

are normally strongly physical mediums, *since practically all physical mediumism originates from Darkness*. The spirits of the Light obviously never use such mediums as intermediaries between themselves and human beings.

Physical phenomena that are produced with the help of Darkness include levitations of the medium or of the séance participants; regular flickering light phenomena, such as larger or smaller phosphorescent spots, misty formations and the like; all genuine materializations and dematerializations during séances, violent explosions or noises and all irregular tappings and so on.

All regular tappings, with equal intervals between each knock, can be performed only by the spirits of the Light and therefore belong under the laws of the Light. These tappings can in the presence of very strong Light radiations ring with a clear and sonorous metallic sound, even though there are no metallic objects in the room where they occur. The spirits of the Light have often called upon their earthly helpers in this manner.

Materializations during séances are performed only by the earthbound spirits, including the Eldest. None of the Youngest has appeared in a materialized state at any séance; their appearances occur spontaneously and usually without the intervention of the medium, since they render themselves visible by the power of their will, that is to say, they let the Light-atoms of which their spirit bodies consist oscillate with a reduced frequency - or they appear to clairvoyant people.

It has happened at materializations that completely honoured mediums in their earthly ignorance, and in the belief that they were acting correctly, have let themselves be used as intermediaries for unscrupulous spirits. These mediums have usually believed that they were doing a good deed in lending their assistance to such phenomena, partly so as to provide proof of life after death, and partly with the good intention of acting as intermediary between the living and the "dead". But since God has never permitted the earthbound spirits to make themselves known in this way, the spirits who have exploited and abused such mediums must carry the full responsibility for their forbidden actions. On the other hand, if the medium has been warned by the guardian spirit and has thus acted in defiance of his conscience, the medium must bear the full responsibility for what has taken place.

Many strongly physical mediums, the Eldest, can by the will of their spirit - and with no help whatsoever from disincarnated spirits - produce levitation phenomena, such as the lifting of objects from

the floor to a table or causing smaller objects to float about in the air. This usually happens without the medium's human brain being aware of it, since the spirit cannot influence its earthly body during trance with the same strength as is normally the case.

Only a very small proportion of the materializations and other physical phenomena known from séances are or have been genuine. Most often it has been sleight-of-hand and thus pure deception¹ on the part of the human medium, a fact for which all who meddle with the manifestations of Darkness must be prepared.

Certain kinds of trance phenomena will be described in the following. Under deep trance - a deep, insensible sleep - the medium's spirit was thrust aside from the human body while some earthbound spirit availed itself of the body's organs of speech. Many genuine results have been produced in this manner, and several truth-messages have been given by deceased persons to relatives and friends. These messages were nearly always confined to purely earthly matters, especially the recall of past events and experiences so as to make known the identity of the deceased. A number of earthbound spirits who were unknown to the séance participants have given an exact proof of life after death by stating their name, occupation, place of birth, native land, year of birth and death and so on, these particulars having been confirmed by subsequent investigation to be completely accurate in many cases. The earthbound spirits could normally say nothing about life in the spheres, since the memory of this does not as a rule awaken until the spirit has returned to its dwelling in the transcendental world. However, a few have passed a number of obscure and confused messages describing this life as well as they could remember it; but the majority always tried to evade direct questions on life after death, as they were unwilling to say anything too definite about the sufferings of their dismal existence in the astral plane of the Earth. Only very few have given accounts fully describing their earthbound existence in Darkness, without peace and without rest.

The many different messages from earthbound spirits, who unaccompanied by the spirits of the Light had forcibly gained access to mediumistic communication, were always occurred without God's permission, and therefore belong to the numerous manifestations of the intervention of Darkness.

Under deep trance the medium's own spirit frequently acts as communicator, without the medium being aware of this, a circumstance that can easily be verified by an acute observer, since such messages are usually coloured by the medium's own experiences and opinions. This is also a form of the influence of Darkness, for which the medium cannot always be blamed, since in most cases it is due to accumulations of Darkness that are introduced by one or more of the participants in the séances. Séances should therefore never be made available to larger circles or to the public, since such "performances" only attract Darkness and adversely affect

¹) This also applies to photographs of spirits, of which only a few are genuine.

and demanding deity, who grants nothing without suitable tribute in the form of blood sacrifice or sweet-scented offerings - a divinity with whom mankind must constantly barter to attain the desired blessings. But also the many who now live in slavish fear of the God and Father will sometime in the future, through the many progressive incarnations, be able to feel the child's unswerving faith and trust in Him.

Many people carry in their thoughts and in their hearts a glorious and clear reflection of the Divinity, but *man-made* dogmas, handed down from generation to generation, have veiled and obscured the original image that they carried with them from their existence in the transcendental world. These people should search their innermost selves, should reject all false assertions and wrong conclusions, until the veil is lifted from the divine reflection, that it may again stand clearly in all its radiant beauty.

But with the passing of time and as century is added to century and Darkness is slowly eliminated, more and more human beings will begin to understand God's boundless love, His justice, His kindness and compassion, and they will realize that they have belittled God by endowing Him, the Highest One, with mere human qualities, which must be removed before His image can once more stand exalted, pure and noble.

Every human being should strive to understand this idealization of the Divinity.

When Christ in his Speech to humanity (see p. 109) says: "My words shall sound unto all the peoples of the Earth. All shall hear them, and they shall reach unto the farthest regions of the Earth," he does not mean that those who are *now* able to understand and rejoice in his Gospel of Love should forthwith go out into the world and proclaim his words to others holding different ideas and beliefs. Rather, he said this because he knew that sooner or later all people, some in their present and others in their future incarnations, will be able to achieve acceptance of his message with heartfelt conviction and with deep understanding.

But even though that time still lies far in the future, when all existing religions will have merged into one common religion, human beings themselves can do much to shorten this time by not struggling *against their inner convictions*, by not assuming a posture of indifference and hostility to this message that is presented to them in the transcendental world. They should strive to make it known and to propagate it from individual to individual, from people to people, in a *calm* and *dignified* manner, without compelling propaganda or *fanatic* missionary zeal; for this message can be of great help to

the human spirit so that in its earthly existence it can become the mirror that captures and radiates a purer, stronger and more beautiful image of the Divinity than has been the case in the past. But it must be clear to all that the human reflection of God and the divine, no matter how glorious it may become in the earthly existence of human beings, can never fully reach its exalted ideal.

God's children who sprang from His Fatherly bosom - the Eldest, the Youngest and the human spirits - have *all* received the gift of eternal life; but since God never compels anyone to receive His gifts, He has also endowed every created spirit with a free will, with the right of self-determination; but He has thereby limited His own Will to His own Knowledge. On reaching a certain level of maturity all of God's children can by the right of self-determination themselves determine whether they wish to receive the gift of eternal life or whether they choose to sink back into God's Fatherly bosom.

This truth has been applied in an erroneous manner in Buddhist doctrine, in which according to some interpretations the human spirit, upon attaining the highest perfection, sinks back into "Nirvana" - into the Divinity. Buddha himself originally taught that when the human spirit through numerous rebirths had attained perfect freedom from all earthly influence and all earthly desire, it then returned to the source - to the Divinity - from which it sprang. This absorption, or reversion, was not considered by Buddha as the annihilation of the individuality but as an indissoluble bond with the divine, whereby the reverted self could follow the earthly path in serenity and contemplation. This absorption into the Divinity could sometimes be recognized in fleeting moments by certain highly advanced spirits in their earthly existence, and was then an indication that the spirit was living through its final incarnation.

All creation, the primary (the transcendental) as well as the secondary (the star universes) and all that has been called forth from Darkness through the fall of the Eldest, can at any time God chooses dissolve once more by the power of His omnipotent Will into the elements from which it was created or evolved.

Since all being and all life exist only by virtue of primal Thought and primal Will - the source of all creation, the first cause and first planning of all that is - God, who emanated Himself and through this emanation became capable of creation, can at any time He chooses dissolve His own Being as well as all creation; in other words: revert Himself together with all that He created to that which

He was, without beginning and without end - Thought and Cosmos will continue to exist only so long as God maintains the ated through the all-embracing laws of His Thought (gravitation, cohesion, adhesion, centrifugal and centripetal force, and so forth).

In theory God can thus let Himself and all creation sink back "Logos"; in practice He will never do so, since through His unending love for all His many children He has bound Himself for eternity by giving them the promise of eternal life.

At the moment God emanated Himself, He drew Darkness under the Light in a mighty circulation through His flaming Being, Darkness should thus be absorbed and purified by the Light.

When God resolved to create the star universes, Darkness was not absorbed and eliminated, it existed with latent poles as a wave undercurrent in the swirling waves of the Light.

Since even the highest¹ oscillations of the Darkness that are enclosed by the Light are much slower than the lowest frequencies of the Light, Darkness will always precipitate, so to speak, in the sea of the Light, for which reason God had to form the innermost cores of the four mother suns from the less rapid oscillations of the Light imperceptible to the human eye - which once more enclosed Darkness, with its still lower frequency of oscillation. From the innermost cores of the globes to their outermost limits the oscillations increase in speed. As its frequency increases the Light increases in concentration of strength and in ethereal radiance, which reason the outer layer becomes like a radiant corona - not perceptible to the human eye - though without attaining the degree of concentration and ethereal radiance emitted by those oscillations of the Light that, through the power of God's Will, created His Kingdom (the Central Globe).

Since all of the globes in the star universes have directly or indirectly originated from the four first-created mother suns, they are identical in their structure. But since the ether (the Light, and Darkness precipitated in it) flows through and pervades all space and thereby all the globes in the universes, the darker cores of globes will gradually diminish as the waves of the Light in their circulation draw more and more Darkness away to be purified through God's flaming Being.

When God had chosen the Earth as the dwelling place for the beings He had thought to create, He formed from the highest ethereal - oscillations of the Light a world of perfect beauty that

¹) The highest frequency of the polarized Darkness separated at the fall of the Eldest by contrast, about half way between the lowest and the highest frequencies of the Light

ounded the Earth as a sphere, as a spherical shell. It was God's intention that those of His first-created children who were chosen to be the leaders of the inhabitants of the Earth should stay here while carrying out their task. The ethereal radiations from this transcendental world should according to God's plan and together with the ethereal-astral radiations of the corona of Light of the Earth's sun have regulated climatic conditions on the Earth itself.

But when the Eldest began to experiment with their attempts at creation, large quantities of Darkness were separated from the ether, and these ravaged the world of Light that God had created around the Earth.¹ This separation activated the Poles of Darkness, and as a portion of the separated Darkness slowly approached the Earth, the hitherto latent poles in the Globe's core of Darkness were gradually activated under the influence of the approaching, polarized Darkness. As the Darkness drew closer to the core, it intermingled more and more with the Globe's ethereal corona of Light, causing a significant reduction in the corona's frequency of oscillation. When Darkness reached the core of the Earth, the entire Globe¹ was darkened, and it appeared to be without any luminous corona (this corona was visible only from the transcendental world). But because the Light, through God's victory over Darkness, can never be extinguished or conquered, Darkness could not eliminate or destroy the Globe's ethereal radiation of Light, but could only contaminate and obscure it.

Although the frequency of oscillation of the corona of Light was reduced and moderated by the influx of Darkness, the radiation of Light was still strong enough to contain or fixate the Darkness that had fixed with the Globe's core of Darkness. Due to this fixation, the principle of the polarized Darkness fused with the seeds of life - given by God - that were in the Globe's corona of Light, and cells of various kinds emerged. Some of these cells were of dual sex, others were of single sex. The reproduction, or generation, of new dual cells took place, and still takes place, by the simple processes of division, ligation, and the like; while on the other hand the generation of new single cells took place, and still takes place, by a preceding union of two cells of opposite sex.

Some microbes can reproduce in two ways. For example, when certain disease-producing bacteria enter the body as parasites, they reproduce by a simple division that gradually reduces their vitality, and the illness is cured as the bacteria expire, or

Most of the globes in the galactic system to which the Earth belongs are contaminated by Darkness to a greater or lesser extent; many are completely saturated *

as their vitality is reduced to the point where they no longer interfere with the body's normal functions. But if the patient receives a new infection of the same kind before all bacteria have expired, a union of the present and former bacteria occurs, with the resulting divisions. If the new bacteria are sufficiently vital, the former ones are revitalized, whereby the illness flares up again, until the vitality of the bacteria is weakened once more through numerous divisions. The disease can of course be alleviated or cured in other ways, for example by the body's own antitoxin, by administering antidotes, and so forth. The foregoing refers only to the normal life-cycle of the bacteria.

Bacteria of related strains can also merge, or be absorbed by one another, with subsequent division as a result. In this way new strains appear that produce new diseases.

Each single seed of life that God by the power of His Thought and Will had implanted in the Earth's ethereal corona of Light carried within itself the prototype of the animal or the plant, i.e., the form into which these seeds - by the power of God's Will and at a time determined by Him - should grow forth in the world of Light that He wished to create on Earth. Since these seeds were brought forth into earthly life through a union with the life-principle of Darkness, they became subject to the distorting, malforming and degenerating influence of Darkness. But since the corona of Light had fixated the influence of Darkness that transformed the Globe, the Light retained a regulating, elevating, differentiating and harmonizing influence on the single and dual-sexed cells and their reproduction, which had been produced by the fusion of the seeds of life with the life principle of Darkness.

The dual-sexed cells represented the lowest reproductive life form of Darkness, which could not lead to higher or more complex forms and which for this reason were unable to produce even the weak reflection of the prototypes that rested in the seeds of life given by God. The union of the single-sexed cells (male and female), controlled and guided by the regulating and harmonizing influence of the corona of Light,¹ is therefore a blind, mechanical simulation of the Darkness of the consciously-willed union of primal Thought and primal Will that resulted in the emergence of God as a personal Being.

Under the influence of the corona of Light through millions of years, with the continuous cell division and cell formation resulting

¹) According to the laws that God established by His Thought and Will for the radiation of the Light's energy, the lawless and aimless chaos on Earth is re-directed toward order and purpose, toward greater usefulness, greater beauty and greater perfection.

from the merging of male and female cells, the more and more complex forms of life evolved, the various intricate tissues organized into bones, muscles, nerves, and the like, and into the various modes of digestion, reproduction, etc., both in the animal and in the plant worlds. All these forms continually strive toward the prototypes implanted by God in the original seeds of life. This striving was, and still is, unceasingly restrained and disturbed by the degenerative tendencies of Darkness, and during this time (when the power of Darkness over the Earth was so exceptionally much greater than the power of the Light) the formation of cells led to the most hideous and bizarre forms, for example through the animals' mating at random, so that in many ways they were departing from rather than advancing toward the prototypes¹ that were embedded in the seeds.¹ As the Light gains greater power over the "separated Darkness", these mutations of Darkness will disappear, which means that the many hideous and harmful animal species will slowly die out over the coming thousands or millions of years. (The same holds true for the plant kingdom).

When human intelligence began experimenting with creating new forms within existing animal and plant species, human beings in many ways forestalled the influence of the Light. If these hybrids are to achieve a natural, independent and continued propagation within the developed forms, they must for hundreds, thousands or perhaps millions of years be exposed to the same care and the same treatment to which they are now subjected. Otherwise, when they are once again left to themselves, they will sooner or later revert to those forms they had reached under the slow but progressive ordering, elimination, adaptation and harmonization of the corona of Light.

However, the earthly forms will never reach the perfection of the prototypes in the primary seeds given by God, partly because these, for example in the animal kingdom, had been destined to lead a life without propagation and without death, and partly because Darkness cannot be completely eliminated until the Earth itself is destroyed and has been dissolved.

When the Eldest created the human beings, it was their intention that the species they created should be maintained through reproduction. They endowed for this reason the male and female life-forms of the human sexual cells with a characteristic, with a form,

¹) As a result of the overwhelming influence of Darkness at that time, many of the primary forms given by God were completely destroyed, for which reason the creatures that survived from the damaged seeds did not bear the faintest resemblance to the original prototypes.

T.A. that corresponded to the human type represented by the given seed. These primary seed prototypes (invisible under any form of human observation) were thus to be the principal foundation for the creatures of the Eldest and, through reproduction, were destined to be reborn and maintained in the future generations so long as the Earth was in the power of the Eldest. But when God adopted the human race and endowed the physical body with a divine element, the body was brought under the harmonizing influence of the Light. And as an ever-increasing number of the Youngest were incarnated among human beings, the fulness of beauty that they all carried in their thought also began through procreation to exert a strong influence on the Eldest's primary prototypes in the human life-seeds. This influence was mostly directed toward the beautification and ennoblement of the physical body. During the many millions of years that the human body has been subject to the progressive and beautifying influence of the Youngest and of the Light, the primary prototypes of the Eldest have gradually departed somewhat from the original degrading stamp of Darkness. This ennoblement is especially noticeable in those races where the Youngest are regularly incarnated.

The human male and female life-seeds will also at any given time accurately reflect the personal characteristics of each individual. Thus, all outer and inner family traits and talents inherited by each individual from his or her ancestors, and all experience personally acquired in life on Earth, lie dormant both in the physical and astral life-seeds of the individual and can be transmitted to the offspring through procreation.¹ Through the coincidence of various inner and external circumstances, these latent characteristics and talents can be caused to reappear in the new individuals. However, outward characteristics as well as inner qualities can also, through various coinciding causes, be repressed through several generations, only later to reappear in new combinations in a few or in several members of the family.

Through the incarnations of the Youngest the primary human prototype is drawn further and further away from its original appearance, both the astral and the physical. But if the Youngest were to discontinue their incarnations, the ennobling stamp that they have left on the human body would soon fade away and the physical body would begin to resemble its original prototype. All the psychic enrichment that human beings have gained from the Youngest through the astral counterpart would likewise slowly fade away, almost to the point of vanishing. And if God in addition were to

¹) See also pp. 274-75.

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back the divine element, human beings would within an appallingly short time - a few thousand years - revert to the characteristics with which they were endowed by the Eldest, characteristics that would be far below and far more animal-like than those of the most primitive peoples of today, and the last trace of spiritual life that humanity has received through the incarnations of the Youngest would at the same time completely disappear. *Human beings would again be entirely the creatures of the Eldest.*

Therefore: in the animal and plant kingdom a slow *approach to the primary prototypes* is taking place under the upgrading and ordering influence of the Light, an approach to those prototypes that God at the creation of the Earth gave for the animal and plant life that He intended to call forth. However, in the human world a slow departure from the primary prototype is taking place under the ordering and beautifying influence of the Light and the Youngest, a departure from the primary prototypes that were given by the Eldest at the creation of mankind.

During the development of new individuals and through a combination of concurrent circumstances under the influence of Darkness, both astral and physical deviations toward the original prototypes can occur. The incursions of Darkness can likewise be so powerful as to cause deviations from these prototypes, thereby producing malformed offspring. If the incursions of Darkness go so deep as to impair the basis of the prototype, both astral and physical deviations, malformations and deficiencies can be inherited by the offspring. But should the human body for some reason become deformed or deficient during life on Earth, for example through amputations, surgical removal of organs, deformities caused by burns and the like, when the prototype is not changed. Only when Darkness intervenes directly and transmutes the prototype does the changed characteristic become heritable.

¹ Because of the fixation by the corona of Light of the astral and molecular Darkness, all earthly life, all organic and inorganic substances arose as dualities, so that the forms that were due only to the molecular oscillations of the fixated material Darkness - oscillations of larger particles - assumed an apparently solid consistency in the earthly world, but appeared misty and unreal when seen from the transcendental world; whereas the counterparts that were formed from the fixated astral Darkness - faster oscillations of smaller particles - in combination with the reduced and muted oscillations of the polluted corona of Light assumed solid, visible forms¹ and figures¹ when seen from the transcendental world, but remained in-

¹) Though not as firm in its consistency as that which is produced by the oscillations of the light, as for example in the higher spheres.

visible to the eyes of human beings when they subsequently entered the earthly world.

Thus: the Earth's ethereal corona of Light fixated the Darkness that had fused with the core of the Earth; the faster and the less rapid oscillations of Darkness were thereby linked together, so that the molecular products of Darkness were strengthened through the somewhat faster oscillations, smaller particles and greater cohesive and adhesive properties of the astral Darkness. But the possibility was thereby created for the Light gradually to acquire a more regulating and balancing influence on the molecular products of Darkness on Earth, since the capacity of the molecules for stabilizing one another in the rotating oscillation, as well as their capacity for mutual adhesion - as for example, in the structuring of cells - was significantly strengthened through the fixation and reinforcement of the stabilizing, cohesive and adhesive properties of the particles of astral Darkness by the corona of Light. Where a pathological state - infection by micro-organisms or other abnormal conditions - might threaten to dissolve the bond between the molecular products of Darkness and their astral counterparts, the possibility was also created for the Light through its strong vital force and stabilizing, cohesive and adhesive power, to counteract or arrest the incipient dissolution. And in cases where the cause of this incipient dissolution could be removed or eliminated, the greater stabilizing, cohesive and adhesive capacity of the Light would be able once more to bind the loosened bond between the molecular products of Darkness and their astral counterparts, whereby the complete separation that would otherwise result in death and disintegration would be prevented, that, for example, the life span of earthly forms of animals and plants could be prolonged through the re-establishment by the Light of the bond with their astral counterparts.

Through fixation by the corona of Light of the Darkness that flowed into and over the Earth, and of the life-principle that existed in it, the life-potential of the molecular products of Darkness was thus improved and prolonged.

If the Globe's ethereal corona of Light had not been strong enough to fixate the Darkness, the Light would never have been able to gain any influence at all over the Darkness that had been separated by the Eldest; the Earth would then, if it had not been disintegrated and dissolved, have been brought completely into the power of Darkness, since the ethereal corona of Light, which cannot be eliminated by Darkness, would have been re-absorbed by the ether; in this case God would have had only one way in which to re-establish or

amid the destruction: by the power of His Will to dissolve and annihilate the Earth, the ravaged Kingdom and His eldest, fallen children; for on account of the re-absorption by the ether of the ethereal radiations of the Earth and the ravaged Kingdom, the territory thus conquered by Darkness would have been completely precluded from all further connection with the Light. But since God had endowed all His children with a free will, and thereby limited His own power over them, He could never annihilate the Eldest, no matter how deep they had fallen, without breaking His promise. For which reason this means of restituting the fallen and the destruction that had occurred could never be realized, for if God had annihilated the existence of the Eldest, He would have done this against their wish and against their will.

In His omniscience God had foreseen this, and for this reason He had laid a world of Light around the Earth - the Kingdom ravaged by Darkness - formed from the rapid, ethereal oscillations of the Light, and endowed the ethereal-astral corona of the Globe with a strength of Light far greater than that possessed by the other suns and the stars and planets. The Earth's corona of Light thereby became so concentrated that it was transformed from the ethereal-astral into the ethereal, and thus became capable of fixating the in-flowing Darkness. Should any of God's children succumb to Darkness, the possibility was thus created of restoring all things to their proper order in the course of time through a steadily increasing influence on the part of God and of the Light, even though this reconquest from Darkness might take many aeons to achieve, for there could, of course, be no question of exerting any force against the free will of the fallen children.

With this provision God thus succeeded in saving His eldest children from absolute perdition.

The remaining astral Darkness that surrounded the Globe, and which had neither fused with the core nor been fixated by the corona of Light, partly absorbed the radiance from the earthly sun's ethereal-astral corona of Light, so that the astral counterpart of the Earth together with all counterparts of earthly life existing there was left unilluminated, without any appreciable difference between day and night. But the radiance of the sun's less luminous core, which consists of precipitated Darkness enclosed by the Light's slow oscillations, was able to pass through astral Darkness almost without resistance and to illuminate the earthly world, though it was not able to illuminate the astral counterpart of the Globe. (The slowest oscillations that enclose the sun's core will in the course of time become visible to the human eye).

In order to render the primordial state of the Earth's astral counterpart more understandable to human thought, the following comparison between astral conditions and an earthly scene may serve to illustrate the situation: during a storm - for example a thunderstorm, which to human beings is a visible manifestation of the powers of Darkness - the dark thunder clouds will, depending on the severity of the storm, to a greater or to a lesser extent exclude the rays of the sun that under normal conditions are visible to the human eye. Even though the sunlight has apparently been extinguished, the sun and its rays are still present behind the thick cloud cover. The astral Darkness around the entire Earth similarly held back the sun's ethereal-astral radiations of Light, so that they reached neither the Earth nor its astral counterpart.

According to God's plan, it was the ethereal-astral radiations of the earthly Light that should have illuminated and irradiated the Earth.

Neither the *weakest* rays from the sun's core of Darkness, nor the most strongly shining rays from the sun's corona of Light, will ever become visible to the eyes either of human beings or of animals.

Since the Eldest had decided to create beings who could make themselves masters of the Earth, they had to try to produce a creature that, without being an animal, nevertheless had the structural characteristics of animals as prototype both in astral and in earthly respects; to separate the molecular oscillations of the fixated Darkness and to create life from these alone was impossible from the outset, because of the poor capacity for adhesion and cohesion of these molecules. Besides, the life-principle of molecular Darkness did not possess sufficiently long-lasting vitality for this to form the sole basis for sufficiently regular and continued reproduction. Thus, it became necessary for the Eldest to utilize the life-principle of both the astral Light and the molecular Darkness which had been fixated by the corona of Light and which, by fusing with the life-principle that was given by God in the corona of Light, had produced cells in all their various forms.

Being obliged to work with this "double material" to a great extent delayed the Eldest and complicated their aim, and since in the pursuit of their goal they constantly "forgot" various minor details that were essential to the whole, it was necessary for them to experiment for a long time with the design and assembly of cells into tissue and organic tissue before they achieved a result that was satisfactory to them; a result that in several important and fundamental respects nonetheless turned out to be most unfortunate for human beings.

One of these many imperfections will be described in the following, since it is of especially great importance to human beings: namely: the earthly body's insufficient capacity for regeneration

reconstruction of the internal organs, bones, and so forth.

As mentioned earlier, some of the life-seeds that existed in the corona of Light before the wanton destruction by Darkness began were destined by God to appear on Earth, under the influence of the astral Light, as various animal species having an enduring life in the form of life once given, and not being subject to any manner of death or partial destruction. Hence, no law was given by God for the regeneration of lost parts or impaired organs, since such a law would have been entirely superfluous in a world of the Light. But when Darkness awakened the latent seeds destined to become animal forms, these became in various ways subject to death and decay, and for the higher species of animal there was no prospect of regenerating by new growth any damaged or lost parts of the body. And when the Eldest created human beings, partly with the existing animal forms as prototypes for their internal structure, they forgot, confused as they were by Darkness, to take this deficiency into account. For this reason the Eldest established no laws for a *more extensive* reconstruction of the human body.

Thus: in cases where human beings through accident or through necessary amputation lose an entire limb or part of a limb, the loss cannot be made good by any form of regenerative growth. Nor can anyone, no matter how highly developed the spirit, by the power of his Will or by the radiations of the spirit-body, cause new parts or new limbs to grow in the damaged areas. Neither will prayers to God nor calls upon His assistance be of the least benefit in such cases; since God never violates the law for the construction and existence of the human body, the imperfect law that was established and followed by the Eldest when they formed and created the first human beings, and for whose deficiency they alone bear the full responsibility.

The possibility that God would take upon himself any responsibility for so incomplete a creation as the human body, which in every respect is a very poor imitation of God's own creation, is absolutely out of the question.

Even if it had been God's intention by the power of His Will to improve upon the creatures of the Eldest by establishing laws for the regeneration of excised organs and amputated limbs, this would not have been the only change necessary, since the human body as it now appears from the hand of its creators is singularly imperfect in several other respects of importance to human beings.

However, if God had sought to relieve these deficiencies and to establish laws for the perfection and reconstruction of the physical body. He would thereby also have accepted responsibility for His fallen children's work of creation. *But God would no more do this*

than an artist on Earth would accept responsibility for the botch and bungling of a pupil or an imitator. God will therefore never change that which was once given by the Eldest. But He tries through the intelligence with which He has enriched human beings to mitigate some of the many deficiencies. (For example, through medicine or surgery; and where the medical arts do not suffice human beings have learned to resort to mechanical aids).

Through the many incarnations, the human spirit builds up individual personality. Just as a mature or aging person can remember and look back upon thoughts and feelings and recall incidents and actions from early childhood, and yet as an adult in every way be able to identify with the child maturing slowly over the decades and years, so can the released spirit remember as far back in time as thought can reach and still feel a complete identity with all the human beings to whom it has given spiritual life. The gradual development of the self unfolds before the spirit as kaleidoscopic images from (the first feeble and weak personal beings to whom it has been bound) to those who through a slow progression have become more highly developed and more conscious personalities.

Therefore: just as a human being at any given time represents the sum of his or her life, so does the individual personality of a released spirit represent the sum of the thoughts, feelings, actions and experiences of all its previous lives on Earth.

However, the incarnations of the Youngest² present a different picture. When the Youngest promised God to become the leaders and mentors of human beings they were already highly developed personalities. When they look back on the lives that they have led as human beings, they feel – to use an easily understandable illustration from earthly life – more like actors and actresses who recall the stage figures to whom they have given life over the years by their art and talent. Actors always prefer the stage roles that most closely express their true selves and were brought to life in the portrayal because of the actors' distinctive character. In the same way will also the Youngest in their recollection of previous lives feel most attracted to those who will most closely identify with those human beings on whom they have left the purest and most noble imprint of their spirit's ex-

¹) In the same way that a human being is unable to recall the very first years of his released human spirit is unable to recall the very first incarnations.

²) The Youngest are of course able to remember even their very first incarnations.

individuality. And like the actors who on leaving the stage will cast off their masks and reveal their true selves, so will also the Youngest, when at death they leave the earthly scene and once more awakened to full consciousness, cast off the human mask and appear as the highly developed individualities that they were before entering the earthly stage to take part in the great drama of the world.

The Eldest, who through their wilful embodiment as human beings brought themselves under the Law of Retribution, must – after incarnation after incarnation – all restore their personalities, which were debased and distorted by Darkness. But in His deep compassion God extends the greatest possible help to these unfortunate human beings by blotting out, as far as this is possible, the memory of all that they had experienced before the Earth came into being, so that in all appearances they are like human spirits.

Just as every released human spirit can look back upon its struggle out of Darkness and forward toward the Light, so can God follow His own struggle out of Darkness through past eternity until the final victory was reached. But to God it is not retrospection but experience in the present; for as He carries all time – finite as well as infinite – in His all-embracing Thought, the concept of time does not exist for Him.

The concepts of time and space are given by God for the use of all created beings; thus all of them are to a greater or lesser degree dependent on these concepts. The higher the spirit rises, the more it will be freed from these limiting concepts, but it will never gain full mastery over time and space. Since they were emanated by God through the power of His Will, even God's Servants cannot attain complete release from the concepts of time and space. Where God wishes to be, there He is, the same instant that the Thought arises; but for God's Servants some time must pass from the conception of the thought until it is carried out. It takes, for example, three seconds for God's Servants to cover the distance between God's Kingdom and the Earth.

In all that has been created or called to life on Earth there is a faint reflection of God's own struggle forward. Each planted seed lies enclosed in the darkness of the Earth until it inevitably sprouts forth toward the light. The human child and the mammal's young lie enclosed in the darkness of the maternal womb until the moment comes when they inevitably strive forward toward the light. The young of birds are enclosed in the darkness of the egg until also they inevitably struggle forth from the shell, and so forth. But the struggles of the seed, the child, the mammal's young and the young of birds from darkness into light, from becoming into being, these are

unconscious, for it is the victorious power of the Light that draws them forth. These *unconscious* struggles are thus no more than voluntary imitations of God's *conscious* struggle.

Also in the struggle of mankind away from primitive, beast-like beings - caricatures of their creators - to the state of development now attained by the average human being can be seen a faint reflection and a likeness of God's own struggle out of Darkness.

The greatest likeness can be found, however, in the struggle forward of each individual human spirit through the many earthly incarnations from the deepest spiritual Darkness until certainly the spirit's own sovereign will for the Light releases it from Earth and leads it slowly to the goal - God's Kingdom - a goal that still lies far into the future for even the most advanced human spirit.

The unceasing struggle of earthly life away from Darkness toward the Light is first of all due to the Earth's ethereal corona of Light, which by its fixation of the Darkness that was separated at the fall of the Eldest became able to influence the earthly-material products of Darkness, and which by the strength that God concentrated in its radiations became able to bring the chaotic and distorted life-forms of Darkness into a more orderly state. On Earth as human beings experience it therefore became a ceaseless struggle from the possibility to the reality of life, an existence on account of the short life span allotted to the material products of Darkness is constantly subject to decline, withering, death and destruction; a struggle and a cycle that will continue as long as conditions for life on Earth obtain.

Even though the sun's role as the Earth's physical source of heat and light must not be disregarded, but must always be taken into consideration in connection with life on Earth, the solar rays could never have called forth the profusion of forms of life that exist on the Earth, had the ethereal corona of Light - the Earth's soul - not existed. Nor would the radiance of the sun have been able to exercise any significant regulating influence on existing conditions, apart from the greater or lesser influence that is dependent on and arises from the various positions of the Globe in relation to the sun, and from the distance of the various regions of the Earth from its equator.

But since God, by the power of His Will, has formed an ethereal corona of Light around the Earth, its radiations of energy surround and strengthen the radiance of the sun that penetrates the atmospheric layers to benefit the Globe, so that the influence of the sun's radiance upon earthly life thereby acquires a greater and more significant importance.

Since the sun has to a great extent been affected by the many collisions with accumulations of Darkness that drifted, and which still drift about in space, those radiations that reach the Earth through the atmospheric layers are not of a uniform strength, because the rays from the affected parts are considerably weaker than the others. These differences influence the meteorological and climatic conditions.

The Ice Ages of the Earth were caused by the reduced strength of the sun's radiance after collisions with drifting accumulations of Darkness; but since the radiance from the sun's corona of Light and the surrounding Light-ether have eliminated large portions of the accumulations of Darkness that were depolarized by the collision, more normal climatic conditions prevail once more on Earth at this time, after many thousands of years later.

The corona of Light also acts as a condensing medium for the radiance of the sun that reaches the Earth. If the corona did not exist, the solar rays would be refracted during their passage through the Earth's atmospheric layers, and would seem to earthly eyes to be broken and scattered. Since the corona not only now encloses the whole Globe, but has in addition fixated the Darkness to whose astral and molecular oscillations the earthly bodies and the earthly forms owe their existence, all luminous bodies and sources of light each separately appear, like sunlight, with a unified monochrome radiation of light. As the corona is cleansed of Darkness, which takes place exceedingly slowly, it will become better and better able to overcome the capacity for refraction and colour-separation¹ of the atmosphere, of water, glass and other materials. This slowly increasing resistance of the corona to all² forms of refraction and scattering will at some time in the future be of advantage to instruments for astronomic observations, when lenses will admit of significant enlargement without the colour tones of refraction interfering with the astronomic observations.

The Earth's ethereal corona of Light is the vital energy of earthly life, a stabilizing, sustaining, regulating, unifying, stimulating and renewing energy that constantly radiates power and strength to the smallest things as well as to the largest; an energy that can never be destroyed by Darkness, and which never diminishes, regardless of how much energy it radiates.

Thus: life on Earth is primarily dependent on the ethereal corona

¹ The colours will gradually etherealize, i. e., they will become purer and clearer until they finally disappear completely.

² The special refraction that causes the colour-spectrum at sunrise and sunset will become much more difficult for the corona of Light to overcome than ordinary refraction. The time required will probably exceed the millions of years that in all probability are still allotted to earthly life. However, during the Earth's lifetime, mankind will be able to observe the realization of the colour-spectrum produced by this special refraction.