



The Knights Templar II

Effects on European Culture
Renaissance Art

Andrew Linnell

Future Lectures



1. History and Mysticism of the Templars
2. Templar Influence on Renaissance Art – Christmas
3. Templar & Cathar Mysticism Streams into Freemasonry
4. Templar Influence on Renaissance Art – Easter
5. Templar and Christian Mysteries Summary

Outline of Tonight's Lecture



- Review: Rise and Fall of the Templars
- Three Templar Influences
 - Architecture – What do the Gothic and the round forms “say”?
 - Why did the Templars build cathedrals? Act of selflessness.
 - European Mysticism
 - Rediscovery of Greek culture and philosophy
- Early Renaissance Art
 - Florence – art center
 - Giotto, Fra Angelico, Raphael, Botticelli, and Da Vinci
- Discussion (if time allows): Rose line – Blood line
 - Themes from Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code*
- *Acknowledgment: William Mann, Prof. Art History, Emerson College, Forest Row, England*

Knights Templars: Short History



- Mysticism Streams of the Knights Templar
 - 700 BC Mystery Temples & Centers to Schools
 - Aristotle and Alexander
 - Persian King Shapur
 - Battles of old mysteries with new mysteries in early Christianity
 - Gnostics, Arius, Nestorius, Marcon, Mani – Nicea I
 - Mystical streams are forced underground, into secrecy. Aristotle pushed out.
 - Battles of Christian centers & sees (Constantinople, Antioch, Alexandria, Rome) – Pope and Patriarch excommunicate each other
 - Crusade and Inquisition against the Cathars in France
 - Rise of Islam and culture – e.g. Moors in Spain (Aristotle)
 - Charlemagne receives keys to holy sites from Harun al-Rashid
 - Pilgrimages to Jerusalem – insecurity led to First Crusade
 - Templar Discovery of Wisdom in site of Solomon's Temple
 - Development of multiple levels of initiation
 - Building European culture: cathedrals, schools, banking
- Fall of the Templars
 - Sack of Constantinople
 - Philip “the Fair” IV, King of France

Mystical Streams at the Dawn of Christianity



- Where goes the Mystery Center Wisdom?
 - Verbal passing of wisdom from heart to heart becomes impersonal written passing of knowledge
- The Role of Greek Culture – Transition to Roman
 - Plato and Aristotle – turning wisdom into graspable knowledge
 - Alexander sets up schools – rise of personal learning
 - Alexandria in Egypt
 - Other Kings set up schools (e.g. King Shapur)
- Rise of mystery groups/movements/religions
 - 333 BC to 333 AD, example: Essenes, Mithraism
 - Constantine, conform, conquer those not the same
- Early Christians: Christ brought new mysteries to replace the dying ones – key Mystery of Golgotha

Terminology & Concepts for Tonight



Soul Principles

- Consciousness – Dianetikon
- Intellectual – Kinetikon
- Sentient – Orektikon
- Ego
- Astral – Aisthetikon
- Etheric – Threptikon
- Physical – ?

Future Result

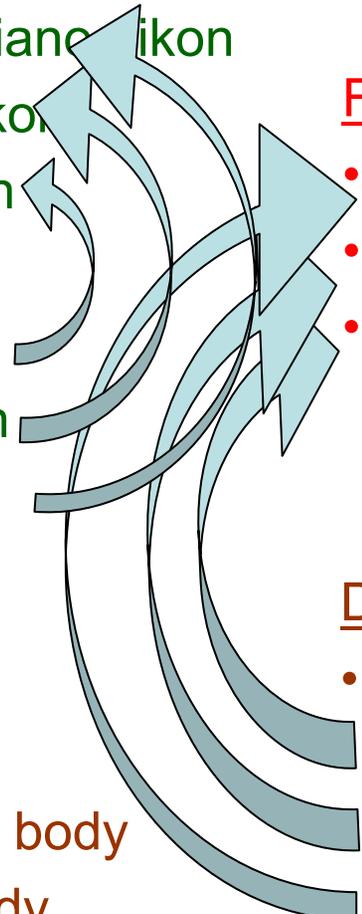
- Transformed Physical – Atman
- Transformed Etheric – Buddhi
- Transformed Astral – Manas

Base Principles

- Pneuma – Spirit
- Psyche – Soul
- Soma – Life/Etheric body
- Earth – Physical body

Development

- Ego – love of
- Astral – wisdom
- Etheric – beauty, (royal) art
- Physical – strength, will-power



Our Last Journey Spanned 2160 Years

Intellectual Soul



- Starts in roughly 700 BC (BCE)
 - Kali Yuga, Twilight of the Gods, Temple closings
 - Sun moves from Taurus to Aries
- Around 350 BC
 - Aristotle, burning of Ephesus, birth of Alexander
 - No longer being led by cosmic wisdom – now grasp wisdom
- Around 333 AD
 - Constantine and the start of Ecumenical Councils
 - Wisdom, knowledge, and Christianity's centers & sects
- Around 1000 AD
 - Pilgrimages, search for “the inner”, and the Crusades
- End around 1400 AD
 - Sun moves from Aries to Pisces → Renaissance

Buddha

570 yrs.

Christ

570 yrs.

Muhammad

Consciousness Soul

25,920 years = $72 \times 360 = 4 \times 18 \times 360$; $25920/360=72$, $72/24=3$ yrs = cosmic hr.

receiving
seeking
fixing
seeking

Rise of Personality and Conscience



- Earlier than 1000 BC (Sentient Soul)
 - Egyptian and Chaldean-Babylonian times
 - Great and powerful spiritual streams
 - Yet persons and individuals do not stand out from that which underlies those streams – gods do
- 700 years before Christ, exemplified in Greece (Intellectual Soul)
 - Early Greek did not feel himself to be a separate citizen, but a member of the organism of Athens, Sparta, or Thebes
 - Individual men of personal importance in spiritual life emerge
 - Socrates, Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, Plato, and Aristotle
 - Roman as an ego-being, stood firmly on his own ground as an individual
- From 0 AD to 1400 AD (Intellectual Soul and Conscience)
- After 1400 AD (Conscious Soul)
 - Greek culture re-emerges, time for the cultivation of the personality
 - Thomas Aquinas unites Christian & Aristotelian philosophies
 - Raphael, Michaelangelo, and da Vinci unite in the form of art
 - Europe: Christian Mysticism: man sought to draw Christ into his Ego

Renaissance Concept of Architecture

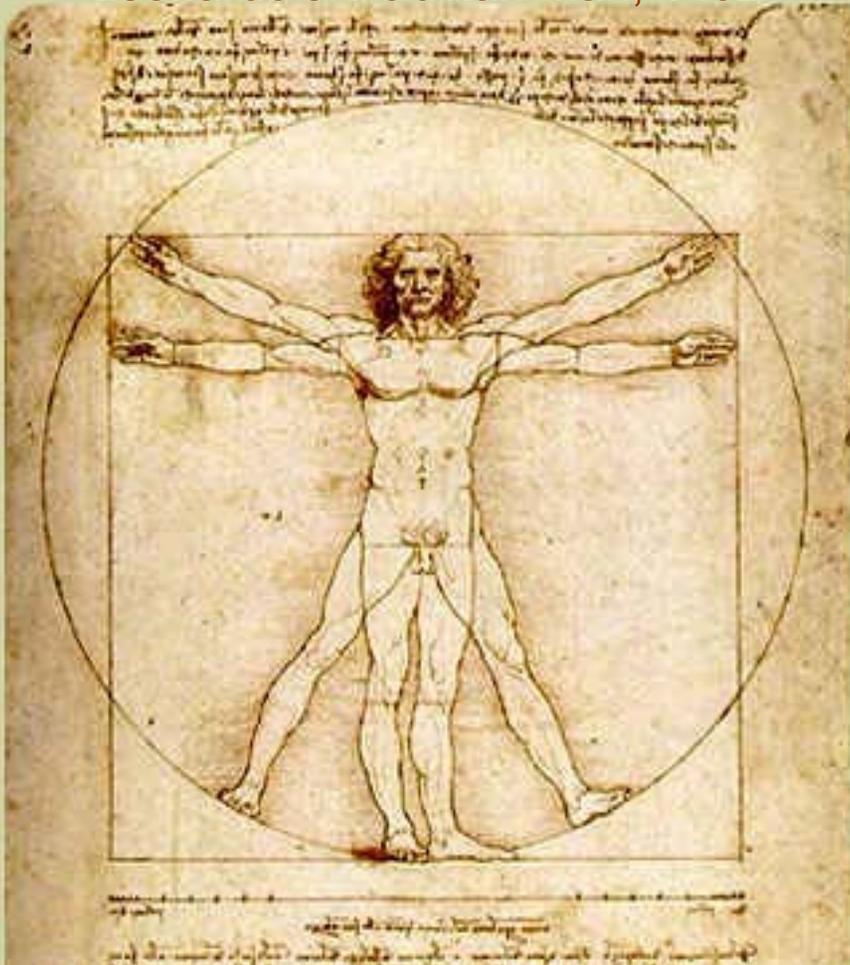


- Vitruvius (80 – 25 BC): Ten Books, *De Architectura*
 - Book III: the proportions of the human figure
 - Correlate ideal human proportions with geometry
 - Are the principal source of proportion among the orders of architecture
- Vitruvius' concept of the architect and his techniques
 - Essential elements in the education of a gentleman
 - The architect as master of all the arts and mystical wisdom
 - In 1624, playwright Ben Jonson wrote about the Architect:
 - “He has Nature in a pot! 'boue all the Chemists,
 - Or bare-breeched brethern of the Rosie-Crosse!
 - He is an Architect, an Inginer,
 - A Souldier, a Physitian, a Philosopher,
 - A general Mathematician..... “
- Architecture occupies an exalted position in Renaissance times
 - Knights Templars were the educators of Europe of Architecture
 - Designed and built the early Gothic cathedrals
- Two important elements of Freemasonry for the 17th century
 - Vitruvian architecture mingled with the Wisdom of the Temple Legend
 - Occult and mysticism from Knights Templars, Cathars, & Hermes Trismegistus
 - Clement of Alexandria wrote that the Egyptians had forty-two sacred writings by Hermes, encapsulating all the training of Egyptian priests – flowed into Gnosticism
 - Teacher of Pythagoras
 - Christian Rosencreutz

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hermes_Trismegistus

Architectural Concepts Flow into Painting

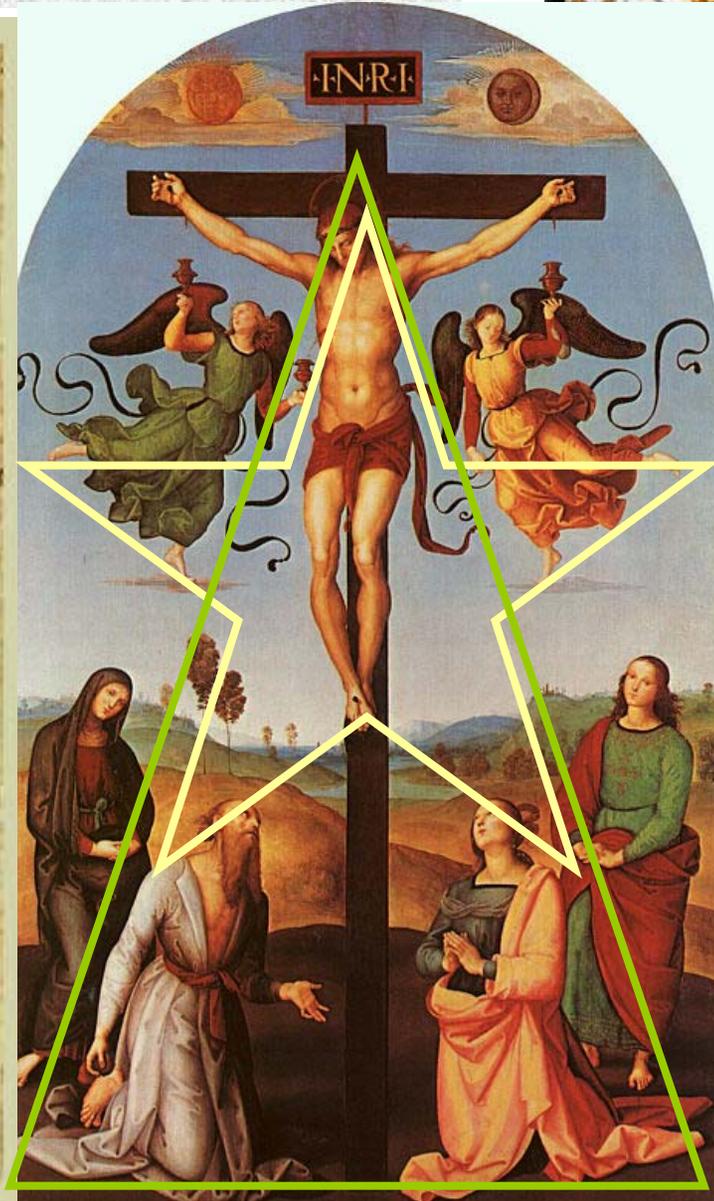
Leonardo's Vitruvian Man, 1492



“cosmografia del minor mondo”
(cosmography of the microcosm).



Raphael's
Crucifixion



Florence: The de Medici Family



- Medici family as examples of Personality
- Cosimo de Medici (1389-1464)
 - Worked to create peace in Northern Italy
 - Balance of power: Florence, Naples, Venice, & Milan
 - Discouraged outside powers (French & Holy Roman Empire)
 - In 1439 convinces pope to move the council to Florence
 - The arrival of figures from the Byzantine Empire, including Emperor John VIII started the boom of culture and arts
 - Cosimo was noted for his patronage of the arts
 - Patron and confidante of Fra Angelico, Fra Filippo Lippi, Donatello, and architect Brunelleschi
- Lorenzo de Medici (1449-1492)
 - Patron to Michaelangelo & Leonardo da Vinci
- Florence (all citizens) excommunicated 1478
 - Growth of Humanism
- Guilds and associations flourished in 12th-14th centuries
 - Arte dei Mercanti in 1182
 - Neo-Platonic Academy established by Marsilio Ficino
 - Rediscovered ancient philosophies and synthesized them with Christian theology

Path to Florentine Art's Glory



- Cimabue (1240 – 1302)
- Giotto (1267 – 1337)
 - Arena Chapel at Padua
 - West wall: Last Judgment, Chancel arch:
 - Main wall areas: 3 tiers of paintings. Scenes from:
 - The life of the Virgin Mary and her parents
 - St Anne and St Joachim, and
 - Events from the Passion of Christ
 - Below 7 Virtues & 7 Vices simulating stone reliefs
 - Church of S. Francesco at Assisi
- Fra Filippo Lippi (1406-1469) → Filippino Lippi
 - Scandalous love affair with a nun, Lucrezia Buti, who bore his son
 - Andrea del Verrocchio (1435-1488) and Sandro Botticelli (1444-1510)
 - Perugino
 - » Raphael
 - Ghirlandaio
 - » Michelangelo
 - Leonardo da Vinci



Giotto (1267 – 1337)



- Giotto di Bondone is generally considered the first in a line of great artists who contributed to the Italian Renaissance.
 - Discovered by Cimabue while Giotto was drawing pictures of his sheep on a rock
- The 16th-century biographer Giorgio Vasari says of him "...He made a decisive break with the ...Byzantine style, and brought to life the great art of painting as we know it today, introducing the technique of drawing accurately from life, which had been neglected for more than two hundred years."
- Giotto's masterwork is the decoration of the Scrovegni Chapel in Padua, commonly called the Arena Chapel, completed around 1305.
 - This fresco cycle depicts the life of the Virgin and the passion of Christ. It is regarded as one of the supreme masterpieces of the Early Renaissance.[



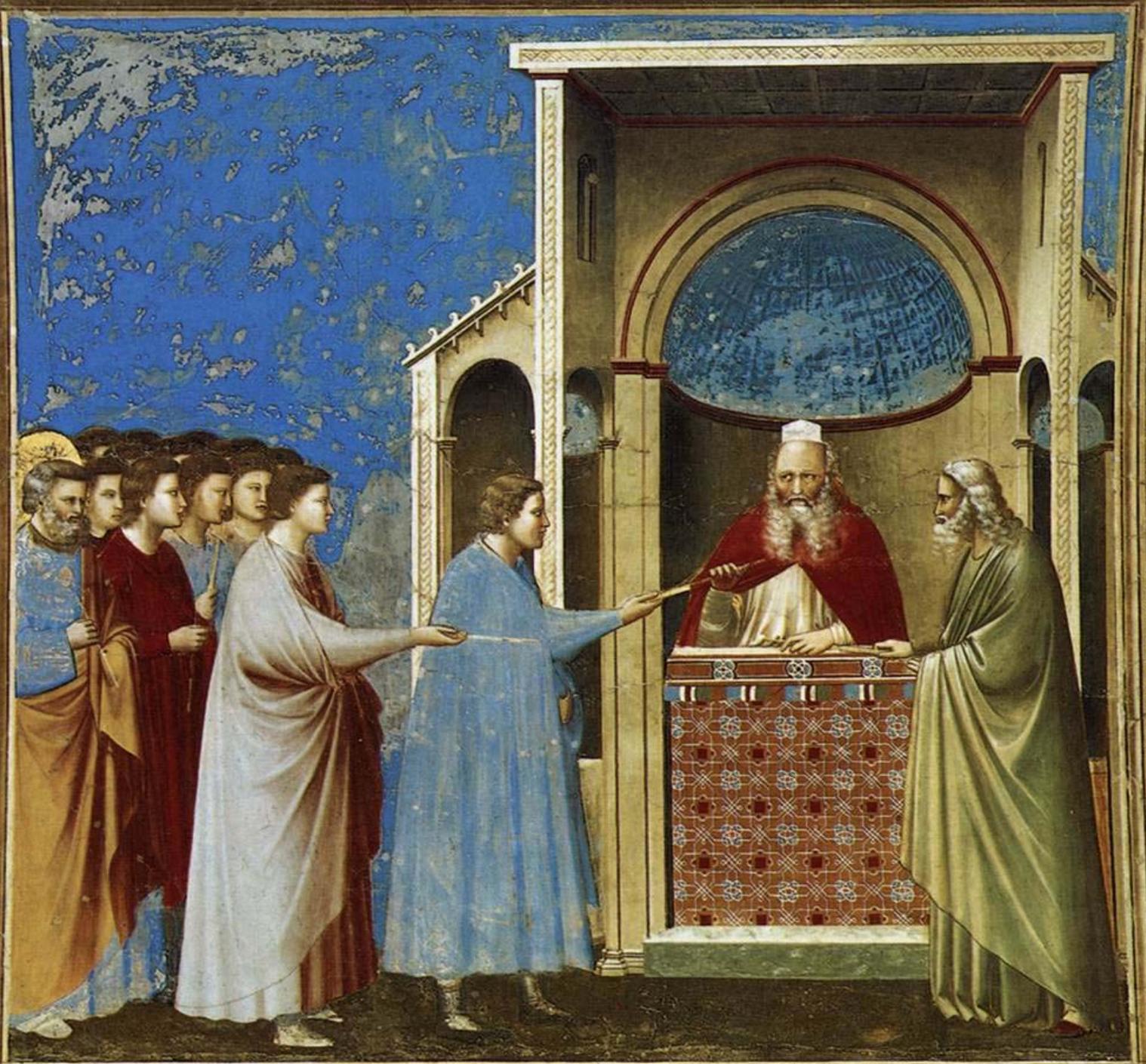
- Giotto
- Life of Joachim
- Joachim's Dream
- Arena Chapel, Padua



- Giotto
- Life of Joachim
- Meeting at the Golden Gate
- Joachim and Anne
- Arena Chapel, Padua



- Giotto
- Life of Virgin
- Presentation of the Virgin at the Temple
- Arena Chapel, Padua

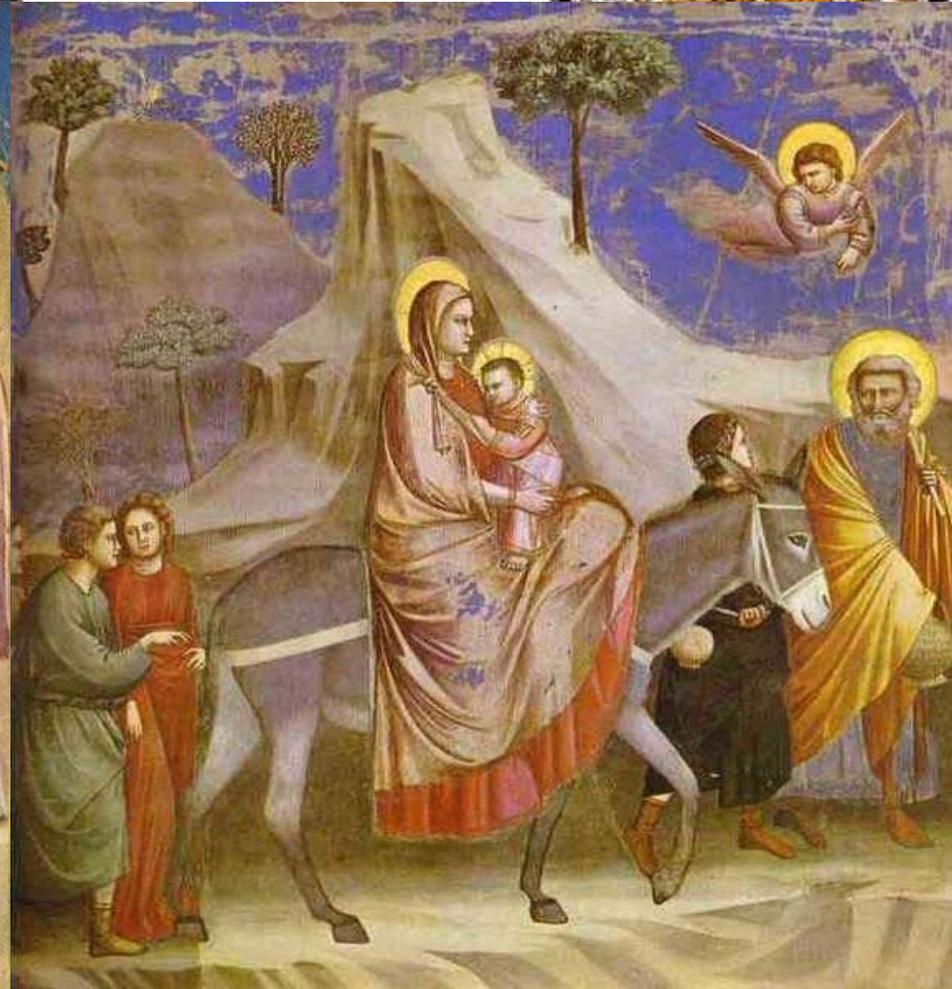


- Giotto
- Life of Virgin
- Presenting the Rods at the Temple
- Arena Chapel, Padua



- Giotto
- Life of Virgin
- Marriage of the Virgin
- Arena Chapel, Padua

Giotto: Adoration of the Magi, Flight to Egypt



Fra Angelico, 1395 – 1455



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Verrocchio, Madonna with Child



- Verrocchio
- Madonna with Child, c. 1470, New York, Metropolitan Museum of Art.



- Sandro Botticelli 1444-1510
- Mystical Nativity
- National Gallery, London
- Scrolls celebrate Mary:
 - 'Mother of God',
 - 'Bride of God',
 - 'Sole Queen of the World'
- Greek inscription at the top: 'I Sandro made this picture at the conclusion of the year 1500 in the troubles of Italy in the half time after the time according to the 11th chapter of Saint John in the second woe of the Apocalypse during the loosing of the devil for three and a half years then he will be chained in the 12th chapter and we shall see [...] as in this picture.'

Botticelli, Adoration of the Magi



1475



Cosimo de' Medici

Giovanni de' Medici

Lorenzo de' Medici

Giuliano de' Medici

Piero de' Medici

Botticelli

Raphael



- Born and died on the 6th of April, only 37
 - Good Friday both birth and death
- Rumored to have had strong appetite for sex
 - Death apparently from an overdose of sex, hid cause from doctor who prescribed wrong medicine.
- Learned art as a child from his father Giovanni Santi
- At 16 apprentice to Perugino
- At 25 called by Pope to Rome

Raffaello Santi



- Father, Giovanni Santi, dies when Raphael is 11
- Sistine Madonna discloses a mystery of existence
- Goethe in his travels to Dresden:
 - Officials of the Dresden Gallery: “We have also a picture of Raphael’s, but it is nothing particular. It is badly painted. The look of the Child, the whole Child itself, everything to do with the Child, is common”
 - Later Raphael’s pictures make a triumphal march through the world via reproductions made in England
- Demonstrates in art the impulses that lie in Christianity. Raphael is at his best where the Christ-relation appears as an impulse in feeling such as the Jesus-Child to the Madonna. These are the things which he really painted best.
 - No Crucifixion. Wherever he can paint the budding and germinating aspect, that which is self-revealing, he paints with joy and there he paints his greatest and best pictures
- Look for the lemniscate in the positions that follow:

Raphael: Dream of Scipio, Madonna

1504

1504



Raphael: Madonna and Child

1506



1504

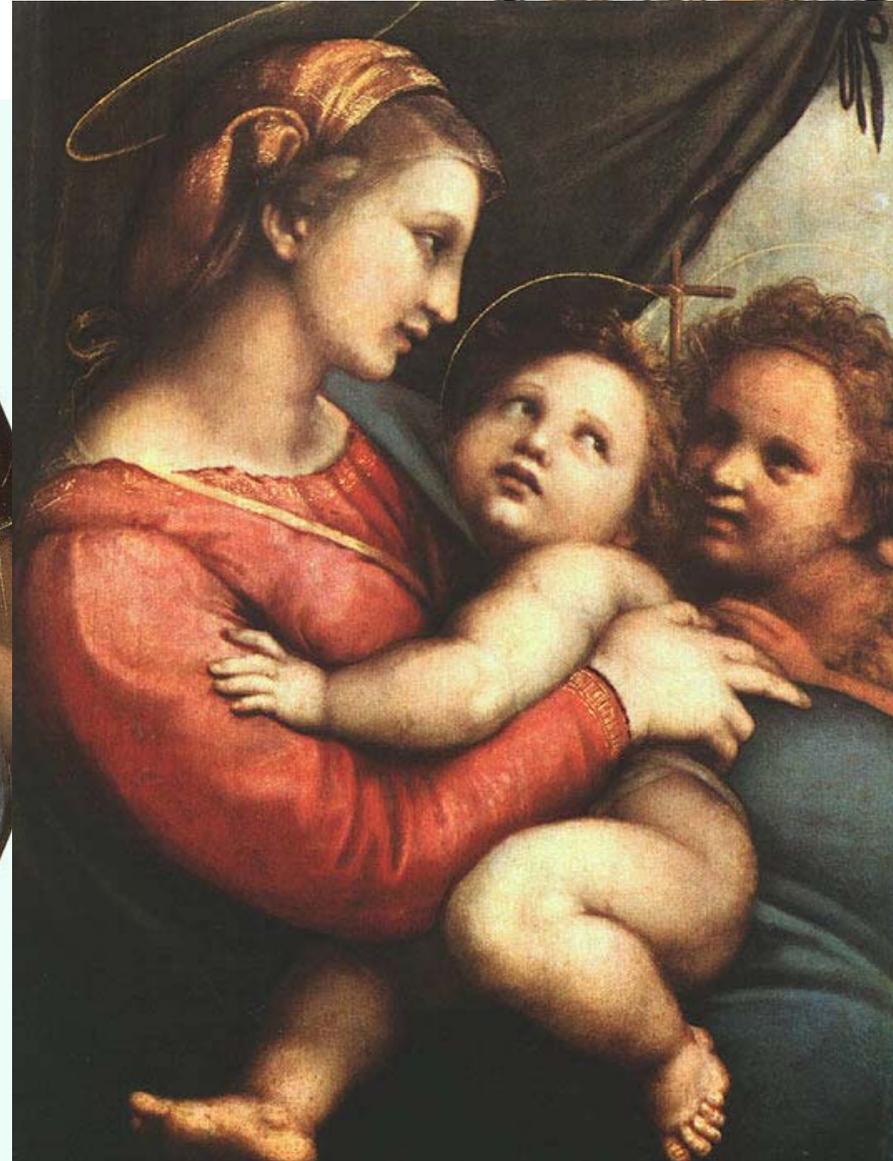


Raphael: Madonna and Child

1514



1518



Raphael: Madonna and Child

1503



1503



Raphael: Madonna and Child



1502



1509





1514



1506



Raphael: Madonna and Child

1503



1510



Raphael: Madonna and Child

1503



1506



1506



1507



Raphael: Holy Family

1518



1510



Raphael: Holy Family

1506



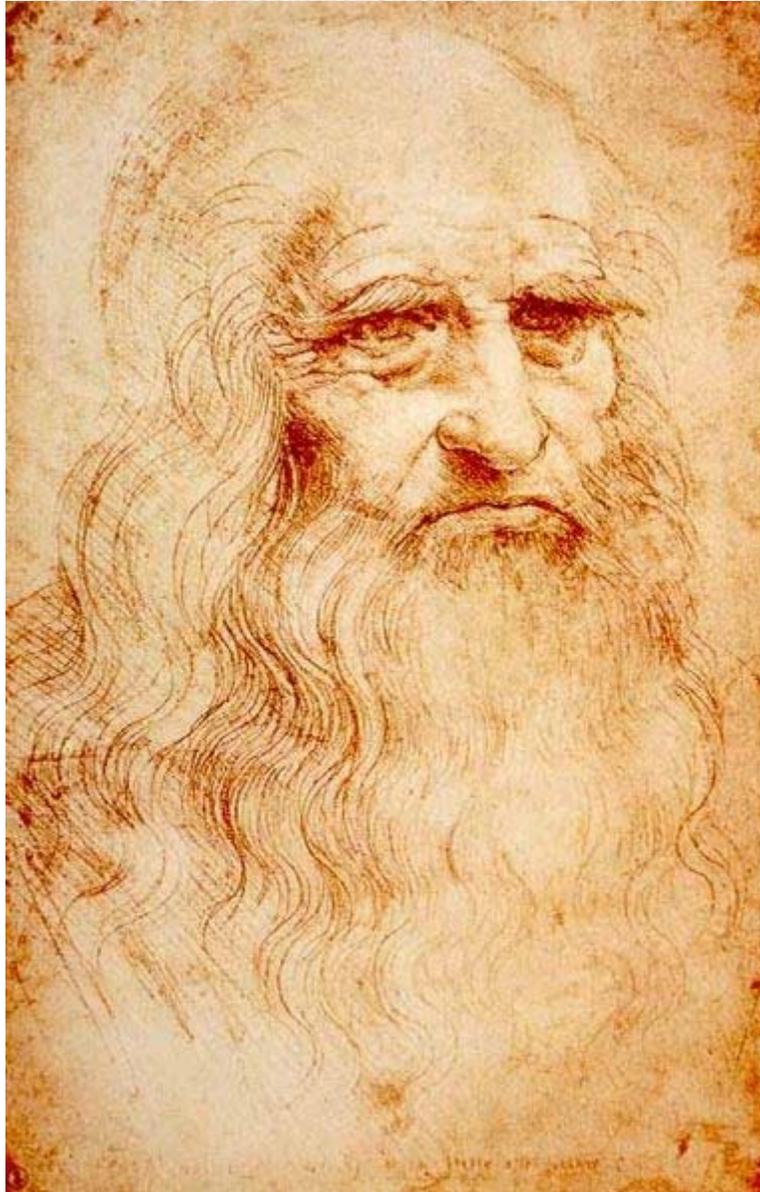
1507



Raphael: Holy Family



Leonardo da Vinci



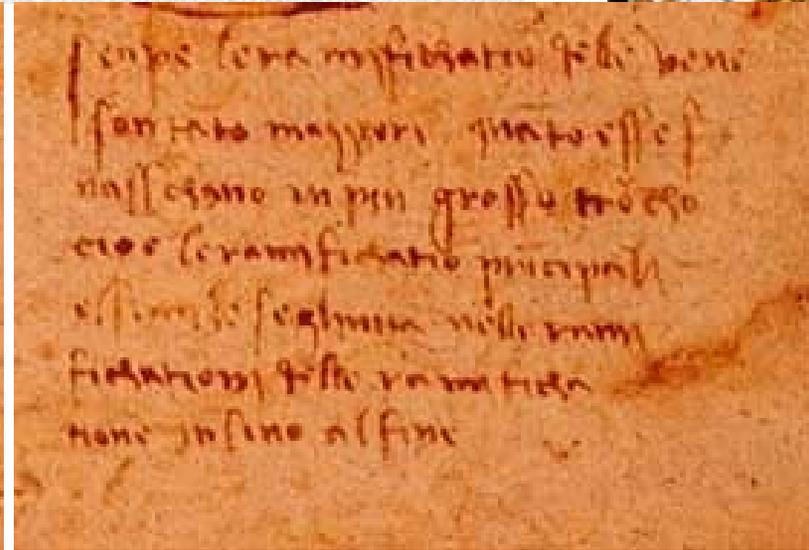
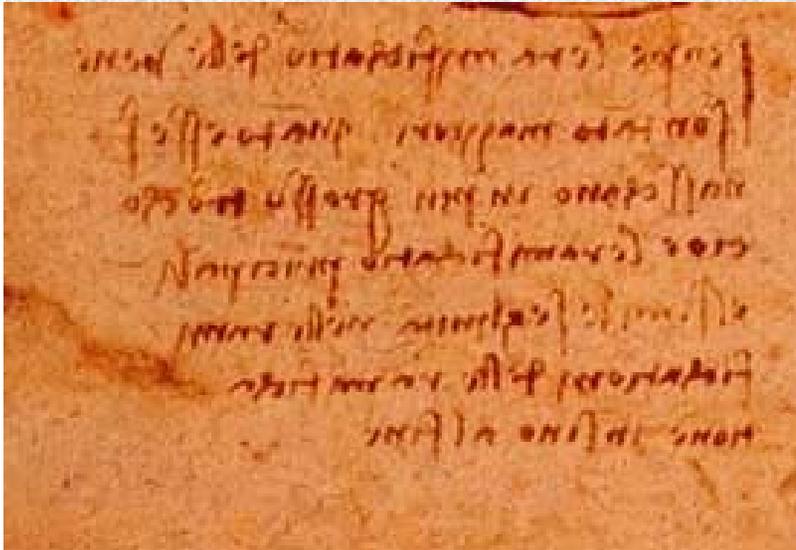
- 4/15/1452 – 5/2/1519
- Illegitimate son of a notary, Piero da Vinci, and a peasant girl, Caterina
- Inventions: helicopter, a tank, concentrated solar power, a calculator, automated bobbin winder, a machine for testing the tensile strength of wire, the double hull, and outlining a rudimentary theory of plate tectonics (Earth's mason)
- Scientist: greatly advanced the state of knowledge in the fields of optics, anatomy, civil engineering, and hydrodynamics

Leonardo da Vinci



- At 14, Leonardo was apprenticed to Verrocchio
 - One of the most successful artists of his day
- Other apprentices were Ghirlandaio, Perugino, Botticelli, and Lorenzo di Credi
 - Perugino becomes Raphael's teacher
 - Ghirlandaio becomes Michaelangelo's teacher
- Arrested for sodomy – never convicted (lucky for us)
- Vegetarian
- Picknett and Prince write in FT111 that although they "have grave problems with much of the authors' hypothesis" in *Holy Blood, Holy Grail*, "the relevant point here is that the ninth Grand Master of the Priory of Sion was, allegedly, Leonardo da Vinci."
- The Da Vinci Code (2003), author Dan Brown claims (in the section "Facts") that the Priory of Sion is "a European secret society founded in 1099" (other sources say 1090) for the purpose of restoring the Merovingian dynasty of Frankish kings. Brown got his information from *Holy Blood, Holy Grail* (1982) by Michael Baigent, Henry Lincoln, and Richard Leigh

Mirror Writing – What was this about?



- Practice for what one encounters in the Astral World
 - Time: Conclusion first then the sequence that led to conclusion
 - Sequence: End first then sequence to start
 - Number 7936 appears as 6397 (mirror)
- Exercise: before sleep, review the day in reverse
 - Food returns to the plate and then to the stove
 - Impressions flow back to their source

Recall Manichaeism: Uniting Religions

<http://www.cs.utk.edu/~mclennan/Classes/US310/Manichaeism.html>



- Founded in about 240 AD by Mani
 - Born as Corbicius in Babylon to Iranian parents; son of a widow
 - Grows up with a Jewish ascetic group known as the Elkasites
- Mani presented himself as an apostle of Jesus Christ
 - In the 4th century, Manichaean Coptic papyri identify Mani as the promised Paraclete (The Holy Ghost)
- Origin in India via Bodhisattva to Persia & Babylon to Mani
 - **Scythianus** of Alexandria, in India in 50 AD *"the Doctrine of Dualities"*
 - According to Cyril of Jerusalem, Scythianus' pupil **Terebinthus** was a Bodhisattva, lived in Palestine, then Babylon where he teaches Mani
 - **Uniting** Christianity, Gnosticism, Zoroastrianism, Buddhism, Hinduism, and Taoism
- Dualities: warmth-cold, light-dark, acid-alkaline, life-death
 - Macrocosm – Microcosm
 - Christ path is the middle path

Gnostic Legend of Light and Dark



- Manichaeism conceives of two previously coexistent realms of light and darkness which rises up against the light. The victorious light cannot, by its nature, punish the darkness. Thus, elements of the light are mixed with the darkness. This is the story of the Fall of Man
 - Sophia (Lucifer) is the “retarded” spirit who propagates this
- Material creation provides a balanced environment where mankind can choose the kingdom of light – or not.
- This dualistic philosophy originates from Zoroastrianism, in which the eternal spirit Ahura Mazda, the Sun God, is opposed by his antithesis, Angra Mainyu or Ahriman
 - Life on Earth is the battleground
 - Ahura Mazda is Christ. The Prince of Darkness is Ahriman.

Adam and Eve: Cain and Abel/Seth



- Beginning with Atlantean Epoch. Time when human souls not entering Earth
- Jehova, the Elohim that sacrificed his Sun existence to guide mankind from the moon sphere
- A body is created for an asexual human being. Later this is split for companionship: Adam & Eve
 - Then both male and female principles exist but not sexually defined
 - Now Lucifer first enters into mankind with the division of the sexes
 - As a result of this separation humankind becomes ego-bearing. This the Bible depicts as the 'Fall of Man'.
- Human beings fall, as it were, to the earth. That is, when Lucifer entered into man's Astral body, the human being was then suddenly able to see the world around him, independent of himself, he became an ego bearing being and for the first time was capable of acquiring knowledge of the world. This is what is meant by eating the apple from the 'Tree of knowledge' or the Astral body and the physical senses.
- This intervention was necessary. Without it humanity could not have developed freedom, it would always have been subject to higher beings and its advancement would not be won through the dint of personal effort.
- Death also became possible for the first time and alternating times between sleep and wakefulness.
- To prevent Lucifer's influence from spreading too far, higher spiritual beings protected from Luciferic influence the Etheric or Life body. From that time on humanity began to lose its connection to 'The Tree of Life' or the Etheric.
- Adam/Eve's Etheric is held back – Adam Kadmon
- After this momentous event, a sun Elohim united with Eve and produced Cain who becomes representative of the Male stream.
- Then Eve is said to have united with Adam and produced Abel whose Etheric body being the opposite of his physical body was feminine and became the representative of the Female stream

“In the Beginning ...”



- Elohim (Exusia) create
 - Eve as Earth Mother. Yahveh/Jehovah creates Adam.
 - Cain conceived (legend says Lucifer/Sophia as father)
 - Asexual procreation
 - Adam and Eve create Abel
 - First sexual procreation
- Offerings of Cain and Abel
 - Yahveh/Jehovah accepts only Abel's offering
 - Cain slays Abel
- In this killing of Abel by Cain we can see the beginnings of egoism. When Cain is asked concerning his brother he asks, 'Am I my brother's keeper?'
- Remember – Cain is begotten from a God
- Adam and Eve conceive Seth (replacement for Abel)
- So we have two Streams – Cain and Abel/Seth
 - Cain → Zarathustra. Abel → Buddha
- Cain lineage develop crafts, sciences, and arts
- Seth lineage devoted to priesthood
 - Receive from Yahweh/Jehovah and the Hierarchies through revelations

Drama of the Descendents



- King Solomon
 - In a dream he sees the temple – blueprint (wisdom)
- Greatest of Cain descendents, Hiram
 - Renowned architect and builder – mysteries of the Earth
- Solomon calls on Hiram to build this temple
- Queen of Sheba comes to witness
 - Who is this Queen of Sheba, the Queen of the South?
 - Falls in love with Solomon and marries him
 - Later introduced to Hiram who deeply impresses her
 - Hiram and Sheba will later conceive a son together
 - Solomon becomes engulfed in jealousy
 - Will plot to kill Hiram – revenge of Abel?
- This is the Great Temple where the Templars excavate
 - Legend says they find something in the Temple ruins

Queen of Sheba



- Queen of the South with crown of 12 stars
 - Black Madonna
- Strange that some small Biblical passage should become so immense in legends from India, Persia, Egypt, & Jewish
- Chartres Cathedral, north portal, near Melchizedek shows Sheba
- Christ says she will participate in Judgment
 - Matt 12:42 and Luke 11:31
- San Pedro de Roda, 1000 AD, university and cloister
 - Arabic wisdom mixed with Christian
 - Illuminated manuscript of the Bible
 - Sheba *strides through water* to be greeted by Solomon
- Gives to Solomon the vessel that becomes Holy Grail
 - Made from same gem that fell from Lucifer's crown when cast out
- Sheba as representative of the human soul, star wisdom
 - Kyriotetes are the spirits of wisdom
 - Sheba as representative of Sophia of Gnostic creation story

Formation of the Temple Legend



- Through Sheba, star wisdom passes from Abel to Cain
- Casting of the Brazen Sea
 - Composed of the 7 planetary metals
 - Gold, Silver, Iron, Mercury, Tin, Copper, Lead
 - Intended for whole mass to become crystal
 - Solomon hired 3 jilted journeymen to kill Hiram
 - They mix in impurities – whole thing bursts into flames
 - Voice in flames calls to Hiram “throw yourself in”
 - Hiram does and arrives at the center of the Earth where he meets
 - Cain
 - Tubal Cain – gives Hiram a potent hammer
 - Hiram returns and completes the casting and the Temple
 - As Hiram leaves finished Temple, the three attack and kill him
 - Fear (willing), hatred (feeling), doubt (thinking) – opposites of Sheba
 - Hiram’s body hidden but found by his true students
 - New Master Word created
- Actual physical temple minor compared to other temples
 - Physical as en-trance to the supersensible temple

Recall Manichaeism: Principle of Duality



- Sought to unite religions with Christianity & Gnosticism
 - Zoroastrianism, Buddhism, Hinduism, and Taoism
- Manichaeism spread quickly throughout the Middle East, the Roman Empire, and as far east as China where it was active into 1400s.
- Dualism: Alpha & Omega, Light & Dark, Warm & Cold, Acid & Alkaline, Life & Death
 - Human, standing on earth with head in heavens embodies dualities

Mysteries of Christmas



Mark and John start at Baptism

Matthew (Jan. 6th)

- From Abraham, David, Solomon (father ...)
- To Joseph
- Middle-aged, royal lineage
- Live in Bethlehem
- Comfortable setting
- Magi from the East
- *Kingly and wise*
- Family flees to Egypt – returns to Nazareth after Herod dies.
- Brothers and sisters

OMEGA

Luke (Dec. 25th)

- Adam, Abraham, David, Nathan (son of ...)
- To Mary
- Young and poor
- Live in Nazareth
- In a stable in Bethlehem
- Shepherds
- *Pure and loving*
- No threat. Jesus grows up in Nazareth.
- Only child

ALPHA

Are these the same stories and families?

does this depict separate Marys with child?



Staff of John painted on top of the shellac



Perhaps Answers the Gnostic Question?



- How could a God become Man?
 - Spirit is immortal, non-physical
- Could a God to take the place of a Man's spirit?
 - Man would need to sacrifice
 - Prior to this, the life and physical bodies would need to be sacrificed
- A Great Christian Mystery Revealed
 - Merging of streams: Sun & Stars, Old & New, Alpha & Omega
 - King: Solomon (Matthew) & Priest: Nathan (Luke)
 - Three Magi & Simple Shepherds
 - Jan. 6th & Dec. 25th
 - Two Jesus children “combine” at age 12 (at Temple in Jerusalem)
 - Jesus sacrifices body and soul to Christ/Logos at baptism

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3. Templar & Cathar Mysticism Streams into Freemasonry
4. Templar Influence on Renaissance Art – Easter
5. Templar and Christian Mysteries Summary

References



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