



Therefore the savage must learn to conquer himself in a certain measure before he may become the more civilized family man of modern times.

Under the unrestrained rays of Mars and the Moon parents bring children into the world and leave them to take care of themselves almost as animals do, for they are products of animal passion. The females are bought and sold as a horse or a cow, or else taken by force and carried away. Even as late as the medieval Dark Ages, the knight often carried away his bride by force of arms, practically in the same manner that the male animals battle for possession of the female at mating time.

Thus we see that the first step toward civilization requires that a man conquer one or more of the planets to a certain degree at least. Unbridled passion such as is generated by the primitive Mars ray is no longer permissible under the regime of modern civilization. Neither is the tenet that "might is right" any longer admissible, save in wars when we return to barbarism. The Mars quality of physical prowess that at one time made it a virtue to attack others and take away property, is no longer admired in the individual. It is punished by various means according to law, though it is still effective as far as nations are concerned, which go to war under this primitive impulse for territorial aggrandizement. However, as said, Mars has been conquered to a great degree in civil and social life in order that the Venus love might take the place of the Mars passion.

As previously noted, the children of primitive man were left to their own resources as soon as they had been taught to defend themselves in physical warfare. With the advent of Mercury another method is observable. The battle of life nowadays is no longer fought with physical weapons alone. Brain rather than brawn determines success. Therefore the period of education has been lengthened as mankind has advanced. Education now aims principally at mental accomplishments because of the Mercury rays which accompany the Venus development of modern civilization. Man sees nature from a more sunny side when he has learned to respond to the Sun, Venus, Mercury, Mars, Moon, and Saturn, even if only in a very slight measure.

But although the various stages of evolution have

gradually brought man under the dominance of a number of planetary rays, the development has been one-sided, for it has aimed to foster interest solely in things in which he has a proprietary right: *his business, his house, his family, his cattle, his farm*—all are vitally important and must be taken care of. *His* possessions must be increased, if possible, no matter what happens to the possessions and family of anyone else; those are not his concern. But before he can reach a higher stage of evolution, it is necessary that this desire to appropriate the earth and retain it for himself if possible, give way to a desire to benefit his fellow men. In other words, egotism must give way to altruism. Just as Saturn, by wielding the whiplash of necessity over him in his primitive days brought him up to his present point of civilization, so also Jupiter, the planet of benevolence, is destined to raise him from the estate of man to that of superman where he will come under the Uranian ray with respect to his emotional nature, where passion generated by Mars will be replaced by compassion, and where the childlike consciousness of lunar origin will be replaced by the cosmic consciousness of the Neptunian ray.

Therefore the advent into our lives of the Jupiterian ray marks a very distinct advance in human development. As taught in *The Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception*, we are to advance from our present Earth Period into the Jupiter Period, and therefore the Jupiterian ray marks that high stage of altruism which will then be a prominent factor in our relations, one with the other. It will be easily understood that before we can readily respond to the rays of Jupiter, we must in a measure cultivate altruism and conquer the egotism that comes through the Mercurial reasoning power. We have learned to conquer some of the phases of Mars and the Moon and we may have also learned to conquer some of the lower phases of Mercury and Venus. The more we have overcome these the better we are able to respond to the highest vibratory forces emanating from these planets. Yes, if we strive earnestly we shall some day be able to overcome even the highest stage of the Venus love, which love always attaches itself to an object owned by us. We love our children because they are ours; we love our husband