

An Explanation of the Sephirotic Crystal

© 2003 By Rawn Clark

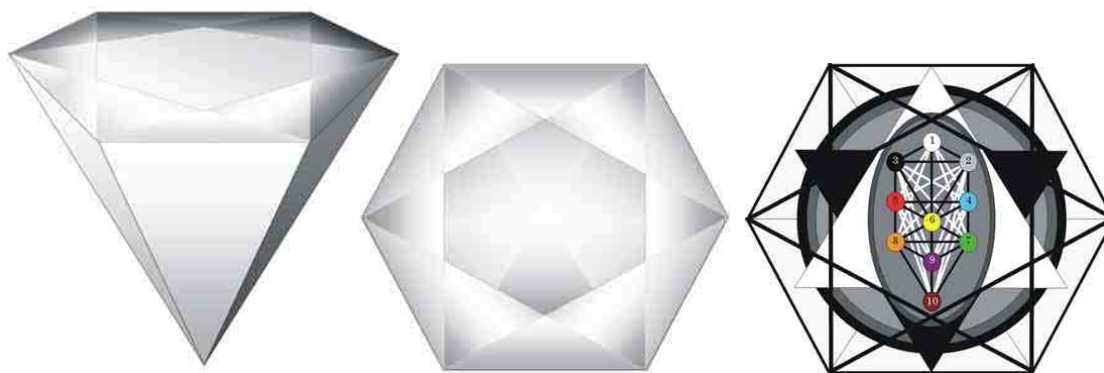


Someone recently commented that the symbol on the curtain at the very beginning of *The Eight Temples Meditation Project*, was "complex" and therefore took extra effort to visualize. So I figured it was time to explain this symbol in hopes that afterward, it will seem less complex to those attempting to visualize it.

This symbol appears in several places on my website and in my work. Two well known places you'll find it are throughout the *Eight Temples* and in association with *The Magic of IHVH-ADNI*:



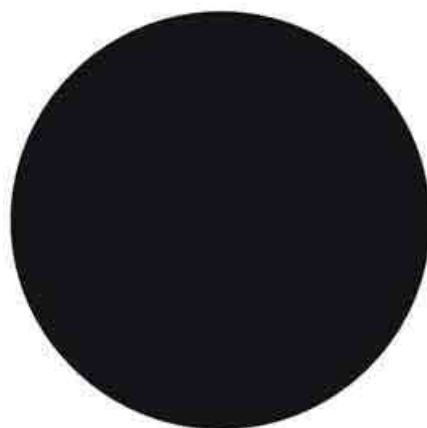
The name of this symbol is the "Sephirotic Crystal". It's called this because it first appeared to me in a meditational journey in the form of a crystal. I was standing at the center of a magical circle situated in a special astral locale that I frequent, when before me there appeared a great crystal, floating in the air.



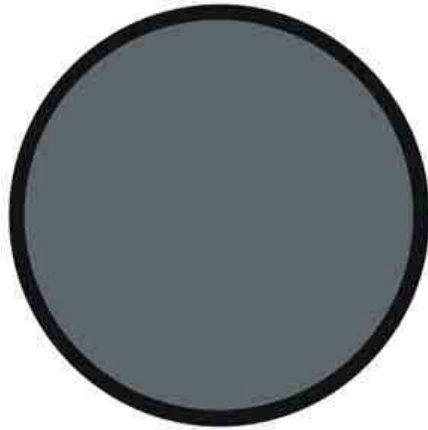
Within the crystal there was a flat occlusion layer, upon which was etched a unique, composite image, featuring the Tree of Life. The instant I saw it, I understood it and knew that it was to serve as an important inspiration in my life. In fact, it was because of the Sephirotic Crystal that I came to understand the 231 Gates and was enabled to create *Permutations of the Tree: BOOK 231*.

Through its symbolism, the Sephirotic Crystal describes the emanation of the Kabbalistic "Four Worlds" which exist against a backdrop of No-Thingness. The simplest way to explain is to build the symbol up from its base, layer by layer.

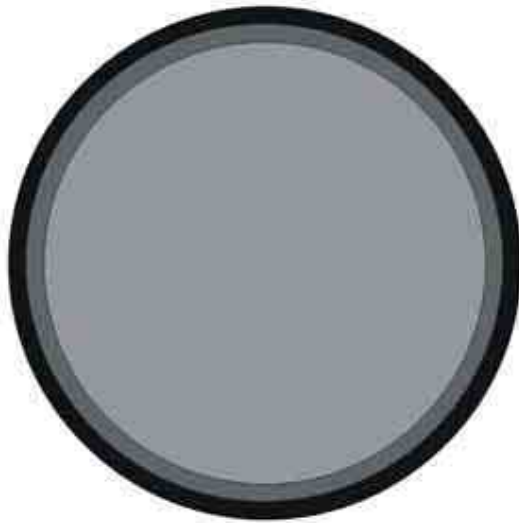
The first layer is the incomprehensible Ayin, "No-Thing".



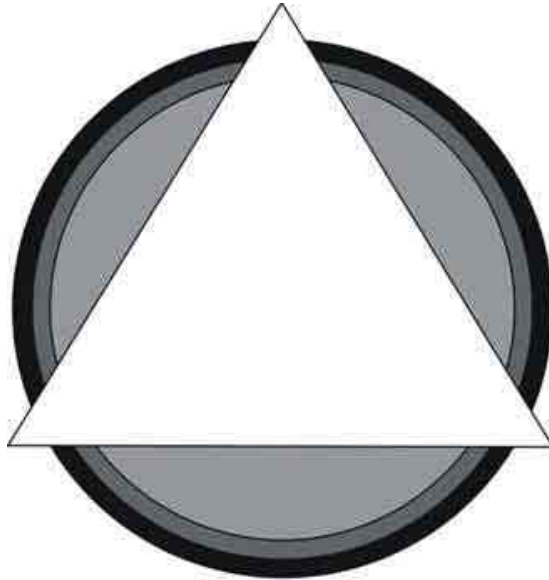
The second layer represents the Ayin Soph, "No-Limit".



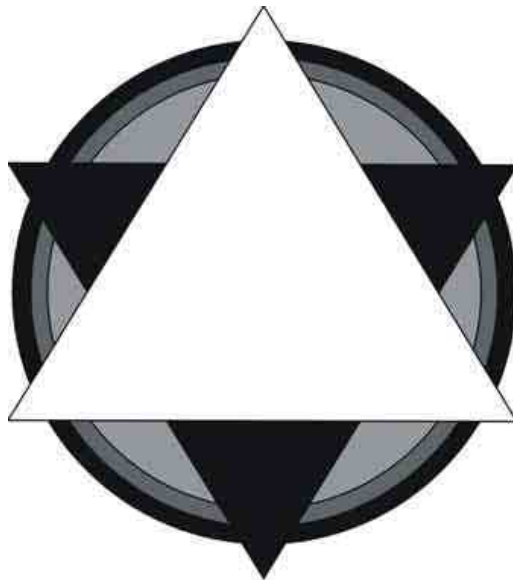
The third layer represents the Ayin Soph Aur, "Limitless Light".



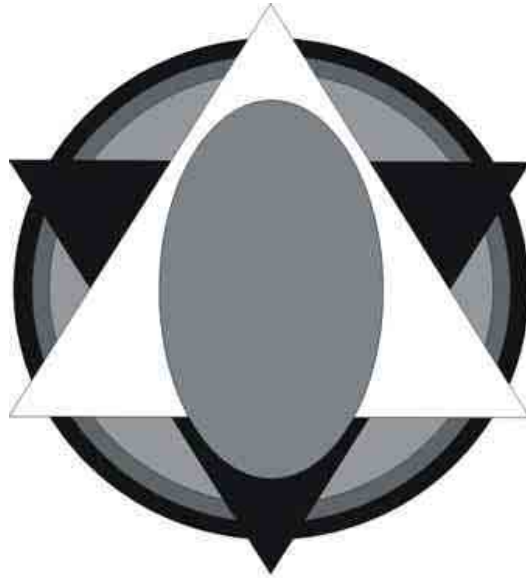
As this Limitless Light constricts, the World of Atziluth (the Archetypal or Akashic Realm) comes into being, represented here by the symbol of the Macro- and Microcosm, with its two triangles. First comes the upward pointing white triangle of the Macrocosm, Archetypal Force, the Electric Fluid.



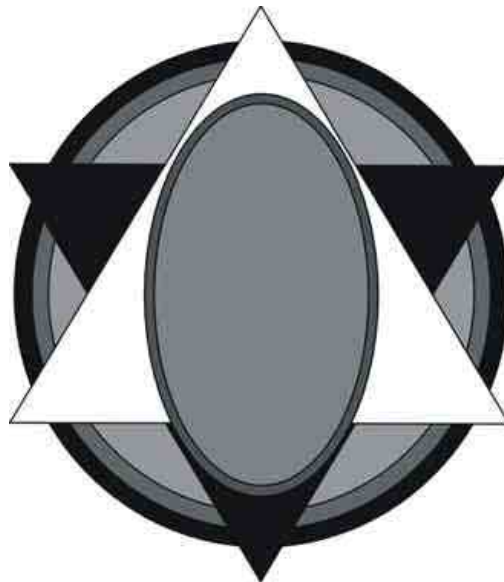
To this is added its mate, the downward pointing black triangle of the Microcosm, Archetypal Form, the Magnetic Fluid.



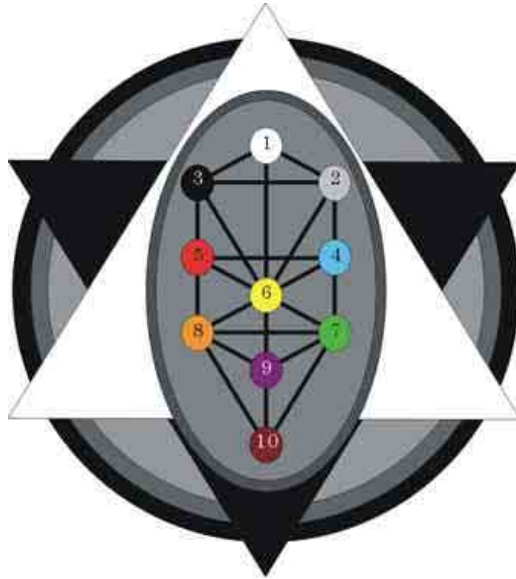
With the advent of the Archetypal Realm of Atziluth, the Mental Realm of Briah ("Creation)" emerges, represented here by two ovals. The first oval is gray and represents Chokmah ("Wisdom"), the second Sephira of the Tree of Life which defines the beginning of the Briatic World.



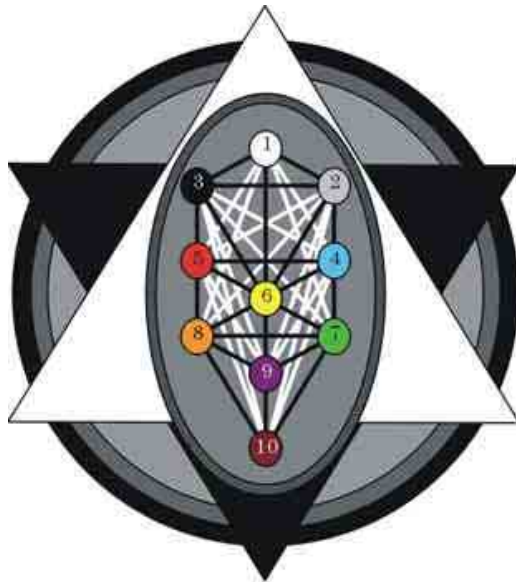
The second oval is very dark and represents Binah ("Understanding"), the third Sephira of the Tree of Life which defines the lower limit of the non-sequential realm of Briah.



Together, Chokmah and Binah are the Elohim who give life to the "32 Paths of Wisdom", which take form in the Astral World of Yetzirah ("Formation") as the Tree of Life.



As the Elohim breathe Life into these 32 Paths of Wisdom, sixteen unspoken, hidden and secret Paths emerge to compliment and fulfill the 32.

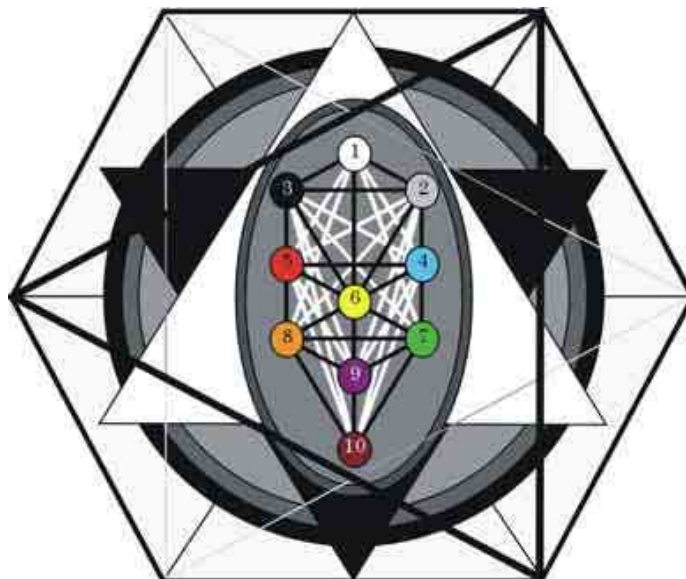


The fulfillment produced by this joining of the spoken and the unspoken, releases the 231 Gates and results in the Material Realm of Assiah ("Making"), represented here by the crystalline structure which encases the Tree glyph.

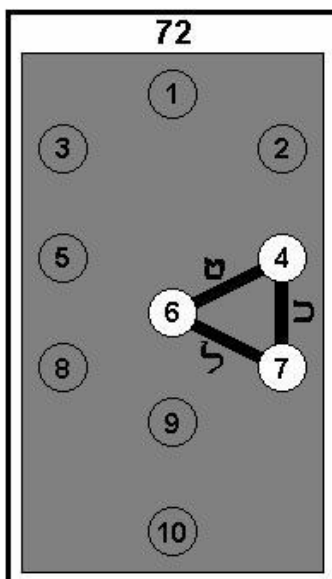


The Sephirotic Crystal expresses the number six, that of Tiphareth ("Beauty"), in several of its aspects. In fact, the Sephirah Tiphareth, with its yellow sphere and number six, sits at the exact center of the entire glyph. Each point of the hexagram, with the Sun (the planet associated with Tiphareth) at its center, represents one of the ancient planets: Saturn, Jupiter, Mars, Venus, Mercury and Moon. Two opposing hexagrams which form a twelve-sided figure, such as can be inferred here, represent the Sun's passage through the twelve signs of the Zodiac. These are the Philosophical "building blocks" of the Material Realm or Assiatic World.

To this, are added two final ingredients which complete the Sephirotic Crystal image, symbolized by the cut surface of the crystal. The first of these is a left-pointing triangle.

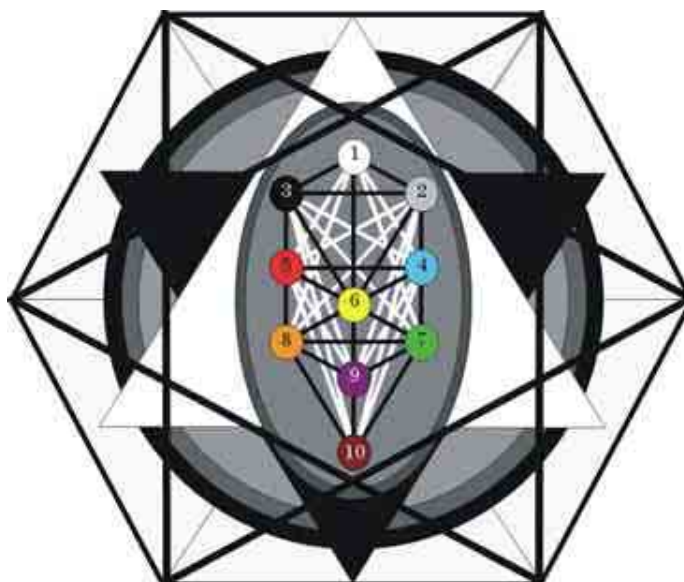


Whereas the upward-pointing white triangle of the Macrocosm represented the Electric Fluid and thereby, the Element Fire; and the downward-pointing black triangle, the Magnetic Fluid and thereby, the Element Water; this left-pointing triangle represents the Element Air. It also represents the 72nd Gate of Initiation (from "BOOK 231") which blends the Pillar of Mercy (the sephirot, Chesed/Jupiter and Netzach/Venus) with the central Sephirot, Tiphareth/Sun.

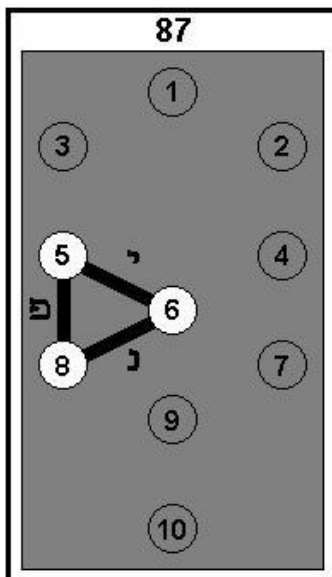


This Gate forms the Hebrew phrase Kaph-Lamed-Teth, which means "as a covering or veil".

The final ingredient of the Sephirotic Crystal is a right-pointing triangle, formed by the completion of the surface cutting.



This triangle represents the Element Earth and thus finalizes the form of the Sephirotic Crystal. It also represents the 87th Gate of Initiation, which blends the Pillar of Severity (the sephiroth, Geburah/Mars and Hod/Mercury) with the central Tiphareth/Sun.



The Hebrew Letters of this Gate form the word, Peh-Nun-Yod, which means "a face".



The Sephirotic Crystal symbolizes the conscious unification of all the layers of BEing, manifest within the temporal present-moment of the material realm, hence its association with *The Magic of IHVH-ADNI* and *The Eight Temples Meditation Project*.