

# Spiritual Initiations

## 1<sup>st</sup> Initiation (Birth of the Christ (love-wisdom) within the Heart)

- Heart center becomes vivified, thus creating sensitivity to Christ force. Conscious commitment to practicing love and wisdom; a sense of responsibility overshadows the aspirant.
- Soul gains control over physical body, its appetite; addictions and cravings contained.
- Letting go of “*Me Oriented Only*” limited self and working for service and world betterment.
- 25% of etheric body + lower 3 bodies are purified and redeemed with Soul energy.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Initiation (Baptism)

- Allow Soul to have complete domination over the emotional / astral body of the Personality;
- Mentally suppress all emotions which are destructive to the Soul’s nature, such as anger, hate and lower desires; illumined mind expresses deeper love (Buddhi)
- Turning emotion into aspiration and later into the energy of love and compassion; Understands, through his intuition Doesn’t take sides, practice discrimination and non-reactivity.
- Polarization has shifted from astral to mental plane
- 50% of etheric body + lower 3 bodies are purified and redeemed with Soul energy.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Initiation (Transfiguration)

- Between the Second and Third Initiations, spiritual evolution is sped up. The disciple-esotericist has stabilized his emotional-astral nature, and now his focus shifts from the emotional plane to the mental plane. The emotional vehicle acts a great reflector of love intuition, and pure reason emanating from the Buddhic plane.
- The initiate has first glimpse of the Plan and his higher spiritual purpose.
- Personality is immersed in the radiance of the Monad; Now, and acts on Its impulses.
- The mental vehicle operates freely through the intuition and perceives reality, not illusion, as inner vision is awakened. The concept of brotherhood / sisterhood is sensed and he knows that there is no separation with *my Soul* and *your Soul*.
- Monad, not the Soul guides Initiates evolution from this point forward.
- 75% of etheric body + lower 3 bodies are purified and redeemed with Monadic energy.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Initiation (Renunciation)

- The challenge of this initiation ironically lies in completely letting go of the Soul and the causal body as the initiate experiences a complete merging with the Monad.
- Soul and the causal body are discarded as all remaining karma has been burned away.
- Full demonstration of the intuition, abstract mind, and spiritual will replaces the mental, emotional, and physical natures. This results in a great fusion, and a release from life in the world of dense-matter living.
- The initiate becomes an Arhat, and master of the lower three worlds.

## Stages of Discipleship

It should be understood that both paths of initiation and discipleship deal directly with expansions of consciousness. The major goal of the 6 Stages of Discipleship is about purification of the lower mental, emotional and physical vehicles and developing connection and direct experience of the Ashram.

### Stage 1 – Little Chelaship (dedicated student of a teacher)

- Overlaps with the Path of Probation and is the longest on the path of discipleship.
- Aspirant is beginning to “consciously” put him/her self on the path of discipleship.
- Occult inquiry strong; aspirant is filled with idealism; think outside own sphere of life.

### Stage 2 - Chela in the Light

- Guide aids students’ learning by helping him discover the subtleties of his shifts in consciousness; Master contacts aspirant through dream, or thoughtform
- Higher planes and Intuition are felt; Antahkarana bridge begins to be built.
- Emotional nature being transformed; Begins polarization shift to mental plane; Chela is replacing his substance in the lower sub-planes with the higher sub-plane substance.

### Stage 3 – Accepted Discipleship

- Chela can contact higher wisdom and intelligence sensed from higher triad.
- May have direct contact with Master and Ashram in meditation; When sensed, disciple has stronger sense of obligation and responsibility to the Master and Ashram.
- Disciple is consciously and mentally linking-blending the heart and mind together.
- Disciple is learning to hold a point of tension and its relation to his inner work.

### Stage 4 – Chela on the Thread

- At the beginning of this stage, the disciple will have already taken the 2<sup>nd</sup> initiation, i.e. great stability in the emotional-astral body has been established.
- Draw of Ashram powerful, but disciple can still choose the path of selfishness
- “*Chela on the Thread*” refers to the pull of the sutratma or the “livingness” thread of “living light” emanating from the Master.
- Disciple realizes that he is the active agent and identifies with the *point of spiritual tension* coming from the Ashram and with his still existing connection with the mental-emotional physical vehicles while carrying out his work.
- With connection from Master-Ashram, “continuity of consciousness” is developing.
- At end of stage, 3<sup>rd</sup> Initiation and full Soul infusion and Monadic consciousness occur.

### Stage 5.....Chela within the Aura

- There is an “almost” complete at-one-ment with the Master, His aura, and his Ashram.
- To dwell in Master’s aura, he must substitute peace for serenity.
- Disciple recognizes the difference in consciousness between “becoming” and “being”. He’s moving into the Triad and (out of the casual body of Soul) the Buddhic plane where the Ashram is really located. The Buddhic plane is the plane of “being” and synthesis whereas below that is the world of “becoming” or moving towards.
- Disciple simultaneously perceives the world of being and the world of synthesis and yet he has a part of himself that can perceive clear distinctions; is approaching 4<sup>th</sup> Initiation and becoming an Arhat.

### Stage 6 - Chela within the Master’s Heart

- Disciple is approaching 5<sup>th</sup> Initiation to become Master of the Wisdom.
- At this level, he is relating the heart of the Earth’s larger planetary system that whom the Christ Himself oversees; works in cooperation with Christ.