

Pisces Festival Meeting – New York – March 4, 2015

On the Mystery of the Fishes and the World Saviour

Steve Nation

It is always helpful to begin our approach to the full moon meditation work with a moment of alignment.

- Alignment with the planetary family of those who are meditating for world service during this full moon period;
- Alignment with the network of all who love and serve (can we think of the humanness of this network – of the radiance that is coming from human beings who are developing skills of compassion, harmlessness, self-forgetfulness, wilful purpose);
- Alignment with the esoteric group (the group of men, women and children from differing faiths, cultures, spiritual teachings and philosophies whose mind and heart are, focal points of fiery intelligent love);
- Alignment with the Great Ones on the inner side of life. Think for a moment of the radiance of the Christ – a radiance that encompasses all beings in the planetary life. Think of the radiance of the Masters of the Wisdom, a radiance that permeates the service network in all its inner dimensions (healing, meditation, faith, grace, forgiveness) and its more gritty outer appearances (human rights, law, economics, organisation). Think of the radiance of the Bodhisattva's (Avalokiteshvara, the Bodhisattva of Compassion, and his female companion, the White Tara, permeating consciousness with her gifts of peace, prosperity, long-life and good fortune; Manjushri, the Prince of Wisdom). And think of the Father's House – of that centre of peaceful silent will in the hidden secret abode of Shamballa.

And as we hold this thread of living, lighted substance which stretches inwards from the known realms of human consciousness, through the service networks and the meditating groups in humanity, through the inner ashrams of the Great Ones, the Christ and the Buddha, to Shamballa and beyond can we can quietly sound that most ancient of prayers, The Gayatri:

*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.*

Pisces conjures up all sorts of images to the modern mind. There is the image of the two fishes, swimming together – two fishes that cannot be separated, that are tied to each

other, unable to escape; two fishes in an unequal relationship of bondage, dominance and subservience. Then there is the image of Pisces as 'old age', as representing the past in relation to the new, open Aquarian Age – when we say something is 'Piscean', we tend to mean that it has had its day, that its authoritarian, lacking in synthesis, universality and inclusiveness – in other words that it is not modern. And there is the image, particularly for those who have a vague familiarity with the Bailey teachings, of Pisces as World Saviour, Messiah – as the Christ potential in its abundance and fullness.. So what are we to make of all these images?

The famous mythical pair of fishes, swimming side by side through the waters of time and space, represents the two aspects of Self: soul and personality. In the most basic sense it is a symbol of duality – the two fishes are unable to break free of each other, they are tied together. Now as we prepare to enter an age of freedom and wholeness this hardly sounds like an image to inspire. But the intriguing thing about the image is that it offers a complete vision of the evolutionary path for humanity, from the initial steps of the immature psyche through to the triumphant emergence of a World Saviour – a Christ, a Buddha or any one of a number of lesser Saviours.

Pisces is said to govern the feet. The evolutionary path, seen in the light of Pisces, is about the total redemption and transformation of matter – head, heart and feet are liberated in Pisces. The Bodhisattva vow not to seek freedom from the cycle of rebirths until all sentient beings have been liberated is the true opportunity of this sign.

Pisces is a water sign, the two fish live in a water environment. In the earliest cycles of incarnation one of the fishes, the Soul, is completely blind and imprisoned in a sea of vagueness. It is the personal fish that sees for the pair and that totally dominates in the relationship – yet this is not the dominance of the strong, fixed, arrogant personality. This is the personal that is unthinking; open to psychic impression without any control of where the impression is coming from; it is a fluid, instinctual, primitive, astral focus that is sensitive to all the impulses and desires in the subjective environment. Perhaps the modern attractiveness to young people of drugs reflects a throw back to this primitive psychic/astral awareness. For it is where we have all come from, and it is a part of deep memory; of elemental awareness bringing with it something of the comfort of being in the womb, immersed in water and not having any responsibility for self, or for anything. Instinct rules. The Soul is a prisoner in this world, sleeping, marking time – yet on its own plane knowing that this is a process of incarnation to be experienced, and as necessary, vital and important as any other process or stage.

The higher self is literally held prisoner. Through the endless round of incarnations the lower self is built up and the prison becomes more defined, more concentrated with clear desires, with an awakened intellect, personality goals and ambitions. This is duality, but not in any conscious sense, for there is one fish who is totally dominant, who takes all the food and nourishment, while the other is helpless and simply has to bide its time. But the time comes, eventually when the voice of the other begins to be heard. The great illusion, the thoughtform that this world of outer appearances is the total reality begins to be seen to be untrue. The voices of conscience and of the intuition begin to sing of another reality, mythical regions of space take on significance and become important elements in

life. Duality is now all about the relation between the two fishes and there is conflict, tension, dynamic interplay.

Pisces is today far more alive, I suspect, on the higher turn of the spiral when mind has woken up, when there has been some concentration of will and purpose, and when all of the tensions involved in the personal self recognising the presence of a higher, divine Self have begun to bring about radical changes in thinking and behaviour. Then it is the Soul, the hidden Christ, which begins to dominate. The two fishes still swim in a watery environment, but these are very different waters.

Now Pisces stimulates the higher reaches of the watery worlds, environments where mind and heart blend, where the waters of Buddhi, of the intuition, become a source of illumination and where the mind becomes sensitive to higher impression. This is very different from the psychism of the earlier stages, for the impressions are now concerned with universal principles, with divine law and with insight into the mind of God. And now all the potencies of mind are becoming alive, able to interpret intuitive impression, able to discriminate and divine meaning.

This switch between unconscious duality and conscious duality is a critical time in the evolution of consciousness – it is difficult, challenging, exhausting – but wonderful. In astrological terms there is said to be a turning of the wheel, a reversal of the whole trend of the psyche away from the involutory work of building up the vehicles of personality and ego.

The challenges facing our interdependent world today, on the cusp between Pisces and Aquarius, and the challenges facing so very many of us in our individual lives are challenges of meaning, of the altitude of our vision, and ultimately of purpose. We need to use intuition to understand, or rather to find a way of relating to and aligning with, the mysteries of what is happening to the human species. Pisces shows us where we are headed, and it gives us the opportunities of a higher sensitivity and a new mythical, cosmological way of knowing.

How paradoxical that as we move from the ‘old’ age of Pisces into the ‘new’ age of Aquarius we are pushed into the higher potentials of Pisces; forced to draw the most sublime, the sweetest nectars of the old in order to fully transit into the new.

There is an interesting reference in the Alice Bailey book, *Esoteric Astrology*, to an important triangle in the heavens. It is said to be a ‘triad of cosmic energy that is of supreme importance upon our planet’. We are told that the ‘united influence of its three constellations ... will eventually bring about the initiation of the planetary logos’, leading to the Earth becoming a sacred planet. The three constellations are Leo, Virgo and Pisces. Their influence is said to have its affect in the realms of Shamballa, impressing humanity as a whole. This important triad of energies conditions human consciousness in three aspects: the Leo energies lead to the development of self-consciousness; Virgo stimulates the soul within the form, including the soul within each atom of form; and the higher note of Pisces awakens awareness of the group, the whole and the universe – intuitional insight. Together, the combination of this trinity of impulses leads to initiation in Pisces.

It has been the steady impact of Piscean force which has at long last brought humanity, the world disciple, to the very door of initiation. For over two thousand years, Piscean influence has been playing upon mankind; it has brought about the demand for world adjustment; it has developed the international spirit and has led to the formation of groups in every department of human living and so laid the foundation for the future synthesis in Aquarius. The influence of this triangle finds symbolic expression in the life of the self-conscious individual who reaches self-awareness in Leo; in the culturing care of Virgo and the final self-release in Pisces. p. 472-3

Pisces is not a sign that we normally think of as being related to crisis. Its deep, brooding, underground, watery, mystical influence can often appear to expand consciousness without the person having to do anything, almost as an act of grace. And yet, when we think in relation to this Leo, Virgo, Pisces triangle, we see that the initiation promised in Pisces; and the initiation of humanity into the Aquarian Age; depends upon all the crises that have preceded. It is an influence that culminates, and grows out of earlier crises.

This requires us to consider the purpose of soul crises, and the reason why being in incarnation as a human being often involves the repeated experience of crisis. In particular lives, crisis tests the mettle of the developing mind and heart; it evokes “the maximum of possible effort”.

DK again from *Esoteric Astrology*:

Shirk not ... crises, hard and difficult though they may appear to be. Difficult they are. Forget not that the habit of confronting crises is a long-established one within the consciousness of humanity. Man has the "habit of crisis," if I may so call it. They are only the points of examination as to strength, purpose, purity and motive and the intent of the soul. They evoke confidence when surmounted and produce greatly expanded vision. They foster compassion and understanding, for the pain and inner conflict they have engendered is never forgotten, for they draw upon the resources of the heart. They release the light of wisdom within the field of knowledge and the world is thereby enriched. p. 477

Ultimately, as myth and as symbol, the higher light of Pisces leads to the emergence of the world saviour. This is surely a collective process; as the mysterious plans and purposes of the divine mature; as human consciousness grows in wisdom, in balance and in the ability to organise the worlds of time and space in accord with universal law, so does a saviour emerge with the full impulse of Pisces to mark the transition into a new era and to sound the death knell of an old civilisation. There is the sense of the dolphin dancing as it flies through the water, now below the water, now above in the air – an emergence of joy, surprise, speed, precision and beauty. May this, possibly, be the note that accompanies the emergence of the saviour in the Aquarian age?

When we reflect on the keynote of Pisces in the mediation: ‘I leave the Father’s home and turning back, I save’ – it is the collective process we look to. Out of all the bubbling currents of the evolutionary process, out of all the growth that occurs through the crises of individual lives and through the crises of the events that are the substance of history books, out of all of the dynamic energy of these crises - a saviour emerges in Pisces. The

Coming One Who stands ahead of our path, Who watches now, waiting for the appropriate space, environment and conditions, sees all of the dramas of modernity as steppingstones leading to the Return and the Reappearance.

When we think of the great saviours we think of the Christ and the Buddha Whose lights continue to shine through with saving grace – but think of the multitude of lesser saviours who have lived their life in such a way as to inspire others, to champion some area of human rights, to help us to see and experience the wholeness vision in human terms. Think, for example, of Nelson Mandela whose sacrifice involved imprisonment; and whose whole being became so infused with forgiveness that he was able to reveal this soul potency to humanity in an entirely new and unforgettable way. Think of His Holiness the Dalai Lama who communicates something of the essence of loving kindness as it concerns the personal life and the lives of communities, nations and the world in such a way that millions of people are deeply affected. This is the saving force.

All enlightened servers on the planet are destined to so grow in their ability to serve that they become overshadowed and transformed into a group saviour. We refer in the Great Invocation to the return of Christ – one of the future possibilities that the Tibetan writes of is a simultaneous appearance of three saving lives: the Cosmic Avatar; the Christ, or World Saviour; “and – at the same time – a group Saviour, composed of responsive disciples and world servers”. [Externalisation, p. 308] At this time of the Pisces full moon we can usefully imagine the role that these aspects of the world saviour might play in humanity.

Today, in the influence of Pisces, it is useful to consider our world and our historical processes as if we were seeing it from the vantage point of the waiting Messiah – the group Saviour and the World Saviour as One . Time is speeding up. The cycles and processes of history are moving into the powerful surge of the dolphin as it generates the energy to fly through air and water. The pace of life is intense, and many suffer from the stress that this involves – yet there is a beauty in the concentration of energy as all of us go about our business of living in the midst of the wave leading into Aquarius. There is a beauty in the awakening and deepening that is occurring in the collective mind. The Resurrected, living Christ is Master of this time; conductor of the orchestra; overseer. He is engaged and involved, regardless of whether we can see it or not. As we, all of us, play our little parts – taking each day with its myriad of opportunities with a measure of lightness; doing our best and occasionally sensing the beauty of the human spirit and the beauty of the life in which we live and move – as we walk through incarnation step by step we are a part of a pathway which is leading inevitably to an omega point in evolution. A point which will be marked by the historical presence of a World Saviour together with the Group Saviour, and which will be traced in literature, music and art as the final act in the emergence of a new culture and civilisation.

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