

God's Message Through the Astrological Sign Virgo

IT IS TO THE LORDS OF LEO that we owe our dense body, the temple of the indwelling Ego and the instrument used by the Divine Spirit in building the Conscious Soul. It is the Lords of Wisdom (Virgo) who gave us the germ of the vital body, that radiant body of ethers used by the Life Spirit in building the Intellectual Soul. But this is only one phase of the manifold service rendered to our life wave by the Lords of Wisdom who, through that service, have risen to the place of greatest responsibility among the seven Creative Hierarchies now working actively with man. Thus they demonstrate to us the cosmic principle of service as enunciated by the Christ when He said, "He that would be the greatest among you, let him be your servant" (Matthew 23:11). In the Bible, the Lords of Wisdom are called *Dominions* (Col 1:16).

To analyze the part played by service in the Divine Plan would be to lay bare the hidden threads that bind all orders of evolving beings together.

Service in the cosmic sense is at first unconscious, as in the case of the mineral kingdom, which gives of its substances to build the physical vehicles of plant, animal, and man; and the plant, which gives its dense and vital bodies to sustain the lower vehicles of animal and man.

The animal also serves by giving up its body to feed others of its own life wave, as well as by giving food and raiment to human beings—but only under compulsion: when overcome by the superior strength or agility of other animals or by the ingenuity of man.

Man himself has passed the stage when he needs



Courtesy Monsignor Rauch, Ostkirchliches Institut, Regensburg

Mother Earth

The celestial Virgin (Virgo) in her cosmic aspect as Mother of the Earth's bounty, resulting from the action of the life ether, is the basis for the plant kingdom and all life processes.

to give his vehicles in this way to sustain the lower vehicles of those above him on the ladder of being, but he is incurring a debt to the life waves beneath him, which he will some day recognize and gladly pay.

The service which man renders to his fellowmen today is also given largely under compulsion of one kind or another; but one by one we lagging children of Earth shall respond to the love call of Him who is the "Servant of all" and will learn in time what is the "breadth and length and depth and height" of service as God knows it.

Each of the three so-called "Mother" signs—Taurus, Cancer, and Virgo—is bound up with the Christ Mystery, with the involvement of life in form and the sustaining of the form. The varying aspects of Nature under the three signs give us a clue to the part which each plays in the Cosmic Drama: under Taurus, the joyful growth of spring-time; under Cancer, the rich flowering of summer; under Virgo, the fruitage, the harvest. Thus it is

under the Virgo Ray that Nature gathers in the fruits of her labors and stores them away to serve as the nucleus for a new cycle of experience.

In the physical body of man the Virgo Ray works through the intestines to perform the function of assimilation which is a process of selection and absorption.

Do we not find in all of this a clear indication of the work to which God calls us during this solar month, while the radiations of the Lords of Wisdom are being focused upon us? The assimilation of experience! Mercury, the planet of Mind, as messenger of Virgo, lends his ray to help us check up on the use we have made of the Christ Impulse sent forth at the Vernal Equinox, and helps us to develop the discrimination needed to analyze and classify our findings in accordance with the principles of Truth.

It is through the use of discrimination in this practice of retrospection, analysis, and classification, that the fruit of experience is assimilated and absorbed. This work affects strongly and directly the vital body, the germ of which was projected to us by the Lords of Virgo from their own being.

The vital body with its constitution and correlations offers to the neophyte a field of spiritual research which can hardly be equaled in richness and importance, for this instrument, through the medium of the four ethers of which it is composed, is used by the Ego as a sort of clearing house for all its activities. Its correlation to the work of the Virgo Ray will be obvious to the person who analyzes that work.

As the instrument of the Life Spirit, the Christ Principle in man, it also gives us a clue to the diversified character of the work done by the Christ Principle, both in man, the microcosm, and in nature, the macrocosm. It is a work that binds all departments of our being together, as it binds all the departments of Nature together, by establishing lines of intercommunication which reveal their interrelationship.

In Virgo we find the mental ray of Mercury blended with the love-ray of the Christ to accomplish the work of assimilation. This tells us that the magic touch of the Eternal Feminine, the Love-Wisdom Principle, is as necessary to the building



The Apocalypse (Folio 20r), early 14th century manuscript, The Cloisters, New York City

"A Great Wonder in Heaven"

The World Mother or Cosmic Feminine Principle, the heart or Love-Wisdom aspect of God, haloed by the twelve zodiacal constellations, clothed in the sun of Spirit, and mistress of the forces of form (Moon under her feet), protects child-like humanity from the forces of desire on the macrocosmic level until the Christ power is formed in collective mankind.

of the Intellectual Soul as it is to the building of the physical form we occupy. Therefore, in the retrospection and analysis of our experiences the mental quality of discrimination must be backed up by a strong devotion to the ideals of Purity and Truth, if the desired results are to be attained.

It is through persistence in such intelligent and devoted work as this that the mind gradually becomes invested with the creative power of the Christ Principle, and we grow toward the ideal set before us by Virgo, the Virgin mother, the "Woman clothed with the Sun [Spirit] and the Moon [Form] under her feet," as mentioned in Revelation 12:1.

And now, a few keywords. A first keyword can be **discrimination**.

The twelve great Hierarchies of the Natural Zodiac serve in God's Plan with every bit of power they have. All of them have served us, God's Earth children, and still are helping us in our climb onward and upward on the Ladder of Life. Why do you suppose Virgo is set apart as the sign of service?

It is because the Lords of Wisdom, who work through the sign Virgo, help us to learn what service means in our own lives, also the part it plays in the

working out of God's Plan. Through their messenger, Mercury, they help us to find our particular work in the world, help us to understand the value of our physical body as the instrument through which that work must be accomplished, and urge us to take care of it as any good workman would take care of a valuable tool. We know that the success and comfort of our lives depend upon the success and skill of every worker in his particular field in performing the very simplest or the most difficult task. So it is with the universe, only in a much more wonderful way.

The Virgin Spirits in each life-wave progress in knowledge and power by serving one another; then every life-wave serves and is served by the life-waves above and below it. They cannot get along without one another, because each one plays an important part in the life of the other.

The plant builds its body from the mineral substance of the earth. Man and animal use the plants as food and build this mineral substance into their bodies. The vibrations of the mineral life-wave are being raised by this important service to the three life-waves above it, and the Virgin Spirits of the minerals are being helped toward their first awakening.

Man is working with the mineral, plant, and animal life waves. Some of this work is constructive and some destructive, but it all carries its results into the future to be balanced. What do you think are some of the ways in which man has worked and is working with these three life-waves?

In earlier Periods the three life-waves above us worked with us in ways that helped them to gain knowledge and experience while helping us to awaken. So we can see how closely all God's children, who are developing in the same evolutionary plan, are bound together by service.

All life-waves above man serve wholeheartedly and joyously because they see the wonder and beauty of the light that lives in every form, and cannot help but love it. We stand at the point between the unconscious service of the lower life-waves and the willing, loving service of those above us. Before we can enter this higher class we must learn to love that Divine Spark of God hidden in every living thing, and love it enough to serve it

eagerly and joyfully under any and all circumstances. We call this devotion, which is the heart keyword of Virgo.

There is a right and a wrong way to serve, and that is why Mercury, as messenger from Virgo, calls upon us continuously to keep a wide-awake mind and to discriminate between the true and the false service. So *discrimination*, which is the mental keyword of Virgo, is our best guide to the true service that we want to give our fellow-travelers on the road of evolution.

A second keyword is *devotion*. Devotion is a complex trait. It involves steadfastness, compassion, unselfish idealism, and intensity. It can be turned to good or ill, for it is bound up with emotions. Prayerful devotion can lift a person to great heights—to the very throne of God. Devotion to a lofty ideal can, in time, bring about the successful achievement and expression of that ideal.

Devotion must be sought and cultivated. Many people are not yet capable of devotion; or, they have simply not tried to nurture this splendid characteristic. Someday, however, all mankind will understand the significance of devotion. Everyone will understand how all our traits merge into One, which is the expression of All in all. They will know that the perfection of each worthy trait requires the perfection of all others. Complete unselfishness, for example, assumes perfect love, and perfect love requires constancy. It also requires courage, cooperation, sympathy, and understanding. Out of this comes devotion to the high ideal of unselfishness, or self-less-ness.

When we come to that point in our evolutionary journey where we are ready to devote our entire lives to the service of God in man, we will feel keenly the need to employ all of the uplifting traits, and to express each one as much as possible in our daily lives. Then our worries and cares will cease to be worries and cares; the sources of our former "troubles" will become as interesting projects upon which to work.

If altruistic love is the aristocrat of our traits, devotion is her handmaiden—steady, strong devotion, in which gentle, feminine love is combined with virile, masculine strength. □

—Rosicrucian Fellowship Staff Members