



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

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

**Thursday, 18 April 2019; Noon - 1:00 p.m.**

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Dear Friends, I greet each of you with welcome good wishes of Joy, Renewal, Restoration and Resurrection. Welcome to this month's work at this time of the first of the three Spiritual Festivals, the Festival of Easter, and for the second time this year, under the dynamic and fiery energies of Aries.

As was mentioned in this month's newsletter, this Festival of Easter is an expression of the Love of God; it is the Festival of the Risen, Resurrected and Living Christ—the magnetic point of Love for our entire planet.

In the U.S. Eastern Time Zone the exact time of this Festival occurs tomorrow morning at 7:12 a.m. Thus, we are meeting therefore on the second and last day of Preparation. As we dedicate ourselves in upward striving, let us recognize ourselves as part of the world-wide group preparing to be the recipients and custodians of as much of the inflowing spiritual energies as we are capable of holding, on behalf of humanity.

Let us open our hearts and minds to the possibilities in front of us, welcoming and aligning ourselves with these beneficent energies now pouring into our planet for the benefit of all life.

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 Masters 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 you might like to share.

Because the planet Mercury, often referred to as “the Messenger of the Gods” plays such a significant and pivotal role in humanity's evolutionary development, and specifically, because at this Easter Festival, as well as at the Christ Festival of June, I have chosen, for our work here today, the photo you see on your screen, entitled, “Mercury, the Swiftest Planet.”

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\*Opening Address presented by Ida Urso, Ph. D., for the 2019 Easter/Aries II 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>

It comes to us from NASA's Solar System Exploration—a project whose visionary objective is to bring the beauty of the Solar System into our lives.

Although our human eyes are not capable of discerning the clear colors that you see depicted on your screen, these colors, are none the less real, indicating, as they do, distinct chemical, mineralogical and physical regions across the cratered surface of this “terrestrial planet.”

As the esoteric ruler of Aries and in relationship to Mars, the exoteric, orthodox ruler, through its illuminating principle, which releases the mind and directs the individual through life, Mercury enables us to eventually become aware of the divine Plan which underlies all of the fiery experiences resulting from the energies of Aries. (*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 96)

As part of the Triangle created by our Earth and Venus and related to the Personality of our planetary Logos, Mercury stands for the planetary mind. (*A Treatise on Cosmic Fire*, p. 362)

As the illuminator of the mind, Mercury mediates between the Soul and the personality. Referenced in *The Secret Doctrine*, Mercury is known to receive seven times more light than any other planet; it brings in that quick and intuitive mind which interprets experience, fosters the growth of the intuition and relates the inner spiritual person to the outer human being in such a way that the future unity of purpose, plan and effort are assured.

Finally, for our purposes here today, it is Mercury who brings about those changes in mental perception which eventually enable humanity to act as the mediating interpreter between the higher worlds and the three lower kingdoms in nature. Thus, Mercury institutes the threefold activity, which we regard as forming the three phases of the mind: the abstract mind or pure manas; the Son of Mind, the Soul or the Manasaputra, and the concrete mind. (*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 436)

Can we therefore take a moment to appreciate and contemplate the illuminating radiance of this planet, while together sounding 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]

Emphasizing the cycle of manifestation and the rule of manas, the principle of the mind, the esoteric keynote of Aries is an indomitable affirmation: “I come forth and from the plane of mind I rule.”

Dear Friends, such is the song of the Soul in this sign of Aries, which makes up one of the arms of the Cardinal Cross. As such, Aries is that divine manifestation to which Christ referred when He said, “I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end.”

Of course, the significance of this recognition can only be grasped when the experiences of both the Mutable and the Fixed Crosses have been transcended and the Cardinal Cross has been consciously mounted *after* the third initiation.

This produces the experience of the "wheel which turns upon itself and rolls from north to south and then from east to west as it progresses onward"—a symbolic way of expressing the united activity of all the states of consciousness, achieved upon the first two wheels, and which life experience, in many rounds of the zodiac, brings to the initiate.

So sublime and esoteric is this awareness, we are told, that it transcends even that of the Christ Himself and it is an experience for which He and the Buddha have been undergoing preparation. Experience on the Cardinal Cross brings about cosmic awareness and cosmic unfoldment; it transcends all possible awareness, gained, as preparation, upon the other two Crosses. (*Esoteric Astrology*, pp. 152-153)

As we can see from the esoteric keynote, the principle of Manas is of great importance at this Festival. Manas, we know, is the Sanskrit term referencing the mental principle—the positive element that characterizes humanity and underlies all manifestation—from the lowest and densest physical atom up to the most radiant cosmic, ethereal Chohan.

Manas, from which the word “man” is derived, provides a direct connection for each individual mind to planetary and cosmic Manas—past, present and future. It also reminds us of our relationship to both *Atman*—the Higher Spiritual Self as it enters upon manifestation and, also to *Brahman*, defined as the power from which all worlds proceed. (*Dictionary of All Scriptures and Myths*)

If we understand that manas and intelligent purpose are practically synonymous terms, it will be apparent that only as the lower mind is transmuted into the abstract or higher mind and then into the intuitive mind, that only then can we fully realize the full significance of manas. It is this abstract mind, which is the agent on cosmic levels whereby the Logos formulates His own plans and purposes.

In the course of evolution, these plans and purposes make their way through the various levels of mind and eventually crystallize into concrete forms by means of the concrete mind. What we call the archetypal plane whereon the Logos forms His ideals, His aspirations and His abstract conceptions, is the logic correspondence to the abstract levels of the mental plane, upon which are initiated those ideas, those impulses and those purposes that are an inherent part of the Spirit in each individual. And, in time, these purposes will eventually see the light of day through an objective form.

That is, first there is the abstract concept, then the medium provided for manifestation in form, and, finally, that form itself. And, such, teaches the esoteric wisdom, is the process of evolutionary manifestation for Gods as well as for the individual and for humanity. (*A Treatise on Cosmic Fire*, p. 397)

As this past February’s quote of the month in our website indicated, “Each of us...is the thinking purposeful Entity who acts as the manasic principle, and the spring of action, to all the units included in our three bodies. Each of us sways them to our will. We act, and by acting, force co-operation as we see fit.

“The Logos does the same on a larger scale....[because] Manas is...WILL working itself out on the physical plane, and the truth of this will be seen when it is realised that all our planes form the cosmic physical plane, whereon an Entity, inconceivably greater than our [own planetary] Logos, is working out a set purpose—through the Logos, through us [and] through all Spirit-substance that is included within His sphere of radiatory activity. (Ibid., p. 353)

Dear friends, although we may not fully understand it, can we appreciate the deeply occult, ordered beauty and loving reason underlying this process? Can we recognize the immutable nature of this cosmic undertaking, in which each of us plays a part? And, do we better understand why it is said that Being and time do not agree?

It is within this broadly expansive and almost unimaginable context that we strive to undertake our work and responsibilities—at these monthly Solar Festival meetings and especially, at this time of the year when we work with the pivotal energies of the Three Spiritual Festivals.

As we know, each Festival transmits its own unique energies and forces, contributing cumulatively to a crescendo of revelation that will see humanity moving out of the darkness of the past and into the Light of a creative new way.

The Tibetan Master calls for our help. In *The Externalisation of the Hierarchy* (p.482), he urges: “I would ask you to have clearly in your minds the three groups of spiritual energies which—at the time of the three Full Moons of April, May and June—will be released into activity and which will aid humanity in its major task of rebuilding the new and better world.”

These spiritual energies are the Forces of Restoration, the Forces of Enlightenment and the Forces of Reconstruction.

Prominent at this time of the Easter Festival, the Forces of Restoration work to restore morale and psychological health, thus implementing the resurrection of humanity from the death cycle through which it has been passing. Their principal objective is the restoration of humanity’s mental condition so that we experience a more wholesome and happier approach to life. It is these forces which bring about the emergence of a new civilization—a result of humanity’s own applied creative potential.

Active at the Festival of Wesak, the Festival of the Buddha at the time of the Taurus Solar Festival are the Forces of Enlightenment. These produce a clear grasp of the Plan, which the Hierarchy of the Masters desires to see work out; they activate a revelation of the issues involved, providing a sense of proportion to human thinking, plus an appreciation of the spiritual values, which then determine objective policies. These Forces intend to salvage the cultural gains of the past while implementing the new and better culture, which will be distinctive of the New World and the New Age we are forging.

At the time of the Christ Festival of June, it is the Forces of Reconstruction which will usher in an era of pronounced creative activity as they bring about the rebuilding of the tangible, objective world, based on the new values and the new thinking. It is this great group of Forces which will be set in motion by the Christ at this culminating Festival. Their focus is the physical plane and their task is to precipitate and bring into manifestation that which the Forces of Restoration and Enlightenment have made subjectively possible.

As part of humanity’s evolutionary process, these three Solar Festivals are simply the three points in time through which the needed power and understanding are being released.

In the *Reappearance of the Christ* (p. 95) we are given the following synthesis of what is to be accomplished:

“From the highest spiritual Being upon our planet, through the graded spiritual groups of enlightened and perfected [wo/]men who work upon the inner side of life, on into the outer world of daily living where thinking, loving men and women serve, the tide of the new life sweeps. The Plan is ready for immediate application and intelligent implementing; the workers are there and the power to work is adequate to the need. Above all else, the Hierarchy stands and the Christ stands ready to issue forth and demonstrate reality.”

Almost as an exclamatory point, the Agni Yoga wisdom urges vigilance: “Consider as lost that day in which you did not contemplate the New World.” (*Agni Yoga*, 77)

Within the books of the Tibetan Master, sent out on behalf of the Hierarchy of the Masters, we have much knowledge, instruction and guidance about how to be of use during this Festival of Easter. Some of this Teaching was provided during our work of last month as well as in this month's newsletter—all of which sought to help us prepare for our work here today, and I would encourage you to return to those materials to more fully understand our responsibilities and opportunities at this spiritual high point of the year.

We are told that it was at the time of the Easter Solar Festival of 1945 that the Forces of Restoration began their work, emerging first upon the subtler planes of human experience. As we now understand, this energy “carries the ‘life which produces the birth of forms.’

“It poured into the Hierarchy, via certain of the Masters and Their groups of disciples, and was immediately transmitted by Them to humanity as whole.”

This energy, we are informed, is related to the stimulation of mass intelligence; it is an energy which makes wo/men plan and take action; it brings about the awakening of the mind so that intelligent action can be taken—the quality of which is understandably dependent upon the type of mind reached and its level of evolution. The intention of these Forces is to bring about a new world in which the evidences of war will have disappeared. (*The Reappearance of the Christ*, pp. 90-91)

These Forces lead to the restoration of human aspiration, right idealism and fixed humanitarian intention. They influence a reorientation of the human psyche, with the inevitable consequences of that reorientation—the acquiring of the vision which will bring about right human relations. This will largely be accomplished by the spiritual people in the world, by aspirants, working disciples and, where possible, through the spiritually minded people in the churches and humanitarian and esoteric groups.

Do we need to be reminded that during this Festival in 1945 the plans were being forged for the United Nations Conference on International Organization, which took place under the auspices of the Festival of Wesak of that year on April 25, 1945?

The Agni Yoga wisdom alerts us to the difficulty of revealing “to the earthly consciousness [the fact] that the Subtle World is the true source of events in the earthly world. [It teaches that] whole decades can pass between an event in the Subtle World and its counterpart in the physical world, even though by being formed in the Subtle World it became inevitable.” (*Supermundane*, 703)

In this regard, the Tibetan Master provides us with the following counsel:

“If you are seeking to bring illumination into the dark places of the earth (which means into the minds of [wo/]men), then you must yourselves see clearly and relate the abstract and the concrete in such a manner that, in your own lives, a working idealism may be seen; only so can a working idealism of a national, racial and human nature also be seen. The head as well as the heart must be used.” (*The Externalisation of the Hierarchy*, pp. 73-74)

In our current evolutionary cycle, to be distinguished from the Lemurian and Atlantean cycles, a great invocative cry is being sent forth. It is the cry for light upon our way and for light to flow into the dark places of the Earth; it is also a cry for more love in the world as voiced by the men and women of goodwill and of humanitarian attitudes; it is, finally, the intuitive appeal of the aspirants and the disciples of the world for the full expression in time and space for the manifestation of the will-to-good, which is ultimately, the Will of God. (*Discipleship in the New Age, Vol. II*, p. 160)

With these thoughts in mind, can we now take up our meditation?