

Review of Introduction to First Ray

The first ray is called the ray of will or power. The basic quality for persons on this ray is dynamic purpose, and the basic technique is grasping what they need. Their will power is strong, for either good or evil. This power works out as strength, courage, and steadfastness, but it also works out as a destructive force with an apparent cruelty and impersonality. First-ray persons often have strong feelings and affections but do not readily express them. They are born leaders, generally found at the head of their professions. (Lansdowne, *The Rays and Esoteric Psychology*, 5).

The Intention of this type of soul is to reveal the *Purpose of Divinity* within the human kingdom. All life is evolving, and it is the objective of this ray type to supply the power and direction to this evolutionary movement. Therefore, the function of the First Ray soul is to express the power of divine purpose through loving strength and synthetic vision. Its role is to shatter those forms that no longer adequately express the Love of God. This great stream of life is best understood as a liberating force. It frees life from its encasement within outworn forms, thereby allowing it to seek new and higher forms through which to express itself more radiantly. It is not surprising that the First Ray is deeply associated with death and rebirth. First Ray disciples are uniquely sensitive to the larger spiritual principles seeking to evolve through human society and environmental circumstance. Societally, the First Ray animates and vitalizes the institutions of politics, government and international statesmanship. Fundamentally, this ray represents the purpose and will of God, and is the energy within society that forces humanity to move forward in its growth and development. (Meader, *Shine Forth*, 75-76)

This energy gives rise to the *power type*: the king, the ruler, the governor, the statesman, the president, the manager, the administrator, the law-enforcer, and the leader. Some of the qualities of this type include a sense of understanding of issues that relate to power, a managerial or administrative ability, skill in handling people, a sense of strength and responsibility, persistence and steadfastness, and a sense of justice. Some of the worst examples of this type would be cruelty, total disregard for the feelings of others, personal ambition, ruthlessness, destructiveness, and the will to personal power. (Abraham, *Introduction to the Seven Rays*, 5-6)

Introduction to the Second Ray of Love-Wisdom

Special Virtues: Calm, strength, patience and endurance, love of truth, faithfulness, intuition, clear intelligence, and serene temper.

Vices of the Ray: Over absorption in study, coldness, indifference to others, contempt of mental limitations in others.

Virtues to be acquired: Love, compassion, unselfishness, energy.

This is called the ray of wisdom from its characteristic desire for pure knowledge and for absolute truth – cold and selfish, if without love, and inactive without power. When both power and love are present, they you have the ray of the Buddhas [and Christs] and all the greater teachers of humanity, —those who, having attained wisdom for the sake of others, spend themselves in giving it forth. The student on this ray is ever unsatisfied with his highest attainments; no matter how great his knowledge, his mind is still fixed on the unknown, the beyond, and on the heights as yet unscaled. (Bailey, *Esoteric Psychology I*, 202)

The second ray is called the ray of love-wisdom. The basic quality for individuals on this ray is inclusive love, and the basic technique is attracting what one needs. They have a desire for knowledge and truth, are more magnetic than dynamic, and are builders rather than destroyers. They generally have tact, foresight, and the ability to convey understanding to others. They make excellent ambassadors, psychotherapists, or teachers. (Lansdowne, *The Rays and Esoteric Psychology*, 9)

The Second Ray is the ray that conditions life with *Divine Love*. Its role is to reveal the unity that underlies all apparent diversity within creation. Love expressed through compassion and understanding is how this ray

manifests for those whose souls are conditioned by it. It is the ray of inclusiveness and relates all things to each other reveal the love and wisdom underlying outer events. Spiritually speaking, love is understood as an energy that attracts all unto itself. As such, the Second Ray is truly the emanation of God's love, and is the magnetic power found in all aspects of creation. For disciples on this ray, wise and loving thought is considered the antidote to all human malady and misfortune. Such people tend to commit their lives to promote love and wisdom in all that they see and do. From a larger perspective, this ray governs the educational efforts found within all human societies. It is also the force that animates the healing arts, whether traditional or alternative in nature. People with Second Ray souls are able to disseminate the new and emerging ideas that will shape human society during the Aquarian era to come. (Meader, *Shine Forth*, 76-77)

This energy gives rise to the *love type*, full of love and fusing power. This type, from an archetypal point of view, is the wise counselor to the ruler and is generally attracted to religious or spiritual endeavors or wisdom teachings of some sort. Interested in the field of consciousness, this type will often make a good psychologist, counselor, or teacher. Some qualities evidenced by this type are patience, love, sympathy, wisdom, understanding, inclusiveness, teaching ability, a broad inclusive type of knowledge, healing or therapeutic ability, and a desire for peace, calmness, and unification. Some negative characteristics of the second ray type are lack of energy, a desire for personal popularity or the liking of being liked, over absorption in study, a longing for material security, fearfulness, over attachment, hypersensitivity, and a tendency to be overly protective.

Love and wisdom go hand in hand as do will and power. Love tends to bring about an appreciation and understanding of that which is other than self. Understanding and appreciation of "the other" help to bring about right relationship and a sense of unity. Wisdom is a kind of knowing that goes deeper than academic acquaintance with the form of things.

A negative trait of this contemplative type is over-absorption in study. In some cases this can lead to a failure to assume right responsibility... and can lead at times to a neglect of the physical plane necessities.

[See the Second Ray Handout](#)