

THE KYBALION

Participant Study Guide

Session 2, Chapter 2

Chapter 2: The Seven Hermetic Principles

The Magic Key and the Seven Lenses

I. HEADER

A. **Reading Covered:** Chapter 2 (The Seven Hermetic Principles)

B. **Session Length:** 75 to 90 minutes

C. **What this guide is for:** This guide helps you read Chapter 2 with clarity and practice one Principle in real life during the week.

II. OVERVIEW

Chapter 2 introduces the Seven Hermetic Principles. The book presents them as a framework for understanding how life works and how mind operates within experience. You do not need perfect agreement with every claim to benefit from the practice. The goal is to test the Principles as lenses and observe what changes in your awareness, choices, and results.

III. STUDY PLAN

A. Before the meetup (20 to 30 minutes)

1. Read Chapter 2 once straight through.
2. Read again and underline the axioms for each Principle.

3. Choose one Principle you want to focus on this week.

B. After the meetup (one week practice)

1. Apply your chosen Principle once per day in a real situation.
 2. Notice what shifts in your perception, emotional state, and behavior.
 3. Write a short reflection at the end of the week.
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IV. THE MAGIC KEY

A. The Kybalion describes the Seven Principles as a “Magic Key” because the text claims they unlock understanding across many areas of life.

B. The “Temple” represents the larger body of Truth and inner knowledge. The “Doors” represent specific insights that feel closed until you have a working framework.

C. “All the Doors of the Temple fly open” means that once you understand the Principles, patterns become easier to recognize and confusion loses its grip.

V. THE SEVEN PRINCIPLES AT A GLANCE

Principle	Axiom (from the text)	Plain meaning
Mentalism	<i>“The All is Mind; The Universe is Mental.”</i>	Mind is presented as the underlying reality, not only a personal experience.
Correspondence	<i>“As above, so below; as below, so above.”</i>	Patterns repeat across levels. One area of life often reflects another.
Vibration	<i>“Nothing rests; everything moves; everything vibrates.”</i>	Everything changes by degree. States can shift over time.
Polarity	<i>“Everything is Dual... opposite poles... different in degree.”</i>	Opposites are connected and differ by degree.
Rhythm	<i>“Everything flows, out and in... tides... rise and fall.”</i>	Life moves in cycles. You can learn to stay steady through swings.
Cause and Effect	<i>“Every Cause has its Effect... everything happens according to Law.”</i>	Inputs shape outcomes. You can become more deliberate and less reactive.
Gender	<i>“Gender is in everything... Masculine and Feminine Principles.”</i>	Complementary qualities work together to produce creation on all levels.

VI. DISCUSSION PROMPTS

A. Framework prompts

1. Which Principle felt most clear to you, and why?
2. Which Principle felt most abstract to you, and why?
3. Which Principle feels most useful for your life right now, and why?

B. Applied prompts

1. What repeating pattern do you notice in your life right now?
 2. What input could you change this week to shift an outcome?
 3. If fear and courage differ by degree, what is your next better degree today?
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VII. ACTIVITY: PRINCIPLE MAPPING

A. Choose one Principle and apply it to one real situation. Use the prompts below.

B. Worksheet

1. My Principle:

2. My real life situation:

3. What the Principle reveals about my choices, state of mind, and results:

4. One practice I will test for one week:

VIII. ONE WEEK PRACTICE LOG

Use this log to track small shifts. A small change counts.

Day	Situation	Starting state	Tool or choice	New degree	Evidence of change
1					
2					

3					
4					
5					
6					
7					

IX. ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY

1. **Principle:** a foundational law or rule that the text presents as universal.
2. **Magic Key:** the understanding of the Seven Principles in a usable, living way.
3. **Mentalism:** the universe is mental in nature.
4. **Correspondence:** the claim that patterns repeat across levels.
5. **Vibration:** everything moves, and differences are differences in degree.
6. **Polarity:** opposites differ by degree.
7. **Rhythm:** life moves in tides and cycles.
8. **Cause and Effect:** events have causes and produce effects.
9. **Gender:** complementary qualities operate across planes.
10. **Paradox:** a statement that seems contradictory at first, but points to a deeper truth when held together.