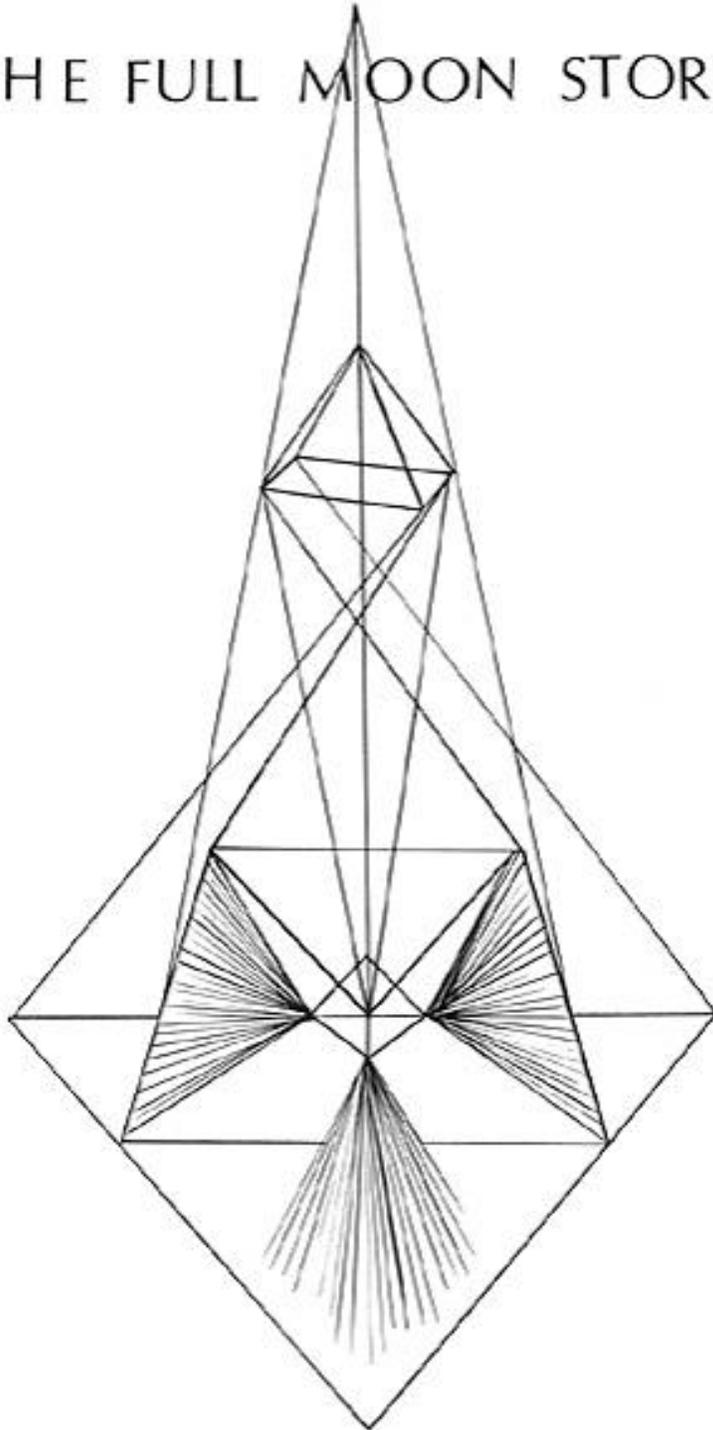


THE FULL MOON STORY



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PURPOSE OF FULL MOON OBSERVANCE

Keynote The full moon marks the point in each month when Man can most easily contact the spiritual Hierarchy.

At the time of the full moon it is almost as if a door suddenly opened wide, which at other times stands closed. Through that door, ingress is possible; through that door or opening, energies can be contacted which are otherwise shut off; and through that door approaches can be made to the planetary Hierarchy and to reality which are at other times not possible. In this statement, you have the rude outlines of a *Science Of Approach* which has been little known up to the present time, even to advanced disciples, but which it is intended during the New Age to develop. It is a part of the true and emerging technique of the Path.

New seed groups are now occupied with anchoring upon earth a new religious idea or concept, a seed thought or germ of a new activity which (at some later date) will bear fruit and inaugurate a new method of drawing nearer to God.

At the time of the full moon it is as if a door were opened between the Sun and Moon, making certain events of a spiritual nature possible. The band of golden light, extending between the Sun and the Moon, completely "irradiates the lunar surface" (to use the ancient formula) and makes possible certain revelations. The symbolism should be apparent and can be seen as inviting a dual interpretation:

1. It concerns the relation of the Solar Angel to the lunar forces, of the Sun and the Moon and their work in synthesis.
2. It concerns the relation of the Hierarchy to humanity and consequently, of the subjective world to the objective worlds, of the realm of causes to the realm of effects. Ponder on this.

At the time of the full moon, the Spiritual Hierarchy can be approached, verified and known, thus leading to active conscious cooperation with the Plan which the Hierarchy serves. It must be remembered that, on the side of the Hierarchy, a Technique of Approach to humanity will also be employed, and thus we have an essential dual activity.

Energies, not usually or normally contacted, can be touched, grasped and utilized at the time of these Approaches, provided that they are contacted in group formation. Thus the individual, the group and humanity are enriched and vitalise.¹

THE RHYTHM OF RECURRING FULL MOONS IS IN ITSELF RITUAL

It might be wise here to elucidate somewhat the idea underlying ceremonial and ritual. There is so much revolt at this time against ceremonial, and so many good and well-meaning people regard themselves as having outgrown and transcended ritual. They pride themselves on having attained that so-called "liberation", forgetting that it is only the sense of individuality that permits this attitude, and that no group work is ever possible without some form of ritual. The refusal therefore to participate in uniformity of action is no sign of a liberated soul.

All service is governed by ritual. One of the first lessons that humanity will learn under the potent influence of the seventh ray is that the soul controls its instrument, the personality, through ritual, or through the imposition of a regular rhythm, for rhythm is what really designates a ritual. When aspirants to discipleship impose a rhythm on their lives they call it a discipline, and they feel happy about it. What groups do who are gathered together for the performance of any ritual or ceremony whatsoever (church ritual, the Masonic work, the drill of the army or navy, business organizations, the proper functioning of a home, of a hospital, or of an entertainment, etc.) is of an analogous nature, for it imposes on the participants a simultaneous performance, an identical undertaking, or a ritual. No one on this earth can evade ritual or ceremonial, for the rising and the setting of the sun imposes a ritual, the cyclic passing of the years, the potent movements of the great centers of population, the coming and the going of trains, of ocean liners and of mails, and the regular broadcasting of the radio organizations - all of these impose a rhythm upon humanity, whether this is recognized or not.

There is no evading the process of ceremonial living. The Deity works with ritual and is subjected to the ceremonials of the universe. Thus is the temple of the Lord built by the ceremonial of the Builders. Every kingdom in nature is subjected to ritualistic experience and to the ceremonials of cyclic expression. Every anthill and every beehive is equally impelled by instinctive rituals and by rhythmic impulses. The new science of psychology could well be described as the science of the rituals and rhythms of the body, of the emotional nature and of the mental processes, or of those ceremonials (inherent, innate, or imposed by the self, by circumstances and by environment) which affect the mechanism through which the soul functions.

The ritual of the solar system is the result of the meditation of God and the act of divine service, carried on throughout the entire period of manifestation. The subordination of the lower life to the ritual of service is literally the tuning-in of the individual to the rhythm of the life, heart and mind of God Himself. From that tuning-in, automatically a spiritual development follows.²

It is recommended that persons seriously engaged in the practice of meditation follow a regular rhythm marked by periods of emphasis upon the inner subjective life, alternating with periods of emphasis upon outer service activity. This is not to say that either the daily meditation or the daily service activity should be stopped or interrupted. Rather, a rhythmic *alternation of emphasis* is arranged, so that the spiritual life of a meditating group unfolds and progresses according to the regular inbreathing and outbreathing of the Lord of our planet. Thus the growth of the microcosm is consciously synchronized with the life process of the macrocosm, to the great benefit of both.

The period from new moon to full moon is more conducive to deepening and intensifying the meditative pursuit; during this period the man in incarnation can best invoke and inhale spiritual energies. The period from full moon to new moon is advisedly utilized in assimilating newly received spiritual energy, and in expressing, applying, exhaling new insights and renewed service intention into appropriate forms of service activity within the sphere of the daily life.

If this pattern of inbreathing and outbreathing governs the relation of the inner man to his outer environment, problems of energy congestion in the subtle bodies and problems of a psychological nature such as are all too often associated with heightened psychic sensitivity, need never occur.³

MECHANISM OF RELATING INNER GOVERNMENT TO OUTER COMMUNITY

At one of the great quarterly meetings of the Hierarchy, in 1925, it was determined to link more closely and subjectively the senior disciples, aspirants and workers in the world. To this end, all the Masters put Their personal groups of disciples in touch with each other, subjectively, intuitively, and sometimes telepathically. Thus the New Group of World Servers came into being.⁴

The New Group of World Servers is a group of men and women who are upon the Path of Discipleship or upon the Path of Probation, and it is divided into two major divisions:

- (a) A group composed of disciples who are consciously working with the Plan and of those who, instructed by them, are consciously and voluntarily cooperating.

- (b) A group composed of aspirants and world-conscious men and women, who are working unconsciously under the guidance of the planetary Hierarchy. There are many such, particularly in high places today, who are fulfilling the part of destroyers of the old form or of builders of the new. They are not conscious of any inner synthetic plan, but are selflessly occupied in meeting world need as best they may, with playing parts in the national dramas, or with persistently working in the field of education.

The first group is in touch with the planetary Hierarchy and it works under hierarchical inspiration. The second is in closer touch with the masses of men and works more definitely under the inspiration of ideas. These ideas are gradually instilled into humanity by the Hierarchy and by the senior workers in the first group.

The expression and the impression of certain great ideas and fundamental ideals which will govern the New Age, is the major task of the New Group of World Servers.⁵

Little by little, the picture of the possibilities and of the Plan will unfold before you as your minds increase in sensitivity and your brains become more responsive to mental impulses. Little by little,

the disciples of the world will work at the reproduction-on the physical plane-of that which exists subjectively. Little by little, there will appear all over the earth, groups of illumined souls who can cooperate with the Masters with perfect freedom of intercourse because their responsiveness has been scientifically trained and developed. Their power to work in tune with or in unison with the Hierarchy, to cooperate with the group life of many other groups of disciples and to communicate light and revelation to the world of men will later be an accomplished fact and is already much more actively present and potent than you think. Nothing can stop the eventual success of the Plan; it is simply a question of time.

This, therefore, is an act of group service to be rendered selflessly and with no personal expectancy. Owing to the pressure of time and of urgency in service, several Teachers have pledged Themselves for the next few years to keep the twelve hours prior to the full moon of each month open for contacts with Their disciples, so that at any time during that twelve hours, the world servers and disciples can make an attempt to reach [Them]. This will somewhat facilitate your work for you need not, therefore, keep the exact hour of the full moon, unless this is easily possible. Service in the world these days requires constant pressure and attention and the work is strenuous. It may not always be possible for you to make your approach at the exact hour of the full moon, though you can at that hour always-silently and interiorly-lift up your heart and eyes to the Eternal. But at some hour during the preceding twelve hours, you can make your approach.⁶

FULL MOON AND PSYCHOSIS

Occult students well know that at the time of the full moon certain high contacts are easier than at other times, but it is right here, my brother, that the difficulty lies.

At the time of the full moon (over a period of five days) the moon and the planet are the recipients of more reflected light from the sun than at any other time. Symbolically speaking, the period of intensest meditation of our planetary Logos comes around at the full moon period each month; just as you have your daily meditation so He in His high place, has His cyclic point of contact. This produces the pouring in of radiance and the entering in of energy both subjective and objective. For all true students, therefore, their work on the mental plane is facilitated; they are enabled then

to meditate more successfully and to attain realization with greater ease. They definitely share in the achievement of the Lord of Shamballa.

The moon, as you know, is a shell, an ancient form through which the planetary Logos at one time sought expression. It is slowly disintegrating physically but not astrally as yet, and is therefore still closely linked with the astral bodies of all people. Its influence is consequently more potent at the time of the full moon upon all who are unbalanced. This lack of equilibrium, which it really is, will eventually be found to exist between the astral body, the etheric body and the physical mechanism.

People who are definitely aspirants and people who are definitely mental, can profit by these full moon cycles; those who are definitely unbalanced, positively astral, and emotional, and frequently swept by uncontrolled desire, are hindered, overstimulated, and psychically upset by these same cycles. The veil of illusion is lit up at that time with a consequent result of hallucination, astral visions, psychic urges, and those misinterpretations of life, of over-emphasis upon aspects of life, which we call phobias, lunacy, etc.

One thing I will add, however, for your encouragement. As the race, as a whole, becomes governed by the solar Lord, the sun god, the Soul, then the cycles of the moon will steadily lose their baleful effects and there will be a dying out of the various neurotic complaints and mental diseases today so prevalent. The time is not yet.⁷

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE FULL MOON

We should remind ourselves again and again; it is the *sun's motion*, not the moon's, that provides *spiritual direction*.

The relation of the moon's motion to the motion of the sun indicates the rhythm, the timing, of the ebb and flow of spiritual influences. The sun's passage through the sequence of twelve signs indicates which energy is ebbing or flowing. *The full moon meditation is based upon the sun sign.*

What then is the significance of the full moon? It is the light of the sun reflected across space by its polar opposite. At the time of the full moon, the moon (without inherent light of its own) reflects the maximum solar radiance. Upon the broad stage of the world, stretching from eastern to western horizon, is enacted a drama of great beauty, portraying in simple eloquence the ideal relation between the soul of man (symbolized by the sun) and the form of his personality (symbolized by the moon). When the personality of man permits its own brightness to go unnoticed in the fullest possible reflection of the soul's inner light, does he not portray to his environment the utmost beauty and goodness in human nature?

When man brings his own inner god into right relation with his outer form, other relationships more beautiful and more valuable become possible to him, and through him. It is these larger than individual relationships that we attempt to establish and cultivate by utilizing the peculiar rhythmic pattern of the full moon occasions. This peculiar rhythm does not synchronize with our clocks nor our calendars, nor with any of the ordinary rhythms that normally govern our daily life; (full moons do not occur on the same day of the week nor the same day of each month); but this rhythm is clearly, even spectacularly indicated for every man by the easy-to-see sky-size metronome of the new and full moon.

Among the inter-relations that can be strengthened by attention to the full moon dates, are:

Community of Hierarchy	Community of Man
Inner Man	His outer environment
Master blueprint of the future	Cooperative research; experiment
New light; new insight	Unsolved world problems ⁸

NEW WORLD RELIGION

Keynote In the new civilization, Man will approach God when God approaches Man.

Thus, the new world religion will take shape around a triple base:

Full moon festivals

Major eclipses of the year
A new "Science of Approach"⁹

OUTER STRUCTURE OF NEW RELIGION

The keynote of the New World Religion is *Divine Approach*. "Draw near to Him and He will draw near to you" is the injunction, emanating in new and clear tones from the Hierarchy today. *The great theme* of the New World Religion will be the unifying of the great divine Approaches; the task ahead of the churches is to prepare humanity, through organized and spiritual movements, for the fifth imminent Approach; *the method* employed will be the scientific and intelligent use of Invocation and Evocation and the recognition of its stupendous potency; *the objective* of the coming Approach, of the preparatory work and of the invocation, is revelation — a revelation which has ever been cyclically given and which today is ready for man's acceptance.¹⁰

In what way will this new presentation of religion and its new rituals and ceremonies take form? A new presentation is so deeply desired and so hopefully anticipated by those to whom the religious attitude is of fundamental importance. What are the signs of its coming? What must be the preliminary first steps? Are there any indications of developing trends that would incline one to believe in its eventual appearance? Necessarily, the outer structure of the New World Religion will be long in manifesting; there is little chance of its full emergence during the present generation. The signs, however, of its rising are already to be seen on the horizon, and the dawn of true thinking is revealing them; the blueprints are already drawn. The inner attitude of humanity and a few outer happenings indicate a true inner recognition of the necessity for a revision of orthodox religion and a revival of its spiritual influence. These are ever the preliminary steps to creation. Subjective realization always precedes the objective manifestation and so it is today in this case.

Humanity is recognizing the need for a more vital approach to God and one more intelligently presented; men are tired of doctrinal and dogmatic differences and quarrels; the study of Comparative Religion has demonstrated that the foundational truths in every faith are identical. Because of this universality, they evoke recognition and response from all men everywhere.

The structure of the New World Religion is being raised by the dissenting groups within the institutional churches, by the many world groups who present the concept of God immanent, even when they do so with selfish motive and with an unwholesome emphasis upon the powers of the indwelling divinity to provide perfect health, plenty of money, serene business success and unbroken popularity! This emphasis is made by the unintelligent propagandist and the materially minded student in the various Christian Science groups, in Unity, and in the New Thought cults. In spite of this distortion, however, these groups have done real good. The concept of God immanent and of divinity within every human being has been brought into the consciousness of the public everywhere. This is a significant and divinely occult activity, but its spiritual potency has temporarily been offset by the selfish and the individualistic presentation of these people.

The New World Religion is also being brought into expression through the work of the esoteric groups throughout the world because of their particular emphasis upon the fact of the spiritual Hierarchy, upon the office and the work of the Christ and upon the techniques of meditation whereby soul-awareness (or the Christ consciousness) can be achieved. Prayer has been expanded into meditation; desire has been lifted into mental aspiration. This is supplanted by a sense of unity and by the recognition of God immanent. This leads eventually to atonement with God transcendent. The whole of humanity is moving forward into the area of mental understanding. The grasping nature of the prayers of the average men (based as they are upon desire for something) has long disturbed the intelligent; the vagueness of the meditation, taught and practiced in the East and in the West (with its emphatically selfish note, personal liberation and personal satisfaction) is likewise causing a revolt. Something bigger and larger than individual desire and liberation is registered. Many groups are wrestling with these changes and this is, in itself, most helpful.

To this should be added the activities of the spiritualistic movement, not from the angle of its emphasis upon phenomena (much of it is spurious or imaginative, but some of it realistic and true) but from the angle of its surety anent human immortality and the evidence which it has collected. The Spiritualists have not yet succeeded in proving immortality; they have succeeded in proving survival and have thus made a valuable contribution to the structure of the New World Religion.

The slowly developing powers of telepathic communication and the recognition of extra-sensory perception by science are also playing their part in demonstration of the world of non-tangible life and values; all these factors necessitate and "sub-stand" the demand for a new presentation of religion which will be inclusive in its scope and not exclusive—as it is today.

The religion of the future will account for the progress of humanity by its recognition of a divine Plan, historically proved. Scientifically applied discipline and training will enable mankind to function under the control of the inner divinity, or interior spiritual man; this training will also reveal to men the *fact* of God immanent in all forms and will enable them to participate in the great planetary movement—now slowly taking place—whereby God immanent is entering into a closer relation with God transcendent, via the spiritual Hierarchy of the earth.¹

The three main channels through which the preparation for the new age is going on might be regarded as the church, the Masonic fraternity and the educational field. All of them are as yet in relatively static condition, and all are as yet failing to meet the need and to respond to the inner pressure. But in all of these three movements disciples of the Great Ones are to be found and they are steadily gathering momentum and will before long enter upon their designated task.

The *Masonic Movement* when it can be divorced from politics and social ends and from its present paralyzing condition of inertia, will meet the need of those who can, and should, wield power. It is the custodian of the law; it is the home of the Mysteries and the seat of initiation. It holds in its symbolism the ritual of Deity, and the way of salvation is pictorially preserved in its work. The methods of Deity are demonstrated in its Temples; under the All-Seeing Eye the work can go forward. It is a far more occult Organization than can be realized, and is intended to be the training school for the coming advanced occultists. In its ceremonials lies hid the wielding of the forces connected with the growth and life of the kingdoms of nature and the unfoldment of the divine aspects in man. In the comprehension of its symbolism will come the power to cooperate with the divine plan. It meets the need of those who work on the *first Ray of Will or Power*.

The Church finds its mission in the helping of the devotee, in aiding the great public which is innately religious and of good will. It hides in its heart those who vibrate to the great love ray, the *second Ray of Love-Wisdom*. Christ Himself works through it and by its means seeks to contact

the vast Christian public. It is the leaven in His hands to leaven the whole lump, and being in a form comprehended by the people, it can touch the great masses of seeking souls.

By means of the *educational work* of the world, the Great Lord seeks to reach those of the intelligent public who cannot be reached by means of ceremonial and symbolism, as in Masonry, or by religious means and ritual, as in the church. It touches the masses and those in whom the intelligence aspect predominates to the lessening of the other two aspects. It aids those men who are predominantly on the *third Ray of intelligent Activity*.

In the esoteric group, which is composed of the true spiritual esotericists found in all exoteric occult groups, in the church, and in Masonry, you have all three paths leading to initiation. As yet they are not used, and one of the things that will eventuate-when the new universal religion has sway and the nature of esotericism is understood-will be the utilization of the banded esoteric organisms, the Masonic organism and the church organism as initiating centers. These three groups converge as their inner sanctuaries are approached. There is no dissociation between the One Universal Church, the sacred inner Lodge of all true Masons, and the innermost circles of the esoteric societies. Three types of men have their need met, three major rays are expressed, and the three paths to the Master are trodden, leading all three to the same portal and the same Hierophant.

It must not be forgotten that only those souls who are on the Probationary Path or the Path of Discipleship will form the nucleus of the coming world religion. It exists on the inner planes for the purpose of gathering out of all the churches those who have reached the point in evolution where they can consciously and of their own free will place their feet upon that Path which leads to the center of peace; who can in full awareness turn their eyes upon the Great Lord, and transmute the life of worldly endeavor into the life of service. The first detachment gathered into the coming church will be found to be a part of the present great band of servers. These have, down the ages, been associated with the Christ in His work. Remember always the fact of the work He did in connection with the last advent, and remember likewise that in the turning of the cyclic wheel, in the evolution of the spiral, similar conditions will eventuate, the same needs arise, and the same egos incarnate that were present in the days of old in Palestine. The numbers of those associated with Him will be greatly increased, for all who knew Him in earlier incarnations in the ancient East, all whom He cured or taught, all who contacted Him or in any way incurred karma

with Him or with the Master Jesus, will have the opportunity to cooperate at this time. Each sincere aspirant who is closely connected with the present church organizations, who feels a close link with the Christ and who loves Him, can be practically sure that in Palestine they saw Him, knew Him and mayhap served and loved Him.

The sacraments, properly understood, serve to strengthen this link and realization, and such a one as that of Baptism (when entered upon with understanding) will draw forth oft a response from the Great Lord Himself. It is almost as if a golden strand were directed from His Heart to the heart of the servant—a strand unbreakable and unfathomable and which, with each administration of any of the holy rites in the succession of lives, becomes stronger, broader and brighter. Eventually these many strands will become reabsorbed into their source when the Body of the Christ one of the seven Heavenly Men on the second or monadic plane—is completed in full expression, for each one linked to Him becomes, in a vital sense, a cell in His Body. This the initiate Paul truly sensed and knew. Via this strand passes the power to strengthen, to stimulate, to vivify and to bless, and this is the true apostolic succession. All true disciples are priests unto the Lord.

There is no question therefore that the work to be done in familiarizing the general public with the nature of the Mysteries is of paramount importance at this time. These Mysteries will be restored to outer expression through the medium of the Church and the Masonic fraternity, if those groups leave off being organizations, with material purpose, and become organisms with living objectives. When the Great One comes with His disciples and initiates we shall have (after a period of intensive work on the physical plane beginning around the year 1940) the restoration of the Mysteries and their exoteric presentation, as a consequence of the first initiation. Why can this be so? Because the Christ, as you know, is the Hierophant of the first and second initiations and He will, if the preparatory work is faithfully and well done, administer the first initiation in the inner sanctuaries of those two bodies. Many faithful workers will, during His period of work on earth, take this first initiation, and some few will take the second. The race has now reached a point where many souls are on the Probationary Path and need but the heightening of their vibration (made possible by His Presence) to reach the Portal of Initiation itself.¹²

The foundation of the new church will be no longer along devotional and idealistic lines but will be an outgrowth of the old idealism, demonstrating through mental forms. It will have for its basis

the scientific recognition of the unseen world and its due appreciation and apprehension by means of accurate scientific ceremonial. This ceremonial of the universal church-being founded on the mental unity of all peoples-will not be ceremonial as it is now understood, as it will be the guarded, guided, scientific utilization of sound and color to bring about certain desired ends, such as

The aligning of the Ego,

The influencing of groups,

The making of contact with the Occult Hierarchy,

The cooperation with the devas in order to further the constructive ends of evolution, and many other objects which will grow out of the scientific comprehension of the constitution of man, the nature of vibration or radioactivity, and the demonstrated reality of the unseen world of thought and of spiritual existence. ¹³

THREE LINKED FESTIVALS

For some years now the spiritual Hierarchy of our planet has been drawing nearer to humanity and its approach is responsible for the great concepts of freedom which are so close to the hearts of men everywhere. The dream of brotherhood, of fellowship, of world cooperation and of a peace, based on right human relation, is becoming clearer in our minds. We are also visioning a new and vital world religion, a universal faith which will have its roots in the past, but which will make clear the new dawning beauty and the coming vital revelation.

The establishing of a certain uniformity in the world religious rituals will aid men everywhere to strengthen each other's work and enhance powerfully the thought currents directed to the waiting spiritual Lives. At present, the Christian religion has its great festivals, the Buddhist keeps his different set spiritual events, and the Hindu has still another list of holy days. In the future world, when organized, all men of spiritual inclination and intention everywhere will keep the same holy days. This will bring about a pooling of spiritual resources, and a united spiritual effort, plus a simultaneous spiritual invocation. The potency of this will be apparent.

Let me indicate the possibilities of such spiritual events and attempt to prophesy the nature of the coming worldwide festivals. There will be three such major festivals each year, concentrated in three consecutive months and leading, therefore, to a prolonged annual spiritual effort which will affect the remainder of the year. These will be:

1. *The Festival of Easter.* This is the festival of the risen living Christ**, the Teacher of all men and the Head of the Spiritual Hierarchy. He is the Expression of the Love of God. On this day the spiritual Hierarchy, which He guides and directs, will be recognized and the nature of God's Love will be emphasized. This festival is determined always by the date of the first full moon of [Aries] and is the great Western and Christian festival.
2. *The Festival of Wesak.* This is the festival of the Buddha, the Spiritual Intermediary between the highest spiritual center, Shamballa, and the Hierarchy. The Buddha is the Expression of the Wisdom of God, the Embodiment of Light and the Indicator of the divine purpose. This festival will be fixed annually in relation to the full moon of [Taurus]. It is the great Eastern Festival.
3. *The Festival of Goodwill.* This will be the festival of the spirit of humanity aspiring towards God, seeking conformity with the Will of God and dedicated to the expression of right human relation. This festival will be fixed annually in relation to the full moon of [Gemini]. It will be a day whereon the spiritual and divine nature of mankind will be recognized.

These three festivals are already being kept throughout the world, though they are not as yet related to each other, and are a part of the unified spiritual approach of humanity. The time is coming 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.

**Note: The Tibetan has asked me to make clear that when he is speaking of the Christ He is referring to His official name as Head of the Hierarchy. The Christ works for all men, irrespective of their faith; He does not belong to the Christian world any more than to the

Buddhist, the Mohammedan or any other faith. There is no need for any man to join the Christian Church in order to be affiliated with Christ. The requirements are to love your fellowman, lead a disciplined life, recognize the divinity in all faiths and all beings, and rule your daily life with love. (A.A.B.)

The remaining full moons will constitute lesser festivals but will be recognized to be also of vital importance. They will establish the divine attributes in the consciousness of man, just as the major festivals establish the three divine aspects. These aspects and qualities will be arrived at and determined by a close study of the nature of a particular constellation or constellations influencing those months. For instance, Capricorn (December) will call attention to the first initiation, the birth of the Christ in the cave of the heart, and indicate the training needed to bring about that great spiritual event in the life of the individual man. I give this one instance to you in order to indicate the possibilities for spiritual unfoldment that could be given through an understanding of these influences and in order to revivify the ancient faiths by expanding them into their larger undying relationships.

Thus, the twelve annual festivals will constitute a revelation of divinity. They will present a means of bringing about relationship, first of all, during three months with the three great spiritual Centers, [Shamballa, Spiritual Hierarchy, Humanity], the three expressions of the divine Trinity. The minor festivals will emphasize the inter-relation of the Whole, thus 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 the part to that Whole will be thereby fully expressed.

The new creation *already exists* in the Mind of the larger Life in Whom we live and move and have our being. It is there; but not yet here. It only waits for a league of creative thinkers to sense it, see it, precipitate it. During the creative season of springtime, a new measure of Life must descend into form: must be conceived as idea in Aries; be clothed in attractive substance (*desire*) in Taurus; take shape in the *etheric substance* in Gemini; so that in Cancer its appearance in *dense form* is quite discernible. The creative process, and who does what, when, within that process, might be pictured thus:

From a height and expanse utterly beyond human comprehension, new creative impulse, new spiritual incentive, pours down to the mental plane, to a point of focus that lies within reach of human meditators. The ram's horns, symbol for Aries, give the picture neatly.

To understand Aries is to gain valuable understanding of much that is happening throughout the world at the advent of a new age. The birth of anything at all requires an expulsive use of releasing energy. You use more gasoline to start the engine of your car than to keep the wheels going. To set in motion, to commence, requires a strong initial push to offset the inertia of matter.

The birth of a new age requires a mighty impact of resurrective power. The beginning of a new age is springtime vastly augmented. So appropriately enough, the birth of the Aquarian Age is marked by the resurrection of Temple Teachings relative to zodiacal significance. In the growing emphasis upon the observance of the three linked full moon festivals of Aries-Taurus-Gemini, human creators find their way to consciously participate in vital movements of planetary unfoldment.

The new initiating energy pouring into the mental plane in Aries, descends to the emotional plane in Taurus, where it may be reached and claimed by upstretched human aspiration, pictured as the up-pointed horns and the single eye of Taurus, the bull of desire.

The annual gift-wave from the Most High which had poured down into the mental plane in Aries, on down into the upheld chalice of humanity's spiritual desire in Taurus, must be brought down still farther in Gemini into the etheric body of humanity, there to be contained and assimilated so that in Cancer the new energy may find proper forms in planned service to the common good.

Upon the shoulders of world servers, the true Sons of Aquarius, rests the responsibility to be suitable channels for this energy, carrying it in their own vehicles, providing it with proper unimpeded outflow via their world spanning, world coordinated service activities. So in Gemini, through the agency of the servers of the world, the new energy must pass between two pillars (symbolizing two brothers) guarding the entrance to the outer world of form.

All along this Way of Descent of the downpouring stream of new livingness, are stationed lives of every imaginable grade and order and degree of co-creative capacity. Their task is to convey and condition the downpouring "life more abundantly" into—what else?—NEW FORMS. Thus is the outer world of forms cyclically and eternally rebuilt and improved.

WESAK FESTIVAL

Wesak: In Singhalese it is Baisakh (a month of the Hindu year); in Sanskrit it is Vaisakha.

The full moon that occurs during the month of Wesak in the Hindu calendar marks the celebration of the birthday of the Buddha. The enlightenment of the Buddha and His death are also commemorated at that time. The month of Wesak corresponds to that period in the Gregorian calendar (latter April and two-thirds of May) when the sun is astrologically considered to be in the sign of Taurus.

According to the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 14th edition, "from very early times Hindus have employed luni-solar cycles made by the combination of solar years and lunar years so treated as to keep the beginning of the lunar year near that of the solar year. The solar year is divided into twelve months, in accordance with the successive 'samkrantis' or entrances of the sun into the sidereal signs of the zodiac. The solar months are known in some parts by the names of the signs or by corrupted forms of them; and these are the best names for general use, because they lead to no confusion. But they have elsewhere another set of names, preserving the connection with the lunar months: the Sanskrit forms of these names are Chaitra, Vaisakha, etc. In some localities these names are used in corrupted forms, and in others vernacular names are substituted. The astronomical solar month runs from the moment of one samkranti of the sun to the moment of the next samkranti; and, as the signs of the Hindu zodiac are all of equal length, 30 degrees, while the speed of the sun (the motion of the earth in its orbit around the sun) varies according to the time of the year, the length of the month is variable."

In these papers the terms May full moon and full moon of Taurus are used interchangeably, but it should be clearly understood that it is the full moon of Taurus that marks the Wesak festival and the full moon of Gemini that marks the third of the three linked festivals.

Keep in mind that there is a period of one month between the Wesak festival and the third of the linked festivals. This enables us to determine the date of the second and third of the linked festivals whenever there are two full moons in either Taurus or Gemini.¹⁵

The Wesak Festival has been held down the centuries in the well-known valley in the Himalayas (if the faithful would only believe it) in order:

1. To substantiate the fact of Christ's physical existence among us ever since His so-called departure.
2. To prove (on the physical plane) the factual solidarity of the Eastern and Western approaches to God. Both the Christ and the Buddha are present.
3. To form a rallying-point and a meeting-place for those who annually-in synthesis and symbolically-link up and represent the Father's House (Shamballa), the Kingdom of God (Hierarchy), and Humanity.¹⁶

The Lord of the World, the One Initiator, four times a year, meets in conference with all the Chohans and Masters, and authorizes what shall be done to further the ends of evolution.

At the Wesak Festival, [the planetary Hierarchy] gathers under His jurisdiction for three purposes:

1. To contact planetary force through the medium of the Buddha.
2. To hold the principle of the quarterly conferences.
3. To admit to the ceremony of initiation those who are ready in [certain] grades.¹⁷

In India, the Wesak Festival has for centuries been regarded as a public holiday. It is a day of reunion, of pilgrimage and of joyous expectancy. It is a holy day. That the inner significance of the day is recognized by only a handful of the spiritually-minded is of course true; that the vast majority know nothing, and care less, about the possible implications is also true. But the same

thing might be said about any of the great Christian festivals. To some, they stand as symbols of great spiritual realities; to others they simply mean a holiday, or a day for the giving of gifts or for the exchanging of visits. And so it is with the Wesak Festival.

There is a valley, lying at a rather high altitude in the foothills of the Himalayan-Tibet ranges. It is surrounded by high mountains on all sides except towards the northeast, where there is a narrow opening in the mountain ranges. The valley is therefore bottle-shaped in contour, with the neck of the bottle to the northeast, and it widens very considerably towards the south. Up towards the northern end, close to the neck of the bottle, is a huge flat rock. There are no trees or shrubs in the valley, which is covered with a kind of coarse grass, but the sides of the mountains are covered with trees.

Approaching the time of the full moon of May, pilgrims from all the surrounding districts begin to gather; the holy men and lamas find their way into the valley and fill the southern and the middle parts, leaving the northeastern end relatively free. Among those gathered, so the legend runs, is a group of those great Beings Who are the custodians on Earth of God's Plan for our planet and for humanity. This group of knowers of divinity are the main participants in the Wesak Festival. They range Themselves in the northeastern end of the valley, and in concentric circles (according to the status and grade of Their initiatory development) prepare Themselves for a great act of service. In front of the rock, looking towards the northeast, stand Those Beings Who are called by Their disciples "the Three Great Lords." These are the Christ, Who stands in the center; the Lord of living forms, the Manu, Who stands on His right; and the Lord of Civilization, Who stands on His left. These three face the rock upon which rests a great crystal bowl, full of water.

It is an interesting sidelight upon this ceremony and its reality, that all who have dreamt of participating in it are always well aware of the exact position in the lower part of the valley where they themselves stood. Some few realized that the place and the position, within the body of onlookers, indicated quite clearly the evolutionary status of the participant.

Behind the grouped Masters, adepts, initiates and senior workers under God's Plan, are to be found the world disciples and aspirants in their various grades and groups (either "in the body or out of the body", to quote the words of St. Paul) who constitute at this time the New Group of World

Servers. Those present in their physical bodies have found their way there by ordinary means. Others are present in their spiritual bodies, and in the dream state. The "dream" which they later relate—may it not be the physical recognition and the recollection of an inner spiritual happening?

As the hour of the full moon approaches, a stillness settles down upon the crowd, and all look towards the northeast. Certain ritualistic movements take place, in which the grouped Masters and Their disciples of all ranks take up symbolic positions, and form on the floor of the valley such significant symbols as the five-pointed star, with the Christ at the apex; or a cross, and other well known formations, all of which have a deep and potent meaning. This is all done to the sound of certain chanted words and esoteric phrases, called mantrams. The expectancy in the waiting, on-looking crowds becomes very great, and the tension is real and increasing. Through the entire body of people there seems to be felt a stimulation or powerful vibration which has the effect of awakening the souls of those present, fusing and blending the group into one united whole, and lifting all into a great act of spiritual demand, readiness, and expectancy. These three words—demand, readiness and expectancy—best describe the atmosphere surrounding those present in this secret valley.

Just a few minutes before the exact time of the full moon, in the far distance, a tiny speck can be seen in the sky. It comes nearer and nearer and grows in clarity and definiteness of outline, until the form of the Buddha can be seen, seated in the cross-legged Buddha position, clad in His saffron-colored robe, bathed in light and color, and with His hand extended in blessing. When He arrives at a point exactly over the great rock, hovering there in the air over the heads of the three Great Lords, a great mantram, used only once a year, at the Festival, is intoned by the Christ, and the entire group of people in the valley fall upon their faces. This invocation sets up a great vibration or thought current which is of such potency that it reaches up from the group of aspirants, disciples and initiates who employ it, to God Himself. It marks the supreme moment of intensive spiritual effort throughout the entire year. The blessing is poured forth, and the Christ—as the representative of humanity—receives it in trust, for distribution.

Slowly then the Buddha recedes into the distance, until again only a faint speck can be seen in the sky, and this eventually disappears. The whole ceremonial blessing, from the time of the first

appearance in the distance until the moment the Buddha fades out of view, takes just eight minutes.

When the Buddha has again disappeared, the crowds rise to their feet; the water in the bowl is distributed in tiny portions to the Masters, initiates and disciples, and They then go Their way. The crowd, who have all brought their little cups and vessels of water, drink of them and share with others. In this beautiful "water ceremony of communion" is portrayed the symbol of the Aquarian Age, the age of the Water Carrier. The water, which has been magnetized by the presence of the Buddha and of the Christ, carries certain properties and virtues of a healing and helpful nature. Thus blessed the crowd silently disperses.

So runs the ancient story; such is the legend that lies behind this popular holiday in the East. Such is the fact, if we can dare believe it and have minds open enough to recognize its possibility.¹⁸

Of all creative energies, thought remains supreme... Some may believe that precise knowledge is the crown of thought; but better still to say that legend will crown thought. In legend is expressed the sense of creative energy. And in a short formula is defined the hope and the achievement. It is a mistake to believe that legend pertains to fantastic antiquity. The impartial mind will discern the legend spun through all days of the Universe. Each achievement of the people, each leader, each discovery, each cataclysm, is veiled in winged legend. Therefore, let us not disdain the legends of truth, but let us discern keenly and cherish the words of reality. In legend is robed the will of the people, and we cannot cite one legend which was false. The spiritual striving of a powerful collective imprints an image of true meaning. And the outer form of the symbol demonstrates the world sign, for the world language is inevitable for evolution. Right are the creators of the world legend.¹⁹

The year 1946 marks the beginning of a cycle in which humanity is more closely involved in the festivals than ever before and in which they can take a much more important part than ever before. The Wesak Festival has long been kept in many countries and-as time goes on and the instruction of the masses proceeds-the meeting held at the time of the May full moon will assume great importance, but *its keynote will be changed*. What the new keynote will be has not yet been announced, and will not be for 35 years. Its significance, and that of Good Friday, belongs to the

past and their usefulness is nearly finished. It is the intention of the Buddha and the Christ that in each country there should eventually be someone who will act as Their Representative at the time of the two festivals, so that the distribution of spiritual energy from the first great Aspect or Ray will be direct from the Buddha (and later Shamballa) to the Christ, and then from the Christ to those disciples in every country who can be overshadowed, and so act as channels for the direct current of energy.

The same procedure will be followed at the time of the full moon of June, except that Shamballa will not be so involved, and with the difference that at the May festival it will be a first ray disciple who will be overshadowed, and at the June festival a second ray disciple will represent the Christ in every land. This can mean either the soul or the personality ray of the disciple.

I would call your attention, therefore, to the interest shown by the Hierarchy in the embryonic efforts in which you are engaged and which I started.

It will be apparent to you, therefore, that in the new cycle now beginning, the festivals of May and June not only become more closely linked, but the procedure has been changed and the effect on humanity intensified. I would have all who care to meet together at these festivals to try and do so subjectively (wherever they may find themselves) and to participate intelligently in the ordained ceremonies. I would ask all to think imaginatively and to act as if they were accepted disciples or at least on the periphery of some ashram. I am asking you to take part in these two ceremonies with a full play of the imagination; these ceremonies will later be externalized at some center in every country. A trained nucleus and a devoted band of believers is in process of being gathered together (though only as yet in the consciousness of the Hierarchy), and though at the present time there will be no outer ceremonies or any knowledge as to who will be chosen in the various lands to represent the Hierarchy, in deed and in truth, the first step towards human participation is being made.

The knowledge of this will give purpose and fixed intention to all of you who have for years kept these festivals. In truth, I bring you the invitation of the Hierarchy to share in Their ancient work, and not-as in the past-to play the part of interested onlookers. I would warn you that, if you do succeed in any measure of participation, it will be necessary to guard yourselves from

overstimulation and to take steps wisely to use, on behalf of humanity, the energy with which you may be charged.

This knowledge will be particularly useful to those who are occupied with any of the groups and organizations that are responsive to hierarchical interests. True participation may lead to the sudden conviction of the reality of that which I have told you; faith and belief and common-sense will then no longer be needed, and you will *know*.²⁰

The month of May is one of deepest significance to all who are affiliated with the Great White Lodge (as are all true esotericists).

The Buddha has a special function at this time as an inter-planetary mediator, and in this capacity (at the coming May festivals) He will attempt to bring certain Spiritual Beings into touch with our Earth Hierarchy. They have expressed themselves as willing to aid.

This planet of ours, the Earth, is at this time the focal point of much attention on the part of the Administrators of the Plan Who today are Working in conjunction with certain types of force and with certain Spiritual Entities other than those to be found at this time within the ring-pass-not of our planetary life.

In order to effect this transmission of force, a peculiar interchange of ideas and of cooperation is going on between the Lord Buddha and the Lord Maitreya, and They are subjecting Themselves to a most definite form of training in order to present to these interested Spiritual Beings Who are seeking to help the planet, more adequate channels of service.

Since 1936 the Buddha Himself in His high place and the blessed Lord Maitreya (known to the Christian disciples as the Christ) have been in close communication with each other and cooperating in order to bring about a receptivity on the part of the human family to a possible outflow of spiritual force which may serve to turn the tide of the present distress and uncertainty and thus inaugurate an era of peace and of soul culture.

Three Masters from each of the seven ray groups of Masters are in Their turn attempting a closer cooperation with the Great Lords in preparation for the opportunity to be presented. These twenty-three spiritual forces are banded together to act as a group channel of service on the day of the Wesak festival and particularly at the hour of the full moon.

A call has been sent out to the entire Hierarchy of Masters to prepare Themselves for an intensive "Holy Month" of accelerated service, and all of the Masters on the Seven Rays-no matter what Their departmental work may at this time be-are getting into immediate cooperation and close contact with the three Masters on Their particular Ray who are acting as the ray intermediaries.

In Their turn, the Hierarchy of Masters is calling to all working initiates and disciples and to all aspirants of mental focus to cooperate as fully as they can in an intensive effort to increase the receptivity of humanity to the new forces which can be released to perform their benevolent synthesizing work during the month of May.

Those aspirants and disciples who can train themselves to the realization of an increased spiritual responsibility and can preserve an inner quietness and a focussed esoteric attentiveness can be swept into this tide of spiritual force and can then and thus serve humanity's need. As transmitters they meet that need; as interpreters they increase the capacity of the human being to respond and to understand.

In 1936 and 1937, the Wesak festival was extended to cover five days,-two preceding the festival itself, and two succeeding the festival. The Wesak hour is of momentous import. The two days of preparation are to be known as "days of renunciation and detachment". The day of the festival is to be known as the "day of safe guarding" whilst the two succeeding days are called the "days of distribution". They mean five days of a most intensive effort in service, leading to the renunciation of all which could hinder our usefulness as channels of spiritual force. It means that after due preparation, dedication and upward striving for the first two days, on the day of the festival itself we simply regard ourselves as the recipients of, or the custodians of, as much of that inflowing spiritual force as we can possibly hold. As channels, we must be prepared to forget ourselves in the service of touching, containing and holding force for the rest of humanity. We must regard the festival itself as a day of silence (I refer to an inner peace and silent solemnity that can be

preserved unbroken though the outer man may be serving with his speech and spoken interest), a day of service carried forward entirely on esoteric levels, and of complete self-forgetfulness in the remembrance of humanity and its need. During that period, two thoughts only will hold our constant attention—the need of our fellowman and the necessity of providing a group channel whereby the spiritual forces can be poured through the body of humanity under the expert guidance of the chosen members of the Hierarchy.

Remember, no matter who we are or where we may be placed or what is the nature of our environment, no matter how isolated we may feel or apart from those who may share our spiritual vision, each of us can that day and for the period immediately following and preceding it, work and think and act in group formation, and function as a silent distributor of force.

For two days prior to the full moon, we will hold the attitude of dedication and service and seek to assume that attitude of receptivity to that which our soul will impart which will make us of use to the Hierarchy. The Hierarchy works through groups of souls, and the potency of this group work is to be tested out. These groups in their turn contact and feed the waiting dedicated attentive personalities. On the day of the full moon, we attempt to hold ourselves steadily in the light. We will not formulate to ourselves what will happen nor will we look for results or for tangible effects.

On the two succeeding days, the focus of our attention will be steadily turned away from ourselves but also from the inner subjective planes to the outer world, and our efforts will be to pass on, or to pass through, that measure of spiritual energy that may have been contacted. Our work then in this particular and peculiar field of cooperation will then be ended.

This effort of the Hierarchy is a five days effort, preceded by a most intensive period of preparation. The work of getting ready for the opportunity starts for the Hierarchy exactly at the hour when "the sun began to move northward." But They tire not as do human beings and it is not possible for the human aspirant to keep up so long a period of preparation, no matter how deep his devotion.²¹

MORE ABOUT COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE TWO GREAT LORDS

Christ, as the Unifier of East and West is a hard saying for the orthodox and narrow Christian churchman to accept; it means primarily that Christ will work in the closest cooperation with the Buddha until this fusion and reconstruction have truly taken place. The Buddha is closely allied with the Christ in this process of His reappearing, though He will not be involved or active during the entire period of Christ's coming, active work on earth. The Buddha has not relinquished His contact and relationship with humanity, though He relinquished His physical body centuries ago. Each year (at the time of the Wesak festival) He communicates with humanity, via the Christ and the assembled attentive Hierarchy. He acts in this way as an agent bringing about relationship between the "center where the will of God is known" and the "center which we call the race of men."

Actually the work of the Buddha for humanity is nearly over, and His long alliance with the race of men has nearly come to an end. The moment that the appearance of the Christ is an accomplished fact, and the rule of right human relations is beginning definitely to condition human living, then the Buddha will pass to the work which awaits Him. One of the senior disciples of the Christ, ranking next to the Christ in hierarchical status, will take His place and carry on the work, connected with mankind.

In order to make this possible and thus release His spiritual Brother from the arduous task of relating humanity to the "center where the will of God is known" (Shamballa), Christ is subjecting Himself at this time to an unique process of training. Of this training, His thirty years of work in the carpenter's shop in Palestine has ever been the hitherto unrecognized symbol. The word "carpenter" is significant of building, of construction, and means (in its derivation) someone who is an artificer in timber or a builder of wooden houses. This is the true meaning of the Biblical story of Christ's being crucified upon the cross of wood or the tree. It is related in reality to the decision made by Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane to take over the building or reconstruction work in Aquarius, and thus complete the task which He attempted to do in the Piscean Age. He and His disciples and the New Group of World Servers are the pledged *builders* of the new civilization, the new house of humanity." The preparatory work He is now doing will fit Him to

demonstrate in wisdom (and not only through love) the nature of the hierarchical Plans, wise constructive measures, wise choice of builders and correct methods of construction.²²

[On the full moon of Gemini] for two thousand years the Christ has represented humanity and has stood before the Hierarchy and in the sight of Shamballa as the God-Man, the leader of His people and "the Eldest in a great family of brothers" (Romans VIII: 29). Each year at that time He has preached the last sermon of the Buddha, before the assembled Hierarchy. This will, therefore, be a festival of deep invocation and appeal, of a basic aspiration towards fellowship, of human and spiritual unity, and will represent the effect in the human consciousness of the work of the Buddha and of the Christ.²³

In the East there is an ancient legend which has an application today and which holds the clue to the relation of the Christ and of the Buddha; it concerns a service which, the legend says, the Buddha will render Christ. In symbolic form, the legend runs that when the Buddha reached enlightenment, and experiences on Earth could teach Him no more, He looked ahead to the time when His Brother, the Christ, would be active in the Great Service-as it is called. In order, therefore, to aid the Christ, He left behind Him (for His use) what are mysteriously called "His vestures." He bequeathed and left in some safe place the sum total of His emotional-intuitive nature, called by some the astral body, and the sum total of His knowledge and His thought, called His mind or mental body. These, the legend says, will be assumed by the Coming One and prove of service, supplementing Christ's Own emotional and mental equipment and providing Him with what He needs as the Teacher of the East as well as of the West. He can then with strength and success contemplate His future work and choose His workers.²⁴

A very interesting period will come about the year 1966 and persist to the end of the century. It is one for which the Great Ones are already making due preparation. It concerns a centennial effort of the Lodge and of the Personages taking part therein. Each century sees a centennial effort of the Lodge along a particular line of force made to forward the ends of evolution, and the effort for the twentieth century will be upon a larger scale than has been the case for a very long time, and will involve a number of Great Ones. In a similar effort during the nineteenth century, H.P.B. was concerned, and a fairly large number of chelas. In the effort immediately ahead, several of the Great Ones are concerned and the Master of the Masters Himself.

In the appearing of the Bodhisattva Himself, the *mystery of the Bodhisattva* will be seen in its fullest sense, and it is not for us here to enlarge upon it. Suffice it to say that the vestures of the Great One will be used. If the student ponders upon the consequences entailed in the appropriation of these vestures, much light upon probable happenings will be thrown. The vestures act in a dual capacity:

- a. They are very highly magnetised, and therefore have a profound and far-reaching effect when utilized.
- b. They act as a focal point for the force of the Lord Buddha and link up the coming Lord with Him enabling Him to increase His Own stupendous resources by drawing upon still higher force centers, via the Lord Buddha. This force will find its expression upon the astral plane, producing vast results of a quieting nature and bringing, by reflex action, peace on earth. The transmutation of desire into aspiration, and the transformation of low desire into high desire, will be some of the effects, while the result of the force flowing through will produce profound reactions of the deva denizens of that plane. Through the vibration thus set up will come the possibility of many (who would otherwise not do so) taking the first initiation. Later, towards the end of the greater cycle, the coming Avatar will again employ the vestures with all that is entailed thereby, and will take a physical body, thus demonstrating on the physical plane the force of the Logos in the administration of the Law.²⁵

INNER STRUCTURE OF NEW RELIGION

In June 1945, at the time of the full moon (so significant a day in the spiritual experience of the Christ), He definitely and consciously took over His duties and responsibilities as the Teacher and the Leader during the Aquarian solar cycle. He is the first of the great world Teachers to cover two zodiacal cycles-the Piscean and the Aquarian.

In three words-light, love and power-the energies of His three Associates (the great Triangle of Force which stands in power behind Him) are described: the energy of the Buddha: Light, for the

light ever comes from the East; the energy of the Spirit of Peace: Love, establishing right human relations; the energy of the Avatar of Synthesis: Power, implementing both light and love. At the center of this Triangle the Christ took His stand; from that point His Aquarian work began, and it will continue for two thousand five hundred years. Thus He inaugurated the new era and, upon the inner spiritual planes, the new world religion began to take form. The word “religion” concerns relationship, and the era of right human relations and of a right relation to the Kingdom of God began.²⁶

TEMPLES OF INITIATION

Stations of power exist and have been founded through the work of the various World Saviors. These stations of power must be contacted by humanity as time transpires, through their individual re-enactment (on a tiny scale) of the cosmic approaches, or he touches of divinity, dramatically engineered by the cosmic Avatars, the Buddha and the Christ.

From one point of view, these two centers of force constitute the Temples of Initiation through which all disciples have to pass. This passing is the theme of the coming new religion.

The *Buddha* from the mental plane and also upon it, embodied in Himself the blazing enlightenment. He challenged the people to the Path of Light, of which knowledge and wisdom are two aspects. These, when brought into relationship with each other, produce the light. In a curious and esoteric manner, therefore, the Buddha embodied in Himself the force and activity of the third ray, of the third aspect of divinity-the divine cosmic principle of Intelligence. By its fusion with the ray of our solar system (the ray of Love) He expressed perfectly the significance of light in matter, of the intelligence principle as found in form.

Then came the next great Avatar, the *Christ*, Who, enfolding in Himself all that the Buddha had of light and wisdom, embodied also the peace of inclusiveness. He was the embodied force of submission, and He carried the divine approach to the astral plane, the plane of feeling.

Thus two great stations of energy and two major powerhouses of light have been established by these two Sons of God, and the descent of the divine life into manifestation has been greatly facilitated. The Way is now opened so that the ascent of the sons of men can become entirely possible. It is around these two ideas of divine descent and of human corresponding ascent that the coming new religion must be built.

Later, the Avatar will emerge Who will embody in Himself all that the Buddha had of enlightenment and all that Christ had of acquiescing love. He will, however, also embody the energy which produced the *Approach of Appropriation*, and when He comes forth, there will transpire a great appropriation by humanity of its recognized divinity, and the establishing upon earth of a station of light and of power which will make possible the externalizing of the Mysteries of Initiation upon earth. This approach is the cause of much of the present turmoil, for the Avatar is on His way.

Much of the above can mean but little to those who are not yet upon the path of accepted discipleship. We are here dealing with some of the major mysteries. But a mystery only remains a mystery when ignorance and unbelief exist. There is no mystery where there is knowledge and faith. The coming of the Avatar Who will fuse in Himself three principles of divinity is an inevitable future happening, and when He shall appear "the light that always has been will be seen, the love that never ceases will be realized, and the radiance deep concealed will break forth into being." We shall then have a new world—one that will express the light, the love and the knowledge of God.

Over the Temple upon the mental plane, the Buddha presides and there will consummate His unfinished work. Over the Temple upon the plane of sentient feeling and of loving aspiration, the Christ presides. Later will come an Avatar Who will have a large measure of wisdom and of love, plus that "materializing power" which will enable Him to found a divine powerhouse upon the physical plane. His task, in many ways, is far more difficult than that of the two preceding Avatars, for He carries in Himself not only the energies of the two divine principles, already "duly anchored" upon the planet by His two great Brothers, but He has also within Himself much of a third divine principle, hitherto not used upon our planet. He carries the will of God into manifestation, and of that will we, as yet, know really nothing. So difficult is His task that the

New Group of World Servers is being trained to assist Him. Thus an aspect of the first ray principle will be anchored by Him upon earth.

All that the student can grasp is that the Plan will be the dynamic impulse of this third and vital energy which will pervade the outer court of the Temple, constituting a Temple of Initiation upon the physical plane, thus externalizing the activities of the Hierarchy in certain possible respects. The first initiation will then take place upon earth. It will be then no longer a veiled secret. This is the initiation of the outer court, wherein the approach of the soul upon the Way of Descent into manifestation, and the subsequent appropriation of the proffered divine energy by the personality upon the Way of Ascent will take place.

The Holy Place is the place where the second initiation is enacted, and this will some day be given upon the astral plane when the illusion there persisting has been somewhat dissipated. The acquiescence of the soul to the demands of the personality for spiritual life, and the submission of the personality to the soul, find therein their consummation.

Finally will come the initiation of the Transfiguration, wherein the light breaks forth, the *Touch of Enlightenment* is given, and the soul and the personality stand forth as one. This process requires also the aid of the Buddha and the inspiration of the Christ, and it is "occultly guarded" by the Avatar of the physical plane.

In all the above information there is given a hint as to what will take place when human souls are actively functioning and steadily awakening. The rapid coming of the Avatar Who will found the station of light and power upon the physical plane is dependent upon the rapid unfoldment and appearance of integrated personalities who love and think and seek to serve. Here has been given a new hint upon one of the more esoteric aspects of the work of the New Group of World Servers.²⁸

Our Master, the Christ, is at this time working within the confines of the Hierarchy itself, preparing His disciples, the Masters, for certain great post-war events. The Restoration of the Mysteries, the initiation of those disciples who have stood firm and unafraid during the war, the enlargement of Their ashrams, owing to the almost unforeseen development of the spiritual sense among the world aspirants who would not normally have become disciples during this incarnation,

and also the externalization of Their ashrams during the next one hundred years, preparatory to the reappearance of the Hierarchy upon earth, are some of His present hierarchical responsibilities.²⁹

The recognition by humanity of its major problems, and the increasing ability of the general public to view these problems in terms of One Humanity, of the whole, indicates to the Hierarchy the position of Humanity upon the Path at this time and the readiness of mankind for the new revelation—to be followed later by the restoration of the Mysteries.³⁰

When the time has come for the return into recognized physical expression of the Christ, leading to the definite restoration of the Mysteries, certain of the senior Members of the Hierarchy will appear and take outer and recognizable physical control of world affairs. The time for this will be dependent necessarily upon the success of the steps taken by the members of the Hierarchy who are not so advanced.

The preparatory work of externalization, therefore, falls into three phases or stages:

First. The present stage in which a few isolated disciples and initiates, scattered all over the world, are doing the important task of destruction, plus the enunciation of principles. They are preparing the way for the first organized body of disciples and initiates who—coming from certain Ashrams—will proceed with the next phase of the work.

Second The stage of the first real externalization upon a large and organized scale will succeed upon the above endeavors. These disciples and initiates will be the real Builders of the new world, of the new civilization; they will assume leadership in most countries and take high office in all departments of human life. This they will do by the free choice of the people and by virtue of their advanced and proven merit. By this means, gradually the Hierarchy will take over the control upon the physical plane—subjectively as well as objectively—of the direction of human affairs. This direction will be in virtue of their known and approved capacity and will not involve the imposition of any hierarchical control or authority; it will simply signify the free recognition by free people of certain spiritual qualities and effective activities which they believe signify that these men are adequate to the demanded job, and whom they therefore choose as directing agents in the new and coming world. Freedom of choice under the authority of a spiritual livingness

which demonstrates competency will be distinctive of the attitude of the general public. Men will be put into high office and into positions of power not because they are disciples or initiates, but because they are wise and intelligent servants of the public, with an internal awareness, a deeply religious and inclusive consciousness, and a well-trained mind with an obedient brain.

This second group will implement the new religion; by the time they come into control the old theological activities will have been completely broken; Judaism will be fast disappearing; Buddhism will be spreading and becoming increasingly dogmatic; Christianity will be in a state of chaotic divisions and upheavals. When this takes place and the situation is acute enough, the Master Jesus will take certain initial steps towards reassuming control of His church; the Buddha will send two trained disciples to reform Buddhism; other steps will also be taken in this department of religions and of education, over which the Christ rules, and He will move to restore the ancient spiritual landmarks, to eliminate that which is non-essential, and to reorganize the entire religious field-again in preparation for the restoration of the Mysteries. These Mysteries, when restored, will unify all faiths.

Third. The stage wherein Christ and the Masters of the Wisdom can make public appearance and begin to work publicly, openly and outwardly in the world of men. The time of Their coming will be dependent upon the success of the work undertaken by the first two groups; it is not possible for me to prophesy anent this matter. So many factors are involved: the earnest work of the two groups, the readiness and the willingness of mankind to learn, the rapidity with which the forces of restoration and of resurrection can rehabilitate the world, the responsiveness of advanced humanitarians and intelligentsia to the opportunity to rebuild, to recreate and to reorganize the factors which the new culture and the new civilization will demand. Even the Hierarchy Itself, with all Its sources of information, does not know how long this will take, but They are ready to move at any time.

In the meantime, as the first group struggles with the immediate problem in the outer world, and the second group-still within the confines of the Hierarchy Itself-makes due interior preparation and applies to its chosen membership the needed training and the desired reorientation, the Christ and the Masters are occupied with the task of preparing for the restoration of the Mysteries. This

restoration will fall into three phases and will cover and include in its symbolism all phases of human unfoldment. These phases are:

1. The stage of a general recognition of light into all departments of human living. This is inferred in the first stanza of the new Invocation.
2. The stage of complete economic reorientation; in this, humanity is relieved of all economic anxiety and is free to receive its due wages and the right reward of all service rendered in the building of the Temple of the Lord; this building proceeds with rapidity.
3. The stage wherein the reward of light is received and the reward of service rendered; spiritual status is recognized through the medium of what is regarded as a major initiation. This first great initiation will be objectively staged and the general public will recognize it as the major rite and ritual of the new religious institution of the period.³¹

FUTURE ESOTERIC SCHOOLS

When the Great Lord, the Christ, comes with His Masters, there will be a few very esoteric groups, gathered out of all the others, where the members (through graduation and karmic right) will be trained for discipleship and for the first Initiation. There will be seven such groups or centers formed for definite occult training.³² Only those whose vibratory capacity is adequate will find their way there.

It will be found later on, when the Occult Schools are founded, that they will be situated where some of the old magnetism yet lingers, and where in some cases certain old talismans have been kept by the Brotherhood with just this aim in view.

Not every nation in the world will have its occult school. Only as the educational work of the nation has reached a certain height will it be possible to use the mental equipment of the nation as a stepping stone for further expansion, and to use it as a basis for the occult school.

Branches, affiliated with one of the four central divisions of the one occult foundation, will be found in the following countries:

1. *Egypt*. This will be one of the later schools founded and will be profoundly occult and an advanced school in direct communication with the inner grades. This will be touched upon later.
2. The *United States* will have a preparatory school somewhere in the southern part of the Middle West, and an extensive occult college in California in a place later to be revealed. This school will be one of the first started when the Great Lord begins His earthly career, and during the next five years the seeds of it may be laid if students rightly apprehend the work to be done.
3. There will be one school for the Latin countries, probably in *Italy* or *Southern France*, but much depends on the political and educational work of the next ten years.
4. *Great Britain*. At one of the magnetized spots in either Scotland or Wales, a branch for occult training will be begun before so very long, which will lay the foundation and embrace the curriculum for the earlier grades. After it has been in existence for a few years and has proved the effectiveness of its training, and after troubled Ireland has adjusted her internal problems, a school for the more advanced grades, and for definite preparation for the mysteries will be started in Ireland at one of the magnetized spots there to be found. This school will be very definitely a school where preparation for a major initiation may be taken, and will be under the eye of the Bodhisattva, preparing the pupil for initiation upon the *second ray*.
5. A preparatory occult school will be found, too, in *Sweden*, for those of the northern and German races who seek the Path, and when it has been extant for some time *Russia* may then be in a position to house the headquarters for the more advanced school affiliated to the preparatory one in Sweden. In connection with the Egyptian advanced school will be a preparatory one in *Greece* or in *Syria*

The first school in *Egypt* will be for those who take initiation on the *first ray* in the occident. Those who take initiation on the line of the Mahachohan, or on the *third ray*, will take it at the advanced occult school in *Italy*. In this way the occident will have its center where active instruction may be given according to the three lines of approach, and which will give preparation in the inner mysteries.

You have, therefore, the following schools as planned, and must bear in mind that the schools wherein the preparatory work and earlier grades are found will be first in order of time, and are in process of founding now, or will be founded during the period immediately preceding the Coming of the Great Lord. The founding of others will be definitely the outcome of His work, and that of His Masters, and will depend upon Their decision as to the success of the earlier endeavor.

<i>Preparatory Grades</i>	<i>Advanced School</i>
1. Greece or Syria leading to	Egypt
2. Middle West, U.S.A	California
3. Southern France	Italy
4. Scotland or Wales	Ireland
5. Sweden	Russia
6. New Zealand	Australia

There is also planned a preparatory school for the advanced egos of the fourth root-race. This will be under the Manu of that race and will be situated in *Japan*, with its most esoteric branch in western *China*. This makes the *seventh* in the group of schools outlined.

The Masters plan to utilize the incoming Ray of Ceremonial Law or organization, and the period immediately co-incident or following the coming of the Great Lord, to start these schools in a small inconspicuous way at first. Those pupils and advanced egos whose work it is to make the necessary beginning must find out for themselves the method, place and manner. All must be wrought out in the furnace of endeavor and experiment and the price paid will be high, but only that which is thus wrought out provides the residue or nucleus upon which the further work may be based. Mistakes matter not; naught but the fleeting personalities suffer.³³

NECESSITY FOR GROUPS, INNER AND OUTER

Keynote Individual approach must be merged into group approach, and the approach of groups will someday be superseded by the organized approach of humanity as a whole. Entrance upon the Path of Approach is possible for individuals, for groups, and for humanity as a whole.³⁴

The Hierarchy works through groups (large or small) and the work is facilitated for Them if the interplay between units of the group is steady and uninterrupted.

If in any Organization on the physical plane the Masters can get a nucleus of even three people who mutually interact (I choose the word deliberately) and who disinterestedly follow the path of service, They can produce more definite results in a shorter space of time than is possible with a large and active body of people who may be sincere and earnest but do not know the meaning of trust in, and cooperation with each other and who guard not the gate of speech.³⁵

The race as a whole is now coming into an era wherein the mind is becoming a potent factor; many are learning to hold the mind steady in the light, and consequently are receptive to ideas hitherto unrecognized. If a group of minds can be so drawn together and fused into an adequate synthesis, and if they (in their individual and daily meditation) keep focussed or oriented towards that which can be apprehended, great concepts can be grasped and great ideas intuited. Men can train themselves-as a group-to think these intuited ideas of the true and the beautiful and of the Plan into manifested existence, and thus a creation of beauty, embodying a divine principle, can be built. Ponder on this, seek to fit yourselves for the registering of these ideas, and train yourselves to formulate them into thoughts and to transmit them so that others can apprehend them also. This is the nature of the real work to be done by the new groups, and students today who can grasp this idea have the opportunity to do some of this pioneering work.

Always the individual of advancement and of poise has been able to do this intuiting, and to concretize the idea. Groups of students meditating synchronously should now attempt to do the

same. The effort to synchronize meditation does not relate so much to the time element as to unity of intent and of purpose.³⁶

The time has now come when there are enough people to be found who—having established enough soul contact so that they can begin to touch the world of ideas (upon the intuitional levels of consciousness)—can employ a new technique. *Together and as a group* they can become sensitive to the incoming new ideas which it is intended should condition the new age that is upon us; *together and as a group* they can establish the ideals and develop the techniques and methods of the new schools of thought which will determine the new culture; *together and as a group* they can bring these ideas and ideals into the consciousness of the masses, so that schools of thought and world religions can be blended into one, and the new civilization can emerge.

It might be stated that the effort of the past has been to raise the consciousness of humanity through the pioneering efforts of its foremost sons. The efforts of the future will be to bring down into manifestation the consciousness of the soul through the pioneering efforts of certain groups. It has therefore, as you will readily understand, to be a *group effort* because the soul is group conscious and not individually conscious; *the newer truths of the Aquarian Age can only be grasped as a result of group endeavor*. This is relatively a new thing. In the past, a man had a vision and sought to materialize it with the aid of those whom he could impress and influence to think as he did; a man sensed an idea or intuited an idea and then tried to give it form, later calling in the help of those who saw his idea as an ideal; a man had a great ambition which was, in reality, a dim grasping of a part of God's general plan, and he then became a group leader or ruler, with the assistance of those who succumbed to his power or to his right to guide, lead and dominate them.

Progressively, the race has been led from point to point and from stage to stage of unfoldment until today many are seeing the vision, sensing the plan, and dreaming dreams which they can work out together. This they can do because they recognize each other, because they are beginning to know themselves and each other as souls, because their understanding is united and because (and this is of prime importance) the light of the intellect, the light of knowledge, and the light of the intuition and the light of understanding is evoked within them; it enters *not* from without; and

in that light, together, they see Light. It is a group activity, a group recognition, and the result of group at-one-ment.

All this is, however, so new and relatively so rare that these groups remain as yet in an embryonic stage. We call them the seed groups of the new age.³⁷

Just as certain human beings have, through meditation, discipline and service, most definitely made a contact with their own souls, and can therefore become channels for soul expression, and mediums for the distribution into the world of soul energy, so these same men and women, in their aggregate, *form a group of souls*, en rapport with the source of spiritual supply. They have, as a group, and from the angle of the Hierarchy, established a contact and are "in touch" with the world of spiritual realities. Just as the individual disciple stabilizes this contact and learns to make a rapid alignment and then, only then, can come into touch with the Master of his group and intelligently respond to the Plan, so does this group of aligned souls come into contact with certain greater Lives and Forces of Light, such as the Christ and the Buddha. The aggregated aspiration, consecration and intelligent devotion of the group carries the individuals of which it is composed to greater heights than would be possible alone. The group stimulation and the united effort sweep the entire group to an intensity of realization that would otherwise be impossible. Just as the Law of Attraction, working on the physical plane, brought them together as men and women into one group effort, so the Law of Magnetic Impulse can begin to control them when, again as a group and only as a group, they unitedly constitute themselves channels for service in pure self-forgetfulness.

What is needed to be grasped is that in this work, there is no personal ambition implied (even of a spiritual nature) and no personal union sought. This is not the mystical union of the scriptures or of the mystical tradition. It is not alignment and union with a Master's group or fusion with one's inner band of pledged disciples, nor even with one's own Ray life. This union is a greater and more vital thing *because it is a group union*.

What we are seeking to do is to carry forward a group endeavor which is of such moment that, at the right time, it will produce, in its growing momentum, such a potent magnetic impulse that it will reach those Lives Who brood over humanity and our civilization, and Who work through the

Masters of the Wisdom and the assembled Hierarchy. This group endeavor will call forth from Them a responsive magnetic impulse that will bring together, through the medium of the aspiring group, the overshadowing beneficent Forces. Through the concentrated effort of these groups in the world today (who constitute subjectively one group) light and inspiration and spiritual revelation can be released in such a flood of power that it will work definite changes in the human consciousness and ameliorate conditions in this needy world. It will open men's eyes to the basic realities, which are as yet only dimly sensed by the thinking public. Then humanity itself will apply the necessary correctives, believing it can do so in the strength of its own sensed wisdom and strength; yet all the time behind the scenes, stand the grouped world aspirants, working silently, in unison with each other and the Hierarchy, and thus keeping the channel open through which the needed wisdom, strength and love can flow.

There are, therefore, to be found in this great task the following relations and groupings. These must be considered and are as follows:

1. The Forces of Light and the Spirit of Peace embody Lives of tremendous group potency.
2. The Planetary Hierarchy.
3. The Buddha.
4. The Christ.
5. The New Group of World Servers.
6. Humanity.

You will note that the Buddha focuses in Himself the downpouring forces, whilst the Christ focuses in Himself the outgoing demand and spiritual aspiration of the entire planet. This makes a planetary alignment of great potency. Should the needed work be accomplished at the Wesak festivals, the needed adjustments in the world can be made. The success or failure lies largely in the hands of the New Group of World Servers.³⁸

Where there are three members of the New Group of World Servers found in any one exoteric group it then becomes "linked by a triple thread of golden light" to the New Group of World Servers, and can in some measure be used. This great and spiritual grouping of servers is, on the physical plane, only very loosely linked. On the astral plane the linking is stronger and is based

upon love of humanity; on the mental plane the major linking takes place, from the angle of the three worlds as a whole. It will be apparent, therefore, that certain developments must have taken place in the individual before he can consciously become a functioning member of the New Group of World Servers which is the principal group at this time definitely working under the Law of Group Progress.

1. He must have the heart center awakened, and be so outgoing in his "behavior" that the heart is rapidly linked up with the heart centers of at least eight other people. Groups of nine awakened aspirants can then be occultly absorbed in the heart center of the planetary Logos. Through it, His life can flow and the group members can contribute their quota of energy to the life influences circulating throughout His body. The above piece of information is only of interest to those who are spiritually awakened, and will mean little or nothing to those who are spiritually asleep.
2. The head center must also be in process of awakening, and the ability to "hold the mind steady in the light" must be somewhat developed.
3. Some forms of creative activity must likewise be found and the server must be active along some humanitarian, artistic, literary, philosophic or scientific lines.

All this involves personality integration and alignment and that magnetic, attractive appeal which is distinctive of all disciples in some form or another. In this way, from the standpoint of esotericism, certain great triangles of energy will be found in the individual and consequently increasingly in humanity. The "forces of creative life" will circulate from the "point within the head" (the head center) along the "line to the heart" and then, with the throat center, form a "triangle of fiery light". Such is the Way of Group Progress.³⁹

THE IMMEDIATE TASK

Keynote Our duty is to learn rightly to contact the Hierarchy, via our own souls; rightly to use the Great Invocation as souls, and rightly to render ourselves responsive to and sensitive to the resultant effects. Ponder on the above.

MAKE MEANINGFUL THE CHRIST'S REAPPEARANCE

I would assert here that the great and satisfying reply to all human questioning and human need is to be found in the doctrine of Avatars, and in the continuity of divine Revelations. This is the persistent belief-ineradicable and unalterable-that (at major moments of world need) God reveals Himself through a Coming One. This doctrine is found in all the basic world religions, in every time and age; it appears in the doctrine of the Avatars of the Hindu faith, in the teaching of the return of Maitreya Buddha or the Kalki Avatar, in the belief in the Western world in the return of Christ and His Advent or second Coming, and in the prophesied issuing forth of the divine Adventurer of the Moslem world.⁴¹

Ever down the ages and at each human crisis, always in the hours of necessity, at the founding of a new race, or in the awakening of a prepared humanity to a new and wider vision, the Heart of God-impelled by the law of compassion-sends forth a Teacher, a World Savior, an Illuminator, an Avatar. He gives the message which will heal, which will indicate the next step to be taken by the race, which will illumine a dark world problem and give to man an expression of a hitherto unrealized aspect of divinity. Upon this fact of the continuity of revelation and upon the sequence of this progressive manifestation of the divine nature, is based the doctrine of Avatars, of divine Messengers, divine Appearances, and inspired Prophets. To all these history unmistakably testifies.⁴²

The idea of the return of Christ is a most familiar one, and the concept of a returning Son of God in response to human need has its place in the teaching of the majority of the world faiths. Ever since He apparently departed to the sphere where the faithful have put Him, little groups of these people have reasoned themselves into the belief that on such and such a date He will come back, and ever their prophecies and expectancies have been doomed to failure. He has not come. Such people have been laughed at by the crowd and rebuked by the intelligent. Their eyes have not seen Him and there has been no tangible indication of His Presence. Today, I tell you that He will come; that plans for His coming are already set on foot, but I set no date or hour. The time is known only to the two or three, but "in such an hour as ye think not, He will come." (Matt. 24:44)

I tell you, first of all, a truth hard for the orthodox thinker of any faith to accept; *He cannot return because He has always been here upon our Earth*, watching over the spiritual destiny of humanity; He has never left us but in physical body and securely concealed (though not hidden), He has guided the affairs of the spiritual Hierarchy, of His disciples and workers who are unitedly pledged with Him to Earth Service. He can only reappear. It is a spiritual fact that those who have passed from the cave of the tomb into the fullness of the resurrection life can be seen, and at the same time evade the vision of the believer; seeing and recognition are two very different things, and one of the great recognitions of mankind in the near future is the recognition that always He has been with us and shared with us the familiar usefulness and peculiar characteristics of our civilization and its many gifts to man.⁴³

Perhaps one of the major messages I have for all of you who read my words is this great truth and fact of the physical Presence on Earth at this time of the Christ, of His group of Disciples and Executives, of Their representative activities on behalf of mankind and of Their close relationship. This relationship comes out at certain of the great spiritual festivals where relationship includes not only the Kingdom of God but also the Father and the Father's Home. There is the festival of Easter; the festival of the Buddha Who, in physical Presence, expresses the spiritual solidarity of our planet; and the Festival of June, peculiarly the Festival of the Christ, when He-as Leader of the New Group of World Servers-employs the new Invocation on behalf of all men of goodwill in all lands; at the same time, He gathers up the inchoate and unexpressed demands of those masses who seek a new and better way of life. They want love in daily living, right human relations, and an understanding of the underlying Plan.

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It is these physical happenings which are of moment, and not the vague hopes and promises of the theological faiths. It is the physical Presence upon our planet of such recognized spiritual Figures as the Lord of the World, the Ancient of Days; the seven Spirits Who are before the throne of God; of the Buddha, the spiritual leader of the East, and the Christ, the spiritual leader of the West, which I bring at this climaxing time to your attention. To you I say that the vague belief in Their existence, the dreamy speculations as to Their work and Their interest in human welfare, and the unconvinced, yet hopeful, wishful thinking of believers (and also unbelievers), will soon give

place to certain knowledge, to visual recognition, to provable signs of executive work, and to the reorganization (by men of unusual potency) of the political, religious, economic and social life of the planet.⁴⁴

I would ask all of you who read these words anent the second Coming, to reserve opinion as to the exact nature of that event. Keep the concept *impersonal* and link not that appearance to a personality or to an individual. If you make the mistake of attaching the meaning to an individual, you will limit your understanding and fail in right recognition of group purpose. The work of pouring out the principle of love (which is the Christ principle) and of lifting the masses in their consciousness to the pitch where they can understand and welcome that love-principle is the main work of the new age, and it will inaugurate the age of brotherhood and mold humanity into the likeness of the Christ. That the oriental peoples may call this great Official by another name than that of "The Christ" alters not the fact of His influence and His esoteric coming.⁴⁵

In the age into which we are now emerging, the Aquarian Age, group work will reach a very high point of development, and the world will be saved and reconstructed *by groups* far more than by individuals. In the past we have had world saviors-Sons of God Who have given to men a message which brought an increase of light to the people. Now, in the fullness of time, and through the processes of evolution, there is emerging a group who will bring salvation to the world and usher in the reappearance of the Christ.

Religions in the past have been founded by a great soul, by an Avatar, and by an outstanding spiritual personality. The stamp of their lives and words and teaching has been set upon the race and has persisted for many centuries. What will be the effect of the message of a group Avatar or world Savior? What will be the effect of a group of world Saviors, all Knowers of God in some degree, who supplement each other's efforts, reinforce each other's message, and constitute an organism through which the spiritual energy and principle of spiritual life can make their presence felt in the world, under the direction of the Christ in Visible Presence?

Such a body now exists, with its members in every land. Relatively they are few and far between, but steadily their numbers are increasing, and increasingly their message will be felt. In them is vested a spirit of construction; they are the builders of the new age; to them is given the work of

preserving the spirit of truth, and the reorganizing of the thoughts of men so that the racial mind is controlled and brought into that meditative and reflective condition which will permit it to recognize the next unfoldment of divinity, which Christ will inaugurate. Their work will be largely to summarize and make effective the work of the two Sons of God: the Buddha and the Christ.⁴⁶

The return of Christ will be expressed, in the first place, by an upsurging of the Christ consciousness in the hearts of men everywhere; its first expression will be goodwill.

In the second place, disciples everywhere will find themselves increasingly sensitive to His quality, His voice and His teaching, they will be "overshadowed" by Him in many cases, just as before He overshadowed His disciple Jesus; through this overshadowing of disciples in all lands, He will duplicate Himself repeatedly. The effectiveness and the potency of the overshadowed disciple will be amazing.

In the third place, when Christ comes, there will be a flowering in great activity of His type of consciousness among men; when disciples are working under the recognition of the Christ, there will then come the time when He can again move among men in a public manner; He can be publicly recognized and thus do His work in the outer levels of living as well as upon the inner. For these three events, the Hierarchy is working and preparing.⁴⁷

EDUCATE GROUPS AND THE PUBLIC

Of what importance is the full moon of May to you personally? Do you really believe that on that day there can truly come a release of spiritual energy of sufficient potency to change world affairs, provided the sons of men play their part?

In your effort to help the world at this time there are three things of a practical nature that can be done, [in addition to] the preparation which each one of you, as an individual, will carry on within yourselves. Purification, sacrifice, clear thinking, and an increased sensitivity must be actively desired and worked for by each of you, alone in the secret place of your own heart. The arranging of your affairs so that the week of the full moon can yield to you the fullest opportunity to

cooperate must be your effort, and the use of a sane judgement and expression of a real skill in action must be your attempted demonstration, as you seek to awaken your immediate circle to the importance of the moment. The general effort that you can make falls into three categories:

1. The active instruction and mobilizing of the known aspirants and disciples of the world, no matter in what group they work, so that they may make due preparation, working in their own groups as they see fit.
2. The call to participate of all who can be reached advising them of the day of opportunity, mobilizing them for a vast world effort to arouse afresh a spirit of good will, and calling for a united use of the Great Invocation on the day of the Wesak full moon.
3. The arranging of public meetings on as large a scale as possible, to be held on the day of the full moon of May. I mean by this that meetings should be held for the public at some time during the eighteen hours that precede and include the time of the full moon. The exact hour is immaterial, provided as many people as possible participate at some time during the preceding eighteen hours, thus laying the foundation for and aiding in the work which will take place at the time of the full moon. Those aspirants who can arrange to do so must, however, arrange to be in meditation, in group formation if possible, at the exact time, and their work will then be to capitalize on the energy then available, and to take advantage of the vortex of force generated earlier at the public meetings, and so throw the weight of the public demand for peace and light on the side of the effort of the Hierarchy.

The way in which these three objectives must be brought about, and the world be swept into an organized effort for world peace and cooperation, is to be decided upon by the exigencies of the time, the necessities of the occasion, and the varying circumstances of place, country and environing conditions.

Out of this quite possible great effort at integration that can be focussed at the time of the Wesak festival, there can grow the real germ of the new world and the new ideals.

When the Great Lord was on Earth, He told His disciples that successful spiritual effort of a healing nature went not forth except by prayer and fasting. Will you ponder on these words? This is a group effort towards a vast group healing and by prayer (sanctified desire, illumined thought

and intense aspirational longing) and by the discipline of the physical body for a short period and for a definite objective, the work can be done.⁴⁸

In every country where students of [my teachings] keep the Wesak festival, I would ask them in the future to admit as many of the general public as can be reached to the full moon meeting, preparing themselves during the month of April [Aries] for this service and seeking to give a sane, sensible and true presentation of the significance of the festival. The full moon meeting in the future should be a public meeting; the public should thereby be educated in the knowledge of the relation of the Lord of Light and the Lord of Love to each other; the fact of illumination and the fact of loving understanding which these two outstanding Sons of God expressed, should be emphasized, these divine qualities are the esoteric factors underlying goodwill; men must be taught that in the oriental and the Occidental messages, humanity is presented with the true keys to right education (illumination) and to right human relations-goodwill, the lowest aspect of love, and therefore attainable.

The task in the present era or interim period between war and peace, and between the old civilization and the new, is to make the Christ and the Buddha-from the angle of religion-essential and beloved Realities to men in both hemispheres. It is illumination that men need and the way to illumination was taught to us and demonstrated to us by the Buddha; it is loving service which will heal the wounds of humanity, and the example of the perfect Server was given to humanity by the Christ. The discriminative power of the mind as a means to illumination and to liberation was emphasized by the Buddha; the value of the individual as a divine unit of relation to other divine units was emphasized by the Christ; in these two messages God is brought near to us and shown to be existent as a divine spirit in every individual human being. In the first two stanzas of the Invocation now being used throughout the world, the work of the Buddha and of the Christ is emphasized and they are shown as our guarantors and exemplars.⁴⁹

Those thoughtforms which will materialize as the religion of the New Age already exist on the mental plane and are in process of precipitation upon the physical plane. Their lineaments can already be discerned. The wise Guides of the race, working under the Christ and having in view the need of the public for a form, seek at this time to hold just as much of the old form and lineaments, as is consistent with evolution and progress. In the West, what the Great Ones seek to

break is not the form of Christianity but the grip of the churches on the minds of the masses. The old forms of thought and of interpretation are now too restricted and too tightening in their hold upon the imprisoned and struggling life. That life must break forth. It cannot be confined by the ancient restrictions. Yet at this time there does not exist the need for an utterly new venture or for an entirely new presentation of truth. Nature and evolution move with gentle gradations and not with breaks and uncorrelated manifestations in the world of forms. In all the progressing developments, the old outlines can be seen-enlarged, purified and more beautiful, yet recognizable as the old form on a higher turn of the spiral. It is not the freak cults, nor the widely divergent sects, nor the bands of advanced religious revolutionaries who can meet the crying need of the many enquirers today. What is required is the revivification of the old forms, and their infusion with fresh life; the old organizations must be awakened to the hour of opportunity and must change from static organizations to living organisms. The old rituals must be revived and brought up to date (in the esoteric sense of the word) and the religious students of the world must be graduated into a higher school, given the occult interpretations, and taught that, after all, the truth has been present all the time, but hidden and misinterpreted.

It is surely easier to swing the masses into step and give them the newer light of truth if that light is poured on to familiar ground. All must be given the chance to see and hear, and be offered the opportunity to weigh and judge the significance of reality. It is not just the two or three of supreme importance, or who have the nerve to take the needed forward steps, who must receive prime consideration, but the truth must be stepped down and adapted in such a way that the advanced minds, the enquiring minds, and the reactionary masses may have opportunity proffered them, to the measure of their receptivity. Did not the greatest of all the Great Ones do this Himself in the synagogue and with His disciples in Judean days?⁵⁰

WORK IN THREE AND SEVEN YEAR CYCLES

Forget not, all creative processes proceed with a cyclic rhythm. The rhythm set by the New Group of World Servers is a three year cycle and to this rhythm you will find yourself conforming. The end of one such cycle came in May 1936. Another towards which we will proceed in a mounting crescendo of work and of success will be in May 1939. The third will come in May 1942. Have

these dates carefully in mind and thus lay your plans for the future. Thus will you be working with the law and along the lines of least resistance.

Make each three year cycle conform to the rhythm of creation. In the first year, lay your emphasis upon the activity of the manifesting principle, using that which appears and with which you have to work. In the second year, let the clarity and the quality of the note to be sounded by the manifesting form appear and be heard. In the third year, behind the form and expressing itself through the quality, let the livingness and the work of the indwelling life emerge for all to see. Bear this in mind as you consolidate the work. The keynote of the first year's work is *consolidation*, that of the second year must be *expansion* whilst the keynote of the third year must be the making of a *definite impact upon the public consciousness*, by the sounding and the emphasizing of some one clear note. If this cyclic measure is kept thus in mind, no serious mistakes will be made... The New Group of World Servers must work in these three year cycles and the foundation of cyclic attainment must be laid. This cyclic rhythm will release from strain and yet enable the workers in the Group to feel that there is no failure. It is impossible to do good work where a sense of failure or lack of attainment is found.⁵²

In December 1935, the energies of Capricorn were augmented by the pouring in of forces from a still greater constellation which is-to our zodiac—what the zodiac is to the earth. This augmentation will take place again in 1942. By means of this augmentation-during the coming Aquarian zodiacal cycle-groups on earth can avail themselves of the tide of Capricornian influences which will flow into our radius or registration every seven years. The one just past, gave a tremendous impetus to the work of the New Group of World Servers, and was the cause of the very good reaction in the world to their particular impulse. This worked out in every nation and in every group as a marked tendency to good will. In 1942, there will come another planetary inflow of which we all are begged to avail ourselves, and for which we are urged to make due preparation. This "week of group impact" occurring every seven years, will run from December 21st till December 28th, and if this should at any time fall at the period of the full moon, the opportunity will be most significant. This possibility must be watched. This week should be regarded as pre-eminently the "festival week" of the New Group of World Servers, and after 1942 advantage must be taken of this period, and special preparation made. This fact invites the attention of all of us.⁵²

At this point I would remind you that *the effect of the impact of energy is dependent upon the nature of the nature of the vehicle of response*. According to his equipment and the nature of his bodies, so will man react to the inflowing energies. This is a fundamental statement. It is a law and should be most carefully considered. The effects of a Master or initiate upon men are widely different, because each man brings to the impact of His vibration a type of physical body, an astral or emotional nature, and a mind which are in each case different from all the others. The use each makes of the stimulating energy will be different; the focus of his consciousness is very different; his type of mind is quite different; his centers, their activity and their internal organizations are different. And it is the same for groups, organizations and nations.

USE GREAT INVOCATION AS NEW WORLD PRAYER

The Christ, in the year 1945, came to a great decisions – a decision which found expression in two most important statements. He announced to the assembled spiritual Hierarchy and to all His servants and disciples on Earth that He had decided to emerge again into physical contact with humanity, if they would bring about the initial stages of establishing right human relations; secondly, He gave to the world (for the use of the “man in the street”) one of the oldest prayers ever known, but one which hitherto had not been permitted to be used except by the most exalted, spiritual Beings. He used it Himself for the first time, we are told, at the time of the full moon of June 1945. It was not easy to translate these ancient phrases (so ancient that they are without date or background of any kind) into modern words, but it has been done, and the great Invocation, which may eventually become the world prayer, was pronounced by Him and taken down by His disciples.** It has been translated as follows:

From the point of Light within the Mind of God

Let light stream forth into the minds of men.

Let Light descend on Earth.

From the point of Love within the Heart of God

Let love stream forth into the hearts of men.

May Christ return to Earth.

From the center where the Will of God is known
Let purpose guide the little wills of men-
The purpose which the Masters know and serve.

From the center which we call the race of men
Let the Plan of Love and Light work out.
And may it seal the door where evil dwells.

Let Light and Love and Power restore the Plan on Earth.

Not a day goes by that the Christ Himself does not sound it forth. ¹⁴

*Note. Refer to note on page 20.

This mantram is peculiarly and essentially Christ's Own mantram and its sound has gone forth" to the entire world through the medium of His enunciation of it and through its use by the Hierarchy. Now its words must go out throughout the entire world by means of its enunciation by men everywhere, and its meaning must be expressed by the masses in due time.

Concentrate upon the new Invocation from the point of view that it embodies the divine intent and summarizes the conclusions of the thinking of the planetary Logos. Penetrate, through meditation, more deeply into the vital meaning of these words, these amazing words. They embody, as far as is possible in modern language, a formula which has been in possession of the Hierarchy ever since it was founded on Earth, but which is only now available for use, owing to the point in evolution reached by mankind. The wonder of these mantric stanzas is that they are comprehensible to members of the human family and to members of the Kingdom of God. They mean one thing to the ordinary man, and that meaning is good, powerful and useful; they mean another thing to the man upon the Probationary Path, for he attaches to the words a deeper and more esoteric meaning than is possible to the man who is entirely polarized in his lower nature; these words mean still another thing to the disciple affiliated with and functioning consciously in

an Ashram; to initiates and to the senior Members of the Hierarchy, they convey a still higher and more inclusive significance.

Each of the four stanzas refers to one or other of the three aspects of divine energy, plus a reference to humanity itself in which the three meet. It serves to focus and anchor the invoked energies in the human kingdom. From that point, humanity takes over the undertaking. It is apparent, therefore, that the first three stanzas ... appeal to ... the Mind of God, the Love of God, and the Will or Purpose of God; the fourth stanza points out the relation of humanity to these three energies of intelligence, love and will, and mankind's deep responsibility to implement the spread of love and light on Earth. Thus the original Plan will be restored on Earth.

No one can use this Invocation or prayer for illumination and for love without causing powerful changes in his own attitudes; his life intention, character and goals will be changed and his life will be altered and made spiritually useful.⁵⁵

Every possible effort must be made by the workers in every country to increase the numbers of those who use this Invocation, and to familiarize the public with the ideals for which the New Group of World Servers stands. All whom you can reach in the countries of the world must be instructed and helped to spread the use of the Invocation in their own language, and with the wording that will make it acceptable, and a widespread effort must be made to organize its simultaneous use on the day of the May full moon. Those who use it must be instructed to say the words aloud, thus making a volume of sound of real potency, and they must say it with all the power of their wills behind it.

The general public must be urged, through all possible agencies, to employ it. The radio, the press, must all be utilized, and all men of good will must be contacted, even if unenlightened from the occult angle, and even if they do not realize the guiding presence of the Hierarchy and the opportunity now offered by the united effort of the Buddha and the Christ.⁵⁶

RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS OF HIS APPROACH

The early signs of His approach with His disciples can already be discerned by those who note and rightly interpret the signs of the times. There is (among these signs) the coming together spiritually of those who love their fellowman. This is in reality the organizing of the outer physical army of the Lord -- an army which has no weapons but those of love, of right speech and right human relations. This unknown Organization has proceeded with phenomenal speed during the aftermath of war, because humanity is sick of hate and of controversy.

The general staff of the Christ is already active in the form of the New Group of World Servers; they are as potent a body of forerunners as has ever preceded a great Figure into the arena of mankind's living. Their work and influence is already seen and felt in every land, and nothing can destroy that which they have accomplished.⁵⁷

When He comes at the close of this century and makes His power felt, He will come as the Teacher of Love and Unity, and the keynote He will strike will be regeneration through love poured forth on all. As He will work primarily on the astral plane, this will demonstrate on the physical plane in the formation of active groups in every city of any size, and in every country, which will work aggressively for unity, cooperation and brotherhood in every department of life-economic, religious, social and scientific. These groups will achieve results now impossible. It is this impending probability which is held in mind at the Wesak festival.

Indication of the nearing of this event will be seen in the reaction that will be set up during the next twenty-five years against crime, sovietism, and the extreme radicalism which is now being made use of by certain powers to achieve ends contrary to the plans of the Lord. The era of peace will be ushered in by a gathering together on earth of the forces which stand for construction, and development, and by a conscious deliberate banding together of groups in every land who embody the principle (as far as they can vision it) of Brotherhood. Watch the signs of the times, and be not discouraged over the immediate future. The appearance of the Great Lord will date from a certain Wesak festival at which a mantram (known only to those attaining the seventh initiation) will be pronounced by the Buddha, thus setting loose force, enabling His great Brother to fulfill His mission. Hence the gradual recognition of the Wesak festival, and its true significance in the occident is desirable, and opportunity will be offered to all who are willing to place themselves in the line of this force, and thus become vitalized by it, and consequently available for service. The

reaction mentioned above, will also become possible through the pressure brought to bear by the present children, many of whom are chelas and some initiates. They have come in to prepare the way for the coming of His Feet.

When the hour strikes (five years prior to the date of His descent) they will be in the full flower of their service and will have recognized their work, even though they may not be conscious of that which the future holds hid. When the hour has come many cases of overshadowing will be seen (and already a few cases are to be found) and will demonstrate in a threefold manner. In all countries, in the orient and the occident, prepared disciples and highly evolved men and women will be found who will be doing the work along the lines intended and occupying places of prominence which will make them available for the reaching of the many; their bodies also will be sufficiently pure to permit of the overshadowing. It will only be possible in the case of those who have been consecrated since childhood, who have been servers of the race all their lives, or who, in previous lives, have acquired the right by karma. This threefold overshadowing will manifest as:

First. An impression upon the physical brain of the man or woman, of thoughts, plans for work, ideals and intentions which (emanating from the Avatar) will yet be unrecognized by him as being other than his own; he will proceed to put them into action, unconsciously helped by the force flowing in. This is literally a form of higher mental telepathy working out on physical levels.

Second. The overshadowing of the chela during his work (such as lecturing, writing, or teaching), and his illumination for service. He will be conscious of this, though perhaps unable to explain it, and will seek more and more to be available for use, rendering himself up in utter selflessness to the inspiration of His Lord. This is affected via the chela's Ego, the force flowing through his astral permanent atom; and it is only possible when the fifth petal is unfolded.

Third. The conscious cooperation of the chela is necessitated in the third method of overshadowing. In this case he will (with full knowledge of the laws of his being and nature) surrender himself and step out of his physical body, handing it over for the use of the Great Lord or one of His Masters. This is only possible in the case of a chela who has brought all the three

lower bodies into alignment, and necessitates the unfolding of the sixth petal. By an act of conscious will he renders up his body, and stands aside for a specific length of time.

These methods of overshadowing will be largely the ones used by the Great Lord and His Masters at the end of the century, and for this reason They are sending into incarnation, in every country, disciples who have the opportunity offered them to respond to the need of humanity. Hence the need of training men and women to recognize the higher psychism, and the true inspiration and mediumship, and to do this scientifically. In fifty years time, the need for true psychics and conscious mediums (such as H.P.B., for instance) will be very great if the Master's plans are to be carried to fruition, and the movement must be set on foot in preparation for the coming of Him for Whom all nations wait. In this work many have their share, provided they demonstrate the necessary endurance.

Naturally, the first group will be the largest, for it does not necessitate so much knowledge, but more risk is entailed with them than with the others -- the risk of perversion of the plans, and of disaster to the unit involved. The second group will be less numerous, and the last group will involve only a handful, or two or three in certain countries. In this case, it will be verily true that, through sacrifice, the Son of Man will again tread the highways of men. Very few will be thus available for His use, as the force He carries requires a peculiarly resilient instrument, but due preparation is being made.

Again the method of direct incarnation will be employed by certain of the Masters and initiates through the process of:

- a. Physical birth.
- b. Appropriation of a suitable vehicle, or body.
- c. Direct creation by an act of will. This will be rare.

The second, or middle, method will be the one most frequently employed. Six of the Masters, as yet quite unknown to the average occult student by name, have already sought physical incarnation-one in India, another in England, two in northern America, and one in central Europe, whilst another has made a great sacrifice, and taken a Russian body in the desire to act as a peace

center in that distracted land. Certain initiates of the third initiation have taken feminine bodies-one in India will in due time do much toward the emancipation of the women of India, whilst another has a peculiar work to do in connection with the animal kingdom which likewise is awaiting the day of His appearing.

The Master Jesus will take a physical vehicle, and with certain of His chelas effect a re-spiritualisation of the Catholic churches, breaking down the barrier separating the Episcopal and Greek churches from the Roman. This may be looked for should plans progress as hoped, about the year 1980. The Master Hilarion will also come forth, and become a focal point of buddhic energy in the vast spiritualistic movement, whilst another Master is working with the Christian Science endeavor in an effort to swing it on to sounder lines.

It is interesting to note that those movements which have laid the emphasis so strongly on the heart or love aspect, may respond more rapidly to the inflow of force at the Coming than other movements which consider themselves very advanced. The "mind may slay" the recognition of the Real, and hatred between brothers swing the tide of love-force away. The three Masters so closely allied with the theosophical movement are already making Their preparations, and will also move among men, recognized by Their Own and by those who have eyes to see. To those of Their chelas on earth who undergo the necessary discipline, opportunity will be offered to work on the astral plane and, should they so choose, an immediate incarnation, provided they have achieved continuity of consciousness. He Who is known as D.K. is planning to restore-via His students-some of the old and occult methods of healing and to demonstrate:

- a. The place of the etheric body.
- b. The effect of pranic force.
- c. The opening up of etheric vision.

It is not permissible to say more in connection with the plans of the Great Ones. Their appearing will not be simultaneous in time, for the people could not stand the tremendously increased inflow of force, and recognition of Them and of Their methods will depend upon the intuition, and the training of the inner senses. They come with no herald, and only Their works will proclaim Them.⁵⁸

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