

HPB in 1889
(professionally colorized)

HELENA BLAVATSKY

The Extraordinary Life and Influence of

HELENA BLAVATSKY

FOUNDER OF THE MODERN THEOSOPHICAL MOVEMENT



SYLVIA CRANSTON

CAREY WILLIAMS, Research Assistant



Ignaz Moscheles

The purpose of the visit [to London] may have been to obtain advanced musical instruction. HPB spoke of receiving a few lessons from "old Moscheles," the noted pianist-composer who was then teaching in the Leipzig Conservatory. All this suggests she contemplated earning a living as a professional pianist. Several years later, it is said, she did give some concerts in England and on the continent.

HPB appears not to have stayed long with her father. She went to Paris, where Sinnett says she knew "many literary celebrities of the time, and where a famous mesmerist, still living as I write, though an old man now, discovered her wonderful psychic gifts, and was very eager to retain her under his control as a sensitive. But the chains had not yet been forged that could make her prisoner, and she quitted Paris precipitately to escape this influence."

In early 1851, HPB was in London, employed as companion to a family friend, Countess Bagration. They were staying in Mivart's Hotel, now called The Claridge. Two years had elapsed since leaving Russia, and HPB was in a deep depression.

What Voltaire once said of himself seemed to echo her own thoughts: “I have consumed forty years of my pilgrimage… seeking the philosopher’s stone of truth… and still remain in ignorance.” To Dondoukov-Korsakov, she recalled the period thirty years later: When sick of everything, tired of poor old Countess Bagration who held me confined in “Mivart’s Hotel,” making me read the Chitaminyi and the Bible, I escaped on to Waterloo Bridge, for I was seized with a strong desire to die. I had long felt the temptation approaching. This time I did not seek to resist it and the muddy water of the Thames seemed to me a delicious bed. I was seeking eternal repose not being able to find the “stone” and having lost the “Virgin”.

Then, looming up before her appeared the figure of her teacher and protector. He “woke me up and saved me and, to console me with life, promised me the Stone and the Virgin.” –

H.P.B.: The Extraordinary Life and Influence of Helena Blavatsky, p. 43-4



Old Waterloo Bridge, London

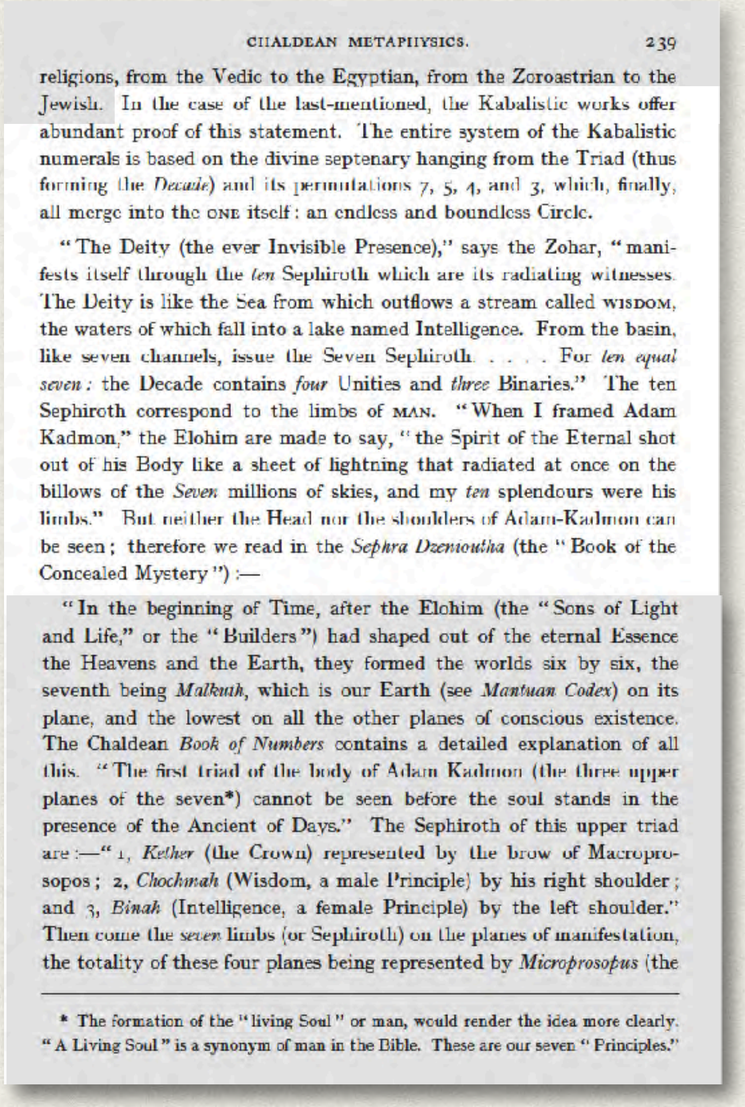
VERSE 5

The spark hangs from the flame by the finest thread of Fohat. It journeys through the Seven Worlds of Maya (a). *It stops in the first (Kingdom), and is a metal and a stone; it passes into the second (Kingdom), and behold — a plant; the plant whirls through seven forms and becomes a sacred animal; (the first shadow of the physical man) (b).*

From the combined attributes of these, Manu (man), the thinker, is formed.

Who forms him? The seven lives; and the one life (c). Who completes him? The fivefold Lha. And who perfects the last body? Fish, sin, and soma (the moon) (d).

In the case of the last-mentioned, the Kabalistic works offer abundant proof of this statement. The entire system of the Kabalistic numerals is based on the divine septenary hanging from the Triad (thus forming the Decade) and its permutations 7, 5, 4, and 3, which, finally, all merge into the one itself: an endless and boundless Circle. "The Deity (the ever Invisible Presence)," says the Zohar, "manifests itself through the ten Sephiroth which are its radiating witnesses. The Deity is like the Sea from which outflows a stream called wisdom, the waters of which fall into a lake named Intelligence. From the basin, like seven channels, issue the Seven Sephiroth. . . For ten equal seven: the Decade contains four Unities and three Binaries." The ten Sephiroth correspond to the limbs of man. "When I framed Adam Kadmon," the Elohim are made to say, "the Spirit of the Eternal shot out of his Body like a sheet of lightning that radiated at once on the billows of the Seven millions of skies, and my ten splendors were his limbs." But neither the Head nor the shoulders of Adam-Kadmon can be seen; therefore we read in the Sephra Dzeniоutha (the "Book of the Concealed Mystery"):



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ספרא דצניעותא

ממנו יתד ממנו פנה

לאדרא רבא • ולאדרא זוטא • ויסוד מוסד לכל דברי הזוהר הקדוש

אלהים בקדש דרכו • ישת חשך סביבותיו סוכות• עד אשר ישלח מזרום מגלה
עמוקות מבי חשך • הוא צוה ויעמוד עיר וקריש מן שמיא הקדוש האלהי
האר"י זצוק"ל • הפליא הגריל תושיה בביאוריו ולא זכינו לראות מביאורו על ספרא
דנא • כ"א שניים שלשה גרגרים בראש אמיר פרקא קדמאה• ומאמר מפרקא תניינא

ועתה הרחיב ה׳ לנו

ביאור רחב • על כל ענין וענין • ועל כל מאמר ומאמר • וכמעט על כל תיבה
ותיבה • מראשית ספרא דנא • ועד תומו • הכינה וגם חקרה גאון עוזינו
נור ישראל וקדושו הגאון האמיתי רשבב"ה מהו׳ **אליהו** מווילנא זצוק"ל :

קץ שם לחשך ותעלומה יוציא לאור • ויראו אפיקי ים הקבלה • ויגלו מוסדות החכמה
מאין תמצא ואיזה מקום בינה :

ווילנא והוראדנא

ע"י המוציאים ס"ב ר' **מנחם מן** במוה"ר **ברוך** ז"ל : וס"ב ר' **שמחה זימל** במוה"ר
מנחם נחום ז"ל :

בסגנת ככל חסר מחלת משם ס' • **כן יתן לך** (נפ"ק) : וכל **עצתך** ימלא לפ"ק :

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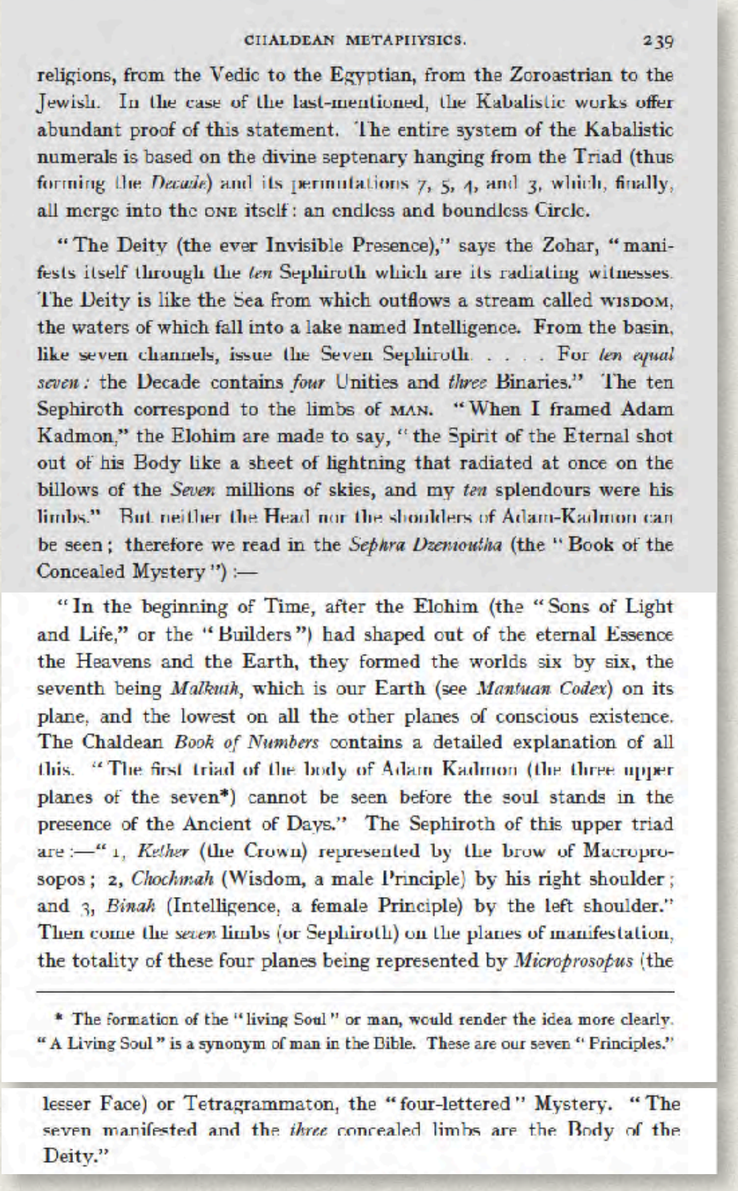
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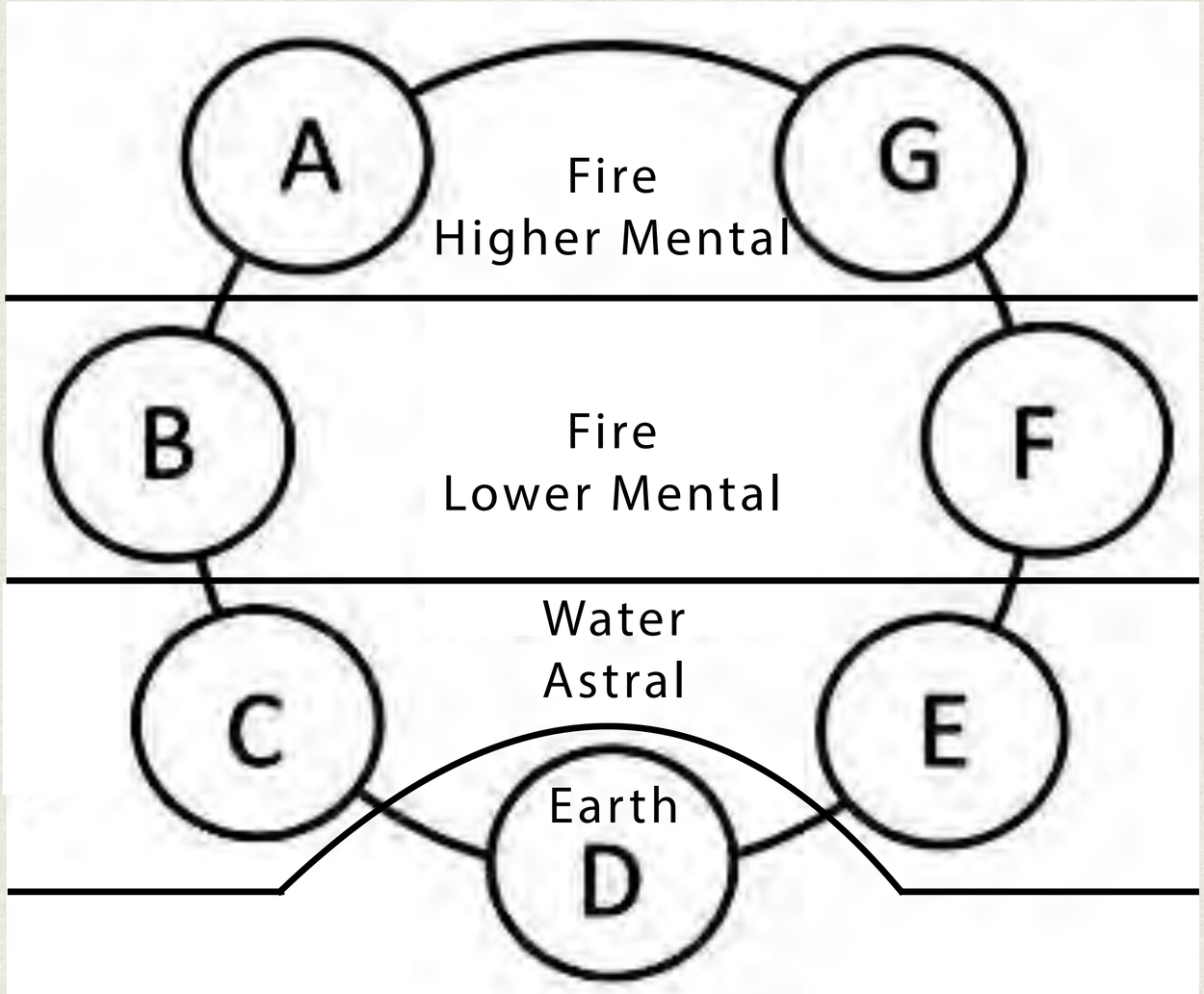
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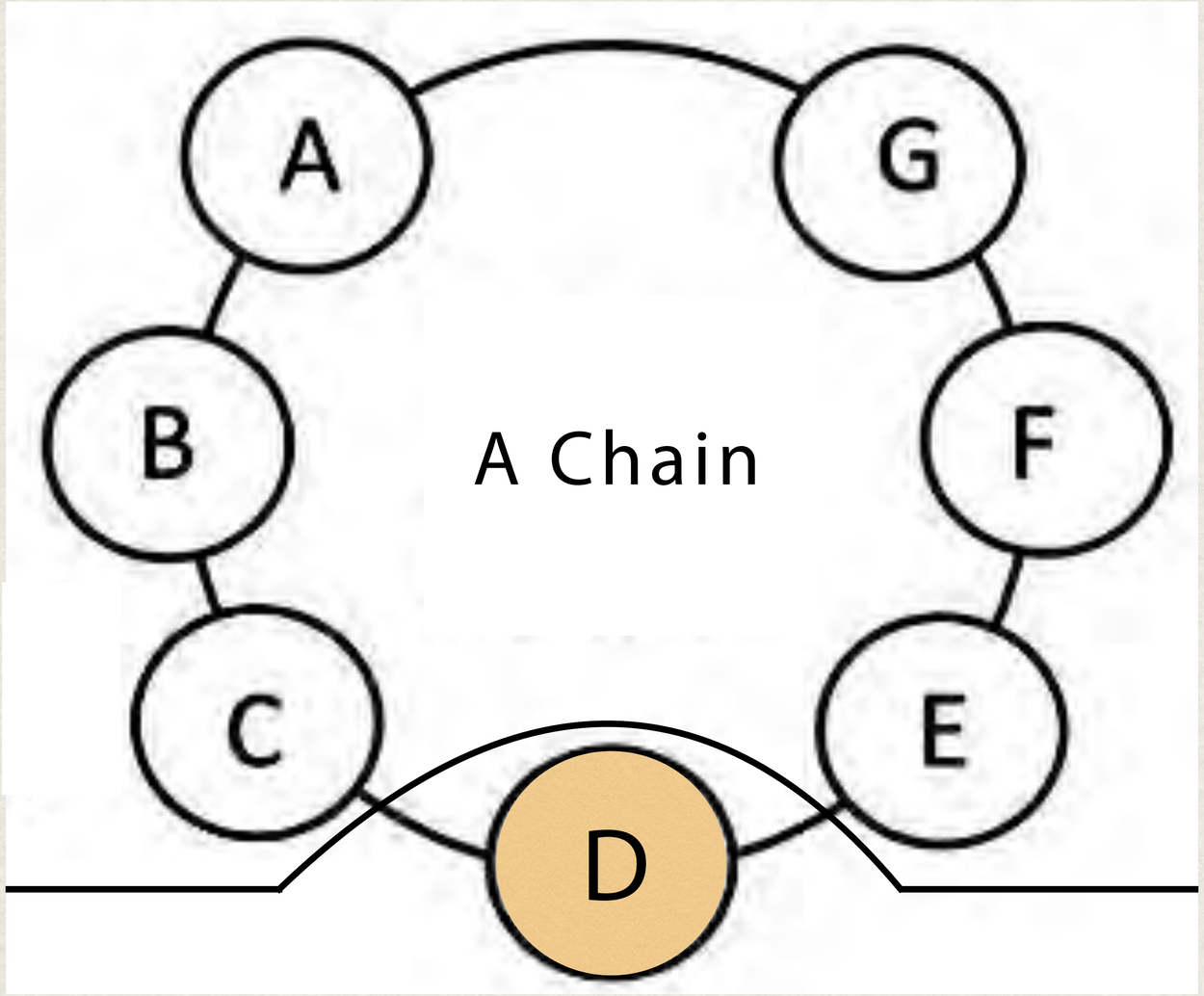
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A Chain


A
G
Fire
Higher Mental
B
F
Fire
Lower Mental
Water
Astral
C
E
Earth
D


A
G
B
A Chain
F
C
E
D

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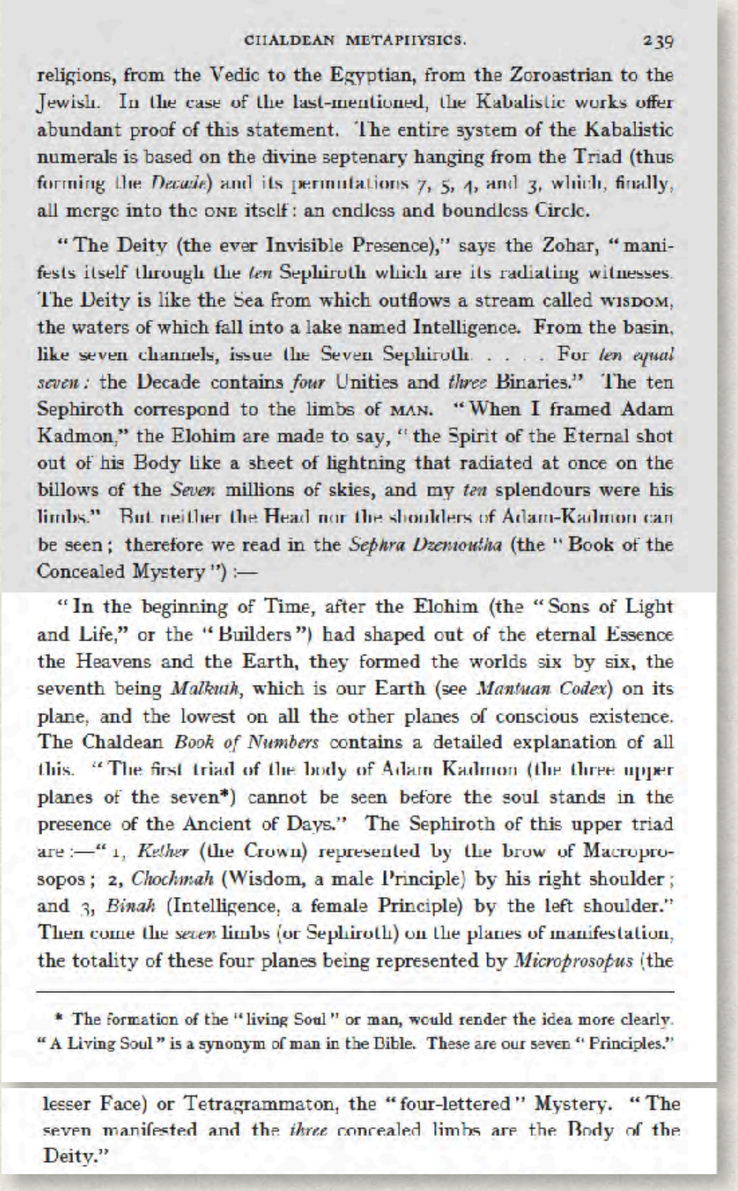
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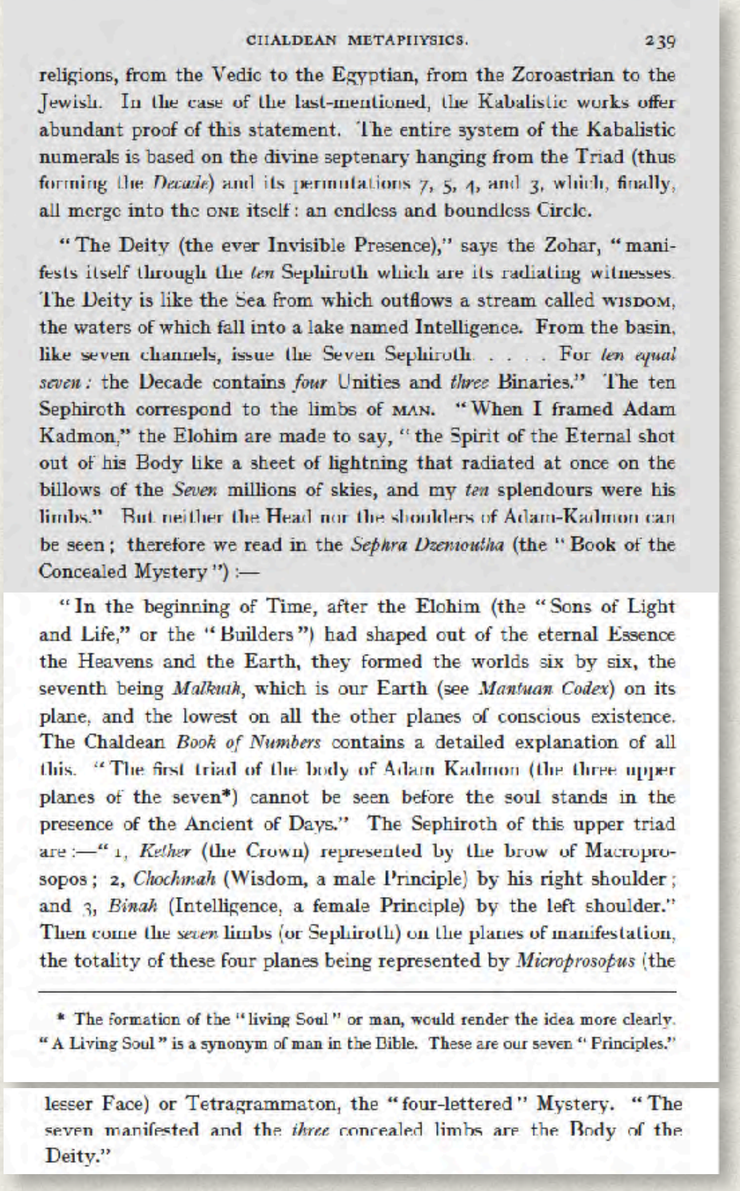
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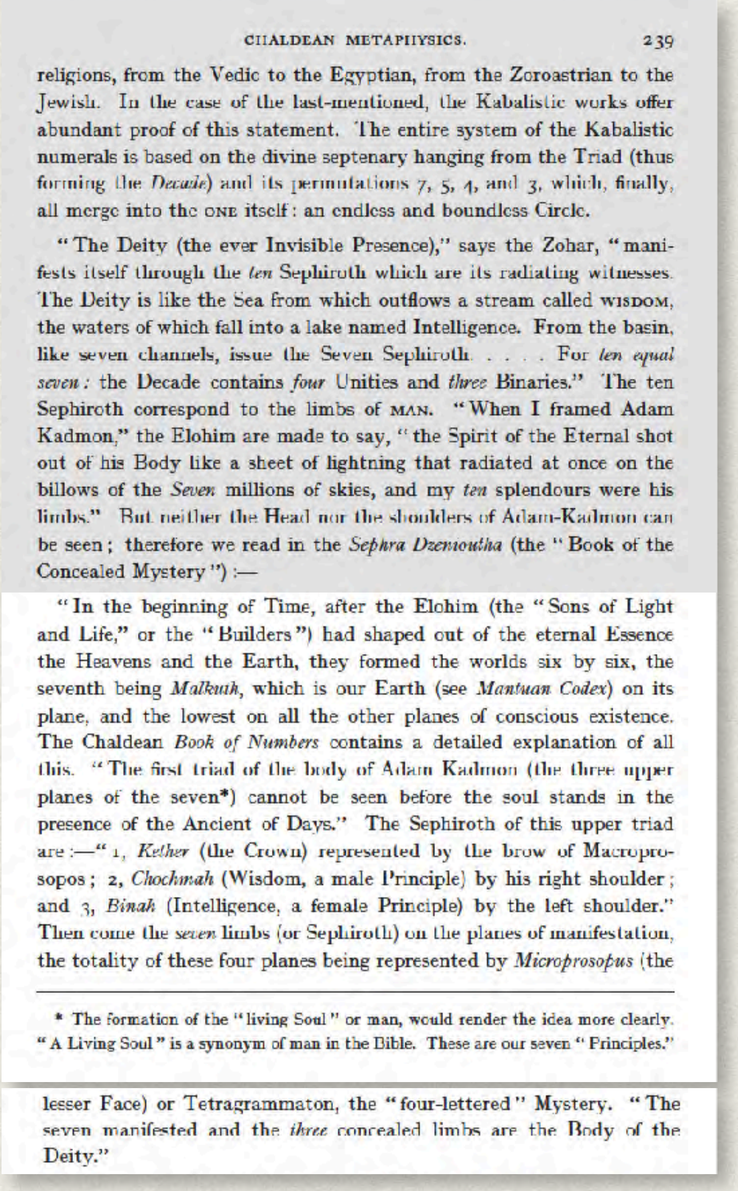
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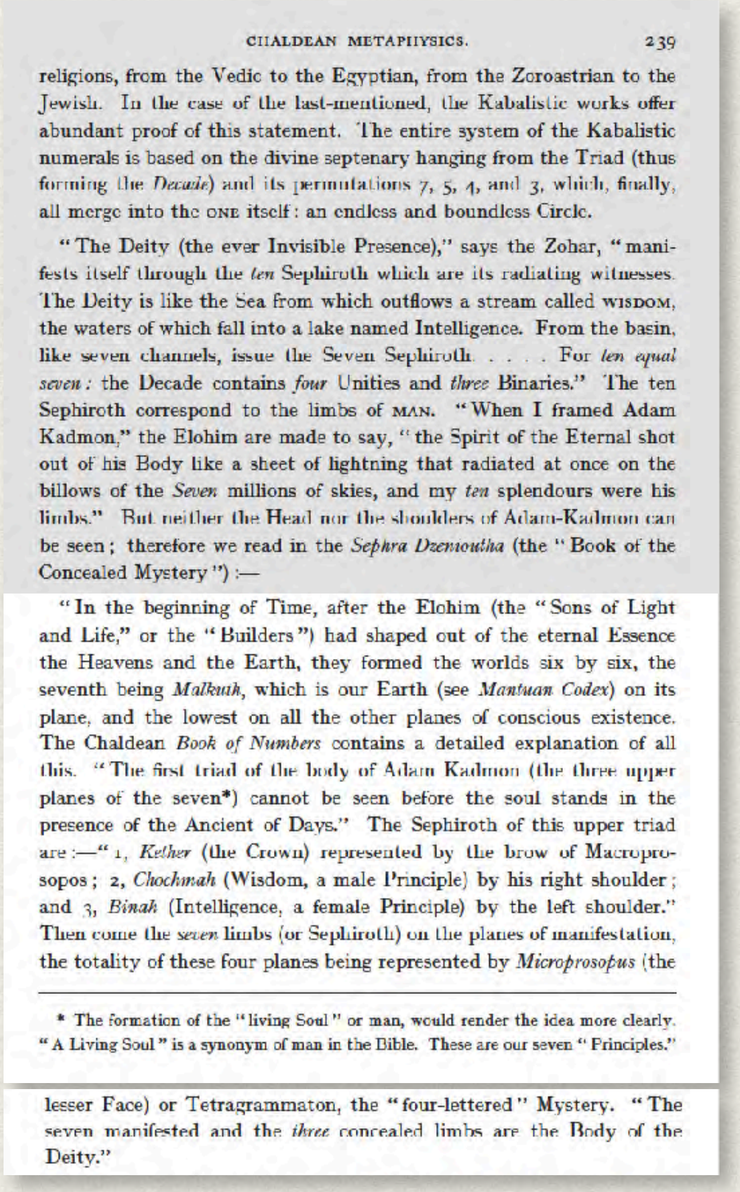
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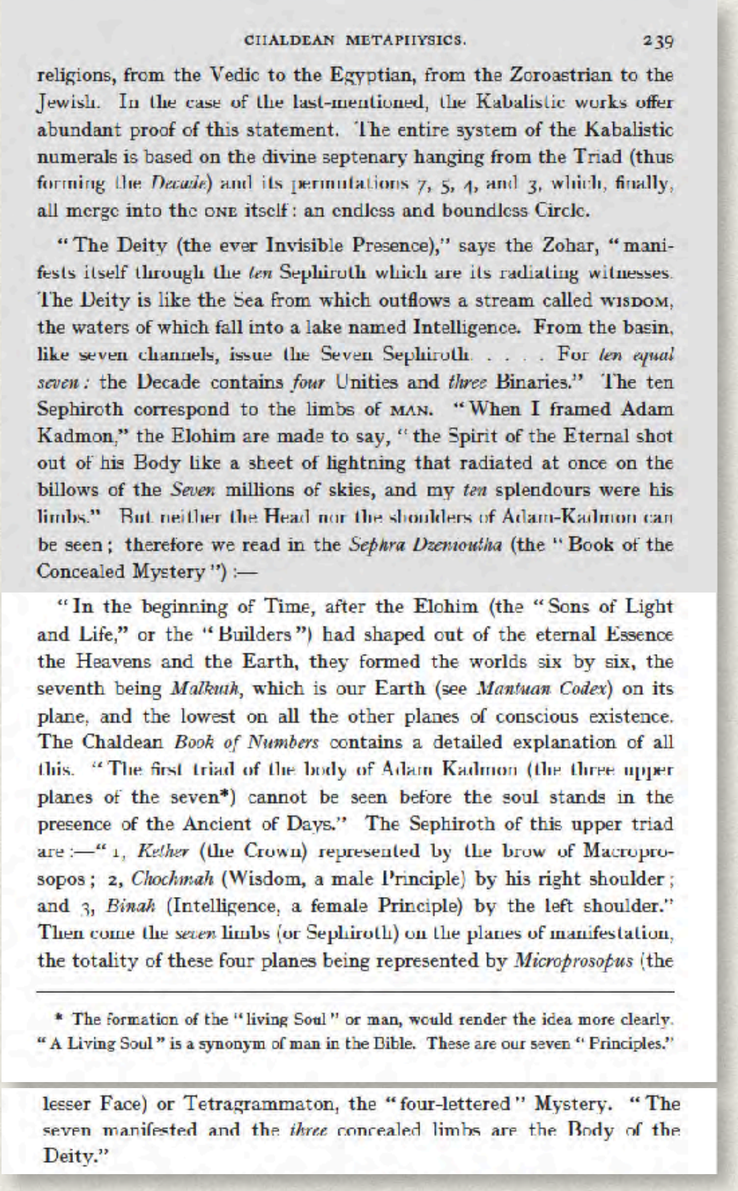
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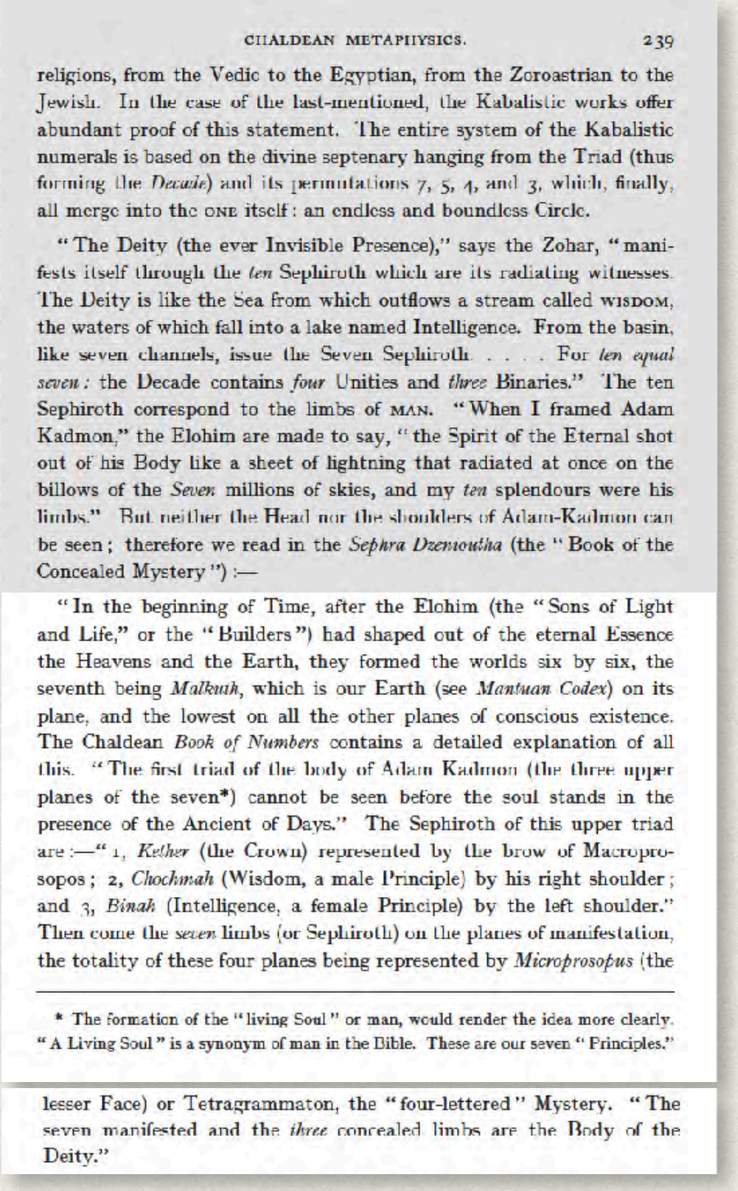
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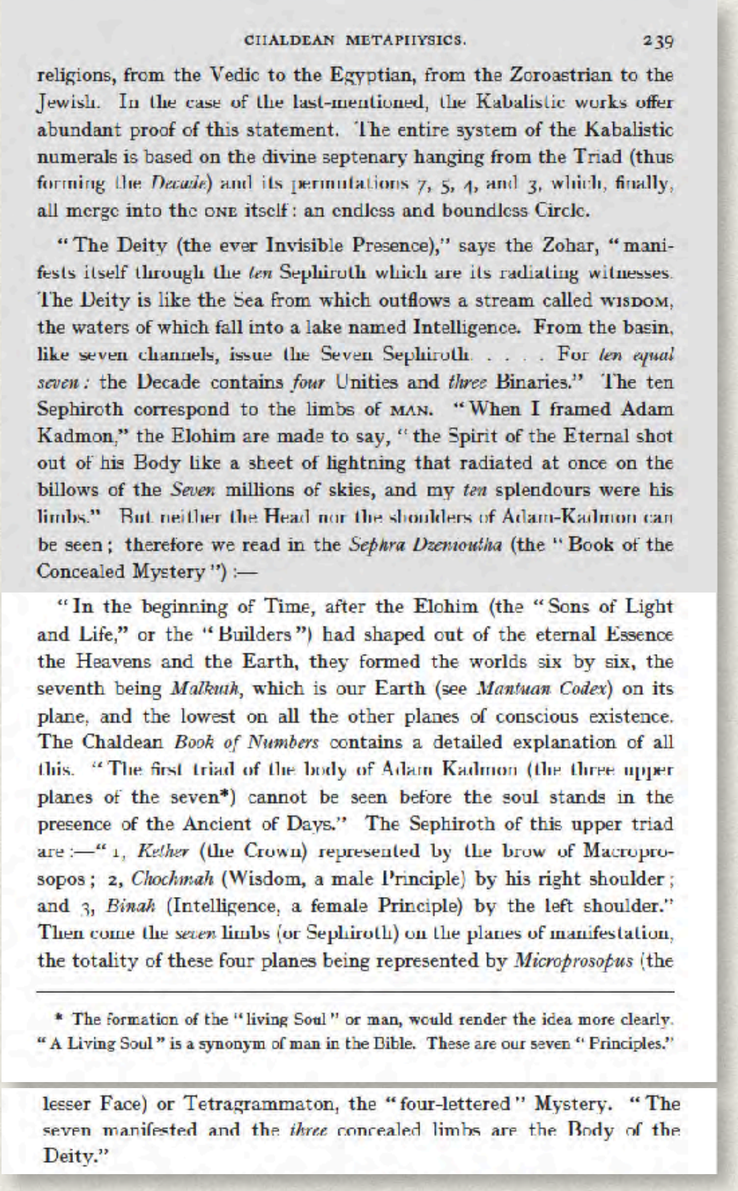
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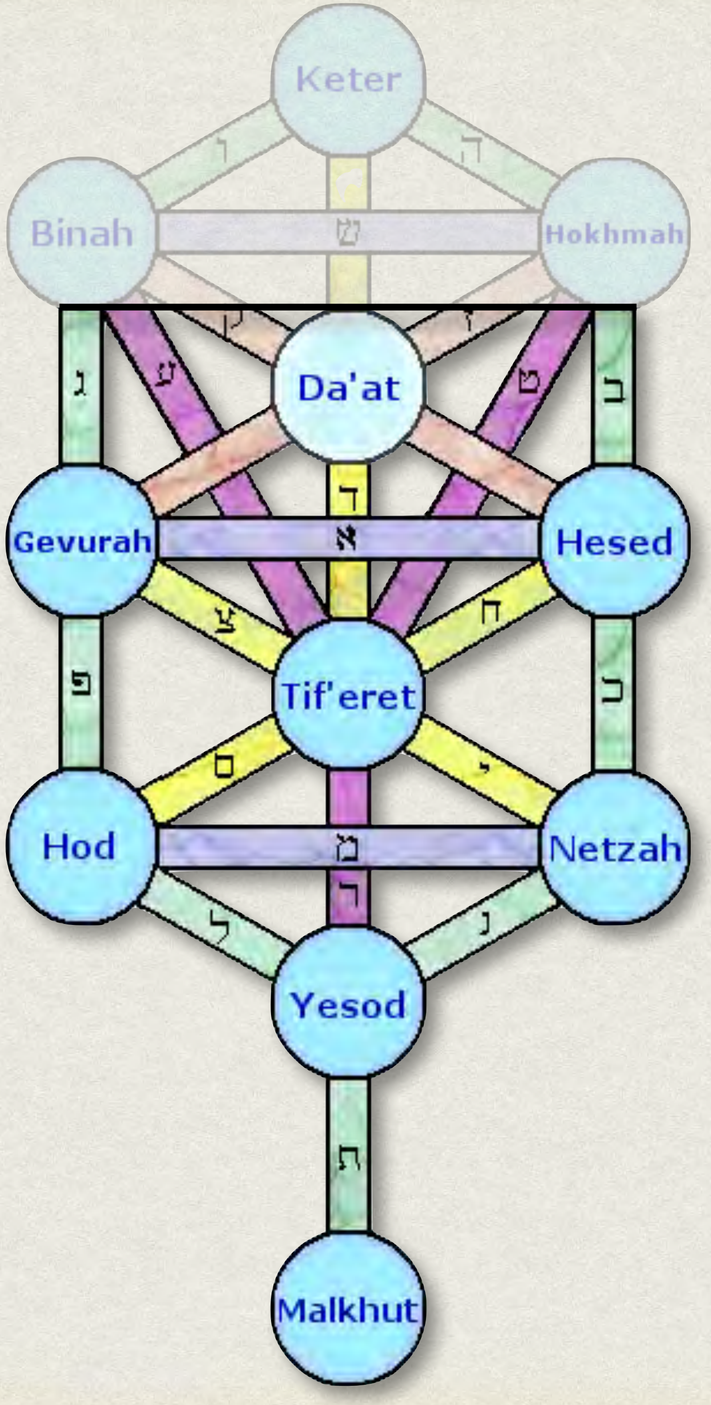
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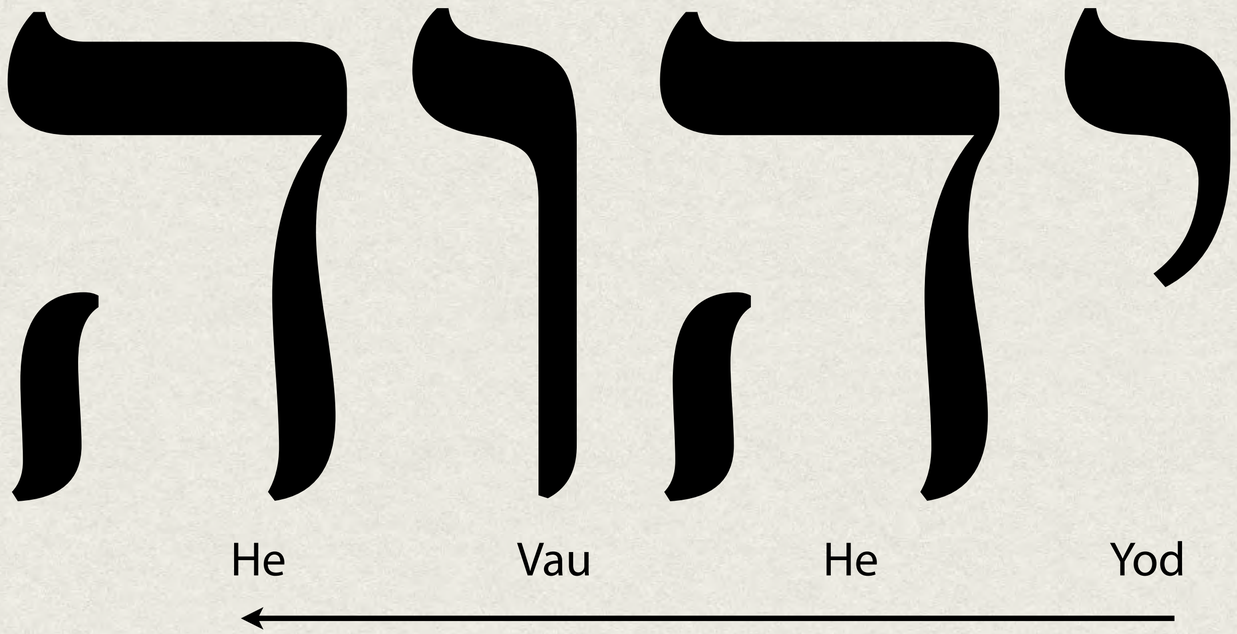
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Binah
Hokhmah
Da'at
Gevurah
Hesed
Tif'eret
Hod
Netzah
Yesod
Malkhut


יהוה
He
Vau
He
Yod

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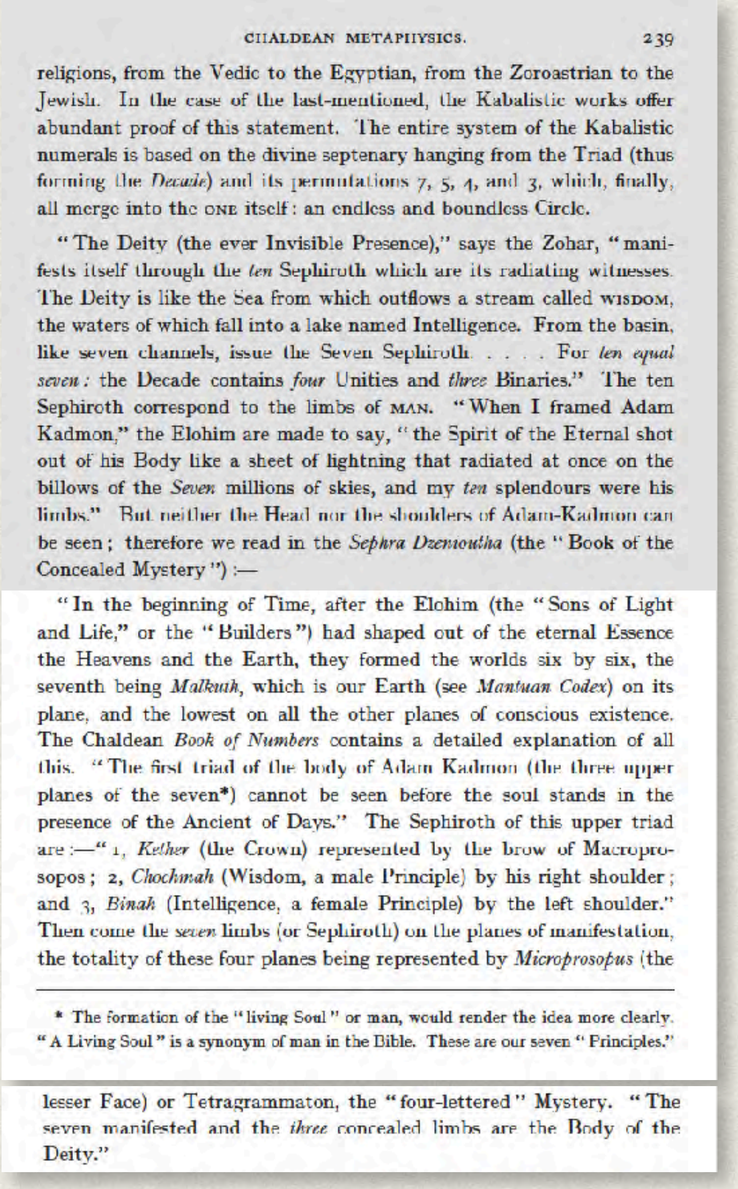
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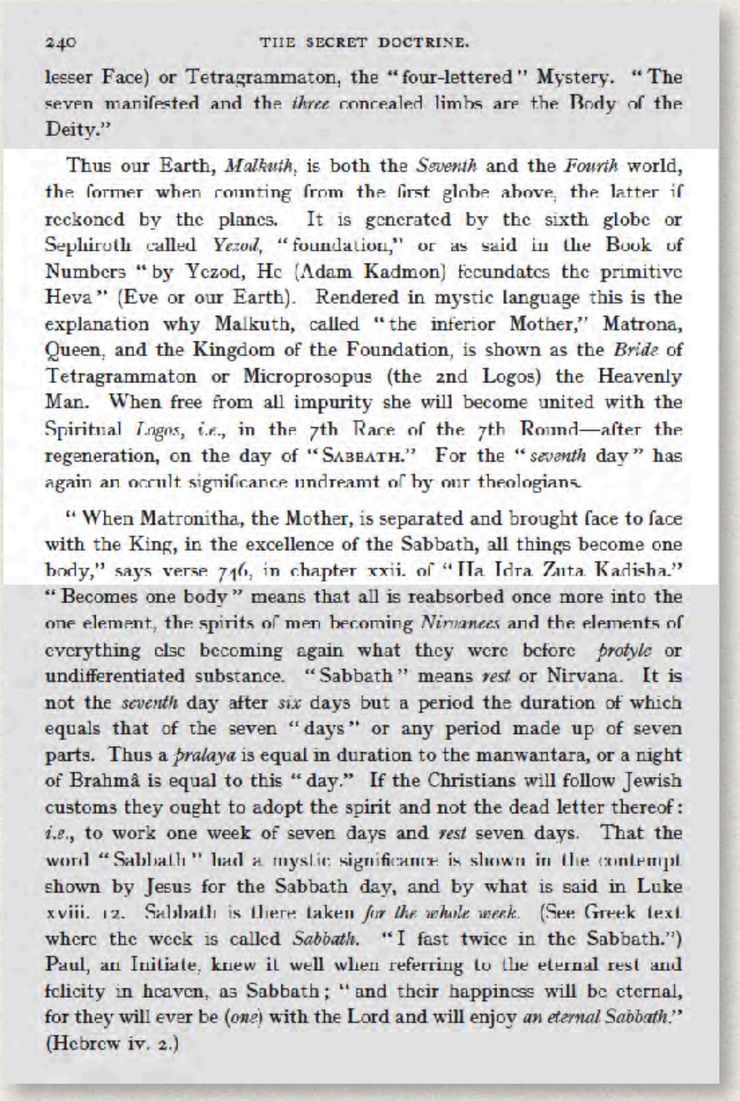
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Thus our Earth, Malkuth, is both the Seventh and the Fourth world, the former when counting from the first globe above, the latter if reckoned by the planes. It is generated by the sixth globe or Sephiroth called Yezod, "foundation," or as said in the Book of Numbers **"by Yezod, He (Adam Kadmon) fecundates the primitive Heva"** (Eve or our Earth). Rendered in mystic language this is the explanation why Malkuth, called "the inferior Mother," Matrona, Queen, and the Kingdom of the Foundation, is shown as the Bride of Tetragrammaton or Microprosopus (the 2nd Logos) the Heavenly Man. When free from all impurity she will become united with the Spiritual Logos, i.e., in the 7th Race of the 7th Round — after the regeneration, on the day of " Sabbath." For the "seventh day" has again an occult significance undreamt of by our theologians.

"When Matronitha, the Mother, is separated and brought face to face with the King, in the excellence of the Sabbath, all things become one body," says verse 746, in chapter xxii. of "Ha Idra Zuta Kadisha."

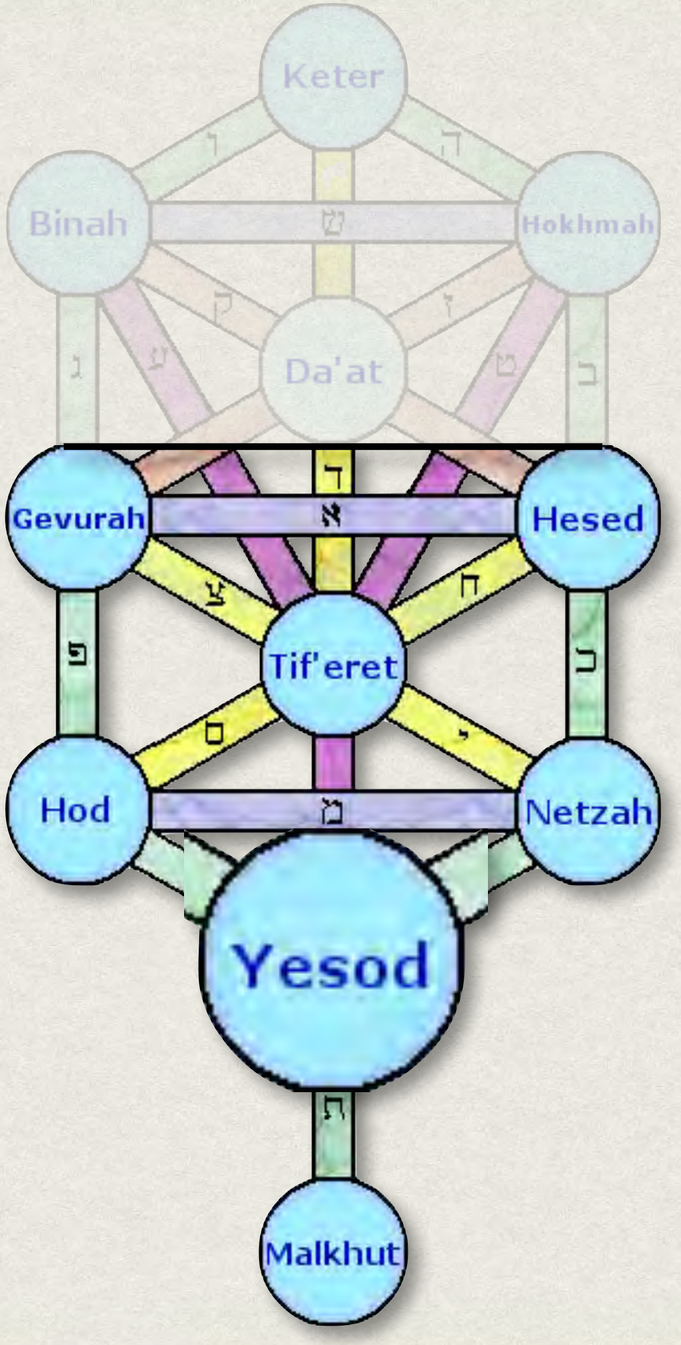


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Keter
Binah
Hokhmah
Da'at
Gevurah
Hesed
Tif'eret
Hod
Netzah
Yesod
Malkhut

VERSE 5

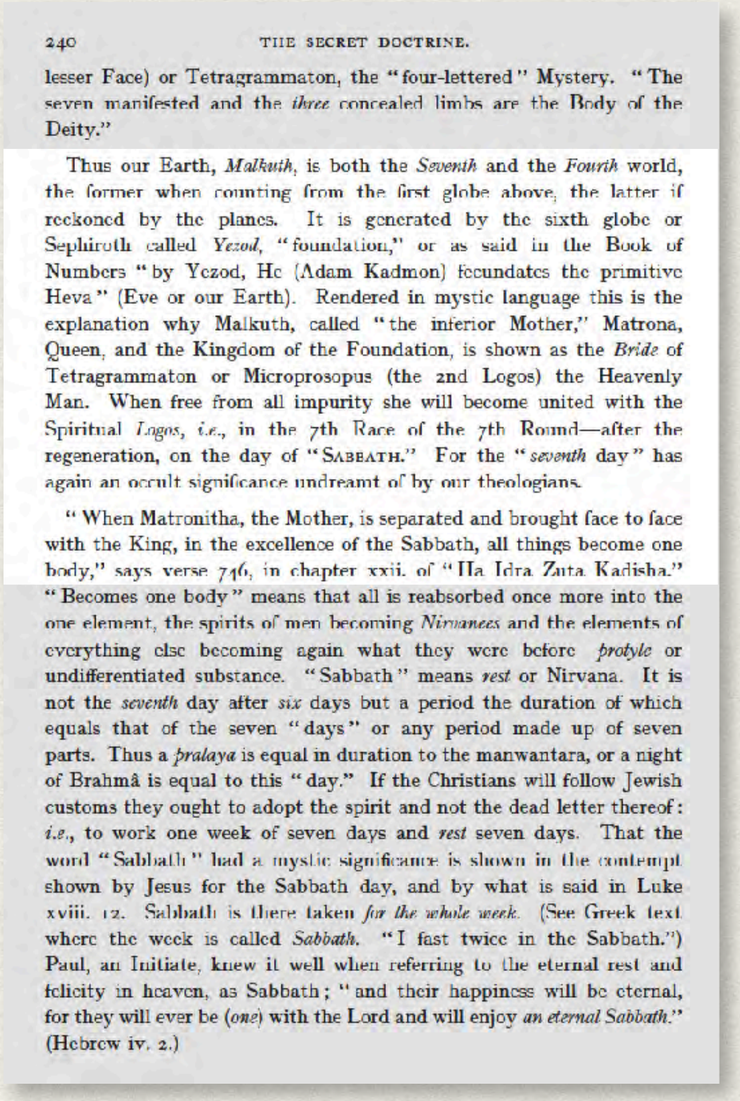
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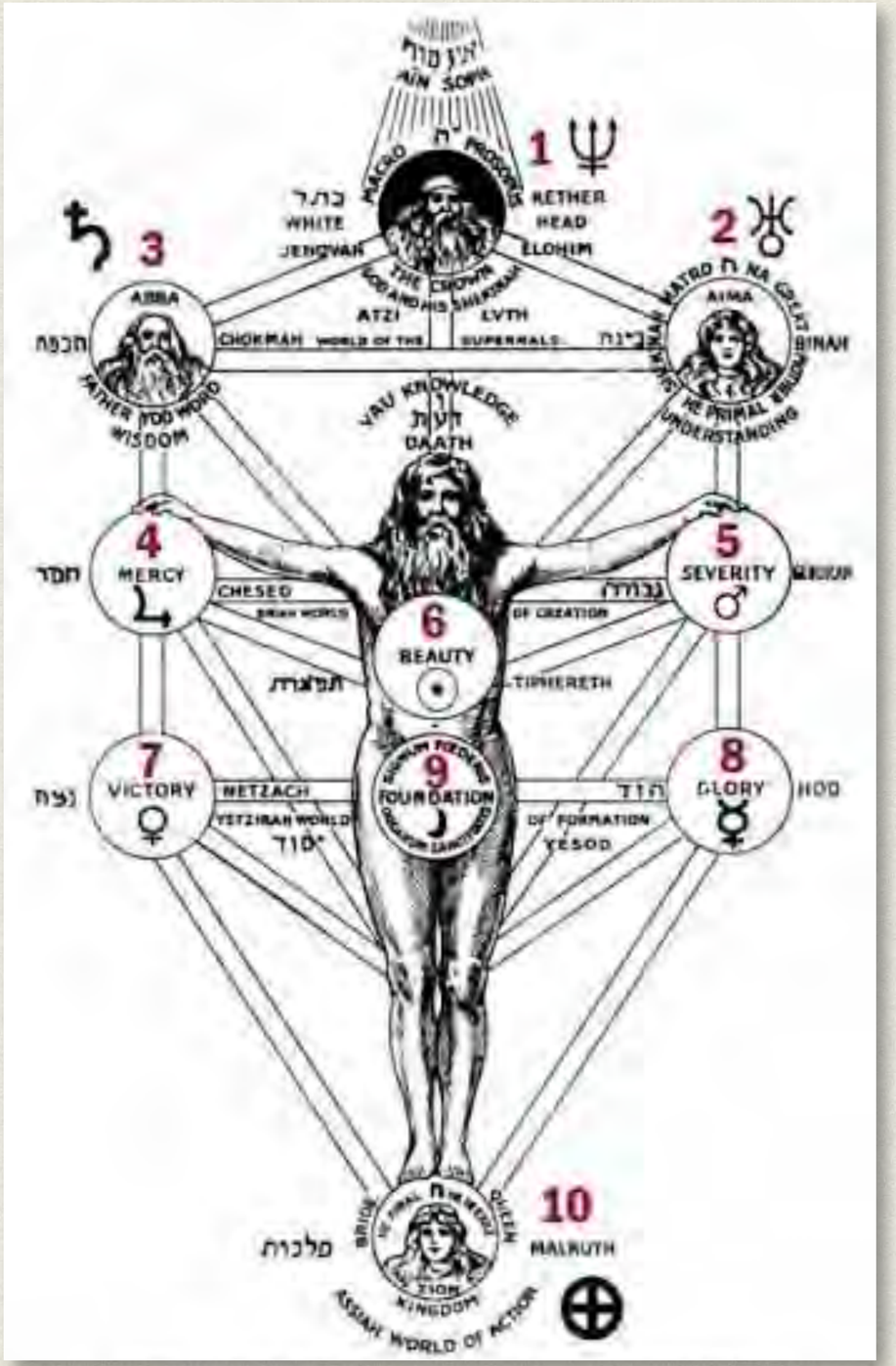


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AIN SOPH
MACRO PROSOPUS
1
KETHER
CROWN
EHEIEH
WHITE
JEHOVAH
ELOHIM
THE CROWN
GOD AND HIS SHEKINAH
ATZI
LVTH
3
ABBA
2
AIMA
CHOKMAH
WORLD OF THE
SUPERNALS
BINAH
FATHER
WISDOM
MOTHER
UNDERSTANDING
VAU KNOWLEDGE
DAATH
4
MERCY
CHESED
5
SEVERITY
GEBURAH
BRIAH WORLD
OF CREATION
6
BEAUTY
TIPHERETH
7
VICTORY
NETZACH
8
GLORY
HOD
YETZIRAH WORLD
OF FORMATION
YESOD
9
FOUNDATION
10
MALKUTH
BRIDE
QUEEN
ZION
KINGDOM
ASSIAH WORLD OF ACTION

VERSE 5

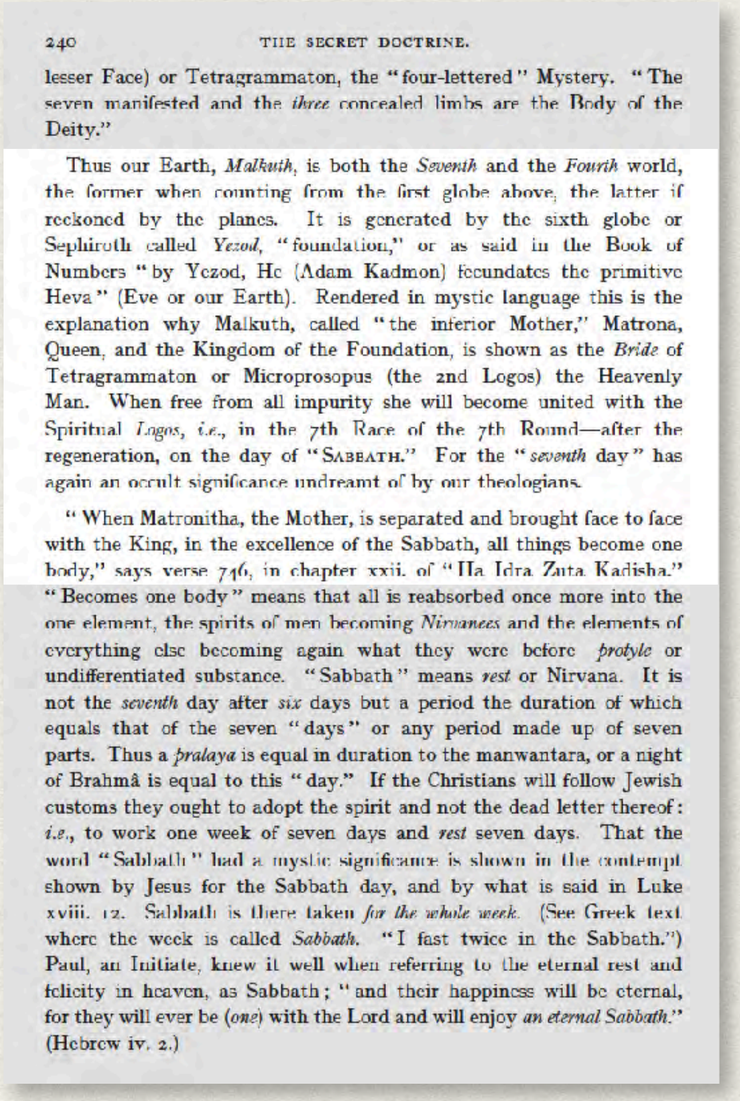
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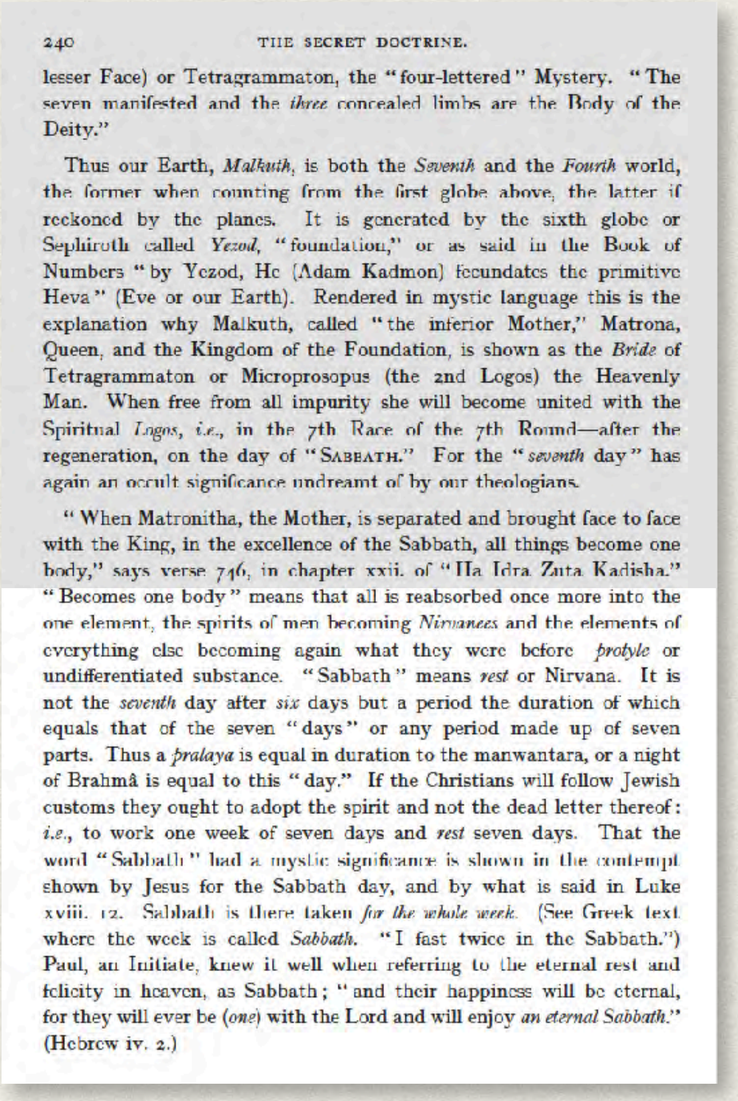
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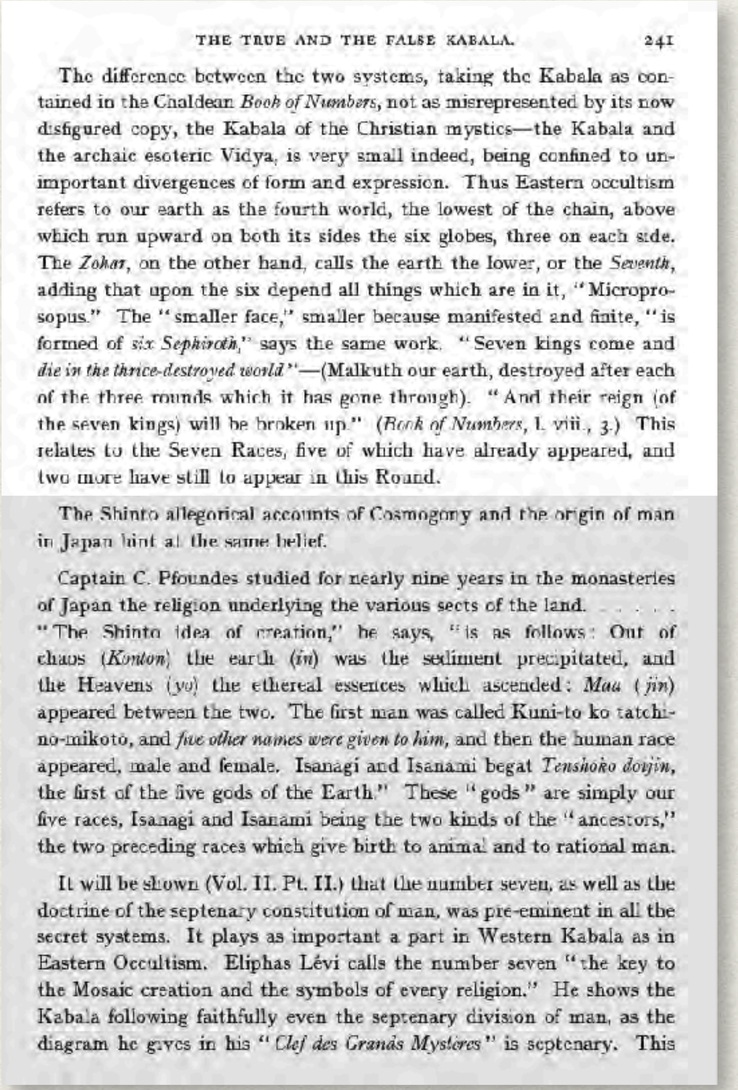
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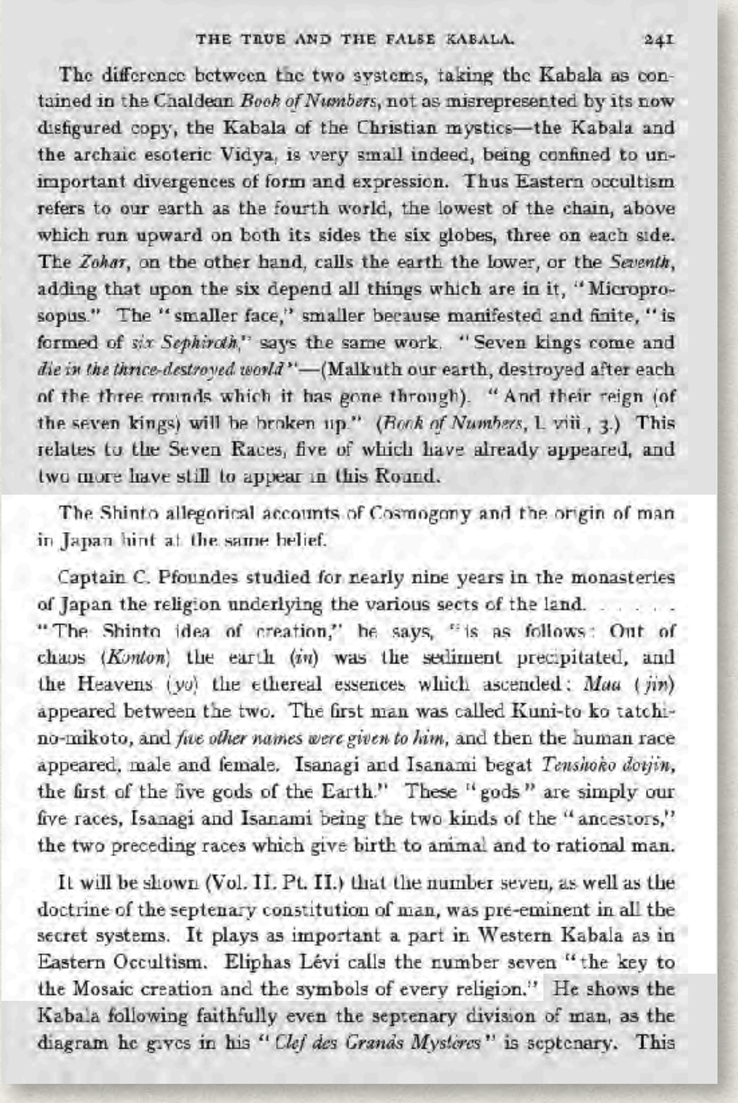
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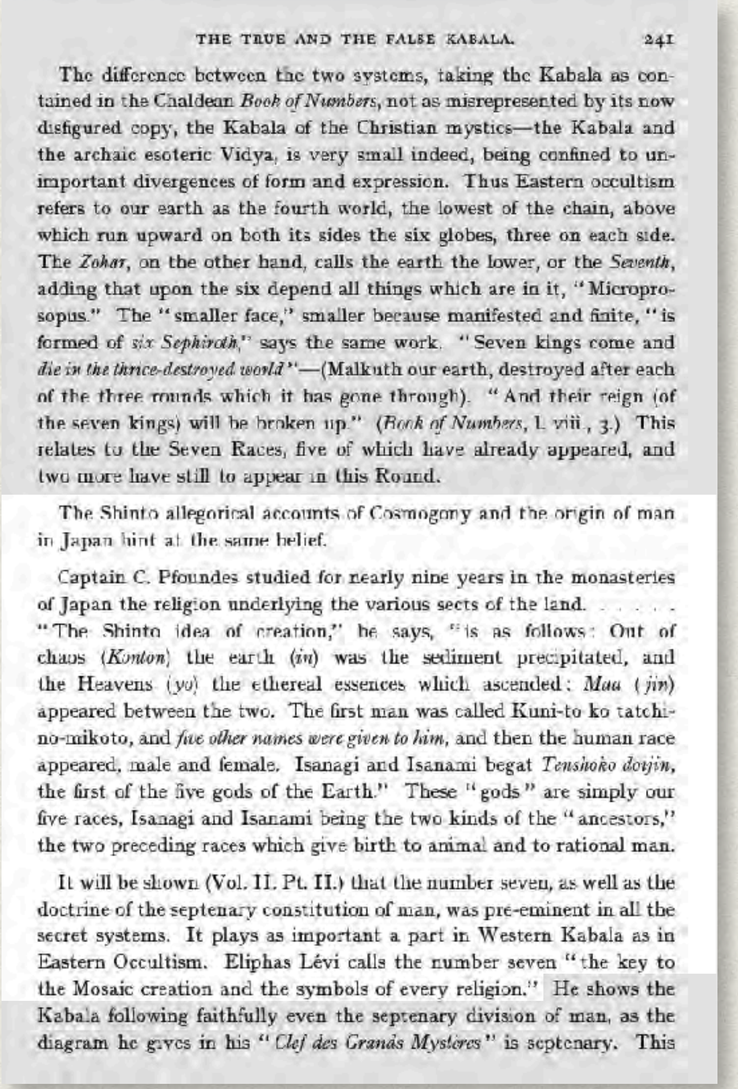
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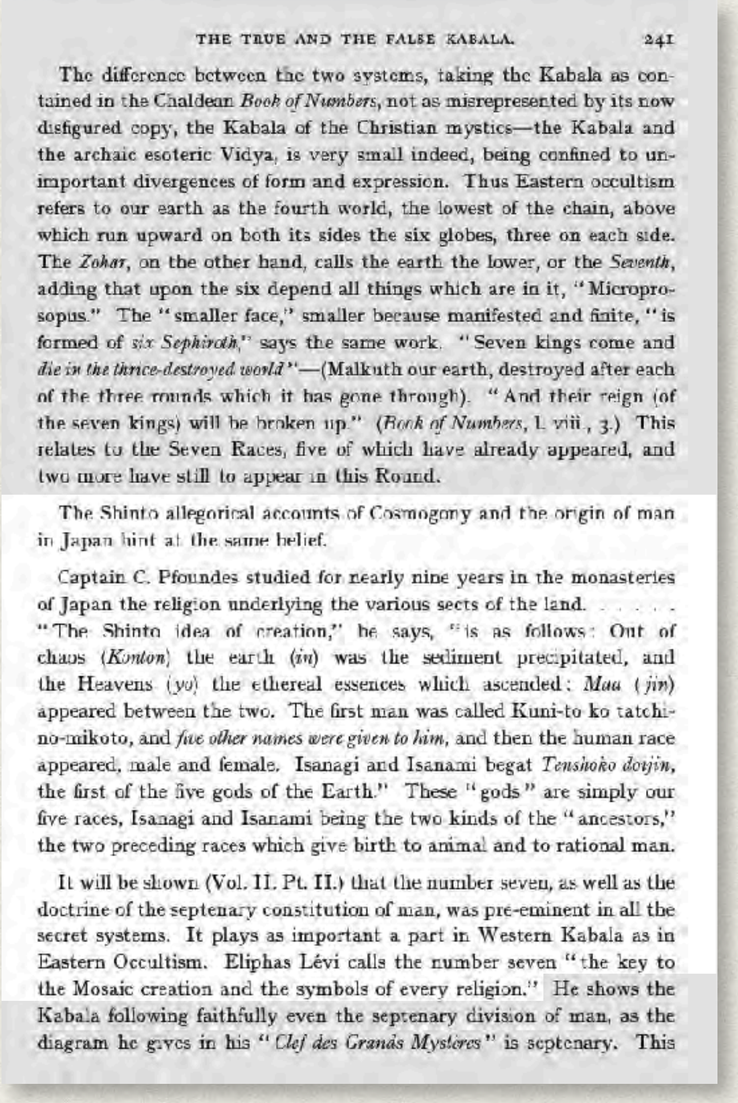
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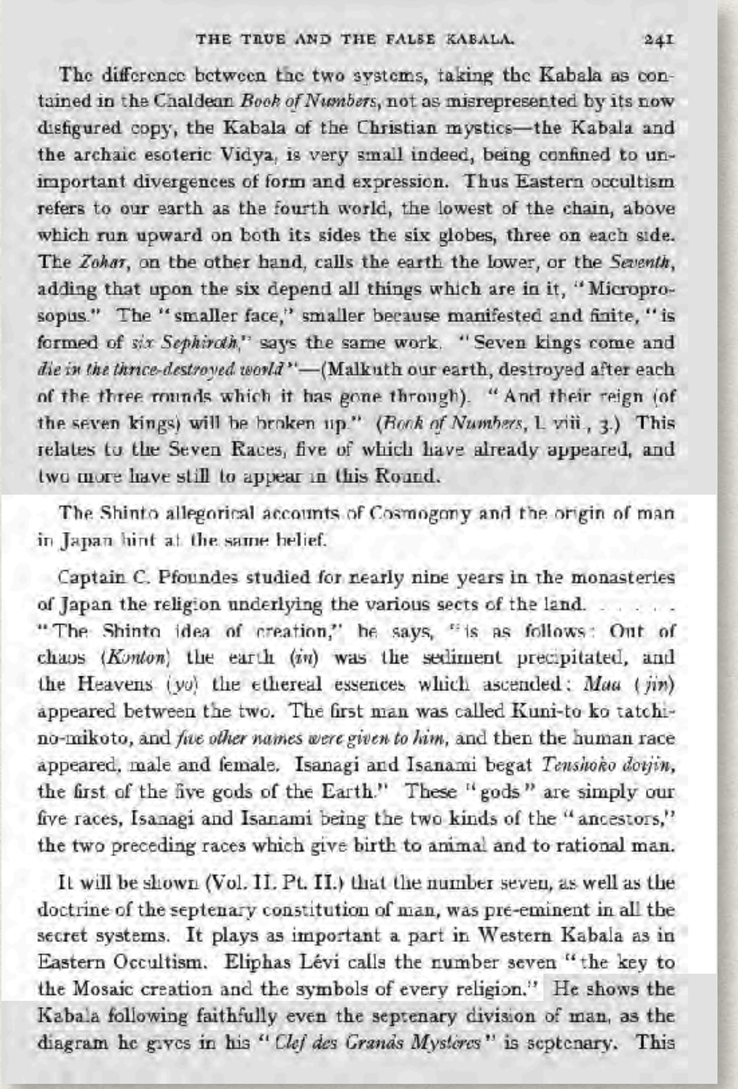
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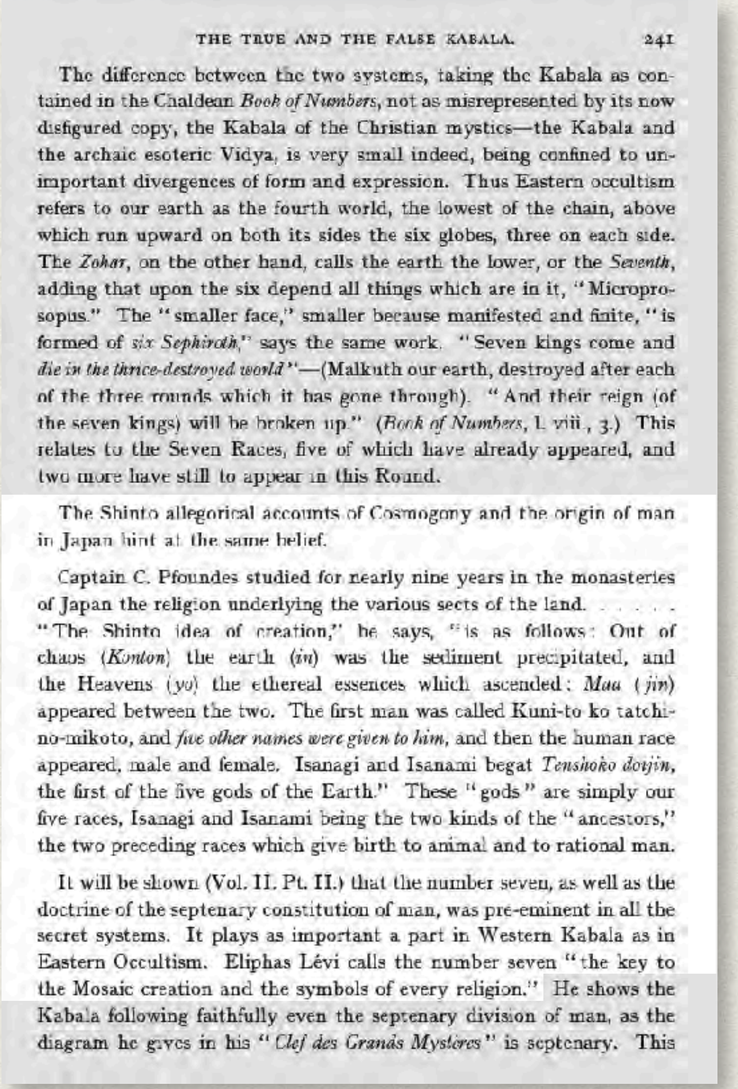
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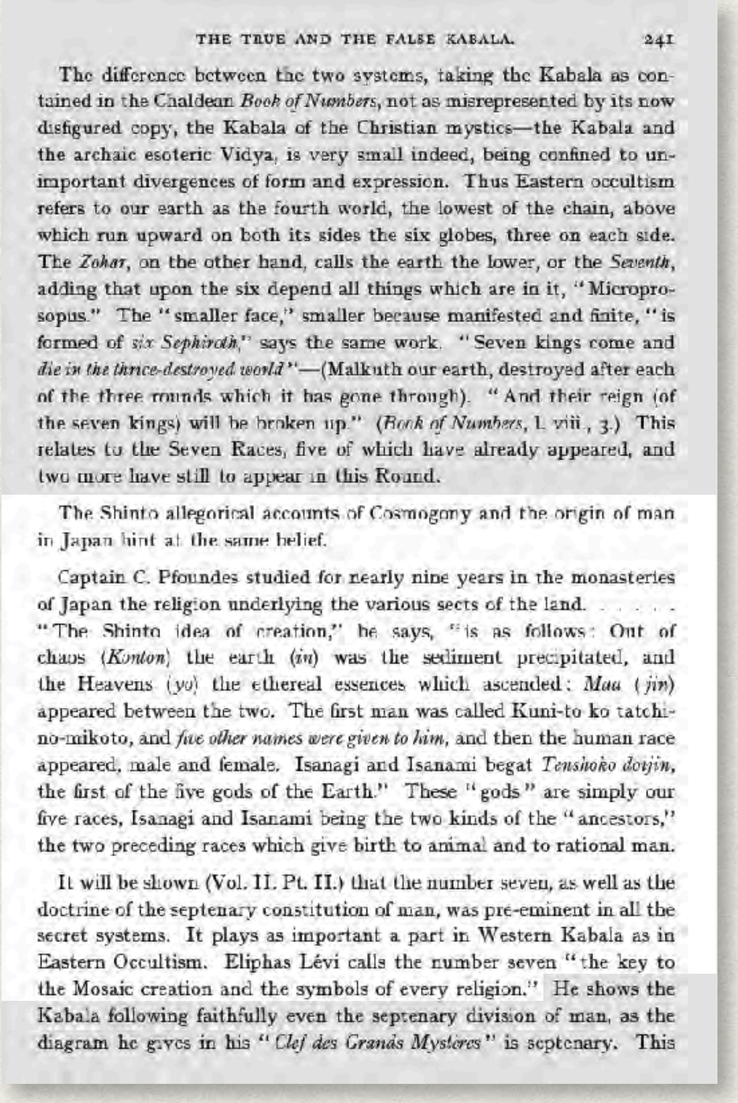
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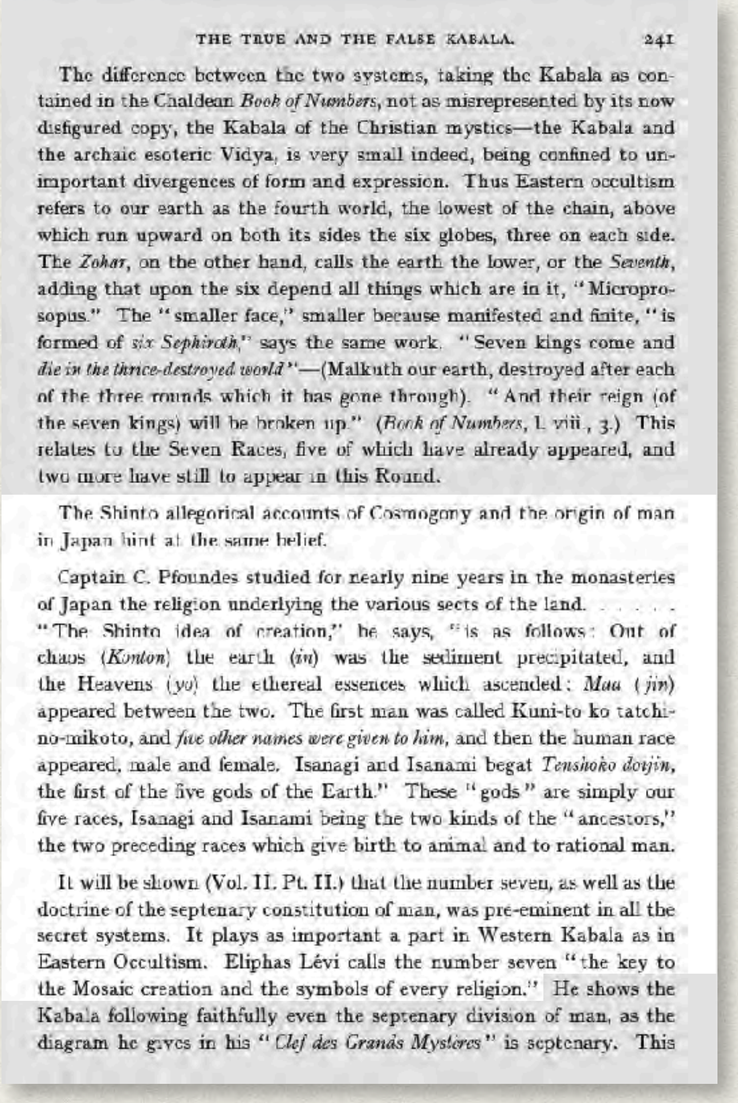
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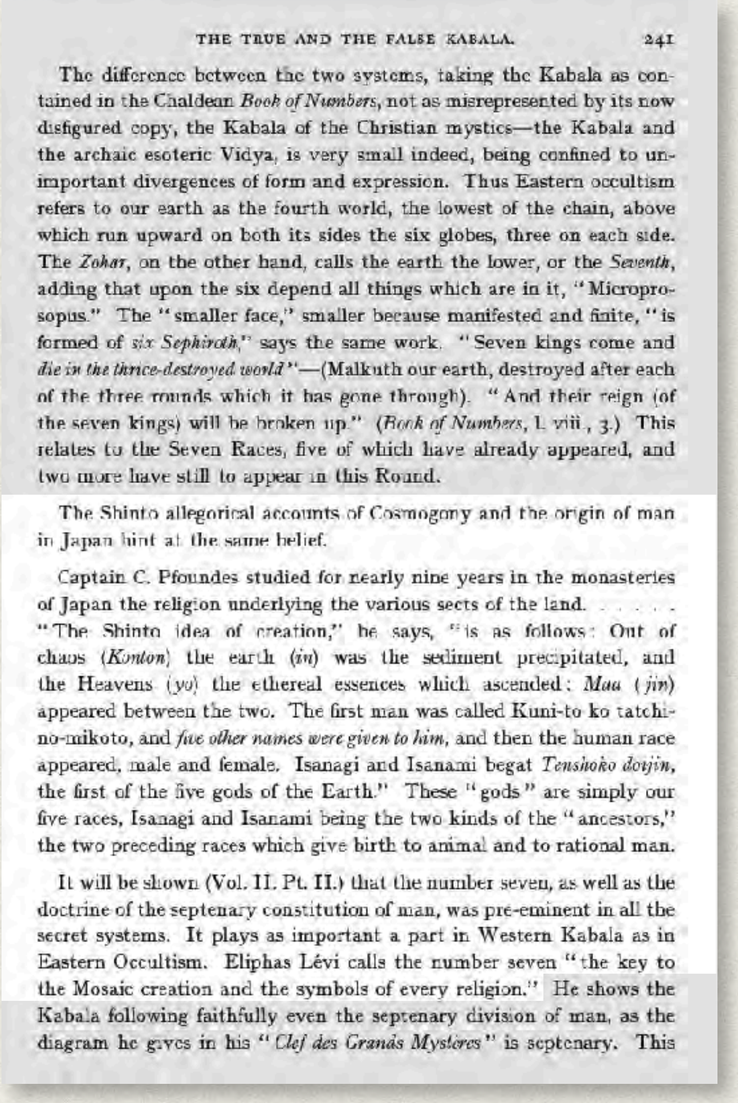
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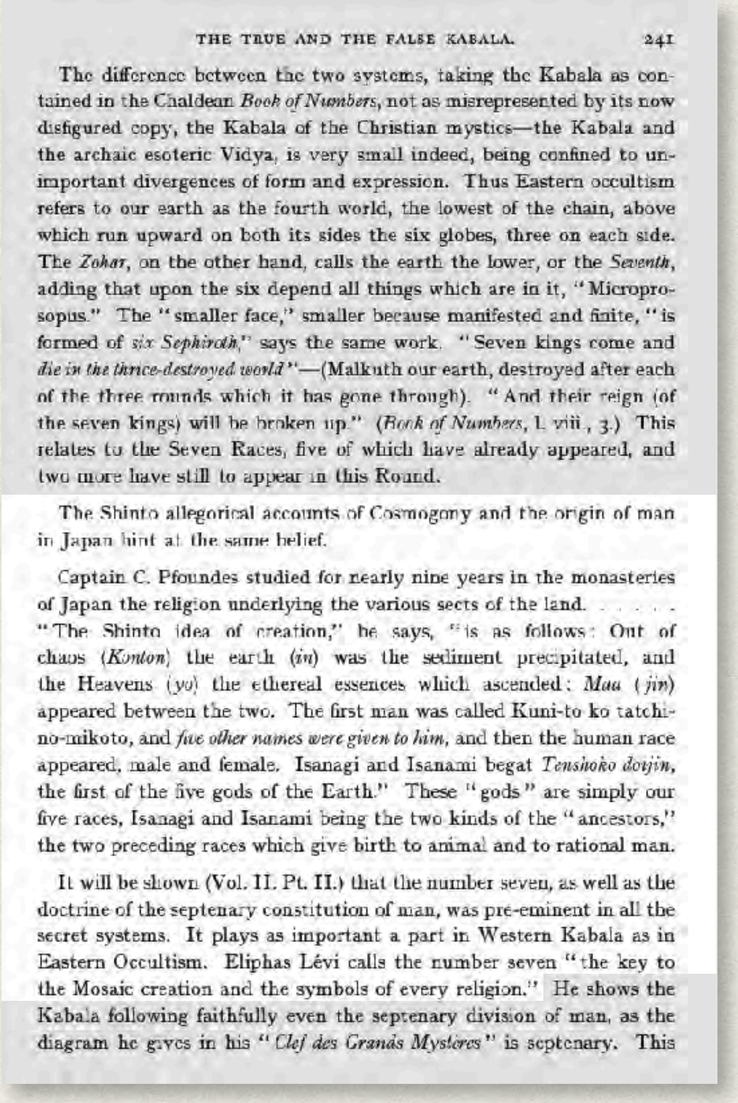
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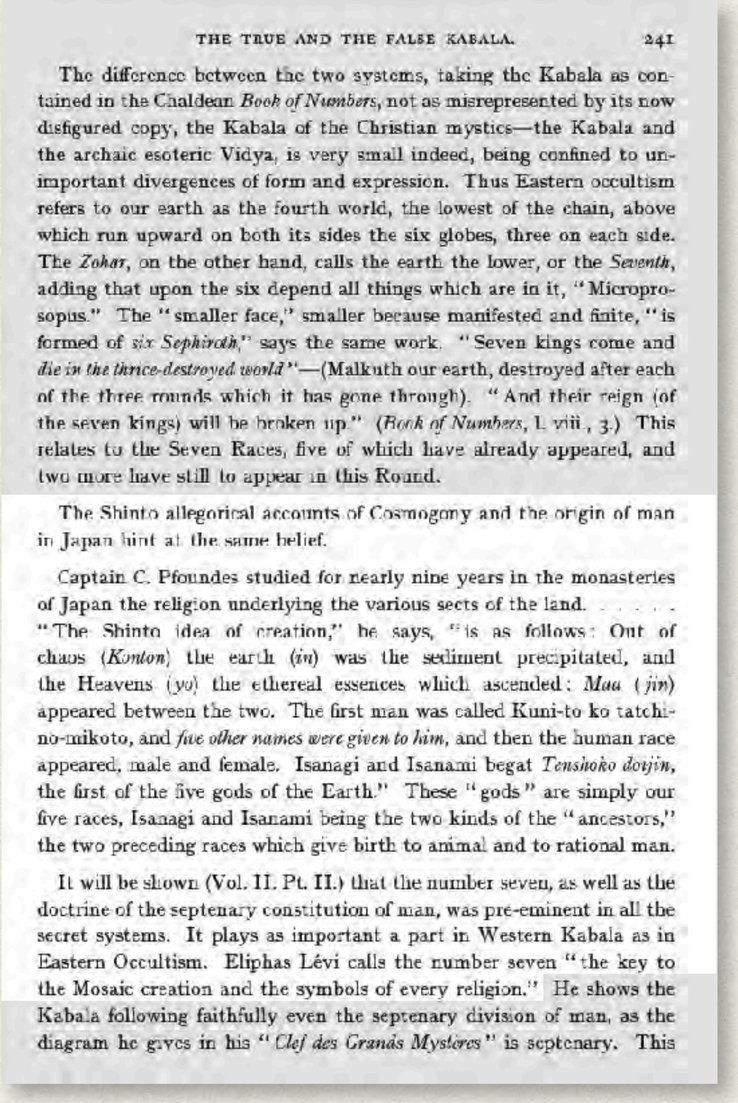
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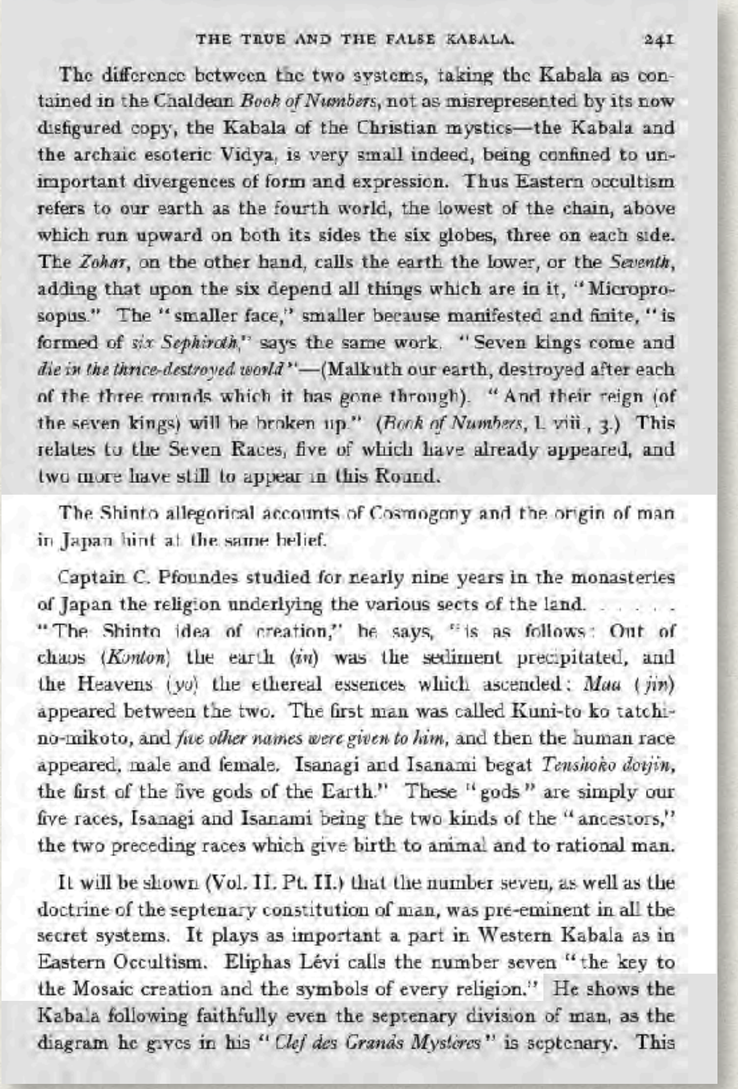
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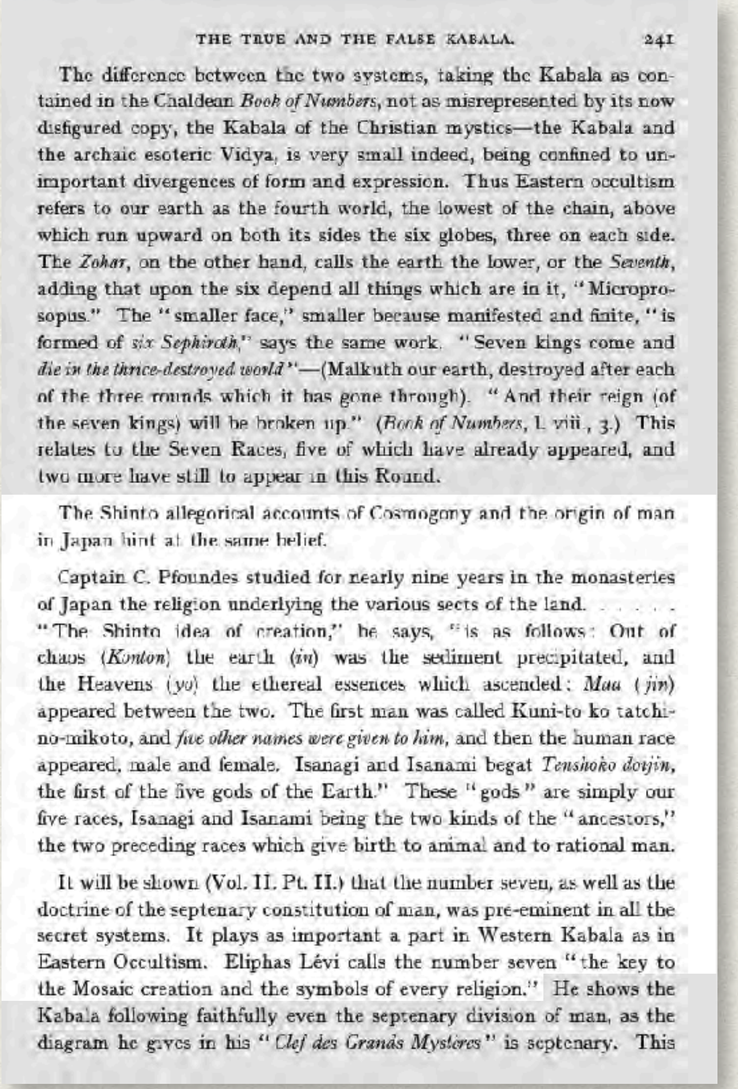
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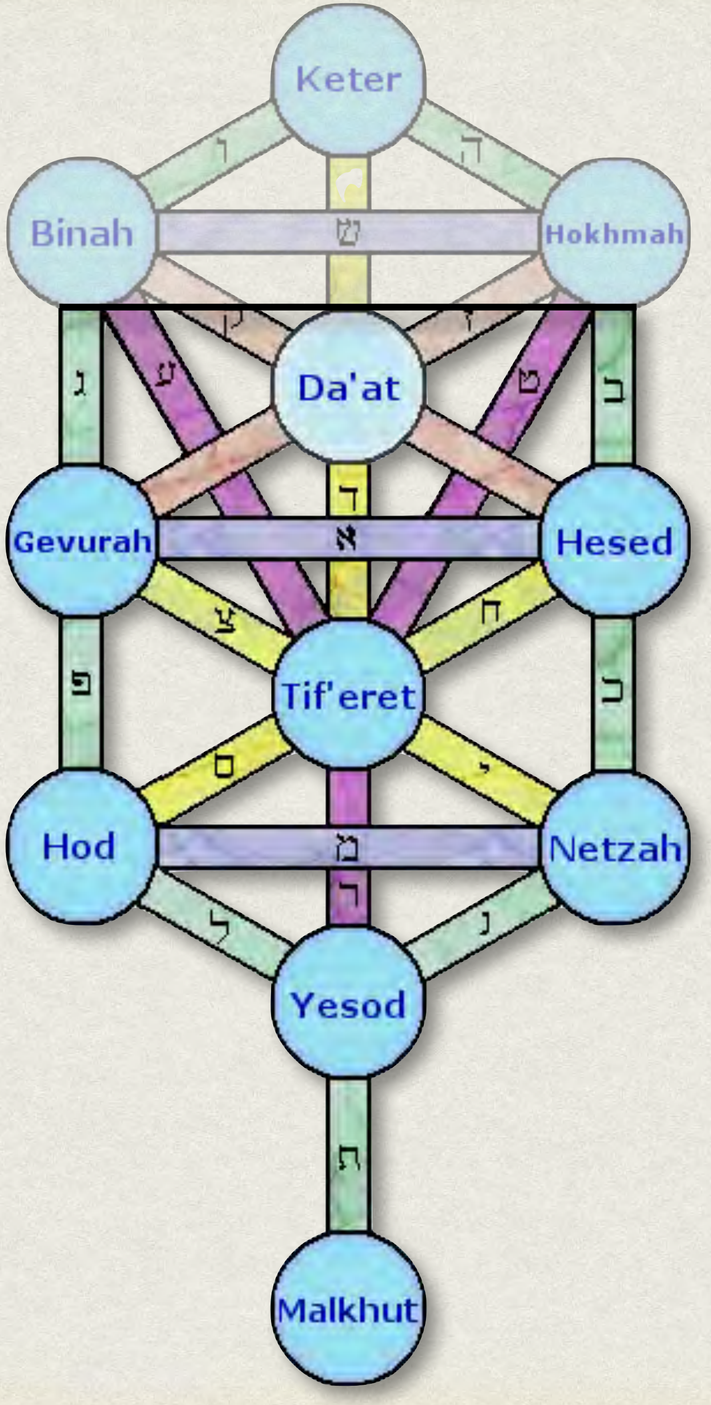
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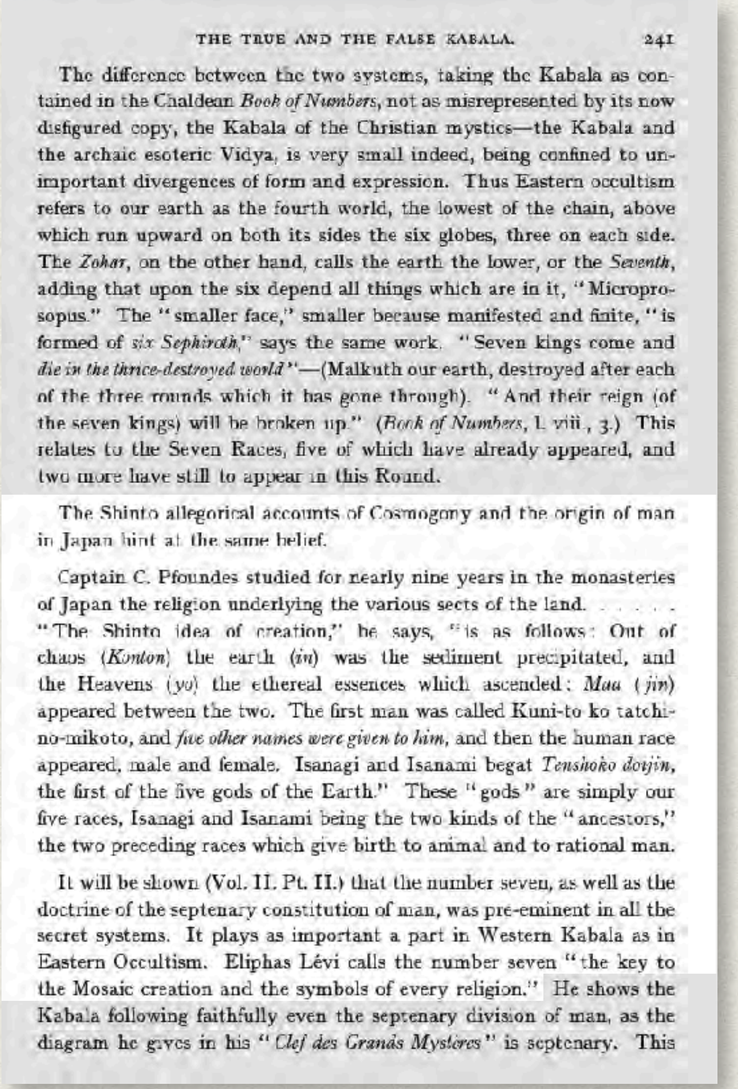
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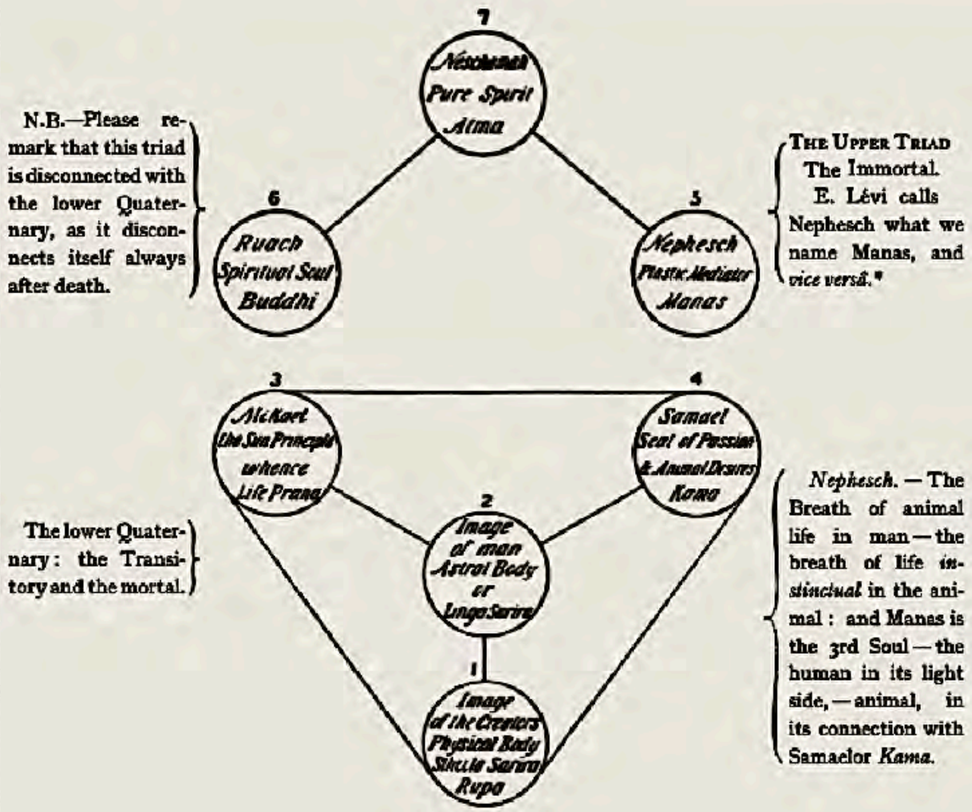
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N.B.—Please remark that this triad is disconnected with the lower Quaternary, as it disconnects itself always after death.

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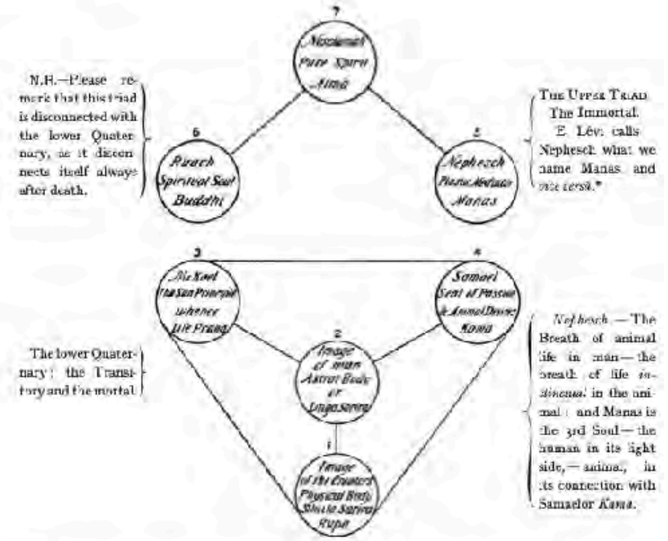
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* Nephesch is the "breath of (animal) life" breathed into Adam, the man of dust; it is consequently the *Vital Spark*, the informing element. Without *Manas*, or what is miscalled in Lévi's diagram Nephesch instead of Manas, "the reasoning Soul," or mind. Atma-Buddhi are irrational on this plane and cannot act. It is Buddhi which is the plastic mediator, not Manas, "the intelligent medium between the upper Triad and the lower Quaternary." But there are many such strange and curious transformations to be found in the Kabalistic works — a convincing proof that its literature has become a sad jumble. We do not accept the classification except in this one particular, in order to show the points of agreement.

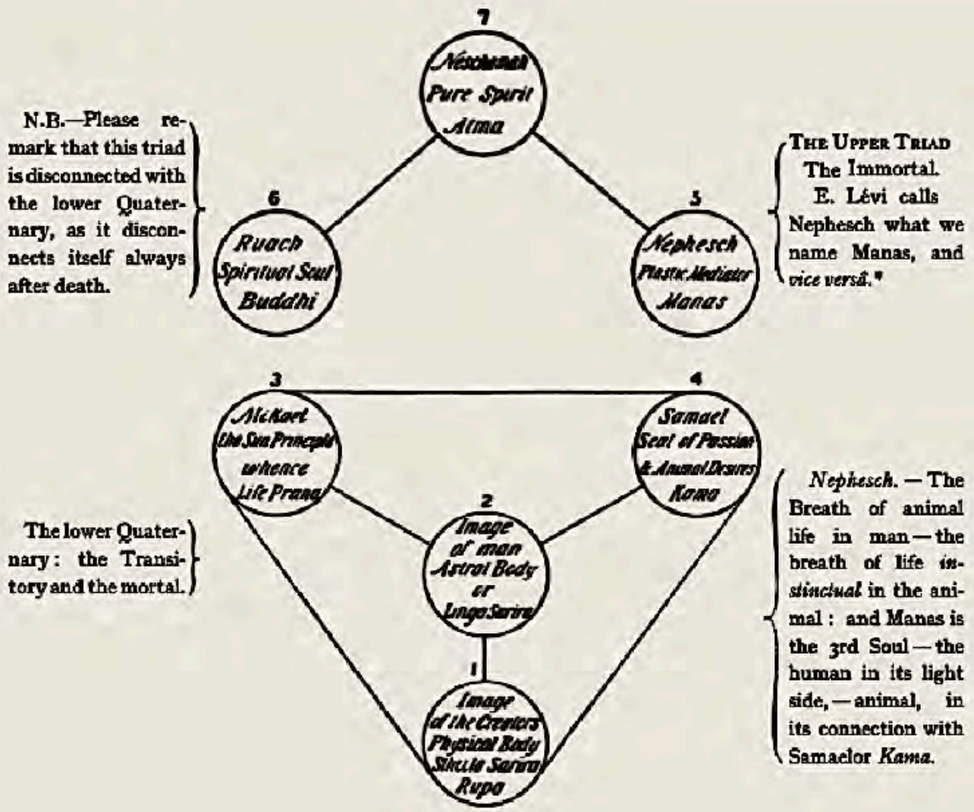
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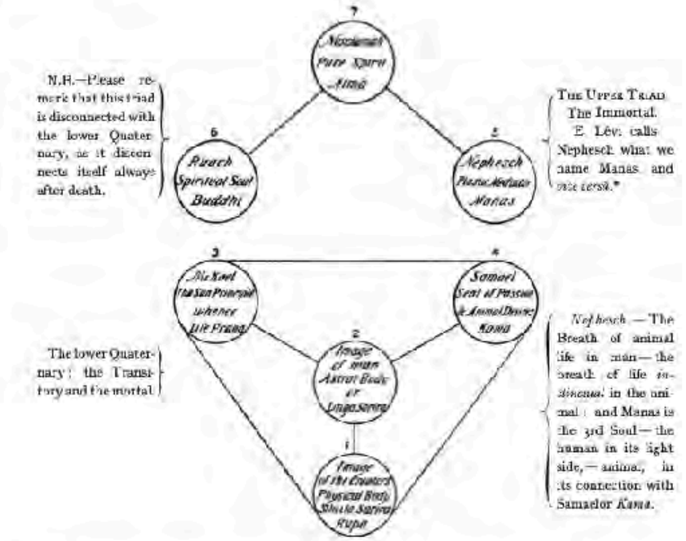
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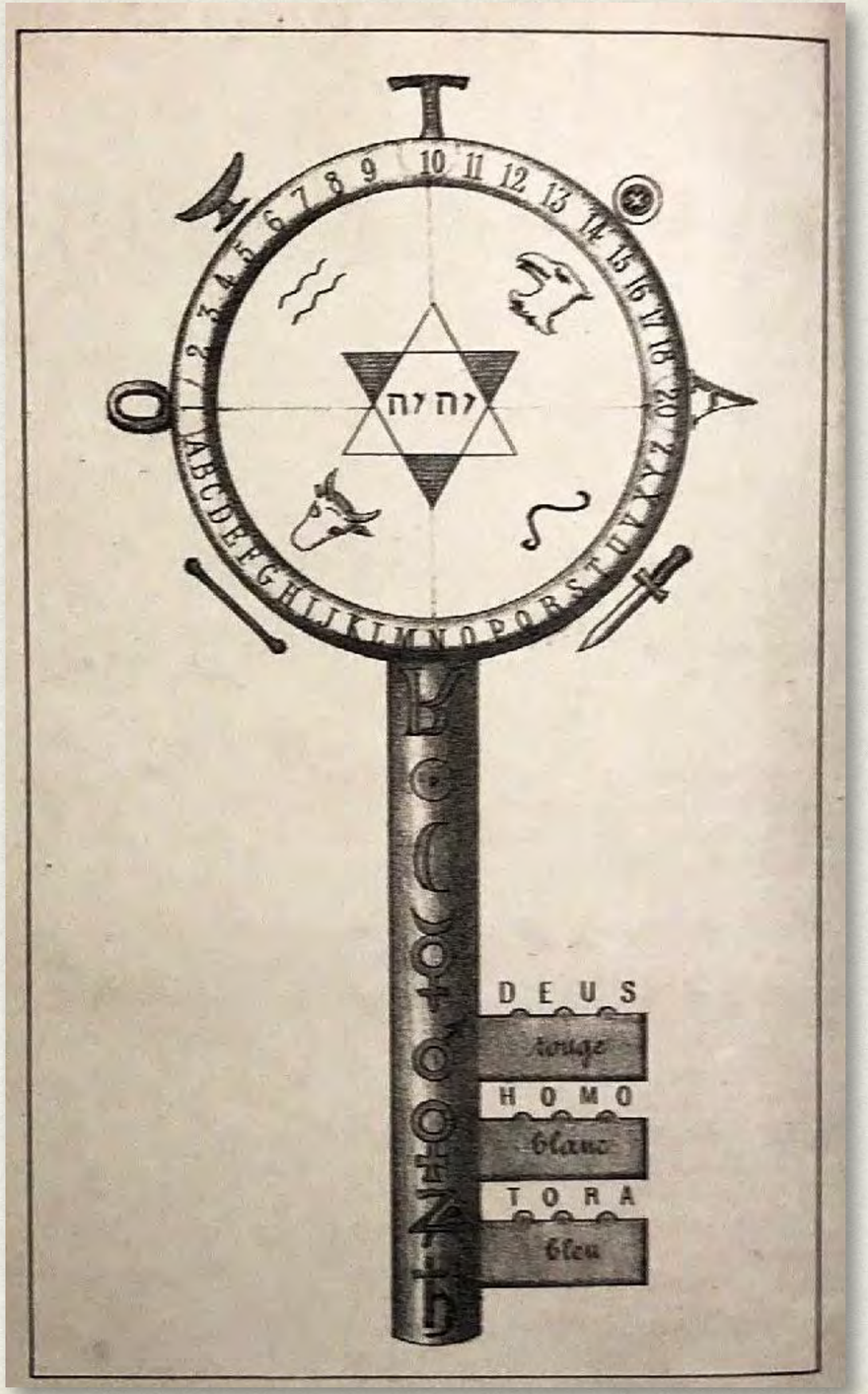
ELIPHAS LEVI

La clef des grands mysteres



Suivant Hénoch, Abraham,
Hermès Trimégiste et Salomon

Editions BUSSIÈRE



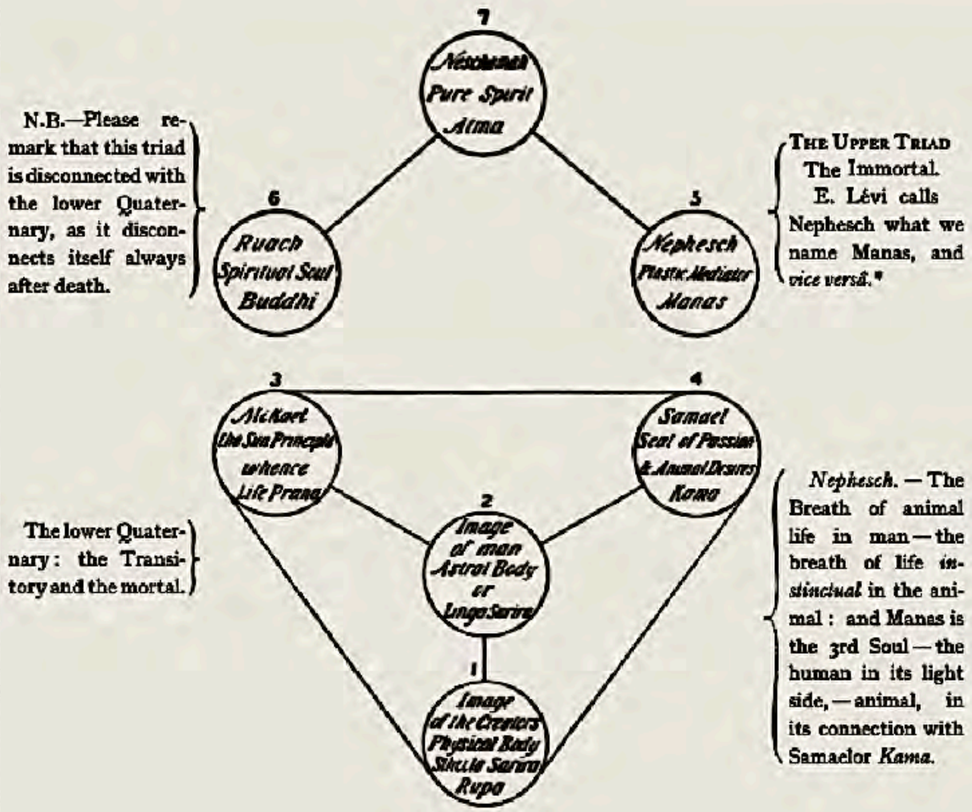
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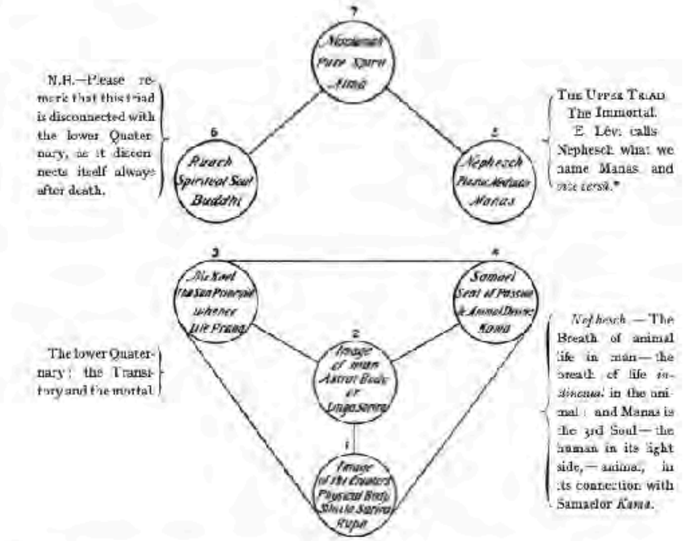
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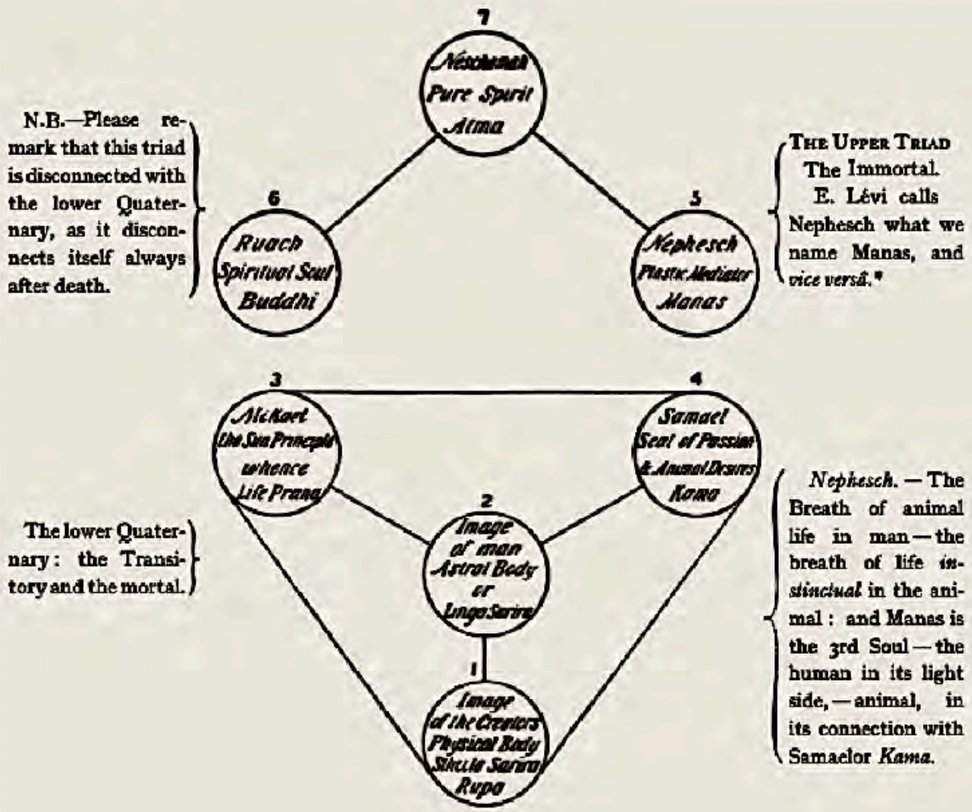
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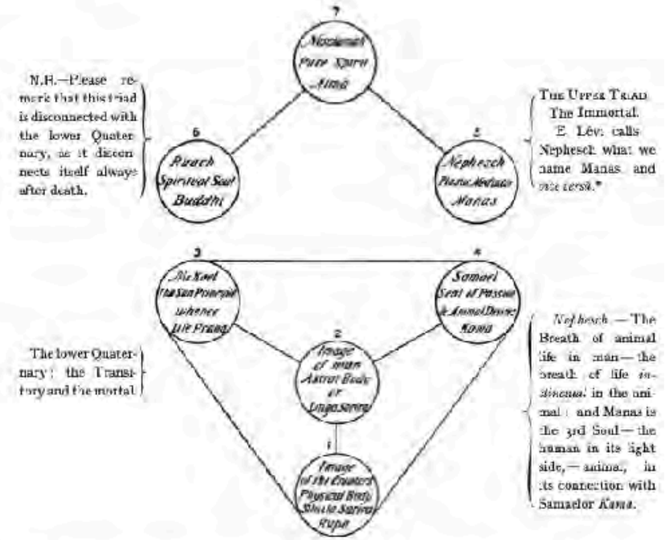
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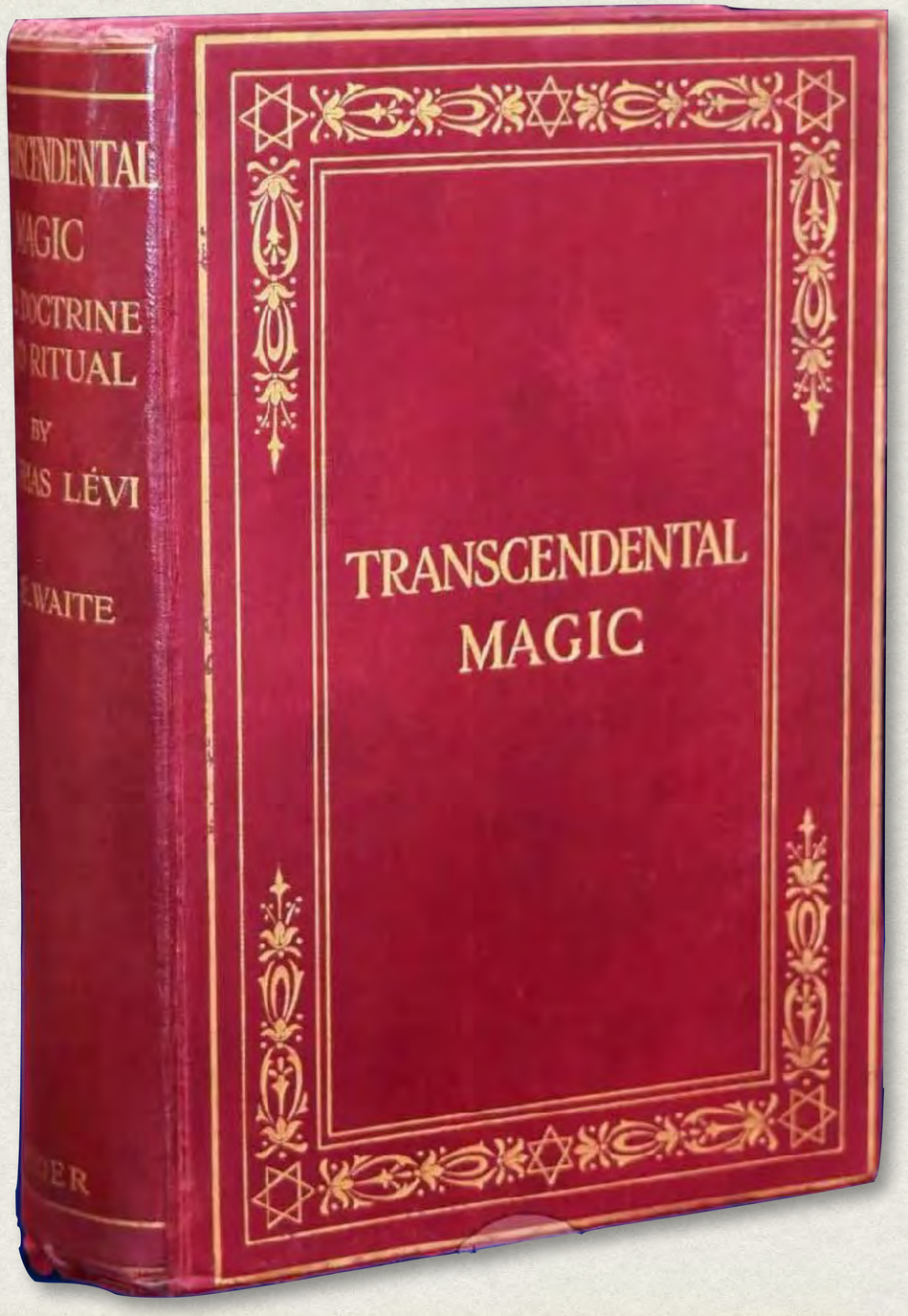
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"…it is the devil of M. Eudes de Mirville, and is really the blind force which souls must overcome if they would be free from the chains of earth; for, unless their will can detach them from this fatal attraction, they will be absorbed in the current by the force which produced them, and will return to the central and eternal fire.

Transcendental Magic:229

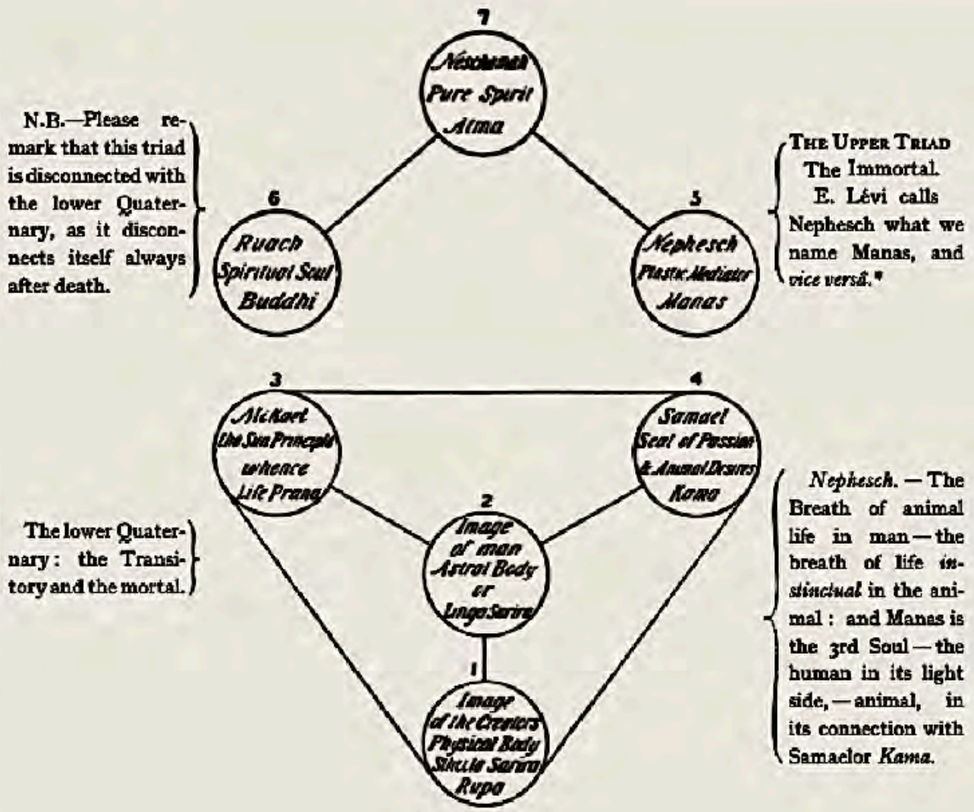
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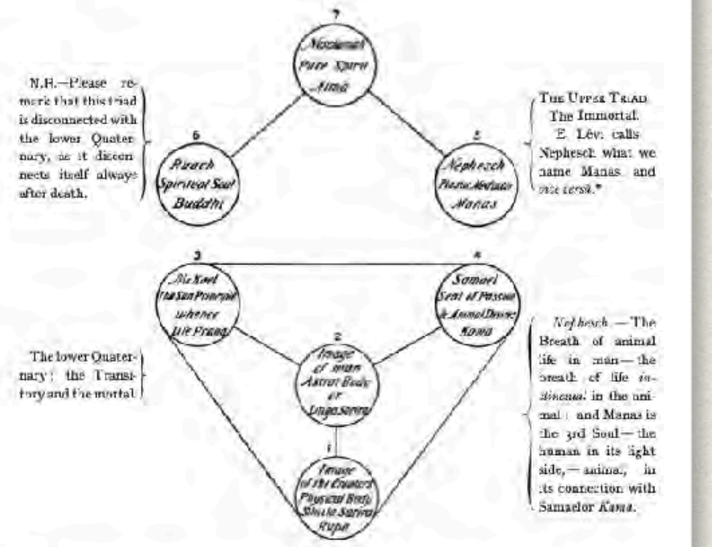
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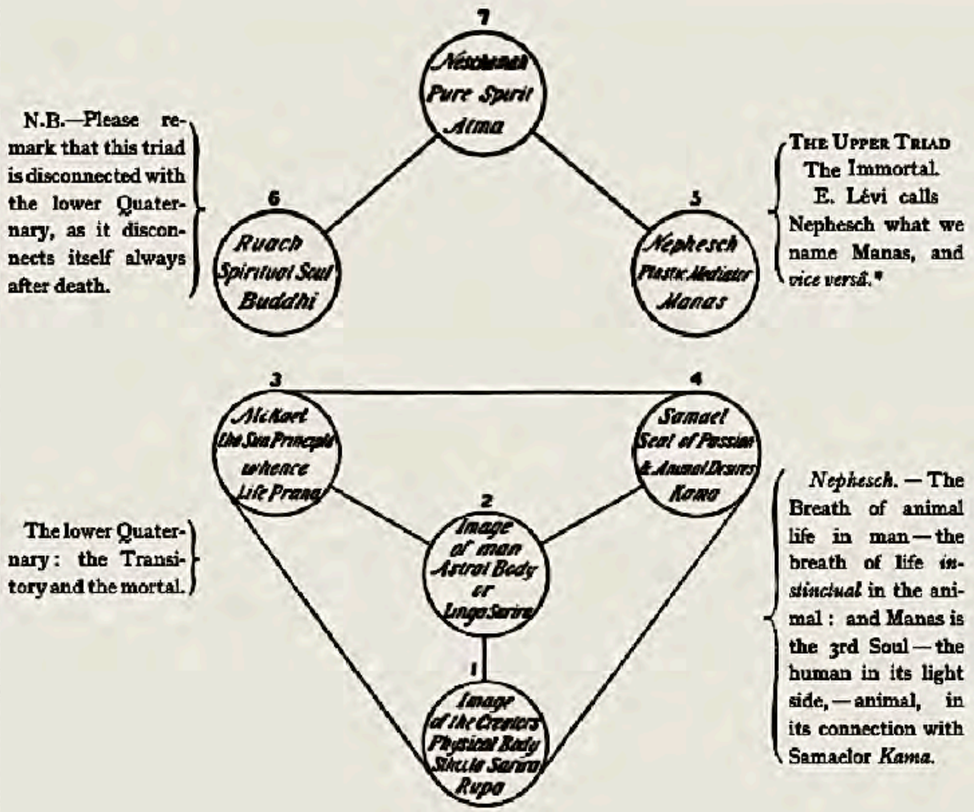
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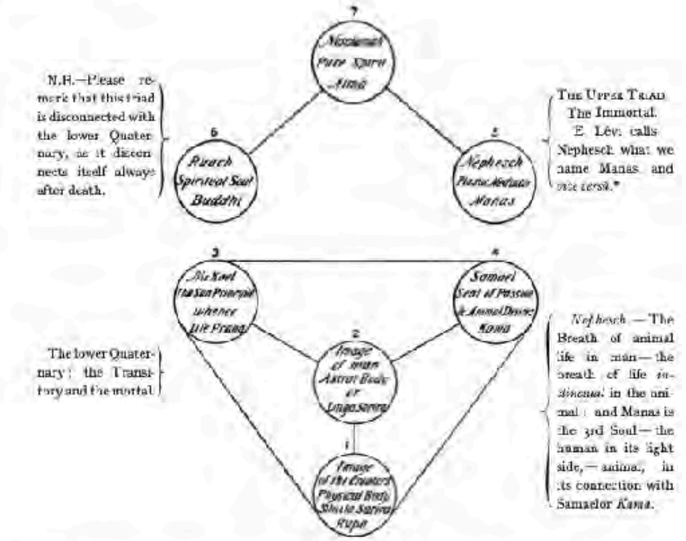
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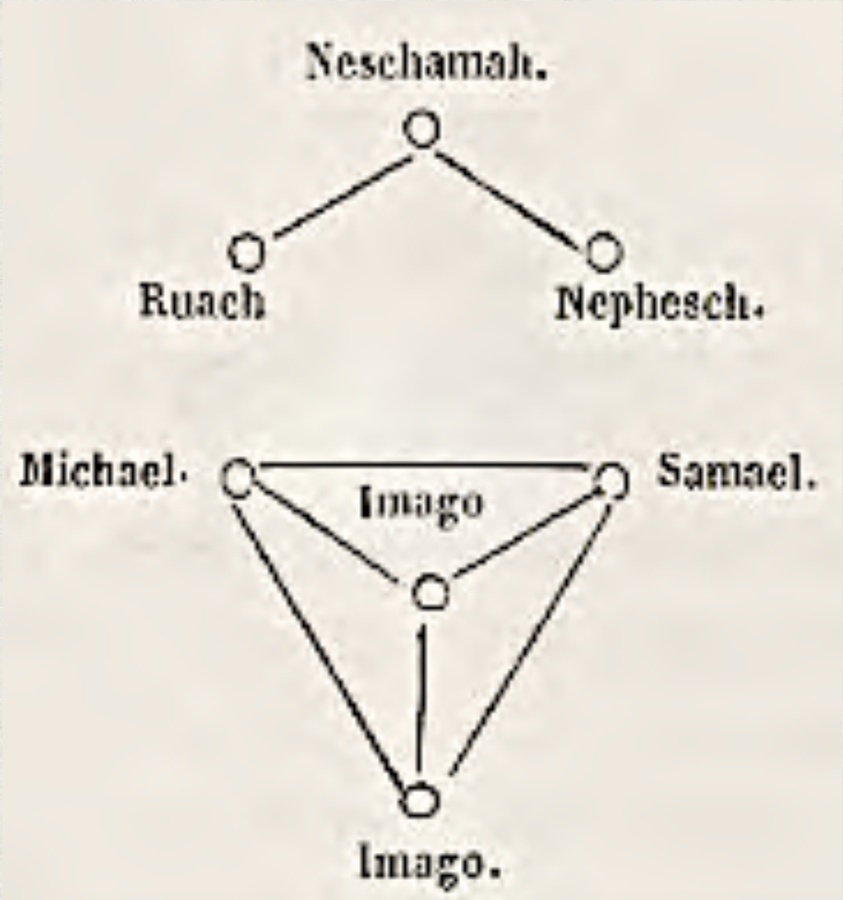
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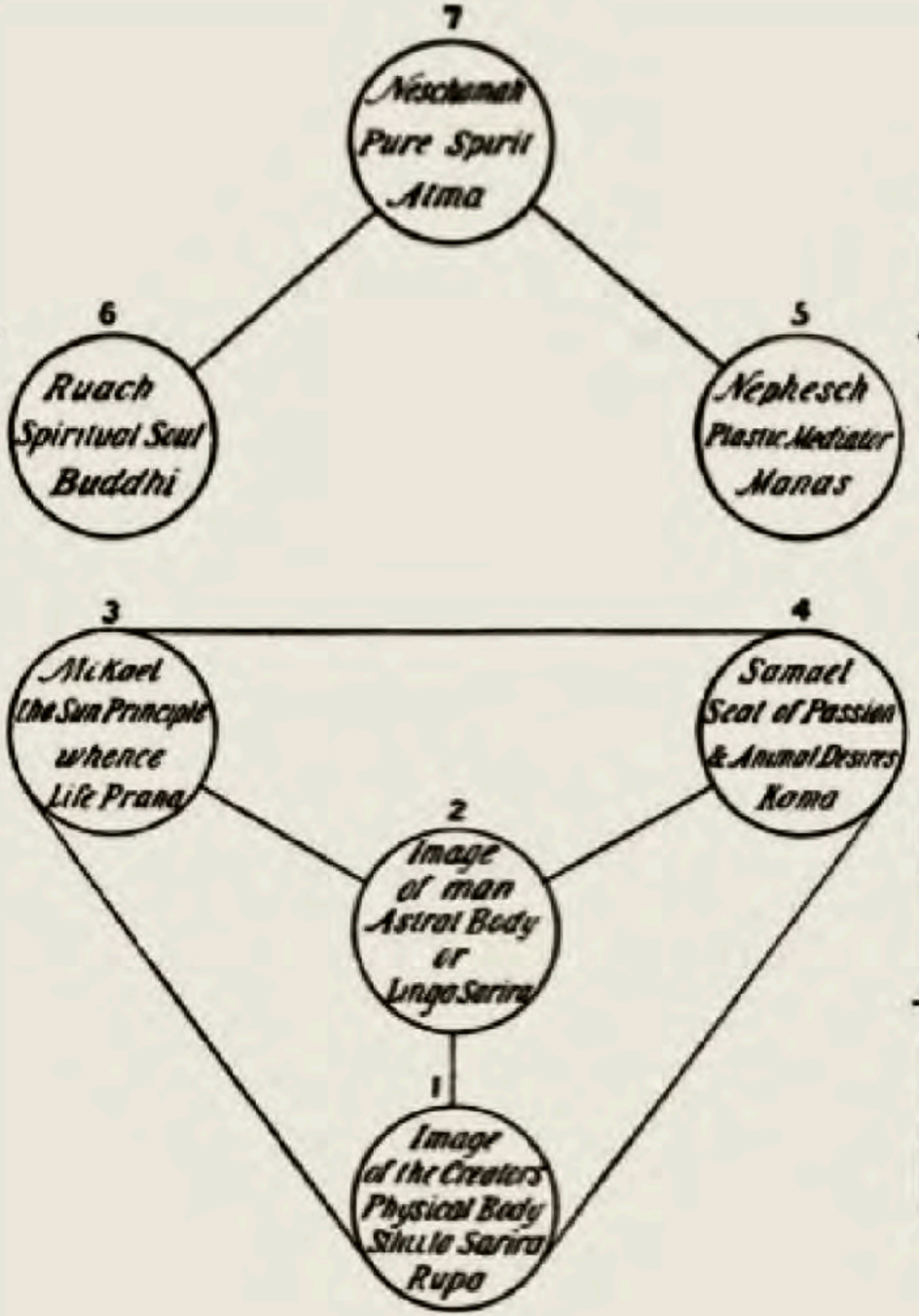


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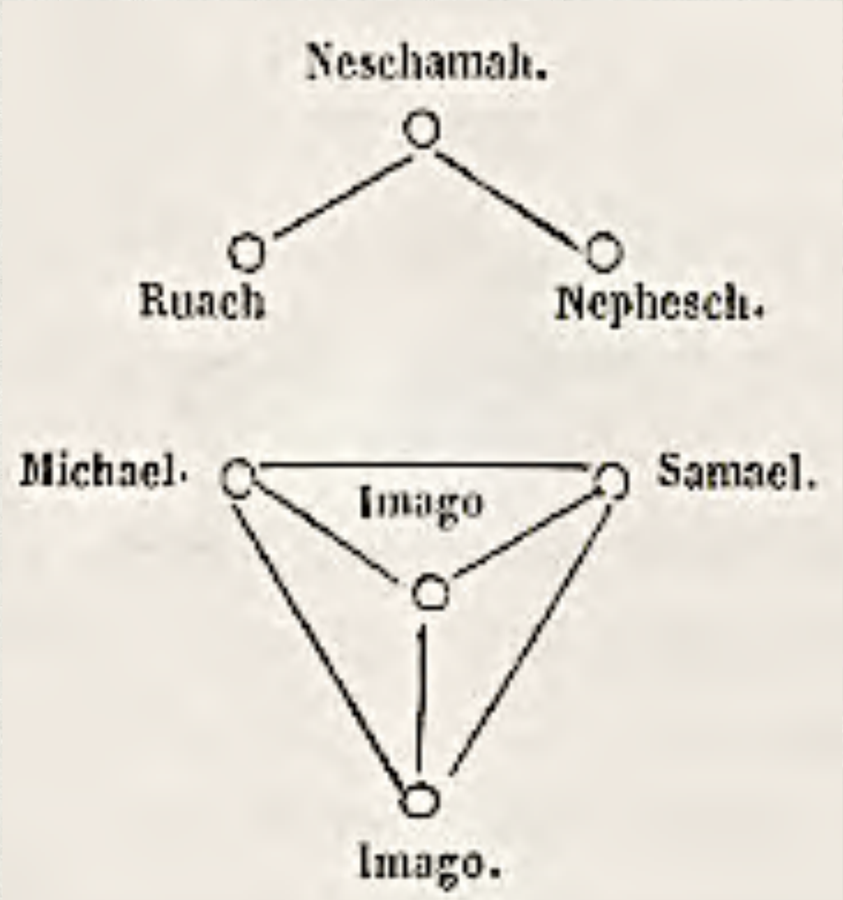
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7
Neschamah
Pure Spirit
Atma

6
Ruach
Spiritual Soul
Buddhi

5
~~Nephesch~~
Plastic
Mediator
Manas

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3
Mikael
Sun Principle
whence
Life Prana

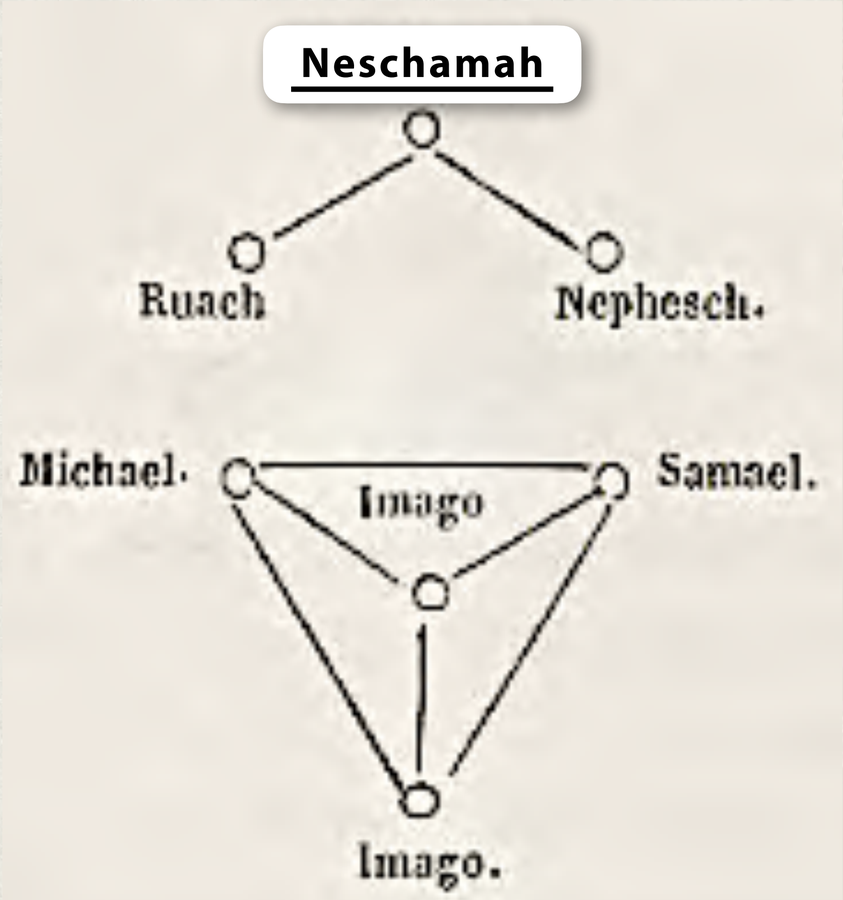
4
Samael
Seat of Passion
& Animal Desires
Kama

2
Image
of Man
Astral Body
Linga Sarira

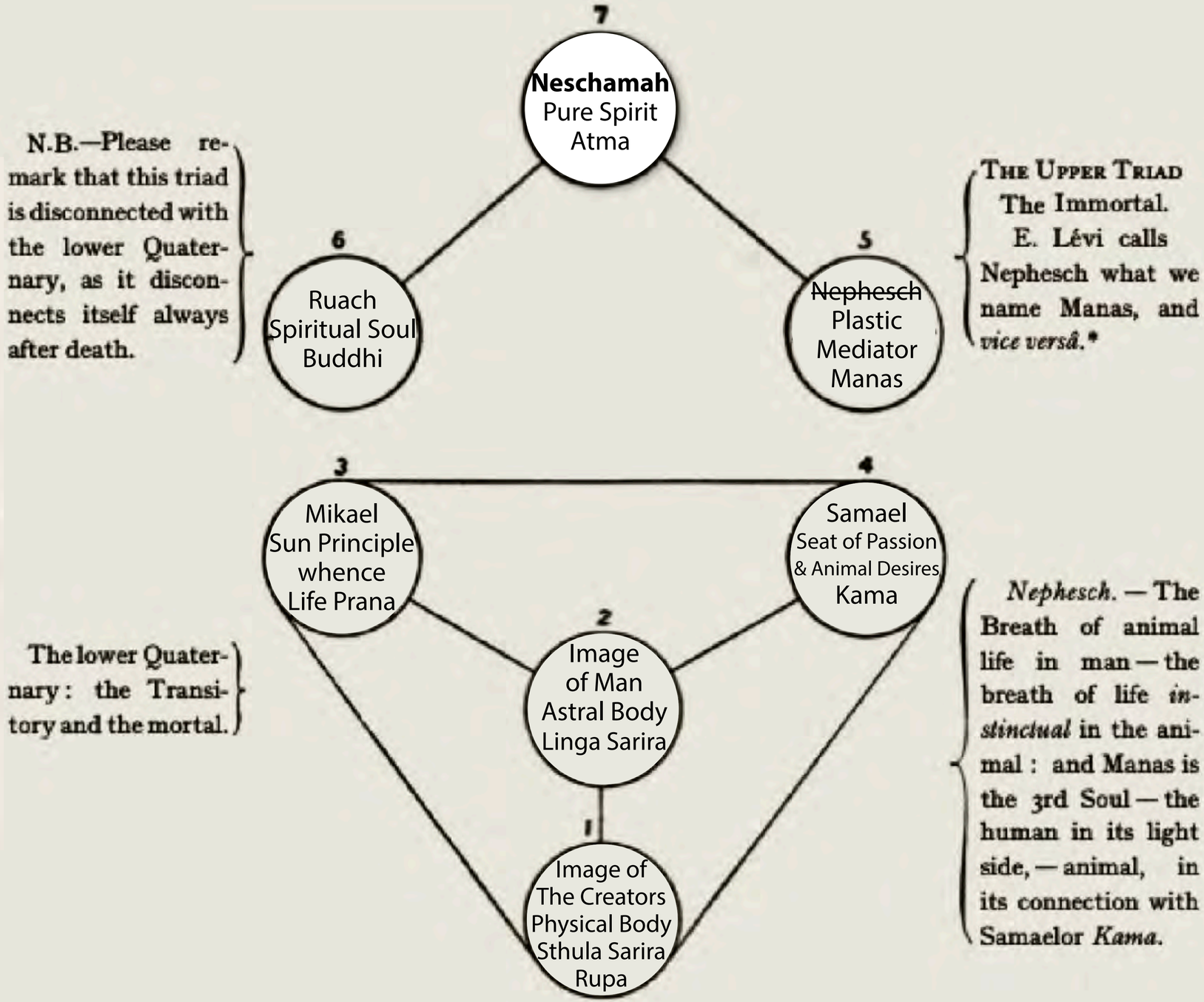
1
Image of
The Creators
Physical Body
Sthula Sarira
Rupa

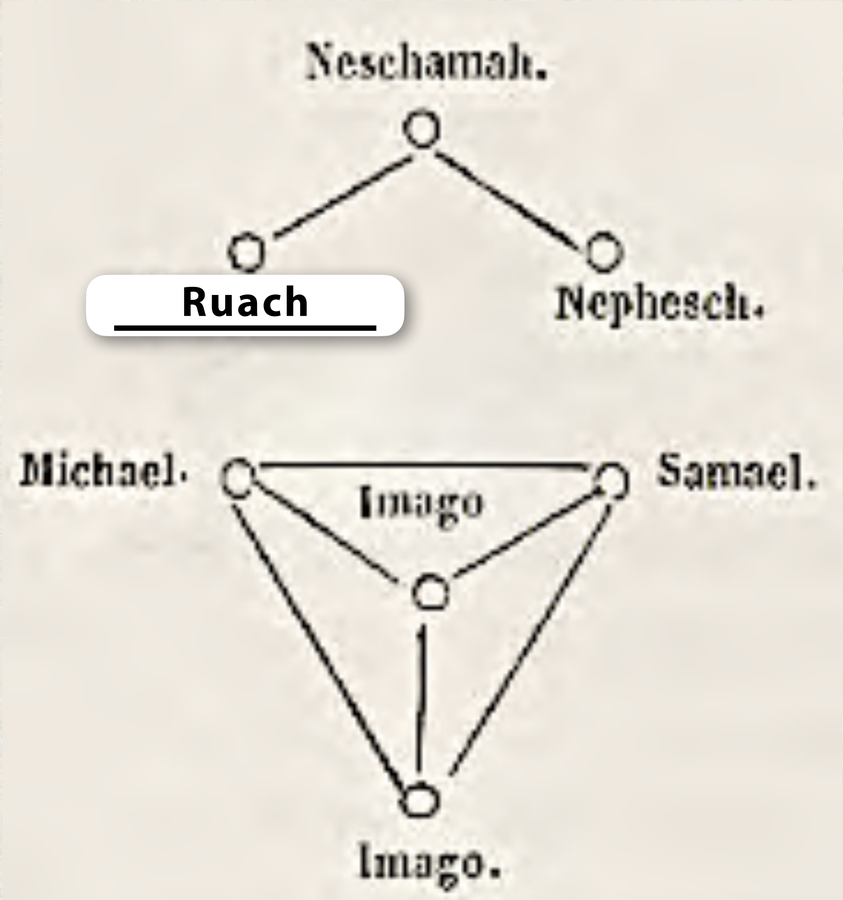
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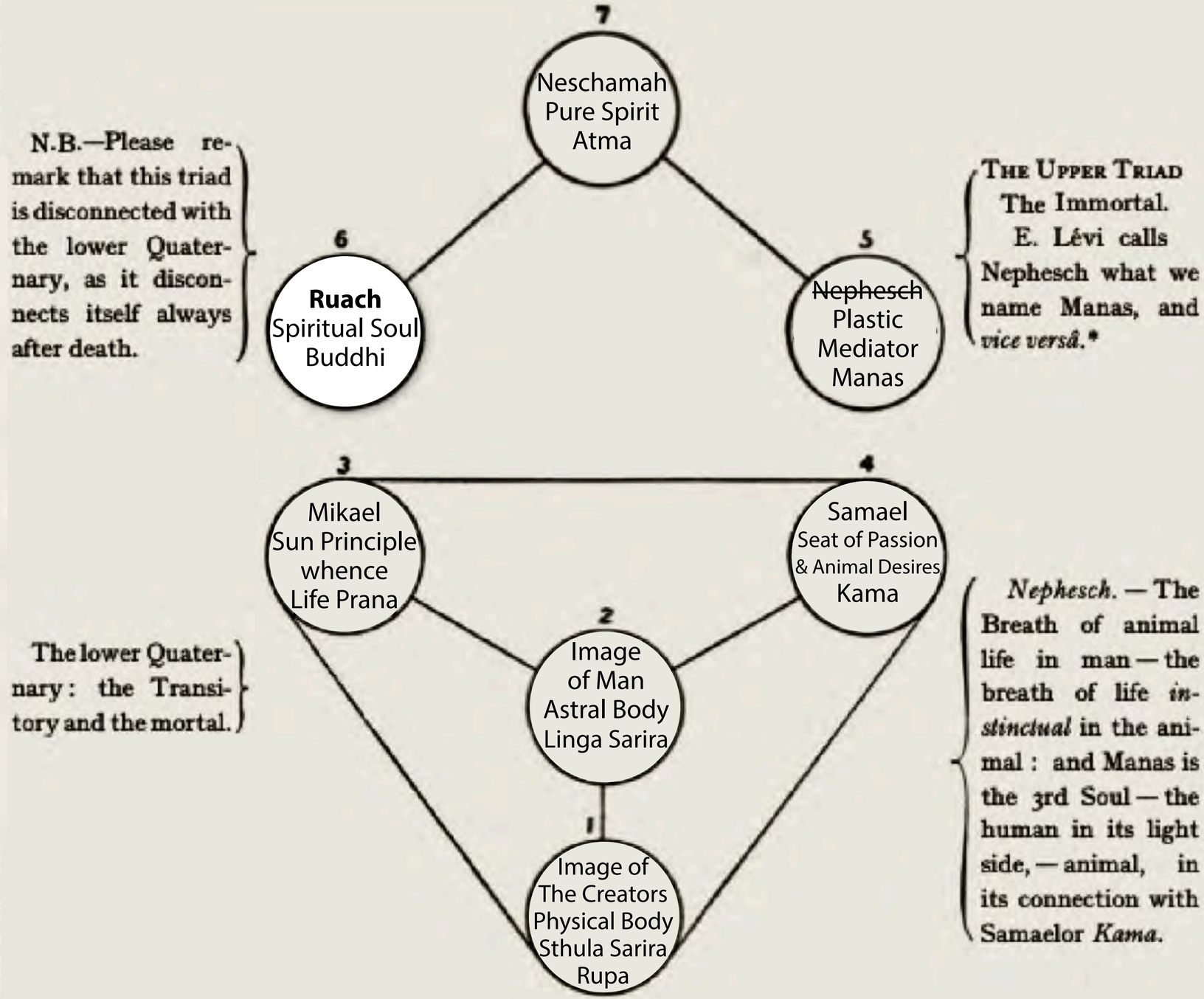


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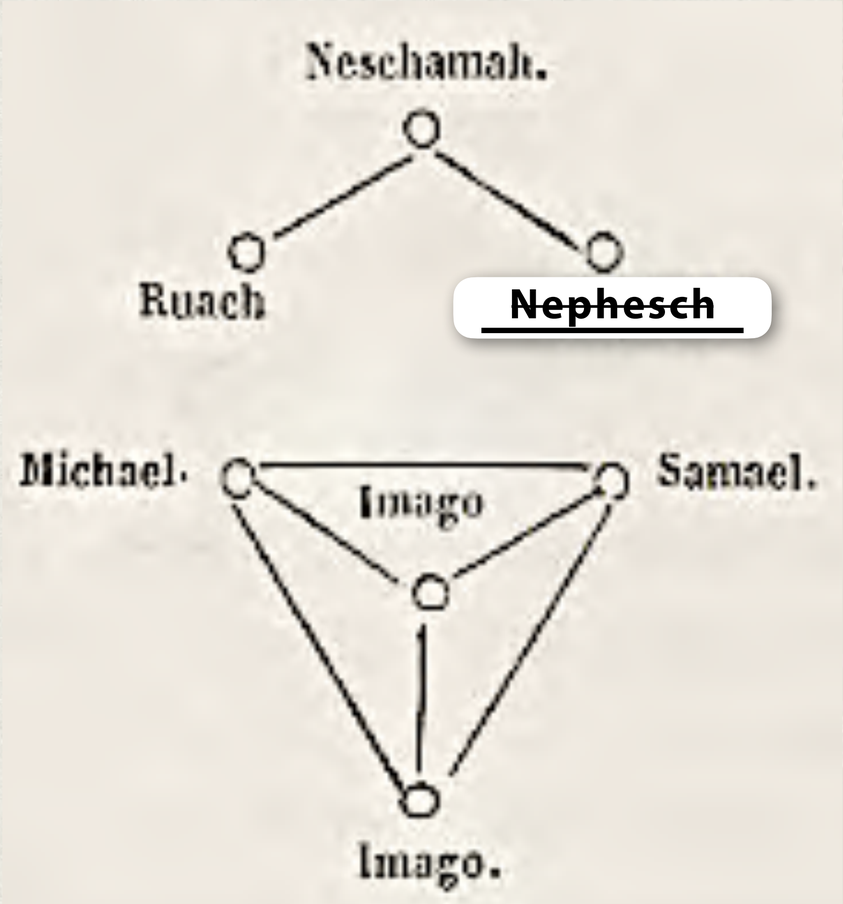


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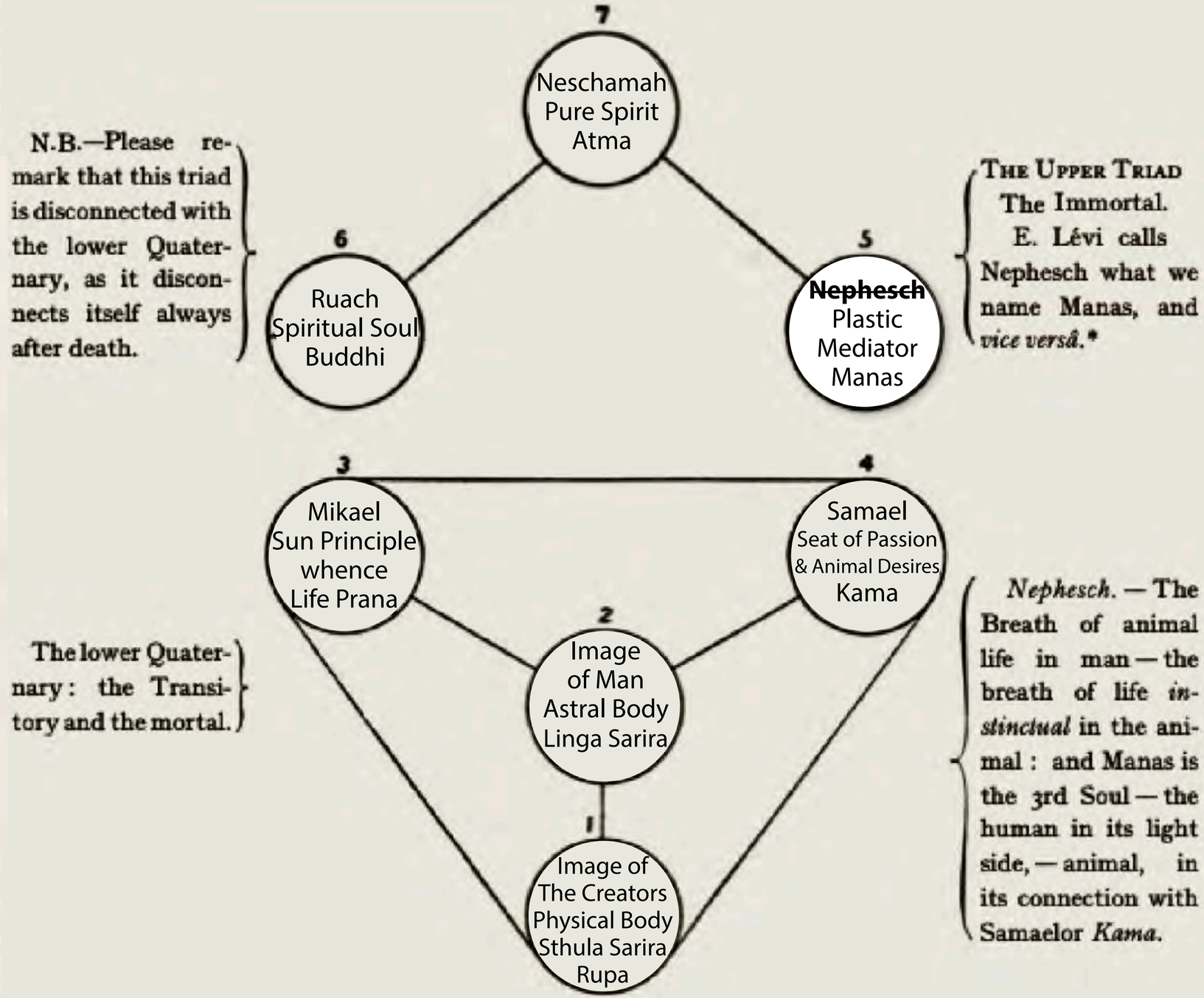
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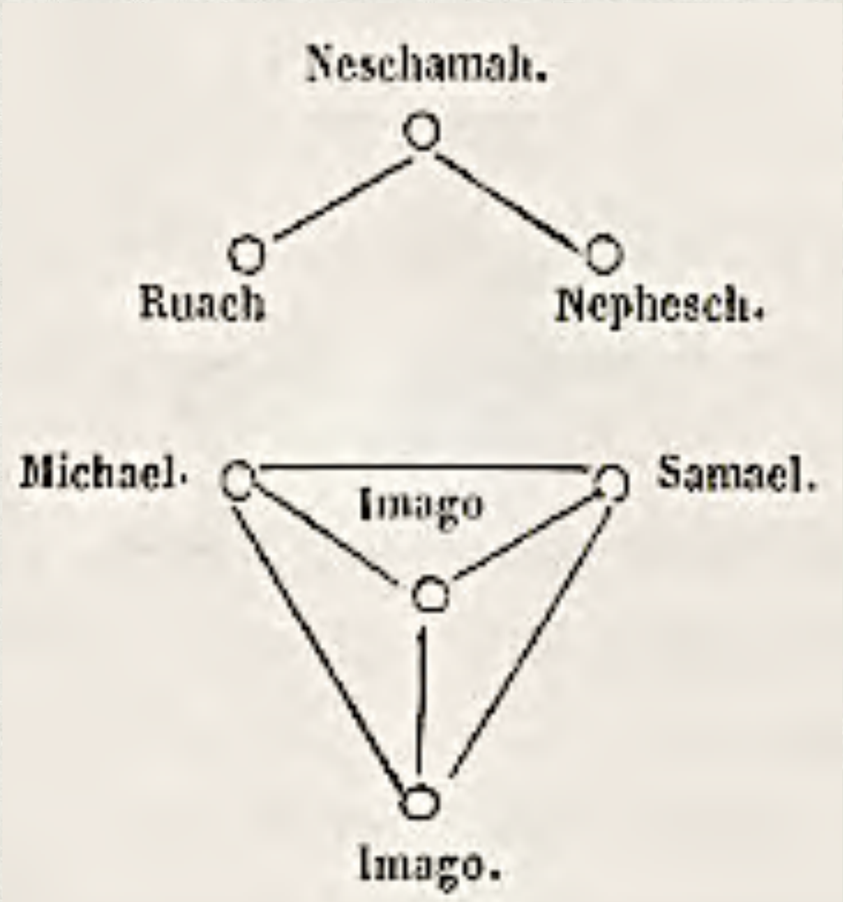


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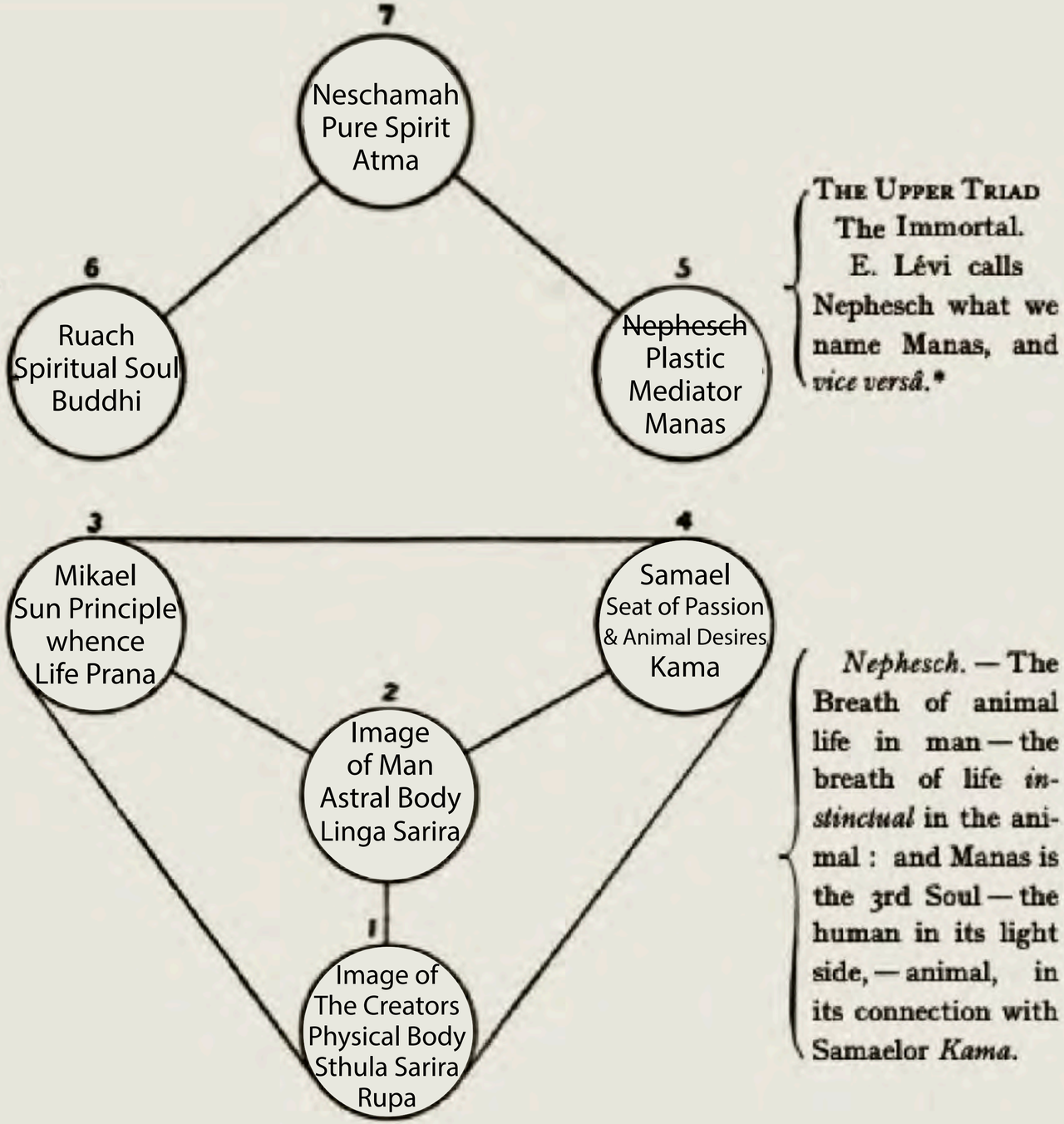
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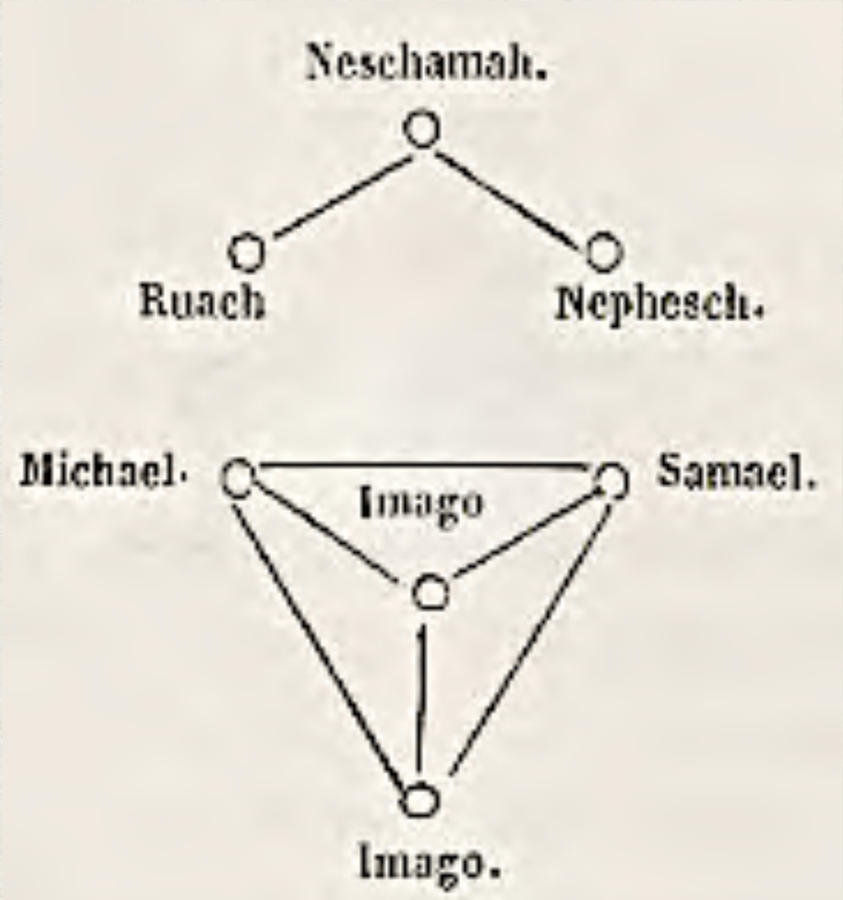
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– from Levi's "Key of the Great Mysteries"

7
Neschamah
Pure Spirit
Atma

N.B.—Please remark that this triad is disconnected with the lower Quaternary, as it disconnects itself always after death.

6
Ruach
Spiritual Soul
Buddhi

5
~~Nephesch~~
Plastic
Mediator
Manas

THE UPPER TRIAD
The Immortal.
E. Lévi calls Nephesch what we name Manas, and *vice versâ*.*

3
Mikael
Sun Principle
whence
Life Prana

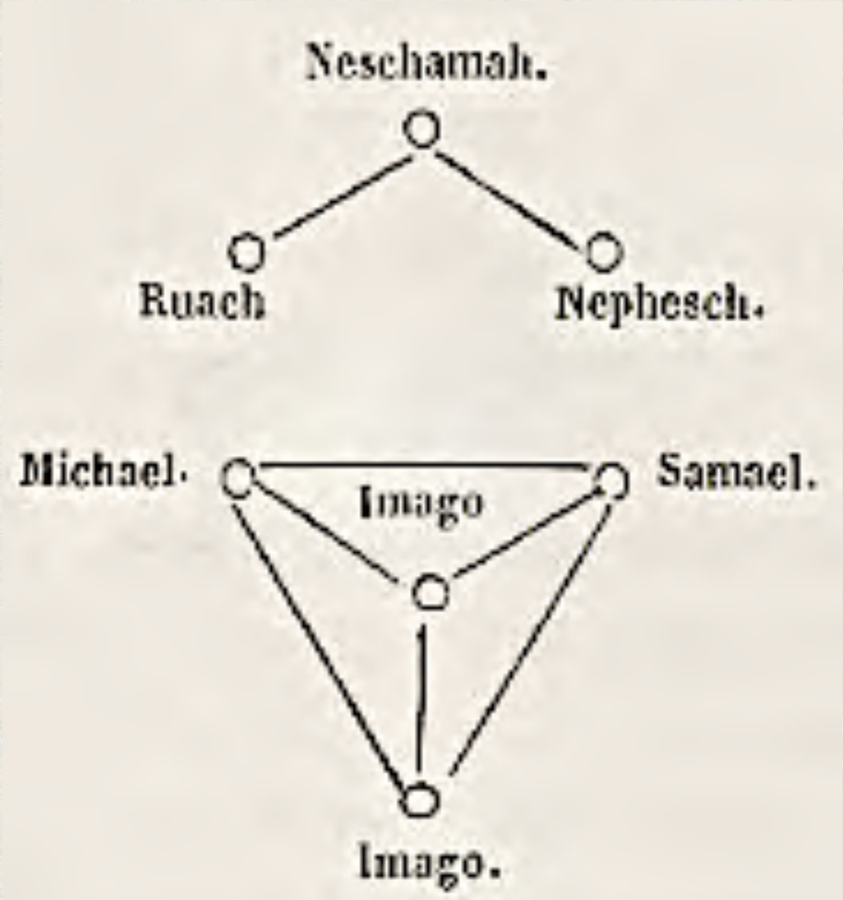
4
Samael
Seat of Passion
& Animal Desires
Kama

2
Image
of Man
Astral Body
Linga Sarira

The lower Quaternary: the Transitory and the mortal.

1
Image of
The Creators
Physical Body
Sthula Sarira
Rupa

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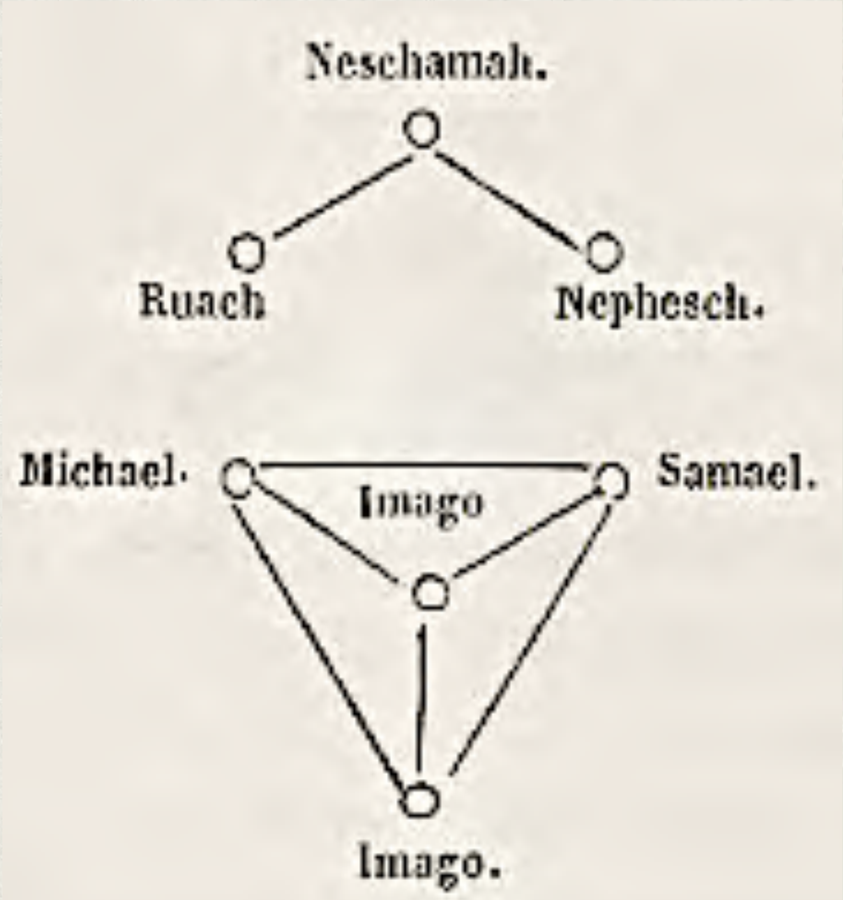
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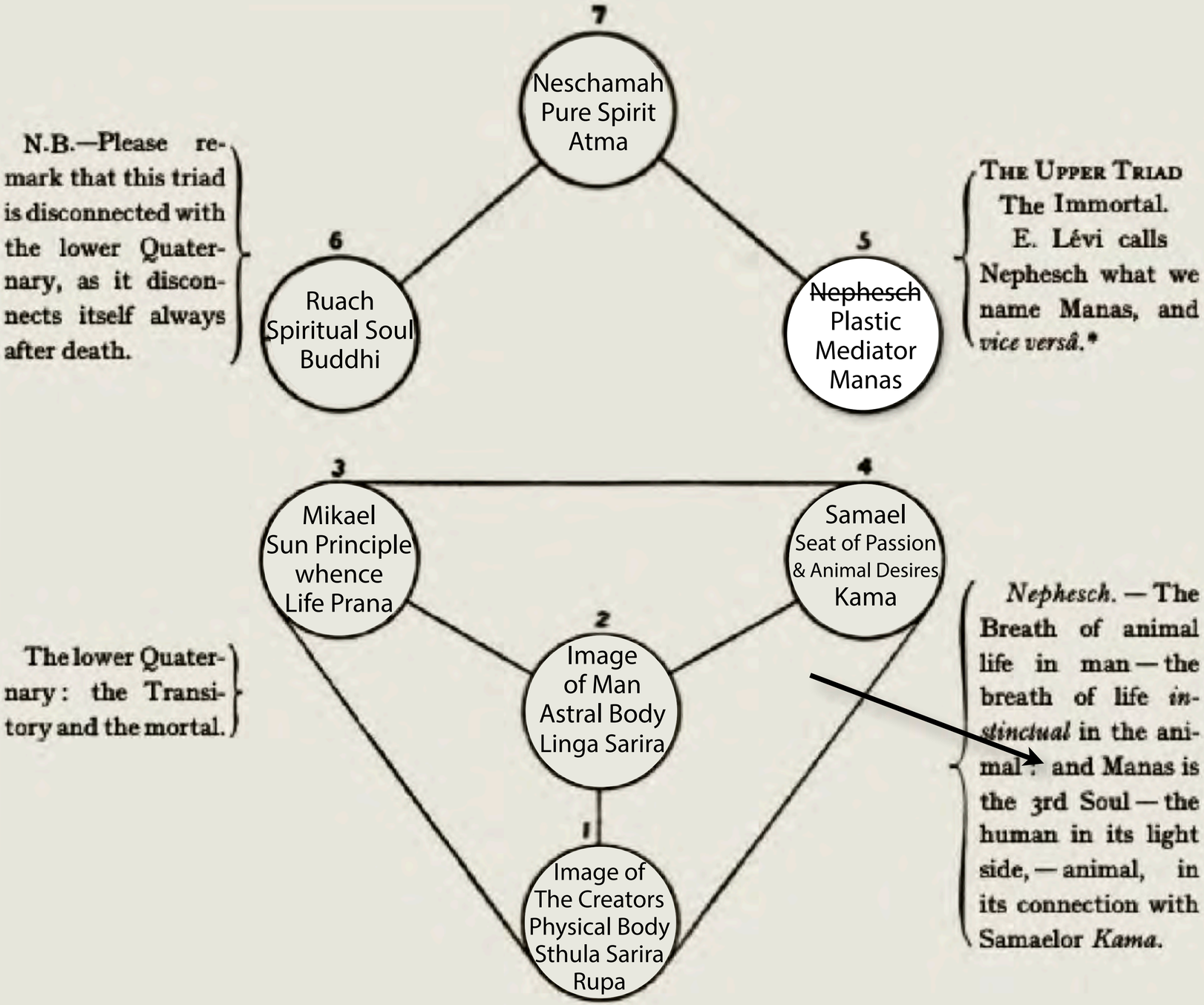
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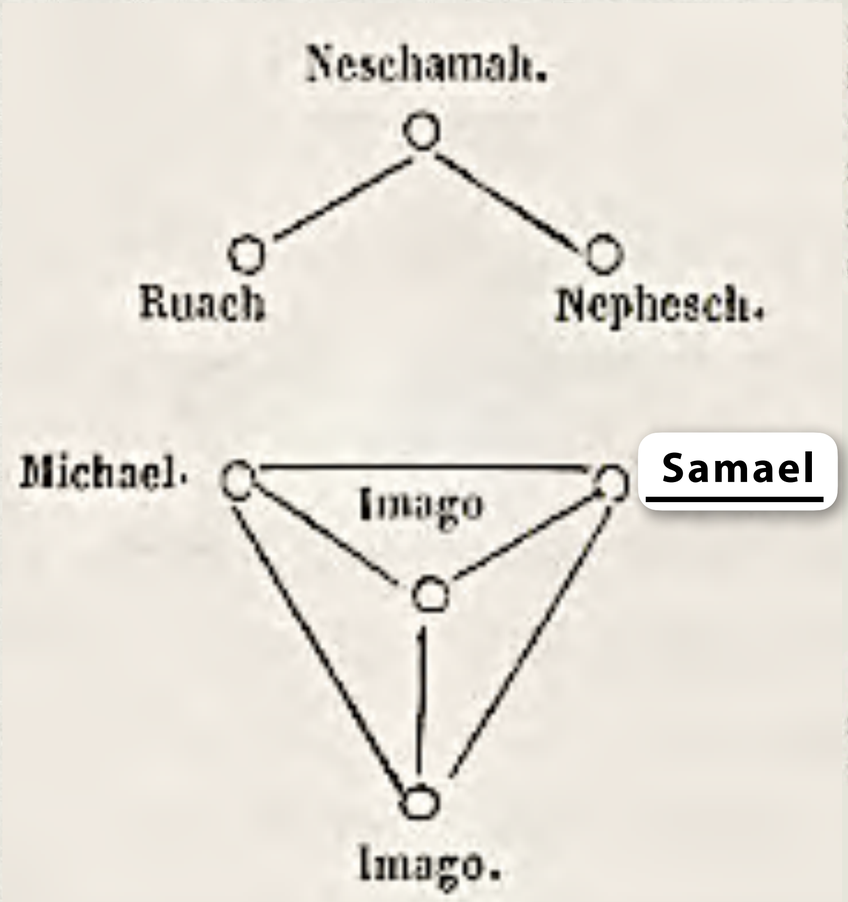


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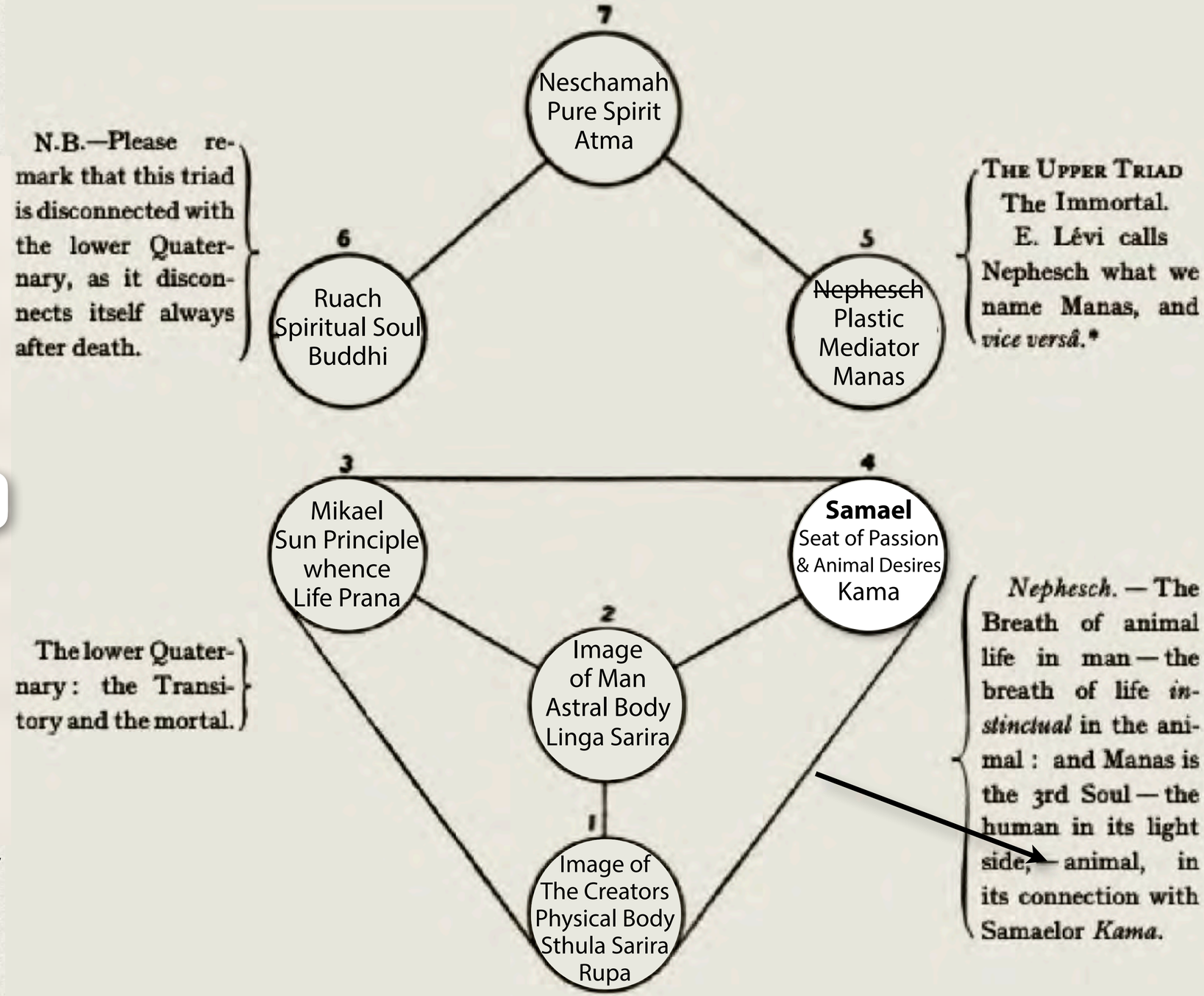
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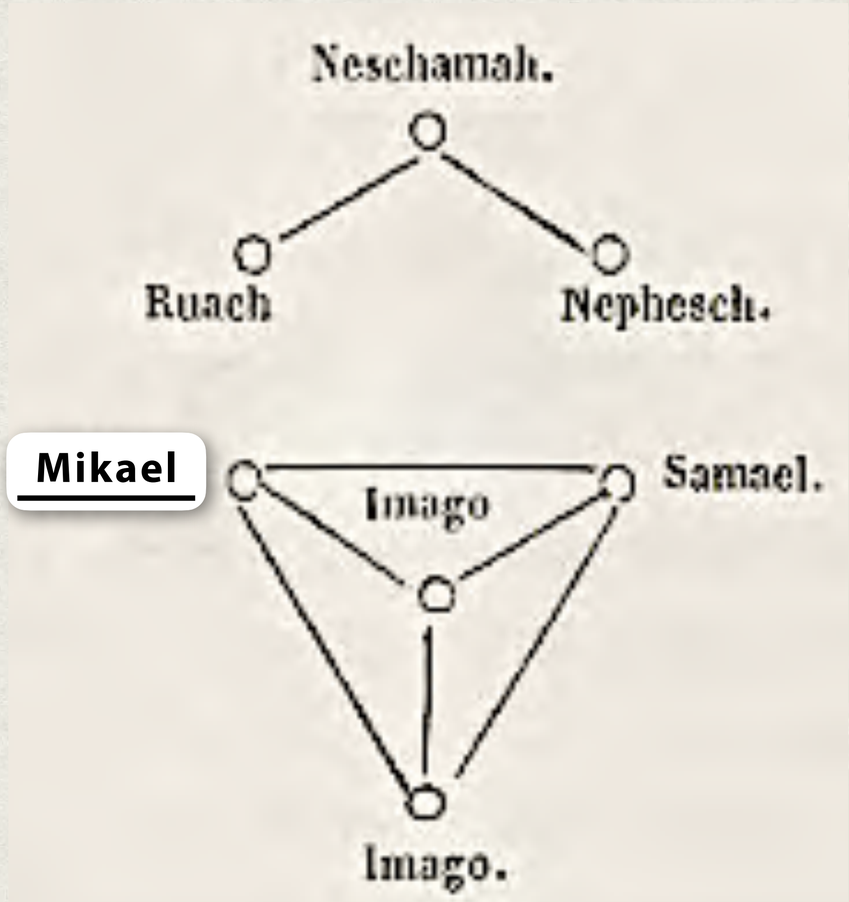
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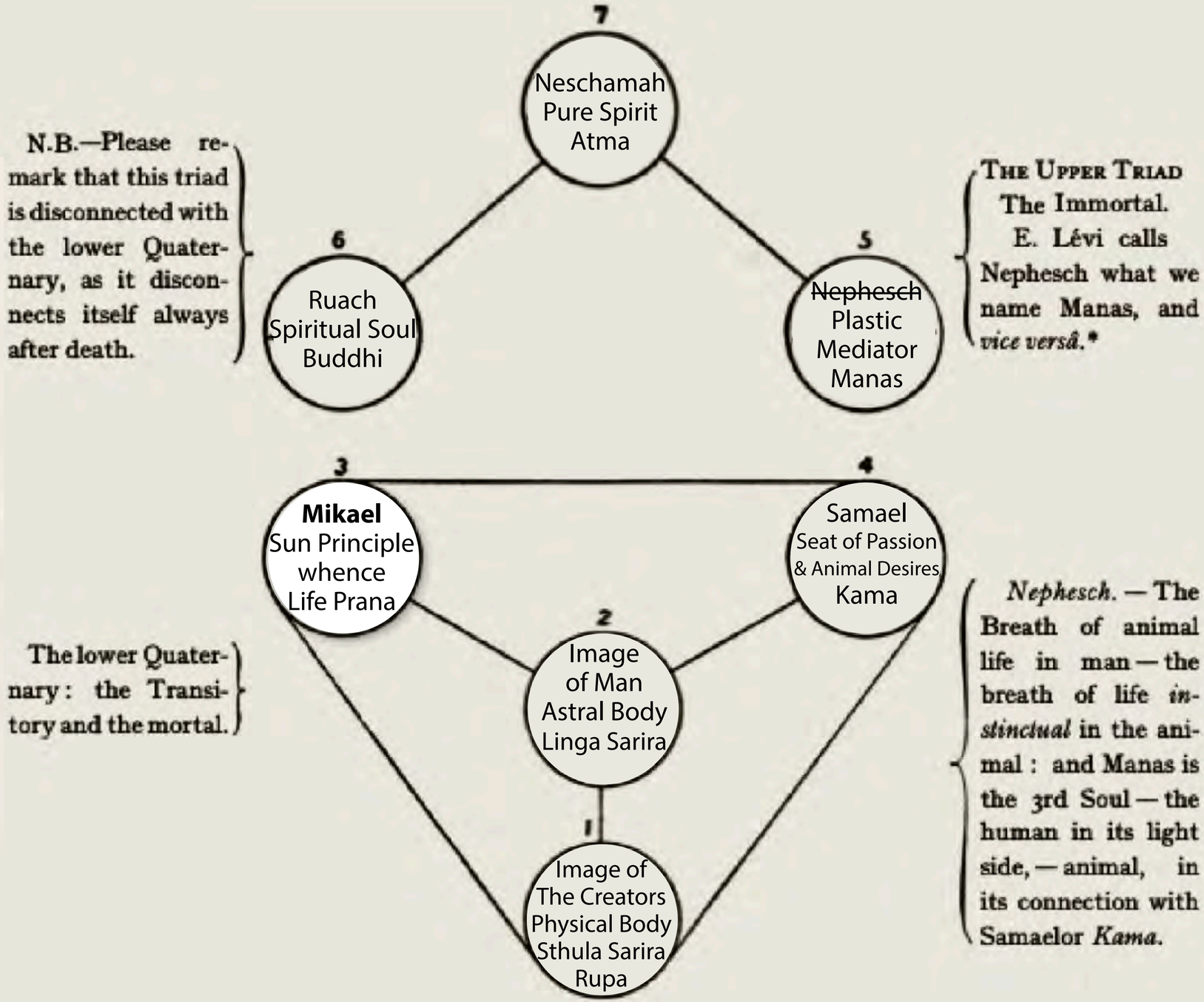


– from Levi's "Key of the Great Mysteries"





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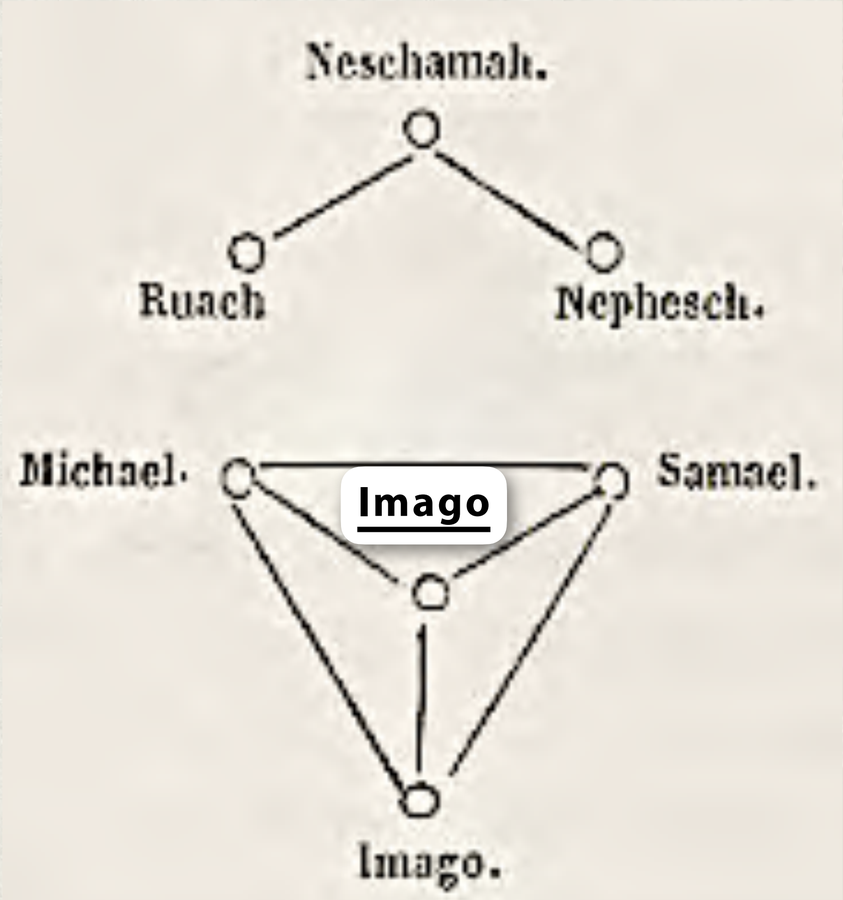


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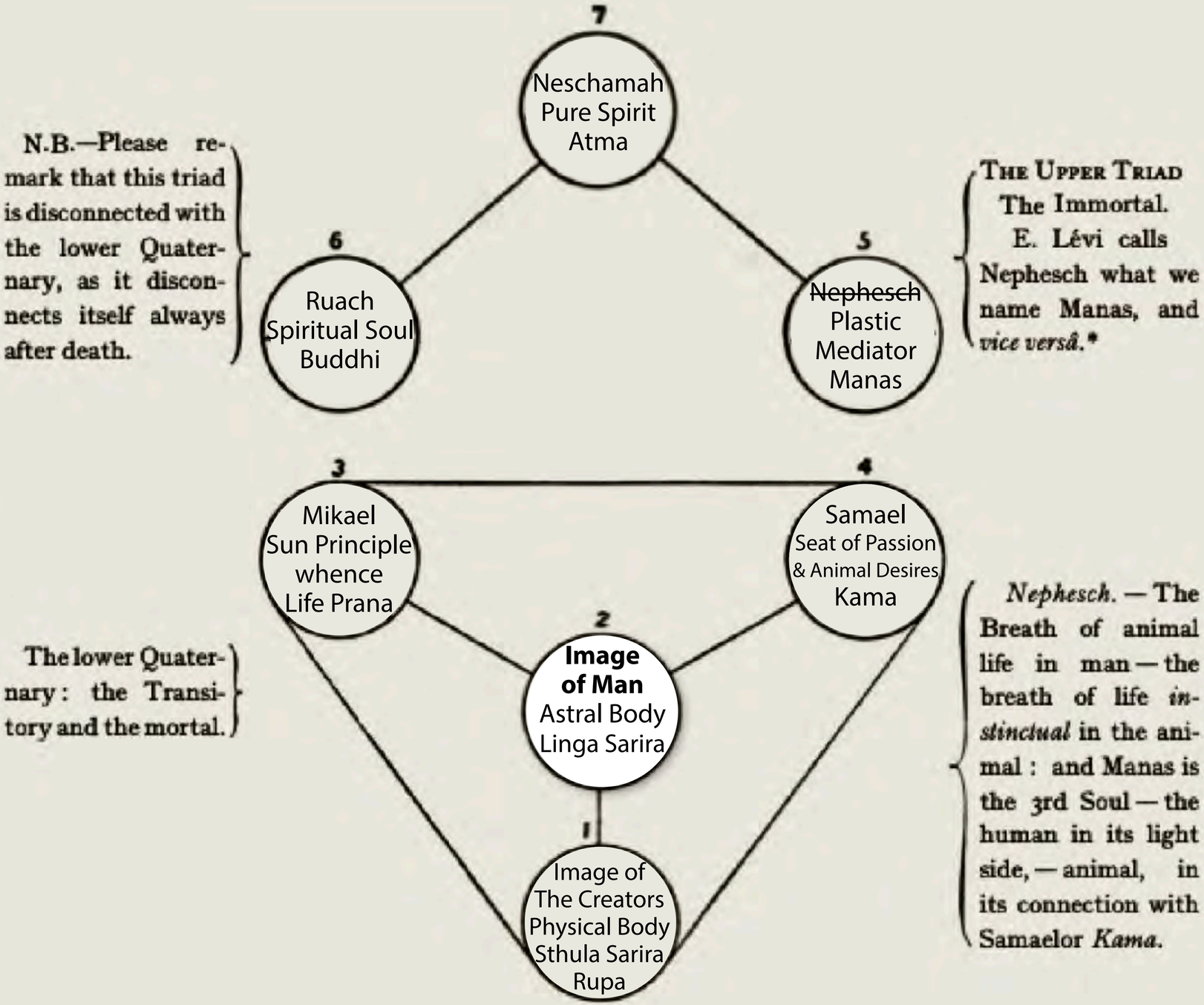
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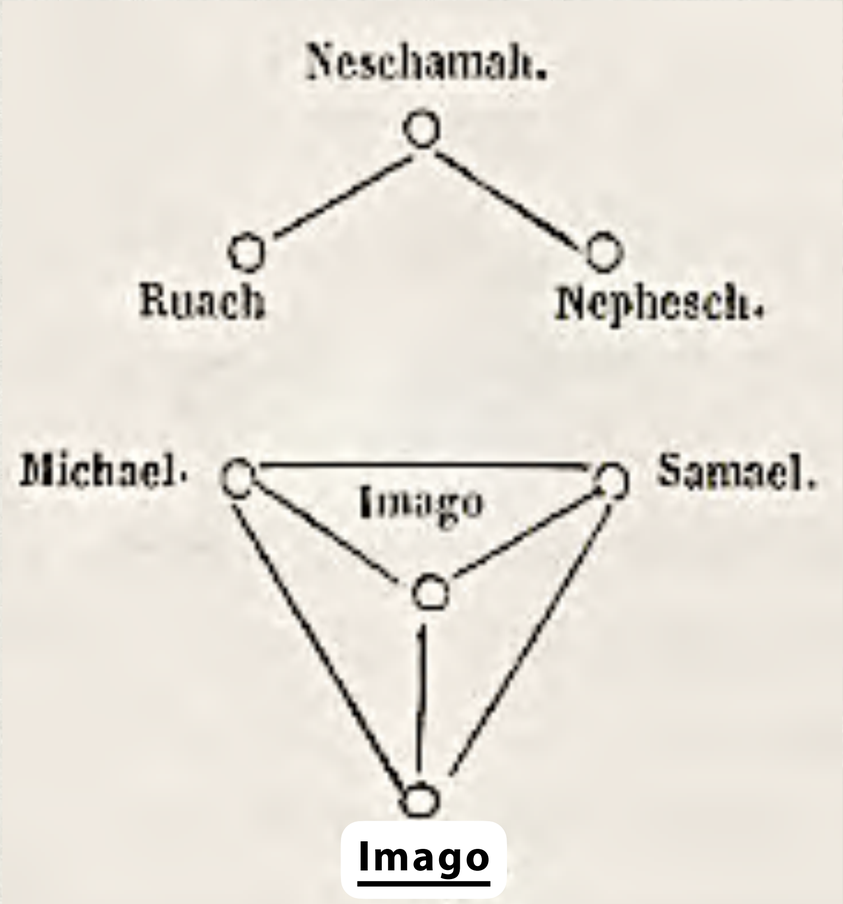


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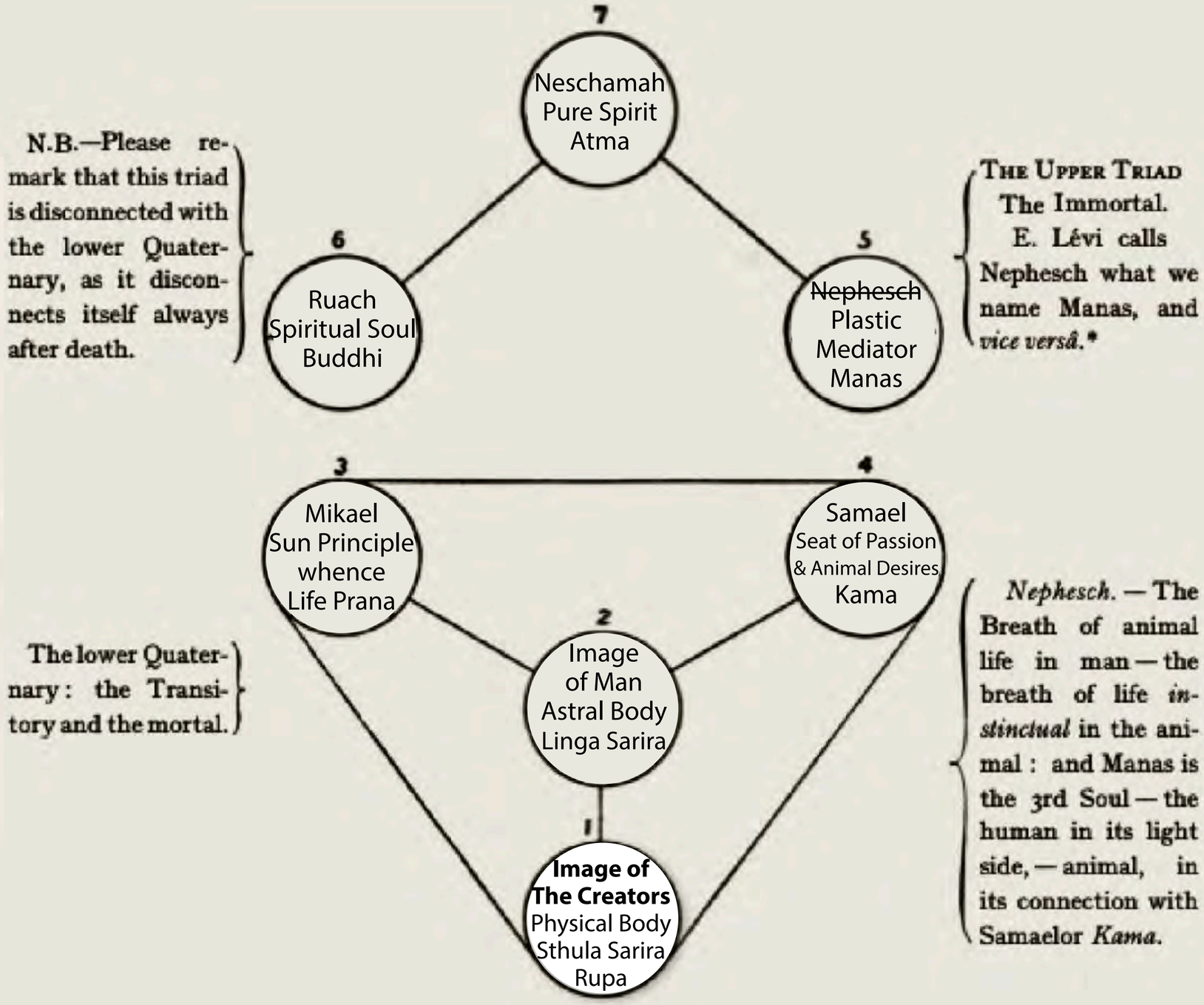
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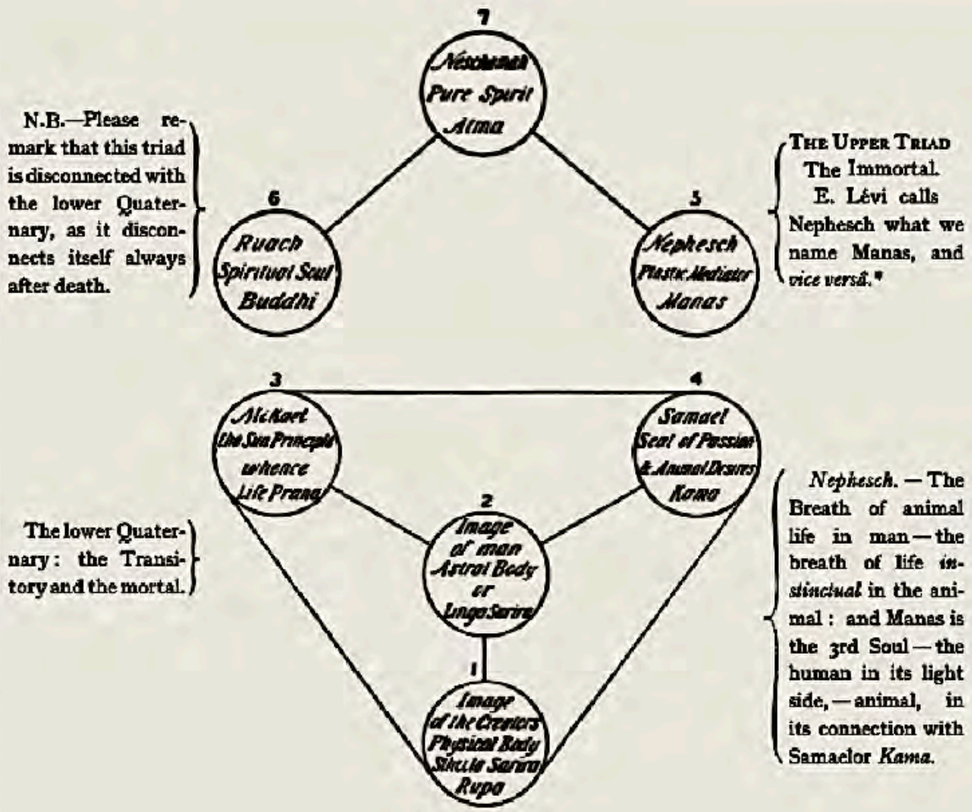
VERSE 5

The spark hangs from the flame by the finest thread of Fohat. It journeys through the Seven Worlds of Maya (a). *It stops in the first (Kingdom), and is a metal and a stone; it passes into the second (Kingdom), and behold — a plant; the plant whirls through seven forms and becomes a sacred animal; (the first shadow of the physical man) (b).*

From the combined attributes of these, Manu (man), the thinker, is formed.

Who forms him? The seven lives; and the one life (c). Who completes him? The fivefold Lha. And who perfects the last body? Fish, sin, and soma (the moon) (d).

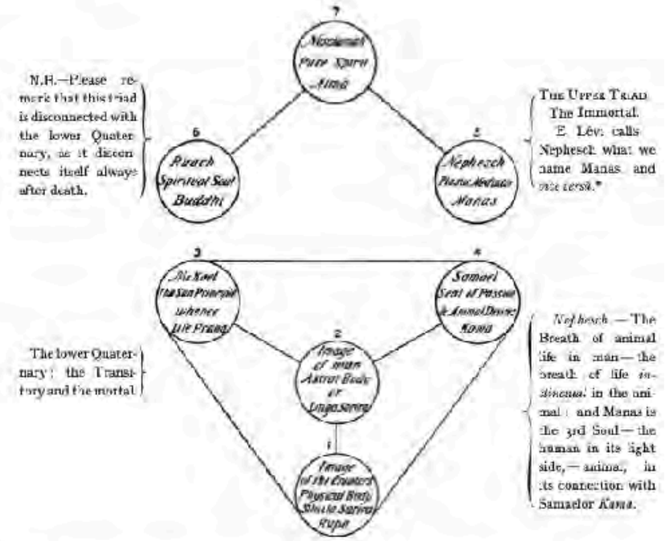
He shows the Kabala following faithfully even the septenary division of man, as the diagram he gives in his *"Clef des Grands Mystères"* is septenary. This may be seen at a glance on page 389, *"Une prophetie et diverses pensées de Paracelse,"* however cleverly the correct thought is veiled. One needs also only to look at the diagram (Plate VII. in Mr. Mathers' Kabala) "the formation of the Soul"* from the same "Key of the Great Mysteries" by Lévi to find the same, though with a different interpretation. Thus it stands with both the Kabalistic and the Occult names attached:



the Mosaic creation and the symbols of every religion." shows the Kabala following faithfully even the septenary division of man, as the diagram he gives in his "*Clef des Grands Mystères*" is septenary. This

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Thus it stands with both the Kabalistic and the Occult names attached :—



* Nephesch is the "breath of (animal) life" breathed into Adam, the man of dust; it is consequently the *Vital Spark*, the informing element. Without *Manas*, or what is miscalled in Lévi's diagram Nephesch instead of Manas, "the reasoning Soul," or mind. Atma-Buddhi are irrational on this plane and cannot act. It is Buddhi which is the plastic mediator, not Manas, "the intelligent medium between the upper Triad and the lower Quaternary." But there are many such strange and curious transformations to be found in the Kabalistic works—a convincing proof that its literature has become a sad jumble. We do not accept the classification except in this one particular, in order to show the points of agreement.

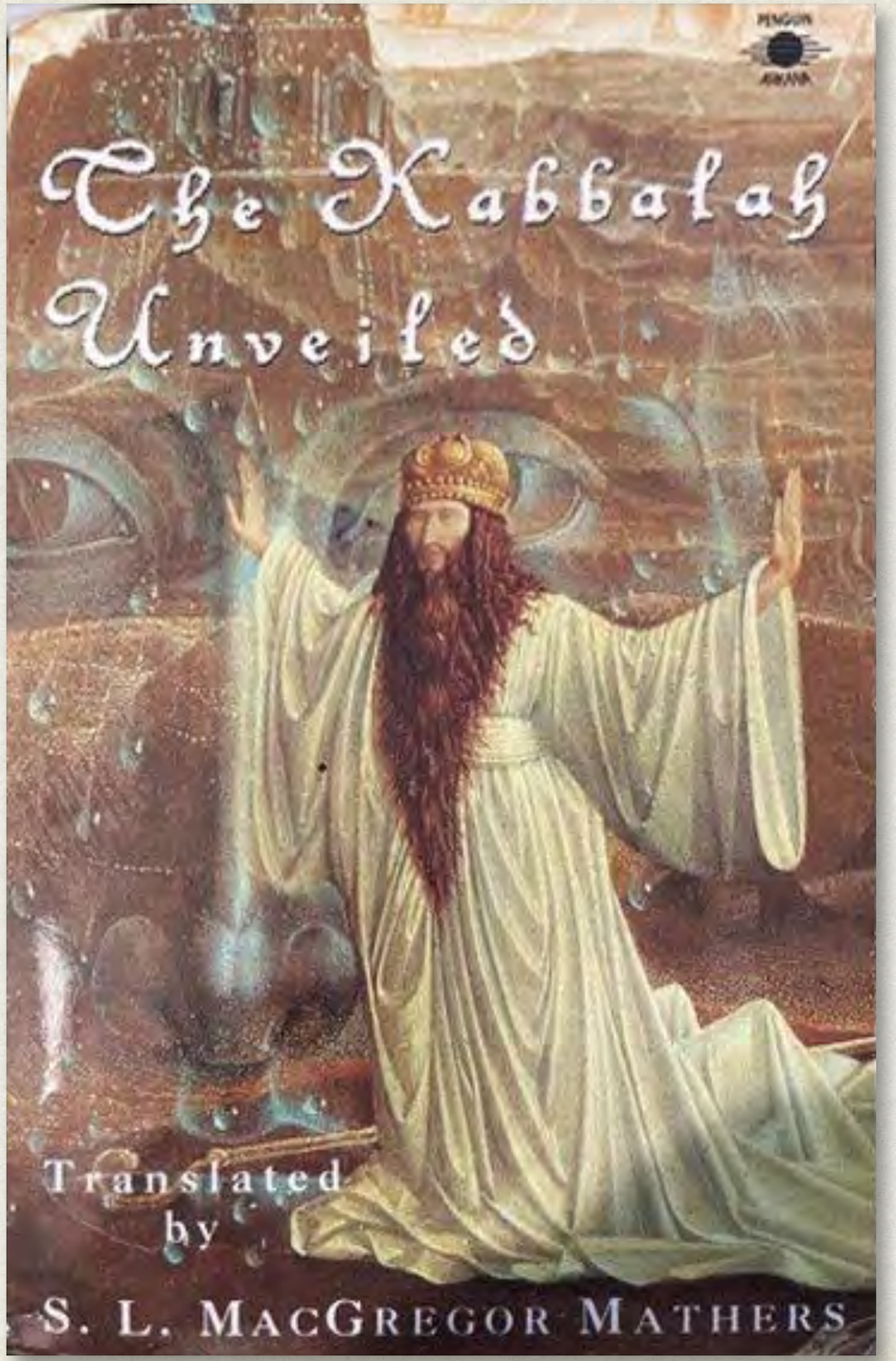
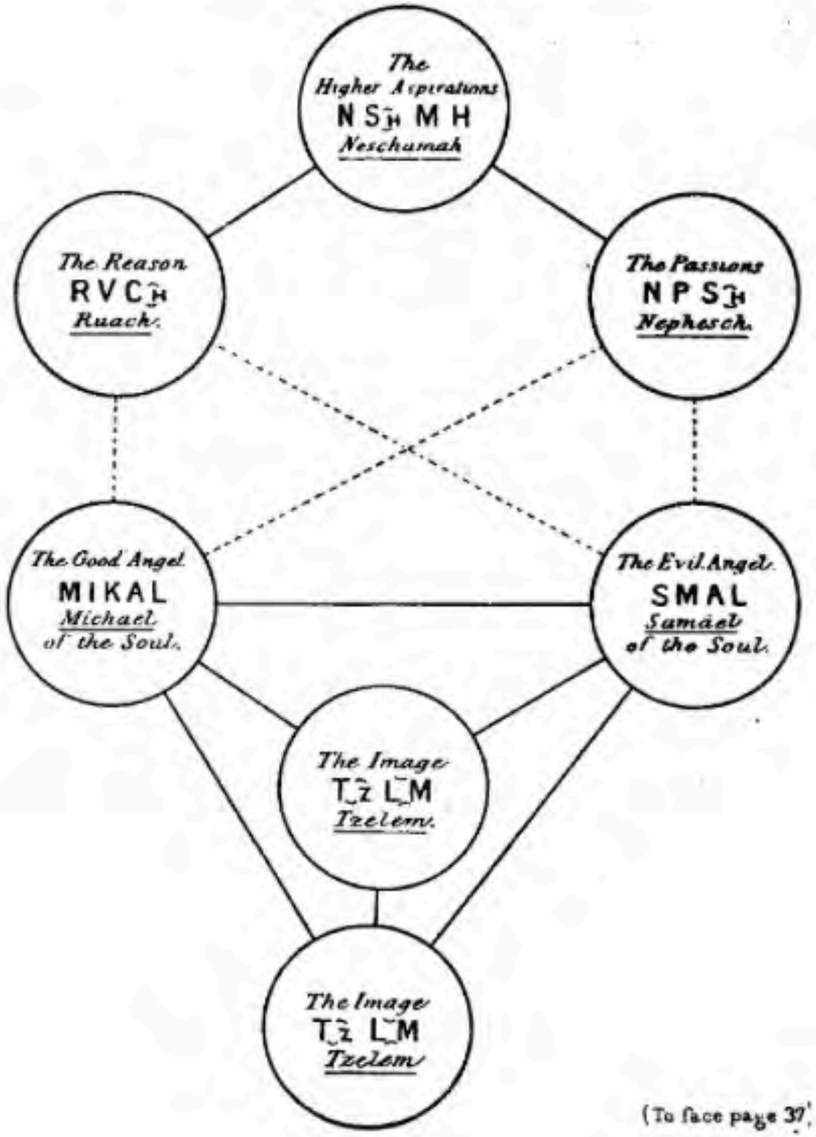


PLATE SHOWING THE FORMATION OF THE SOUL, &c

(From "Clef des Mystères" by Eliphaz Lévi Zahed.)



(To face page 37.)

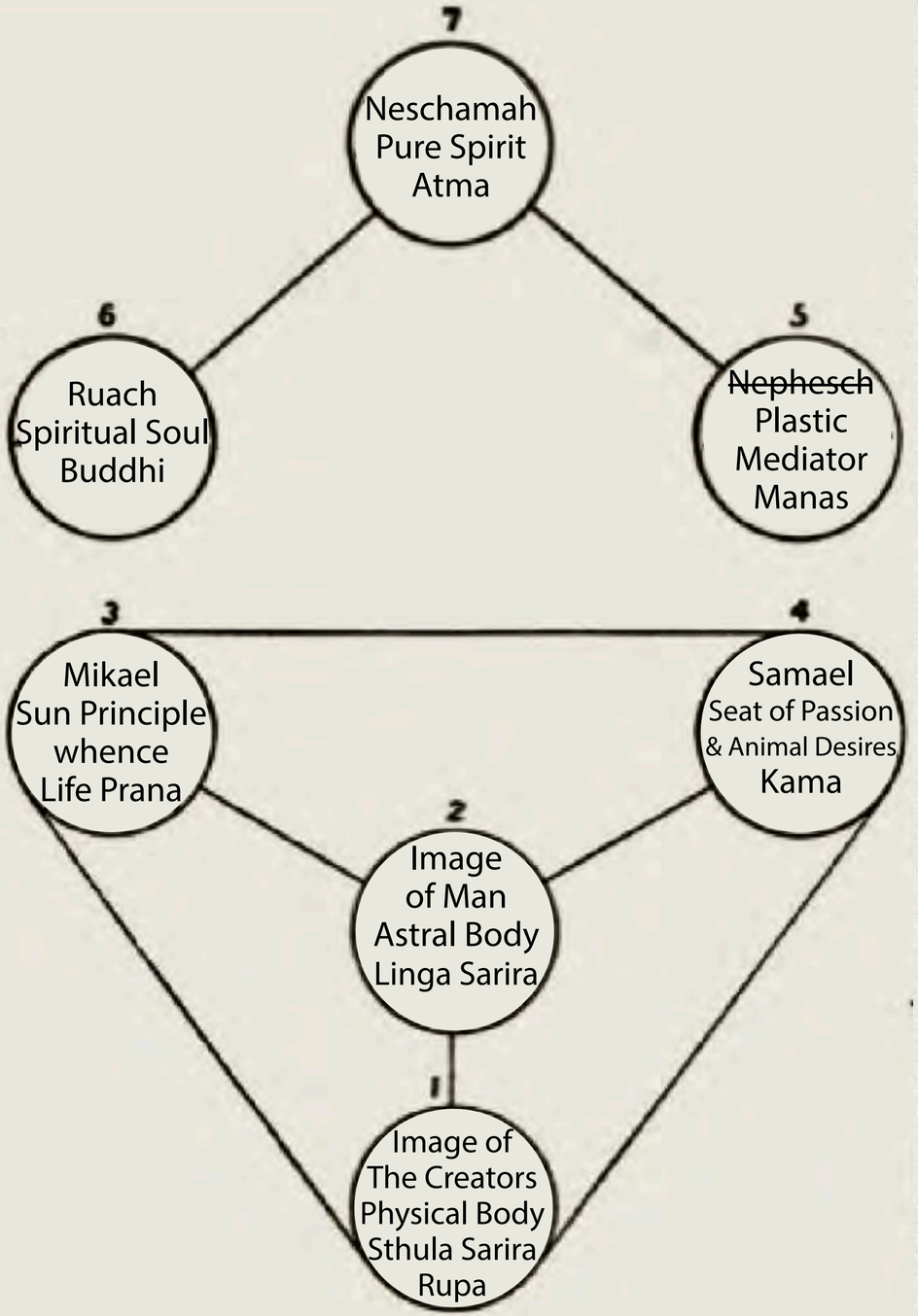
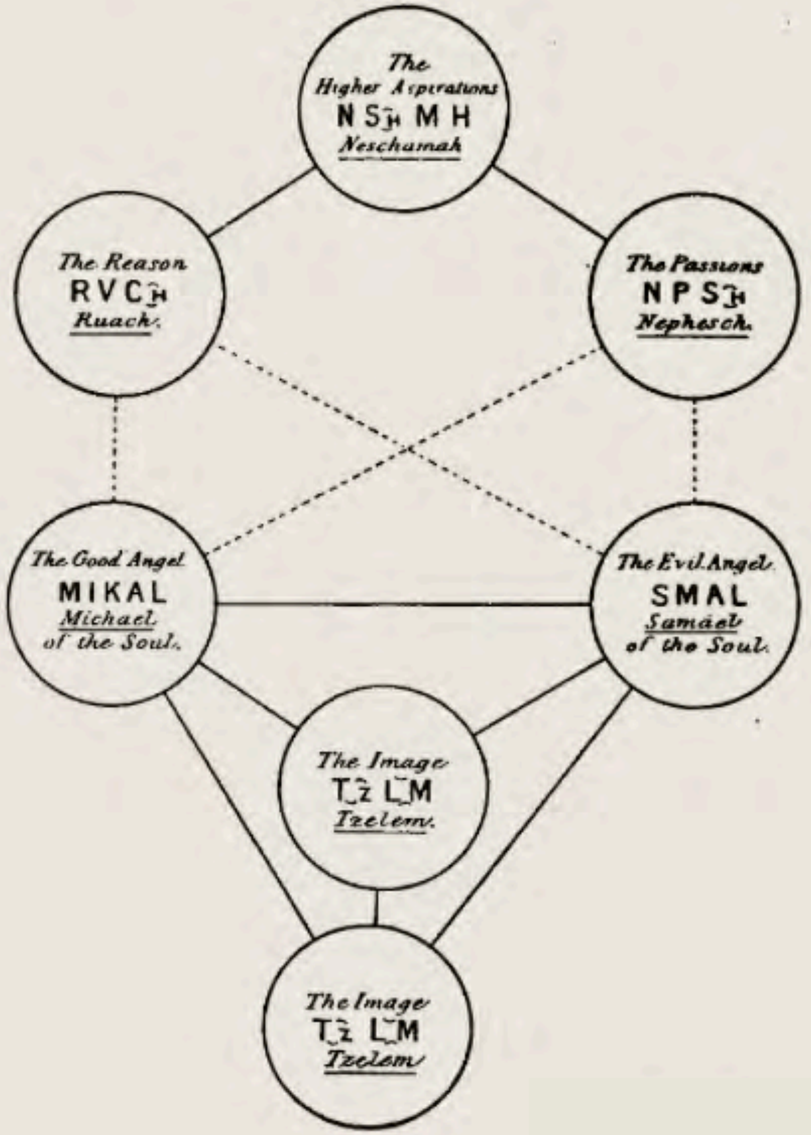


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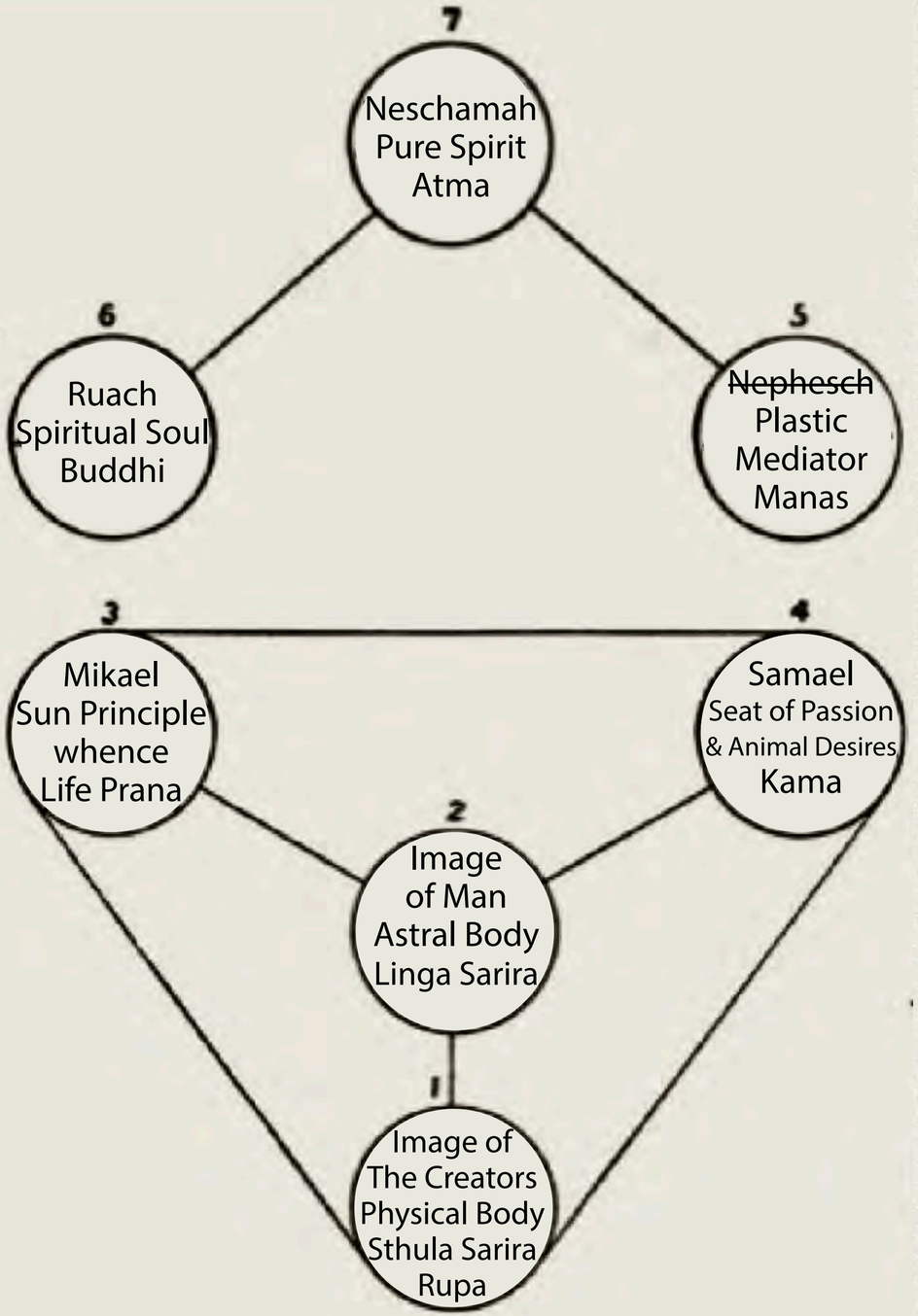
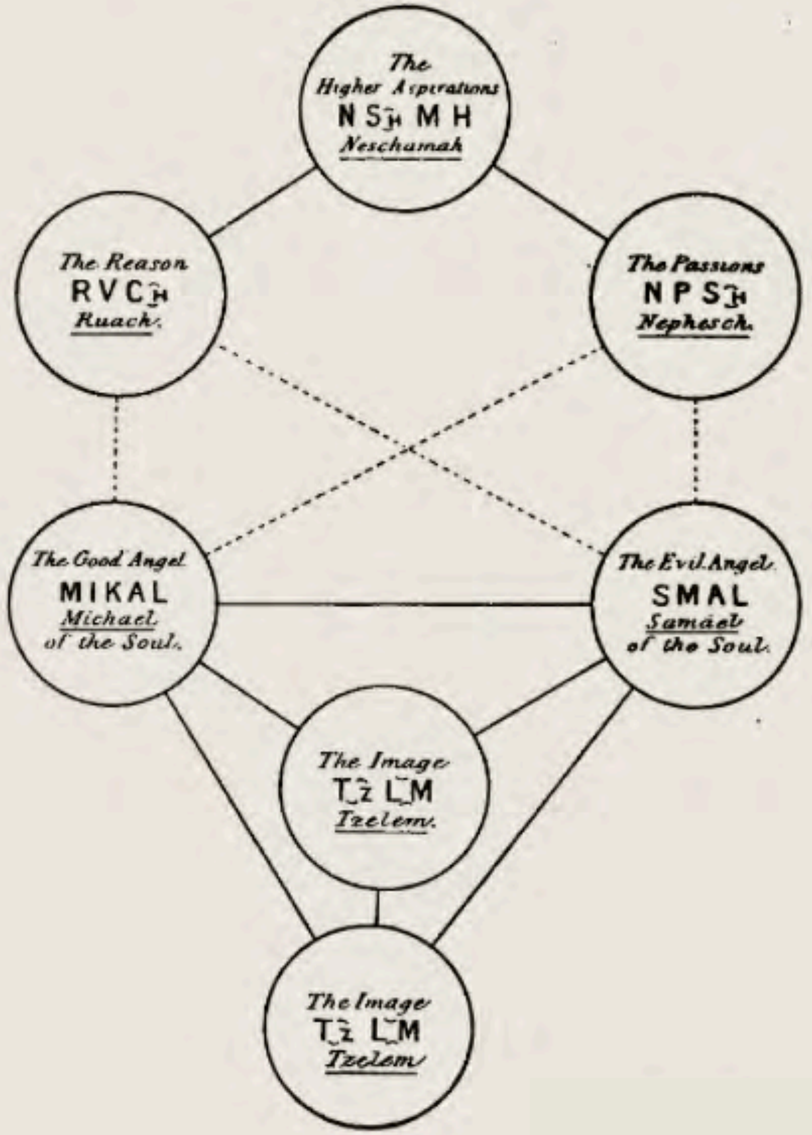
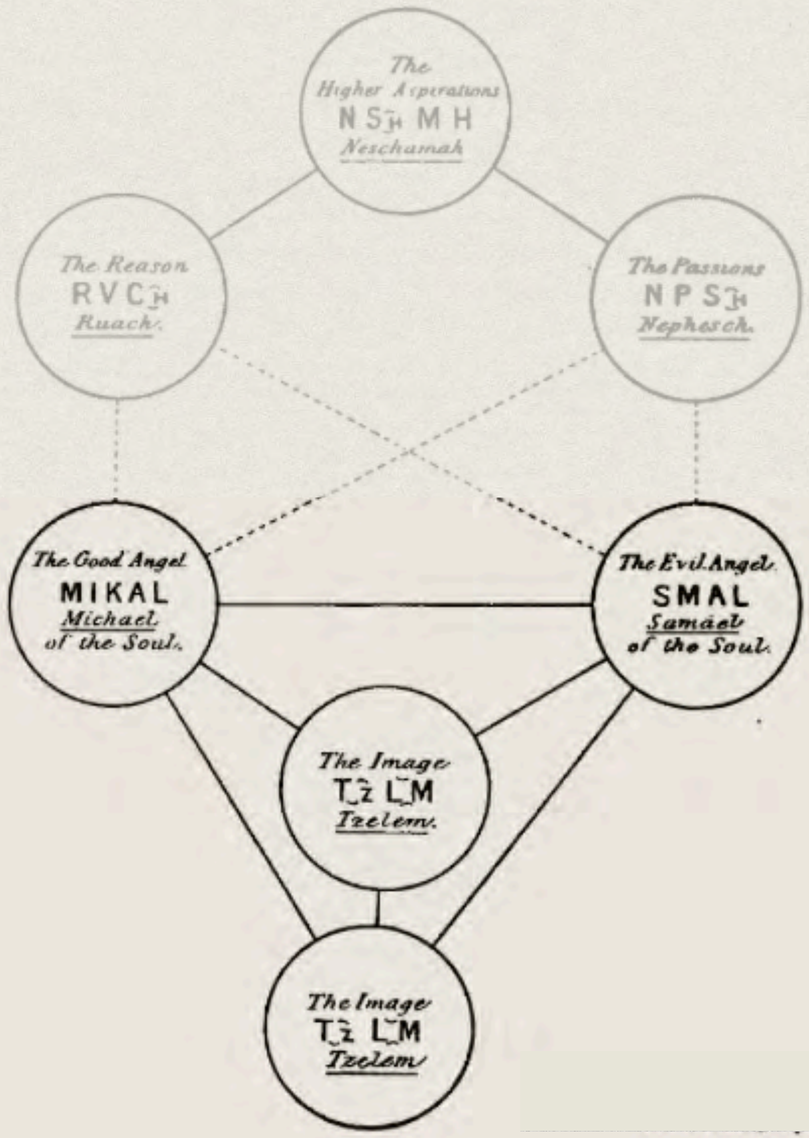
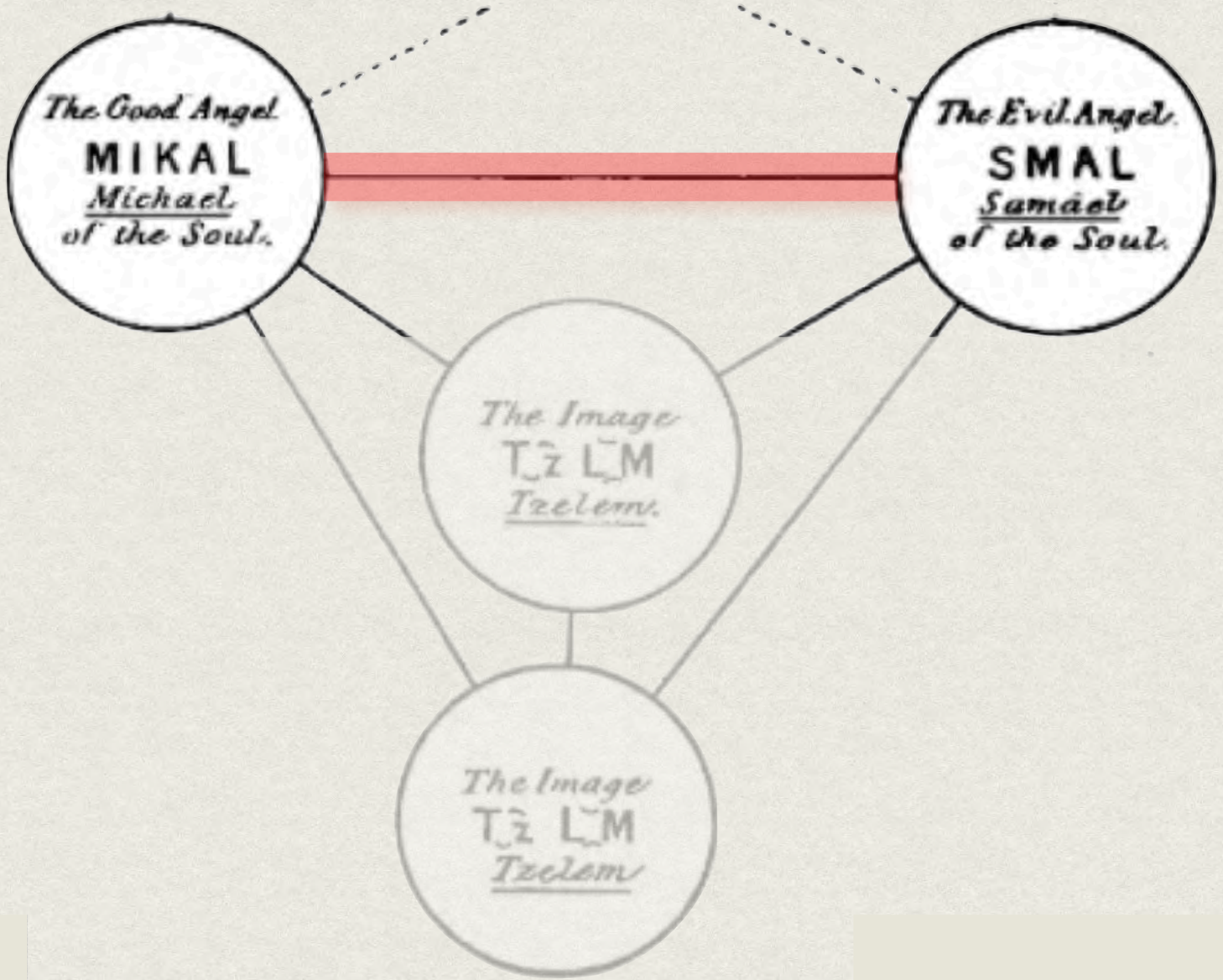


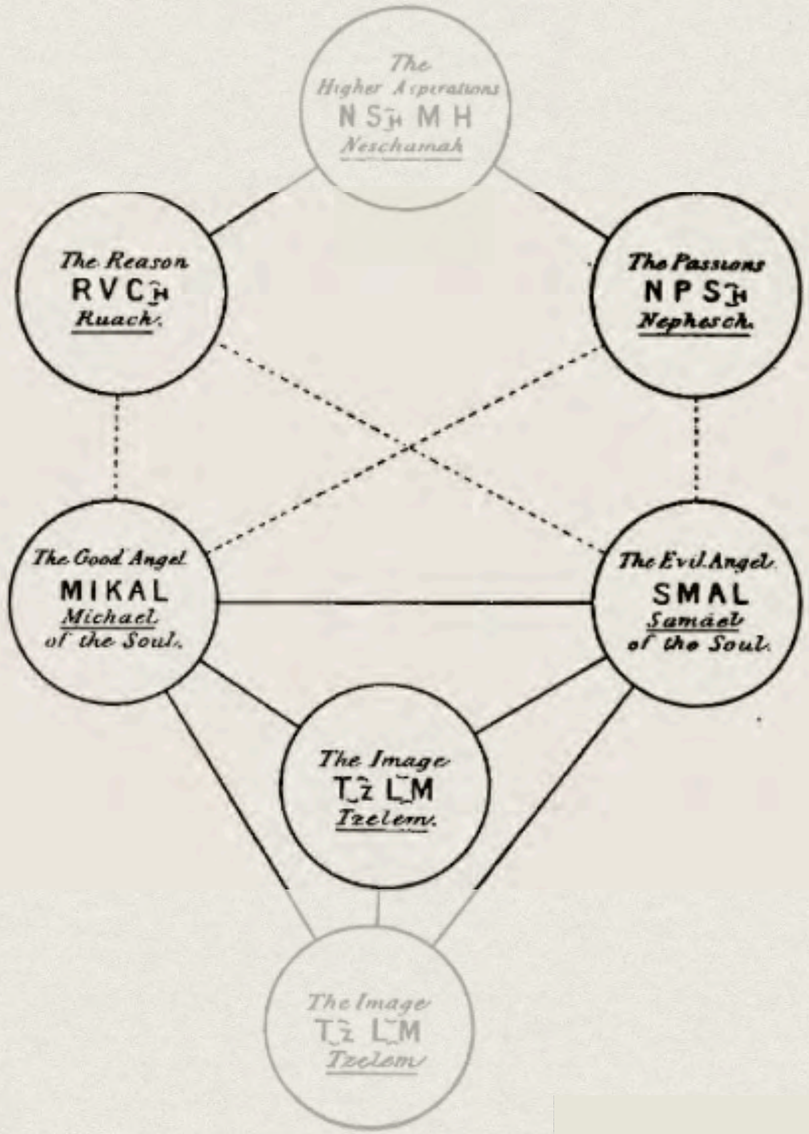
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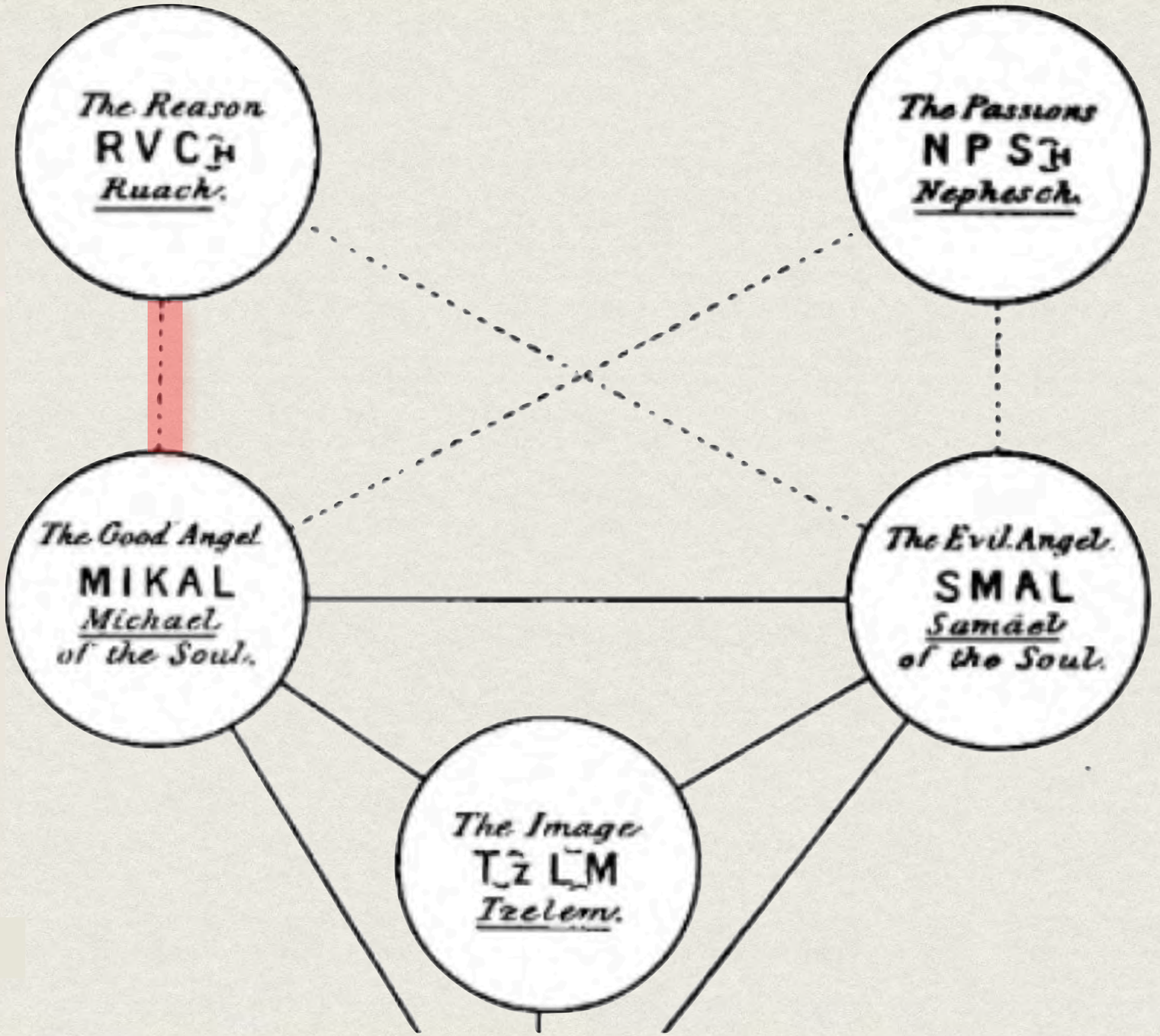
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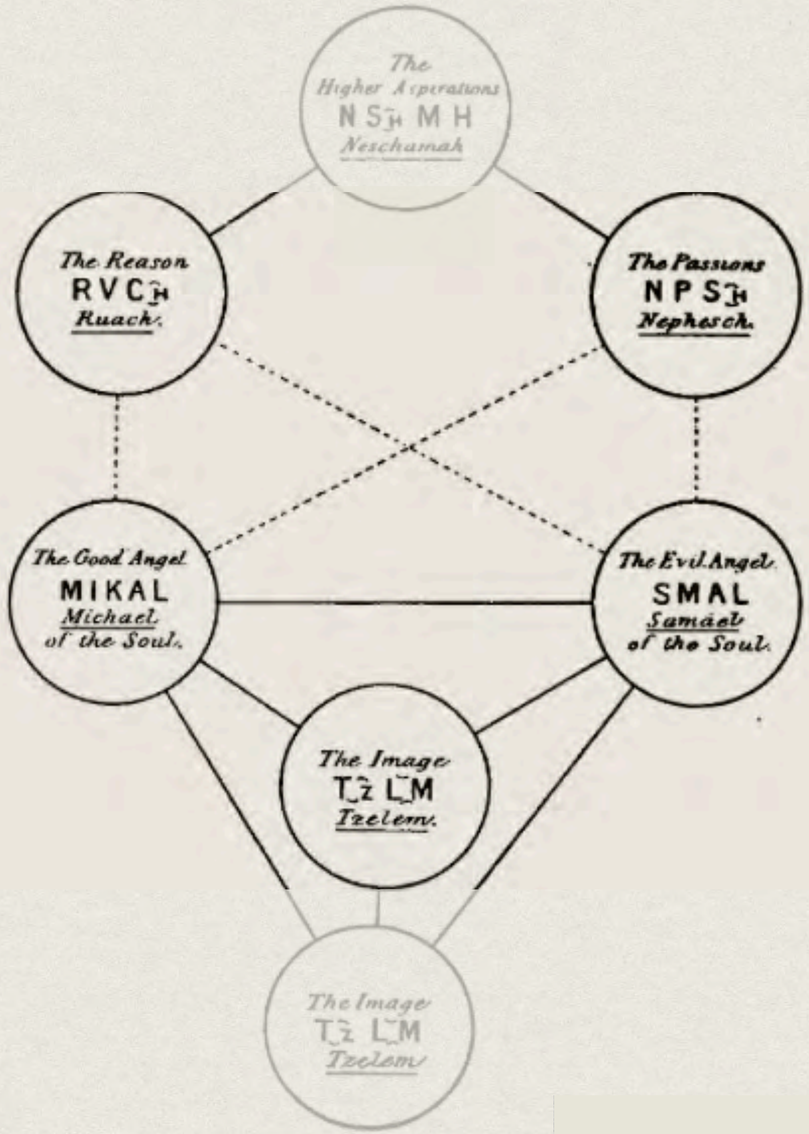


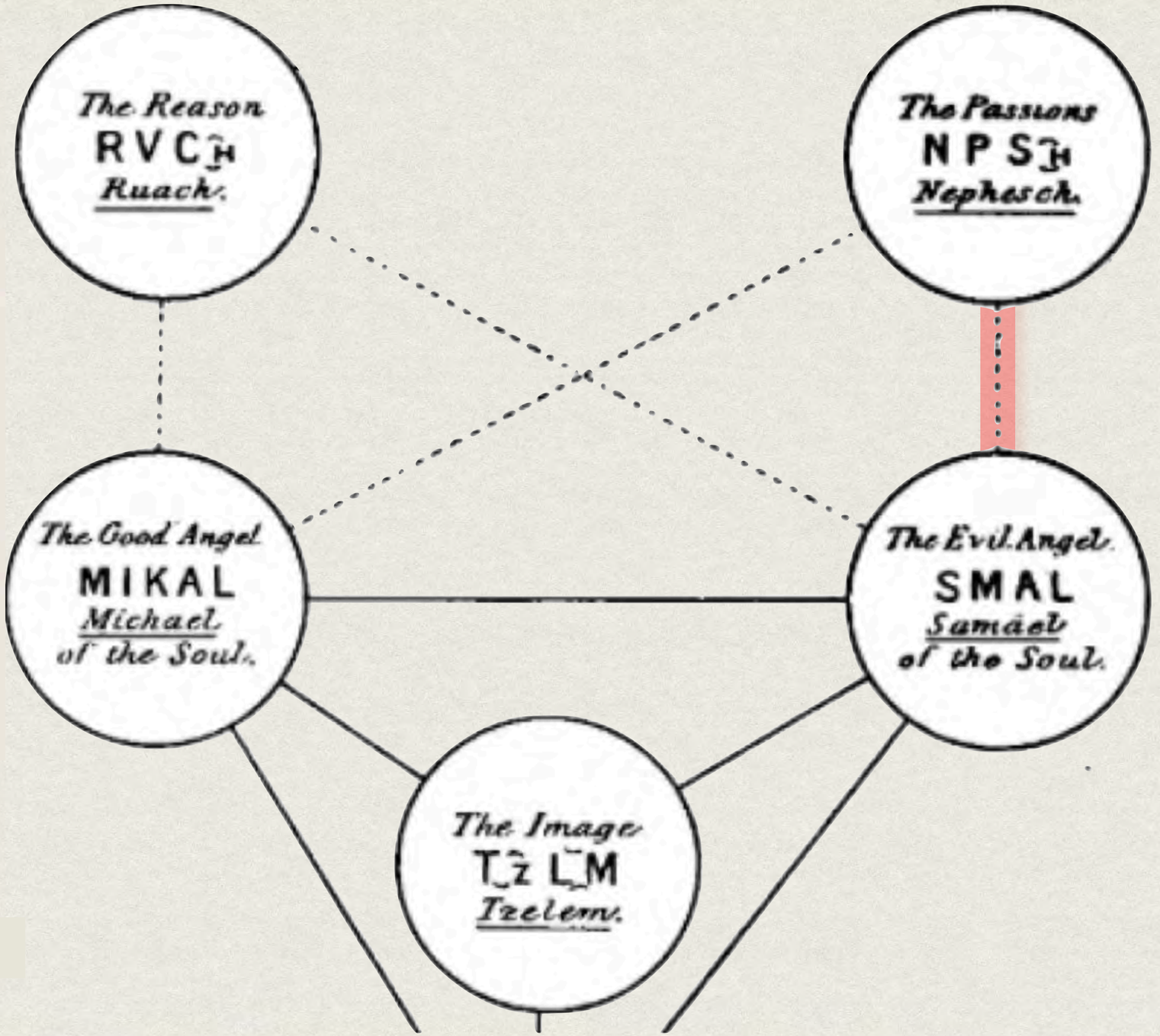

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The Reason
RVCh
Ruach.
The Passions
NPSh
Nephesch.
The Good Angel
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The Evil Angel
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TzLM
Tzelem.
The Image
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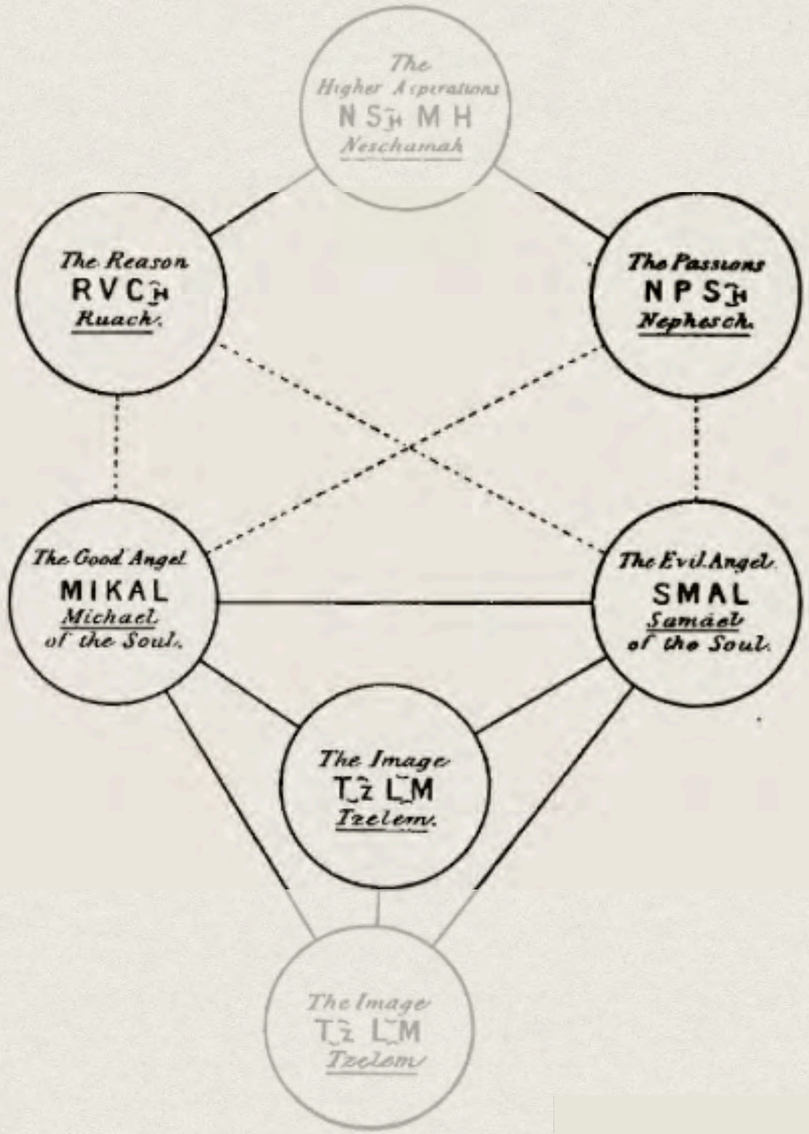

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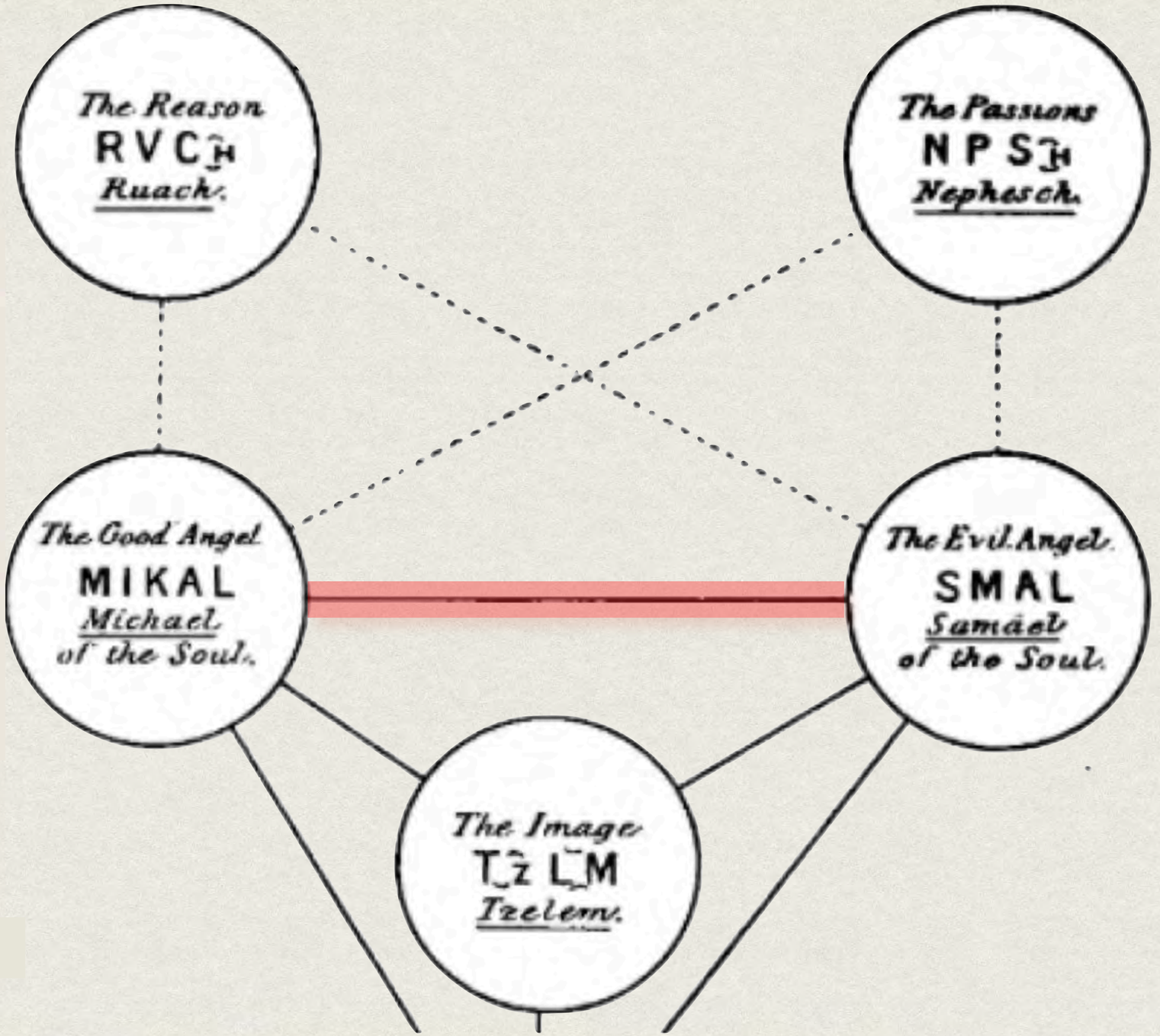

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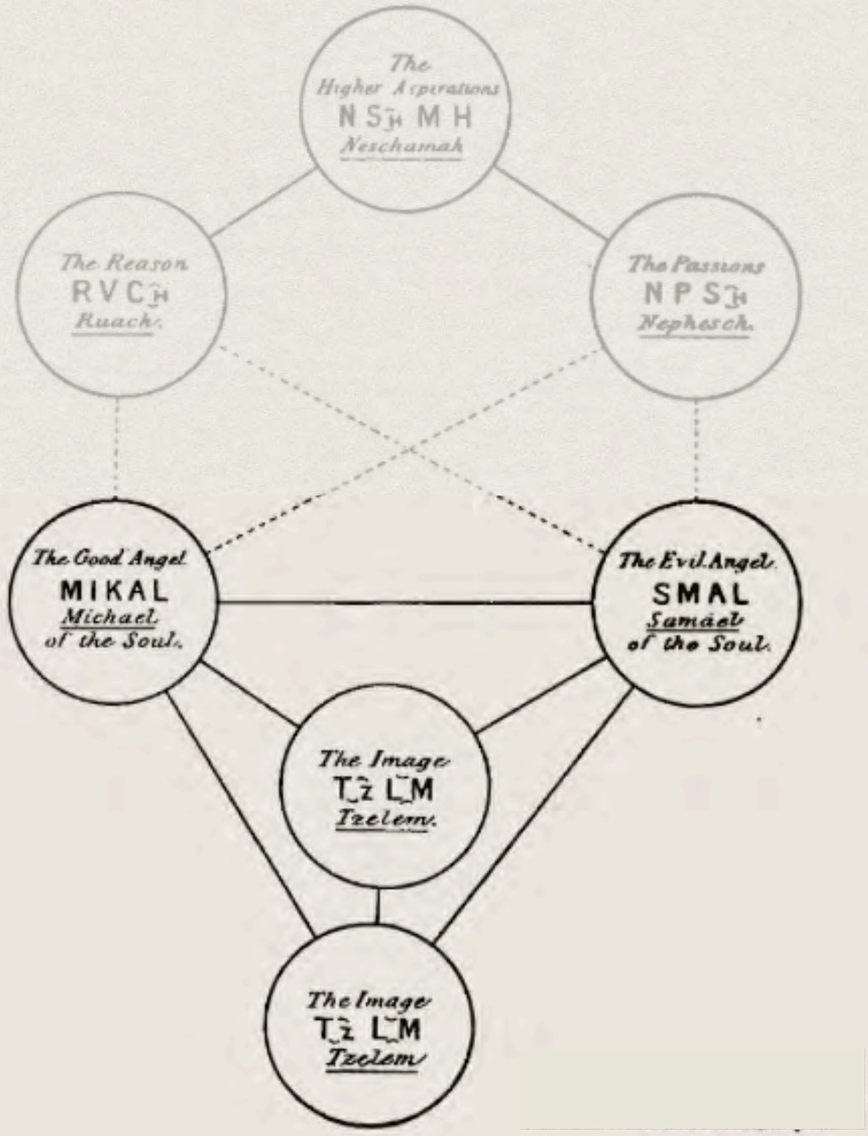

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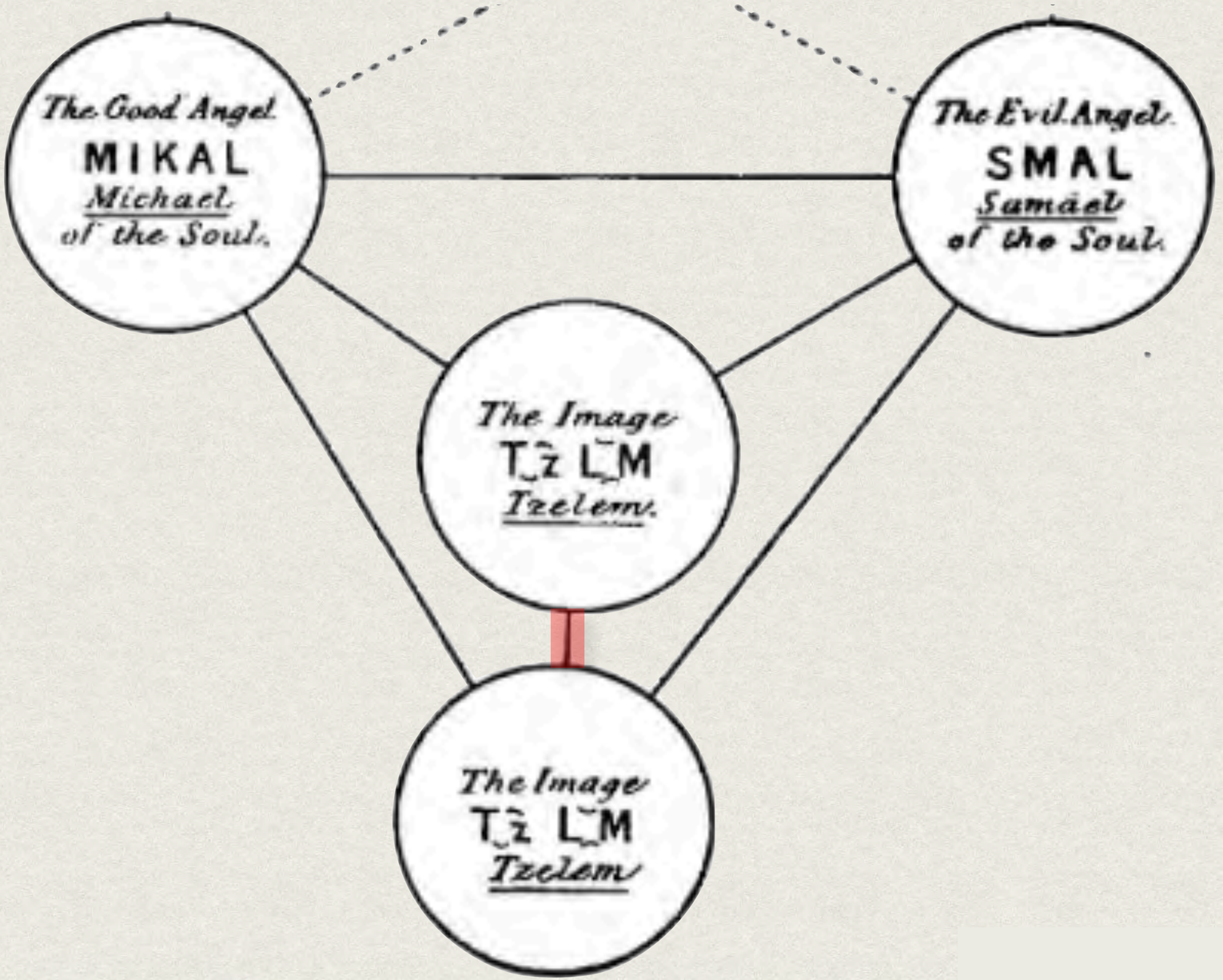

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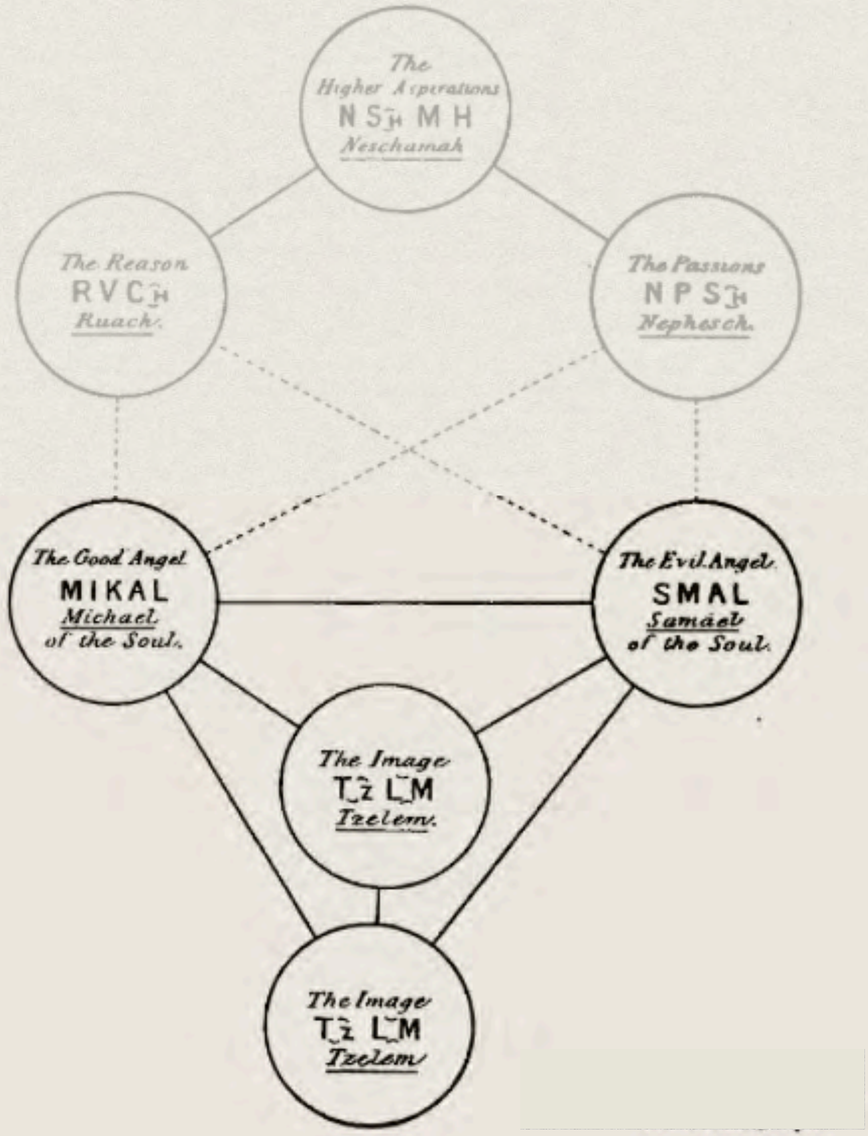

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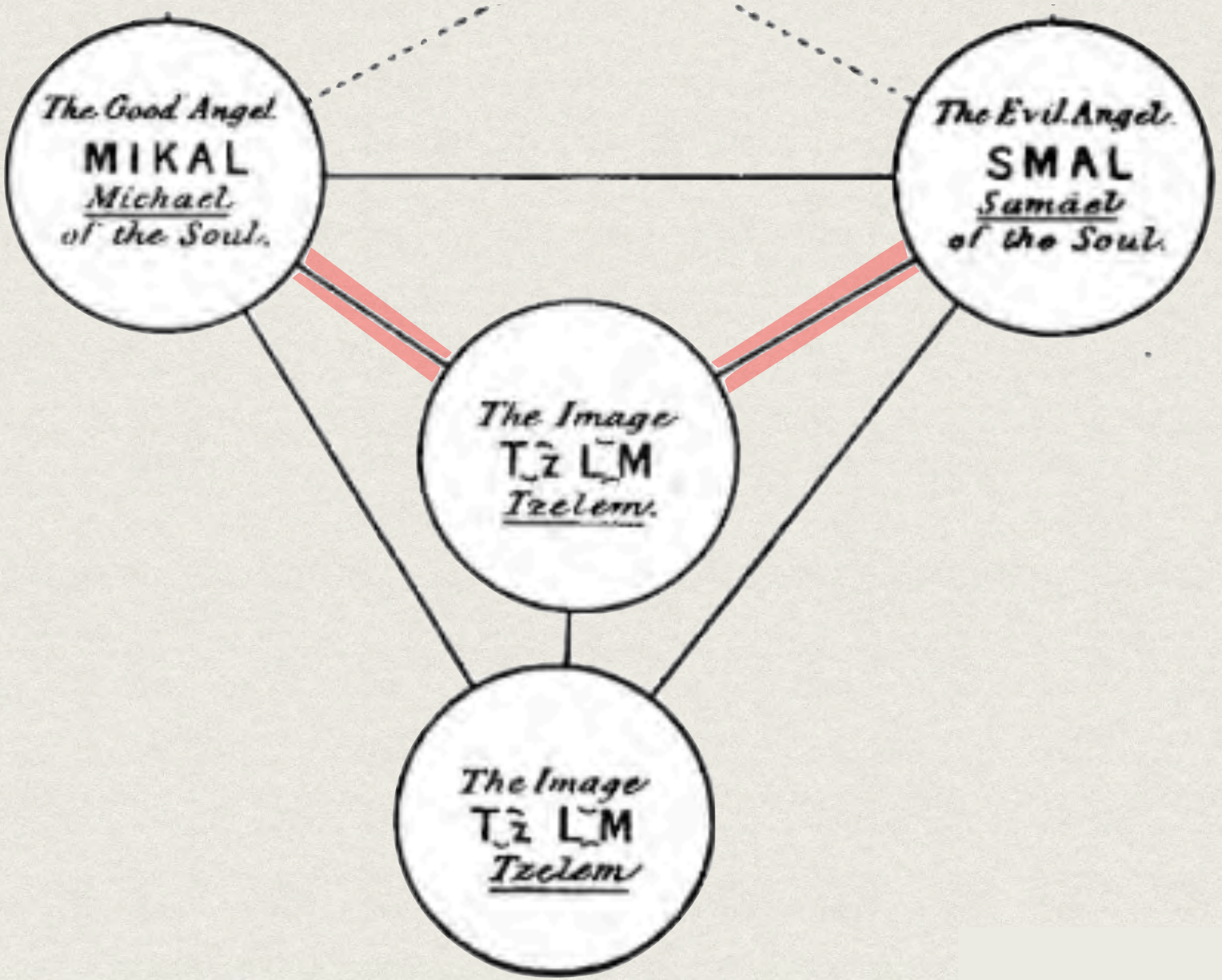

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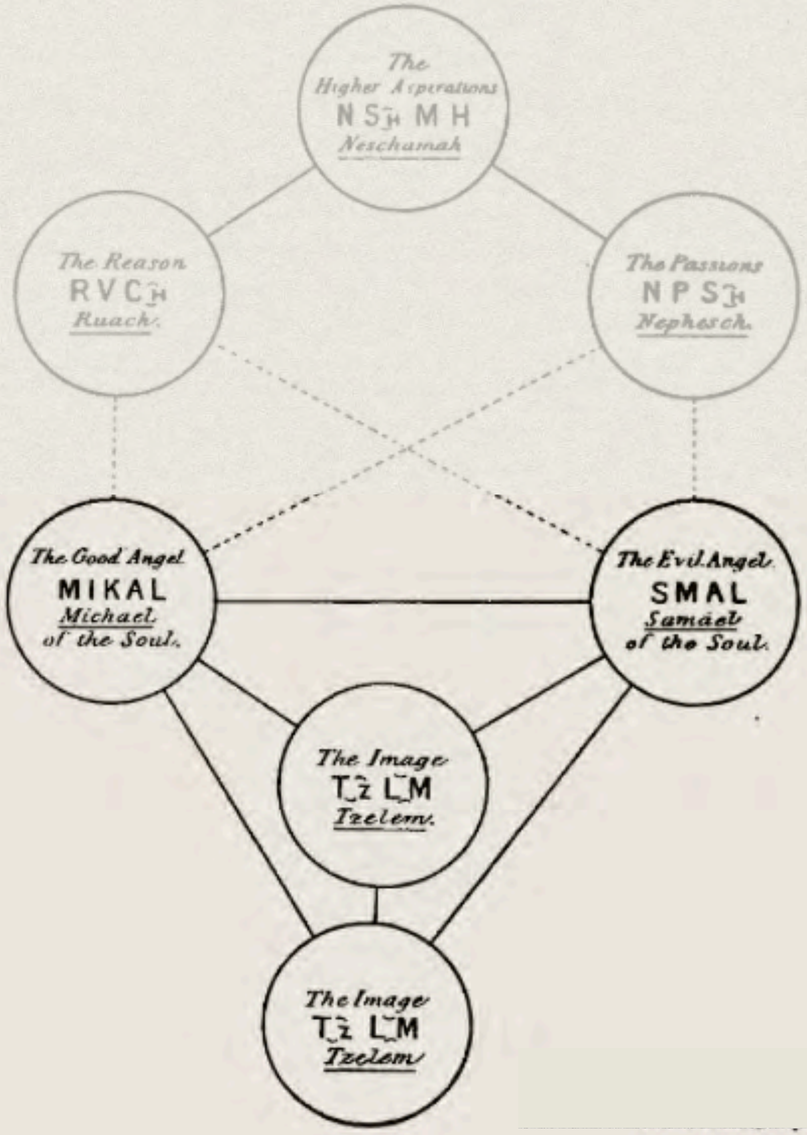

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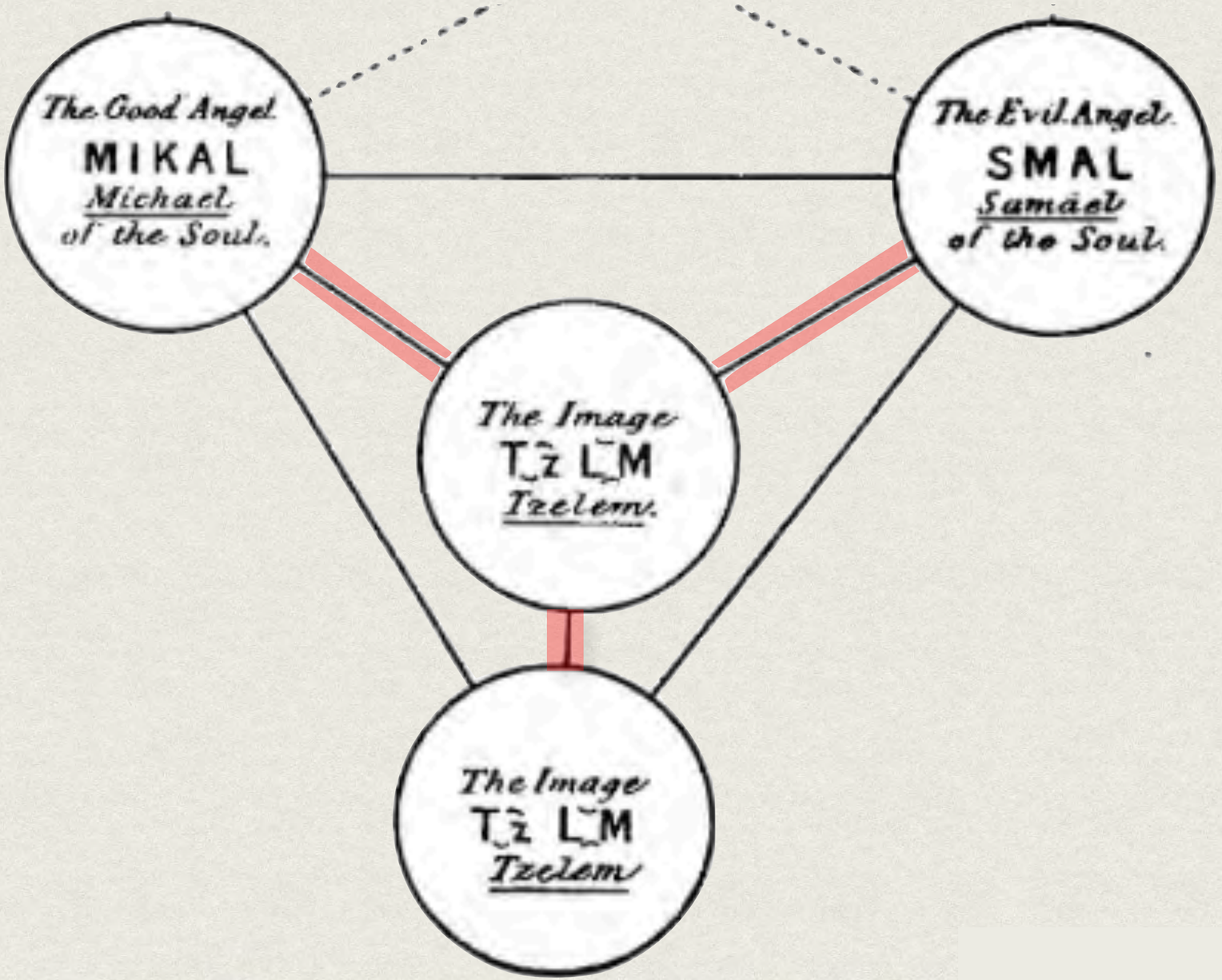

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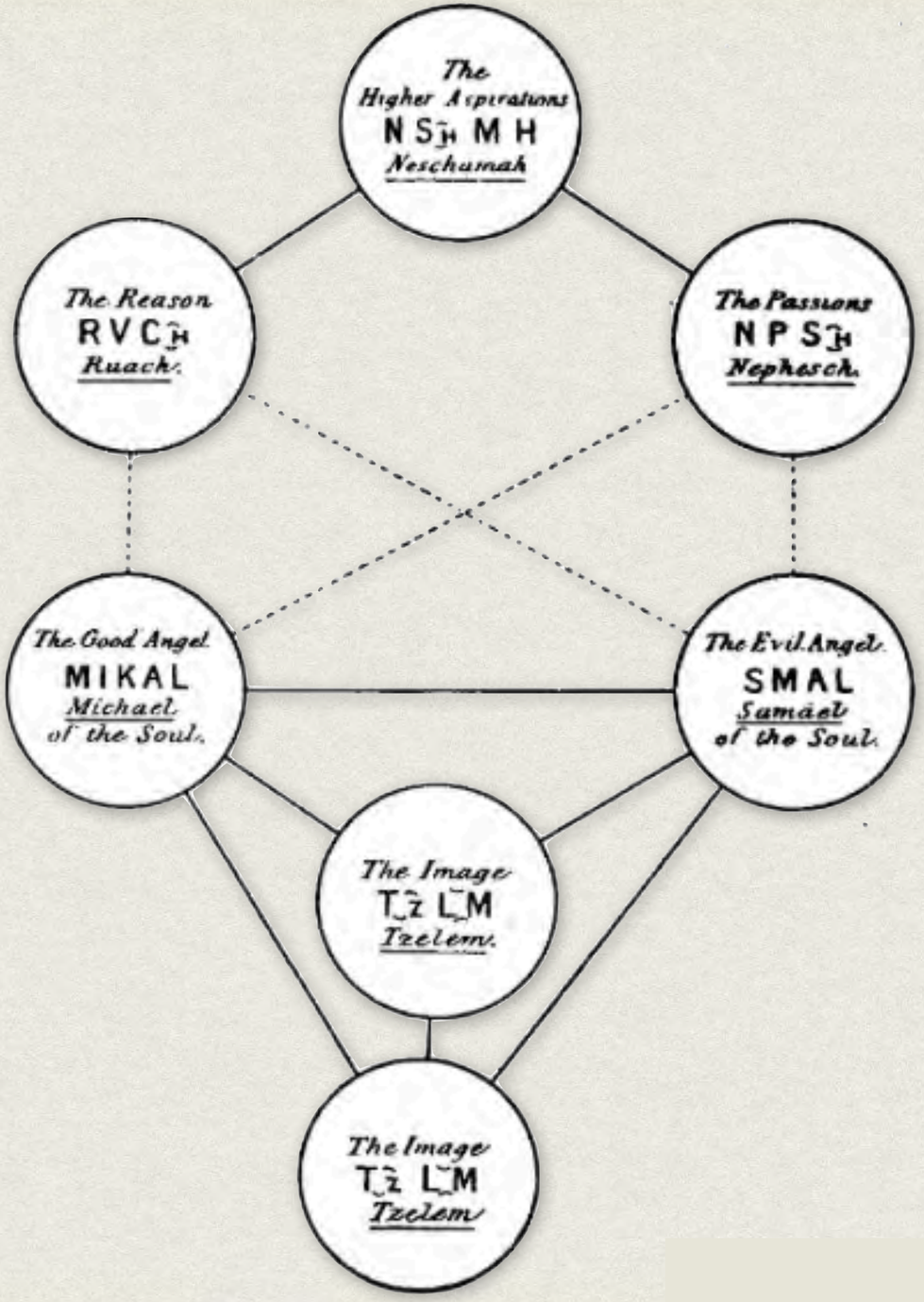

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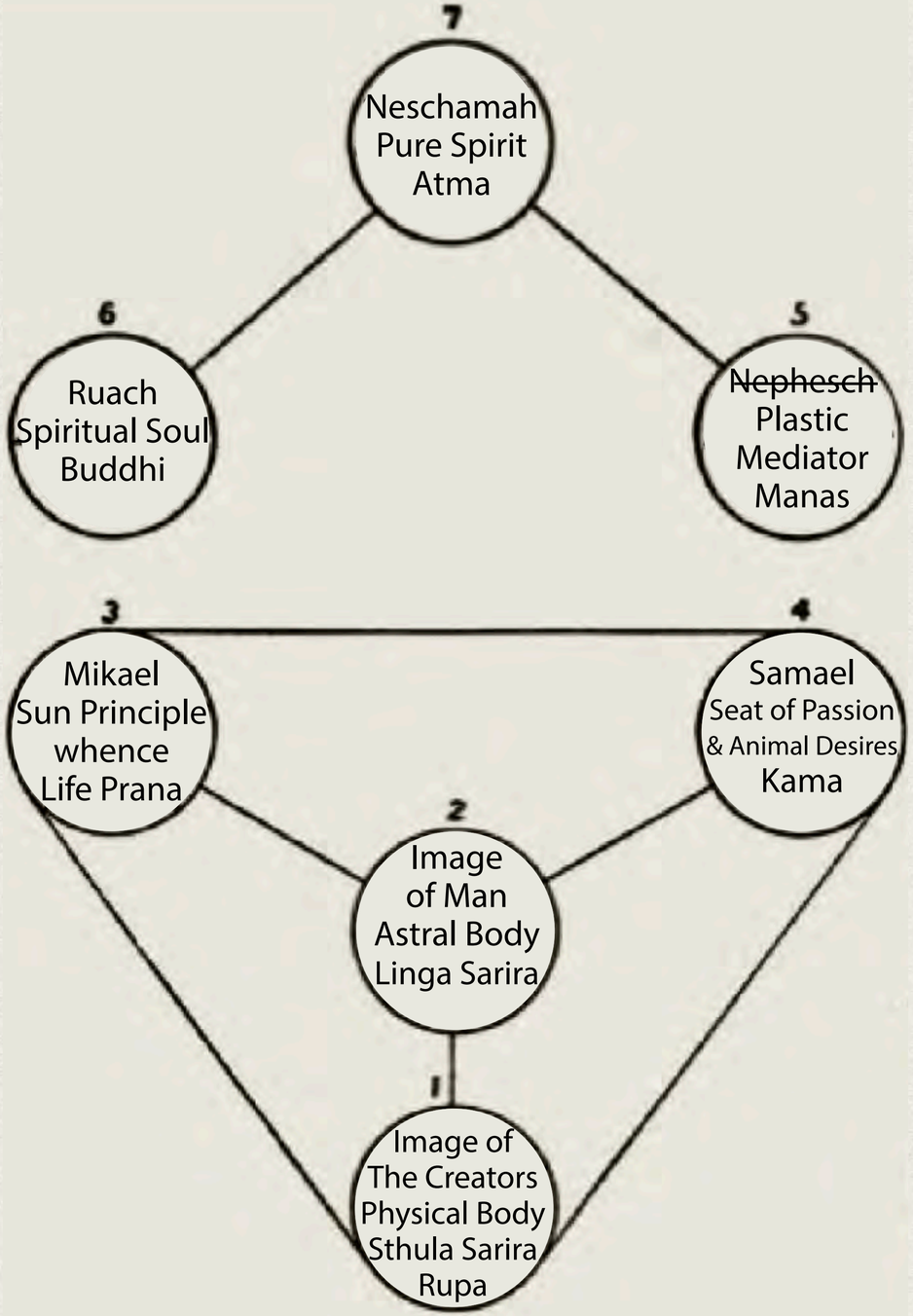

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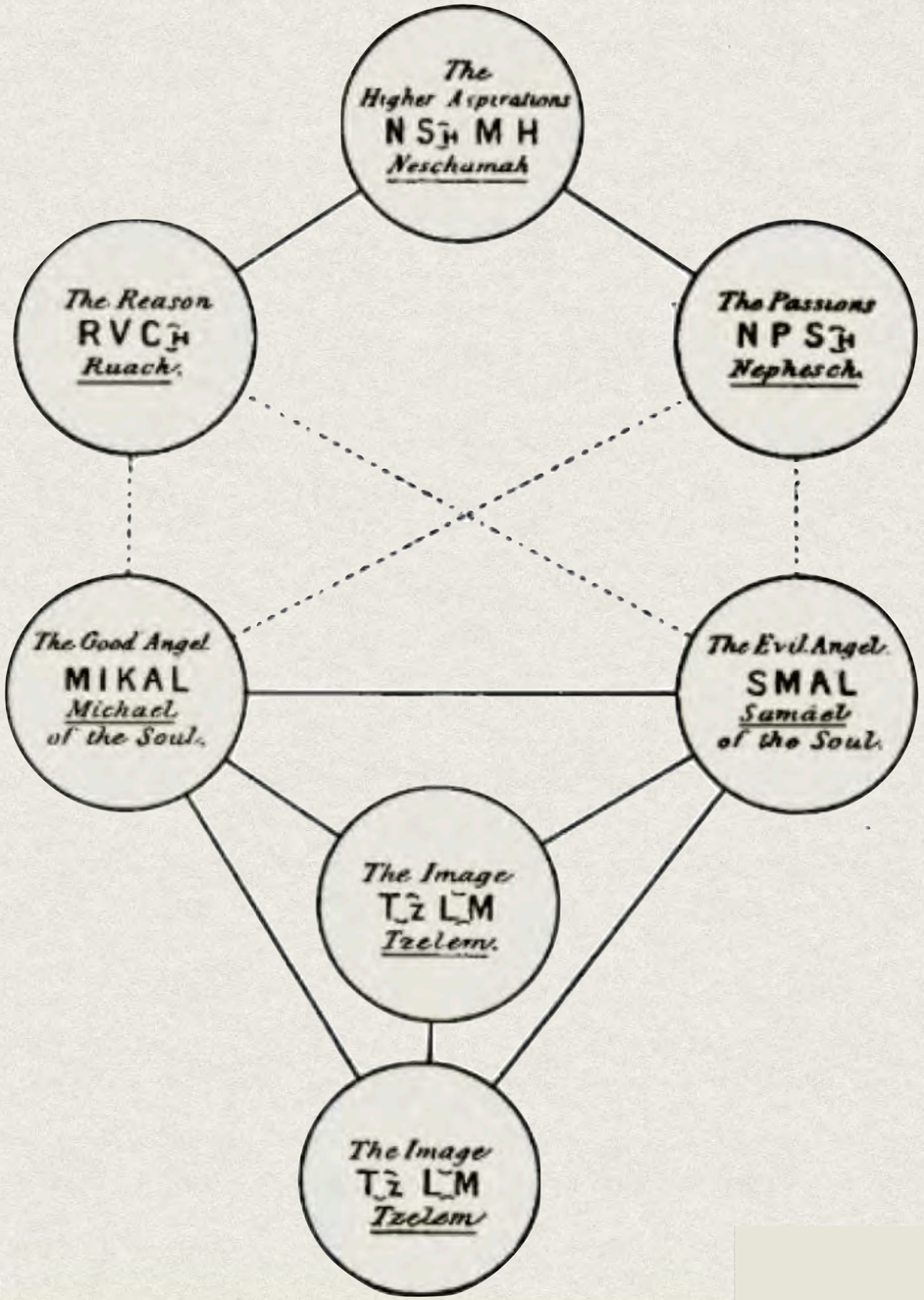

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Tzelem


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Higher Aspirations
NShMH
Neschamah
The Reason
RVCh
Ruach.
The Passions
NPSh
Nephesch.
The Good Angel
MIKAL
Michael
of the Soul.
The Evil Angel.
SMAL
Samael
of the Soul.
The Image
TzLM
Tzelem.
The Image
TzLM
Tzelem


7
Neschamah
Pure Spirit
Atma
6
Ruach
Spiritual Soul
Buddhi
5
~~Nephesch~~
Plastic
Mediator
Manas
3
Mikael
Sun Principle
whence
Life Prana
4
Samael
Seat of Passion
& Animal Desires
Kama
2
Image
of Man
Astral Body
Linga Sarira
1
Image of
The Creators
Physical Body
Sthula Sarira
Rupa


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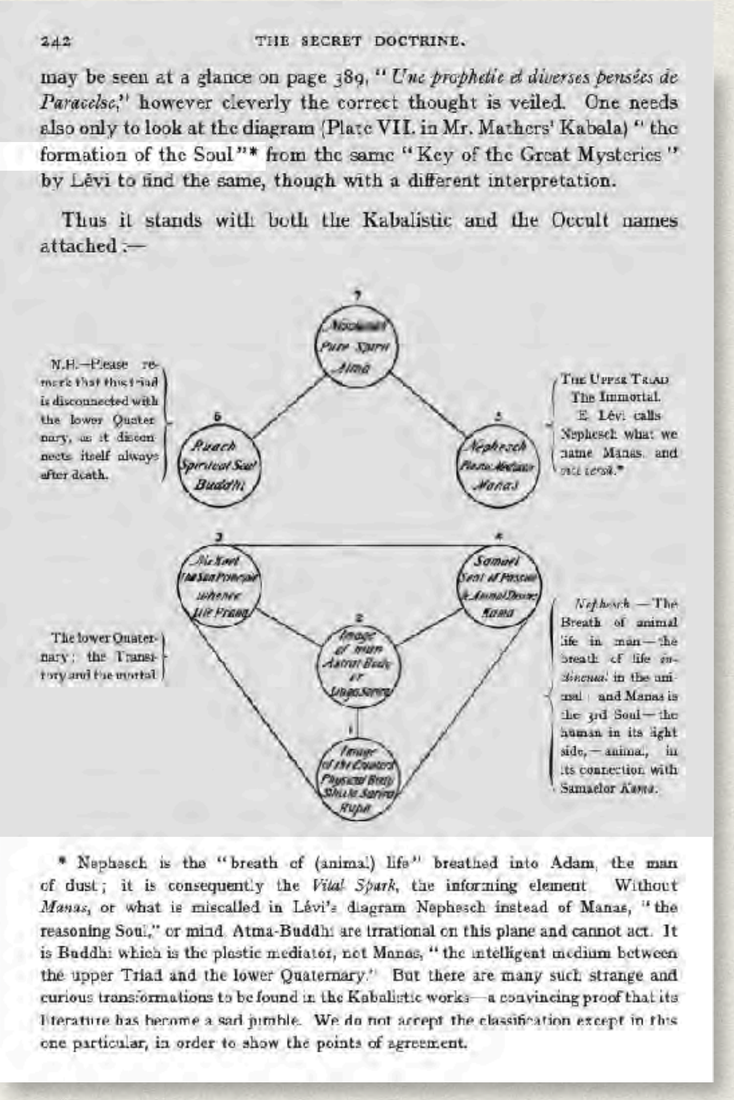
VERSE 5

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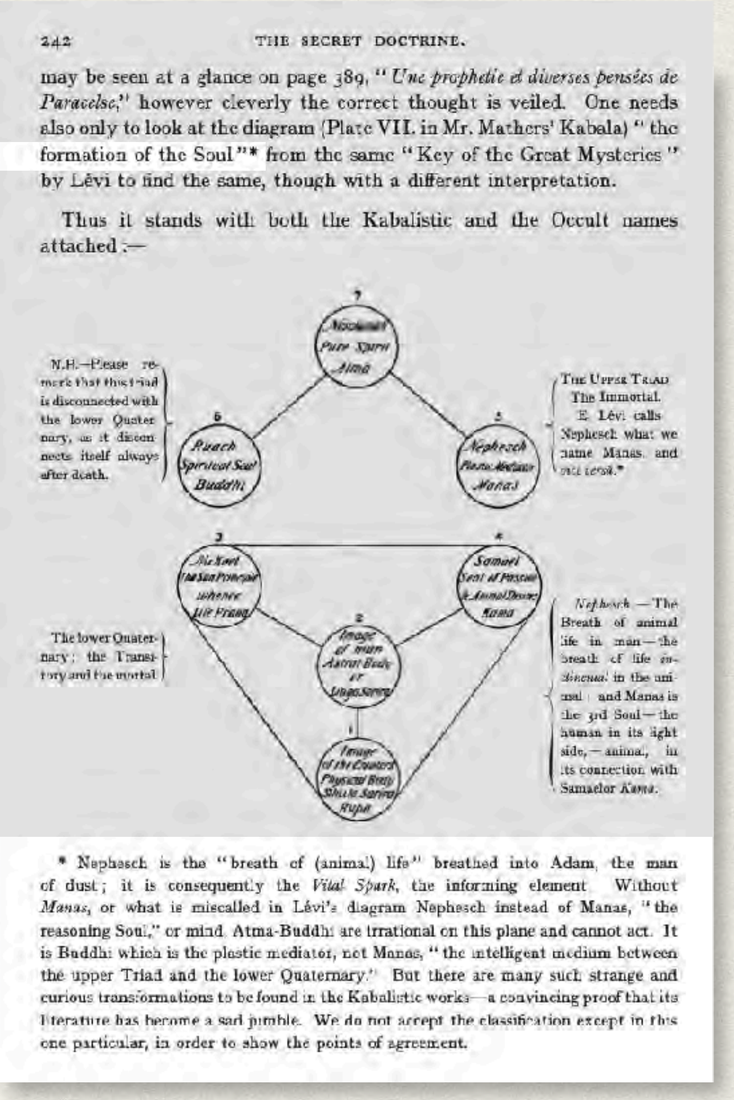
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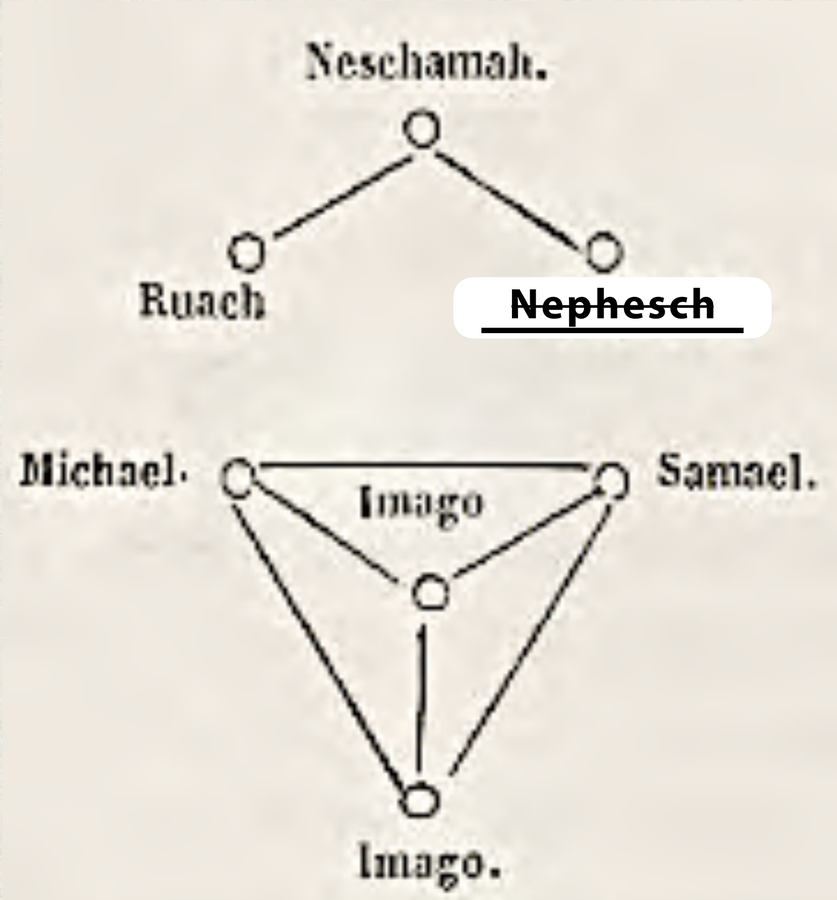


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N.B.—Please remark that this triad is disconnected with the lower Quaternary, as it disconnects itself always after death.

7
Neschamah
Pure Spirit
Atma

6
Ruach
Spiritual Soul
Buddhi

5
~~Nephesch~~
Plastic
Mediator
Manas

THE UPPER TRIAD
The Immortal.
E. Lévi calls Nephesch what we name Manas, and *vice versâ*.*

3
Mikael
Sun Principle
whence
Life Prana

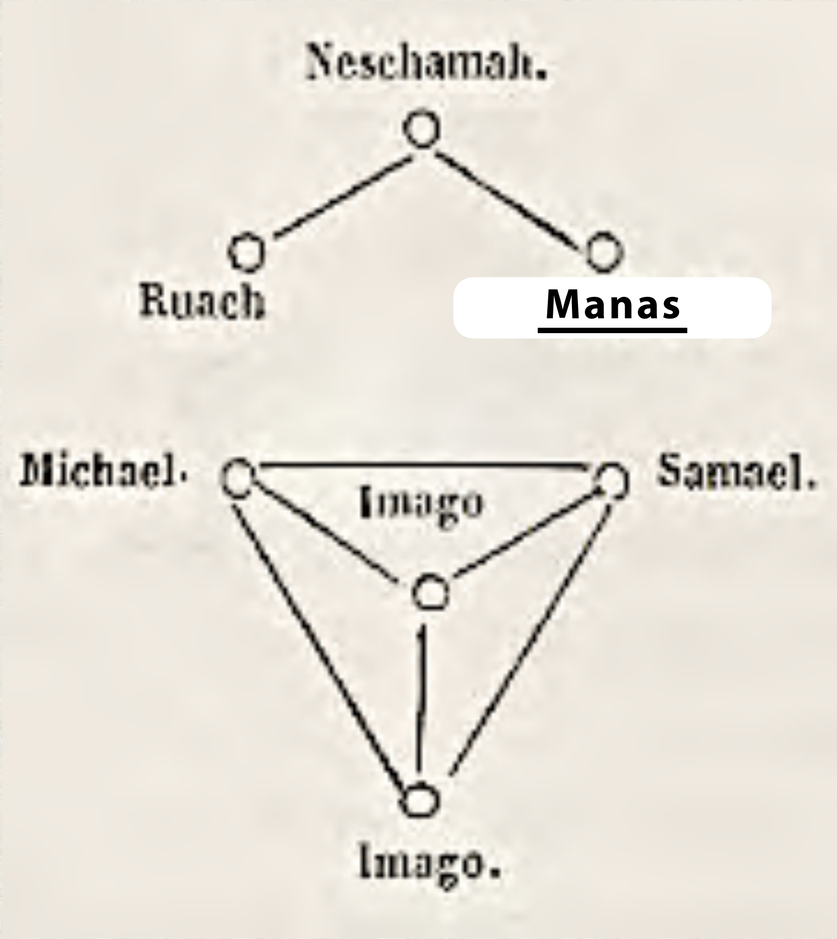
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Samael
Seat of Passion
& Animal Desires
Kama

2
Image
of Man
Astral Body
Linga Sarira

1
Image of
The Creators
Physical Body
Sthula Sarira
Rupa

The lower Quaternary: the Transitory and the mortal.

Nephesch. — The Breath of animal life in man — the breath of life *instinctual* in the animal: and Manas is the 3rd Soul — the human in its light side, — animal, in its connection with Samaelor *Kama*.



N.B.—Please remark that this triad is disconnected with the lower Quaternary, as it disconnects itself always after death.

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6 Ruach Spiritual Soul Buddhi

5 Intelligent Medium Manas

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The Immortal.
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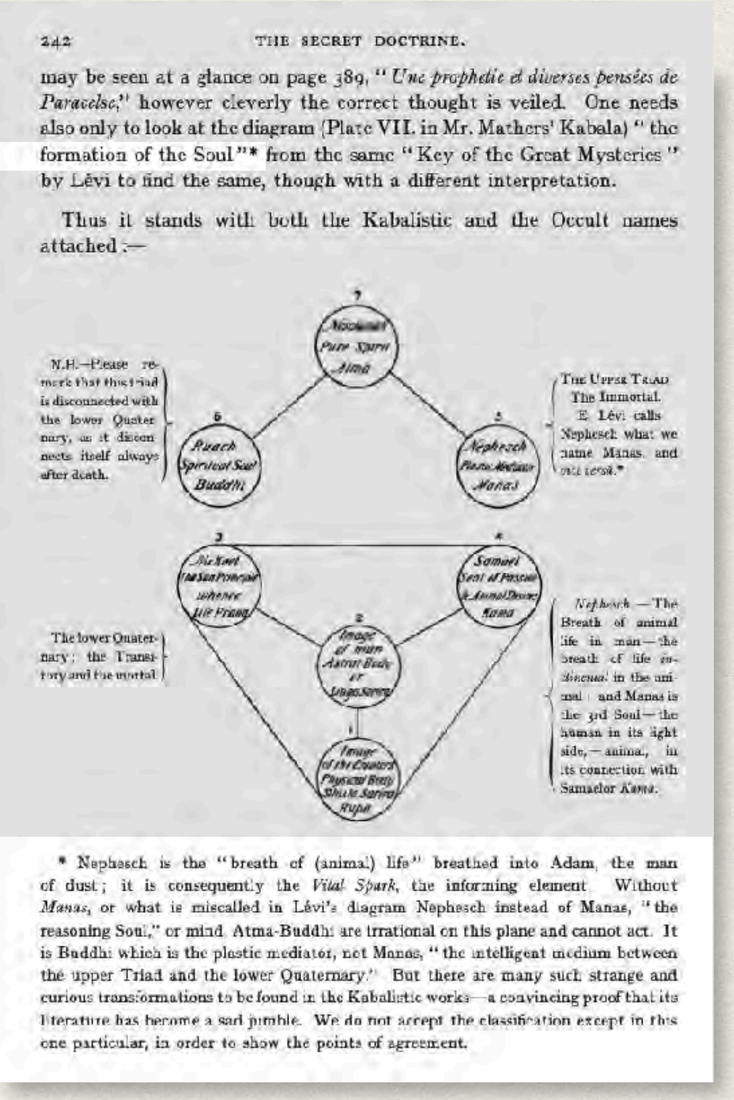
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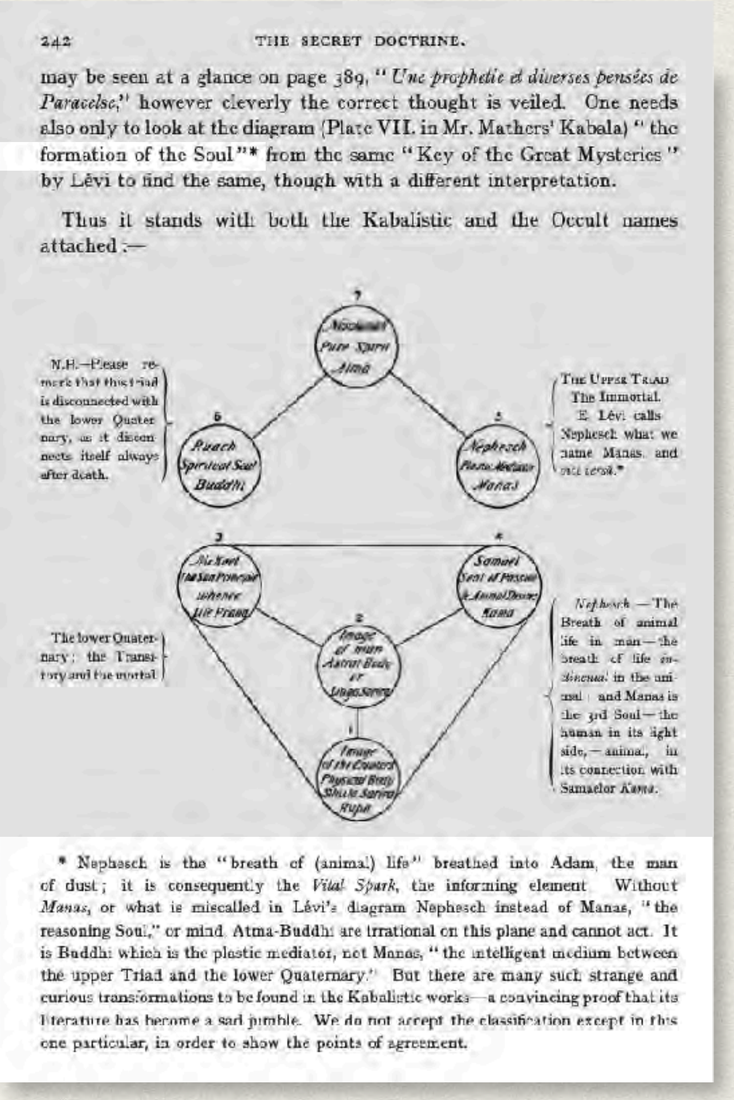
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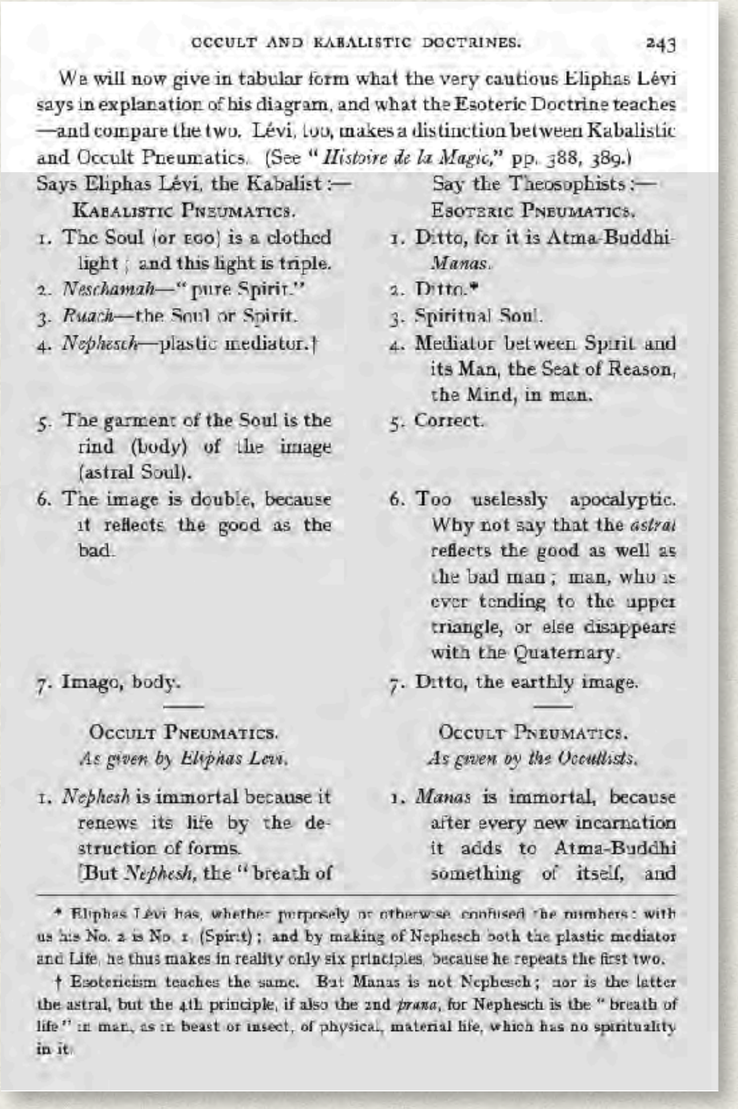
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Says Eliphas Lévi, the Kabalist:—	Say the Theosophists:—
KABALISTIC PNEUMATICS.	ESOTERIC PNEUMATICS.
1. The Soul (or EGO) is a clothed light; and this light is triple.	1. Ditto, for it is Atma-Buddhi-*Manas*.
2. *Neschamah*—"pure Spirit."	2. Ditto.*
3. *Ruach*—the Soul or Spirit.	3. Spiritual Soul.
4. *Nephesch*—plastic mediator.†	4. Mediator between Spirit and its Man, the Seat of Reason, the Mind, in man.
5. The garment of the Soul is the rind (body) of the image (astral Soul).	5. Correct.
6. The image is double, because it reflects the good as the bad.	6. Too uselessly apocalyptic. Why not say that the *astral* reflects the good as well as the bad man; man, who is ever tending to the upper triangle, or else disappears with the Quaternary.
7. Imago, body.	7. Ditto, the earthly image.
OCCULT PNEUMATICS. *As given by Eliphas Levi.*	OCCULT PNEUMATICS. *As given by the Occultists.*
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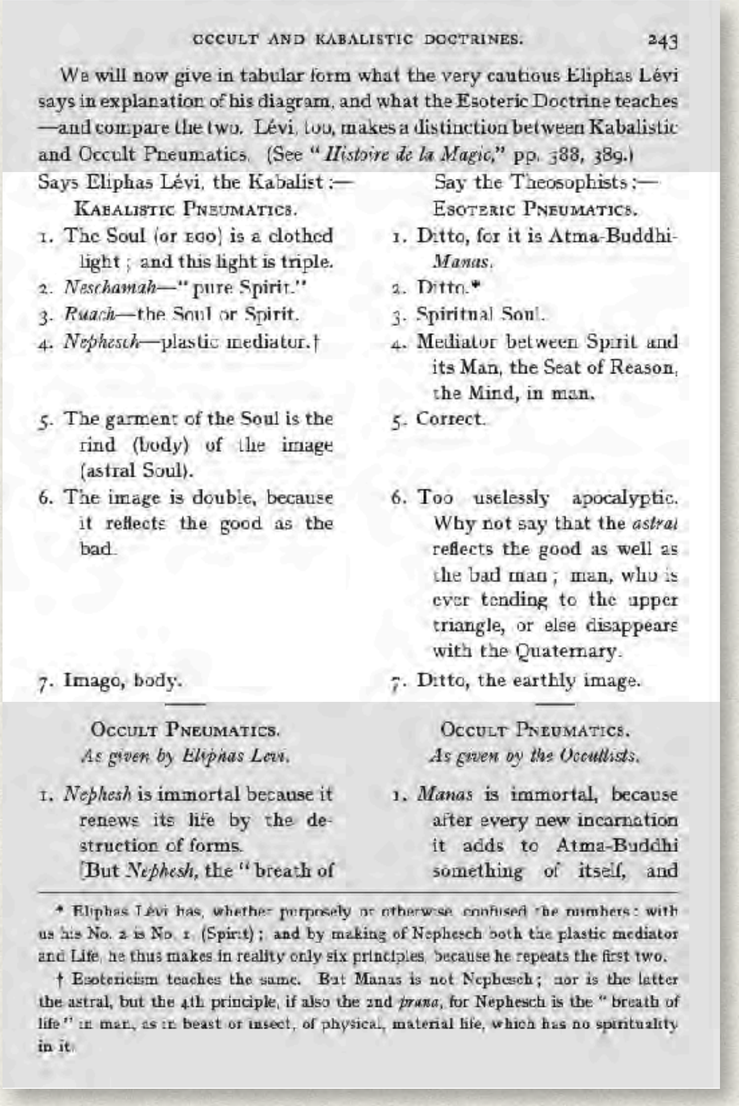
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OCCULT AND KABALISTIC DOCTRINES. 243

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2	Neschamah– “pure Spirit.”	Ditto*	The "pure" in "pure spirit is a relative term. Neschamah is Atma, which is the highest point in HPB theosophy. Atma is the Monadic emanation clothed in the Atmic sheath, thus the true “pure Spirit" is the Monad on its own plane.
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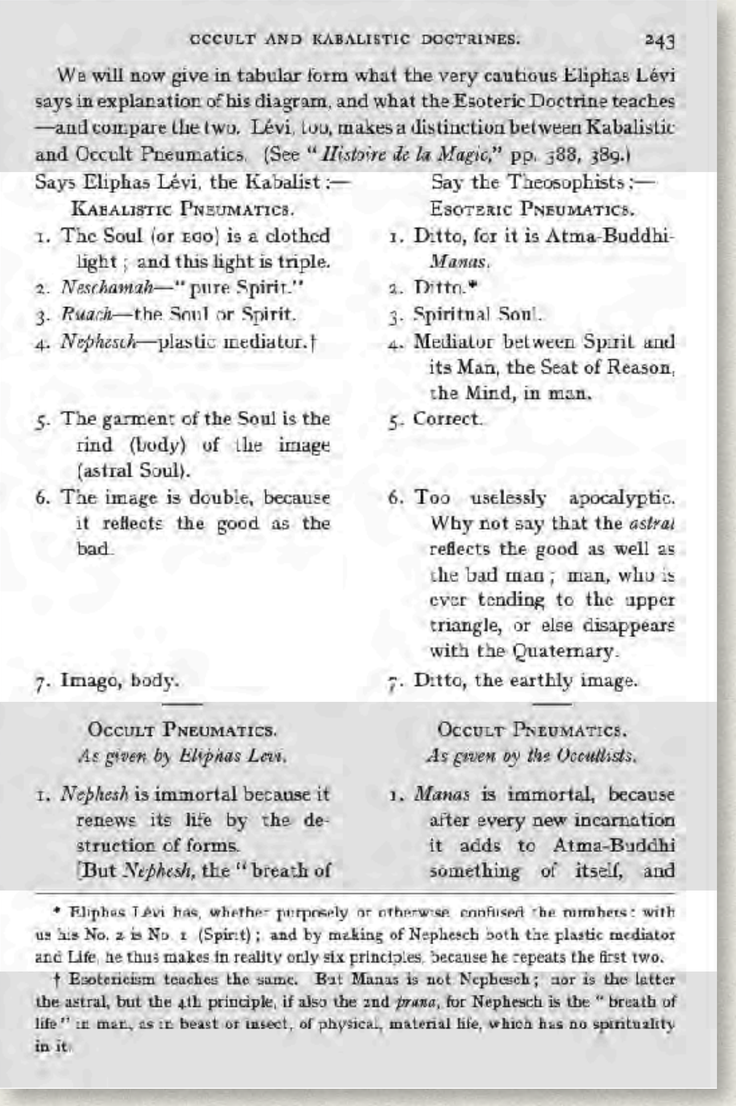
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OCCULT AND KABALISTIC DOCTRINES. 243

We will now give in tabular form what the very cautious Eliphas Lévi says in explanation of his diagram, and what the Esoteric Doctrine teaches —and compare the two. Lévi, too, makes a distinction between Kabalistic and Occult Pneumatics. (See "*Histoire de la Magie*," pp. 388, 389.)

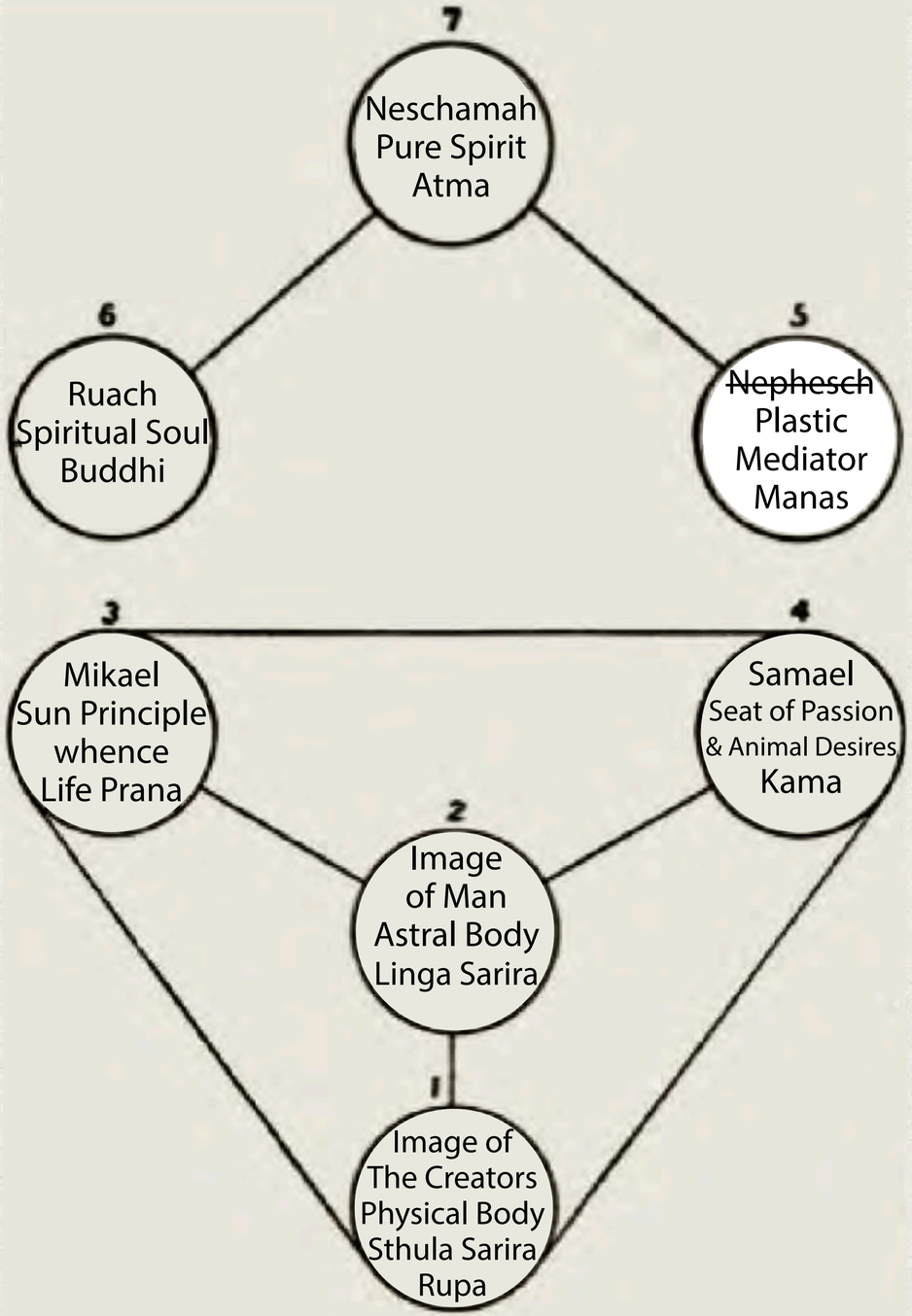
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4. *Nephesch*—plastic mediator.†	4. Mediator between Spirit and its Man, the Seat of Reason, the Mind, in man.
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6. The image is double, because it reflects the good as the bad.	6. Too uselessly apocalyptic. Why not say that the *astral* reflects the good as well as the bad man; man, who is ever tending to the upper triangle, or else disappears with the Quaternary.
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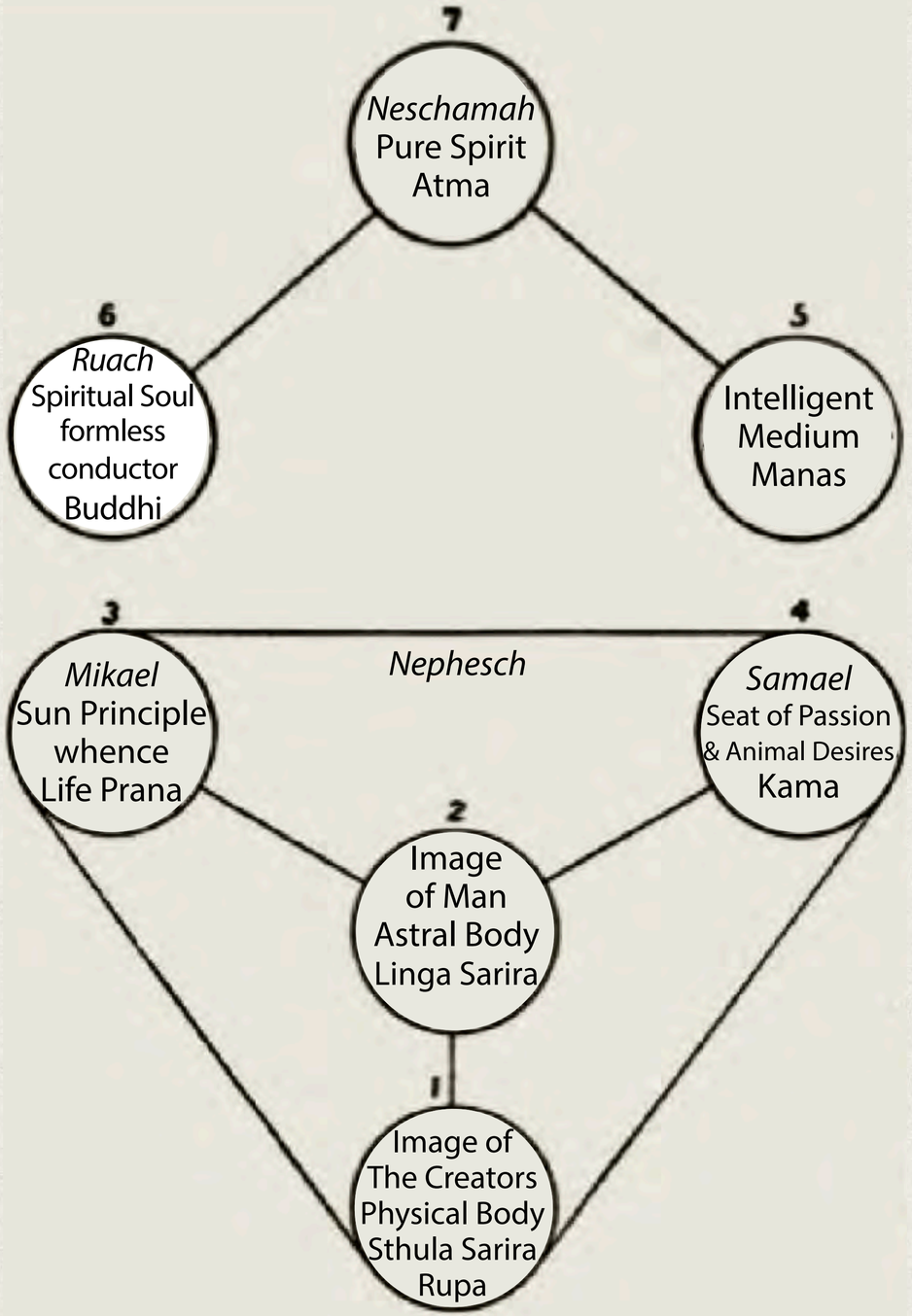
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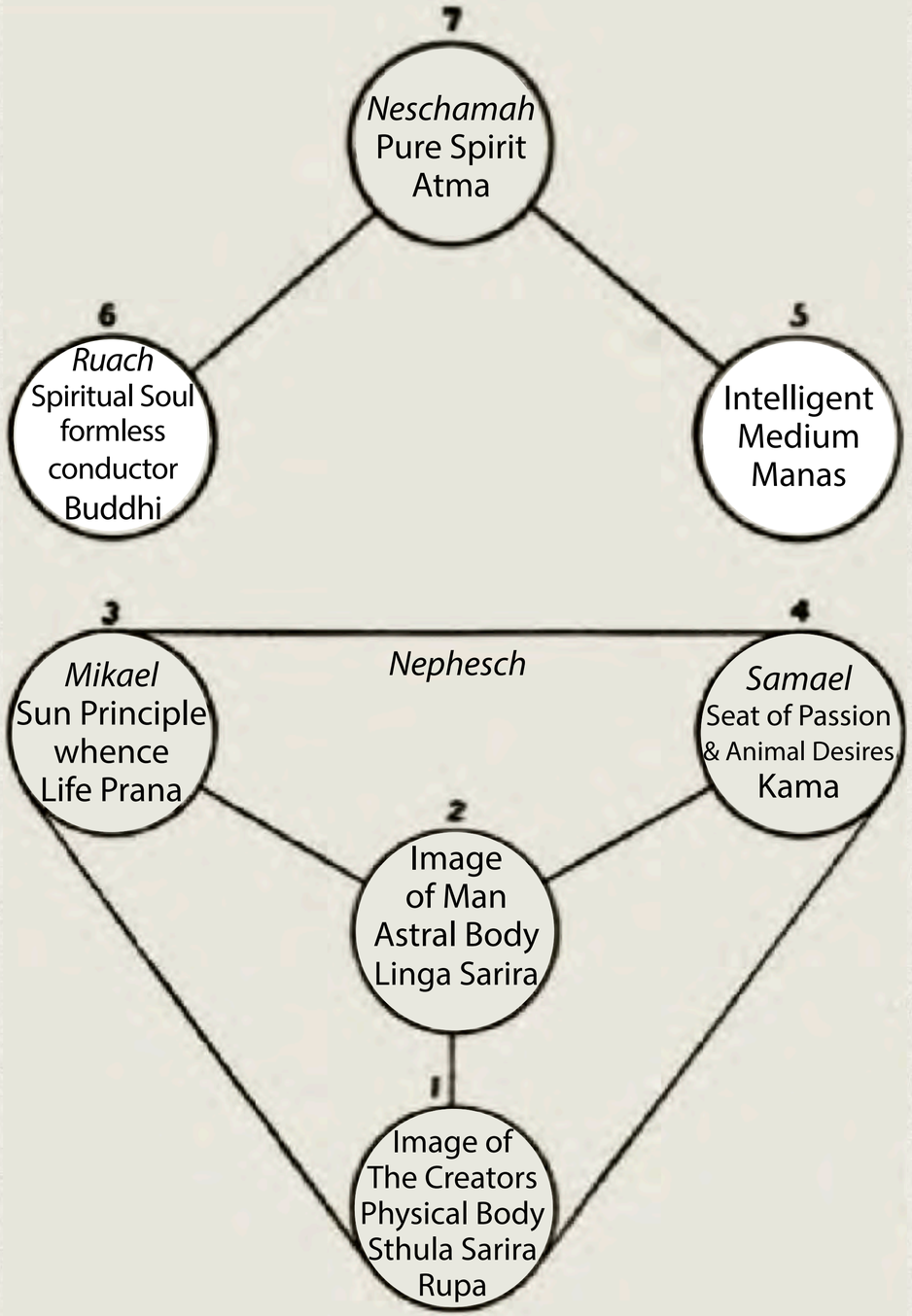
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7
Neschamah
Pure Spirit
Atma
6
Ruach
Spiritual Soul
Buddhi
5
~~Nephesch~~
Plastic
Mediator
Manas
3
Mikael
Sun Principle
whence
Life Prana
4
Samael
Seat of Passion
& Animal Desires
Kama
2
Image
of Man
Astral Body
Linga Sarira
1
Image of
The Creators
Physical Body
Sthula Sarira
Rupa


7
Neschamah
Pure Spirit
Atma
6
Ruach
Spiritual Soul
formless
conductor
Buddhi
5
Intelligent
Medium
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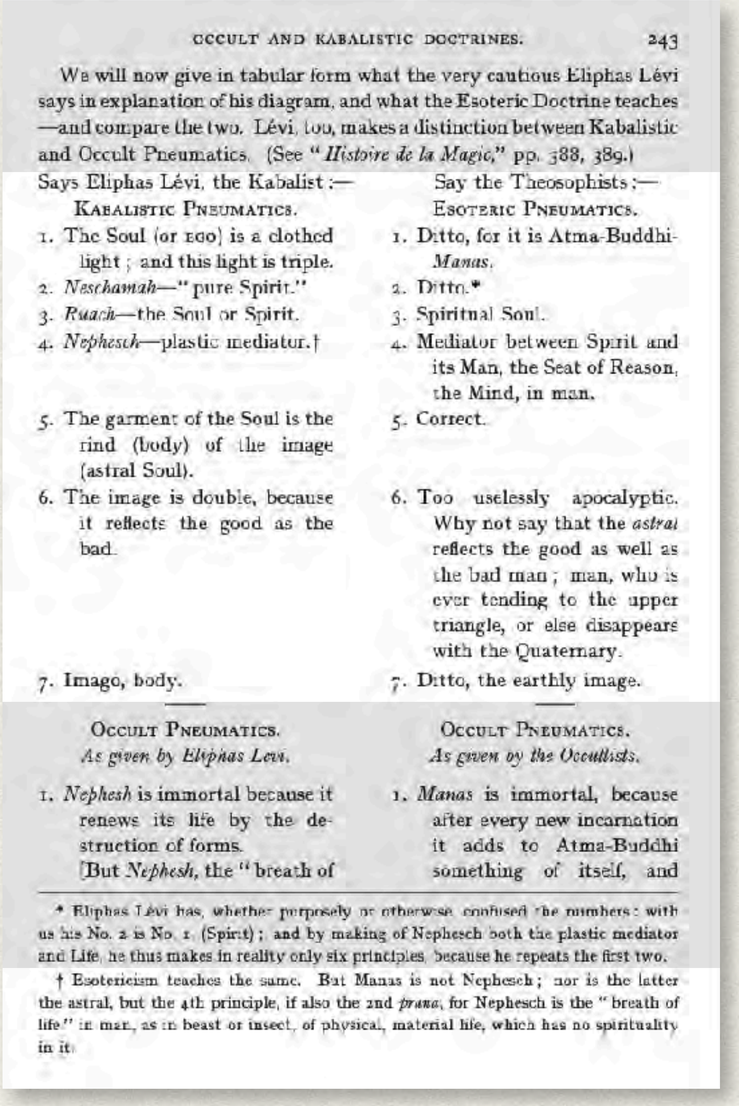
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OCCULT AND KABALISTIC DOCTRINES. 243

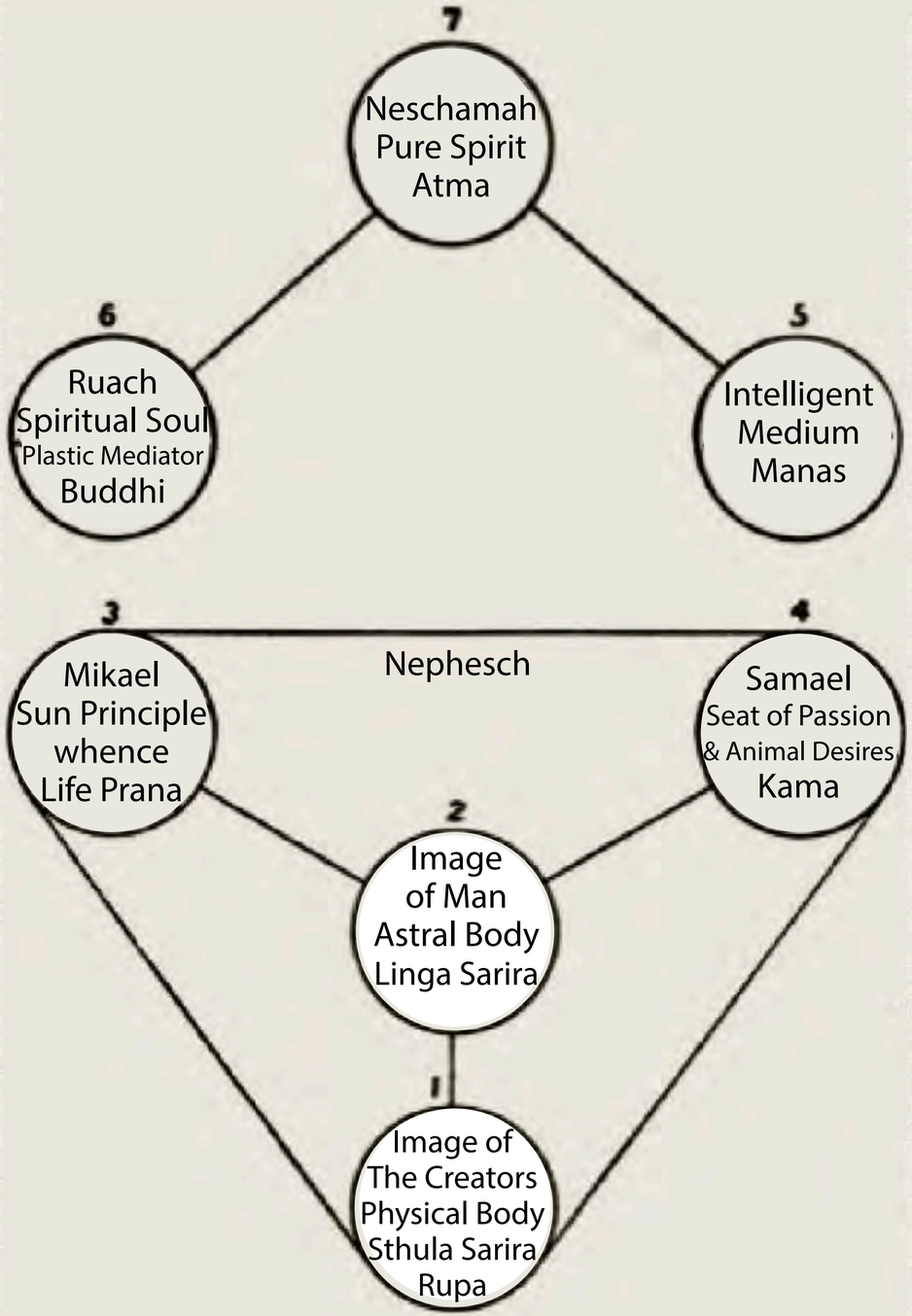
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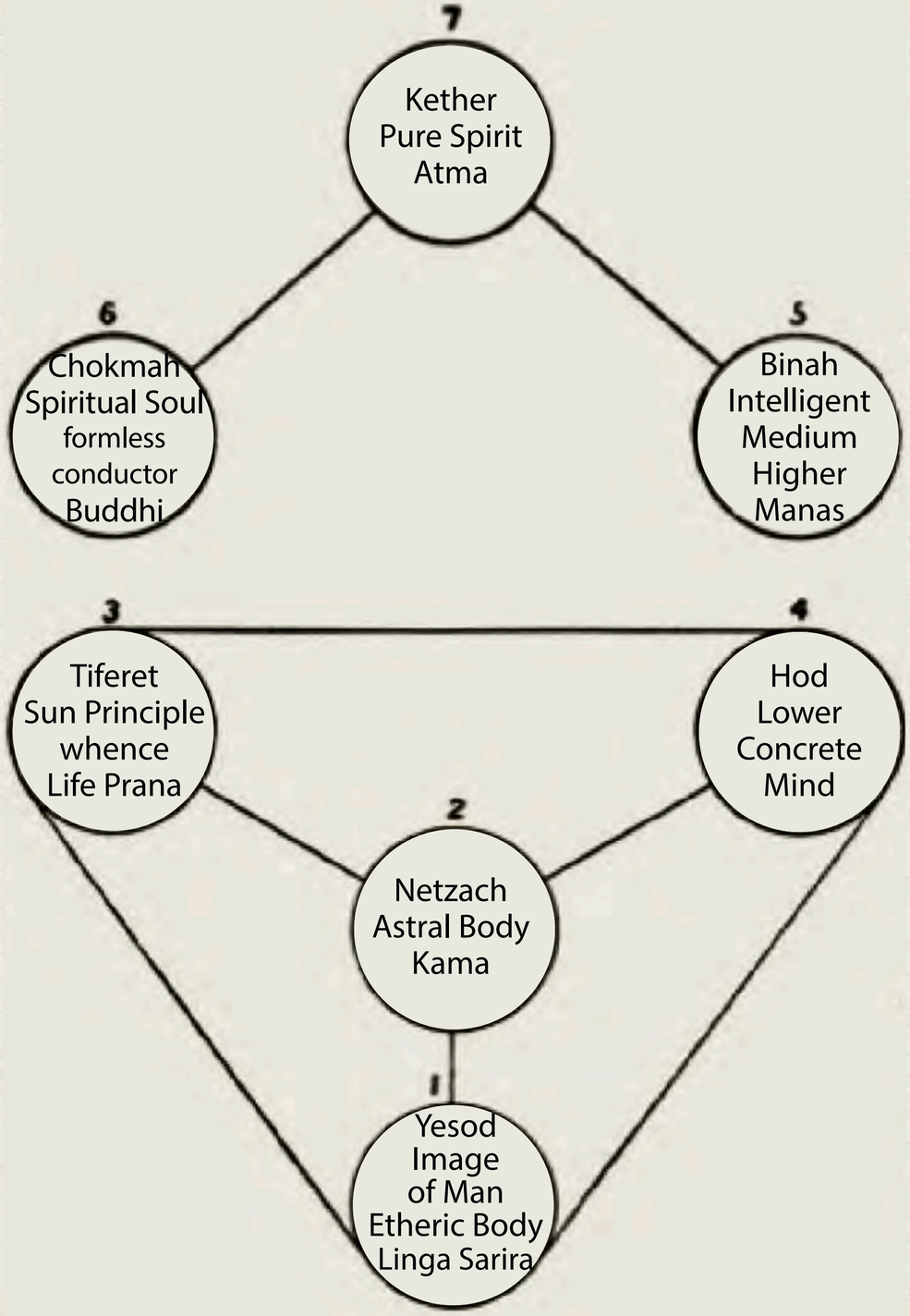

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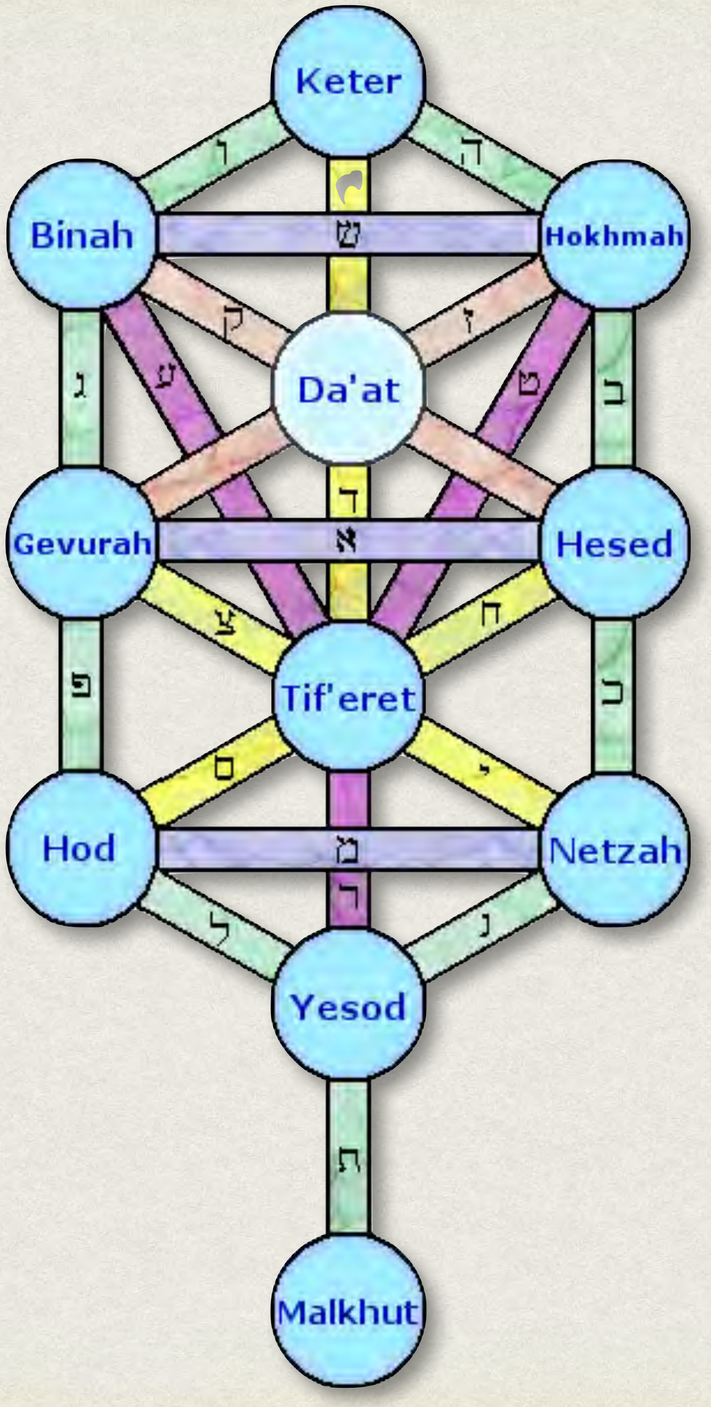
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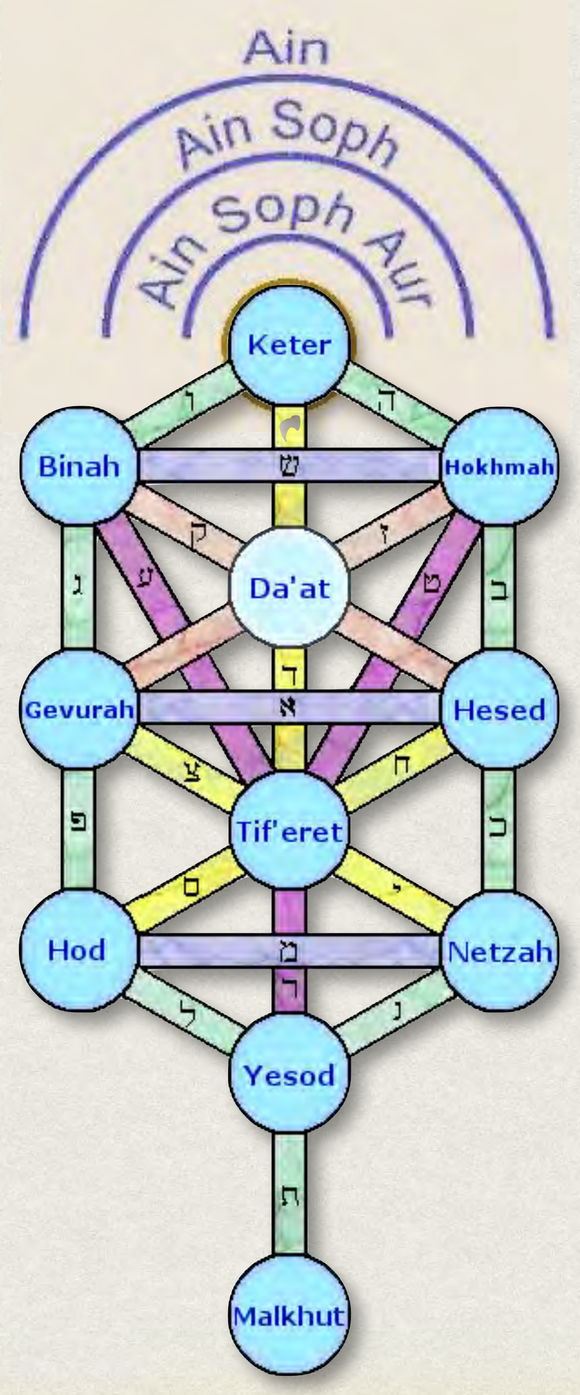
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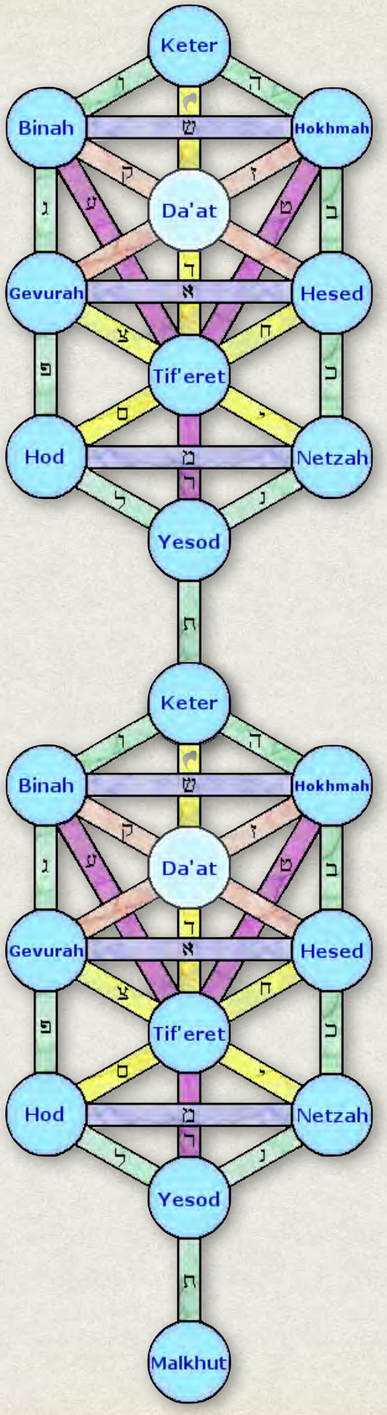
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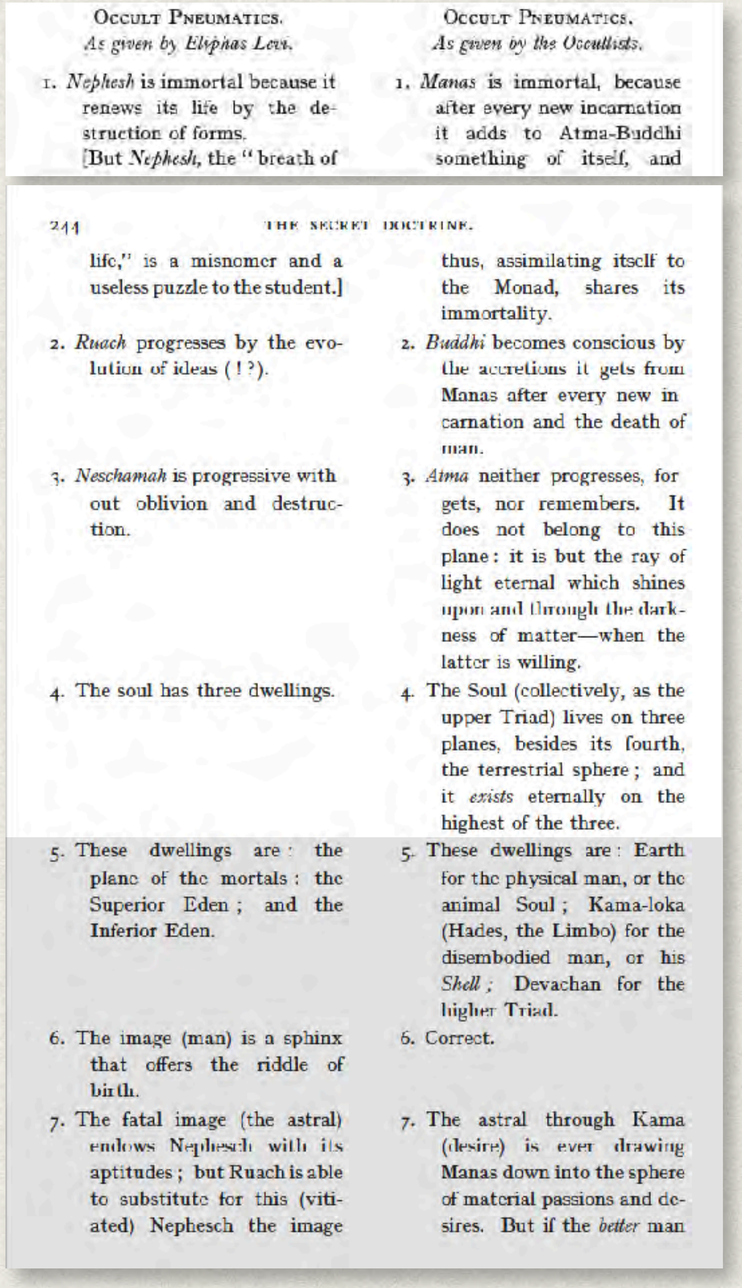
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	Occult Pneumatics. As given by Eliphas Levi.	Occult Pneumatics. As given by the Occultists.
1	Nephesch is immortal because it renews its life by the destruction of forms. [But Nephesh, the "breath of life," is a misnomer and a useless puzzle to the student.]	Manas is immortal, because after every new incarnation it adds to Atma-Buddhi something of itself, and thus, assimilating itself to the Monad, shares its immortality.
2	Ruach progresses by the evolution of ideas (! ?).	Buddhi becomes conscious by the accretions it gets from Manas after every new incarnation and the death of man.
3	Neschamah is progressive without oblivion and destruction.	Atma neither progresses, forgets, nor remembers. It does not belong to this plane: it is but the ray of light eternal which shines upon and through the darkness of matter — when the latter is willing.
4	The soul has three dwellings.	The Soul (collectively, as the upper Triad) lives on three planes, besides its fourth, the terrestrial sphere; and it exists eternally on the highest of the three.



OCCULT PNEUMATICS.
As given by Eliphas Levi.

1. *Nephesh* is immortal because it renews its life by the destruction of forms. [But *Nephesh*, the "breath of life," is a misnomer and a useless puzzle to the student.]
2. *Ruach* progresses by the evolution of ideas (!?).
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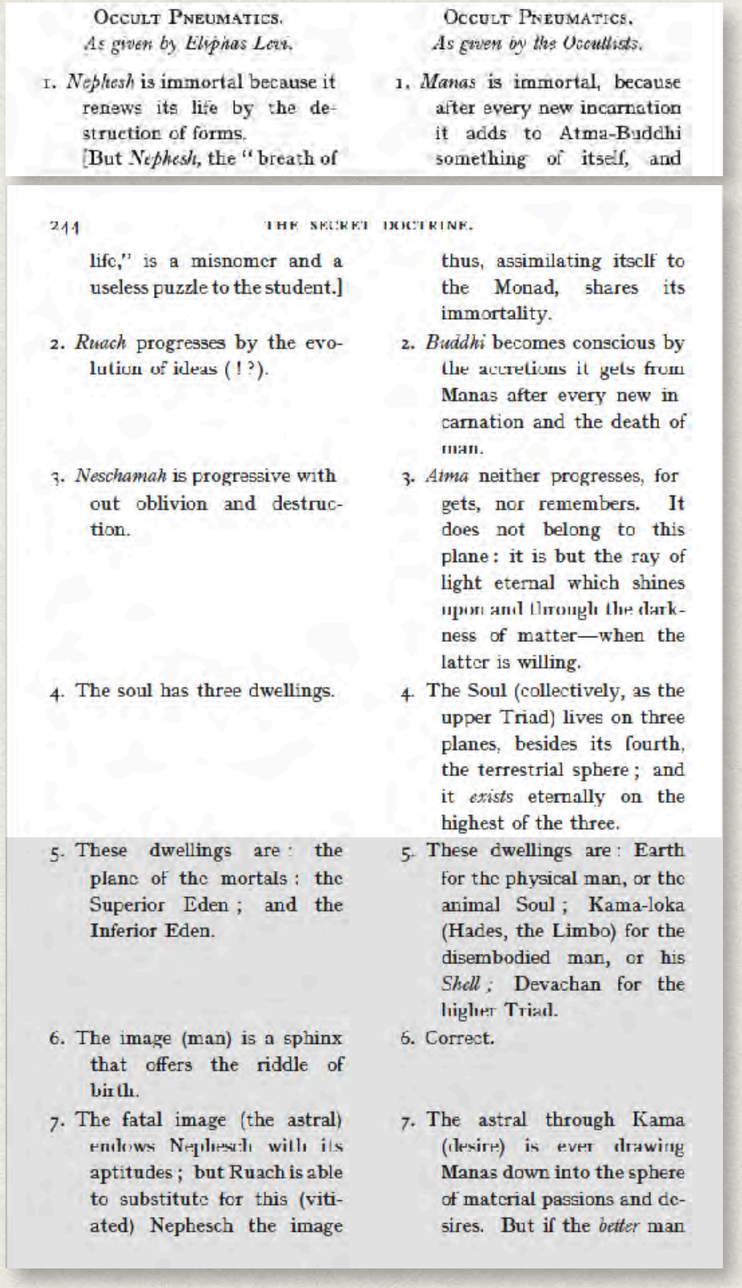
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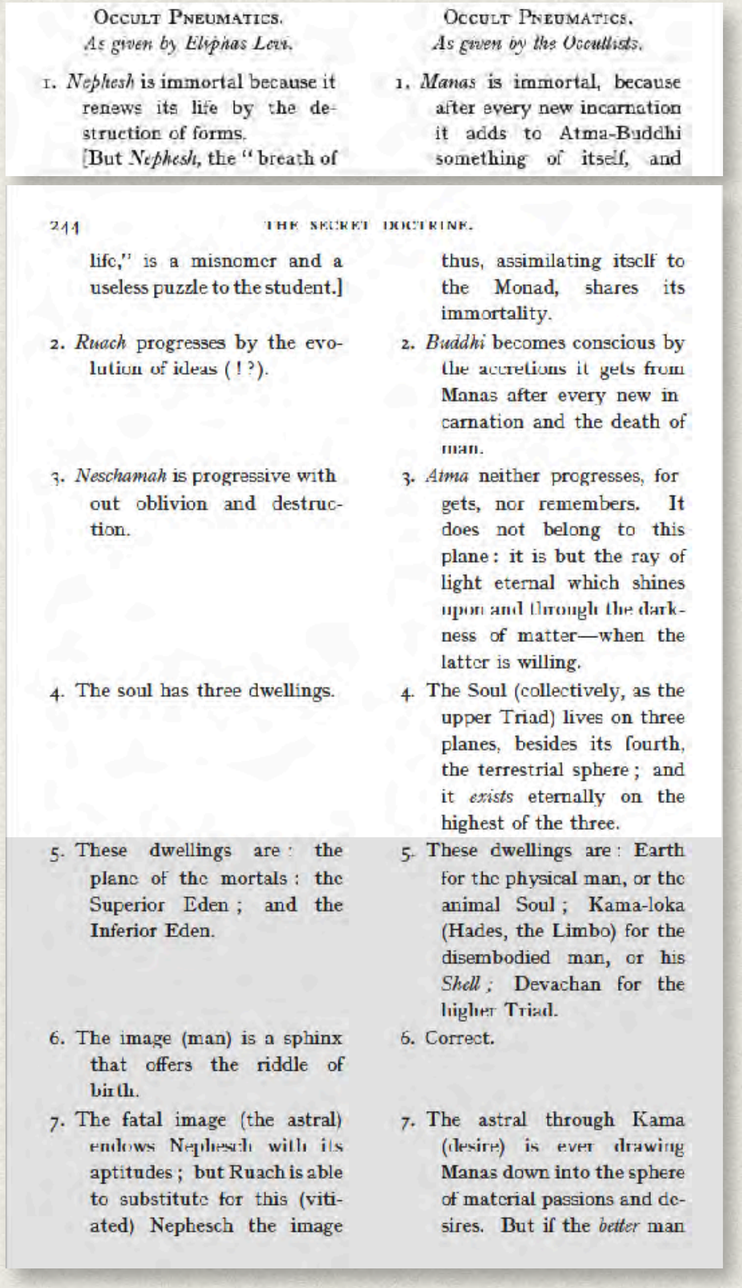
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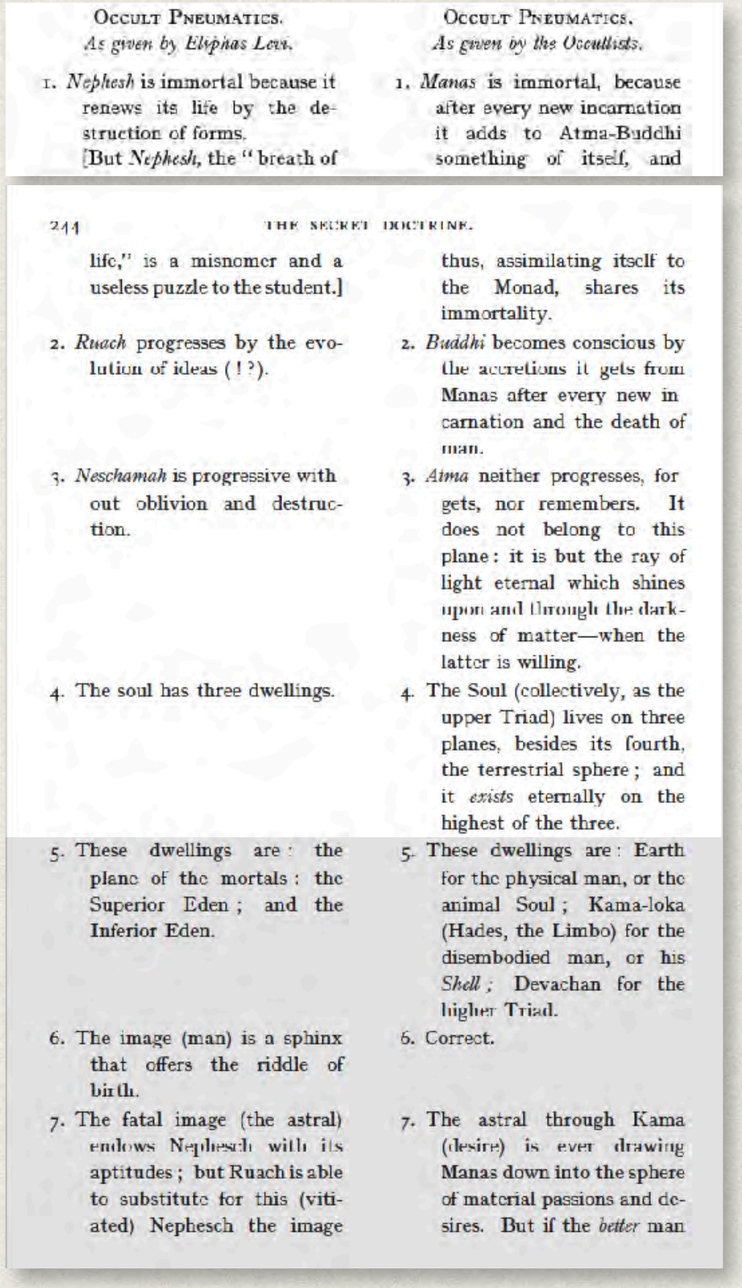
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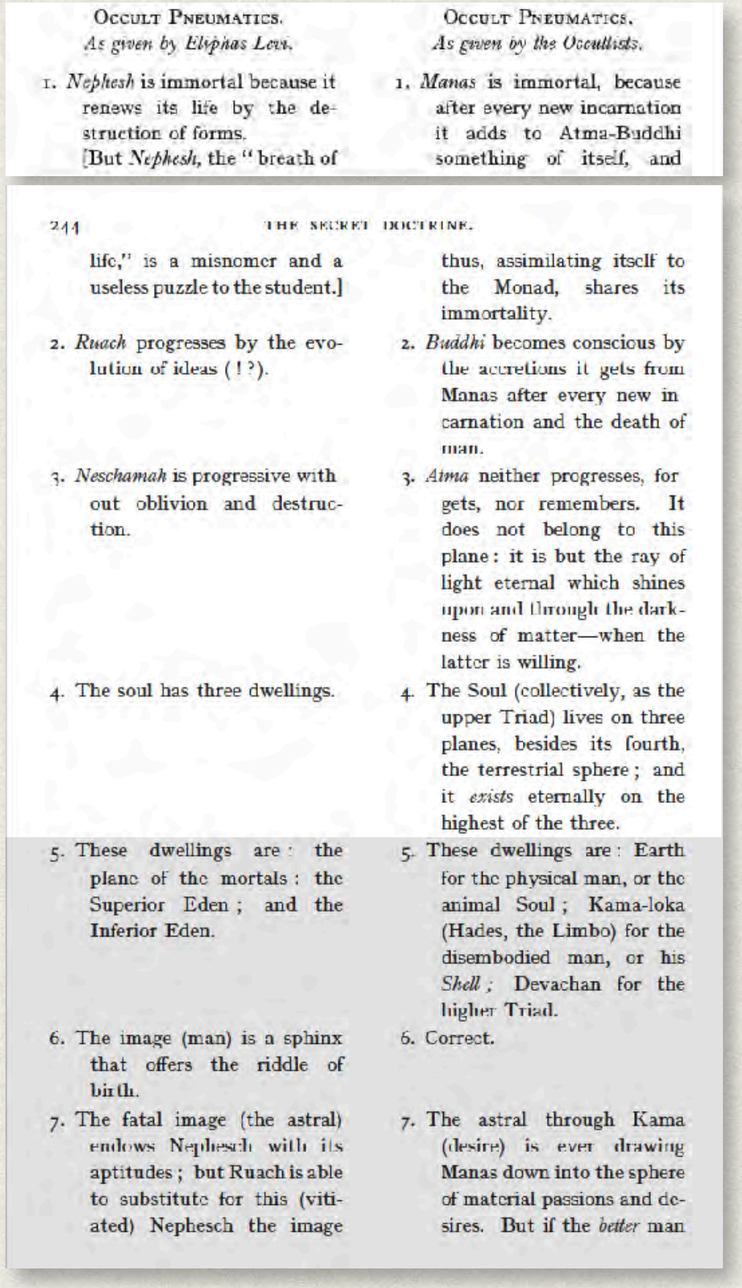
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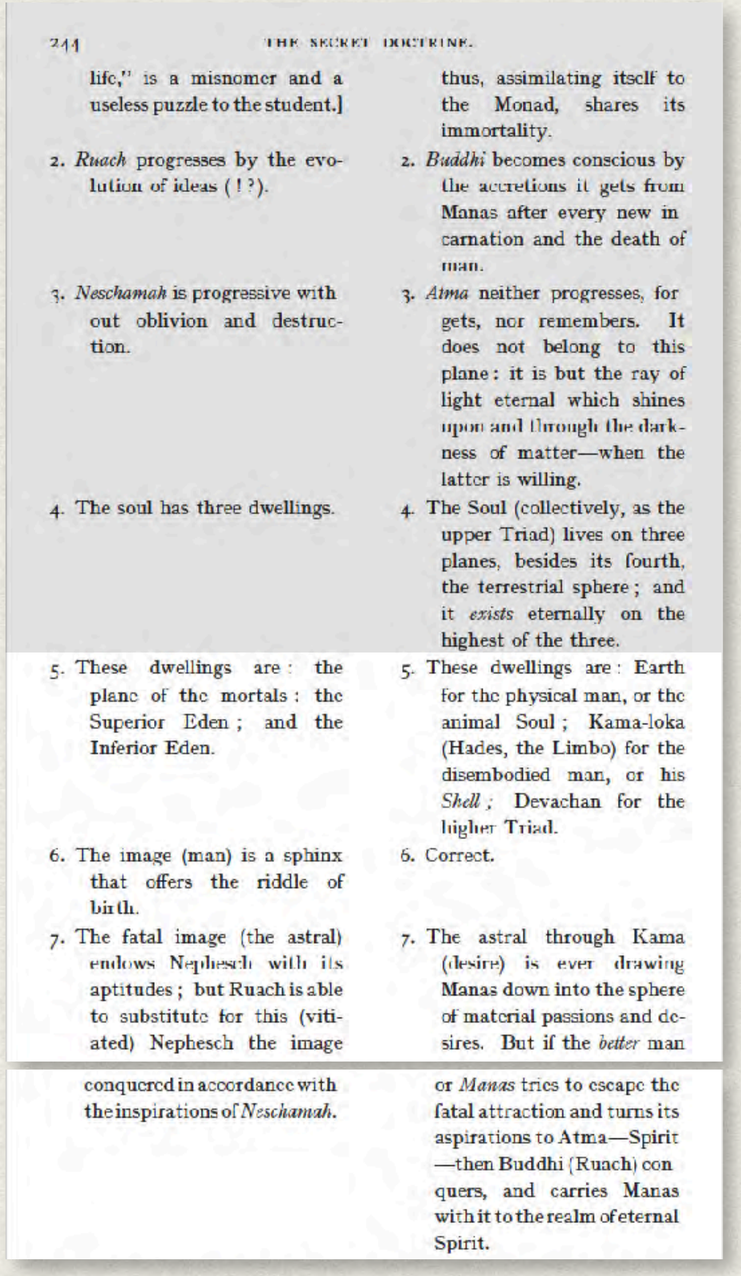
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