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For Members of the Following Orders



From 3 to 5

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Essaier X

From 3 to 5 Esoteric Change in the New Age of Aquarius

According to the ideas of occult world history, whenever there is a shift from one World Age to another, which happens about every 2160 years,

there is a general shift in fundamental human ideas. It is said to 'begin among the Wise, i.e., those who work in the esoteric mysteries, and gradually to move out through poets, artists, inventors and other innovative human thinkers until it is spread through the whole human race.

During the past 2000 years or so, humankind has lived in the Age of Pisces, named for the 12th Sign of the Zodiac. It has been succeeded by the Age of Aquarius, named for the 11th Sign. Eleven is the sum of Five and Six.

In the Piscean Age, people tended to think in Threes and Fours. Examples of this are the three-in-one God of the Christians; the three steps of Hegelian-Marxist dialectic; the three gunas and the Brahma-Vishnu-Shiva trinity of Hinduism; the four elements and four virtues of Greek philosophy; and the four directions of the compass.

Five and Six make Eleven

Esoterically, there is a move away from Three Four: Twelve as fundamental resonances in human thinking towards themes resonating to Five/Six: Eleven. This is symbolised by the fact that Aquarius is the 5th Sign from the Spring Equinox in the Southern Hemisphere and the 11th Sign from the northern Spring Equinox.

Five is the number of humankind, with its 5 fingers on each hand and 5 appendages on its torso (head, arms and legs). The Word of the number 5 is Power; its image is a strong man or woman. The Word of the number 11 is Gnosis; and its Image is the Magician.

Changes In esoteric thinking

The Word of the number 12 is Secrecy and its Image is Veiled Isis, so it is no surprise that it was characteristic of the Age of Pisces for esoteric societies to maintain an atmosphere of occultism, hidden-ness and mystery about their teachings. It is not surprising that, as we move further into the Age of Aquarius, more and more esoteric orders are opening their doors to all who seek esoteric knowledge and wisdom, rather than restricting it to a privileged few. Parallel with this in the political world is the new policy of Glasnost (openness) in the Soviet Union and the increasing number of

countries which have passed Freedom of Information Acts.

There has been a general move away from the patriarchal ideas of the Piscean Age towards a greater awareness of the Mother Goddess. This has been reflected in a growing awareness of the importance of the role of women in society, and a growing awareness of Gaia, Mother Earth as a living being.

A feature of the Piscean Age was that people tended to be like immature children, demanding instructions and advice from leaders, whether political, economic or spiritual. As we move into the Age of Aquarius, the growing world view is that the universe is ideally like an organism, One Living Being, made up of countless mature, living beings, able to act independently and to stand on their own two feet, yet also able to live in community with all life, with compassion for all life and in co-operation with all life.