

SESSION 16 Kabbalah Centre

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Title page of the Zohar, 1558

FOUNDED, LOCATION

Founded by Shraga Feivel Gruberger (1927?–), now known as Philip S. Berg. But followers claim it was originally founded in 1922 by Rav Yehuda Ashlag (1885–1995) in Jerusalem. Headquarters today in Los Angeles, California.

KEY WRITINGS

The *Zohar* (“Book of Splendor”), the Centre’s 23-volume translation of mystical Aramaic and Hebrew writings which first appeared in Spain in the 13th–14th centuries. Books by Philip Berg and his son, Yehuda, including *Kabbalah for the Layman*, *The Essential Zohar*, and *The 72 Names of God*.

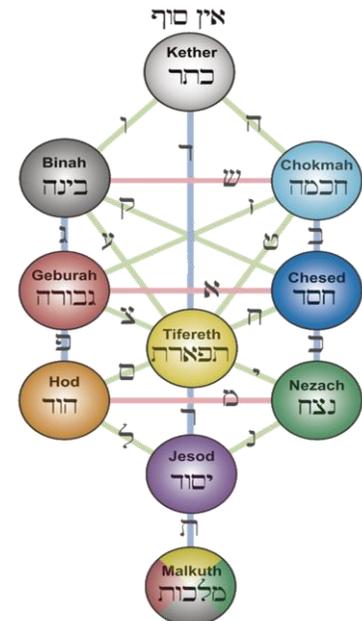
BASIC BELIEFS

WHO IS GOD?

The supreme being (*Ein Sof*, “endlessness”) is unknowable, infinite, and impersonal—described as both “everything” and “in everything.”

Revealed through ten _____ or manifestations (*sefirot*, “numbers”).

Sefirot are illustrated with male and female aspects as ten points on the Kabbalah “Tree of Life” diagram.



Tree of Life diagram

WHO IS JESUS?

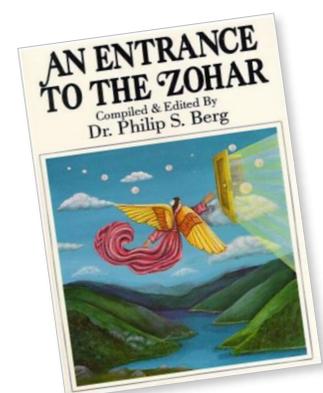
Jesus is not God, nor is he the Jewish Messiah (who is yet to come). Some believe Jesus was a Kabbalist himself.

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

Ru’ah HaKodesh (“spirit of holiness”) is said to be a state of the soul that enables one to prophesy.

HOW TO BE SAVED

Man is a vessel with the _____ of the Creator; he repairs God/the universe by right living and sharing so he can hold more of the Creator’s _____. Kabbalah enables us to understand and live in harmony



with spiritual laws on which the universe operates.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER DEATH?

Followers believe in _____, not resurrection.

Man is said to climb the Tree of Life back to God, and thus return to Paradise and “restore Eden.”

OTHER BELIEFS, PRACTICES

Evil is not a moral issue, but a question of violating universal principles.

Wear red string bracelets and other _____ to protect from the “Evil Eye” and negative spiritual influences.

Extensive use of _____ and meditation.

Controversy over expensive merchandise, courses, and fundraising methods.

ANSWERS:

Emanations, Sparke, Light, Reincarnation, Tailsman, Astorgly