Welcome to the



Student webinar series on The Labours of Hercules

Webinar Noise Protocols

- > Everyone is generally muted to minimize background noise
 - You will be unmuted when you are cued to introduce yourself
 - At other times when you wish to speak, please "raise your hand"

Mute Your Audio

- The staff will assist the presenter in watching for raised hands
- Please make sure to unmute yourself when it's your turn to talk



Some Admin Notes:

- Please expect a brief pause after being addressed
 - There can be a delay based on our internet connections
- ➤ If you are having problems with echoes or interference
 - Mute yourself first, to see if that helps correct the problem
 - If not, use the questions or message function to alert the staff you are experiencing problems





The Labours of Hercules

An Astrological Interpretation

BASED ON ARTICLES BY ALICE A. BAILEY
FIRST PRINTED IN THE BEACON 1957-1958
(THE LABOURS OF HERCULES BOOK WAS PUBLISHED IN 1974)



Why Study the Hercules Myth?

The progress of Hercules from the mental plane, through the emotional plane, and out into physical plane manifestation shows us a synthetic picture of the work done by every disciple who is a son of man and a son of God. It is a work that can be arduous, slow, and carried forward under great difficulties. Often it is done in blind ignorance of the forces released and of the results to be achieved. But step by step the aspirant is led along the path of self-knowledge and development. His character and nature are tested and tried until the qualities which characterize the form can be transmuted into those which reveal the soul.



Hercules faces the Presiding One

The great Presiding One, within the Council Chamber of the Lord, had watched the labours of the son of man who is a son of God. He and the Teacher saw the third great Gate, opening before the son of man, revealing a new chance to tread the *Way*.

"Send out the word to guard the sacred tree. Let Hercules unfold the power to search without discouragement, deception or too great a speed. Let perseverance now be called upon. He has done well so far."

And thus the word went forth.



Hercules turns to his Teacher

"Tell me the way, O Teacher of my soul. I seek the apples and I need them quickly for my use. Show me the quickest way and I will go!"

"Not so, my son", replied the Teacher, "the way is long. Two things alone I will confide to you, and then it is for you to prove the truth of what I say. Remember that the sacred tree is guarded well. Three maidens fair cherish the tree, protecting well its fruit. A dragon with one hundred heads protects the maidens and the tree. Guard thyself well from strength too great for thee, from wiles too subtle for thy comprehension. Watch well. The second thing that I would say to thee is that thy search will carry thee where five great tests will meet thee on the Way. Each will afford thee scope for wisdom, understanding, skill and opportunity. Watch well. I fear, my son, that you will fail to recognize these points upon the Way. But time alone will show; God speed thee in thy search."



Labor III - The Golden Apples of the Hesperides

Hercules was eager and confidant as he started

- But he got nowhere for a long time as he searched
- A guide was sent to aid him, but he never realized it
- Then he had a small measure of success killing the serpent
 - ✓ These were smaller tests within the labor, one failed, one passed

He continues on, and faces more of the smaller tests

- He encounters and is delayed by following a false teacher
- He is delayed yet again as he stops to help Prometheus
 - ✓ But this is a valuable lesson he learned that service is never a delay
- He continues on and finds Atlas in distress, and aids him
 - ✓ And the Golden Apples are then offered to him, he passed the labor
 - ✓ "The Way to us is always marked by service," he was told
 by the 3 sisters



Labor III - Meaning of the Myth

- II The mystic must add occult knowledge and achievement
 - He gains knowledge through his 5 senses
 - Opens him up to new fields of awareness
 - He becomes a man of action
 - But he must also listen for than inner guide, the Soul
 - ✓ His guide Nereus
- II The knowledge must be transmuted to wisdom
 - Knowledge is the quest of the senses
 - Wisdom is understanding & applying it to problems of life
 - Hercules had to integrate his lower self into his higher self
 - ✓ He had to conquer glamor and illusion
 - ✓ Presented as Busiris
- II Despite failures & long delays, Hercules obtains Wisdom
 - But only after giving up his search in selfless service



Labor III - The Journey

II Hercules's progress

- At first subjective, characterized by thought & desire
- Worked out as expression on the physical plane
- Until he arrives at knowledge about himself as a personality

II Then he begins gathering the apples of knowledge

- Realizes the duality of man, personality vs Soul
- He must subordinate the personality to the Soul
- By controlling his 3 lower vehicles
 - ✓ Body, desire nature, mind
- And developing his Soul nature
 - ✓ Clarity of perception unaffected by delusion
 - ✓ Love and wisdom
 - ✓ Service to humanity



Gemini:	the Twins
Element:	Air sign (as are Libra and Aquarius)
Quality:	Duality. Love-Wisdom. Fluidity. Control of every pair of opposites. The underlying love of Deity reaches our solar system through Gemini.
Polar Opposite:	Sagittarius, a fire sign (one-pointedness; preparation for initiation).
Decanates:	1 st Mercury (00 to 09); 2 nd Venus (10-19); 3 rd Saturn (20-29)
Rulers:	Exoteric, Mercury; Esoteric, Venus; Hierarchical, Earth
Keywords:	
form angle:	Let instability do its work.
soul angle:	I recognize my other self, and in the waning of that self I grow and glow.



Progress through the Signs

- > The 4 preparatory signs:
 - he is equipped with the faculty of mind in Aries with desire in Taurus
 - arrives at his essential duality in Gemini enters the Human Kingdom in Cancer
- The 4 signs of physical plane struggle: self-consciousness & individualism emerge in Leo nurturing of the Christ within in Virgo trying to balance the pairs of opposites in Libra overcoming illusion in Scorpio
- The 4 signs of achievement:

 going straight for the goal in Sagittarius
 scaling the mount of initiation in Capricorn
 becoming the world server in Aquarius
 and the world savior in Pisces



From the Faculty



- Thank you for participating, we hope you enjoyed the webinar
- This is a marvelous opportunity to establish group cohesion and foster discussion among your fellow students
- We appreciate your patience and persistence, and welcome any feedback you might have
- > The next Labors of Hercules webinar will be on 29 Jun