

Isoteric Bible Studies

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TEXT

1. The heavens declare the glory of God: and the firmament sheweth his handiwork.

2. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.

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

4. Their line 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.—*Psalm 19.*

INTERPRETATION

Every book in the Bible holds a beautiful astrological interpretation. This should in itself be enough to convince the most skeptical that there are great cosmic truths underlying the science of spiritual astrology. King David, an Initiate, has given to us the above beautiful song of an illumined soul; for being an Initiate he knew the spiritual truths and could read their mystic meanings in the flaming script of the stars.

The exaltations of the planets in the signs of the zodiac when spiritually interpreted, refer particularly to Initiation. The principal events in the life of Christ Jesus also mark the way that the aspirant must tread if he would unveil the Holy of Holies. It is fitting in this most mystic time of the year, when the sun is passing through Cancer and Leo, that we should meditate upon these holy mysteries and things of the spirit.

The first step in the life of the Master was the Annunciation. Paralleling this we have the exaltation of the moon in Taurus, and Taurus is a cosmically feminine or mother sign; also the moon represents the feminine principle

in all nature. The Annunciation is the foreshadowing of that glorious Presence who came as the great heart power of God to open the way to redemption for all mankind.

The second step is the Birth, and the astrological correlation to it is found in Mars exalted in Capricorn. Capricorn is the sign of the Savior, and Mars represents the lower nature. It is through the power gained in the transmutation of this lower self that man will be lifted up so that he will become Christed.

The third step is the Flight into Egypt, and is represented by the exaltation of Saturn in Libra. Here is the turning point on the spiritual path which must be met by every neophyte. Libra is the Scales or Balance. We each one must some time be weighed in the scales as was Belshazzar. We must choose the path of spirit or of matter. Man has always followed for a time the way of materiality, hence the story of the Prodigal Son; and Saturn exalted in Libra is the whiplash of sorrow that urges him through pain to finally return unto the Father's house.

The fourth step is the Teaching in the Temple. This is symbolized in the zodiac by Mercury exalted in Virgo. Mercury also governs Gemini, a double sign, indicating two ways, the knowledge of good and evil, for the mind, ruled by Mercury, is the path of both good and evil; it will lead us either to the White Grail or to the Black. Virgo is the sign of purity through which the attainment of the Christ power within is accomplished. Mercury both rules and is exalted in Virgo, which indicates the way of wisdom. When the mind has become Christed the body of the

Initiate then becomes the holy temple containing the law within.

This is the great light that shall some day light every man that cometh into the world. "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me," are the words of the supreme Teacher.

The fifth step is the Baptism, and its astrological parallel is the exaltation of Jupiter in Cancer. The Baptism means esoterically the essence of universal brotherhood. Jupiter is the planet of altruism and beneficence. Cancer is one of the most deeply mystic of all signs. It is the sign of the Summer Solstice when the Christ Spirit laves in the ecstasy of the vibrations of His own World of Life Spirit and the whole earth is bathed in a glory of mystic beauty and holiness. This is indeed a wonderful season for those who have eyes to see and ears to hear.

The sixth and seventh steps are the Temptation and the Transfiguration, both coinciding with the exaltation of Uranus in Scorpio. Every neophyte just preceding each step forward upon the Path is taken into the Wilderness to meet a test or temptation. The outcome of his particular "forty days" either retards his progress or sends him forward nearer to the next great goal, the Transfiguration or illumination. The tempter or devil, of course, is always the lower nature within represented by Scorpio, a Mars sign. As long as the neophyte must struggle with temptation, Uranus in Scorpio is a mighty factor in making him succumb to it. But when tests, as such, become only stepping-stones to greater achievement, then Uranus exalted in Scorpio becomes the path of complete regeneration, which leads to the topmost heights of the Mount of Transfiguration.

The eighth and ninth steps are Gethsemane and the Crucifixion. Here we have the mystic signpost of Venus exalted in Pisces. Pisces is the sign of sorrow and self-undoing and also represents the virgin spirit, the ego, on the path of evolution in quest of wisdom.

Venus is the planet of personal love. It is ever through the love nature that man knows his greatest sorrow, and it is through his love nature that he is finally redeemed. So long as we respond to a selfish sexual love, just so long shall we know sorrow, pain, and death. This is the message of Venus exalted in the sign of tears. Only as the personal is merged into the impersonal, only as the love for one becomes the power that lifts, sustains, and heals the many, can we know the fulfillment of the liberal promise of Revelation, 21:4: "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying; neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away."

The tenth step is the Resurrection, and its corollary is the sun exalted in Aries. Aries represents the spinal spirit fire drawn up, pure, living, to awaken the spiritual organs in the head; and the sun represents the Christ love that uses this force to build the deathless body of the high Initiate. This is indeed the new birth. "Ye must be born again," said the Master to Nicodemus.

The final step is the Ascension, and corresponding to it we have Neptune exalted in Cancer! Cancer is a sign of high spirituality and Neptune is the planet of divinity. "I go to prepare a place for you. And . . . I will come again and receive you unto myself, that where I am there ye may be also." This is one of the glorious promises of the Master. It is probable that He will return in the Capricorn-Cancer age. Esoteric religion always is shown in the sign opposite that through which the sun is passing by precession. A regenerate and redeemed humanity will manifest in the Capricorn-Cancer Age the divinity represented by Neptune.

Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!—*Isaiah* 5:21.