

Welcome to the

MORYA FEDERATION
ESOTERIC SCHOOLS OF MEDITATION



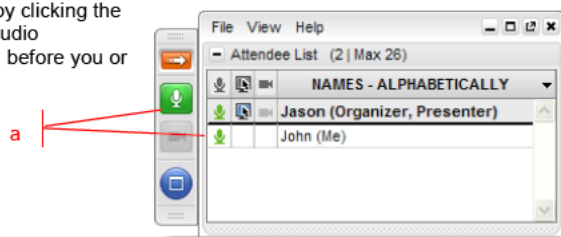
Student webinar series on The Labours of Hercules

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”

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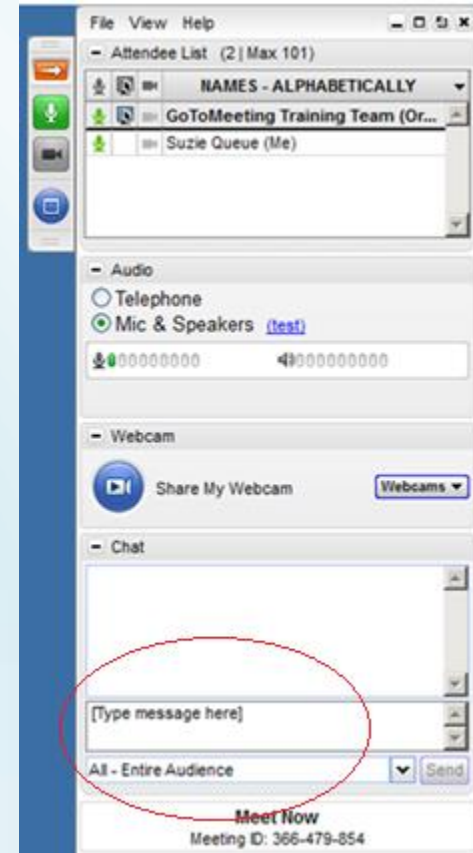


- The staff will assist the presenter in watching for raised hands
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Some Admin Notes:

- Please expect a brief pause after being addressed
 - There can be a delay based on our internet connections
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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)

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Why Study the Hercules Myth?

- The labors are a synthetic picture of a disciple's work
 - ✓ From the mental plane, through the emotional plane
 - ✓ And out into physical plane manifestation
- It is a work that can be arduous, slow
 - ✓ And carried forward under great difficulties
 - ✓ Often done in blind ignorance of forces released, results achieved
- But step by step each aspirant is led along the path
 - ✓ Learning about 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.
- So progress isn't limited to just disciples
 - ✓ We all have each sign in our chart so work with all 12 to some degree
 - ✓ So we need to better understand the lessons each sign confers
 - ✓ And Hercules' journey through the signs shows us that



The First 4 Signs Were Preparatory

- In Aries, the soul took it's mental sheath
 - ✓ It added the combinations of mental substance so it could best express itself, and man became a thinking soul.
- In Taurus the desire world & means of feeling developed
 - ✓ Man became a sentient soul.
- In Gemini, a vital energy body was constructed
 - ✓ Bringing together of the energies of soul and matter, a living soul.
 - ✓ The two poles were en rapport, & the etheric body created.
- In Cancer the work of incarnation was completed
 - ✓ The fourfold nature was manifested.
 - ✓ Man became a living actor on the physical plane.



The Next 4 Signs are a Struggle for Achievement

- The tremendous battle through the medium of which the Self-conscious individual, emerging out of the mass in Cancer:
 - ✓ knows himself to be the individual in Leo,
 - ✓ The potential Christ in Virgo,
 - ✓ the aspirant endeavoring to balance the pairs of opposites in Libra,
 - ✓ and the one who overcomes illusion in Scorpio.
- These are the four signs of crisis and of stupendous endeavor, where all the illumination, intuition & soul power capabilities are needed
- These were also reflected on the involutionary arc when:
 - ✓ the soul achieved individuality in Leo,
 - ✓ became the nurturer of ideas and of potential capacities in Virgo
 - ✓ swung violently from one extreme to the other in Libra,
 - ✓ and was subjected to the disciplining effect of the world of illusion and form in Scorpio.



Hercules faces the Presiding One

The great Presiding One said to the Teacher who stood close to his hand within the Council Chamber of the Lord: *"The time for a dread labour now draws near. This man, who is a son of man and yet a son of God, must be prepared. Let him look well unto the weapons that he owns and let him burnish bright his shield, and dip his arrows in a lethal brew, for dire and dread is the labour just ahead. Let him prepare."*

But Hercules, resting from his labours, wot not the trial which lay just ahead. He felt his courage strong. He rested from his labours, and time and time again, past the fourth Gate he chased the sacred doe clear to the temple of the Lord. Thus time and time again, he placed the doe upon his heart and sought the temple of the Lord. Thus rested he.

Before the fifth great Gate stood Hercules, armed to the teeth with all the gifts of war and warriors, and as he stood the watching gods marked his firm step, his eager eye, his ready hand. But deep within his heart was questioning.

"What do I here?" he said. *"What is the test and wherefore do I seek to pass this Gate?"* and speaking thus he waited, listening for a voice. *"What do I here, O Teacher of my life, armed, as you see, with the full panoply of war? What do I here?"*

"A call has sounded forth, O Hercules, a call of deep distress. Your outer ears have not responded to that call, and yet the inner ear knows well the need, for it hath heard a voice, aye, many voices, telling you of need and urging you to venture forth. The people of Nemea seek your aid. They are in deep distress. Word of your prowess has gone forth. They seek that you should kill the lion that devastates their land, taking its toll of men."



Labor V - The Slaying of the Nemean Lion

Ω Now it was time for a “dread” labor

- Hercules felt strong & courageous, armed with gifts of weapons
- And went to Nemea to slay the lion terrorizing the area
- Realizing they were weighing him down, he dropped all weapons
- Keeping only a club made by his own hands, and a bow & arrows

Ω He sought the lion for days and days before finding it

- And shot arrow after arrow at it, but they failed to pierce the lion

Ω Following the lion to a cave, they faced each other

- He grabbed the lion and choked it to death with his own hands
- Then skinned the lion to show to the Nemeans they were now safe



Labor V - Meaning of the Myth

- Ω Hercules the aspirant symbolized the lion
 - This is why he traditionally wore a lion's skin
 - The lion stands for his coordinated, dominant personality run wild
 - ✓ With the lower vehicles blended & potent beyond average man
 - ✓ A personality can become a difficult, aggressive person
- Ω The personality is self-confident and powerful
 - He can become a devastating force in a family group or society
 - ✓ As he becomes self-aggrandized & asserts himself too strongly
 - Until such time as the aspirant slays the lion of his personality
 - ✓ And rids himself of the sense of I-ness
 - Selfishness has to give way to selflessness
 - The individual self becomes subordinate to the group



Labor V - The Journey

- Ω Equipped from his previous lessons, Hercules
 - Tracks the lion & faces it in a cave
- Ω He demonstrates in this test that
 - He has refocused and coordinated his personality
 - It's characterized by courage, a gift of this sign
 - The lower can be subordinated to the higher
- Ω He becomes identified with the real, spiritual identity
 - Is no longer occupied with his own form
 - Or mental/emotional reactions
 - The personality is overcome
- Ω Through service rendered and sanity of his methods
 - He gives a guarantee of the strength of his purpose



The First 5 Labors

- *“We might regard the first five labors (Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer and Leo) as covering the entire period of the **Path of Probation**, and the killing of the Nemean Lion is the climax of that part of the struggle.*
- *Now he is ready to tread the **Path of Discipleship**, in which the indwelling Christ is gradually revealed, matter is steadily subordinated to the uses of the soul, and the form aspect comes to be regarded simply as the mother of the Christ Child.”*



Leo:	the Lion
Element:	Fire sign (as are Aries and Sagittarius)
Quality:	Sensitivity leading to individual awareness. Self assertion.
Polar Opposite:	Aquarius, an air sign (group awareness, world service).
Rulers:	Exoteric, Sun; Esoteric, Sun
Keywords:	
form angle:	Let other forms exist, I am because I am.
soul angle:	I am That and That am I.



The Fire Signs

- Exoterically, fire is animated, enthusiastic energy
 - ✓ But may be too forceful
- Esoterically, keys are burning by fire & reorientation
 - ✓ Aries clears the way for the Spirit & universality
 - ✓ Leo clears the way for the Soul & self-consciousness
 - ✓ Sagittarius clears the way for the body one-pointedness
- They are masculine, like the air signs
 - ✓ Yang energy; outgoing, expressive, and giving
 - ✓ They represent the day; related to the 1-3-5-7 ray line
- They are compatible with Air signs
 - ✓ Work out the issues of their axes relationships
 - ✓ Through Trine & Sextile, favorable aspects



The Fixed Signs

- Exoterically, they are steadfast, stubborn, determined
 - ✓ But may be too inflexible
 - ✓ Work out their issues via oppositions and squares (hard aspects)
- Esoterically, activity involves soul development/control
 - ✓ Taurus is developing the soul light
 - ✓ Leo is developing self mastery
 - ✓ Scorpio is resolving conflict/duality, overcoming desire/illusion
 - ✓ Aquarius is developing group awareness and world service
- The synthesized axes eventually work out as
 - ✓ Taurus-Scorpio: using the wisdom of the light of the soul to overcome desire through right thought/action
 - ✓ Leo-Aquarius: self-mastery leading to group awareness and selfless world service



The Cross of Crucifixion

- The Fixed Cross is where the individual is crucified
 - ✓ In the unfoldment of the Christ consciousness in the form
 - ✓ Various aspects of the divine nature are being sacrificed
- In the 4 signs of the Fixed Cross we see
 - ✓ Taurus sacrifices desire to its higher aspect
 - ✓ Leo is where the lower mind is sacrificed to the universal mind
 - ✓ Scorpio is where illusion is sacrificed to reality
 - ✓ Aquarius sacrifices the individual life to the universal whole
- This is the true crucifixion
 - ✓ Sacrifice of the reflection to the reality
 - ✓ The lower aspects to the higher
 - ✓ Of the individual unit to the great sum total



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

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- Thank you for participating, & hope you enjoyed it
- We welcome any feedback you might have
- The next Labors of Hercules webinar will be **31 August**