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Introduction

Every person who incarnates into this physical world has a particular mission or purpose in God's plan which he is here to fulfill. The particular mission and humble gift that God has graced me with is twofold in function.

The first is the ability to consolidate vast amounts of practical, useful, and very interesting spiritual information in an easy-to-understand form. The second is the ability to garnish and harvest the essential kernels from this vast amount of spiritual information and leave the rest behind.

My mission in writing this book and the three books that follow it was, in essence, to save people time. This book is the first of a series of four books which I have collectively called *The Easy-to-Read Encyclopedia of the Spiritual Path*.

What I have attempted to do is present to my reader four easy-to-read books that cover the entire field of spirituality and religion on Planet Earth. I realize that most people do not like to spend time reading, studying, and researching as much as I do. My service to humanity is the ability to take the information in the Alice A. Bailey books, *A Course in Miracles*, Theosophy, the Great Masters, the Edgar Cayce material, the world's great religions, spiritual psychology, and the extraterrestrial movement and make these books and subjects easy to understand.

The Alice Bailey books, for example, are, in my opinion, some of the most profound books ever written on Planet Earth. The problem is that they are so difficult to read that most people will never take the time to completely study them. Most people do not have the time or the inclination to research and study the thousands of books, teachings, religions, and mystery schools that grace our planet.

My service to humanity is, in essence, to provide a shortcut. Stated in another way, this spiritual encyclopedia could be likened to the Cliff Notes of the spiritual path. I have most joyously done the vast amount of research for you and have brought to you the pearls from the oyster. This will give my reader a solid introduction to religion, spirituality, and the teachings of the Spiritual Hierarchy and Ascended Masters that govern this planet.

Please do not be intimidated by the word encyclopedia, for this collected work does not read like what we normally consider an encyclope-

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dia. It is easy to read, filled to the brim with practical, extremely useful, and absolutely fascinating information.

The books are also written with dynamic enthusiasm that comes from a deep and profound love for God and great love for what I have been commissioned to share. These books, though easy to read and a type of Cliff Notes, are still incredibly comprehensive. The information has been accessed through both intuitive and didactic means and I have attempted to integrate the entire field into one synergistic, unified whole.

The religions of the future will be more universal in nature and will honor and respect all paths to God. This series of books will, hence, serve as a type of networking vehicle. It will allow people to be introduced to the many pathways to God, and as they are guided by their souls, they may read other books and get involved with organizations I have referenced.

It is my humble prayer that these books may serve to accelerate your path of initiation and your realization of your unity and oneness with God.

Joshua David Stone, Ph.D.

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The Story of Creation

Mind is the Builder

Edgar Cayce

The following story of creation is quite an amazing and often unbelievable story. I just want to qualify this chapter by saying that I didn't make any of this up myself. All of this information comes directly out of the Universal Mind channelings of Edgar Cayce and other sources such as Djwhal Khul, Ruth Montgomery, The Tibetan Foundation, and other similar types of channelings. The amazing thing is that all these different sources tell a basically similar story, so I know that I am very much on the mark, although some of it may be quite surprising to some readers.

In the beginning was one source of Light, the one presence, called God. God, in His great joy and love, had a desire to create, to express Himself. From this undifferentiated state God created suns, moons, galaxies, universes, and He liked what He had created. Something, however, was missing: companionship. God wanted to create self-conscious beings who could share His joy of creation. Out of the infinity of God came trillions of sparks of Light made in His image.

Out of this expression also came Amilius, the Light, the first expression of the Divine mind, the first manifestation of spirit. All souls were created in the beginning and all souls were androgynous. The unique thing about our creation was the aspect of free choice.

In our creation we went jetting out into the universe, creating as God creates, with our minds, and extending God's kingdom. We were perfect, and this was the Edenic state. In our travels through the infinity of God, we discovered the physical, or material, universe and we were in-

trigued, for in the beginning we didn't have physical bodies, just spiritual bodies.

Then we began projecting a part of ourselves into, let's say the Earth, to explore the beauty of matter. There was, in actuality, nothing wrong with this, for the entire infinite universe was a playground of sorts. We began projecting a part of ourselves into a tree to see what a tree was like. Then we would project ourselves into a rock to see what that was like, then into an animal to experience what it was like to eat grass and interrelate with other animals.

In each case we would do this and then we would leave and project ourselves back into the spiritual planes. We would also, then, with the incredible power of our minds, create thought forms of animals through the power of our imaginations. These thought forms would begin to densify and we would inhabit these thought form creatures just as we would an animal that had already been created.

This was all fine until that moment in creation which the Bible refers to as the fall of man. It was in this moment that we forgot who we were because of our over-identification with the material universe. We got caught in the density of matter and thought we were the animals or thought form animal creatures we had created.

Falling under the illusion that we were material instead of spiritual in identity began the downward spiral of creation. In this moment, "ego" began, ego being a thought system and philosophy based on the illusionary belief in separation, fear, selfishness, and death.

This phenomenon of souls' getting more and more deeply caught up in the illusion of matter continued at an alarming rate. Amilius (an incarnation of Jesus) and other higher beings who had not fallen knew that something had to be done to help their fellow brothers and sisters, for man was continuing to create a conglomeration of monstrosities to satisfy his out-of-control desire.

He created cyclopes, satyrs, centaurs, unicorns, animal bodies with human heads, beings with hooves, claws, feathers, wings, and tails. Man had become trapped in the grotesque bodies that were not suitable for sons and daughters of God. Man even created the first female, whose name was Lilith and who was the forerunner of Eve. This projection was created again to satisfy his selfish carnal desires.

The plan that God and the Godforce created to rectify this situation was the creation of five physical races on the five continents of the planet. Each race had a different skin color. No skin color was better than another, but each was for a different climate condition. Certain skin colors were better for certain climates.

The plan was that all those souls who had gotten caught up in matter

would use these more perfectly fitted human bodies to incarnate into, bodies that were more fitting for sons and daughters of God. So man did not descend from monkeys, as the evolutionist would suggest; we were created.

After the creation of the five races there were one hundred thirty-three million souls on the Earth. The red race lived in Atlantis and America, the brown race in the Andes and Lemuria, the yellow race in the Gobi Desert of East Asia, the black race in the Sudan and upper West Africa, and the white race in Iran along the Black Sea and in the Carpathian Mountains of central Europe.

The basic plan that God created was reincarnation: souls would incarnate into these human bodies rather than into animal bodies to reawaken to their true identity as God-beings and learn to demonstrate this on Earth, hence beginning their ascent back to the Creator.

This act of creation occurred ten and a half million years ago. The animal influences created by the fall and the initial thought form projections of animals didn't completely disappear from the Earth until around 9,000 B.C. Remnants of these pathetic creatures were later depicted in our mythology and in Assyrian and Egyptian art.

Another factor that involved the grotesque animal creations was that in the earliest of times, human beings were able to procreate with the animal species and with the grotesque beings. After human souls were separated into male and female, God imposed Divine laws making it impossible for human beings to produce offspring with another species.

Man was able to live up to one thousand years in the same body until another Divine law was implemented to change this because of the need for souls to be able to reflect more on the inner plane about the purpose and reason for incarnation.

Amilius (the first incarnation of Jesus Christ) himself descended into matter and became the first Adam at the time of the creation of the five first root races. Adam was the first of the perfected race, the first of the sons of God, as opposed to what the Bible refers to as the daughters of men. Adam was an individual but also a symbol of all five races, as was Eve.

The Seven Root Races

The graph on page five shows the seven root races that make up what is esoterically termed the manvantara or world cycle. These root races, seen in column one of the graph, make up a period of time of from eighteen and a half million years ago to our present day.

Sanat Kumara, our Planetary Logos, incarnated into this planet at this time. We are currently living in the Aryan root race. This term was completely distorted by Hitler and Nazi Germany, so please don't think