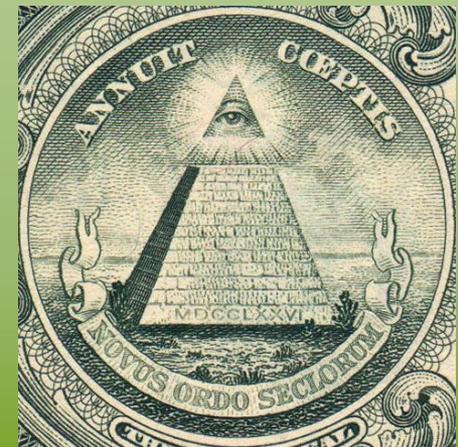




Tracking the Ancient Mysteries from Egypt to the Founding of America

Lecture 12: Rosicrucians and Mystics Of the Renaissance



Outline



- **Lectures 1 – 5:** Conceptual foundations, Egypt, Greece, The Temple Legend, Vanishing of the Mysteries
- **Lectures 6 – 10:** Early Christian Mysteries, Faith versus Knowledge, Charlemagne, Knights Templars, Cathars
- **Lectures 11 – 15:** Leonardo, **Rosicrucians and Mystics of the Renaissance**, Founding of America, Freemasonry, Mysteries for the Future

3 Keys To Remember



1. Fruits of the Cathars (and Bogomils and Paulicians and all the way back to Mani and the Gnostics and even to Delphi) flows into Rosicrucian stream “Know Thyself”
2. As Cathars and Templars are to the closing of the Aries period, the Rosicrucians are to the beginning (1413) of the Pisces period and the Renaissance
3. Rosicrucians develop a new Christian initiation specifically for our times

The Grail Legend



- King Titurel was the guardian of the Grail and the reincarnation of the high initiate who was supposed to prepare things for a certain historical period
- While the Christ was active in the middle East, this high initiate whose role was to the people of northern Europe prepared in the spiritual world
- He later incarnated to bring the importance of the Christ event to mankind
- This incarnation of the high initiate in the legend of the Holy Grail has angels carrying **from east to west** and floating above the Grail Castle
- Charlemagne was the reincarnation of a high, East Indian adept and an instrument of the spiritual individuality that's symbolized by the name Titurel
- An old French legend, Floire et Blanchflor, was inspired by Titurel
- Floris and Blancheflur are called Charlemagne's spiritual parents
- They inspired people who were connected with the mystery center

Grail Initiation



- Titurel attracted pupils who were all called Parzival
- A Parzival had to free himself from all worldly influences that drag one down; through appropriate exercises he became a “Cathar”
- When Parzival, who at this stage would call himself a purified one, stepped before his master Titurel who let him use the forces that he'd developed through catharsis for an intensive concentration
- The earth and everything on it disappeared before his eyes and gradually changed into the image of a tree that grew and from which a wonderful lily sprouted
- While a Parzival was immersed in this perception he heard the voice of Blanche-flur behind him — she symbolized herself in the lily, saying “You are that”
- The lily emitted a strong odor that Parzival found repulsive and he realized that this aroma symbolized all the things that he had set outside himself through catharsis, and that this still surrounded him like an atmosphere

Grail Initiation Experience



- Then the tree withered before him and it was replaced by a black cross with red roses sprouting out of it
- He heard the voice of Floris — whose symbol was the red rose that's strengthened in itself — behind him: “You shall become that”
- Parzival was then led into mountain solitude by Titurel to meditate on the mighty pictures that had been conjured up before him
- On a secluded peak he directed his gaze to the endless heavens above him, lowered it to the endless depths beneath him, looked to the front and rear, right and left into endless distances, and an indescribable feeling of reverence and devotion for the Godhead that revealed itself to him in every thing overcame him
- And he directed a prayer to it: “You great Enveloper, you whom I feel above and below and beside me, who is everywhere whether I look forward or backward — I would like to devote myself to you and merge with you”

Grail Initiation Feelings



- At the same time he felt another divine power who did not overpower him as much, who seemed to lead him into himself and seemed to give him a center there
- And he felt a third force like a messenger of the great Enveloper who seemed to lead him in a circle around his center
- He felt that his left hand was grasped by a force that pressed like warmth through the arm, and another that announced itself through a feeling of cold

Basis for Rosicrucian Meditation



- Then the sky became dark for him and lost its outer light, and suddenly space lit up for him from within
- He had the feeling as if his head opened up like a chalice to divine light and in this light he saw the messengers of the Pan-enveloper who came towards him from above, and through the radiant light that stood above him like a star and sent its shine deep into him he heard their voice that said to him: “This is the light of the Father, out of which you were born”
- And he realized that to become worthy of this birth he would have to transform the green lily tree into the dry wood of the cross in himself, just as the Christ had gone through death on the same, and that only thereby hope could blossom in him to be resurrected in the Holy Spirit:

Ex Deo nascimur

In Christo morimur

Per Spiritum Sanctum reviviscimus.

Why Meditate?



- Develop new organs of perception
- Perform deeds out of wisdom & love that lead to divine goals
- Astral body organs that use the Life (Ethereic) body to record so that you can remember the experience (otherwise it is merely a dream)
- Develop a science of spirit
 - Truth (set you free) and Error
 - Dangers on the path: Lucifer and Prince of Darkness
 - Moral character of utmost importance, resist temptations
 - Perform Good deeds in service to good spiritual beings – be aligned with the Divine Goal of Humanity (the Meaning of Life, i.e. the Logos)
- Prayer (pull down) and Meditation (move up)



Dead	Asleep	Awake	Meditating
[Ego, Astral, Etheric] + [Physical]	[Ego, Astral] + [Etheric, Physical]	[Ego, Astral, Etheric, Physical]	[Ego, Astral] + [Etheric] + [Physical]
Physical → Mineral	Life (etheric) stays with physical	Life (etheric) stays with physical	Life (etheric) loosens from physical
Etheric → Life Review, Akashic	Astral seeing is not remembered	Astral seeing is remembered – senses	Astral seeing is remember – chakras

Rose Cross Meditation



- Beginning – where you are! Like a vortex, use concentration
- How? Awaken hidden soul faculties using thought-pictures
 - Sense-free pictures, use memory, form symbolic pictures – example
- Plants – how are they different from Mankind?
 - Head in the Earth vs in the Heavens
 - Chaste vs Desires, Stationary vs Mobile – which is more perfect? Freedom?
 - Picture green sap – compare to red blood – pure red rose symbol
 - Pay attention here to your feelings that arise
- Picture a black (wooden) cross
 - Picture 3 red roses in a triangle at the top of the intersection, then add 4 more in a square below
 - Then picture the 7 red roses become a circle
 - Let it hover before you as a living picture and allow your feelings to flow
 - What is your cross? What is your sacrifice? The red roses: your new life
- Recall the feelings with future meditations, periodically renew
- For more, read [here](#)



Like Cathars, Rosicrucians were

- Purists
- Pacifists
- Vegetarians
- Ascetics
- Humble – never ascribed their own names to their works
- Consistent in their devotion

Unlike Cathars, Rosicrucians

- No one stood out – blended in society
- Operated in Secret

What is Known?



- Because Secret Group: very little, yet still a lot
 - No member revealed
 - Nothing to distinguish a member, no robes
 - One should be a part of every day life
- We "addict ourselves to the true Philosophy and lead a Christian life"
- If secret, what do we know about them?
 - Answer:
 1. Three anonymous Books
 2. Work of Rudolf Steiner

The Three Books



- 1. Fama Fraternitatis** published in 1614 in Kassel, Germany
 - Story of the "Father C.R." (later referred to in the text as "C.R.C.") and his ill-fated pilgrimage to Jerusalem; his subsequent tutelage by the secret sages of the east, the wise men of Damcar in Arabia, from whom he learned the ancient esoteric knowledge which included the study of physics, mathematics, magic and kabbalah; his return through Egypt and Fes, and his presence among the alumbrados in Spain. It is thought in occultism that Rosenkreuz's pilgrimage seems to refer to transmutation steps of the Great Work.
 - After his arrival to Germany, Father C.R. and other Brothers established an esoteric Christian Fraternity: "The Fraternity of the Rose Cross". The Brothers of the Fraternity were sent in mission throughout the world, having as their first priority the use their knowledge to cure the sick free of charge ("gratis"), not wearing any special clothing, and met once each year in the mysterious "House of the Holy Spirit"

The Three Books



2. **Confessio Fraternitatis** printed in Kassel (Germany) in 1615
 - "We speak unto you by parables, but would willingly bring you to the right, simple, easy and ingenuous exposition, understanding, declaration, and knowledge of all secrets."
3. **The Chymical Wedding of Christian Rosenkreutz (anno 1459)** edited in 1616 in Strasbourg
 - Anonymous but often attributed to Johann Valentin Andreae
 - Described as the third of the original manifestos of the mysterious "Fraternity of the Rose Cross" (Rosicrucians)
 - Allegoric romance taking place over Seven Days (like Genesis) and tells us about the way Christian Rosenkreutz was invited to go to assist the Chymical Wedding of a king and queen
 - The Constitutions of the Freemasons of Strasbourg was first signed in Regensburg on Easter Day 1459
 - The word "chymical" is an old form of "chemical" and refers to alchemy

Effects on Europe and America



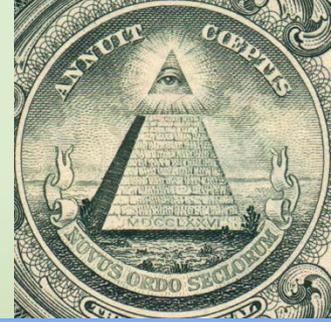
- The appearance of the three books caused a sensation in Europe
 - Many sought to join (but never found a group)
 - Many tried to emulate (how they imagined them to live)
- Cultural Life (awakened by Troubadours) Developed
 - Arts
 - Sciences
 - Religion – new initiation for new times
- 15th C: Seeds for Renaissance (Florence)
- 16th C: Seeds for Calvinism, Reformation
- 17th C: Seeds for settlements and Goals for America

Rosicrucian “Creed”



- None of them should profess any other thing than to cure the sick, and to do that gratis
- None of the posterity should be constrained to wear one kind of habit, but to follow the custom of the country
- Every year, upon the day C., they would meet together at the house *Santi Spiritus*, or write the cause of their absence
- Every Brother should seek a worthy person to succeed him after his death
- The word CR should be their seal, mark, and character
- The Fraternity should remain secret one hundred years

The Treasure of Montsegur



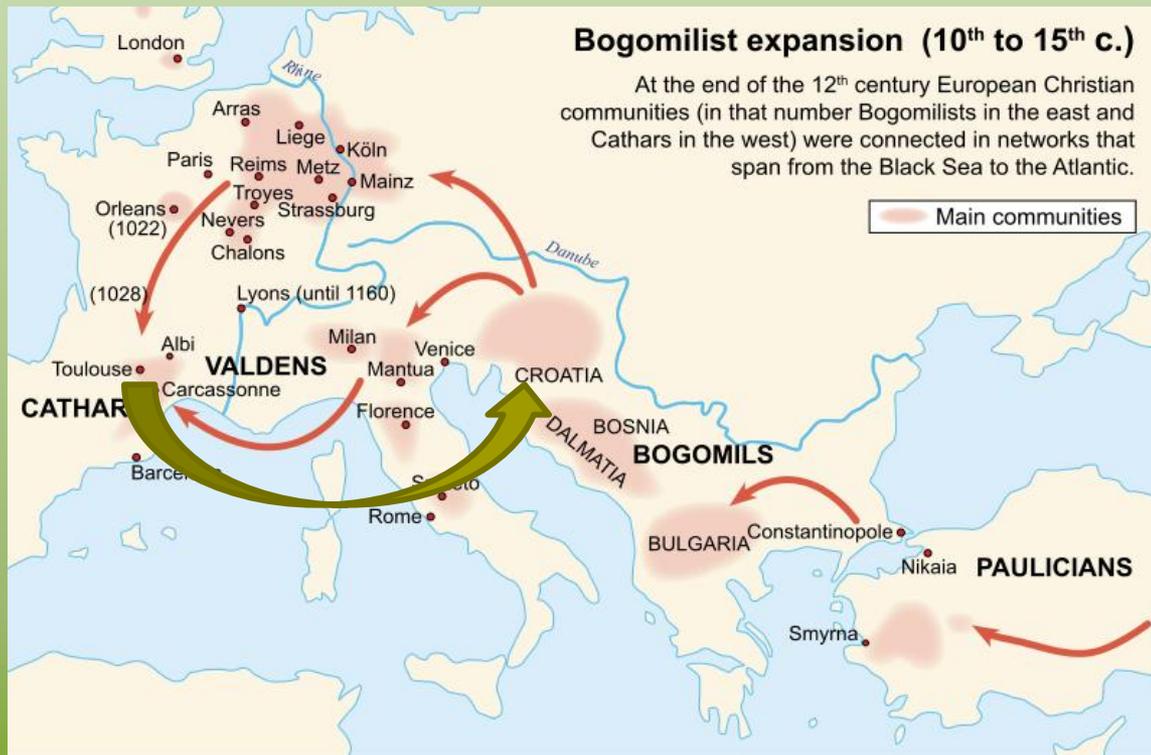
- 1244: Another Crusade was called to finish the job and this was to be headed by King Louis of France – Cathars fled to Montsegur where a siege lasted ten months
- When they surrendered, they were given 15 days to prepare for their burning
- In those 15 days they fasted and prayed and prepared to save the treasure
- The child of Montsegur would one day become Christian Rosencreutz – he escaped with the help of 4 Cathars on 3/12/1244
 - At night, via ropes down the steep precipice, through secret passageways
 - They travelled to a Templar monastery at the foot of the Pyrenees
 - Here the child underwent an initiation by twelve initiates who possessed all the wisdom of the past and of their time but this child would die young
- On 3/16/1244, 215 Cathars descended from the citadel singing and holding hands, knowing their treasure was safe, made their way to a waiting pyre in a field that became known as the Field of the Cremated



Treasure Travels to Croatian Area



- Languedoc: Northern Italy to mid-France to Spain
 - Major European crossroads important for natural materials
- Language: Occitan
 - Langue d'oc - "the Language of Oc"
- Spain – Moors
- Likely traveled by sea
- Trained with 12 initiates
- Then died – Etheric preserved – every 100 years



Founding of the Rosicrucians



- According to Rudolf Steiner, the Mystery of the Founding of the Rosicrucian Order relates to the birth of Christian Rosenkreuz in the 13th century, and his later rebirth early in the 14th century
- Max Heindel, a Rosicrucian Initiate, sets the Foundation of the Order of the Rose Cross in 1313
- Freemason Albert Pike, metaphysician René Guénon, and the scholar Manly Palmer Hall, claim the "Adepts of the Rose-Croix" are already expounded in Dante's (1265–1321) *The Divine Comedy*

Evolution of the Mysteries



- Initiation changes for each cosmic period
- Bull → Aries (749BC) → Pisces (1413)
- CR (the Cathars' treasure of Montsegur) is educated by the Twelve in, roughly, 1250 but dies young
- CR now incarnates every century to guide humanity
- New form of Initiation
 - Christian Initiation of Aries Period
 - Cathars used Lord's Prayer (evening) and John's Gospel (morning)
 - New Initiation of Pisces Period



Pater Noster (aka Lord's Prayer)

- Used in Cathar ceremonies, especially initiations

Our Heavenly Father, Thou Art

Thy name, **be** hallowed

Thy kingdom, **be** present

The will, **be** done

As this is in the Heavens, so also on the Earth

Give unto us this day our supersubstantial (daily) bread

Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors

Lead us not into temptation

And deliver us from the Evil

For thine is Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory, forever

Evening Prayer

Our Heavenly Father, thou art

Thy name, be hallowed

Thy kingdom, be present

Thy will, be done

For thine is the Kingdom,
the Power, and the Glory,
forever

And deliver us from the Evil

Lead us not into temptation

Forgive us our debts as we
forgive our debtors

Give unto us this day our
supersubstantial (daily) bread

As this is in the Heavens, so also on the Earth

Morning Meditation (from John)



In the beginning was the Logos;

And the Logos was with God;

A God was the Logos;

This same one was with God in the very beginning.

Through Him all becoming-things were made;

Not one becoming-thing was made without Him.

In Him is life;

Life is the light of men;

The light shines in the darkness;

And the darkness has not comprehended it.

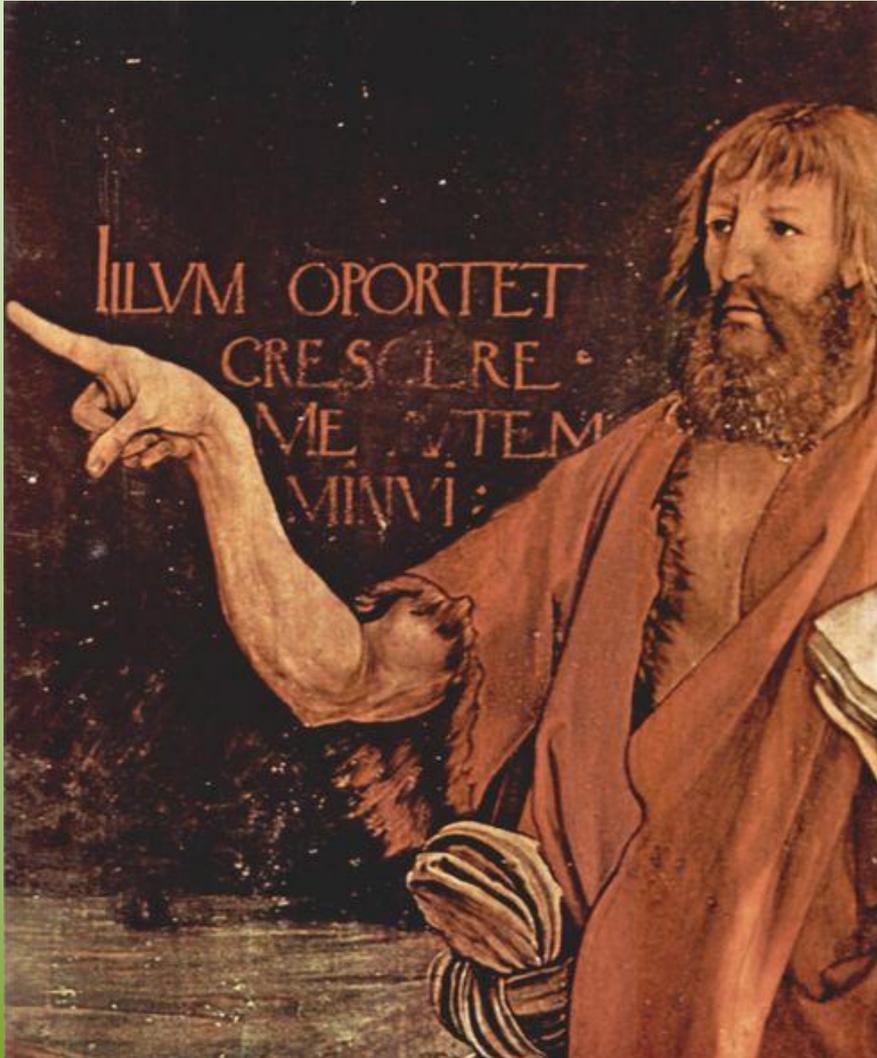
Early Christian Initiation Path



Pursued by an awakening of the feelings:

1. Washing of the Feet: Gratitude for lower, wash the other
2. The Scourging: strongly meet life's sorrows
3. Crowning with Thorns: upright despite scorn & mockery
4. Crucifixion: body only an external vehicle in life
5. Mystic Death: Descent into Hell – Rending of the Veil
6. Burial and Resurrection: those who eat my bread tread me underfoot – union with the Earth
7. Ascension: Consciousness of an angelic being arises

He Must Increase



- Mystery of Lazarus
- We can come to know
- Be present – even at the crucifixion – grasp the mystery of Golgotha
- Become perfect
- Paul's theology “No longer I but Christ in me”
- Matthias Grünewald (1470 – 1528)

New, Modern Initiation Path



1. Study – training in sense-free thinking
2. Development of Imagination – symbolic images for soul moods, for Nature & Earth, plant as upside-down human
3. Learning the Esoteric Script – astrology, reading and imitating the inner streams of nature and history
4. Discovery of the Philosopher's Stone – enables a pure one to live on breathing like a plant, becoming transparent
5. Human as Microcosm of Macrocosm – Self Knowledge, 3rd eye
6. Living into the Macrocosm – recognize Creator in all things
7. Recognition of Divine Blessedness – living into every thing w/clarity

The selfishness of humanity would grossly misuse the secrets herein

How Did They Work?



- At least four would gather
- One would be the Crosser of the Threshold
- One would be the Guard
- The others would be the Scribes (record the revelations)

Some Possible Rosicrucians



- Francis Bacon (1561 – 1626) the author of all 3 books
 - English philosopher, statesman, scientist, jurist, orator, essayist, and author
 - Leading advocate of the scientific method during the scientific revolution, creator of empiricism, inductive methodologies for scientific inquiry
 - Bacon was knighted in 1603
 - Karmic connection to Harun al Rashid
 - Not to be confused with Roger Bacon (c. 1214–1294) (scholastic accolade Doctor Mirabilis, meaning "wonderful teacher"), English philosopher and Franciscan friar, scientific method: study of nature through empirical methods inspired by Aristotle and Muslim scholars
- William Shakespeare (1564 – 1616)
- Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749 – 1832)
 - “As long as you have not
Died and been reborn,
You are but a gloomy guest
Upon the darkened earth.”
 - *Fairy Tale of the Green Snake and the Beautiful Lily* contains secrets revealed for our times

The Green Snake and the Beautiful Lily – J. W. Goethe



- Published 1795
- “Born out of Goethe's reading of The [Chymical Wedding of Christian Rosenkreutz](#) and it is full of esoteric symbolism” – Wikipedia [article](#) on the fairy tale
- “On the river stands the Temple in which the marriage of the Young Man with the Lily takes place. The ‘marriage’ with the supersensible, the realisation of the free personality, is possible in a human soul whose forces have been brought into a state of regularity that in comparison with the usual state is a transformation.” – Rudolf Steiner, [Goethe's Standard of the Soul](#)
- Both Schiller and Goethe recognized that freedom cannot be ‘imposed’ from the outside but must arise from within each person
- Goethe set about writing a Fairy Tale that would show, in imaginative pictures, the way in which a human soul could become whole and free, thereby giving rise to a new and free human community – Tom Raines [Goethe's 'Fairy Tale'](#)" in *New View* magazine, 2003

Cultural Imprint



- Deemed best way after 14th C for lasting change
 - Development of the Intellectual Soul complete
 - Now the development of the Consciousness Soul
- Knights Templar with Gothic cathedrals
- Troubadours (Cathars) – story telling
- Fairy Tales
- Painting
- Music
- Poetry
- Drama

Schiller: “Only through the dawn of beauty do you penetrate to the land of knowledge.”

Some People to Investigate



Homework Mystery Studies



Count St. Germaine

- 1459: Mani initiates Christian Rosencreutz to be the Great Master of our Age
- "The highest knowledge is that we know nothing."
 - -Brother Christian Rosycross, Knight of the Golden Stone. Anno 1459.
- "This initiation "Knight of the Golden Stone" and all that it entails (about the true understanding of the nature of evil) will have to remain completely hidden from the majority for a long time to come"
 - -Rudolf Steiner
- 1712: The child is born again as Count St. Germaine, dies 1784 after greatly influencing 18th C European nobility



Theosophy: Sir Francis Bacon, Ascended Master, *I Am Discourses*

Frederick the Great



- (1712 – 1786) was King in Prussia (1740–1786)
- Lover of poetry, music, and the arts
- Joined the Freemasons in 1738
- Frequented the courts and palaces of Spain and France in the latter part of the 18th C
- His mission?: courier distributing and delivering certain manuscripts and objects d'import to the various members of the (secret) Société de la Rose-Croix
- Of Frederick, Goethe wrote “Well, we had not much to say in favor of the constitution of the Reich; we admitted that it consisted entirely of lawful misuses, but it rose therefore the higher over the present French constitution which is operating in a maze of unlawful misuses, whose government displays its energies in the wrong places and therefore has to face the challenge that a thorough change in the state of affairs is widely prophesied. In contrast when we looked towards the north, from there shone Frederick, the Pole Star, around whom Germany, Europe, even the world seemed to turn ...”

Kasper Hauser

- 1812 – 1833, The Enigma of Europe
- Contemporary rumor: Kaspar was the hereditary prince of Baden who was born 29 September 1812 but died at 17 days
- The prince was switched by his wet nurse with a dead baby
- His mother was not allowed to see him
- He subsequently surfaced 16 years later in Nuremberg
- His parents may have been Charles, Grand Duke of Baden and Stéphanie de Beauharnais, cousin by marriage and adopted daughter of Napoleon
- His sisters were married to many of Europe's royal families
- Because Charles had no surviving male progeny, his successor was his uncle Louis, who was later succeeded by his half-brother, Leopold
- He was murdered to prevent him from enlivening German arts
- DNA testing in 2002 showed this royal link is possible





More Mystics for Research

Look for “Know Thyself”

- Meister Eckhart (1260–1327)
- Giordano Bruno (1548–1600)
- Jacob Boehme (1575–1624)
- Nicholas of Cusa (1401–1464)
- Agrippa (of Nettesheim) (1487–1535)
- Theophrastus Paracelsus (1493–1541)
- Valentin Weigel (1533–1588)
- Angelus Silesius (1624–1677)
- Basilius Valentinus (1565–1624)
- Emmanuel Swedenborg (1688 – 1772)
- William Blake (1757 – 1827)

Basil Valentine



Summary Points from Tonight



1. Fruits of the Cathars (and Bogomils and Paulicians and all the way back to Mani and the Gnostics and even to Delphi) flows into Rosicrucian stream “Know Thyself”
2. As Cathars and Templars are to the closing of the Aries period, the Rosicrucians are to the beginning (1413) of the Pisces period and the Renaissance
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Additional Material



Leading to the Middle Ages



- After Atlantis sank, great initiates led two main streams of people from west to east, one through Africa, the other through Europe
- Those who came to Asia through Africa produced the individuality that could take in the Christ light in the course of incarnations and developments
- In the northern stream a strong, sturdy stock arose among initiates that not only knew how to defy outer enemies but was also a match for psychic, demonic influences
- There were mystery centers throughout Europe – their existence is reported in the old sagas
- An esoteric school is concealed behind the legend of King Arthur
 - King Arthur was a high initiate who proclaimed the mystery wisdom to his pupils at his round table