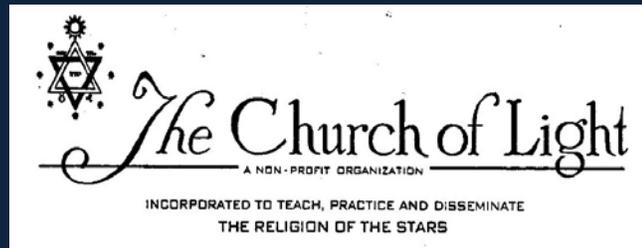




Elbert Benjamine founder of ...



Elbert Benjamine
Remastered

The spiritual texts of astrology

Astrology for Aquarius



Albert Benjamin

**Beware when the Great God turns a Thinker lose
on this Planet. Then all things are at risk.**

Ralph Waldo Emerson

**Nourish your soul with the Religion of the Stars
and the teachings of the Brotherhood of Light.**

Preamble

The search to find and understand yourself is fast tracked by your birth chart and Hermetic astrology and when you merge self-knowledge learned from real life experience with data provided by your birth chart you can glimpse your reason for being and chart your life with confidence.

But there is far more to Hermetic astrology than the psychological data provided by the planets and zodiac signs and the life event data provided by the aspects and houses. There's the spiritual data provided by the zodiac signs and their 3 decanate sub-divisions which is encoded in the 48 constellations that encircle the Earth.

In *Our Spiritual Legacy* – the introduction to the Brotherhood of Light's text on *Spiritual Astrology* Elbert Benjamine – wrote:

‘The objects sought by the ancients in these pictures, however, were not merely to portray the influence of a section of the zodiac over human life, but also to set forth the particular spiritual teaching which was equally related to the same zodiacal section.

Each position in the sky that had an influence over human conduct, to them implied that there should be a definite teaching which revealed how the individual could overcome the threatened danger, or how he could take fullest advantage of the spiritual opportunity offered.

Natal astrology was not ignored. It was used as an avenue by which to make life on earth more successful, to the advantage of the individual and of society as a whole. But it was never lost sight of that the soul existed before incarnation in human form, and that it would continue to exist and function after the dissolution of the physical body.

Therefore, they deemed it of even greater importance to know the spiritual trends associated with each astrological position than it was merely to know its influence as affecting the material fortune.

It was these spiritual teachings which defined the relation of the soul to other entities and to the cosmic whole, as revealed by the influence of the various sections of the zodiac, that the wise ones of old most earnestly desired to perpetuate, and to pass on to coming generations as the most valuable of all possible bequests.

Yet the amount of information which could be conveyed by a single symbolical pictograph was narrowly restricted to the ability of others coming later to interpret it.

There is, however, also an oral form of universal symbolism commonly employed by primitive people. It conveys information through the avenue of a story. Therefore, to make correct interpretation of the pictographs drawn in the sky more certain, and to give details that were difficult to incorporate in such pictures, those who traced the constellations wove about each a symbolic story.

These stories, modified by time and custom though they are, still clearly reveal their correct stellar relationship.

Some of the constellations and some of the stories, like those relating to Halloween and the destruction of the world, to May Day and the May Pole Dance, and to the Great Bear that circles the northern pole, are to be found among the people of every continent. Others are now less universally known; yet still are to be found as the cherished myths of certain peoples.

Thus it is that the sacred literature and the sacred customs retained by various peoples, when collected and interpreted according to the universal symbolism employed by those who gave them origin, afford a clear exposition of the Stellar Wisdom of the past.

Racial memory, even though their meaning has long been lost, still feels their sacredness, still feels that they have spiritual import, and still preserves them, even as lifeless cloaks from which the vitality they once embraced, and which rightfully they still should clothe, has long since departed.

In each of the twelve lessons to follow, using the same universal symbolism in reference to the zodiac that was employed by those who first traced the constellated pictures, and using the stories about the characters thus pictured that are still retained in myth, legend and sacred custom, I shall indicate the spiritual teachings which originally were attached to one of the zodiacal constellations and the three constellations picturing its decanates.

In each instance I trust to be able not merely to indicate the spiritual doctrine taught by a constellation, but to point out the obvious implications of the universal symbolism employed by those who drew the picture in the sky and told a story to still further explain its purport.

And I hope to do this in so clear a manner that the reader can easily discern the process followed by the ancients in thus perpetuating their findings, and that he will be able to recognize in each instance just why they adopted the picture and story employed, and thus to discern how wisely they selected each as best fitted to transmit the idea they wished to convey.'

Spiritual texts introduction

The spiritual texts of astrology were first presented to members of the Brotherhood of Light in 1929. In that year's issue of the Brotherhood of Light Annual Elbert Benjamine explained:

'It gives me pleasure to present what I believe to be an accurate rendering of the spiritual teaching associated by the ancients with each of the 48 constellations. I have been striving consistently for this end since writing the Course on Spiritual Astrology in 1919-20 (that was replaced in 1934.)

To that (new 1934) Course I must refer those who would have greater detail than here presented; for the space at my disposal only permits the most concise statement of the religious and moral ideas associated with each of the constellations.

Even as in the present age we are specialists in industry, so were those who outlined the 48 ancient constellations in the sky specialists in spiritual verities. The results of their painstaking spiritual research, generation after generation, were embodied by means of universal symbolism in the constellations.

One skilled in universal symbolism – now and in the past – can read their meaning. But to make the task easier, myths, legends, and traditions were also associated with each of the celestial figures. These serve the additional purpose of guides and commentaries.

In this rendering of the spiritual ideas written anciently by tracings among the stars, I shall first give a zodiacal constellation and then its three constellated decanates.

I can only indicate the symbol or myth associating each constellation with its text, but the association in each case is so obvious that further revelation will follow a little thought.

I believe we have here, for the first time, a translation of stellar texts giving the spiritual ideals, the moral conceptions, and the practical religious doctrine of the wise men of old.

Apart from the more important ethical teachings, these spiritual texts also have an application in natal astrology. They constitute the specific precepts which people born under the influence of the corresponding sign and decanate most need.

Of primary importance in this respect are the sign and the decanate which were occupied by the Sun at the time of birth. To determine this, only the month and the day of the month need be known.

Of secondary importance are the sign and the decanate in which the Moon was placed at the time of birth. An ephemeris for the year of birth will show this without mathematical calculation.

And of less importance, but of significance enough to warrant observation, are the sign and decanate on the ascendant. This requires the erection of a birth chart.

In the order of importance given, the texts may be used to advantage by anyone whose birthday, or better still birth chart, is known, as the most needful signboards of life.'

Text notice: The pronouns *he*, *him* and *himself* and the noun *man* used throughout the spiritual texts refer to both men and women.

The spiritual texts of astrology

ARIES rules the house of life. It is not only the first constellation, but joins the last constellation to the first, even as one life ever follows another.

The spiritual teaching of the Ram of the Golden Fleece is:

**'There is no death! What seems so is transition:
This life of mortal breathe
Is but a suburb of the life Elysian
Whose portal we call death.'**

1 Triangulum: The triangle is the symbol of mind, the alchemical symbol of flame and action. It suggests one entity springing from three separate factors even as in religion we have the great trinities Brahma, Vishnu and Siva, and Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

For those striving for higher powers its most important spiritual text is:

**All life, thought and action are the product of
the union of positive and negative potencies.**

2 Eridanus: When Moses came down from the mountain and found the Children of Israel worshiping the golden calf, Taurus, the bull of material possessions, he burnt the calf, ground it to powder, scattered its ashes on the waters, and made them drink thereof. It is the famed fountain of perpetual youth, and the life saving blood of the lamb. The text is:

The fountain of immortal life springs from man's emotional nature; the vibrations of exalted love having a rate sufficiently frequent to affect spiritual substance and build a spiritual body.

3 Perseus is not only the renowned hero who cut the head from the Gorgon Medusa, but also David who slew and cut off the head of Goliath.

His other acts of merit were the freeing of Andromeda chained to the rock, representing the human soul chained to materialism, and the recovery of the coveted Golden Fleece. Instead of others doing these things for him he was compelled to work out his own salvation. The text is:

**There is no vicarious atonement.
Each soul is a responsible being working out its own deliverance from the thralldom inherited from ancestry and forced upon it by environment.**

TAURUS, the bull, rules the house of possessions.

When Moses ground up and burned the golden calf he did not throw it away but, having spiritualized it, he made the Children of Israel drink of its ashes after they had been strewn on the waters of the River Eridanus. His act reveals that material possessions are not to be ignored, but used for spiritual ends. The text is:

Physical life and its opportunities should not be slighted; neither should spiritual aspirations be ignored. Learn, therefore, to 'Render unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's and unto God the things which be God's'.

1 Lepus: Both by tradition and by popular conception the rabbit is the emblem of timidity and fear. The text is:

One of man's greatest enemies is fear.

2 Orion is not only the mighty hunter, but is Moses born among the bull-rushes. He is King Sargon, and he is King Arthur of the far famed round table. The perpetual conflict of the constellated hero with the bull emblem of physical conditions gives rise to this text:

The task of the soul on every plane of manifestation is to struggle with and overcome the limitations of its environment.

3 Auriga is Phoebus Apollo driving the chariot of the Sun.

Under certain aspects he is Phaeton, who when attempting to control the solar steed while as yet unprepared for such strenuous work almost burnt up the earth. He is also Elijah who ascended to heaven in a chariot of fire.

With one hand he drives the solar steed, and with the other offers a haven of refuge to the mother goat and her two kids. The text is:

The function of a master is to control the forces of nature and use them for the protection of the weak and the benefit of all.

GEMINI: Castor and Pollux, the original Damon and Pythias, fell in love with the daughters of Leucippus, but these young ladies already were betrothed to the sons of Aphareus. A great battle resulted in which Castor was slain. Pollux was so attached to his brother he did not care to survive, but Jove taking pity permitted him to share immortality with Castor, stipulating that only one at a time should be permitted to live on earth, the other being confined in Pluto's dark realm.

Thus while the conscious mind is awake the unconscious slumbers, and while the unconscious mind is awake the conscious mind is asleep. They also represent Remus and Romulus, the twins, suckled by a wolf, who founded Rome. Gemini rules thought and the text is:

Thoughts are mans most potent builders.

1 Ursa Minor: The pole star, apparently stationary while the rest of the universe revolves around it, symbolizes truth. A bear symbolizes mental activity, and as the little bear revolves apparently backward, it signifies intuition. It is significant that the tail of the little bear, in quite an unbear-like manner, reaches out and touches the pole star. The text is:

**Only through the intuition does man contact
the real underlying truth of things.**

2 Canis Major: Tradition endows the dog with great loyalty, and by common recognition the dog is the emblem of fidelity. The text is:

**'This above all, to thine own self be true; and it must follow,
as the night the day, thou canst not then be false to any man.'**

3 Ursa Major: The mariner on the sea, or the wanderer on the desert, who at night would find his way, looks for the North Star, the emblem of truth. To locate the star he first looks for the pointers, two conspicuous stars in the constellation of the great bear that always point directly to the pole star. Thus as the bear is the symbol of mental activity, the text is:

**Reason points the way to truth, and offers a valuable
means by which the accuracy of the reports of the
psychic senses may be tested.**

CANCER, ruled by the Moon, is recognized in practical astrology as the mother sign ruling the home and parenthood. The text is:

Parenthood tends to displace selfishness with those tender affections that most quickly strengthen the soul and build the spiritual body.

1 Canis Minor: A renegade dog, such as this cur, symbolizes unfaithfulness, and thus the Mohammedans speak of the unfaithful as dogs, and the Bible prophesies that dogs should eat the body of Jezebel. The text is:

The wages of sin is death.

2 Hydra: This water-snake is reputed to have had a hundred heads, and when one was cut off two grew in its place. As water symbolizes the affections, and a serpent the desires, this signifies the desires that tempt man and with which he struggles. Hercules, with the aid of a companion, overcame the monster, beating off the heads with a club and searing them over with fire before the others had time to grow. But there was one head that was immortal and could not be slain, so he carefully buried it under a rock, the rock of truth. The text is:

Not through slaying desire, but by sublimating it to a higher plane of manifestation, does man make soul progress.

3 Argo is the staunch ship of the famed Argonautic expedition, as well as the Ark of Noah. The text is:

**Poise is the one safe haven of the soul, therefore,
'Under all circumstances keep an even-mind'.**

LEO: In symbolism as in reality nothing has more courage than the lion.
The text is:

**Any accomplishment truly worthwhile
requires the exercise of courage.**

1 Crater is the fiery furnace of passion and the cup of pleasure. The text is:

**To learn to like anything, associate with it as many
pleasurable thoughts and sensations as possible.**

2 Centaurus, picturing the middle decanate of Leo, is the original Santa Claus. The text is:

**It is more blessed to give than to receive, and to receive in full
measure we must first give of that which we already have.**

3 Corvus, the raven, stole food for Elijah, but is more noted in mythology for bearing tales of gossip. Once he was a pure white bird, but when he brought the news to Apollo of the unfaithfulness of the latter's wife, he was changed to black. The text is:

Man tends to become that which he most talks about and most thinks about.

VIRGO is the harvest constellation. The text is:

If a man sows discordant thoughts he will reap painful experiences, but if he sows thoughts of harmony he will garner success and happiness.

1 Bootes is the husbandman who raises grapes and presses from them the sparkling wine. In this decanate of the sixth sign, which is also an earthy sign, the Sun changes the water in six pots of stone into fine wine. The text is:

From every event of life the soul may extract value, even as the verdant vine transforms indifferent waters into rich and sparkling wine.

2 Hercules, named Samson in the Bible, was given twelve great labors to perform as the crowning event of his life. The text is:

**Perform conscientiously whatever work comes to thy hand,
and because of thy experience, greater things to perform
will be given thee.**

3 Corona Borealis, the Northern Crown is the crown of thorns with which the savior is tortured just preceding his death on the autumnal cross. The text is:

**He who would live the life of the spirit, here and now
upon this earth, seen and known of men, must have
fortitude in times of adversity.**

LIBRA in astrology is known as the sign of partnership and marriage. The text is:

**Not by one alone may the highest of all be reached,
but by two united souls who are exalted by the sweet
reverberations of holy love.**

1 Serpens: A serpent, symbol of generation, takes the form of a spiral, which is the form of life, the result of the interaction of positive and negative potencies. This is the balance decanate of the balance sign. The text is:

In matters of philosophy and in matters of action the true course usually lies somewhere between advocated extremes.

2 Draco: The dragon is man's traditional enemy, the symbol of material conditions, which Krishna, St. George, and other heroes are said to have slain. The text is:

Deal justly, even with thy enemies, for it is better to suffer evil than to retaliate with vengeance.

3 Lupus is the wolf in sheep's clothing, rising as the Ram, symbol of life, sets in the west. It is the traditional symbol of war and the ravages of war. The text is:

It is impossible for a man to injure another without himself being injured, or for a man to benefit another without himself being truly benefited.

SCORPIO is the constellation of sex. The text is:

Through sex man contacts the inner planes, drawing into himself according to his mood, the finest energies that vivify the spaces or the grossest forces from the fetid border spheres.

1 Ophiuchus pictures Jacob wrestling with the angel – the problem of domestic life and the use of the generative energies symbolized by the serpent. The text is:

Continual kindness between the sexes generates a power by which the heights may be scaled.

2 Ara is the altar in the wilderness upon which Abraham was commanded to sacrifice his son, but upon which he is finally permitted to sacrifice the Ram of Aries. The text is:

By sacrificing his animal thoughts, desires and pleasures upon the altar of aspiration to higher things man comes into possession of intellectual and spiritual pleasures that yield a far keener delight.

3 Corona Australis: This olive crown is the token that adorns the brow of the victor. The text is:

Men should be esteemed not because of their race, color, sex, or ancestry, but for what they have accomplished for the common good. The true monarch is he who renders greatest service to his fellow man.

SAGITTARIUS in practical astrology rules religion. The text is:

True religion is the discernment of the divine plan and a conscious cooperation in its fulfillment.

1 Lyra is the harp of Orpheus as well as the harp with which David calmed the perturbed spirit of Saul. The text is:

On every plane harmony is life and discord is death.

2 Aquilla is the eagle that according to tradition flew higher than any other bird, even into the face of the sun. The text is:

In sleep the soul wanders on the wings of its desires to the region most attractive to it; let that region, therefore, be the highest.

3 Sagitta is the arrow, which according to tradition goes straight to the mark. The text is:

Concentration is the arrow that pierces the illusions of matter and makes possible high accomplishment.

CAPRICORN, although a goat, has the tail of a fish, and is thus able to function effectively either on land or sea. The text is:

Every environment offers opportunities for spiritual advancement, and he who makes good use of his present circumstances for spiritual ends will attract new opportunities.

1 Cygnus, the swan, as winter departs, returns from the South bringing the glad tidings that this reign of death precedes a new summer and a new life. The text is:

Under certain conditions the stone is rolled from the entrance to the tomb and man consciously exchanges ideas with those who have entered the chamber of death.

2 Delphin is the dolphin that tradition asserts saves the worthy from a watery grave and that also reunites those separated who deeply love. The text is:

Man, by his thoughts, his emotions, and his actions on earth builds for himself a home in a higher realm where he will dwell after passing from the physical plane.

3 Pisces Australis is the fish that when it became necessary to pay taxes Peter caught, and from its mouth extracted a coin. It is pictured as drinking avidly the water that flows from the urn of Aquarius. The text is:

From the inner planes it is possible for man to attract any information whatsoever he is capable of utilizing.

AQUARIUS is the constellation picturing the humanitarian sign, the sign ruling altruism. The text is:

Do and think unto others as you would have them do and think unto you.

1 Equuleus is a horse, the symbol of thought, and the steed of the soul. It pictures the Aquarius decanate of Aquarius, and as Aquarius rules astrology this horse is associated in particular with astrological knowledge. The text is:

Next to love, man's most useful companion is knowledge, and in particular the knowledge of the manner in which the planets influence human life and destiny.

2 Pegasus, the winged horse traditionally has ever been associated with those flights of the soul known as inspiration. The text is:

Under special conditions while still maintaining physical life, it is possible for man to free himself from the physical body, to visit the homes of the dead, to enter the halls of learning and to bring back in full consciousness the knowledge gained in higher spheres.

3 Cetus is the monster sent to devour Andromeda, and also the monster that required the fairest youths of Athens for its food. The text is:

The minotaur that demands the sacrifice of the fairest youths of the land is discord in marriage.

PISCES in practical astrology is the exaltation of Venus, the planet of love. In token of deep and abiding affection the constellated fishes, are united by the ribbon of love. The text is:

Love is the tree of life, and its fruit is universal brotherhood.

1 Cepheus, the king, rests his foot, representing his understanding, upon the pole star, truth, and wears a crown surmounted by seven globes, representing the seven planets. This indicates that his wisdom is based upon his understanding of planetary law. The text is:

'As it is above so it is below, and that which is below is like unto that which is above'.

2 Andromeda was chained to a rock for Cetus to devour. She also represents Prometheus, bound to the rock and condemned to everlasting torment for stealing the fire from heaven for the benefit of mankind. The text is:

He who sacrifices his own desires for the welfare of others draws down the divine fire from heaven and with it kindles the highest potencies of his soul.

3 Cassiopeia was the proud queen of Ethiopia, who because of her pride brought misfortune upon Andromeda. She is also Potiphar's wife who caused Joseph to be imprisoned. Andromeda was rescued from her perilous position by Perseus. Joseph fled the advances of Potiphar's wife, leaving his garment in her hands, even as man, passing to the next life leaves his physical body behind. The text is:

Man may pass from this life to the next, even through death, with no greater break in his affairs than would be occasioned by leaving his acquaintances in one city and taking up his activities in another city amid a different group of friends.