

Course Seven: The Role of the Master

Class 2: Consistent Holistic Experience ... the Unified State of Being and Holistic Entrainment ... the Power of Presence

Phil Duncan ... Welcome ...

Welcome to *The Role of the Master*. In his opening class, Master Charles Cannon delineated the evolutionary necessity for the authentic spiritual teacher. He also defined the criteria by which such a teacher is recognized. He made many important points, but I'll focus on two: the evolutionary necessity of the master and criteria of authenticity. I came out of his class with something extra. I'm sure that you did as well. And it was much more than knowledge about a master. We had an experience of an authentic master. Could you see the criteria of authenticity in Master Charles modeled right before our eyes? Of course, you could, and I, as well. It was experiential. It was a great example of concept becoming experience.

In the next 3 classes, we're going to take up where Master Charles left off. We're going to further explore each of the criteria. Our purpose is simple — clarity and understanding. We're also going to hear some presentations from Synchronicity community members. They will tell us about their experiences of the role of the master in their lives. And it all comes down to our better understanding the role of the master in our lives.

And so we begin. As we do so, let's focus on balance and wakefulness. In the relative field of experience, wakefulness is proportional to balance. Through wakefulness we open to a truthful experience of reality. So, as we begin, let's create balance through a focus on the Balance Position. The Balance Position is the awareness of our quiet, interior polarity (our subjective polarity) and its simultaneity to the busy, noisy exterior polarity (our objective polarity) -- two polarities of the relative field of experience. They are always present together, always interactive. When we hold our awareness of the two polarities in simultaneity, we're creating the Balance Position. The term, the Balance Position, was originated by Master Charles Cannon.

It's most important because it delivers balance and wakefulness. You're well familiar with the Balance Position. We have practiced it many times in our courses together. So, actualize the Balance Position in yourself and maintain it. Observe your experience. We're going to return to the Balance Position frequently in our classes in this course together. Now, let's proceed. We'll begin with a question.

What do you think of when you encounter the term *master*? Perhaps someone who has reached a level of excellence in something? Then, what about the term, *spiritual master*? More difficult to define. Spiritual, referring to being of spirit. Take it further. What about the term, *authentic spiritual master*? Even more difficult. What do these terms mean to you? What's in your database about a master? Well, all of these terms may refer to a very special human being. And they all may create confusion. They may even cause conflict within. How so? Those who experience confusion and/or conflict, are mostly just like us, and that's the clue -- people who've grown up in our Western world and have been enculturated in Western values.

A question for you to consider: do the beliefs and values of the West include the authentic spiritual master? No, they don't. The dominant beliefs and values of the West are based on the Material Myth. The Material Myth doesn't have room for spiritual beliefs and values. As noted by Master Charles in his class, the primary value of the Material Myth is money, and we believe we get money through our knowledge. Indeed, the West places a lot more value on knowledge than on an authentic spiritual teacher.

On the other hand, in the West where we live, teachers of knowledge are considered important. We seek them out to learn. We go to school, we study, we accumulate knowledge and get degrees that certify our knowledge. Possibly we've even "mastered" some knowledge.

Now, it used to be that one could separate the West from the East by their dominant myth — which was material in the West and spiritual in the East. That's changed. The material myth is now dominant world-wide. Yet, the East has long been enculturated in the spiritual myth and so the term, *master* (or *spiritual master*) doesn't create confusion. It doesn't cause conflict. The East understands the experience of the authentic spiritual master. The Eastern mind is more holistic. It includes the master.

But the Western mind is egocentric. It's independent. It experiences itself as separate and different from its world which, of course, is illusion. And, in its illusion, the egocentric Western mind is threatened by its world, the world that it views as outside itself. So, what does the egocentric mind do? It believes that, if it knows enough about its world, it can predict and control it. So, the ego wants knowledge, and it's incessant and relentless in its search for knowledge -- the more, the better. When we look at it this way, it's easy to see that the Western, egocentric mind doesn't really need a spiritual master. It negates, it invalidates, it excludes the spiritual master in lieu of the master of knowledge. And when the ego-driven mind actually encounters what the authentic spiritual master represents, it recognizes the master as a threat. The threat is the master's wholeness, which is a big threat to the fragmented ego and its survival.

Yet, no matter how the ego invalidates the master, it can't eliminate the principle of the master. And this goes directly to the primary intention in consciousness — to fully be itself through the experience of itself. But, because consciousness is only One, in order for it to fully experience itself, it must do so through illusion. It must pretend that it's not the One consciousness. And the reality that results is a "pretend" reality. It's not real. This is the illusory experience of the involutory cycle of human experience.

However, when consciousness is complete in its illusory experience, it shifts from its involutory cycle to its evolutionary cycle, and "awakening" happens.

And then, thereafter, in its evolutionary cycle, the true necessity of the master is revealed. At this point, it can't be denied. Consciousness, in individuated form (such as your form and mine), journeys its journey. It journeys its experience of balance. It journeys its experience of wholeness and fulfillment. This journey is not possible on one's own. A guide is required, essential.

In our classes together, you're going to experience some personal sharings of experiences of a living master, Master Charles Cannon. Your presenters come from Synchronicity community members.

To set the stage for the continuation of this class and the presentations to follow, we begin with an illustration. It shows the criteria which Master Charles delineated in

his class — the criteria by which an authentic master is so acknowledged. These criteria are:

- 1) Consistent Holistic Experience ... the Unified State of Being;
- 2) Holistic Entrainment ... the Power of Presence;
- 3) Mastery of the Holistic Model of Reality, the Mechanics of Consciousness and the Holistic Lifestyle, which includes meditation;
- 4) The Importance of Lineage ... the Master had a Master;
- 5) Empowerment ... the Power of Awakening and Adept Guidance.

We're going to return to this illustration throughout our course.

In this class, we begin with the first criterion, the true mark of an authentic master: Consistent Holistic Experience ... Substantiation in the Unified State of Wholeness. And we will proceed with the second criterion: Holistic Entrainment ... the Power of Presence. They go together.

First and foremost, the master must be a holistic entrainment. This is born of the master having actualized holistic experience as a constant. The authentic master is substantiated in the unified state of being. The unified state is also termed multidimensional integrative wholeness. This is a term you'll remember from Master Charles' class. It's a big term, but think about it, it's very truthful. Just imagine for a moment all dimensions balanced and integrated, all dimensions interactive, all dimensions harmonic and coherent ... all dimensions unified, complete, whole. It's actually difficult to imagine this, yet this state of being is not imaginary in the authentic master. It's real. And it's expressed by the master as his or her holistic sourcefield. What's the experience of this sourcefield? It's a palpable, energetic experience. We feel it. It's termed holistic entrainment.

The reason we experience the entrainment of an authentic master's holistic sourcefield is the amplitude of holistic power that the master embodies. Again, this is from substantiation in unified consciousness. So, with consistent holistic experience in

the unified state comes the authentic master's holistic power. And it's expressed from the master as holistic energetic entrainment. Again, it's how we experience the authentic master. I am reminded of a common analogy that you previously heard -- the sun and the suntan. You want a suntan, go sit in the proximity of the sun. The tan happens. It's the mark of the master.

Master Charles often speaks about his teacher, Parahamansa Muktananda, who was, indeed, an authentic master. He fully expressed holistic entrainment. Master Charles' descriptions of his experiences in Muktananda's presence are identical to the experiences we have in Master Charles' presence. For example, I often find myself becoming so opiated in his presence that I'm actually hallucinogenic. Sometimes I have difficulty remaining wakeful. Sometimes I can't! The opiation and blissful states are totally consuming. I'm describing a personal experience of holistic entrainment, the master's holistic energy field drawing, pulling everything lesser than it -- in this case, my energy field -- to it.

Have you attended programs or retreats with Master Charles? What was your experience? I facilitate staff sessions here at Synchronicity Sanctuary during retreats in which the audience only remembers how blissful they were during a dialogue by Master Charles the evening before. They may remember little or nothing of what he said, but they definitely had an experience of blissful consciousness, which, of course, is their own presence, their own wholeness entrained by the presence of an authentic master. This is true experience over concept.

Do you watch Synchronicity TV? Have you experienced the power of Master Charles' holistic entrainment through the electronic medium? Of course, it's the same. Many people describe their experience in the same manner I've described mine — blissful consciousness. Some viewers describe "absence". Again, this is true experience, beyond the projections of the mind.

The important point I'm making here is an authentic master's high-amplitude, high-power holistic sourcefield has been recognized throughout recorded human history as the true mark of the master. It can't be faked. Either you have it or you don't. And you must have it to be authentic.

Let's pause briefly and bring awareness to our balance. Take a few deep breaths with awareness. Revisit the Balance Position. Are you maintaining your balance and wakefulness? If it has slipped perhaps through distraction, bring it back to the Balance Position. Maintain your balance and wakefulness as we proceed.

We now shift our focus to presentations from Synchronicity community members. Each individual has a personal connection with Master Charles. Each has prepared a presentation on the role of an authentic spiritual teacher in their lives. Each will be primarily focusing on the first two criteria of the authentic master that have been the subject of this class.

I have a focus for you. While you're watching and listening, observe how these experiences resonate with your own experience of Master Charles. For example, in our school courses you've personally experienced Master Charles in many classes. What's your energetic experience of his holistic sourcefield? How do you experience his holistic entrainment?

With this background, I welcome my colleagues in their presentations of The Role of the Master.

[Ben Radke]

Hello and welcome. My name is Ben Radke, and I've been a community member here at the Synchronicity Sanctuary for just over 8 years now. For most of that time, I've been Master Charles' personal assistant. Today I'm going to share with you my experience of an authentic master and his holistic entrainment. To do that, I have a story.

This story begins in India. I was on a trip with Master Charles and several members of our community. We were in a hotel when it was attacked by terrorists. This attack started when a very large bomb went off a couple floors beneath us. When this happened, I became very frightened. I was very scared but Master Charles was in the room and as always his entrainment, his holistic state of being, and the peace and love that came with it was very strong, but as this experience unfolded, it very quickly became much stronger. This actually helped me to calm down pretty quickly, given what

was unfolding. As amazing as this part of the story was for me, there is actually more to it than that. It was the second morning, and I was lying in bed. Guns and bombs were constantly going off around us still. As I lay there, I quickly became amazed because the energy in our room, the entraining, peaceful energy was so strong. I just couldn't believe it. I'm around Master Charles all the time. I'm used to this experience, but this was much more than usual for me. I was looking around the room, and I could even see the energy. I was so amazed that I started feeling myself drawn to the window. The sun was rising, and we had an ocean view. It was very beautiful. When I looked out this window, I was just overcome by this beauty. Everything looked so beautiful. I felt so amazing. I found myself thinking, "Wow, it's such a beautiful day! I feel amazing." This went on for several minutes until I realized what I was experiencing. Bombs going off, guns fired all around us, we could have been killed at any moment, yet this was the experience I was having. Eventually this terrorist experience came to an end. Several of the community members and myself were talking about it and we all came to the same conclusion. It kinda felt like a nuclear bomb of peace and love had gone off in our rooms.

I like this explanation a lot because it really captures what it's like to have an authentic master in your life. It's like this unfathomable power exploding all your fears and limitations. This experience was an extreme validation of a master's entrainment and his holistic experience. It also reminds me, as with all my experience with Master Charles, that there's just no way anyone can possibly create this level of experience on their own without a master in their life. I hope my story today has helped convey this experience of an authentic master and his holistic entrainment. More importantly, I hope you have your own experience of Master Charles, which validates this experience for yourself.

With that, I thank you for joining me here today, and I look forward to being with you again whenever that happens.

[Celeste Smucker]

Hello, my name is Celeste Smucker. I am a community member and I serve on the Synchronicity staff, and because of that I am in Master Charles' holistic sourcefield seven days a week.

In times past, life for me was a bit of a struggle. I was frequently anxious and depressed, and my solution was to do more and to seek assistance outside of myself. Working here at Synchronicity, like any place, we have challenges. We have deadlines, and the workload is often intense; nevertheless, I find that I am very relaxed and I am able to flow with whatever life sends my way. My experience of being in Master Charles' holistic sourcefield has taught me that solutions lie in being rather than doing. Now, of course, from time to time I fall back into old patterns and negative ways of being, but I don't stay there. I'm aware enough to know that I am off-track. I know that I can sit quietly. I can meditate. Balance returns. I have a smile on my face. It is the proximity to the master's enlightening force field that causes the shift in me that allows this to happen.

Thanks to my decision to relocate to this area and to serve on the Synchronicity staff, I am truly like the person who has the suntan because of their proximity to the sun. The results for me have been truly miraculous, and I can say that I am happy for the first time in my life. Thank you.

[Phil Duncan]

These sharings give us insights into role of the authentic master. You see the criteria of the authentic master actualized. Now, let's briefly review the criteria we've focused on in this class:

1. Consistent Holistic Experience ... unified consciousness as a constant and
2. Holistic Entrainment ...the power of the presence of the master.

In these presentations, we see transformation in the lives of the individuals experiencing Master Charles' holistic sourcefield -- progressive evolution to wholeness in people just like you and me. And we are reminded of the truthful statement, "One knows an authentic master by the experience one has in his or her presence."

And, actually, this experience is quite rare. It also tells us something very important, that most spiritual teachers are no more than that, just teachers of concept, delivering knowledge. True, they may have holistic information. Yes, they may have great communication skills. They may be very charismatic. But if they're not substantiated in the unified state and expressing the holistic entrainment that comes from it, they remain teachers. They may even be spiritual teachers, but they are not 'authentic' spiritual teachers. The term *authentic* is important here.

And a final most important point is that the experience we have in the presence of an authentic master is our own "presence". It's our energetic experience of our existence. This is the experience of wholeness, of *our* wholeness that's entrained by the master's holistic sourcefield.

In previous courses you've heard many words to describe this experience of wholeness. But it's best summarized as blissful consciousness.

As we draw this class to its completion, let's look ahead to our assignment.

First, I want you to carefully reflect on what you took from this class — the key points that were meaningful to you. And I want you to reflect on your own experience of Master Charles, who is an authentic master. Then, please share your experiences on our discussion site. When we share, we actually understand our own experience better.

Second, post your questions to our discussion page so that we can begin to answer them and incorporate them into our course together.

Third and lastly, maintain your balanced focus for this next week. Utilize what you've learned and mastered. Bring awareness to balance and maximize your wakefulness. Most important, practice it!

And, until our 3rd class next week, thank you for participating in this course, *The Role of the Master*.