



**Transforming Planetary Consciousness
The Spiritual Work of the United Nations**

Opening Address, Cancer Solar Festival Webinar 2017*

Saturday, 8 July 2017

Dear Friends, Good afternoon and Welcome! Thank you for being here. I look forward to the good work that we are about to accomplish together.

As is our practice at these monthly meetings, after this opening address, intended to unify, stimulate and prepare our group mind, so that we can hold it “steady in the light.” allowing us then to become part of the planetary alignment, responding to impressions and contacts emanating from the subjective and spiritual planes, we will move to the focus of the meeting, which is Group Meditation. Following this, you will have an opportunity to share your thoughts and ideas, if you like.

In the U.S. Eastern Time Zone, the exact time of the Cancer Solar Festival is early tomorrow morning, July 9th at 12:07 a.m. Thus, we are meeting on the 2nd and last day of Preparation, in the five-day cycle that makes up each of the 12 Solar Festivals. As we know, this means that today is a day of dedication and upward striving. We hold the intention of becoming recipients and custodians of as much of the inflowing spiritual force as we are capable of holding on behalf of humanity.

Dear Friends, as we know, there is the ordinary wheel of life upon which the soul is found blind and apparently helpless. And, eventually, this process of involution is superseded by the reversed wheel of spiritual aspiration and attainment. Herein, the Soul begins to take charge of its equipment—the lower personal self, and thus, begins the journey into the many levels and stages of the irradiation of matter.

During this evolutionary stage, the light body within the macrocosm and the microcosm begin to merge and flourish. And, of course, the sign of Cancer has much to contribute to this process and I will say more about this shortly.

* Opening Address presented by Ida Urso, Ph. D., for the 2017 Cancer Solar Festival Webinar Meditation Meeting. sponsored by the **Aquarian Age Community**. The books cited in parentheses are copyrighted, published and available from the Lucis Trust at www.lucistrust.org.

“Welcome to Planet Earth”—that is how NASA has named the photo on your screen. Taken by the Apollo 17 Crew in 1972, it is thought to be one of the most widely distributed photographs of any kind. *Our Earth*—the third planet from the sun, shaped like a sphere. Of special esoteric significance is the fact that it is composed mostly of rock with 70% of its surface covered by water.

The description of this photo from NASA’s Astronomy Picture of the Day ends with this cordial greeting: “Please enjoy your stay on Planet Earth”—a sentiment, which, as many of us may attest, at a certain stage of the spiritual seeker’s Path, is most difficult to embrace.

Our Tibetan Master and Brother refers to our Earth as “the unhappy little planet of suffering.” He tells us that it is only after the fifth Initiation of Revelation that the disciple finally understands with a new clarity some of the karmic liabilities, which have led the planetary Logos to create, what he refers to as, “this planet of suffering, sorrow, pain and struggle.”

Only at that point, he teaches, does the disciple finally realize “(...with joy) that this little planet is essentially unique in its purpose and techniques, and that on it and within it (if...[we] could but penetrate below the surface), a great redemptive experiment is going forward.”

It is here, on planet Earth that the purification and redemption of matter begins. And, as that great and pioneering Initiate, Helena Blavatsky indicated, it is here that the art or science of relationship between the Life (with a capital L)—and the lives is recognized and increasingly cultivated.

In the words of the Tibetan Master, it is they who “are the ‘sons of mind...[yet] choose to be the sons of men and yet for all eternity remain the Sons of God’”—it is they and *us* who work out the redemption of matter, eliminating the undesirable hindrances and preparing the form for the entrance of light.

“These ‘sons of mind,’” it is explained, “were chosen in that far distant time when the fourth kingdom in nature came into being”—this, with the purpose of carrying forward the science of redemption. And, here we are reminded of the esoteric significance of the words in The New Testament that the “whole creation groaneth and travaileth together in pain until now, waiting for the manifestation of the Sons of God.” (*Discipleship in the New Age, Vol. II*, pp. 385-6, 649)

The good news, we are told, is that eventually, in the far distant future, “when the last weary Pilgrim will have found his [and her] way home”, our Earth can then be prepared for a new Humanity and it will then no longer be known as the planet of sorrow and of pain, but it will be distinguished by a quality of tranquility and an aura of calm potency, wherein the *will of God* (to be demonstrated in the next solar system) will be focussed.

“In some mysterious way,” states the Teaching, this will allow the *Solar Logos* to bring the first great divine aspect—that of Will or Power, into expression, throughout the entire solar system. (*The Rays and the Initiations*, p. 654)

At that time, instead of the statement which describes our present second ray solar system—namely that "God is Love," we shall then have a dynamic expression of the will-to-good—an energy which will have been generated to some extent upon our unique and little planet, Earth.

This, it is promised, is the reward which the present Earth humanity will reap, and *this* is the consummation of the task that our planetary Logos undertook when He came into incarnation—through the medium of our little planet—to aid the work of the Solar Logos in expressing the will aspect of divinity. (*Ibid.*)

And it is for this reason, dear friends, that since 1945, we have been asked to participate in the Invocation to "Let *Light* descend on Earth"; to let "*Christ* return to Earth" and to "Let *Light* and *Love* and *Power* restore the Plan on Earth."

Recognizing with gratitude and appreciation, the strivings and achievements of disciples past, present and to come—who have, are and will be taking up this grand redemptive and salvaging work of the Ages, it is with humility, joy and with enthusiastic expectancy, that we here today can add our contribution—our dedicated and consecrated "drop of water," to the great ocean of Life.

Keeping these thoughts in mind, can we now expand our hearts and minds, *uniting* in loving cooperation with all co-workers who are similarly working everywhere throughout the planet? And, can we sound aloud, with heartfelt dedication, the Noon-time recollection?

"I know oh Lord of Life and Love about the need. Touch my heart anew with love that I too may love and give."

[PAUSE]

"I build a lighted house and therein dwell."—such is the esoteric keynote, the word of the Soul, in the sign of Cancer.

Friends, just as surely as the Golden Age of the Renaissance ended the medieval period of barbarian warfare and replaced it instead with the flowering forth of humanitarian, intellectual achievements, a cultural and glorious rebirth of the arts and literature, and the beginnings of modern science; so today, we are working our way towards a *spiritual renaissance*—a period wherein humanity is emerging from the thralldom of matter and orienting itself to embrace *spiritual* values and attitudes; a period wherein the attitude of aggressive possession and acquisition is *yielding* to a spirit of *cooperation*, *loving understanding* and identification with the *Good*, the *Beautiful* and the *True*.

Cancer, as we know, is one of the two gates of the zodiac. The other gate is Capricorn, the polar opposite of Cancer. Through the gate of Cancer, souls pass into outer manifestation, appropriating the needed matter, and thus begins identification with the material form for many long cycles.

Esoteric Astrology teaches that:

“[Cancer is] ‘the gate which stands wide open, broad and easy to pass through and yet it leads unto the place of death and to that long imprisonment which precedes the final revolt.’ ...In Cancer, God breathed into man's nostrils the breath of life and man became a living soul. In these words, you have established the relation which exists in the mind of God between spirit (the breath of life) the soul (consciousness) and man (the form).” (p. 313)

This same wisdom continues:

“Without the form and without the ability to bear in mind the need to respond sensitively to the environing conditions and circumstance, the soul would never awaken to knowledge in the three worlds and, therefore, would never know God in manifestation.

“It will [thus] be found that rebirth—[the domain of Cancer], is, in truth, [the]...interplay between the form side of life and life itself. This interplay is *consciously* undertaken by the soul which is the product of...[spirit and matter].”

The *Old Commentary* expresses this significant truth by stating that “slowly the vision of the Saving One becomes a light which guides the Crying Ones into the place of light.” (*Esoteric Astrology*, pp. 323, 326)

“Through the door of Cancer streams the ‘magnetic magical light which guides the soul into the dark place of experience.’ Similarly, it is the magical pull of Capricorn..., the polar opposite of Cancer and the other gate within the zodiac, which upon the returning wheel...of expression and of discipleship, draws the soul steadily away from form life and experience and constitutes that ‘radiant light which leads the soul in safety to the mountain top.’” (*Esoteric Astrology*, pp. 336-337)

The controlling factor and the determining condition is the *sensitivity* of the incarnated soul to the form side of life, leading either to incarnation through the door of Cancer; or, alternatively, to soul life, leading to initiation through the door of Capricorn. (*Ibid.*, p.337)

In this process, the main thought for us to clearly hold in our minds, is that we need to be mindfully aware of how we use energy in the three worlds. Is a particular energy being consciously manipulated by the governing soul or, is it being swept into activity by the force inherent in the matter of the three worlds—the three vehicles of the personality, independently of the soul?

Are we allowing ourselves to be victims of form energies and of the matter aspect of all manifestation? Or, do we respond to the voice of the Soul, the indwelling consciousness?

Do we consider ourselves as active co-operators with the Hierarchy—able to create and direct mental matter, attempting to work out the purposes of the Universal Mind? Are we willing to identify with the One Life that is the expression of boundless, infinite Love?

As we can appreciate, from pondering these questions, it is for this reason that when one individual sees clearly and gains victory by releasing himself or herself from the thralldom of

matter and its inherent glamour and illusion, that he or she then aids the Great Work and makes it thereafter easier for others to similarly attain. The inherited light of the Earth's substance will then have become intensified and qualified by the higher light of the soul.

The experience in Cancer provides humanity with the opportunity to build adequate forms and to learn to use and control the form, thus, furthering the Plan of Light and Love. When the pull of matter is superseded by the free choice of the soul, the form life then can become a conscious expression for service in the world of form.

The disciple can then understand how one can “be in the world, but not of the world.” “Count all things but loss unless they are productive along the lines of service to humanity”, states the Tibetan Master. (*Discipleship in the New Age, Vol. II, p. 110*)

Here, we are cautioned against the failure and inability to work intelligently and lovingly with substance. In *The Destiny of the Nations*, the Tibetan Master teaches that under the influence of the 6th ray expression of the past 2000 plus years of the Piscean Age, that it was humanity's inability to work lovingly with the dense outer form that produced what he calls our “disastrously mismanaged world, bringing humanity and the planet to its present serious condition.”

Under the influence of the incoming 7th Ray, which also expresses itself through Cancer, the task of the new age workers, is to bring these two apparent opposites together, demonstrating that spirit and matter are *not* antagonistic to each other and that throughout the universe there is only spiritual substance, working on and producing the outer tangible forms. (*The Destiny of the Nations*, pp. 126-127)

Indeed, welcome to planet Earth—and please enjoy your stay. The work of evolution—the refining of substance and form, and the development of quality eventually leads to liberation. The instrument of release is the right use and control of the organ of illumination, which is the mind. It is for this reason that when the aspirant awakens to spiritual opportunity that the emphasis necessarily is ever laid upon meditation.

Due to the action of individual, planetary and cosmic *manas*, the negative electrons of matter are stimulated and these eventually merge with their polar opposite of Spirit, irradiating and imbuing the matter of the form with Light. The divine flower of the Son of Mind, the *Manasaputra*—the Soul, provides the linking thread which leads back to the realm of the Universal Mind, ultimately making planet Earth a sacred planet.

With these thoughts in mind can we now turn to our meditation?