

THE CONCURRENCE

This Week's Consideration of a Famous Opinion

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¶ The benefits of Cosmic attunement with its final reward of Illumination is the subject of this monograph and of a number of monographs to come. It is appropriate, therefore, to turn to the Sonnets, attributed to Shakespeare. The student of mysticism has long recog-

nized that many of the Sonnets are directly addressed to the Cosmic Consciousness. The one quoted, however, speaks of the joy that comes when the con-

sciousness is turned from objective matters and directed to the Cosmic.

When in disgrace with fortune and men's eyes
I all alone beweep my outcast state,
And trouble deaf heaven with my bootless cries,
And look upon myself, and curse my fate,
Wishing me like to one more rich in hope,
Featur'd like him, like him with friends possess'd,
Desiring this man's art, and that man's scope,
With what I most enjoy contented least;
Yet in these thoughts myself almost despising,
Haply I think on thee,—and then my state,
Like to the lark at break of day arising
From sullen earth, sings hymns at heaven's gate;
For thy sweet love remember'd such wealth brings
That then I scorn to change my state with kings.

-SHAKESPEARE, 1564-1616

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To the Members of the Esoteric Hierarchy, Greetings!

Let us continue our consideration of the direct effects of the form of Cosmic attunement that you have been slowly building up within your body and consciousness.

We must remember that the tonic effects of Cosmic attunement are just as complete in connection with the mental and nervous side of our beings as with the psychic or the purely physical side. In other words, Cosmic attunement tones the entire system and this has various results. I have spoken of the effect upon the health generally because of the nervous system and the blood, but there is a wonderful effect upon the brain and its functioning in all parts of the body and upon the various psychic centers connected with the sympathetic nervous system.

As each week and month pass by, we are accumulating more and more evidence of what this Cosmic attunement and toning does for the health of our advanced members. It is remarkable how the attunement affects the polarity and vitality of the blood stream. If a member has not poisoned himself by alcoholic liquor, his blood stream can be renewed and brought back to a very youthful vigor through this Cosmic attunement. Gradually many parts of the body are strengthened and made younger in their functioning by the invigorated and properly toned blood stream.

One of our Fraters who had an accident and lost considerable blood before he was taken to the hospital was found to be in need of a blood transfusion. Because of the shock, the suffering, the general weakness and inability to eat for a few days, his vitality became greatly lowered, the blood stream impoverished and the blood count showed a very weakened condition. It took several days to find a person whose blood was of the same type as his own. Then at the last minute when they were ready for the transfusion, they found that it was not required because our Frater's blood stream had quickly recovered its strength and quality. The physicians said that in three days he had recovered to the extent that would normally take several months in addition to a transfusion. They had to add some blood to his body to replace the loss, but there was no longer any danger of his becoming seriously weakened through the lack of blood or its lack of strength, because its high quality and vitalizing energy had accomplished as much as more blood that was not so vital would have accomplished.

This does not mean that in every case where there is a great loss of blood that the vital energy in the remaining blood is sufficient because there is a point in the balance of things where quantity is as important as quality. We know of other cases reported to us from hospitals and sanitariums where our members have been taken as the result of accidents or other

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conditions and where the physicians and surgeons have frankly stated that the person's blood stream was in an unusually excellent condition. In all of these cases the members are of the higher Degrees and have gradually been regenerating and improving their physical condition as well as their mental and psychic condition. Not one of us knows what day an accident or some condition may call for all the strength and the vitality and all the pureness of blood that we may have. It is in such critical conditions or in such a crisis that we discover the benefits of our Cosmic attunement. As we have said before, while we are in good health and happy, and are contentedly going about our affairs in a normal way, we do not realize to what extent our progress and development have improved or to what higher point of unfoldment and development we have attained.

But in the development of the psychic features of our existence we have another field for sudden and unexpected realizations of our development. We find that the members in the higher Degrees, for instance, who have kept up their practice of the various exercises, are becoming more keen, more active, and more wholly aware of conditions about them. No doubt you have wondered about this sometimes, for certainly you have experienced some forebodings, warnings or strange impressions of things about to happen.

You may be sitting quietly reading, thinking, or watching something and suddenly feel that somewhere nearby something is out of order, a house on fire, someone writing you, or someone suddenly taken sick. Or you may feel you are going to receive a communication or that someone will visit you. Or perhaps you sense that someone is talking about you, mentioning your name, or perhaps only thinking of you in a concentrated way. On the other hand, you may be listening to two persons describing a trip they wish to take, a new business they want to enter into, or a position that they seek as an employee, and without any warning you suddenly have an inner impression that one of the persons who is talking is wrong and the other is right, or that something is going to happen to change their plans or that something unexpected will bring different results.

You may have noticed that when persons come to ask your advice or opinion about something, before you have had time to think it out, you are impressed with a definite answer that you can give immediately. No doubt you have wondered sometimes where this information came from. Again, someone may say to you that a friend is to have a child and they wonder whether it will be a boy or a girl: instantly something tells you that it will be a boy. You express your opinion and immediately wonder on what grounds or in what way you arrived at that conclusion. Then again at times you seem to have a warning not to

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take a trip, not to write a letter, or not to do certain things you are expected to do. You may go to the library and start to take a book home to read, and as your hand reaches out for the book something tells you that you will be disap-

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pointed and that it is not the book you want. You may suddenly feel that your telephone or doorbell is going to ring, or that you are going to get a message. You may have a warning to be careful of what you eat today or tomorrow, or a suggestion may come to you from the Cosmic to write a letter to someone whom you have forgotten to communicate with.

These things seem to occur so frequently with so many of our members in the higher Degrees that we are tabulating it as proof that Cosmic attunement brings along with it not only a betterment of the human body and of the mental make-up, but of the psychic functioning within the body. I feel sure that right now many of you are saying to yourselves, "Yes, I have noticed some of these things, but I did not know whether it was the result of our teachings and exercises or not."

Many of our members say that when they were younger, their intuition used to serve them quite frequently in this manner and so they believe that this reawakening of the psychic centers is merely a return of the function of intuition that they once possessed so keen-They are mistaken in this idea. It is true with a great many persons that as youths or young adults, they experienced many wonderful results from their faculty of intuition, but as time went on and they ignored it or did not always pay attention to it, the faculty of intuition became dormant. It became stifled and inactive and simply refused to break through their consciousness after it had been ignored and disregarded in this manner.

Once the faculty of intuition has been set aside in this way and allowed to become dormant over a number of years, it does not ordinarily revive itself or come back into functioning again of its own Each year as we get older, the faculty becomes less and less The only way in which the faculty of intuition can be brought back into its full functioning is through exercises and processes of psychic development. The exercises for the purpose of assisting the psychic centers given in the various Degrees are the only ones that will do this work properly. By the time members reach the higher Degrees, the whole psychic system has been partly awakened and vitalized and is ready for esoteric development.

Another form of benefit coming from this Cosmic attunement lies in the mental functioning. In addition to the psychic awakening and the improvement of the health, the brain becomes awakened and more active in its purely mental functioning throughout the body and especially in connection with reasoning and thinking. One of the first and most important manifestations of the effect of Cosmic attunement that our members seem to notice is that they become more



tolerant in their thinking. Many biased opinions and prejudices, some of long standing, cease to interfere with the brain and consciousness while thinking and analyzing is being done.

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In interviewing members from the southern part of the United States, and other sections of the jurisdiction where racial feelings are strong. I have found that, whereas years ago those members had definite, positive, even unkind attitudes toward those of other races, they now have a different attitude. Now they look upon them from a different point of view, with a different comprehension and understanding. Even at our Conventions I have found some of these southern persons, wholly unaccustomed to public association with a colored person, perfectly satisfied to sit in the Convention hall in seats with those colored persons who are members. I have noticed a different attitude in religious matters as well. It is not a matter of sentiment but rather of thinking-thinking that has been changed by our monographs and lessons. Seldom do we hear from any of our Roman Catholic members any criticism of the Protestants or Jews, and seldom do we hear from the Protestants any criticism of the others.

Many have admitted that years ago their thinking was different. The result of this change is a sense of contentment and peace with the world, and at the same time a closer attunement with God and the Divine Consciousness. One of the inevitable results of Cosmic attunement and changes in the physical, mental, and psychic nature of our being is the feeling that now we understand God and His viewpoint. We sometimes feel, when in our sanctums, that we sit alongside of God and look at the world and its problems from His point of view. We see and sense and feel just what is wrong with the world and yet have no temptation to be a reformer.

As our Cosmic attunement increases, we realize that evil has a certain place in the world as a fire purging the gross elements in human nature and bringing out the purest gold. We see that floods which destroy are just as necessary in the development of the world materially and spiritually as are the floods that create agricultural growth. Men may have built homes in the wrong places where periodic floods destroy them, but that is man's fault, not God's. The floods that inundate the Valley of the Nile are constructive because man takes advantage of them, but if persons had been foolish enough to build frame cottages along the banks of the Nile and the floods wiped them away periodically, the people would think it a curse and not a blessing.

In the same way, sickness and disease are necessary to the development of civilization as have been all the tests and trials through which man has passed. The unexpected blessings that often seem to fall into the laps of persons need not be haphazard demonstrations of good fortune that chance brings to some, but rather the

working of a law. We may not thoroughly understand the law. but nevertheless we realize that it is a law that has goodness back of it and not mere chance and discrimination. We begin to realize our own weaknesses as well as our own strength.

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We become humble but not humiliated; we become happy and proud of our own good points and our increasing improvement; we do not become egotistical, however, nor think that it gives us any right to direct the lives of others, but rather to work peacefully in our own way to help others to gain more understanding.

I hope that in your exercises and concentration this week you will think of these things, and try to sense the Cosmic attunement that is surely working through your being and causing so many different effects. In the next monograph I will tell you more about this matter of attunement with God and the greater understanding of esoteric and spiritual laws of the universe.

May Peace Profound abide with each of you.

Fraternally.

YOUR CLASS MASTER



Summary of This Monograph

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Below is a summary of the important principles of this monograph. It contains the essential statements which you should not forget. After you have carefully read the complete monograph, try to recall as many as you can of the important points you read. Then read this summary and see if you have forgotten any. Also refer to this summary during the ensuing week to refresh your memory.

- Cosmic attunement tones the entire system—the mental and nervous aspects, as well as the psychic and physical.
- In addition to the effect upon the brain and nervous system and upon the psychic centers and sympathetic nervous system, as well as in the rejuvenation and strengthening of the body, Cosmic attunement brings about a keener, more active awareness of surrounding conditions.
- The only way in which the faculty of intuition can be wholly restored to its proper functioning is through exercises and processes of psychic development.
- ¶ An important benefit of Cosmic attunement is the activation and awakening of the brain and of mental functioning.
- Cosmic attunement increases our awareness of good rather than chance or discrimination behind every law.

