

Bridging Between Worlds

The Festival of Scorpio, October 26, 2015, New York

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Good evening everyone and welcome. As we always do, let's begin with a moment of silence to link up with all the many groups throughout the world, followed by a sounding of the Ancient Mantram:

Lead us O Lord
From darkness to Light.
From the unreal to the Real.
From death to immortality.
OM

The full moon is a time of bridging--a time when we contribute to the construction of that vast bridge that exists between the spiritual Hierarchy of our planet and humanity. Each month at this time we make ourselves available and receptive to those higher impressions which stem from that inner center at the same time that the Masters on Their side make themselves available, aiding us to understand more fully the Plan and Purpose for our planet during this time of transition.

Each month we work with the energies of the sign under consideration and as you know tonight we are working with the energies that flow through Scorpio--the great sign of struggle, strength and ultimately of triumph. One of the symbols of this sign is the serpent, that creature that regularly sheds its skin. Scorpio is, therefore, a sign of transformation and renewal which the serpent symbolism so aptly conveys. Scorpio is also a sign of darkness and transformations that occur from within the very depths of our being. It is not an easy experience, the Scorpio experience-- it is symbolic of the path itself. The darkness of this sign is symbolic of the falling away process that always occurs on the path wherein those things that once sustained us no longer do and we are left with a feeling of being bereft. Through testing and trial the individual eventually emerges out of darkness and enters into light. One of the keynotes is this sign is simply "the light of day."

So just as in esoteric astrology we're told that the two signs of Leo and Virgo are esoterically one so, too, is there a type of union between Scorpio and the subsequent sign of Sagittarius.. Both Scorpio and Sagittarius share the upward pointing arrow as part of their symbol and this shows the resonance between them--Scorpio ends on a note of triumph and Sagittarius takes it from there and moves quickly across the plains. There are no firm lines of demarcation between the signs but rather a type of merging and blending of the experiences and it is especially true in these two signs.

The testing in Scorpio as it impacts the life of an individual extends at this time in planetary history to include humanity as a whole—humanity, the world disciple. And this testing of humanity occurs in the same areas as the testing of an individual, along the lines of separateness, selfishness and materialism. The ability to overcome these limitations only

becomes possible as humanity begins to come under the influence of the spiritual will. It's said that "the will to good of the world knowers is the magnetic seed of the future." Humanity as a whole is developing what we call goodwill--that's the lowest and perhaps the easiest manifestation of the will aspect and we can see that working out in large numbers of people at this time--goodwill is indeed being shed abroad. But paralleling this and much more difficult of accomplishment is the will-to-good that is being developed by the world knowers, the discipleship group. Only as we learn to contact and harness that will can we garner sufficient strength to make the needed changes in our planetary life.

The potent awakening of this will aspect is not, however, so related to processes determined by humanity itself but rather to happenings emanating from within the highest center Shamballa and within the karma of the great Life that ensouls the planet. It's no wonder then that the spiritual will is beginning to make its presence felt within humanity as we have been increasingly subject to the powerful impacts from that highest center. It is these impacts that are fostering this will-to-good of the world knowers and it is no wonder that humanity is being lifted up to a higher purpose. It's said great "waves of karmic impact have beaten upon our Earth—that little ship adrift in time and space and sailing the great ocean of the cosmos. The Lords of Karma have looked towards our planet. Energy follows thought and that, my brother, is all that karma is—the impact of directed energy upon the Earth, upon the kingdoms in nature, upon man and upon the individual disciple" (*Discipleship in the New Age, Vol. 2, p. 578*).

Humanity has an important role to play in our planetary life. It is the mediator, the messenger with the winged feet, the bridging, linking agent between that which is above and that which is below. Humanity provides the bridge, not only between the different kingdoms in nature but eventually humanity will provide a broader mediating role within our solar system and beyond, as extraordinary as this might sound to us today.

It's said that "upon the shoulders of humanity rests unbelievable responsibility." Through humanity there will eventually be established "an outpost of the consciousness of God in the solar system" (*Esoteric Psychology, Vol. II, p. 217*). Although we cannot really know nor hardly imagine what these words mean or how that will manifest nonetheless it is an amazing consideration. Of course this prophecy lies in a distant future but surely the challenges and changes that are being wrought out in our present day humanity provide a type of foreshadowing of that which is possible.

One of the means whereby these transformations will come about is through the instrumentality of the planet Mercury and humanity's ability to become more attuned to its influence. Mercury is also a key planet ruling in Scorpio. Mercury is known as the Messenger and humanity is modeled upon the nature of this planetary influence. As we move into the Aquarian age the influence of Mercury will grow tremendously and it is going to become increasingly instrumental in our spiritual development. Each age is divided into three approximately 700 year sections and the second section in Aquarius is ruled by Mercury. Right now we are entering into the first section, or decanate, of the coming age which is ruled by Saturn, which has a certain heaviness associated with it. But as we move towards the second

decanate there will arise a lightness of being coloured by Mercury. And because disciples are always ahead of the times in which they live perhaps we can blend some of that lightness into our lives amidst a decidedly Saturnian time.

One of the developments that will arise in that second section of the Aquarian age is that speech will no longer be needed. Perhaps it will still be used but it won't be the preeminent mode of communication; in fact, humanity will become increasingly telepathic. This Mercurial influence, in combination with the incoming of the 4th ray in 2025 (the 4th ray being the qualifying ray energy of Mercury), will surely stimulate this bridging capacity. This combination brings the ability to mediate between the higher and lower minds. Part of an ancient rule that governs the lives of those seeking to tread the path runs as follows, "Let the group serve as Aquarius indicates. Let Mercury speed the group upon the upward Way." Mercury is related to the intuition, to that light which pours into human consciousness as the lower concrete mind and the higher abstract and intuitive minds are bridged and begin to flow into one another, bringing illumination and the irradiation of consciousness. It is through the correct use of the mind that we are eventually led out of darkness into light and from the unreal to the Real. On one level the lower concrete mind can, as was so famously said by Madame Blavatsky, become the slayer of the Real but on another level the mind can also become the revealer of the Real.

Eventually, through the growing ability to think abstractly, a new group of human beings is coming into manifestation. And this group is a type of forerunner of a type of consciousness that will become more widespread in the coming age. The Tibetan writes, "Out of the shattered form of the fifth subrace of the fifth root race, built up under the fifth Ray of Concrete Knowledge...will emerge the sixth subrace of brotherly love—love shown in the realisation of the one life latent in each Son of God" (*A Treatise on Cosmic Fire*, p. 595). The keynote of this incoming sixth subrace is not so much the perpetuation of concrete mindedness but rather a growing abstract or intuitive mindedness.

As humanity learns to build bridges within consciousness it will be better able to let the energies flow through without being so easily arrested by our concrete, materialistically minded personalities. To make this shift we have to work more in harmony with our soul nature, which will lead to a growing capacity to build bridges between the races, religions, nations, sexes and the differing economic classes. It's said this breaking down of barriers will be one of the preeminent roles of the coming World Teacher who will bring the fire-of-love. But we, in our own way, can touch perhaps a bit of that fire in our individual lives and use it to build bridges within our environment.

So much of this bridging work involves finding a way to integrate the progressive and conservative elements within any group or nation. And this is a particularly challenging role, one that is being undertaken quite successfully by Pope Francis in his Synod on Family that concluded yesterday after three full weeks of discussions at the culmination of a two-year process. Still there have been no firm conclusions established and a lot of work remains to be done. The purpose of the synod was to review the faith's approach to families in the 21st century. Under Francis's direction, bishops and cardinals set a new precedent by tackling issues

once considered taboo in the Roman Catholic Church to hopefully move it into the modern era, in step with the changing tempo of the times.

Taurus is the sign which is the polar opposite of Scorpio. In Taurus we touch the highest expression of light available to us within the spiritual year, the light which the Buddha brings. The opposite sign of Scorpio is known as the sign of the depths, of darkness, of the underworld experience and those inner transformations that occur from within the depths of oneself, when all the outer props fail to support. The Taurus-Scorpio axis, which eventually has to merge and blend one with the other, brings together the sign of greatest darkness with that of greatest light. Through this axis and its planetary rulers we are presented with, a great reservoir of will energy that has the capacity to transform the ordinary, plodding individual into someone who has the capacity to make rapid progress. The keynote of Scorpio is, "Warrior I am and from the battle I emerge triumphant." This triumph results from a growing ability to tune the life strings to a new vibration, allowing the person to eventually join the great orchestral movement that is sounding now within our planetary life through all the various instruments, creating harmony out of the present dissonance through the agency of the "alchemy of love."

The tests of the great Sun-God Hercules are pre-eminently the tests of Scorpio. The labours of Hercules are of course symbolic of the challenges we all face, in one way or another, as we take up the path of return. Each test becomes more exacting than the previous one. The twelve labours and the twelve signs of the zodiac have a correspondence to the twelve petals of the heart center which is a reflection of the twelve petals of the egoic lotus. Each labour of Hercules, therefore, could in effect bring about an opening of a different petal of the heart.

In a letter from the Tibetan in a letters to one of his students he gave a meditation on the twelve virtues of the heart. He asked his student to take one of these virtues into his meditation each month as a seed thought and therefore over the course of the year to symbolically speaking, open the heart. The twelve virtues were--Group love, embracing individuals; Humility, Service, Patience, Life, Tolerance, Identification with Others, Compassion, Sympathy, Wisdom and Sacrifice, He only gave eleven virtues perhaps because the virtues parallel the signs of the zodiac with the twelfth sign Pisces providing a synthesis of all the other virtues. He asked the student to ponder upon the expression of these virtues as they work out upon the physical plane. He stressed the need to bring our abstractions down into something that we can concretely understand and work with in our daily lives (*Discipleship in the New Age, Vol. II, pp. 660-61*)

Let us now take our place within the planetary bridge of light that is being created by all true servers everywhere who are finding their way into the light of Hierarchy and through the fabric of their lives weaving that light into manifestation thereby contributing their part to the letting in of the light.
