

Rosh Hashanah Part 1 - Sep 11th (Creation, Stars, Birth and Magi)

1. God Is Light

Today is September 11th. Next Friday is Rosh Hashanah. But 2,023 years ago in 3AD, Rosh Hashanah was on September 11th, and I believe that was the date Jesus was born.

I'll show you why today as we go back 5,781 years to creation, look at the Gospel in the Stars, track the Wise Men, as well as Joseph and Mary, and get ready for the new year. I'll be teaching for the next 4 Friday's as we celebrate all of the Fall Feasts.

The Biblical Calendar is a little odd because it begins with creation, but it doesn't start with Day 1 when God Said "Let There Be Light". **The first day of the month of Tishrei (Rosh Hashanah) is Day 6 when God Created Man.**

This year Rosh Hashanah is next Friday evening thru Saturday afternoon September 18th and 19th. I'll be back next week to focus more on the Hebrew numbers, a prophetic perspective on the new year, and lots more as we get ready to ring in the new year of 5781.

But today I want to look at the Creation week. Today is Elul 22. The month of **Elul is all about romance**. Even **the Four Letters that Spell Elul [alef, lamed, vov, lamed - are an acronym for the phrase in Song of Songs: "Ani L'dodi v'dodi li," ah-knee lid-oh-dee vid-oh-dee lee]** which translates, **"I am my beloveds and my beloved is mine."** (SoS 6:3) During Elul, **Torah study and prayer are the focus** because they are both associated with the verse, **"Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth - for your love is more delightful than wine."** (Song of Songs 1:2) which alludes to God's words being in one's mouth.

We have one more week of Elul's beautiful imagery of "The King is in the field". Which is to say, God has drawn near to look closely at how you are tending the fields - the specific blessings and responsibilities that He has given you. **Elul is when you are preparing to meet God for judgment - But He comes to the field to be most approachable so we can truly know Him in His mercy.**

This Sunday evening thru Monday afternoon is the anniversary of Day 1.

Why is it important? – It's the day we first meet Jesus

His first words were [in English], **"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."** In Hebrew there is quite a bit more revelation, **"Bereshit [beh-reh-sheet] bara [buh-law] Elohim [Aleph-Tav - the aleph-tav is always near the name of God and especially identifies the Messiah Yeshua/Jesus] ha-sha-ma-yim [ha-sha-ma-yeem] ve'et [vey-et] ha'aretz [ha-ah-retz]."**

Jesus didn't come in the flesh until 4,000 years later, so we have a bit more info than the Jews of the Old Testament did. The apostle John identifies the creator as Jesus, **"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life - the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us."** 1 John 1

Before creation, He was God alone (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit); nothing else and no one else existed...not even darkness. How is God described?

"God is light and in Him is no darkness at all." 1 John 1:5.

Before time and space, God filled up everything with His presence and that presence was and is light.

In Genesis 1, at the creation of the universe, we are introduced to darkness, “**Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep,**” but the Bible says **God always existed, not darkness, so where did it come from?**

Isaiah 45:7 “**I form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create calamity; I, the Lord, do all these things.**”

We can probably assume that Darkness was the very first creation of God, before He created the universe itself. The universe is limited to space and time, but God is not, so darkness would reach beyond the universe, like God.

Why did He create darkness? God is holy. That means He is set apart, unique and there is no one like Him. It also means that **He is unapproachable**. “**The King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power.**” 1 Timothy 6:15-16

Darkness was created for a very specific purpose. Before God could create the universe, He had to enable the creation to survive being in His presence.

Simply put, God couldn't create anything that wouldn't immediately be destroyed by His presence, so...He created darkness as a sort of shield or safety zone.

Psalms 18:11 “**He made darkness his secret place; his pavilion round about him were dark waters and thick clouds of the skies.**”

Psalms 97:2 “**Clouds and thick darkness surround him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.**”

And then He starts to create: “**And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.**”

There were no stars, sun, or moon at that point, but there was light. 1 John 1:5 “**God is light...**”

So what is the light? It's not a what...**it's a Who**...It's Jesus...the Light of the world.

Light is a lot more than what our eyes can see. The light spectrum includes radio waves [**Sound**], microwaves, infrared, visible light, ultraviolet, x rays, gamma rays, and other electromagnetic radiation.

2. Slain From the Creation

Revelation 13:8 “All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast--all whose names have not been written in the Lamb's book of life, **the Lamb who was slain [sphazo – sacrificed] from the creation of the world.**”

How was He slain at creation? Like so much of the Old Testament, we are dealing with shadows and types and symbolism:

1. **When Adam was put to sleep** (in Hebrew sleep is the same word for dead) **God removed a rib from his side to form Eve, who would become Adam's bride.** What's that a shadow of? Eve represents the church, who will become the bride of Christ, and on the cross 4,000 years later when Jesus was pierced by the spear, blood and water poured out of His side. **“This is the one who came by water and blood - Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood...”** 1 John 5:6

2. **When God created the universe** on Day 4, the stars, planets, sun and moon all tell the Gospel Story. There are several constellations that are altars, many sacrificial bull, ram, and lamb constellations. The Milky Way even represents the smoke rising from the altar. The story of Jesus as Redeemer was literally written in the heavens using the constellations when they were made.

3. **But in the most literal sense, Jesus was slain by dwelling within us when we fell into sin. But this is perhaps the most profound and beautiful mystery that confounded the Devil until the cross and resurrection of Jesus.**

Genesis 2:7 “Then the Lord **God formed a man** from the dust of the ground and **breathed into his nostrils the breath of life [neshamah – breath or spirit], and the man became a living being [nepesh – the soul that was in the blood].**”

Genesis 2:16-17 “And the Lord God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for **when you eat from it you will certainly die.**”

Simply put, God breathed Himself into us, and when Adam and Eve sinned, that death that we received, He also received it [that is, He was slain].

Romans 5:12,19: “Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus **death spread to all men**, because all sinned...For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also **by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.**”

John 5:24, 28-29 “Most assuredly, I say to you, **he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life**”...Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth...”

Acts 2:23-32 Peter is explaining these things at Pentecost, “But **God raised him from the dead**, freeing him from the agony of death, because **it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him.** David said about him: “**I saw the Lord always before me...**You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence...Seeing what was to come, he spoke of **the resurrection of the Messiah**, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead...”

Jesus was slain from the foundation of the world to enable resurrection to happen for all of us.

4. The next time Jesus appears is the sacrifice of an animal to clothe or replace Adam and Eve's glory. It's the first official death after Adam and Eve's spiritual death.

It's probably just 10 days after their creation. The first Yom Kippur occurs. Sin happened, so death has to occur. God doesn't desire to kill them.

They were created covered in light or glory, but now it's gone so they are naked. So, God makes a sacrifice. He kills an animal and makes them coverings with its skin. The Hebrew meaning or concept of that word **covering is anointing**. So He restores their anointing. With what? The blood of that sacrifice. Without shedding of blood there is no remission or removing of the sin.

And then God casts them out of the Garden to the east. On Yom Kippur there is an odd sacrifice.

- 2 goats. 1 is sacrificed for sin.
- 1 is sent into the wilderness as a scapegoat bearing the sin.
- Both goats are Jesus.
- An animal plays the part of the first goat.
- Adam and Eve are the second goat walking off into the wilderness never to return.

This is the next picture of Christ slain from the foundation of the world. Jesus will be called the second Adam and so He is the first goat, And on the Cross when He is slain outside the city, He the scapegoat.

3. The Timeless Gospel Story

The first mention of the Gospel story, though it was rather veiled, is following the Fall when God pronounces judgement on the serpent. **“And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed (zera) and her Seed (zera); He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.”** Genesis 3:15

God sacrificed an animal to make Adam and Eve clothes. Cain and Abel showed they understood the importance of sacrifice. So the reality of the need for blood to enable forgiveness was taught from the beginning. We know that our righteousness is in Christ. That has never changed.

Noah (born 1,000 years after Adam – the 10th generation) was the only righteous man in his time – the belief in a coming Messiah had vanished except for him.

Job (and his three comforters knew about it after the Flood: **“I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh will I see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes – I and not another. How my heart yearns within me”**).

Abraham was a contemporary of Job’s, about 400 years after the Flood. Noah was still alive.

God promised Abram he would have a son, and even changed his name to Abraham. He and Sarah were around 100 when Isaac was finally born. Then, in Genesis 22, we read what seems like an intensely disturbing command by God for Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac.

I don’t think I could do that or would not do it. But he didn’t seem to even blink.

And yet I have Jesus indwelling along with the Holy Spirit, who give me access to the Father and I am seated in heavenly places with Christ. What did Abraham have to inspire such faith?

“Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.” Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey...” Genesis 22

When God told him that Sodom and Gomorrah were going to be destroyed, he begged and pleaded for their lives. **“Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked? What if there are fifty righteous people in the city? Will you really sweep it away and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous people in it?”** (He negotiates down to needing only 10).

Abraham does not plead for the life of his son. He very possibly thought Isaac was the promised Messiah, the child of the Promise. First of all, Abraham did receive a very specific promise that he would have a son at a particular time (Genesis 17:15-16, 18:10).

He does not question God’s command. Why not? **Did Abraham know the Messiah had to be sacrificed and then would be resurrected? And did he believe his son was that sacrifice?** Abraham obeyed “early the next morning,” and traveled for three days with their servants to make this horrible sacrifice.

When they arrived, Abraham says this to the servants who accompanied them: **“Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you.”** Abraham indicated they were both coming back.

How do all these ancient saints have such a profound understanding of the Gospel and are able to hold onto an unshakable faith for long stretches of time with no bible, no Jesus in them, no Holy Spirit in them, no church or pastor, nothing?

4. The Gospel in the Stars (Part 1) - The Elements

Has God revealed His plans in His creation, especially in the stars?

Psalms 19:1-4 **“The heavens declare** the glory of God; **the skies proclaim** the work of His hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night **they reveal knowledge**. They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them. Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.”

The stars are revealing knowledge to us about Jesus

Isaiah 40:26 **“Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing.”**

God let man name the animals but,
God named the stars on Day 4 and He made each one with a purpose.
Its name tells you its purpose.

Long before Moses wrote down the story in the Torah, God wrote the story in the stars.
We can look up and literally read the Bible.

Revelation 13:8 identifies Jesus as, **“the Lamb who was slain from the creation of the world.”**
(Meaning from Day 1 thru Day 6)

Let’s track back to Day 4 When Jesus created the Sun, Moon, Stars, and Time

Genesis 1:14

“Then God said, “Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons [months], and for days and years.”

The word translated **seasons is [mo-ad] - it means appointed times**

It doesn’t mean the four seasons, but more likely months, because the phrase “appointed times” is only used for the Feasts, which were determined by the new moon which is at the beginning of every Biblical month.

You may be familiar with the word zodiac – it’s often associated with astrology

Astrology says a man can tell something about himself from the stars. That’s NOT truth.

The Bible says that the stars tell us something about God and His plan for the world. The Bible condemns everything about astrology - it’s occultism. Because God created us and He alone sets our destiny.

Astrology tried to corrupt the story by changing the characters into mythological deities with silly stories. The real story in the stars was written by God Himself – it’s the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Stars Prophecy

Stars have a Purpose: **“Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons...”** Genesis 1

When God was speaking with Job (Job 38), He asked, **“Can you bind the cluster of the Pleiades, or loose the belt of Orion? Can you bring out Mazzaroth [Constellations] in its season? Or can you guide Arcturus? Do you know the ordinances of the heavens? Can you set their dominion over the earth?”**

According to Arabic tradition, the signs of the zodiac came originally from Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam. In Eden after Adam and Eve sinned, how did God describe how He would redeem them? **It was the story of the future Messiah, the Seed of the woman, crushing the head of the serpent (Satan).**

One of the many ways we see Jesus as the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world is when we first see death enter the world. God killed animals to cloth Adam and Eve and we see blood sacrifices beginning soon after. Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin. This was also built into the design of the universe. The constellation Ara is an altar. The Milky Way usually represents the smoke rising from the altar. There is a Ram and a Bull constellation. A herdsman like you would find in Bethlehem raising sacrificial animals.

There is a serpent constellation to tell the Eden story. There is the great dragon, we know as Satan. An Eagle, which is associated with the gift of prophecy. There is the dove, which speaks of Noah and the Flood. There are several wreaths or crowns to speak of royalty and marriage. There is a cup or chalice, used in Sabbath meals, Passover and in communion. There is a celestial river, which you will find flowing from the throne of God. And of course the Southern Cross.

When the Bible says "**Jesus was slain from the foundation of the world**", it means several things, including that the testimony or story is written into the universe itself. The story of Jesus as Redeemer was literally written in the heavens using the constellations when they were made. And this is the ancient story.

5. The Gospel in the Stars (Part 2) - Constellations

Here is what God did on Day 4:

God named the stars and their names had meaning,

The Zodiac actually comes from astronomy –

in Hebrew it's 'zoad,' meaning 'path' or 'way.'

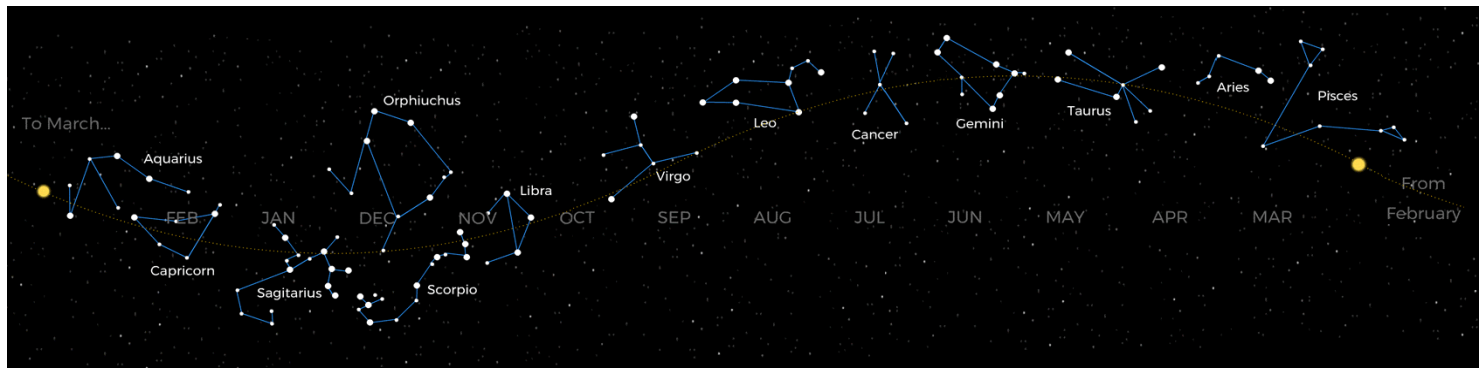
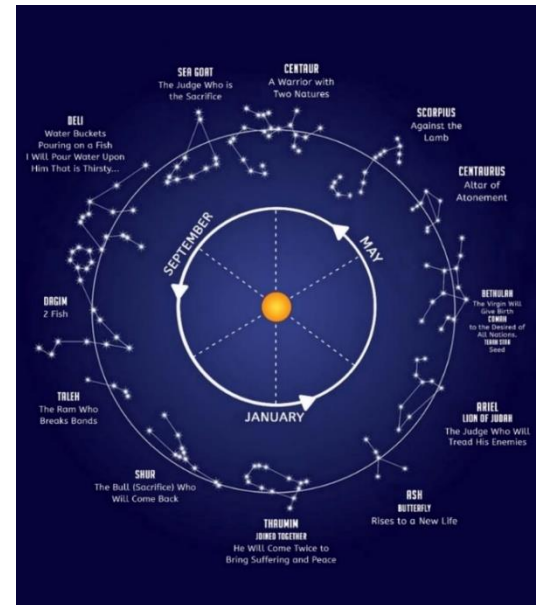
It refers to **the way the sun appears to pass through the 12 constellations** during the year.

The sky is actually laid out like a clock with each ancient constellation marking a number on the clock. It takes a month for the sun to pass through each one, so when it makes a full circuit, a year has passed.

That was the ancient calendar. You can tell what month it is by where the constellations are.

I use an app called **Star Tracker Lite (it's free in the app stores)**. It makes viewing the stars and finding the constellations easier because they make a dotted line mark **the ecliptic**.

The ecliptic is the path the sun, moon, planets and 12 constellations of the Zodiac appear to follow to cross the sky each day. That's how it looks from the earth. In reality, it's the earth and moon that are rotating.



Since ½ of the day the sun is in the sky and the stars are no longer visible, the entire Gospel of the Stars, told by the 12 constellations passes over every 24 hours, but take an entire year to pass over during the night when they can be seen, with each constellation getting a full month's focus.

It was God's design, **"Let them be for signs and months, and for days and years,"** so every star had original Hebrew/Aramaic names from creation (that told the Gospel story). The names were not based on false gods of mythology.

The book of Job was probably written a few hundred years after the Flood, and the Pleiades and Orion are both mentioned by name. Job 26 describes a scene from Revelation 12 - God piercing the **"nachash"** (the fleeing serpent) – it's located just below the ecliptic near the Virgin and Lion.

"Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him." Revelation 12:7-9

6. The Gospel in the Stars (Part 3) - Look To The North

Because the constellations were named before the Tower of Babel, you can find these stars carved on cave walls. The Bull (Taurus) and Orion both appear in cave art dating back 500 years before Noah's Flood, without names of mythology.

The specific twelve constellations we recognize today as the zodiac is referred to as the Mazzaroth in Job 38. In Job 26:13, Job says God formed the constellation figures.

The Gospel Story is told by the 12 constellations that track across the sky following the ecliptic (the path that the sun and moon appear to take). But God named all of the stars and so every constellation declares some aspect of His glory.

To get started, face north and try to find the Big Dipper or the Little Dipper.

The stars on the front of the Big Dipper point to Polaris, the north star, which stays in the same place (because it's a pole star) so it's the easiest place to start.

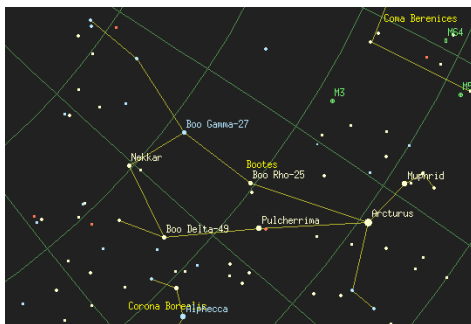
The Big Dipper is called by many names today: Ursa Major & Greater and Lesser Bear

Originally it was Dohven (The Sheepfold)

Due to a linguistic error, the Greeks switched the Hebrew word for **bear**, "Dohv", for the Hebrew word for **Sheepfold**, "Dovhen. So, time has delivered us the Greater and Lesser Bear instead of Sheepfolds.

Micah 2:12 "I will surely assemble all of you, O Jacob, I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together like sheep of the fold, like a flock in the midst of their pasture; They shall make a loud noise because of so many people."

Thankfully God named the Stars and so many retain their ancient names. The star at the end of the handle of the Dipper means "**Assembly**", which is **The Church** in Greek. The two stars on the end of the Dipper mean "**Flock**" and "**Purchased**".



Bootes - Just behind the Fold of Sheep is: **Bootes The Herdsman**, Bootes means "**The Coming One**".

The brightest star, Arcturus takes its name from a Greek poem. Its ancient Hebrew name **Auwsh** has been preserved in the book of Job and means "**To Hasten**".

Jesus is identified pretty clearly by two of the stars: Nekkar or "**Pierced One**" And Izar Means "**Prince with God**".

While looking up to see a dipper or bear at night won't help you encounter Jesus, we have all experienced the blessing of having Jesus as our Good Shepherd, who hastened His coming as the Son of God to be pierced for His sheep.

Now when you see **the Big Dipper at night, remember you are looking at yourself, one of the sheep of His pasture.** On a clear night you can see the star Nekkar nearby that's part of the Shepherd who's always with you. God named those very same stars as part of His story from the beginning of time to proclaim Good News to saints like Job and Abram.

7. The Gospel in the Stars (Part 4) - A Virgin With A Baby

The story that Jesus wrote on the stars begins as the Sun passes across the Virgin constellation.

Bethulah (Virgo)

The **Virgin** is the most interesting of the constellations God created. She's holding a branch in her hand, and a baby on her lap. **Bethulah is Hebrew for Virgin.** The constellation is called many names all around the world, but they all mean "virgin."

In the 8th Century, an Arabian astronomer named Albumazar described **Bethulah** as: "a young woman, whose Persian name denotes a pure virgin sitting on a throne, nourishing an infant boy...having a Hebrew name [which in Greek is called CHRISTOS]." **Albumazar was a Muslim.**

The ancient name of the top most star means **The Sent One.**

The first and brightest star in Bethulah, the Romans called **Spica.**

But it's original Hebrew name is **Zera** - Meaning **Seed.**

The very word that was at the heart of God's first promise to redeem mankind.

Genesis 3:15 "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between **your seed and her Seed**; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel."

On day 16 when Adam and Eve fell, God had already written their story in the stars.

In Isaiah 7, the prophet tells Ahaz to, "**ask a sign from God either from the depths (the ocean), or from the height above**" (the heavens or stars).

Ahaz refuses, but Isaiah says God will give a sign, and **God chose the Heavens** about which Isaiah said, "The LORD Himself will give you a sign, 'Behold the Virgin will conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel.'"

The Constellation Comah:

The Hebrew name means "the Desired or Longed for." Other middle eastern nations refer to it in their languages with titles like Lord, King, and Great Son.

Haggai 2:7 uses the word speaking of the Messiah, "**The Desire of All Nations Will Come.**"

Mythology disparaged Comah by removing the "h" on the end so that in Greek and Latin it became Coma, the word for hair.

In Genesis 15 Abram is overwhelmed because he doesn't have a son, even though God promised he would have a son.

"The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision...He took him outside and said, "Look up at the sky and - **tell the stars** – if indeed you can count them." [most Bibles say count the stars – but the early versions said "**tell the stars**" and that's the correct word]

The word translated from Hebrew as "count" in modern versions is "**caphar**" [Saw far]

It means recounting something or **to tell the story.**



God isn't telling Abram to count the stars, He is telling him to tell the story that was written in the stars which was passed on from the beginning.

So Abram looks up at the Virgin Constellation...and probably begins to recount the story that was passed down since the Garden...“the virgin will give birth.”

I imagine about this time it occurred to him at if God's plan was for a virgin to have a son, then it was also possible for a barren old woman bear a son?

Maybe Abram looked at the first star, the brightest star, “The story starts with Zerah - a Seed.”

Then God said to him, “So shall your seed be.” God is saying “Your seed will produce the Messiah.” God wasn't just saying you're going to have a son. He was saying you are going to have a son who will start the lineage that will produce The Seed.

The other stars in Bethulah continue that amazing story.

One star means the “**Beautiful LORD.**” Another star means “The One Sent Forth” or “The Sent One” And still another means “**Branch**”. Isaiah 4:2 “**In that day the Branch of the Lord shall be beautiful and glorious;**” The Branch (Messiah) is to come as the Seed of the Virgin.

8. The Gospel in the Stars - Part 5 The Altar

Moznayim (Libra) It is an Altar of Sacrifice.

In Hebrew it's Moznayim which means Balance, and is found in Isaiah 40:12 "Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, or with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens? Who has held the dust of the earth in a basket, or weighed the mountains on the scales and the hills in a balance?"

The first star means "the price is deficient."
It is also the root for the Hebrew word "stolen".

The next star is called Kaphar which means "the atonement."

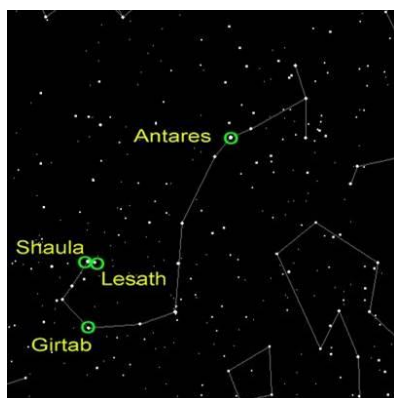
Kapher is the name of the covering where the blood was poured from sacrifices onto the Ark of the Covenant.

One star is Mulu-Izi, or "Man of Fire."

- At the dedication of the temple, "When Solomon finished praying, then fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of Yahweh filled the house..." 2 Chronicles 7:1-2
- God answered by fire to consume Elijah's sacrifice.
- In one of the final battles He will destroy the antichrist's army by fire from heaven.
- Peter draws the parallel that our faith is refined by fire. "These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed." 1 Peter 1:7

The ancient Akkadian name for this constellation meant "The God of the Sky and Heavens with the power to judge who comes to command."

So these stars show that our lives fall short of God's standard – the price is deficient – we are weighed in the balance and found wanting. But the Price that Covers is the atonement made by the Messiah for all humanity by shedding His blood on the cross to cover our sins.



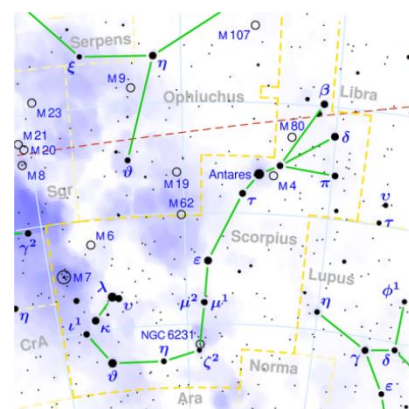
Scorpius (Scorpio) Ophiuchus, Serpens, and Corona)

The Scorpion's tail is called Lesath which means "Perverse One".

The brightest star in the Scorpion is **Antares** meaning "against the Lamb", speaking of the Antichrist.

The constellations around show (the strong man) restraining (the Serpent) from reaching (the Crown), He is bringing his heel down on the star called "Against the Lamb". The star in his heel is called "Bruised" (Gen. 3)

The picture of the Scorpion and the Strong Man provides a clearer picture of how the seed of the woman's foot would be bruised when crushing Satan's head.



God didn't just tell Adam and Eve what was coming. He painted it in the sky so they could see it and remind themselves and their children that God was not angry with them but was in fact the very One who would redeem them.



Centaur (Sagittarius)

A Warrior with a bow and arrow pointed towards the star Antares, the heart of the Scorpion.

It's half man - half horse, which represents two-natures. There was only one person who was God and Man – that's Jesus. Christ comes back riding on a white horse for the final battle against the Antichrist. In Revelation Jesus returns riding a white horse and destroys Satan and his host.

9. The Gospel in the Stars (Part 6) - Pouring Out Blessings

Sea Goat (Capricorn)

The Goat was a sacrificial animal -
Jesus was the literal sacrifice for our sins.
The sea is a picture of humanity -
Jesus was the 'son of man' - from humanity.

The brightest star in this constellation is a double star called "the Judge who is the sacrifice."

On Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, the goat, played a double role. **One goat would be the sacrifice. A second goat** was designated as a **'scape goat' who would vicariously carry the sins of the people into the wilderness.**

Jesus was both: "Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed." (Isaiah 53:4-5)



Deli (Aquarius)

"Water Buckets" poured out down to a fish.

In Balaam's attempts to curse Israel, he could only bless them. One of his words contained this verse: "Water will flow from their buckets; their seed will have abundant water. Their king will be greater than Agag; their kingdom will be exalted." Number 24:7

Isaiah 44:3 The Lord spoke through Isaiah "I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground; and I will pour my Spirit upon your seed and my blessing on your offspring..."

After His resurrection, Jesus poured out the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Dagim (Pisces)

It means fishes (plural.) One of the two fish in the constellation is marked by a circle of stars.

- The Children of Israel
- The Gentile Believers

The old star charts show the hoof of Aries the Ram breaking the band which binds the two fish together to a sea monster called Cetus.



Telah (Aries)

Is The Ram, Or The Lamb.

The brightest star is El Nath. El means **God**. Nath means "broken, poured out."

1 Corinthians: 11:24, "this is my body which is broken for you..."



Shur (Taurus the Bull)

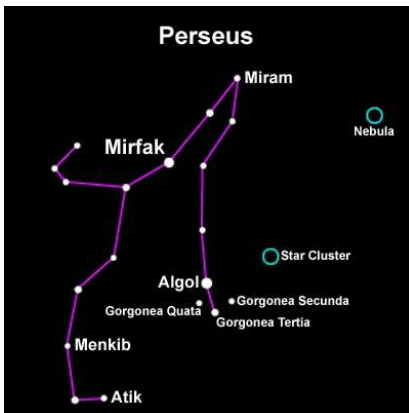
Which also means “to return” or “to come back”.

There are two distinct star groups in **Shur**:

- The Hyades means “**congregated**” and its stars make up the eyes and nose of the Bull.
- The Pleiades in Hebrew means “**gathering**” and in Greek “**the many**”.

The brightest star is Aldebaran which means “the follower”.

The Bible sometimes refers to the Pleiades as the "seven stars".
In Revelation, **Christ is holding the seven stars in His hand, representing the seven churches.**



Peretz the Hero is a neighboring constellation.

The name means “the One who Breaks Open the Way” as in Micah 2:13. “**The one who breaks open will come up before them; they will break out, pass through the gate, and go out by it; Their king will pass before them, with the Lord at their head.**”

The star Atik means “Ancient One”,
God is called “The Ancient of Days”.

The star Menkib means “something to ride upon.”

10. The Gospel in the Stars (Part 7) - The Final Battle

Thaumim (Gemini)

It means Joined Together and it looks like two people attached.

One star in the left figure means “wounded” or “bruised.” A star in the right figure means “to trample underfoot, tread down”. Another star means “appointed”.

The Messiah was to come twice:

The first time to labor and be wounded or bruised.

Then to fight and vanquish His enemies. The victors in ancient conquests would often put their foot on their enemies to show their victory.

Isaiah 53:5 “But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.”

Isaiah 22:5 “The LORD, the LORD Almighty, has a day of tumult and trampling and terror in the Valley of Vision”.



Ash (Cancer)

Ash is Hebrew for Butterfly

In other cultures it was a Scarabeus Beetle, a Crab, or a Crayfish. In each case, **the creature rose to a new life out of its old shell.**

Job 19:25, **For I know that my Redeemer lives, and He shall stand at last on the earth; and after my skin is destroyed, this I know, that in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another.**

The verse becomes more ironic considering it is associated with a large cluster of stars, and was the constellation that God asked Job if he can direct “with its sons”.

Ariel the Lion (Leo)

The Brightest star is Regulus. It literally means **to “tread under foot”**. Because kings did this to their enemies.

The second brightest star means **“The Coming Judge”**.

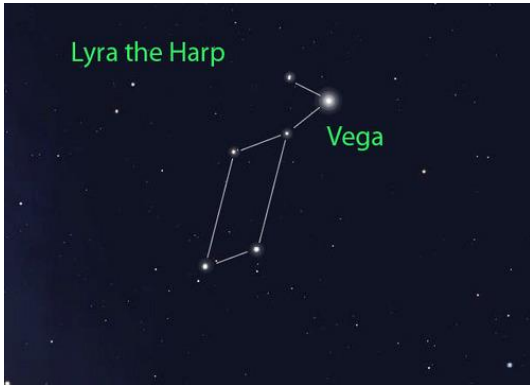
The next brightest star is El Gibbor which means **“The Mighty God or Mighty man.”**

Isaiah 9 **“And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God (El Gibbor), Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace....”**

Ariel is “treading under foot” the constellation of a Fleeing Serpent, whose brightest star is Alphard “the Accursed One”. When that happens, other constellations nearby in the sky include a crow and the other birds which feed on the flesh of the fallen armies from a great battle (Armageddon). The constellation called Crater (which is a Cup) is used to pour out God’s Wrath.



So, the Gospel of the Stars takes an entire year to see, with each constellation getting a full month's focus. The story starts with a Virgin giving birth to a King, multiple focuses on an atonement sacrifice on an altar, a resurrection, the crushing under the foot of one who is against The Lamb, the victorious conqueror on a horse, the gathering of a church, the pouring out of the Spirit of God, and the story ends with the victorious Lion of Judah, the Mighty God-Man, the Coming Judge who will forever Tread Under Foot the enemy.



LYRA The Harp

The brightest star in **Vega** means "Fallen Star," which refers to Lucifer being cast out of Heaven to become God's Adversary Satan. The word "Lucifer" means "light carrier." In Babylonian astronomy, Vega was identified with the "Messenger of Light".

The second-brightest star has the name **Sheliak** which derived from an ancient name for a harp. Ezekiel describes Lucifer as having something to do with music, which is probably why the constellation is a Harp. This star has had some 40 names associated with these connotations.

***I found the following site to be very helpful and inspiring beyond words as I was studying and doing research for all that entails the Gospel in the Stars. Ray

Barry Setterfield

Genesis Science Research

<http://www.setterfield.org/stargospel.html>

11. The Manger

2000 Years Ago in a Bethlehem Field

“Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid.

Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people.

For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

And **this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.”**

We know they end up in the right place, but

How did the shepherds find Jesus with only three vague clues?

1. A newborn baby
2. Swaddling cloths
3. The Manger

A typical home in that time, had a dug out area below the house where they kept the animals. To find a specific place, you would need some kind of directions.

How did the shepherds find Jesus with such odd vague directions?

First, the Hebrew would have been,

*“You will find **the** Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in **The Manger.**”*

*Adding **a** instead of **the** was a choice of modern translators.*

The shepherds of Bethlehem were in charge of raising sheep for the temple sacrifices.

Every lamb born there made its way to Jerusalem to be sacrificed.

According to the laws governing sacrifice, the sheep that were used for the offerings had to be:

- a one-year-old male sheep
- that had been outside for 365 days (one-year)
- the male sheep were offered as burnt-offerings
- the females as peace-offerings.

Since these sheep needed to remain outside the shepherds were also outside-

“That night some shepherds were in the fields outside the village, guarding their flocks of sheep”.

The hills of Bethlehem were home to the many thousands of lambs that were sacrificed in the Temple.

As a boy from Bethlehem, King David would likely have tended sheep in these very hills that were destined for the daily offerings or the feasts.

These shepherds knew that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem.

Where in Bethlehem?

Just northeast of the shepherd's fields are the ruins of ancient Bethlehem Ephratah, near a place called Migdal Eder - near the tomb of Rachel. Genesis 35 and 48 say that Rachel was buried at, **“Ephrath, which is Bethlehem.”**

Micah 4:8 "And you, O Tower of the Flock (in Hebrew, Migdal Eder [mig-dale e-dar]), the stronghold of the daughter of Zion, unto you shall it come, even the first dominion; the kingdom shall come to the daughter of Jerusalem"

Meaning, a king would be born at Migdal Eder to a girl from the line of David.

At the base of the Migdal Eder watchtower was a special birthing room called **The Manger**, for birthing these very special sacrificial lambs.

The Angels declaration to the Bethlehem Shepherds **could only mean "The Manger" at the base of the Tower of the Flock.**

The shepherds were trained as children what was required for each sheep to be worthy of sacrifice. During lambing season, the sheep were brought to the watchtower from the fields.

Being themselves under special rabbinical care, these priests would strictly maintain a ceremonially clean birthing place.

They would wrap the newborn lambs in Swaddling Clothes, to prevent them from thrashing about and harming themselves. It was their job to make sure that the animals weren't damaged or blemished. After the lambs had calmed down, they could be inspected to make sure they were without spot or blemish.

Being "wrapped in swaddling clothes" would only be a significant clue if the angels were referring to a Passover Lamb. Newborn babies had been wrapped in swaddling cloths long before the time of Jesus; it was common, so it was not a good clue unless it was the cloths used by the Shepherd Priests

These shepherds weren't random. They were notified by the angels because it was their calling to certify Passover lambs at birth.

12. A Guest Room

Most Christians know Jesus was not born on December 25th. This date was established by the Roman Catholic church around 360 AD, when they held a special mass to honor Christ, while the pagan world celebrated Saturnalia, a feast honoring the birth of their sun god. As the church grew in power and Roman deities faded away, the church kept the day and it eventually became known as "Christ-Mass".

Mass has two meanings for the Catholics: Originally it meant the victim of a Sacrifice – Death. Eventually it meant to be sent on a mission – Go. So, in one sense you can't celebrate the birth of Jesus on Christmas without also focusing on His death.

The Inn - There is another verse that causes some confusion with the way it's been translated.

“And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in the manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.”

The word translated as “Inn” is Katalyma – ka-tall-e-mah - It means guest chamber not an inn.

- A Kataluma would have been a guest room in the family home in Bethlehem that Mary and Joseph would stay in when they visited.
At least three times a year for the Feasts - like every other Jew
- Both Joseph and Mary were direct descendants of King David, whose lineage and property went back to Boaz (who married Ruth).
- Boaz owned a home with a threshing floor in Bethlehem which, by right of inheritance, was handed down to succeeding generations
- Joseph, was of David's lineage through his son Solomon.
Mary, was of David's lineage through his son Nathan (brother of Solomon).
- These guys are from the royal line

Unclean Not Unwanted

Is there any good reason a pregnant Jewish woman couldn't stay in their family home during a High Feast Day?

According to the Torah, **when a woman had an issue of blood for any reason, like pregnancy**, she was ritually unclean for that time and for seven days after.

“Anything she lies on during her period will be unclean, and anything she sits on will be unclean....Anyone who touches anything she sits on will be unclean; they must wash their clothes and bathe with water, and they will be unclean till evening...A woman who becomes pregnant and gives birth to a son will be ceremonially unclean for seven days...”

She had to live separately so as not to defile the people in the household by her presence and definitely by a birth in the house. (Leviticus 15:19-23).

So **“no room” actually means something very different.** The Jews are very family oriented – they all live together.

That story, translated that way, would be offensive anywhere.

Would her family, who loved her, send her to give birth in a filthy stable of animals.

Prophecies about the Messiah tell us He “would be revealed from Migdal Eder”.

We don't know the exact circumstances, but there is much more to the story.

13. Here Come The Magi

David was king of Israel around the year 1,000BC. His kingdom split in two after his son Solomon died, and eventually the ten northern tribes of Israel fell in 723BC and were taken to Assyria and most were never heard from again.

126 years later (597 BC) the southern kingdom of Judah (this was the tribe of David and eventually Jesus) was taken into captivity to Babylon by Assyrian King Nebuchadnezzar. After the fall of Babylon to the Persian King Cyrus the Great in 539 BC, many returned home to Jerusalem. But many did not return, and instead made a life in Babylon.

The Magi were a class of hereditary scholar-priests who first appear in Babylon. They were magicians, enchanters, and astrologists. Throughout their history most of them never stopped practicing the occult. **Even today, most are Zoroastrians.**

But some did. Some followed the true Living God. And some still do. Why? How? They were heavily influenced by some of the Jewish captives **including Daniel** and their history and faith was quite different.

- **They were monotheistic**
(they believed in one God – like Israel)
- **They had an altar** which burned **with a perpetual flame kindled by God** from heaven.
- **They** had another altar where they **offered blood sacrifices**.
They lit the fire to burn the sacrifice with the flame off the perpetual altar.
- **They ate the sacrifices (that's unique to Passover).**
- They **had a hereditary priesthood** (like the Levites).

All of those standards are found in only one place: The Torah of Moses
They are the rules of the Levites and Israelites - Given to them directly by God

The Bible says: King Nebuchadnezzar had a troubling dream and asked his astrologers and enchanters to tell him his dream and interpret its meaning.

"The astrologers answered the king, 'There is not a man on earth who can do what the king asks! No king, however great and mighty, has ever asked such a thing of any magician or enchanter or astrologer.' What the king asks is too difficult.

No one can reveal it to the king except the gods, and they do not live among humans."

[They only had the occult – they were powerless]

God had anointed Daniel with the gift of interpreting dreams through the power of the Holy Spirit, and Daniel was able to describe and explain the king's great prophetic dream.

Because of Daniel's ability to interpret dreams and visions, he was appointed by Nebuchadnezzar and later by his son, Belshazzar, to be **"chief of the magicians [master of the 'Magi'], enchanters, astrologers, and diviners"** (Daniel 5:11).

Daniel didn't enchant, do astrology, or divine, but he continued to lead the Magi,
Serving in the courts of the Medes (King Darius) and the Persians (King Cyrus).

When the decree of Cyrus came that the Jews could go back to Israel, the majority of the Jews never went back. They stayed in Babylon, intermingled and intermarried.

Some became rulers and some became Magi and retained their Jewish identity as the Tribe of Judah following the God of Israel.

The Magi continued to rise, and were consulted by kings and rulers, and tutors to nobles and princes. Darius the Great elevated the Magi over the state religion of Persia. They became the supreme priestly caste of the Persian Empire and continued to be prominent during the subsequent Seleucid, Parthian, and Sasanian periods.”

At the time of Christ, in the Parthian-Persian Empire the ruling house was called the Megistanes. It was composed of Magi. One of their jobs was the selection of a king.

At the time of Christ, they had just deposed their king so they were looking for a new king for the Eastern Empire who could lead them against Rome. They had fought Rome twice in the previous fifty-years.

Matthew 2:1-3 “Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, **wise men from the East** came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews?

For **we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.**”

When Herod the king heard this, **he was troubled/disturbed**, and all Jerusalem with him.”

The visit of the Magi was not a visit from three guys on camels...they traveled with Persian cavalry.

And the timing for war was bad for Rome. Both Herod and Caesar Augustus were old.

Tiberius, the commander of the Roman army had retired.

So, Herod was troubled (the word in Greek means shaking).

14. They Waited 540 Years to Return

Astronomy (studying the heavens) should cause us to worship God: **“When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained, what is man?”** (Psalm 8:3, 4).

When we meet **the Magi** from Babylon, they are traveling to **visit Christ, and they use prophetic scriptures**, so we can assume **they had been more influenced by Daniel**, and less by the other Magi and astrologers of Babylon and **were maybe even from the tribe of Judah**.

The prophecies of Daniel include encounters with Gabriel and detailed visions of the life and death of the Messiah. They would have learned from Daniel the precise **time the Messiah was to arrive**, and that He would be cut off or crucified. **Other prophecies would have led them to study the stars** for more details. **“A star will come out of Jacob; a scepter will rise out of Israel”** (Numbers 24:17).

There is even a tradition throughout the Middle East that Daniel provided funds for the Magi and for gifts for them to carry to the Messiah upon his birth.

What star did the Magi likely see to recognize Jesus was to be born and when?

Let’s look at When? There was an interesting **conjunction** of Jupiter and Saturn **in 7 BC**, and another one with Mars as a third planet **in early 6 BC**, but the planets were too far away from one another in both conjunctions to be considered a single ‘star.’ As for 5 BC and 4 BC, there was nothing of astronomical importance that would have caused anyone to journey to Jerusalem.

But in 3 BC and 2 BC, the whole heavens burst forth with signs and wonders. the King planet and the King star Regulus had three conjunctions.

While nothing was happening in the skies in 4 BC, lots was happening on earth.

In May of 4 BC, during the priestly course of Abijah, the angel Gabriel appeared to Zacharias in the Temple and foretold the conception and birth of a son to be called John (the Baptist). Luke 1:5-25
In June Zacharias’ priestly duties are done and John the Baptist was conceived.

Six months later in December of 4 BC, the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary in Nazareth and the conception of Jesus occurred probably **during the Festival Of Lights - Hanukkah**.

Mary traveled to Judea to see her cousin Elizabeth, who was now six months pregnant. (Luke 1:26-56)

In March of 3 BC, John the Baptist was born at Passover to Zacharias and Elizabeth. (Luke 1:57-80)
We know **John the Baptist was 6 months older than Jesus**, so that puts Jesus’ birth to happen in September.

Now back to the skies: In August of 3 BC, when **Gad** the King planet (also called Jupiter by that time) **became visible** above the eastern horizon **as a morning star**, it was seen by the Magi ‘in the rising.’ **The bright new star appeared in the head of Comah** (The baby in the Virgin’s lap).

On August 12 of 3 BC, **Gad** came into conjunction with **Meni** (also called Venus by that time), as the morning star in the constellation of **Ariel The Lion** (the sign of Judah). The Virgin and Lion constellations are next to each other.

Jesus was born one month later on September 11th which was the 1st of Tishrei on Rosh Hashanah. It would take over a year for the Magi to arrive in Bethlehem.

We were given a bonus confirmation in Revelation 12 – A SIGN in Heaven

“A great and wondrous **sign** appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with **the sun**, with **the moon** under her feet and a crown of **twelve stars** on her head.

She was pregnant and cried out in pain as she was about to give birth...She gave birth to a Son, **a male child, who will rule all the nations with an iron scepter.**

And her child was snatched up to God and to His throne.”

Since the Son will rule all the nations with an iron scepter, **we know it's Jesus and the mother is then Mary.** This event with the sun and moon and crown **never happened on earth, but it did in the heavens.**

Since we know that verse is speaking of the birth of Jesus – If we can find a time when the sun, moon, planets, and key stars are in the positions mentioned in that verse, then it should tell up when He was born.

There are twelve signs of the Zodiac, so as the earth revolves about the sun, each sign is "clothed with the sun" **for one twelfth of the year, or one month.**

The Virgin constellation is the only “sign of a woman” that is located within the normal paths of the Sun and Moon along the ecliptic as they cross the heavens.

15. The Seed Zera Arrives

We know the great sign in heaven was speaking about Jesus being born to Mary. To determine when, He would have to be born **when Bethulah the Vigin was clothed with the sun**, and that happens every year around **September**.

Specifically, in the year 3 BC, the position of the Sun, as described in Revelation 12 **could only have occurred August 27 through September 15**.

Meanwhile the Moon crosses the Virgin constellation every day, and is under her feet each evening.

In the year 3 B.C., the Sun and Moon were in the proper positions only one time, September 11th, beginning at 6:15pm and lasted until 7:45pm. **As the New Moon appeared it signaled the beginning of a new lunar month on Tishri 1**.

So, according to the Revelation 12 signs, Jesus was born between sunset and moonset on September 11th, 3 B.C. On Rosh Hashanah (the Feast of Trumpets).

Interestingly, “the enthronement Psalms” in which Yahweh reigns (47, 93, 96-99), were a part of the liturgy of the ancient synagogues on this date.

Adam and Eve were created on Rosh Hashanah. It makes sense that Jesus, the second Adam, who was the Creator would be born then as well.

It was the day God re-created the world: **“By the first day of the first month of Noah’s six hundred and first year, the water had dried up from the earth. Noah then removed the covering from the ark and saw that the surface of the ground was dry”**. Genesis 8:13

Jesus was 30 years old at the time of His baptism. Luke tied this event to the 15th year of Tiberius Caesar (which was in 27-28 AD). This would then place the birth of Christ in 3 BC.

We can also conclude that Jesus’ birth was not on the Feast of Tabernacles or on Passover, as some have proposed. Both the Feast of Tabernacles and Passover occur in the middle of lunar months when the moon is full; therefore, **there can be no new moon**, as required by Revelation 12:1-6.

The Romans also give us some clues. Jesus could not have been born during any one of the three Pilgrim Feasts: Passover/Unleavened Bread, Pentecost, or Tabernacles. These were times when all Jewish men in Israel were required by the Law to be in Jerusalem.

The Romans would not have selected any of the three primary festival seasons for a census in Israel, in order to increase compliance by the Jews. Joseph and Mary went to Bethlehem, not to Jerusalem at the time of His birth!

The Caesars - 3 BC and 2 BC was a period for celebrating the glory of Rome.

2 BC was the 750th year of the founding of Rome.

Caesar Augustus celebrated his 25th year as Emperor in 2 BC, counted from the time he was proclaimed “Augustus” in 27 BC.

On February 5th of 2 BC Augustus was awarded his most prestigious title: Pater Patriae (Father of the Country).

This award confirms the chronology of Jesus’ birth because a decree went out from Augustus that the entire Roman people were required to register their oath of allegiance in the year prior to the award, which was 3 BC.

When Did the Magi Arrive to See Jesus?

Matthew 2:9 “. . . the star they had seen in the East went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was.”

Planets are sometimes called “wandering stars,” and may appear to be standing when compared to the backdrop of the stars, due to the rotation of the earth (that’s called retrogression).

Now remember, we are in B.C, before Year 0, so the numbers get smaller as time passes. Jesus is born in September of 3 BC. Then at the end of 2 BC (about 15 months after His birth), the King Planet **Gad** appeared at its ordinary time for **retrogression, directly over Bethlehem on December 25th**. Just before dawn.

The planet stopped while in the middle of the constellation of Bethulah the Virgin – middle meaning the abdomen, where a woman carries a child in pregnancy.

It remained stationary for about six days.

Why those 6 days? What was happening? The 8-day festival called Hanukkah.

The Magi arrived during Hanukkah in 2 B.C., right at the time we now celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

Herod probably had no idea that these Magi were Jews, or that they were probably from the tribe of Judah, and so were likely related to Jesus.

When they got to Bethlehem, they worshipped Jesus. They saw more than just a king.

They recognized the Messiah they had heard about from the time of Daniel.

But the vast number of Jews in Israel were unaware.

Luke 2 tells us the Magi never returned to Herod and that led to a serious reaction:

Matthew 2:16 **“Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men.”**

Obviously he didn’t want to take any chances of the Magi returning later when the child grew up and crowning him king. The Magi then disappeared back into Persia

Many of them have added all kinds of strange beliefs, but many are now Christians as a result of that journey 2000 years ago.

The descendants of the Magi now live in Eastern Turkey and Syria and are called Kurds.