

ASTROLOGY

Practical Astrology is Spiritual Astrology

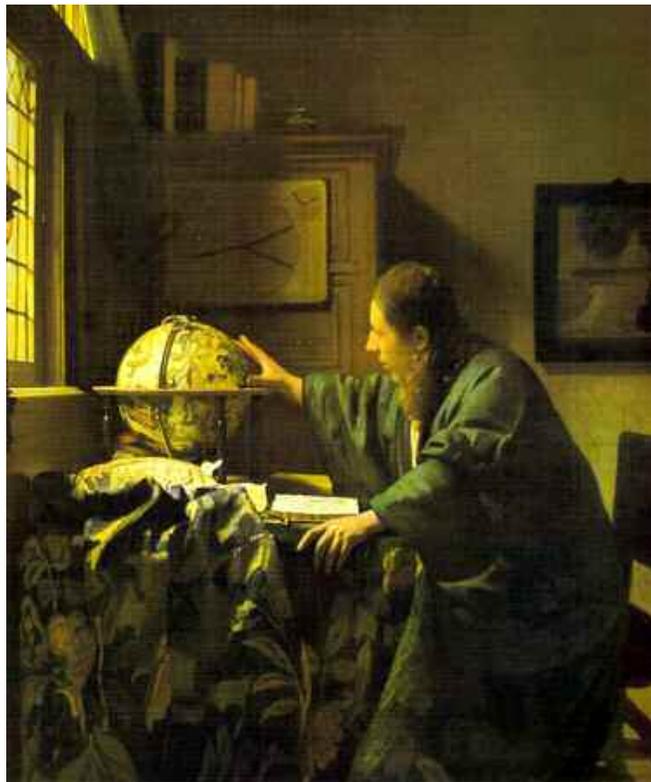
THOSE WHO WOULD LEARN to lisp in the language of the Gods must acquire a stellar speech which is of the soul and spirit. Those of you who would become practical astrologers can do so only through first realizing and knowing the true spiritual kernel which is the mystical import and message that lies back of the divine symbology of the zodiac.

We are now standing within the sunshine-threshold of a New Age, an Age when we shall know and move in worlds other than this world of form. Worlds of soul and spirit will become open to our sight—that is, to those who are precocious and pioneer in their rational evolution of consciousness.

Would you be among those to know of and use the new soul language, my friend? Would you like to become a truly positive practical person, a soul of sound balance and proper poise? I know those of you who feel the forces of the New Age would like to be in this class and I would hope that all who read this are included.

We are at the end of the Piscean Age, a transitional time of of cleansing-closing. The forces of the New Aquarian Age will foster conditions which will produce spiritual intelligence. Thus altruism will prevail while egoism will wane.

The word “practical” calls to mind that which speaks of the concrete affairs of the world and its business. But none of us is properly practical without a true knowledge of the spiritual, and especially as it relates to the zodiac. In short, to know about all worlds and their beings, visible and invisible, we must become practical mystics. We must



Oil on Canvas, Johannes Vermeer (1632-1675), The Louvre

The Astronomer

become occult (Uranus) and mystical (Neptune); that is, we must feel knowledge as Truth in the Heart and know it as Wisdom through mind-consciousness.

All of the archetypes for earthly phenomena, from the simplest mineral to the highest saint or genius, are to be found in the spiritual worlds. On earth we see only the forms, the reflected images, of true being; we see nothing of the spiritual Beings behind the forms. From the purely physical standpoint, how then can we say we know the real man? How can we know the real man if we know only the exterior personality and its brainbound consciousness? We know little or nothing of man or earth through outer expression. If we would know the real we must live such lives that we at last are able to look behind the scenes of Nature, which which is the vesture God.

No better means exist to pierce through the wall

Planet Art

of the senses, open up spiritual sight and hearing, and thus produce a new soul-language, than the study of astrology from a spiritual basis. And it is from this basis that the writer offers these hints which make one a truly practical astrologer. If the method is sedulously followed the power of a true poise and balance can be drawn out of the soul, promoting Christ-consciousness. To be a truth-telling astrologer means that one has become conversant with the sidereal language of the Gods, which is eminently practical. We come into a real self knowledge; man becomes revealed to himself, he discerns his soul forces, and through the application of wisdom, self-unfoldment can take place on a scientific basis. Man begins to flower, and as Paul says, Christ will be formed in him, and so will the Heavens rejoice.

If you would seek to release yourself from the circle of necessity—and every horoscope shows such a circle—if you would secure as your possession a state of superconscious mind while still using the physical body, you must allow the Divine Will to play through you and within you. You can become divine music and musician, instrument and player, when you apply your heart and mind to an intensive study of these ideographs which show man's real soul.

The boon and burden, the work and purpose of earth life is to experience the Christ within, to invite the Higher Man from Heaven to manifest through, use, and guide the personal brainbound man of earth. This earthly and brain-bound man is the personality in contradistinction to the higher man whom we call the Individuality.

The horoscope delineates both our unique personality and physical temperament and aspects of our higher real self, the Christ power.

The quality of our material expression is conditioned by our brainbound organism, and by the degree to which the real self is able to flow through us, for it is the Life that builds and expresses the form. In most cases our destiny determines the general nature and orbit of our experience. Antecedent causes both impede and impel the manifestation of the real man, the Christ-Man, by liberating the Individuality from self-inherited biases and weaknesses. In men of genius, like

Beethoven and Wagner, forces of self-engendered destiny may be particularly strong, acting as stimulus for their self-expression. Beethoven became deaf and Wagner was exiled for fourteen years, suffering from the mockeries of disbelievers and philistines, as do most pioneers.

It should be the aim and end of today's practical astrologer to learn to be true to his own soul, for only by authenticity and self-knowledge can he best use his brain mechanism and physical body. This is the first fact to realize and apply: Though we exist and manifest on this material plane in a dense body, yet is this same body the temple of the living God, the Christ within.

The second point to examine is the type and quality of the brain, the mental capacity, its strengths or weaknesses, whether it can control the personality through the light of the higher self, the solar intelligence shining through the mind and body of the man.

When the Sun's forces irradiate the personality and mind of the man, victory is attained, and this victory can best be wrested from a horoscope that is generous with difficult aspects, for these develop the necessary spiritual muscle to make victory possible. In fact, the souls that accomplish and attain are frequently those whose star maps contain many adverse aspects. Through these afflictions the soul passes through intense unseen struggles and becomes the victor in life's greatest battle—winning the soul for the Kingdom of Light. The mystery and purpose of life cannot be known until the Truth makes us free, and Truth is not to be found on this material plane but in the higher spiritual worlds.

The practical astrologer's third objective is to study the soul's map to determine the disposition of the desire nature? We first assess the Ego's mental quality and the power of will before we attempt to identify the direction the desire nature will take, for will and wisdom under the higher man's control will actuate and modulate the desires.

The earthly perfection of humanity prepares us to enter upon a higher spiral of our cosmic evolution. It has taken aeons of time to make man what he is today, and his dense body is his most perfect vehicle. Yet no one of our bodies or vehicles is the

real man, nor is the personality the lord of the body. However, it is through the personality that the Divine Ego, the Real Man, alone can work.

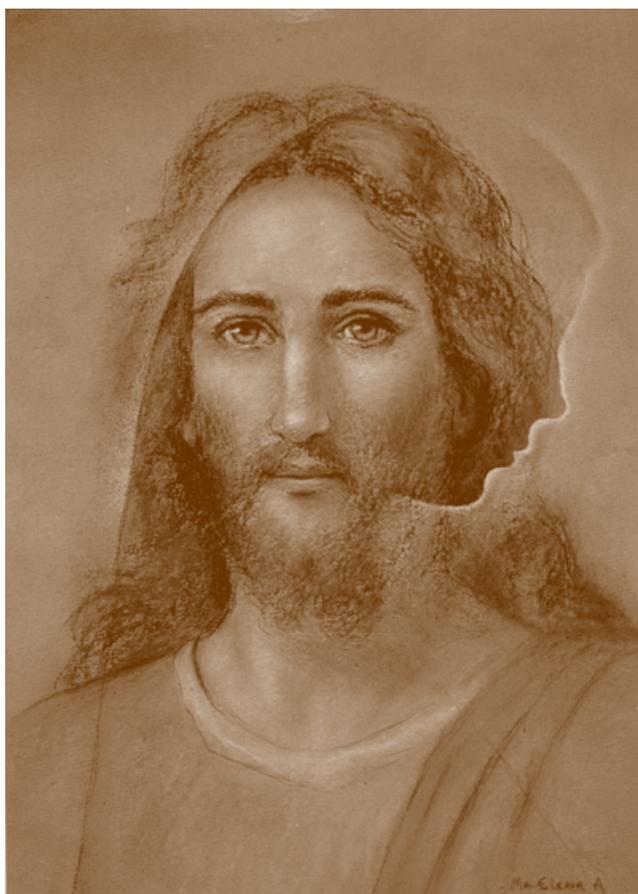
We can conclude that self-knowledge includes knowledge of our destiny-duty (karmic) inheritance, which can best be revealed through the study of astrology. For this divine language can reveal our souls. We can bring light to dispel psychic shadows and clarify mental obscurities. .

This Earth of ours, given into our hands by the Gods in utter Love, is our schoolroom. As Virgin Spirits we have been given a field for our evolution. And it is here on planet Earth, in these our physical bodies with our Moon-minded brain consciousness, that we can become Christed.

There are many, including occult teachers, who labor under the delusion that the personality has to be castigated, stultified, or slain in some wise if they would attain to the spirit worlds. This belief is utterly wrong. It is only by virtue of personal experiences that the Ego can unfold its latent powers and put on Christ through spiritualizing the flesh and mind.

While self-renunciation promotes flowering of the spiritual life, historically, spiritual striving has often looked more like an exercise in self-extinction. On the contrary, it means a far more intensive and engaged interest in life—Life itself! Real renunciation consists in the wise and wholesome use of the personality for Christ's sake, for the God-Man within, and not in ascetic self-abuse and abandonment of the dense body's legitimate needs. The Earth and individual human bodies are to be cared for, without sentimentality and indulgence, not to be damaged through unbridled passion or demeaned through unhealthy asceticism.

Rather than being a negligible instrument, the personality is a condensation or focalization of the sum of our past experiences cast by Saturnine-lunar forces into a space-time matrix. Those who dislike or disparage Saturn must remember that there could be no bodies, earth or forms without this great Teacher and Builder. It is Saturn who arrests divine motion or spirit and solidifies it into the Earth and our physical forms that we may live here for a few years! So the personality is the fruit—the very essence, as it were—of many pre-



When the personality (Mary) becomes a clear channel for the Individuality or higher Self (Christ), the purely personal concerns of the lower self fade into the background and one lives in and for Him Who is the way, the truth, and the life.

vious lives in many and various bodies on the earth plane, but in particular the last incarnation.

It would appear, therefore, that the chief work of the practical astrologer is to learn to fine tune and perfect his own instrument.

As long as we keep in mind the fact that the personality is the channel for the Divine Man to use, we can never become isolated, selfish, or separate. So we must ask ourselves, “Am I living for myself and earthly illusions or for the higher God-Man, and thus for the All, the Christ of Humanity and the Christ within?” This is the vital question, and the true practical astrologer should look at his and others' horoscopes to see what notes are silent, off tune and tone, or poorly sounded or wrongly accentuated.

In short, to be a true practical astrologer one must become what Plato called a “soul-artist.” Through astrology and the soul-artist's technique

we become adept in using our instrument. But we realize that the instrument is a means by which God-in-the-making, the Ego, can approach and prepare to enter the lofty realms of the Divine.

We have no right to invest our time and powers in astrology unless loving service is our motive, and according to our purity of purpose so will the Lord bless our efforts.

If we study astrology wisely and well, enriching it with meditation and contemplation, we come to realize within us Him Who is the Player of the instrument—the Christ-Man. We become living co-operators with God and learn of His grand plan for us. We cease to make further adverse destiny (karma) and begin to consciously liquidate the accrued destiny-forces of our past lives. We grow closer to the spiritual worlds and their beings because with every year a finer spiritual power permeates our head and hands from out of the spiritual consciousness of our heart. Our feelings and thoughts are imbued with the wise promptings of the Holy Spirit. We create a true soul-symmetry which is Christ-poise. But remember this truth, my friends: It is our attitude of mind and soul in meeting and receiving any experience, rather than the experience itself, that really counts.

All experiences in life, painful or pleasurable, tend to expand the consciousness, to produce in the end more light and wisdom, for wisdom is born of suffering and becomes the preventive of future pain.

True astrology leads one into the Mysteries, and true astrologers are thus students of the Mysteries, the inner spiritual verities. Therefore they see the need for balancing their own lives so that they can effectively help their fellows.

Let us realize that we are called to develop in a Sun-like fashion and not to remain polarized in one direction only, for we are in truth Sun-beings. Let us look upon our personalities as soul nutriment for the Divine Ego. This awareness helps neutralize the sting of painful experience and encourages us to do our utmost in life's every contingency. .

Would that you could know this truth also, that Saturn is a great Christ Angel whom we entertain

unaware, for it is through his pain-producing pedagogy that we at last become “Gods manifested in the flesh.” This great Teacher helps us to overcome our spiritual blindness and to know that we are Gods-in-the-making. Now can we know what Christ means when He says: “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatever I command you.”

That is, if we will lay down our personalities for the higher Christ-Man from Heaven, we save our lives in very truth; that is, we discipline and exercise the mind and body, making them amenable to His will. This is right evaluation of the personality. The mind works lovingly for the higher being and seeks nothing for itself; is not vain nor puffed up, does not behave itself unseemly, but lives, moves, and has its being in love and wisdom.

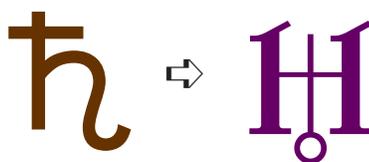
When we stop regarding the personal life as an end in itself, then the Law is on our side and we make great strides in our evolution. Then we begin to rule our stars and cease creating bad destiny for the future. So does astrology become our greatest help and highest privilege.

The only power that will never fail us is the power of the Spirit. If you would be rid of fear and worry and be light bearers to others in this time of transition, try to live in the Eternal and in the reality of Life itself, not in the external trappings of the ephemeral. The peace that passeth understanding cannot be secured until you know the eternal verities and live in the presence of God.

The Good Law which is Love asks only your acceptance of the discipline of life, for your soul's forces can not flower until you make your personality amenable to the control of the Christ. Those who take the higher Christ path will go through storms and be met by trials. But they know that their necessities are always God's opportunities.

Let us acquire and practice the knowledge which astrology teaches and realize that character is destiny. What we do is who we will be. Our future is being built now. □

—John Jocelyn



The discipline of law and the suffering incident to confinement in the forms of personality purify the soul. In this womb of the soul the individual Christ is born.