

Chapter 2- Schemes of Evolution

Part 5 - The Earth Chain - Body of Dawn

Fourth Round

Elementals Begin To Affect Man

In taking a preliminary bird's-eye view of the fourth Round, one important and far-reaching change is apparent in the surroundings amid which human evolution is to proceed. In the three preceding Rounds the elemental essence was practically untouched by man, and was affected only by the Devas, or Angels, by whose influences it evolved. Man was not sufficiently developed to affect it to any serious extent. But in this Round man's influence plays a very important part, and his self-centered thoughts create swirls in the elemental essence surrounding him. The elementals, also, begin to show more hostility to him, as he emerges from the animal state into the dominating human, for he is, from their standpoint, no longer an animal among animals, but an independent and domineering entity, likely to be hostile and aggressive.

The Door Was Shut Against the Animal Kingdom and the Door Was Opened To the Path

Another most important characteristic of the fourth Round, the midmost of the seven, is that, in it, the door was shut against the animal kingdom, and the door was opened to the Path. Both statements are general; here and there an animal, by very special help, may still be evolved to a point where a human incarnation is possible for it, but in almost all cases no human body can now be found of sufficiently low development for its embodiment; so also might a man who had attained Arhatship or more on the Moon Chain climb yet higher, but all below that rank who had complete causal bodies did not enter into evolution on the Earth Chain until the later third and early fourth Root Races.

References

Annie Besant and C.W. Leadbeater, *Man: Whence, How and Whither - A Record of Clairvoyant Investigation*, Adyar: The Theosophical Publishing House, 1916

<http://www.anandgholap.net/Man Whence How And Whither-CWL.htm>