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FUNDAMENTALS OF THE ESOTERIC PHILOSOPHY pp. 331-32

Now, take any one universe or Hierarchy as an instance of the general rule. Any universe is infilled with beings finding their origin and taking their rise in the Summit, the Acme, the Seed in another sense, which is, so to say, the god of that Hierarchy ; and this god, at the beginning of any period of manifestation, this spiritual, elementary Being, casts off from itself, or throws forth from itself, evolves from itself, brings out from itself, a multitudinous series of hierarchies consisting of less or inferior beings; beings less in spirituality and dignity than itself. They are, as it were, the thoughts that the God or “Kosmic Primal Thinker” thinks. Take the instance of a thinking human being, as an analogy. He thinks thoughts. Each thought has its own life, each thought has its own essence, each has its own course to run. Each thought is based on a particular vibration, as it were, using words common to our understanding to-day. Each has its own particular swabhava or intrinsic essential nature, which is its individuality.

So this Summit of the Hierarchy “thinks thoughts”. Now I do not mean to say that this Summit is a human being or a god-being, which thinks thoughts as we do. The figure here used is an analogy only. As a man thinks thoughts, and thus fills his atmosphere around him with these living beings, these winged messengers called thoughts, so the Primordial Elementary Being, the Summit, the Seed, the First to issue forth from the bosom of the infinite Mother, casts forth from itself these parts of itself; these monadic aggregations, these kosmic “thoughts”.

And what are these first emanations? They are what the Ancient Wisdom called the gods. And these gods in their turn send forth from themselves other multitudinous series of beings, less than they—less in dignity, less in grandeur, less in understanding. And these secondary emanations or evolutions are the *monads*. And these monads, as they pursue their way down the Shadowy Arc, in the beginning of a manvantara, in their turn cast forth from themselves, in identically the same way and on the same line of action, other entities, less than they, forming still more outward Hierarchies, more material intelligences; and these tertiary emanations are the *souls*. And the souls, as they pursue their way down, exactly as their higher progenitors did, cast forth from themselves, think forth from themselves, send forth from themselves, evolve forth from themselves, beings still less in wisdom and spirituality and dignity and power than they. And these are the *atoms* — but not the physical atom. Let us cast that idea out of our minds instantly. The atoms of physical science are really molecular aggregations of atomic elements only, existing on the borderland of the astral plane.