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A NEW DAWN:

*Society and Politics
in the Light of Initiatic Science*

Part I



Complete Works – Volume 25

P R O S V E T A

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Chapter One

The age of Aquarius

In the *Apocalypse*, St John describes the four Holy Living Creatures who stand before the Throne of God singing, day and night: '*Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!*'¹ The first living creature was like a lion, the second like a calf, the third resembled a man and the fourth was like an eagle. These are the same four animals that we find in the two axes of the zodiac formed by the polar opposites Leo-Aquarius and Taurus-Scorpio. You will object that there is no eagle in the zodiac, that the sign opposite Taurus is Scorpio. That is true but, in the past, the Eagle occupied the place that is now given to Scorpio; it was when man committed original sin by his failure to master his sexual energy that the eagle fell (symbolically) from its place in the heavens and became a scorpion, Scorpio. And, incidentally, the correspondences defined by the initiates between the different parts of the human body and the signs of the zodiac indicate that Scorpio corresponds to the genitals.

Aquarius, which is an air sign, represents man and, hence, thought and knowledge. The age of Aquarius will be the age of knowledge... but not the intellectual knowledge that turns human beings into dried up mummies. Nowadays, people are very learned and well informed but they are not alive. Aquarius is represented as an old man pouring water from an urn: the old man is wisdom and the water flowing from his urn is the water of life. The knowledge brought by Aquarius is a knowledge that arouses, awakens and bestows life. Human beings may know everything there is to know about microbes or the stars but one cannot help but be horrified to see how they behave in their

everyday lives. They possess everything except the one thing that is essential: the knowledge of how to live.

The water pouring from the old man's urn teaches human beings that everything in and around them must be cared for, nourished and watered and brought to fruition. The emblem of the Brotherhood, the anchor with the stream of water flowing from two hands, is also a symbol of Aquarius. And in Greek mythology Aquarius is represented by Ganymede, the 'cupbearer of the gods'.

Water is life-giving but, as human beings have forgotten about water, they are not irrigated – or, if they are, what with? What they need above all else is the water of life, living water. This is why, although Aquarius is a symbol of knowledge, it is not the knowledge of the brain but of the solar plexus, for only the solar plexus can cause the living water to flow in the bosom of man. We read in the Gospels, '*Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.*'² The coming of Aquarius was already foretold in these words, but in a form which no one could understand at the time.

However learned your words may be, if they do not contain the living water they will always be theoretical and lifeless. This is the trouble with our culture today: human beings possess a mass of information but it is all superficial; it is not alive. For my part, I would rather possess the science of life than all the knowledge found in books for, once I know how to live, that is to say, once I know how to vibrate in unison and in harmony with the laws of the cosmos, the universe itself will be an open book to me³. This is why the Teaching of the Universal White Brotherhood brings an entirely new element into the world. Human beings display their immense science and I am deeply impressed, it is truly extraordinary, but it is not vital. The only thing that is of vital importance is to live in harmony with the laws of the cosmos.

I have often told you that there are two kinds of knowledge. That which is dispensed in universities and which brings with

it social status, money and prestige but which is incapable of transforming you. It leaves you exactly as it found you: if you were sensual you will continue to be sensual; if you were miserly you will continue to be a miser, etc. Then there is the other kind of knowledge, that of the initiates, and it bestows neither prestige nor wealth but it will not leave you as it found you. And this is the knowledge that Aquarius brings, the knowledge that transforms and vivifies.

Astrologers and esoterics have been talking about the coming of the Age of Aquarius for years although, in reality, the vernal point will actually enter the constellation of Aquarius only in two hundred years from now. However it is only to be expected that its influence should already make itself felt. In the month of March it is still winter but there are days when the sun, the birds and the flowers tell us that spring is in the air. Before the season is actually there, we sense its presence; it is already with us thanks to its emanations, its fragrance, its aura. In the same way, all the modern discoveries in the field of atomic physics and space are signs of the approaching 'season' of Aquarius.

Aquarius is an air sign. This is why, ever since the influences of this sign began to make themselves felt, scientific research has focussed to a large degree on the things of air: flight and the use of air in general. During the Piscean age, scientific discoveries were principally in the area of water and navigation. Today, with Aquarius, we are entering the domain of air: telecommunications (telephone, television, etc.), planes, rockets and so on. And if there are still a great many accidents in the air, it is because men fail to understand that the atmosphere is like the ocean, that it has the same currents, waves and disturbances as water.

Although we have not fully entered the Age of Aquarius yet, we are already experiencing some tremendous upheavals. This is because Aquarius is under the rulership of Saturn and Uranus. In fact, it is this influence that is a little alarming, for

Saturn has a tendency to restrict, obstruct and destroy whereas Uranus tends to provoke accidents and explosions: all forms of explosion are due to the influence of Uranus. Aquarius, therefore, necessarily involves a certain amount of breakage: it is going to have to break through existing structures in order to propagate its ideas of universality.

Aquarius, as we have said, is shown as an old man pouring water from an urn. His water is the living water of the new Teaching, and people whose birth charts show several planets in Aquarius are particularly well prepared to pick up the new waves coming from this constellation. It is they who become innovators and inventors. The many discoveries that are being made today in the psychic and esoteric fields are triggered by Aquarius; also, anything that has to do with the notion of collectivity and universal brotherhood. In fact, before long, everybody is going to have to grow in awareness and understanding of the notion of brotherhood and universality. And, for you, universality will mean that, instead of being attached to only a few people, a husband or wife and children, your ideal is to be immersed, with all other human beings, in the cosmic ocean of life, love, beauty and joy.

The Piscean Age was the age of Christianity and it was characterized by exactly those qualities that correspond to Pisces, the sign of self-abnegation and sacrifice. Before that came the Arien Age in which the religion of Moses flourished and, before that again, the Taurean Age, with the Egyptian and Babylonian religions. The Age of Aquarius will bring new life. In the beginning, we shall witness some gigantic upheavals in the world but these will give birth to a Golden Age. The new Golden Age will be the fruit of the Age of Aquarius.

Vidélina (Switzerland), December 10, 1966

Notes

1. See *The Book of Revelations: A Commentary*, Izvor Coll. n° 230, chap. 7: 'The twenty-four Elders and the four Holy Living Creatures'.
2. See *Sons and Daughters of God*, Izvor Coll. n° 240, chap. 12: 'Out of his belly shall flow living waters'.
3. See *La science de la vie*, Brochure n° 315.

Chapter Two

The dawn of universal brotherhood

I

Human beings imagine that they have been put on this earth to eat and drink, have a good time and get into all kinds of scrapes, or else to suffer and be unhappy. They don't know that they have been sent to work as labourers on a building site, that their mission is to manifest and give concrete expression on earth to the divine element within them, to become like God himself – but here, on earth. In the world above, matter is so subtle that it obeys the impulse of thought, imagination and will instantaneously; you can do anything with it. Yes, but if man remained in those subtle regions where creative work is so easy, he would not be obliged to grow and develop all his possibilities. This is why he has been sent into the world: to permeate the crude, opaque matter of earth with the beauty and splendour of God.

We are told that the Lord created heaven and earth at the same time, and this holds a lesson for us: since he created them together, it means that it is not only heaven that is important. The earth, too, is important and must be organized and made beautiful so that it shall be like heaven.¹ Heaven and earth must match perfectly. At the moment, this is not the case. The earth – by which I mean the world of men – does not vibrate in harmony, in tune with the divine world. When man becomes conscious of the mission he has been sent to accomplish, he

will begin to take care of the world; that is to say, his whole being will begin to vibrate in unison with the vibrations of the divine world and then, at last, he will reflect the beauty, light and intelligence of the world above. Only then will he have accomplished his mission. And as the earth, that is to say the planet on which we are living, corresponds to our physical bodies, it too will be transformed and become subtle, vibrant and luminous and will produce other fruits, other plants and flowers. When human beings understand that their work starts with themselves, when they begin to change their own body and brain, everything else will change too. Then the earth will truly be the receptacle of heaven.

Once they have accomplished their task, human beings will be free to leave the earth and go to other planets, other regions. Yes, once they have done their work; not before. So many suffering human beings long to leave this earth, this 'vale of tears'! To be sure, there is a great deal of suffering and unhappiness here on earth but where does it come from and who is to blame? Human beings. In any case, the fact that you suffer is not sufficient reason to leave the field of battle and run away. Heaven cannot tolerate deserters. You will say, 'But I long for Paradise, for heavenly beatitude; I long for peace and light and beauty!' I realize that and, of course, you will be given credit for it, for it is a positive quality. But it is not enough: the work is still waiting to be done; you haven't completed your task.²

The matter of this earth is so coarse and opaque that it is going to take millions of years and millions of human beings to transform it. And how can we transform it? By eating it. This is another thing that science has never really understood: why we eat. We eat earth. Oh, of course, it doesn't look like earth because it is in the form of fruit and vegetables, but it is still earth, and it has to go through us and be swallowed, digested and eliminated... swallowed, digested and eliminated, over and over again, until it is imbued with the emanations and vibrations produced by our thoughts and feelings. Once

the earth is thoroughly impregnated in this way it will have become so subtle that it will be – the kingdom of God. One day the earth will be luminous and transparent because, as it goes through us, it gives us something of itself but it also receives something from us, something of our thoughts and feelings, something of our vitality; already the earth is not the same as it was in the remote past. It has evolved a great deal and is much subtler and more intelligent because all the human beings who have ever lived on the planet have worked to change it.

Evolution, the transformation of matter, is what life is all about.³ Exactly what forms and manifestations we shall see in the future is another question, but there is a reason, a plan, a law that impels the whole of creation to evolve. This is why those who contribute to this evolution are helped and encouraged. Everything has to evolve. Even minerals evolve. The evolution of minerals is imperceptible but it is no less real; there is a force at work within them that will eventually allow them to manifest their inherent properties and virtues. The precious stones and metals which have healing, beneficial properties are the more highly evolved minerals. Plants also evolve and, the more they evolve, the more they produce flowers and fruit with beneficial curative and nutritious properties. The same is true of animals and also of men; it is even true of the whole solar system which is gradually moving towards the constellation of Hercules.

The law of life, therefore, is evolution, that is to say growth, development to the point of perfection. This is why Jesus said, *'Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect'*.⁴ But the question then arises of how we should understand perfection. Human beings have certain ideas on the subject; in every area they try to find the best, quickest, most accurate or most harmonious way of doing things. The only trouble is that they do not always have the right standards by which to judge and yet, if they were more observant, they would see that Cosmic Intelligence has placed models for our guidance all around us. The human body is one excellent example, for it is easy to

recognize when it is functioning perfectly: if you eat and drink properly and breathe, sleep and work well, you say that your health is perfect. It is possible, therefore, to have some idea of what perfection means on the physical plane; on other planes, though, it is less easy to have any concept of perfection.

The whole question is extremely rich. One of the first things we see, if we look at it closely, is that there exists a law that obliges all beings to grow towards perfection and that anyone or anything that opposes this law has to suffer the consequences. Without realizing it, human beings often oppose this law. When they behave in a way that hinders the proper functioning of their physical body, for instance, they are preventing it from attaining perfect physical health. Or again, by a lack of intellectual work or warped thoughts, they hinder the development of the brain and let it lapse into darkness.

In the world above everything is perfect and it is up to us to work to establish that perfection in every area here, on earth.

Let's try to make this clearer by taking the example of a human being. For me, human beings have always been a key, a yardstick: in order to find the solution to a problem I look at human beings and find the solution in them. In this instance too, therefore, let's take the example of a human being: on the level of thought a human being is all-powerful: he can imagine, invent and organize wonderful things; it is only when it comes to giving those things concrete reality that he is at a loss. The facility that already exists in his mind still has to be brought down onto the material plane. Suppose, for example, that you are thinking of a very complicated dance step or a sequence in gymnastics: in your imagination you do it perfectly; your difficulties only begin when you try to execute it on the physical plane. You have to practise over and over again before you succeed. And the same is true of all activities: it is not enough to create things on the mental plane, you have to give them reality on the physical plane as well. The reason why we have

descended to earth is to make manifest the glory and splendour of God, to give material reality to his power, intelligence and perfection.

This is just one example of how my observation of human beings helps me to solve this and many other problems. Try to do the same: when you have a problem try to use human beings as the key. You can still see ancient statues in Egypt that represent a Pharaoh holding a key that symbolized man and this means that the Pharaoh possessed the key to the universe – man – and could use that key to decipher all the riddles of the universe. I, too, possess that key. You will not see me standing on a pedestal holding a key in my hand but, if you were clairvoyant, you would have realized a long time ago that I possessed this key.

We have come into the world with a mission, therefore. But don't misunderstand this word 'mission'. A lot of very unexceptional people imagine that they have a special mission. It is quite astounding to see how some miserably puny, feeble people, who have no special gifts or faculties, get it into their heads that they have been sent to restore order on earth. It is true, of course, that we all have a mission, but it is very important to know what that mission is and not to delude ourselves. Our mission is to develop all the qualities and virtues that heaven has sown in us as germs, seeds. It may well be that, from time to time, heaven chooses a particular being for a particular mission, but the common mission of man is to grow and develop until he reaches perfection. All men, even if they have no great gifts, even if they are half-witted, have received this mission: to work, to become more and more perfect, to evolve. Unfortunately, there are always plenty of candidates for the false missions, plenty of people who think that, like Joan of Arc, they are going to save their country but who are not interested in their true mission. Don't imitate them, my dear brothers and sisters; start by concentrating on the mission that God has entrusted to all human beings: to become perfect as he is perfect. And, as one

lifetime is too short to complete your task, you will come back again and go on with it in your next incarnation.

I have already explained that, when Jesus said, '*Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect*', the fact of reincarnation was implicit,⁵ for how could someone as wise and clear-sighted as Jesus expect human beings to become perfect in the space of one lifetime? If there were no such thing as reincarnation this precept would be absurd, but in the light of reincarnation it becomes both understandable and possible. If Jesus asked perfection of human beings it was precisely because he knew that perfection was the law of the universe.

Everything in the universe has to advance, improve and evolve and, when something or someone flouts this law, they are destroyed: human civilizations, worlds, even constellations have already vanished because they defied the law of evolution. In fact, you would be amazed to know how many things in the universe are continually being destroyed or disappearing while new things are appearing. The human brain is still incapable of containing the immensity of the universe.

From now on, therefore, make up your minds to take this law of evolution seriously and tell yourselves that you must evolve, you must make progress, otherwise you will find yourselves up against the law. If you work in this spirit you will be restoring order within yourselves, your whole life will be transformed and you will create a magnificent future for yourselves. Unfortunately, very few men and women are imbued with this idea; they work, but the goal of their work is not perfection; on the contrary, they work in order to dominate more people, acquire more possessions and have more pleasure. They don't work and study for a divine idea. You can see proof of this in the fact that, once they have got what they wanted for themselves, they work and study no more. Yes, everybody works, but the goal for which they work is always selfish.

Don't expect perfection to come from elsewhere. To promise human beings that they will be given everything they want

without having to make the slightest effort is to mislead them. In fact, if you always got everything you asked for, you would be unhappier than ever. Why? Because it would not have cost you any effort; it is when we strive for something that we are happiest. Look at the question of money: does someone who never worked to earn his money really appreciate it? No. Get it into your heads, therefore, that you have a mission and do everything in your power to accomplish it.

Sèvres, April 1, 1972

Notes

1. See *The True Meaning of Christ's Teaching*, Izvor Coll. n° 215, chap. 5: 'On earth as it is in heaven'.
2. See *Love and Sexuality*, Complete Works, vol. 15, chap. 8: 'Materialism, idealism and sexuality'.
3. See *La pédagogie initiatique*, Complete Works, vol. 28, chap. 2: 'Le sens de la vie: l'évolution'.
4. See *The True Meaning of Christ's Teaching*, Izvor Coll. n° 215, chap. 3: 'Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect'.
5. See *Cosmic Moral Law*, Complete Works, vol. 12, chap. 8: 'Reincarnation'.

‘Man was built by Cosmic Intelligence in such a way that he can fulfil himself and attain his full stature only by maintaining ties with a higher world from which he receives light and strength. When human beings rely exclusively on their own limited intellect they deprive themselves of true understanding, and all the disastrous mistakes they make in every area stem from this lack. When men are motivated only by a lust for material possessions and domination and act in total disregard for the plans of Cosmic Intelligence, they stir up layers of the physical and psychic atmosphere and arouse formidable powers whose fury is turned against them. The age of Aquarius will soon be with us and the tremendous upheavals it brings with it will oblige human beings to understand the reality of the invisible world and the laws that govern it. But the beauty, splendour and harmony of the new life that will emerge from these upheavals will be beyond anything imagined by man. All those who, throughout the world, have been secretly working for the coming of the kingdom of God, will join forces and work together, and the bastions of ignorance, materialism and despotism will crumble and collapse. This I tell you, and it will come about as I say: nothing can prevent the coming of the New Age, the new Golden Age of Man.’

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