

2002–A “4” Year for the Planet

The Work for All of Us

“Embodying Spirit on Our Human Journey”

By Susan Kirk

As this very dramatic year of 2001 closes we have so much to think about, feel, be grateful for and envision. We know more acutely than ever that our thoughts, feelings and actions can and do make a difference. Our prayers are often the deciding factor in the midst of seeming madness and suffering. In my letter to you for 2001 (a 3 year), I mentioned the importance of not polarizing, and that a third idea or point of view would be needed to resolve difficult and challenging situations. That third point of view seems to me to be the spiritual one, the idea of creative solutions based on the family of humanity.

The year 2002 is governed by the energetic symbolism of 4. The 4 asks us collectively to stay in our bodies, especially when we are fearful, to honor the sacredness of our homes and families, and especially our planet earth. The 4 calls us to realize at a very deep level what the truths of the physical experience are. Basically the 4 provides opportunities for us to get real and to build a new and sustainable foundation for our future. The 4 is responsible for teaching us how to take our creative energies (3) and put them into a form that supports and defines structure and order for our human journey. In order to function with relevance the 4 requires the truth of any experience, otherwise, what is built is faulty and bound to fail eventually. We have a great opportunity, as a

collective, to build a new reality based on the truth that all human beings have value, deserve dignity and respect. We know that no child should go hungry, live in abject poverty or fear, or not have an education. We know that women should have an equal voice in all levels of life. We know that men have feelings that need to be encouraged and honored. We know we need each other across borders, that all ethnic distinctions should be honored for the richness of culture and not just the riches of their oil fields. We know we must find ways of working *with* nature to preserve a sustainable ecosystem for future generations. We know these things to be basic, foundational truths. This New Year of 2002 will provide many opportunities for us to honor and work for these truths and many others.

Because 4 represent the earth itself, we can expect to see Mother Nature have her response to what is out of balance. The feminine power that the earth holds will only take just so much abuse and I feel that we are entering a year where some of the reckoning for that abuse will come.

4 prepares the way for the 5 which is about transformation. So we can look at this coming year as the building block of stability for much greater expansion in 2003. If we build well, on foundation of

human truth and respect, then we can expand that reality in 2003. If we don't build with an awareness and respect for all, then what expands will be the distortion and our work will be more difficult in the long run.

I have been touched by the Afghan women lifting their veils and what a beautiful metaphor it provides for all of us. Much of the power, strength and wisdom of the feminine has been imprisoned and repressed by a masculine that is also imprisoned by fear and a deep sense of powerlessness. The symbolism of the lifting of the veils reminds us to look at places in our own lives where we are not allowing our feminine principals (feelings, intuition, gentleness, relatedness, kindness) to express itself and flourish. The veil was lifted from all of our eyes on 9-11. We have been provided with a magnificent opportunity to honor all beings. We must be aware of our own inner terrorist, those parts of us that would polarize with anything we don't like or understand. We may disagree wholeheartedly with another point of view but we must remember that all sentient beings want the same things we do; peace, harmony, and love (it is very difficult to see this at times I know). Let the qualities of honesty, discipline and endurance be the building block of 2002. The 4 is linked to the 22 which is the master energy of accomplishment for all humanity. It is *the great work*,

and when we serve any one with open heart and an intention for healing, we serve all of humanity. This begins with learning how to serve our personal energy that we are blessed with everyday.

As each of you moves into a new personal year, (whatever year you were in for 2001, advance by 1 and if it was 9, begin again at 1) you are given opportunities to grow into greater understanding of your deeper nature and expanded purpose. Some doors may not be opening easily these days and this brings a tendency to get discouraged and depressed. Look to what you *do* have inside, not what you don't, then look to others around you and serve where there is a need. Do what you feel called to do. This is how we can each contribute to building (4) a future with an honest and lasting foundation.

You are what your deep, driving desire is.

As your desire is, so is your will

As your will is, so is your deed.

As your deed is, so is your destiny.

—Brihadaranyaka Upanishad