

THE TIME IS NOW EXPLORES THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ASCENDING AND DESCENDING CULTURES AND HOW PROPHECY FINDS ITS CULTURAL ROOTS IN TRADITIONAL, EASTERN SPIRITUALITY.



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The Time Is Now!

The recent earthquakes throughout the world definitely suggests that we are living now in the prophesied Times Of Changes. So far in 2001 we have seen four major earthquakes, one in India, two in El Salvador and the most recent in Seattle, Washington. The details are:

January 13, 2001: A 7.6 magnitude earthquake off the coast of El Salvador is felt in Chiapas, Mexico and Mexico City, Honduras, Belize, Costa Rica, Panama and shakes tall buildings in Columbia. Large aftershocks follow on January 14 and 16. The death toll is 704 and 69,714 homes are destroyed.

January 25, 2001: A major earthquake occurs in Gujarat, India and is felt throughout northwest India, Pakistan, western Nepal and Bangladesh. The 7.7 magnitude earthquake leaves 14,240 confirmed dead (although non-confirmed reports estimate that figure to be over 30,000) and damage estimates are \$1.3 billion US dollars. 200,000 are left homeless.

February 13, 2001: Another strong earthquake occurs in El Salvador and is felt throughout El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. Its magnitude is recorded at 6.6.

February 28, 2001: A 6.8 magnitude earthquake in Olympia, Washington causes injuries and damages throughout the Olympia-Seattle area. The earthquake is felt as far away as Salt Lake City, Utah.

Throughout the years of working with the Ascended Masters' prophecies, many have called our office asking, "When are these changes going to happen?" The Master Teachers would respond, "The Time Of Change Is Now." Then the next question is often, "Do you have any dates that you can share?" Our response is always no.

As we have stated so many times before, prophecy is NOT prediction. But why is there so much confusion? There is a huge difference between the Western and the Eastern mind.

The Eastern mindset, from where prophecy finds its roots, is also known as a descending culture. Descending cultures preserve the light of truth of the past and are traditional, reverent and highly spiritual. Examples of these cultures are those whose origins were post-Atlantean like Ancient Egypt, India, China and Native American.

The Western mindset is an ascending culture and is non-traditional, liberal and revolutionary. It is based upon Greco-Roman influences that only go back to around 500 B.C. The Western mind knows very little about prophecy and to date the only significant body of prophecy that is embraced is the Book Of Revelations fighting the War Of Armageddon. Creativity, openness, freedom of thought and inquiry move the Western mind into the twenty-first century, yet still immature and seeking sensation, prophecy is sadly diluted into lists of hits and misses - predictions.

Eastern mystics and the Native Americans of the Western world culturally embraced their prophets. Vision seeking played a central role in the religious life of the Plains Indians. Eastern Indian prophets and Rishis heard the voice of the super conscious, and this was their expected role in their community. The word prophecy meant a rich spiritual metaphor that signaled the need to purify and renew their lives, not doom and gloom. Their prophecies called them to participate fully in their healing, and the warnings, when heeded, enriched and empowered their cultures. They didn't stand back to see what would happen, they took action!

The problem with western culture is that its ear is not trained to hear metaphor. This makes the interpretation of prophecy, written in the language of the super conscious, almost impossible to understand until this training is complete. Joseph Campbell said, "The metaphor is the mask of God through which eternity is to be experienced." All prophecies contain spiritual teachings designed to open your ears.

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The Ascended Masters see prophecy as a positive and uplifting spiritual teaching. Master K.H. says, "A new cycle awaits humanity. It is a cycle filled with growth, learning and life. Painfully and lovingly, sometimes this growth is achieved through disease, poverty and destruction. However, within your heart lies the gentle revolution which can redirect the course of such events."

In the most simplest understanding, prophecy shows us the power of our choice and how our developed will can change the most trying circumstance, dispelling doubts and bestowing peace. Lady Nada once said, "We ask you to see that each of these changes is not a change to destroy, but it is a change to renew and to rebuild your divine essence." New World Atlas, Volume Three.

We all breathed a sigh of relief that Seattle's damage and losses were nothing like Gujarat, India. Maybe each time the planet released energy, it moved Mother Earth a little forward in her own evolution that ultimately assists the whole global family into a positive growth cycle. Paramahansa Yogananda's teacher, Sri Yuketeswar shared similar thoughts that indeed, we have passed out of the darkness of the age of Kali Yuga and the present age of the world cycles is Dwapara Yuga, bringing rapid development in man's knowledge.

I'll quote an old Hopi saying, "During any time of Great Purification, it is an honor to be alive." I think this

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is probably true. For indeed we are not just experiencing the Times Of Changes, we are witnesses to the birth of a New Time.

"The earth changes will usher in a new way of thinking and being!" Saint Germain, New World Atlas, Volume One.

~ by Lori Toye

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