



# Introduction to Gnosis

By Samael Aun Weor

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In ancient times, the Gnostics sought for salvation through personal, experiential knowledge of the Divine. Their methods of self-reliance and their sublime knowledge profoundly impacted society, such that the dominant powers felt threatened and the tradition was forced to disappear from public view. Now, after centuries of obscurity, the Gnostics have re-emerged, still carrying their profound message of Gnosis: knowledge of self and the Divine. In a simple and elegant way, Samael Aun Weor explains the basic methodology for people in today's world to begin to approach the greater mysteries of the Gnostics. In this basic and practical guide, Samael Aun Weor offers a breadth of exercises guiding the reader to discover within themselves a wealth of insight and understanding. Gnosis, after all, is Greek for knowledge, and the seeker is told, "Know thyself, and thou shalt know the universe and its Gods." "A great author deduced that the human being needs eight important things in life: health and the conservation of life, nourishment, sleep, money and the things money can buy, life in the beyond, sexual satisfaction, the well-being of his children, and a sense of proper importance. We synthesize these eight things into three: 1. Health 2. Money 3. Love "If you really want to acquire these three things, you should study and practice everything that this course teaches you. We will show you the path of success." - Samael Aun Weor Includes the lecture "How to Make Light Within" and the pamphlet "Marriage, Divorce, and Tantra." Topics include: An Exercise to Control Your Anger; The Power of Thought; Mental Force; Concentration of the Mind; The Law of Karma; Favorable Circumstances; The Descent of Cosmic Vibration; Prana; The Names of the Tattvas; Properties of the Tattvas; Money; Clairvoyance; Alcoholism; Meditation and Intoxication; Osmotherapy; Mental Relaxation; Concentration; Meditation; Contemplation; The Universal Mind; Imagination and Will; Mental Action; Mental Epidemics; Mental Hygiene; Vegetarian Diet; Self-observation; Chatter; "I's" in the Five Centers; Matrimony, Divorce, and Tantra; and more.

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## **Editorial Review**

From the Publisher

Thelema Press is a non-profit incorporation delivering to humanity the Gnostic Works of Samael Aun Weor.

From the Inside Flap

**First Degree of Introduction to Gnosis** This is the introductory degree to the Gnostic philosophical studies or External degrees of Gnosis. It is natural that all students will begin with this degree and eventually continue with the first, second, third degrees, etc. One should keep in mind that these are not the esoteric Gnostic degrees. The esoteric Gnostic degrees, which are the authentic ones, cannot be revealed by anyone who has received them; this is forbidden. Whoever says: "I have so many degrees, so many Initiations," is being dishonest. If a person wants to become an engineer, lawyer, doctor, etc. he has to prepare himself for it. That person will go to school and study a great deal. After he has a good theoretical basis in the field he studied, he will begin to practice what he has learned. Practice brings about perfection. The great sages, professionals, scientists, etc. have not merely had a theoretical knowledge of their respective fields of study, but have also put this knowledge to practice. Theory by itself cannot bring about anything except an intellectual enjoyment on the part of those who understand it. Study these lessons and study them with true incentive, with the desire to learn, with the desire of understanding the superior knowledge. But remember that you need to put into practice what you learn if you want to achieve the perfection of the work.

About the Author

Samael Aun Weor is the bodhisattva of Samael, the Spirit of Fire. Literally, bodhi means "enlightenment" or "wisdom." sattva means "essence" or "goodness," therefore the term Bodhisattva literally means "essence of wisdom." In the esoteric or secret teachings of Tibet and Gnosticism, a bodhisattva is a human being who has reached the Fifth Initiation of Fire (Tiphereth) and has chosen to continue working by means of the Straight Path, renouncing the easier Spiral Path (in Nirvana), and returning instead to help suffering humanity. By means of this sacrifice, this individual incarnates the Christ, which in Hebrew is called Chokmah, Wisdom. The bodhisattva embodies of the supreme source of wisdom and compassion. Samael Aun Weor, the bodhisattva of Samael, the Spirit of Fire, was born in Colombia, South America. At a very early age, he was able to remember his past incarnations. Thus, he knew who he was. He never identified with his Christian name since he knew that it was just a passing accident of life that soon disappears in time. Even though many people who knew him still like to use his Christian name, we omit it, because just like him, we only want to talk about his Real Self or Real Being. He worked anonymously for many years, writing books and teaching Gnosis, while working intensely upon himself to eliminate his ego. His first book was *The Perfect Matrimony*, published in 1950. The appearance of this book sparked a wildfire in the spiritual communities of that time; many were shocked, many were outraged, and many were deeply inspired. The Roman Catholic Church sought to have Samael arrested; and he was. Many people threatened to kill him; several attempts were made against his life. Upon cleaning his psyche of an extremely high percentage of psychological defects, he began to appear in public to deliver the Gnostic Teachings to humanity. During this time he became widely known throughout the Spanish-speaking countries. His many works sprouted the International Gnostic Movement, a widespread and diversified collection of schools, teachers and students whose message has now spread to every continent on the planet, all under the flag raised by Samael Aun Weor. It is widely recognized that throughout the towns and villages of Mexico, Central and South America, even if one cannot find a post office, one can always find a Gnostic school. Samael Aun Weor achieved the complete annihilation within himself of the subconsciousness, unconsciousness, and infraconsciousness through the techniques of meditation and sexual dynamics; thus he developed Supraconsciousness, which gave him the ability to investigate cosmic phenomena within all of the sephiroth of the Tree of Life

(Kabbalah). Samael Aun Weor achieved complete Self-realization at the age of sixty-one; thus at that age he passed through a terrible ordeal which allowed him to achieve the degree of a Resurrected Master and return into Shangri-La. Since then, he is operating anonymously in the physical world, while simultaneously continuing his mission from within the Internal Worlds. This is how his Real Being, Samael, the Spirit of Fire, absorbed him completely within his bosom and became one with him. A great deal of information about Samael, the Spirit of Fire, is written in many esoteric books. In some places Samael is described as a demon, and in others as a great Angel. This is because there is always movement in the heavens and hells; the demons can renounce evil and work to become Angels, and the Angels can make mistakes and fall into evil. This is the true meaning behind Jacob's Ladder. And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending (to higher realms) and descending (to lower realms) on it. (Genesis 28:12) The ladder is the Tree of Life (Kabbalah). Samael Aun Weor said regarding this: "I ended up transforming myself into a fallen angel. Many egos resurged within my mind and I became transformed into a true devil. Now, in this present existence, I comprehend the necessity of eliminating my egos, the necessity of performing the Great Work of the Father. Therefore, this is why today I am here speaking to you all, with my hand placed on my heart." Any neophyte can invoke the Master Samael in the Internal Worlds the clues that he gave in many of his books, and investigate all of this directly. The Doctrine of his Father, Samael, the Spirit of Fire, is given through three aspects, since the human being has three brains: the Intellectual Brain, the Emotional Brain, and the Motor/Instinctive/Sexual Brain. To nourish the Intellectual Brain of his disciples with the wisdom of the Fire, he wrote more than sixty books. As a comprehensive whole, these works show the way and the dangers of the work. By intellectually learning the Doctrine of his Father, one can walk more easily on the Path of Self-realization. Since the Doctrine is very profound and sometimes difficult for the intellect to comprehend, Samael brought from the Internal Worlds the ancient Isiac ritualistic works, a magical channel through which Samael the Spirit of Fire works in order to assist with fiery atoms, the Consciousness and the Spirit of those who perform these esoteric works, awakening within them the superlative Intuition that allows them to comprehend his Doctrine. The superlative Intuition is related with the Atom Nous in the left ventricle of the heart and is related with what is called in Kabbalah "Natural Magic." Samael helps any neophyte who invokes him in the fiery forge of Vulcan, the "Ninth Sphere," in order to walk on the Path of the Razor's Edge, to become a real Human Being through the transmutation of our vital energies. The synthesis of his Doctrine is performed when one works in the three brains, in complete equilibrium.

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