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A REFLECTION ON *THE SECRET DOCTRINE*, No. 18

Some students of *The Secret Doctrine* may wonder what relevance the Logos doctrine has to daily life. They find it to be a fascinating concept, but one that seems far off, remote, and with little bearing on the here and now. As a metaphysical explanation for how the Universe came into being, they see its value; yet at the same time they wonder if such knowledge is of any real practical use. To answer this query, we should stipulate that the Logos is a universal principle, immanent in the manifested universe, and therefore a part of all life. To study the Logos doctrine is to learn about ourselves; the microcosm reflects the macrocosm; as above, so below.

In his *Occult Glossary*, G. de Purucker explains:

Logos is a word having several applications in the esoteric philosophy, for there are different kinds or grades of logoi, some of them of divine, some of them of a spiritual character; some of them having a cosmic range, and others . . . much more restricted. In fact, every individual entity, no matter what its evolutionary grade on the ladder of life, has its own individual logos. . . . Small or great as every solar system may be, each has its own logos, the source or fountainhead of almost innumerable logoi of less degree in that system.

We may recall that the First, Second, and Third Logos are not three separate beings, but names used to represent three aspects of a Unity. This is reflected in the human being as *Atma-Buddhi-Manas*, variously referred to in *The Secret Doctrine* as the Heavenly Man, the spiritual Triad, or the immortal Ego. Atma in the human expresses itself as spiritual will, corresponding to the First Logos; Buddhi as com-passionate wisdom or love, as with the Second Logos; Manas as reason and creative activity, as with the Third Logos. When we create, when we love, when we exercise our spiritual will, we are exercising innate and divine powers, all of which will grow in strength and splendor as we continue our long pilgrimage throughout a series of deaths and rebirths on the great stage of life.

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