

PRESENT TRUTH

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Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth. (2 Peter 1:12 KJV)

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Spiritual War Series

The Origin of Heathendom Part 3

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Previously

In Part 2 of “The Origin of Heathendom” we looked at the events that led to Satan re-establishing his kingdom of darkness through the lineage of Ham. He stirred Nimrod to build a city and a tower to establish a name of themselves. This intention was disturbing to Heaven and cause God to judge the situation. The question that we were left with was why did the idea of the tower upset God?

The Purpose of the Tower

There were certain conditions with the people of that time that have never existed since.

[Gen 11:1](#)

(1) Now the whole earth used the same language and the same words.

Of course the whole earth used the same language. From Adam through the Flood the same language was spoken. Communication was clear. However, this verse says they also used “the same words”. That sounds redundant, doesn't it? If they used the same language then certainly they used the same words. Maybe something else is meant by the second phrase. The original words could be translated as “the same purpose”, “in one accord”, or “the same intent”. I think that this would be better translated as “the same language and the same intent or purpose”. If that is the case, then their intent was not towards the purposes of God but rather toward the establishing of a reputation or memorial for themselves (as we saw in the last issue of “Present Truth”).

We also saw in our last issue that the top of the tower was important to them because it was meant to preserve forbidden knowledge that had been received from the fallen angels so that something like the flood would not destroy it if it occurred again.

Gen 11:4

- (4) They said, "Come, let us build for ourselves a city, and a tower whose top *will reach* into heaven, and let us make for ourselves a name, otherwise we will be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth."

As we said in the last issue, the words "*will reach*" are in italics which mean that they are not in the original but we added by the translators to help the sentence make sense. Leaving these out, we have "top into heaven". An alternate translation for this is "top like the heavens" or "top inscribed with the heavens". This would indicate that the astrological signs or zodiac were inscribed on the top of the tower. This has been historically verified.

Quoting Lt. Gen. Chesney as told to Dean Goode, "About 5 miles SW of Hillah, the most remarkable of all the ruins, the *Birs Nimroud* of the Arabs, rises to a height of 153 feet above the plain from a base covering . . . almost four acres. It was constructed of kiln-dried bricks in seven stages to correspond with the planets to which they were dedicated: the lowermost black, the colour of Saturn; the next orange, for Jupiter; the third, red for Mars; and so on. These stages were surmounted by a lofty tower, on the summit of which . . . were the signs of the Zodiac and other astrological figures, thus having (as it should have been translated) '*a representation of the heavens*', instead of '*a top which reached unto heaven*'." [Chesney allowed Goode to copy the passage from his private MS. Goode quotes it in his *Warburtonian Lectures*, 2nd edition, note 1 to Sermon IV page 170-1]

Why is that important? We think of the astrology of today and laugh at the ignorance of the people who believe it. However, what we have today in terms of astrology is only a weak remnant of the forbidden knowledge available to the ancients through the fallen angels.

Astrology

First, we need to understand that all astrology is forbidden by the Scriptures.

Deu 18:10-12

- (10) "There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, one who uses divination, one who practices witchcraft, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer,
(11) or one who casts a spell, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead.
(12) "For whoever does these things is detestable to the LORD; and because of these detestable things the LORD your God will drive them out before you.

Astrology would be included in the list above under "one who interprets omens" or as the King James Bible says "observer of times". From the verses above we can conclude that seeking after knowledge in any form apart from God is detestable to the Lord.

With that said let us look at the scriptures and how the enemy has used things established by God to corrupt mankind. There is an interesting verse in Genesis.

Gen 1:14

- (14) Then God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years;

When God created the stars He had specific reasons for doing so and this verse gives us four of

those reasons:

1. separate day from night
2. for signs
3. for seasons
4. for days and years.

These reasons are all straightforward except the one “for signs” and possibly “for seasons”. The word translated as “seasons” means “an appointed time”. In the KJV, it occurs 240 times, but only 3 times is it rendered “seasons”. So we have the stars set for signs and for appointed times.

One of the purposes of the creation of the stars was “for signs”. Signs of what? We have a hint of the purpose of the signs when we read about the “Star of Bethlehem” and how the Eastern magicians (the Magi) interpreted its meaning and followed it looking for the King whose sign it was (Matt. 2:1-2). We can conclude then that the stars were established as signs relating to the coming of “the seed of the woman”, the Messiah, and in them we have a revelation of “appointed times”. (Jesus was born at an appointed time; i.e., in the fullness of time.)

This was established by God in Genesis, but would have no meaning to us if it was not communicated to Adam after the fall. I submit that the signs of the Zodiac were revealed to Adam by God and that the twelve symbols tell the story of the coming Messiah. These were visible in the night sky for all to see and it could have been this understanding that was the basis for the preaching of Enoch. However, I believe God's revelation was limited to Messiah's story and it was the fallen angels who perverted this to reveal forbidden knowledge of the signs and appointed times to fallen man and that the Tower of Babel was to memorialize this information.

Now, let me explain what I just said and the reasons for it. This will resolve a number of problems that present themselves otherwise.

The Zodiac

To me, when you look at the stars, the twelve signs of the zodiac are not obvious. It takes some imagination to connect the stars that make up these signs. Yet, these same star symbols are seen in all major cultures of the world, including both the old and new world continents. How did this come to be? It would seem to me that these zodiac signs pre-date the tower of Babel.

It was at Babel that God's judgment scattered the people according to their new languages and, it would appear, that God also caused the continents to be separated.

Gen 10:25

- (25) And unto Eber were born two sons: the name of one *was* Peleg; for in his days was the earth divided; and his brother's name *was* Joktan.

“Peleg”, in Hebrew means “to cleave asunder”; apparently, Peleg was named for the event that occurred when the earth was divided. What does it mean about the “earth divided”?

In the first chapter of Genesis it says:

Gen 1:9

- (9) And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place, and let the dry *land* appear: and it was so.

If all of the water was gathered together in one place, then all of the land would be in one place also. We can conclude that, at one time, the land formed one continent surrounded by water. When the earth was divided, God split the one continent asunder into several land masses.

The geologists of today believe that there was once one land mass and the continents have been drifting apart (continental drift) ever since this land mass was split apart. If this occurred at the time of the judgment of the tower of Babel, when the various language groups separated and went in different directions, the land also began to separate into the various continents containing the various language groups. The people carried with them their understanding of the forbidden knowledge including the signs of the Zodiac and other forbidden knowledge, which the Tower of Babel was intended to preserve.

Where did the Zodiac names come from? Adam named the animals but the Scriptures tell us that God named the stars.

Psa 147:4

(4) He counts the number of the stars; He gives names to all of them.

Isa 40:26

(26) Lift up your eyes on high And see who has created these *stars*, The One who leads forth their host by number, He calls them all by name; Because of the greatness of His might and the strength of *His* power, Not one *of them* is missing.

Job gets more explicit as it relates to the constellations and those that make up the Zodiac. I think that this definitely relates back to Genesis when God made the stars for “signs and seasons”.

Job 38:31-33

(31) "Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades, Or loose the cords of Orion?

(32) "Can you lead forth a constellation in its season, And guide the Bear with her satellites?

(33) "Do you know the ordinances of the heavens, Or fix their rule over the earth?

The Hebrew word that is translated “constellation” in this passage is “*mazzârâh*”. This is the Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew Dictionary definition:

1) Mazzaroth

1a) the 12 signs of the Zodiac and their 36 associated constellations

If God established the “mazzaroth”, the constellations of the Zodiac, as signs that tell of the coming of the “seed of the woman” (as we concluded earlier), then they are the testimony written in the heavens so that, even before written language, men are without excuse. Look at what the Psalmist says about the stars.

Psa 19:1-4

(1) **For the choir director. A Psalm of David.** The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands.

(2) Day to day pours forth speech, And night to night reveals knowledge.

(3) There is no speech, nor are there words; Their voice is not heard.

(4) Their line has gone out through all the earth, And their utterances to the end of the

world. In them He has placed a tent for the sun,

This is quoted by Paul in Romans:

Rom 10:18

(18) But I say, surely they have never heard, have they? Indeed they have; "THEIR VOICE HAS GONE OUT INTO ALL THE EARTH, AND THEIR WORDS TO THE ENDS OF THE WORLD."

This is in the context of hearing the Good News, the Gospel. The voice of the stars has spoken of the One in whom we should believe.

One of the peculiarities of the Zodiac is that the 12 signs and their order are the same in virtually all civilizations, even those older than the Babylonian empire. This is true even though few, if any, of the stars actually look like what they are supposed to represent.

However, one important fact emerges. Many star and constellation names in a variety of languages around the world have a similar meaning. For example, one constellation was known as Virgo to the Romans, Bethulah to the Hebrews, Parthenos to the Greeks, and Kanya to the Indians, but all mean "VIRGIN". Linguistically, this strongly implies there was a common origin for the names.

The Zodiac is a circle, so, if it is to tell the story of the Messiah, one must know where to begin within the circle. Archaeological digs have discovered some zodiac symbols with a small sphynx inserted between the lion (Leo) and the virgin (Virgo). This could be the marker for the beginning and end of the story told in the signs. Possibly, the Sphynx is meant as a reminder of this since it has the face of a woman and the body of a lion. To me, this makes a lot of sense

However, as I have said previously in this series, you don't have to believe any of this. I am only sharing my understanding of the Scriptures in these areas. It does put a different perspective on the work of the Enemy and how he does some things in fallen man. If the fallen angels revealed further knowledge (forbidden by God) to men, it would be a small step from seeing the Zodiac as the story of One Man to seeing the stars as able to tell the stories of all men, even causing them to become idols of worship.

Understanding the Zodiac in this manner resolves the problem of previous civilizations and religions having so many basic similarities in their picture of creation, the fall, the savior, and other aspects of Christian belief. Since we know that nothing of the Father and Jesus, the Son was taken from pagan beliefs and myths, we now know that the reverse is true. Pagan myths arose from prophetic signs revealed in the stars that spoke of the coming Messiah. Their understanding was the perversion of the story of the coming Savior. This is foundational to the origin of heathendom and establishing of the kingdom of darkness.

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