



**Transforming Planetary Consciousness  
The Spiritual Work of the United Nations and the Liberation of Humanity**

**Opening Address, Easter/Aries Solar Festival\***

**Friday, 30 March 2018; Noon – 1:00 p.m.**

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Good afternoon, friends! Welcome and thank you for being here.

Today we are observing the Festival of Easter—the festival of the Resurrected, living Christ, the Head of the spiritual Hierarchy and the Expression of the love of God. The Magnetic Point of Love for the Entire Planet.

This Festival, as we know, is determined by the date of the first Full Moon of spring—the date of the Solar Festival of Aries, which in the U.S. Eastern time zone, occurs tomorrow morning at 8:37 a.m.

It is a joy to work here with you today, and I invite you to consider our shared opportunity as a Festival of Joy, as we focus our hearts and minds on the spiritual Hierarchy Whom the Christ guides and directs, knowing that as we do, so we are preparing the way for the Externalisation of that Hierarchy—in preparation for the Reappearance of the Christ and the Restoration of the Mysteries.

Mindful of the fact that this Festival emphasizes the nature of God’s love, let us invoke that love on behalf of humanity, knowing that as we do, we are also invoking its power to produce on our planet, the needed and longed for resurrection and spiritual livingness.

Let us also endeavor to identify with the Purpose that seeks to “guide the little wills of men,” keeping in mind our intention for these Webinars, which is to become as a living bridge, bringing humanity ever-closer to the ideas and energies held in trust within the Council Chamber of Shamballa and radiated outward by the Hierarchy of Love-Wisdom.

In cooperative participation in this divine circulatory flow, we recognize ourselves as part of the world-wide group through which these spiritual energies are poured throughout the whole body of humanity.

After this opening address, we will move into the focus of our meeting which is guided Group Meditation, after which, you will have an opportunity to voice any thoughts and ideas you might like to share.

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\*Opening Address presented by Ida Urso, Ph. D., for the 2018 Easter/Aries 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](http://www.lucistrust.org) and from the Agni Yoga Society at <http://www.agniyoga.org/index.php>

The image on your screen is a photo of the Nicholas Roerich painting entitled, *Easter Night*. It is subtitled, “*The Heavenly Forces are Serving with Us Invisibly.*” A fitting title and image for our work today; wouldn’t you agree?

The painting reminds me of the passage within *The Externalisation of the Hierarchy*, wherein the Tibetan Master explains that the Christ will not reappear in the pomp and ceremony that some ascribe to him, nor will He reappear to prove His divine power. Rather, His main objective this second time around will be to make public the already existent Kingdom of God.

In this same passage, it is explained that in order for Him to once again openly walk amongst humanity, what is required is a world with enough effective workers and spiritually-minded people who can change the atmosphere of our planet—then, and only then, we are cautioned, will the Christ Reappear.

The holy congregants flowing out of the church in this painting symbolize to me those workers, and I am also reminded of the fact that the first blow to world glamor was struck by the Buddha and His 900 arhats when the Buddha promulgated His Four Noble Truths.

The Christ then struck the second blow with His teaching on the nature of individual responsibility and brotherhood *and*, it is anticipated that a third blow to world glamour will be struck by the New Group of World Servers, acting under the direction of the Christ and His disciples, symbolically described as “Christ and His 9,000 initiates.” (*Glamour, A World Problem*, p. 40) May it be so!

We have much to accomplish today, so let us begin as we normally do, by taking a moment to pause and together sound 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 come forth and from the plane of mind I rule.”—such is the song of the Soul, the esoteric keynote in this first sign of Aries—the sign, which initiates the cycle of manifestation.

Dear friends, we are familiar with the sequence explained by esoteric astrology. All souls, as individual entities, come into human incarnation for the first time in the sign of Cancer. They emerge as mental entities in the sign of Aries, then, as emotional-desire entities in the sign of Taurus and as vital entities in the sign of Gemini, taking then, physical form in Cancer.

This, as we know, is the involutory, subjective cycle. In this way, do all souls immerse themselves into the ocean of physical plane existence—into the world of matter. This is the history of each one of us and the history as well, of all members of the human family.

That first impulse to come forward into manifestation is awakened in Aries, for Aries is the place where the initial idea to institute activity takes form. It is the birthplace of ideas, and a true idea is in reality a spiritual impulse taking form—subjectively and objectively. In this sign, originates the response of the soul to the highest aspect or quality of deity because it is in Aries that the “*will to incarnate*” first appears.

In the words of *Esoteric Astrology*, the sign of Aries “awakens the will to reach the lowest and there control, to know the uttermost and thus to face all experience.” (*Esoteric Astrology*, p, 92)

In this process, Aries conveys the following four injunctions which are given, symbolically, to the incarnating soul—all conveying the same idea:

1. Express the will to be and do.
2. Unfold the power to manifest.
3. Enter into battle for the Lord.
4. Arrive at unity through effort.

Creation—Being—Activity—Strife, and final Synthesis—these describe the nature of the Lord of this first sign and enable Him to influence our planet to these results.

And thus, the great cycle of struggle towards expression starts and the foundational and encapsulating words of *The Secret Doctrine*, with which we are familiar, express the goal and the purpose of this first sign of the Cardinal Cross:

“Matter is the vehicle for the manifestation of soul on this plane of existence, and soul is the vehicle on a higher plane for the manifestation of spirit, and these three are a trinity synthesised by life which pervades them all.”—S.D. I. 80.

It is Aries then that starts the process of the first great cosmic initiation of *individualization*. It culminates, eons later, in the reversing of the wheel and in the achievement of the transference from off the Mutable Cross to the Fixed Cross of discipleship and then on to the Cardinal Cross of that brings Cosmic Awareness.

In its lowest manifestation, Aries is the creator of those activities, conditions and processes, which lead to the manifestation of soul through the medium of form, and much later in the long span of the evolutionary cycle, to those higher creative undertakings, to the manifestation of spirit through the soul.

In this manner, we come to know, experience, and understand the nature of the triplicity, which is the basis of life and thus, the basis of occultism: *Life, Quality and Appearance*.

Aries is a fire sign. At different points along the Path of Life, Aries forces the soul on to the burning ground, subjecting it to the purifying process during incarnation. This experience is concisely and pictorially expressed in the Old Commentary in the following way:

[The] "jungles of experience are set on fire and dissolve in flames and then the Path stands clear and unobstructed vision is achieved."

Aries embodies the will-to-create that which will express the will-to-good. Transmitting, as it does, the first ray of Will and Power, Aries is the monadic and thus, the transmitting ray of our planetary Logos, with the Soul Ray being the second ray of Love-Wisdom and the personality ray being that of the third ray of Active Intelligence.

Dear friends, if we consider this interlinked process of the *transmitting, transforming* and the *transfiguring* rays, we gain some insight into why the influence of the planets Mars and Mercury—that is, the exoteric, orthodox and the esoteric, subjective rulers of Aries, respectively—play such a pivotal role in the evolution of humanity’s will and thus, in the transformation of planetary consciousness.

The exoteric ruler, Mars, brings conflict and the death of the form so that the stage is then set for Mercury to bring illumination and the development of the intuition, as a *direct* result of that conflict and death.

It is for this reason that we are asked to welcome crises in our lives and why we are enjoined to be on the alert, if we are not experiencing crises, for when the disciple's life is devoid of crisis, it means that progress is then lacking. The inner life is stagnant.

When we find ourselves in the midst of the conflict and the crisis, it is then necessary to stand within the circle of life, as a quiet centre. However, the Tibetan tells us, it is the quiet achieved by the mastering of turmoil and not the quiet of a stagnant pool.

(*Discipleship in the New Age*, Vol. I, p. 534)

As we witness all around us, in every field of life where the status quo no longer serves evolutionary growth, new cycles of Being and of consciousness are initiated by conflict. Although some day it will change, now, whether we like it or not, on our planet, conflict is yet the governing factor of evolution.

As the Tibetan Master teaches, if the result of this initiating, energizing will is to produce such beneficent effects of intuitive understanding and bring in the activity of Mercury as the messenger of the Gods, it can be seen how truly, through conflict, the will-to-good can be brought about.

Aries, the Initiator. Aries, the incentive towards a new beginning.

Considering these aspects of this sign, is it not clearly understandable and does it not seem logical and reasonable that Easter—the Festival of Restoration and Resurrection, the Festival of the Loving, Risen Christ, is therefore determined by this first Solar Festival of Spring—the Solar Festival of Aries?

Cumulatively, this Festival of Easter in Aries, the Wesak Festival of the Buddha in Taurus, and the Christ Festival of Unification in Gemini—these three major spiritual Festivals of Spring form the high point in the annual cycle. They represent a basic divine purpose and they provide the annual, reciprocal approach of humanity to divinity and of divinity to humanity.

Just as these three major Festivals establish the “divine aspects” reflecting the underlying trinity of the God-head—that of will or purpose, love/wisdom, and light or intelligent activity—so the remaining nine Festivals of the year constitute the lesser festivals of great importance in themselves because they establish the divine attributes in the consciousness of humanity.

Taken together, these twelve annual festivals constitute a revelation of divinity. They stimulate the evolutionary spiritual growth of all kingdoms in nature. Collectively, they emphasize the interdependence and interrelation of the Whole, lifting the divine presentation out of the individual and the personal, into that of the universal divine Purpose.

The relationship of the Whole to the part and of the part to that Whole can thereby be fully expressed, eventually allowing for unobstructed divine circulatory flow on our planet.

In the book, *The Reappearance of the Christ*, the Tibetan Master describes this astounding synthetic process in the following way, calling our attention to a unified, universal spiritual approach and practice. (pp. 156-157)

“Humanity will, therefore, invoke the spiritual power of the Kingdom of God, the Hierarchy; the Hierarchy will respond, and God's plans will then be worked out on earth.

“The Hierarchy, on a higher turn of the spiral will invoke the Centre where the Will of God is known, thus invoking the Purpose of God. Thus will the Will of God be implemented by Love and manifested intelligently; for this mankind is ready, and for this the Earth waits.

“The time is coming,” he states, “when all three Festivals will be kept throughout the world and by their means a great spiritual unity will be achieved and the effects of the Great Approach, so close to us at this time, will be stabilized by the united invocation of humanity throughout the planet.”

Is not our work here today and that of co-workers around the world, not only for this Festival, but monthly and yearly over the past many years, ensuring that this process *will* flourish and blossom, as intended?

The Tibetan Master asks, “May it not be possible that through the *ascent* of man's aspiration and spiritual desire, and through the *descent* of the waiting Potencies [that] certain great changes may take place, for which all the past has been only preparatory?”

*(The Externalisation of the Hierarchy, p. 225)*

A similar thought is conveyed by the Agni Yoga wisdom, which also announces dire consequences if such a reciprocal process is not cultivated. In the book, *Supermundane*, we read that each individual has within him- and herself a potential force that can bring one into direct contact with the Highest World. This force builds the essence of the individual consciousness and enables Us [the Teachers of humanity] to transmit information into its core. The person who can establish constant contact with the Highest World is able to help build the future, but if this communion is lost, this wisdom warns, humanity is limited to the life of a beast. (par. 200)

It is, of course, the pull of those higher dimensions of consciousness and the inner Transcendent Self that draws the little fragment back to its originating source. Eternally present, the divine seed—the spiritual potential, the soul within each of us and within every human being, must be brought into the light of every day so that it can grow and flourish and bring the indispensable and necessary Light, Love and Power to the entire planet.

The Biblical call to “be renewed by the renewing of your minds,” is a universal call. “Do not conform to the pattern of this world,” states the passage in Romans 12:2, “but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then, you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will.” (Romans 12:2)

In conclusion, dear friends, can we joyfully embrace this Festival of Restoration and Resurrection, fully aware and mindful that, just as the soul in far off days acquiesced to the demands of the personality, so now the personality will reverse the process and acquiesce to the demands of the soul?

As we prepare for our meditation, can we keep in mind the following thought from this month's newsletter? “Each energy can receive life and form only through the impulse of thought. Thought is the mover of evolution.” (*Infinity, II 395*)