

A M O R C

The Rosicrucian Order

# MASTER MONOGRAPH

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# THE CONCURRENCE

## This Week's Consideration of a Famous Opinion



¶ In conjunction with the statement in this week's lesson that "Wherever a number of individuals are gathered together in the Divine name, or in the name of the Logos or the Great Amen, there the Logos will be, there the Holy Ghost will be, and there the Triune Father, Son and Holy Ghost will rest upon them," we submit for your meditation an additional thought. We quote the words of that saintly Flemish mystic of the 14th Century, Jan van Ruysbroeck.



*I believe that the Son is the Image of the Father, that in the Son have dwelt from all eternity, foreknown and contemplated by the Father, the prototypes of all mankind. We existed in the Son before we were born—He is the creative ground of all creatures—the eternal cause and principle of their life. The highest essence of our being rests therefore in God,—exists in his image in the Son. After our creation in time, our souls are endowed with these properties, which are in effect one; the first, the Imageless Nudity,—by means of this we received and are united to the Father; the second, the Higher Reason of the Soul, the mirror of brightness, by which we receive the Son; the third, the Spark of the Soul by which we receive the love of God the Holy Ghost.*

—JAN VAN RUYSBROECK, 1293-1381

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To the Members of the Esoteric Hierarchy, Greetings!

Last week I promised you more regarding what to expect during the Hierarchy meditation periods when we were all in attunement with each other and with the Cosmic. In outlining some of the special benefits, I made note of one very important esoteric fact I had not revealed. In fact, I was holding it for a future date; but I realize now that something about this great esoteric principle may have already come to you in a veiled manner during your Hierarchy contacts.

Since you may not have been able to understand it as you should, I am going to tell you enough about it in today's instruction to give you the means of arriving at further knowledge yourselves even though I shall add to this information later.

This is, of course, important, since these Hierarchy periods are going to place each of you in a very sensitive and susceptible position as far as the Cosmic and the great Masters of the Great White Brotherhood are concerned.

It has always been believed, even by pre-Christian worshippers, that a greater revelation resulted when a number of worshippers were in attunement and in sympathy with each other and with the same thoughts in mind. Lifting their consciousness and thought to the Heavenly Hosts and God in unison, they thought, was more effective than worshipping individually at home. In other words, if fifty or a hundred mystics were united in their uplifted thoughts, this united effort brought greater results than would be obtained by each being in a separate place, lifting up his thought in separate concentration.

Prior to the Christian period, and for a long time afterward, a great many held to the idea that by assembling on a certain day of the week, such as the Sabbath or Sunday, and uniting in prayer, chanting and lifting their thought to God and the Cosmic, a sacred effect could be produced that would be impossible to achieve by the individual alone. To most, this virtually meant that concentrating, praying, or meditating at home individually was of no value at all.

It is so easy for the human mind to elaborate upon or exaggerate a simple truth into a great untruth that throughout our present-day religious and churchly practices we find customs and habits that out of a series of misunderstandings have been gradually adopted and made into fundamental principles. One of the most serious of these misunderstandings is the idea that God can be reached by prayer and in holy worship only on a Sunday or a Sabbath, and only in a church or a cathedral where there are a large number of persons and a clergyman, priest, or rabbi to direct their thoughts.



There was a time in the Orient when it was generally accepted that God could be approached most easily and most

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effectively while the individual was closeted in the privacy of his own individual sanctum, with no other person present and with nothing to distract his attention. Then it was believed that attuning with God and the Heavenly Hosts and with the Cosmic was a very private and confidential matter. Then it was accepted that neither God nor the Cosmic would whisper into the mind or heart any message or great wisdom unless it was done confidentially and secretly.

It was for this very reason that the ancient mystics had sacred sanctums in their own homes. In fact, they made the prayer room or meditation chamber of their homes the most beautiful, and the most important room in the house. Strangers were never allowed to enter it. The members of the family entered it only one at a time. After closing the door and making sure that they were absolutely alone and safe from prying eyes or inquisitive ears, they removed their shoes and performed their ablutions to signify their being cleansed in body and mind. Only then did they feel themselves prepared for their sacred communion with the Cosmic.

This idea, however, gradually gave way to the belief that some greater effect in regard to certain truths and principles could be obtained if they came together and meditated, prayed, and lifted up their hearts and minds in unison. It was then that they began to build temples and sacred meeting places, even grottoes beneath the ground where it was quiet and still during both day and night. They discovered that the combined vibration and thought of individuals collected in one place did set up a tangible and strong connection with the Cosmic Consciousness.

Cosmic wisdom came to them through the attunement they established. They did not understand that this form of collective meditation produced superior results only in regard to certain things, and that as far as most things were concerned private meditation at home was much better. They began to abandon the daily use of their home sanctums and set aside a sacred place for a weekly period of meditation, or they used their private meditation chambers at home for only a few minutes each day, and once a week attended a large collective prayer meeting which lasted for several hours.

When the Christian religion started to grow, another change came about that further exaggerated the emphasis on public or group worship. It was the conviction that the practice of home meditation was not so important and could even be neglected or done away with entirely because worshipping daily or at least once or twice a week and especially on a Sunday was far more important than any other form of worship and meditation. The result was that these collective meetings increased in size until enormous churches and synagogues or temples and cathedrals had to be built. This was the beginning of the erroneous practice of building large and



costly churches and temples for long weekly ceremonies, as well as for short meditation or prayer occasions each morning.

Today, therefore, throughout the Christian world and those countries which follow other modern or revised religions, the sanctum in the home has been done away with entirely. The devout Christian believes that reading the Bible at home and that bedtime or early morning prayer constitute all that is necessary in the way of home religious exercise. He does feel, however, that it is necessary to salvation or to spirituality to attend church at least once or perhaps twice a week with a large number of others.

Those mystics and others who gradually swung from the meditation chamber at home to meet with others in temples overlooked an important fact. There were just as many important revelations and benefits to the individual through meditation privately in the home sanctum as could come to him while assembled with others. They mistakenly thought, because certain benefits that they had never had when meeting singly and separately came when meeting together, that the united meeting in a great temple was the only ideally efficient way.

The members of our Rosicrucian Order, and especially the members of the higher Degrees, surely realize that today the home sanctum is really the most important for all real, practical needs of our lives, but that certain spiritual and Cosmic benefits may come through occasional collective meetings. However, the certain special benefits that do come from collective meetings are secured through contacts such as our Hierarchy meetings where our minds and hearts come together in unison without our physical bodies, which have nothing to do with the spiritual ceremonies of attunement.

The Master Jesus taught his disciples that "where two or three are gathered together in my name there am I in the midst of them." He did not imply or intend that those words should mean that their physical bodies need be all together in one place. His teaching had a deeper, more mystical meaning.

Wherever a number of individuals are gathered together in the Divine name, or in the name of the Logos or the Great Amen, there the Logos will be, there the Holy Ghost will be, and there the Triune Father, Son, and Holy Ghost will rest upon them. It is not necessary that all the physical bodies be brought together in church or temple, but that the minds, the consciousness of all be brought together in one united power and lifted up to receive the special benediction, revelation, and wisdom that God and the Cosmic will give on such an occasion.



Thus by joining in the Hierarchy contacts as they are given in a special announcement in the Rosicrucian Digest from

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time to time, we may create an esoteric power and an esoteric attunement that will bring us in touch with God or the great Masters, just as a group of students coming together in a class. You will begin to sense that certain strong impressions are coming to your mind and to your consciousness during these Hierarchy periods when you are attuned together and with the Cosmic. During the Hierarchy period itself you may not be able to analyze these impressions or even comprehend them enough to know what they are; but during the days following each Hierarchy period you will gradually comprehend and understand them.

While you are assembled in unison as members of the Hierarchy—on these occasions stated in the monthly magazine—you are to hold your mind and heart open to Cosmic impressions. These may come to you as words spoken softly as though someone whispered them in your ear. Or they may come as an impression from a psychic center within you, or into your heart and mind as something revealed in a vague or veiled manner. You may, of course, actually see a symbol in the room where you are, a face or character which you are to remember and think about. In this way during the silence of your meditation period, having done all I have told you to do in the way of sitting quietly and relaxing, you may receive impressions, and these will increase in strength as the days and weeks pass.

May Peace Profound abide with each of you.

Faternally,

YOUR CLASS MASTER

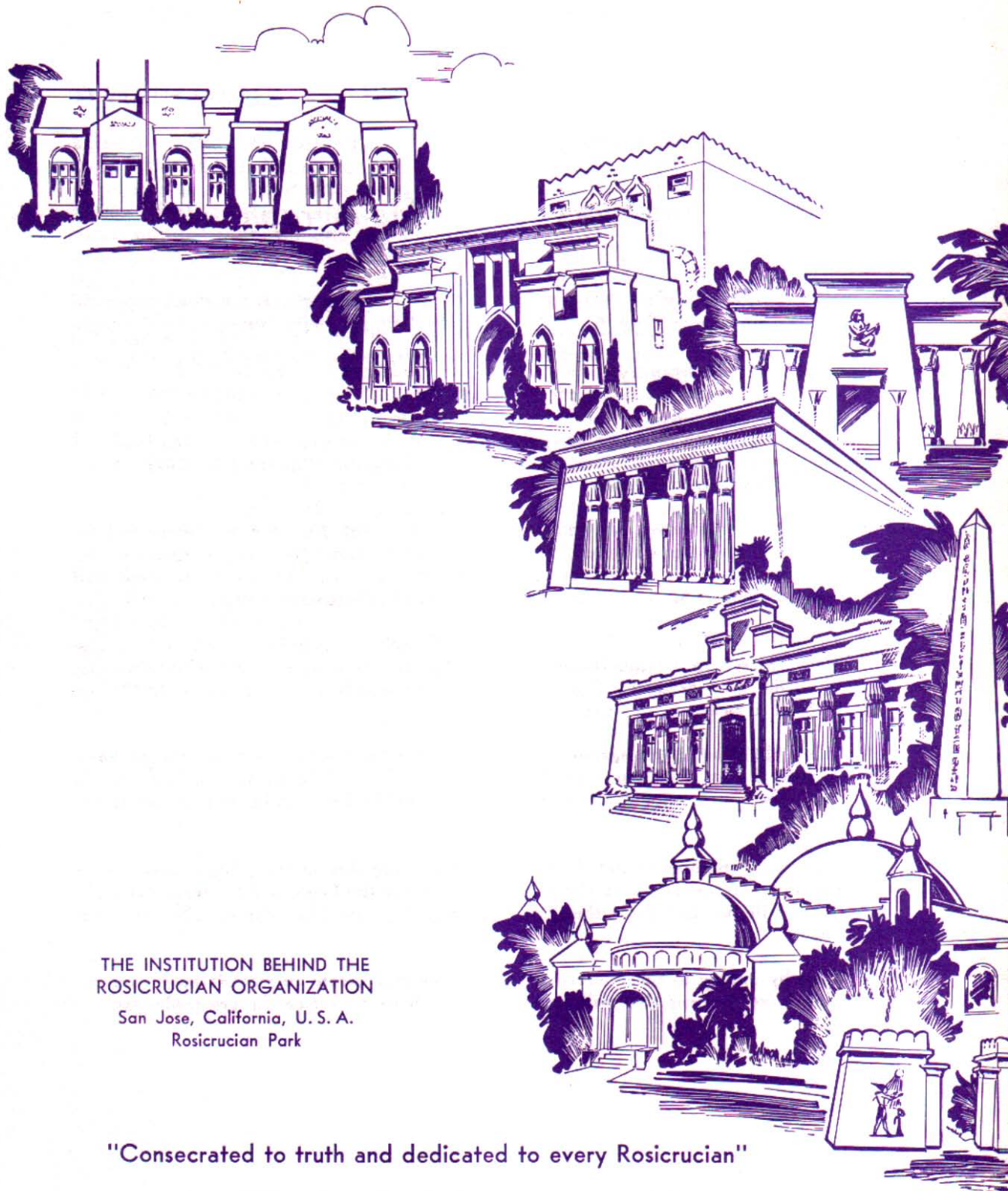


## Summary of This Monograph



Below is a summary of the important principles of this monograph. It contains the essential statements which you should not forget. After you have carefully read the complete monograph, try to recall as many as you can of the important points you read. Then read this summary and see if you have forgotten any. Also refer to this summary during the ensuing week to refresh your memory.

- ¶ These Hierarchy meetings are going to place each of you in a very sensitive and susceptible position so far as the Cosmic and the great Masters of the Great White Brotherhood are concerned.
- ¶ Ancient mystics knew, and today the members of the Rosicrucian Order, and especially the members of the higher degrees, realize that the home sanctum is the most important for all real, practical needs of our lives, but that certain spiritual and Cosmic benefits may come through occasional collective meetings.
- ¶ After it was discovered that the combined thought of individuals collected in one place did set up a tangible and strong connection with the Cosmic Consciousness, the belief grew gradually that only in a church, temple, or synagogue could God be reached in prayer.
- ¶ When the Master Jesus taught his disciples that "where two or three are gathered together in my name there am I in the midst of them," he did not imply or intend that those words should mean that their physical bodies need be all together in one place.
- ¶ Wherever a number of individuals are gathered together in the Divine name, or in the name of the Logos or the Great Amen, there the Logos will be, there the Holy Ghost will be, and there the Triune Father, Son and Holy Ghost will rest upon them.
- ¶ Thus by joining in the Hierarchy contacts, we may create an esoteric power and an esoteric attunement that will bring us in touch with God or the great Masters.



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