

Sting of the Scorpion

The Truth behind Star Signs

The Zodiac Mystery

By Jonathan Gray
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Dedication

To the Mystery Man of the Zodiac, whose wisdom, skill and foreknowledge continues to outwit every historian, philosopher and astrologer.

EXPLANATION OF FOOTNOTES

Some paragraphs will be followed by two sets of numbers (example 18/85-86). The first number is the book number in the bibliography. The numbers on the right refer to page or pages where the quote or information is located in that source.

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INTRODUCTION:

A SURPRISE FOR JILL

Her umbrella blew inside out as Jill stepped shivering from under the shop awning.

The lamp-lit pavement glistened. A passing van swished soup on her stockings. She paused to wipe them and fix her umbrella, then pushed out into the blinding rain.

Screech... thud! Jill Herring's life was over.

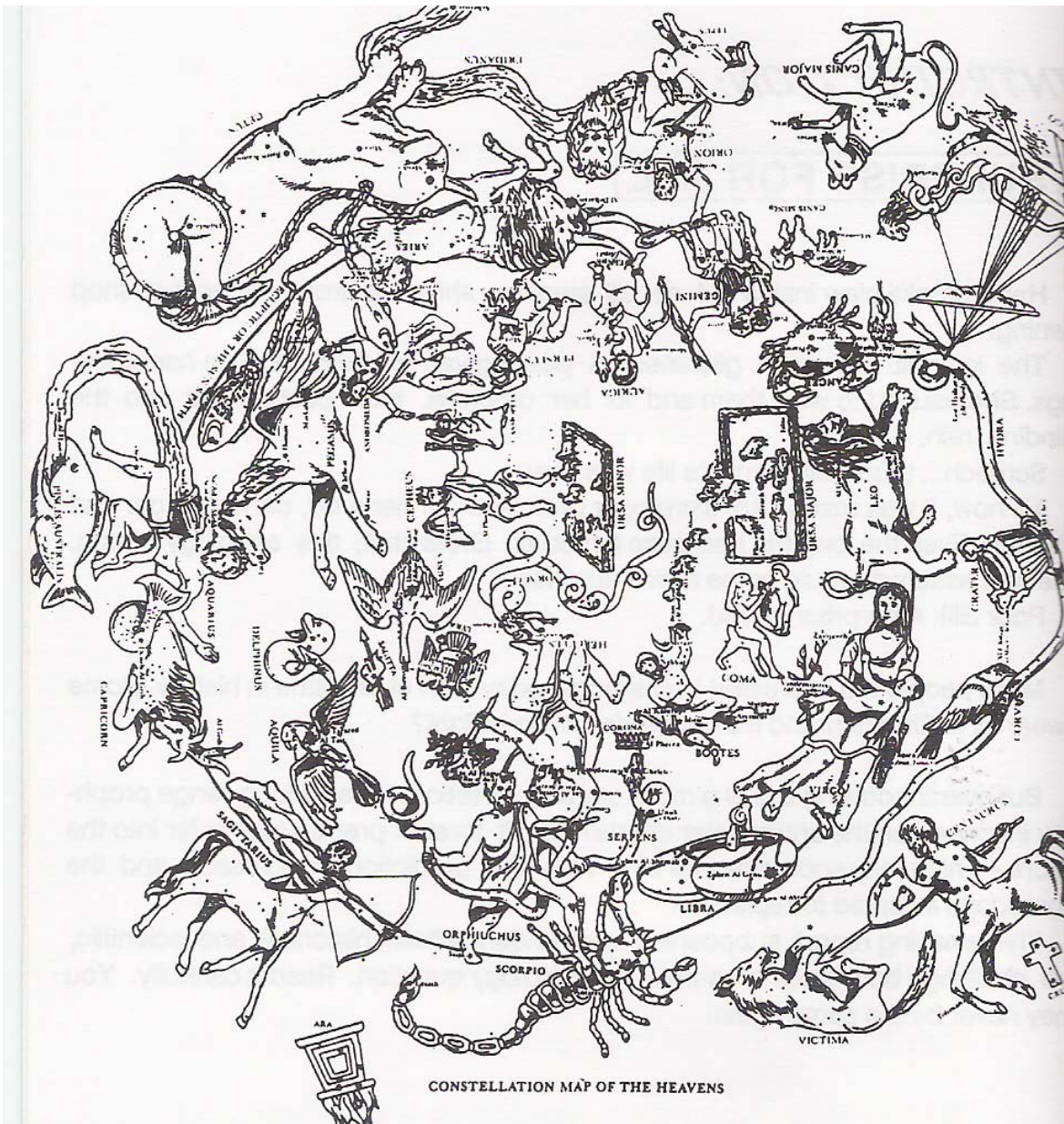
Till now, it was roses. An astrologer promised for her a tall, dark stranger and children. Even the long trip had been hinted at. Great stuff, this astrology. Soon, she was assured, would come a nice surprise.

Poor Jill! A surprise indeed.

More people are interested in astrology today than at any time in history. Some swear by it. Others brand it a counterfeit. Who is right?

But overshadowing this is a more startling question. Was a long-range prophecy inscribed on the ancient star charts? Did it foretell precise events far into the future - which may soon affect us all? Was this prediction suppressed and the horoscope invented to replace it?

This amazing report, subpoenaing new evidence both historical and scientific, will challenge both sides to re-think the astrology question. Read it carefully. You may never be the same again.



CONSTELLATION MAP OF THE HEAVENS

THE ZODIAC MYSTERY

On April 23, 1989, Harold Costar was murdered on his way to consult an astrologer about his future! No matter, his horoscope predicted a good day.

To peek into tomorrow is a desire common to many of us. So it's BIG BUSINESS, syndicated astrology. Yet there is always a hard core of spoil sports who maintain that its forecasts are highly unreliable.

Take identical twins, they say. These should, according to astrological logic, have identical tendencies, life styles and lives, but most do not.

And the researchers raise other disturbing questions.

So, I am tempted to ask, where lies the truth? Can you really use the **zodiac** to personal advantage? Does it unlock future events? Surprisingly, the facts say YES!

There are, of course, many fine, intelligent people who accept horoscopes with little or no investigation. Too often, I'm afraid, gurus' careers thrive on such ignorance. But if you have a dangerous desire for the truth, you may uncover something startling.

Would it surprise you to learn that zodiac signs have nothing to do with horoscopes? Yes, you read it right. The two have as much in common as a kitten and a rattlesnake.

Did you know that the zodiac enshrines the oldest pictures in the world, but that horoscopes are relatively new? It is time for the truth. The original intent of the zodiac was infinitely more grand and masterly. It contained a powerful message, which for 4,000 years was clearly understood. Then, about 300 B.C., this noble and sacred science fell under the influence of Babylonian priests in what is now Iraq. They hijacked it, so to speak. Then the whole field was left almost entirely to astrology. Could it be that we have missed the real significance of the zodiac?

SO WHAT IS THE ZODIAC?

Very early in human history, the stars were named and arranged into groups (constellations) and drawn on sky charts as pictures of animals, people and other objects. Significantly, the same names and figures are consistent throughout history and throughout the cultures of the world. And they have survived on astronomical charts to this day.

These constellations extend in a belt about 16 degrees wide, encircling the earth. If the stars could be seen in daytime, the sun would appear to move through this belt over the course of one year, in a path called the Ecliptic. It is this belt, with twelve months for its steps or stages, that we call the **ZODIAC** (not from the Greek *life* as is commonly supposed, but from a more ancient Hebrew word meaning *a way by steps*).

Each stage of the yearly circle contains its own group of stars designated by a picture or **SIGN**. These are the *twelve signs of the zodiac*.

48 SIGNS, NOT 12

Twelve? Make that 48. For these twelve signs do not stand alone. To each of them are cojoined three others, known as **DECANS** (*pieces*).

The great Arab astronomer Albamazer recorded that the Persians, Babylonians, Egyptians and Indians **all had these three decans to each sign**. As all the emblems in the similarly divided zodiacs are nearly all alike, it would seem that they had followed some common model.

Aben Ezra, the learned Jewish astronomer, Orientalist and scholar, says:

According to Albamazer, none of these forms from their first invention have varied in coming down to us, nor one of their words [names] changed, not a point added or removed (22/18).

The primeval star charts, therefore, showed 12 basic signs + 36 decans (explanatory signs) = 48!

UNABLE TO EXPLAIN

The world has looked in vain for the origin of these inventions. Current attempts to explain the zodiac's existence are clearly lame and absurd, with no supporting fact.

Ask any expert, "Where did the constellations come from?"

"To identify the locations of surrounding nations," some will reply.

"No," retort others. "They come from observations of the seasons and man's seasonal occupations."

For example, in December the sun was seen ascending toward the north, so men gave that month the sign of a Goat, because goats like to climb rocks! Hmmm.

September's equal days and nights led to the drawing of the sign of the Scales, it is said (though one wonders why March had no such sign, and unfortunately- but don't dare mention it- these "equal" Balances have one side up and the other down!).

October, abundant in fruit, meant that many people got sick, hence a Scorpion! (These wizards seem unworried by the fact that the scorpion has no particular season.)

Such delightful twaddle has actually appeared [don't laugh] in our books of science. It is true that some of the signs have at times been used as seasonal markers. However, being of less than infinite intelligence, I find myself asking a few dumb questions.

For starters, how is it there is **not one country anywhere** that the interpretations for all the signs fit?

Then again, why, if the signs were developed to reflect local planting conditions (which would differ in each global region), or to celebrate local legends, then why are the signs - from Mexico to Africa to Polynesia - the same world over? (11/17)

Something else. Modern explanation is limited to only 12 of the constellations. What of the remaining 36 equally conspicuous figures?

A final question. What of the names of each individual star - for the most part equally as old - which cohere as a single story?

One could go on, but the point is made. Is it not disturbing? Here is a great and masterly system, very ancient and in use today, which modern man cannot historically or scientifically explain. It baffles them. So they guess. And the flippancy with which they dispose of some of the problems, while ignoring others shows that they have not fully taken in the case.

I feel sorry for the rationalist, but that will not do.

There is enough evidence now to show that not until Greece, Rome and later, did such notions rise. The more ancient peoples never so explained these signs. They uniformly acknowledged them as divine in source and sacred in meaning.

THE ANCIENT MYSTERIES HAD IT RIGHT

These signs were explained to those initiated into the more famous ancient mysteries as declaring the highest spiritual and eternal interests of man.

According to Isocrates, Epictetus and Tully, they were, in the noblest of the mysteries, explained as truths that concerned the soul and its immortal hopes, truths that gave peace in life and hope in death (22/43-44).

HOW OLD IS THE ZODIAC?

As far back as there are records, these signs existed. They have been found on Babylonian boundary markers over 4,000 years old.

Sanchoniathon and other ancient historians insist that the seven vowels in the earliest alphabet were "so arranged as to express the places of the seven [visible] planets in the Zodiac" at the time the

alphabet was completed. The twenty-five alphabet letters and the twelve zodiac signs were superimposed, the first two letters in Gemini, and so on, with the vowels unevenly spaced to represent the planetary positions at that time. The alphabet thus records "an exact notation of the actual condition of the heavens at an ascertainable date, which can occur but once in many thousands of years, and that date is in the seventh day of September 3447 before Christ". The zodiac, therefore, was already in existence as early as that date (22/23,174).

From the state of the heavens when its original was drawn, it can be shown that the Egyptian Dendera zodiac (116-107 B.C.) was copied from one designed about 3000 B.C.

And when Vergil wrote that "the white bull with the golden horns opens the year," that fact was no longer true; Taurus had ceased to begin the Equinoctial year. Vergil's statement is clearly a survival of a recorded fact several thousand years earlier (7/245).

Aratus described the constellations to the Greeks of his day, not as he saw them, but as they were 4,000 years earlier. His source, therefore, was an extremely ancient zodiac (5/14).

When the zodiac was formed, Alpha in the constellation of Draco was the Pole Star. The Pole star is now Alpha in Ursa Minor. This change takes us back to 3000 B.C. or earlier.

Bailly, from internal evidences, was thoroughly convinced that both the Solar and Lunar zodiacs had their origin when the summer solstice was in the first degree of Virgo, about 4,000 years before Christ (22/22,149).

Each year, you see, the stars rise and set some 50.2 seconds later; in 2,156 years they fall back 30 degrees. When the zodiac sphere was drawn, the position of the stars in relation to earth was almost 90 degrees different from now. So a 4000 B.C. date of origin would be close to the mark.

Ptolemy (150 A.D.) declares the zodiac 'as of unquestioned authority, unknown origin, and unsearchable antiquity" (5/15).

Sir Henry Drummond notes that "the traditions of the Chaldean Astronomy seem the fragments of a mighty system fallen into ruins" (5/15).

GIVEN FROM THE START

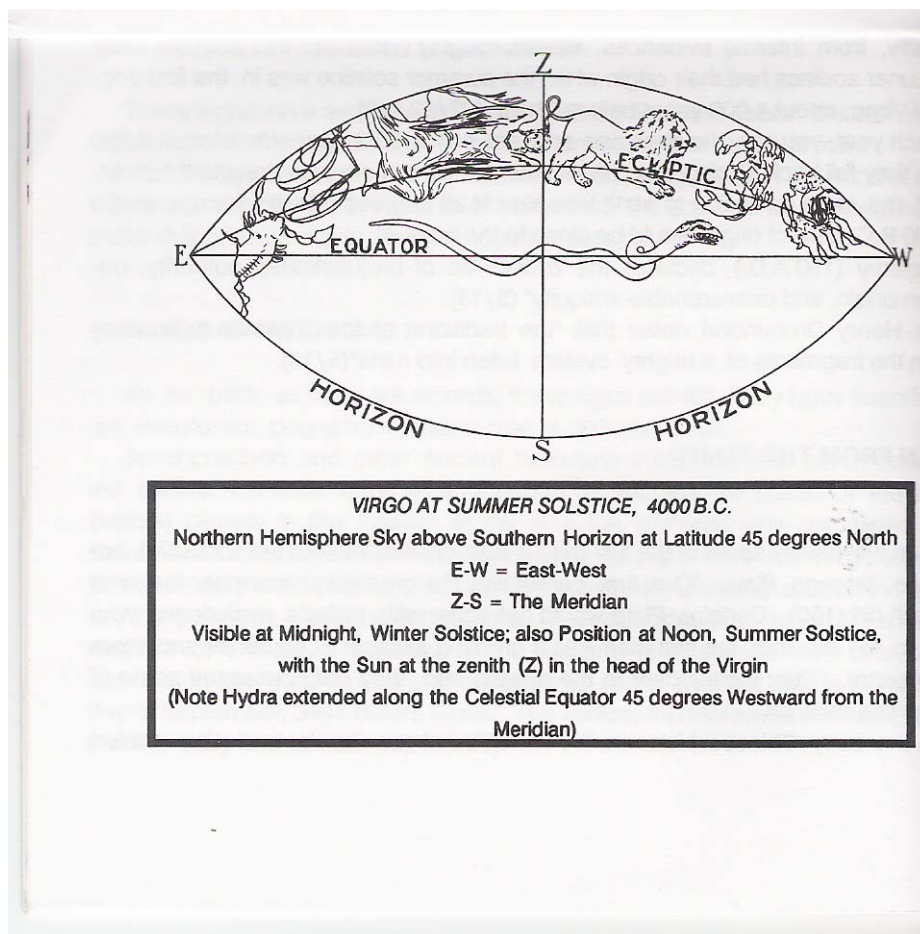
Can we identify some of the first men in history involved with the zodiac? I believe so. Asserts Plato: "Our first parent was the greatest philosopher that ever existed" (22/150). Certainly Plato would not agree with today's evolutionist who tries to tell us that the first man was a grunting savage! Our earlier ancestors knew better. They were closer to the events; and they still possessed some of the earliest records.

In the early Chinese histories, the *Vendidad* of the Parsis and other settled traditions of the ancient world, the first man had a perfect knowledge of sciences and religion which he taught his children.

The ancient Jews, Arabs, Assyrians, Babylonians, Egyptians and Phoenicians refer to certain **sacred records of Adam, Seth, Enoch and the men of earliest times, who wrote predictions of coming events**, and on whose wisdom and laws none were able to improve, but from which there was a constant tendency to apostatise.

Says Hornius: "The first mention of letters falls upon Seth's times; who [was] mindful of his father's **prophecy foretelling ...the Deluge, and the [final destruction] by fire**" (22/150).

Luke writes that there were **inspired prophets "since the world began"** (Luke 1:70; Acts 3:21).



Cassini, in his *History of Astronomy*, states: "It is impossible to doubt that astronomy was invented from the beginning of the world; history, profane as well as sacred, testifies to this truth."

AMAZING ORIGIN CLAIMED

Scanning the sky, as you may have discovered, can be fun. Yet have you ever seen a star group shaped like a goat-fish, a shepherd or a virgin? No? Obviously such signs were artificially invented. What is more, all 48 signs form one great hieroglyphic system with a unified theme; they cohere as one original casting.

It seems that this ancient picture gallery is something more significant than modern man has even remotely suspected.

What does the ancient world say of its origin?

Hebrew writers suggest that the Creator himself named the stars (Isa. 40:26; Psa. 147:4).

"Oh, come off it," I hear someone say. "Isn't it just a little far-fetched? An interesting anachronism, pleasant, but hopelessly impossible."

Very well, let's think about its.

The law of cause and effect, a valid scientific principle, states that the result can be no greater than the cause. If then, you and I, intelligent personal beings, are the result of a deliberate creation, the Prime Cause, greater than we, must be no less an intelligent, personal entity.

Now consider. If you were the Creator, who had made intelligent, thinking people, would you then turn your back on them? Wouldn't you want them to know about you? Wouldn't you try to communicate with them?

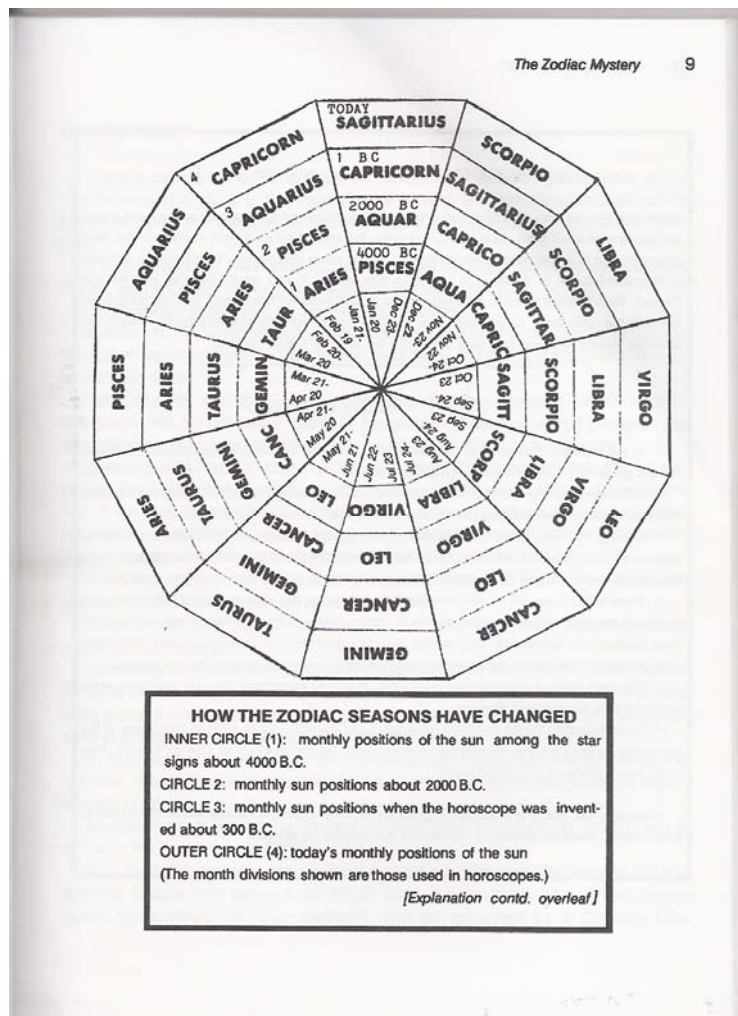
Certainly there is nothing unreasonable about the idea that God might communicate.

I believe we at least owe such an idea the courtesy of an honest examination of the facts.

And it is a fact that virtually all ancient peoples seem to make this claim.

The sacred *Bundahis* of the Paris claims that the zodiac symbols and meanings were imparted to man by Auharmazd, the Creator.

The same is asserted in the Chaldean tablets recovered from the ruins of ancient Babylon and



Assyria. In one series called the *Chaldean Genesis*, the fifth tablet (fragments of which are in the British Museum) answers to the Biblical declaration, when God said, "**Let them be for signs**" (Gen. 1:14). This tablet describes how Anu (the Creator) defined their animal appearance, twelve signs, each with three decans. "He fixed," "He defined," "He marked" them.

These old documents relate that, from the beginning of man's presence on earth, one purpose of the heavenly lights was to "be for signs," that is, to signify something beyond themselves, to carry some special teaching difference from what is naturally deducible from them. The word *signs* in Genesis is *othoth*, plural of *oth*, from a Hebrew root meaning "to come." Hence a *sign of something to come*.

And there's more. When Job (c. 2136 B.C.) says that the Creator "garnished" the heavens (ch. 26:13), he uses a word which in its original means "**decorated with a summons and a warning.**" According to Job, God himself takes credit for establishing "Mazzaroth" (the zodiac) and causing its components to maintain their proper sequence and timing (ch. 38:31-33).

"The heavens tell out the glory of God," declares David (c. 1000 B.C.). "Night with night they keep telling about God. Without a sound or word, silent in the skies, their message reaches out to all the world"(Psa. 19:1-4 NEB, LB).

Citing this passage, Paul identifies this star message as the very "word of God" (Rom. 10:17, 18). Such picture language is something all nations can understand. No wonder he says (ch. 1:20) "they are

without excuse."

A PROPHECY OF COMING EVENTS

Referring to the ancient Babylonians, Smith and Sayce, in *The Chaldean Account of Genesis*, note that "it was greatly believed that the heavenly bodies gave...**signs of events which were coming on the earth**" (22/11).

From the Book of Enoch*, Origen perceived that in Enoch's time the constellations were already named and divided. "The whole account of them **according to every year of the world forever, until a new work [or creation] shall be effected which shall be eternal**" (23/141-142).

The point is, the ancients were unanimous that these star pictures set forth great truths, past, present and to come.

HOW THE ZODIAC SEASONS HAVE CHANGED (from page 9)

Since the horoscope was invented, the position of the earth in space has moved about 30 degrees or a full Sign. As a result, the dates for each Sign no longer represent the time when the sun is in the related constellation. Today when (according to astrology) the sun is supposed to be in Aries, it is really in Pisces. So, if you were told that you were a Cancer, then instead you are a Gemini. This is bad news for astrology. It is not difficult to see why the scientific community has so little regard for this pseudoscience. The Bible likewise stands opposed to it (see Jer.10:2; Isa. 47:9-15; Deut. 18:9-10).

HOW VALID ARE PLANETARY INFLUENCES?

- * At the moment of birth, when the physician hovers over the child, his gravitational and tidal force is greater than any of the five zodiacal planets.
- * A Saturday *Sydney Morning Herald* on a table six feet away has a tidal force about 50 million times greater than that of the planet Mars when it is at its nearest to the earth.
- * There is NO "Libra Effect" on musicians. Paul Conderc, a scientist of the Peris Observatory, discovered that NO sign of the zodiac favours or disfavors musicians. Musicians are born throughout the entire year on a chance basis.
- * There is NO "Mars Effect" on criminals. Examination of the horoscopes of 623 murderers who were the most notorious in the annals of justice for the horror of their crimes, showed that Mars (contrary to astrological expectation) was not predominant in their horoscopes. Their birth dates were randomly distributed among all the star signs – as would be expected by chance.
- * The birth dates of scientists are distributed randomly throughout the year, and have nothing to do with astrological influences.
- * An investigation by the American Association of Scientific Studies showed that "none of the influences alleged by the astrologers was verified." (*M. Gauquelin, The Cosmic Clocks. New York: Henry Regency Co., 1967, p.85*)

Although the sun and moon are significant in their effect on natural earth phenomena, measurable physical effects of the planets are refuted by science.

* See Book of Enoch, ch. 71, seq.pp.84, 85,232

WHAT EVENTS?

There is substantial evidence that the early civilizations regarded as true history the record of Adam, Eve, and "the Fall." Such accounts are not confined to the Bible. They are recorded in the oral and written history of many ancient nations.

It was universally held that following a rebellion in the heavens the banished rebels, led by Lucifer (Satan), had hijacked this infant planet.

A Babylonian tablet calls it "The Revolt in Heaven."

Mexican tradition recounts the war in heaven and the fall of Zontemonque and the other rebellious spirits, the creation, and the subsequent entrapment of mankind by the rebel.

Records state that the Creator granted the first two humans dominion over this earth. He did not leave them in ignorance of Satan's occult presence but assured that only disobedience could place them in any danger.

Seething with hatred, Satan plotted revenge. To shield his identity, he employed a psychic phenomenon - a snake as a medium - to attract Eve's attention. It worked. Tragically, the human pair fell under his influence - and since they were now separated from the Life-giver, the consequence could only be death. This process of death would be passed on to all their descendants.

So now mankind was in the enemy's grasp, alienated from God. Satan had usurped man's place as the prince of this world.

What an intensely painful experience! And how vividly did it become etched in our racial memory!

According to some archaeologists, the oldest piece of art known to the human family is that which is termed *the temptation seal*. This pictures a tree, on the opposite sides of which are seated two persons. Behind one of them is the upright form of a serpent, who is whispering to one of them.

A Sumerian poem laments that "the maiden ate that which was forbidden, the maiden, the mother of sin, committed evil; the mother of sin had a painful experience" (14/8).

Mankind's entrapment by the "evil serpent" was remembered from Egypt to China to the Americas (20/380).

But God did not leave man without hope. A promise was delivered to the despairing couple and passed on to all their descendants. It was this: **Satan (now symbolized by the serpent) will be opposed by a Coming One (termed the woman's "Seed"); this Person will ultimately "bruise" the serpent's head (destroy him), but not without himself being "bruised" in the heel (temporarily disabled)** (Gen. 3:15).

Did that sink in? Please mark well that prophecy; we'll meet it again in the zodiac. This coming Rescuer was to combat the hijacker on man's behalf and restore all that was lost.

At this time was inaugurated a system of animal sacrifices, something repulsive; it was designed to be in coming years a constant vivid reminder of the terrible cost of sin. The message was that just as an innocent victim now died at the hand of the sinner, so at some future date an innocent Deliverer would die for guilty man. It was understood that every sinner who chose to accept his substitute death could be ultimately freed of everlasting death. The sacrificial rite was an act of faith and acceptance of future deliverance.

Thus our earliest ancestors were the recipients on an important message - that of the promised Saviour - and as such were duty-bound to make known the facts, explain their import, and use every means to record and transmit the message to all future men.

These men were the great founders of the world and were fully alive to the fact.

To save Adam, it was essential that Adam should know of the coming Rescuer, and to save his posterity it was necessary that this same knowledge should be transmitted to them also.

Eventually, as the appointed race from which the Saviour was to spring, Israel was placed at the crossroads of the world and entrusted with oracles to prepare them for such a global role.

THE ZODIAC MESSAGE SUMMARISED

This hope of future deliverance is reflected in the traditions and mythologies of **all ancient peoples**. In every age there were prophets who treasure the divine messages.

They believed in the one Creator, in beings called angels, and in Satan who had infected all

humanity. They feared sin and sought forgiveness through blood sacrifice. They spoke of a Deliverer coming to suffer, of resurrection through him and the eventual restoration of all that was lost.*

This good news is, therefore, as old as the race; and never was there a time when it was not known.

What is more, IT IS TRACEABLE IN THE ANCIENT ZODIAC, a sky-wide picture gallery intended to last till the end of time. In this shining overhead archway, a grand procession of scenery unfolds its story ceaselessly, all year round, an everlasting witness to the human race.

It proclaims in detail:

*the fall and depravity of man through the subtlety of Satan;

* the coming down of a mightier One, who assumes human nature, and dies for man;

* the ultimate triumph of this Rescuer, man's restoration, and the vanquishing of the Serpent (Dragon).

Here is the likely original of many legends concerning the Serpent or Dragon and his Destroyer.

The theme of the zodiac, then? Quite simply, it is the irreconcilable feud between the Deceiver and the Deliverer - THE DEADLY MALIGNITY OF THE ONE AND THE SELF-SACRIFICING BENEFICENCE OF THE OTHER. It is the story of the Creator's love for human beings - and of his rescue plan for them. **The zodiac prophesies events to the end of human history.**

* Compare with Acts 3:18-26; Jude 14, 15

TWO WITNESSES TELL SAME STORY

The ancient world claimed the zodiac to be a divine revelation, fixed from the time of the first man. We saw that internal evidence dates the zodiac prophecy at about 4000 B.C. Coincidentally (?), biblical chronology likewise dates the first man and the first prophecy at about 4000 B.C. **The zodiac prophecy dates, therefore, from the SAME time to which the Bible assigns it.**

What is more astonishing, the zodiac message is handled exactly as we find it in the Bible, even in the precise order - from the Seed of Virgo in Genesis, to the triumphant Leo in Revelation. The names and symbols of the one answer exactly to the other.

Accidental? Hardly. The evidence is clear that one is of the same fabric with the other. Indeed, it is hard to avoid the conclusion that both are from the same eternal Spirit which has moved to show us **THINGS TO COME.** Surprising as it may be, in both are marked out the same pivot events of history stage by stage until the end of time.

IT BEGAN WITH VIRGO

Another important fact to note is that the original zodiac commenced with Virgo.

In the zodiac of the Temple of Esneh in Egypt, a sphinx (with the head of a woman and the body of a lion) is actually placed between the signs on Virgo and Leo.

The word *sphinx* (from the Greek *sphiggo*) means to *bind closely together*, suggesting that it was designed to indicate where the two ends of the zodiac were to be joined together, and where the circle begins and ends. In harmony with this, there is a star in Leo named *Sarcarn*, which means the *Joining*.

The sphinx tells us to begin with Virgo and to end with Leo.

According to the best authorities, the custom was universal among the ancients to reckon from Virgo, around the circle to Leo.

So let's explore the first sign of the zodiac. Are you ready?

VIRGO AND ALL THAT

Virgo: The Woman's Promised Seed

Here is a woman, yes- but specifically a virgin. In Arabic, this sign is *Adorah*, "**THE PURE VIRGIN**"; in Greek, *Parthenos*, "**THE MAID OF VIRGIN PURENESS.**" All ancient traditions emphasise the **virginity** of this woman.

But that's not all. The greater wonder is that **motherhood** attends the virgin.

In the earliest Babylonian and Egyptian representations, she holds an infant in her arms. In *Titus Andronicus*, Act iv, Sc.3, Shakespeare refers to this "good boy in Virgo's lap."

In her hand is the brightest star in the constellation, with a Latin name (*Spica*) meaning "**THE EAR, or SEED, OF CORN.**" The original Hebrew names for this star were *Zerah* ("**SEED**") and *Tsemech* ("**BRANCH**"). So Virgo is the holder and bringer of an illustrious SEED, contemplated as far greater than herself. It is the great embodiment of her hope and trust. And in her hand she bears a BRANCH.

That **the emphasis is clearly upon her offspring** rather than upon herself is borne out in her Coptic name *Aspolia* ("**THE PLACE OF THE DESIRED BRANCH**").

Names of stars in this constellation reinforce the message: *Al Zimach*, *Al Azal* and *Subilon* (meaning "**THE SHOOT**," "**THE BRANCH**," "**THE EAR OF WHEAT**"). One of the stars in the arm carrying the branch is called *Al Mureddin*, which means "**WHO SHALL COME DOWN**," or "**WHO SHALL HAVE DOMINION.**" This star is also known as *Vindematrix*, a Chaldean word meaning "**THE SON**" or "**BRANCH WHO COMETH**".

As expressed on an altar found in Gaul about 100 B.C., she is "the virgin who is to bring forth" (22/28).

And with this the Hebrew prophet Isaiah (783-738 B.C.) concurs: "**The virgin*** shall conceive and bear a **son**, and shall call his name Immanuel" - that is *God with us* (ch. 7:14).

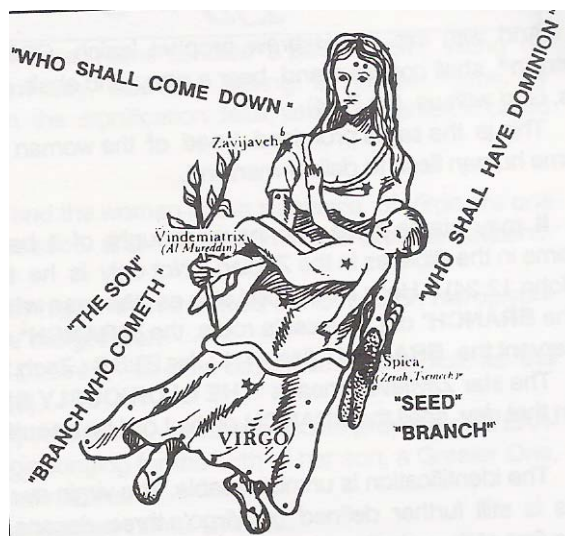
This is the same promised **Seed** of the woman (Gen. 3:15.), predicted assume human flesh to deliver mankind.

It may startle those who never thought of it before, but his symbols are the same in the Bible as in the Zodiac. Not only is he the **corn, or seed, of wheat** (John 12:24). He is introduced also "**the man whose name is the BRANCH**," "the servant the **BRANCH**" (Isa. 11:1; Jer. 23:5, 6; Zech. 3:8, 6:12).

The star *Zavijaveh* means "**THE GLORIOUSLY BEAUTIFUL.**" Isaiah predicts: "In that day shall the **BRANCH** of the Lord be **beautiful and glorious**" (ch. 4:2).

The identification is unmistakable. The virgin awaits her promised son. And this is still further defined by Virgo's three decans, or explanatory sidepieces. The first of these is Coma.

* In the emphatic form of the original text: "Behold the virgin (not a virgin, but the virgin of old predicted), she shall bear a son." THE ORIGINAL PROMISE SHALL BE HONOURED.



COMA: The Nations' Desired Child



Coma, in the Hebrew and Oriental dialects, means "**THE DESIRED,**" "**THE LONGED FOR.**" Now here's something interesting. Notice how the great Arabian astronomer Albamazer * (805-885 A.D.), a non-Christian, describes this zodiac sign:

"There arises in the first Decan, as the Persians, Chaldeans, and Egyptians, and the two Hermes and Ascalius, teach, a young woman whose Persian name denotes a **pure virgin**, sitting on a throne, **nourishing an infant boy**, said boy having a Hebrew name, by some nations called **Ihesu**, with the signification **leza**, which in Greek is called **Christ**" (22/28-29).



Surprised?

Clearly the woman in Virgo and the woman in this sidepiece of Virgo are one and the same; and the infant, the seed and the Branch must likewise be identified together.

The head of the **son** is slightly higher than the head of his mother, hieroglyphically symbolising that he is to be **the greater**.

As in the zodiac he is "**the Desired,**" so he is described in the Bible as "**the Desire of all nations**" (Hag. 2:6, 7).

I have to admit, this discovery rocked me. Here is in a zodiac prophecy AS EARLY AS 4000 B.C., we have a virgin longing for the birth of her son, a Greater One, who is desired, or expected, by all nations.

Another bombshell: He has a **Hebrew** name - **IHESU**.

The truth is just now being glimpsed by a handful of specialists - it is still almost completely unsuspected by the average citizen.

* A Latin translation of his work is in the British Museum Library. His most important work was *Flores Astrologias*, written in Arabic and translated into Hebrew by Aben Ezra.

ALL NATIONS AWAITED HIM

You may want to ask at this point, Were the world's nations really expecting such a unique child? What does the evidence show?

Dupuis, in *L'Origine des Cultus*, has collected a vast number of traditions prevalent in all nations concerning a divine person, born of a woman, suffering in conflict with a serpent, but triumphing over him at last (22/11).

He came, or was to come, from heaven for the purpose of delivering mankind, sacrificing himself, but rising to life again and returning to heaven.

There is evidence that the ancient prophecies of Adam were circulating in the ancient East. And they spoke with startling clearness of a judgment beyond the tomb, and the fatherhood of the unseen God.

Notice how two different heathen poets contemplated these prophecies:

* A golden progeny from heaven descends,
O chaste Lucinda! speed the mother's pains,
And haste the glorious birth...

... virtue shall restore,

And crimes shall threat the guilty world no more...
The jarring nations he in peace shall bind,
And with paternal virtues rule mankind (22/33).

* Hail, great Physician of the world! all hail!
Hail, mighty Infant, who, in years to come,

Shall heal the nations and defraud the tomb!...
 Thy daring art shall animate the dead,
 And draw the thunder on Thy guilty head;
 For Thou shalt die, but from the dark abode
 Rise up victorious, and be twice a God! (22/48).

The Babylonians and Persians expected a king-redeemer and hero-sage, who would establish a new age of happiness. The Chinese also believed that a great wise man would appear. The Hindus believed that the supreme God would reveal himself to humans and that ultimately would come a new world. The ancient Germans looked forward to the renewal of the present world. And the Druids of Britain expected the coming of the "Curer of all ills," whose symbol was the mistletoe (or Branch).

Likewise, in the earliest Egyptian texts are found prophecies proclaiming the coming of this Saviour of the human race – prophecies that are already ancient (23/66; 7/369,528).

To cap it all, the ancient Romans were convinced that a master and ruler of the world was to come out of Judea (6/500). Now what clues, I ask you, led them to believe that?

Tacitus, Suptonius, Josephus and others testify that by the first century B.C., there was a widespread expectation of a great Prince to arise in the East – even though general conceptions were indefinite and incompatible with the character of the Messiah as portrayed in the most ancient prophecies.

Progressively, over the centuries, Hebrew prophets painted in more details concerning this Promised One. Dr. Edersheim, a Jewish scholar, has furnished 558 separate quotations from Rabbinic writings. He states: "The passages in the Old Testament applied to the Messiah or to the Messianic times in the most ancient Jewish writings amount in all to 456" (9/16).

Some of these prophecies were incredible. The probability that they could all come true by sheer chance in the life of one man was virtually zero. These prophecies were specific, detailed, and complete – even pinpointing the time of his appearance.

Now I think we all, skeptics or not, would have to agree that no man can foretell world history. It should be self-evident, then, that if hundreds of prophecies converge to be fulfilled in the life of one man precisely as foretold, then we have persuasive evidence of a source from beyond mankind.

Let's not fool ourselves. The united wisdom of man can do no more than GUESS. The Omniscient One alone knows WITH INFALLIBLE ACCURACY what is about to come to pass.

EXPLAIN IT AS YOU WILL. There is a book – and one only – which contains specific detailed prophecies of events thousands of years ahead. It is a curious fact that these prophecies have later come true with uncanny accuracy. And despite hundreds of hours of research, I have been unable to find a single failure. It must be admitted that compared to the track record of biblical prophecy, astrology comes a poor second.

Now for the big question: What really happened concerning those prophecies of the Messiah: Did they shape up? Or should we not take them seriously? Let's investigate.

BIRTH STARS

House of Bread,* Judea. Population 1000. Nothing has changed here for 400 years. But there's something about this day; something that will haunt twenty distraught young mothers for the rest of their lives.

Our story begins two years earlier with some awesome sights in the sky. Such events had been expected to occur when the Promised One was due. And if we are to believe historians and scientists, this is precisely what happened. So many events, in fact, that their combined voice is THUNDEROUS!

.....

From the primeval prophecy of the Coming One written on the star charts, it had come to be generally believed that heavenly bodies gave signs of events which were coming on the earth.

Indeed, among some nations there must have been a knowledge so complete as to embrace the time and place of his coming.

We find a clear and well-authenticated case in the Magi.

It is a matter of record that these wise men of a foreign country did actually come to Jerusalem and thence to Bethlehem, to find and worship a newborn child.

The question is, how did they know about him? How did they know that he deserved worship? How came they to such full conviction that his birth had occurred in Judea? What induced them to launch an expedition lasting several months and involving such a costly and laborious search?

Quite simply, it was the signs on the primeval zodiac and the very detailed prophecies connected with them.

* Meaning of the name *Bethlehem*

WHO WERE THE MAGI?

According to all classical writers from Herodotus down to Ammianus, the Magi were a listed tribe of Media. They were pastoralists who engaged in a keen study of religion, astronomy and other sacred sciences.

It was their hereditary privilege to provide their country with priests and religious instructors. Their religion was the noblest and least corrupted in the ancient world. It was from them that the monarch Cyrus selected his priests for Persia.

More importantly, their faith was similar to that of other Gentile notables, men like Job, Melchizedec, Jethro and Balaam, who lived by the ancient revelations that had been preserved.

The Magi believed in the great controversy between God and Lucifer that was shaping history. They possessed both the Solar and Lunar zodiacs, which they claimed were given by God to teach man wisdom, forecast the future and give hope to the good.

How do we know this? Some of their sacred books still survive.

“A STAR OVER JACOB”

A paraphrase of Balaam's ancient prophecy (Num.24:17) reads: “There shall come forth a star at (or over) the inheritance (possessions) of Jacob.” This new star would show the *latitude*, passing immediately overhead at midnight, every 24 hours, while the prophecy gave the *longitude* as the land of Jacob (Israel).

Says Davidson: “The Jews, in an ancient book of theirs (*Zohar*) say more than once that when Messiah shall be revealed, a bright and shining star shall arise in the East” (7/469).

The *Messiah Haggadah (Aggadoth Mashiach)* opens as follows: “A star shall come out of Jacob...the Star shall shine forth from the East, and this is the Star of the Messiah” (15/68).

From the same source we read at the end of a collection of three midrashim entitled “The Book of Elijah,” “Chapters about the Messiah” and “The Mysteries of R. Simon,” that a Star in the East was to appear **two years before** the birth of the Messiah (15/68).

So, you ask, did such an unusual phenomenon occur?

Get ready for some startling revelations.

SPECIFIC SKY OMENS

- 1 **It is an ASTRONOMICAL FACT**, independent of all hypotheses, **that in 7 B.C. a conjunction of the planets Jupiter and Saturn occurred in the sign of Pisces.**

Both Jewish rabbis and Gentile scribes agreed that such a conjunction betokened the birth of a lordly and illustrious operator among men, and the start of a new order of things.

The *Encyclopaedia Britannica* states:

It is a curious coincidence that a medieval Jew, R. Abarbanel (Abrabanel) records that the conjunction of these particular planets in this particular constellation **was to be a sign of the Messiah's coming**” (8/888).

According to Josephus and the rabbis, the Egyptians as early as the time of Moses designated **Pisces** as the sign of the Hebrews (22/162).

Moreover, **Jupiter** was regarded as the planet associated with kings and **Saturn** was identified in the East with the Jews. For example, Sanchoniathon, the Phoenician, speaks of “Saturn or Kronos, whom the Phoenicians call Israel.” Kronos had twelve sons, one of whom was Jupiter or Jehu (Judah). It was through the royal tribe of Judah that the Promised one was to come. Jupiter and Saturn were both identified with *Sedeq*, the justice that vindicates the righteous and punishes the guilty (15/184-186).

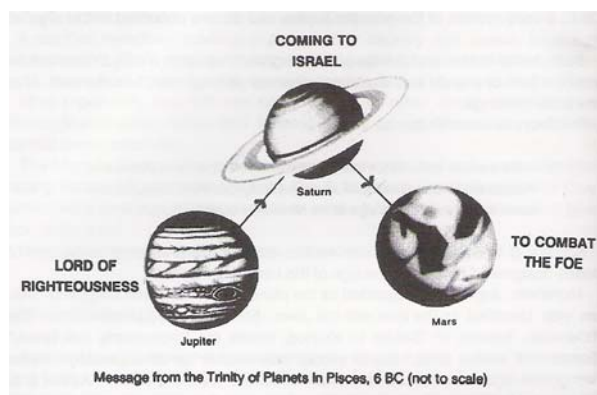
The Jupiter-Saturn conjunction in Pisces had a strong, clear, unambiguous message. To Babylonians and Jews alike, it heralded the coming of the Messiah who would ultimately save the world; and that he would be born among the people signified by Pisces, that is, the Jews. This understanding was commonplace in Jewish tradition. The prophet Jeremiah says of the Messiah: “he shall be called the Lord our *Sedeq* (Righteousness)” (ch. 23:6).

- 2 **It is an ASTRONOMICAL FACT that there occurred THREE successive conjunctions of these same planets in one and the same year** (in May, October and December), indicating a triply illustrious One.

All were in the sign of Pisces.

FACT 3: Also, in February, 6 B.C., **Mars moved into the configuration and stood so as to form a triangle** with the other two planets, a situation known as a massing of the planets.

This trinity occurred in Pisces, connected with the Jewish people.



FACT 4: In March, 5 B.C., and again in April, 4 B.C., a comet without a tail, or a nova, certainly **an unusual “star,” appeared first in Capricornus, the sign of the coming Sacrifice, and later in Aquila, the sign of the enemy of the Serpent** (and one of the decans of Capricornus).
(We shall consider the significance of these zodiac signs in more depth later.)

The conjunctions of 7/6 B.C. could have attracted the attention toward Palestine.

The unusual “star” two years later could have spurred the Magi on their way.

They reached Judea some considerable time before the death of Herod, which fell between December 6 and April 11, 5/4 B.C.

We may conclude that the series of conjunctions led the Magi to look for the Star of the Deliverer.

We cannot doubt that they were following some written or traditional prediction, a prediction referring to some general warning that was to be followed by a definite sign.

It is clear that this warning had occurred **two years** previously, and it was this warning that caused the Magi to look for his sign, “**his star** in the East” (Matt. 2:2).

So it was that these wise men from the East came asking for a newborn king and saying that they had seen his star in the East. Herod, the Roman-appointed puppet king, was nervous about the possible usurper of his throne and “enquired... **what time the star appeared**” (v. 7). The visitors must have informed him concerning the conjunctions and the associated omens. The jealous despot sent his murderers to Bethlehem to butcher an estimated twenty unweaned male infants living there. He was playing safe.

An attestation of the slaughter of the Bethlehem babies comes from Augustus Caesar (Macrobius, *Saturnalia*, lib.2, ch. 4). It is mentioned by Pascal (*Pensees*, 753 in the Penquin edition).

Perhaps by this action Herod felt secure. Fat chance: within months, he was dead – and so lost the throne anyway!

As for the star, some may regard it as entirely mythical, some as completely miraculous*, but it is also possible to suppose and enquire after an actual celestial phenomenon back of the account.

* The suggestion that it was a shining company of angels drawing near to rejoice in the event may not be unreasonable, from the very beginning, these celestial agents have been deeply involved in the controversy, according to biblical sources.

DARING RESCUE MISSION

Could the prophets, all so unanimous, be telling the truth? Perhaps this is a whole new concept to you. If it is different from what you’ve been taught, don’t panic. I’ve also been compelled to face the evidence. So weigh the facts. And then decide.

Just think of the immensity of the drama! According to the prophecies, the Creator was coming to give himself as a ransom. Hearing the cries of his suffering people, he was stirred with pity. Nothing was to be desired while man was an outcast, without hope. So he laid off his royal majesty and stepped down from his high command over the galaxies, to take upon himself feeble human flesh.

Says the former antagonist Paul: “Of his own free will he gave up all he had, and took the nature of a servant. He became like man and took human likeness. He was humble and walked the path of obedience all the way to death- his death on the cross” (Phil.2:7, 8 GNB).

What a distance between the mighty God and a helpless child! One is baffled by such an unfathomable mystery, the Creator of worlds stooping to wear the garb of humanity, combining the two.

What humility was this! It stunned the universe.

The prophets marvel: Into enemy territory, where Satan claimed dominion, God was permitting his Son to come, a helpless babe, subject to the weakness of humanity, at the risk of failure and eternal loss – a rescue plan made with the Father’s full consent and deepest involvement. It was his act, his love and sacrifice also.

So the Deliverer assumed a material body in order that he might, without forcing man’s will, woo him to himself.

Think about it. Could there be a love story with more grandeur? This incredible act has challenged the minds of the most brilliant scholars to this day. The science of redemption is so broad, so deep, so high, that beside it all human philosophy, wisdom and science sinks into insignificance.

This was the most daring rescue mission of all time.

A VIRGIN BIRTH?

Is a virgin birth impossible? Listen. If God exists, I think we must give him credit. Surely he who made the atom knows how to control it.

If such a Being as Jesus existed before his entrance into this world, would he need a human father? He needed only to take humanity through the vehicle of a human mother. A virgin birth would be natural for such a Being.

If God became man, then one would expect him to have an unusual entrance into this life. Certainly it is the only type of birth consistent with the identity and character of such a Deliverer for a lost planet.

BIRTH DATE PROBABLY SEPTEMBER

Has the thought crossed your mind that Jesus may not have been born on December 25? This date of an old pagan festival was not adopted for his birth until hundreds of years after the event.

All the available evidence suggests that the actual birthdate was sometime around (or soon after) September 15 in 5 B.C.

December 25 was midwinter; it was not customary for shepherds to keep flocks in the open later than the end of October.

Nor is it likely that Mary, in her delicate condition, would have travelled to Bethlehem in midwinter.

A Roman census at the time of the Feast of Tabernacles (which in 5 B.C. was September 14-15) is consistent both with Roman policy of minimal inconvenience to Jewish custom (as relating to the need for extra travel), and also with the inn being full at Bethlehem due to the Feast being held in nearby Jerusalem, and not merely to the enrolment.

Jesus' early April crucifixion followed a three and a half year teaching ministry, which commenced, apparently, about the time of his thirtieth birthday (Luke 3:23).

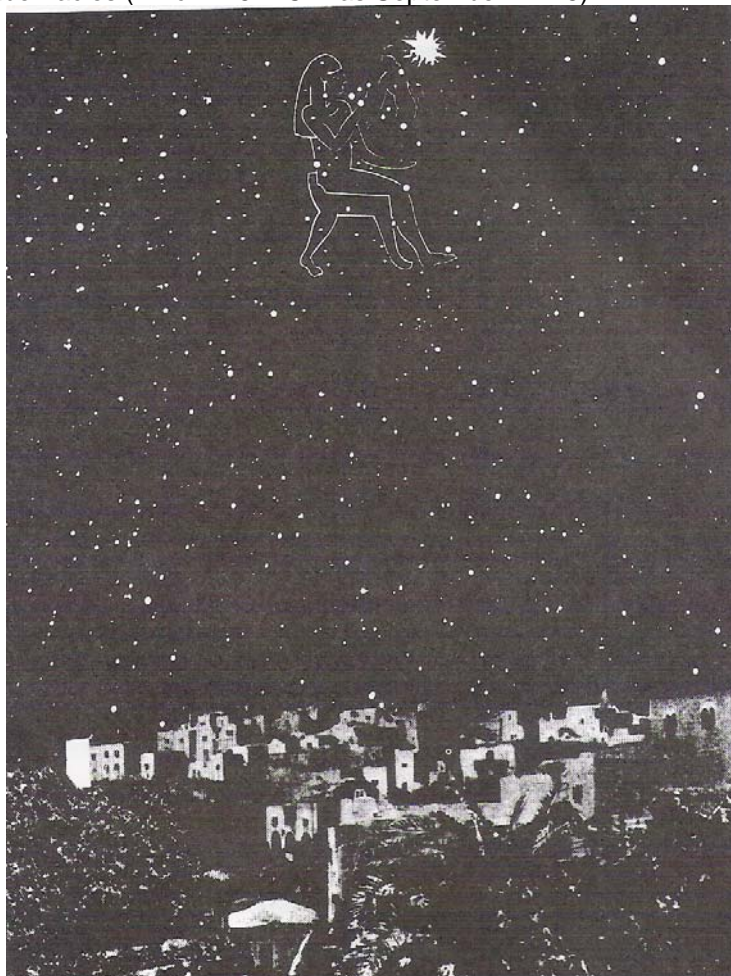
And counting backward from April? You work it out.

MORE STAR FACTS

5 It is an ASTRONOMICAL FACT, independent of all theories or interpretations, **that at the precise hour of midnight in the third week of September, in 5 B.C. the sign of PISCES** (everywhere and always regarded as the sign of the Jewish people) **was on the meridian* above Bethlehem** (the predicted birthplace of the Promised One).

* The highest apparent point reached by a heavenly body in its course

6 It is a further ASTRONOMICAL FACT independent of all hypotheses **that on this date the SUN stood in Virgo** (everywhere and always regarded as the sign of the Virgin mother from whom the divine-human Redeemer was to be born.



David's prophecy (2 Sam. 23:4) "And he shall be as the light of the morning, when the SUN riseth," is explained in the Jewish Midrash on this passage (par. 29, ed, Lemberg, p 56b, lines 7-9 from the top) as applying to the appearance of the Messiah (9/30). He is also termed the SUN of Righteousness and the LIGHT of the world (Mal. 4:2; John 8:12).

So now, at the appointed time, **the SUN stands in the VIRGIN.**

7 It is also a verifiable FACT that just nine months earlier, the sign of the Virgin at midnight was just rising on the eastern horizon.

FACT 8: At the same date, at midnight, the stars of the constellation COMA (the special sign of the woman's infant Seed, the Desire of nations) was like-wise just rising on the eastern horizon.

FACT 9: Both Gentile and Jewish peoples preserved an ancient prophecy that in the period in which the Promised One should be born, **there would appear a very bright star** in the sky (22/161). This new star was **to appear in the sign of the Virgin** (5/36-37).

A new and peculiar star **did** make its appearance in the period immediately preceding Jesus' birth; **it was so bright as to be visible even in the day time; and it continued in the sky during the whole period of Jesus' lifetime, and for a period thereafter** (22/161-163). **It was in the first decan of Virgo, namely Coma, the sign of the Infant accompanying the Virgin, and it marked the very head of that Infant.**

The calculations on these remarkable incidents in the sky are recorded in ancient Mesopotamian and Chinese documents (10/239-247).

They have been repeatedly re-examined by noted astronomers and pronounced to be correct. The facts thus stand attested by the best science.

There can be no doubt that the conjunctions all in the sign of Pisces, along with the new star in the Virgin and Child (Coma) indicated that the One now born could be none other than the divine-human Seed of the woman.

Is it any wonder that the Magi, as they approached Jerusalem, grew excited? That they were soon to see the illustrious Virgin-born Deliverer of the world, whom the zodiac and all sacred writings had been proclaiming from remotest antiquity, they had no longer the least shadow of a doubt.

For long ages the world had awaited him. The time was now.

THE JEWISH EXPECTATION: "HE'S DUE"

There cannot be the slightest doubt that the portents announcing the birth of Jesus were understood by the rabbis (see page 23).

But, more than that, they had the amazing prophecy of Daniel.

Early Jewish documents such as the *Septuagint* (LXX) translation (285-246 B.C.) and the *Testament of the Twelve Patriarchs* (c. 100 B.C.) interpret Daniel's time prophecy (ch. 9:24-27) as referring to the Messiah (12/824-825; 13/47).

Indeed, whether Essene, Hellenistic, Pharisaic or Zealot, "the most usual interpretations [of Dan.9:24-27] of Judaism until after A.D. 70... were of the Messianic kind" (3/521).

Notice this statement in the Talmud:

The Tanna debe Eliyyehu [school of Elijah] teaches: The world is to exist six thousand years. In the first two thousand there was desolation; two thousand years the Torah flourished; **and the next two thousand years is the Messianic era**" (*Talmud Sanhedrin, 97a, Vol.2, p.657*).

c. 4000 BC	Abraham	Messiah	The End
_____ c.2000 yrs _____ _____ c. 2000 yrs _____ _____ c. 2000 yrs _____			
	<i>The Desolation Era</i>	<i>Hebrew Torah Era</i>	<i>Messianic (Christ) Era</i>

The Herodians knew that the time for the appearance of Messiah was at hand. In their worldly perception of the event, this sect regarded King Herod himself as the Messiah (1/282). From Daniel's

prophecy, they correctly found that the predicted term of 490 years was approaching its completion in the time of Herod.

“But,” notes Anstey, “when the true Messiah was rejected, and the time for His coming had gone by, [the Jews]... corrupted their Chronology and shortened the duration of the kingdom of Persia, so as to be able apply the prophecy to Theudas and Judas of Galilee....and at length to Bar Cochab...” (1/283).

The point is this: **The general expectation of the Jews as that the time for Messiah’s appearance had arrived.** Hence the Jews sent priests and Levites to John the Baptist, to ask him, Who are you? “And he confessed... I am not the Messiah.” Then when Jesus himself appeared, many said, “This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world” (John 1:19, 20; 6:14; 7:40, 41).

John the Baptist understood the chronology of Daniel’s prophecy and made it one of the bases of his appeal, “Repent ye, for the kingdom of heaven **is at hand**” (Matt. 3:2).

A UNIQUE LIFE

There can be NO REASONABLE DOUBT that Jesus came at the precise time predicted. And he made the audacious claim that he was the long awaited Seed of the woman, the divine-human Deliverer.

A hollow claim, indeed, if he could not prove it. I suggest that if you want irrefutable proof whether Jesus was whom he said he was, it is to the ancient Hebrew prophecies that you must turn. If he doesn’t measure up to the prophecies, it matters not how many miracles he worked.

The fulfillment of any single prophecy would prove little. But it is the combined strands of not 8, not 45, but 332 distinct predictions which form an unbreakable rope of evidence – and make Jesus’ claims absolutely indisputable.

Many of the prophecies, you see, were totally beyond human control – such as place and manner of birth, betrayal, manner of death, other peoples’ reactions, piercing of his side, not breaking his bones, unusual manner of burial, and so on.

Prophecies came true that no imposter could have deliberately acted out.
AND THAT’S A FACT!!

You ask, if there was so much evidence, then **why did the Jewish leaders reject him?**

This may surprise you. Did you know that Jesus came down EXPECTING TO BE REJECTED by the nation of Israel? The prophecies actually stated that this would happen – that he would be despised by the very people who foretold his coming, but would be accepted as Deliverer by other nations. What a paradox!

You see, the religious leaders had misapplied Scripture. They had taken prophecies that apply to his second coming in glory and forcibly applied them to their own time. Then they rejected Jesus because he did not fit their mistaken assumptions, because he did not come in the power and glory of a king, to deliver them locally from the Romans.

His acts and words were recorded by astonished eyewitnesses who were minutely careful and accurate as only a contemporary can be. (As an example, where Luke’s truthfulness as an historian has been put to the test by archaeologists and skeptical modern researchers, he has been verified in every possible way.)

The events described are attached to a Person the writers knew in time-space dimension history, the historic Jesus of Nazareth whom they knew personally.

Jesus told them he had come to conquer sin and death on mankind’s behalf and to demonstrate God’s love to a rebellious world.

If we are to believe this testimony, the life of Jesus was, indeed, the long awaited showdown – the predicted head-on collision with the invisible forces of Satan.

And Satan? He was ready, determined that Jesus should fail. His first move was an assassination attempt on the new born Babe. When that missed its target, the evil one waited. And from the moment Jesus went public, he was Target Number One. Satan hounded him relentlessly all the way through his public ministry, trying to trip him up, to get him to sin if even by a word.

The God-man alone could undertake the combat the powers of darkness on man’s behalf. Singlehandedly, he withstood the foe to his throne.

This Man, the testifiers assure us, suffered all our temptations and carried all our griefs; we have to bear that he has not endured. Thus, it is claimed, he understands the full force of all suffering, pain and temptations that are thrust upon each of us. Indeed, suffering was more keenly felt by Jesus, for he

was free from the taint of sin.

Of this I am certain: He was the most real man that ever lived. There never was another like him, so tender and compassionate, so wise and strong. He gave abundant evidence that God is love.

You see, he didn't just promise "pie in the sky." He showed that THIS LIFE WE HAVE HERE, with all its frustrations, limitations and mortality, is capable of achieving the very best and the most satisfying that one can ever imagine. He honoured humanity. Having taken our fallen nature, he showed what it might become.

Perhaps at some time or other you have wondered, **Was this man kidding himself? Or us?**

HIS PREPOSTEROUS CLAIMS

You see, he made some seemingly impossible assertions and promises. He said: "heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall never pass away"; "I am the only One who can save mankind"; "I will judge the world and raise the dead."

Jesus claimed to be no mere holy man- he claimed to be the ONLY. He made the incredible claim that he, a simple carpenter's son among the shavings and sawdust of his father's workshop, was in reality God in the flesh!

Former agnostic C.S. Lewis, a professor at Cambridge University, puts his finger on the issue:

A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would be either a lunatic – on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg – or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God; or else a madman or something worse (17/40, 41).

He adds:

Let us not come up with any patronising nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to (Ibid).

It boils down to this: If his claims were **false**, there are two alternatives:

1 He **knew** it – so he was a liar and also a fool because he died for it. Interestingly, I have not yet met a skeptic who will admit Jesus was a deceiver. How could an imposter have continued to demonstrate from beginning to end "the purest and noblest character in history with the most perfect air of truth and reality"? (Schaff: 18/106)

2 He did **not** know his claims were false – so he was deluded, a lunatic. And he led millions of others to die for his false promises. Yet how could he be a deluded madman? The evidence shows his mind was so keen that it was more than a match for the sharpest intellects of his day. No, he was not unaware of reality.

Perhaps it is significant that even such a man as Goethe (an antagonist of Christianity) should concede: "If ever the Divine appeared on earth, it was in the Person of Christ" (21/110).

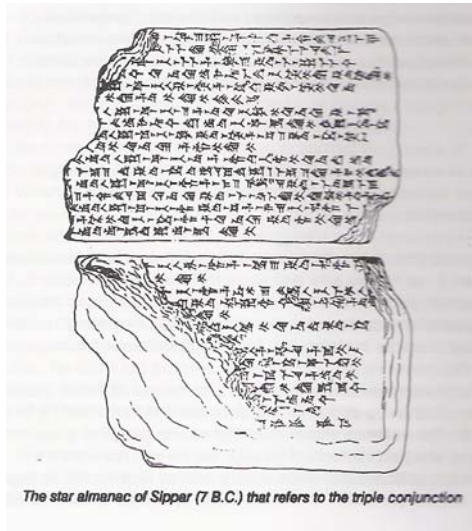
Jesus' life, acts and statements set him far apart from every other person in history. He is either EVERYTHING for mankind or NOTHING – either the highest certainty or the greatest delusion.

Was he a liar?

Was he a deluded madman?

Or were his claims true? ... Draw your own conclusions.

If his claims are true, then our survival depends on him.



The star almanac of Sippar (7 B.C.) that refers to the triple conjunction

In the next chapter there follows something really astonishing.

TWO STARS OF DEATH

Did you hear of the 89-year-old man who threw a Molotov cocktail through the window of his 68-year-old sweetheart's apartment?

She had rejected him for another man. The woman knew whodunnit. The Molotov had been in her former boyfriend's prune juice bottle.

"It was his brand," she told police.

His brand... Splashed across the zodiac are the signs CAPRICORNUS (the Goat) and ARIES (the Ram or Lamb).

In the ancient world both were sacrificial animals. And while we shall examine them later, it will be helpful to mention them now. The fact is, they were known to be symbolic of the coming Deliverer, by whose self-sacrifice mankind was to be given hope of forgiveness and reconciliation with the Creator.

These emblems were regarded as his personal *brand, trademark, or symbol*.

Let's be clear on this. The Promised One's death was no accident. It was intended, foretold and prepared for. Jesus sacrificed himself. Men in their wickedness put him on the cross, but it was he who gave himself into their hands to do it. He voluntarily took a course that he knew would lead to his death.

That was the very reason he had come. His plan was firstly, to live as a human successfully resisting sin, so that his perfect life could be credited against that of each unworthy individual who accepted him. And secondly, although undeserving of death, to die in the place of each guilty one, to free him from the penalty of endless death. But only if such a person accepted this rescue. He would do it for all – but each individual must accept it. He would compel nobody.

"Abrabanel [the Jewish commentator] states that during the month Nisan,... the messianic redemption is to occur... at the Passover... Nisan is associated with Aries" (15/186). For the importance of this, read on."

The hijacker had charged that God was a tyrant who did not care about his subjects, and that he, Satan, could set up a better government. Such an accusation could only be answered if the rebel were given time to show his true colours. And when the watching universe saw the centuries of hatred, heartache and death on planet Earth, they began to understand.

And when they saw God come to the rescue of man and saw Satan instigate the crucifixion of his own Creator, inflicting on him the most shameful, the most agonizing of deaths, there was no longer any doubt. The cross was both the ultimate evidence of his malicious hatred, and of the Creator's great love for man.

No longer can there be any doubt as to who is responsible for this planet's tears and who it is that really cares.

Now here's something to ponder. Did you know that in 536 B.C. the prophet Daniel received **advance information** on the year of the crucifixion? And Moses (1486 B.C.) **FORETOLD THE MONTH, THE DAY AND EVEN THE HOUR**. These prophecies were fulfilled to the very letter.

MYSTERIOUS DARKNESS

The Jewish Talmuds confirm the day of the crucifixion:

On the eve of the Passover they hanged Yeshu (of Nazareth)... But they found nought in his defence and hanged him on the eve of Passover.
(Babylonia *Sanhedrin* 43a – “Eve of Passover”) (18/85-86)

Passover occurred always on the fourteenth day of the Jewish month Nisan, which was the time of full moon.

Now notice. The Bible claims that as Jesus hung dying on the cross, for three hours in the middle of the day a mysterious darkness enveloped the land.

Such an interruption to natural law required the intervention of a higher law. Objections that it could not happen are absurdly irrelevant in the face of the astonishing fact that it did happen.

The darkness, so well known, required a naturalistic explanation from those unbelievers who witnessed it.

In 52 A.D., the Samaritan-born historian Thallus wrote a history, now lost, but cited by other writers. Julius Africanus (c. 221 A.D.) states:

Thallus, in the third book of his histories, explains away this darkness as an eclipse of the sun – unreasonably, as it seems to me (4/113).

Cornelius Tacitus, a Roman historian (born 52-54 A.D., wrote in 112 A.D.) bears witness concerning “... the persons commonly called Christians... Christus, the founder of the name, was put to death by Pontius Pilate, procurator of Judea in the reign of Tiberius” (*Annals*, xv, 44) (18/82). The first century historian Phlegon, in his *Chronicles*, confirms that “during the time of Tiberius Caesar an eclipse of the sun occurred during the full moon” (19/1165).

Could it have been a natural eclipse? Listen. This darkness was in two respects unnatural: in its **duration** (from noon till three in the afternoon) and also in its **time** (about full moon, when the moon could not possibly eclipse the sun – being in the opposite part of the sky).

Philoanon writes:

And about this darkness... Phlegon recalls it in the *Olympiads*... he did not know from his sources about any (similar) eclipse in previous times... and this is shown by the historical account itself of Tiberius Caesar (De. opif. mund. II 21) (16/c.1165).

And something else.

DEATH STARS

It is an ASTRONOMICAL FACT that the sun was in ARIES (the sign of the RAM, or LAMB, that was to be slain) on April 27, 31 A.D.

On this date, at the very hour of the Crucifixion, it stood at the very spot marked by the stars *El Nath* (“the pierced,” “the wounded,” or “slain”) and *Al Sheraton* (“the bruised or “wounded”).

During the noon day darkness, the SUN was seen near **those stars which were associated with the death of the promised One.**

Coincidence... or intent? You decide.

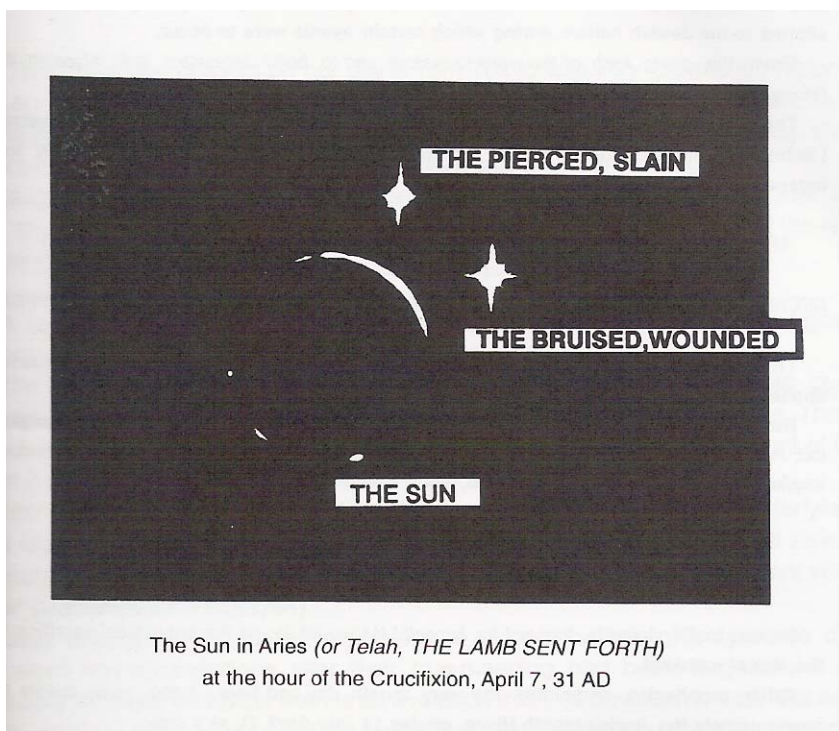
THE RESURRECTION

Not only did Jesus prophesy his own death; he predicted that he would rise alive the third day.

Let’s make no mistake about this. Jesus’ resurrection, while unique, is world history and not fiction. On April 29, 31 A.D. occurred an event for which there is overwhelming historical-legal evidence, positive and negative, factual and circumstantial – evidence that reasonable minds can understand and accept. You can try to fault it, but you’re doomed to failure. Indeed, his bodily resurrection is the only conclusion that fits all the strands of evidence. If you’re interested, there are some excellent works available on the subject (e.g. 18/179-263). This is very accessible data.

What is more, it makes sense. The FACT of the resurrection is a seal of Jesus' ability to keep his promise and complete what he began – ultimately returning to end human history, put down the enemy and raise to endless life all who have committed their destiny to him.

This is COLOSSAL news; more people have given their lives for it than for any other cause in history. For that reason alone it merits investigation from any intelligent person who wants to know the truth.



SKEPTICISM REFUTED BY A DATE

Perhaps the most amazing of all Messianic predictions is Daniel's prophecy of the "seventy sevens" of years (Dan. 9:24-27).

It was 536 B.C. The Jews were exiled in Babylon. Jerusalem lay in ruins. But in a vision Daniel was promised that the prophetic clock would begin again for Israel – with a decree to rebuild and restore Jerusalem. And "seventy weeks" of years (490 years) would be allotted to the Jewish nation, during which certain events were to occur.

"From the going forth of the word to restore and to build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince shall be seven sevens (49 years) and sixty-two sevens (434 years)."

The decree to restore Jerusalem was ultimately issued by the Persian king Artaxerxes I in his seventh year, which overlaps our 458-457 B.C. – a date firmly established by four independent historical sources.

458/457 BC	409/408 B.C.	26/27 A.D.
-----49 Years-----	-----434 Years-----	
DECREE ISSUED	RESTORATION COMPLETED	MESSIAH TO APPEAR

There is solid documentary evidence that at the precise time foretold by Daniel, Jesus appeared publicly to begin his work as the Messiah, or Christ.

But the prophecy went further: "And after" this, "in the midst of" the next seven year period, that is, after a further three and a half years, "shall Messiah be cut off." This expression implied that he would die not a natural, but a violent death.

MESSIAH TO APPEAR	MESSIAH'S VIOLENT DEATH
-----3.5 YEARS-----	

He was to die violently, "but not for himself." He would die as the substitute sacrifice for the sins of mankind.

Other prophecies pinpointed the very month, day and hour, 1,500 years before the event: namely the Jewish month Nisan, on day 14 (our April 27), at 3 pm.

The death of the Promised One at the precise moment at which it was foretold, has become the pivot of the world's history, just as his birth has become the central epoch of the world's chronology.

THE ASTROLOGY SHOCK

“That Japanese hostess on our plane from Tokyo was very pleasant,” reported Leo Mimura when he got home. “She had a good command of English, but some pronunciation difficulty. As we landed at the Itami airfield near Osaka, she announced: ‘We hope you enjoyed your fright and will fry with us again.’”*

Language... Not only can it be fascinating; it is pregnant with power. Later in this chapter we shall discover how the alteration of a mere letter triggered the redrawing of a star legend.

A universal array of ancient myths and sagas was founded on the star signs, a corrupted paraphrase of the original message.

The Greeks, for example, held the zodiac in high regard because of its perceived holy origin, yet they were often at a total loss to explain the signs. They could only preserve an ancient figure and give a confused and lame account of it, or let it stand wholly unexplained.

Many Greeks acknowledged that there was something greater underlying their legends. Aristotle said that much had been “added after the mythical style.” Although much was also “preserved to our times as the remains of ancient wisdom” (*Metaphysics 10:8*) (2/64).

Says Bullinger: “The Greek mythology is an interpretation of (only some of) the signs and constellations after their true meaning had been forgotten. It is popularly believed that Bible truth is an evolution from, or development of, the ancient religions of the world. But the fact is that they themselves are a **corruption and perversion of primitive truth!**” (5//22).

How this occurred may surprise you.

**Readers Digest*, December 1973

MONOTHEISM AT FIRST

As research penetrates into the most inaccessible portions of the world, it becomes apparent that all men are from one central point. Human culture history is a single connected story.

Furthermore, the evolutionary theory that the first men worshipped many gods and that the idea of “one God” evolved later has been largely demolished by archaeology. It now appears that MONOtheism (one “high God”) lay at the root of all religions, but that after 2000 B.C. monotheism degenerated into pantheism, polytheism and animism.

Archaeologists and historians of unimpeachable accuracy (Horn, Faber, Rawlinson, Waddell and Budge, to name a few) insist from their discoveries that the earliest Sumerians, Iranians, Phoenicians Egyptians and Indians were monotheists. Ancient textual evidence shows that the trend was to **increase** the number of gods as time passed, rather than decrease them (14/12).

This harmonises with biblical claims. It is only the later nations who were POLYtheists (worshipping many gods).

GRADUAL CORRUPTION

The corruption was gradual.

It can be shown that the various systems of pagan mythology originated from a common source. THAT SOURCE IS BABYLON, IN THE TIME OF NIMROD, shortly before 2000 B.C.

Notice these stages:

Gradually the universal worship of the Creator who was behind the sun, moon and stars, degenerated into veneration of these visible heavenly bodies themselves.

As migrants scattered from Babylon, such influence spread worldwide. Everywhere, under different names, the counterfeit took hold, the gods of each nation bearing the same functions and symbols and represented in the same way.

This counterfeit ultimately usurped the true.

HOW SUN WORSHIP BEGAN

The prophesied Messiah, in the earliest times, was associated with the bringing of **spiritual LIGHT**. This symbolic meaning was soon displaced by “actuality,” **physical LIGHT**, represented by the SUN.

From this desire for physical images, it was a simple matter to begin worshipping the sun.

All over this planet, sun-plates and sun-pillars were erected and the smoke of strange altars ascended. The sun-god became the highest god. At dawn services from Asia to Europe to South America, royal families, nobles and common people stood silent and still, their eyes turned toward the east, awaiting the great moment when the first brilliant red rays should shine forth above the horizon. In some countries, a human image representing the sun was worshipped by casting live children into the fire in its belly.

The burning of incense took place not merely to the sun and moon, but also to the signs of the zodiac and their stars. These came to be regarded as gods. Astrology was a form of polytheism. These “gods” were consulted on behalf of the nation.

The perversion developed further. The predicted **resurrection** was actually deemed to be enacted in the annual decay and regrowth of vegetation. **Regeneration** became less important and was confused with **reproduction**. The solar year and its vegetational “death and resurrection” therefore became the literal enactment of the death and resurrection of the sun-god.

And along with the sun developed the worship of its earthly symbol, the snake, who, it was held, had “enlightened” mankind. Snake cults spread worldwide. Satan had indeed become the “god of this world”*. He had succeeded in getting himself worshipped – even if covertly by a symbol.

*2 Cor. 4:4

HUMAN SACRIFICE AND CANNIBALISM

In the early sacrificial symbol which spoke of the promised Redeemer, the participant partook of the flesh of the animal. This implied acceptance of the benefits of the promised atonement, as well as digesting the “Word” of the Rescuer.

Pharaoh Unas (fifth Dynasty) is quoted as symbolically “eating the gods,” that is, their words of power and their spirits.

Later, when animal sacrifice was degraded into human sacrifice, the Messianic rite gave way to a sacrament of cannibalism.

Instead of *rejecting* the doctrine of deliverance, the world at large *corrupted* it. Such adaption runs through all their rites, whether the sacrifice was animal or human.

However cruel and nonsensical these perversions, their effect was delightful – they got rid of God. They painted him as a tyrant, far removed from pity. Satan, the “prince of this world,” had made sure of that.

This was an important development in the intensifying conflict between the “woman’s Seed” and the “Serpent,” between the Creator who desires man’s best good and the enemy who is trying to destroy us all.

By degrees, the evil one was twisting the hope of a coming Rescuer into a hideous counterfeit; he hoped that if man could only be alienated from his Creator, the Deliverer might abandon his plan.

ATTEMPT TO SUPPRESS THE MESSAGE

But the zodiac was a problem: it continued to survive – and its predictions were clear. So important was the underlying message the Creator had for mankind in the zodiac,

that, as the Promised One's coming drew near, Satan again stepped in. He would pervert the zodiac for his own purposes.

So it is interesting to find that by 300 B.C. a system of casting individual horoscopes was engineered. This was built on the notion that the stars themselves were gods with intelligence, emotions and will. The stars, knowing what was best, wisely chose each person's destiny.

Since then, the fraudulent one has done his work so well that most Christians (bless them) want nothing to do with the zodiac or its figures, and often seem to fear them. What irony!

As a matter of interest, language and other factors did play a minor role in the corruption of the zodiac message.

You will recall the first decan of Virgo, originally a virgin nursing a child, was called in Oriental language **COMA**, which meant "THE DESIRED" – and that the boy had a Hebrew name meaning Christ! No way would the arch-enemy permit a prophecy so obviously Messianic to remain. Events, therefore, were so arranged that in the place of Coma appeared a wig! The Greeks, unaware of the significance of *Coma*, substituted for it *Co-me*, their own word for hair, and to explain the word came up with a fanciful tale involving Berenice's hair. Which makes sense if you sort of screw up-your eyes and cross your fingers.

Most modern star charts, therefore, designate Coma not as they should, but as *Coma Berenicae*.

Likewise the sign **BOOTES**, today shown as a Greek Ploughman, should really be seen as a far more ancient Oriental Shepherd.

CURIOUSER AND CURIOUSER

And **URSA MINOR** and **URSA MAJOR** (*the Bears*) are not really bears at all. Have you ever seen a bear with a long uplifted tail? Originally, I kid you not, these were sheepfolds.

You can see, then, how the true meaning has been obscured, either intentionally or unintentionally, over the centuries. To lend a helping hand, scientific self-will has crowded it with impertinent and unmeaning additions.

Of course, if you breathe a word about this to some people, you'll become a "fringe freak" or a "fruitcake" – and we all know what that means, don't we?

But be assured, the evidence is reliable and will stand up under a thorough examination. Despite every abuse, the primeval zodiac can still be traced and its main features unmistakably identified.

The significance of this is BREATHTAKING. Here is the most POWERFUL message in the world. It makes all else look trivial.

Our planet has been visited. And do you comprehend what's on offer?
YOU'VE GOT TO BE DEAD NOT BE EXCITED ABOUT THIS!

A PURPOSEFUL STRUCTURE

We are now almost ready to explore the zodiac picture gallery sign by sign.

As noted earlier, there were both a Solar and a Lunar zodiac. The Lunar zodiac had 28 sections, suggested by the 28 days of the moon's revolution around the earth. In China it was known as early as 2000 B.C.

Not only did it begin with Virgo (22/141), the names of its 28 Mansions (stages) and of the stars in them, are the same, in both order and meaning, as those of the Solar zodiac.

It is the same panorama of the history game, the same clearly laid out progression of future events.

However, we shall confine ourselves to the Solar zodiac, with its many details.

The Solar zodiac is divided into three sections, or *books*, each with its own theme:

Book A (Signs 1-4): The woman's promised Seed

Book B (Signs 5-8): His rescued people

Book C (signs 9-12): The final triumph of his plan

Within **each BOOK**, there is an orderly progress of thought, consistent throughout in its details. The planned structure of each book is identical (see chart on page 48).

And **each SIGN**, with its features and explanatory decans, weaves harmoniously into one consistent theme. Clear evidence of one Master Mind.

STAR NAMES CONFIRM THE MEANING

That is not all. The meaning of each is confirmed by the names of its chief **STARS**. The meanings of these star names are largely determined by the ancient Noetic or Hebrew roots from which they are formed. These are interpreted by the light of the best linguistic guides.

It is possible to check, if you wish, the accuracy of the ancient star-names which have come down to us, since they are still preserved in every good celestial atlas.

In our explanation of the zodiac we shall identify ancient sources by the following codes:

A Arabic	H Hebrew
B Babylonian	I Indian
C Chaldean	L Latin
Cp Coptic	O Oriental
E Egyptian	P Persian
Eth Ethiopian	S Syriac
G Greek	

To appreciate the "BIG PICTURE" – the clearly laid out progression of events – I suggest you read the accompanying chart (overleaf) TWICE.

First scan each column from left to right, then from top to bottom. The design will become apparent.

So let's get into it.

BOOK	PROMISE CONCERNING THE DELIVERER	THE WORK NEEDED TO ACHIEVE VICTORY		TRIUMPH OF THE DELIVERER
		Favour Bestowed	Conflict Endured	
A. THE PROMISED DELIVERER His Person, Work and Triumph	1. VIRGO Coma Centaurus Bootes <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">THE SEED BORN TO BE BRUSIED</div>	2. LIBRA Crux Lupus Corona <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">THE PRICE PAID</div>	3. SCORPIO Serpens Ophiuchus Hercules <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">THE STRUGGLE</div>	4. SAGITTARIUS Lyra Ara Draco <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">EVENTUAL VICTORY MADE CERTAIN</div>
B. THE RESCUED ONES (fruits of the Deliverer's work) Their History and Destiny	5. CAPRICORN Sagitta Aquila Delphinus <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">HIS DEATH MAKES POSSIBLE THEIR LIFE</div>	6. AQUARIUS Pisces Aust. Pegasus Cygnus <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">A FLOW OF BLESSINGS BESTOWED</div>	7. PISCES Al Risha Cepheus Andromeda <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">BLESSINGS ENJOYED WHILE SUFFERING</div>	8. ARIES Cassiopeia Cetus Perseus <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">HIS PEOPLE RELEASED</div>
C. THE JUDGMENT PERIOD AND CONSUMMATION United glory of the Deliverer and His Rescued People	9. TAURUS Orion Eridanus Auriga <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">HE RETURNS AS JUDGE</div>	10. GEMINI Lepus Canis Major Canis Minor <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">HIS PEOPLE REIGN WITH HIM</div>	11. CANCER Ursa Minor Ursa Major Argo <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">ALL POSESSIONS NOW SAFE FROM CONFLICT</div>	12. LEO Hydra Crater Corvus <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">FINAL TRIUMPH OVER THE ENEMY</div>

STING OF THE SCORPION

BOOK A (Signs 1-4)

THE PROMISED DELIVERER (His First Coming, to Suffer)

1 THE WOMAN'S SEED

* VIRGO: THE WOMAN'S PROMISED SEED



The Virgin awaits her promised son. His name is the *Seed*, or *Branch*, who shall come down (see page 15).

(a) COMA: THE NATIONS' DESIRED CHILD



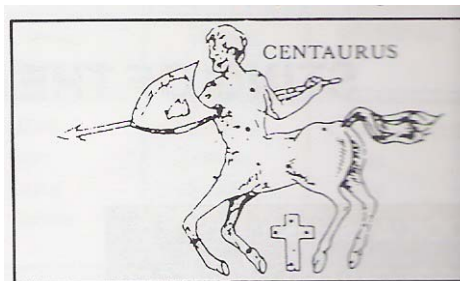
This child desired by all nations has a Hebrew name, Ihesu (see page 17).

(b) CENTAURUS: THE DUAL-NATURED MAN IN HUMILIATION



Next on the ancient star maps appear an animal with a man's head, or sometimes a **man** with the head of a **sacrificial animal**, either a ram or calf (E). He is a **double-natured being**, to man repulsive hateful, yet really great and beneficent, pushing with his lance at the heart of some victim (his dual role of **both sacrifice and the offerer of the sacrifice**).

He is positioned directly above the SOUTHERN **CROSS**, which speaks to us of his death upon a cross.

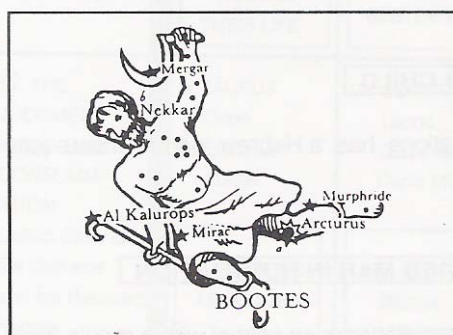


Centaurus was anciently called *Bezeh* (A,C,H), which means “**THE DESPISED**”; *Asmeath* (H), which means “**SIN-OFFERING**”; and *Knemu* (E), meaning “**APPOINTED TO DIE.**”

The brightest star (seen in the foreleg) is *Toliman*, meaning “**THE HERETOFORE AND THE HEREAFTER,**” that is, the ETERNAL. It is known also as *Cheiron* (G), signifying “**THE PIERCED.**” The star *Pholas* means “**THE MEDIATOR.**”

Here is a portrayal of an Eternal Being with a dual nature – God and man in one person – “**despised**” by man (Isa.53:3) and “**an offering for sin**” (v.10), as a sacrifice and be the Mediator between the two parties, God and man.

(c) BOOTES: THE EXALTED SHEPHERD AND HARVESTER



Bootes means “**THE COMING ONE**” (G, E, H, O).

was also called Arctophylax, “**THE GUARDIAN OF THE ARTOS, THE GREATER FLOCK.**”

Star names mean “**THE PIERCED,**” “**WHO BRUISES**” and “**THE PRESERVER.**” The star name *Al Katurops* (on his right arm) means “**THE BRANCH,**” “**THE ROD.**” Bootes is depicted as the keeper, the ruler and protector of the flock.

He also bears a **sickle** as the great Harvester, gathering in a harvest, his flock. Another star is called *Murphride*, meaning “**WHO SEPARATES,**” as in the sense of separating sheep from goats.

What an amazing parallel with the biblical portrayal!

Jesus is called “the **Shepherd** of our souls;” “the good **Shepherd** lays down his life for the sheep” (1 Pet.2:25; Heb 13:20; John 10:11 NIV). He says “My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life... no one can snatch them out of my hand” (John 10:27.28 NIV).

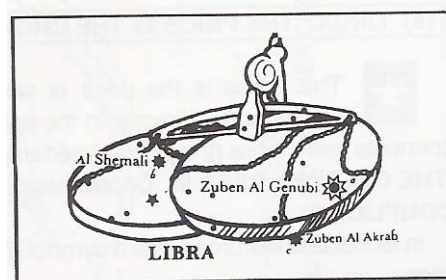
To complete the identification, Jesus is depicted at the end of human history as returning with a **sickle** in his hand (Rev.14:14-16), to harvest his flock and “**separate** the sheep from the goats” (Matt 25:32; compare 13:30, 38, 39).

2 HIS SUPREME PAYMENT

* LIBRA: A PRICE TO BY PAID



Next is a pair of Balances. The position of the beam, which a feather’s weight may alter, bespeaks the fortunes of the characters pictured – the adjustment of a vast and mighty feud.



And the whole instrument in operation indicates the eternal justice which presides over the universe.

The downside of the scales is toward the deadly Scorpion. In some zodiacs the bowl on the left side was held by the scorpion's claws; in others the claws occasionally intruded on the place of the scales. In the Persian zodiac, a person lifts these balances in one hand, and grasps a **lamb** with the other – thus declaring that the price to be paid, to be measured out in scales, is to be the life of the Lamb.

Other names for this star sign are *Al Zubena (A)*, meaning “**PURCHASE,**” “**REDEMPTION,**”^{*} “**GAIN,**” and *Lambadia (Cp)*, meaning “**THE GRACIOUS BRANCH.**”

Star names reflect the meaning of this sign. A star on one side of the scales means “**THE PRICE DEFICIENT**”; a star name on the other side (*Kaphar*) signifies “**THE PRICE THAT COVERS.**” This same Hebrew word is repeatedly used in the Old Testament and translated “**atonement**” or “**covering**” of signs. Another star is *Zuben Akrabi* – “**THE PRICE OF THE CONFLICT**”.

The imagery of Libra is used in the Bible

Men are “laid in the **balance**” (Psa.62:9). “weighed in the **balances** and found wanting” (Dan. 5:27). One can be saved only through the Deliverer's sacrifice as our Substitute. Sin is like a debt; it can be discharged by a friend of the debtor. If the government condemns, it can accept a Substitute for the penalty. So, we are informed, Jesus has “**redeemed** us to God” by his shed blood (Rev 5:9).

The accompanying decans amplify this idea further.

(a) CRUX: THE PRICE IS THE CROSS ENDURED



The Cross is the price at which the redemption was to be bought. Crux stands directly in the path of Centaurus the “Sin-Offering,” and connects with Libra (the price of redemption). It's Hebrew name (*Adom*) means “**THE CUTTING OFF.**” It's Coptic name (*Sera*) means “**TRIUMPH BY A GREAT CONFLICT.**”

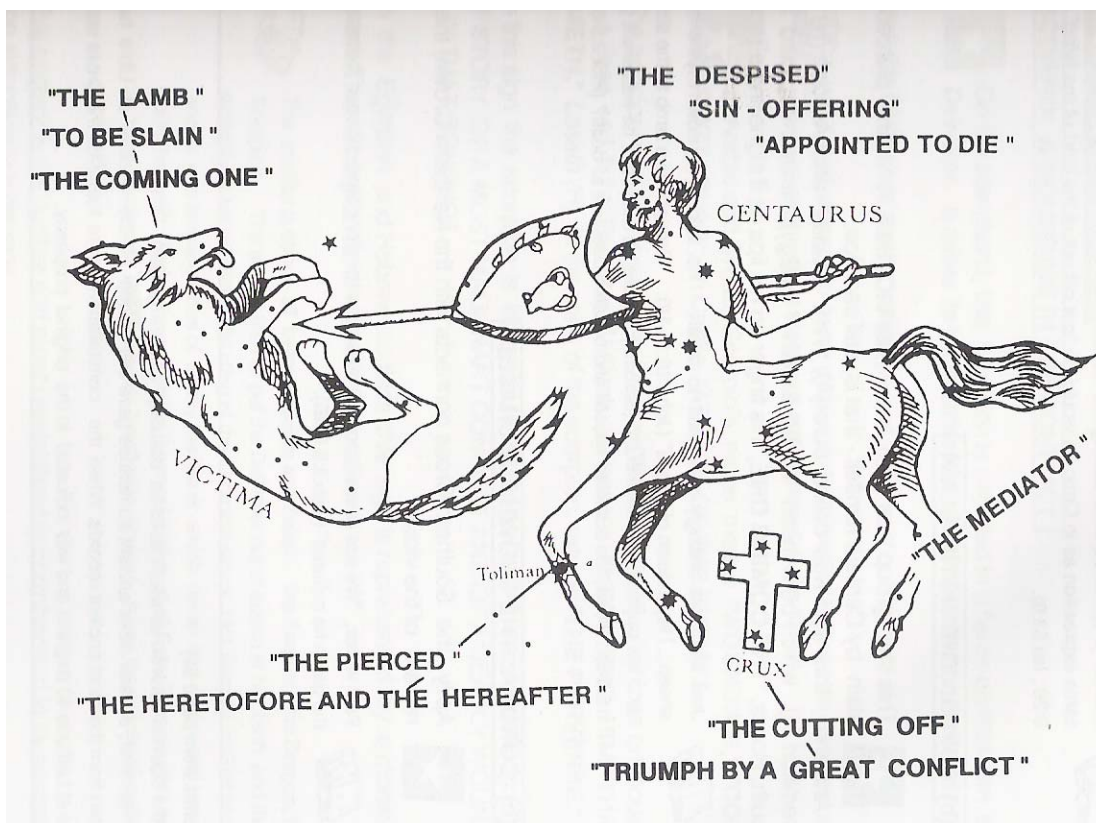
In all nations the cross was a symbol of victory, life and immortality through sacrifice. Appropriately, this sign (the Southern Cross) **was last seen on the horizon of Jerusalem about the time Jesus was crucified.**^{**}

Biblical prophecies, in foretelling the violent death of the coming Messiah, used the same expression as in Crux: he would be “**cut off** out of the land of the living” (Dan. 9:26; Isa. 53:8).

*Redemption (or ransom) is the *buying* back of something that has been taken from the owner.

** The list of Hipparchus and Ptolemy omitted the Southern Cross because it was intended to indicate only what could then be seen and identified in the sky. The Cross had by the precession of the equinox sunk so far south as to be scarcely visible any more.

However, several other ancient authorities gave this as one of the decans of Libra handed down from the most ancient records. When the constellations were founded, the Cross was visible at Latitude 40 degrees and was indicated in the original prophecy.



(b) LUPUS: THE VICTIM



This star group was also known as **VICTIMA**. A victim, pierced and slain by Centaur himself – that is, self sacrifice.

Anciently, this sign was called *Sura (A)*, “**THE LAMB**,” and *Asedah (H)* and *Asedaton (A)*, which both mean “**TO BE SLAIN**.” In Egypt, it was depicted as a youth, Horus, “**THE COMING ONE**,” his finger on his lips as if signalling **silence**.

Just so, Jesus willingly submitted to death. He said, “I lay down my life for the sheep... I lay it down of myself” (John 10:15-18). “Brought as a lamb to the slaughter... he opened not his mouth” (Isa. 53:7); before his accusers, he was silent (Mark 15:3-5); rather, “he humbled himself and became obedient to death” (Phil. 2:5-8 NIV).

(c) CORONA: THE CROWN PURCHASED



Aptly, the Southern Cross connects with the Northern Crown, the final reward of the victim.

Paul writes, “We see Jesus... now **crowned** with glory and honour because of the death he suffered” (Heb. 2:9 GNB).

***SCORPIO: A WOUNDING IN THE CONFLICT**

On the star charts, this Scorpion is depicted in a fierce conflict with the Deliverer. It raises its tail to strike his heel. He treads on its head.

And the Bible uses similar imagery:

“God shall **wound the head** of his enemies” (Psa. 68:21); “**tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy**” (Luke 10:19)



In Arabic and Syriac, Scorpio’s name means “**WOUNDING**,” “**CONFLICT**,” “**WAR**”; in Coptic, “**ATTACK OF THE ENEMY**.”

The principal star in the group is *Antares* (“**WOUNDING**”). It shines ominously with a deep red light. The star *Al Akrab (A)* means “**WOUNDING HIM THAT COMETH**.” *Lesath (H)* in the sting of the scorpion means “**THE PERVERSE**”.

In this sign the scorpion is lifting its tail in anger as in the act of striking: IT IS THE STORY OF A MOST MALIGNANT CONFLICT AND OF A DEADLY WOUNDING IN THAT CONFLICT.

In the Egyptian and Hebrew zodiacs this sign is represented by a monster **serpent**. Thus **Scorpio** ranks with the **Serpent**.

The conflict is above all between Jesus and Satan – the Serpent, the Dragon, the Scorpion. The enemy tried to put the Deliverer out of action at his birth and then throughout his ministry. The sting of the Scorpion struck him fiercely in Gethsemane. It was an experience of agony the like of which never had been and never could be again. And at the crucifixion the most terrible of all Satan’s onslaughts had to be encountered. The Deliverer’s “heel” was bruised. It was the prophetic zodiac sign fulfilled.

This contest is still further and most unmistakably corroborated in its accompanying sidepieces or decans.

(a) SERPENS: THE SERPENT STRIVING FOR THE CROWN

The first decan of Scorpio is Serpens, “the great Serpent,” in all its giant proportions. The serpent is stretching after Corona, the celestial Crown, and is only kept from taking it by being held fast by a manly figure grasping him firmly with both hands.

The Serpent and the Scorpion are expository of each other. Not only do we see the enemy attacking and inflicting intense anguish; there is also a fierce contest for the Crown. It is a battle for dominion – the dominion stolen from Adam and usurped by Satan, but to be regained for men by the coming Deliverer.

One of Serpens’ stars has a name meaning “**THE ACCURSED**.”

(c) HERCULES: THE VANQUISHER OF EVIL



Other names for this constellation were *Bau* (E), meaning “**THE ONE WHO COMETH**”; *Marsic* (H), “**THE WOUNDING**” and (A,G,L) “**THE STRONG ONE.**”

This mighty man is down on one knee with his **heel** uplifted as though wounded. His left foot is set directly on the **head** of the Dragon.

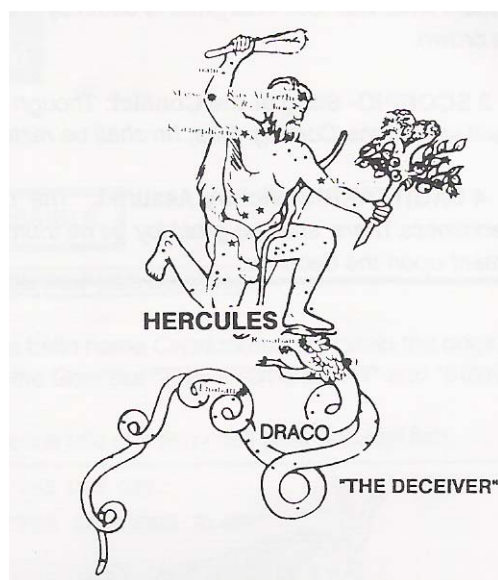
Meanings of star names in this figure include “**THE HEAD OF THE DESIRED**”; “**THE BRANCH KNEELING**”; “**THE SIN-OFFERING**”; “**THE HEAD OF HIM WHO BRUISES**” AND “**TREADING UNDERFOOT.**”

The Phoenicians considered him a Saviour.

Though temporarily brought to his knees, he wields a club of righteous power.

How apt! Though having to bear the whole weight of a guilty world, wounded in his encounter with the enemy, yet with Jesus was the wielding of power unknown to any other man.

To kill or be rid of him was ever the intensest wish of all rebels, even to the present time.



4 VICTORY ASSURED

***SAGITTARIUS: THE DUAL-NATURED ONE A TRIUMPHANT CONQUEROR**



A mighty warrior with bows and arrows is seen riding prosperously. In form he is the double-natured Centaur; yet no longer in connection with the cross, far down toward the lower regions of the sky, offering himself as a sacrifice; but now he is lifted high, stationed on the sun's path, rising in majesty.

He is *Cheiron* (G), “**THE RIGHTEOUS DEALING**” One. His barbed **arrows** are aimed at the heart of the Scorpion.

Star names denote the idea of **“DELIGHT”** in his mission and **“SWIFTNESS,”** quick and resistless power. *Maim (H)* means **“THE GRACIOUS ONE.”** He is sometimes depicted as occupying Apollo’s **throne**. He is also pictured **on a white horse**, overthrowing his enemies and rooting out all evil from the earth (I).

Scripture symbols agree: “In thy majesty **ride** prosperously, because of truth and meekness and righteousness... Thine **arrows** are sharp” (Psa. 45:4, 5). The hero of this passage is the promised Messiah. Again, **“a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow... and he went forth conquering”** (Rev. 6:2). It is the same divine hero.

He has a crown, a throne, a cause – the cause of righteousness over against injustice, rebellion and tyranny.

He is set to destroy the serpent’s works, disabling him forever. The coming forth of Jesus the second time is everywhere described as with glory and power, quick, sudden, like the lightning’s flash.

The story is more fully told in the accompanying decans.

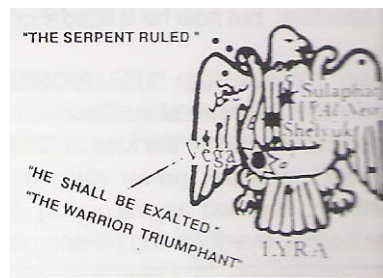
(a) LYRA: HE GLADDENS THE HEAVENS



Lyra, the Harp, is marked by one of the brightest stars in the northern heavens, *Vega* (**“HE SHALL BE EXALTED,” “THE WARRIOR TRIUMPHANT”**). Another star, *Fent-Kar (E)*, means **“THE SERPENT RULED.”**

This sign represents joy and jubilation at the destruction of the serpent.

Some old zodiacs add the figure of an eagle, or hawk, **the enemy of the serpent, in an attitude of triumph.**



In connection with the shooting of God’s “arrows” against the foe (Psa. 21:12), his people are portrayed as **singing and praising** his power (v. 13). The book of Revelation predicts the breaking **out of song** throughout the universe at that day (ch. 14:2; 15:2; 5:8-13).

(b) ARA: HE BUILDS THE FIRES OF PUNISHMENT

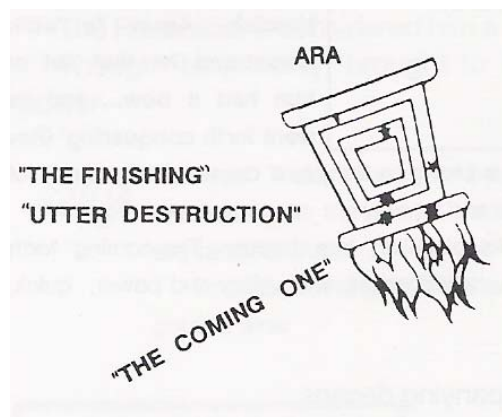


Names of this sign mean **“THE BURNING PYRE”** (G, L); **“THE FINISHING (OF WHAT WAS UNDERTAKEN)”** (A) and **“CURSE, UTTER DESTRUCTION”** (H, G).

The picture is that of a funeral pile. The Dendera zodiac (E) pictured an enthroned figure (**“THE COMING ONE”**) victorious over the dark one.

The whole significance of the figure thus connects with ultimate destruction, the completed curse, the sending into “the lake of fire” “prepared for the devil and his angels” (Rev. 20:10; Matt. 25:41).

“At the time of your appearing you will make them like a fiery furnace. In his wrath the Lord will swallow them up, and his fire will consume them” (Psa. 21:9



NIV).

(c) DRACO: HE CASTS DOWN THE DRAGON



Draco, the Dragon, coils itself almost completely around the northern pole of the heavens, thus depicting the boast of Satan:

“I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the ... **sides of the north**... I will be like the most high” (Isa. 14:13, 14).



Draco means **“TRODDEN DOWN.”**

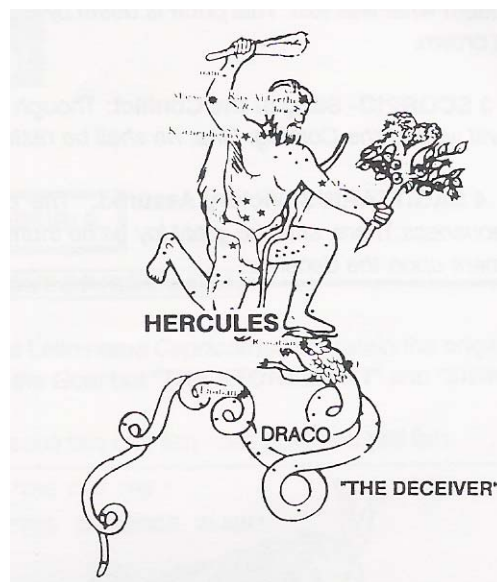
Star names in this group denote **“THE SUBTLE”**; **“THE DECEIVER”**; **“THE FRAUDFUL”**; **“HIM WHO IS ABOUT TO BE DESTROYED”**; **“THE HUMBLD, BROUGHT DOWN”** and **“THE PUNISHED ENEMY.”** Could it be clearer?

The serpent and dragon are one and the same person; the serpent denotes Satan in his aspect as the sky deceiver; the dragon denotes his armed force as violent oppressor.

This third decan explains exactly who it is that Sagittarius strikes, this awakening triumphant songs of victory.

The book of Revelation predicts that the great red dragon who stood before the woman to devour her child as soon as he was born, but who failed to defeat that Seed of the woman, shall, for a while, continue his persecutions on earth, till the crowned warrior on a white horse comes ultimately to put him down (chs. 12,19,20).

“He shall punish Leviathan, that crooked **serpent**; and he shall slay the **dragon**”; and the rescued people are called to sing when the day arrives (Isa. 27:1, 2). “The **dragon** shalt thou trample **under feet**” (Psa. 91:13).



So ends the *FIRST BOOK OF THE ZODIAC*, “THE PROMISED DELIVERER” (see chart on page 48).

SUMMARY:

1 VIRGO- The Woman’s Seed: *The virgin’s desired son, an Eternal Being bearing the name Jesus, will come down appointed to die as an offering for sin, despised by man, but ultimately to harvest his flock.*

2 LIBRA- His Supreme Payment: *In the conflict, a price must be paid to redeem what was lost. That price is death by a cross, self sacrifice. The reward is a crown.*

3 SCORPIO- Sting of the Conflict: *Though the enemy, striving for the crown, will wound the Coming One, he shall be restrained and finally trodden down.*

4 SAGITTARIUS- Victory Assured: *The dual-natured One will deal righteousness. There shall be great joy as he triumphs, sending the fires of punishment upon the deceiver.*

OUTLAWED, BANNED AND BURNED

BOOK B (Signs 5-8)

THE RESCUED ONES (The
Result of His Suffering)

5 THEIR RESCUE MADE POSSIBLE

*CAPRICORNUS: THEIR LIFE OUT OF HIS DEATH



Even the elements of this Latin name *Capricornus* still retain the original meaning not only of the *Goat* but **“THE ATONEMENT”** and **“SINKING OR BOWED IN DEATH.”**

Here is a fallen goat with the vigorous tale of a fish – half goat and half fish.

The goat is a sacrificial animal. This goat is fallen down in the attitude of dying. Even the names of stars in this sign confirm it. *Gedi* and *Dabih* mean **“THE CUT OFF,”** **“THE SACRIFICE SLAIN.”** Other names signify **“THE SLAYING”** and **“THE SACRIFICE COMETH.”** Here clearly, is sacrificial death.

Something incredible follows. The body of the dying goat terminates in the body and tail of a vigorous fish. This living fish takes it being out of the dying goat, from which it derives all its life and vigour. Here is a mysterious procreation and bringing forth, the act of **“BEARING”** (the Coptic name for this sign).

Grotesque, indeed, is the goat-fish image, with no counterpart in nature; but it is true, exact and graphic: A DYING GOAT AND A LIVING FISH.

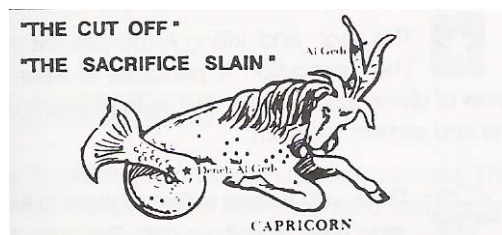
The Philistine half fish god *Dagon* (whose name means **“Fruitfulness”** and **“The Seed Producing”**), *Horus* of the Egyptian mythology, and *Oannes*, half fish, who in Babylonian fable rose out of the sea to instruct, make wise and discipline the people, are all derived from the original sign.

The **goat** was traditionally a sacrificial animal “for a sin offering” (Lev. 9:15; 10:16, 17). It represented the Coming One, the Seed which “must die in order to bring forth much fruit” (John 12:24). Out of his death every rescued person “grows with growth that is from God” (Col. 2:19 RSV).

Likewise, the **fish** is a well-understood sacred symbol. God’s people are contemplated as fishes (Jer. 16:15, 16; Eze. 47:9; Matt. 4:19). Jesus speaks of his rescued ones as “born of water” (John 3:5).

Furthermore, they are repeatedly called **his body**, or “members of his body and of his flesh and of his bones” (Eph. 5:23, 20; 1 Cor. 12:27).

IT’S THE SAME MESSAGE, you see. The literal death of one being issues in the spiritual life of other beings. Jesus physically died for us, and those who follow him spiritually die to the old life and through his power “walk in newness of life... freed from sin” (Rom. 6:2-7).



The three decans are pictorial signs of the same thing.

(a) SAGITTA: THE ARROW OF DIVINE JUSTICE



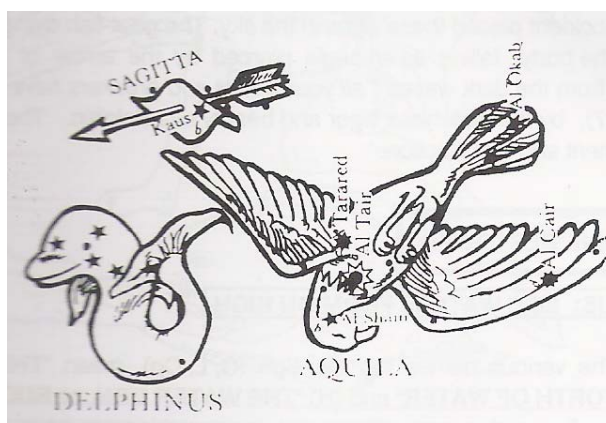
The shot and killing Arrow has left the bow and is speeding to its aim. The execution it performs is seen in the fallen and dying goat. The arrow of divine justice upon evil is to pierce through the One who agreed to bear sins and answer for them.

These very **arrows** of God stick fast in the body of the coming Sufferer, who has taken upon himself our guilt (Psa. 38:2). He was **“stricken by God, smitten by him... pierced for our transgression (Isa. 53:4, 5 NIV).**

(b) AQUILA: HE IS PIERCED AND FALLING



Now it is an eagle, pierced, wounded and falling. The name of the principal star, *Al Tair (A)*, means **“THE WOUNDED.”** Other star names denote **“THE SCARLET-COLOURED (COVERED WITH BLOOD)”**; **“THE TORN”**; **“THE PIERCING”** and **“WOUNDED IN THE HEEL.”**



A royal bird, the eagle is the natural **enemy of the serpent**. It is elevated in its habits, strong and swift. It shows care and tenderness toward its young. And when all other means fail, it will even **tear itself to nourish them with its own blood** (compare John 6:54).

How appropriate that the eagle should be one of the Deliverer's biblical symbols! (See Ex. 19:4; Deut. 32:11).

(c) DELPHINUS: THE DEAD ONE RISES AGAIN



This “Dolphin” sign is the figure of a vigorous fish leaping upward. The peculiar characteristic of the dolphin is its ability for rising up; leaping and springing out of the sea. Associated with the dying goat and eagle, it conveys the idea of springing up again out of death, a transition by means of resurrection to a new life of another style.

To this agrees the Bible (1 Cor. 15:3, 4; Heb. 2:14, 15; Rev. 5:9).



Star names in this sign include *Dalaph*, “**COMING QUICKY**” (A) and *Khau*, “**THE LONGED FOR; A MULTITUDE OF FISH**” (E).

No blind accident placed these signs in the sky. The goat-fish dying in its head, but living in the body; falling as an eagle pierced by the arrow of death; then springing up from the dark waves (“*all your waves and breakers have swept over me*”—*Psa. 42:7*), by the matchless vigor and beauty of a dolphin. These all speak of the atonement and resurrection.

6 A LIFELINE BESTOWED

*AQUARIUS: LIFE WATERS FROM ON HIGH



The various names for this sign (G, L, Cp) mean “**THE POURER FORTH OF WATER**” and (H) “**THE WATER URN, or BUCKET.**”

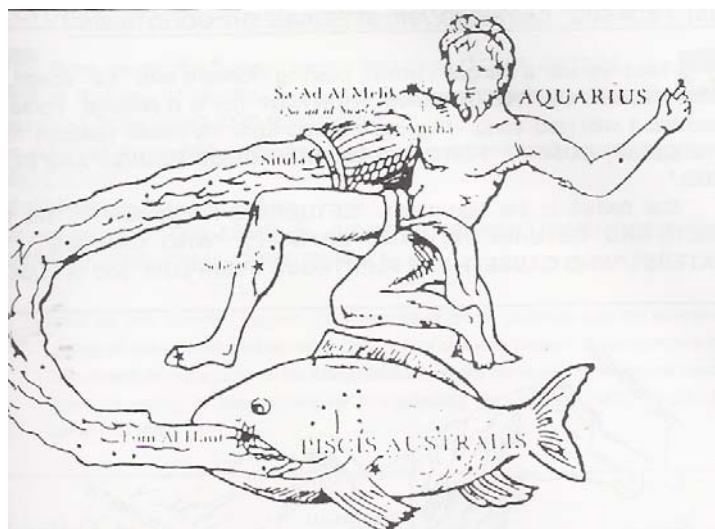
Here is the figure of a man with a great urn upon his arm; he is pouring out water, which flows with the volume of a swollen river.

Star names *Saad al Suud* (A) and *Scheat* (H) mean “**HE WHO GOETH AND RETURNETH.**”

Mythology calls him *Ganymedes*; some myths say he came to an untimely death in the world. He was exalted to glory and became the chosen cup-bearer of the Deity, a most beautiful man, the particular companion of the eternal Father.

Just so, God’s unlimited favour is likened to “rain,” “dew,” “showers,” “rivers of water” or “a fountain.” The resurrected Jesus is the dispenser of mercy and salvation, procuring and pouring out the “river of water of life.” He says, “I will pour water on the thirsty... I will pour out my Spirit on all people” (*Isa. 44:3, 4 NIV; Acts 2:17 NIV*). It is “a river [which] shall make glad” (*Psa. 46:4*) “If a man is thirsty, let him come to me and drink” (*John 7:37 NIV*). The divine life-power issuing from the mediation of Jesus renews, cleanses and energises. It is an unfailing, abundant supply. It is water which slakes all thirst forever.

What we find in this sign is further amplified in its accompanying decans.



(a) PISCES AUSTRALIS: DRINKING FROM THIS LIFE-GIVING WATER



This Southern Fish is seen drinking in the stream which pours from the urn of the beautiful One in heaven.

Here is a coming from below- a glad coming to this stream.

Some mythical legends say that this **fish** represents a **woman**, who **metamorphosed** herself to escape the power of the horrible **serpent Typhon (G)**. Now she is sustained and invigorated by drinking from this life-giving water.

We saw that people who accept rescue from God are as **fishes** (whose element is water); "he shall pour water out of his **buckets**, and his seed shall be in many waters" (Num. 24:6, 7). A vigorous life is sustained by drinking the water.

In the Bible, a **woman** likewise symbolizes God's people, united as it were in marriage to their Deliverer (Eph. 5:23-32).

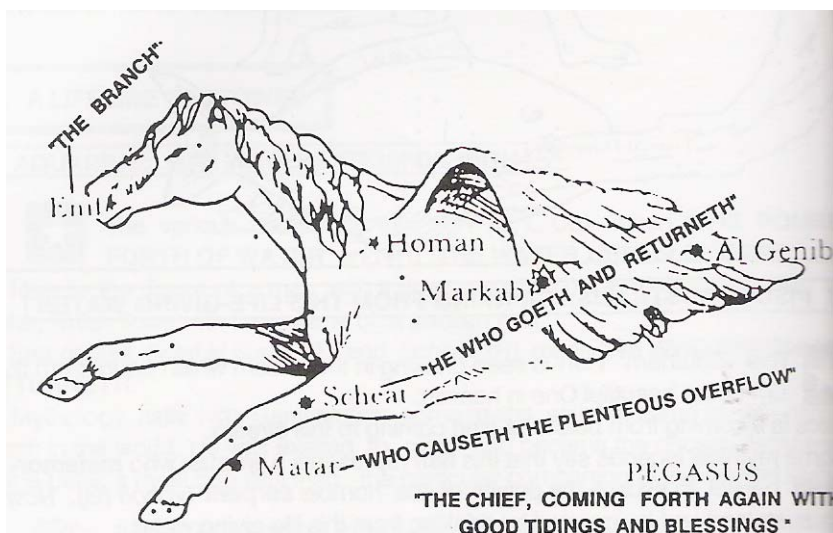
Every genuine follower of Jesus is a *transformed* person, living anew life super-added to one's nature. By this spiritual metamorphosis, escape is made in Satan's power.

(b) PEGASUS: CARRYING AND SPEEDING THE GOOD NEWS



Next we see a Winged Horse, pushing forward with full speed. This "**HORSE OF THE GUSHING FOUNTAIN**" (G) is a celestial horse ever associated with glad song. *Pegasus* (derived from the Noetic dialects) means "**THE CHIEF, COMING FORTH AGAIN WITH GOOD TIDINGS AND BLESSINGS.**"

Star names in the sign mean "**RETURNING FROM AFAR**"; "**HE WHO GOETH AND RETURNETH**"; "**THE BRANCH**"; "**WHO CARRIES**"; "**THE WATERS**"; "**WHO CAUSETH THE PLENTIOUS OVERFLOW**" and "**A FLOCK.**"



His fables are associated with a sacrifice, followed by a deep sleep, then a bearing forth to victory, though not without receiving a painful sting in his **foot**. It fits, you see, like a jigsaw piece.

History reveals that after Jesus' first coming, the "good news" was sped to the ends of the earth; his Spirit accompanied it, bringing joy, song and salvation to every person who heard and accepted.

(c) CYGNUS: BEARING ALOFT THE CROSS OVER ALL THE EARTH

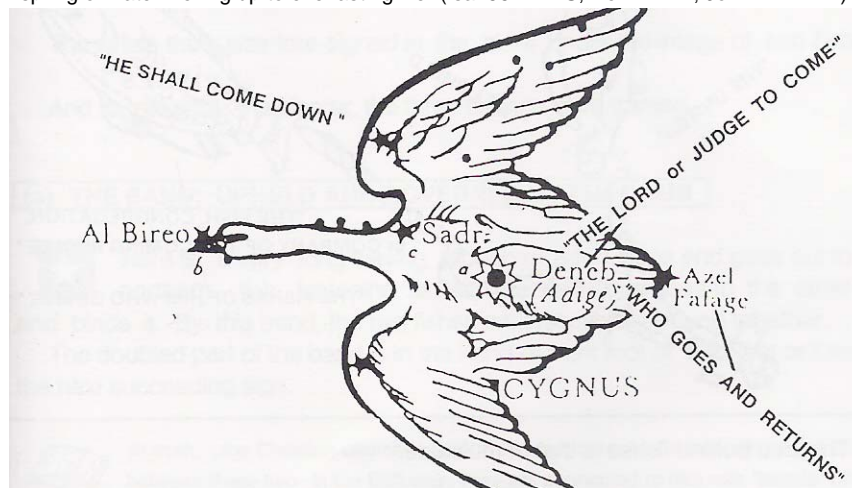


Now we see the Swan, *lordly BIRD-KING OF THE WATERS*, and poetic emblem of dignity, purity and grace, on the wing, and, as its name signifies (G, L). **“CIRCLING AND RETURNING.”**

The principal stars which mark its wings and length of body form a large and beautiful CROSS. It is circling over the waters of life.

Star names mean **“THE LORD or JUDGE TO COME;” “WHO GOES AND RETURNS”** and **“HE SHALL COME DOWN.”**

Just so. The Saviour, elegant, pure and full of grace, presides over the administration of the waters to thirsty man. “Ho! Every one who thirsts,” he calls, “come to the waters; take the water of life freely. Whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst... a spring of water welling up to everlasting life” (Isa. 55:1 NAS; Rev. 22:17; John 4:14 NIV).



7 BLESSED BUT UNDER ATTACK

***PISCES: THEY ARE BLESSED, THOUGH BOUND**



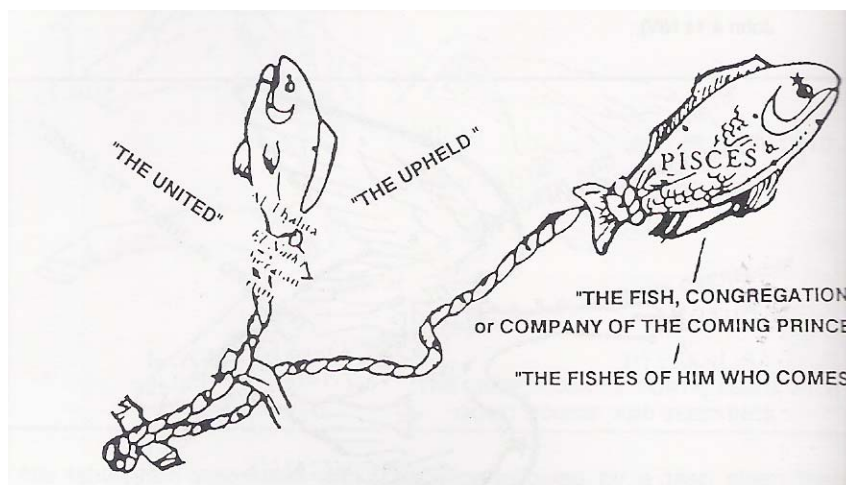
In this next sign, two Fishes (a larger and a smaller) are tied to the two ends of along, undulating band or ribbon, which is held by the foot of the Ram in the next succeeding sign.

In Syriac, the figure's name is *Nuno* (**“THE FISH PROLONGED”**) with the idea of posterity or successive generations; it is also called *Pi-cot-Orion* (*Cp*), meaning **“THE FISH, CONGREGATION, or COMPANY OF THE COMING PRINCE,”** and *Pisces Hore* (*E*), **“THE FISHES OF HIM WHO COMES.”**

Star names mean **“THE UNITED”** and **“THE UPHELD.”**

Mythology states that escape from Typhon was effected by being changed into fishes – saved by transformation and deliverance by water.

The idea behind fishes is that of multitude.



The ancient patriarch Abraham was promised that the followers of the true God would “grow into a multitude” (Gen. 48:16), or “as fishes do increase” (marginal reading). It is a fact that throughout history the Semites, Hebrews and adherents of the Messiah were by both themselves and the heathen nations astronomically associated with these fishes, with Pisces.

In biblical symbolism, the troubled mass of mankind is likened to the raging **sea**. “The kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea, and gathering fish of every kind” (Matt. 13:47-49 NAS). Believers are the **fish** gathered in the gospel net.

Historically the *church* (the group of believers) is two-fold. There was a church before Jesus, and a church since Jesus, and although one, they are still quite distinct in character. To the one, his coming was future (and so dealt with symbols of what was to come); to the other, the ancient anticipations have become fact. The faith of both is the same. Hence both are mystical fishes.

In ancient Israel, the waters embraced “a very great multitude of fish” (Eze. 47:9). And Jesus himself makes fishes the symbol of his church. By him they are united and “**upheld**” (Isa. 41:10).

Not surprisingly, early Christians under the Roman persecutions had the fish symbol on their rings and sculptured on their tombs, as is seen in the catacombs of Rome. It was also their secret greeting symbol.

The whole thing was fore-signed in the stars under the image of **two fishes**.
And to make this the clearer, the three decans were framed.

(a) THE BAND: UPHELD AND GOVERNED BY THE LAMB



Here is a very long waving Ribbon or Band. One end goes out to the northern fish, fastening its tail; the other end goes to the other fish and binds it. By this band, the two fishes are inseparably bound together.

The doubled part of the band is in the hand or front foot of the Ram or Lamb in the next succeeding sign.

In truth, the Christian church is tied to the old church of Israel. The point of unity between these two is the Deliverer. They are connected to him with “**bands** of love” (Hosea 11:4). “Apart from me you can do nothing,” he states (John 15:5 NIV).

The Egyptians called this band *U-or*, “**HE TO COME, HE TO COME.**”

(b) CEPHEUS: THE CROWNED KING IS PROTECTOR



Here is the one protecting the fishes. Robed and crowned, he holds aloft a branch or sceptre. With one foot on the pole star itself, he grasps with his right hand the ribbons.

The Dendera zodiac (E) identifies him with the victorious Lamb.

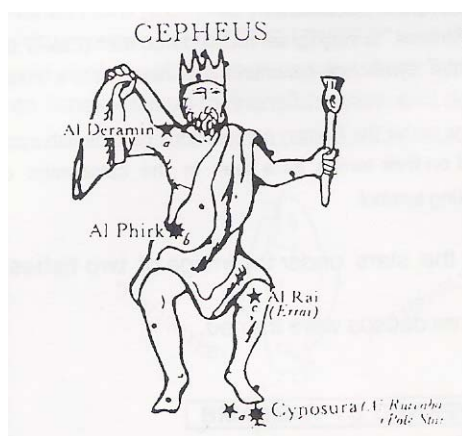
Cepheus means **“THE ROYAL BRANCH”** (H, G). His name also means **“THE KING”** (G, Eth).

This crowned king is also called *Per-ku-hor* (E), meaning **“THIS ONE COMETH TO RULE.”**

Star names mean **“THE REDEEMER”**; **“THE SHEPHERD”**; **“THE QUICKLY RETURNING”**; **“WHO BRUISES or BREAKS”** and **“TREADING UNDERFOOT.”**

This sign vividly portrays the Promised One, who ultimately “shall sit and rule upon his throne” (Zech 6:13) with **“all things under his feet”** (Eph. 1:19-23).

With a high hand and an outstretched arm, he sits in royal majesty to help, uphold and deliver his people.



(c) ANDROMEDA: THE INTENDED BRIDE BOUND AND AFFLICTED ON EARTH

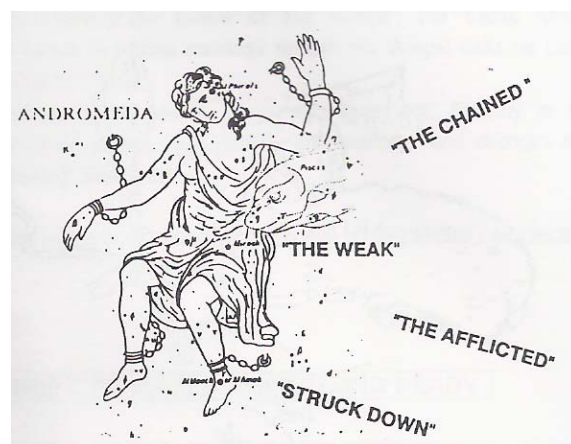


This beautiful woman is in chains, bound hand and foot, fastened down, unable to rise. (In some zodiacs the **fishes** were pictured with heads of **women**, thus identifying them with the woman).

Star names mean **“THE BROKEN-DOWN”**; **“STRUCK DOWN”**; **“THE WEAK”**; **“THE AFFLICTED”**; **“THE STRETCHED OUT”** and **“THE CHAINED.”**

Ancient fables acknowledge her as the focus of malignant jealousy and persecution, resulting in the disability, exposure and intended destruction of an innocent person, until Perseus comes to make her his bride.

(The equivalent symbol Pisces was among the nations considered unfavourable, even a symbol of odiousness, dislike and hatred.)



In the Bible, the church is often depicted as a **woman** (Jer.6:2; Isa. 26:17, 18; 54:5, 6; Rev.12:1, 2, 5; 2 Cor.11:2), who is appointed to eventually rule (1 Cor. 6:2; Rev. 20:6).

Jealous rivals hate her; world powers are often employed against her. Innocently, she is made to suffer. Her earthly conditions and fortunes are nothing but repulsive to the tastes of carnal and self-seeking man. For the present, she is afflicted (Jer.14:17), "as a **woman** forsaken and grieved in spirit... not comforted" (Isa. 54:8, 11a), but "**bound as a captive**" (ch. 61:1; 52:2, 3).

Throughout history, this has been the pattern. In Europe alone, for over a thousand years, there was instituted an era of fierce persecution against the followers of Jesus. Every imaginable method of torture was used; fifty million or more true Christians were slaughtered for their faith. They were **OUTLAWED, BANNED AND BURNED**. But this avalanche of terror was unable to extinguish their faith.

8 RESCUE AT LAST

*ARIES: THE LAMB EXALTED IN DOMINION



Now comes a vigorous Ram. He is variously called *Taleh* ("THE LAMB SENT FORTH"); *Al Hamal* "THE SHEEP GENTLE AND MERCIFUL"; Baraziggar ("THE ALTAR, or THE SACRIFICE OR RIGHTEOUSNESS"; *Aries* ("THE CHIEF, or HEAD") and *Amroo* ("THE LAMB, THE BRANCH").

Names of principal stars mean "THE WOUNDED," "THE BRUISED," "THE SLAIN."

Over his head is a triangle, which, according to the Greeks, symbolises the **Deity**; its principal star bears a name signifying "THE UPLIFTED" – proclaiming that the Lamb of sacrifice is exalted to the divine throne.

Mythology relates that two children of the cloud (like the two fishes) were saved by the Lamb, but one lost her hold on his back and fell off into the sea; the other held on to the mystic Lamb, to be brought in safety to Colchis (which means *THE CITADEL OF RECONCILIATION*), the city of refuge.

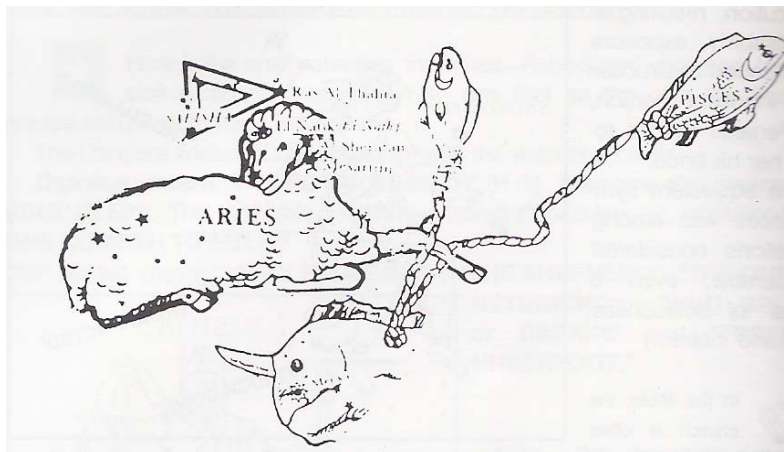
The Lamb was sacrificed. It was this Lamb that yielded the legendary Golden Fleece, the highest treasure to be found by mankind.

The Egyptians and Persians celebrated a sacred feast to Aries.

Abraham predicted (Gen.22) that "the Lord will provide himself a **lamb... a ram.**" This is always the symbol of the Saviour: He is the "the **Lamb** of God, who takes away the sin of the world"; "the **Lamb** at the centre of the throne"; the **Lamb** whose wrath is unbearable; the **Lamb** to whose marriage supper the Gospel calls us (John 1:29 NIV; Rev. 7:17 NIV; 6:16, 17; 19:9).

When the Deliverer returns for his people, song will break out. "Worthy is the **Lamb** that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing" (Rev. 5:12).

And with these presentations agree the accompanying side-pieces or decans of Aries.



(a) CASSIOPEIA: THE BRIDE RELEASED AND MAKING READY



Matchless in beauty, seated in exalted dignity, the woman holds aloft the **branch** of victory and triumph. With her other hand, she is spreading and arranging her hair, as if preparing herself for some great public manifestation. On her right hand is also the glorious star-crowned King, holding out his sceptre to her. She is to be his bride.

Anciently she was called “**THE GLORIFIED WOMAN**” and “**THE DELIVERED FROM ALL EVIL**” (Pluche) (22/94).

Star names are equally significant: “**THE FREED,**” “**THE ENTHRONED.**”

The presentation is that of deliverance, triumph and making ready for the great marriage ceremonial.

The church is now lifted up out of all evils, bonds and disabilities, and seated with her Deliverer in heaven. She is to become his bride (Rev. 19:7, 8), beautiful without blemish (Eph.5:27) “Put on your garments of splendour... Shake off your dust... Free yourself from the chains on your neck, O captive Daughter of Zion” (Isa.52:1, 2, NIV).



(b) CETUS: THE ENEMY BOUND



The great Sea Monster is the natural enemy and devourer of the fishes. In pagan fable it is the same enemy which the sun-god sent to devour Andromeda. He is the persecuter of the woman.

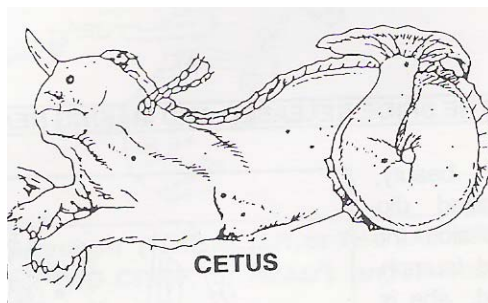
One of the stars in this figure is *Mira*, which means “**THE REBEL.**”

The doubled end of the band that upholds the fishes, after passing the front foot or hand of the Lamb, is fastened on the neck of this monster, and holds him firmly **bound**.

Other star names mean **“THE CHAINED or BOUND ENEMY”**; **“THE OVERTHROWN”** and **“THE THRUST DOWN.”**

There can be no escape from its meaning. When the time comes for the church to enter upon her royal role, another very important event is to occur. Satan, her particular foe and persecutor, is to be **bound** (Rev. 20:1-3).

He is loose now (1 Pet.5:8), controlling the nations. This Leviathan of the sea, no man can take or bind (Job 41:1). But “the Lord shall punish Leviathan that crooked serpent... the dragon that is **in the sea**” (Isa. 27:1).



(c) PERSEUS: THE BREAKER OF THE ENEMY TRIUMPHS



Now a mighty man holds aloft a great sword in one hand, and carries away the reeking, snake-covered head of the enemy in the other.

His name *Perets* (*H*) or *Perseus* (*G*) means **“THE BREAKER.”**

Names of his stars are **“HE WHO BREAKS”**; **“WHO CARRIES AWAY”** and **“WHO HELPS.”**

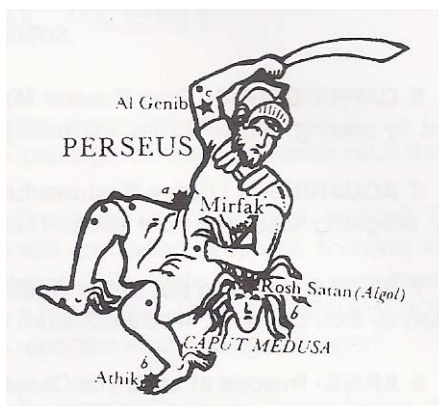
In mythology, he is the son of the divine Father, who rescues the chained Andromeda from the devouring sea monster and destroys it.

The monster’s snake-covered head has a star called *Medusa* (*H*), meaning **“THE TRODDEN UNDER FOOT.”** Other stars in this severed *snake* head are *Al Ghoul* (*A*), **“THE EVIL SPIRIT”**; *Al Oneh* (*A*), **“THE WEAKENED, THE SUBDUED”**; and lest there be any doubt as to whom this severed head belongs, one star is named *Rosh Satan* (*H*), which means **“SATAN’S HEAD”**!

In a striking parallel, the **Lamb** is the **Breaker** of the seals and of corrupt nations (Rev.5 and 6). “God... working salvation... **brakes** the heads of the dragons in the waters. Thou **brakest** the heads of Leviathan in pieces” (Psa. 74:12-14). “The flock” will be gathered when **“the Breaker** is come up before them” (Micah 2:12, 13). He “shall **break** in pieces the oppressor” (Psa.2:7, 9; 72:4). He “shall break in pieces and consume” the antagonistic kingdoms of this world in the last day (Dan.2:44; Rev. 6:15-17).

At that time the returning Deliverer will break the way of his people through all the barriers of their present imprisonment and disability, and dash to pieces all the hostile powers which stand in the way of their full deliverance. He will set the wronged captives free.

So ends the SECOND BOOK OF THE ZODIAC, “THE RESCUED ONES” (see chart on page 48).



SUMMARY:

5 CAPRICORNUS- Their Rescue Made Possible: *The enemy of the serpent, by offering himself to die, will make possible new life for his multitude.*

6 AQUARIUS- A Lifeline Bestowed: *His rescued people will be transformed by life-giving blessings from above. Their Benefactor shall go, but return.*

7 PISCES- Blessed But Under Attack: *His people, though afflicted, are upheld by their Deliverer, who shall return to rule.*

8 ARIES- Rescue at Last: *The Divine Being who was sacrificed is gentle, merciful and just. His people shall be freed and enthroned with him as a bride, and the rebel called Satan shall be bound.*

GLOBAL ALERT

You can soon be richer than a millionaire. Here's the secret.

Right now you hold in your hands a package of such immense value that it would make Rockefeller look a pauper.

Do you realize what an edge this will give you on the average person? The point is that Biblical prophecies AGREE with the zodiac prophetic scenario. And they have been coming true like clockwork. With Bible prophecy, you have a source of INSIDE INFORMATION that is a real **scoop** – ADVANCE INFORMATION.

You can know before the best media reporters what's going to happen.

This is a century teeming with dramatic events. Today we have a feeling that something is wrong. We live in the atmosphere of expected crisis.

Many people believe that we are at the end of an age. Yet if you were to suggest to the average person that this earth is slated for destruction, he would look at you as a science fiction freak.

Ironically, the Bible predicted this attitude would prevail (2 Pet. 3:3-7). Sceptics, it says, will choose to ignore the evidence that God interrupted history in the past and will scoff at the warning that it is about to happen again.

The general expectation of those who know Bible prophecy is that the time for Jesus' return is close. The conditions long ago predicted are now with us. Here are some of them:

SIGNS OF THE APPROACHING CLIMAX

1 Great increase in war (*Matt.24:6, 7*)

Fulfillment: There have been only two WORLD WARS in history, and both occurred in this century. Since then, in more than one hundred local wars, more people have died than in the whole of World War II.

2 Increases in earthquakes (v.7)

Fulfillment: Earthquakes above Richter 6 are showing an exponential increase:

1897-1946 (50 years):	Average.....3 per decade
1947-1956 (10 years):7 per decade
1957-1966 (10 years):17 per decade
1967-1976 (10 years):180 per decade
1977-1986 (10 years):1,000 per decade (3a)

Scientists are reported to be disturbed at this accelerating increase in earthquakes. One is tempted to ask, could this be the build up to the super earthquake that is to bring down all the cities of the world? (*Rev.16:18, 19*)

3 Rapid increase of knowledge and travel (*Dan. 12:4*)

GREENHOUSE EFFECT, POLLUTION, DESTRUCTION

4 Man will acquire the capacity to destroy the earth (*Rev.11:18*)

Fulfillment: The rate at which we are knocking down forests and our emission of fossil fuel gases and chemicals into the atmosphere over the past 150 years is now about to pay us. Richard Mabey reports*: "There is very persuasive evidence that the earth is warming up at a speed unprecedented in human history, which may stretch its ecological and social adaptation to its limits. Moreover, it is almost certainly our fault." From this "greenhouse effect" it is feared that cyclones, floods, bushfires, frosts and windstorms could become more extreme and unpredictable. The man-made hole in the ozone layer could let in death-dealing cosmic rays to destroy much plant life.

Dr. Robert Peters, a research scientist for the World Wildlife Fund, says** that that the

combination of a change in climate and the destruction of habitats by man will lead to the extinction of “hundreds of thousands, if not millions of species by the end of the century.”

Man-made pollution is making many localities unfit for life.

**The Australian, Nov. 5-6, 1988*

***Associated Press, 1988*

Man-made salinity is producing permanent deserts.

Each year, vast tracts of the world’s productive land suffer devastation on an almost thermonuclear scale.

An expanse one third larger than Australia’s entire cropped area, some 27 million hectares, is lost to food production each year worldwide, according to the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP). Desertification is the reality of human misery on an unprecedented scale. At present rates of destruction, within two centuries there will not be one single hectare of productive land left in the world, the UNEP calculates.

Man’s destruction of the earth is at an advanced stage, and may be irreversible. Even without considering Bible predictions, it appears there will be an end – and soon.

SOME FURTHER SIGNS PREDICTED

5 Fear will spread concerning earth’s dangerous future (*Luke 21:25, 26*)

6 Conflicts between capitalistic and labor classes (*James 5:1-6*)

7 Increasing corruption and violence, moral and spiritual decline (*2 Tim. 3:1-13; Matt. 24:37; Gen. 6:12, 13*)

8 Evolution theory will dominate intellectual attitudes (*2 Pet. 3:3-7*)

9 Materialism will become widespread (*Luke 17:26-30; 18:8*)

10 Revival of the occult (*1 Tim. 4:1; Matt. 24:24-26; Rev. 18:23*)

11 Just before the end, the long foreign domination of Jerusalem will cease (*Luke 21:24, 29-32*).

Fulfillment: Almost 2,000 years ago, when the Jewish nation lost its position as the Messiah’s special agency, its people were scattered worldwide and Jerusalem was trodden down by Gentiles. The recent ending of “the times of the Gentiles” (nations) cannot be ignored, but must be viewed as clear evidence that the wind-up of history has begun.

12 Preparations for a world government, world economy and world religious coalition (*Rev. 13 and 17*)

13 A final global alert will be sounded, proclaiming that the return of Christ is imminent (*Rev. 14:6, 7; Matt. 24:14*)

Tell me, how many of these predictions are now reality? One of them? Six of them? All thirteen? Surely this partial list makes the point. The Bible predicts that world conditions will become increasingly perilous and anti-Christian as the climax of history draws near.

OTHER EVENTS ARE PROPHESED

We could have listed 52 major signs. All the prophecies have been fulfilled except those few that concern the last, rapid events in earth’s history.

The conflict is accelerating to a fearful climax. And as we near the wind-up of history, the Creator

of our world has issued a warning of global peril more dangerous than any natural disaster. *EVENTS ARE SOON TO BREAK WHICH WILL STAGGER YOU.*

Every method of computation points to one conclusion: we are now facing the consummation, which we are approaching at break neck speed.

God is making bold moves and “the prince of this world” is responding with desperate countermoves on all fronts. His time is running out. And he knows it!

Toward the end of World War II, as Hitler contemplated possible defeat, he remarked, “If I go down, I will drag the whole world down with me.” He almost did.

Satan’s plan is not so different. Knowing that his end is approaching, he is enraged – and determined to take hoards of people down with him. His hope is to keep men and women safely tranquilised until time has run out and it is too late. If he can’t have people by choice, he’ll do it by force, or by deception.

Take another look at those thirteen listed prophecies. They’re mostly negative events, right? Yet they become positive as their simultaneous fulfillment confirms the imminent end of an age.

Be sure of this: Human history is soon to be interrupted. Jesus is coming back to planet Earth! God is working in accordance with a master plan; and in his foreknowledge he has already fixed the schedule of last day events.

OMENS IN THE SKY

Just as the Messiah’s first coming was heralded by signs in the heavens, so again “**there shall be signs** in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars” (Luke 21:25). These are of great interest and we shall consider them later.

Who would have thought that after thousands of years of virtual stagnation, there would suddenly be a gigantic explosion of knowledge? Yet this is exactly what the Bible predicted. And it said that soon after this the present age would come to a sudden and dramatic end.

I’ll tell you something. The Bible HAS NEVER MADE A MISTAKE!!! Even when foretelling events thousands of years into the future.

Who are we to say that the remaining prophecies will not be fulfilled? The weight of history suggests that they will.

Our age is pinning its hope for the future on science and God is left out entirely; people appear to be through with God, but they will yet find that God is not through with them. These are strange days and stranger things are yet to follow.

So accepting divine prophecy is not bathing your self in fantasy. You are seizing an advantage. You are reading history ahead of time. More importantly, it could save your life.

YES, THERE IS HOPE. The Creator will prevent the extinction of the human race. Although nothing can save the world from its inevitable doom, the way of rescue for the individual man or woman is still open. There is a way from hopelessness to hope. Sin and rebellion, heartache and death, are on the way out.

Get ready for it! The biggest event this world has ever soon, is looming. The THIRD ZODIAC BOOK describes the “game plan.”

HOW VALID ARE ASTROLOGICAL PREDICTIONS?

Astrologers state that fulfilled predictions “prove” astrology. On this basis, failed predictions may be considered valid arguments against the system.

*** Nazi leaders consulted astrologers for military movements. Eventually their defeats were so terrible that Hitler turned on the astrologers with a vengeance.**

*** In the April before his death, the astrologers still predicted a good future for Germany and Hitler.**

*** When World War II started, astrologers said England would not participate.**

*** Astrologer Manley Palmer Hall stated that the U.S.A. would be in a Sagittarian cycle during 1960-1980 and would therefore enjoy amazing progress and socially and intellectually lead the world. Sadly, the U.S.A. declined from 1960 to 1980.**

*** Instead of predicting President Kennedy’s assassination, astrologers predicted his re-election.**

*** Astrologers said California would fall into the sea in 1969.**

*** Recent advice from a Wall Street broker: “If you want to lose your money, use astrology to pick stocks.”**

*** Research indicated that on 130 days of astrological weather forecasts, there were only seven which agreed with the published prediction. The meteorologists’ computers have a better success average than do the horoscopes.**

The daily horoscope predictions are so vague that any prediction under any sign will “seem” to be fulfilled. Recent scientific tests involving a large number of people substantiated this.

Modern astrology is in a state of confusion and self-contradiction. Astrologers are literally tearing each other’s horoscopes to pieces, because they are drawing up conflicting horoscopes for the same person.

CUP OF FIRE

BOOK C (Signs 9-12)

**THE JUDGMENT PERIOD
(The Second Coming and the
Consummation)**

9 THE RETURNING JUDGE

***TAURUS: THE INVINCIBLE RULER COME**



Now comes a Bull, fierce and nimble. He appears here in the intensest rage, dashing forward with swift and impetuous energy, and with his great sharp horns set as if to run through everything that comes in his way.

The Egyptians called this figure by names meaning **“THE CHIEF WHO COMES”**; **“WHO COMES TO SAVE”** and **“THE ONE WHO SAVES MIGHTILY.”**

In Hebrew it is *Shur*, from a root denoting **“COMING AND RULING.”**

The chief star (in the bull’s eye) is *Al Debaran (A)*, **“THE LEADER, or GOVERNOR.”** Another star, *Palilicium (H)*, means **“BELONGING TO THE JUDGE.”**

The middle and hind part of the enraged animal includes the body of the enthroned Lamb, out of which it seems to rise.

The Bull is also the direct opposite of the Scorpion, so that when Taurus rises the Scorpion sets and disappears.

In mythology, the Bull was snow-white, the colour of righteousness and royal judgment.

Along with the Lamb, the Bull was anciently a sacrificial symbol of the Deliverer (Lev. 4 and 16; 22:27). The Bull was one of the four faces seen in Ezekiel’s symbolic vision of the glory of God (ch.1:10), namely that of a man, a lion, an ox (bull) and an eagle – each of them a different aspect of his character, as symbolized individually in the zodiac.



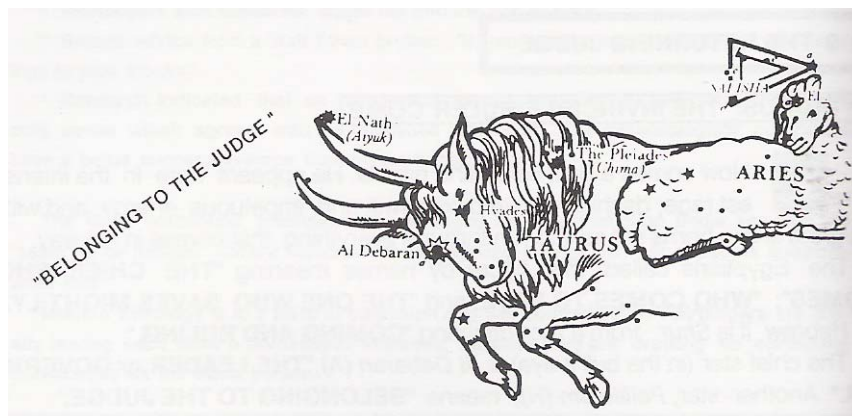
The *Seven Stars*, connected by the ancients to those who were saved from judgment, and which the Bible connects with the church (Rev. 1:16; 2:1), are on the back of the Bull, high up on his shoulder. These beautifully symbolise the rescued ones securely supported by the terrible Judge.

In his left eye is a star cluster called the *Hyades*, a Hebrew name meaning **“THE CONGREGATED”** (his people, the very “apple of his eye” – (Duet. 32:10).

Toward his people, he is the Lamb, but toward the antagonistic world, who have chosen to oppose him and ignore his warnings and appeals, he will finally become the unappeasable wild bull – an irresistible, outraged, and angry Judge.

Isaiah predicts concerning this future time: "The indignation of the Lord is upon all nations, and his fury" (ch. 34:2-8). He will no longer keep silence (ch. 26:20, 21). "Every one that is found shall be **thrust through**" (ch. 13:15). There shall be no escape from his fury (2 Thess. 1:7-9; Rev. 6:12-17).

And to this the three explanatory decans agree.



(a) ORION: THE GLORIOUS VANQUISHER



Orion (H) means "**HE WHO COMES FORTH AS LIGHT.**" He is called also *Al Giauza (A)* ("**THE BRANCH**") and *Al Mirzam* ("**THE RULER**" and "**THE PRINCE**").

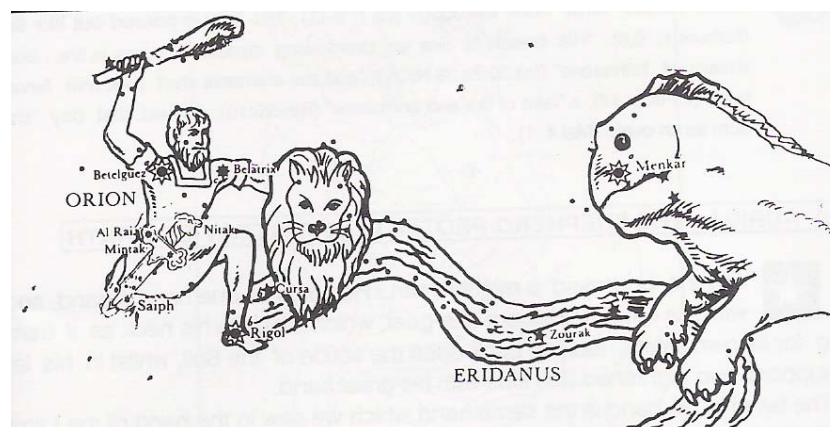
This figure is in the act of striking; his left foot is about to crush the enemy.

Stars include *Betelgeuse* ("**THE BRANCH COMING**"); *Niphia* ("**THE MIGHTY COMING**"); *Bellatrix* ("**SWIFTLY COMING**" or "**SUDDENLY DESTROYING**"); *Rigel* ("**THE FOOT THAT CRUSHES**"); *Al Rai* ("**THE BRUISING**"); *Thabit* ("**TREADING UPON**") and *Ha-Ga-T* ("**THIS CHIEF TRIUMPHS**").

The handle of his sword is the head and body of a **lamb**. Touché. Myths say that a scorpion gave Orion a mortal wound in his **foot**, but he was raised to immortality in the heavens. He was the peculiar gift of Deity to our world. Born of a woman, he came into the world to destroy the powers of evil.

In his belt is a star whose name means "**THE ROD OF RIGHTEOUS MEASUREMENT.**"

Orion is usually called "**the hunter.**" And in the Bible, the great Prince of the "**hunters**" of the wicked is in full and mighty action (Jer. 16:16-18). And, as in the star sign, his **belt** or "**girdle**" is "**faithfulness**" and "**righteousness**" or justice (Isa. 11:5).



(b) ERIDANUS: THE RIVER OF JUDGMENT



From beneath the down-coming foot of Orion, from under the feet of the rampant Taurus, there flows out a great tortuous river down into the regions of darkness, showing the ultimate fate of Cetus, the great monster.

This is *Eridanus*, meaning “**RIVER OF THE JUDGE.**” Its star *Ozha (H)* means “**THE GOING FORTH.**”

Daniel's prophecy of God's coming judgment on the nations presents a **river of fire** which **issues forth** from the Judge (ch. 7:9-11).

“His fury is **poured out like fire**” (Nahum 1:5, 6). “His breath is like an overflowing stream... Its pyre is fire... like a stream of brimstone” (Isa. 30:28, 33 NKJV); “and the elements shall melt with fervent heat” (2 Pet. 3:10), a “lake of fire and brimstone” (Rev. 20:10). Indeed, that day “shall burn as an oven” (Mal. 4:1).

(c) AURIGA: THE SHEPHERD PROTECTS IN THAT DAY OF WRATH



Here is portrayed a mighty man. He holds in one hand a band, and with the other holds up a she-goat, which clings to his neck as if trembling for its own safety, looking back upon the action of the Bull, whilst in his lap he supports two frightened kids with his great hand.

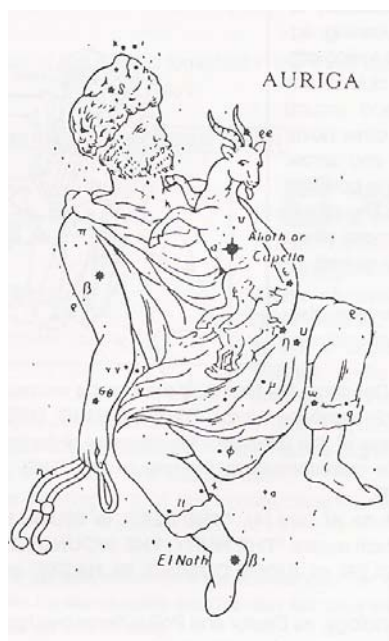
The band in his hand is the same band which we saw in the hand of the Lamb and in the hand of the enthroned Cepheus.

In the Dendera zodiac he holds a sceptre, the upper part of which shows the head of a **Lamb**, and the lower part the figure of the **cross** – which vividly expresses that even while the awesome judgments are being poured out, he is still to his flock the gentle Protector.

Star names mean “**BAND OF THE GOATS**”; “**THE FLOCK OF GOATS**”; “**WOUNDED**”; “**SLAIN**” and “**WOUNDED IN THE FOOT.**” One star is *Capella (L)*, a name derived from the Hebrew *Capra* (“**ATONEMENT**”).

Isaiah prophesies: “Behold, the Lord will come with a strong hand... his reward is with him... He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: **he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom**” (ch. 40:10, 11). The reassurance of Jesus is: “**Fear not little flock**; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom” (Luke 12:32). “Therefore **will I save my flock, and they shall no more be a prey**;... they shall be safe... and shall know that I am the Lord, when I have broken the bands of their yoke, and delivered them” (Eze. 34:22,25-27).

And this is the united testimony of the stars in Auriga.



10 THE PRINCE AND HIS PEOPLE

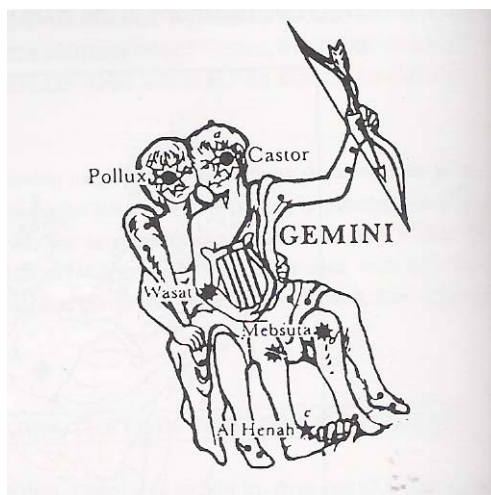
*GEMINI: THE JOINING TOGETHER, AT LAST



Not twins brought forth at the same birth, **but rather something completed**, such as a long engagement consummated in marriage.

That is the meaning of the word *Gemini (L)* in the Arabic, Hebrew and Syriac whence it comes. And *Pi-Mahi* (its old Coptic name) signifies **“THE UNITED”, “THE COMPLETELY JOINED.”**

Here are two youthful looking figures sitting peaceably together, their heads leaning against each other in a loving attitude. One holds a club in one hand, with his left hand around his companion. The other holds a harp and a bow and arrow. Both the club and the bow and arrow are in repose. The picture looks like a joyful repose after a great victory already gained.



In the Greek temples they were represented as mounted on white horses.

In the zodiac of Dendera, the two are **a man and a woman**. In this Egyptian sphere is an appendix signifying *Horus*, **“THE COMING ONE,”** the slayer of the serpent, the recoverer of the dominion, the observer of justice, and **“THE LORD OMNIPOTENT.”** He corresponds to *Merodach (B)*, **“THE RECTIFIER, THE GREAT RESTORER.”**

Star names include *Al Dira (A)*, **“THE SEED, or BRANCH”**; *Al Henah (A)*, a **star in the foot** which means **“THE HURT, THE WOUNDED”**; as well as others signifying **“THE RULER, or JUDGE COMING IN HASTE”** and **“SET”** (set up, to rule or judge).

According to mythology, as Caster and Pollux, these two have shared the same trials, sufferings, labours, triumphs and glories.

In Scripture, the Deliverer and his people are both called the peculiar **sons** of God (Hosea 11:1; Gal. 4:4-7). One is in and with the other (John 17:5, 21, 22).

They are also called Jesus' spouse (Isa. 62:2). “For your Maker is your husband... the Lord has called you... Like a **youthful wife**” (ch. 54:5, 6 NKJV).

The variation of sex is seen here, as in the star sign.

The Lord's “wife,” his church, is destined for an everlasting union with him in glory and dominion. It is great **marriage-union**, to be completed in the heavens during the judgment period (Rev. 19:7-9). And, as in the star sign, something is **“set”** – namely the judgment (Dan. 7:10; Rev. 20:4).

After this marriage, Jesus Christ is to proceed to the utter destruction of his enemies.

Further evidence of this intent is furnished in the three decans of this sign.

(a) LEPUS: THE ENEMY TRODDEN DOWN

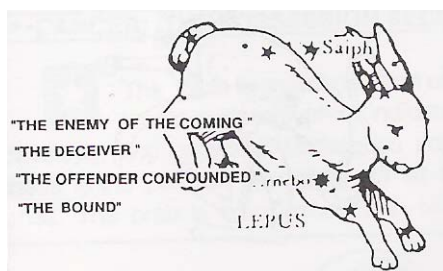


Here is the enemy; Orion is in the act of crushing him with his foot.

This gigantic Hare is called in the Arabic *Arnebo*, “**THE ENEMY OF THE COMING.**” In some zodiacs (P, E) he is depicted as a **serpent**, trodden under Orion’s foot, and also caught in the claws of a hawk. In addition, he is called *Bashti-Beki* (E), “**THE OFFENDER CONFOUNDED.**” Star names signify “**THE MAD,**” “**THE BOUND**” as with a chain, and “**THE DECEIVER.**”

We see here the nearing end of the enemy, once the heavenly marriage is completed.

“ Similarly, in the Bible, no sooner is it announced that “the marriage of the Lamb is come,” than the heaven opens and One rides forth on a white horse to bring judgment on the lost (Rev. 19:6-21).



(b) CANIS MAJOR: THE PRINCE COMING IN GLORY



Anciently, this was understood as the Wolf, the special hunter and devourer of the hare. In the Egyptian zodiac, it is the figure of the natural **enemy of the serpent**, namely the hawk (*NAZ*, meaning “**HAWK, CAUSED TO COME FORTH**”).

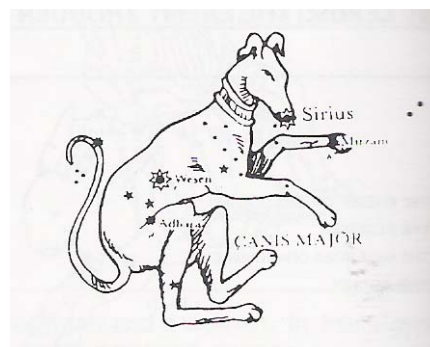
The name of the chief star, *SIRIUS*, from *SEIR* (E) or *SIR*, means “**THE PRINCE.**”

Taken in connection with *NAZ*, the name of the Egyptian zodiac figure, we have the prophetic name of *NAZ-SEIR*, OR “**THE PRINCE TO COME FORTH,**” hence **NAZ-SEIR-ENE** or **NAZARENE** – a very pointed reference to Jesus of Nazareth.

Readers of the Bible have been at a loss to explain by what prophecy it was said (as claimed by Matthew) that Jesus should “be called a Nazarene” (ch.2:23).

But from a most unexpected quarter – this star prophecy – we find the nearest and most literal foreshadowing of that name: *Naz-seir* or *Naz-Sirius*, “**THE SENT PRINCE.**”

Other star names signify “**THE RULER**”; “**THE LEADER**”; “**SHINING, ILLUSTRIOUS, SCARLET**”; “**THE GLORIOUS**”; “**THE MIGHTY**” and “**THE PRINCE OF THE RIGHT HAND.**”



Likewise, in Messianic prophecies, Jesus is called “the **Mighty** God... **the Prince** of Peace” (Isa. 9:6); “**the Prince** of princes” (Dan. 8:25); “Messiah the **prince**” (ch. 9:25); and the “**right hand**” of God (Psa. 98:1; 21:8). And his apparel is scarlet: “Why is your **apparel red...**? Their blood is sprinkled upon my garments” (Isa. 63:2, 3 NKJV). When the judgment period arrives, he is “clothed with a **vesture dipped in blood**” (Rev. 19:11-13).

(c) CANIS MINOR: THE PRINCELY FOLLOWING



Here is a second Wolf, smaller and feebler, and following a little behind the first. In the Egyptian zodiac it is called *Sebak*, signifying “**CONQUERING, VICTORIOUS.**” Star names mean “**REDEEMED**” and “**ONCE BURDENED, LOADED DOWN.**”

When the Messiah comes forth in majesty from his wedding, riding against his enemies, he comes not alone. He is the Leader, but behind him are his chosen multitude. His bride is with her husband. To accompany him as he makes an end of misrule and usurpation on earth, to execute judgment, “this honor have all his saints” (Psa. 149:7-9).



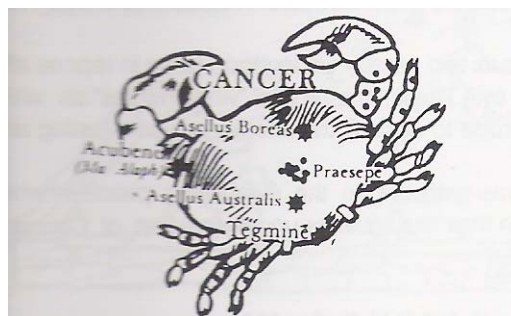
11 POSSESSIONS ARE SECURE

***CANCER: THE POSSESSION SECURED**



The Crab is an animal born of the water. Its many legs or members would in hieroglyphics indicate **multitude** or multiplication. As the crab develops and grows, it undergoes important changes. The most marked of these is the periodic **throwing off of its old shells** and the taking on of new ones. The crab is also armed with two powerful hands or claws, by which it **grasps hold** with wonderful force and securely retains whatever it takes.

So the crab beautifully symbolises the multitude of the saved who “who hold **fast** that which is good” (1 Thess. 5:21) and “**lay hold on eternal life**” (1 Tim. 6:12).





In the Egyptian and Indian zodiacs the figure is the *Scarabaeus*, or sacred beetle, which, like the crab, undergoes significant transformations. At first compelled to eat and live amid filth, with nothing worthier than to grow and wait for future changes, it then swatches into a chrysalis and activity ceases. Afterward, it suddenly breaks forth into perfected being. The Egyptians made much of it – as the sign of resurrection and securing possession of the treasures of eternity – the most precious hopes of man.

Just so. Our life terminates in death, called in the Bible a “sleep,”* to await the call of the Resurrection, a sudden bursting forth “at the last day” (John 6:40), when our corruptible bodies shall be supplanted by a body “clothed with immortality” (1 Cor. 15:53, 54).



In Egypt, this sign was called both *Klaria* (“**THE CATTLE HOLDS**”) and *Statio Typhonis* (“**THE PLACE OF HIM WHO SMITES AND IS SMITTEN**”) – the place won for his people by the One who was himself smitten while smiting the enemy.

The Greek name was *Karkinos* (“**THE CRAB: HOLDING, ENCIRCLING THE POSSESSION**”). The Arabs called it *Khan* (“**THE TRAVELLER’S RESTING PLACE**”); and *Ker*, or *Cer*, means “**ENCIRCLED, EMBRACED.**” Thus *Khan-Cer* or *Cancer* means “**THE TRAVELLER’S RESTING PLACE FOR THE ENCIRCLED or THE EMBRACED.**” The rest is secured, the object of desire at length is reached. They are embraced by their Lord, safe from all enemies in a place of rest and peace.

Star names mean “**THE SHELTERING, PLACE OF RETIREMENT, THE GOOD REST**”; “**THE KIDS or LAMBS**”; “**ASSEMBLED THOUSANDS**” and “**THE MULTITUDE.**”

The Greeks portrayed Cancer as two asses, understood to be in repose after the victory over the powers of evil. These, the Biblical “white horses” on which Jesus and his heavenly armies rode to destroy the enemy, are now resting after the victory.

At this time is the ultimate home-gathering to the everlasting peace, in which the head of the serpent is beneath their feet (just as under the feet of Cancer in the star charts).

And the decans in this sign confirm and further illustrate this meaning.

*John 11:11-14; 1 Thess. 4:13-17; 1 Cor. 15:6, 16-20, 51-52; Dan. 12:2

(a) URSA MINOR: LESSER FOLD, THE FIRSTBORN OF THE FLOCK



This next constellation is sometimes known as the *Little Dipper*. Ursa Minor (“Lesser Bear”) is not its original name, nor is it a bear at all, but a collection of domestic animals, **a fold**. The sheep and fold are under the feet of enthroned King Cepheus.

Star names denote “**THE CALVES**”, “**THE KID**”; “**THE ASSEMBLED**”; “**THE REDEEMED**”; “**THE CHOSEN OF THE FLOCK**” and “**AWAITING HIM WHO COMES.**”

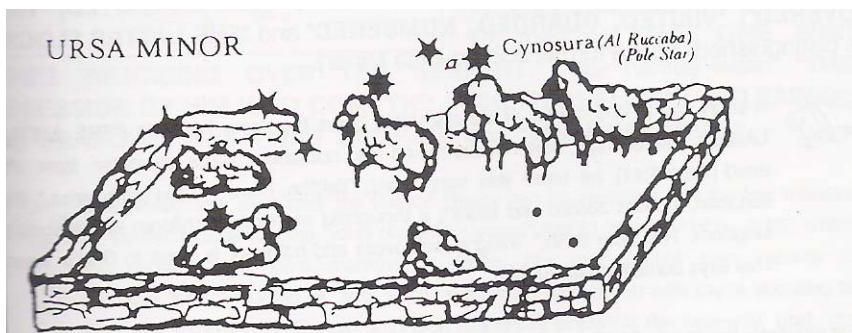
The Greeks called this sign *Arcas* or *Arktos*, from *Arc* “**THE STRONGHOLD OF THE SAVED.**”

Do you see it? God’s faithful ones finally enjoy dominion. They are in possession of their inheritance. “My sheep,” he says, “shall... lie in a good fold... I will feed my flock... they shall dwell safely, and none shall make them afraid” (Eze. 34:11, 14, 15, 28).



hand

The sign has seven principal stars, suggesting a connection with the “seven stars” in Jesus’ right
in Revelation 1:16.



(b) URSA MAJOR: GREATER FOLD, THE LATTER-BORN

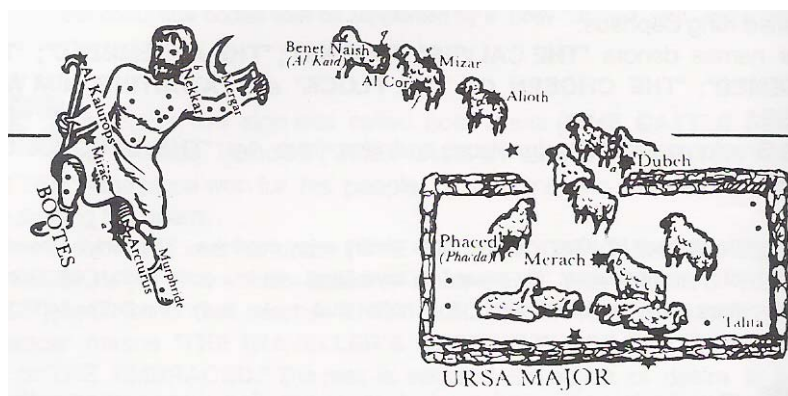


Often termed the *Big Dipper*, this group of stars was anciently called “**THE GREAT SHEEPFOLD**” or “**THE ASSEMBLED.**” The Egyptian sphere portrayed it as a woman, *Fent-Har* (“**THE ONE WHO TERRIFIES THE SERPENT**”). The sheep leaving the enclosure form the handle of “the dipper” or the so-called tail. These are called *the daughters of Aish* (“**COMMUNITY, FLOCK, CONGREGATION**”). They are heading toward the sickle in the hand of Bootes – the implement for “harvesting” his people. “The harvest is the end of the world” (Matt. 13:39; Rev. 14:15, 16).

Meanings of star names are “**FOLD**”; “**THE PURCHASED**”; “**THE REDEEMED**”; “**MULTITUDE OF THE ASSEMBLED**”; “**THE PROTECTED, THE COVERED**”; “**VISITED, GUARDED, NUMBERED**” and “**THE LATTER FLOCK**” (as distinguished from a former flock in Ursa Minor.).

A small star in one corner of the sheepfold bears the name *TALITHA* (“**THE LITTLE LAMB**”). Interestingly, when Jesus raised the nobleman Jairus’ daughter from the dead (Mark 5:41), he used this very word, “**Talitha, cumi**” – “Little lamb, arise.” We see, then, in both zodiac and Bible*, a thoughtful mention of children in the coming kingdom. The “little lamb,” insignificant, weak and helpless, is close to God’s heart. That says something about him.

* For example, Isa. 49:25; 54:13; 11:6; Mark 10:13-16





Ursa Major also has “seven stars.” These are around the polar centre of the sky, signifying “round about the throne” (compare Rev. 4:4). And the others, in still ampler numbers, are led by the great Bootes amid the everlasting pastures. They have been assembled, numbered and are being guarded.

Jesus said, “**Other sheep I have which are not of this fold**; them also must I bring, and they shall hear my voice: and there shall be one fold and one shepherd” (John 10:16). So there are two groups among the saved and he will ultimately combine the two.

(c) ARGO: THE TRAVELLERS’ TOILS AND TRIALS OVER



And here it is – a ship with its sail furled and its rowing oars forward as if about to be backed into its dock.

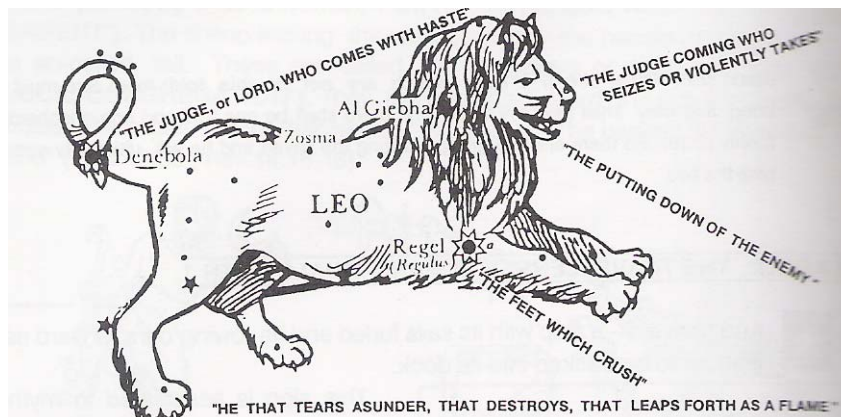
This sign is associated in myth with the return from the successful expedition to recover the Golden Fleece from the serpent’s guard. This myth far antedates the Greeks; it can be traced back to the very earliest times. The sign was called *Argo (H)*, “**THE COMPANY OF TRAVELLERS,**” and *Shes-En-Fent (E)*, meaning “**THE ONE WHO COMES REJOICING OVER THE SERPENT.**” Star names mean “**THE POSSESSION OF HIM WHO COMETH**”; “**THE TRAVELLERS RELEASED**”; “**THE BRANCH**”; “**WHAT WAS DESIRED**” and “**THE MULTITUDE.**”

Strip away the myth and the Golden Fleece can be identified. It is the lost treasure of human innocence, the “robe of righteousness” (Isa. 61:10; Rev. 19:8; 3:18), which the serpent took from mankind in Eden. No man could ever recover it. But now “the ransomed of the Lord will return, and come with joyful shouting to Zion” (Isa. 51:11 NAS). The old ship Zion has finally landed in the heavenly port. The victors rejoice in life unending.



12 THE FINAL TRIUMPH

*LEO: THE KING AROUSED JUDGMENT FOR JUDGMENT



Thoroughly roused, this Lion is full of majesty. His name means (H, A, S, Cp) **“HE THAT TEARS ASUNDER, THAT DESTROYS, THAT LEAPS FORTH AS A FLAME.”**

The lion, associated with royalty and dominion, is fitted for the work of capture and destruction – so fierce and powerful that no other animal can withstand him.

Star names in Leo mean **“THE SHINING FORTH”**; **“THE EXALTED”**; **“THE JUDGE or LORD, WHO COMES WITH HASTE”**; **“THE JUDGE COMING WHO SEIZES OR VIOLENTLY TAKES”**; **“THE FEET WHICH CRUSH”**; **“THE PUNISHING or TEARING OF HIM WHO LAYS WASTE”** and **“THE PUTTING DOWN OF THE ENEMY.”** (Today we still use this latter phrase in referring to the putting to death of a horse.)

The Messiah was to come through Judah, described as a **lion** whose hand should be in the neck of his enemies (Gen. 49: 8, 9). The prophets constantly portray the final wrath of God as the fury of a **lion** when it is aroused (Hosea 5:14; 13:7,8; Amos 3:4,8; Psa. 50:22; Zeph. 3:8). When the **Lion** tears open the seals toward the end of history (Rev. 5:5; chs. 5 to 8), a divine power will burst forth, convulsing the world as never before. As the spotless Lamb, Jesus meekly yielded up his life that we might live. But the Lamb is capable of righteous anger and in the day of retribution he is the Lion. He is the Lamb to his friends, but the Lion to his enemies, one who tears them to pieces.

(a) HYDRA: THE SERPENT FLEEING



Here is the Serpent, whose length stretches **one third** the way around the whole sphere,* completely expelled from the places which he had obtruded, fleeing now for his life – and the great Lion, with claws and jaws extended, bounding in terrific fury and seizing the foul monster’s neck.

In the Dendera zodiac, the serpent is called *Knem* (**“VANQUISHED, CONQUERED”**). *Hydra* (*H*) means **“THE ABHORRED.”** This was later changed to *Hydrus* (**“THE FATHER OF LIES”**). The ancient Persians called this figure – wait for it – **“THE SERPENT OF EVE”!**

Star names confirm the meaning: *Al Phard* (*A*), **“THE SEPARATED, THE EXCLUDED, THE PUT OUT OF THE WAY”** and *Minchir al Sugja* (*A*), **“THE PUNISHING, THE TEARING TO PIECES, OF THE**

DECEIVER.”

Myths speak of the serpent being destroyed by fire through Heracles, the Seed of the woman, the Deliverer.

Job mentions Hydra under the term “the crooked,” or “fleeing serpent” (ch. 26:13).

No longer is the serpent grasping for the crown; but rather he is fleeing for his very life. Now is Satan finally torn, burned, destroyed, by the fury of Judah’s Lion.

*Rev. 12:4, 9 hints that *one third* of the angles of heaven fell under Satan’s influence.

(b) CRATER: THE CUP OF WRATH UPON HIM


And here is a Cup – broad, deep, full to the brim – placed directly on the body of the writhing serpent. More than that, it is sunk into his very substance, for the same stars which mark the base of the cup are part of the body of the accursed monster.

The Bible says: “In the hand of the Lord there is a **cup**... all the wicked of the earth shall... drink” (Psa. 75:8). “Upon the wicked shall he rain burning coals, fire and brimstone, and **a fiery tempest**: this shall be the portion of their **cup** (ch. 11:6). “The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the **cup** of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire” (Rev. 14:10, 11)



The Egyptian sphere portrayed a figure holding **two cups**; this could even indicate the double portion prescribed for the corrupt authoritarian world power at the end of time symbolically termed Babylon: “Treat her exactly as she has treated you; pay her back **double** for all she has done. Fill her **cup** with a drink **twice** as strong (Rev. 18:4-6 GNB). This is a CUP OF FIRE. Its awesome contents will fall upon Satan and his followers.

(c) CORVUS: HIS CARCASE DEVoured

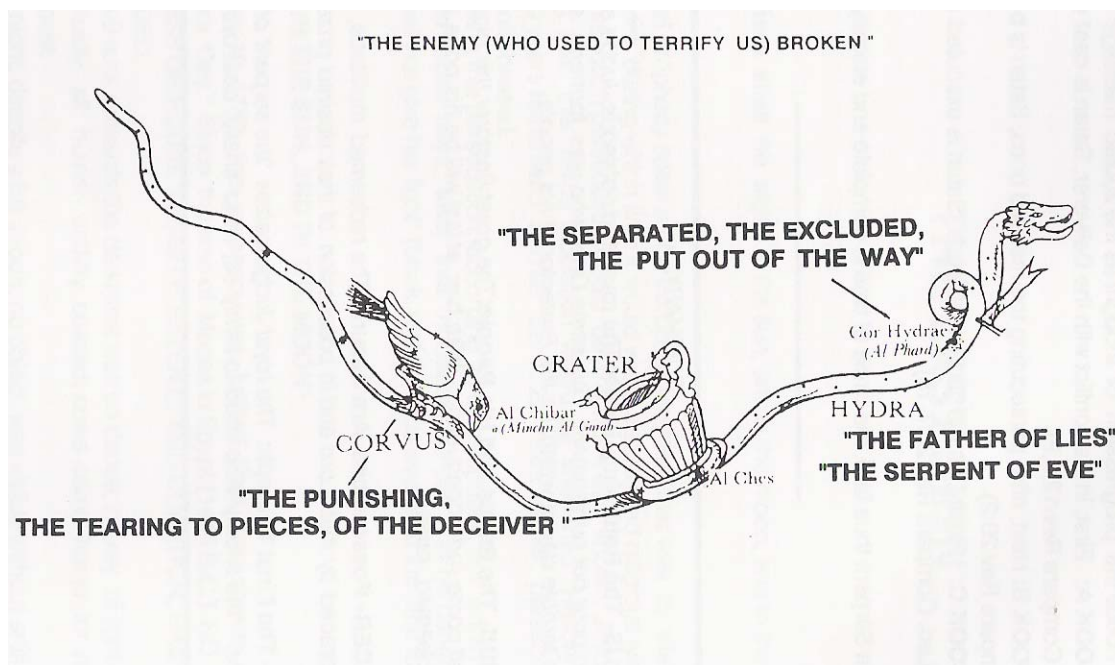

The Raven, the bird of punishment and final destruction, is portrayed grasping the body of Hydra with its feet and tearing him with its beak. He is now merely a corpse to be eaten – a bit of despicable refuse, fit only for consumption by carrion birds.

His Egyptian name, *Her-Na*, means “**THE ENEMY (WHO USED TO TERRIFY US) BROKEN.**” Star names denote “**THE CURSE INFLICTED**” and “**THE RAVEN TEARING TO PIECES.**”

It is the sign of the absolute discomfiture and destruction of the Serpent and all his power. The course of the fallen ones is run. The day of final settlement has come.

The birds of prey are now called to come and feast themselves on the flesh of the enemy (Rev. 19:17, 18). “The **ravens**... shall pick... out” the eye of the evil ones (Prov. 30:17).

He who so presumptuously attempted to set himself up against the God of heaven is disposed of without a shred of honour or respect. **Satan's doom is sealed.** The Lion he cannot match. Eternal death awaits him.



Did you notice the progression of thought as the zodiac message unfolded?

ZODIAC BOOK A: First, in his conflict with the Deliverer, Satan is **cast down** (see 4c: Draco. Compare Rev. 12:8, 9).

ZODIAC BOOK B: Next, after persecuting the rescued ones, Satan is **bound** (8b: Cetus. Compare Rev. 20:2).

ZODIAC BOOK C: Finally, as the judgment ends, Satan is executed (12a-c: the decans of Leo. Compare Rev. 20:7-15).

When the Serpent thus falls, the circle of time is complete and eternity begins.

SUMMARY:

9 TAURUS- The Returning Judge: *The royal and righteous Judge shall come suddenly to pour out punishment. This same One, who was formerly sacrificed, shall, in the terrible day of wrath, be the Protector of his people.*

10 GEMINI- The Prince and His People: *The great Restorer, the glorious Sent Prince, shall come forth conquering. With him at last will be his once burdened, but now redeemed, ones.*

11 CANCER- Possessions Are Secure: *The redeemed multitude, resurrected, are embraced by their Lord and in possession of their desired prize.*

12 LEO- The Final Triumph: *The royal Judge seizes "the serpent of Eve," "the father of lies," "the enemy who used to terrify us," and finally destroys him and his brood.*

THE LAST SIGN

“**There shall be signs** in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars” (Luke 21:25)....

Biblical prophecy speaks of a European kingdom that was to wield power for 1,260 years, during which time it would wage a sustained religious war against its opponents. Such persecution would be the worst ever known. Jesus promised, however, that this fierce tribulation would be shortened. History shows that the 1,260 years terminated in 1798. Some 25 years earlier, persecution had almost wholly ceased.

Following this persecution, according to the prophecy, but within that period, that is, “**In those days, after** that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light” (Mark 13:24). Thus was fixed the time for this event.

“SIGNS IN THE SUN, AND IN THE MOON”

On May 19, 1780, this prophecy was fulfilled. That date stands in history as “The Dark Day.” Since the time of Moses in Egypt (1486 B.C.) NO PERIOD OF DARKNESS OF EQUAL DENSITY, EXTENT, AND DURATION, HAS EVER BEEN RECORDED.

From 9 a.m. onwards the darkness was so dense, no ray of light could penetrate. Virtually all human activity ceased; cows came home for milking; fowls flew to roost.

That night, despite a full moon, no object was visible without artificial light. The impenetrable darkness persisted until midnight, when the moon became visible, but with the appearance of blood. Eyewitness descriptions were consistent with the prophecy, “the sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into **blood**, before the great and terrible day of the Lord come” (Joel 2:31).

“SIGNS... IN THE STARS”

The biblical prophets stated that in the next sky omen (in sequential order), “the stars shall fall from heaven” “like unripe figs falling from the tree when a strong wind shakes it” (Matt. 24:29; Rev. 6:13 GNB).

This prophecy was strikingly and impressively fulfilled in the great meteoric extravaganza of November 13, 1833. Witnessed over millions of square miles, it was THE MOST EXTENSIVE AND SPECTACULAR DISPLAY OF FALLING STARS EVER RECORDED.

Astonished eyewitnesses declared that never did rain fall much thicker than the meteors fell toward the earth. The whole sky seemed in motion. From 2 a.m. to broad daylight, it seemed as though all the stars were assembling at one point and simultaneously shooting like missiles to every part of the horizon – to the north, south, east and west. Thousands followed thousands, hour after hour, as though created for the occasion.

Careful scientific accounts indicate that more than a billion shooting stars appeared over Canada and the United States alone.

Henry James Ward wrote the next day in the *New York Journal of Commerce* (page 2): “They flew, they were CAST, like the unripe fruit, which at first refuses to leave the branch; and, when it does break its hold, flies swiftly, *straight* off, descending; and in the multitude falling some cross the track of others, as they are thrown with more or less force.”

Perhaps no description surpasses that of the old Negro in Virginia, who remarked, “It is awful, indeed, sir – it looked like ripe crab-apples falling from the trees, when shaking them for cider.” (Compare the prophecy above.)

There have been other meteor showers in history, but they pale before this extravaganza, which fulfilled the specifications of the prophecy at the time predicted. Note that the prophecy predicted **what** and **when**.

The fact that the phenomenon was repeated and distributed over various parts of the world soon after strengthens the validity of the “**signs**” (plural).

THE LEO FACTOR

Here’s something significant. It was prophesied in the Bible that Judah’s **Lion** would break open some “seals” (Rev. 5:5) and bring on the falling of the stars (ch. 6:12-13).

Suppose we now turn to the zodiac. Tell me. Now that you know the significance of each star symbol, from which of them should the “falling stars” emanate?

“That’s obvious,” I hear someone say. “From where else but **Leo**?” Very well, let’s see. We’ve already established that some 1,800 years after the prophecy was given, at the time predicted the great star shower did occur. Notice this scientific report:

The meteors, as seen by most observers, appeared to proceed from a fixed point in the heavens.... Those who marked its position among the fixed stars, observed it to be in the constellation **Leo**, in which it appeared stationary, accompanying that constellation in its diurnal progress.*

Did you get that? Did it sink in? Do you grasp its meaning?

It is an ASTRONOMICAL FACT, independent of all hypotheses, that, at the time prophesied, occurred the most extensive and spectacular display of falling stars in history.

Such an event, according to prophecy, was to be orchestrated by the Lion of Judah, and would be as a warning, a “signpost” telling us that we were entering the last phase of earth’s history.

FACT: This extravaganza did emanate from LEO, the zodiac sign of the Judge who is “coming” to execute judgment and reign as King.

Following this display, said Jesus, most serious and troubled conditions would develop throughout the world. After the “signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars,” there would come “upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men’s hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth” (Luke 21:25,26).

Man’s dreams of the future will turn into a nightmare, says prophecy, and then the climax of history will burst upon mankind.

There are biblical and monumental clues that the wind-up of history may occur in September. And do you know where the sun just happens to stand in September? You guessed it! In Leo, the sign of “the Judge who comes with haste” (For proof, see the chart on page 9).

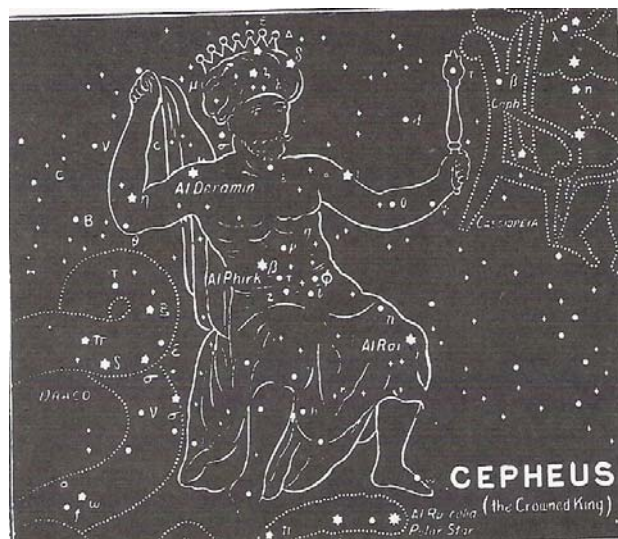
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THE LAST “SIGN”

The Bible predicts: “Then the **sign** of the Son of Man will appear in the sky; and all the peoples of earth will weep, as they see the Son of Man [that’s Jesus] coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.” The day has arrived. “The kingdom of this world now belongs to our Lord, and his Christ; and he shall reign forever and ever” (Matt. 24:30 GNB; Rev. 11:15 LB).

* Denison Olmsted, “Observations on the Meteors of November 13th, 1833,” *The American Journal of Science and Arts* (25 [Jan?] 1834), p. 394



VOICES FROM OTHER WORLDS

A "LATTER TIMES" LETTERGRAM FROM THE ZODIAC
WHOSE EVENTS CAST THEIR SHADOWS IN ADVANCE

THE POLE STAR SIGNALS IT. (The Pole Star, if you didn't know, has always been a central point in the northern heavens from which to locate positions on earth.)

It is significant that when the zodiac was formed, the Pole Star was *Alpha Draconis* in the sign of the **DRAGON**. Satan was represented as winding around the North Pole, as if to indicate his subtle influence on world affairs. In zodiac symbolism, the "throne," the central governing point of the earth's motion, was in Satan's possession.

Today the Dragon has fallen lower in the heavens; his place has been taken by the Lesser Sheepfold, symbolic of Jesus' kingdom – the Pole Star being *Arcos* or *Arktos* (which denotes "the Stronghold of the Saved").

But here's the interesting part. The celestial pole is now moving toward the constellation *Cepheus*, the crowned and enthroned king with a sceptre in his hand, and his feet planted on the present Pole Star. He is called also *Per-ku-hor*, meaning "**THIS ONE COMETH TO RULE.**"

The message of the zodiac picture scroll in the sky will now end. Its fulfillment is complete. And at this time "the sky shall recede like a scroll rolling up" (Rev. 6:14).

Whatever that prophecy means, it is interesting that the two events coincide.



The Great Meteoric Shower of November 12-13, 1833

.....

HOW TO PROFIT FROM THIS

The combined testimony of every star, without exception, as well as each star sign itself confirms this message.

In the zodiac, Lucifer's demise is recorded in advance. Is it any wonder, then, that he has worked so hard to camouflage the signs with astrological confusion and absurdities?

Astrology teaches that one's life has been programmed into the stars from the moment of birth or conception; that "the die is cast" and one's kismet, karma or fate is more or less fixed. Tough luck, Jane!

The Creator, on the other hand, offers a living relationship with himself that can change your destiny!

What the Author of the zodiac has declared will come to pass despite what any astrologer may say.

The zodiac prophecies are working to a timetable. The truth that is becoming clear is that God has a direct hand in history. Certainly the world scenario appears to be moving daily into closer alignment with the prophecies. They will end just as predicted. **THESE PROPHECIES ARE SURE AND CANNOT DISAPPOINT US.**

INNER PEACE AND POWERFUL LIVING

If you don't have Jesus, then you are in trouble. You are under the death penalty. Not just the death we know today, but eternal death. For the sinner (and that's all of us) there is no life hereafter. You and I are in the death cell. Our only hope is *pardon*. And there's nothing we can do.

So Jesus in his mercy stepped in. Jesus did not deserve to die. Instead, he **chose** to die for us as our replacement. He paid the sin-punishment for all of us. Salvation is a free gift from God; we can't earn it; and God won't force it upon us.

You must personally *accept* the Rescuer's plan to save you.

Perhaps you're thinking, "God wouldn't want *me* – my life has become so messed up."

Listen. He already loves you. Trust him; he created you. And he promises that if you *FACE* your need, *CONFESS* to him, and *ASK* for forgiveness, there's instant **PARDON** waiting for you.

Now isn't that something? – to have a *clean sheet*? Yes, it's yours if you really want it.

OK, so you're bruised, damaged and scarred. And that requires healing. So the next step is to *SURRENDER* your will completely to him. Let his Spirit flood into your life and change the way you live. Your will united with his **POWER** will give you victory over sin.

Feed your mind with positive books and tapes and especially the Bible. Associate with people who love Jesus and are supportive. Like Jesus, reach out to those still lost and share his marvellous love.

You can be sure of this. Jesus will become the best Friend you ever had! While you may not avoid pain or persecution, you will know peace and victory and constant happiness, no matter what happens to you.

Get ready, then, friend, for a revolution, an utter turning about of what you've thought of, or considered, as being *ALIVE*... an incredible freedom where you may experience a wideness in living you never before dreamed possible. Prepare yourself for the overwhelming invasion of God's love. Grow accustomed to a life without worry or guilt or fear; to a breathing, two-way relationship that defies description.

Whatever happens, don't let anyone cheat you out of this. God has something very wonderful planned for those who accept him. And the happiness of the new earth is a bonus that will exceed your wildest dreams.

*P.S. If it will help, remember,
I'm there for you. Contact me.*

THE ~~END~~ BEGINNING

APPENDIX

	VIRGO	LIBRA	SCORPIO	SAGITTARIUS	CAPRICORN	AQUARIUS	PISCES	ARIES	TAURUS	GEMINI	CANCER	LEO
The Coming One	1 a c	b	b c	b	5 b	6 b c	7 a c		9 a	10 a b	a	
The Branch	1 c	2	c			b	c	8 a	a	10	c	
Enemy of Serpent			b	a	b					a b	b c	
Heel Bruised			b c		a b	b			a c	10		
Pierced, Slain	b c	a b	b		5 a			8	c	10	11	
Sin Offering			c		5				c			
The Lamb	b	2 b						8	a c			
Redemption		2					c			c	a b	
The Judge						c			9 b	10		12
King, Ruler	1	c							9 a	10 b		
Accursed, Deceiver			a	c				b		a		a c
Trodden Under Foot			3 b c	c			c	c	a	a		12

A UNIFIED THEME

Some depictions and names within the zodiac, which point to a common theme (Numbers denote each sign as listed in this book)

MEANINGS OF NAMES

	Constellation	Stars in this Group
1. VIRGO	The Virgin; The Place of the Desired Branch	The Branch; The Son; Who Shall Come Down
a. Coma	The Desired	(The boy has a Hebrew name, Ihesu)
b. Centaurus	The Despised; Sin-Offering; Appointed to Die	The Heretofore and the Hereafter; The Pierced; The Mediator
c. Bootes	The Coming One (with a sickle)	The Pierced; Who Bruises The Preserver; The Branch; Who Separates
2. LIBRA	The Balances; Purchase; Redemption; Gracious Branch	The Price Deficient; The Price that Covers; The Price of the Conflict
a. Crux	The Cross; The Cutting Off; Triumph by a Great Conflict	_____
b. Victima	To Be Slain; The Lamb; The Coming One	_____
c. Corona	The Crown	_____
3. SCORPIO	Wounding; Conflict; Attack of the Enemy	Wounding, Cutting Tearing
a. Serpens	The Serpent	The Accursed
b. Ophiuchus	The Chief Who Cometh; The Healer; Desired One; Universal Remedy	The Serpent Held; Treading Under Foot; Bruised; The Wounding; Contending
c. Hercules	The One Who Cometh; The Wounding; The Strong One	The Desired; The Branch Kneeling; The Sin-Offering Him Who Bruises; Treading Underfoot
4. SAGITTARIUS	The Righteous Dealing Piercer	Graciousness; Delight in His Mission; Swiftmess
a. Lyra	The Harp	The Warrior Triumphant; The Serpent Ruled
b. Ara	The Burning Pyre; The Completing; Utter Destruction; The Coming One	_____
c. Draco	Trodden Down	The Subtle; The Deceiver; He Who Is to be Destroyed; The Punished Enemy

Constellation

Stars in this Group

5. CAPRICORNUS	The Atonement; Sinking or Bowed in Death	The Cut Off; The Sacrifice Cometh; The Sacrifice Slain
a. Sagitta	The Shot and Killing Arrow	_____
b. Aquila	The Eagle	The Piercing; Covered With Blood; Wounded in the Heel
c. Delphinus	The Dolphin	Coming Quickly; The Longed For; A Multitude, Fish
6. AQUARIUS	The Water Purer	He Who Goes and Returns
a. Pisces Aust.	The Southern Fish	Record of the Outpouring
b. Pegasus	The Chief Coming Forth Again With Good News and Blessings	He Who Goes and Returns; The Branch; Who Causes the Plenteous Overflow
c. Cygnus	Circling and Returning	The Lord or Judge to Come; He Shall Come Down
7. PISCES	The Fish or Congregation of the Coming Prince	The United; The Upheld
a. Al Risha	He to Come, He to Come	_____
b. Cepheus	The Royal Branch; This One Comes to Rule	The Redeemer; The Shepherd; The Quickly Returning; Who Bruises or Breaks; Treading Underfoot
c. Andromeda	The Chained Woman	The Broken Down; The Afflicted; The Chained
8. ARIES	The Lamb; The Branch; Gentle and Merciful; The Lamb Sent Forth; Sacrifice	The Wounded; The Bruised; The Slain
a. Cassiopeia	The Woman Delivered From All Evil	The Freed; The Enthroned
b. Cetus	The Sea Monster	The Rebel; The Chained Enemy; The Overthrown; Thrust Down
c. Perseus	The Breaker	He Who Breaks; The Trodden Underfoot; The Evil Spirit; Satan's Head

	Constellation	Stars in this Group
9. TAURUS	The Mighty Chief Who Comes to Save; Coming and Ruling	The Leader; Belonging to the Judge; The Congregated
a. Orion	He Who Comes Forth as Light; The Branch; The Ruler; The Prince	The Branch Coming; Suddenly Destroying; The Foot That Crushes; This Chief Triumphs; The Rod of Righteous Measurement
b. Eridanus	River of the Judge	_____
c. Auriga	The Shepherd	Slain; Wounded in the Foot; Atonement; Flock of Goats
10. GEMINI	The United; The Coming One; The Lord Omnipotent; Restorer	The Branch; The Wounded; The Ruler or Judge Comes in Haste
a. Lepus	Enemy of the Coming; The Offender Confounded	The Mad; The Deceiver; The Bound
b. Canis Major	Hawk, Caused to Come Forth	The Prince of the Right Hand; The Mighty; The Glorious; The Scarlet
c. Canis Minor	Conquering; Victorious	Redeemed; Once Burdened
11. CANCER	The Traveller's Resting Place For the Embraced	The Sheltering; Place of Retirement; Kids or Lambs; The Multitude
a. Ursa Minor	Lesser Fold; The Strong hold of the Saved	The Chosen of the Flock; The Assembled The Redeemed; Waiting Him Who Comes
b. Ursa Major	The Great Sheepfold; The One Who Terrifies the Serpent	The Redeemed; Multitude of the Assembled; The Latter Flock
c. Argo	The Company of Travellers; Rejoicing Over the Serpent	The Traveller's Released; The Multitude; What Was Desired; The Possession of Him Who Comes; The Branch
12. LEO	He That Tears Asunder; That Destroys; That Lays Waste	The Coming Judge Who Seizes or Violently Takes; The Feet Which Crush; Putting Down the Enemy
a. Hydra	The Conquered; The Abhorred Father of Lies; Serpent of Eve	The Excluded; Put Out of the Way; The Punishing of the Deceiver
b. Crater	Cup of Wrath	_____
c. Corvus	The Enemy (Who Used to Terrify Us) Broken	The Curse Inflicted; The Raven Tearing to Pieces

WHO IS THIS MYSTERY MAN?

- * IN VIRGO he is the **SEED OF THE WOMAN**
- * IN LIBRA he is the **GRACIOUS REDEEMER**
- * IN SCORPIO he is the **UNIVERSAL REMEDY**
- * IN SAGITTARIUS he is the **RIGTEOUS DUAL-NATURED ONE**
- * IN CAPRICORNUS he is the **SACRIFICE SLAIN**
- * IN AQUARIUS he is the **POURER OF THE WATERS OF LIFE**
- * IN PISCES he is the **UPHOLDER OF THE AFFLICTED**
- * IN ARIES he is the **MERICFUL LAMB**
- * IN TAURUS he is the **RETURNING JUDGE**
- * IN GEMINI he is the **GLORIOUS PRINCE**
- * IN CANCER he is the **PROTECTOR OF THE FLOCK**
- * IN LEO he is the **DESTROYING LION**

WHO IS THIS MIGHTY ONE?

HE IS JESUS CHRIST THE LORD!

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Abbreviations:

GNB Good News Bible; LB Living Bible; NAS New American Standard; NEB New English Bible; NIV New International Version; NKJV New King James Version; RSV Revised Standard Version. Generally all other biblical references are from the King James Bible.

BOOKS, DVDS AND OTHER RESOURCES

by Jonathan Gray

BOOKS

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