

WHILE IT'S FRESH

THE BEST WORLD CUP FINAL IN HISTORY

STARRING GOD, THE GODDESS AND THE PRINCIPLE OF
CAUSALITY

AND THE WITNESS OF ALL DIMENSIONS WITHIN THE THREE
STATES

OF WAKING, DREAM AND DEEP SLEEP

and Introducing the teaching of:

BEAUTIFUL PAINTED ARROW

I watched the final of the World Cup this morning and I am quite sure it was the best cup final ever!

Beautiful Painted Arrow's teaching is "Ask for confirmation." Sometimes we feel like we are somehow 'in the flow' or the bhav or the stream of causality or the presence of the divine. If you are wondering whether or not this is the case ask for confirmation and you will get it.

Probably the two best teams: France, the current champion, and Argentina, whose star Lionel Messi is a sentimental favorite because his age may preclude another chance and because he has won everything else but this and it would be so pleasant if Argentina won. And that is exactly what happened. It was the dream come true and it feels like the whole world is happy. I drank a persecco toast. Even the French, who understand matters of the heart so well get that the Lord of Sweetness had

other ideas than them repeating as champions. And Mbappe, the best player in the world got a hat and a boot; trick and golden. Moving on...

Messi scored first on a penalty about ten minutes in and France was getting their butts kicked in every way as the swarming Argentines completely dominated play in the midfield and possession. They scored their second goal, also by Messi, an opportunistic shot in a chaotic back and forth in front of the goal, around a half hour in and France, unable to attack were stretched to defend. Messi delivered some beautiful passing, a pleasure to watch, while France's hero Mbappe could hardly touch the ball. They went the entire first half without a shot on goal. There was just one moment when Mbappe nearly broke through and it was a reminder that he is the closest thing to lightning ever on a soccer pitch because he is faster than Pele, although the latter's touch may still be unrivaled.

So anyway, 2 nil is a commanding lead to go into a second half with and they continued totally dominating from the 45th until I think the 78th minute of a 90 minute match (plus stoppage time added on, usually under ten minutes). At this point France committed a foul inside the big square surrounding their goal. This meant Mbappe could take a penalty shot and suddenly it was 2 to 1. France was suddenly one goal from tying the match and the French side perked up and Mbappe delivered one of the greatest goals of the tournament to even the score and send the match to overtime.

Now I am a minister and it's Sunday. I held the usual back yard meditation I call church a little early so as to only to miss the

first few minutes of the game. I didn't have a favorite team going in but perhaps of my preset to support the underdog I wanted to see France, and especially number 10 do what they can do with beautiful teamwork and finishing. Meanwhile Messi, the other number 10 seemed to have hammered the coffin shut with the second goal. That's how the commentators were commentating. It was over, getting ready to crown Messi. When I watch games I sometimes intentionally check in with the divine, not really to assure a result, but it can certainly have that effect as it did for me with the 2004 Red Sox. I pictured the divine coming to (and thru) earth like a white column of streaming lovelight. I resolved to watch the divine at play and very soon after that came the penalty followed a minute and 33 seconds later by the magnificent first touch perfectly placed to evade the goalie with such pace that even though he miraculously got fingertips on it it still slammed into the inner sidenetting (as did both of his last two penalty shots). Lightning that sent the match to overtime.

So, feeling aware of it for most of the second half, I had that thought. Did I want to ask for confirmation of the Lord's participation in this lovely wonderful match to determine the happiness of so many and despair of so many others? It was at somewhere around the 105th minute that I had this conversation with myself and so I asked for confirmation in the following way.

As you may know there is special significance to the number 108. This is one search engine ride worth checking out. It has major significance in both astronomy, astrology, Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam and Judaism. In addition I have experienced

firsthand in Native American ceremony, as I sat inside a circle of 108 tobacco ties crying for a vision as the mixed blood Crow shaman prayed to 27 spirits in each of the four directions.

Overtime consists of two 15 minute periods and we were in the second one.

So I asked for confirmation that I was in the flow with divinity. I asked for France to score in the 108th minute. Indeed there was a score in the 108th minute but it was Messi. So I accepted the confirmation, which is to say I hit the ball over the net and God hit it back and I understood the will of the Divine is apparently for Argentina, and Messi to win. Somewhere in the back of my mind I was thinking the match would end tied and Argentina would win in penalty kicks.

All of the humongous tide of well-wishing for Messi did not go home crushed and ruining the day they mortgaged their house for those tickets. Instead there was universal jubilation and the French didn't even really lose. It was a draw with extenuating circumstances.

Mbappe is still the greatest player in the world and Messi close behind with all fo the praise, adulation and relief one man could ever ask for. And we all share his glory.

My god is a loving god.