



The Age of Aquarius

On January 20th the sun enters into the dreamy and future oriented sign of Aquarius. This sign rules the vanguard of change through logical thinking, mutual benefit, and equality for all. Those of you who are lucky enough to have an Aquarius in your life have probably reaped the benefits of their forward thinking encouragement more than once and learned that fair minded boundaries come with the territory.

While we have a time of Aquarius every year from the 20th of January to February 18th, you may have heard the term, Age of Aquarius. It was a popular song with the antiestablishment, peace and love generation. To them it represented a

time where our society would turn from selfish and materialistic values toward more spiritually aware and altruistic living that is more in line with the noble nature and sustainable ideals of Aquarius.

Sounds good! When does it start? Well, there's no easy answer or general consensus on that. For the past 2000, or so, years the vernal equinox has occurred in the sign of Pisces. Wait! Why does the age of Pisces come before Aquarius? Well the procession of equinoxes is the retrograde motion of the Earth accounting for the slight wobble in the Earth's rotation. We have discussed in previous posts that many earth based religions and ancient agrarian societies celebrated the New Year at the time of spring planting at the vernal equinox. Vernal means fresh and signals the beginning of spring when the sun passes directly over the Earth's equator. It is estimated that the equinox will take approximately 25,868 years to complete its visit to all the signs of the zodiac. Divided by 12 that equals 2155 and some change. Ok, that seems simple enough. Well not really. First of all the exact year that an equinox enters a constellation is difficult to pinpoint and they're not all the same size. Pisces, as an example is an extremely spread out constellation and using modern software we see that the sun is about 37 degrees in Pisces so it takes the equinox some 2700 years to pass through it and the age of Pisces began sometime around 355 B.C. Aquarius is the 10th largest constellation in the sky and is spread out over 980 Degrees.

Ok, nitpicky astronomy facts aside when does this age begin? Well, some say it has already begun. As with any astrological influence one aspect doesn't switch off like a light while another switches on. The term, 'in the shadow', is often used to describe when we are in the beginning influences or lingering effects of an aspect such as a retrograde. Same principle applies here and a 2000+ year occurrence casts a heck of a shadow.

Many believe that the age of Pisces began around the time of Jesus. The fish has long been a symbol of Christianity. This makes the binary aspect of an age also being affected by its opposite sign, in this case Virgo, or the Virgin, especially compelling. Some find references to the Aquarian Age in the Bible. In Luke

22 the last few days before Jesus' arrest are recorded. Jesus is discussing the Passover Meal which was in fact the Last Supper. He tells the apostles "As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters". Much is made throughout the telling of the Last Supper of drinking and water and cups. Aquarius in mythology is the cup carrier of Zeus.

As the Age of Pisces got rolling many religions sprang up, Christianity being one of them. This became the time of the monotheistic God and the requirement of strict adherence to scriptures. The archetype of the jealous and sometimes vengeful God is prevalent throughout this school of thought in several regions. Pisces is an extremely sensitive soul which can be nurturing and kind if residing in the more feminine, motherly parts of its personality. The dark side is that Pisces abhors criticism and is driven to lash out in unfortunate ways when questioned. This lashing out often stems from a lapse in confidence as Pisces is not always comfortable in the leadership role and is sometimes short sighted and impractical in pursuit of instant gratification.

Up until that time the spiritual world was a realm of Gods and Goddesses and as Christianity spread and the Council of Nicaea was held in 325, it was transformed practically overnight to a male monotheistic society. As Christianity developed, the creative, nurturing female aspects of deities were replaced with the more dictatorial, and competitive male aspects. The controlling God, who rewarded good behavior and punished bad, became the norm. Pisces is ok with "tell me" but one of Aquarius' main tenets is "show me". Aquarius' idealistic nature seeks out gurus and truth revealers but they often find themselves retreating again to the trusted arena of their own council though their accepting nature prevents them from being disappointed in others. They recognize the power and value of their own personal truth and place just as much value in the personal truth of others as well.

If we are not in the Age of Aquarius now, we are most certainly at least in the shadow. If, as some believe, this age began in the 1960's, the role of women is a key indicator of that emergence. For thousands of years women relinquished their roles as community leaders and forerunners and stayed much to the background and ran the smaller scale worlds of their own homes and families. The women's movement began in the 1960's where women were shouting to the world that they were no longer satisfied with that role and demanded equality and a larger, and much louder voice.

Aquarius is ruled by Uranus, a planet that is very influential in the realm of technology and new invention. In the Age of Pisces, and in the dawning of the Age of Aquarius, many technological advances came along allowing for the dissemination of information and art. The printing press, the teletype and eventually fax machines, the radio, movies, and television all were invented during this time. All changed the way we thought about and received information and communicated with the world. But these are all very passive forms of entertainment and learning. The Pisces waiting to be fed information, entertained, or enlightened in some way. As the Age of Aquarius commences, emerging technologies are much more interactive. Multiple streams of information can be sought out in an instant. Cities used to have one, or maybe two newspapers and 4 or 5 news stations. News is rarely presented without some sort of bias so its influence on local opinions cannot be understated. Very few had the time or inclination to seek out a devil's advocate at that time so information was digested, sometimes without question. Opinions prefaced with "they say" or "I heard" became gospel. The new age wants to see a demonstration video,

watch a myth buster show, or scroll through thousands of Google search results. Going even further, this age realized very early on that it was in a business entity's best interest to learn how to interact with and influence Google results.

Those with products to sell no longer have to rely on getting a small business loan and picking an appropriate, brick and mortar establishment. One evening in front of a computer with a website template rolls out the awning on yesterday's mom and pop store. The process of getting creative projects off the ground in the last century relied on determination, lots of door knocking and a fair amount of groveling. Sending hundreds of query letters to publishers to get a book published, walking from gallery to gallery with a portfolio, shopping a screenplay and trying to get an agent are quickly becoming things of the past. If someone has a book they want available to the public, it's as simple as uploading it onto Amazon and then going to find your audience to tell them about it. No more pushing past the gate of those in charge of deciding what the public sees. Put your artwork up on the virtual walls of your own gallery and it has the potential to be seen worldwide, as does your video creation. No need for a record deal, upload your music onto a server site and fans can begin downloading immediately.

This same principle can be applied to this age's relationship to spirituality in general. Spiritual teachers and preachers are sometimes sought but are often seen as suspect and subjected to a great deal of scrutiny and many prefer to eliminate the middleman in their relationship with the divine, find their own way and walk their own path of kindness and compassion without strict dogma and a system of punishments and reward. While many in the past spent time praying for favor and positive outcomes, the process of creating one's own luck and positive results has come to the forefront of spirituality. While this still requires some faith, in typical Aquarian fashion, scientific schools of thought such as quantum physics have made great strides in the past few decades at proving the validity of one's own reality creation.

This year as the sun enters Aquarius we are also going to have a new moon in the sign of Aquarius at zero degrees. It's going to be a Super Moon, meaning it's at the closest point to the earth and in direct alignment with the sun. Moon energy is known for igniting magic and bringing shadowy truths to light and with this potent Super Moon, if you've been searching for a truth or wanting a fresh start, the time is now. If you've been dying to dance around in your love beads and shirt with the fringe on the bottom listening to the 5th Dimension, well the time has never been better for that either! Actually, in my estimation there is never a bad time for that! Enjoy! It's the first new moon of 2015 so make it count!!