

PRACTICAL SPIRITUAL ASTROLOGY

with Tim Bost

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In many ways November is an ideal time for us to return to a fresh spiritual focus in our lives. The deepest spiritual essences never really go away; they always remain alive and secure at the cosmic core of our being, even though we may forget their presence or overlook the myriad ways that they bring grace and renewed promise into our lives.

From Age to Age the Divine Promise remains the same: whenever we are at the greatest distance from our personal truth, whenever we have allowed ourselves to become distracted by crass material concerns and the pervasive dissonance of an emotionally confrontational environment, whenever we reach our darkest days, the immutable Law of Love, Wisdom, and Intelligence opens up a new wave of blessing, an unexpected gift of hope and healing in our lives.

That's exactly the gift that we are here to receive in November, as Mars, the planet of war and aggression, moves into its retrograde expression. Mars began moving backwards on October 30; it will continue doing so until January 12. During this time, we have a sacred opportunity to back away from conflict and aggression. We can retreat from our lower instincts. And as a result, we can give more attention to our higher angel, opening ourselves once again to the still, small voice within.

From a personal level, this break in the Mars forward motion that unfolds throughout the month can be a quick opening toward increasing kindness and more considerate behavior. But its true potential transcends the limits of personality and the inhibitions of social expectations. In fact, Mars brings us the possibility of moving past all the superficial conventions and petty demands of our existence, blazing an iridescent trail to more glorious and refined presentations of deep truth and consequential spiritual expressions than we have previously dared experience for ourselves.

Along the way, the Total Lunar Eclipse on November 8 provides a uniquely powerful focal point for our spiritual path this month. Like any Full Moon, it can trigger tensions and emotional challenges at many levels. Such conflicts and apprehensions are a normal part of each month's lunar cycle. But through its revelation now as a Total Lunar Eclipse, this particular Full Moon offers us no need for regrets at all – we may unabashedly get caught up in, or even embrace, the emerging struggle for material dominance and physical security as it draws battle lines against altruistic impulses and the relentless urge toward higher evolutionary refinement.

Oddly enough, it is the very intensity of this polarization at the Lunar Eclipse that promises the most profound and rewarding results in our spiritual journey. It can truly be a deeply uncomfortable experience. We can gain its richest benefits if we can remember that this occasion is an especially appropriate time for meditation, for recognition of a Divine Plan, and for sharing group awareness of our global progress on the path toward unbounded enlightenment.

A time of great blessing is prepared for our benefit as November moves into its final week. As Jupiter resumes direct motion on November 23, it will be like watching a ray of sunlight exploding into a vibrant spectrum of many colors as it passes through a prism, providing us with a radiant reminder that even though we can glory in our variegated demonstrations of spiritual energy as we explore our individual paths and detours along our personal roads to enlightened expressions of creative forms and inspired archetypes, we are nevertheless all perpetual manifestations of the One Divine Source.