

## THE MIDDLE PILLAR AND THE FIRST DEGREE

A lecture presented to Emerald Lodge #3, COTS  
13 June 1997

### 1. The Lodge As Mesocosm

The Emerald Tablet -- macrocosm and microcosm -- human form as foundation of our experience of the world -- true at all levels of experience -- communities as a middle ground -- problems with this approach -- possibilities implicit in it -- the Republic as paradigm of both

### 2. The Magical Mesocosm

Applicability to magic -- lodge as paradigmatic magical community -- potentials for lodge work -- impact of lodge work on individual practice -- impact of individual practice on lodge work

### 3. The Middle Pillar

The Body of Light -- formulation of that body -- preparation of the space -- creation of forms as vessels of Light -- circulation of energies through forms -- concentration of energies in a single center

### 4. The First Degree Lodge

The body of the mesocosm -- the lodge egregor -- role of ethics and energetics in building of egregor -- formulation of the egregor -- preparation of the space -- creation of forms as vessels of Light -- circulation of energies through forms -- concentration of energies in a single center

### 5. Initiation

Self-initiation and lodge initiation -- initiation as interaction between mesocosm and microcosm -- a hint or two for the attentive