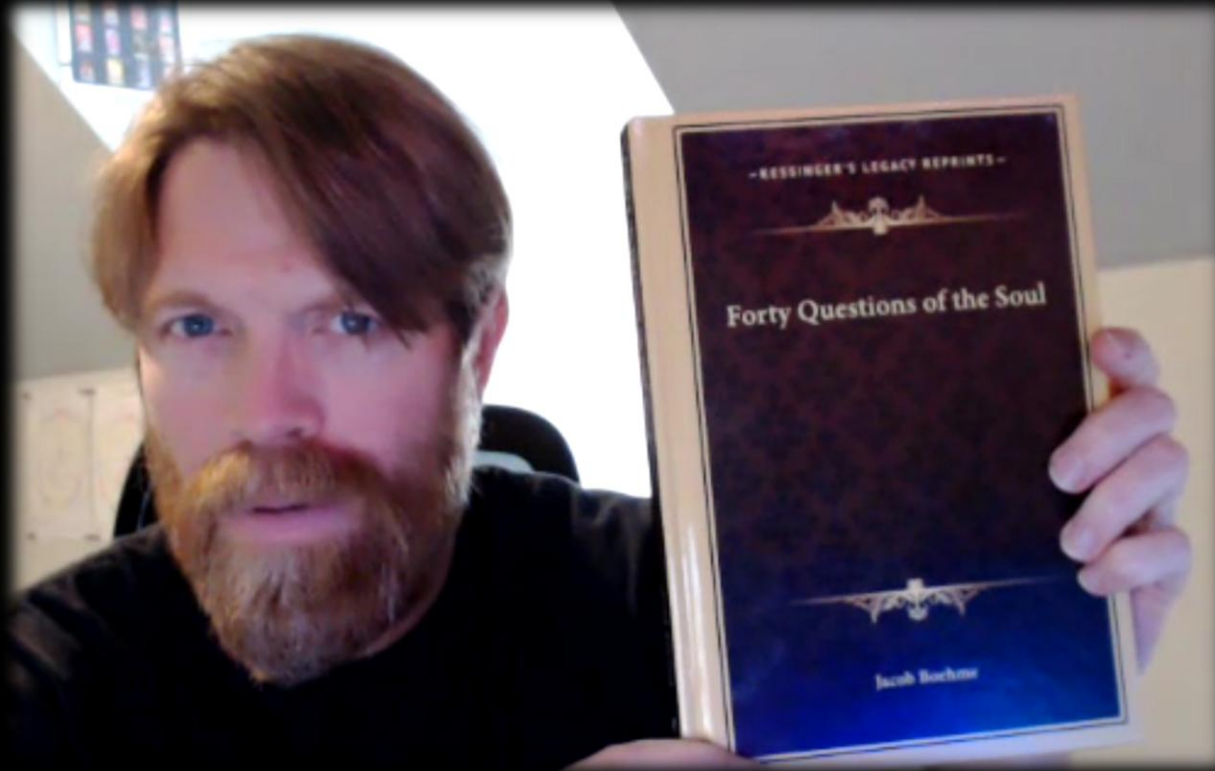
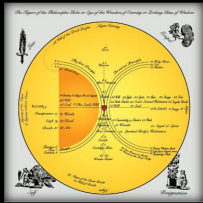


Jakob Böhme

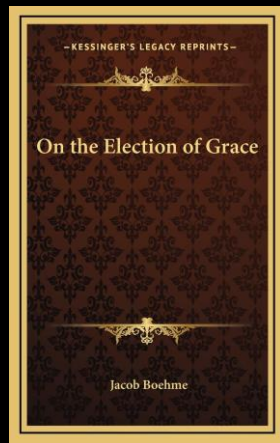
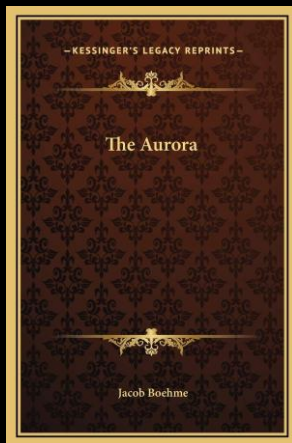
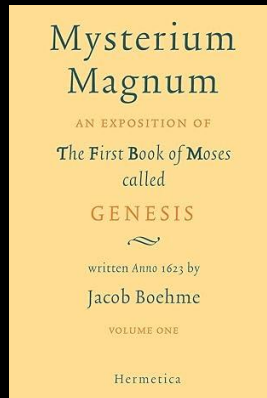
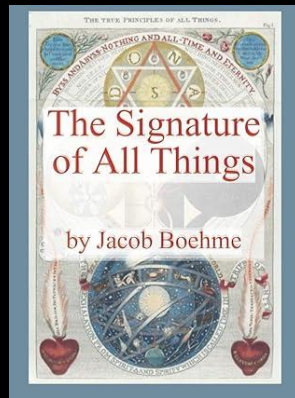
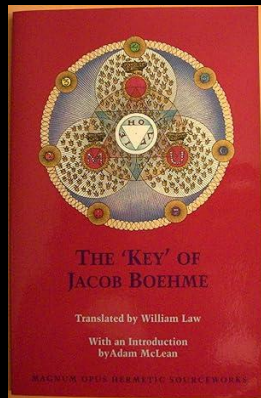
Forty Questions of the Soul

Question 1 Part 1





■ Some of Jakob's books:



THE FIRST QUESTION

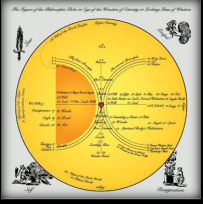
WHAT
Whence proceeded the Soul Originally at the beginning of the World?

1. **WE** have, both in our second and third book, sufficiently laid open the mysteries of the soul, according to the three Principles of the divine * essence; where also we have set down, by many circumstances, the eternal centre of the eternal nature; and also the Ternary of the divine essence; and moreover, what eternity hath ever been, and how the beginning of the creation ^{was} brought forth; and what an angel, ¹ Or came to be, and what a soul is: Also we have laid open the heavy fall of Lucifer; and moreover, both the mothers which have so brought it forth, [†] the one ^{AIM} ^{AZMA} ² procreating the heavenly essentiality, and the ³ engendering.

* "Essence" (*Wesen*), often translated with equal correctness "substance" or "being."

† "The one procreating the heavenly essentiality," etc. Lit. "for the one generateth the heavenly essentiality, and the other, hellish abomination." Applying here to mother-principles which only develop in opposed directions a common life-impulse, the words "procreate" and "engender" do not appropriately render the original term. The process indicated is one of gestation and bringing forth.

1



■ Ternary: threefold self-manifestation of God:

The Fire Principle — severity, desire, wrath, hidden power.

The Light Principle — love, illumination, joy.

The Spirit Principle — (outer) manifestation, movement, creation.

Jakob describes the Principles as corresponding to Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The Fire Principle is the dark ground of divine energy.

The Light Principle transforms wrath into love.

The Spirit Principle is where the Two become outwardly expressed in Creation and Spirit.

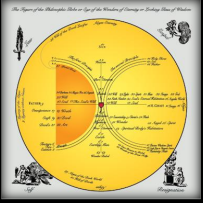
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■ “laid open the heavy fall of Lucifer”

The inner spiritual cause of rebellion and ruin.

“Fall” can be considered: self-will, pride, desire to dominate, to turn away from divine harmony, to rule through His own power.

Lucifer (aspect of God), glorious angel who turned inward toward His own fiery nature instead of remaining in God’s love and meekness.

“the heavy fall” = tragic spiritual collapse from divine light into wrath, pride, and separation from God.

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The Figure of the Philosophic Globe or Eye of the Wonders of Eternity or Looking Glass of Wisdom

