

The Foundation of Synthesis Underlies Right Relationship

Leo Full Moon

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As many of us know, the Full Moon is a time of heightened opportunity when spiritual energies are most easily contacted and invoked thereby aiding humanity's spiritual evolution.

It might be worth clarifying what exactly is meant by "spiritual" in this context. In one sense it could be defined simply as relationship—that which "relates man to man and man to God." Thus, by definition, all true spiritual work proceeds on two axes simultaneously. On the vertical axis, the connection between spirit and its lowest reflection, form, is strengthened. The horizontal axis, integrates and strengthens the network of human relationships—a network which must ultimately manifest as a culture of goodwill. Thus, our meditative work is both occult in that it works with energies hidden and not yet in full expression, and it is practical because it has definite effects within the realm of human living.

The practical and spiritual nature of our work is affirmed by another dual responsibility shouldered by all upon the discipleship path: this is the injunction that disciples must become both the traveler on the path and the Path itself. Disciples become this bridge, this lighted way, so that others might be lifted up. This occurs naturally once disciples have resolved the essential duality between the self and the other; the result is group consciousness. This consciousness they then express through their own being. The practice of becoming and then expressing in this manner affirms one of the most basic spiritual truths: the value of the individual and the fact of the one humanity—that the true self, the soul, is one with the group and yet retains its individuality, its freedom, and its agency.

That humanity would resolve this fundamental duality within ourselves should come as no surprise when we remember that we are, in manifestation, the 4th kingdom in nature and in essence are the 4th Creative Hierarchy. Therefore, we are highly conditioned by the 4th ray of harmony through conflict which resolves the pairs of opposites into a higher more enlightened unity.

Today humanity is in a state of profound crisis and the 4th ray appears to be producing conflict and tension, yet the harmony seems elusive. Our society appears conditioned by division and separation, rather than unity and relationship. Yet, looking just beneath the surface, one can see an underlying harmony simply waiting to emerge. And if we look with eyes unmarred by pessimism, cynicism, and the delusions of popular thought, then we see that the foundations of a future world are already being laid. Upon these foundations will be built a civilization and a culture which will express humanity's true spiritual potential as an arbiter of that fourth ray—one which brings synthesis and unity through diversity.

This is why the Law of Sacrifice, an expression of the at-one-ing energy of the fourth ray, so strongly conditions the spiritual work of humanity. It is through this law, and the pain it brings, that salvation is possible. We must remember that it is the Law of Sacrifice that impelled the Soul of God Himself down into matter thus producing the immanence of God in form. And it is likewise God immanent which propels humanity forward and makes inevitable its spiritual expression. This occurs through a gradual relinquishment of all of that which is not the self until

the disciple knows him or herself to be the soul, the one who “having pervaded the world of the little, manifested self with one fraction of itself, remains.”

At the time of the Full Moon, we work with the energies of the sun, rather than the moon. And Leo has a special affinity with the Sun, which is the planetary ruler at all three levels in this sign. In Leo, the self-conscious unit develops sensitivity to all that which surrounds it and thus learns right relationship between the self and the other. Just as the Sun stands at the center of the solar system, so does the man or woman stand at the center of their environment. By standing at the center, Leo integrates the self and develops, through self-will and sensitivity, the principle of relationship. This leads to the development of consciousness which is the goal of both our Solar System and the disciple.

In Esoteric Astrology the moon is considered a dead planet, an obstruction in space, and its influence on humanity is undesirable, because it symbolizes the downward pull towards materialism and the bondage of form. The clear sense of self and other, established in Leo, is necessary to elevate the lunar lords themselves. It is from these lunar lords, that the soul literally constructs its vehicle, the personality. Through incarnation, the soul elevates these lesser lives, but can only do so when the incarnated self identifies with the soul rather than the environment and its vehicle.

Though the moon in one sense is a symbol of that which humanity must overcome, it has also been in many cultures a symbol of the mother aspect. And at the time of the Full moon we have a beautiful symbolism in the heavens, wherein an unimpeded relationship exists between the Earth (representing the field of experience) and the Sun (representing Spirit, God the Father). The moon is then out of the way and the energies of the constellation behind the Sun make their way to earth without the moon’s corrupting influence. Only then is the moon fully illuminated—this illumination is incidental and occurs as a result of the established alignment.

In the sign Leo, the man or woman demonstrates control over the mother aspect and becomes the integrated Self, independent of her control. This is highlighted by the fact that Leo is the 5th sign of the zodiac. The four-fold lower self plus the incarnating Solar Angel makes the five of the soul, the Self.

The sign Leo marks the conclusion of the probationary path and the beginning of the path of discipleship. And upon this path, the disciple’s consciousness is characterized by a state of pronounced duality which is not totally resolved until the third initiation. During this time one’s consciousness is literally dual: on one hand the disciple is the Solar Angel—the one who incarnates in order to further planetary evolution; on the other hand, the disciple is also the Dweller, the sum total of all one is and has been which is not the higher spiritual self.

The Law of Sacrifice, which begins to make its potency felt upon the discipleship path, eventually demands the relinquishment of all that keeps the disciple’s consciousness bound to the Dweller. The disciple consciously brings this about through the simple yet difficult technique of dispassion, discrimination, and detachment. This leads eventually to renunciation and true freedom. This process gradually weakens the lower self and takes the disciple into a state which is only attainable with a great deal of humility.

The practice of relinquishment and renunciation eventually has a transmutative effect which one can see taking place in all four signs of the fixed cross. In Taurus, lower desire is

relinquished and transmuted into spiritual aspiration. In Leo, the lower separative mind becomes the higher mind and the intuition. In Scorpio, the Great Illusion is overcome and the entire lower self is relinquished, giving way to the redeeming forces of love and attraction. In Aquarius, self-consciousness becomes group-consciousness and service. The human being then becomes an agent of divinity—consciously identified with all God’s manifested creation.

The transmutation which occurs on the fixed cross is one of the reasons why we are told Christ was symbolically crucified upon this cross. The transmutation brought about by the final renunciation brings about a death of all that which is not divine. This symbolic death brings liberation—a livingness which is resurrection into life.

Through the transmutation of desire in Taurus, the self is integrated and controlled in Leo. When emotional and personal desire is the major motivating factor the individual is not truly self-aware. They are not an integrated personality because the emotions rather than the mind dominates the daily consciousness. The disciple who has achieved in Leo no longer allows the vicissitudes of his or her astral environment to determine their path. Rather they assert the self-will which is one of the keynotes of this sign.

Self-awareness in Leo brings direction and the will-to-rule oneself. However, when fused with Aquarius, its opposite sign, the will-to-rule demonstrates as the will-to-serve the whole. The Tibetan states that it is the will-to-illumine which drives the disciple from the self-knowledge of Leo to the group knowledge and group consciousness of Aquarius. We can see then that Taurus, which bestows the will-to-illumine, acts as a sort of motivating impulse upon the fixed cross. Through this will-to-illumine, which is in many ways a higher form of desire, the disciple gains self-knowledge in Leo, triumphs free from illusion in Scorpio, and arrives at the goal of group illumination in Aquarius.

The whole discipleship path can be seen as a gradual transmutation of desire into higher levels until only the desires of the higher spiritual self remains. However, it is the desire as it manifests upon the astral plane that is perhaps the most difficult to overcome. To overcome it, requires that we find our way between the pairs of opposites: pleasure and pain, elation and depression. It is through an act of will that equanimity is achieved. The disciple’s mental nature then becomes the dominant conditioning factor of his or her life. The desires of the soul, namely spiritual responsibility and service, can then manifest through the mentally polarized personality.

Among humanity today, there is a growing desire to aid, to uplift, but more specifically to actualize spiritual ideals, to manifest them in the world of human affairs and to see them work out in some sort of tangible and concrete way. Towards this end, our subjective work at the time of the Full Moon powerfully contributes.

Our work in meditation here tonight is a time to affirm our role within the heart center of the New Group of World Servers. By fulfilling our role as this heart, we help to magnetize the New Group, creating a rapport with Hierarchy, the center from which spiritual love radiates.

The power of our subjective work is rooted in its ability to bring forth the energy of at-onement which is only possible when one stands free of the separative influence of form, symbolized by the moon. Our work here tonight is only one group among hundreds of groups, many from different traditions and all invoking spiritual energies during this propitious time.

When we affirm our role within the heart center of the New Group, we are developing a magnetic rapport with Hierarchy which transcends the ideological limitations of the outer world.

Our work therefore conditions human thinking so effectively because it works above the level of the form and the concrete mind. It cuts across the limitations of parochial thinking and embattled paradigms. This provides an undergirding upon which a civilization characterized by synthesis can be constructed. It is for this reason that the energy which we mediate emerges seemingly from within these different fields of thought. This arising "from within" reflects the emergence of God immanent so rapidly being revealed today throughout the planet.