

Leading thoughts on the Final Phase of the 2014-2015 Tetrad Eclipse series

We are coming into the last chapter of the tetrad series, starting with a solar eclipse September 13th 2015, which falls on the Jewish New Year. Rosh Hashanah literally means "head of the year." It is the first of the 'High Holy Days' or Days of Awe; a celebration that starts on the new moon and is believed to be the anniversary of the creation of Adam and Eve. It weds seriousness with festivity and begins the 10 days of repentance that culminates in Yom Kippur. The New Year focuses our attention on themes of judgment, repentance, memory and the Divine Presence in the world. It invites us to celebrate birth and creation on many levels. Family-oriented services often include a birthday cake for the world. Customs include sounding the shofar (a hollowed-out ram's horn) and eating symbolic foods such as apples dipped in honey to emphasize the sweetness of starting the cycle of seasons once again, and round challah to remind us of the cycles of life.

This partial solar eclipse in Virgo, begins at 11:40 pm CDT, but we won't be able to see it in our part of the world. It will only be visible in South Africa, Antarctica and locations in the Indian and Atlantic Oceans. But even though we can't see the eclipse, through Anthroposophy, we know that when the sunlight is blocked by the moon in a solar eclipse, the will forces of humanity unmediated by the sun, are discharged out into the darkness, and in that time, these unpurified forces of human will flow out into universal space in what Rudolf Steiner calls 'an abnormal, malevolent way'.

But my friends, we can still hold the light as Michaelites.

On September 27-28, 2015 - the eve of Michaelmas, 3 days after Yom Kippur and the Autumnal Equinox, we will experience a full eclipse of the Harvest Moon, completely visible (weather permitting) in our area. It begins 8:07 pm CDT. (see attached chart for full details)

In "Human Questions, Cosmic Answers" we learn that when there is an eclipse of the moon, cosmic thoughts from all types of beings stream through darkness down to the earth, and since they are not met by the rays of the sun, these cosmic thoughts stir up the subconscious tendencies of humanity in an abnormal way. All the malicious, immoral, repressed parts of our lower selves are stimulated. But again, we can hold the shield of Michael.

September 27th also begins the 7 day Jewish harvest festival of Sukkot. With 'The High Holy Days' which started on the eclipsed New Moon, we begin to reap what we have sown - welcoming a sweet New Year and the balance that the Autumnal Equinox can bring. The Festival of Sukkot is quite a drastic transition from one of the most solemn holidays in the year, Yom Kippur, to one of the most joyous. This harvest festival is sometimes referred to as the Season of our Rejoicing, or the Festival of Ingathering; bringing into focus the time of spiritual rebirth & rediscovery associated with the fall season.

Let us join our forces together for this final phase of eclipses, occurring during these auspicious Holy Days. Let us awaken our knowing. When we work together in spirit, we can strengthen our ability to listen and speak, offering an echo toward the Spiritual Beings of the cosmos. Let us turn our collective attention to these celestial events, adding our light to Michael's might.

~Hazel Archer Ginsberg

Celebrating the Final Phase Together throughout our Central Region:

At Easter-tide many of our beehive clusters choose to incorporate some common elements into our group activity.

Element #1

Speaking the 'Stars' verse for this project:

"Stars spoke once to Man
It is world-destiny that they are silent now.
To be aware of the silence,
Can become pain for earthly man.
But in the deepening silence,
There grows and ripens what Man speaks to the stars.
To be aware of this speaking,
Can become strength for Spirit-Man."

~Given to Marie Steiner by Rudolf Steiner on December 25, 1922

Element #2:

Offering the Hallelujah in Eurythmy.

Work with a trained Eurythmist or through the practice of "folk eurythmy".

Suggested Element #3:

Stand at sunset and/or sunrise and hold a consciousness of our Central Regional in your heart.

Begin perhaps in a gesture of reverence.

From reverence, reach or grow your arms outward to resemble an "AH"
as an outward expression of the inner experience of embracing the entire region;
creating a vessel through Michaelic strength and courage.

This AH gesture can be related to veneration if it is very wide,
or wonder if it is more like the vowel sound AH.

The reverence gesture is related more to the vowel sound E in German or long A in English, pronounced ay. In true reverence there is also an aspect that is like the shield of Michael.