

Robert Powell: Weekly Podcasts and the Circle of Twelve

Central to the podcasts is the Circle of Twelve Great Teachers of humanity.¹

In the words of Rudolf Steiner: "Such beings are the Bodhisattvas... There are twelve of them connected with our cosmos to which the Earth belongs... All Bodhisattvas have a definite mission... the Bodhisattvas descend—they incarnate from time to time—incorporating into the evolution of the Earth what the content of their mission is, thus bringing Earth evolution forwards. If we were to contemplate the entire evolution of the Earth, we would find twelve such Bodhisattvas. They belong to that great spiritual community which, from time to time, sends one of the Bodhisattvas to the Earth as a special messenger, as a Great Teacher. We have to recognize a great lodge of twelve Bodhisattvas as the guiding lodge of the entire evolution of the Earth...

The twelve Bodhisattvas are positioned in a great spiritual lodge around their center [where] they are immersed in beholding the Great Being from whom everything streams to them which they are then to integrate into [Earth] evolution as their mission... The Thirteenth is the Being about whom they all teach... concerning Whom they always proclaim from age to age. This Thirteenth is the One... whom we call the Christ." (Complete Works, vol. 114; CW 114, lecture of 21 September 1909.)

The following tabulation represents my research concerning the identity of these twelve Bodhisattvas, with some of their earthly incarnations, in those cases where it was possible to determine their incarnations. A correspondence of these twelve Great Teachers with the twelve signs of the zodiac is also indicated.

In some podcasts—from Christmas 2025 onward for the first half of 2026—there has been a focus on one Bodhisattva in particular, spoken of in the Buddhist tradition as the Bodhisattva who will become the next Buddha, the Maitreya Buddha, and referred to in the Hindu tradition as the Kalki Avatar, the tenth and final Avatar of the Hindu god Vishnu, who corresponds in Christianity to Christ. In the Christian tradition this future Buddha/Avatar is generally referred to by his name in his incarnation from 1378 to 1484 as Christian Rosenkreuz, the founder in the fifteenth century of the original Rosicrucian Order. Given that Christian Rosenkreuz will be the next Buddha, it is understandable why, in the circle of the twelve Bodhisattvas, he assumes special significance. Rudolf Steiner also emphasizes Christian Rosenkreuz, known in a later incarnation from 1696 to 1784 as Count Saint-Germain. In a notebook of Elise Wolfram, he indicated the inspirers of the various cultural epochs.

¹ The original audio files of the English language podcasts are posted on the website www.sophiaschoolofmovement.org. The English transcripts of the audio files are available from Kelly Calegar keylionesstoo@protonmail.com. The German translations of the transcripts are available from Angelika Jenal angelikajenal@hotmail.com or Doris WolfScheck doxewo@gmail.com

Thereby, Rudolf Steiner indicated "St. G." (Saint-Germain) as the inspirer of our current fifth post-Atlantean epoch (1414-3574).

It is important to note that with the zodiacal correspondences it is a matter of archetypes and not actual birth configurations. For example, Jesus of Nazareth appears under Pisces because, as Rudolf Steiner stated, Pisces is the archetype for Jesus of Nazareth. He also spoke of Aquarius as the archetype for John the Baptist. As indicated in my book *Chronicle of the Living Christ*, the Sun at the birth of Jesus of Nazareth was actually in the sign of Sagittarius and the Sun at the birth of John the Baptist was in the sign of Gemini.

In the following quotations from Rudolf Steiner, he mentions some of the Great Initiates:

Preface by Rudolf Steiner to Edouard Schuré's Drama *The Children of Lucifer*: "Great Initiates lead to those heights of human development where Krishna, Hermes, Moses, Orpheus, Pythagoras, Plato, and Jesus walked. The paths along which these leaders showed their peoples and times the goal of humanity, which they drew from the source of their divine insight, are described in brilliant colors."

(rsarchive.org, 1. Mai 1905)

In a similar Rudolf Steiner quote, we read: "Zarathustra in Persia, Krishna in India, Hermes in Egypt, Moses among the Jewish people, Orpheus continued the work—then Pythagoras, and finally the Initiate of all Initiates, Jesus, who bore within Him the Christ. Here only the greatest of Initiates are mentioned. (rsarchive.org, 16. März 1905)

Elsewhere Rudolf Steiner mentions, in addition to the aforementioned Great Initiates, the Ancient Indian Rishis and Buddha (rsarchive.org, 8. Dezember 1904)

Inspirers of the seven cultural epochs

Historians write dates: ...3 BC, 2 BC, 1 BC, 1 AD, 2 AD, 3 AD...

Astronomers write dates: -2, -1 0 1 2 3

The reason for astronomers doing this is to include the year zero (0).

The dates listed below are written astronomically, as indicated by the minus sign. Thereby it can readily be seen that each zodiacal age and corresponding cultural epoch is 2160 years long, agreeing with Rudolf Steiner's dating for the cultural epochs.

For example, the Age of Aries lasts from -1945 to 215 = 2160 years.

The corresponding Greco-Roman cultural epoch follows exactly 1199 years later, from -746 to 1414, again a period of 2160 years, noting that -746 (astronomers) equates with 747 BC (historians), which is the historically accepted date of the founding of Rome. Note that $-746 + 2160 = 1414$, whereas Rudolf Steiner added

2160 to 747 BC and arrived at the date 1413 for the start of the fifth cultural epoch.

Cultural Epoch Inspirers	Zodiacal Age	Zodiacal Dates	Cultural Dates
1. Ancient India	Cancer	-8425 to -6265	-7226 to -5066 7 Holy Rishis
2. Ancient Persia Zarathustra	Gemini	-6265 to -4105	-5066 to -2906
3. Egyptian-Babylonian	Taurus	-4105 to -1945	-2906 to -746 Hermes & Moses
4. Greco-Roman Pythagoras	Aries	-1945 to 215	-746 to 1414 & Jesus
5. European	Pisces	215 to 2375	1414 to 3574 Christian Rosenkreuz
6. Slavic	Aquarius	2375 to 4535	3574 to 5734 Master Jesus*
7. American Salome**	Capricorn	4535 to 6695	5734 to 7894

*»Through the principle of brotherly love, which has its representative in the Master Jesus, the unification of humanity into the sixth sub-race is brought about, which, based on this principle of brotherly love, grows into the future.» (Rudolf Steiner, GA 264, 12 February 1906, Cologne: https://rsarchive.org/Lectures/GA264/English/SOL2025/58_19060212.html)
Rudolf Steiner spoke of the work of the Master Christian Rosenkreuz and that of the Master Jesus as decisive for the whole future evolution of the West, in particular of Europe.

**Salome is the name of the daughter of the head of the synagogue in Capernaum. She was raised from the dead in connection with the future mission of the seventh cultural epoch as a metamorphosis of the Ancient Indian cultural epoch. However, the raising from the dead of Salome is not to be thought of in the same way as that of the great initiate Lazarus, who later incarnated as Christian Rosenkreuz, who was raised from the dead in preparation for his mission as the guiding initiate of the fifth cultural epoch.

Salome was twelve years old when she was raised from the dead. Her father, Jairus, was ruler of the synagogue in Capernaum. According to Rudolf Steiner, her raising was in memory of the Ancient Indian cultural epoch and was preparatory for the seventh cultural epoch, which Rudolf Steiner indicated would be a metamorphosis, a kind of resurrection, of the Ancient Indian cultural epoch.

The inclusion of Salome in the above table is instead of indicating a great initiate as the inspirer of the seventh cultural epoch. It is a matter of holding Rudolf Steiner's indication in consciousness regarding Salome, as outlined above. Rudolf Steiner's account of the raising of Salome can be read in "Master Personalities Associated with the Awakenings in the Gospels," *The History and Content of the Esoteric School 1904-1914*, Volume One, GA 264 (that is, *Complete Works*, vol. 264). It should be noted that Rudolf Steiner does not name Salome or Jairus but simply refers to her as the daughter of the ruler of a synagogue. In the words of Rudolf Steiner from the foregoing GA 264 reference: "The ancient Indian age experiences its resurrection in the seventh post-Atlantean epoch with the help of the power of Christ."

The Twelve Bodhisattvas and their correspondences to the Twelve Signs of the Zodiac, together with some indications concerning the reincarnations of the Twelve Bodhisattvas

See the tabulation below: in order of the zodiacal signs, based on the information provided by Dr Robert Powell in his podcasts, recorded from 2019 to the present time.

Aries (Thought):

Enoch
Moses
Aristotle
Schionatulander
Thomas Aquinas
Rudolf Steiner

Taurus (Will):

Kashyapa
Abraham
Mahakashyapa
Jeshu ben Pandira
Lazarus (John)
Christian Rosenkreuz
Count Saint-Germain
Valentin Tomberg

Gemini (Love):

Zarathustra (born c. 5000 BC)

Zoroaster (born c. 600 BC)
Solomon Jesus
(birth described in the Gospel of Matthew)
Friend of God from the Oberland (Master Jesus)
Peter Deunov

Cancer (Peacemaker):

Abel
King Solomon
Mary Magdalene
Repanse de Schoye (Bearer of the Grail)

Leo (Mercy):

Cain
(he had to learn mercy)
Hiram Abiff from Tyre
(out of mercy towards King Solomon, he worked on the construction of the Temple)
Gautama Buddha (friend and pupil of Christian Rosenkreuz)
Christian Rosenkreuz
(this mainly concerns his supersensible activity,
in particular his collaboration with Gautama Buddha)

Virgo (Purity):

Eve
Queen of Sheba
Virgin Mary
(her last incarnation on Earth: 21 BC – 44 AD)
Youth of Nain
Mani
Parzival
Kaspar Hauser

Libra (Justice):

Manu (Noah)
Melchizedek
Titurel
(spiritual collaboration between this individuality and Joseph of Arimathea at the
time of Christ)
Titurel
(spiritual collaboration between this individuality and Trevrizent as the reincarnation
of Joseph of Arimathea during the time of the Grail)

Scorpio

(Obedience, in the sense of 'Thy will be done' Luke 22:42):

Skythianos

Sagittarius (Striving for Goals):

Arjuna (overlighted by Krishna)

Paul

Charlemagne

Capricorn

(Messenger and Proclaimer of Truth):

Atlas

Hermes

Jacob

Pythagoras

Gold King

Guillaume of Toulouse

(Willehalm or Kyot in Wolfram von Eschenbach's works)

Johannes Kepler

Aquarius

(God's Representative):

Adam

Rachel

(one of Jacob's wives, mother of Joseph and Benjamin)

Phineas (Phinehas)

Elijah

John the Baptist

Elisabeth von Thüringen (Elisabeth of Hungary)

Raphael

Novalis

Pisces (Chosen One):

Jesus of Nazareth

(Nathan Jesus, whose birth is described in the Gospel of Luke)