

## The Energetic Activity of the Life Force Itself.

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Good afternoon everyone and welcome to this Lucis Trust gathering for full moon meditation.

During the five day period of the full moon, “energies not usually or normally contacted, can be touched, grasped and utilized” by a group. Working together the group can facilitate a closer rapport between humanity and the Hierarchy of Enlightened Beings on the inner side of life. The meditating group we are part of this evening is much larger than the group of us who are on this ZOOM call today. Individuals and groups from around the world participate in this work every month, and it is together, as one group, that we radiate “the spiritual inflow into the minds and hearts” of all, strengthening “the link between the human kingdom and the Kingdom of God”.

In this work humanity is understood to be one functioning, evolving group in the life of planet Earth - a kingdom of nature that is on the verge of an initiatory transformation to become humanity the world disciple. All of this is happening in our time, in us and through us; in our neighborhoods, cities and nations, and this explains much of what is occurring in the world. At the local, national, and international level the crises, conflicts and tests caused by incoming spiritual energies are doing their work: purifying and clarifying thought, responsibilities, and our shared sense of relationship. Through this process we are transitioning, as a species, from the materialistic, separative mind-set of the Piscean Age to what will increasingly become a more universal and relationship-based mind-set in the Aquarian Age.

When we look at this collective transition through the lens of the Sagittarius keynote there is much to consider: *I see the goal, I reach that goal, and then I see another.* In four days’ time, on Thursday, the Climate Change Conference (COP28) begins in Dubai. Those who work with the Cycle of Conferences visualization initiative are imaginatively planting seeds of living will energy into the thought form under construction at this conference. In the outer worlds of international politics whatever happens or does not happen in Dubai will be significant. And in the world of relationships the Climate Conference reminds us that humanity is reassessing its relations with the other kingdoms of nature. An event like this UN Climate Change Conference can be seen as a space where a new sense of goal and purpose and vision of future possibilities for humankind is in process of being formed and is the subject of serious and creative thought – from all different sides of the spiritual, religious, economic and political spectrum. Millions of people are thinking about what the changing climate means for their own lives and for their communities and nations, and how it is affecting their sense of purpose.

Yet there is a more personal and individual sense in which the energies of this full moon are impacting human beings. Astrologers speak of Sagittarius as one of the signs of the Mutable Cross, the four constellations that give a unique way of understanding the development and maturing of the human sense of individuality – the sense of self. Orthodox astrologers speak of 2 planets, Jupiter and Mercury, as governing influences in the cross, and of the impact these

planets are exerting on the vast masses of what we call 'ordinary' human beings. Alice Bailey writes that these two planets are fusing and blending "into one cooperative whole the great dualities expressing themselves through the fourth kingdom in nature". [*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 184]

When entering incarnation through the four arms of the Mutable Cross the soul's personality is exposed to a complex of competing dualities. This is the cross "of the mutable, fluidic, restless mind" – the mind, we might say, of our time! Again, and again, through incarnation after incarnation, life is crucified on this cross of the fluid mind. Yet it is also on this cross that "the mind nature is finally developed" to become the integrating force bringing the personality into right relations with the soul.

Through life-times of experience on the four arms of the Cross, personalities slowly learn how to use the mind to manage, purify and synthesize competing, often polarized, impulses, desires and opinions ... preparing for a time when the soul can make a direct approach to the personal self, and the personal self can, in its own terms, take that approach seriously and begin to experiment and explore ways of bridging into the soul.

Esoteric Astrology describes the planets Jupiter and Mercury as bringing strong flows of second ray energies qualified by love and wisdom and fourth ray energies of harmony through conflict. As these energies work on and through us they create the conditions whereby "material desire can be transmuted into divine love, and the conflict which is the distinguishing characteristic of the human family can be instrumental in resolving dissonance into harmony." [*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 185] All this must take place and be burned out of the system on the Mutable Cross "before the energies of the Fixed Cross can change the ambitious selfish man into the selfless disciple".

It is worth taking a moment to briefly review the unique pathways contained in each of the four Mutable signs. Through Gemini, the sign of the twins, dualities stimulate constant change, setting the scene for a time when the Soul can say *I recognise my other self and in the waning of that self, I grow and glow*. Under the influence of the feminine energies of Virgo, substance, matter, and personality forces begin to be experienced as places that nurture the deeper soul nature and "protect the embryonic Christ life" rather than as enemies or distractions for the soul. As the Virgo keynote states: *I am the Mother and the Child. I, God, I, matter am*. In Pisces, the energetic appearance of the soul nature appears initially as something separate and apart from the personality, but over time becomes a dynamic push for the soul to be fully expressed in form, encapsulated in the keynote: *I leave the Father's home and turning back, I save*.

So what of Sagittarius? As the personality passes through the final stages of the Mutable Cross, a new sense of quiet focus takes hold as the seeker determines "to direct his steps into another way of life and with ardor firm to mount another Cross." [*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 187] This is not so much the immature will of ambition or the emotionally intense purpose that guides the idealistic leader. It is more a quality of poise. A stable, firm orientation as if the keynote *I see the*

*goal, I reach that goal, and then I see another* reflects the “energetic activity of the life force” itself. [*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 345] Unwavering, permanent and in process of becoming fixed.

And so, let’s focus our attention on the multitude of aspirants and disciples alive in the world today who are arriving at the final stages of the Mutable Cross and preparing to transit onto the Fixed Cross. We can think of them as one group in nature. Energies of wise, loving thought and the harmony that conflict can evoke are becoming energized and organized as the group develops a strong sense of purpose and direction. Consider the vast community of people who today are purposefully drawn to live a life of service – useful to their fellow human beings, useful to the earth, and useful to evolution. Such people are to be found today amongst the deep thinkers in every nation; they draw their inspiration from wells of spirituality, wisdom and creative thought in every faith tradition; and they are pioneering fresh, creative thinking in every profession, every academic discipline and in all the arts. Imagine the “energetic activity of the life force itself” rippling and pulsing through this group as it prepares to transit onto a Cross that is fixed and focused, and as it leads the world of the human into a New Era.

*I see the goal, I reach that goal, and then I see another.*

The meditation we will shortly be using begins with a stage of ‘Group Fusion’. Can we now take a moment to align ourselves with this one fused, meditating group of all around the world who are working with this full moon approach. Imagine that the mind of the group being is held steady in the light of the overshadowing soul - Hierarchy. The group mind is so much more than the collection of individual minds working together in service during this full moon period. Think of the group as a living entity – fused and whole; greater than the sum of its parts. It is the soul, Hierarchy, the Ashram of Sanat Kumara, which holds the group mind steady in the light. And after we have given attention to this identification with the lighted group mind in a period of ‘complete focused silence’ we can sound together the Affirmation of the Will – sounding it as if it were a statement made by the group soul, Hierarchy, to the lighted meditating mind of the group.

In the centre of the will of God I stand.  
Naught shall deflect my will from His.  
I implement that will by love.  
I turn towards the field of service.  
I, the Triangle divine, work out that will  
Within the square and serve my fellowmen.

An astrologer who seeks to practice esoteric astrology needs first to develop a strong body of ‘knowledge’ as in any other profession or field of study, drawing on the extensive literature of serious astrologers down the ages. The astrologer then needs to ground this knowledge in practical experience: years of work on the horoscopes of individuals, groups and nations so that the knowledge that comes from academic, intellectual studies and from reading can gradually be assimilated into a body of practical wise understanding, with a healthy dose of common sense. This field of wise, anchored, understanding of the principles and core relationships in

orthodox astrology can then become fertile ground where seeds of intuition can safely be planted. Overlaid on this the esoteric astrologer uses the metaphysical teachings of the Ageless Wisdom to develop insight about where their subject might stand in relation to the spiritual path and the basic direction being followed around the horoscope – the regular path or the reversed wheel of the discipleship path. Astrology in all its branches can then be seen to be a profession that is both scientific, requiring rigorous knowledge and deep understanding of mythology, and artistic, drawing on creativity, wisdom, and intuition.

In the main passage on Sagittarius in Alice Bailey's book *Esoteric Astrology*, there is a summary of the various astrological elements to be considered for an individual who has taken incarnation under the sun sign of Sagittarius. The Sagittarius sun, we are told, "conditions circumstances", laying out an environment of relationships and life experiences that lead the subject (a person or a nation or a group) to develop and refine purpose and goal. Then the astrologer must consider the rising sign, as well as the fact that the person will be conditioned in some way by the Mutable Cross (depending on whether this is the early stages of the Cross or the later stages preceding transition onto the Fixed Cross). Orthodox astrologers assign the planets Mercury and Jupiter as significant influences for Sagittarius (as for all the signs of the Mutable Cross) and Esoteric Astrology adds to this the Esoteric Rulers which "bring in renewed or increased planetary energy in a more dynamic manner" and are especially significant for those who are consciously treading a spiritual path. It is rather like transpersonal psychology where an esoteric approach views not only the psychology of the personality, but also the psychological impulses of the soul and the more universal, essential energies of the Triad and ultimately the Monad – seeing a whole picture that includes Spirit, Soul, and Personality.

So, from an esoteric perspective, Sagittarius energies include Venus (with fifth ray energies of concrete science impacting the mind); the Moon (carrying 4<sup>th</sup> ray energies of Harmony through conflict); the Earth (with its 3<sup>rd</sup> ray influences of creative Intelligence); and Pluto (in its 1<sup>st</sup> Ray destructive aspect). And over and above all these energetic influences pouring through the Sagittarius subject (sun sign, rising sign, Mutable Cross, Orthodox Planets, and Esoteric Planets) Esoteric Astrology considers the Hierarchical Ruler – the Planet that rules over a particular Hierarchy. In this case the Hierarchical ruler for Sagittarius is the sixth ray planet Mars which rules over the sixth Creative Hierarchy, the Lunar Lords – those elemental lives that form the substance of the threefold personality.

This is a lot of information, and for the purposes of our consideration of the energies pouring into humanity during this full moon the main point, I think, to emphasize is that the orthodox, esoteric, and hierarchical rulers all point to forces of conflict playing a powerful role in Sagittarius. This becomes especially prevalent in the lives of disciples and those on a discipleship path. The overshadowing influence of Mars, we are told, "brings the entire human family; as well as the individual, under the law of strife, based this time upon sixth ray devotion to an ideal, high or low."

To summarize, those in humanity who are responsive and sensitive to the fact that consciousness is transiting into a new age that will be dominated by a sense of the wholeness

and essential sacredness of life are refining their purpose in Sagittarius. And this is what we can have in the forefront of our minds. For those on the discipleship path the goal which is sensed is becoming refined with new understandings of freedom, of responsibility, of love and of what it means to serve the well-being of the whole. *I see the goal, I reach that goal, and then I see another.*

One final thought. Sagittarius is referred to in the Alice Bailey teachings as a sign when the well-honed and clear mind becomes sensitive to intuitive perception. In flashes of light the disciple is given glimpses of the mountain top of initiation lying ahead. The goal which is seen is a future identification – a future sense of Self that is both intently personal and universal.

The keynote, *I see the goal, I reach that goal, and then I see another*, now invites us to ponder the mythical image of the archer who, with both feet on the ground, directs the eyes in a one-pointed gaze along the shaft of the arrow, following a clear trajectory of laser-like focused light towards the target. This reminds us of role that focused aspiration plays in the spiritual life, particularly an aspiration that is held over many years, becoming the dominant orientation of a life. The teachings tell us that this arrow of aspiration returns to the archer as the “returning arrow of the intuition. ... Sagittarius is one of the intuitive signs, for only the intuition will suffice to carry a [person] to the foot of the mountain of initiation in Capricorn.” [*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 177]