



NEWSLETTER

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ARCHIVE

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Let us now praise

La Rentrée

How the French get back to business

THE most civilized people in Europe, perhaps all the world, are at this very moment getting back down to work. It is not often seen by outsiders for the simple reason that it is one of the craziest times on earth.

It started in 1936, in the deep dark days of the Third Republic, when France briefly elected a Socialist government. They didn't last long, partly as the big money boys hated them, and partly as they hadn't a clue how to govern, but before they left, they passed a law giving every employee, regardless of time on the job, **ONE MONTH** paid vacation. Each and every year. That law still stands today.

I'm not sure exactly when it happened, and I'm not sure exactly how it happened, but it came to pass that the month in question came to be August, and it was August for everyone. Rich & poor alike. One story I heard is that all those imposing stone buildings in Paris have, by August, been thoroughly heated by the summer sun & radiate raw heat to all inside. Which is why they're happy to rent them out to us at inflated prices. *Plus ça change, plus c'est le meme chose*, or something like that.

Well, if you're looking for work, you can imagine your prospects for getting hired in, say, June of any given year, are rather slim, and you'd be right.

BUT then there was the Bastille. Perhaps driven crazy by an excessively hot summer & a shortage of cakes to eat, the French stormed the Bastille, a prison fortress similar to the Tower of London, on July 14, 1789. Ripped it to pieces. It's now a park. Bastille Day was first celebrated the very next year. It has been a national holi-

day since 1880, and, by law, the French are to "celebrate with all the brilliance that the local resources allow."

Well, to celebrate on that level you need at least a day to prepare, and after you've had such a good time, you need at least a day to recover, or may be two or three. So Bastille Day was always an expansive holiday.

But then people thought, heck, why go back to work after "Bastille day" if *vacance* starts only a week later. Why not just go *en vacance* on *Quatorze Juillet* & come back the end of August? And, Presto! Four weeks turned into six.

And then there was school. In order to give people time to get back & get ready, the first day of school - *La Rentrée* - was set for September 15. And parents thought, well, heck. I don't need two weeks to get the kids ready. We can get back late on the 14th & we'll manage somehow.

AND so it came to pass that the French - not all of them, mind you, but quite a lot of them - got themselves **TWO FULL MONTHS VACATION**. Each & every year. It doesn't get better.

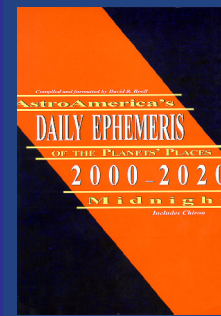
In my younger days I once spent the month of August hitching in France. The French hate hitchers, or so I've heard, but I didn't have a problem until one morning on the north side of Bordeaux. Overnight it had become *La Rentrée*. One hundred cars a minute chugged passed me, for eighteen continuous hours. No one stopped. Packed-out caravans, mostly. Mom, pop, five kids, the grandparents & maybe an aunt or two, all crammed inside. Luggage strapped to the roof. Towing a trailer. Went on for three solid days.

No astrology this month, just this story. *La Rentrée* is going on now!

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On the

AQUARIAN AGE

Part 11:

Christ, his Church, and Pisces.

A story of opportunity seized.

Here is where we get fancy. The Piscean Age was always going to be about religion. It was going to be a universal, transcendent, one-size-fits-all religion, and all because of the Age. Not because Jesus wrote it in stone. Jesus had little to do with it. The Age itself - Pisces - was a major player.

Presuming you think that Christ has a keen wit & a sharp mind, what use do you think he might make of this opportunity? Let's think of things (*continued*)

Christ, Pisces, and his Church

continued

from his point of view.

It isn't that man has a hard time creating civilizations. He doesn't. Most of the time he's deliberately held back. Kept in poverty & squalor & misery.

AND you think, why, for God's sake? And there's a very simple explanation. Organized evil, a destructive parasite, feeds on civilization. The grander the civilization, the bigger the feast, the harder the resulting crash. Evil doesn't care about its own aftermath. It lives in the moment. It grabs what it can, while it can. It ruins everything it touches. When it's over, it reverts to seed, waiting for the next opportunity. Humanity, in its petty greed, has been, is now & seems set to remain fertile ground for this sort of nonsense. Humanity is stupid this way.

The accepted esoteric history of the world is that the gods once lived among us (Greek myth), providing us the means whereby we could enjoy ourselves. This esoteric history repudiates our origins as "cave men". Yes, from time to time, when civilization was in collapse, men sometimes lived in primitive conditions, in caves & mud huts, just as they did in the darkest of the Dark Ages, or as some luckless, remote people in Borneo do to this day. It is a fact that western anthropologists, like Kirk & Spock of TV fame, are excessively careful not to disturb the primitive cultures with which they come into contact, as, given the chance, the natives invariably abandon their culture for ours. For our part, there are people among us who long for the saucers to land so that we can abandon our civilization for the purported advantages of theirs. (The Kirks & Spocks aboard them have strict orders.) Such is the lust for civilization inherent in man. But I digress.

The idyllic existence of gods among men - which every mythology in the world insists happened - was not to last. As soon as men wanted to run their own affairs, the doctrine of free will meant the gods were to step aside & let them do so.

So imagine that gods are running the show, age after age and, all of a sudden, we come upon the Age of Leo. The age of the Leader. So who will this leader be?

Remember that, by definition, in the Age of Leo, Saturn is in detriment & Mercury is in fall. Leaders of this age are irresponsible & not very bright. Which means they're mortal. Not gods. So they make a mess of things.

So we're tripping along from Age to Age to Age & suddenly we come upon one where everything goes kablooney. What comes next?

Organized evil sees to it that we get smashed back to the Stone Age. Or something very near it. And we start all over again.

Now go back & read again Plato's account of Atlantis in **Timaeus and Critias**. He said that Atlantis disappeared overnight, about 9,000 years prior to him.

Quick. Tell me what age that was. It was, let me see.... subtract X, add Y, ah.... LEO.

I can't tell you that Atlantis did or did not exist, but I can say that all the fuss that's been made about it is certainly interesting. It's interesting, for example, that awareness of Atlantis (not just Plato's fancy story) came towards the end of the Piscean age, during the time in which that Age was growing to encompass all Ages & all things generally - Universalism - which is a Piscean trait. And with Aquarius, Leo's opposite, waiting in the wings.

If, as Plato writes, there was an Atlantis, and if, as Plato implies, it failed during the Age of Leo, then, now, at the beginning of the Age of Aquarius, it has at last come into clear view by means of the natural opposition between these two signs. (Astrology works the same way for natal charts as it does for Ages.)

And because Aquarius is collective and because Aquarius is opposite Leo and because Aquarius comes immediately after the transcendent peak of civilization reached under Pisces, then Aquarius, as an Age, re-establishes elements of the Age of Leo. As if in a fun-house mirror. Only now instead of one evil leader, we risk the entire society going bad. It's just the way things are on the third rock from the Sun.

SO, suppose you're Christ, or God, sitting up above, beyond it all wondering what to do. Age after age. Knowing how long it will take if nothing is done. Trying to figure out a scheme that respects the free will of the teeming masses, is appropriate to the upcoming Age, and at the same time, is of help. What sort of plans would you make?

The first thing you would do is prepare the age of Leo for the aftermath of its own predictable destruction. You would build Pyramids.

I first realized that buildings could be dated by age, and that the Pyramids were built during the Age of Virgo, one afternoon in **Strasbourg**, France. I was standing

in front of the **Cathedral**, staring up at its impossibly tall **spire**. At 466 feet (142 m), it was for several centuries the second tallest man-made structure in the world. What was the tallest of all?

The Great **Pyramid**. By maybe ten insignificant feet. I stood in **Strasbourg**, dumbfounded, imagining the huge sloping sides of the **Pyramid**, covering not only the **Cathedral** itself, but half the **city**, or so it seemed. In solid stone.

I knew the great **Gothic** buildings of central France were Piscean by definition, because that's when they were built.

So I compared the two. The Gothic cathedral, as is well-known, encloses the greatest amount of space using the least amount of material.

The **Pyramid** encloses the smallest space using the greatest mass of material.

The **Gothic cathedral** may contain many thousands of individuals.

The Pyramid was built for only one.

The **cathedral** is flooded with light.

The Pyramid is dark.

And, tellingly, unsupported stone produced the same height in both buildings. In every way I considered it, the buildings were inversions. One was Pisces. The other must be Virgo.

But I wasn't satisfied until I remembered that the Egyptian Pyramids were, once upon a time, considered as granaries, i.e., storehouses for grain. Which of course is impossible, but it confirmed them as Virgo. Without question.

Some experimental work (**Joy's Way**, by Dr. Brough Joy) suggests that should someone lie in the stone coffin inside Cheops during a full moon, he will be driven insane. Or made a genius, leader of men. Supposedly Napoleon once spent the night there.

If the Pyramids were built during the Age of Virgo, because only Virgo could build them, they were then used as Temples of Initiation during the Age of Leo. Virgo was roughly 14,000 to 12,000 years ago. Egyptologists have repudiated such dates, but the best evidence they can provide for their dates are the remains of various cities built in the area. The Pyramids themselves cannot be dated.

So when Leo went bad, the Pyramid, a temple of initiation which works equally well with good or evil, would be inherently secure. There was but one small entrance, halfway up one side. Originally covered in smooth, shiny stone, the building was impossible to climb unaided. Standing on its top, approaching armies could be seen fifty

miles away. Cover the entrance with a single stone, fill the passage behind it with rubble, and the entrance could not be discovered by any means whatever. (It was only discovered in the early 19th century by means of a dream.) Moreover, given its location, it would be impossible to march upon the building without being blinded by the light reflected from it.

So when Leo was smashed to bits, what was the result?

WELL, those survivors who shared did better than those who did not. The miserable old man down the road remained a miserable old man. All by himself. Should a cruel despot seize control, he would likely be put down by other cruel despots like himself. Or by his own children. One way or another, lacking a major civilization, evil just doesn't get very far. It eats itself.

Meanwhile, for the remaining duration of the Age of Leo, the Pyramid brought forth a new initiate, a new leader, every month. From the Pyramid's central location, these men travelled to all corners of the world. (The story of how Egypt came to be a desert, how the Nile, a man-made river, was brought, against considerable obstacles, to the Mediterranean, is a story that will have to wait. Go Google Menes, and then remember that nothing about Egypt is quite what is claimed.)

The work of these leaders was salvage. Salvage the world. Prepare it, as far as possible, for the eventual return of civilization, one that might finally be resistant to evil. The time frame envisioned was enormous, 12,000 years, half a Great Year. Other salvage actions were taken in subsequent ages. The famous standing stones of England, for example, are some of the remnants of earlier plans. Stonehenge itself is Taurean. It is a giant stone battery that, when it was whole, enhanced fertility over a vast area. It was a precursor to the great Gothic **naves**, which it closely resembles. (The idea that Stonehenge was an **early observatory** is absurd.)

At last, the Age of Pisces arrived. In Pisces, men fight over religion. They kill in the name of God. Doesn't make any difference what the religion is. Doesn't make any difference what the beliefs are. Men are just that way. But Pisces is also a transcendental Age. It is perhaps the greatest of all ages. It could be a moment of opportunity, a time that could bring previous plans to a head.

So, Christ thinks, what if there was a religion where, every time it was celebrated, the individual participants got a tiny boost

to their individual evolutions? Such that if they did that, say every week or every day or maybe just every now and then, that after four or five lives, they might wake up & be good & make a real difference in the world? Become agents of salvation themselves. It would be based on the free will of the participants, but as the very Age of Pisces itself makes religion a compulsion for those who chose to incarnate during that time, his plan could be no infringement on free will itself. And so Christ seized the opportunity.

This is done, in the Mass, by means of the Host, or Eucharist, a consecrated wafer. Put it in your mouth & eat it, do this on a regular basis for a very long time, and you will be better for it. Results are not seen in the same life. They are cumulative over several. The Host does not make you holy, as that would be an infringement of your free will. The Host makes you more you, whatever you are, for better or worse. For this reason, the Church insists those who take the Host prepare themselves carefully.

The consecration is done by a priest specifically ordained to do so. In his turn, the priest is ordained by a bishop who can trace his own ordination, in an unbroken line, directly back to Christ & the remaining eleven original disciples, who Christ ordained as the first bishops.

The hope was that by the end of the Piscean Age, enough people would have advanced far enough that mankind itself would be lifted up from the evils of greed & petty materialism.

Did it work? Not quite, or perhaps, not quite yet. One of the changes to the Mass instituted during Vatican II was the placement of the money collected from the congregation directly upon the altar itself. At the time I thought money would defile the altar, but eventually I realized that as everything on the altar was washed in sacred energies at the moment of consecration, money placed on the altar would be consecrated, too. Circulate it back into society, do that for a millennium, and eventually money itself will be redeemed. It will no longer be available for selfish, greedy purposes. Which means that, from the point of view of salvage, there is still much work to do, and the elders of the Church are well-aware of the hidden dimensions of the Mass.

You are thinking, What about Jesus? What about his Sacred Heart? What about the Crucifixion? What about the Nicene Creed? What about Mary & the saints? What about the Gospels? What about mortal sins & venal sins & heaven & hell &

limbo and all that?

Answer: All Piscean. All part of a religion that, itself, was unique to Pisces, but not one that was created by Christ. The Mass & the seven sacraments were laid on top of one of man's own fancies. The sacraments are independent of men. They can be added to any religion, and I suspect that was the original intent. It is a pity that things did not turn out that way.

Of course, free will cuts both ways. If the newly enhanced residents of the Earth want to jump off a cliff & murder the world, there is not a thing Christ or anyone can do about it, as that's what free will is all about. It was a gamble.

But you don't think this really happened. You can't imagine the Church was ever that well organized, or that nice, or has magical nooks & crannies. You are mistaken.

In the 1890's, **Charles Leadbeater**, a great clairvoyant, stumbled into a small parish church in Sicily. In it, he found a radiant love unlike anything he had ever felt before. Curiosity aroused, he traced it back to the Mass itself, which he analyzed clairvoyantly. He eventually wrote a detailed book about what actually transpires during a Mass. The book is **Science of the Sacraments**. I am pleased to see it is again in print.

Not satisfied with merely reading it, I grabbed the psychic I was living with at the time & went to New York's **St. Patrick's Cathedral**. Look for the Angel of the Presence, I said. She closed her eyes for a few moments, then opened them and said, It's blinking. Blinking wasn't in Leadbeater's book. She explained that New York is such a materialistic place (Saks 5th Avenue & Rockefeller Center are directly across the streets) that the Angel could not maintain a continuous presence.

If Christ's gambit is successful, then by means of the Host, enough people will eventually advance far enough to permanently lift the mass of men away from the pits of greed & materialism. The world will finally be salvaged. Leadbeater did not put this evolutionary twist in his book. That is my deduction.

So that's what was happening in Pisces while you were distracted with Catholic or Protestant, heaven or hell, or, for that matter, Jewish or Moslem, Hindu or Buddhist. I am not saying other faiths do not have divine origins, as clearly all do. I only observe that each has different, and essential, roles to play. Those who know them better can perhaps tell me, so that I can tell you.