

## *The Life Giving Waters*

### The Festival of Aquarius, New York

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Welcome everyone. As you know we have a special opportunity to work together tonight at the exact time of the full moon, something that doesn't happen very often. We can, therefore, use the opportunity of the meeting to prepare for that moment by creating a stillness and alignment within consciousness through which the Forces of Light can be invoked and released into our world.

When we come together at these full moon meetings each month one of our main tasks is to work with some of the keynotes or key qualities of the sign under consideration and build a thoughtform within consciousness related to those qualities and then to distribute them through the etheric network.

One of the defining qualities of the sign of Aquarius is that of the life-giving waters--an idea contained within the keynote of this sign, "Water of Life am I, poured forth for thirsty men." The other key idea is that of service. These two qualities that define Aquarius relate to one of the Laws of the Soul, known as The Law of Service. This is the most important Law that we need to learn to work with and understand as we move into the Aquarian age. What we might think service is, often doesn't correspond to the reality. Only as we enter into and work with the life-giving energies of this sign that is now on the horizon, will we come to a deepened understanding of just what service truly is. The Tibetan reminds us that so much of what masquerades as service in our lives is more often a manifestation of our busyness, rather than real service. But this busyness which is so much a part of our lives--living as we are upon a third ray planet—does not truly reflect a sound application of this Law which overshadows the entire constellation of Aquarius. For the Law of Service is said to be a great Life that overshadows the constellation Aquarius and perhaps as we work together as a group in conjunction with the spiritual Hierarchy we will be able to reach out and touch the hem of the garment of this Life during the opportunity of this exact time meeting.

So let us now take a moment of silence to align with own souls and with each other and with all other groups throughout the planet and together draw forth some of these healing waters of life.

O Thou Who givest sustenance to the universe,  
From Whom all things proceed,  
To Whom all things return,  
Unveil to us the face of the true Spiritual Sun  
Hidden by a disc of golden Light  
That we may know the Truth  
And do our whole duty  
As we journey to Thy sacred feet.

One of the ways by which we can begin to work more scientifically with the energies of any sign is by becoming more aware of the nature of the energies available during any particular time within the annual cycle. Aquarius is a sign ruled by the fifth ray-- the ray of Concrete Science.

This great ray will consequently come into increasing prominence during the next Aquarian cycle of 2500 years, defining it as a scientific age. And there are three primary sciences that will define this coming age. The first is the science of meditation and that science is unfolding now by all the individuals and groups throughout the world who are applying themselves to a meditative practice. But meditation as here defined is also related to a more concerted use of the mind in thought, viewing all deep thinking as essentially meditation. Thus, we can see that the work of the scientific community clearly qualifies as practicing a type of meditation

The second incoming science is really an extension of the science of meditation—the science of the antahkarana which utilizes this dual aspect of the mind to bridge to the higher levels of the Triadal light. For this is a ray influence that confers the intensest spiritual light and it is through this light that the mind eventually provides a pure channel for the influx of the energy of the divine will.

The third science that will define the coming age is that of service. And when service is described as a science we know we do have to look at and seek to understand it in new ways.

In quoting an ancient scripture related to the fifth ray the Tibetan gives us a taste of the reality of this ray energy:

“That which is on its way comes as a cloud which veils the sun. But hid behind this cloud of immanence is love, and on the earth is love and in the heaven is love, and this,—the love which maketh all things new—must stand revealed. This is the purpose back of all the acts of this great Lord of Knowledge” (*Esoteric Psychology, Vol. I, p. 75*). This quote gives us quite a different perspective than we might usually hold in relation to this Ray Lord. Here we can see that one of the defining qualities of this ray influence is the revelation of the love that underlies the happenings of the times. But this quality makes sense if we recall that the planet through which the fifth ray pours out its radiance is Venus, the preeminent planet related to love.

Some of his many names by which the Fifth Ray Lord is known--and there are many (and I'll only read a few) – reveal some of his diverse qualities:

The Cloud upon the Mountain top  
The Rose of God  
The Fifth great Judge  
The Ruler of the Third Heaven.

During the upcoming Aquarian cycle this fifth ray, being an analytical ray, will bring to the fore many of the occult sciences, one of which is the study of cycles--a subsidiary science to the science of astrology.

This study is not only theoretical, but also practical, conferring as it does the ability to live rhythmically,, in alignment with the soul by learning to read the patterns that substand and condition all things. Each sign of the zodiac has various cycles associated with it as does each time of the year. i just wanted to highlight a few basic cycles related to this period within the year.

In the cycles of breath, we know that this time of year -- the time ruled by Capricorn, Aquarius and Pisces -- corresponds to the period of inbreathing, a stage which is qualified by the stage in the meditation practice known as alignment, hence its association with the will aspect.

Spiritual alignment could be compared to the tuning of an instrument. A stringed instrument, if tuned too tightly, can easily cause the strings to snap, which translates as over-stimulation and mental imbalances within the lower vehicles. On the other hand, a feeble alignment results in a too flaccid condition leading to an inability to achieve the requisite tension for effective work.

Both these extremes result in an inability to create that beautiful music which should be possible. Consequently it is important for us to learn how best to work and much or how little pressure to apply within this process.

This fourth quarter of the zodiacal wheel is a culminating point in terms of the energies acquired, for each sign builds upon itself and when we reach this stage the potencies are real, and again, related to the spiritual will. This section of the wheel is composed of the signs of Capricorn, Aquarius and Pisces--the signs of the initiates, the world servers and the world saviors. This is a culminating stage. We know from our studies of the labours of Hercules that while the fighting disciple begins fresh, and with much confidence and strength but quickly, through the many labours he makes mistakes, passes through many successes and failures and only eventually, after much struggle, reaches the mountaintop experience in Capricorn beyond which point no further progress is possible. Now, in Aquarius, the only place we can go is down from the mountain. This is the beautiful symbolism of this stage, the individual in Capricorn turns his back upon the light supernal and then in Aquarius he distributes that light, freely and universally, to all who thirst. An ancient teaching writes of this experience, of this stage:

“Down from the mountain top I come, bringing the Light of Love, the Light of God. Into the chalice of all forms I meet, I pour this love which light confers, this love which life sustains. I see the love of life divine pour through the form, my own and others. It heals and soothes. Thus is the task performed. Thus is a man of earth transformed into a Son of God” (*Discipleship in the New Age, Vol. I*, p. 460).

This is a beautiful description of the Water Bearer and his capacity to pour forth these waters through the form.

And another cycle that is active at this time and also brings with it the potent energy of the will is the eclipse cycle. At the full and new moons there is always an opening, a portal created within consciousness, whereby humanity can make its collective approach to the subjective

realities. But at the eclipse times that portal is widened. Today is an eclipse, a minor one, but the upcoming solar eclipse on February 26th is a major. We can learn to use these energies using our intuition as our guide, interpreting the symbolism that any particular configuration contains within itself. This upcoming eclipse is an annular eclipse, sometimes known as a "Ring of Fire." It presents an alignment of a number of planets in the sign of Pisces and it is an eclipse related to endings so, from one perspective, we might conjecture its symbolic relationship to the ending of certain aspects of the outgoing Piscean age and consciousness and a subsequent opening for a move forward and release into the new and incoming Aquarian dispensation.

Aquarius is a potent sign and that potency is everywhere on display, perhaps most obviously in this country which is ruled at the soul level by Aquarius, and particularly since the sun went into that sign this year -- which it always does, on Inauguration Day. And then, on the day after the Inauguration there was an outpouring of Aquarian energies in the Women's March and the subsequent demonstrations for immigrant rights and other disenfranchised people, including vast numbers of young people who are rightly concerned about their future and the future of the planet. The young, having been born within the increasing influence of Aquarian energies that are pouring more strongly in with each passing decade, are naturally more responsive to that which is on the horizon than are the older generations and we should listen to them.

It is interesting to note that the first stirrings of the Aquarian Age began during the period of the French Revolution, in the late 18th century. In that revolution women of all classes played a significant part and the voice for suffrage also began rising at that time. As you know, Aquarian energies are related to liberty, equality and brotherhood and these energies were given a powerful stimulus by the discovery of the planet Uranus, which rules Aquarius and which was discovered in 1781, between the years of the American and French revolutions and which is naturally defined by a revolutionary nature.

France is a feminine nation and so is the United States and it seems we are reaching another cycle in global history wherein women will play a significant role in using their voices to usher in Aquarian values

In the Agni Yoga teachings we read an interesting quote in this regard: "...women's movements have a special significance for the immediate future. These movements should be understood not as an assertion of supremacy, but as the establishment of justice. Much has been said about co-measurement and equilibrium; precisely for the realization of this principle must the full rights of women be strengthened. One should not think that this will benefit only women; it will promote world equilibrium, and thus is necessary for harmonious evolution"

*Supermundane - the Inner Life - Book 1 (1938), #38.*

Obviously the masses of humanity are responding to the will aspect. But something else is now occurring as certain members of the human kingdom have reached a point in their collective

unfoldment wherein it is becoming possible to appropriate a higher aspect of this will energy, that of the will-to-good.

These new group are focalizing the light that was previously diffuse. In Aquarius it's said that the waters of the Piscean age will, symbolically speaking, be absorbed into the water-pot carried on the shoulder of the serving man (*Destiny of the Nations*, pp. 150). The free souls that constitute such groups will each have created for themselves their own water pots, as the result of their increasing ability to align with those reservoirs of thought which are the vital pools of lighted energy that exist upon the inner planes. These reservoirs or pools provide the material or substance which can be drawn upon in the aiding of humanity.

The first person on the planet to anchor this will energy was the great Teacher, the Christ. His most important act of service was perhaps that undertaken in the Garden of Gethsemane wherein he submerged his will in the greater will of the father. The Tibetan said of this experience, "Something new, yet planned for from the very depth of time, happened then in that quiet garden; Christ, representing mankind, anchored or established the Father's Will on earth and made it possible for intelligent humanity to carry it out." (*The Externalisation of the Hierarchy*, p. 606).

Prior to that time humanity was not responsive to the direct impact of the spiritual will but only indirectly through the mediation of the middle center, the spiritual hierarchy. But since that time and because of the sacrifice of the Christ humanity has become responsive and a medium through which that will can work out. There is now, therefore, "a direct line or thread of will energy that reaches now from the highest place to the lowest point and can, in due time, become a cable of ascension for humanity and of descent for the loving, living spirit of god" (*Ibid*).

It's said that after weeping cometh joy and that joy cometh in the morning. And although we are not yet within the morning of the Aquarian age perhaps we can best be guided during such periods as the present by a type of faith of which Rabindranath Tagore wrote, "Faith is the bird that feels the light and sings when the dawn is still dark."

So this is our opportunity, to feel that light of the times even while the surrounding darkness of the can appear very real. We have to recognize that behind and substanding all that is occurring upon the outer planes there exists the Love Eternal, Light Supernal and the peaceful, silent Will that is ceaselessly pouring out from high centers, providing the impetus for all the many new forms, and the substance of that tremendous human creativity that is so alive and well upon the planet. These are the things that should encourage us and strengthen us.

There is a curious and auspicious passage which speaks of the promise of the Aquarian age. It goes like this:

"When the sun progresses into the mansion of the serving man, the way of life takes the place of the way of work. Then the tree of life grows until its branches shelter all the sons of men.

The building of the temple and the carrying of the stones cease. The growing trees are seen; the buildings disappear. Let the sun pass into its appointed place, and in this day and generation attend ye to the roots of growth" (*A Treatise on White Magic*, p. 426).

These symbolic words point to the tremendous potential for the illumination of consciousness that this age will confer, through the building of those inner bridges within consciousness, the "growing trees," that are forged through an application to the science of the antahkarana. But now, during this period of the dawning age, the words counsel us to place our focus on the roots of growth--these roots being our spiritual disciplines, our practices, that provide the foundation through which we can eventually pour the life-giving waters into the weary vales of earth, bringing in the new culture. Let us then attend ourselves to these roots.

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