all-encompassing—the being of man the microcosm, in man the Macrocosm. These secrets have remained closely guarded by the adepts of the mystery schools for thousands of years, for an understanding of these laws provides a predictable platform of evolution—and the power to initiate cycles of our own.

Kuthumi's Work on Cycles

The Ascended Master Kuthumi has influenced science and world thought for thousands of years. And it is he who has taught the Law of Cycles as fundamental to a comprehensive world view.

Embodied as the great master Pythagoras, Kuthumi expounded the law of the harmony of opposing forces. He taught how all of manifestation is composed of vibration in various states of interaction and equilibrium. We will see how this profound understanding is inherent in the cyclic law.



Kuthumi

During the 1800s, Kuthumi—known to his Western students as Koot Hoomi Lal Singh, or K.H.—was an advanced adept. He had conquered the usual ravages of time on the physical form, and it is said that for decades he continued to have the same youthful appearance. He was able to control the elements and to project a double of his physical body anywhere on the planet to perform his duties or to teach his disciples.

Much of his life remains a mystery, but we know he directed the course of the Theosophical Society from an esoteric school of adepts in a remote Himalayan valley inaccessible to anyone uninvited. Below him were advanced

chelas (students). Above him were several Chohans (Lords, or Masters) and the Maha Chohan. The strictest codes of esoteric discipline were kept.

Kuthumi taught with profound scholarship, and he had a mind able to penetrate the veils of time and read the akashic records of earth's history. The knowledge of his Chohans was of intergalactic dimensions, and they guided him closely in all of his dealings with his chelas. Much to the wonder of his fellow adepts and to the consternation of his Chohans, Kuthumi attempted to bring to Western man some of the long forbidden mysteries of the occult Brotherhood.

In a letter sent to the English Theosophist A. O. Hume in 1882, published in the book *The Mahatma Letters*, Kuthumi wrote, "I would not refuse what I have a right to teach. Only I had to study for fifteen years before I came to the doctrines of cycles and had to learn simpler things at first. . . . Let me tell you that the means we avail ourselves of are all laid down for us in a code as old as humanity to the minutest detail, but everyone of us has to begin from the beginning, not from the end. Our laws are as immutable as those of Nature, and they were known to man and eternity before this strutting game cock, modern science, was hatched."²

More than a hundred years have passed since that letter, and indeed the cycle has turned. Science is beginning to prove with her instruments and detectors many laws and facts previously considered to be occult meanderings. It is by dispensation of the Lords of Mind that we may now penetrate some of these teachings, along with the revelations brought forth by the Ascended Masters.

Where shall we start our excursion through the vast ocean of God's creation? The wonder of it all is that no matter where we start, by following any cycle of life to its origin, there we stand gazing face-to-face with God. For he is the originator of

all cycles. He is the driving force spinning at the pivot point of all form.

The Cycle Defined

A cycle is “an interval of time during which a sequence of a recurring succession of events or phenomena is completed.”³ It is also defined as a “recurrent sequence of events which occur in such order that the last event of one sequence immediately precedes the recurrence of the first event in a new series.”

Place your hand on your heart and feel the cycles of your heart’s pulsation, the beat of your physical life sustaining the vehicles of your soul’s evolution in Matter. Look up at a light-bulb and know that it shines because electricity is pulsating at a cycle of sixty times per second through its filament. Listen to a piece of music and hear the cyclic vibration of the violin strings resonating through the eardrum as sound.

All of cosmos can be comprehended in terms of cycles. The warp and woof of creation is manifest in currents of spiritual sound vibrating according to cyclic law. The very atoms and electrons of this world of form bow to the cyclic interchange of Spirit into Matter, Matter into Spirit—all-encompassed in the one element from which all of Life issues forth.

The marriage of science and true religion brings forth the progeny of wisdom and higher understanding. Some of the elements of the Law of Cycles we will discuss clash with what is regarded as current scientific fact or archaeological proofs.

The Cosmic Magnet

To understand one of the basic tenets of the Law of Cycles, we must delve into the deepest mysteries of our Spirit/

Matter universe. Here we contact the simplest and grandest of all cycles: the dual pulsation that is the heartbeat of cosmos. Here we find the one element, forever in equilibrium, forever pulsating in the rhythmic cycles that reverberate down to the inner core of every atom.

The entire religious philosophy of the yin/yang of Taoism is built upon the existence and importance of the cyclic interchange between an infinite hierarchy of opposing, or complementary, forces. It is the grand cycle of Alpha-to-Omega.

We hear it singing the song of the atom within our very own cosmos. It is the inhalation and exhalation of the Godhead. It is the interdimensional pattern of flow between Spirit and Matter—in Sanskrit, *Purusha* and *Prakriti*—the two poles of the cosmic magnet that sustains all of life. Truly, our study of the Law of Cycles is a meditation on our own inner Being.

The Truth all mankind seek is based on the irrefutable Law that Spirit and Matter are not opposites: they are the twofold nature of God's Being that remain forever as the Divine Polarity. This primary cycle we are considering is the simplest relationship of two forces—and the most all-encompassing action. If we clearly embrace the cyclic flow and unity between the Spirit/Matter or Father/Mother principles of motion, it is as if we are given a library card to God's storehouse of universal knowledge.

As Kuthumi said, let us begin at the beginning, and all of the vast complexities of God's infinite cycles will become clear upon the illuminated background of the original cycle.

All form is the result of motion. To have motion implies a point toward which the motion occurs and away from which it proceeds. This, in its grandest conception, is the cosmic magnet, the Father/Mother flow.

A magnet attracts and a magnet repels. If you hold a

horseshoe magnet in your hand, you can discover that there is a point of perfect equilibrium in the space exactly between the two opposite poles. At the heart of the polarity is unity and harmony.

All of cosmos is a magnet in the Macrocosmic sense. Sanat Kumara—known throughout religious literary history as “the Ancient of Days”—teaches about this cycle of universal flow:

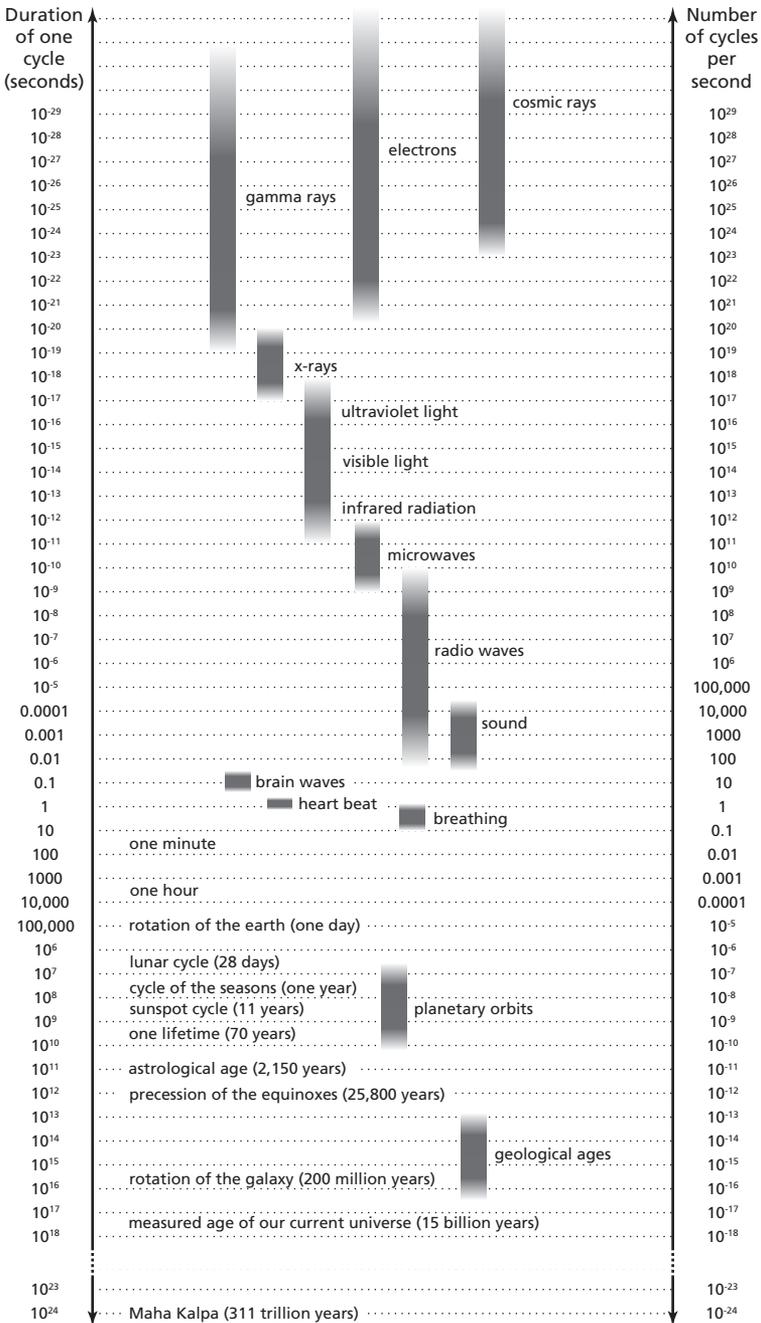
“Those who would explore the far reaches of space, both inner and outer, should understand that the Divine Feminine is the womb of creation that is impregnated with Life by the Spirit of God. The material universe is the negative polarity whereas the spiritual universe is the positive polarity of the Godhead. Matter, meaning *Mater* [Latin for Mother], is the chalice that receives the invigorating, life-giving essence of the sacred fire. Thus the Father principle completes the cycle of manifestation in the world of form through the Mother aspect, and child-man is nourished by the balancing, sustaining action of Life whose twofold nature [Spirit/Matter, masculine/feminine] is epitomized in the Christ.”⁴

This divine polarity exists throughout cosmos—from the balanced pulsation of the Great Central Sun to the systemic equilibrium of the hydrogen atom.

We learn from the science of sound and from the archives of the Brotherhood that all manifested cosmos is the interplay of vibrations—a vast web of electromagnetic waves oscillating at different numbers of cycles per second. And what is a vibration if not a cyclic motion related to a framework of time and space orientation?

The range of cycles is infinite—from one cycle in billions of years to billions of cycles each second (see figure 1). All are derivatives of the one pulsation we observe pivoting around the point of infinite equilibrium of the cosmic magnet.

FIGURE 1: Cycles of the Cosmos



The Grand Cycle

Before we become immersed in this web of creation, let us take a step up our mountain of observation and consider the grandest, longest, most mysterious cycle in the world of form. The length of this cycle is calculated in terms of trillions of years, and we find ourselves reaching for a volume that might be called the life of Brahma.

Writing from the home of Kuthumi at Shigatse* in the Himalayas, gazing at an iceberg before him, Morya, one of the adepts who guided the Theosophical Society, wrote to A. P. Sinnett in January of 1882: “Nothing in nature springs into existence suddenly, all being subjected to the same law of gradual evolution. Realize but once the process of the *maha* cycle, of one sphere, and you have realized them all. One man is born like another man, one race evolves, develops, and declines like another and all other races. Nature follows the same groove from the ‘creation’ of a universe down to that of a mosquito. In studying esoteric cosmogony, keep a spiritual eye upon the physiological process of human birth; proceed from cause to effect.... Cosmology is the physiology of the universe spiritualized, for there is but one law.”⁵

We will do just that. First we will learn of the cycles of Brahma, of God, as he unfolds the myriad systems of worlds. Then we will learn of man the microcosm. Eventually, the cycles of becoming will spread before us.

Considering the nature of atoms, Morya continues, they “polarize themselves during the process of motion and [are] propelled by the irresistible Force at work. In Cosmogony and the work of nature the positive and the negative or the active and passive forces correspond to the male and female

* Xigaze, a town in southeast Tibet

principles. Your spiritual efflux comes not from ‘behind the veil’ but is the male seed falling *into* the veil of matter. The active is attracted by the passive principle and the Great Nag, the serpent emblem of the eternity, attracts its tail to its mouth forming thereby a circle (cycles in the eternity) in that incessant pursuit of the negative by the positive.... The one and chief attribute of the universal spiritual principle—the unconscious but ever active life-giver—is to expand and shed; that of the universal material principle to gather in and fecundate [to make fruitful]. Unconscious and non-existing when separated, they become consciousness and life when brought together. Hence again—Brahma, from the root ‘brih’ the Sanskrit for ‘to expand, grow or to fructify.’”⁶

The Law of Cycles is infinite in duration and infinite in form. Look back into the recesses of time and perceive the shadowed reality of beginningless cycles of the life of Brahma.

Man has always pondered the mysteries of creation. Scientists through the ages—astronomers, cosmologists, physicists—have developed various scenarios of the beginning of the universe.

The big bang theory states that around fifteen billion years ago, all of space and matter was compressed into an infinitely small point. All of a sudden, the big bang—and the physical universe was born. The explosion occurred and Life began to evolve from the subatomic particle to our present universe.

Those who believe in this theory quietly hide their eyes from the question, “What came before the big bang? What was the cause behind the effect?”

Though the theory may explain one aspect of one cycle of cosmic evolution, it doesn’t provide the framework for an integrated and all-embracing cosmo-conception.

Let us reach for the deeper perspective held in the retreats of the Brotherhood in the heart of the Himalayas. Not material

scientists but great scientists of the Spirit, the Ascended Masters and Cosmic Beings can provide infant mankind with a perspective that spans endless eternities of creation.

In their view, the Law of Cycles is the key to the alternating cycles of the explosion and implosion of the Matter universes as they proceed in and out of Spirit.

Exploring the Puranas

From the ancient epochs of India, history has preserved a series of writings called the Puranas. These are the teachings of great Masters originally recorded in an extremely remote period in earth's history.

The word *Purana* means "that which lives from ancient times," or "the records of ancient events." There are generally five subjects covered in these most ancient writings: (1) the creation of the universe; (2) re-creation after destruction or deluge; (3) the genealogy of the gods and teachers; (4) the *manvantaras*, or *Manu-antaras*, the great periods of time with the Manu as the primal ancestor; and, finally, (5) the histories of the Solar and Lunar dynasties.

One of the great Puranas is called the Bhagavata Purana. In section III, the revered teacher Maitreya sets forth the revelation of the cycles of cosmic creation. He teaches about the days and nights of Brahma and the infinite cycles of beginnings and endings and new beginnings. We now shake the dust from this ancient text, totally neglected by Western historians, as we read these ancient records from Lord Maitreya to his pupil Vidura.

"O Vidura, beyond the three worlds ... a day consists of one thousand cycles of four yugas. The night is also of the same duration when the creator of the universe goes to sleep. At the end of the night, the creation of the world starts and

proceeds so long as it is God Brahma's day which covers the period of fourteen Manus. Every Manu rules during his own period which is somewhat longer than seventy-one cycles [each consisting] of four yugas."⁷

Yuga is the Sanskrit word for a "world-period." The Sanskrit names for the four yugas are *Satya Yuga*, *Treta Yuga*, *Dvapara Yuga* and *Kali Yuga*. Each successive age brings with it a different stage of civilization and a different mode of man's consciousness. In each of the yugas, man is given the spiritual tools that most effectively assist him to succeed in the cycles of evolution.

Just as the Great Cycle of Brahma's life is the archetype of man's personal cycles, so it is true with the yugas. The four yugas span millions of years in spheres of cosmic evolution, but we are taught that man himself goes through innumerable cycles of his own four yugas—as he walks the rounds toward reunion with God. We can compare the cycles of the evolution of the soul in the mastery of the four lower bodies, the four quadrants of being, with the cyclings of the four yugas. Thus the mastery of time and space is built upon this Law of Cycles.

The four yugas recur in cycles. The duration of the cycle of four is said to be 4,320,000 years. The reign of each of the fourteen Manus according to Maitreya is calculated as 306,720,000 years (71 x 4,320,000), and one day of Brahma is 4,320,000,000 years.

Although these figures are exoteric in nature, it is said that they closely follow the numbers in the "Secret Works." These durations have remained closely guarded by the Brotherhood, because as Pythagoras said, "All is number." There is great power resident within a true knowledge of the hidden laws of numerical cycles, and only certain keys can be given. It is true though, that the above figures relate to calculations of the great astronomers Narada and Asuramaya, regarded in India

as having lived on Atlantis and possessing intimate knowledge of these matters.

Continuing with Maitreya's discourse: "In the eras of Manus, Kings in the lineage of Manu are born in succession. Hermits, Gods, King of Gods and his attendants are born simultaneously. This is Brahma's daily creation, whereby the three worlds are made to function and in which the birds, beasts, men, pitrs* and Gods are born according to their karmas. In the Manu-eras, the Supreme Lord retains ... and protects the universe by incarnating as Manus and manifesting himself in other human forms. At the end of Brahma's day ... he restrains his prowess, and with everything else withdrawn in him due to the force of Kala,† he keeps quiet. When it is nightfall without any moon or the sun in existence, the three worlds ... lie concealed in him.... In due course of time, with such days and nights as described above, even the long span of life of hundred years of this (God Brahma) comes to an end."⁸

The word *year* refers to a cosmic cycle of Brahma's life, spanning billions of years. The Hindu chronologers have based their temporal calculations on astronomical configurations—the positions of the stars in the zodiac in relation to our earth. One hundred cosmic years is regarded as a whole period of Brahma's age, called the *Maha Kalpa*, or "Great Cycle." It is the longest single cycle we can detect. We are told that its duration is 311,040,000,000,000 years in length.

Maitreya continues in the Bhagavata Purana, "Half of the life [of God Brahma] is called parardha. The first parardha [of his life] has passed. Now the other half is running."⁹ In our great cycle, our Maha Kalpa, we have turned past the axial

* *Pitrs*: usually interpreted as the spirits of the departed ancestors of men. However, H. P. Blavatsky explains that they are more accurately described as the "ancestors, or creators of mankind" (*Theosophical Glossary* [Los Angeles: The Theosophy Company, 1930]).

† *Kala*: the unfolding principle of time.

point of the course of cosmos. God has once again exhaled his breath of Life as fohat and the long inbreath has begun to return all to the spiritual source once again. The beginningless, endless cycle—as all things emanate from and return to the One.

When outer man becomes congruent with the spiritual essence of his own Divine Monad, he then becomes the drop merging into the ocean of God. Our individualized personalities had a beginning in the warp and woof of manifestation, but the core of the atom of our being, our spiritual Monad, began when God himself began.

The Law of Karma

The Law of Karma, of perfect retribution, is intimately related to the Law of Cycles.

We can know with absolute surety that if we send out hatred or negative vibrations, sooner or later they will cycle back to ourselves—and we will have to expend energy to revibrate our murky creation.

We can also know that the Self-generated impulse toward God, toward Good, toward service of our fellowman will, with infinite precision, cycle back also and add to our momentum of Light and our return to Wholeness. This is the Law of Karma. It is the mathematically predictable Law of Cycles. It is the most simple yet profound manifestation of justice.

By willingly coming into congruence with the cycle of involution, evolution and ascension, we know that at the end of this round, we will indeed see the face of God.

Can we imagine what it would be like if the Law of Cycles didn't exist, if we had no way of knowing where to direct our striving to return to a state of wholeness?

Spirit and Matter

We find described in these scriptures the endless rhythmic pulsation of cosmic creation called in the East the *Maha Kalpa*, or “Great Cycle.” Though there are infinite cycles within cycles, the overall flow consists of an outbreath and an inbreath, an Alpha thrust of creation followed by the Omega return to the heart of Brahma. At the end of each creative cycle is the *pralaya*.^{*} At best, then, the big bang theory becomes a crude statement of the sublime cosmic moment of the birth of worlds when the sine wave passes from imperceptible to perceptible reality—that is, from what we call Spirit to what we call Matter.

Delving deeper into the mysteries of creation, we come to the awareness that all is Spirit. All forms of Matter—even the densest physical substance—are the crystallized fire mist of spiritual essence. The successive lives of Brahma can be conceived of by our limited minds as immense cyclic arcs of pure Spirit involuting into the veils of denser Matter, and then evolving back to the ethereal, spiritual origin.

Our relative position in the grand cycle of our personal or planetary cycle can be understood as the ratio of Spirit to Matter. As Brahma outbreathes the web of creation, there is a densification as the universe puts on its seven coats of skins.

An axial point is reached in the cycle where the outbreath is expended and inbreath begins. It is the point of the lowest descent of the arc of Spirit into Matter. It is the state of equilibrium of the positive and negative poles of the cosmic magnet. It is the halfway point in the cycle that Maitreya mentioned we have passed.

Then there is the period of return to Spirit. All that has

^{*} *Pralaya*: Sanskrit, “period of rest.”

become involved in material form begins its process of etherealization and return to the one Source—and to the period of pralayaic rest—once again to begin a new cycle of becoming.

This is the night of Brahma, when all is drawn back into the Godhead. During this period of rest, all the patterns of creation—the whole divine DNA chain, if you will, the patterns by which stars will be born, spiral nebulae, whole systems and galaxies—are being gathered within, like a seed. There is a manifestation of divine intelligence, the stirring, the shaking of divine intelligence in the seed, the drawing by the fingers of God of the various graphs and patterns and hieroglyphs that are going to manifest in the various systems of worlds. And when the whole is complete, then once again comes the dawn of creation and the exhalation of the breath of God.

The path of the ascension is the means whereby sons of God preserve an identity as a single cell in the being of Brahma throughout the pralayas and throughout the inhalation and the exhalation of God. To endure as a cell in the consciousness of God when that God is at perfect rest is to enter with him into the cosmic cycle of nirvana. To do this, one must pass through the nexus of the cycle, which nexus we term the Word.

We read in the Vedas: “In the beginning was Brahman with whom was the Word, and the Word is Brahman.”¹⁰ In order to be in Brahman, we must be in the Word. “No man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”¹¹ That *me* is the supreme I AM THAT I AM manifest as the Word. By the Law of Cycles, then, we are set upon our courses spiraling once again through the nexus of being, the nexus being the Word itself, the Law of Cycles being the emanation of the Word.

What is immortality?

Immortality is a spiritual-material science-one that has remained closely guarded by the adepts of the mystery schools for thousands of years.

A door to that science is opened in these chapters. Not everything can be written-but the keys are here for those who seek them.

This book explores some of the mysteries of creation. It penetrates beyond the veils of mortal existence to reveal man as a spiritual being-spanning the planes of Spirit and Matter. When we truly understand this, we can know what immortality really is, and also the path to reach that goal.

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