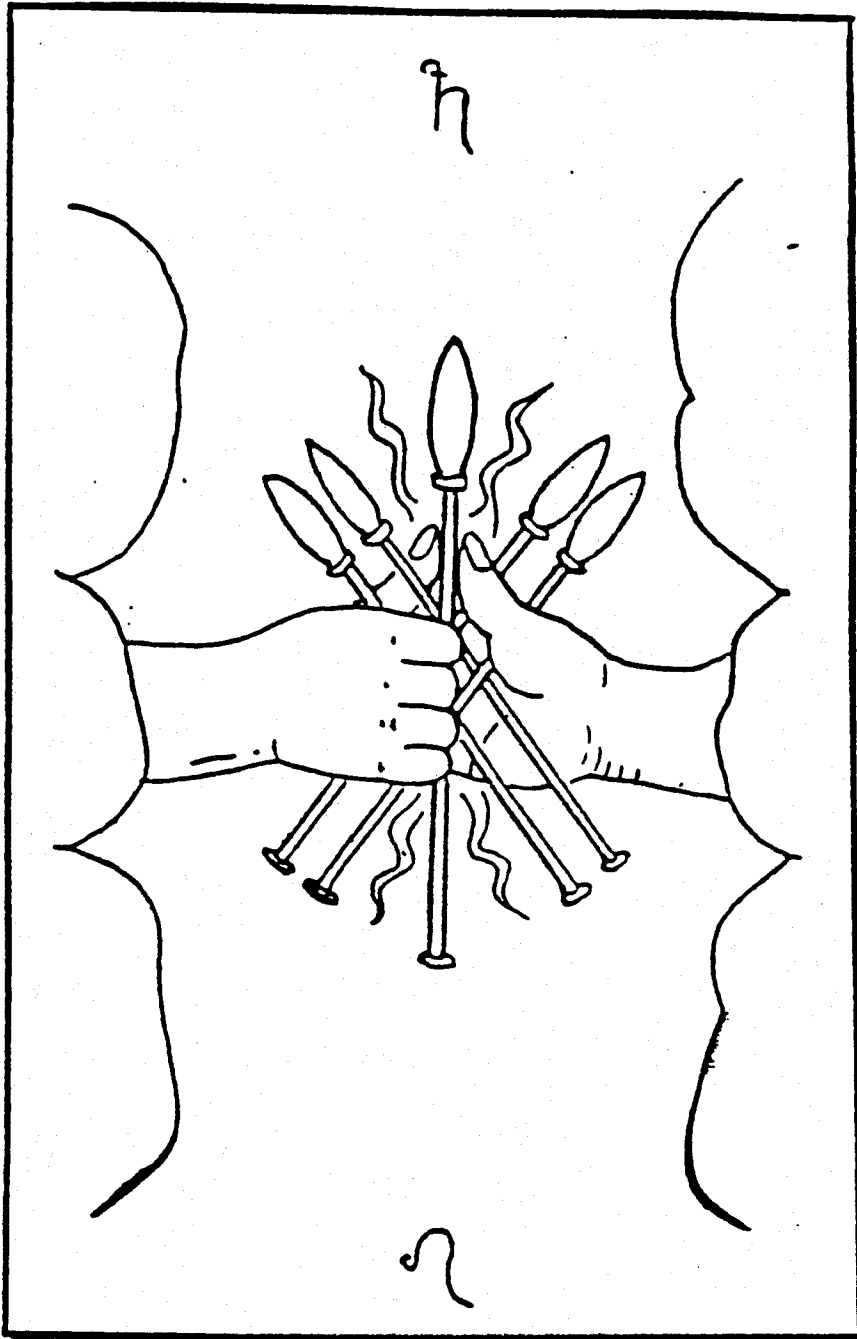


LESSON 56

5 OF WANDS



## LESSON 56

## 5 OF WANDS

"Lord of Strife"

0 to 10 degrees Leo

Two white radiating angelic hands, issuant per Nubes Dexter and sinister. They are clasped together in the grip of the 1st Order and they hold, at the same time, by their centre, five wands or batons which are similar to the fire Wand of the ZAM. One wand is upright in the middle, the others cross each other. Flames leap from the point of junction.

The position of the wands creates an image of an unbalanced cross, one of corrosion, for the cross draws spirit down manifesting it into matter, the symbol of self sacrifice, and this cross represented by the 5 of Wands is one of imperfection. An overbalance of an element has now entered the situation from what was "perfection in Matter" in the 4 of Wands and has now become "domination of Matter".

The position of the five wands also alludes to the Laborum. The Laborum once appeared to Constantine in a dream and then was taken on as his emblem. It was believed that the emblem put those that wore it under the protection of Christ, and it was believed to represent the first two letters of Christ when written in Greek. It was the Chaldean sky god's emblem and was

considered to be a good omen. The middle upright wand suggests an axial symbol alluding to the "Cosmic Tree". This emblem has also often been inscribed on many tombs, and implements being associated with the Alpha and Omega symbols.

The 5 of Wands symbolises matter united with heaven, or one could say, matter acted on by the quintessence. Energy and life working with great force; man. There is strength and severity working in microcosm but its Will comes from the divine.

"Lord of Strife" is its name and in every way this is what happens when there is too much force creating an over balance of energies. This force is necessary for growth and change, and in time for the gaining of power as will be seen in the 6 of Wands. Here in the 5 of Wands resurrection from the ashes of the 4 of Wands has taken place. With the introduction of the larger wand to the four we find that a large force has disturbed the perfected work of the previous card. The central wand has further unbalanced the situation by having no support, it is not balanced or anchored in any way save by the two opposite polarities of each hand which now are becoming overtaxed.

So again we have pure but violent energy that can be turned in any direction.

"It is the father of every miraculous work in the whole world" (Emerald Tablet).

The 5 of Wands is coloured in the King Scale. The backdrop of this card is coloured Poison Yellow, which is a pure clear yellow tending towards greenish rather than gold. This is the colour of the sign. The wands are coloured in the planet, Light Indigo, otherwise described as Dull Violet. The clouds and hands are of a Brilliant White the presence of the Spirit. The flames issuing from the wands are coloured in the complementary colour to the sign, Rich Violet (Purple).

The Yellow backdrop represents an inexhaustible supply of energy and will power, which combined with the Violet brings forth spiritual power which then channels through into the physical level by concentrated attention. This gives powers of creation and destruction, but through destruction one beholds creation. The emanations from these colours are of a raw state for this card, as each is a complementary to the other, therefore they lack objectivity and humility. It is a fixed single purposed emanation with a concentration of energies on the pillar of severity.

The zodiac sign and planet associated to the 5 of Wands is Saturn in Leo. Now Saturn in Leo represents a life force that must be restructured, as the vitality does not flow as readily as the previous cards. The expression of emotion and creativity is also less spontaneous. Saturn in Leo shows that creativity and the expression of ones essence must be worked at. Areas of difficulty are highlighted where Saturn in Leo are placed. There is a constant struggle for control of the surrounding environment

and this leads to the desire for leadership. This can become dictatorial and demand is made for respect. A concept of justice and universal laws become one sided and there is need for the restructure of ideas along with the building of a proper set of values. There is strong discipline towards children and concern about their education. One thing of significance with Saturn in Leo is the never ending drive to create something tangible. Its expression flows a lot easier when challenges are met in the outside world. To remain within current structures only causes the inevitable and that is discord, a breaking down of such structure causing a battle ground. Allowed to roam free the energies turn to a creative force, and at the most, an uncontrolled force that ploughs through all obstruction. Nevertheless, one that meets challenges on its own ground.

Geburah of Hod (quarrelling - fighting).

#### DIVINATION

ON MATTERS OF the Physical Body; Selfhood; Self Projection; new ideas; new beginnings; reactions to outside stimuli; the life force; first encounters:

When the 5 of Wands turns up in this position it is saying that its time to 'get it together', time to face up to your true self, to create a new self, physically, psychologically and spiritually. In fact, the 5 of Wands warns that if you don't

take this advice, life circumstances are going to force you to do this anyway. The irony of it is, that the result of your actions now, that manifest in years to come, depend entirely on how open and truthful you are to yourself. This is the time to commence new projects, but projects you will be spending many years on. The life force is restricted during the initial stages but this must compel one to build and improve ones health, changing ones unhealthy way of eating and living. "Restructuring" is the Key word for the 5 of Wands in this position.

ON MATTERS OF possessions and personal attitude towards such; personal estate and resources both physical and material; principles and feelings; management and projection; commerce, personal, commercial, governmental and national financial affairs directly relating to the self:

In this position the 5 of Wands shows that a feverish pace is set on oneself to build new skills and through those skills you profit. There is a great deal of stress and tension which has been building up on an internal level. The querent must realize that this is not due to outside influences, but due to internal energies, needs, desires and the Will to get on. The querent must learn to deal with such energies and apply them creatively on a personal level in the outside world. Take stock of how your skills are used and improve on them. What deeper understanding do you have? What are your internal resources? All these things must be developed, then over a period of time there is gradual gain in personal resources internal and

external. The 5 of Wands shows an energy that is slow but powerful. "Pressure".

ON MATTERS OF short journeys; communications; relationships; brothers, sisters, neighbours; humour; identity; early education; books; correspondence; enlarging ones field of activity:

One of the main concerns in this position is the education of the young and the growth of their psyches. The 5 of Wands represents the disciplinarian, one that can in fact be too harsh for what is deemed to be the right way. This can cause rebellion and violent outbursts, but generally fair play is in operation. In communication, attitude is important, but there is a dominant onesided approach in most forms of communication. When receiving the 5 of Wands under the above matters the querent is warned of a situation that is getting out of hand which must be rechannelled. There will be jounies, but jounies without detour, those with a single purpose in mind. It warns of the possible break up of long term relationships and the drawing away from close family members, with the reason as yet unseen. The Key word here is "Channelling" ones energies, as this is what the querent (or the subject of the query) must learn.

ON MATTERS OF the end of one stage and the commencement of another; the home and private life; buildings; land; parents; security; emotions; significant shifts in lifes directions; concerning the soul; the occult in its practical terms; divination:



The 5 of Wands under the above matters warns of (current or future depending on question) a significant shift in ones life (or the object of the question). Emotions are withdrawn in affairs of the parents, security being of an internal source. This position shows that the home becomes a castle and that there is a lot of coming and going, regal affairs. The 5 of Wands advises the querent that direct action must be taken in your life for satisfactory survival, the first step being establishing a solid, secure home base to suit all needs. This does not necessarily mean the boundaries of the property you live, but your whole sphere of day to day activity. If this action is not taken the driving energies shown by the 5 of Wands can turn to destructive purposes rather than creative. "Construct".

ON MATTERS OF love given; creativity of selfhood; the creative will; children; entertainment; recreation; speculation; sports; the arts; gambling; fulfilling potentiality:

In matters of children, there is delay in having them as ones independence may be hindered. Love is very powerful and lasting but withheld from expression. The 5 of Wands warns of the danger of excessiveness, not knowing when to stop. In whatever is done under the above matters the energy drive is relentless. This is a position of power for the 5 of Wands but such force must be reckoned with; no matter whether the event is for the good or bad, there will be strife before the end result; nothing gives without a struggle. On a lower level struggle and strife is an unwelcomed affair, but on the higher level such

energy is looked forward to as it becomes a powerfully creative force. "Excessiveness".

ON MATTERS OF sickness (generally due to work problems); employment; employees; relationships within the work environment; conflicts; service; ones sense of service; the acquiring of skills; psychology:

Under the above matters the 5 of Wands shows that energies have become too intense within an environment. You have possibly driven yourself too long and too hard which leads to illness and accidents. Blood pressure goes up and the back starts playing up due to constant stress. Opinions are onesided thus causing disruption in the work environment. There is likely to be a change of employment, or if one is the employer, someone is likely to leave or be fired. No matter what the cost, determination to exploit talent (personal or of another) pushes a situation too far. Too much force saps vitality, therefore control and forethought of doing only what is necessary is advised. Self adjustment and organization wouldn't go amiss which the querent is more than capable of at Will. The key word for this position is "Strife".

ON MATTERS OF marriage and divorce; contracts; the other party; competitors, adversaries, and known enemies; partnerships; public relationships; social interaction; the law of compensation; what is lacking; the workings of karma:

When the 5 of Wands turns up here it depicts a time when all areas of life as regards relationships and contracts must be reviewed or redefined so that a clearer perspective can be taken. This invariably leads to a decision that must be made, the result of such can be very traumatic to those at the end of it. For the one making decisions there is no regret and they act very fast with single minded determinedness. "Time smiles and wets its knife, something must be got out quickly, then buried deep, you must live, get on with your life". Concerning competitors they are likely to be formidable, and social interaction can be distasteful but necessary for growth. The Key word is "Decision".

ON MATTERS OF death and rebirth; accidents; effects of others; crime and retribution; legacies; wills; others estates and finances; joint resources; moods; sex; spiritualism; rejuvenation; mysticism; transformation; psychotherapy:

The 5 of Wands advises that sexual energies must be channelled as it is a period of sexual frustration. One must realize the value of retaining the sex force and learn to utilize it for constructive purposes. If this isn't realized, then the sexual factor is abused. The results of your past actions are now coming to the fore. Whether it is unfortunate or fortunate depends entirely on your past actions, beliefs and ideals. There is likely to be financial gain in the handling of others finances and dealings in legacies. There can also be litigation concerning the latter and heavy taxes or duties may have to be accounted for. However when the 5 of Wands is well aspected with the

surrounding cards skillful management wins out. On the spiritual and mystic side there are dreams of a distressing nature with a psychological effect that disturbs daily life. There may be a death. There is one thing the querent must learn, if he is to handle the energies of the 5 of Wands, and that is "Discipline".

ON MATTERS OF religion; metaphysics; philosophy; higher study and education; legal systems; morals; institutions of learning; long distance travel; exploration; public communications; the collective mind:

Here the 5 of Wands advises that the best way to utilize ones creative potentials is to first get some formal education. There is the desire for status and positions of power. A great deal of attention is given to obtaining this. This also represents the teacher, and more likely one that travels and lectures. If the querent is not of this category, it shows that one may embark on a journey (internal or external) to gain greater understanding. The attending of lectures or travelling to a foreign country. The 5 of Wands represents and advises self improvement. It is like an inextinguishable burning furnace. To improve is a struggle for most people but nothing is gained, or changed without some sort of disturbance. "Improvement".

ON MATTERS OF public honour; status; ambitions and goals reached; achievements; profession; the other parent; causes for disgrace; recognition; identity:

This position for the 5 of Wands shows the loss of a parent early in life, thereby forcing an early growth of independence accompanied with the setting of goals that one can identify with. The interpretation of this card can be taken on several levels under the above matters. It can represent a culmination of lifes goals creating a time of intensification; it can represent the hardships comprised in working towards ones ambitions and goals; or it can represent the shattering of ones ambitions and a necessity (before all falls apart) to restructure values etc. The word "values" is important in this position, for only the glory and status of reaching a powerful position is of importance in the initial stage. Soon that novelty wears off, then one begins to see clearer and finds emptiness after possibly years of dedication. "Values"

ON MATTERS OF friends; income; social alliances; legislation; ones attitude; group activities; government; counsellors; love received; spiritual and intellectual aspirations; ideals; fulfilment; what you yield and how you benefit others:

Revolution, rebellion, the commando, protest marches, and political groups are represented by the 5 of Wands under the above matters. On a personal level a firm stand is to be taken giving forth opinion. Ideals, beliefs and values are put into operation publically and personally, but it is easy to be wise for others than for thyself. It shows that there is a dominating factor making the decisions for a man or group of people. These groups unite and act out such ideals exclaiming these ideals to

the world. This is their way and they want all to be converted. A very one sided approach and politically a very oppressive approach, but an effective one when the numbers are on their side, as has been seen in the history of humanity. To "Express".

ON MATTERS OF responsibility and contribution to others; humanistic concerns; karmic debts; unresolved problems; hidden resources; the unconscious; sorrow; health afflictions; secret enemies; hospitals; secret societies; self undoing; total identification:

In the first position shown by the 5 of Wands it was time to get it together. Here the 5 of Wands says: its time to break it up and disperse it (whatever "it" is). In other words, all ambitions, values, priorities etc., which were once the directing force, now begin to dissolve. Their importance has outlived itself. During this time one feels disorientated, spaced out and confused until new values and attitudes have been consolidated. On a spiritual base it is a point where ideals and spiritual values are defined, or must be defined. This position also represents the break up of old attachments which have become excess baggage. Health will be on a low ebb when the 5 of Wands turns up here. Ones vitality will be pushed to an exhaustive state unless one treats this time as a waiting period, withdrawing into oneself to conserve what energy is left where one can search for inner strength. "Dissolution"

---ooOoo---

5 of Wands: "Lord of Strife"

(First Stage Putrefaction - dying)

- In 1st position: "Restructuring"
- In 2nd position: "Pressure"
- In 3rd position: "Channelling"
- In 4th position: "Construct"
- In 5th position: "Excessiveness"
- In 6th position: "Strife"
- In 7th position: "Decision"
- In 8th position: "Discipline"
- In 9th position: "Improvement"
- In 10th position: "Values"
- In 11th position: "Express"
- In 12th position: "Dissolution"

---ooOoo---

## MEDITATION ON THE FIVE OF WANDS:

Let the Student first study the overall picture of the card, then study each detail. Study the colours.

Now let the Student look at the card and feel its vibrations.

Write down your overall impression.

---ooOoo---

exercise

Now paint this card with the above described colours. An outlined drawing is supplied with this lesson.

