

TELEVISION ADDICTS

Keith Perkins (1990)

Considering all things is an important part of the Kabbalah, for everything came from the Ain Soph. The knife and fork that you eat your food with and the television set in nearly every home in the country.

As a person you too fit well upon the Tree, in fact it is in its importance a model for the Universal Man, and it should be remembered that mankind fulfils the concept of a prototype.

The head and brain of an individual is composed of the side pillars of the Tree coming together upon the middle pillar. Where the paths from Kether to Tiphareth and from Chokmah to Binah cross, is the facial and head structure of the human being.

Having judged where the head and face belongs in respect of the individual, the next format is to judge where upon the Tree man blends into the metaphysical world and the physical environment.

The physical environment of planet Earth is symbolised by the 10th Sephirah entitled Kingdom or Malkuth. It is the Tree within this Sephirah where the opportunity to experience at least two worlds begins. That is the world below and the world above.

The Asiatic world interpenetrates the Yetziratic world at the point where the path from Malkuth up to Yesod enters into the 9th Sephirah. Another variant is to say that Kether upon the Tree in Malkuth lies just below, or over the Sephirah Malkuth upon the Tree in Yesod. In this way there is a very subtle interpenetration of energies and forms. This could very well explain the phenomenon of astral travel, dreams and trance-like states which can become an aid to both understanding the worlds in which we live and our own psyche.

Where does the TV set come into this picture? Well, it is also a product of two worlds, the physical world provides the shell, frame and working guts of the TV set, while the metaphysical world provides the medium of power and transmission of selected images on to the television screen.

What is interesting is that the images received by the TV set are transmitted globally, that is, they are external to the mental and physical being of man. It is in this context alone that there appears to be a "*spectre*".

Before explaining what that spectre might be, let me give a basic account of how the TV set affects you or your child.

Yesod is the viewing screen, Hod and Netzach supply the images and Malkuth the physical robustness of the set both outer and inner configurations.

The dot which moves around the screen is symbolised by the Sephirah Tiphareth, a subtle balance of light and shadow which gives the impression of movement, yet, to the normal watchful eye appears to create one image filling the screen.

The still images are Hodian and in contrast the moving images are Netzachian. The frame and contours play a vital role in obtaining "*possession*" of a person's mind by stimulating one's concentration and lowering the consciousness to a level near to trance.

The eye is the most important organ used to "*bind*" a person to the TV set. It is the ability of the eye to catch whole frames of images which is used to stimulate the concentration. The sharp focusing ability of the eye (via the fovea) takes in the images upon the screen set within the frame. And so any peripheral visionary data is ignored because of the effect of the images upon the screen, their ability to mesmerise the onlooker (viewer).

The contours of the frame can be predetermined and also, with a little thought and planning,

pre-set to ensnare an individual. It might well be that not just the TV ratings are taken into account here by the producers, but politicians can use this simple method to put across the desired messages and so change the voting statistics.

The contours of the screen are continually moving and the human eye attempts to focus sharply by following the moving contour (another image). It cannot do this accurately or fast enough, and so an eye tremor develops. This causes the eye to partially de-focus which leads the brain into thinking that something is wrong, there is a very slight physical discomfort which is ignored because it is not too alarming.

In an attempt to "*fixate*" the image (contours) one opens oneself up to a "*dream-like state of awareness*" which can be used to pass messages into the mind via the subliminal channel. This is the beginning of the end as it were, because fascination for the contours and the images (only the visual part of the TV programme, e.g. watching sexy young women on the Benny Hill Show) coupled with attractive forms, hooks you into the network.

There is evidence that audio-subliminal messages can be passed through the TV set to the viewer. The hidden step up from visual subliminal cuts.

One other use that the TV set has is to desensitise you and so "*programme*" you to accept things which would normally shock you. An example might very well have been the "*Jobless and Employment Statistics*" shown regularly on TV in order to set up an acceptance for the Employment Training advertisements. This is my opinion, if only to set a hypothetical example.