

Sum and Substance: The Philosophy of Astrology by Manley P. Hall

Sum & Substance posts are notable phrases to give readers an idea of themes surrounding certain books.

The Sum & Substance of Manly P.Hall's, *The Philosophy of Astrology*.

1

"The unprepared and the unfit could not rise to the challenge of thinking. A man cannot use wisely a knowledge which is beyond his comprehension. What he cannot use, he abuses. What he cannot understand he misunderstands. The result is a general collapse of the esoteric tradition. From this the world has not yet recovered."

"What the body of man is to the spirit of man, prognostic astrology is to philosophical astrology."

"Astrology is much more than an art or even a science: it is a way of life; it is a complete formula for living. It is a universal truth manifesting physically through a particular technique; but never for a moment should the astrologer indulge the fantasy that prognostics is all of his subject. Predictions are only the beginning. It is the philosophy which is the greater part."

"The seven planetary orbits that surround Earth in the geocentric systems are zones or planes of magnetic energy and are referred to as bodies of "Blessed gods". Together they form what the medieval mystics called the Anima Mundi, or the soul of the world. Beyond the orbits of the planets, according to Ptolemy, lie the great circles of fixed stars, often represented by three flames. These great constellation groupings were the source of pure spiritual energy of nature, and were the abodes of the three manifestations of Supreme Deity. Thus we have a formula: the spirit of all things from the stars, the soul of all things from the planets, and the body of all things from the elements or matter. These three great divisions - spirit, soul and body - consciousness, intelligence and force - will, wisdom and action - are related to stars, planets and elements."

"Each of the suns has its planets which are the reflectors and distributors of its energies. This reflective energy consists of two qualities, the positive solar quality and the negative elementary quality. Reflected light is conditioned by the surface from which it is reflected; so planetary energy is called formal, because form is a compound of spirit and matter."

"The physical energy of the elements themselves is called force..."

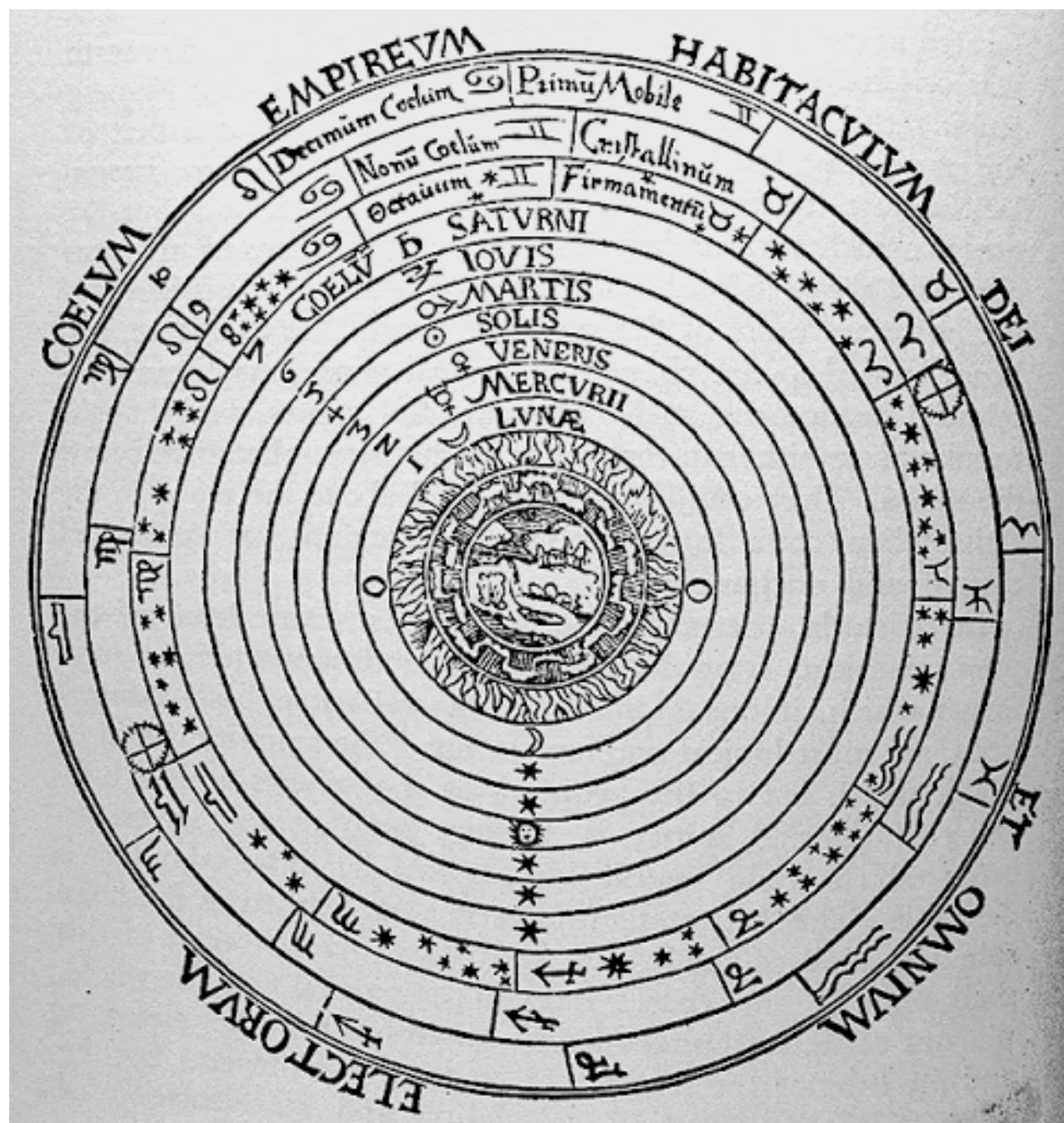
"...man, living on the planet earth receives three kinds of energy into his own nature; spiritual energy from the countless stars of heaven; physical energy reflected from the other planets of his solar system; and elementary energy or force from the physical earth beneath his feet."

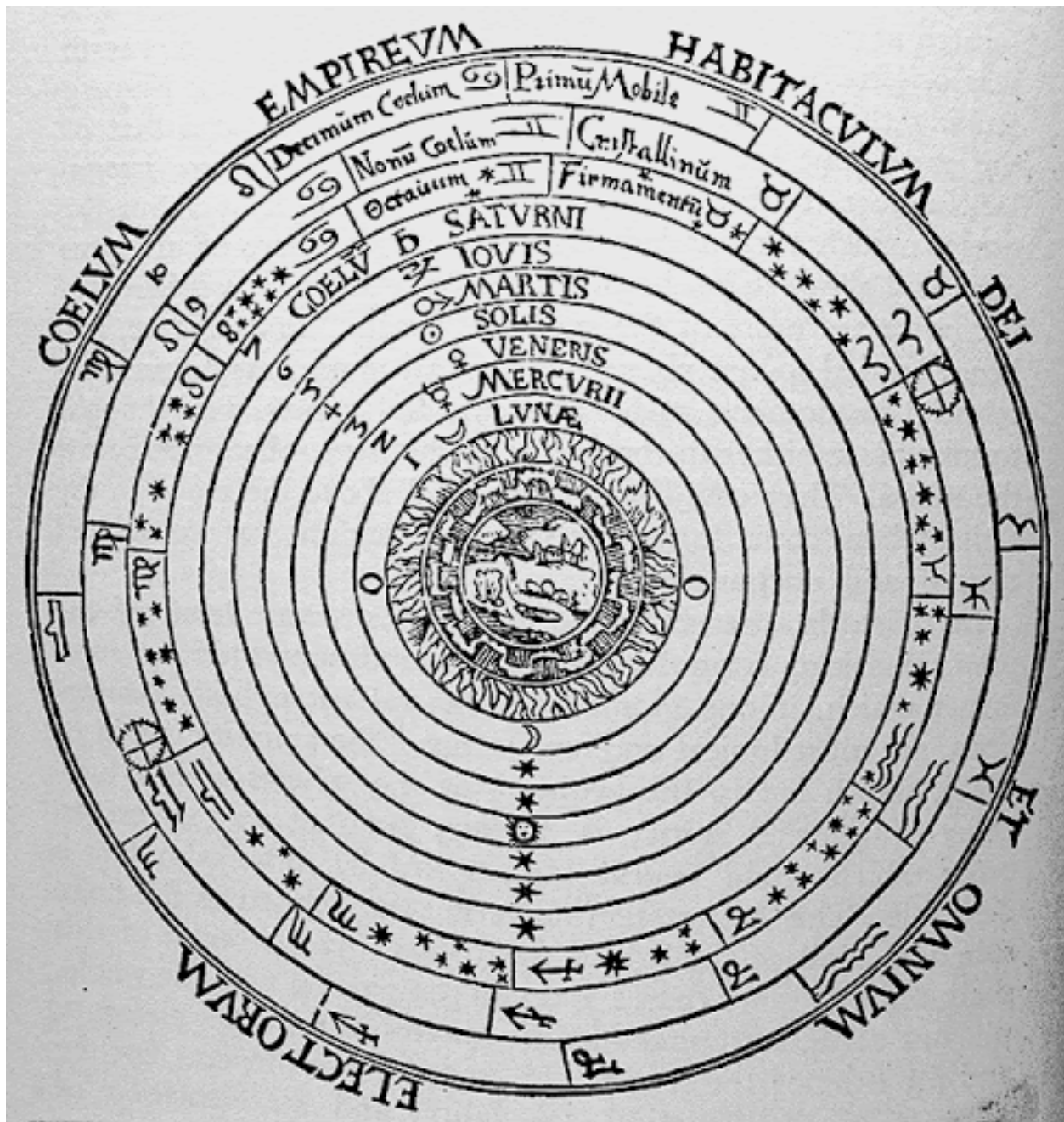
"The Egyptians taught that all superior natures influenced inferior natures. They believed that energy was constantly flowing downward from the spiritual fountain of life through all the qualities of living, to be absorbed finally by the abyss of matter."

"Each of the fixed stars differs somewhat from the others in the quality and quantity of its energies and its distance from or proximity to some other body in space. Modern astronomy

believes this difference to be basically chemical. The ancients believed the difference to be basically alchemical."

"[In an early block print from Ptolemy], the first of these zodiacs is called the Primum Mobile or the First Motion. It corresponds to the first power of the God-head. It is the source of all the energies which manifest through the process of creation. The second zodiac corresponds with the intellectual sphere and the third to the material worlds. Through the three zodiacs emanate the forces which sustain the three parts of the world nature. The spiritual zodiac corresponds to the stars, the Intellectual to the planets, and the material Zodiac, called the firmament, corresponds to the elements. The firmament is the dividing line between the world of spirit and the world of soul. In Genesis it is described how the waters which were above the firmament were divided from the waters which were beneath the firmament.... [you can see] that the Crystal Sea is above the firmament. This is called the Sea of Life, in the midst of which stands the throne of the Almighty."





- Primum Mobile; an early block print of the world according to Ptolemy

"The planets represent the patriarchs and the symbolism of the Old Testament and much of the religious mysticism of the New Testament is concealed in this curious symbol of the world orbits."

"In this symbolism the Primum Mobile is God the Father. The Christallium is God the Son, and the firmament is God the Holy Spirit. The are the Greek Ouranos, Kronos, Zeus and Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva of the Hindus. Within the body of the celestial Zeus are differentiated the seven parts of the world's Soul- a secondary order of deities, the creators of the mundane or sublunary sphere. The seven planetary orbits are described in our symbol as the seven heavens.

The spirits of the seven heavens are the Elhoim of the ancient Jews, the seven Cabiri of Samathrace, and the Ammanian artificers of Egypt. Pythagoras describes eight extensions of the soul of which seven are super-physical and relate to the planets; the eighth is entirely physical and is the power generation and belongs to Earth, which is the eighth sphere of the ancients."

2

"The ancients believed that cosmic forces which affect the life of mundane creatures emanated from the great constellational patterns which we call the signs of the zodiac. It is important therefore that we understand the origin of the signs and examine their energies in the light of the old doctrine of Macrocosm. Several origins have been traced by researchers seeking to know the beginnings of the astrological theory." 1) sky-watching by ancient shepherds (Jesus/Sheep).

"...second theory based upon the solar phenomena of the seasons. The sun apparently moving along the path of the star clusters caused seasonal changes which affected the life of man. The constellations according to this theory gained their symbolic forms from the activities in nature brought about by the annual course of the sun. For example, the ox was used to drag the ancient plow; the season of plowing was therefore the month of the ox. This corresponds to the present period between the 20th of April and the 20th of May. The part of the heavens occupied by the sun at the time of year was therefore called the sign of the ox or Taurus, the bull. The origin of the theory was observational." 2) seasons/observational.

"A third solution is inspired by the writings of Manilius. This author suggests that the constellations are a celestial map of the terrestrial earth. Manilius says that the celestial river corresponds to the terrestrial Nile. One ingenious author has worked with this idea and remarks the extraordinary coincidence that in many cases animals which are emblematically associated with various nations are located in the heavens above the continents where these nations flourish. For example the map of the heavens be laid upon earth according to a certain arrangement, the constellation of the Bear lies over Russia. The constellation of the Eagle lies over the United States, the constellation of the Dragon lies over China and the constellation of the Serpent lies over South America, where the feathered serpent was the symbol of God." 3) celestial/terrestrial map 3) celestial/terrestrial map.

"The Greeks had a fourth notion... their early mythology declares that at various times great heroes were honored by being lifted up to become constellations in the sky. Bede, resented the heaven of Pagan gods and goddesses moving above a Christian world and conceived the notion of naming the constellations to. Make them symbols of the Christian order of the world. Building upon his ideas the twelve signs of the zodiac were changed into the twelve Apostles; the Argo became Noah's ark, and Cetus the great fish, took on new classical dignities, becoming Jonah's whale. The Venerable Bede and his pious followers did not realize that they had exposed a large part of the biblical astrological symbolism. What he really accomplished was to prove that Pagan gods and Christian saints were interchangeable and in actual meaning were identical." 4) Greek heroes.

"The ancients believed that our solar system was part of the constellation of Pisces."

“Pythagoras taught that it was possible to heal disease by administering medicine through the eyes. He borrowed from the Egyptians their esoteric doctrine that by looking at various shapes and color combinations it was possible to modify the impulsiveness of the consciousness and correct disorders of the body.”

“The Knower is always in the midst of the thing that he knows.”

“The star spirits of the northern sky were called Sauri or Genii of Light, and the twelve star groups of the southern hemisphere were made up of the Asuras or spirits of darkness. The southern stars are the third part of the heavens that fell with the fallen angel in the mythology of the Persians and the ancient Jews. The northern stars were spiritual, the southern stars material, and the equatorial stars, formal. It must be understood of course that in space itself none of the stars are either good or evil, but exercise a moral energy according to their own nature. The terms good and evil, benefic and malefic, are significant only when applied to the relationship of the star groupings to the magnetic field of the Earth itself.”

"The Earth's constitution consists of seven electric zones in a form of concentric layers from the surface of the Earth inward to the core. These concentric zones are equivalent to the orbits of the planets, the innermost corresponding to Saturn, which is the zone of azoic rock, the primordial core of the planet. From the surface outward the Earth consists of seven magnetic rings which correspond likewise to planetary orbits. These rings are the auras and surround the planet with a spectrum of light too high in its vibratory rate to be seen by the eyes. Thus we understand the ancient Kabbalistic statement that the Earth "is seven within and seen without." These fourteen parts are symbolized in Egyptian mythology by the division of the body of Osiris into fourteen parts. The seven internal structures of the Earth are continually releasing septenary patterns in the world of form. Thus the Earth produces seven continents, seven races, seven great orders of life, etc. The outer magnetic auras of the Earth are releasing seven qualities of life to ensoul and vitalize the forms which the Earth produces.”

"As the Greeks so wisely knew, all bodies are receptacles of energies. As rapidly as the earth produces capacities, space with its energies flows into the capacities and fills the earth."

"The entire solar system is sustained by the pulsing of the solar heart which expands and contracts once every eleven years."

"Paracelsus brought this out very beautifully when he said: "For every star in the heavens, there is a star in the Earth, and for every planet in space there is a planet within the body of man." To realize this is to become aware of the unity of the worlds. This realization brings to man the key to the mystery of astrological theology."

"Modern science is working from a material foundation."

"The material scientist is working in the direction of mysticism without realizing it, but his progress is slow because he has circumscribed himself with so many arbitrary limitations of thought and action."