



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

Opening Address, Virgo Solar Festival

Friday, 13 September 2019; Noon - 1:00 p.m.

Dear Friends, Good Afternoon and welcome to this month's Solar Festival, in this significant and mystery-laden sign of Virgo. Thank you for being here. I look forward to the good work we will together accomplish today.

In the U.S. Eastern Time Zone the actual time of this Festival occurs very early tomorrow morning at 12:32 a.m.

Thus, in the five day cycle that makes up our observance of these monthly Festivals, we are meeting, again, as we did last month, on the second and last day of Preparation. With dedication, let us, then, strive to become recipients and custodians of as much of the inflowing spiritual force as we are capable of holding on behalf of the whole of humanity.

Identifying with the Purpose that seeks to "guide the little wills of men," let us affirm our intention, as we do every month, to act as a living, vital bridge, bringing humanity ever-closer to the ideas and energies held in trust within the Council Chamber of Shamballa and radiated into our planet by the Great Brotherhood, the Hierarchy of Love-Wisdom.

After this opening address, we'll move to the focus of our meeting, which is group meditation. Following this, you'll have the opportunity to voice any thoughts and ideas you might like to share.

The photo on your screen is that of the Virgo Cluster Galaxies. It comes to us courtesy of NASA's Astronomy Picture of the Day (APOD). It may be familiar to those of you who recently visited our website, as it is the accompanying cosmic image to the September quote of the month. As the on-line description informs us, there are well over a thousand galaxies that are known members of this Virgo Cluster, which is so expansive that it is used to determine the "scale of the Universe."

I chose this photo for our work this month for its obvious relation to the sign of Virgo, but also because I found it to be such an uplifting and joyous depiction of the boundlessness of the stellar universe, bringing to mind some favorite Agni Yoga sutras such as "From the far-off worlds to the smallest flower, joy offers herself to people." (*Supermundane*, 231) And, "The Thinker referred to the stars as the sparks of Joy." (*Supermundane* 578), Or, "Joy is a special wisdom." (*Leaves of Morya's Garden II*, 159)

*Opening Address presented by Ida Urso, Ph. D., for the 2019 Virgo 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 and from the Agni Yoga Society at <http://www.agniyoga.org/index.php>

The Tibetan Master, Djwhal Khul, also extols the magical benefits of joy: “Someday the appearances which were called personalities, that mask or veil reality, will fully reveal the qualities of Deity. When that time comes, the purpose for which all creation waits will burst upon the awakened vision, and we shall know the true meaning of bliss, and why the morning stars sang together. Joy,” he states, “is the strong basic note of our particular solar system.” (*The Reappearance of the Christ*, Alice A. Bailey, p. 49). And, of course, as we know, Joy along with Resurrection are the two outstanding keynotes of this evolving Age of Aquarius—and both of these are inherent in this sign of Virgo.

May this quality of joy be sparked within each of us and may it permeate our work here today! Can we now, with joy, move forward in that work and together sound the noon-time recollection?

“We know oh Lord of Life and Love about the need. Touch our hearts anew with love that we too may love and give.” [PAUSE]

Dear Friends, as this month’s newsletter indicated, “Virgo symbolises depths, darkness, quiet and warmth; it is the valley of deep experience wherein secrets are discovered and eventually ‘brought to light’; it is the place of slow, gentle and yet powerful crises and periodic developments which take place in the dark and yet which lead to light.” Virgo, we are taught, “stands for the ‘womb of time’ wherein God’s plan (the mystery and the secret of the ages) is slowly matured and—with pain and discomfort and through struggle and conflict—brought into manifestation at the end of the appointed time.” (*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 260)

According to *Esoteric Astrology* (p. 252), the keynote which embodies the truth as to the mission of this sign of Virgo most accurately is “Christ in you, the hope of glory.” We are told that “there is no clearer or more adequate definition of this sign than that.” On the ordinary wheel of life, the command goes forth, “And the Word said, Let Matter reign.” And, thus begins the aeonial activity of Virgo.

Many lifetimes later, upon the wheel of the disciple, the voice emerges from within the Virgo personality Herself as she sings: “I am the mother and the Child. I, God, I, matter am.” Such is the pivotal nature and the determined plan for the wondrous evolution of the human race.

Remember, the Tibetan Master declares, “that you yourself have said the first word as the soul, descending into the womb of time and space in a far and distant past.” And, that “the time has now come when you can, if you so choose, proclaim your identity with both divine aspects - matter and Spirit, the mother and the Christ.” (Ibid., pp. 284-285)

In affirmation, the Agni Yoga wisdom also declares, “That which exists in the depths of the consciousness must be called forth.” (*Agni Yoga*, 465) And, so dear Friends, it is time, is it not for the sons of men to recognize that they are also spiritual beings undertaking the work of planetary redemption?

Given its potential and its synthetic nature, it is understandable that this “sign of reception”, as it is called, is referred to as one of the most significant signs of the zodiac. Its symbology concerns the whole goal of the evolutionary process which is to shield, nurture and finally reveal the hidden spiritual reality. This every form veils, but the human form is equipped and fitted to manifest it in a manner different to any other expression of divinity and so make tangible and objective that for which the whole creative process was intended.

It is explained in *Esoteric Astrology* that in all the great world religions, the Virgin Mother appears and thus, we have this universal recognition of the task of Virgo. The word Virgo itself, we are told, is a descendant of and a corruption of an ancient Atlantean root name which was applied to the mother principle in those far off times.

Three of these Virgin Goddesses with which most of us are familiar are Eve, Isis and Mary. Each of these women represents and advances the expression of the third aspect of divinity -- the active intelligent and nurturing principle of the entire universe.

The self-conscious entity and the individualized personality that unfolded in Leo, now, under the sign of Virgo becomes the Mother of the Christ child, the Soul.

Eve is the symbol of the mental nature and of the mind of man attracted by the lure of knowledge that is to be gained through experience in incarnation. Thus, we have depicted in the Bible, the symbology of Eve taking the apple of knowledge from the serpent of matter and beginning the long human undertaking of experiment, experience and expression.

Isis then stands for this same expression in the emotional or astral plane. As it is explained in *Esoteric Astrology*, Eve has no child in her arms because the germ of the Christ life, the Soul, is as yet too small to make its presence felt; the involutory process is yet too close.

However in Isis, the midway point is reached. The quickening of that which is desired takes place and the Isis of ancient Egypt and of the ancient zodiacs stands for fertility, for motherhood and as the guardian of the child.

Mary who came later, represents an even more advanced development. She carries the manifestation process down to the place of incarnation, on the physical plane and there, gives birth to the Christ child.

In these three Virgins and through these three Mothers of the Christ, we have the astounding history of the formation and the function of the three aspects of the personality through which the Christ life, the Soul must find expression.

Virgo stands for a synthesis of these three feminine aspects, providing that which is needed for the mental, emotional and physical expression of the hidden, but ever present divinity.

“Indeed, matter is very important, but only with spirit does it attain its sacred significance.” (*Leaves II*, 163) – so states the Agni Yoga wisdom, which makes this same point in another most graphic sutra, proclaiming that “matter is not manure;” it is instead “but a substance radiant with possibilities.” (*New Era Community*, 123)

Is it possible that these thoughts reflect the evolution of thinking that some of us have may have experienced in our attitudes towards the physical plane?

Dear Friends, the Tibetan Master wisely points out that it is only when we are identified with the Hierarchy of our planet and with that centre of spiritual force which it is the immediate objective of those upon the path of discipleship to contact that it becomes possible for us to understand – on the evolutionary arc – those broad outlines and those major sweeps of divine energy which are present, albeit hidden, upon the involutory arc. (*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 255)

In many different ways and through many metaphors and Teachings, humanity has been taught since the dawn of time about the radiant possibilities via the graded states of consciousness that make up what is referred to as the “Path to God.”

As far back as 36,000 years ago, in the Emerald Tablets of Thoth, the Atlantean Priest-King urged humanity to look upwards, ascend the stairs of attainment and climb the “mountain” towards the light.

The Book of Genesis, in its turn, refers to this process as climbing Jacob’s ladder, which leads to heaven wherein at the very top stands the Lord, flanked by angels descending and ascending the ladder.

Virgo is the cosmic mother because she represents cosmically the negative pole to positive spirit; she is the receptive agent where the Father aspect is concerned. As we know, it was in the previous and third solar system that the matter aspect was the supreme controlling factor, just as in our current solar system, it is the soul or the Christ principle which is of paramount importance.

In that previous solar system, the life of the third divine aspect played upon the ocean of quiescent matter and prepared the substance, over untold aeons, for its work in this solar system.

And, it is in this Second Ray Solar System that the Christ Child, the expression of the divine consciousness and the result of the relationship between Father Spirit and Mother-Matter, which must now be brought to the birth.

It is for this reason that the Soul, whose nature is Light, and Love and Inclusive Understanding is the goal for which we strive, and right human relations, reflective of that love, is the divine quality that we must now achieve. It is also for this reason that reference is made to Christ as the magnetic point of love for our entire planet.

Virgo makes up one of the arms of the Mutable Cross, which is sometimes called “the Cross of Rebirth” or the “Cross of Changing Lives”, emphasizing the constant mutation, which is the experience of this Cross.

Virgo here represents the stage of Probation or Awakening, wherein the hidden germ of the spiritual life eventually becomes the active germ of the spiritual life.

As humanity journeys through the four signs of this Cross (Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius and Pisces), as a result of the relation established among these signs and the steady unfoldment of the soul principle, so humanity learns the value, the benefit and the inevitability of applying the science of service.

In Virgo, matter or substance exchange or interchange their service and each serves the other, while in Pisces, the polar opposite of Virgo, as a result of the entire evolutionary process —eventually, the dedicated, trained and tested world Server or Saviour appears.

As part of the earthly triplicity along with Taurus and Capricorn, in this triangle, Virgo represents the Hidden Light of God, providing the incentive behind the goal of attaining discipleship.

The light of knowledge of which Taurus is the custodian gives place to the light of wisdom of which Virgo is the guardian, and yields finally to the light of initiation in Capricorn.

All this takes place and must take place upon what is esoterically called “the radiant surface of the earth.”

The Agni Yoga wisdom further explains: “It is easy for the spirit to strive upon the higher planes, but the earthly, the lowest pole, is established as the place of decision. Only [here]...where Light and darkness battle can the spirit manifest a free choice.” The wisdom continues, “Cosmic creativeness requires entirety of manifestation. Thus, the spirit composed of all cosmic energies must pass through all cosmic steps.” (*Infinity II*, 138)

Through Virgo’s exoteric, esoteric and hierarchical rulers – Mercury, the Moon veiling Vulcan, and Jupiter, respectively, the energies of the fourth ray pour, governing the mind through Mercury and the physical form through the Moon; the energies of the first ray, expressive of the will of God, pouring in from Vulcan begin their control of the self-conscious individual (unfolded in Leo) and the energies of the second ray, embodying the love of God, pour through into manifestation.

Will, love and harmony through conflict – such are the controlling forces which make the individual what he and she is and such are the governing and directing energies which use the mind (Mercury), the emotional nature, love (in Jupiter) and the physical body (the Moon, or esoteric will, via Vulcan) for purposes of divine expression and manifestation. (*Esoteric Astrology*, pp. 263-264)

Although it may not always seem this way to those of us who suffer greatly from woes of the world, the Tibetan Master indicates that it should be obvious that the task of Mercury in connection with humanity has gone forward most satisfactorily, having brought humanity to its present point of evolution upon the probationary path; that the energy of Vulcan is powerfully making its presence felt – this being reflected in the ongoing struggles between the men and women of will – selfish and ambitious – and the men and women of good-will who are working for the good of the whole.

The great promise is that when the human Hierarchy is fully awakened to spiritual and not simply material possibilities, that the work of Jupiter will then immediately intensify and this beneficent ruler will lead the human family into the ways of peace and progress.

And, when Mercury, the divine Messenger, the principle of illusion and the expression of the active higher mind, has performed his mission and "led humanity into the light" and the Christ-child out of the womb of time and of the flesh into the light of day and of manifestation, then the task of that great centre we call humanity will be accomplished. (*Esoteric Astrology*, pp. 272-273)

And, so dear Friends, can we engage our imagination and envision the General Assembly of the United Nations, as it prepares for its forthcoming 74th session and the many high level summits and meetings, seeking resolution to humanity’s many problems, as it strives to reconstruct the temple of humanity? Can we envision this General Assembly, this people’s assembly, as the temple from which will emerge the mystery of the ages – the Christ principle, the love of God?

As we are reminded in *The Externalisation of the Hierarchy* (p. 608), “speaking symbolically—when the United Nations has emerged into factual and actual power, the welfare of the world will then be assured. What is that welfare but love in action?”

Keeping this possibility foremost in our minds, can we now take up our meditation?