

METEOR STORM FOR WHITSUN

Dear friends of astrosophy,

I have just returned from traveling but wanted to get this out to you all for tonight. I send this as an email rather than taking the time to create an article with an image. So, forgive the rushed element to these thoughts, as I have not had time to really digest and contemplate more deeply this starry event potentially happening overnight tonight, May 30-31.

There is a likelihood of a powerful meteor storm tonight which could prove to be quite spectacular. It is coming from the breaking up of the comet called 73P/Schwassmann-Wachmann, or SW3, as the Earth will pass through its debris trails. This will be an all or nothing event as it is unknown if the shower will occur or not. According to astronomers, *if the debris from SW3 was traveling more than 220 miles per hour (354 kph) when it separated from the comet, we might see a nice meteor shower. If the debris had slower ejection speeds, then nothing will make it to Earth and there will be no meteors from this comet* (Earth Sky magazine).

This comet was first found in 1930 (more on this later) and it orbits the Sun every 5.4 years. The remnants of the comet itself will appear this July and August, at the same time as the Perseid meteor showers. It will not be an intrinsically bright comet. In 1995, astronomers watched as this comet began to fracture and litter its orbit with an increasing amount of debris.

Though it was discovered in 1930 and has a short orbit, no one saw the comet again until 1979. This was due to errors in calculating its position which was due to the fact that its occasional close sweeps past Jupiter had changed its orbit (more on this later). By 2006, astronomers realized that the comet had by then fragmented into at least 68 pieces and was still falling apart. Now we come to this night when the Earth will be passing through the fragments and debris from the tail. Since it coincides with a New Moon, the sky will be dark which greatly enhances the visibility.

[Here are some details from Earth Sky magazine:](#)

When to watch: In the USA, the peak time to watch is around 1am on the East Coast or 10pm on the West Coast. If you are elsewhere in the world, [translate the predicted peak time](#) (5 am Universal time on May 31) to your time zone.

Duration of shower: Unknown. Watch around the predicted peak. For watchers on half the globe, that peak will come in daylight. In that case, watch as close as possible to the predicted peak, either before or after it.

Radiant point: If the shower takes place, the meteors will appear to radiate from the constellation Boötes the Herdsman, about 6 degrees north-northwest of the bright orange star Arcturus. But you don't need to find this point. If the meteor storm takes place, it'll be obvious where it is!

Expected meteors at peak: No one knows exactly. But this could be a true meteor storm. The last one was the famous Leonid meteor storm of 1966. Meteors fell at rates as high as 40

meteors per *second*! And remember they are all emanating from a single point in the sky. People who watched the 1966 Leonid shower said they felt they had to clutch the ground, so strong was the impression of Earth moving through space.

Note: *It's unknown* if the meteors will be bright, or faint. *It's unknown* how many there will be. *It is known* that the meteors will travel slowly across the sky.

Below are some initial thoughts on this meteor shower from a spiritual scientific perspective. Again, apologies for the rushed quality of these thoughts, but again, I do want to share with you before tonight.

Rudolf Steiner speaks about the Perseid meteor shower that occurs in mid-August as a preparation for Michaelmas and for the cosmic activity of Michael in the struggle with the dragon forces. These meteors radiate from the constellation of Perseus. But, in general one can think of these meteors as bearers of the cosmic iron of Michael. This shower also has a relation to Perseus as the Sun on this night will be in the stars of the Bull, actually conjunct the Bull's Eye, the great star Aldebaran and below the constellation of Perseus. We have discussed this constellation in relation to the recent total eclipse. The Perseus story is spread out from above Taurus, where Perseus stands with the head of Medusa, above Aries and all the way down through Pisces, above which stands Andromeda and Pegasus, the winged intelligence. So if we look now at this potential meteor storm in the context of the planetary intelligences we can gain some insight. First with the Sun, our cosmic image of the "I am", the spiritual ego in Taurus below Perseus, the image of Michael we have this quality of awakening in our spirit to the Michael activity of Perseus in our thinking. But in this context I would suggest a special Whitsun element to this event. The Sun is in Taurus, the stars of the Word and will be in Taurus, usually always, at Whitsun (this year on June 5th). I would need further consideration on this, but it seems to me that this meteor storm can also be a picture of the "tongues of fire" of Whitsun (Pentecost), for it speaks to the power of the Word arising from the spirit, the Holy Spirit of Christ. This too is a Michaelic image of the sword of the Word which divides truth from lies, which carries the truth of the spirit into the lies of Ahriman and materialism. So we might well consider this meteor storm in this Whitsun context as it is happening just before Whitsun...as a kind of calling for our power of the spirit out of the Christ Sun I Am to speak into the darkness of this world and overcome the fear and chaos in our present time.

Second, it is known by astronomers that this comet has been affected by Jupiter over the years in its orbit, as it has passed close by to Jupiter. Tonight, Jupiter will be conjunct Mars in the stars of Pisces beneath the stars of Pegasus. So here we have a beautiful cosmic language of how we can work with this meteor storm consciously engaging with the planetary intelligences. Thus the title of this piece, heart-think Michael! We can imagine these meteors as streaming to us from the very heart of Michael to bring courage of spirit to dispel and overcome the forces of materialistic thinking. Jupiter conjunct Mars in Pisces under Pegasus calls exactly for this challenge. Mars, the sphere which has brought us into materialism and the current development of the materialistic world view, meets Jupiter, the sphere of the Kyriotetes, the sphere of cosmic living wisdom, the Pegasus intelligence, in the stars of our Piscean Age...with its unique challenges to confront and overcome evil, the evil of those forces which want to

draw us down into complete materialism and away from the Piscean age task to become brothers and sisters with the spiritual world of being.

Thirdly, it will need further thought, but I think here the fact that this comet was “found” in 1930 relates to the ongoing memory and “remnants” of the impact of the Great Opposition of 1930 which was in line with Pluto, and the year Pluto was discovered. I have written at length about this 1930 opposition and the special relationship to Pluto in my articles about the Great Conjunction of 2019 Christmas also in relation to Pluto and the particular challenges of our times with regard to Pluto and the destructive and revolutionary changes happening in the world. To go further into this now would be premature without further thought on it, but I do think the combined events here, particularly in relation to Jupiter and Mars, and to this date of 1930 and the events around that time, including the beginning of what Steiner speaks about in relation to the revelation of the etheric Christ, is relevant to tonight.

So our thoughts in witnessing this potential storm of meteors (if it happens, but even if we do not see it visibly we are still passing through this meteor shower), is to bring the power of the Sword/Word of truth into our world to overcome the threat of Ahriman. May we ever strive to realize the reality of Whitsun and the working of the Holy Spirit on our path in life.

I conclude these brief thoughts with two quotes from Steiner which might help you.

These showers [referring here to the Perseids in mid-August] take form from the power that streams out from Michael's heart; they are welded together into the sword of Michael, who overcomes the Dragon with his sword of meteoric iron. Man can rescue himself from its impending dangers only if he starts to spiritualize life in this very domain, if he penetrates through his environment to the spiritual; if he turns from the iron which is used for making engines and looks up again to the meteoric iron which showers down from the cosmos to the earth and is the outer material from which the power of Michael is forged. Men must come to see the great significance of the following words: "Here on earth, in this epoch of materialism, you have made use of iron, in accordance with the insight gained from your observation of matter. Now, just as you must transform your vision of matter through the development of natural science into Spiritual Science, so must you rise from your former idea of iron to a perception of meteoric iron, the iron of Michael's sword. Then healing will come from what you can make of it.

Supersensible Man, Rudolf Steiner, Lecture 3, The Hague, November 17, 1923, GA 231

And when in high summer, from a particular constellation, [Steiner is again speaking of the Perseid meteors in August but I think it refers also to all meteor showers but each with their own quality] meteors fall in great showers of cosmic iron, then this cosmic iron, which carries an enormously powerful healing force, is the weapon which the gods bring to bear against Ahriman, as dragon-like he tries to coil round the shining forms of men.

The force which falls on the earth in the meteoric iron is indeed a cosmic force whereby the higher gods endeavor to gain a victory over the Ahrimanic powers, when autumn comes on. And

this majestic display in cosmic space, when the August meteor showers stream down into the human shining in the astral light, has its counterpart — so gentle and apparently so small — in a change that occurs in the human blood.

*This human blood, which is in truth not such a material thing as present-day science imagines, but is permeated throughout by impulses from soul and spirit, is rayed through by the force which is carried as iron into the blood and **wages war there on anxiety, fear and hate.***

The processes which are set going in every blood-corpuscle when the force of iron shoots into it are the same, on a minute human scale, as those which take place when meteors fall in a shining stream through the air. This permeation of human blood by the anxiety-dispelling force of iron is a meteoric activity. The effect of the raying in of the iron is to drive fear and anxiety out of the blood.

Steiner: Four Seasons and the Archangels

With greetings to you all,

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