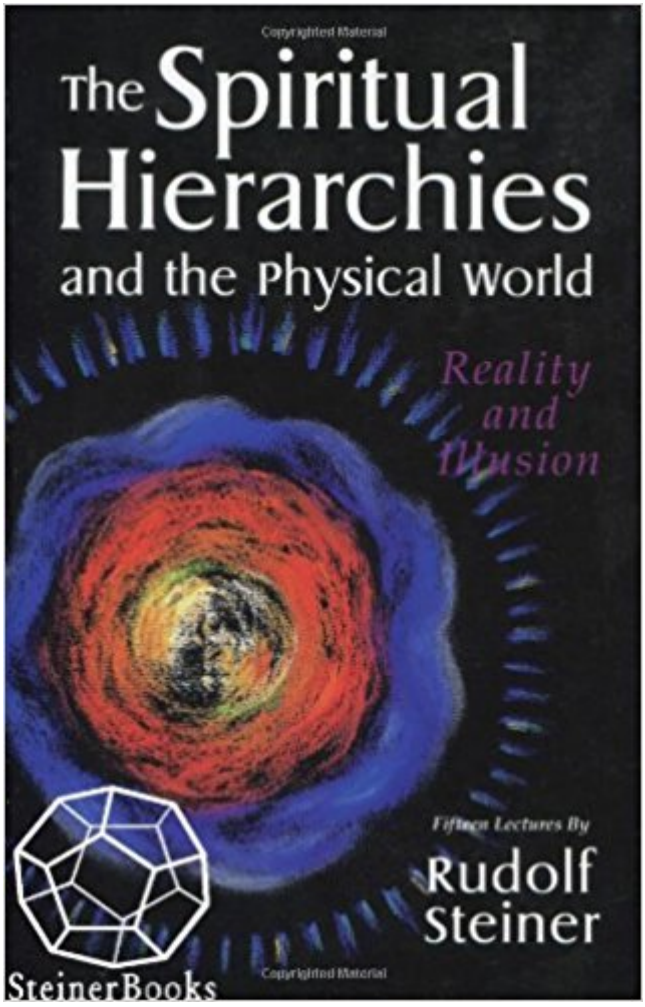
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SPIRITUAL HIERARCHIES



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Synopsis

Ever since nature and consciousness were separated in the late Middle Ages, giving rise to a science of matter alone, the spiritual beings who are the universe have felt abandoned and unable to complete their work, for this work depends for its success on human collaboration. At the same time, human beings have also felt abandoned, condemned to a speck of dust in an infinitely decaying universe. In these remarkable lectures, Rudolf Steiner reestablishes the human being as a participant in an evolving, dynamic universe of living spiritual beings: a living universe, whole and divine. And he does so in concrete images, capable of being grasped by human consciousness as if from within. How is this possible? Implicit in Rudolf Steiner’s view is the fact that, fundamentally, the universe consists of consciousness. Everything else is illusion. Hence to understand the evolution of the cosmos and humanity in any terms other than consciousness is also illusion. Whenever we have to do with mighty cosmic facts, we have to do with states of consciousness. But states of consciousness never exist apart from the beings who embody them. Therefore, the only true realities are beings in different states of consciousness. In this sense, Rudolf Steiner’s spiritual science is a science of states of consciousness and the beings who embody them. Indeed, rightly considered, all science-physics, chemistry, botany, zoology, geology, psychology, astronomy, etc.-is a science of beings. And the sensory perception, the physical trace, is but the outer vestment of the activity of beings in different states of consciousness. To describe these beings, Steiner uses the names made familiar by the wisdom tradition of the West. He speaks of the evolutionary states of Saturn, Sun, Moon, Earth, Jupiter, Venus, and Vulcan; and the nine "choirs" of angels (Seraphim, Cherubim, and Thrones; Dominions, Virtues, and Powers; Principalities, Archangels, and Angels); as well as of elemental beings and nature spirits; and the elements of fire, earth, air, and water.

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Customer Reviews

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RUDOLF STEINER (1861-1925) became a respected and well-published scientific, literary, and philosophical scholar, particularly known for his work on Goethe's scientific writings. At the beginning of the twentieth century, he began to develop his earlier philosophical principles into an approach to methodical research of psychological and spiritual phenomena. His multifaceted genius has led to innovative and holistic approaches in medicine, philosophy, religion, education (Waldorf schools), special education (the Camphill movement), economics, agriculture (biodynamics), science, architecture, and the arts (drama, speech and eurythmy). In 1924 he founded the General Anthroposophical Society, which has branches throughout the world.

I have truly enjoyed this book and plan to read it again at a slower pace in order to learn more from it - it definitely will remain in my library for future references - I am adjusting to his use of the English language which is a bit different from what I'm used to, but it is certainly not a difficult book to read - the information he shares in his books is very meaningful to me - I have been searching for years for what he writes about - my only regret is that I will not be able to buy and read all of his books... I don't think at my age I have the time... ;-)

This book explains in great detail and easy to understand the great higher hierarchies that formed this universe with special attention to this earth. This book explains Masonic mysteries regarding these hierarchies and their role in the evolution of man and earth. It explains the history of the solar system and humans. It includes the "War in Heaven" with more explanation than is in the books of religion that have been available to us in the past. It explains the evolution of our solar system including changes it has and will go through. How higher hierarchies lead humanity. There is a higher understanding of Cain and Able explained. The book explains how the great Hierarchies got to be what they are and what they do.

invaluable in its placing the hierarchies in perspective.

This is a must read for anyone interested in the hidden secrets of spirituality.It’s a series of lectures given in 1909 by Dr. Rudolf Steiner.

A very concise summary of mankind’s evolutionary path which, although a stand alone treatise, would be beneficial for those who have all ready read some of his major works.

Great book; grateful to find it.

Intriguing book. In it are each of the hierarchies recorded: - when they became active, - which planets were formed by which hierarchie - how hierarchies are related to each other (only mentioned not explained in detail with the highest hierarchies).In the book are also mentioned:- The zodiac and how they are related to the hierarchies; and what it means when a certain sign is active.- Some about what parts of the physical body of a human were already formed in spirit world by the different hierarchies... Cancer as symbol for the ribcage which was formed for example.- The seven oracles in Atlantean time (Sun oracle, Venus oracle etc.) and that the one who had the most developed ether body of the oracles (the leaders) were selected to work through the 7 rishi’s in India in a later time.- The lowest hierarchies (Angels, ArchAngels and Archia) are explained in great detail: (a) how they relate to the mineral, plant and animal kingdom and that their physical body, ether body, astral body and the I are located in different spheres (Angel only physical body in the Earth, ArchAngel physical body and ether body in the Earh, Archia physical, ether and astral body in the Earth while Humans have all four parts in the Earth (in this time!!!).Also mentioned is difference between Copernicus’ astrological system (viewed from physical viewpoint) and the Ptolemeus astrology (viewed from spiritual perspective - i.e. the spiritual hierarchie view).I found the book to be really intruiging, but it lacked (for me) how the different entities are active now in the Earth, and how can be seen which people have interacted more with certain entities than others... In the book is recorded that Venus entities were present in the Earth to bring greater wisdom at one time, and Mars entities brought about other influences but not beyond: how do they play a role now, when and how did they made their presence felt over time (as the Earth developed) etc.So: very intruiging book, explanations about several things, but only when they first appeared. Only briefly mentioned activity later on in the 7 rishi’s, Jesus, but not on when/how the different entities made their presence felt in the Earth in more recent times (or other times) with the exception of Angels, Archangels and Archia. Especially Angels are explained at length.But what about other entities...

only briefly discussing them makes it harder to see the overall picture: all the times when, and how, the entities made their presence felt.Besides that it is an intruiging book to read.PS I read the Ducth version!!!

Steiner’s world view is a rich and astonishing Rosicrucian cosmogony, and must be confronted by any serious spiritual researcher of Western esotericism and Christianity. Like many of his works, this work is provocative, and one is left both bewildered and entranced, and wondering what to DO, how to work with the vision contained herein. Some of Steiner’s other works, specifically OUTLINE OF ESOTERIC SCIENCE, and HOW TO KNOW HIGHER WORLDS would be a better place to begin exploring Steiner. But this was my first exposure to Rudolf Steiner, and it grabbed me and I couldn’t shake it off! Today I still struggle and ponder these ideas, and maybe that is quite the point.

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