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Dear friend and co-worker,

The end of the century and the millennium is in many ways an arbitrary and artificial event, for the calendar is a human creation and the passage from one age to another is always gradual. Although there is no firm or fixed date that marks the beginning of what is known as the new age, this period has long been recognised as a time of transition from the old age of Pisces to the new age of Aquarius. But whether or not one agrees with this calculation, the "bi-millennial review" to which humanity is submitting itself does have a positive potential for the future conduct of affairs. The tracing of resultant effects back to their originating causes and the search for the underlying meaning and significance behind outer events and appearances are two essential tools of the esoteric way of life.

From that perspective, it is abundantly clear to all thinking people of goodwill that humanity stands at a spiritual crossroads—a time of crisis and decision that will have consequences far into the future. The expansion of the human mind through mass education and the development of the communications media has led to the marvelous creative results produced by science, education and culture, but also, inevitably, it has fostered the lower capacity of the mind to analyse, separate and divide. In this tendency to differentiate and wrongly discriminate is borne the "great heresy of separatism" which fosters partisanship, aggression and competition rather than the good of the whole, the larger common good. Herein lie the seeds of hate, of prejudice and intolerance so visible in the world today.

Yet, according to the Ageless Wisdom, brotherhood and fellowship characterise the pattern of relationship throughout all planes of our planetary life. This means that regardless of outer appearances, the aspiration for world unity is actually the line of least resistance for humanity. However, the realisation that sharing and cooperation will be needed to achieve world unity cannot be imposed upon human minds but must arise from within humanity, for "only the voice of a trained public opinion and the intelligent demand of the masses for right human relations can save the world from chaos", the Tibetan Master said.

The problems of humanity are humanity's to solve, through creative goodwill and a group approach, and evidence of this recognition can be seen in the remarkable growth of non-governmental organisations, charitable foundations and citizens' coalitions in the last decades of the twentieth century. Now a significant opportunity to mobilise the will-to-good of humanity will be offered with the expected release of "the Shamballa force" in the year 2000. The enclosed descriptive folder explaining the significance of the coming impact of Shamballa is available in quantity for any distribution plans you may have.

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The establishing of right human relations is an aspect of the divine will, and therefore inevitable, but the timing must be determined by human free will. Since its founding in 1922 the Lucis Trust and its activities have been dedicated to the establishment of right human relations through recognition and practice of the spiritual principles and values upon which a stable and interdependent world society may be based. Now the growth of the internet is offering a new vehicle for carrying spiritual teaching into the mind of humanity and we continue to develop and expand our website (<http://www.lucistrust.org>) in the English and Spanish languages, with French soon to come.

The great need of the time is for a fresh articulation of the spiritual principles that form the foundation of the Ageless Wisdom. Although the signposts and landmarks of the spiritual Path are timeless, the communication of spiritual truths is an evolutionary process that must keep step with the advancement of human consciousness. The search for new means to express the emerging spiritual consciousness will be the theme of the World Goodwill symposium held in each of the three headquarters in November, to which you are warmly invited. Please write for a complete program and registration form if you plan to attend.

Through all the tremendous change of this century and the immense variety of human achievement, the spiritual values and principles of the Ageless Wisdom teaching continue to define the common ground of the human soul no matter what may be the differentiations of culture, religion or experience. The books which resulted from the extraordinary collaboration begun by Tibetan Master, Djwhal Khul, and Alice Bailey in late 1919 have a depth and breadth of appeal that testify to the oneness of the soul. Now, 80 years later, the end of the century is the period for which the Tibetan predicted his books would have greatest relevance, and we continue to work diligently to expand their distribution throughout the world. In the past year nearly one million promotional brochures on the books have been sent to mailing lists and inserted in magazines and other publications, and special attention is being given to expanding the books' availability in bookstores as well as offering the books through our website. In addition to English, all of the books of Alice Bailey are now available in, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Italian, Spanish, and Russian (although not all are currently in print in that language), with many titles available in Danish, Portuguese and Swedish, and translation in many languages of Eastern Europe proceeding steadily.

Even as the Ageless Wisdom is adapted to meet the needs of a particular culture or era, its spiritual tenets constitute a "golden thread" which runs through all the world's major religious and esoteric traditions. The Golden Thread is also the title of a book first published by the Lucis Press in 1967 and which is now being reprinted. Its clear and distilled overview of the landmarks of the spiritual Path is an excellent introduction to the Ageless Wisdom for those who are beginning to inquire the Way. An order form for this new publication is enclosed.

We greatly appreciate your interest in and support of the work and will welcome your request for any literature that may assist you in your service plans. Please use the enclosed reply form.

United with you in shared service,

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