

**Angels of Kabbalah Study Guide for Initiates and Members
of**

Circulos Tenebris Matrem Arcanas

Circle of the Dark and Mysterious Mother



Angels, Demons, and the Admixed

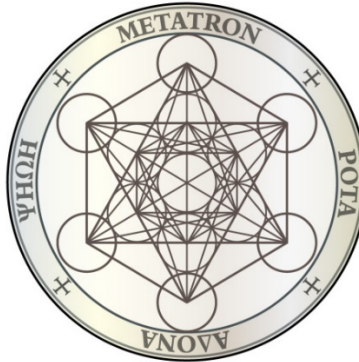
Everyone in western culture has seen shows like *Touched by an Angel* and other pop culture take on angelic beings. In many of these portrayals' angels are humans who have died that become celestial beings. Kabbalah and other lore are clear that angels are not dead humans, but instead beings that were created prior to the creation of man. Angels are not physical beings, but instead beings of energy that were created for very specific purposes.

In Kabbalistic lore, there are Angels, Demons, and what are referred to as the Shedim. All three classes of beings are similar as in they are non-corporeal beings that were created prior to humanity. Angels are beings of order that serve God and help bring about enlightenment of humans (and other beings). Demons are beings of chaos that only serve to tare down and bring destruction (which in the end also pushes beings toward enlightenment. The last class of beings, called Shedim in Hebrew are referred to as Archons in Greek gnostic literature and as Djinn in Islamic texts. These are beings of admixture that do not serve order or chaos, but instead serve their own purposes. They are much more like human beings as the have free will. But, as you can imagine, beings of free will that are looking out for themselves alone can be pretty dark at times. All three classes of beings have a hierarchy. There are Angels, Demons, and Shedim of various orders (or types) and there are Archangels, Archdemons, and Archshedim. These are the most powerful of each class. Any order of Angels also has a corresponding Demonic and Archonic order.

There are several schools of magic that discuss using spells to bind and control these non-corporeal beings. In Kabbalah, it is not seen as wise to try to control any beings, but Angels and sometimes Shedim can be invoked to assist in magic working. Understand that even Angels are not sweet, calm beings, but powerful forces that can burn you if you are not careful. When invoking Angels and especially Archangels, care and respect needs to be used in your working.

Keter (Crown): Archangel – Metatron; Order of Angels – Hayyot Ha-Kodesh

Metatron



As the angel of life, Metatron is at the top of the tree, directing God's living energy throughout the universe God has created. Metatron connects human beings living on earth with the divine energy of God and helps people incorporate that sacred energy into their lives. Metatron also brings spiritual balance to all of the different yet interconnected parts of God's creation and helps people achieve spiritual enlightenment.

Metatron is said to be the “spirit of Enoch” who “walked with God and was no more”. As stated previously human beings do not become angels at death so this scripture has a deeper meaning. In Kabbalistic literature, Metatron is the archangel of all enlightened beings and is thus composed of the heavenly soul of all enlightened beings throughout time.

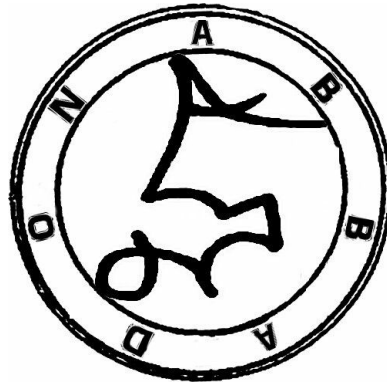
Hayyot Ha-Kodesh



The Hayyot ha-Kodesh angels are the highest rank of angels in Judaism. They are known for their enlightenment, and they're responsible for holding up God's throne, as well as for holding Earth in its proper position in space. The Hayyot (who are sometimes also called hayyoth) are Merkabah angels, who guide mystics on tours of heaven during prayer and meditation.

Da'at (Knowledge): Archangel – Abaddon

Abbadon



The Hebrew term Abaddon and its Greek equivalent Apollyon appear in the Bible as both a place of destruction and an angel of the abyss. In the Hebrew Bible, abaddon is used with reference to a bottomless pit, often appearing alongside the place (Sheol), meaning the realm of the dead. Abbadon is the Angel of the Pit and the guardian of Da'at, the gateway to higher universes. Abbadon can be quite frightening because he guards the doorway so that if one is not ready, they may not enter. He reflects back each individual's state of awareness and thus is sometimes seen as an Angel, sometimes as a Demon.

Hokmah (Wisdom): Archangel – Ratziel; Order of Angels - Ofanim

Ratziel



As the angel of mysteries, Raziel reveals divine mysteries to people that help them become wiser. By showing people how to incorporate their knowledge into their lives in practical ways, through Raziel's guidance. Raziel helps people reach their full potential, according to God's good purposes for their lives.

The book of Ratziel is much like the Akoshic Records, the mind of the archangel (instead of a physical book) contains all knowledge of this cosmic cycle.

Ofanim

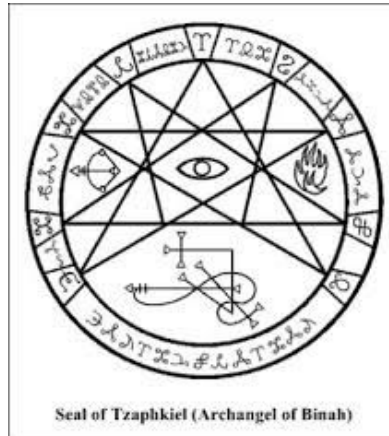


The ofanim also called galgalim ("spheres", "wheels", "whirlwinds"), refer to the wheels seen in Ezekiel's vision of the chariot (Hebrew merkabah) in Ezekiel 1:15-21. One of the Dead Sea scrolls (4Q405) construes them as angels; late sections of the Book of Enoch (61:10, 71:7) portray them as a class of celestial beings who (along with the Cherubim and Seraphim) never sleep but guard the throne of God.

It is said that they were the actual wheels of the Lord's Heavenly Chariot (Merkabah). "The four wheels had rims and they had spokes, and their rims were full of eyes round about."

Binah (Understanding): Archangel – Tzafkiel; Order of Angels - Aralim

Tzafkiel



As the angel of compassionate understanding, Tzafkiel leads the angels who send the spiritual energy of understanding to people. Tzafkiel helps people learn more about God, sends them insights about themselves as God's beloved children, and guides them to make decisions in their daily lives that reflect that core identity.

Tzafkiel is said to hold the book of life which is actually the list of all enlightened beings in this cosmic cycle (throughout time).

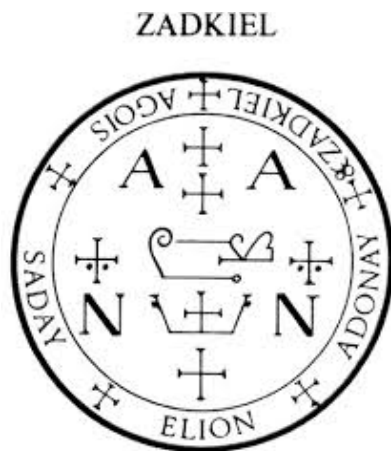
Aralim



The Aralim are the order of angels that dwell in Binah. The Aralim are called the Thrones, and they are the strength and stability of Binah. It is interesting to note an older alternative name for Binah was Khorsia, which means throne.

Hesed (Mercy): Archangel – Tzadkiel; Order of Angels - Hashmalim

Tzadkiel



As the angel of mercy, Tzadkiel and the angels he supervises send the energy of God's mercy throughout the universe. That involves inspiring people to be kind to others because God is kind to them. It also includes giving people peace when they pray so they can be confident that God will answer their prayers according to what's truly best.

Hashmalim



In Jewish lore, Hashmal is a fire-speaking order of angels. They surround God's throne according to The Legends of The Jews I, 18. The Zohar explain the name Hashmal. Saying that the term denotes "an inner, supernatural sphere, hidden and veiled, in which the mysteries of the celestial letters of the Holy Name are suspended". Therefore, in other words, their name denotes a primeval wisdom and wonderful light.

Gevurah (Severity): Archangel – Kamael; Order of Angels - Seraphim

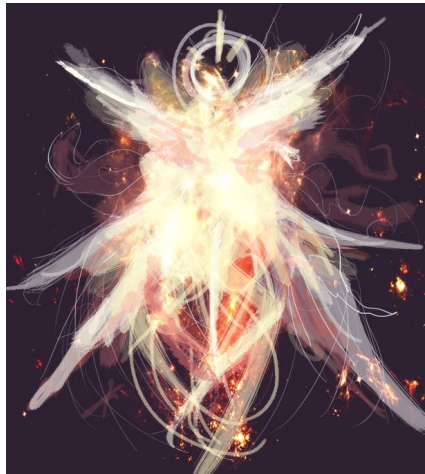
Kamael



As the angel of peaceful relationships, Kamael exercises tough love to strengthen relationships so that people can experience peace -- within themselves, with each other, and with God. Kamael and the angels he oversees test people's beliefs and motivations. In the process, they purify them to help people develop stronger relationships with God.

Kamael is also said to be the burning angel – this is because his power is to bring strength and peace even when it is difficult. When one is not ready for Kamael, he may appear fiery and seem painful.

Seraphim



The seraphim (fiery, burning ones) are angelic beings associated with the prophet Isaiah's vision of God in the Temple when God called him to his prophetic ministry (Isaiah 6:1-7). Isaiah 6:2-4 records, “Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: ‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.’ At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook, and the temple was filled with smoke.” Seraphs are angels who worship God continually.

Tiferet (Beauty): Archangel – Raphael; Order of Angels – Malachim

Raphael



Raphael is the Archangel of healing. At Tiferet we will experience healing of our minds, bodies, emotions, and souls. Raphael is about all of these types of healing and more. Tiferet is considered the Sefirot of the Messiah and thus Raphael offers healing that brings us back into union with who we truly are.

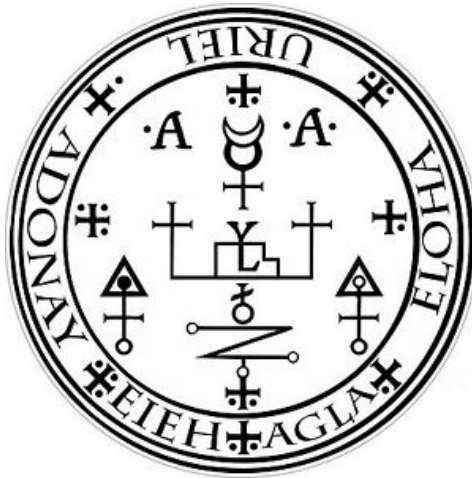
Malachim



Malachim means messengers and the order of angels called the Malachim are messengers of God that carry prophecy to the people and prayers back to the Holy One. Their job is to carry messages back and forth across dimensions.

Netzach (Victory): Archangel – Uriel; Order of Angels – The elohim

Uriel



Uriel is the “fire of God” and is the Archangel of miracles. He is the instrument of God’s joy on earth that creates new possibilities and manifests that which is beyond human understanding.

The elohim



The Elohim is a confusing name for this angelic order because Elohim is also a name of God. Elohim means God in multiple male and female personalities. The Elohim refers to an order of angels that are responsible for human government and groupings. Instead of dealing with individuals, they deal with institution.

Hod (Splendor): Archangel – Michael; Order of Angels – Beni Elohim

Michael



Michael's name means "Who is like God". He is the chief warrior of Heaven and the protector of all. He may seem like a warrior, and he is, but he would prefer peace to conflict and will assist all in their quest for peace and unity.

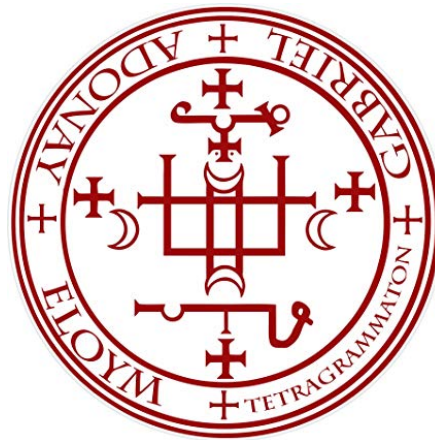
Beni Elohim



The Beni Elohim, or "sons of God", are an order of angels that are very familiar with physical reality. They are said to be the angels that can take human form the easiest and can inhabit a human body with the most ease.

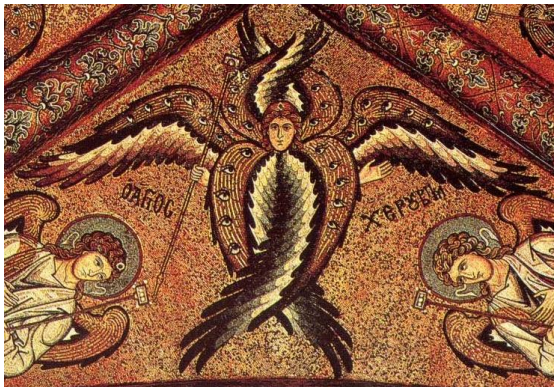
Yesod (Foundation): Archangel – Gabriel; Order of Angels - Kerubim

Gabriel



As the angel of revelation, Gabriel is a master communicator, so God has assigned Gabriel to be in charge of the tree's foundation. In that role, Gabriel connects people to God through messages of faith and helps people rely on their faith in God to make transitions in life.

Kerubim

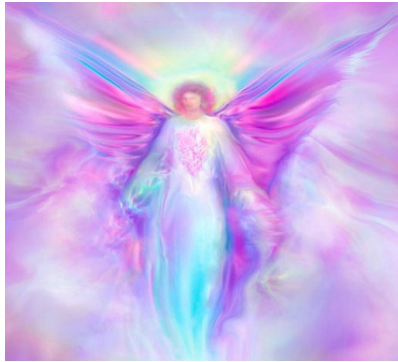


Kerubim is one of the angelic orders who directly attend to God according to Abrahamic religions. The numerous depictions of kerubim assign to them many different roles; their original duty having been the protection of the Garden of Eden. Their function is said to be the gate keepers of all doors, windows, and dimensional openings.

They are often depicted as being chunky children with wings because they are referred to as having “tiny faces”, however this depiction is probably a confusion between the Kerubim and the Greek God of love, Cupid.

Malkut (Kingdom): Archangel – Sandalfon; Order of Angels - Ashim

Sandalfon



Sandalfon is sometimes called the “Shoe Angel” because she walks with us on our journey. As the angel of music and prayer, Sandalfon sends messages back and forth between God and human beings in God's kingdom. Sandalfon's efforts are designed to keep the divine energy flowing freely, nurturing all parts of God's kingdom.

Ashim



The Ashim are an order of Angels said to be made up of snow and fire. This is because their role is looking after all the forces of nature such as gravity, the strong and weak nuclear forces, etc.

Barachiel



Barachiel is an archangel known as the angel of blessings and this angel is also the chief of all of the guardian angels. Barachiel (who is also often known as "Barakiel") means "God's blessings."