

Gospel in the Stars

By Julie VonVett

Sphinx: the head of a woman and the body of a lion. We understand the gospel story of redemption begins with “the seed of the woman” Genesis 3:15 and ends with the triumphant lion (Revelation 5:5). When we consider the names and symbols of the 12 constellations and the 36 decan constellations, we see the gospel in the stars.

1. **Virgo, The Virgin.** A virgin holding a branch and sheaves of wheat or corn.
 - **Coma, The Desired** – a virgin sitting in a chair holding a boy in her arms.
 - **Centaurus, the Centaur**- ½ man, ½ horse, with a spear. The “Desired Son” is grown, has 2 natures. He kills the “Victim”.
 - **Bootes, The Coming One** – a man moving forward swiftly, holding a spear and sickle, Christ is the “One who rules, subdues and governs”.

In Virgo we see the Virgin Mary who bears a Son- the branch of Judah. In Coma, that child, “the desire of all nations” (Haggai 2:7), is setting on the virgin’s lap. The son is pictured full grown in Centaurus, a centaur. In Greek mythology, centaurs were great teachers and healers; the greatest one willingly gave his immortality for another. In Bootes, the “Desired One” has become a judge and conqueror.

2. **Libra, The Scales Weighing**- One higher, one lower
 - **Crux, the Southern Cross**- A cross. Seen for centuries in the Jerusalem sky, it disappeared from view at almost exactly the time Christ died on the cross.
 - **Victima, The Victim** – Below the scales is an animal pierced. Today seen as a wolf, but in ancient times it was called “The Lamb”.
 - **Corona, The Crown** – Christ is given the crown, the redemption price was accepted.

In Libra, we see the pictures of Christ’s work to “buy back” His own. The scales have 3 stars with the meanings of, “The Price Deficient”, “the Price which Covers”, and “The Price of the Conflict”. . All men are weighted in the balance scales of God and found guilty of sin. Into this dilemma comes Jesus Christ himself, who becomes the Victim, thereby paying the price and redeeming us from sin. He now wears the crown of victory. The price paid on the Cross was accepted.

3. **Scorpio, The Scorpion** – A giant scorpion, In Arabic it is Al Akrab, “The Conflict” or “War”. The war between Christ and Satan.
 - **Ophiuchus: The Serpent-Holder**: A picture of Christ
 - **Serpens, The Serpent**- being restrained from grasping the crown
 - **Hercules, the Mighty One** – A picture of Christ. He has his club raised to kill the 3 headed monster (Satan) that guards the gates of Hell. Hercules foot is on the head of the dragon, Draco. Satan shall be destroyed.

In Scorpio, we see the war between Christ and Satan. Ophiuchus and Hercules are a picture of Christ, the One that over powers Satan. Satan is pictured as a serpent, a 3-headed monster, a dragon and a scorpion.

4. **Sagittarius, The Archer:** the centaur drawing a bow and aiming his arrow at Antares, the very heart of the Scorpio. Sagittarius is a picture of Jesus.
 - **Lyra, the Harp** means “Praise for the Conqueror”. Vega means “He Shall Be Exalted”. This is our response as believers, to Christ’s victory.
 - **Ara, The Altar: “Consuming fire prepared for his enemies”** However, those who choose the alternative and follow Satan remain in unbelief are cast into outer darkness and consumed with an everlasting fire.
 - **Draco, The Dragon:** A star named Thuban means “the subtle” another star named Rastaban, “The Head of the Subtle”. “Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field...” Genesis 3:1. The Dragon is a picture of Satan.

In Sagittarius, this is a picture of Christ coming in victory and destroying Satan. The Lyra is our response to Christ victory, we praise and honor and glorify Him. Ara, the altar: Those who choose the alternative and follow Satan and remain in unbelief are cast into outer darkness and consumed with everlasting fires. Draco, the Dragon, is a picture of Satan, the subtle deceiver.

5. **Capricornus, The Sea-Goat:** the front ½ is a goat and the back ½ is a fish. The goat is pictured as fallen and dying, while the fish tail is vigorous and living.
 - **Sagitta, The Arrow:** from an archer who is unseen
 - **Aquila, The Eagle:** pierced and wounded by the arrow is now falling
 - **Delphinus, The Dolphin:** vigorously leaping upward

In Capricornus, we see Christ as a goat dieing, having taken all our sins upon himself. He became sin for us. He was that sin offering. Through His death, the church (fish) was born, the vigorous flapping fish. The arrow of wrath is shot from God, destined for the heart of Christ (eagle) He was wounded for our transgressions. Jesus descended into Hell but now leaps up high. He had conquered death and the grave.

6. **Aquarius, The Water-Pourer:** this is a great picture of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the church of Jesus Christ, the people of God. Aquarius is an image of Christ pouring the Holy Spirit on His people to sustain them and give them peace and joy.
 - **Piscis Australis, The Southern Fish-** Holy Spirit is poured out upon the church (fish)
 - **Pegasus, The Winged Horse-** “The horse of the gushing fountain”. We are empowered to go forth and carry His glad tidings of the gospel.
 - **Cygnus, The Swan:** Christ's return.

In Aquarius, Jesus Christ is pouring out the Holy Spirit upon the church (fish). We, the church, are then empowered to spread the good news as a winged horse, Pegasus. Christ will return as Lord and Judge. Lord to the believers; Judge to the unbelievers.

7. **Pisces, The Fishes:** Two fishes, united by a band attached to Cetus (Satan) and under the paw of Aries (Christ).
 - **The Band:** a band that connects the two fishes represents both the Old Testament and New Testament believers. We are bound to Cetus just as we were slaves to sin and Satan; but Aries, The Ram, now holds the tether.

- **Andromeda, The Chained Woman:** A beautiful woman (The Church) seated and bound with chains on her hands and feet. She appears to be enslaved to sin, yet she will be rescued.
- **Cepheus, The Crowned King:** A bearded man crowned and seated on a throne. His left hand holds up a scepter, his right holds a portion of his robe and his right foot is placed firmly upon the pole star, the center of the heavens. Christ enthroned.

In Pisces we see, the believers, Old and New Testament saints are bound to Cetus (Satan), just as we were slaves to sin and Satan, but Aries, the Lamb now holds the tether. Andromeda (the Church) as it was enslaved to Satan, yet her name means “Man-Ruler”. She will reign with Christ. Cephus (Christ) is enthroned.

8. **Aries, the Lamb.** Throughout Scriptures we see the lamb is a picture of Christ.
- **Cassiopeia, The Enthroned Woman:** an enthroned woman arranges her robe with one hand and in the other she holds a victory branch and arranges her hair. This is the Church, the bride of Christ.
 - **Cetus, The Sea-Monster:** (Satan) takes up more space than any other constellation. Satan and the world system is so very visible and ever present looming large before us that sometime we cannot even “see” God.
 - **Perseus, The Breaker:** (Christ). Perseus was born by a miraculous shower of gold, causing his conception. His goal in life to destroy the dangerous and deadly Medusa who turned men into stone. He succeeded in destroying Medusa and rescued the church from bondage. He carried her up on high and married her.With uplifted sword He has conquered Satan or Medusa. Medusa’s head in the other hand.

In Aries, we see the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ. Christ has enough power to uphold the church and restrain Satan. Cassiopeia is the church enthroned. Once the church was bound (Andromeda). Perseus (Christ) freed Andromeda (church) from Cetus (Satan) the sea-monster.

9. **Taurus, the Bull.** The judgment of God. Taurus (Christ) is the fierce judge of the wicked.
- **Orion, The Glorious One-** Almighty hunter with a club raised in his right hand and a slain lion in his left.
 - **Eridanus, the River.** A fiery river that flows out of the foot of Orion goes past Cetus and disappears into the outer darkness.
 - **Auriga, The Shepherd:** Yet through all of this, the shepherd faithfully protects his flock from all of God’s wrath and destruction. He holds in his arms the little lambs, his followers.

In Taurus we see God’s judgment. The raging bull is the fierce judge of the wicked. Orion, (Jesus Christ) slew Satan, the raging lion who has sought to devour us. Eridanus, the fiery river of judgment flows from Orion, destroys Cetus and descends into the place of final judgment. Yet, through it all Aurga, the Shepherd, faithfully protects his flock.

10. **Gemini, The Twins.** Two figures seated at rest. The 2 natures or missions of Christ - Ruler/Judge and Savior.

- **Lepus, The Enemy.** Now pictured as a rabbit under the foot of Orion, in ancient times it was a serpent being trodden under his foot.
- **Canis Major, The Prince-** Pictured today as a dog, in antiquity it was a powerful hawk who would become a Prince.
- **Canis Minor, The Redeemer-** Modern images of a dog have distorted the original picture of a human with a hawk's head.

In Gemini we see the dual nature of Christ, our Ruler/Judge and Redeemer. Lepus (Satan), the serpent is trodden underfoot by Orion (Christ). Canis Major (Prince) and Minor (Redeemer) show the dual image of Christ's mission, The Prince: the one who comes to destroy the wicked and the Redeemer- one who comes bringing redemption to the believers.

11. **Cancer, The Crab-** a crab with its two powerful claws. A picture of the church possessed and held fast by Christ.

- **Ursa Minor, The Lesser Sheepfold-** a bear in modern times, the Chaldeans, Persians, Egyptians and Indians all picture a sheepfold.
- **Ura Major, The Great Sheepfold-** When you look at the names of these stars you can see the true meaning of the big bear. This is the sheepfold that contains the vast multitudes of the numbered, guarded, protected, redeemed and ransomed people of God. This is the work of Christ who has gathered together His lambs into the heavenly sheepfold, that place which He has prepared for them.
- **Argo, The Ship-** Ship sails rolled up, pilgrim safe at last in the harbor. the church brought safely home

In Cancer, we see Christ holding on to His own to carry them to heaven. Christ has finally securely brought His own unto Himself. But before the end, there is the destruction of His enemies, the destruction of the wicked.

12. **Leo, the Lion.** The lion of Judah is Christ Jesus. He is about to land on the head or neck of the serpent.

- **Hydra, The Serpent:** stretches out along 1/3 of the heavenly skies.
- **Crater, The Cup of Wrath-** cup of wrath poured out.
- **Corvus, The Raven-** sitting on the back of the serpent

In Leo, the lion, we see the final dealings with the wicked (unbelievers). The serpent is destroyed by God's cup of wrath poured out upon him. The raven pictures the final destruction of the wicked, leaving only Christ and His Church to reign for all eternity.

How wondrous is the age-old story that God has painted for us in the night sky.

The Real Meaning of the Zodiac by D. James Kennedy www.coralridge.org

For a Star Chart, see <http://www.handsonuniverse.org/activities/uncleal/>

