



NEWSLETTER

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ARCHIVE

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HOUSES, and what to do with them (How I read a chart)

I'm Aquarian. Tell me what the rules are, and I'll go looking or some other rules. So I wasn't satisfied with aspects, no matter how finely they were diced, and midpoints were too much fuss. But hey, what about that empty house over there? What can that tell me?

Sakoian & Acker tease with **Rising Sign Overlays**. With Leo on the 3rd house cusp, Gemini ascendants *express power through creative thinking*. Except that I have Cancer there. So much for cookbooks.

Have you ever tried reading a friend's second house cusp? Everyone knows his sun sign, a lot of folks know their ascendant, some even know their moon. The second house is what folks value, but if it's empty, then, nobody knows. Read just the sign on the cusp & they'll sit up & take notice.

And it's not hard. Second house are your personal possessions, what you value. **Cancer** on the second? You're possessive. **Leo**? You're proud of what you own. **Virgo**: You're fussy about your things. **Libra**: Your partner tells you what to like. **Scorpio**: It's a secret! **Sagittarius**? Something foreign or exotic. **Capricorn**: Antiques. **Aquarius**: A souvenir of a group, or a symbol of an idea. **Pisces**: Everything, or nothing. **Ar-ies**: Getting it. **Taurus**: Having it.

But now think about the planet that rules the sign on the second. Its sign and house placement will tell you the specific kinds of things that you value.

Aries on the second, ruler Mars in Gemini in the fourth? Your house (4th) has lots of noisy telephones (Gemini)! Move that Mars to Cancer & the 5th, and your aggressive children (5th) are your prized possessions. Put Mars in Leo in the 6th, and you could end up collecting kitchen (Leo=fire) equipment. In Virgo in the seventh, and every new partner will clean house upon arrival (Virgo=fussy).

The next phase, if you want to go there, is to look at the ruler's ruler, again, by sign & house. Are you a Pisces rising with Aries on the second, with Mars in Virgo in the seventh? Are you tired of every new person you meet throwing out all the things you value? Well, that Virgo is ruled by Mercury.

So let's look at Mercury. Suppose it's in Scorpio in the 9th. If so, then your partners will base their intense (Scorpio) criticisms of your possessions on philosophical or religious grounds, or on what country they came from (all 9th). So if this is your private nightmare, one way to defeat it is to buy only what is made in your own country.

But notice that if **Aries is on the second, Mars in Virgo in the 7th, Mercury in Scorpio in the 9th**, there is a mutual reception between Mars & Mercury. (Leave Pluto out of this for the moment.) Which has the effect of binding the two houses, 7th & 9th, together, with a secondary focus on the 2nd (Aries, ruled by Mars) and the 4th (Gemini, ruled by Mercury). What does this mean?

Travel to a foreign country, find a new partner. They arrive with their own unique religion or philosophy. With a secondary focus on the 4th house, they set up housekeeping, possibly abroad, even when you don't want to.

And then there's Saturn. Saturn always makes a mess of whatever house he's domiciled in. But that's only the surface gloss. What's the sign on the cusp? What planet rules it, and from what sign & what house?

In my case, Saturn is in Libra, in my 5th, which meant no fun & no girlfriends. But the sign on the cusp was Virgo. Ruler Mercury was in Aquarius in the 9th. So I fled the small towns of my youth & found solace with exotic foreigners. I got good at flirting with idle chatter (like these newsletters). But I didn't really figure me out until Uranus conjuncted my Mercury some years ago: I suddenly (Uranus) took to writing (Mercury) love poems (5th house) that did not rhyme (Virgo). I emailed them (Aquarius) to a woman in France (9th). I also had fun phone encounters with fair sex. Only one of whom I ever met. All in all, the Uranus transit was a revelation.

Is there a book? Yes: Karen Hamaker-Zondag's **House Connection**: OUT OF PRINT!!

ARE YOU A TRADITIONALIST?

Did you like the **Rectification Manual**? Had you ever seen an astrology book like that before? Want to see more like it? Try one of these:

- Christian Astrology Book 3** - William Lilly
- Matheseos Libri VIII - Ancient Astrology Theory & Practice** - Firmicus Maternus
- Astrological Roots** - Joseph Crane
- Carmen Astrologicum** - Dorotheus of Sidon
- The Book of Instruction in the Elements of the Art of Astrology** - Al Biruni
- The Text-Book of Astrology** - A.J. Pearce
- Classical Scientific Astrology** - Noonan
- Classical Astrology for Modern Living** - Lehman

Also consider:

Jean Baptiste Morin: Astrologia Gallica



Easter is Sunrise on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox. This year, Spring arrived on the 20th, the full moon was the 21st, and Sunday is the 23rd. *I wish all my friends & customers a joyous Spring Festival!*

On the AQUARIAN AGE

Part 8:

The Star of Bethlehem

Give me the liberty of expanding "Aquarius" to the Ages in general. We need to sort out Pisces. The famous Star will help.

This is all that is known. It is pitiful:

The Visit of the Magi

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of

The Star of Bethlehem, *continued*

the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.'

Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

The Escape to Egypt

When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, where he stayed until the death of Herod. Matthew 2:1-15 ([New International Version](#))

Courtney Roberts, in [The Star of the Magi](#), gives the useful detail that Hebrews & their culture were highly regarded in Persia, the presumed origin of the Magi (pg. 33: [Cyrus, the Persian Messiah](#))

The Wise Men

So let's imagine we are ancient Persian sages. The year is 6 BC. Out our window we see Jupiter rushing to join Saturn, to form the famous triple conjunction which, many centuries later, Kepler chose as his explanation for the Star. Let us think about that.

It is commonly agreed that Saturn represents the Jewish people. Jupiter represents kings. Jupiter moving towards Saturn could be interpreted as a King coming to the Jews. So far, so good, but Jupiter comes to Saturn every 20 years, like clockwork. This presumably means a new Jewish king is born with every generation. Why would this one attract

the attention of sages in a far-off land?

Things get more interesting when we note the sign that contained the conjunction: Pisces. The sign of Pisces happens to be the same as the Age the world was entering. Is this important, or merely casual? Let's go further.

In the last (Lenten) installment of this newsletter, I took the Great Year of 25,765 years, divided it by twelve to get 2147, subtracted that from my proposed Inception of Aquarius in 1913, to get the start of Pisces in 233 BC.

Were the great sages of the third century BC aware of the change of Ages at the time? If they had eyes to see, they would certainly have noted the surge of mystery cults, such as that of [Mithras](#), which has been traced as far back as the second century BC. The sages would also have noted a new tendency of mortal kings to declare themselves divine. This was a change from the Aries Age belief of gods above, interacting with mortals below, as in Greek myth.

There was also astrological evidence that something was up. In 224 BC, Jupiter & Saturn started a water mutation, conjuncting in Scorpio. (The previous conjunction, in 244 BC, was in Aquarius.) Pisces is a water sign, and water would be a prominent feature of the Piscean Age. In 204 BC, Jupiter & Saturn met in Cancer, in 184 BC in Aquarius, in 164 BC in Scorpio, in 145-4 BC in Cancer, in 125 BC in Pisces, in 105 BC in Scorpio, in 85 BC in Cancer, in 65 BC in Pisces, in 25 BC in Leo.

The triple conjunction in Pisces in 6 BC was the last of the water mutation. The next two conjunctions (in 14 AD in Sagittarius, in 34 AD in Leo) were the start of the fire mutation. (All data from [Tables of Planetary Phenomena](#), third edition, by Neil Michelsen.)

What They Knew

So what could the sages know? Presuming they thought like me? (Which I admit is unlikely, but anyway.) They noted changes in the world that heralded a new Age, but that these changes were, as of 8 BC, yet to produce definitive results, so far as they knew. They knew that a grand water mutation had been underway since the Age had begun two centuries earlier. As [Zoroastrians](#), they knew that the Great God, the one above all others, was [tripartite in nature](#), and could be symbolized by the triple conjunction in the sign of the Age, Pisces (at 21, 17 & 15 degrees Pisces).

Have and Have-Nots

Since the Age of Pisces is, by its very definition, the Age of the Messiah, the Magi deduced that if there was to be a Great King, his birth would likely be around 6 BC, and that it was likely to happen, not in Persia (they worshiped fire), nor to those who worshipped the Sun and his many attendants (Greeks, Romans, et al), but to those who worshiped Saturn as the single all-powerful god. The Jews might not have been the only tribe with this unique trait, but they were the most prominent. So the three

Wise Men set off for a journey of discovery.

They arrived in Jerusalem, the capital. They went to Herod's court & said, Show us this newborn, cherished among all others. As was typical of Jewish rulers of the time, Herod did not have a wife. He had a harem. He did not have one heir, he had dozens. Herod was surprised by their arrival. He was alarmed by their request. He knew nothing of the stars or their meanings. He had no magic child. Panic. Were his advisors plotting against him? Was he about to be overthrown? Was there to be a new royal house? Hence his secret meetings with the Magi. It is, by the way, [Matthew's](#) inclusion of idle details like this which tend to confirm the existence of the Magi.

Herod's Problem

Presuming that [Herod](#) was caught flat-footed, his motives are easily read. Yes, Lead me to this king that I may worship at his crib, he says, all the while wondering if the [House of David](#) was not about to rise up, as it had risen up against [Saul](#) centuries earlier.

For their part, the Magis were equally surprised. Herod's court seemed ignorant. Were they really as stupid as they seemed, or were the Magis mistaken in their calculations?

Herod had, perhaps unwittingly, given them one crucial new piece of information: The House of David was not to be found in Jerusalem, but Bethlehem. So, with Herod's blessing, to Bethlehem they went.

And because they were men of advanced years, on their arrival at the manger they became, not heralds of the new Piscean Age, but, instead, kings from the old Age, the Aries. They became symbolic shepherds, bringing their flock of lamb and sheep to worship at the crib of the King of the New Age, the Messiah.

So the three shepherds, and the three Wise Men, or Magi, the mysterious visitors from the East, are, symbolically at least, one and the same.

Postscript

After the Magi had fled back to Persia, thus confirming his worst fears, and with the Child's identity & whereabouts still unknown, Herod did what any sane, albeit paranoid leader would do: He slaughtered every child who might become the unknown messiah. With a wide margin for error all around.

And so with the birth of the man who would symbolize the entire Age, Pisces was now well and truly underway. It would continue as it began: As a ghastly combination of wanton slaughter & spiritual transcendence.

People ask me if there's astrology in the Bible, Old or New. So far as planets, signs, houses, etc., no. But if you can read the symbolism, then, yes. There's tons of stuff, especially in the Old Testament. Where you will find the story of the end of the Aquarian Age. I will get to that next time.