

Pisces and Aquarius: Force and Energy; Desire and Will; Striving and Giving

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Welcome everyone to the full moon festival in Aquarius. We are broadcasting from New York during a storm of potentially considerable force that has been working its way up the east coast of the US and so we are all participating together via online streaming though we will be linking up with other groups throughout the world as well. The storms of late have demonstrated several things—one is the considerable interconnectivity of human conditions and planetary conditions and the other is the power of force. This afternoon the full moon talk will explore the power of force and the quality of energy and what it means to work skillfully with each as we transition from Pisces into Aquarius.

We'll begin by establishing our unity, purpose and intention by saying the mantram of unification followed by a single OM:

The sons of men are one and I am one with them.

I seek to love, not hate;

I seek to serve and not exact due service;

I seek to heal, not hurt.

Let pain bring due reward of light and love.

Let the soul control the outer form, and life and all events

And bring to light the love that underlies the happenings of the time.

Let vision come and insight.

Let the future stand revealed.

Let inner union demonstrate and outer cleavages be gone.

Let love prevail. Let all men love.

The Lucis Trust website describes this mantram stating:

The Mantram of Unification declares two realities. First, that the user is one with all humanity and second, that humanity as a whole responds to the divine Plan. Five aspects of this Plan are dealt with:

1. The reward of human suffering.
2. The control of human life by the soul.
3. Precipitation of the vision, revealing the future.

4. The demonstration of the inner unity of all humanity.
5. Humanity dominated by love.

Here we have a marvelous summation of the divine Plan for man. To whatever extent we, as individuals, understand it and live by it, we aid the whole of humanity. It brings meaning and purpose to our lives.

This mantram is a source of strength for all disciples active in spiritual work.

This afternoon we are exploring aspects one and two of the Plan—the reward of human suffering and the control of human life by the soul—and how these two lead to aspect five—a humanity that is dominated by love. Creating the conditions that will lead to a humanity dominated by love is the responsibility of all true servers everywhere. We do this in full conscious awareness and with intention knowing what, why and how we work. So today we will explore the changes in how we work at our goal for bringing about a humanity that knows unity and is dominated by love as we move more fully from working within the Piscean age to the Aquarian age.

As we move deeper into the influence of the Aquarian energies, we notice the qualities of discipleship and of human culture beginning to shift. This affords disciples the opportunity to get to know, to learn about and grow into the unique characteristics afforded by the Aquarian energy. Perhaps many of you have read and meditated on this new energy. We have certainly long been anticipating this development. The keynote for disciples in Aquarius can be known when contemplated on deeply and read esoterically. It epitomizes or encapsulates the qualities that we seek to embody and use in our work. That keynote is: *Water of life am I, poured forth for thirsty men*. The keynote for Pisces is: *I leave the Father's home and turning back, I save*.

The Pisces keynote instructs *what* we are to do while the Aquarius keynote tells us *how* to do it. For the last 2000 years we have been working at discerning who and what we are and what our purpose is. Jesus instructed about the keynote of Pisces with the parable of the prodigal son:

The Parable of the Lost Son goes like this:

¹¹ Jesus stated, “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the estate.’ So he divided his property between them.

¹³ “Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. ¹⁴ After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ “When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ ²⁰ So he got up and went to his father.

“But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

²¹ “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

²² “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.

²⁵ “Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ²⁷ ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’

²⁸ “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’

³¹ “‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’”¹

As is true with parables, there are many levels and ways to interpret the hidden meaning within the story depending upon the needs and state of consciousness of the interpreter. An interpretation of this parable within the context of discipleship and the keynote for Pisces having to do with leaving the *Father’s house* and turning back to save seems paradoxical and nonsensical at first, but taken within the context of the teachings on discipleship, the probationary path, and the current state and needs of human civilization it helps to clarify what the group of servers have achieved in Pisces and thus what the foundation is for consciously stepping into the potentials for service in Aquarius.

The son, the soul, comes into incarnation with significant wealth, but is ignorant of the wealth that he has. He becomes identified with the forces and forms of material living and spends all his innate wealth on things that don't matter. When he is spent, emptied, he feels his emptiness and becomes hungry for reality, for home, for the things that matter. He then awakens to himself and finds his way home to himself and his spiritual home. Turning from his identity in material living and returning to his spiritual home he becomes transfigured into a humble and loving servant embodying the highest spiritual qualities. He now knows suffering and pain, he now knows the great significance of selfless love and his desire to experience life is transfigured into a desire to serve life.

The reality of the soul, its character and purpose has been steadily revealed beginning in the 1950s through a technique called regression therapy or past life hypnosis. This technique is discussed in ancient spiritual teachings, it was also mentioned by Blavatsky and more recently was discovered quite by accident by a psychologist named Brian Weiss, who describes himself as at the time not particularly religious or spiritual and who did not believe in reincarnation. When using hypnosis to help people to heal from mysterious symptoms that were unexplainable by modern medicine and by taking his patients far back into their infancy, he accidentally took them back prior to their birth, to "life between lives" as he calls it and to previous incarnations. This happened with not just a few people but with many. He became curious and began to investigate in an intentional way to see if this was a fluke or a trend, was it a real phenomenon that validated the beliefs of religious traditions dating back to the origin of the Upanishads in 800 BCE? Pantajali discusses the idea of the soul being burdened by the accumulation of impressions as part of the karma of past lives. Traumatic and painful deaths in previous lives were often found to be the source of the mysterious symptoms and maladies. Weiss observed this phenomenon in people of all ages, professions, cultural backgrounds, and in people with diverse religious beliefs as well as avowed atheists with no particular belief in spiritual realities or the after life.

Weiss then set about to methodically explore this phenomenon and to describe the life of the soul between lives. In his extensive work he has described the life of the soul who incarnates into a physical body on this planet for the purposes of learning and growth. In particular and especially on our planet, souls grow through learning to overcome the dense and regressive forces of suffering and selfish instincts until they can control the material forces and in so doing embody and work with higher spiritual qualities and energies. This idea is a new narrative describing our planet as a school for soul growth. This new narrative has gained in popularity in contemporary culture and spiritual teachings over the last century. When exploring this idea within the context

of the parable of the prodigal son some interesting ideas about the soul and about its purposes for being incarnated are revealed.

The soul is the Son of God; it is the prodigal son who comes into incarnation, which is a death of sorts for the soul, a forgetting of who and what it is. At first the young inexperienced souls get caught up in the material forces over and over again. They are the prodigal sons who having left the father's house squander their wealth, their energy, on wild living. Through the process of reaping the consequences of this wild selfish lifestyle, the accumulated impressions from the negative consequences of causing pain to others and oneself through ignorance and wrong intentions, the soul suffers. Eventually this suffering does its work and the soul begins to awaken to the suffering it is experiencing and to question its purpose, looking for a different way to live life, one that incurs less suffering. It begins to remember, vaguely and unconsciously at first, the riches it has in its father's house and to long to return there and so the path of return begins, the great turning takes place, and the prodigal son begins his journey home.

This great turning has been described in various traditions in many different ways, but the end result is the same, the prodigal son seeks his way home to Self-realization and a higher spiritual state of being. The story of the prodigal son is a little short on the description of this return journey home, which many of us know can be quite lengthy and require significant transformations and striving, but we do know that the son is seen, met, greeted, and celebrated long before he reaches home.

The keynote of Pisces tells us what we need to strive towards and why—towards our spiritual home so that we can turn around and save those still suffering and deluded about who and what they are. The path itself gently shifts along the way from a striving for personal spiritual achievement to the ability to embody and radiate the energies that humanity as a group needs to be dominated by love. The Pisces keynote points to learning to work with the forces of desire and effort and turning those forces in the right direction so that we can achieve our goal of returning home for the purposes of serving. Early on the path of return the soul only knows that it needs to go in a different direction because the current direction or striving no longer satisfies or serves. Later, after a significant turning in direction has been achieved, it learns to work through spiritual inspiration and desire, striving and effort, to use and control its own forces and attain its spiritual goals. Force, striving and effort are the keynotes of Pisces and of the probationary path.

Most of us are familiar with the feel of force, with the destructive power of the gale force winds of a blizzard, tornado or hurricane; we know how difficult strong forces are to control and contain; we know the painful sensation of the force of someone's anger or resentment directed

toward us; we know the power of the force of wrong desire to lead entire groups down paths of separatism and violence, towards inhumane acts against humanity. We have been immersed within, controlled by, studied and striven against these forces for eons. But, what does Aquarius bring and how is the pouring the water of life different than striving to control force?

We are only beginning to sense the needed shift into the qualities of Aquarius. As we know, great qualities and energies work out through the larger group before they are sensed and known within individual lives. Psychology is an example of a great serving group that has demonstrated qualitative shifts as the Aquarian energies have become more pervasive. Psychology has moved from a focus on pathology to a focus on wellness, from striving and desire to acceptance and compassion, from a fixed ideal of character to resiliency, plasticity and transformation, from becoming to being.

As we have learned the lessons of Pisces, we have learned how to use desire, to strive and use force, but moving into Aquarius is moving into an age of energy vs. force. This shift from force to energy is like moving out of the gale force winds of a blizzard into the gentle yet persistent rains of the sub tropical rain forests. We contact energies that are of an entirely different caliber than forces. These energies are gentle, more refined and more ethereal in nature; they are soft, subtle and yet surprisingly pervasive, flexible and even strong. Learning to embody and work with these energies is gradually changing the very nature of consciousness and of material living in insidious and yet significant ways.

The world servers, esotericists and disciples are called upon to be the leading edge of humanity and as such to consciously shift into the Aquarian methods of spiritual embodiment and service. This shift calls for a subtle turning from: striving to be, to simply being; and from striving to serve, to simply serving. As we move from thinking to intuition, we move from acting as if to knowing and experiencing who and what we really are—the divine spiritual server, the self, the soul. Visioned ideals shift to experienced realities. The Beingness that characterizes Aquarian servers embodies the radiatory spiritual energy which is poured forth for humanity and gently and yet persistently pervades consciousness and culture leading humanity to a recognition of unity and love. The Aquarian server identified as the soul, the Son of God, knows him or herself to be that love. This spiritual achievement doesn't occur by striving towards something, it occurs by being something, by identifying with love and radiating oneself, love as service.

The Aquarian energies call for dispensing with force, with striving, and for learning to work through being and with energy. This is an entirely new quality that is already being demonstrated within the world-serving group. We don't have to try to do it, we simply have to learn to be who and what we are and become more skillful at embodying the energies needed now by humanity.

In the culmination of the Piscean age in which the striving to become has resulted in the denuding of the rainforests and thus depriving the earth of the ability to breath and have an atmosphere, the world servers are called upon to be the rainforest on the higher turn of the spiral. This group breathes new life into the world, it pours living energies forth through its very self, its identity and life, and it does this by learning to embody the Aquarian qualities and methods of service.

So let us now turn towards our world group work today as we contact and learn to embody and work with the energies of Aquarius through participating in the full moon meditation together.

1 **New International Version** (NIV)

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