



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

Opening Address, Cancer Solar Festival Webinar 2016*

Tuesday, July 19, 2016

Good afternoon, Friends and Welcome! Thank you for being here today! We appreciate your taking the time from your busy lives to participate in this planetary service.

In the U.S. Eastern Time Zone, the exact time of this Cancer Solar Festival occurs this evening at 6:56 p.m. Thus, we are auspiciously meeting on the day of Safeguarding.

The picture on your screen comes to us, courtesy of NASA's "Astronomy Picture of the Day." It is entitled, *Neptune: Still Springtime After All These Years.*

NASA tells us that Neptune—the Solar System's outermost gaseous giant planet, orbits the Sun once every 165 earth-years. Interestingly, Astronomers have found that in recent years, Neptune has been getting brighter as illustrated in this Hubble Space Telescope image made in 2002, compared, for example, to Hubble pictures taken in 1996.

From this, we might infer a correlation between the outer visible seeming and the inner spiritual reality; that is, Neptune's influence in our planet's life has been intensifying, thus, helping humanity recognize the unseen reality, the spiritual heartbeat and the interconnectedness and oneness of all life.

According to our esoteric understanding, we know Neptune to be a *sacred* planet—"The God of the Waters," which is not only the esoteric and hierarchical ruler of Cancer, but also the exoteric ruler, veiled by the Moon.

Related to this planet, and its pivotal importance to our current times, the Tibetan Master teaches that the pains, the tests and difficulties of our current era are symptoms or indications of the "entering into manifestation" of the new civilization and culture. They portend, as he teaches, the birth of the new era for which the entire world waits.

However, this can only happen if—speaking esoterically—the sixth ray energy of Mars is transmuted into the sixth ray energy of Neptune, for the one is "objective and full of blood" and the other is "subjective and full of life." (*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 217)

*Opening Address presented by Ida Urso, Ph. D., for the Cancer Solar Festival Webinar, sponsored by the **Aquarian Age Community**.

And, of course, in this pithy and succinct statement lies the purpose of our work and we are given yet another important reason to support and strengthen the spiritual work of the United Nations, which we hope can help eliminate the catastrophic warring on our planet and increasingly become the voice of reason and love, as it was intended to be.

A word search for Neptune in the Tibetan's books, proves informative and illuminating, and for those who have the time, I highly encourage it. For our purposes here, I will mention the additional notable fact that for our current cycle, Neptune is known esoterically as the Initiator.

We are told that in certain ancient formulas, the great Teacher of the West and the present world Initiator, the Christ, is spoken of as Neptune—the One Who rules the ocean and whose trident and astrological symbol signifies the Trinity in manifestation. (*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 219)

Neptune is one of three synthesizing planets [along with Uranus and Saturn] through which the sensitive star of Sirius, the seat of higher mind, influences our solar system. (*A Treatise on Cosmic Fire*, p. 1258)

Responding as best we can to the energies of this beautiful planet, let us now begin our ascent into a deeper, more inclusive consciousness, as we usually do, by uniting in loving cooperation with all those who are similarly working throughout the planet, consecrating and dedicating ourselves to the work of planetary transformation by sounding, with heart-felt 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.”

“I build a lighted house and therein dwell”—such is the esoteric keynote for the sign of Cancer.

In our work of Planetary Transformation we are called upon to steadfastly hold to three central recognitions, which eventually must be evident within humanity at large and affect all human thinking:

*A wide recognition of the world of the Soul;

*A recognition of the Masters of the Wisdom and the Spiritual Beings who lead humanity onward towards its destined goal; and,

*A steady, increased recognition of the Plan of Light and Love and Power.

(*Discipleship in the New Age*, Vol. II, p. 164)

Three imperative pillars in the building of humanity's lighted house. Can we here pause and dwell for a moment on these three necessary recognitions?

*A wide recognition of the world of the Soul;

*A recognition of the Masters of the Wisdom and the Spiritual Beings who lead humanity onward towards its destined goal; and,

*A steady, increased recognition of the Plan of Light and Love and Power.

Can we imagine and take to heart what our individual lives and the greater collective life would be like, if these three recognitions truly informed and governed our daily life?

As we know, just as certain conditions must be present within the individual life before the individual can become aware of the higher spiritual laws and set his and her feet on the path to prepare for an expansion of consciousness; so it is for humanity as a whole. Certain planetary conditions must exist on our planet before the longed for transformation of consciousness and the related reappearance of the Christ can become a realized fact.

These conditions, as I monthly advocate, make up the as yet unmet goals and objectives of the United Nations as stipulated within its Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the many other plans, objectives and resolutions agreed upon by the 193 member States of this organization.

Thus, at this auspicious time of the month, we concentrate on the spiritual work of the United Nations because we believe that in spite of its many failings and flaws, it is yet the hope of the world. The relationship between this planetary organization and the rehabilitation of the planet and the spiritual transformation now needed—and *possible*, is extensively documented within the books of the Tibetan Master.

Additionally, as we also know, the full expression of Ashramic energy at this time is directed to practical world affairs and to the education of the general public because it is the Christ—along with His disciples and the New Group of World Servers who are the pledged *builders* of the new “house of humanity.”

The general plan of action for the resolution of global problems has been spelled out for us:

*We need the establishment of a world unity, based on loving cooperation, which will produce right human relations;

*We need sound governments who have the welfare of their citizens foremost in their minds;

*We need a united spiritual effort—including an understanding of the Soul nature at the heart of each human being and a recognition of the Hierarchy of Light and Love and Wisdom;

*We need a new system of economics, which will bring an end to the primacy of greed, ending the present uneven distribution of the necessities of life. The principle of sharing must replace the practice of entitlement, gluttony and greed.

Interestingly, in the UN's astrological chart, the North Node, the *lighthouse* point of the chart, if you will, which points the way towards one's destiny, lies in the sign of Cancer.

And, so again, we affirm, “I build a lighted house and therein dwell.”

Being one of the four signs that make up the Cardinal Cross, Cancer is not easy to understand.

Like Leo, which is ruled in all its three expressions (orthodox, esoteric and hierarchical) by the Sun, Cancer is the only other zodiacal sign which is ruled by only one planet, though in mundane, orthodox astrology, the Moon is substituted for Neptune because it is the form nature which is dominant in the longest stage of human unfoldment. (*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 321)

And, it is with this entrenched tendency that the disciple has to wrestle. However, the Tibetan points out that in the mass mind, of which Cancer is the truest expression, it is fortunate that Neptune is veiled by the Moon and that the form fails to register or step down many of the impacts to which the spiritually aware person is sensitive. Average humanity, he teaches, is not yet fully equipped to bear the full range of these impacts, to handle them constructively or to transmute them and interpret them accurately, thus the moon veils Neptune for those unable to withstand this energy. (Ibid., p. 322)

Here, it might be helpful to mention that upon the Path of Discipleship and along the line of esoteric development, one of the major difficulties of the disciple—and we know this only too well from our own firsthand experience, is the disciple's extreme sensitivity to impacts from every side and his and her rapid ability to respond to contacts coming from "all points of the compass, from every angle of the zodiacal wheel and from that which is within as well as from that which is without, from that which lies above, below, and upon every hand," as the Old Commentary so comprehensively expresses it. (Ibid.)

It is also as difficult and hard for today's spiritual student to grasp the mass-consciousness of Cancer as it is for her and him to grasp the group-awareness or the universal consciousness of Aquarius and to this final development, humanity is hierarchically related by the Moon, veiling Neptune.

These two, then—the Moon and Neptune—are the direct influences which Cancer brings to our planet and which lead to the evolutionary unfoldment of the form of life and of the emotional-astral body. The supreme usefulness of these aspects can be grasped if we consider the fact that without the form and without the ability to bear in mind the need to respond sensitively to the environing conditions and circumstances, the Soul would never awaken to knowledge in the three worlds and, therefore, we would never know God in manifestation. (*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 323)

This consideration naturally brings us to reflect on the Law of Rebirth and the predisposing incentive for reincarnation.

“Basically”, *Esoteric Astrology* teaches, “it is not desire which prompts return and rebirth.” Rather, it is “will and knowledge of the Plan. It is not the need for achieving an ultimate perfection which goads the ego on to experience in form, for the ego is already perfect.” Instead, the main incentive is *sacrifice* and *service* to those lesser lives that are dependent upon the higher inspiration, which the spiritual Soul can give, *and* the determination that they too may attain planetary status equivalent to that of the sacrificing Soul. (p. 324)

It is in order eventually to negate the space-time concept and to prove it an illusion that the door in Cancer opens to the sacrificing, serving Soul.

To help us better understand the depth and profundity of this truth, it is suggested that instead of considering rebirth and reincarnation, which are misleading terms, that we, alternatively contemplate the concepts of "*cyclic impulsion*," "*intelligent purposeful repetition*" and "*conscious in-breathing and out-breathing*." (*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 325)

However, to even attempt an understanding of these concepts requires that we identify with the One Who breathes—the Planetary Logos, which of course, is quite a mental stretch until initiation is taken.

Esoterically speaking, the point of greatest interest in this process lies in the fact that it is group rebirth which is taking place all the time and that the incarnation of the individual is only incidental to this greater happening.

This fact, we are told, has been largely ignored or forgotten because of the intense and selfish interest in personal experience and living.

Groups of Souls come into incarnation cyclically and together in order to further the Plan and permit that interplay to proceed between spirit and matter which makes manifestation possible and which extends the working out of the divine ideas as they exist in the Mind of God.

Can we pause and attempt to appreciate the full scope of this fact? It certainly clarifies and enhances our understanding of the reality that on the Path one travels not alone, and it also adds depth to the recognition that “I am one with my group brothers (and sisters) and all that I have is theirs,” does it not?

As we strive to more fully understand the Plan, we will better recognize the fact that rebirth and reincarnation are “in truth, a magical and magnetic interplay between the form side of life and life itself and that this interplay is *consciously* undertaken by the Soul which is the product of these two related factors.

The Old Commentary expresses this process in the following phrases, which I think will be familiar to many of you:

"Those who are demanding to be saved have cried aloud. Their voices penetrate into the formless world and there evoke response.

"Those who in distant aeons have pledged themselves to save and serve respond. Their cry too rings forth and, ringing, penetrates into the dark and distant places within the worlds of form.

"And thus a vortex is established and kept alive by that constant dual sound. And then a touch is made and for a space and during time, the two are one—the Saving Souls and the Units to be served.

"Slowly the vision of the Saving One becomes a light which guides the Crying Ones into the place of light." (*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 326)

Friends, The theme of service and sacrifice—which, let us remember, means to make sacred, to make whole, runs, unrecognized, through all of human history.

Keeping in mind, then, the fact that Cancer represents the Light within the form, the diffused light, awaiting the stimulation coming from the Light of the Soul, can we now take up our work of meditation?