In my opinion the books of E.J. Gold represent an extension of the fundamental, foundational ideas of G.I. Gurdjieff as expressed in his trilogy *All and Everything*, as well as P.D. Oupensky’s recollection of these ideas as summarized in his book *In Search of the Miraculous*.

G.I. Gurdjieff introduced the idea of the **Ray of Creation** to illustrate and explain how the Unified Presence of the Absolute involves and fragments as it passes through the seven dimensions or “cosmoses” of the Creation. See Chapter Five of *In Search of the Miraculous*.

In *The Hidden Work* we learn: “Each of the Choirs … corresponds to one of the descending cosmoses which fall into smaller and smaller fragmentations as they descend into lesser and lesser octaves from the First Great Octave, so that, for instance, the highest Choir (that is, The First Choir for which Gabriel is the Ruler) would be All-Quarters-Common-Cosmic-Maintainers, and so forth down the scale.

“The lowest Choir (that is, The Seventh Choir for which Cassiel is the Ruler) would represent that dimension immediately accessible to those forms of life in the animal and mineral kingdom, among which human beings of the planet Earth happen to have the misfortune to belong.” Page 155

Thus we begin our initial transformational work efforts in the Seventh Choir of Cassiel and once initiated are able to enter and be initiated in the Sixth Choir of Zachiel. Then we are able to enter the dimension of the Fifth Choir ruled by Sandalphon which is two dimensions closer to the Absolute than from where we began our efforts towards self-perfecting.

In our returning evolutionary ascent through the cosmoses towards the Unified Presence of the Absolute we increasingly achieve and experience greater degrees of personal unified presence and correspondence with “the image of God”.

On page 128 of *The Hidden Work* we learn: **“Prayer Absolute** is in the form of an objective nine-stepped octave which includes the two intentional retardations introduced by the internal activities, which is to say the radiations of non-negative force, of an awakened biological machine.

“Step one is the physical, step two the emotional, step three, the intellectual, step four, the real emotional, step five, the real intellectual.

“The first instruction reads, “*In motion, bowing, my presence comes to Thee.*” This is the first note *doh*.”

In my understanding this first instruction corresponds to and is a brief summary of the mental, emotional and moving posture of Cassiel - Ruler of the Seventh Choir.

The second instruction, “*Humbly with heart alive, my presence awakens to Thee.*” This is the second note *re* and represents the mental, emotional and moving posture of Zachiel – Ruler of the Sixth Choir.

The third instruction, “*With clear mind, my presence comes to know Thee.*” This is the third note *mi* and represents the mental, emotional and moving posture of Sandalphon – Ruler of the Fifth Choir.

“One can transform the biological machine into an apparatus for the transformation of the Being by awakening the machine and bringing the work of the lower centrums into the voluntary.” page 79

This is to say that as we are able to pacify the lower physical, emotional and thinking centers by means of the invocation of our presence we are able to engage in Angel-Training, that is, draw down the higher mental, emotional and moving postures of the Angelic Beings who are already in the Work.

Within this framework of understanding regarding the Choirs and their Rulers in conjunction with **Prayer Absolute** we then turned our attention to the literature available regarding Sandalphon.

These are some of the important and significant ideas that we found.

1. Sandalphon and his twin brother, Metatron, are the only archangels who were once mortal men. Sandalphon lived as the prophet Elijah and Metatron was the wise scribe Enoch. Elijah made his ascension to heaven via a horse drawn chariot of fire and light.
2. Sandalphon knows from personal experience what it is to live as a mortal. He has personal experience with ascending through the physical realm to higher levels of consciousness. As Angelic Ambassador of Personal Ascension, Sandalphon is an excellent Angelic Ally to those who are dedicated to a path of self-discovery, personal growth and ascension. He serves with infinite compassion and personal understanding and is devoted to supporting us through our own ascension process.
3. Sandalphon is strongly associated with heavenly, celestial music and serves as an Angelic Muse to musicians, composers, singers, etc. Within his role as Angelic Ambassador of Music Sandalphon is aligned with all forms of Sound Therapy and utilizing music, song and sound for healing and for clearing energy and raising the vibration within our self and our environment.
4. As Angelic Ambassador of Prayers Sandalphon’s angelic responsibilities include delivering our prayers to the Divine Universal Source. Sandalphon reminds us of the power of prayer, as well as that when we open our heart, mind and spirit in any form of prayer we are joined and supported by an infinite number of Celestial Light Beings, Angels, Ascended Masters, Guardians and Guides.
5. Sandalphon is the Guardian at the bottom of the Sepheroth – the Tree of Life. In this position he is regarded as the embryo of all the possibilities arising within the Tree of Life, as well as being instrumental in bringing about the differentiation of sexes in the embryo.
6. Sandalphon is said to be the tallest of the Angels – so tall that his height enables him to reach from the earth plane to heaven. Within this energy Sandalphon demonstrates how we are innately connected to both heaven and earth. He helps us to balance the energy of the physical and the divine within us and to consciously channel and utilize both energies to our benefit.
7. Sandalphon stands for: Courage, Silence, Knowledge, Will and Manifestation.

Our previous work efforts have been directed towards separating the submerged electrical field of the Essential Self from the dominant and unconscious force of the electrical field of the Human Biological Machine and its’ merciless tyrant the Historical Personality.

Success in these work efforts produces the ***Presence*** which is referenced in every line of **Prayer Absolute**, i.e. *my* ***Presence*** *comes to Thee*, *my* ***Presence*** *awakens to Thee*, *my* ***Presence*** *comes to know Thee* and so on.

As we are initiated in each of the Choirs our ***Presence*** gradually matures and acquires the equilibrium and stability necessary for further growth and development of voluntary evolutionary transformation.

In our experimental efforts directed towards invoking the attributes of Sandalphon within our self our attention has focused on that dimension to which the third instruction of **Prayer Absolute** applies, namely, *With clear mind, my presence comes to know Thee*.

As we begin **Prayer Absolute** in the Seventh Choir we observe and experience a natural relaxation of our physical manifestations, as well as the dissipation of the tensions that the body is normally subject to.

“*In motion, bowing, my presence comes to Thee.*”

In passing through the Sixth Choir we observe and experience the resolution of many feelings into the single feeling of presence.

“*Humbly with heart alive, my presence awakens to Thee.*”

Finally – in entering the Fifth Choir for which Sandalphon is the Ruler we observe that the multiplicity and diversity of our unconscious and reactive thought processes gradually subside and evaporate. Our singular presence of mind reduces, resolves and eliminates the dissonant fragmentation that is a dominant characteristic of the Historical Personality. Our whole presence is more harmonious and consonant with serenity of mind thereby building on the tranquility of feeling and happiness of bodily manifestations previously attained and established.