

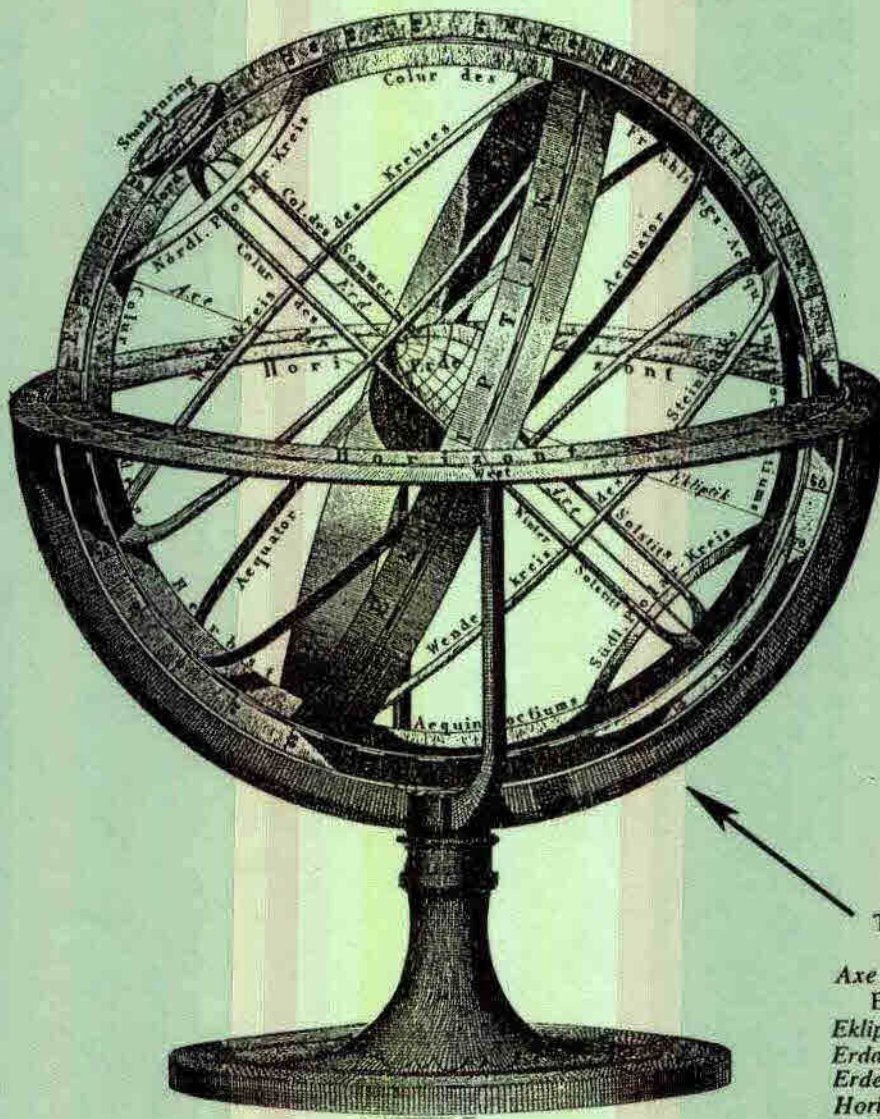
APOLOGETICS 19

* THE TRUTH



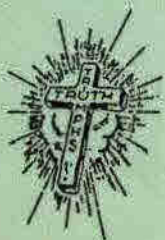
became

THE LIE



The armillary sphere

Axe der Ekliptik, Axis of the
Ecliptic
Ekliptik, Ecliptic
Erdaxe, Axis of the earth
Erde, Earth
Horizont, Horizon
Nord, North; — *-pol*, Northpole
Wendekreis des Krebses, Tropic
of Cancer; — *des Steinbocks*,
Tropic of Capricorn



a·pol·o·get·ics

the branch of theology having to do with the defense and proofs of Christianity

Mount Publications, Rt. 1, Box 298, Morriston, Fla. 32668

THE TRUTH became THE LIE

The true meaning of the constellations in the heavens compared to astrology is one of the most confused subjects one could study. I will not burden you with all the disagreements on this subject for there are many.

We have painted on the ceiling of our small museum some of the constellations. One can see a sort of fear as "Christian" visitors try to ignore the painting of the Zodiac. "Christians" are as superstitious today as they have ever been, and much more ignorant of scripture now, than 100 years ago. I hope this apologetics will help you to understand the truth from the heavens as compared to the lie. Fortune-telling by the stars is neither science nor true astrology, but simply a pleasing of very superstitious persons.

Before going further let me give you at least part of a bibliography in all fairness to others who have done a great deal of research to help those who wish to study this subject.

Mazzaroth, by Miss Frances Rolleston, London: Rivingtons, Waterloo Place, 1862. Miss Rolleston had seen only about 175 pages of her 217 page book printed before her death. She spent years making various tables of star names and their meanings. Her work may have errors, she being human; her work was ridiculed by E.W. Maunder, an astronomer writing under Astronomy, The International Standard Bible Encyclopaedia, Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., Grand Rapids, Mich, 1955; but I cannot believe anyone would do such thankless work had she not loved the Lord. Her work is filled with the sources of her information.

Gospel in the Stars, by Joseph A. Seiss, The Muhlenberg Press, Philadelphia, Penn., 1884; more recently reprinted by Kregel Publications, Grand Rapids, Mich.

The Witness of the Stars, by Ethelbert W. Bullinger,

London, published by the author, 1893; more recently reprinted by Kregel Publications, Grand Rapids, Mich. I have printed a small part of

SOME years ago it was my privilege to enjoy the acquaintance of Miss Frances Rolleston, of Keswick, and to carry on a correspondence with her with respect to her work, *Mazzaroth: or, the Constellations*. She was the first to create an interest in this important subject. Since then Dr. Seiss, of Philadelphia, has endeavoured to popularize her work on the other side of the Atlantic; and brief references have been made to the subject in such books as *Moses and Geology*, by Dr. Kinns, and in *Primeval Man*; but it was felt, for many reasons, that it was desirable to make another effort to set forth, in a more complete form, the witness of the stars to prophetic truth, so necessary in these last days.

To the late Miss Rolleston, however, belongs the honour of collecting a mass of information bearing on this subject; but, published as it was, chiefly in the form of notes, unarranged and unindexed, it was suited only for, but was most valuable to, the student. She it was who performed the drudgery of collecting the facts presented by Albumazer, the Arab astronomer to the Caliphs of Grenada, 850 A.D.; and the Tables drawn up by Ulugh Beigh, the Tartar prince and astronomer, about 1450 A.D., who gives the Arabian Astronomy as it had come down from the earliest times.

the preface to give you some idea of the ancient authorities.

There are many smaller works. One recent work on astrology is helpful.

The Book of Practical Astrology, by Mario Paltrinieri and Elena Rader with Dr. Rosanna Zerilli, Collier Books, MacMillan Pub. Co., New York, copyright 1981, English Translation 1984.

The importance to this apologetic is to show the difference between the 12 "signs" and the 12 constellations.

We are not particularly interested either in true astrology or in the fortune-telling aspect. We will be concerned with the origin of the Zodiac, its real purpose, and what is "the lie." First,

vs. 18 For wrath of God is being*uncovered from heaven on all impiety and unrighteousness of MEN, the (ones) holding-fast the truth in unrighteousness,

vs. 19 For the reason that the thing known of the God is manifest among them; for the God manifested (it) to them.

vs. 20 For the invisible things of him from creation of (a) world being-understood by the things-made (are)-being-seen-clearly, both his constant power and divinity, with-reference-to their being without-defense,

vs. 21 For the reason that*having-come-to-know the God they-glorified (him) not as God or gave-thanks, BUT they-were-aimless in their deliberations, and their heart without-understanding was-made-dark.

vs. 22 Alleging to be wise (ones) they-were-made-stupid,

vs. 23 And they-changed the glory of the imperishable God with (a) similitude of (an)-image of perishable MAN and of flying-things and of four-footed-things and of-reptiles;

vs. 24 On this-account the God gave them over with the desires of their hearts with-reference-to uncleanness, their bodies to-be-being-dishonored among them,

vs. 25 They-who exchanged*the truth of the God with the lie, and they-venerated and they-served the

♦ Romans 1 in the Consistent Translation.

Note particularly the asterisks (*).

vs. 18 "is-being-uncovered", continuously.

"Holding-fast" the truth but in unrighteousness.

vs. 20 "being-seen-clearly," how?

vs. 21 "having-come-to-know the God."

vs. 23 Idolatry.

creation beside the (one) having-created, who is blessed with-reference-to the ages; amen.

vs. 25 "the truth" became "the lie." How?

From the garden of Eden, Satan contradicted God; "Ye shall not surely die." (Gen. 3:4) I believe Rom. 1:18-25 refers to changing "the truth" of the Zodiac into "the lie" of idolatry as we shall see. Satan has done a great deal to distort scripture. (See Apologetics 6) About 250 B.C. the OT was translated into Greek from the Hebrew by some 72 of Israel's best scholars; the Septuagint. (LXX). Three things should be especially noted.

1. The NT given by God quotes almost equally from both the Greek (LXX) and Hebrew (Masoretic) Old Testament. Why?

2. I believe the Jews in 250 B.C. were apt to much better understand the Hebrew than the Jews today. Hebrew is very difficult.

3. The discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls supports this opinion of the importance of the LXX.

The Essene Writings from Qumran by A. Dupont-Sommer, 1962, p.10

It must, however, be recognized that the Samaritan and Greek variants have also acquired a verifiable antiquity which increases the value of their testimony and invites their consultation even more urgently than before.

Research on the Septuagint, carried out with enthusiasm for so many years, has also received crowning justification. It will spring into new and vigorous action now that we have at our disposal considerable portions of its Hebrew prototype. They have even found at Qumran some fragments several centuries older than the great codices by which it was known till now.¹ From the time of St. Jerome, the Masoretic Text has been honoured with the title 'veritas hebraica', but now that the text of the Septuagint is confirmed by the Hebrew manuscripts of Qumran, it also possesses a *veritas hebraica*. From the point of view of 'Hebrew truth', the Masoretic Text no longer enjoys an exclusive privilege.

Variants attested by the biblical manuscripts of Qumran should of course not be preferred *a priori* to the Masoretic Text. But it is more than ever important to compare all the versions of the biblical text, and to choose each reading according to its merit.

↙ In King James the Hebrew word (כוכב) KOKAB is translated "star" 36x, and no other way. In the NT the Young's Concordance shows ἀστὴρ, (astēr), "star" 24x, and ἄστρον, (astron), "star" 4x, making no distinction. The concordance gives the meaning for ἄστρον (astron) as "constellation."

With this distinction between ἀστὴρ (astēr) "star" and ἄστρον (astron) "constellation" we will first note some OT scriptures.

I do not know why the LXX uses these two Greek words for the Hebrew word KOKAB; nor am I able to learn, at the present, how they knew which Greek word to use.

According to the Babylonian Talmud, Moses wrote the book of Job. (Baba Bathra 15a). Also according to the Jerusalem Talmud. (Sota V. 8). Job was the son of Issachar. (Gen. 46:13) (But see page 666 in The Companion Bible, by Bullinger for a good explanation.) Job knew of the constellations.

Job 9 KJ

7 Which commandeth the sun, and it riseth not; and scaleth up the stars;

8 *Which alone spreadeth out the heavens, and treadeth upon the waves of the sea;

9 *Which maketh 'Arctu'-rus, Ori'-on, and Plei'-ades, and the 'chambers of the south;

10 *Which doeth great things past finding out; yea, and wonders without number.

← LXX "The (one) saying to the sun and it-is not rising, but he-is-completely-sealing-down-over constellations; * vs. 8 the (one) having-stretched-out the heaven alone and walking-around upon (a) sea as upon ground; vs. 9 the (one) making Pleiades and Hesperus (Venus) and Arcturus and chambers of-(the) south;"

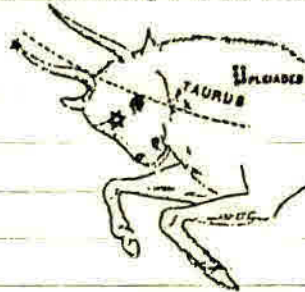
* Note: Jesus who walked on the sea of Galilee is the same as the one having stretched out the heaven and made the constellations. The names of the constellations vary by translating.

Job 38 KJ

31 Canst thou bind the sweet influences of 'Plei'-ades, or loose the bands of 'Ori'-on?

32 Canst thou bring forth 'Maz'-zaroth in his season? Or canst thou 'guide Arctu'-rus with his sons?

33 Knowest thou *the 'ordinances of heaven? Canst thou set the dominion thereof in the earth?



LXX "But have-you-perceived (the) bond of-Pleiades and have-you-opened a-fencing-in of-Orion? vs. 32 Or will-you-thoroughly-open Mazzaroth (Gesenius: the signs of the Zodiac) in his season, and again will-you-lead *Hesperus (by) his long-hair? vs. 33 But are-you-comprehending turnings of-heaven or the (things) coming-to-pass with-one-accord under heaven?"

* Hesperus - Liddell + Scott Lexicon

Ἑσπερος, ον, (v. sub fin.), of or at evening, ἑ. ἀστήρ the evening-star, Il. 22. 318; opp. to ἑως ἀστήρ, Plat. in Anth. P. 5. 670; also as Subst., without ἀστήρ, Hesperus, Eur. Ion 1149, Bion 16. 1; esp. of the planet Venus, Tim. Locr. 97 A, Cic. N. D. 2. 20 (cf. φώσφορος); also, ἑσπ. σελάνας φάος Pind. O. 10. 90 (v. sub λαμπτήρ); ἑσπ. θεός the god of darkness, i. e. Hades or death, Soph. O. T. 178:-

HESPERUS (Ἑσπερος), the evening-star, is called by Hesiod a son of Astræus and Eos, and was regarded, even by the ancients, as the same as the morning star, whence both Homer and Hesiod call him the bringer of light, φώσφορος (Il. xxii. 517, xxiii. 226; comp. Plin. H. N. ii. 8; Mart. Capell. viii. § 882, &c., ed. Kopp.) Diodorus (iii. 60) calls him a son of Atlas, who was fond of astronomy, and once, after having ascended Mount Atlas to observe the stars, he disappeared. He was worshipped with divine honours, and regarded as the firestar in the heavens. (Eratosth. Catast. 24.) Hyginus (de Sign. Coel. 2) says that some called him a son of Eos and Cephalus. The Romans designated him by the name Lucifer and Hesperus, to characterise him as the morning or evening star.

Dictionary of Greek and Roman Biography and Mythology, Smith

Job 38 KJ

7 When the morning stars sang together, and all ^athe sons of God shouted for joy?

Wisdom of Solomon Ch. 13:2 Goodspeed

But either fire, or wind, or swift air, Or the circle of the stars, or rushing water, Or the heavenly luminaries, the rulers of the world, they considered gods.

← LXX "When (the) constellations came-to-be, all my angels praised me with great noise."

← LXX "BUT either fire or spirit or air more-quickly or (the) circle of constellations or forcible water or light-givers of-heaven they-supposed gods rulers of-(the)-world."

Job 25 KJ

5 Behold even to the moon, and it shineth not; yea, the stars are not pure in his ^asight.

constellations (are) not clean in his presence."

← LXX "If he-is-assigning-(himself?) together alongside-(the)-moon, it-is even not shining-out; but

Ps. 136 KJ

7 ^aTo him that made great lights: for his mercy endureth for ever:

8 ^aThe sun to rule by day: for his mercy endureth for ever:

9 The moon and stars to rule by night: for his mercy endureth for ever.

← LXX "To-the only (one) having-made great lights --- the sun with-reference-to authority of-the day --- the moon and the constellations with-reference-to authority of-the night---"

Amos 5:8 KJ

8 Seek him that maketh the ^aseven stars and O-ri-on, and turneth the shadow of death into the morning, ^band maketh the day dark with night: that ^ccalleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: ^dThe LORD is his name:

← ASV has "Pleiades and Orion." The LXX does not have this phrase We have so far shown 4 references to the fact that God made the constellations.

Isa. 13:10 KJ

10 For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be ^adarkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine.

← The Hebrew word translated "constellations" is the same word translated "Orion." (Above Job 9:9, Job 38:31 and Amos 5:8)

LXX "For the stars of-the heaven even the Orion and all the world of-the heaven will not give*the light---" A different kind of light. In spite of the fact that God made the The International Standard Bible Encyclopaedia, 1955, Eerdmans Publishing Co ↓

← according to these scriptures, note how a Bible Encyclopaedia handles the subject. No wonder Christians are afraid of this subject.

The arrangement of the twelve signs of the zodiac to mark out the apparent yearly path of the sun, and of these three serpent-forms to hold their respective and significant positions in the heavens, shows that a real progress in astronomy had been made before the constellations were designed, and that their places were allotted to these figures on a definite astronomical plan.

Let us go back to the 4th day of creation.

Gen. 1 KJ

14 And God said, Let there be ^alights in the firmament of the heaven to divide ¹the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for ^bseasons, and for days, and years;

15 And let them be for lights in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth: and it was so.

16 And God made two great lights; the ^agreater ¹light to rule the day, and the ^blesser ²light to rule the night: *he made* ^cthe stars also.

17 And God set them in the firmament of the ^aheaven to give light upon the earth,

18 And to ^arule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good.

19 And the evening and the morning were the fourth day.

Now the word "signs" vs. 14 (לַמֹּת - for signs) is the word *ōhth*, which basically means "letter."

Gesenius' Lexicon

מֹת comm. Ch. i. q. Heb. מֹת a sign, a portent,

Davies' Lexicon

מֹת I (obs.) akin to מָחַ and מָחַ to cut in, to engrave or mark; hence perh. מֹת I, מֹת I.

Now consider the 1st. verse of Genesis.

בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים (אֶת) הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת הָאָרֶץ:
the and the God created the in
:earth heavens beginning

⚡ Note the word not translated, which is said only to indicate a direct object.

NOTE ON THE ASTRONOMY OF THE ANCIENTS.

(From Southey's "Doctor.")

"According to the Cabalists, the ancient Hebrews represented the stars severally and collectively by the letters of their Alphabet; to read the stars, therefore, was more than a metaphorical expression with them. And an astral alphabet for genethliacal purposes was published near the close of the fifteenth century, at Cracow, by Rabbi Knapol Ben Samuel, in a work entitled 'The Profundity of Profundities.'

"But as this would rest upon an insecure foundation,—for who could be assured that the alphabet had been accurately made out?—it has been argued that the heavens are repeatedly in the Scriptures called a book, whence it is to be inferred that they contain legible characters; that the first verse of the first chapter of Genesis ought to be translated 'In the beginning God created the letter or character of the heavens.' and that in the nineteenth Psalm we should read 'their line' instead of 'their sound has gone forth into all lands,' this referring to their arrangement in the firmament like letters upon a roll of parchment. Jews, Platonists, and Fathers of the Church, are shown to have believed in this celestial writing. And there can be no question but that both the language and the characters must be Hebrew, that being the original speech, and those the original characters, and both divinely communicated to man, not of human invention. But single stars are not to be read as letters, as in the astral alphabet. This may be a convenient mode of noting them in astronomical observations; the elements of this celestial science are more recondite in proportion as the science itself is more mysterious. An understanding eye may distinguish that the stars in their groups form Hebrew letters, instead of those imaginary shapes which are called the signs of the zodiac. But as the stars appear to us only as dots of light, much skill and sagacity are required for discovering how they combine into the complex forms of the Hebrew alphabet."

From Ms. Rolleston Part 4 page 16

⚡ In Genesis vs. 14 above "seasons" are Israel's feast seasons. (See Lev. 23:4)

Ps. 19 KJ

THE ^aheavens ¹declare the glory of God; and the ^bfirmament showeth his handiwork.

2 Day unto day ¹uttereth speech, and night unto night ²showeth knowledge.

3 There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard.

4 ^aTheir ¹line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun,

5 Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber, ^aand rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race.

⚡ LXX "With-reference-to the finish; (a) psalm by-the David. vs. 1 The heavens are narrating (the) glory of-God, but the solidness is-telling doings of-his hands: vs. 2 Day by-the day is-being-blurtd-out (a) saying, and night by-night is-telling Knowledge, vs. 3 There-are not speeches nor words of-which their voices are NOT being-heard.

vs.4 Their utterance went-out into all the earth, and their sayings into the limits of-the-inhabited-earth, he-himself-put his fixed-tabernacle in the sun; vs.5 And he as (the) bridegroom proceeding-out out-of his bridal-chamber, he-himself-will-exult as (a) giant to-run his way." (way="path" of heavenly bodies, Liddell+Scott p.1026)

Ps. 147 KJ
4 *He 'tellethe the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names.

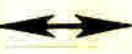
← LXX "The (one) numbering multitudes of-constellations and calling names for-them all."

One more evidence of heavenly works might be worth notice at this point.

Ex.20:18 KJ

Zohar Vol. III p.244

18 And *all the people ^bsaw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain ^csmoking: and when the people saw it, they ^dremoved, and stood afar off.

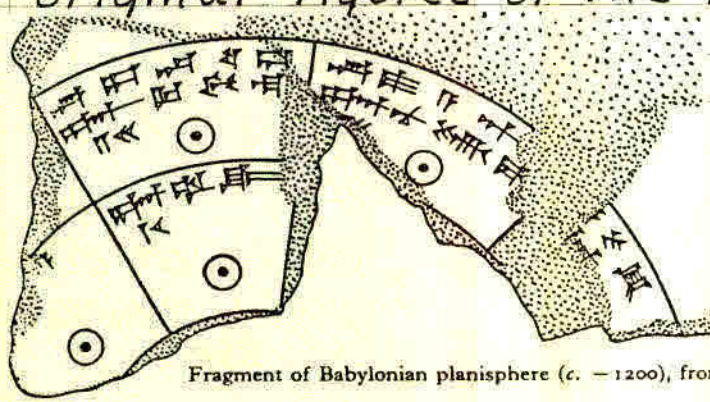


Said R. Abba: 'It is written: "And all the people saw the thunderings" (Ex. xx, 18). Surely it ought to be heard the thunderings? We have, however, been taught that the "voices" were delineated, carved out, as it were, upon the threefold darkness, so that they could be apprehended as something visible, and they saw and heard all those wonderful things out of that darkness, cloud and cloudy darkness; and because they saw that sight they were irradiated with a supernal light, and perceived things beyond the ken of all succeeding generations, and saw face to face (Deut. v, 4).'

No wonder the archaeologists can't find where Hebrew came from. Consider a passage from The Book of Jubilees, ch. 12:24-27 God speaking to Abraham through an "angel."

24 And I will be a God to thee and thy son, and to thy son's son, and to all thy seed: fear not, from
25 henceforth and unto all generations of the earth I am thy God.' And the Lord God said: 'Open his mouth and his ears, that he may hear and speak with his mouth, with the language which has been revealed': for it had ceased from the mouths of all the children of men from the day of the
26 overthrow (of Babel). And I opened his mouth, and his ears and his lips, and I began to speak
27 with him in Hebrew in the tongue of the creation. And he took the books of his fathers, and these were written in Hebrew, and he transcribed them, and he began from henceforth to study them, and I made known to him that which he could not (understand), and he studied them during the six
28 rainy months.

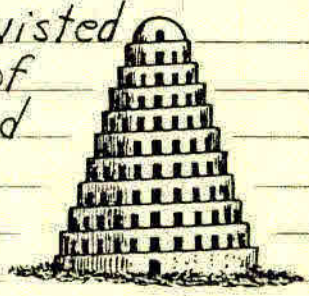
I believe I have shown enough to indicate that Hebrew was the original language and that God named stars and constellations and gave the original figures of the Zodiac.



Fragment of Babylonian planisphere (c. -1200), from Budge

From the overthrow of the tower of Babel the truth began to be twisted into the lie of mythology and idolatry.

← Early Zodiac.



Isa. 14 KJ

12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven. I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

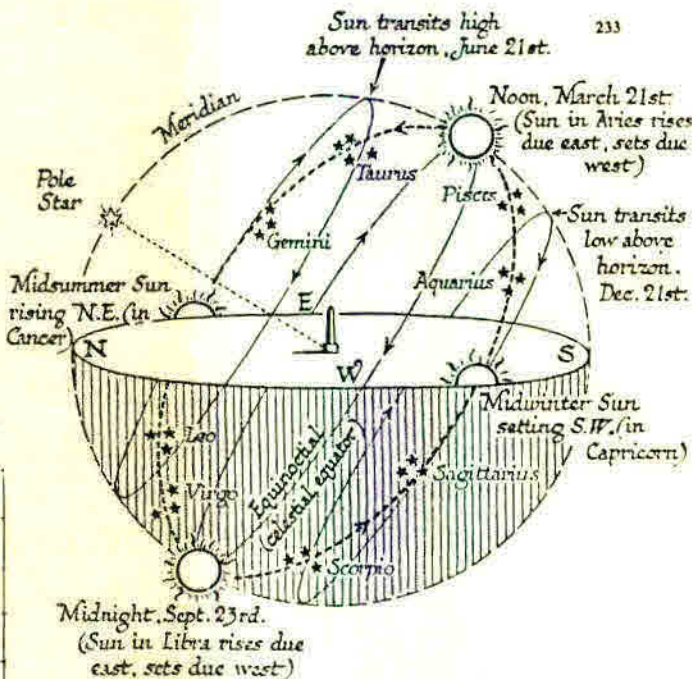
← LXX "How did the Lucifer namely-the (one) rising in-the-morning fall-away out-of-the-heaven? The (one) dispatching to all the Gentiles was-shattered with-reference-to the earth. vs. 13 But you yourself-said in your intellect; I-myself-shall-ascend into the heaven, I-shall-place my throne above-upon the constellations of-the heaven, I-shall-be-seated in (a) high mountain upon the mountains namely-the high (ones) namely-the (ones) toward (the) north, I-myself-shall-ascend above-upon the clouds, I-shall-be like to-the Most-High."

Pictorial Biblical Encyclopedia,

Tel Aviv, Israel, 1964, p. 147

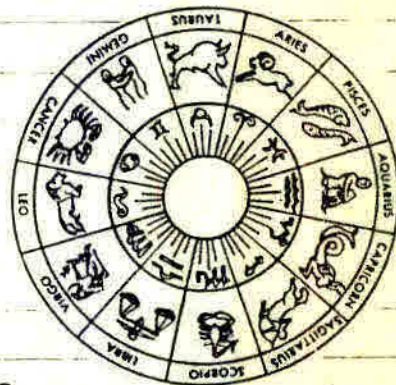
The phenomenon of the rising and setting of stars show that the sun changes its position relative to the fixed stars, as if retreating eastwards through a complete circle in the celestial sphere (observe the sun's apparent annual retreat through the zodiacal constellations, 233).

Stargazing led the ancients to visualize their constellations in human and animal form, which they called the signs of the Zodiac. Gods about whom tales existed were associated with heavenly bodies.



On the cover is a picture of the armillary sphere, an old astronomical instrument to show the movements of the various important circles of the celestial sphere.

← This picture shows more clearly how the sun moves through the constellations.



If you make believe you are looking at the Zodiac belt of 12 constellations from the north celestial pole they will appear in the order shown on this Zodiac. ↑

The Knowledge of the stars and the corrupt worship of them was taught to men by "fallen" angels before the flood. After the flood men continued idolatry very soon. (See course Fallen Angels) But from the fall of the tower of Babel this idolatry spread world wide.

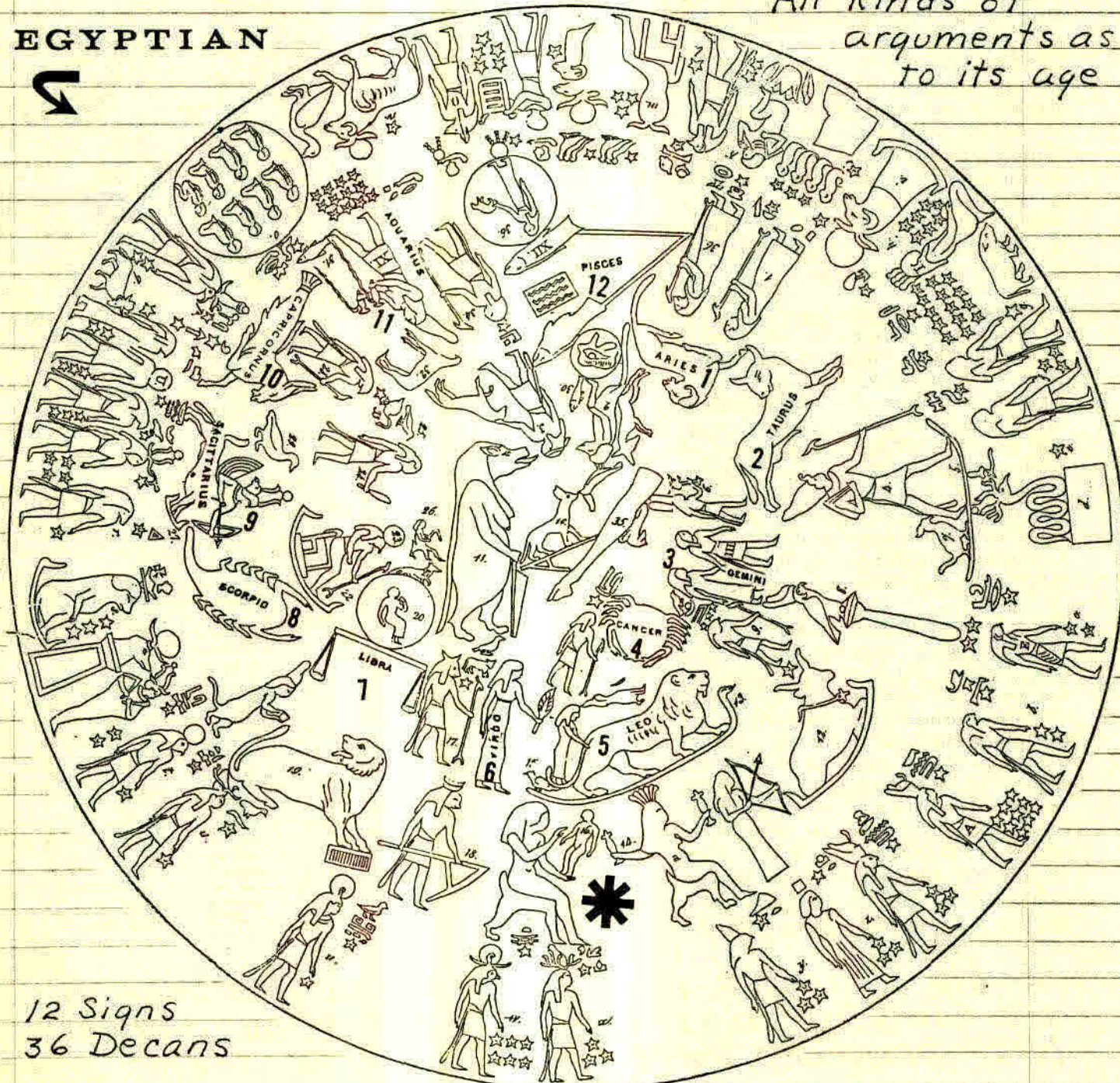
Antiquities of the Jews
Josephus Book 1 ch.8 sec.2

He communicated to them arithmetic, and delivered to them the science of astronomy; for, before Abram came into Egypt, they were unacquainted with those parts of learning; for that science came from the Chaldeans into Egypt, and from thence to the Greeks also.

← Abram took the science of astronomy into Egypt.

← Planisphere of Dendera
All kinds of arguments as to its age

EGYPTIAN



12 Signs
36 Decans

How do you tell astrology from the gospel in the stars. One way is quite simple.

The Book of Practical Astrology, (p.2) makes the separation very clear, as well as giving some interesting background. I have included a portion.

The Assyro-Babylonians

The birthplace of astrology was Babylonia. The most ancient surviving documents - the 4000 or so tablets with astrological inscriptions in cuneiform characters in Assyrian or Babylonian writing - belonged to the library of King Assurbanipal (668-626 BC) and were found on the site of ancient Nineveh. The tablets contain astrological predictions based on astronomical and meteorological observations dating back to 2000 BC. It seems probable that they had been translated from Sumerian - the language spoken by the people who lived in the Valley of the Two Rivers, Mesopotamia, before the Babylonians - in the third millennium BC. The Babylonian astrologers attributed characteristics to the planets according to their appearance. Venus, for example, the brightest and clearest star, was associated with fertility, and Mars, because of its dark red halo, with violent changes and war.

The Chaldeans

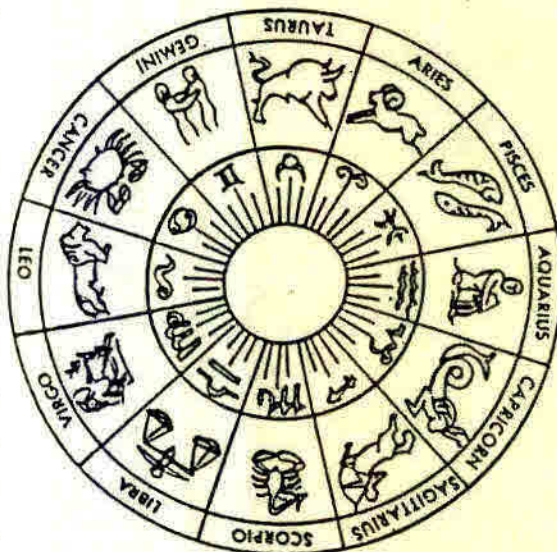
In the second millennium BC, the Chaldeans settled in South Mesopotamia and gradually merged with the Babylonian state. Their dynasty dates back to 626 BC. Astrology made a major leap forward under the Chaldean priests and the astrological knowledge inherited from the Babylonians gained new geometrical and astronomical dimensions. Detailed studies were made of the movements of the seven heavenly bodies known at that time (the Sun, the Moon, Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn) and of eclipses. The Zodiac was divided into twelve equal parts of thirty degrees each, which parts from then on kept the names taken from the constellations.

The Zodiac - literally "belt of animals" - is a term which, generally speaking, encompasses astrology as a whole, but it is actually only the setting in which the scene unfolds. It is a circular belt of sky centred upon the solar ecliptic which provides a passive background to the seemingly geocentric rotation of the planets (with the exception of Pluto which lies out of our range of vision and has a special orbit). Since the time of the Chaldean astrologers, this belt has been divided into 12 equal segments which occupy a 30° area of the solar ecliptic and represent the 12 signs of the Zodiac (not to be confused with the constellations, which have the same names as the astrological signs although they are in no other way connected). Beginning at 0 degrees (0°) Aries (the vernal equinox, start of spring), the zodiacal signs follow on from each other, in an anticlockwise direction around the circle of the Zodiac, as illustrated in the table.

The precession of the equinoxes

The 12 signs of the Zodiac bear, as previously mentioned, the same names as the constellations, but the two do not correspond. The constellations occupy an area which is very remote from the 30 degrees fixed for each sign. Furthermore, both the gravitational effects which the Sun, the Moon and the other planets have on the Earth, and the fact that the Earth itself is not a perfect sphere, cause an infinitesimal shift in the polar axis rather like a top which is running down. It is a continuing process which takes place over thousands of years. This phenomenon is known as the "precession of the equinoxes" because the positions of the celestial poles are shifted, and in particular the vernal equinox (start of spring), in relation to the plane of the ecliptic. For this reason the constellation of Aries which ought to be above the Sun from 21st March to 20th April is no longer there. This is why the positions of the signs of the Zodiac no longer correspond to those of the constellations.¹

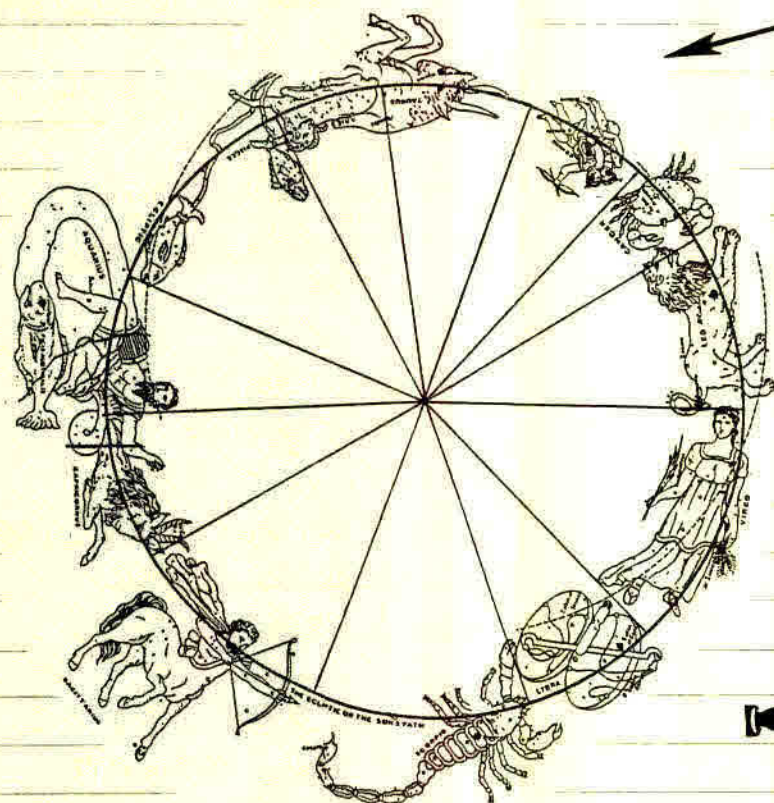
Signs of the Zodiac. 12 in number: Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Cancer, Leo, Virgo, Libra, Scorpio, Sagittarius, Capricorn, Aquarius and Pisces. They correspond to the 12 conventionally equal parts (of 30 degrees each) into which the Zodiac is divided. They follow on from one another in an anticlockwise direction, starting with Aries. They do not correspond to the constellations, of which they retain only the names.



Sign	Longitude	Glyph
Aries	from 0° to 30°	♈
Taurus	from 30° to 60°	♉
Gemini	from 60° to 90°	♊
Cancer	from 90° to 120°	♋
Leo	from 120° to 150°	♌
Virgo	from 150° to 180°	♍
Libra	from 180° to 210°	♎
Scorpio	from 210° to 240°	♏
Sagittarius	from 240° to 270°	♐
Capricorn	from 270° to 300°	♑
Aquarius	from 300° to 330°	♒
Pisces	from 330° to 360°	♓

Zodiac circles run anticlockwise, the segments are each 30°, and are indicated by glyphs. Now consider the segments on the Zodiac p.11.

In this Zodiac the constellations are clockwise as you would see them while looking up to the heavens from the earth. The segments are not equal nor can they even be clearly indicated. The constellations overlap, where do you really draw the line? These are the



12 constellations. In the bottom picture the 36 decans are added.

Modern star maps show 88 constellations to confuse the picture.

The continuance of these constellations is God's guarantee to Israel. Jer. 31 KJ

35 Thus saith the LORD, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The LORD of hosts is his name:

36 If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the LORD, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever.

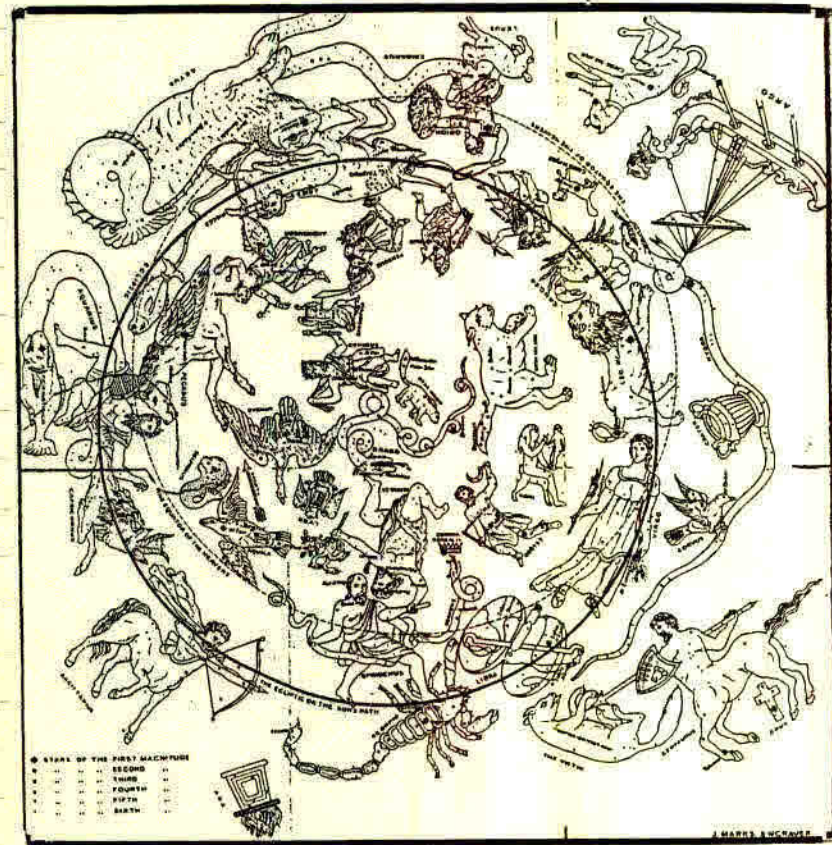
37 Thus saith the LORD; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the LORD.

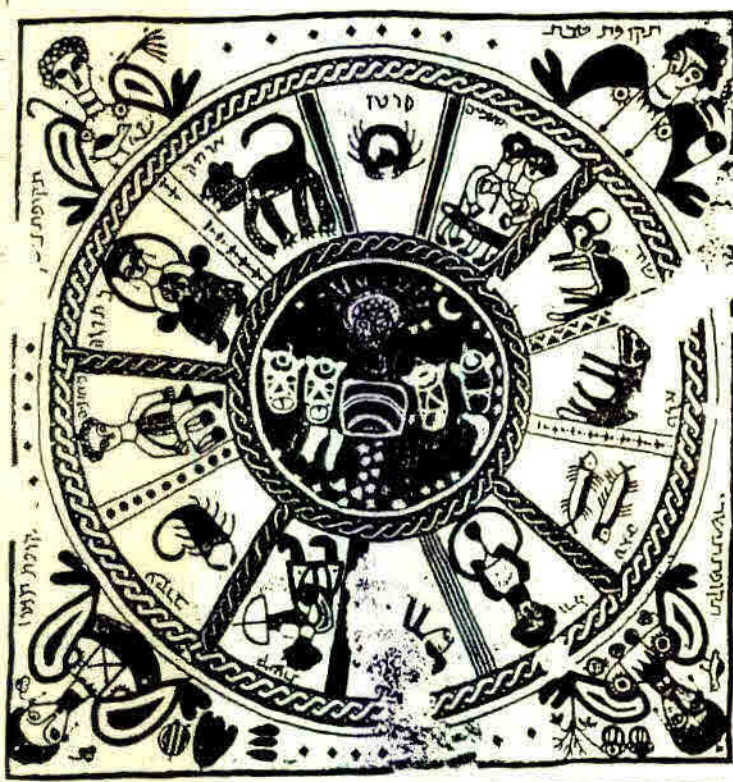
The LXX, "A" manuscript has "constellations."

Note that Israel turned to idolatry.

2 Kings 23 KJ

5 And he put down the idolatrous priests, whom the kings of Judah had ordained to burn incense in the high places in the cities of Judah, and in the places round about Jerusalem; them also that burned incense unto Ba'al, to the sun, and to the moon, and to the planets, and to all the host of heaven.



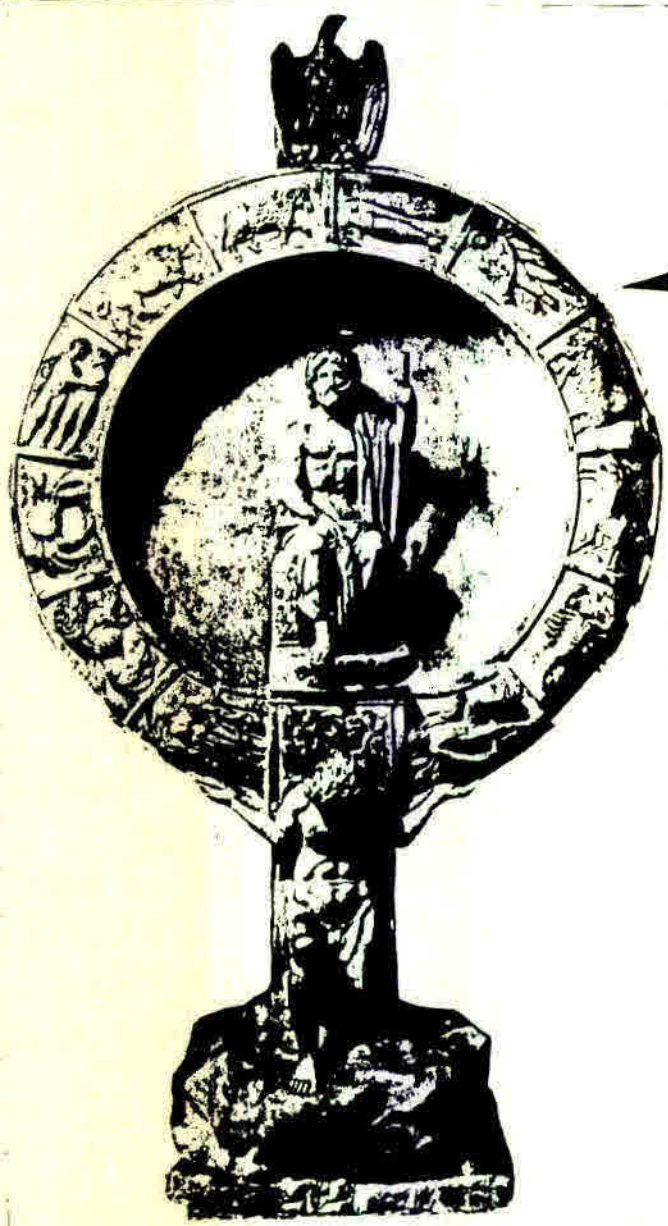


← This is a Zodiac, (30° segments, figures counterclockwise.) found on the floor of the Beth Alpha Synagogue in Israel. God warned Israel. Jer. 10 KJ

HEAR ye the word which the LORD speaketh unto you, O house of Israel:
 2 Thus saith the LORD, "Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them."

No wonder they are dismayed or fearful, for LXX Ps. 95:5, says, "--- because all the gods of the Gentiles (are) little-demons."

← Jupiter in the Zodiac. (2nd. cent. AD. Vatican Museum.)



But you don't have to follow idolatry. The whole of mythology is basically idolatry. Isa. 40 KJ

25 *To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One.

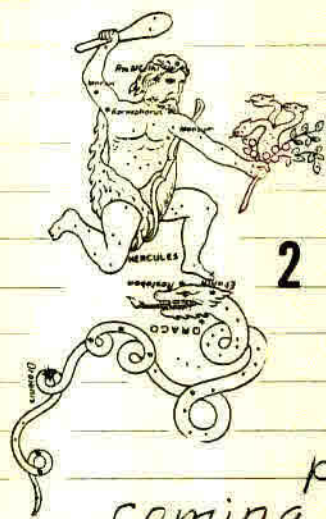
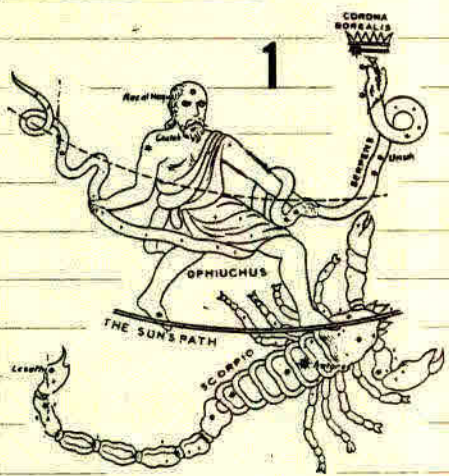
26 Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: *he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth.

Let us learn what some who have studied the names have learned.

The star names in general are much too complex for a short study such as this. Occasionally I will refer to a particular star but usually the pictures themselves cast a great deal of light. I have cut out 3 similar pictures as a start.

Gen. 3:15 KJ

15 *And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed: it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.



Notice in each picture one foot is coming down on the head of the enemy. In figure 3 there is a star Rigel or Rigol, "the foot that crusheth" (Bullinger).

In figs. 1 and 2 the other foot is pulled up as though wounded or bruised. In fig. 3 there is a star Saiph, "bruised" (Bullinger).

← These figures show that this prophecy was well known.



Crishna



Egyptian Goddess



From Memphis 1965



OEDIPUS AND THE SPHINX. Attic cup in the Vatican Museum, Rome. *Alinari.*

There are sphinxes all over the middle east, what are they? There is no evidence that they are or were idols.

Funk & Wagnalls Encyclopedia

SPHINX, in Greek mythology, a composite monster having the head of a woman, the body of a lion, and the wings of a bird. According to legend she proposed a riddle to the Thebans, slaying all who were unable to guess it. The riddle was "What is it which has four feet in the morning, two at noon, and three at night?" When Oedipus (q.v.) solved the riddle by answering "Man", the sphinx threw herself over a cliff and perished. The name "sphinx" was also applied by the Greeks to a class of ancient Egyptian composite figures having the body of a lion and the head of some other animal or of a man, frequently a portrait of a king; the Greek mythological sphinx was probably derived from these figures. The most remarkable of all Egyptian sphinxes is the Great Sphinx of Giza, situated about 300 feet east of the second pyramid, and thought to have been built to protect the neighboring tombs from evil spirits. It is a colossal image of Harmachis (q.v.), Egyptian god of the rising sun, and is believed to date from about 2850 B.C., during the reign of King Khafre of the IVth dynasty. It is hewn out of a rocky promontory and built up with masonry to correct the natural outline. Its measurements, which vary according to the drift of the sand around the statue, are, as computed by the British Egyptologist Sir William Matthew Flinders Petrie, 189 feet in length and 70 feet in height, and 30 feet from forehead to chin. Sphinxes are also found in Assyrian, Minoan, Roman, and Mayan cultures.

Notice the riddle and the answer, "Man"; what man? This was a riddle, let us find the true sense.

The baby creeps. →

The man walks. →

An old man uses a cane as a third leg. →

The name sphinx in Greek is σφιγξ (sphiqksi) from the infinitive of

σφιγγω (sphiqqo), "to bind tight." (L+S)(EB)



Where do you start the message of the Zodiac? It is a circle. The sphinx was the key, it marked the point, "bound tightly together."

I believe the winged woman is Israel. (See also Ex. 19:14) Rev. 12 KJ



Consider the constellation "Coma", on the Dendera Zodiac, page 9, marked *. Coma means "desired." The virgin-born son was expected in all mythology long before Isaiah wrote. Mythology understood this child was to be God.

Is. 7 KJ 14 Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; *Behold, a *virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Im-man-u-el.

← "God with us"

Luke 2 KJ 7 And she brought forth her *first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a *manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

John 19 KJ 5 Then came Jesus forth, wearing the crown of thorns, and the purple robe. And Pilate saith unto them, Behold the man!

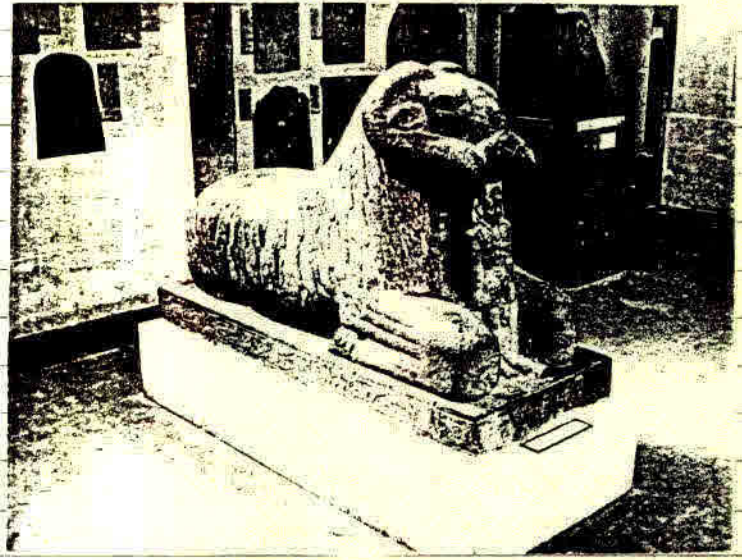
Dan. 7 KJ 9 I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.



Isis and Horus. (British Museum)
Mother and child from Babylon.
(The Two Babylons, Hislop, p.19)

While the original sphinx points to the virgin; the man-headed sphinx points to the son as a god. (see sphinx p.13, Memphis)
One more sphinx, this time with a lamb's head as savior.

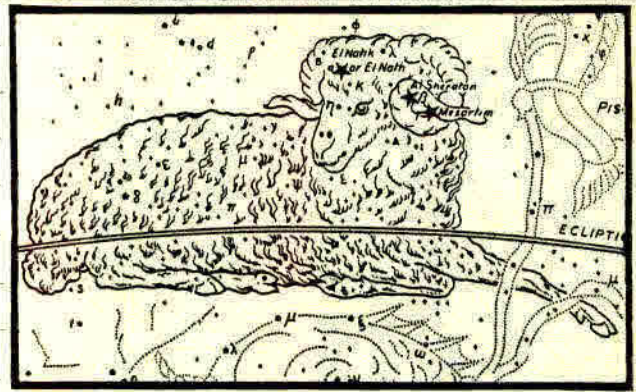
This ram sphinx was found by Oxford Univer. excavations 1930-31 in Northern Sudan. They date 680 B.C.



This ram is in the British Museum. It dates from about

2000 B.C., and is called, "The Ram caught in a thicket." (see Gen. 22 below)

This brings us to the constellation Aries, the lamb, or ram. The sun was in Aries at the beginning of



Gen. 22 KJ

7 And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, My son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?

8 And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.

13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.

Israel's

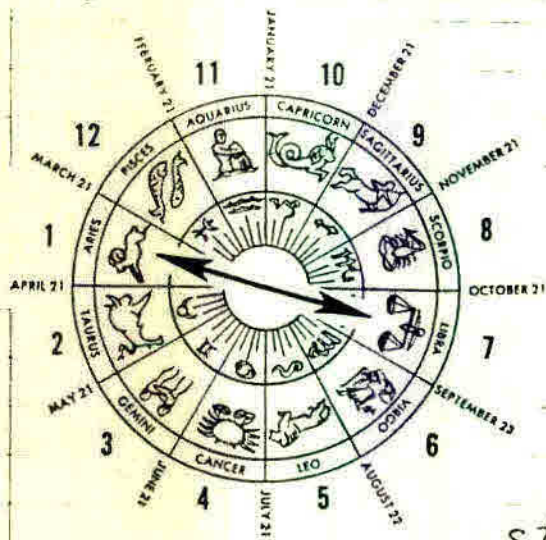
holy year. The feast of Passover was the first feast. (Ex.12, Lev.23)

The sun was in Aries when Jesus died, and you can't see the stars with the sun shining, so the sun was made dark. Luke 23

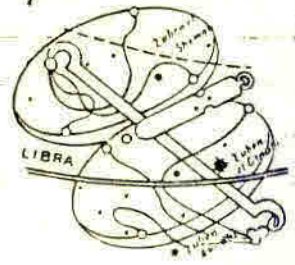
vs.44 But it was about (the) sixth hour, and darkness came to pass over the total land till (the) ninth hour; vs.45 And the sun was made dark, and the veil of the sanctuary was split (in) midst.

The Witness of the Stars

But by the time that the antitype—the Lamb of God, was slain, the sun had still further receded, and on the 14th of Nisan, in the year of the Crucifixion, stood at the very spot marked by the stars α , *El Nath, the pierced, the wounded or slain*, and β , *Al Sheratan, the bruised or wounded!* God so ordained "the times and seasons" that during that noon-day darkness the sun was seen near those stars which had spoken for so many centuries of this bruising of the woman's Seed—the Lamb of God.



Consider the meanings given these star names.



Across from Aries we have Libra. When the feasts of Israel were

established (Lev. 23), the day of atonement was in the 7th month, or in Libra.

At this time is a fast, and Israel confesses their sin.

Lev. 23 KJ
26 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,
27 *Also on the tenth day of this seventh month there shall be a day of atonement: it shall be a holy convocation unto you; and ye shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

Miss Rolleston gives these star names: Zuben al Genubi, "the price deficient", Zuben al Shemali, "the purchase which covers." This Egyptian vignette



shows that the Egyptians knew the heart was evil. See the judge trying to hold the scale to balance the heart against the cross.

God will change Israel's heart.

Ezk. 11 KJ
19 And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them a heart of flesh:

The Book of Practical Astrology, p. 30.

The retrocession of the vernal equinox occurs in such a way that every 2,160 years it passes from one area of the Zodiac to another, moving in the opposite direction to the signs, and it takes approximately 30,000 years to go full circle around the zodiacal belt and return to the point of departure. This phenomenon was already known of at the time of Hipparchus (2nd century BC). Therefore, although our distant past will always remain somewhat of a mystery, we can nonetheless deduce that, since the polar axis shifts in the opposite direction to all the other rotations of the Zodiac, at the time of the Assyro-Babylonian civilization (c. 4000-2000 BC) the vernal equinox was in the constellation of Taurus; in 2000 BC it was in the constellation of Aries (and confirmation of this is found in the religious rites); at the start of the Christian era it was in the constellation of Pisces, and we are now approaching the age of Aquarius.

These dates are only approximate but this is a good explanation.

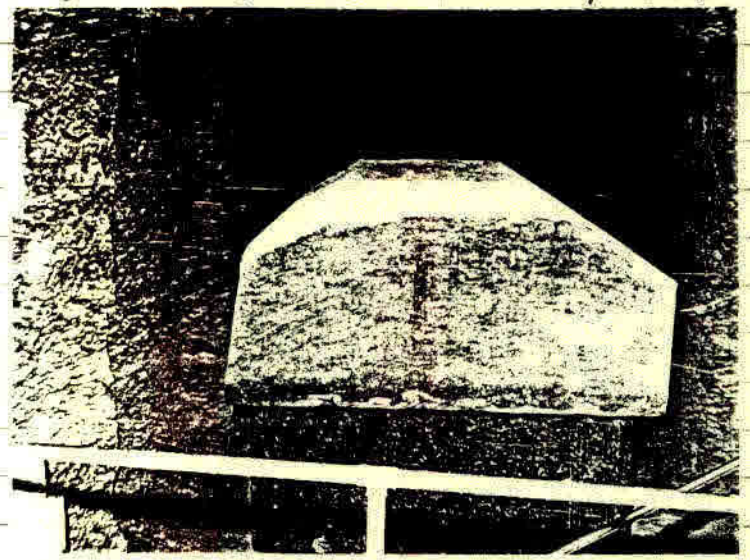
When Israel was formed into a nation in Egypt the vernal equinox was in Taurus and the opposite sign was Scorpio, as Israel was afflicted.

At this time the bull (Taurus) was worshiped.

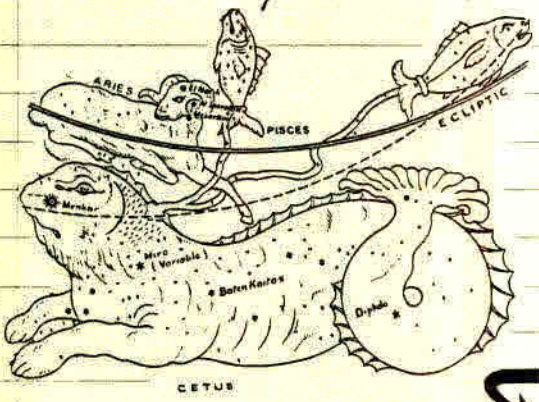


BULL-GOD, APIS

Twenty-five bulls were buried here in this cemetery. This is one casket, June 13, '65



At the start of the "Christian" era the vernal equinox was in Pisces and opposite was



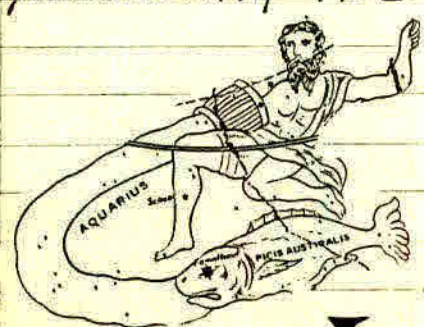
Virgo; the virgin-born savior had come, died, and risen. The Lamb holds the bands to the two fish. Jesus said, --- "I-shall-make YOU fishermen of MEN." This fish emblem



became the emblem of the early Christians, and is found in the

Ἰησοῦς Χριστός Θεοῦ Υἱὸς Σωτήρ catacombs. Jesus Christ of-God Son Savior (Matt. 5:19)

Cetus (The Sea Monster) has the brightest star in his nose; Menkar, "the chained enemy." Mira, in the neck is given as meaning, "the Rebel." For nearly 2000 years we have been under Pisces. Note the bottom of page 16, "--- we are now approaching the age of Aquarius."



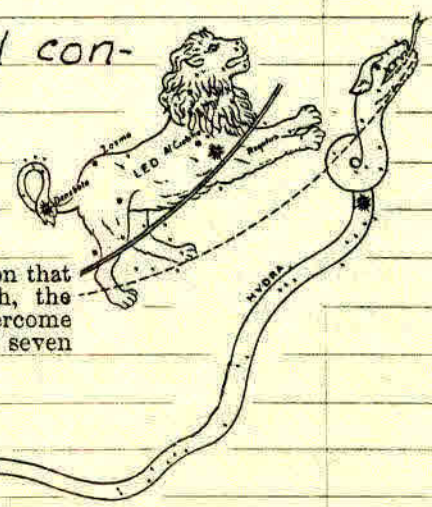
John 7 ASV

37 Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, "If any man thirst, let him come unto me and drink."

Perhaps we should consider the opposite sign Leo, at the same time.

Note: the fish again

Rev. 5 ASV Weep not; behold, the Lion that is of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath overcome to open the book and the seven seals thereof.



Is. 27 ASV

27 In that day Jehovah with his hard and great and strong sword will punish "leviathan the "swift serpent, and leviathan the "crooked serpent; and he will slay the "monster that is in the sea.

2 In that day: A "vineyard of wine, sing ye "unto it. 3 I Jehovah am its keeper; "I will water it every moment: lest any hurt it, I will "keep it night and day.

← The swift serpent (p.17), the crooked serpent (p.13), the monster in the sea (p.17). Verse 3, he is the waterman (p.17).

We have only taken a few of the obvious pictures. I have tried to show; (A) That God designed the heavens, (pp. 4-7). (B) That Satan with the aid of fallen angels changed the truth into the lie of mythology and idolatry, (pp. 8-12) (C) I have shown how the Zodiac of Astrology is in no way (other than constellation names) connected with the Zodiac of prophecy. (D) I have shown you the riddle of the sphinx. (pp.13,14) (E) The most important thing I have seen are the opposites.

Taurus: Matt. 22:4

"---I prepared my breakfast, the bulls are sacrificed---" Egypt a type of the idolatrous world.

Aries: The Lamb provided. The Passover established.

Pisces: The gospel open to whosoever will. The age of fishing for MEN.

Aquarius: The dawning of the Kingdom age.

"He watereth the mountains from his chambers."

(Ps. 104:13) Again the fish.

Scorpio:

Israel under bondage in Egypt but being built into God's chosen people.

Libra: Day of Atonement established for Israel's heart searching.

Virgo: The virgin birth a fact, no longer myth. Reject the virgin-born son, you have no savior.

Leo: The coming of the lion overpowers the fleeing serpent to bind him for 1000 years.

These things are of interest but the word of God is sure. As God told Israel, "--- be not dismayed at the *signs of heaven." (p.12) Astrology and the true meaning of the constellations are not connected, nor do the constellations have anything to do with spring for the nations, for spring in the northern hemisphere is fall in the southern hemisphere. The Zodiac belongs to Israel. (p.11) (* could be "letters" of heaven.)

More Jews are in Israel today than any time in history, and yet the "churches" are almost totally blind as to what is happening in Israel. Without the nation of Israel you would be hard pressed to prove the Bible was the word of God. To close this apologetics let me show how present day Israel lays claim to the Zodiac. On Feb. 27, 1961, under the sign "Pisces", they issued these stamps.

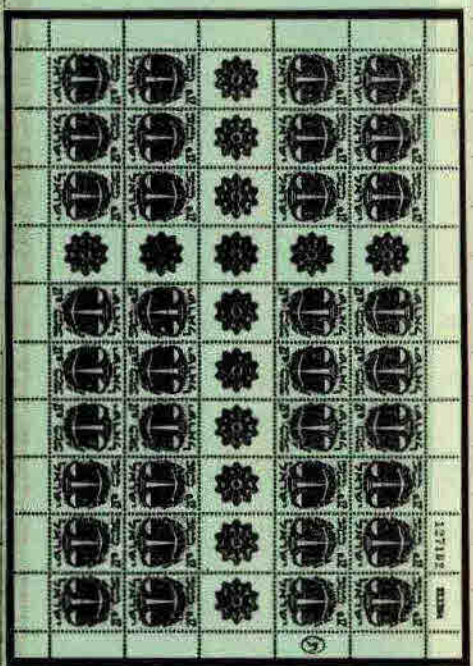


Talmud, Berakoth, 32b

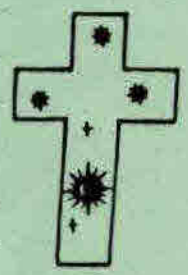
But Zion said, The Lord hath forsaken me, and the Lord hath forgotten me. Is not 'forsaken' the same as 'forgotten'? Resh Lakish said: The community of Israel said before the Holy One, blessed be He: Sovereign of the Universe, when a man takes a second wife after his first, he still remembers the deeds of the first. Thou hast both forsaken me and forgotten me! The Holy One, blessed be He, answered her: My daughter, twelve constellations have I created in the firmament, and for each constellation I have created thirty hosts, and for each host I have created thirty legions, and for each legion I have created thirty cohorts, and for each cohort I have created thirty maniples, and for each maniple I have created thirty camps, and to each camp I have attached three hundred and sixty-five thousands of myriads of stars, corresponding to the days of the solar year, and all of them I have created only for thy sake, and thou sayest, Thou hast forgotten me and forsaken me!



The constellation Libra was issued in a sheet as you see here. The cross was not on purpose, but resulted while making 6-stamp panes for stamp booklets.



The constellation "The Cross" is one of the decans of Libra. Bullinger says that the Southern Cross was just visible at Jerusalem at the first coming of our Lord to die. It became invisible at Jerusalem after his death. Matt. 23 Jesus told Israel: vs. 39 For I-am-saying to-YOU, By-no-means might-YOU-see me from just-now till YOU-might-say, Having-been-blessed-and-still-blessed (is) the-(one) coming in (the) name of-Sehovah.



God gave these stars their names. (p.7,12) Why should you let their good news be covered up in astrology?