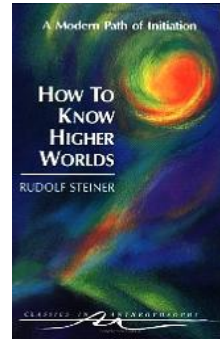


How To Know Higher Worlds

By Rudolf Steiner



First, a few words about the author. It's hard to know where to start with RUDOLF STEINER (1861–1925). He accomplished so much - his biography is 3000 pages. He became a respected and well-published scientific, literary, and philosophical scholar. 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.

Master of the Western esoteric path of initiation, Steiner provides a guide book to those wanting to go down a spiritual path. He leads the student from the cultivation of reverence and inner tranquility, to the development of inner life through the stages of preparation, illumination, and initiation. By patiently and persistently following these steps, new "organs" of soul and spirit begin to form, revealing the contours of higher worlds that have been concealed from most people. Rudolf Steiner acts as teacher and guide through the steps of preparation, giving advice along the way.

The first step, preparation, is achieved through practical exercises in inner and outer observation, and moral development. It is a strict and definite cultivation of the life of thought and feeling, and develops the higher senses. The second step, enlightenment, is to awaken certain dormant thoughts and feelings, patiently, consistently, and conscientiously, that lead to the inner light. The third step, initiation, is the highest stage in esoteric training that can be provided in a written form, to reach the lesser mysteries.

You may see a parallel to our three Craft degrees.

I highly recommend this book to any one interested in esoterica.