

## Age of Aquarius – 1981 - Part I

John Drais

In cycles of 2160 years the sun passes from one zodiacal sign to the preceding in its annual northward passage across the ecliptic at the Vernal equinox. Shortly the sun will make such a transition from the house of Pisces into that of Aquarius. The precise point on the ecliptic separating houses being a matter of contention, there has arisen considerable debate concerning the commencement of the Age of Aquarius. Perhaps this kabala of Israel will clear away the doubt.

The ancient traditions of Israel make one communally responsible at age 20, since at least one Jupiter-Saturn conjunction will have passed. These conjunctions occur periodically with a frequency varying about a mean of 19.80+ years, and mark the institution of a new dispensation characterized by its position. Zodiacal signs are categorized according to their elemental correspondence (Earth, Air, Fire, Water), the triplicities; and to their seasonal relationship (Fixed, Cardinal Mutable), the quadruplicities. If three consecutive conjunctions precess through the zodiac and are of the same triplicity, for example, Earth, then the next three will be Air; the next, Fire; and the next, Water. Furthermore, the leading Great conjunction of each triplicity set through the sequence of these twelve Normal conjunctions is of the same quadruplicity. That is, four sets of three begin with Fixed signs, and the next with Mutable. This pattern of all 36 possibilities is experienced in about 712.84+ years and is repeated three times in each Prophetic Age of 2160 years. And, as three of these cycles is 21.45+ years less than 2160 years, the gap is filled with a fourth conjunction in the just finished triplicity set. This conjunction, number  $109 = (3 \times 36) + 1$  is the Magnificent conjunction and marks the final dispensation of a Prophetic Age.

A Cardinal-Earth Great conjunction in Capricorn on November 28, 1901 was followed by the other earth sign Normal conjunctions on September 10, 1921 in Virgo, and in Taurus on February 15, 1941. The following conjunction was not, however, Cardinal-Air, but a fourth earth sign occurred February 18, 1961 in Capricorn. This was the Magnificent conjunction of the Pisces-Aquarius transition, and will be followed by the Great conjunction of Cardinal-Air (Libra) marking the first dispensation of the Prophetic Age of Aquarius.

As if to emphasize how auspicious is this time, the 1981 Great conjunction is split into three aspects all in Libra: December 31, 1980; March 4, 1981; and July 24, 1981. The Normal conjunctions in this air triplicity set follow in Gemini, 2001, and Aquarius, 2021. The next three score years promise to stagger the world with change, as the seed upon which the New Age must build is planted in the Earth of the Old.

Mar, 1981

## The Eclectic Theosophist

### Age of Aquarius - 1981 Part II

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Jupiter conjuncts Saturn in 1981, an event which happens every 20 years. This series of conjunctions is an orderly, calculable sequence in the spatial alignment of Earth, Jupiter and Saturn. As if this line were an arrow in space, it points sequentially to certain zodiacal constellations in the background. The sequence of 20 year conjunctions is itself cyclical with a period of 2160 years, and marks its culmination with an extra conjunction. That happened in 1961. The conjunction of 1981 is, therefore, the first of a new messianic cycle.

"...exoteric cycles of every nation have been correctly made to be derived from and depend upon sidereal motions. The latter are inseparably blended with the destiny of nations and men..." (S.D. 1, 645)

The cause of the dependence on the relative motion of stars is not, of course, gravitational, for cycles vibrate at natural frequencies whether they are physical, psychological or spiritual. But this dependence is rather at consequence of our universal septenary division and our relative motion through space. We are enabled thereby to observe the seven Sacred Planets in their aspects with one another and with the Earth and to determine the nature of their prevailing relationship among the seven Mystery Gods, who are their regents.

וַיֹּאמֶר אֱלֹהִים יַחֲדָה בְּרִקיעַ הַשָּׁמַיִם לְהַבְדִּיל בֵּין הַיּוֹם וּבֵין הַלַּיְלָה  
וְהָיוּ לְאֹתוֹת לְמוֹדִים וּלְיָמִים וּשְׁנָיִם

"And ALHIM said, 'Let there be lights (meoroth) in heavenly firmament to make a division between the day and the night and to be for signs, for seasons, for days, and years.'" (Gen. i, 4; the fourth day.)

The stars upon which our cycles depend then are these heavenly lights. Now, since the dependence is not gravitational, what or who are these lights? In the Kabala א and ע can be interchanged to derive a meaningful relationship between the before and after forms. So אור becomes עור just as light becomes skin or physical form, their respective literal translations.

In discussing the exit of Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden and their consequent physicalization, Blavatsky quotes from the Chaldean Book of Numbers in both Isis Unveiled and The Secret Doctrine.

"And Yava-Aleim (chief hierophant) made for Adam and his wife כְּתוּתָה עוֹר KOTUNOTH OR." (I.U. I,575; S.D.II,202) See Gen. iii, 21.

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KOTHNOTH OR is translated "coats of skin" usually, but by a transformation similar to that of "light" to "skin," כהן , coat, becomes קטן , little, and "coats of skin" becomes "little light" or "little form." The Zohar and Nurho de Manhar comment on this relationship:

"And God said 'Let there be light (Gen. i,14); the word meoroth (lights) is defective in the Hebrew, being written without vau... When the primal light was yet invisible or unmanifest, a covering formed itself around it, which, becoming enlarged, produced a second that extended itself to "little form" with which it wished to be united and bear its form permanently. (f.n. by N. de M.) Little Form, denoting the world of forms and beings before incarnating as human beings on the earth plane. The psalmist, speaking of man, says, 'Thou hast made him "littler" than the angels, that is, in form and mind.'" (Zohar: Bereshith 19b), Wizard edition, 103.)

Blavatsky categorized the material of The Secret Doctrine under six headings, one of which treats of these "angels" as a "Hierarchy of Consciousness." It is comprised of a descending series of incipient man, human man at the turning point, and an ascending series of perfected man called "Living Ones" (see S.D.I, 274) or Dhyanis, and, in their highest state, "the parentless" or "Lords of Being." From these "proceed numerous hierarchies of Creative Forces, some formless, others having their own distinct form..." (S.D.II, 33)

The functional relationship between these Lights of the Firmament and their "little forms" with astronomical epochs, that is, between the worlds of consciousness and matter, is also made clear:

"Theoretically, the Kalpas are infinite, but practically they are divided and subdivided in Space and Time, each division—down to the smallest—having its own Dhyani as patron or regent." (S.D.II, 179)

The particular dhyani associated with the Messianic Cycle is called, of course, the Messiah, i.e., the annointed one, and is an Avatara of the type born from woman (see Theosophical Glossary: Avatara). The beginning of this cycle marks the recurrence of

"The descent of a god or some exalted Being, who has progressed beyond the necessity of Rebirths, into the body of a simple mortal..." (T.G. avatara)

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His symbol is the sun,

"...the chief, exoterically, of the twelve great gods, or zodiacal constellations; and, esoterically, the Messiah, the Christos (the subject anointed by the Great BREATH, or the ONE) surrounded by his twelve subordinate powers, also subordinate, in turn, to each of the seven 'Mystery gods' of the planets." (S.D.II, 23)

"Theosophists... who understand the hidden meaning of the universally expected Avatars, Messiahs, Sosioshes and Christs,—know that it is no 'end of the world,' but the 'consummation of the age,' i.e., the close of a cycle, which is now fast approaching. (f.n.) There are several remarkable cycles that come to a close at the end of this century. First, the 5000 years of the Kaliyuga cycle; again the Messianic cycle of the Samaritan (also Kabbalistic) Jews of the man connected with Pisces (Ichthys or 'Fish-man' Dag). It is a cycle, historic and not very long, but very occult, lasting about 2155 years, but having a true significance only when computed by lunar months. It occurred 2410 and 255 B.C., or when the equinox entered into the sign of the Ram, and again into that of Pisces. When it enters, in a few years, the sign of Aquarius, psychologists will have some extra work to do, and the psychic idiosyncracies of humanity will enter on a great change."

Thus it is apparent that the Avatar of each of these Messianic Kalpas is the result of the descent of one of the seven Mystery Gods into a perfected human, by which anointing he becomes the son of the father (the solar logos). He is characterized by the solar relationship to its subordinate twelve zodiacal types, the moveable signs of astrology. But the Dhyani watches over the complete cycle, not merely the term of the manifested Avatar, and the nature of each of the 109 twenty year portions of this term is clearly indicated by the signs. These Lights of the Firmament are indeed "signs" and the nature of the Dhyani correlates, therefore, with the position of Jupiter and Saturn as they conjunct through all possible quadruplicity-triplicity permutations. The reader is invited to read further on this interesting subject in *To Rule Both Day and Night: Astrology in the Bible, Midrash and Talmud*, by Rabbi J.C. Dobin (Inner Traditions International, 1977).