

Neptune in the Horoscope

DEAR FRIENDS, let me reiterate that though we are now considering the effects of a certain planet, ♃, Neptune, the method of judgement is identical for the other planets, and that when we know how to combine the effects of aspect, house, and intrinsic nature of one planet, we may readily apply the same system of combination to the other planets. To convey in one word all that is included in the sphere of influence of a planet is difficult; but if you will meditate upon the keywords given below, you will receive more illumination concerning the inherent nature of planetary vibrations than you can ever obtain by reading of other people's ideas, for the divine spark which is YOU, by this earnest striving after spiritual understanding, draws directly from the fountain-head of information—namely, the planetary Spirit of the particular heavenly body upon whose nature you are meditating.

In order to impress upon the student's mind how perfectly reasonable this idea is and to give a better understanding of the method whereby this inner illumination may be obtained, let us illustrate: In a machinery hall giant wheels are revolving; the friction of the belts, humming of electric dynamos, etc., blend in a noise which is deafening and confusing to the inexperienced; a chaos of sound. But to the trained ear of the engineer there is no chaos. He hears a variety of well ordered sounds, each bringing to him intelligence regarding the condition and work of the particular machine whence it emanates. Each variation from the standard sound

has its meaning, which the trained man comprehends as readily as if the engine were endowed with speech. Study of the internal construction of each machine has given him his knowledge and the ability to act quickly in emergencies to avert imminent disaster before the uninitiated would have realized that anything unusual was taking place.

Similarly, we are living in a world flooded with sound; the Harmony of the Spheres is about our ears though we hear it not, and each vibration carries with it certain intelligence. If our ears are deaf we are the losers, as are the blind who miss the beauty of the flower, the glory of the sunset. But if we train ourselves to understand the heavenly symphony recorded upon the page of the horoscope we shall know things that must ever remain secret from the unlearned, and thus we may become co-workers with God in a most intimate manner.

After years of close study and meditation I use the following keywords for the intrinsic nature of the planets:

- ☉ LIFE
- ♃ FECUNDATION
- ♁ ALTRUISM
- ♆ REASON
- ♀ ATTRACTION
- ♁ OBSTRUCTION
- ♂ DYNAMIC ENERGY
- ♃ DIVINITY
- ♁ IDEATION

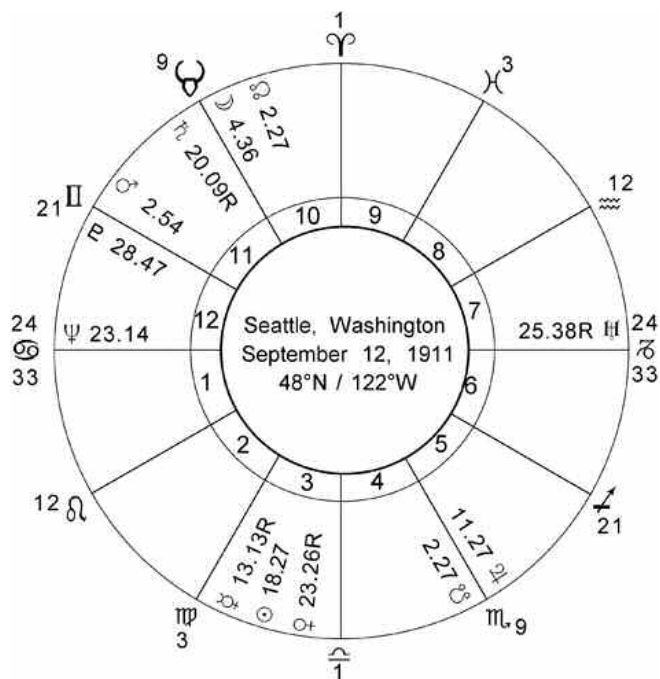
If you meditate on each planet by itself or with its opposite or with its affinities for a few days or weeks at the time you devote to this study, you will gain a wonderful insight into their natures and effects; for instance: The ☉ (Sun) is LIFE

The text for this article is excerpted from lessons 7-9 in the Senior Astrology Course. Readers may take this course after they have completed the 26 lessons of the Junior Astrology Course.

absolute, manifest or unmanifest; but ♂ (Mars) represents the DYNAMIC ENERGY which is a manifestation of life. ♄ (Saturn) seeks to OBSTRUCT, and when he succeeds death ensues. The ☾ (Moon) gives the germ of LIFE, ♀ (Venus) furthers FECUNDATION, and thus a body is produced. ♃ (Jupiter) gives the germinal IDEA, ☿ (Mercury) fecundates the mind so that ideas take definite form as THOUGHT, and the DYNAMIC ENERGY of ♂ brings them into manifestation so that thoughts become things.

“Love” is a much hackneyed word, and the emotion thus miscalled is usually so tainted with passion and desire that it is Martian rather than Venusian in character. Coalition suggests a most intimate union, a blending of the very souls of two or more people who compose a family; but altruism, the keyword of ♃, hints at such an all-embracing love as our Savior felt when He wept over Jerusalem and applied that wonderful simile of the hen which gathers its brood under its wings. Thus ♃ is the octave of ♀, and anyone ready to enter the Path of Preparation which leads to the Way of Initiation must gradually learn to outgrow the ♀ love which makes the immediate family all in all and begin to cultivate the all-embracing ♃ altruism. The aspects of ♀ and ♄ to ♃ bring the tests which further our development, if passed, and delay us when we fail. The goal is high, and those who aim high often fall low. When we essay to transcend the ♀ love and cultivate the ♃ altruism we are in great danger, and the most promising lives are sometimes wrecked by the pernicious theory of soul mates, clandestine love affairs, and perversion of the creative function.

In a horoscope such as we are considering, where the progressed MC (midheaven) squares ♄ in the 12th house, Neptune at the same time opposing ♃ on the cusp of the 7th, we have one of the most dangerous combinations, for the aspect to ♄ tends to attract spirit controls. These despicable entities have a knack of beguiling their unsuspecting victims, by plausible platitudes, into the most abominable practices, as indicated by the aspects of ♃ and ♄. The double square to the MC, which rules honor and social standing, would indicate that a public scandal is inevitable—IF.



Yes, thank God there is always that “if,” for in the final analysis there is the man with his Godlike faculty of reason to be reckoned with. Experience has taught us the unwisdom of depending upon the appearance of an applicant for a position of trust ; we demand credentials as to character and antecedents. Ought we not to be much more careful with “spirit voices” from the Invisible? Paul exhorted his followers to “try the spirits.” They are known by their fruits. Love, Joy, Peace, Forbearance, Kindness, Goodness, Fidelity, Meekness and Self-control are mentioned as “fruits of the godly spirit.” Paul exhorts his followers particularly not to use their liberty for “an occasion of the flesh,” licentiousness being mentioned as prime “fruit of the flesh.”

Paul was speaking to people upon the Path of Preparation and all who have qualified to receive these lessons are there also, though at varying stages. They feel the Uranian vibrations urging them to love beyond the confines of the family circle. May God bless their efforts.

But remember this: Altruism does not require return of the love bestowed upon others; it has absolutely no concern with sex. It will not lessen the love for our family, but they, being nearest to us, will feel the increase of our love to a greater degree than those farther away. Unless our love brings forth such fruits, it is not Uranian, nor even

Venusian; it will not further us upon the Path of Attainment. When Ψ is on the Asc. in ♓ (Pisces) or the 12th house, spirit voices are the tempters; in the 9th house, one's own mind; in the 7th an associate, etc.

"Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the Temple."

Mercury is usually associated with reason and intelligence; to him is ascribed rule over the nervous system, which is the medium of transmission between the embodied spirit and the world without. Thus, as Neptune signifies the subhuman and superhuman intelligences who live and move in the spiritual realms of the universe, but who work with and upon us, so Mercury indicates the human intelligence focused upon the terrestrial, physical world where we live from birth to death. Therefore it may be said that Neptune is the octave of Mercury. But there is a deeper sense than this.

Reference to a textbook of anatomy or physiology will show that lengthwise fissures in the spinal cord divide it into three parts which together enclose a hollow tube. Each of these columns is ruled by one of the Hierarchies in closest touch with us—the lunar, martial, and mercurial; one or another predominating according to the stage of evolution of the individual. In the spinal canal the rays of Neptune kindle the spiritual fire whereby the human spirit is enabled to pierce the veil of flesh and contact the worlds beyond. The resulting vision is colored according to the column of the cord most actively excited.

In the childhood days of mankind the creative force which is now turned outward to build ships, houses, railways, telephones, etc., was used inwardly to build the organs of the body, and as the surrounding physical world is photographed upon the table of a camera obscura, so the spiritual world was reflected in the spinal canal. There man

first beheld the lunar God, Jehovah, whose angels were then his tutors. Later, angels who had fallen behind the standard of their compeers and whose evolutionary requirements were therefore different, forced entrance to the spinal cord of man.

The spiritual inner vision of mankind faded when "their eyes were opened and they saw that they were naked." Then they lost touch with the higher self, they saw only the person, and the docile creature of Jehovah was soon transformed into a savage and a brute under the impulses of the

Lucifer spirits, the Hierarchy of Mars. But by their promptings man learned to conquer material obstacles, to build outwardly and become architect of the world.

To counteract the unmitigated selfishness bred by the Martian angels and to make mankind humane, our

Elder Brothers from Mercury, human like ourselves, whose high state of evolution required the high vibration generated and prevailing in close proximity to the sun, were required to invest the spinal cord of mankind also. Through their labors civilization has taken on a different form. Mankind is again beginning to look inward, and when the mercurial ray meets the ray of Neptune in the spinal canal, man finds again his higher self: *the Christ is born within*.

Thus you see the connection between the Moon, Mercury, and Neptune. Those who come in touch with Neptune through the Moon become irresponsible mediums, victims of obsession, etc., but where Mercury is the gate, reason and understanding guide the aspiring spirit. An afflicted Mercury may sometimes tempt seekers to enter by the wrong door, and mental trouble may result. If aware of the danger, however, continual care and persistence usually unlock the door of the Temple, for the good forces are in ascendancy now and grow stronger as time passes. □

—Max Heindel

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