

LIGHT AND VESSELS

This art depicts the 10 *Sefirot* of the Tree of Life within the 10 *Sefirot*.

The Tree of Life is the divine map of spiritual consciousness discussed in Kabbalah. These 10 aspects of our inner self and levels of divine experience are called *Sefirot*.

The 10 *Sefirot* and one of many ways of describing them:

<i>Keter</i>	Divine Source
<i>Chochma</i>	Oneness
<i>Bina</i>	Unconditional Love
<i>Chesed</i>	Loving Kindness
<i>Gevurah</i>	Humility
<i>Tiferet</i>	Balance
<i>Netzach</i>	Eternity
<i>Hod</i>	Thankfulness
<i>Yesod</i>	Unity
<i>Malchut</i>	Central Point in the Heart

Each of the *Sefirot* contains within itself all of the *Sefirot* in various combinations of direct light and returning light.

Experiencing God's love and goodness is direct light. Returning the love is returning light. A basic principle of Kabbalah is that returning light is the vessel for direct light. This means that we experience God's giving and love to the extent that we give and love.

In this picture the *Sefirot* are represented by nine squares and a rectangle:

The top middle square represents the highest *Sefira KETER*. The top right square represents *CHOCHMA*. The top left square represents *BINA*. The middle right square represents *CHESED*. The middle left square represents *GEVURAH*. The middle center square represents *TIFERET*. The lower right square represents *NETZACH*. The lower left square represents *HOD*. The lower middle square represents *YESOD*. The rectangle at the bottom represents *MALCHUT*.

Each of the 10 *Sefirot* contains 10 triangles representing the 10 *Sefirot* within itself. The color coding of these *Sefirot* is the same as before.

Triangles representing direct light point down. Triangles representing returning light point up.

KETER has 9 direct lights and 1 returning light. *CHOCHMA* has 8 direct lights and 2 returning lights. *BINA* has 7 direct lights and 3 returning lights, and so on until *MALCHUT* with 10 returning lights.

This painting is inspired by a passage from the monumental Kabbalah work *Talmud Eser Sefirot* by the holy Rebbe Yehudah Leib HaLevi Ashlag z"l.

Tzfat Gallery of Mystical Art

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