



Figure 3.01

**Here, the horizontal and the vertical axes show the spatial directions (i.e., zenith and nadir, north and south, east and west). The relevant guide, which also originated with Guénon, refers in this subject to Clement of Alexandria, who, not surprisingly, already thought in the same manner almost two thousand years ago:**

*Clement of Alexandria says that all the spatial directions of indefinite expansion start from God, 'the heart of the cosmos', one upwards, one downwards, one to the right, one to the left, one ahead and one backwards; God creates the world turning his face simultaneously towards these six directions of equal expansion; He is the beginning and the end (the alpha and the omega). (Ibid, 127)*

**Based on the above, he says the following:**

*In the above quoted text of Clement of Alexandria upwards and downwards mean the zenith and the nadir; right and left correspond to South and North, while ahead and backwards are to be considered as East and West; these correspondences are confirmed in each tradition. It can also be said that the vertical axis is nothing else but the polar axis, i.e., the fixed straight line connecting the two poles, around which the universe whirls: so this is the main axis while the two horizontal axes are only secondary and relative ones. From among the two latter axes, the north-south axis can be called the solstitial axis while the east-west one can be determined as the equinoctial axis. (Ibid, 132)*