

## **The One Who Shows the Light and Gives the Water**

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Greetings and welcome to this first full moon meditation meeting for the year 2024, with the sun in the sign of Aquarius.

The full moon work leads us to observe the world in a purposeful way – and this month that means that we can be pondering the higher potentials, the gifts, that Aquarian energies bring to the psyche and culture, and particularly to the psyche and culture of those who are treading a spiritual path or working in some way with the moral imagination.

The higher energetic signature of Aquarian energies stimulates a deepening approach to service on the spiritual path. It moves intelligent people of goodwill to focus on meeting human need and not being overcome by all the emotions that surround the intensity of the crisis currently being experienced in human affairs. Aquarian spirituality can be seen to be emerging in communities around the world as people turn away from the easy slogans and hysteria created by partisan and populist influencers. The absence of goodwill in so many popular local and national conversations is shocking to many, driving them deeper in their quest to understand their own responsibilities for expressing goodwill and contributing to thoughtful, creative ways of addressing the causal level of problems of homelessness, violence, depression, a polluted environment, and poverty.

Above all Aquarian energies help us to think in terms of the well-being of the whole, and they do this in ways that recognize the whole as a living, breathing entity with purpose, spirit, conscience, and character. Already there is a significant culture of thought around the world that is fascinated by the relation between the whole and the part, seeing a synthesis between the two, and creatively endeavoring to apply this synthesis through experiments in addressing the problems of the age. As the light of Aquarius becomes a stronger influence this relationship between the part and the whole will be understood and applied with increasing clarity and simplicity.

The meditation 'Letting in the Light' begins with the stage of Group Fusion. And so, let us imagine ourselves to be at one with all who are meditating in service of humanity and the world at this time: one clear, strong group in consciousness. And let us stretch the boundaries of the group to move beyond the group, embracing the streams of living illumination flowing from the Great Ones on the inner side of life. Full moon work is all about making a group approach to this abundant Reservoir of Illumination. And as we stand together before the Great Ashram one of our specific tasks, in this full moon group work, is to be open to the livingness of that Great Avatar at the center of the Reservoir of Illumination, the Aquarian Christ – *He who Shows the Light and Gives the Water*. [*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 273]

And so, as a unified group, in alignment with the higher presences and energies driving evolution, can we figuratively stand with humanity – as humanity is now? Imagine that we can hear the collective breath of Humanity as one kingdom in nature – soul and personality locked into incarnation. We might notice the depth of disturbance in the human breath right now, recognizing it as an essential part of the transition process and a necessary part of evolution – and the only way we can really observe this disturbance without agitation or pain or despair is if we also notice the vast number of points of light and love in the world, centers where group vision strength and purpose are growing and new ways of thinking taking shape in the heart of the human kingdom. Imaginatively see the breath moving into a calmer rhythm – free of strain – at ease. And now as we observe humanity in the light of the ashram, before we sound the Mantram of Group Fusion, can we hold a moment of silence as we see the Christ, the One who Shows the Light and Gives the Water approaching humanity, moving closer, showing the light, giving the water.

*I am one with my group brothers and all that I have is theirs.  
May the love which is in my soul pour forth to them.  
May the strength which is in me lift and aid them.  
May the thoughts which my soul creates reach and encourage them.*

It might be useful for us to begin our reflections on Aquarius by considering the community of people today who, in some way or other, are drawn to treading a spiritual path. Treading the path is not an easy affair, as most of us know. It brings challenges and evokes crises. Yet this is how consciousness deepens and matures. Forces of the personality, energies of the soul, and the Life of the Spirit interact and interpenetrate on the path.

The Tibetan suggests that the initiatory climax for the vast majority of those who are treading the path during this period is conditioned by Aquarius. This tells us that the goal, and the sign of ultimate achievement for aspirants and disciples of all traditions right now is to steadily progress towards becoming “liberated world servers”. This is the vision and the goal for the entire spiritual community – whether it is recognized or not. While the path may begin by establishing one’s own authority and sovereignty as a fully anchored, integrated, self-conscious individual – it becomes a truly spiritual path when it engages with the endless challenges involved in losing one’s strong sense of self as one focuses increasingly on meeting the deepest needs of the age. Spirituality for this era is all about serving those needs.

The Tibetan writes that “The bulk of world initiates” (and in the data driven language of today I surmise this to mean something like 98 or 99% of all who tread a genuinely spiritual path!) will climax their experience in Aquarius by turning “their backs upon all further progress for themselves in this cycle and on all satisfaction of their own spiritual aspiration and [becoming] carriers of the water of life to humanity, joining thus the ranks of the Hierarchy.” That’s really something to think about. It requires will and purpose as well as a deep understanding of freedom to choose to turn our backs on all further progress for ourselves in this incarnation, including our own spiritual aspiration, so that we can be a part of the community of Hierarchy – a community that includes men and women in incarnation who are motivated by a deep will to

serve and be useful to evolution together with Great Ones on the inner side of life whose whole purpose and identity is wrapped up in the work of carrying the water of life to humanity in its hour of need.

As we move further into the Aquarian Age we can expect to see an increasing presence of a vast group of human beings who find their meaning and purpose in their active will to serve in this way – free of self-regard or self-focus. As this becomes more noticeable and the impact of servers in every profession and every field of activity becomes stronger, we can expect more and more people to think in terms of a Hierarchy of Service – stretching from the Great Teachers on the Inner Side through to the enlightened thinkers in the world of experience and activity – all recognized and known to be part of a continuum or hierarchy of service.

This idea of carrying the waters of life to humanity is the central theme of Aquarian discipleship, captured in the keynote for the sign: ‘Water of Life am I, poured forth for thirsty men.’

But what do we mean by the ‘waters of life’? One way of thinking about this is to visualize the power of water to cleanse, wash away and break through barriers. In the current era of extreme climate most of us will be familiar with this power that flooded rivers and ocean storms carry. We see it on the news often enough, wherever we live, even if we have not experienced it in our own lives. Yet Aquarius is an air sign, so the Waters of Life can be thought of as powerful flows of the life of the Spirit, purifying and cleansing all that needs to be washed away in the thought life of individuals and cultures. The legend of the challenge given to Hercules in Aquarius has much to teach us about this. For decades the king’s stables had not been properly looked after, cleaned out, or cared for. For 30 years dung from the animals built up until it reached crisis point: air quality was at an all-time low, the stench was everywhere, and to top it all off a fatal epidemic was spreading throughout the kingdom. At the same time famine was threatening. Fields had become so rich from the run-off flowing through the stables that crops were failing. The king was immobilized by his fear that he would never be able to deal with the source of the problem and clean out the stables. His continued failure to attend to his duties had made the task look as if it was impossible. He was desperate to find a solution yet unwilling to accept his own responsibility and plan steps he could reasonably take to change his ways and become a good steward. He looked around to see who could solve the problem for him. It’s a crisis that really speaks to us today.

Remember, In the myth, Hercules is commanded to clean out the stables and purify the environment – and he is not told how he can perform this apparently impossible task. As the hero or the disciple Hercules is on a path where he is willingly facing tests that challenge him to dig deep in order to develop and exercise the muscles of wisdom, understanding and will he needs in order to pass through the portals of initiation. When the sun is in Aquarius the challenge is to face the dark and confront fears of inadequacy – and the mountains of animal dung confronting Hercules, suggest that these are real, substantial forces of darkness and materialism that have fouled the air and the atmosphere and that they must be faced. So, drawing on the airy nature of Aquarius, the Hero changes the way he looks at the problem,

taking a wider perspective. Instead of just narrowing his vision in on the problem as it appeared: the pollution in the stables, he looked at the scene from a higher perspective from where he could see the stables as part of a wider environment. And from this simple change of perspective – Hercules saw that the stables were between two rivers, and the rivers flowed with cleansing waters. All that he had to do was create a channel for those waters to flow and the waters would then do the work of cleaning out the stables and saving the kingdom.

Flowing waters purify and they also carry muddy nutrients that eventually, after the destruction and rage of the storm is over, create the fertile environment needed for new growth. So, as we imagine the waters of life flowing like a great river during this full moon, or as a rushing wind, we can focus our attention less on the disruption and the washing away of blockages and repressions in culture and psyche that this flow brings and shine the light instead on the magical properties needed to restore the sense of the sacred, restore faith in the future, restore the joy of meaningful work that brings beauty and goodwill to life in the world of relationships, institutions, governance and so on.

As the potency of Aquarian energies gradually increase, the waters of Life pour forth with increasing abundance, flooding the mind of world servers and of the mass consciousness, bringing a purity and sweetness to thought. The major effect of these waters is, we are told, “to induce recognition of essential human unity, of the processes of sharing and of cooperation and of the emergence of the new world religion whose keynote will be universality and initiation. If the word “initiation” signifies the processes of “entering into” [then the entering into the age of Aquarius means that humanity is being] subjected to those energies and forces which will break down the barriers of separation, and which will blend and fuse the consciousness of all [people] into that of unity which is distinctive of Christ consciousness.” [Reappearance of the Christ, 81 – 82].

And so, let the Waters of Life pour forth ... and let us, as a group, carry those waters so they can flow out to thirsty men and women in the world.

The Christ today is said to be the “Nourisher of the Little Ones”, overshadowing all who are sensitive to His impression, pouring forth energies of light, love and power to stimulate the growth of the Christ-consciousness and lead the consciousness of disciples everywhere, from all spiritual traditions, to “enter into deeper phases of spiritual awareness”. It is as Nourisher that the Christ is actively working today. And when He finally appears, at the time that He recognizes to be the right time, He will, through His physical Presence in our world of time and space become the “Dispenser of the Water of Life”.

The Tibetan tells us that this coming work of Christ’s to dispense the Water of Life is something of a mystery and not easy for us to comprehend. During His incarnation as Jesus, Christ stated: “I come that they may have life and that they may have it more abundantly.” The Aquarian incarnation of Christ is expected to bring this abundant Life aspect into a full flowering as:

1. The central point of living light within each atom of substance, nourishing the cells of the body and vitalizing the physical life;
2. As the livingness of love and light within the heart – when this livingness is present we are told that “the human atom becomes a part of the spiritual Hierarchy”;
3. And finally as an abundance of light and love and power within and above the head of the Christ’s disciples. This life more abundantly makes it possible for the disciple to cooperate with humanity and Hierarchy, and also with Shamballa, “the centre of life in its purest essence”.

So, we can envisage a future when Christ in incarnation dispenses the water of Life in a manner that brings a new livingness to the life on the physical plane, to the spiritual life of disciples, and to the “living purpose of God”. It is, more than anything else, these energies of the life more abundantly set loose in a new and dynamic manner through Christ’s incarnation in the Aquarian Age that will bring about restoration and resurrection of the spirit in the world of human experience and that will be the “implementing force of universality” for a new world. [Reappearance of the Christ, pp 83 – 85].

This tells us something of the Aquarian vision of future possibilities, and as we ponder discipleship life today, in the light of the Aquarius full moon, we can imagine these mysterious, all-encompassing waters of abundant life and abundant livingness being let loose throughout the psyche and the culture of this time. May we remove our focus from the breaking down of separation so that we can more clearly see the advance flows of these waters of the air – knowing them to be evidence of what is to come – and willing ourselves to be humble servants of these waters – allowing them to flow through us as a group out into the world where they can cleanse and purify and eventually become an ‘implementing force of universality’.