

The Seven Levels of Initiation

The spiritual path really begins prior to the seven levels of initiation. This has been esoterically called the "path of probation". It could be likened to the nine months of gestation in the womb prior to birth. This is one's spiritual gestation, of course. The actual birth is the taking of the first initiation.

The first initiation deals with developing mastery over our most dense body or vehicle which is the physical body. To pass this initiation one is required to develop a beginning level of mastery over this body and its appetites, requirements, sexual urges, sleep habits, and so on in service of the soul or Higher Self, which at this point would hold the ideal of balance and moderation.

The second initiation deals with the need to develop mastery over our second most dense vehicle which is the emotional and/or astral body. To pass this initiation one must develop mastery over one's emotions, feelings, and desires to a certain degree, in service of the soul and/or Higher Self. It is not so much the perfection in this regard that is required, but rather conscious intent and continual choice-making to move in this direction.

Material desires are beginning to be transformed into the spiritual desire for liberation and God realization. The disciple is learning to not be a victim of their desires, feelings and emotions, but rather a master and cause. (See my second book called "Soul Psychology" for help in this area.) This is the level

of initiation in which most people stay stuck the longest.

The third initiation is mastery of the next most dense vehicle which is the mental body. To pass this initiation one must develop some level of mastery over the mind and one's thoughts in service of the soul. This initiation is the first more major initiation, for this initiation leads one to achieve what is called "soul merger", or soul infusion. The mastery of the physical body, astral body, and mental body allow the disciple and/or personality on Earth to merge with their soul on Earth. This can clearly be seen in the disciple in their desire to be loving, forgiving, and to be of service, as well as to begin the process of liberation from the "Wheel of Rebirth".

It must be understood here that initiation is a process. It doesn't all happen in one moment. There is one moment when you receive the Rod of Initiation from the Lord Maitreya (the "president" of the Spiritual Hierarchy), however there are seven sub levels between each of the seven major initiations. When one takes any given initiation they become a kindergarten disciple or initiate at that level.

You must then move through all seven sub levels to fully complete that initiation. This is what I was referring to in the introduction when I said I took my sixth initiation or ascension, however I really didn't fully complete it until I realized the seventh sub level of the sixth initiation and then took my seventh major initiation. It wasn't until then that I really felt as though I had graduated and fully mastered my ascension.

Once one merges with their soul at the third initiation things begin to speed up very rapidly. The fourth initiation is a major marker point. It is at this initiation that the soul body, which is also esoterically referred to as the causal body, burns up and the Higher Self or soul, which has been your guide through all your incarnations, merges back into the Monad and/or Spirit. The Monad and/or Spirit has also been referred to as the "Mighty I AM Presence" in some schools. From this moment on, Spirit is your guide and teacher, not the soul. The soul was serving as an intermediary teacher until this moment.

The soul body and/or causal body previous to this initiation serves as the repository for all your good karma from all your past lives and your current life. This repository is burned up over a period of time as one moves through towards completion of this initiation.

The fourth initiation has also been esoterically referred to as the initiation of renunciation. This is so because, prior to taking it, one is required on some level to renunciate or let go of all attachments to the material world. This means the letting go of one's attachments to fame, fortune, money, power, selfishness, people, family or reputation. I often think of this, myself, as the "Job initiation" in the Bible where everything is stripped away as a test to see if one remains righteous in the eyes of the Lord.

Even though in previous teachings we were told that the fourth initiation meant complete liberation from the Wheel of Rebirth, we now know that while this is an important step,

initiates continue through the reincarnation process into another body at the close of this one or through the continuation of this life until full ascension is achieved. I, personally, have not felt fully freed from the Wheel of Rebirth until I completed my sixth initiation and/or the seventh sub level of the sixth initiation. It was during this initiation ceremony that I finally felt fully freed for eternity. The fourth initiation requires 65% Light quotient in your four body system.

The fifth initiation is, in a sense, similar to the third initiation. In the third initiation one begins the process of soul merge. The fifth initiation is the beginning stage of "Monadic merger". This could also be called "Spirit merge", and/or "I AM Presence". It is for this reason that this initiation might be considered the very, very beginning glimpse of your actual ascension which is the sixth initiation.

What ascension really is is where the personality on Earth, the soul, and the Monad all become one unified being on Earth. The fifth initiation merges the Monad in consciousness, however not in full actuality yet. At the fifth initiation one has to have 75% Light quotient in one's field.

Another thing I want to say here about the initiation process that most people don't understand, is that these initiations occur on the inner plane and are very subtle. I would say most people are not even consciously aware they have taken them. This is true very often even in the case of those people who are theoretically aware of the seven levels of initiation and are working on them consciously. This is even true of taking

one's actual ascension, which, I am sure will blow apart most people's fantasies and conceptions of what ascension really is. I speak from direct knowledge and experience in saying these things.

I must admit that the process of completing seven levels of initiation was much different than I expected. I, personally, happened to be quite aware of all of my later initiations and they were all quite wonderful; this is rare as I am learning.

I am acquainted with a great number of people now who are beginning to take these initiations. Everyone agrees, however, that the actual initiation experience is more subtle than they expected. This is not to say that they are not profound. I was profoundly impacted by my fifth, sixth and seventh initiations, but not in the way that I expected to be, and was most deeply affected by the seventh initiation. This is where I felt the largest and most extraordinary transformation took place.

The taking of the sixth initiation is the actual ascension experience for which everyone is waiting and working. In the past, when a person took their sixth initiation they usually left their bodies and passed on to the spiritual world. On rare occasions they were able to dematerialize their physical body and take it with them; however this was more the exception than the rule.

The new push of the Spiritual Hierarchy and Sanat Kumara is to have people ascend (take their sixth initiation) and continue serving on Earth to help bring in the "new age."

Ascension is full merger with the Monad or I AM Presence,

or Spirit on Earth. There is a ceremony that takes place on the inner plane involving Sanat Kumara; however in my opinion, most will not remember it. The actual experience is subtle, while the implications of taking this initiation are quite profound.

There are seven planes through which each of us must evolve. Each of these seven planes is connected with each of the seven levels of initiation. These seven planes, as outlined by Djwhal Khul in the Alice Bailey material, are:

Physical

First initiation

Astral

Second initiation

Mental

Third initiation

Buddhic

Fourth initiation

Atmic

Fifth initiation

Monadical

Sixth initiation

Logoic

Seventh initiation

As you can see from this little diagram, ascension is movement into the Monadic and Logoic planes. Each initiation you go through stabilizes you at the "next higher plane". I am using the word "plane" here rather than dimension because there are seven planes and nine dimensions with which we deal here on Earth.

Ascension and/or the sixth initiation is movement into the fifth dimension. The seventh initiation is movement into the sixth dimension. As you can see, the dimensions are different from what we call the seven sub planes that make up the Cosmic physical plane. There are also seven Cosmic planes of which you can read more in my first book, "The Complete Ascension Manual: How to Achieve Ascension in This Lifetime".

Even taking the seventh initiation is less than one inch up a ten inch ruler in terms of how far we still have to go to fully realize God at the highest Cosmic level. Evolving through these seven major initiations is a major step, however.

The first Cosmic initiation, from the point of view of the higher university on Sirius, is the fifth initiation. The second Cosmic initiation from the point of view of Sirius is the sixth initiation and/or one's ascension. The third Cosmic initiation being the seventh initiation. There are two more initiations that can be taken after we leave the Earth. These are the eighth and the ninth. The completion of the ninth is the movement and

doorway to leaving the Cosmic physical universe altogether.

Getting back to the sixth initiation, when you take this initiation you are considered a kindergarten Ascended Master. You do have a choice as to whether you want to leave Earth or remain here and serve. Most are choosing to stay at this time.

Just because one ascends does not necessarily mean that one can walk on water, raise the dead, or turn water into wine. These are potential abilities that can be developed, however most people won't develop these abilities until some time after fully completing their seventh initiation.

You will also be happy to know that one does not have to have perfect health in order to ascend; one can even have chronic health lessons. I know this for a fact because I did. One also does not have to be totally free of all negative emotions and/or totally free of the negative ego and lower self. This may surprise some of you; however, I also know this for a fact.

I, personally, know people who have taken their ascension whom I would consider to be emotional victims. Now, they also happen to be extremely gifted in other spiritual areas. Their victimization by their emotional body and desire body, at times, did not prevent their ascension. Again, one only has to balance 51% of one's karma to ascend.

After you ascend you will basically feel exactly like the same person you were before you ascended. You will just be at a higher octave or plane. You will be carrying more Light, and you will be more connected to Spirit and the Ascended Masters.

I had been under the assumption that freedom from the Wheel of Rebirth was at the beginning or taking of, the sixth initiation. If this were not the case, then why would people over the past centuries physically die when they took this initiation and ascension?

Djwhal Khul said that the discrepancy here comes because freedom from the necessity of rebirth was actually at the completion of one's sixth initiation. In my own personal experience also, it felt like true graduation was at the completion of the sixth.

What I do know is that liberation from the Wheel of Rebirth is somewhere in the sixth initiation, either in the beginning or the end. It is also somewhat individual, unique to each person, with some even choosing to return again to resolve some of the small percent of remaining karma or strengthen some aspect of their being while continuing to serve the Earth and humanity.

Djwhal Khul has suggested that if you happen to physically die just prior to taking this initiation or during the middle of the sixth, that you should call to the Ascended Masters to help you to complete your initiation process. They can work with you on the inner plane to help you finish up. I should also emphasize here that, yes, you can physically die even though you are ascended!

Ascended Masters are not invulnerable and, in truth, are far from perfect. There are many different kinds of Ascended Masters. Some Ascended Masters (one may call themselves this

officially upon taking the sixth initiation), will be emotional types, some mental types, some physical types. The same strengths and weaknesses you had in your four body system before your ascension will be there after you ascend. You will, however, have greater Light, energy, and consciousness with which to heal yourself more quickly.

To ascend and take your sixth initiation you will need 80 to 83% Light quotient in your four body system. This issue regarding the Light quotient is extremely important and I have dedicated the next chapter in this book to show ways of building it. The ascension ceremony most often occurs in a group situation, often at the Wesak festival which occurs at the full moon of Taurus (May).

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