

**THE
PLANISPHERE
OF THE
HEAVENS**

**BY
STEVEN E. BEHRMANN**

BOOK V

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First Draft

(Sunnyside Edition)

Dedication:

This book is dedicated to my blessed little son, Jonathan William Edward, to whom I hope to teach the names of the stars.

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Chapter 1

A Planisphere of the Heavens

For sometime I have been advised that while we have written much about the stars and their biblical or ancient meanings we have not given the unfamiliar reader a working knowledge of exactly where these stars are found in the night sky. The aim of this very simple guide is to provide a small instruction book that pinpoints more specifically each of the more famous stars, their names, and their ancient meanings.

A *planisphere* is simply a map of the heavens. Perhaps the reader has owned or at least seen one of the circular sky maps that can be adjusted for the season and place for which one is viewing the night sky. These spherical maps are called “planispheres” because they map the plane or canopy of the sky in spherical fashion.

This guide only lists the brightest and most significant stars. Great disclaimer is made as to the correct attachment for each star with its

The Planisphere of the Heavens

place in the heavens. There are many stars, probably hundreds, that were anciently memorized and known, but no modern map can provide us with the information as to their position. Some of these are provided in the footnotes and the observer can try to further assign them to their proper place. But in scores of cases, we just don't know the full answer in these modern times.

The standard source used for the ancient names is E.W. Bullinger's book, *The Witness of the Stars*. The programs used for the planispheres themselves are *Home Planet*, and principally *Stellarium*.

The star maps are classified to match the 48 ancient constellation groups in the Northern Hemisphere in the order presented by writers such as Seiss and Bullinger, and in my companion book in this series, *The Torah of the Heavens*. They do not usually include the modern constellations, of which there are many. These are, of course, mapped in the many astronomy programs and books available today.

Not all of these star groupings can be easily viewed in the northernmost reaches of the U.S. and Canada, and of course, not at all times of the year or night. This simple guide does not pretend to be comprehensive or complete. The heavens are enormous, and immense gaps of knowledge exist still and await further research. The names of the stars is a pursuit of its own and could easily demand a lifetime of study.

But I hope this simple guide will help parents, children, and all who are interested to easily learn at least a few of the significant stars in the heavens, and further sense and know something of their sacred expression and meaning. This aspect, of course, most modernists and secularists tend to ignore. But the heavens do declare the glory of God, and it is my intention to make it easier for the Christian or any person for that matter to find the heavens a place to learn of God's divine purposes and to glory in His creation.

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

This trial edition is just a start, so please do not expect that there are no errors in this document. New and improved versions will follow, no doubt. Here it is, as it is. Happy star-gazing!--S. Behrmann

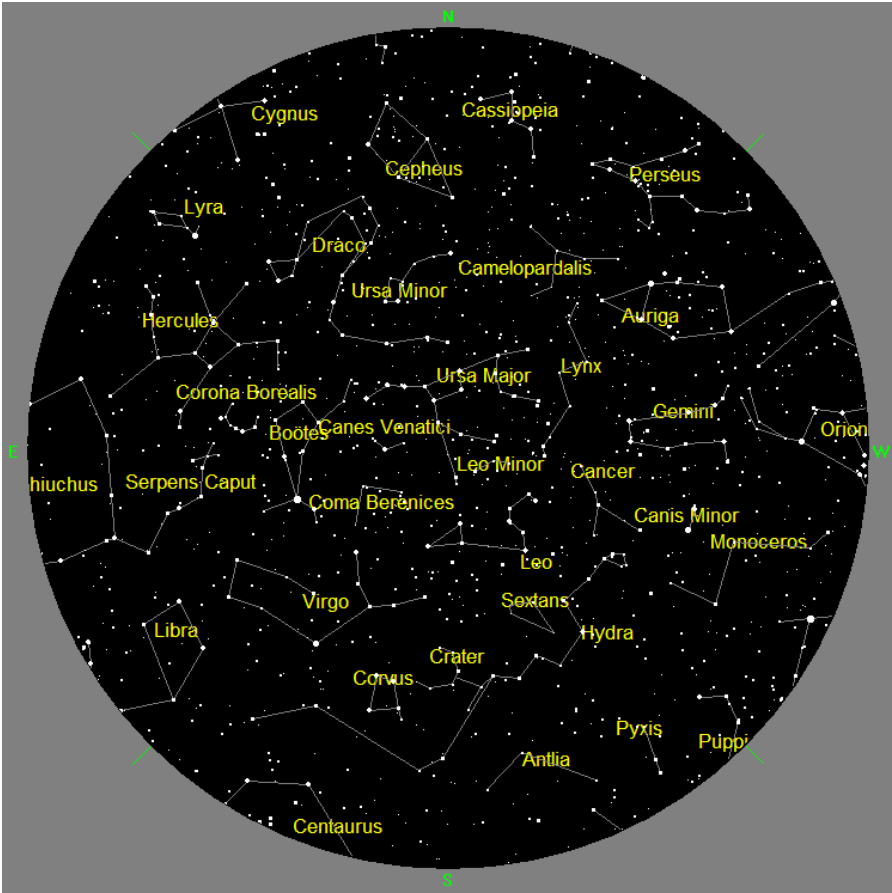
Chapter 2

The Signs of the Seasons

Following are some general maps of sky for the four seasons. The first four are the major constellations, the next four provide some of the most prominent star names. They are usually taken from Lincoln, Nebraska, U.S.A. at about 12:00 midnight.

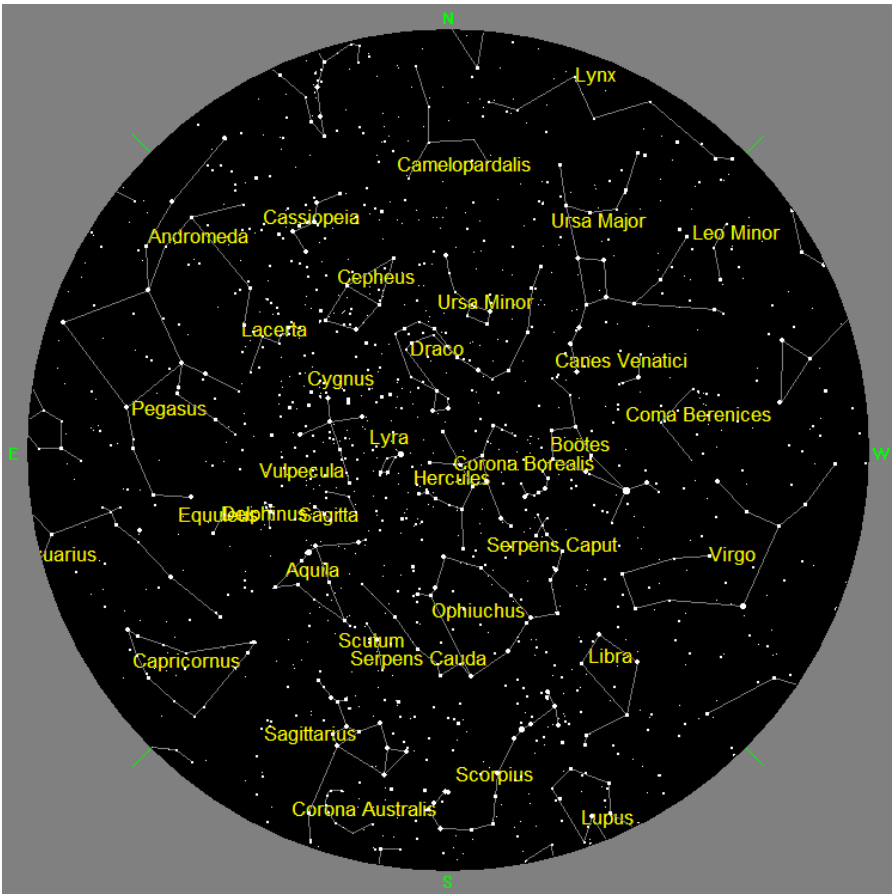
These are only general maps and woefully inadequate to explain the canopy of the sky. But they are perhaps a start in taking in the general configuration of the heavens so that one can begin to acquaint themselves with the general layout.

March 21



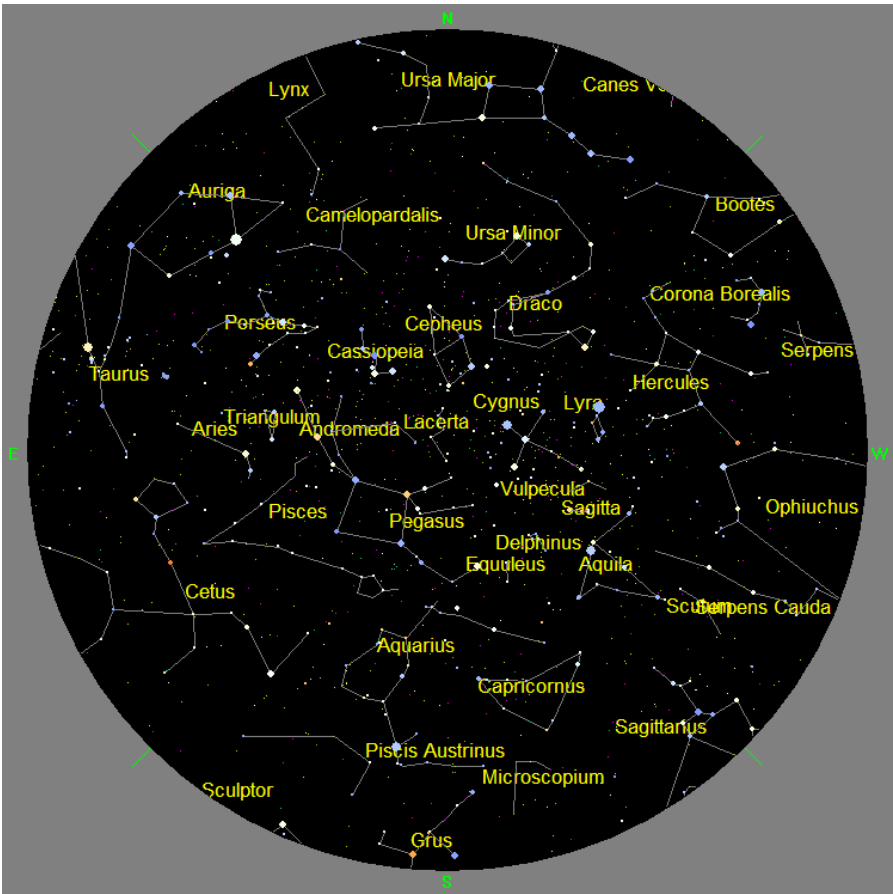
The Signs

June 21



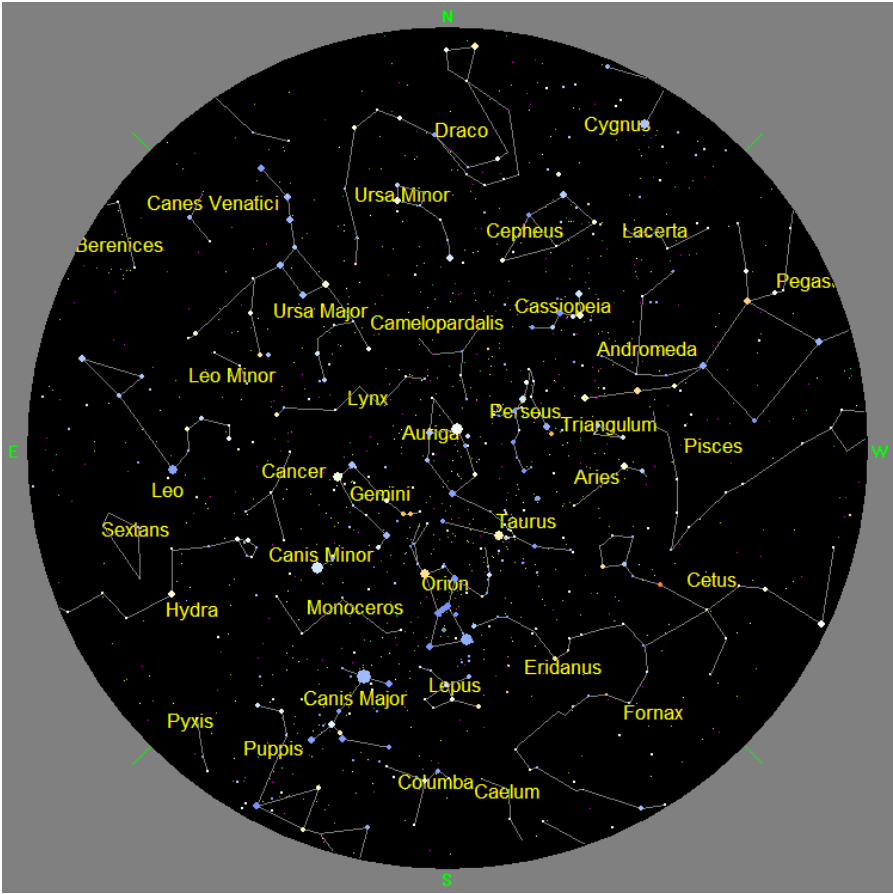
A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

September 21



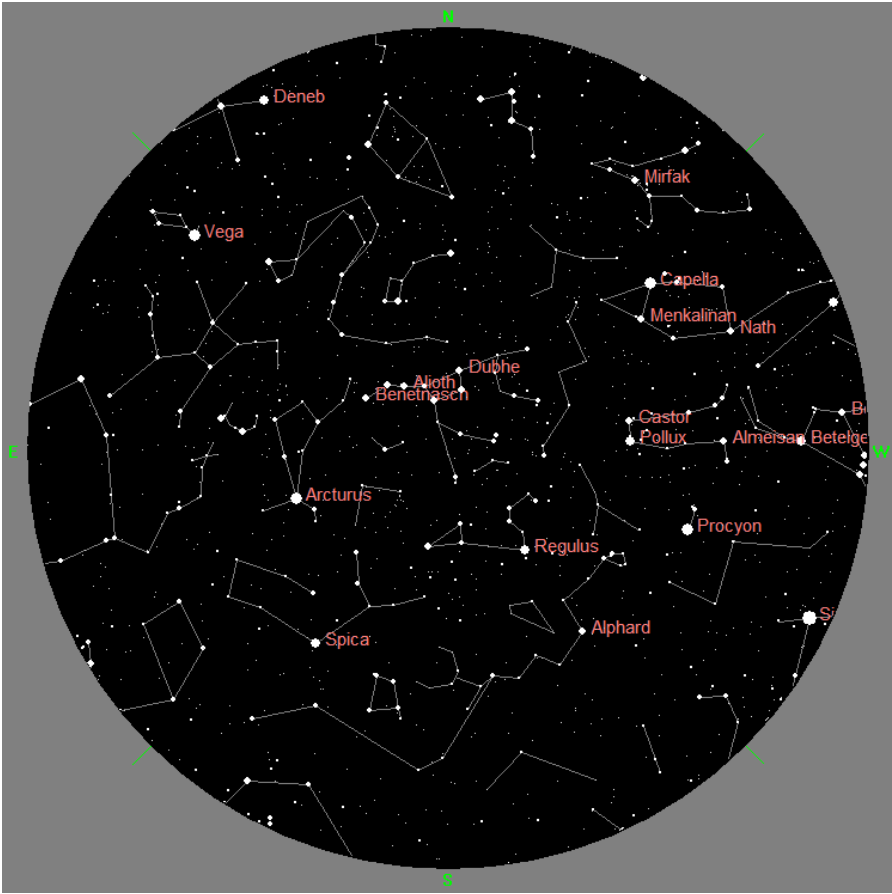
The Signs

December 21

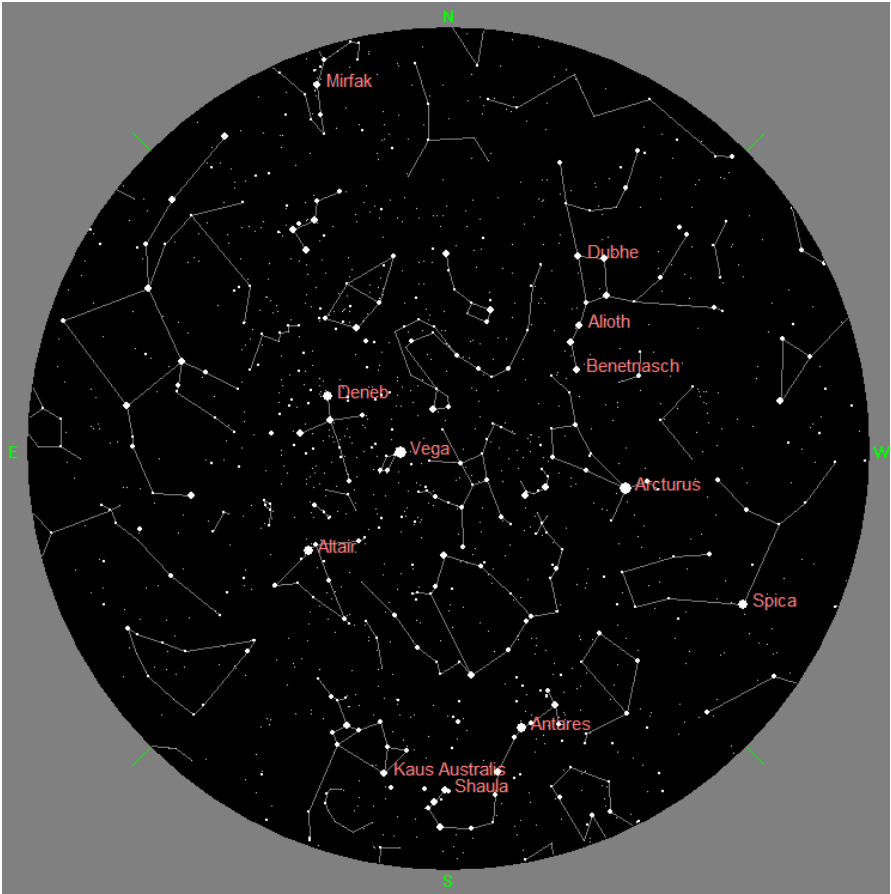


A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

March 21

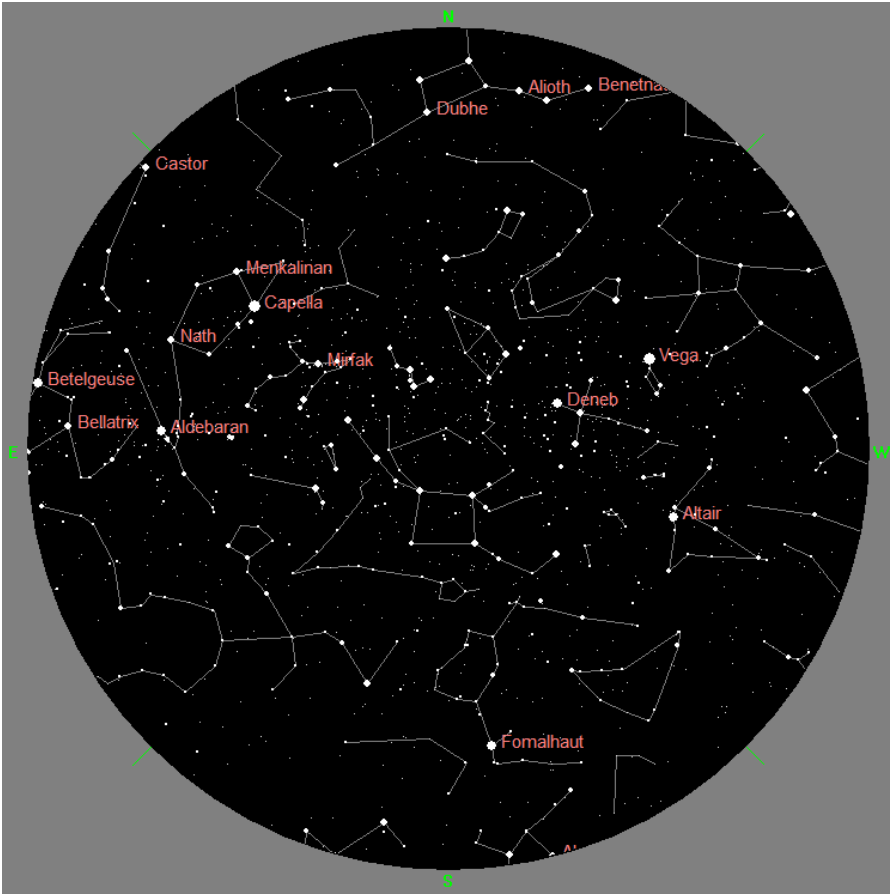


June 21

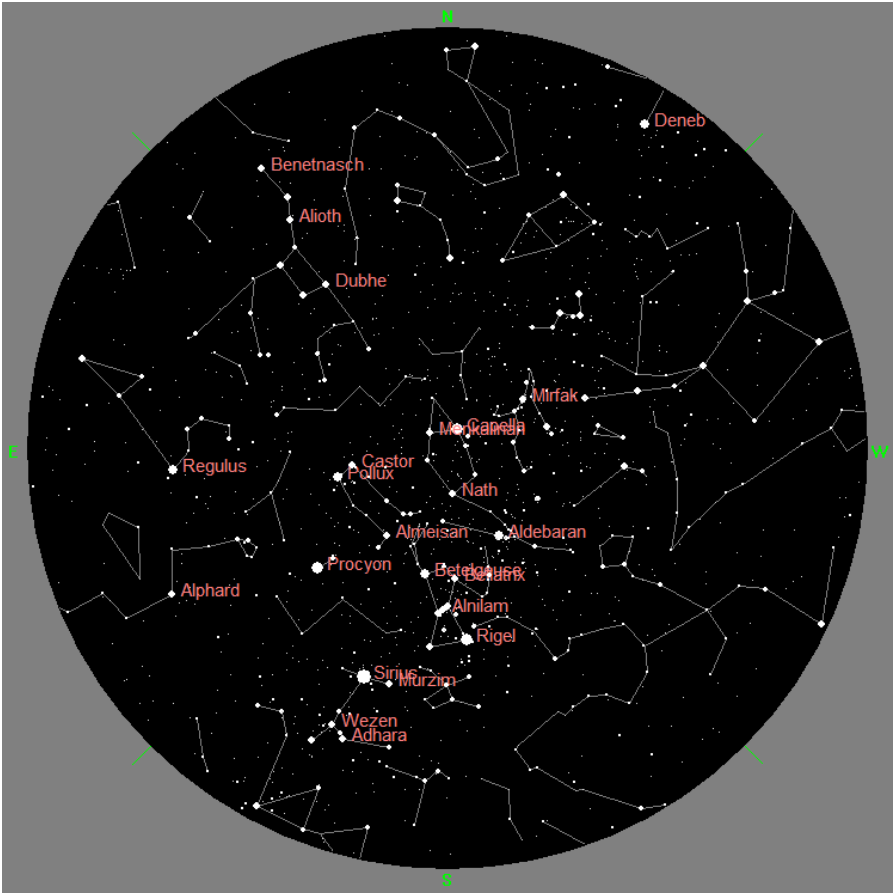


A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

September 21



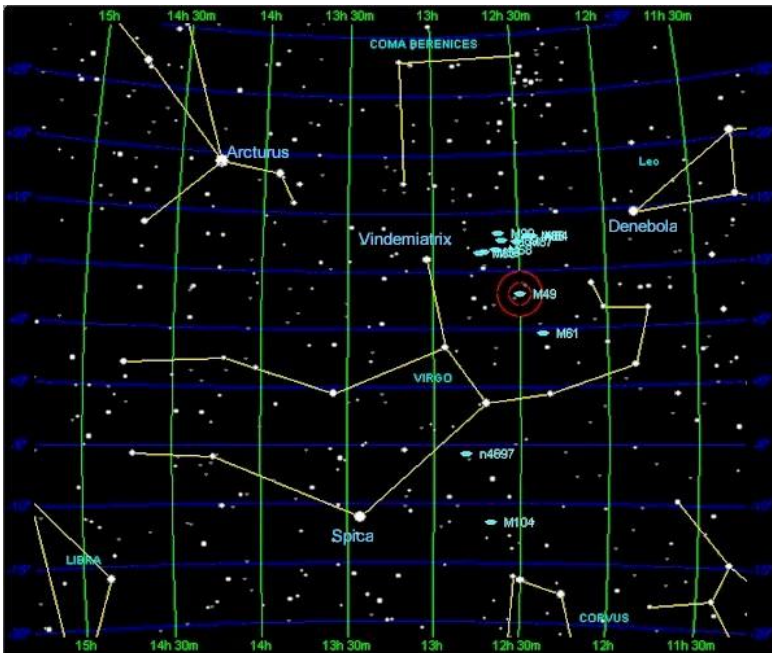
December 21



Chapter 3

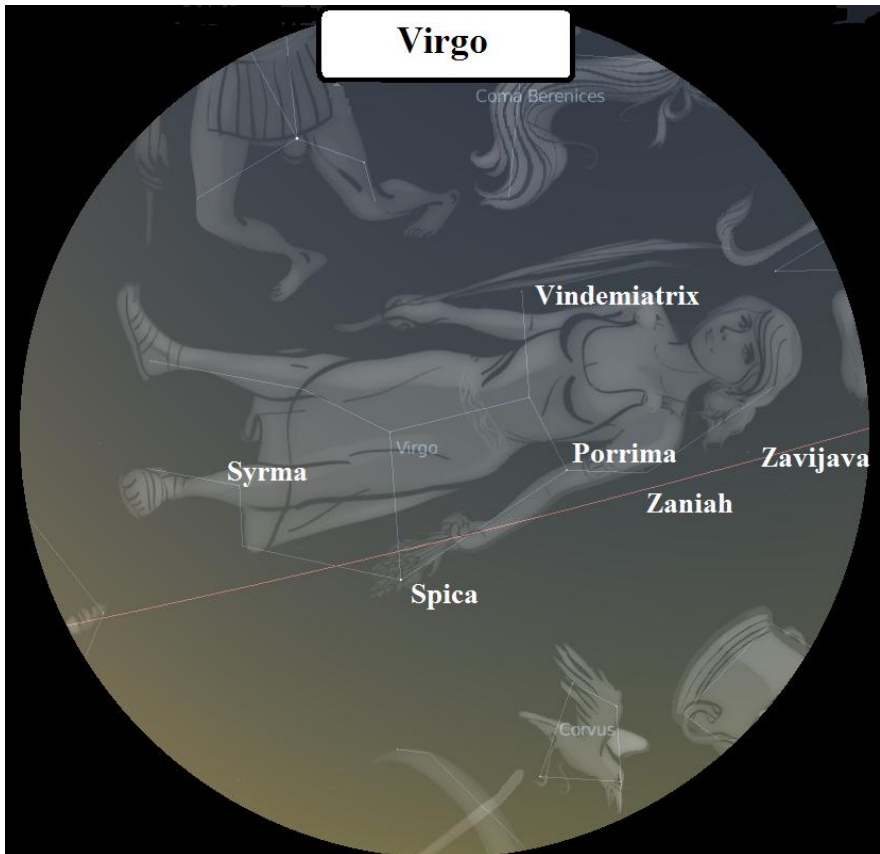
The Virgin (Virgo)

Virgo is an expansive constellation and not intensely bright. However it is among the most important of all the constellations and is represented in many zodiacs the beginning of the year and the beginning of the heavenly cycle of the constellations.



The Virgin

Virgo



Constellation Name:

The virgin, or young woman

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Star Names

- Syrma: unknown
- Spica: *Spica* (modern name from Latin; meaning, “an ear of corn.”), *Al Zimach* (Arabic), meaning: “The Branch.”
- Vindemiatrix (modern Latin); or *Al Murreddin*, “who shall come down,” or “who shall have dominion;” thus Vindermiatrix, meaning, “the son (or branch) who comes.”
- Porrima: unknown
- Zaniah: unknown
- Zavijavah: “the gloriously beautiful.”

Other unknown stars today but known by the ancients:¹

¹ Subilah, who carries; Al Azal, the Branch; Subilon, a spike of corn (or wheat).

Coma



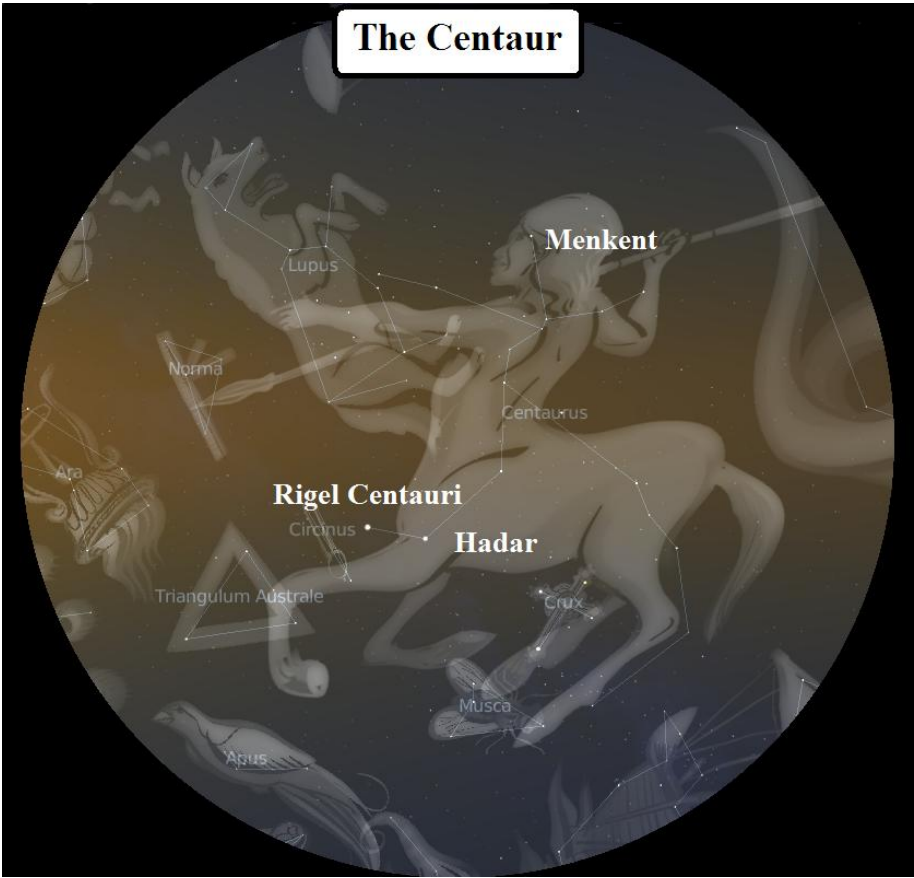
A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Constellation Name:

Coma (Popular Name: Berenice's Hair)

“The Desired or Longed For”

The Centaur



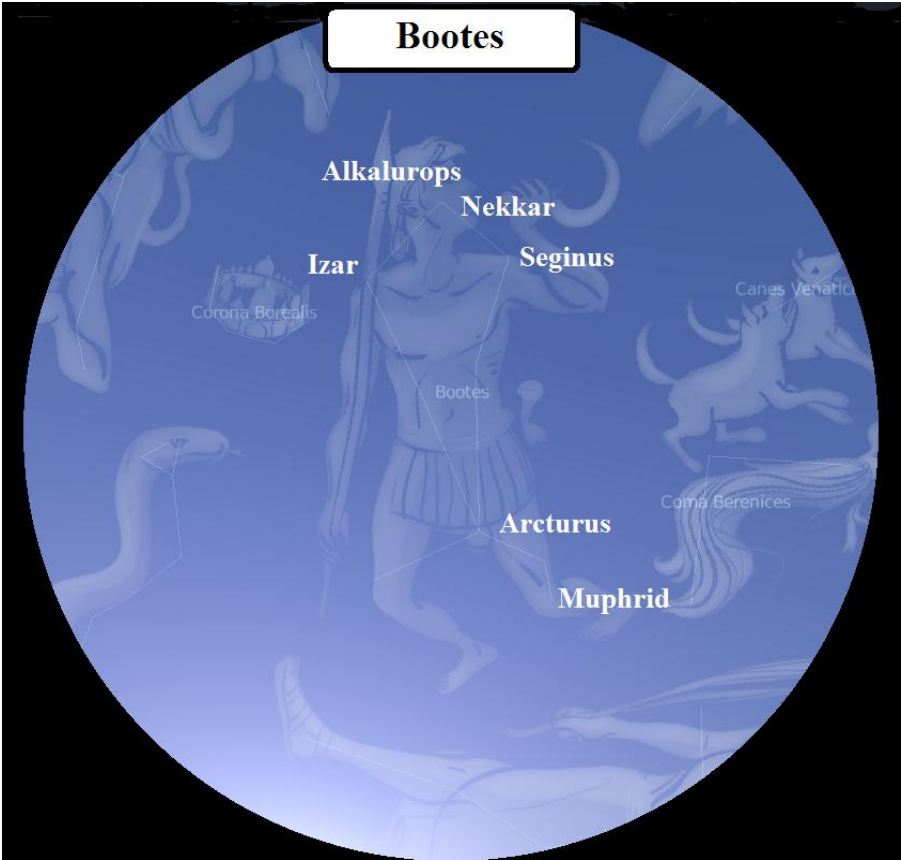
A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Star Names

Ancient names of the Centaur itself mean : “the despised.”

- Menkent: Unknown
- *Rigel Centauri*, but anciently *Toliman*, “the heretofore and hereafter.”
- Hadar: unknown

Boötes



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Boötes (Bah-oat-ees)

- Hebrew word: *bow*, בּוֹא “to come;” thus: “the coming one.”
- Arcturus, “he comes;”
- Al Katurp (in rod): “the branch, treading under foot.”
- Izar (or Mirac or Mizar): Mirac means the coming forth as an arrow; Mizar or Izar means: “the preserver; the guarding.”
- Murprid, or Murphride: “who separates”
- Nekkar: “the pierced,” or Hebrew: Merga, “who bruises.”
- Seginus: unknown; “sickle” perhaps?

Other star names: “who separates (i.e. sheep and goats),” “who bruises;” “the preserver (keeper);” and “the pierced.”

Chapter 4

The Scales (Libra)

Next to Virgo is found the constellation, Libra. Libra is not a bright constellation.

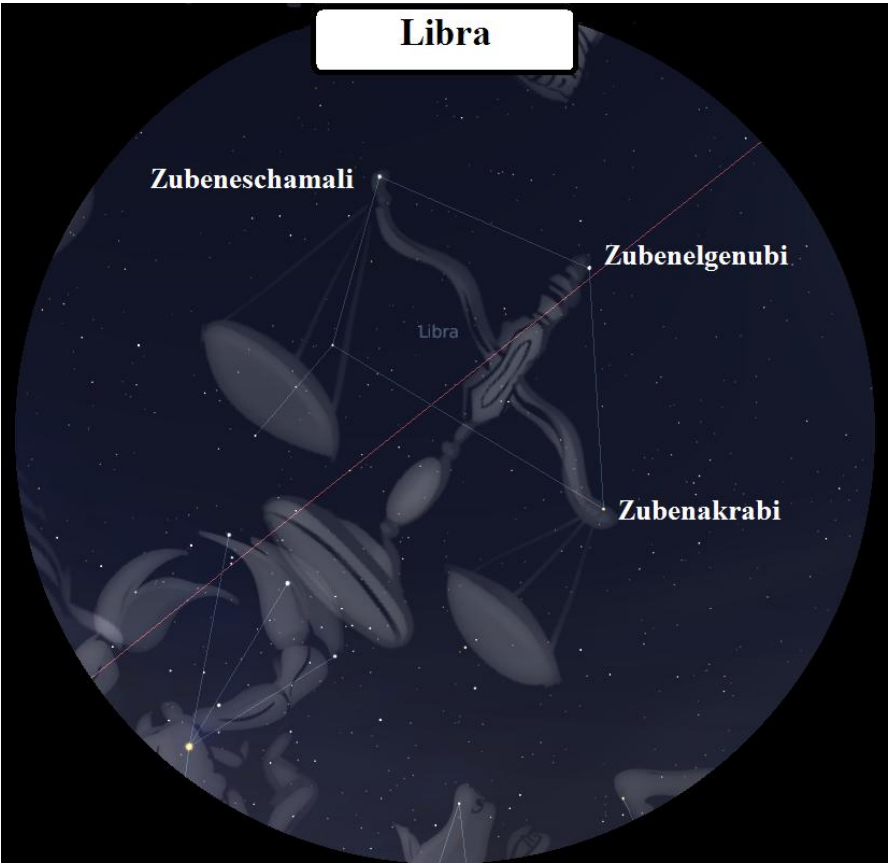


Libra has been consistently known for thousands of years as a scale, or balance.

The star names exonerate this meaning.

Some ancient names record it not as a scale but an altar; an altar upon which the price was paid. (cf. E. W. Bullinger, *The Witness of the Stars*)

Libra



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Libra means “weighing” as does the Arabic, “Al Zubena,” *purchase or redemption*, or Hebrew: “Mozanaim,” *the scales, weighing*.

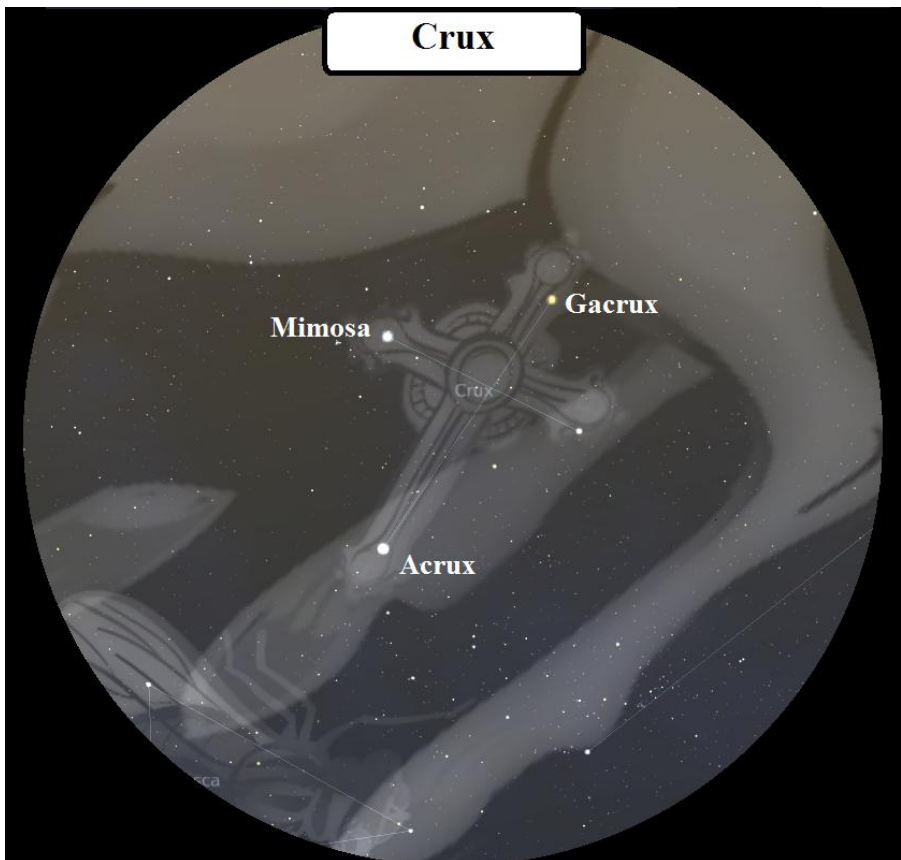
Star Names

- “Zuben al Genubi,” *purchase, or the price that is deficient*”
- “Zuben al Shemali,” *the price that covers or*
- another name; “Al Gubi,” *heaped up high*
- “Zuben Akrabi,” *the price of the conflict*

Libra

The Cross (Crux)

Belonging to the constellation Libra is the constellation, Crux. Crux is simply the word for “cross” and we can simply refer to it this way. This constellation is no longer visible in the northern latitudes.



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Constellation Name:

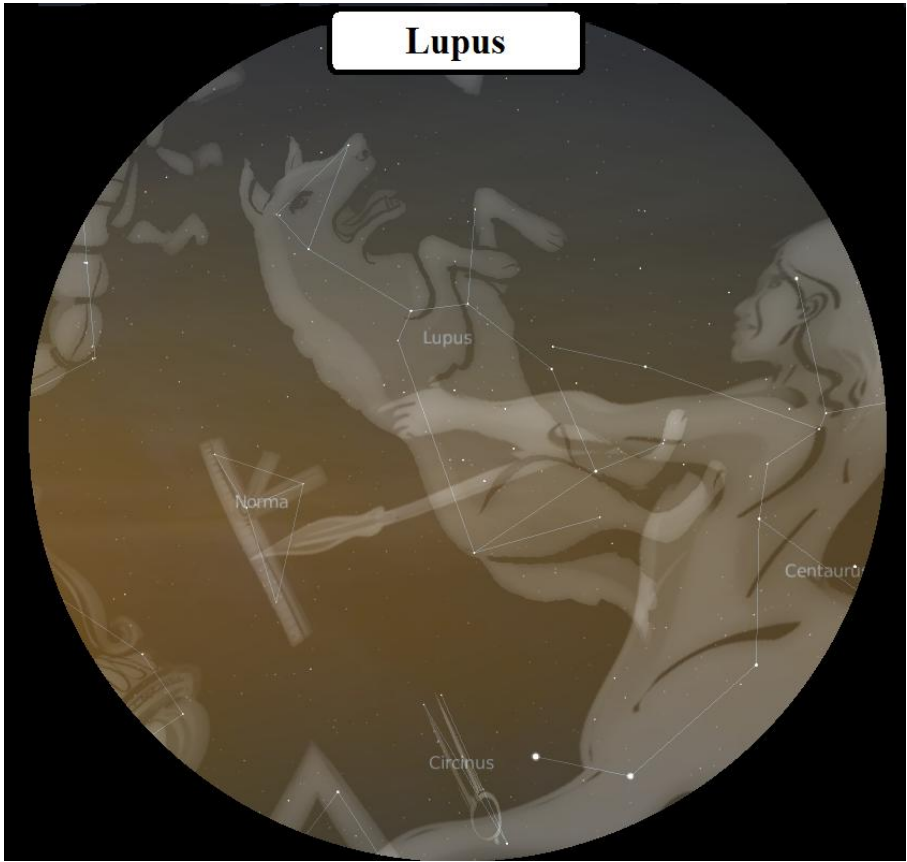
Crux: Hebrew: *Adom*, which means the “cutting off.”

Star Names

The meanings of the modern names are still under investigation.

“A crux” simply is *alpha crux*, according to the star system of Greek lettering.

The Victim



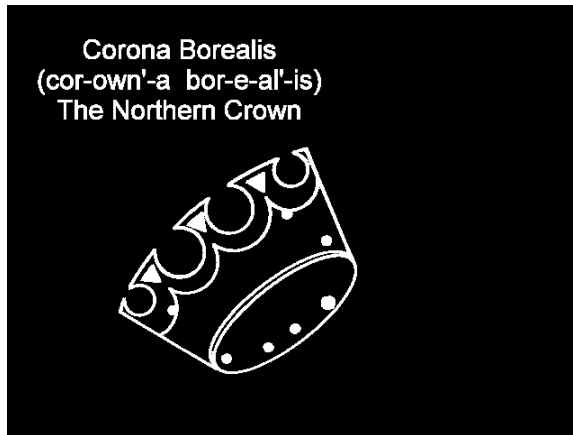
A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Lupus: modern name meaning “wolf,” because in some ancient pictures it perhaps looks like one.

What is consistent in ancient pictures is that it is an animal that is *slain*.
Latin: *victima*

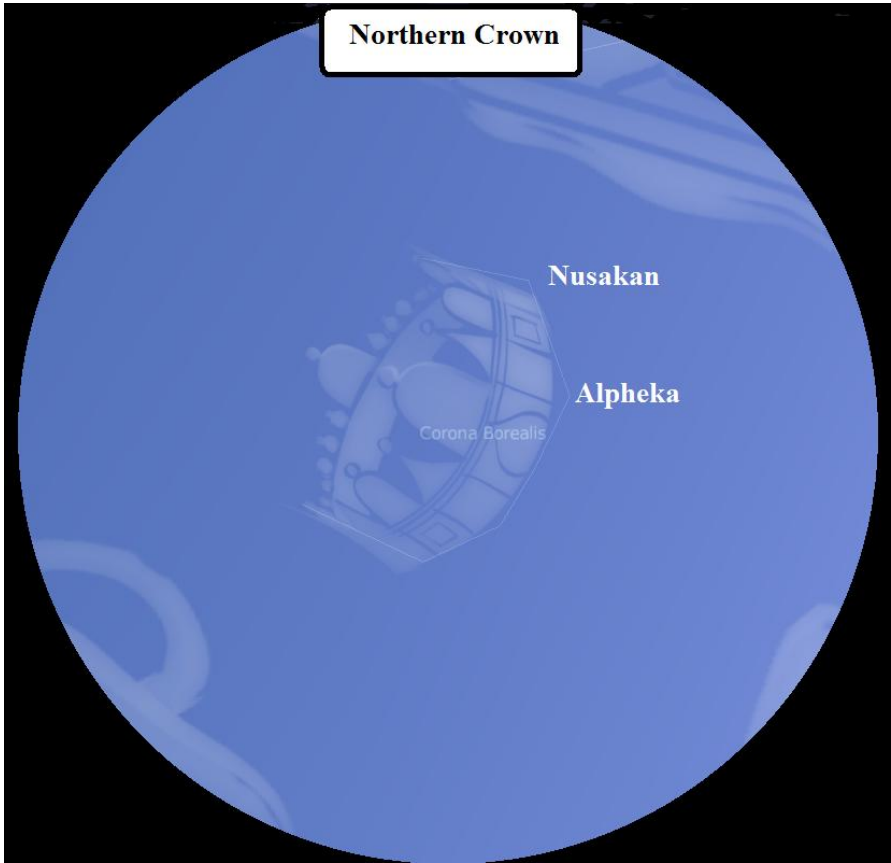
The Crown

Without the third sign the story found in Libra would be incomplete. What is the final outcome of this struggle it portrays?



Libra

The Crown



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Constellation Name:

Crown, or Corona, consistently. Hebrew: *Al Iclil*; a royal crown.

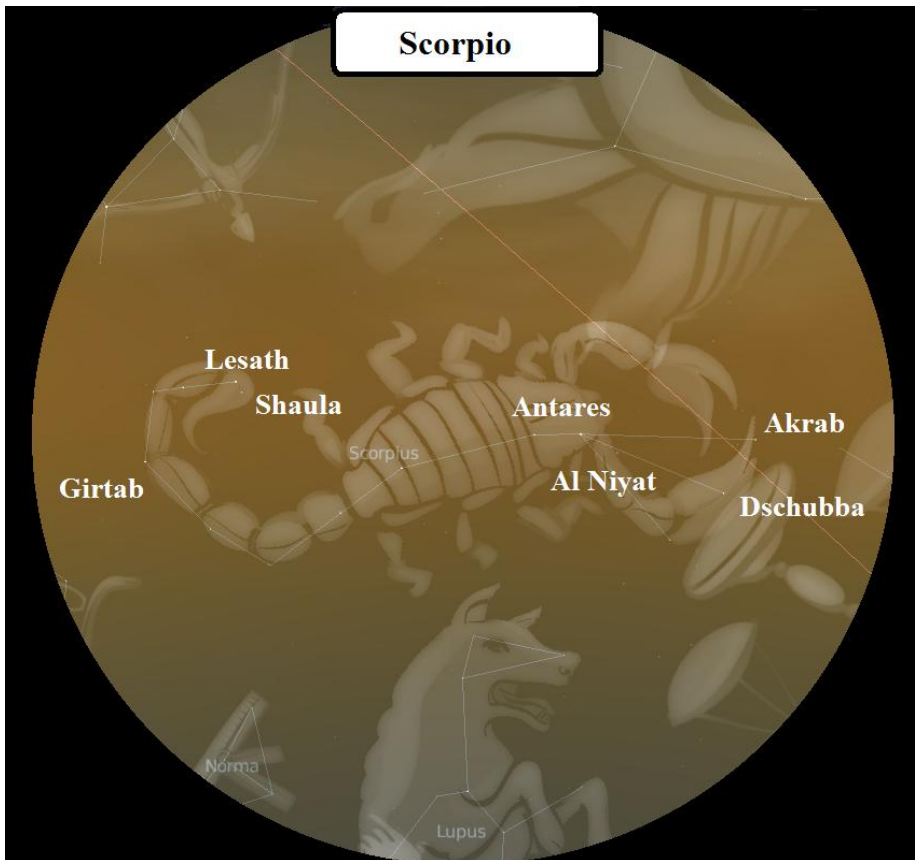
Star Names:

- Al Phecca, means, “the shining.”
- Nusakan: unknown

Chapter 5

The Scorpion

Scorpio



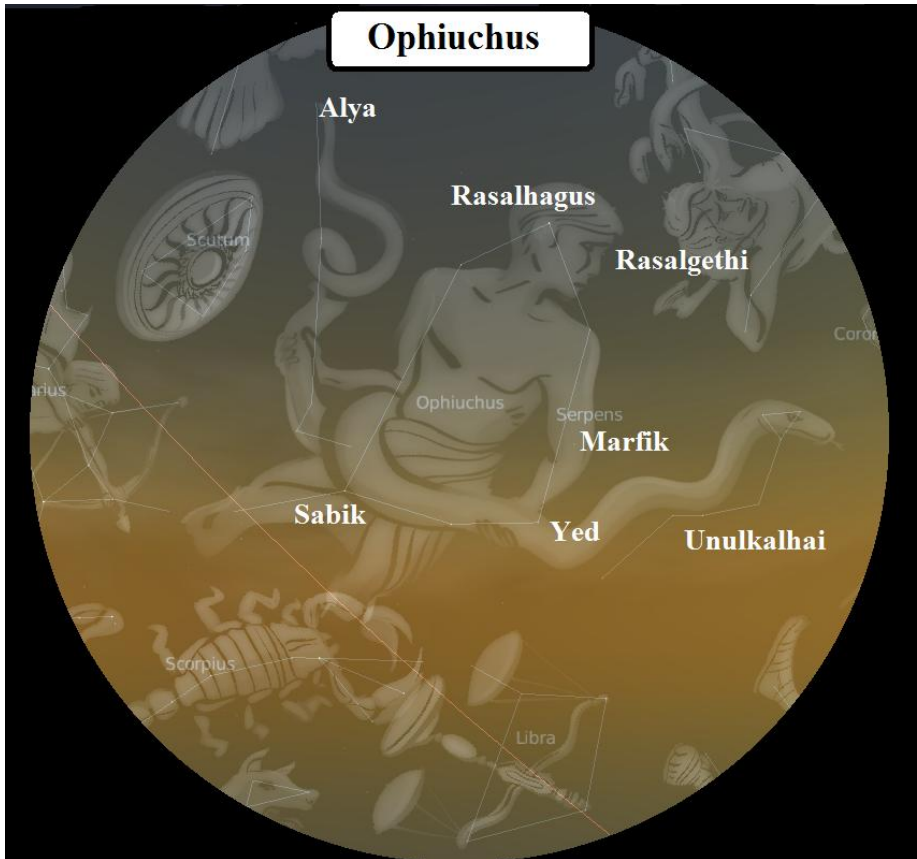
Constellation Name:

The Hebrew name for this constellation is “Akrah,” which not only indicates a scorpion, but is widely used as a word for “conflict” or “war.”

Star Names

- Antares: *the wounding*
- Lesath: *the perverse*
- Shaula: unknown
- Girtab (unknown)
- Al Niyat: unknown
- Akrah: *Scorpion, or war, or conflict*
- Dshubba: unknown

Ophiuchus



Constellation Name:

Arabic “Afeichus,” meaning “the serpent-held.”

Star Names:

**The Serpent Holder
The Serpent**

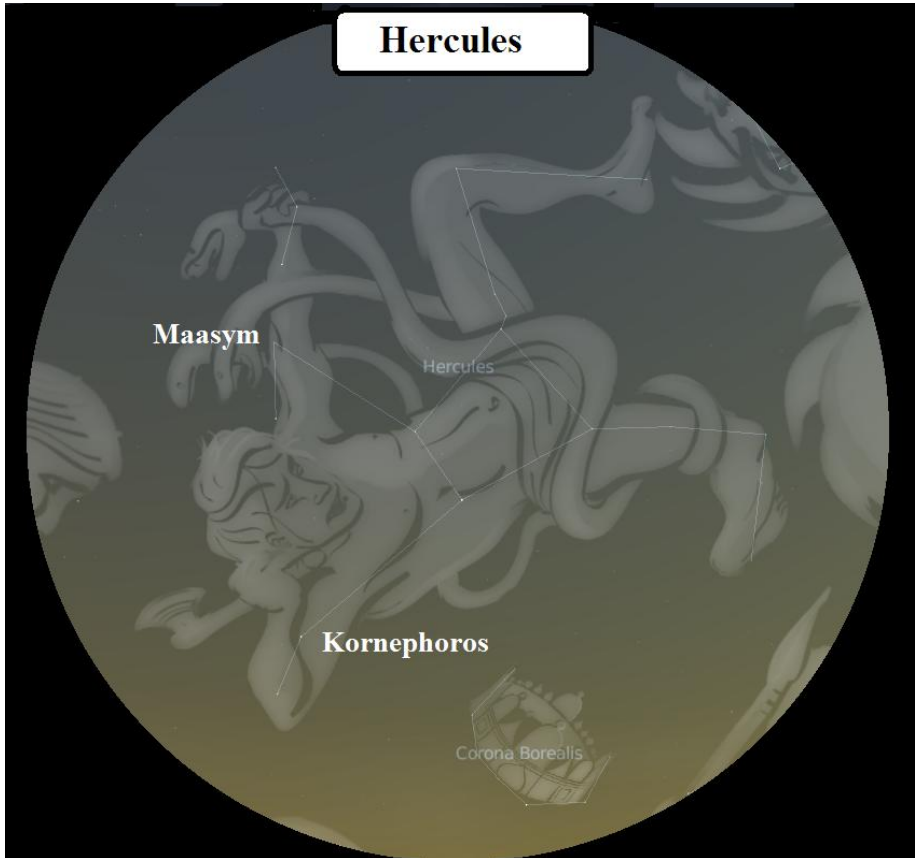
The star names exonerate the accuracy of the picture.²

- Rasalhagus (brightest star in the man’s head) or “Ras Alhegue,” meaning “the head of him who holds.”
- Alyah: “the accursed”
- Unuk: “encompassing”
- Rasalgethi: unknown
- Marfik: unknown
- Yed: unknown
- Sabik: unknown

² Arabic “Afeichus,” meaning “the serpent-held.” The brightest star in the man’s head is “Ras Alhegue,” or “Ras al Hagus,” meaning “the head of him who holds.” Other star names are “Triophas; treading under foot;” “Saiph” (in the foot), “bruised;” “Carnebus;” “the wounded;” “Megeros;” “contending.” In the Serpent are found the names: “Alyah,” “the accursed;” Unuk,” meaning “encompassing;” and “Cheleb,” “the serpent enfolding.”

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Hercules



Constellation Name:

Hercules: Roman or Latin. “the strong one.” The Hebrew name is closer to “Savior.”

The Scorpion

This figure is needed to complete the unfinished story of the Scorpion. Farther north in the sky one will find the stars composing the constellation Hercules.³ Here is a man, yet found kneeling (and inverted) in the picture. His foot is bruised, yet placed on the head of the serpent.

Star Names:

- Ras al Gethi: “the head of him who bruises”
(see previous picture)
- Kornephorus: “the Branch, kneeling”
- Marsik: (κ in the right elbow) “the wounding”
- Maasyn: “the sin offering”
- Caiam, Guiam,: “Punishing,” or Arabic,
“treading under foot”
(thought to be in the lower part of the right arm)

³ Hercules is a Roman name. Arabic= “Al Giscale, the strong one.” The Greeks represented him as “savior.”

Chapter 6

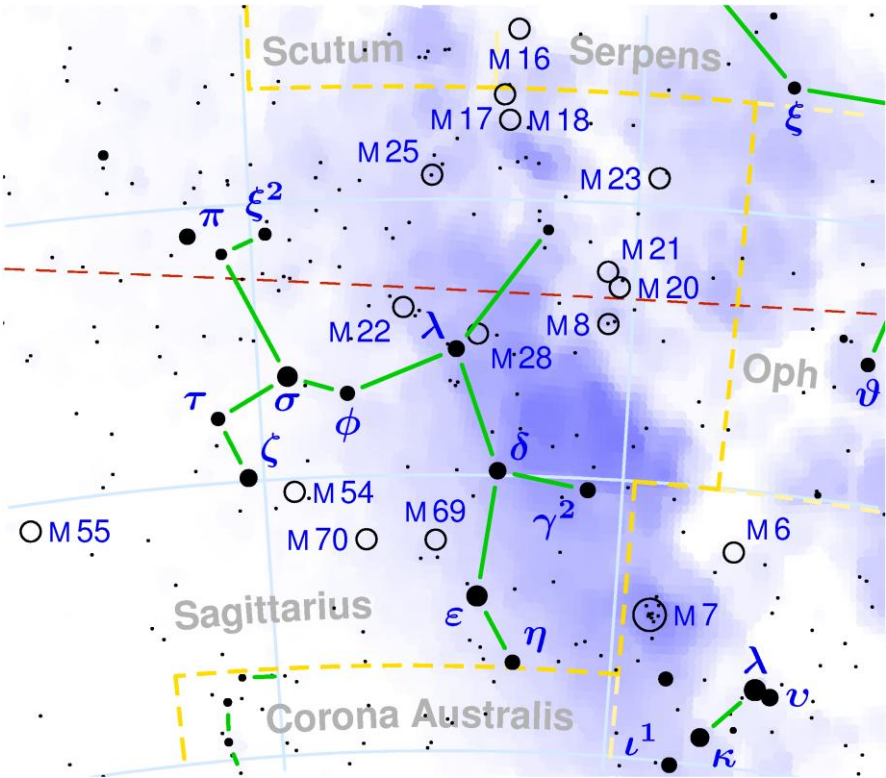
The Archer

(Sagittarius)

This particular author has doubts as to the veracity of a centaur, half man half horse, as part of the original picture.

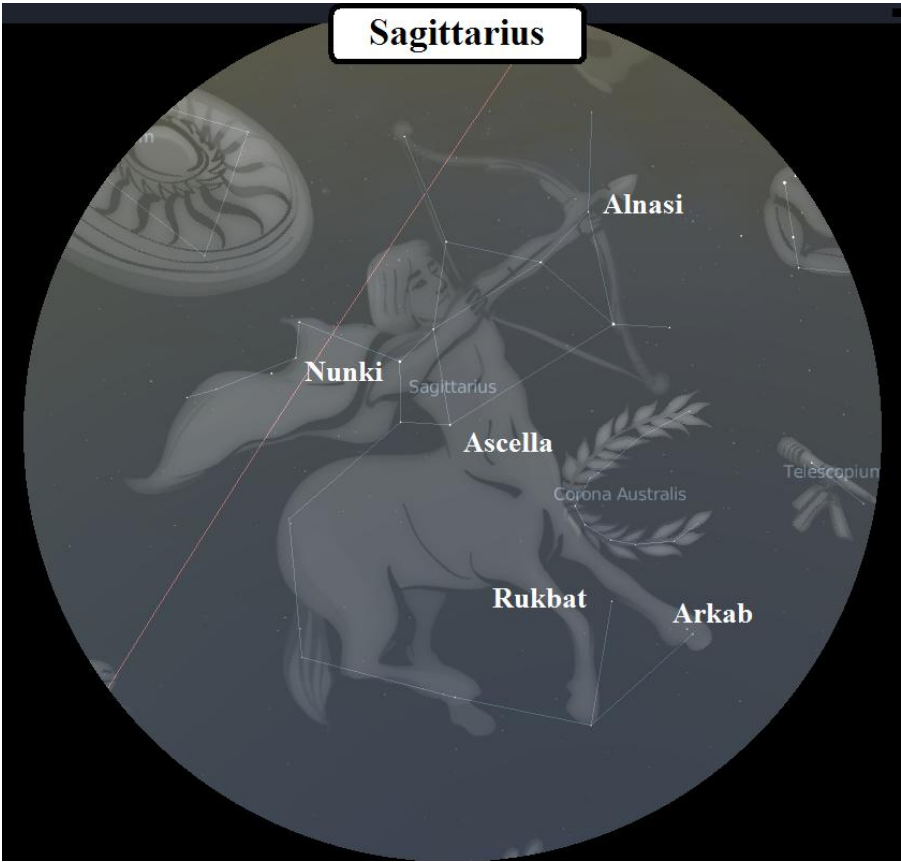
What may be closer to the truth is that we have a victorious rider on a grand horse marching through the heavens.

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Sagittarius

Sagittarius



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Constellation Name:

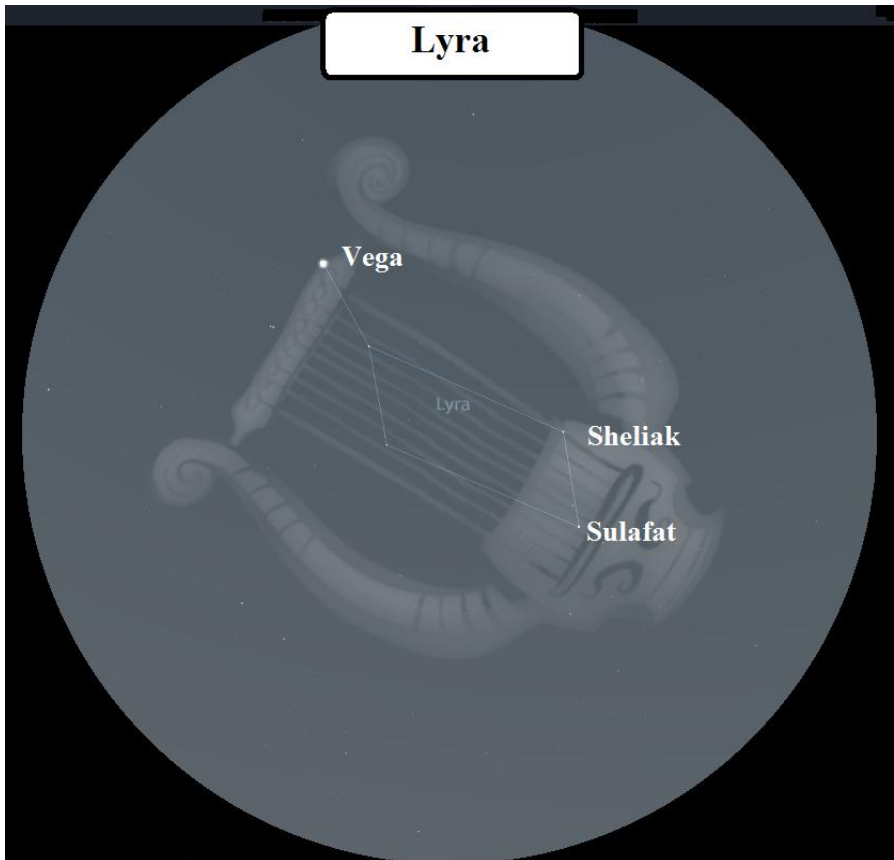
Sagittarius, “archer.” Hebrew: *Kesith*, “archer.”
Arabic: “the arrow.”

Star Names:⁴

- Nunki: *Prince of the earth*
- Alnasi: Unknown
- Ascella: Unknown
- Rukbat: Ruchba or Rami, meaning; *the riding of the bowman*.
- Arkab: Unknown

⁴ Name of brightest star supposed to be *Al Naim*, “the gracious one;” *Al Shaula*, “the dart;” *Al Warida*, “who comes forth.”

Lyra



The Harp (Lyra)

In the northern sky is found the constellation, Lyra, the harp. The harp is the joyous victory symbol of the ancient world. In Revelation it is found

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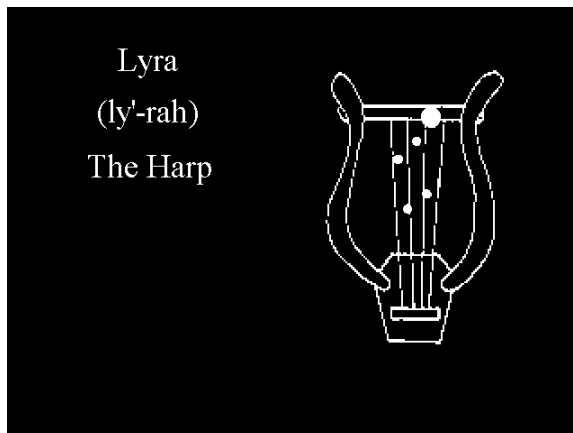
with the victorious throngs who stand with the Lamb on Mt. Zion and with the overcomers beside the glassy sea.

Constellation Name:

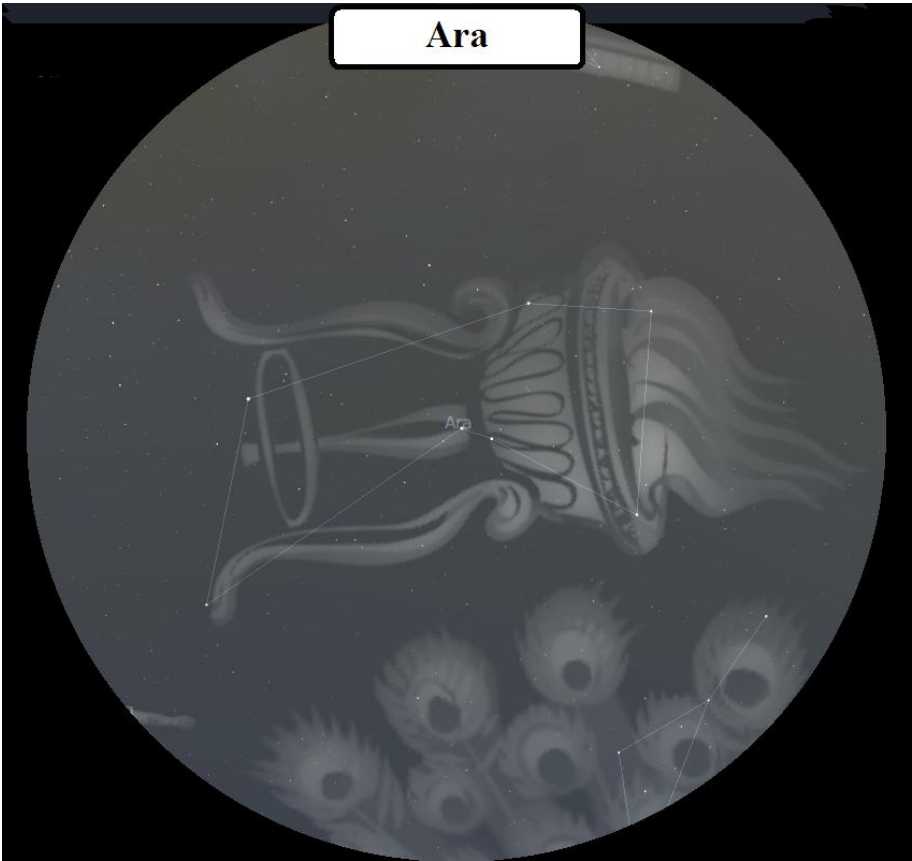
Lyra or Harp. The Hebrew words for harp and eagle are similar and may both allude to this constellation. (Bullinger, p. 67)

Star Names:

- Vega: He shall be exalted
- Shelyuk, an eagle
- Sulaphat: Springing up, or ascending (as praise)



The Altar



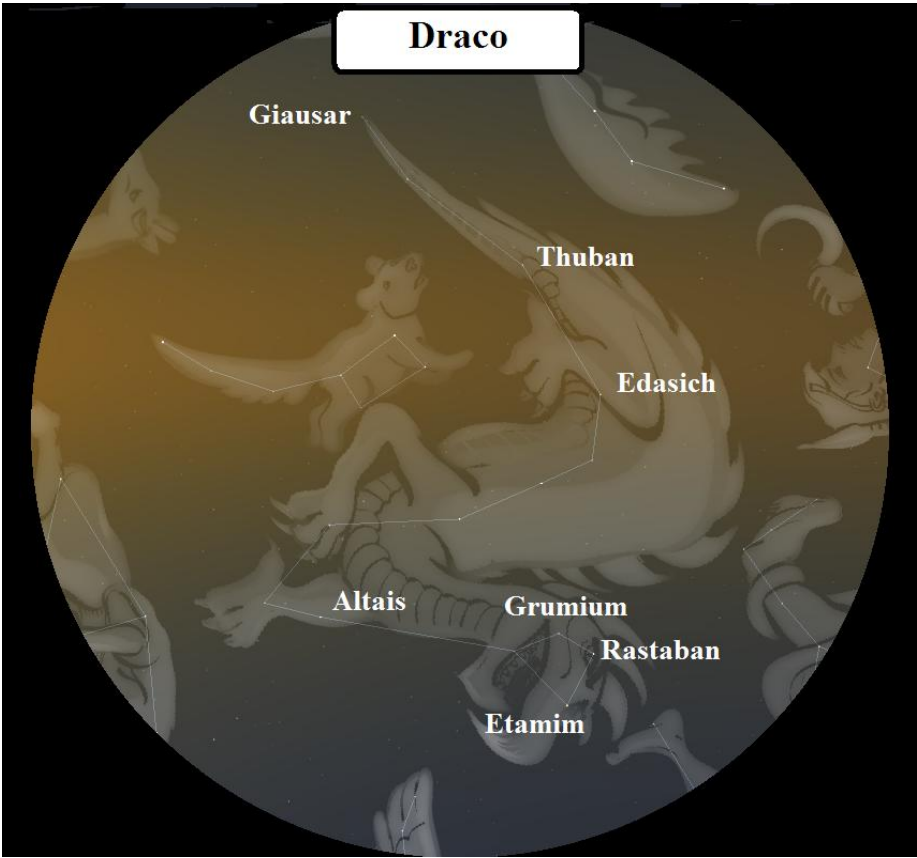
A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Constellation Name:

Ara; an altar, found in the southern regions. Pictured as a fire burning downward, and associated in certain languages with imprecations and cursing.

Only regularly seen in southern latitudes.

The Dragon (Draco)



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Constellation Name:

Dragon, (Rev. 12), *the deceiver, the destroyer.*

Star Names:⁵

- Thuban: (Heb.) *the subtle*
- Rastaban: the head of the subtle, Arabic: Al Waid, *who is to be destroyed*
- Ethanim: *the long serpent, or dragon*
- Giansar: *the punished enemy*
- Grumium, *the subtle*
- Altais: unknown
- Edasich: unknown

⁵ Other Arabic names are *Al Dib*, the reptile; *El Athik*, the fraudulent; *El Asieh*, the bowed down.---Bullinger

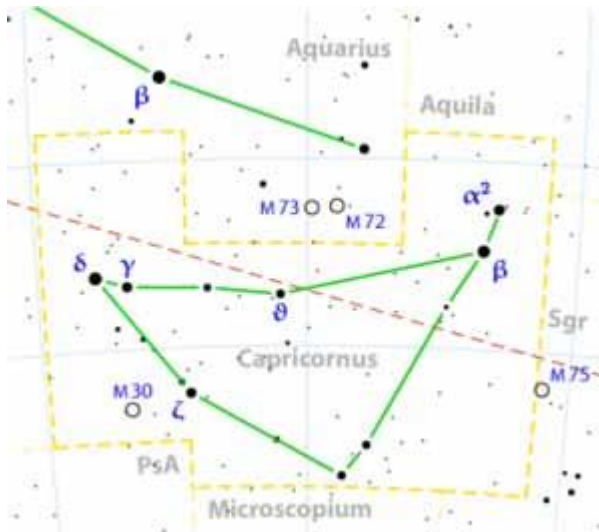
Chapter 7

The Sea-Goat



The Sea goat is a strange figure, but seems to clearly represent the transition from falling in death to the return of vigorous life.

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

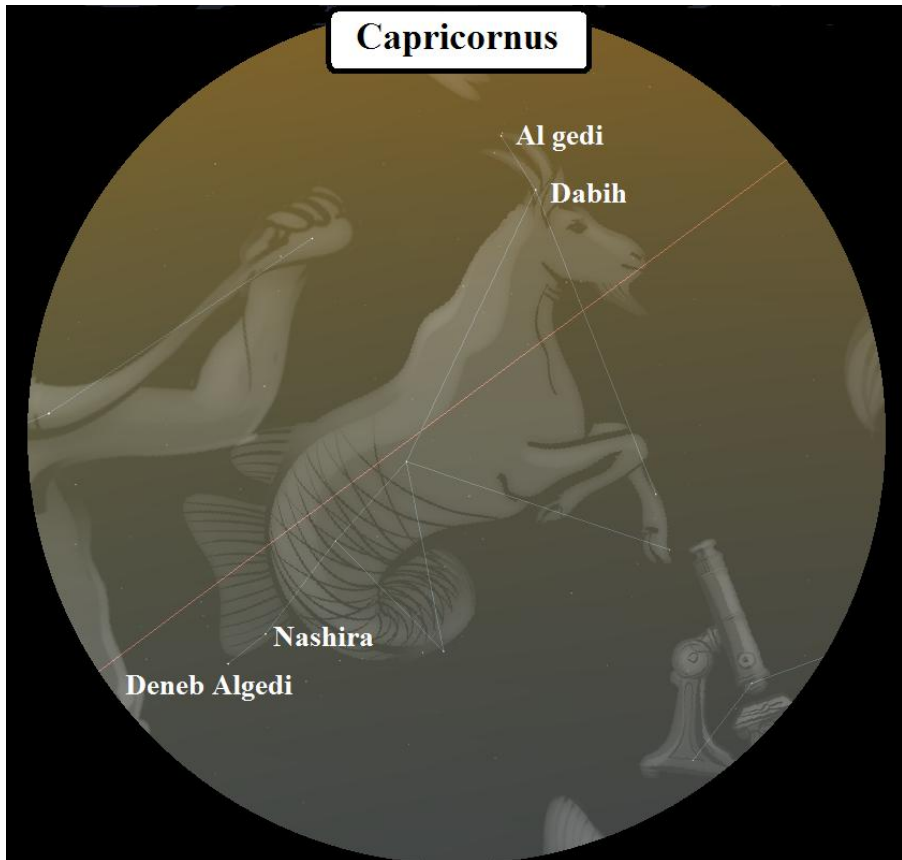


Capricorn is not a bright constellation but the astronomer will get used to recognizing the triangular pattern or outline.



The Goat (Capricorn)

Capricorn



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Constellation Name:

Capricornus is simply the Latin name for “goat.” The Hebrew name of the sign is *Gedi*, meaning the “kid” or “cutting off.”

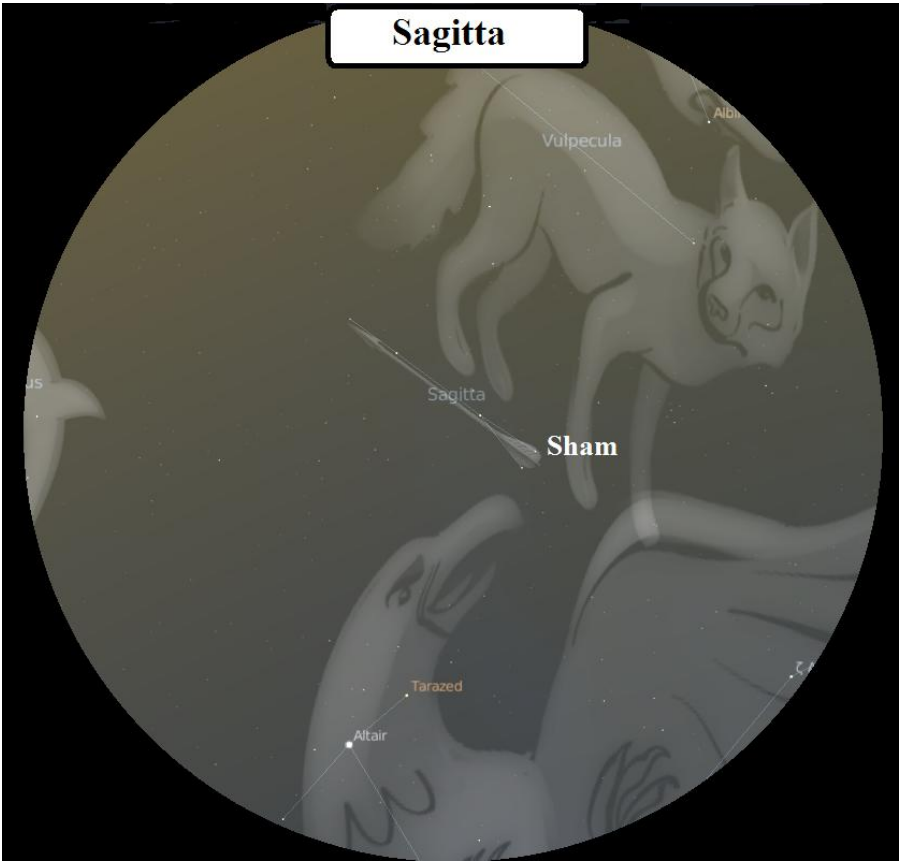
Star Names:⁶

- Al Gedi: *the goat*
- Dabih, or Al Dabik; or Al Dahabeah: *the sacrifice slain*
- Saad Al Naschira: *the record of the cutting off*
- Deneb Algedi: *the sacrifice cometh (comes)*

⁶ Ma’asad, “the slaying,” is another star in the sign, presently unknown to the author as to its exact location.

The Goat (Capricorn)

Sagitta (the Arrow)



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

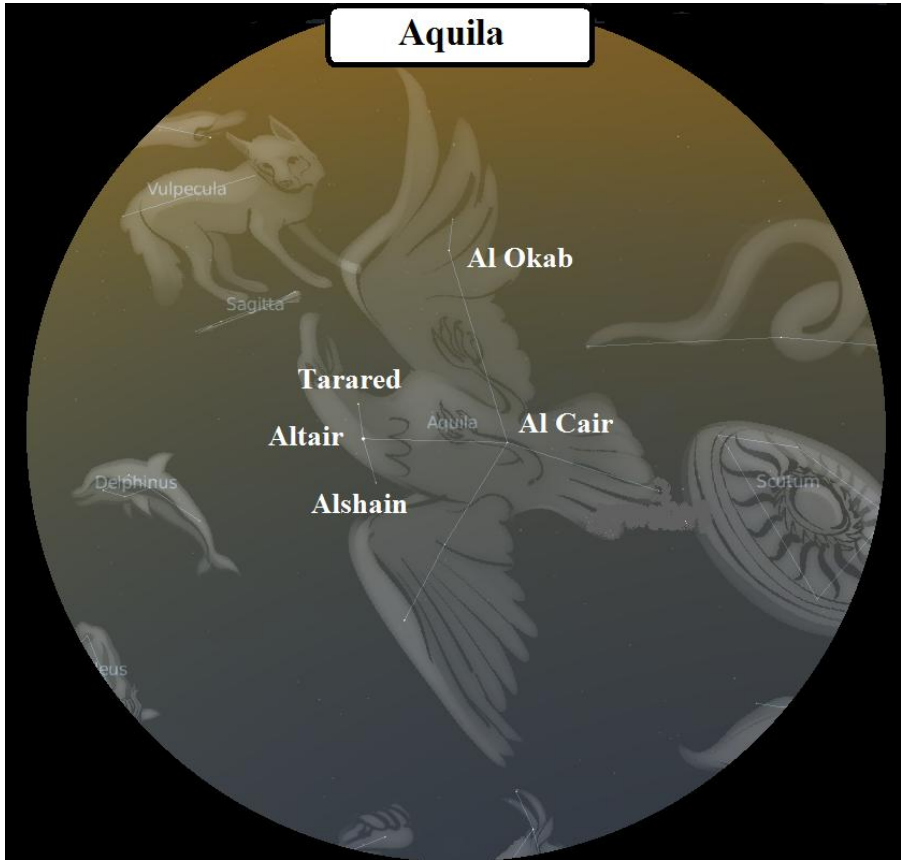
Constellation Name: Sagitta: arrow

Hebrew: Sham: “destroying or desolate”

Star Names:

Some modern planispheres identify the Hebrew constellation name, *Sham*, “arrow,” with the main star of the constellation.

Aquila



Constellation Name: Eagle

The wounded eagle⁷ appears to fall in death, but comes back to life in the rapturous leap of *Delphinus*, the dolphin (next).

⁷ The stars, Al Cair or Al Okab may be wrongly placed in modern representations.

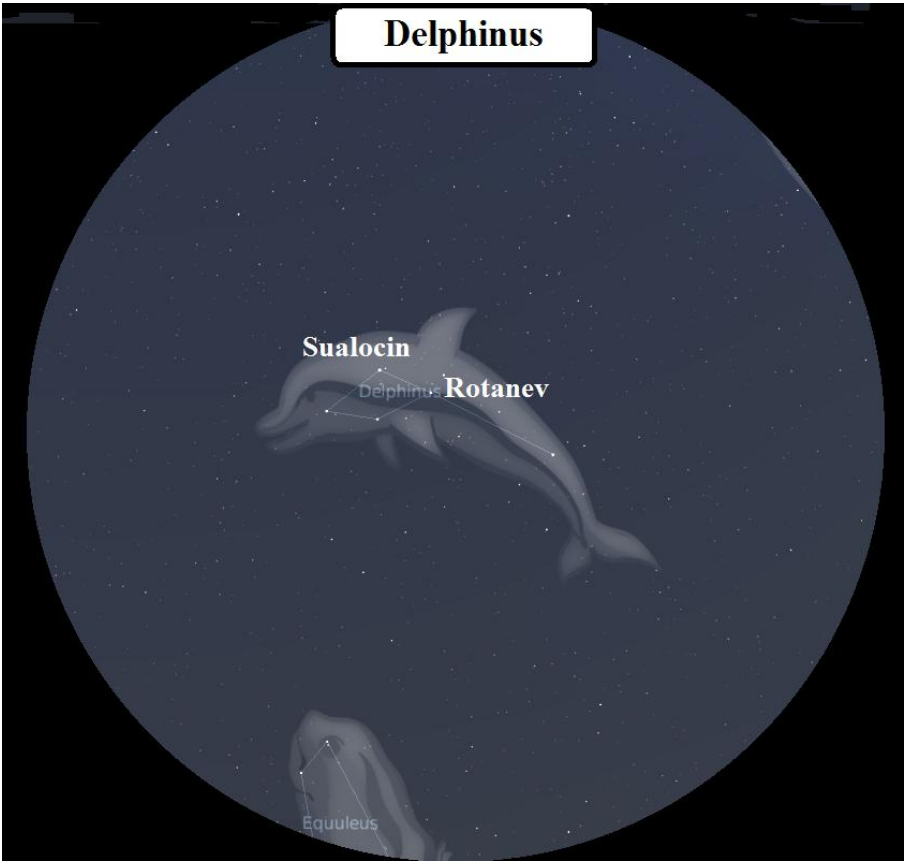
A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS



Star Names:

- Altair, means “the wounding.”
- Al Shain, (in the throat) means “the scarlet colored covered with blood.”
- Tarared, means “the torn,”
- Al Okal, or Okab, means, “wounded in the heel.”
- Al Cair means: the piercing

Delphinus (the dolphin)



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Constellation Name:

Associations: Daleph (Heb.) *pouring out of water*, but in Arabic, means *coming quickly*.

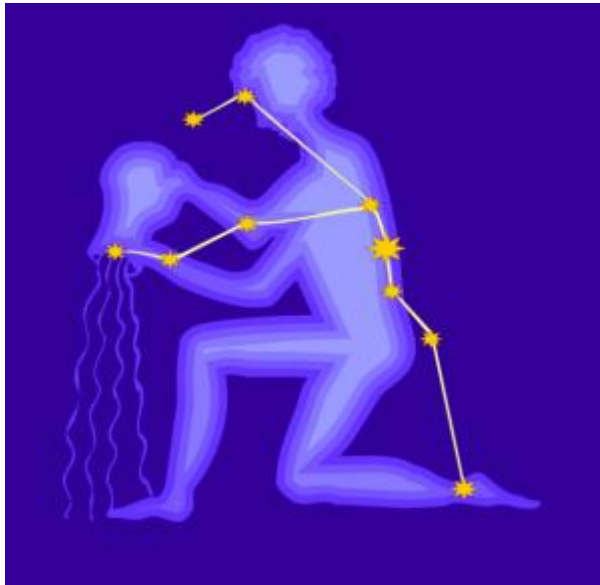
Star Names:

- Scalooïn, Sualocin: Arabic: *swift*
- Rotaneb, Rotaneau, Rotanev: *swiftly running*

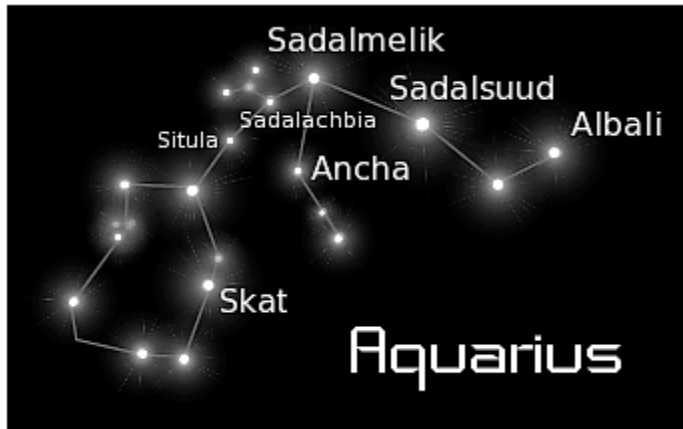
Chapter 8

The Water-Carrier (Aquarius)

The Water Carrier

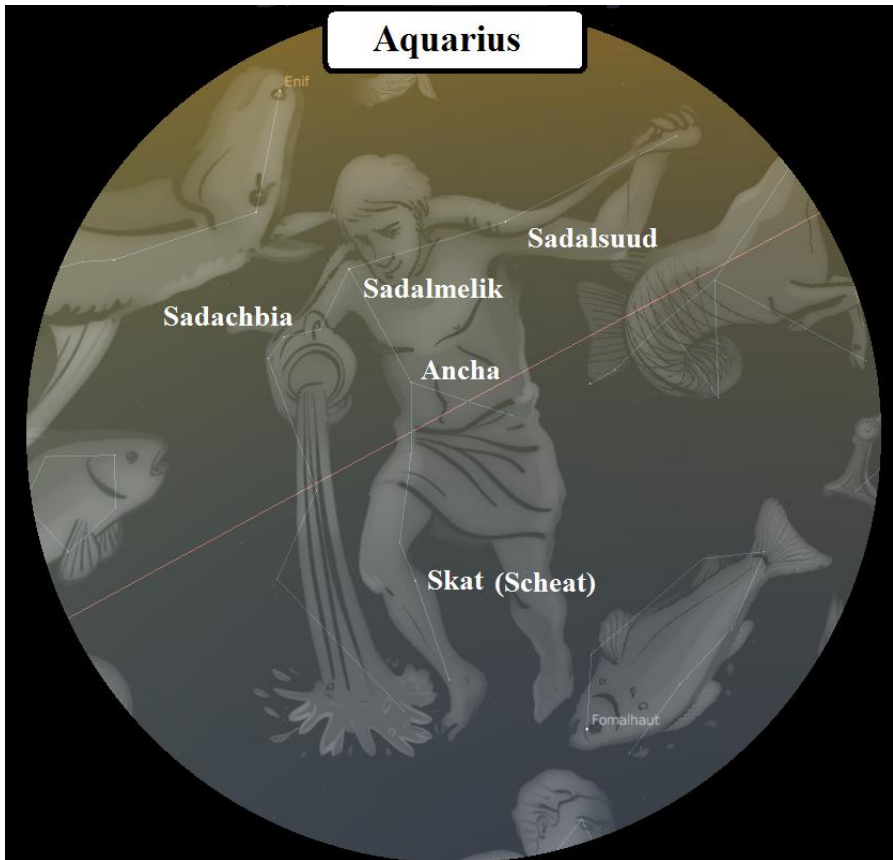


A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS



\

Aquarius



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Constellation Name:

Aquarius (*aqua*; Latin). Ancient names refer only to the water jar such as Heb. *Deli*, “the water urn, or bucket.”

Star Names:

- Sadalmelik: *the record of the pouring forth*
- Sadalsund: *who goes and returns, or the pourer out*
- Scheat: *who goes and returns*
- Sadachbia: unknown
- Ancha: unknown
- Mon, or Meon: Not marked in the picture but is supposedly in the urn and means: “an urn”

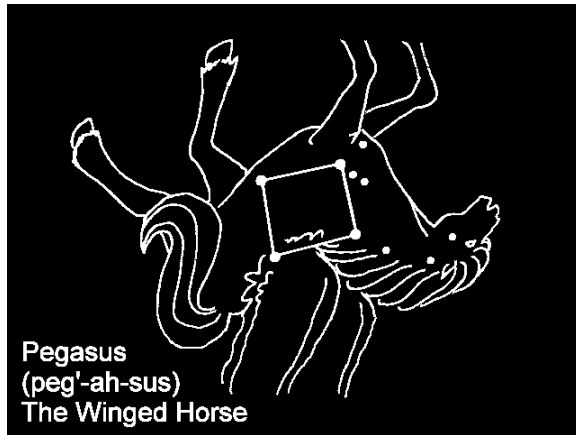
The Southern Fish



The Southern Fish

Down below the main constellation of Aquarius is the *Southern Fish*. It can be identified by one of the four most important stars in ancient lore, *Fomalhaut*, simply meaning, “the mouth of the fish.”

The Water-Carrier



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Pegasus

Pegasus, is built from two ancient words, *sus*; meaning, horse; and *pega*, meaning “well, or spring.” Pegasus, a “chief”⁸ horse, was known as “the horse of the water fountain.

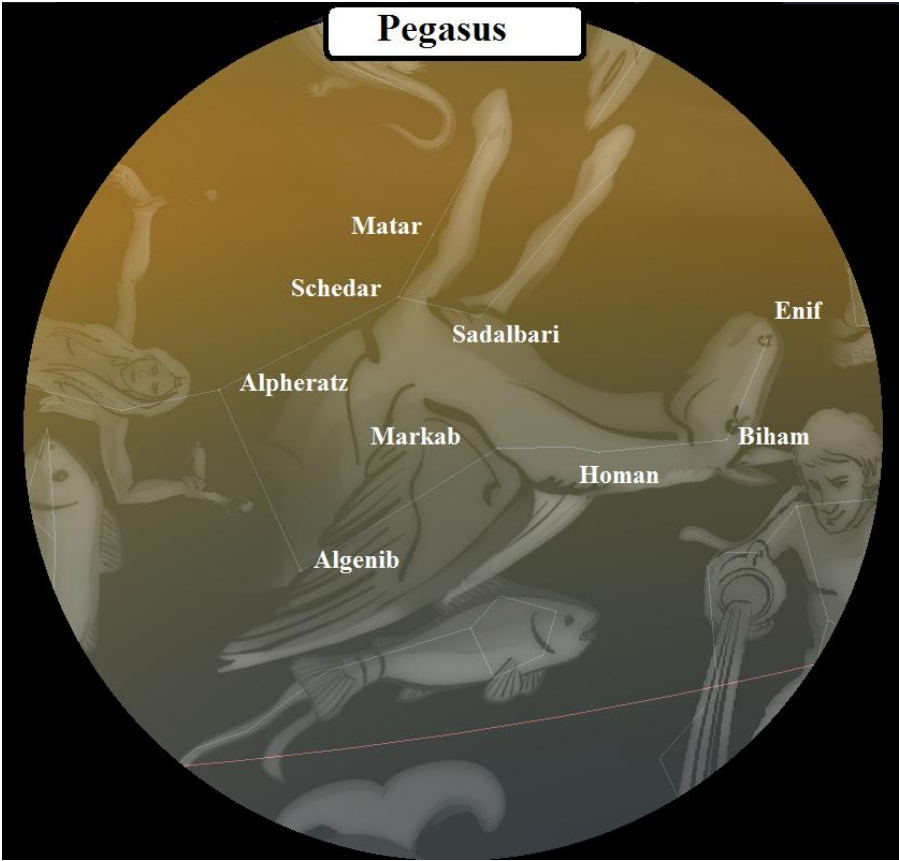
In the figure of Pegasus, as in the next and last constellation in this set, The Swan, is found a precious and most glorious truth. Pegasus points to the two advents of Christ, and particularly the Second Advent. Even Christian commentators commonly overlook this truth, but we cannot in this book, for it is written in the very heaven.

The meaning of the stars in Pegasus consistently point to the “going” and the “returning” of this blessed “white horse.”⁹

⁸ In some zodiacs and languages, the word, “pega,” “pe-ka,” or “pacha,” means “chief” (Denderah Zodiac of Egypt).

⁹ Scheat (upper right shoulder); “who goes and returns,” Markab (neck) “returning from afar,” Alganeb, “who carries.” Other names: Enif, “the branch,” and Homan, “the waters.”

Pegasus



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

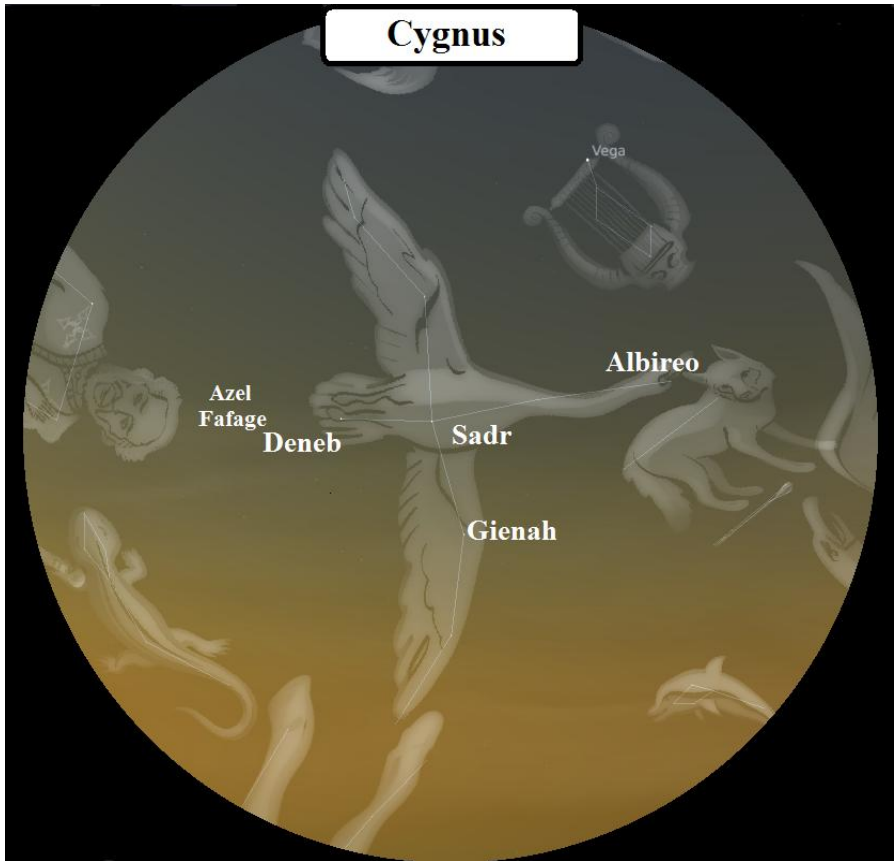
Constellation Name: Pegasus

Pega, or Peka is the Hebrew word for “chief” and “Sus” is a horse.

Star Names:

- Markab: *returning from afar*
- Scheat: supposedly near the shoulder but unmarked here, means: *who goes and returns*.
- Al genib: *who carries*
- Enif: *the Branch*
- Matar: *who causes to overflow*
- Alpharatz: unknown
- Schedar: unknown
- Homan: unknown
- Biham: unknown

Cygnus



The Swan can be found easily in the Milky Way, wings spread as if flying a defined circuit about the entire heavens. The brightest star, Deneb, means “the Lord, or Judge to come!”¹⁰

¹⁰ Others: Sadr, “who returns as in a circle;” Azel, “who goes and returns quickly,” and Fafage, “gloriously shining forth.”

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

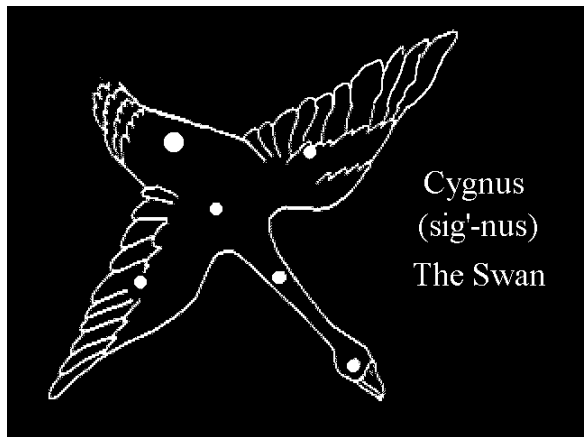
Constellation Name: Swan

Sometimes called “the northern cross.”

Egyptian name, Tes-ark, means “this from afar”

Star Names:

- Deneb: the Judge, or Adige, *flying swiftly*
- Al Bireo: *flying quickly*
- Sadr: (Heb.)
*who returns
in a circle*
- Azel: *who
goes and
returns
quickly*
- Fafage: *gloriously shining forth*
- Gienah: unknown



Chapter 9

The Fishes (Pisces)

The word *pisces* is Latin for “fishes.” That they appear two in number, represents multiplicity, the “multitudes” of men.¹¹

The written Law of God compares fish to men in several places.

The two fish are connected by a band, held in captivity, and being dragged downward by sea monster, Cetus.

¹¹ Its Coptic name is “Picot-Orion,” meaning, “the fish--the congregation or company of the coming prince.” J.A. Seiss, *The Gospel in the Stars*, p. 82.

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

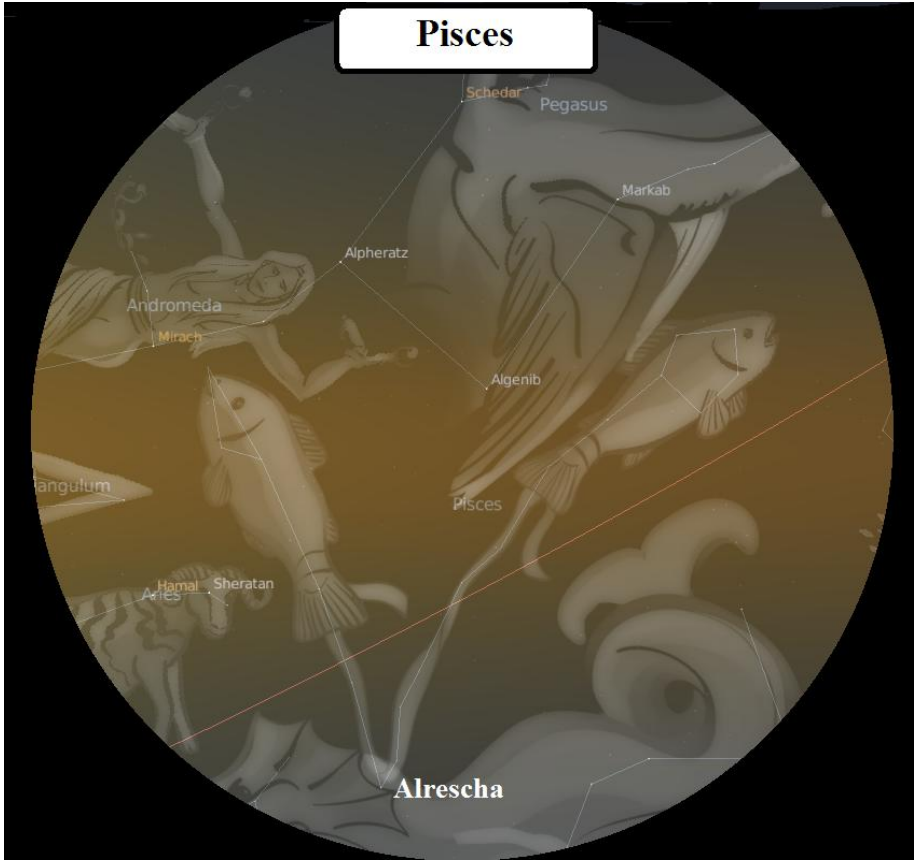


The band, in fact the entire constellation is quite dim to the naked eye, but the star-gazer can easily become familiar with how to find it in the night time sky.

The band is actually considered as a separate constellation and serves as the first of the three accompanying signs for this particular constellation series.

Pisces

Pisces



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Constellation Name:

Latin for “fishes.” In the Egyptian zodiac: *the fishes of Him that comes*. The word for fishes is connected in many languages with the words for “multiplying.”

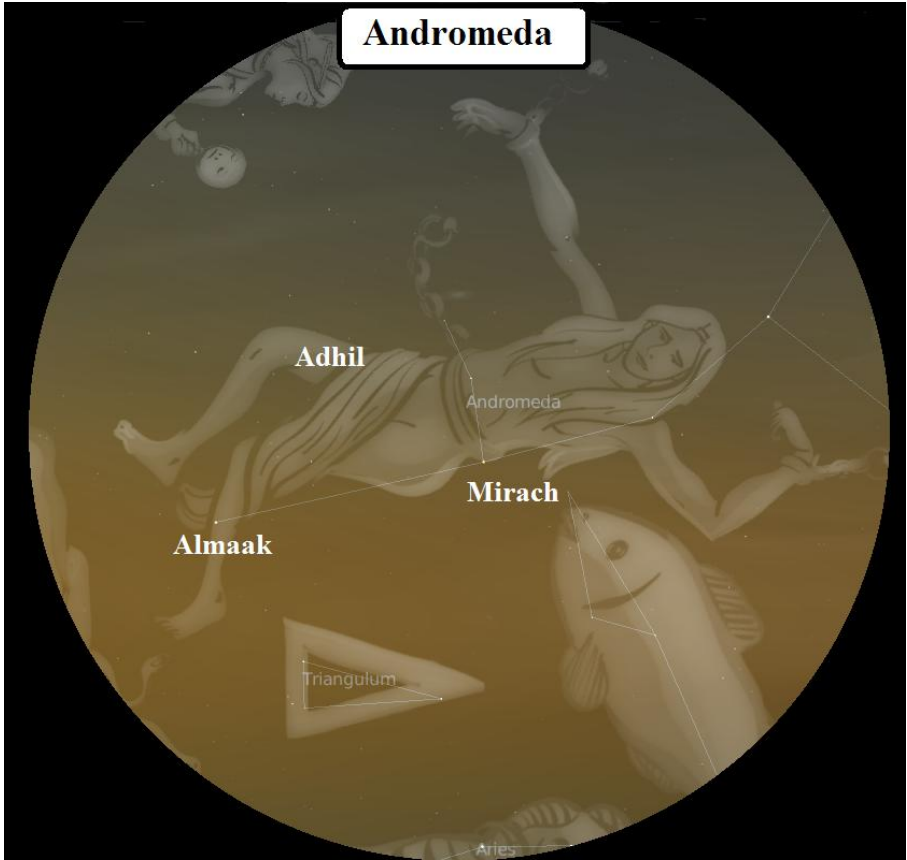
Star Names:

- Alrescha: *the band, or bridle*

The Band:

This picture seems to indicate that the multitudes of God’s kingdom are still in captivity while we are in “the age of Pisces.” Now that we are entering the “Age of Aquarius,” perhaps there is evidence of a nearby deliverance.

Andromeda



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Andromeda, a constellation found above Pisces, is consistently represented as a young woman who is bound and chained.¹²

Constellation Name:

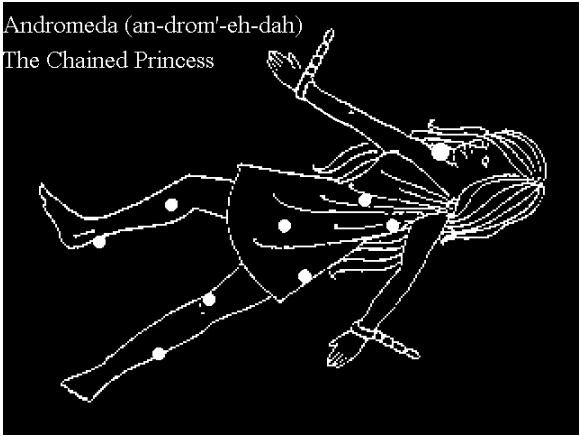
In Egyptian it means: “set,” or “set up as a queen.” In Hebrew it is “Sirra,” which means “the chained,” or “the stretched out.”

Star Names:

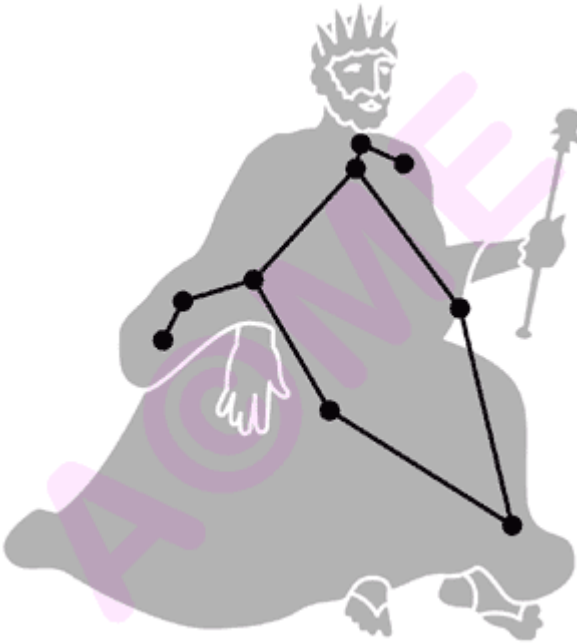
- Al Phiratz: *the broken down*
(Not pictured; probably the star underneath her head)
- Mirach (Hebrew), *the weak*
- Al Maak, or Al Amak: *struck down*
- Adhil: *the afflicted*

¹² Andromeda’s Hebrew name is “Sirra,” which means, “the chained.” The bright star in her head is called in Arabic, Al Phiratz, meaning, “the broken down.” Other stars are (Heb.) Mirach, “the weak,” Al Anak (Arabic), “struck down,” Mizar, “the weak,” and Al Mara, “the afflicted.”

Pisces

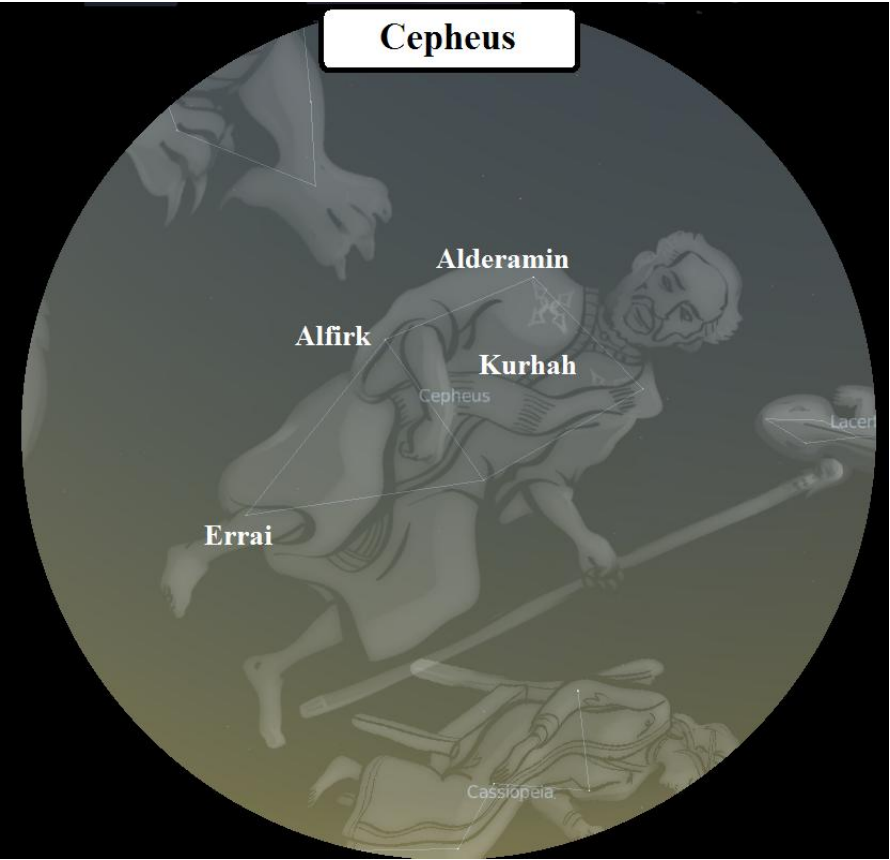


A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS



Cepheus: the Crowned King

Cepheus



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

One final division completes the triad. Cepheus, is the constellation found in the far north, on the right hand of God's throne. Cepheus is a crowned and reigning king, who has subdued all his foes.¹³

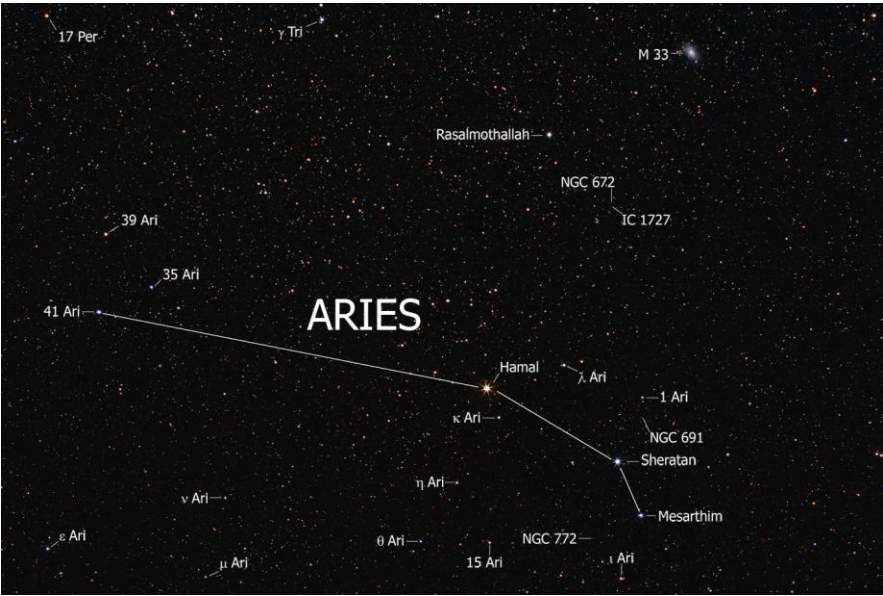
Constellation Name:

Cepheus: Hebrew, "the Branch." In some languages: "king," or "this one comes to rule."

Star Names:

- Al Deramin: *coming quickly*
- Al Phirk, or Alfirk: *the Redeemer*
- Al Rai: not pictured, in knee (or in this picture, the waist), meaning: *who bruises or breaks*.
- Kurhah: unknown
- Errai: unknown, perhaps a corruption of *Al Rai*, above and misplaced in modern maps.

¹³ His Ethiopian name means, "a king." His Hebrew name means, "the branch." The Egyptians called this sign, "Pe-ku-hor," which signifies, "this one comes to rule." A star in the right shoulder is Al Deramin, which means, "coming quickly." Another, Al Phirk, means "the redeemer." Another star in his knee is Al Rai, that supposedly means, "who bruises" or "breaks."



Chapter 10

The Lamb (Aries)

The Deliverer From Bondage

The constellation Aries pictures a lamb gazing forward and resting. The stars and ancient nomenclature¹⁴ harmoniously award this figure the characteristics of the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world.

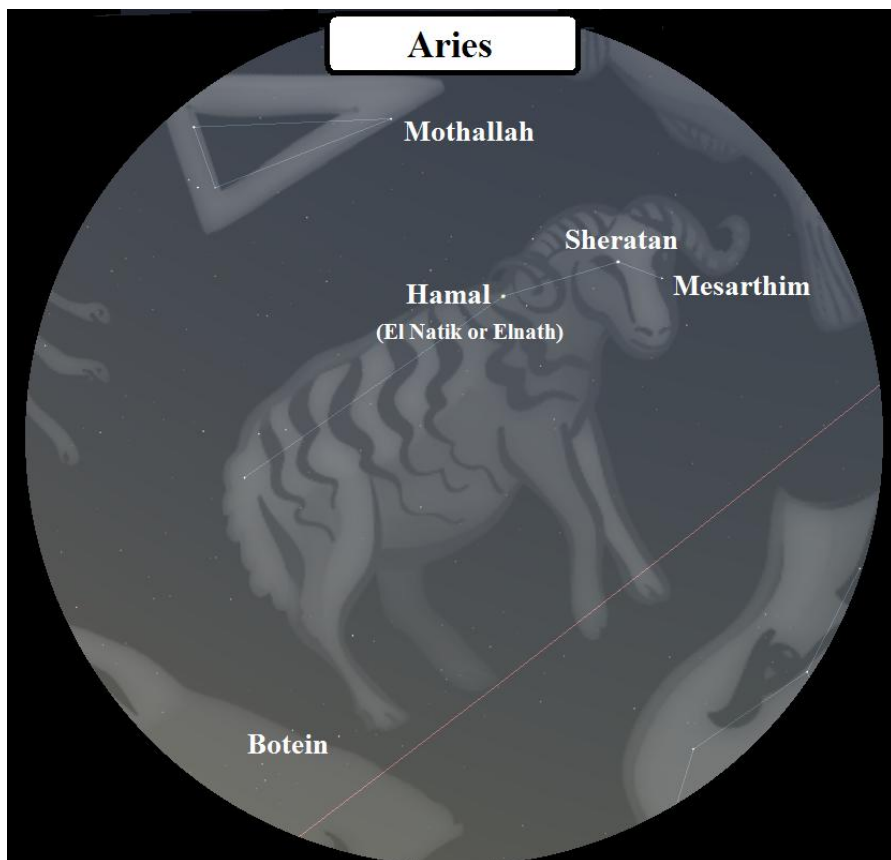
Not a bright constellation it still has been an important one in past millennia because it marked the Spring equinox.

Slightly above it is the modern constellation, Triangulum.

¹⁴ Hebrew, Taleh, meaning, “the Lamb.” Syrian, Amroo, “the Lamb.” Akkadians, “Bar,” “altar or sacrifice,” and “Ziggar,” “right making,” or “the sacrifice of righteousness.” The chief star in the forehead is “El Nath,” or “El Natic,” meaning, “wounded, slain,” and the other, “El Sheraton,” meaning, “the bruised,” or “wounded.”

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Aries (the Ram, or Lamb)



Constellation Name:

The Lamb, or Ram.

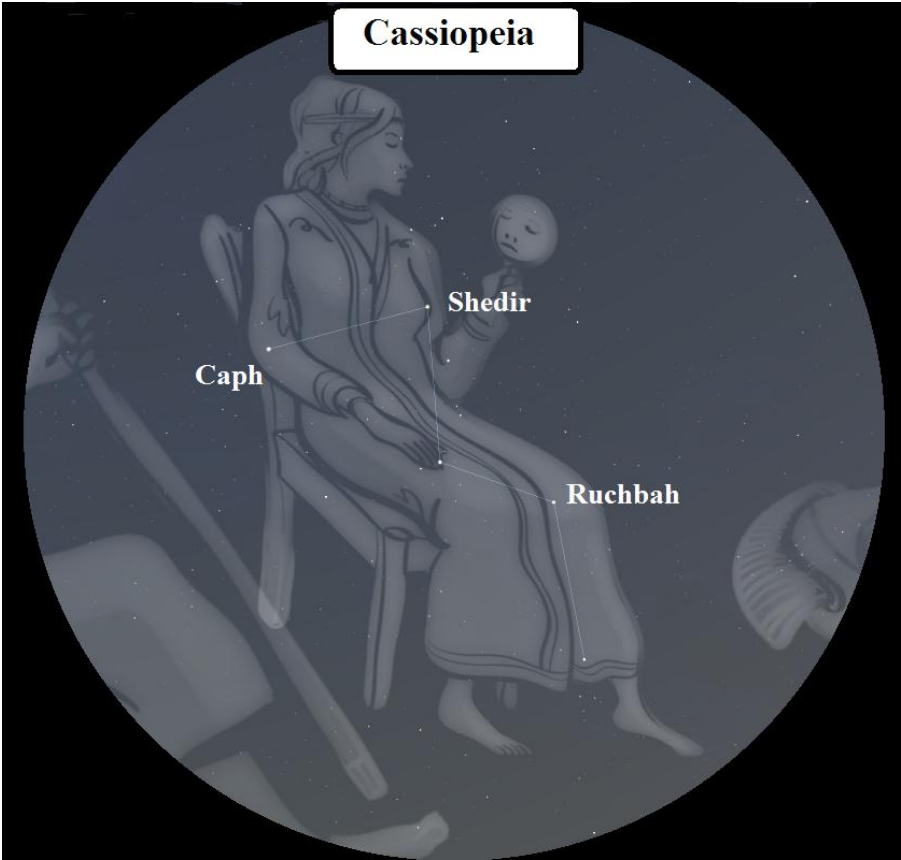
Other word associations have to do with *altars*, *sacrifices*, and also *reigning* and *dominion*.

Star Names:

- *Al Hamal*: the sheep, gentle, merciful:
This star may be referred to in the ancient zodiacs as *El Nath*, *El Natic*, which means: *wounded, slain*
- *Al Sheraton*: *the bruised, the wounded*
- *Mesartim*: *the bound*
- *Mothallah*: In *Triangulum*, a modern name; meaning unknown
- *Botein*: meaning unknown

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Cassiopeia



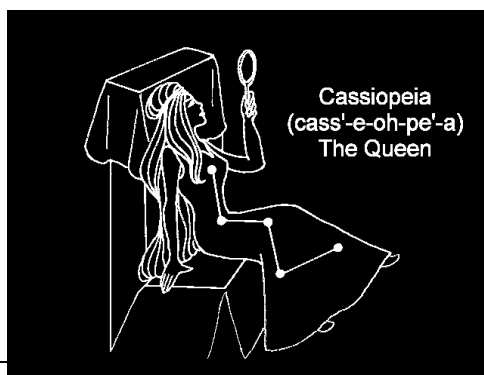
Constellation Name:

Cassiopeia: *the enthroned, the beautiful*

She is primping her hair as if in preparation for a celebration to be given in her honor.¹⁵

Star Names:

- Ruchbah: *the enthroned*
- Shedir or Schedir: *the freed*

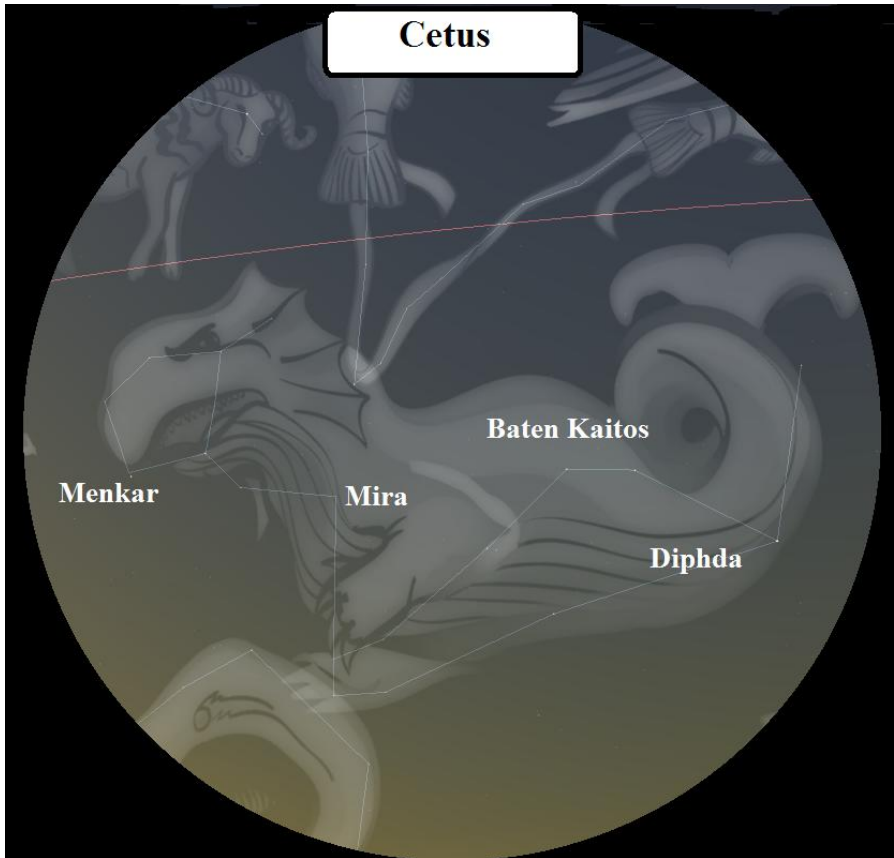


¹⁵ Arabic name of Cassiopeia is “El Seder,” “the freed.” In Chaldee it means “enthroned.” In Egypt, “Set,” meaning, “set up as a queen.” Bright stars are “Schedir,” in Hebrew, “the freed,” another Caph, “the branch.”

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

- Caph: *the Branch*

The Sea Monster (Cetus)



Aries

the biblical Leviathan (Satan), who the Lamb will ultimately bind and destroy.¹⁶

Constellation Name:

In the Egyptian Denderah zodiac: *Knem*, which means: “subdued”

Star Names:

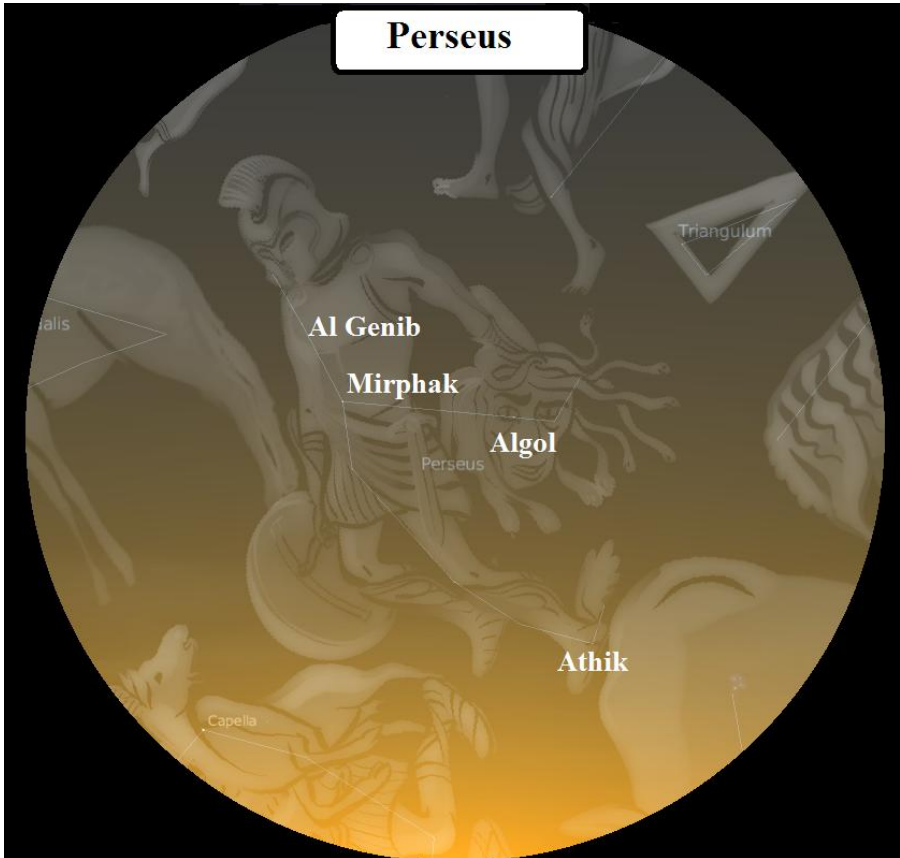
- Menkar: *the bound, or chained enemy*
- Diphda, or Deneb Kaitos: *overthrown, or cast down*
- Mira: *The Rebel*¹⁷
- Baten Kaitos: a modern name, “B” Cetus.

¹⁶ A bright star, Menkar, means “the bound and chained enemy;” Another, “Diphda”, or Deneb Kaitos;” means “overthrown,” or “thrust down.” Another star, “Mira,” means, “the Rebel.”

¹⁷ Supposedly a variable star. It disappears periodically seven times in six years. It will remain very bright for about 334 days, then diminish and disappear then come back to full strength in variable fashion.

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Perseus



The remaining figure is that of Perseus, the noble warrior who triumphs over all his enemies, and who frees (or “breaks”) Andromeda from her

Aries

bonds.¹⁸ The star names are important in interpreting the figure, and in separating myth from the gospel.¹⁹

Out from the main trunk of Perseus one can see the arm of Perseus. The stars in this area, surrounding Medusa's head have interesting names. The names mean, "the trodden under foot," "Rosh Satan," (Hebrew for "the head of Satan"), or in Arabic, "Al Ghoul," meaning the "subdued," or "evil spirit." The word "ghoul," or "ghoulish" is familiar to us, equated with ghosts or spirits.

Constellation Name:

The breaker, he who fights, or subdues.

Star Names:

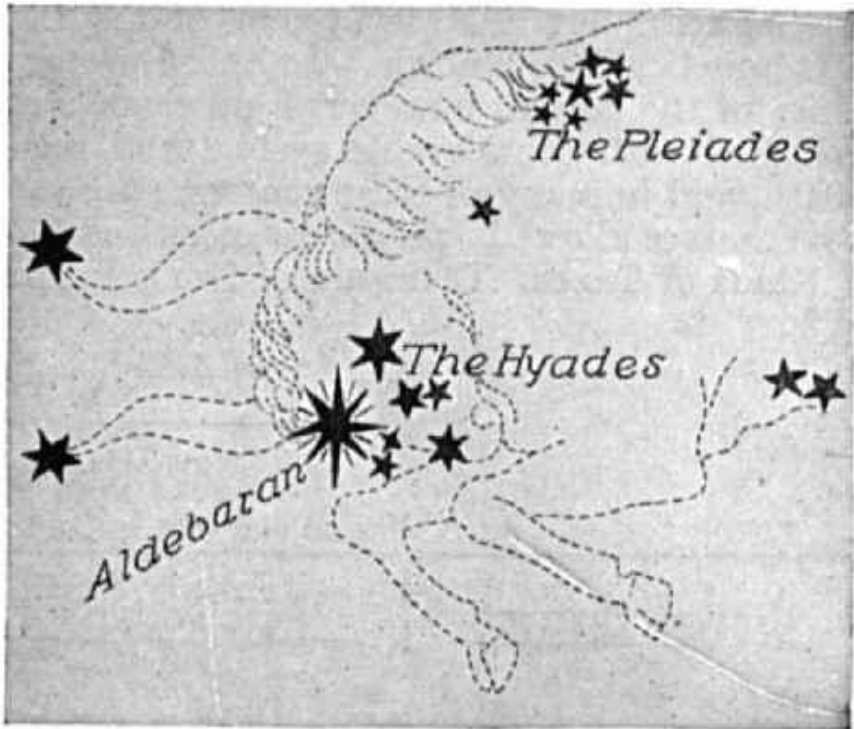
- Mirfak or Mirphak: *who helps*
- Al Genib: *who carries away*
- Athik: *who breaks*
- Algol or Al Ghoul: *rolling around, or the evil spirit*²⁰

¹⁸ Because of their position in the heavens these figures are classified with their particular constellations. But thematically it must be remembered that both Perseus and Cassiopeia find their counterparts in the previous Pisces. Perseus is related to Andromeda, his bride, and Cassiopeia, the Queen, is related to Cepheus, the King.

¹⁹ The constellation's name in Hebrew is "Peretz," meaning "the breaker" (cf. Micah 2:13).

²⁰ In star lore the head in the hand of Perseus is called, Medusa's head. In Hebrew it is *Rosh Satan, the head of the adversary*, or Arabic, *Al Oneh*, the subdued.

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS



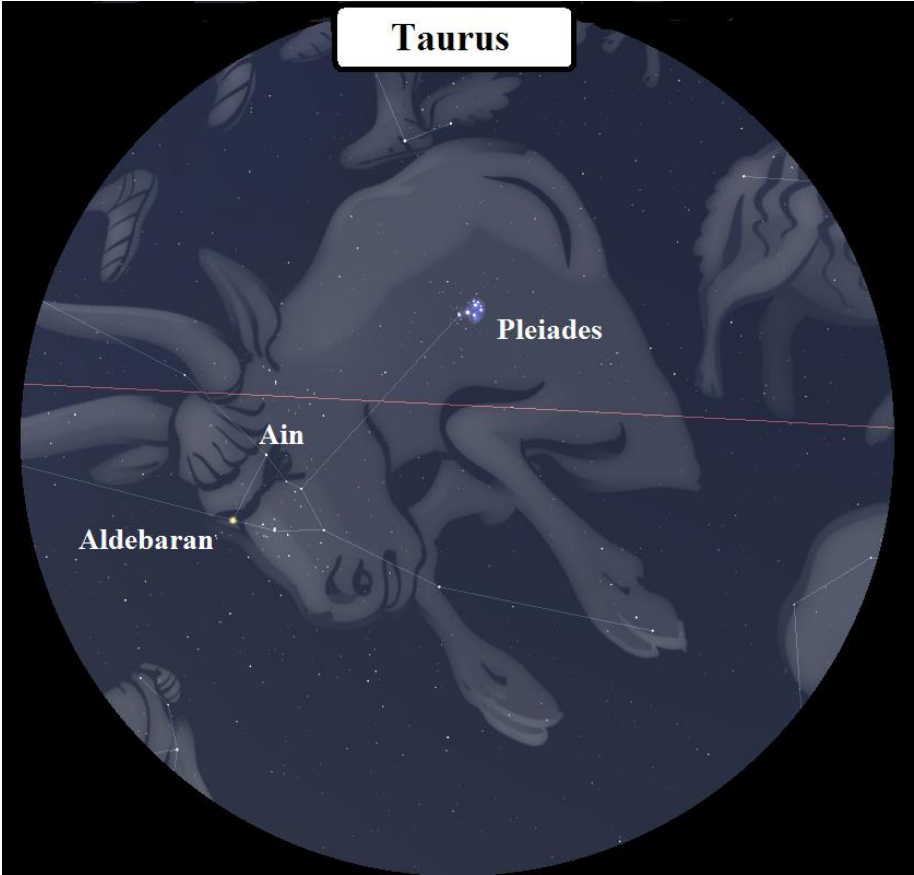
Chapter 11

The Bull (Taurus)



Taurus

Taurus



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Constellation Name:

Taurus: (Latin) Bull or Reem
“Coming, ruling;” “exalted, high”

Star Names:²¹

- Aldebaran: *The leader, or governor*
- Ain: Unknown
- El Nath (not pictured---at the tip of the horn, means: “wounded, slain.”)
- Hyades (group of stars around Aldebran, Greek sisters, anciently means: “the congregated.”)
- Pleiades—(group of stars on bull’s back or neck meaning: “the congregation of the

²¹ Other unidentified stars: *Palilicium* (Heb.); belonging to the judge; *Wasat* (Arabic); centre or foundation; *Al Thuraiya* (Arabic), the abundance; *Vergilia*; (Latin); the centre, but in Arabic, *Vertex*, meaning: turned on, or rolled around---Bullinger, p. 122.

Taurus

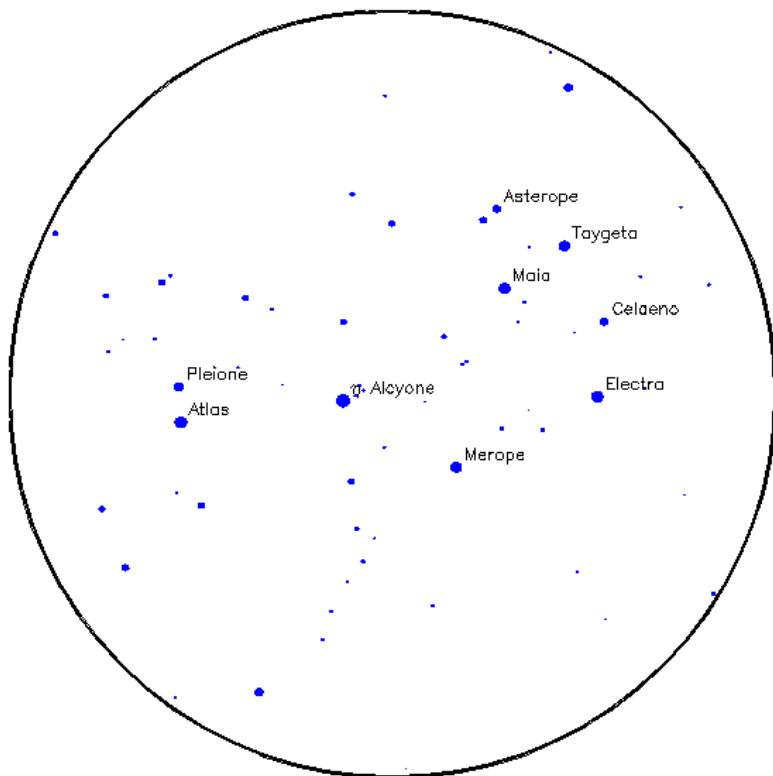
judge or ruler.” The brightest, *Al Cyone*, means anciently: “the center.”

The Pleiades



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

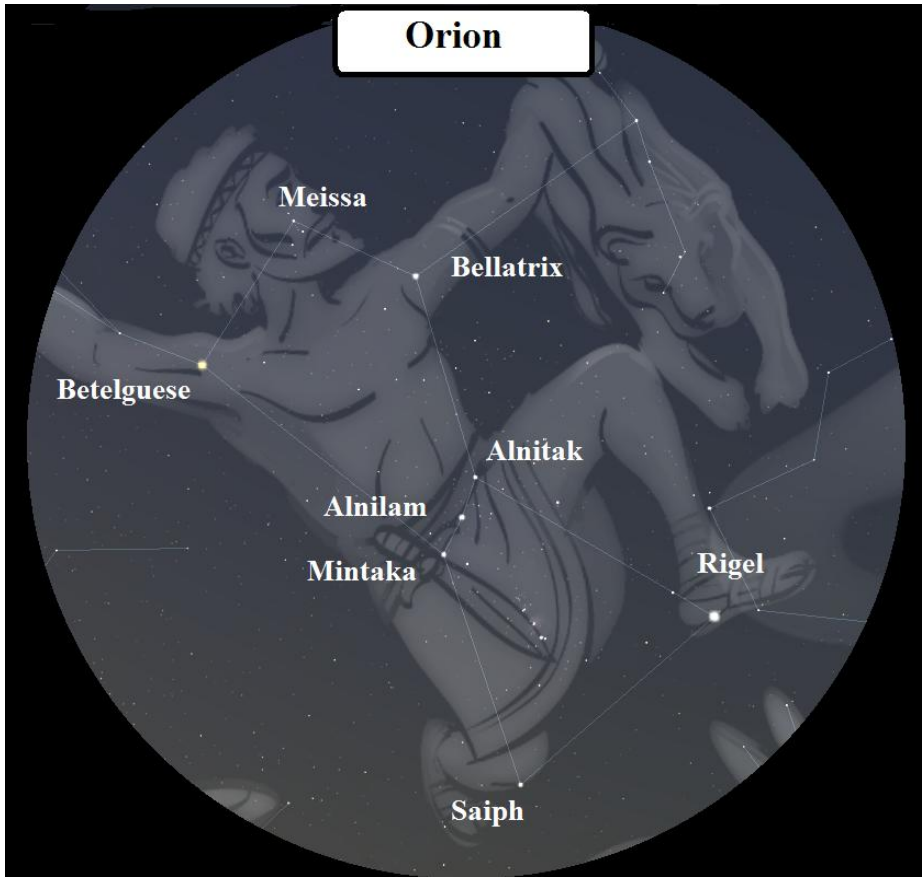
M 45 — The Pleiades Open Cluster



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Taurus

Orion



Constellation Name:

Anciently; OARIAN, from the Heb. root “or” for “light,” which means “coming forth as light.”

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Star Names:

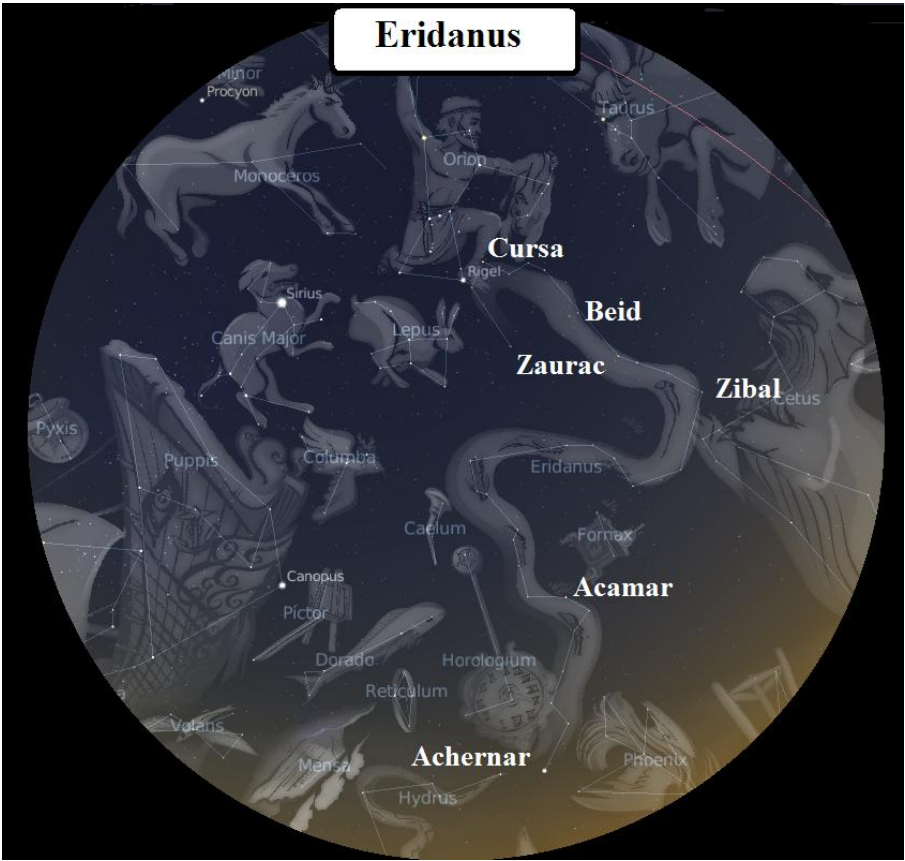
- Betelguese: *the coming of the branch*
- Rigel, or Rigol: *the foot that crushes*
- Bellatrix, *quickly coming, or suddenly destroying*

(The belt: Modern maps show these as switched in position as to the map opposite; so one may choose how he or she wishes to remember them)

- Alnitak: *the wounded one*
- Mintaka: *dividing* (as in a sacrifice)
- Alnilam: unknown
- Saiph: *bruised*
- Meissa: *coming forth*

Other names not identified: *Al Rai*, who bruises, who breaks; *Thabit*: Treading on; *Heka* (Chaldee): coming. Also: *Al Giauza*, the branch; *Al Gebor*, the mighty; *Al Mirzam*, the ruler; *Al Nagjed*, the Prince; *Niphla*, the mighty; *Nux*, the strong.

Eridanus (the River)



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

The river is equated with the “fiery stream issuing from the throne in Daniel 7 and of the fire and brimstone mentioned in several Scriptural passages.”²²

Constellation Name:

The River of the Judge

Star Names:

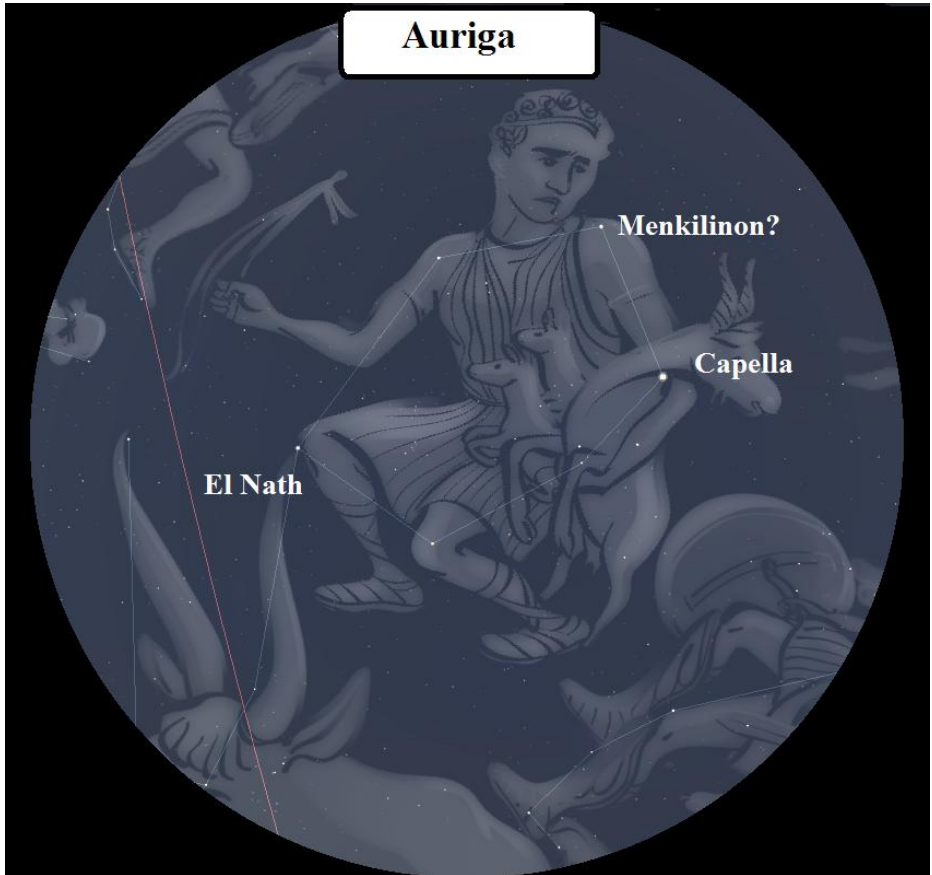
- Cursa: *bent down*
- Zourac, or Zaurac: *flowing*
- Achenar: *the after part of the river*
- Beid: unknown
- Zibal: unknown
- Acamar: unknown, perhaps another name that means: *the after part of the river*

Other stars not identified: *Pheat*, mouth (of the river); *Ozha*: the going forth.

²² The names of the stars mean such things as: “the mouth of the river,” “bent down,” “flowing,” “mouth,” and “the going forth.”

Taurus

Auriga



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Constellation Name:

Auriga: From a Hebrew root meaning: the Shepherd

Star Names:

- Capella (Latin), Alioth (Hebrew): *she goat*
- Menkilinon: *band, or chain of the goats* (some think this star is in the right shoulder)
- El Nath: *wounded or slain*
- Gedi (a star marking the kids): *kids*

Stars applying to the goats and figures in Auriga often have the meaning of being carried or “conveyed”.²³

²³ A bright star again, is “Alioth,” or in Hebrew, “Capella,” which both mean “she-goat.” Auriga, the name of the constellation in Hebrew, means “shepherd,” while the same word in Latin means a coachman or charioteer. Another star, Menkilinon, means “the band, or chain of goats.” “El nath,” a star in the foot means “wounded or slain,” and another star, Maaz, means “a flock of goats.”

Chapter 12

The Twins (Gemini)

The Prince of Peace

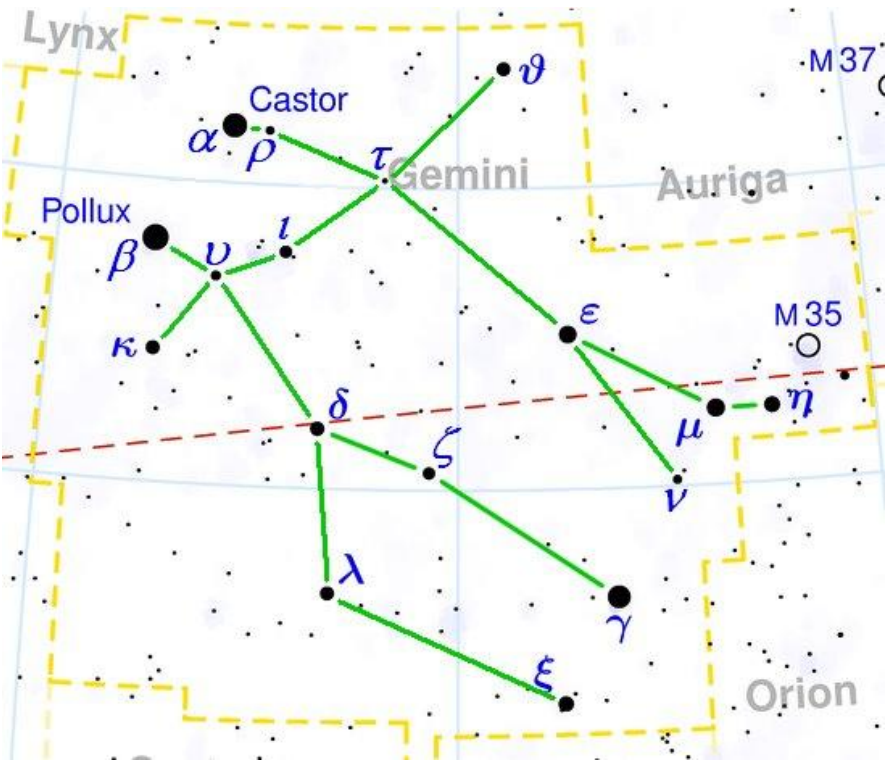
The constellation means peacefully “united” or “joined.”²⁴

Pollux means, “suffering ruler.”

Apollo, or Castor means, “ruler or judge” as well.

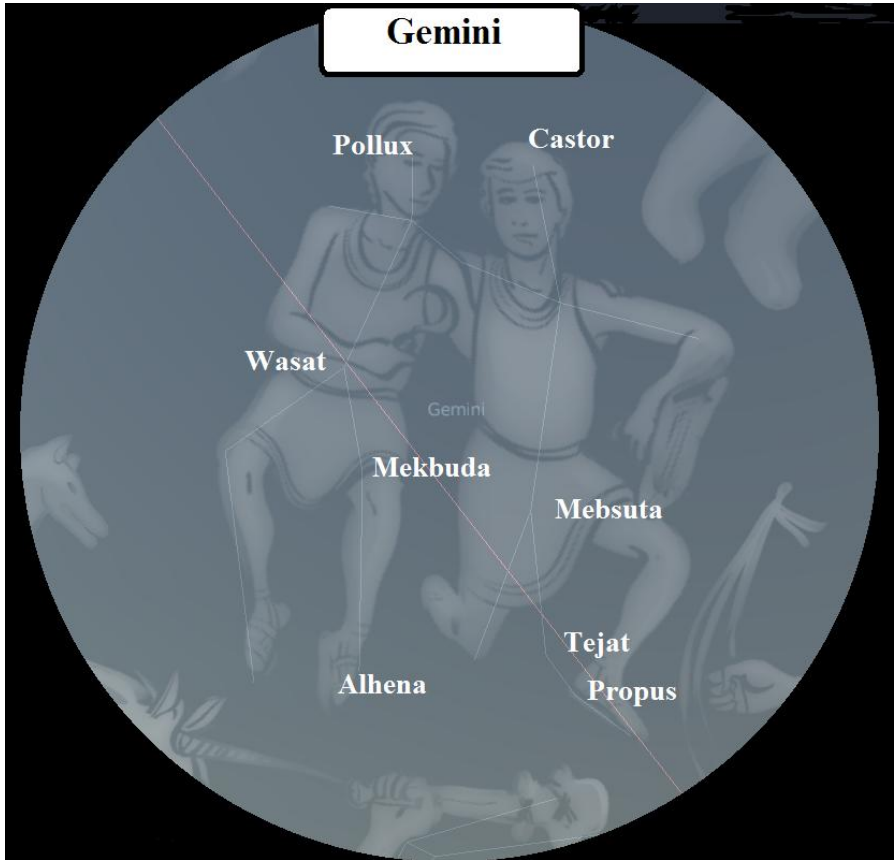
²⁴ Pollux means, “the one who comes to suffer.” A star in his left foot is called, Al Henah; thus “hurt, or wounded.” In the center of his body is a star, Wasat, which means, “set, or seated.”

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS



Gemini

Gemini



Constellation Name:

In Egyptian, *Clusus*, or *Clastrum Hor*, which means *the place of him who comes*. Most other languages offer, “united,” or “twinned.”

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

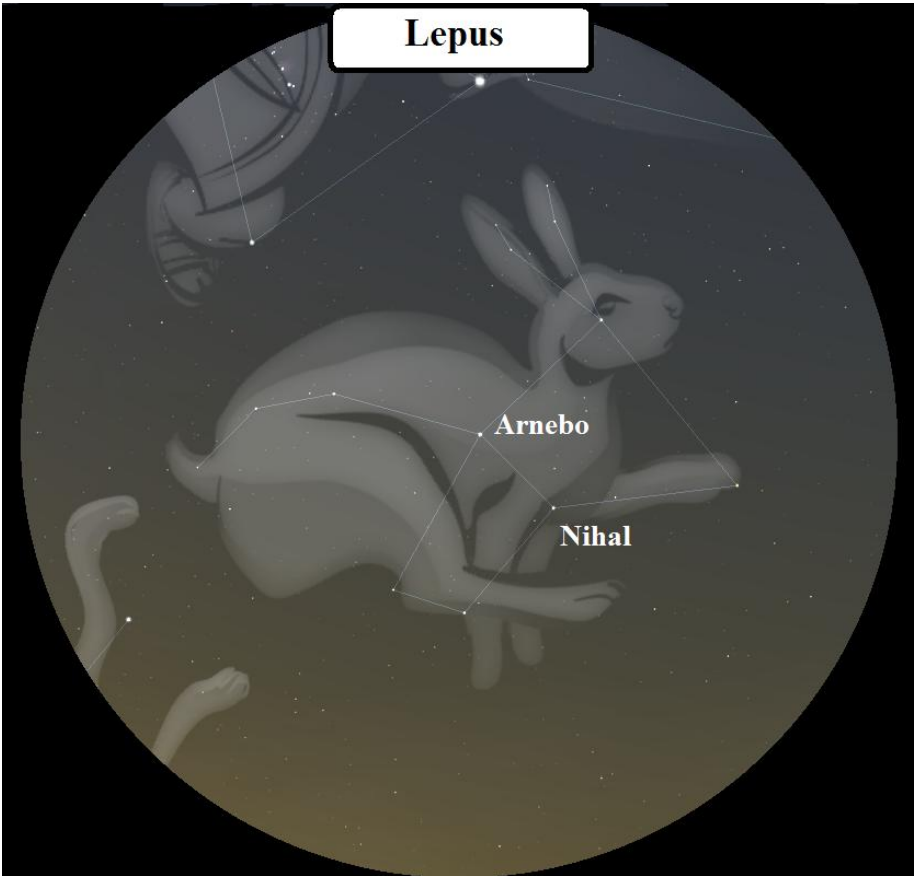
Star Names:

- Hercules or Pollux: *who comes to labor, or suffer*
- Apollo or Castor: *ruler, or judge*
- Alhena: *hurt or wounded*
- Wasat or Waset: *set*
- Mebsuta: *treading underfoot*
- Mekbuda: *unknown*
- Tejat: *unknown*
- Propus: *the Branch, spreading*

Other stars: *Al Giauza*; the palm branch; *Al Dira*, the seed, or branch.

Gemini

Lepus



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Lepus, is found beneath the feet of Orion, and its stars indicate that it is an enemy that is being trodden underfoot.²⁵

Constellation Name:

A Hare or Rabbit. But many ancient zodiacs actually have a serpent in its place. Egyptian names indicate: *confounded*, and *failing*.

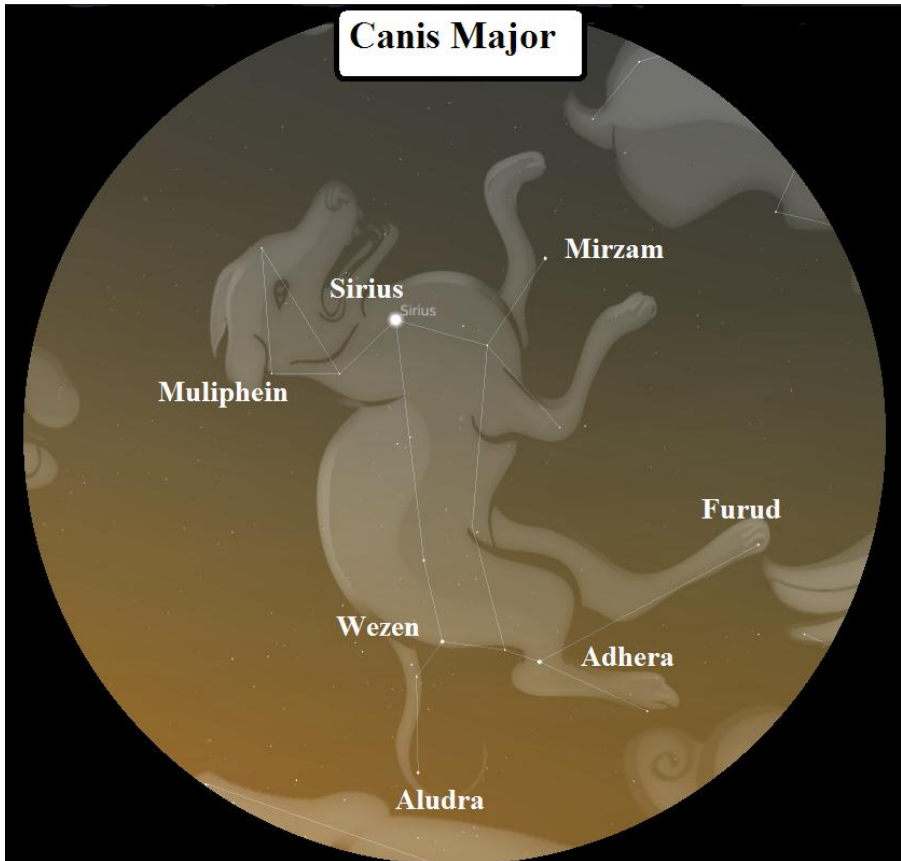
Star Names:

- Arnebo: *the enemy of Him that comes*
- Nihal, or Nibal: *the mad*

Other stars: Rakis, *the bound with a chain*, Sugia, *the deceiver*.

²⁵ Arnebeth, “hare,” or “the enemy of the coming.” Other stars are Nibal, Rakis, and Sugia, meaning “the mad,” “the caught,” and “the Deceiver.” In Egyptian lore it is a serpent with the name, Bashti-beki, “the offender confounded.”

The Greater Dog



The names of the stars in these constellations do not really indicate anything to do with dogs, however. These bright stars all seem to indicate the strong, redeeming nature of Christ.²⁶

²⁶ Other stars are: Aschere, "who shall come," Al Shira Al Femeniya, "the Prince or Chief of the right hand;" Seir, "the prince;" Abur, "the mighty," or Arabic; Al

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Constellation Name:

Probably: *wolf*. Sometimes it is equated with a hawk, the enemy of the adjacent “hare.”

Star Names:

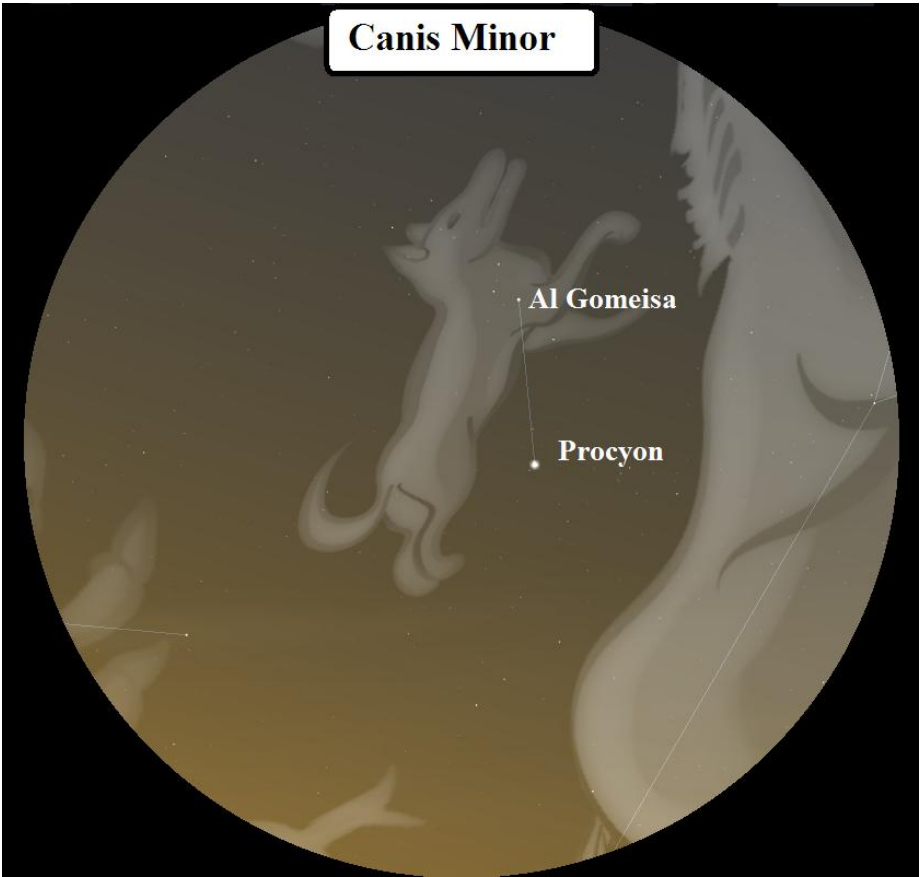
- Sirius: *the prince, the guardian, the victorious*
- Mirzam: *the prince or ruler*
- Wesen or Wezen: *the bright, the shining*
- Adhera: *the glorious*
- Muliphen: *the leader, the chief*
- Furud: unknown
- Aludra: unknown

Other stars known to be present are listed below:

Habor, “the mighty,” and sometimes overlooked, Muliphen, “the leader, the chief.”

Gemini

The Lesser Dog



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

The chief star in the Lesser Dog, or wolf, is Procyon, which means, “Redeemer,” or “the Redeemed.” In the Egyptian Denderah Zodiac this figure is a hawk²⁷ with a dog’s tail. The reader can make his own decision on what these figures may mean.²⁸ I believe they are connected with the blessing on the tribe of Benjamin (Gen. 49) where it is said of him that he would “raven” or “hunt” like a wolf.

Constellation Name:

Lesser Dog, or Wolf

Star Names:

- Al Gomeisa: *the burdened, loaded, bearing for others*
- Procyon: *Redeemer*

²⁷ Hawks sometimes replace both dogs. They are also enemies of the hare, or rabbit.

²⁸ Procyon, “the redeemer.” Al Gomeisa, Arabic for “the burdened or loaded down.” Other stars are: Al Mirzan, “the prince or ruler,” Al Gomeyra, “who completes or perfects,” Al Shira, or Al Shemeliya, “the prince or chief of the left hand.”

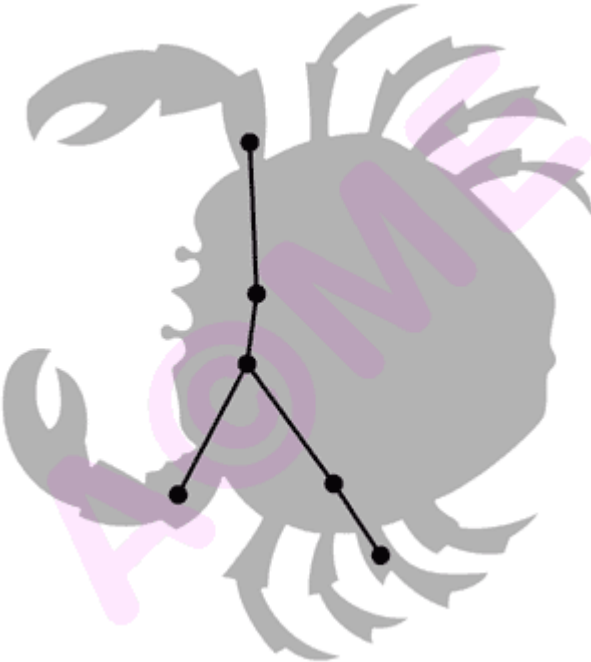
Chapter 13

The Sheepfolds (Cancer)

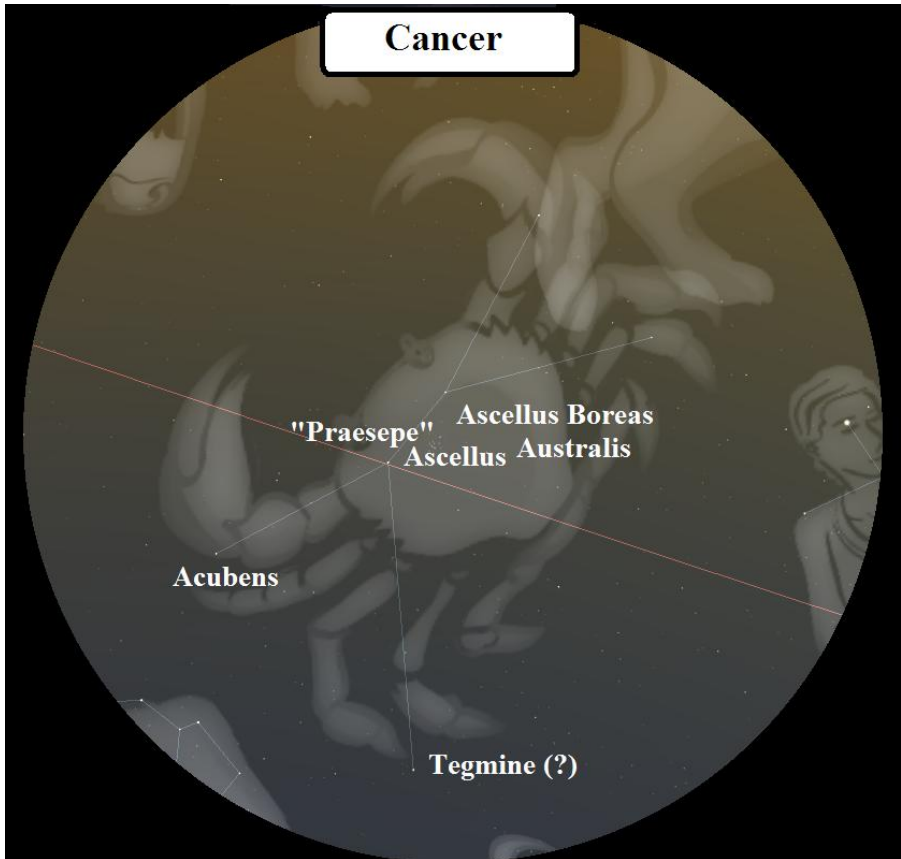
The Protector of the Multitudes

The constellation, Cancer, in Egypt was called “Klaria,” meaning, “the folds, the resting places.” In Arabic it is similar, “Al Sartan,” which means “who holds,” or “binds.” The word in Syrian, “Sartano,” also means the same thing. The Greeks called it Karkinos, which means, “holding,” or “encircling.” Cancer, another Latin name for a crab was given to this constellation because a crab, surrounds or encircles its prey. But the constellation is not about crabs, really, but about “encircling” and “gathering” into safety.

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS



The Crab (Cancer)



Constellation Name:

Cancer, (Gr.) for “crab.” The crab is no doubt an addition for nearly all the other languages present the figures in this part of the heavens

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

as “folds,” or “gathering places.” This theme is clearly borne out in the other constellations in the area.

Star Names:

- “Praesepe”: A dim star cluster in modern times called the “beehive” but anciently “Praesepe,” meaning: *multitude, offspring*.
- Tegmine, ζ , in the tail, meaning: “holding.”
- Acubene, or Acubens: “the sheltering,” or “the hiding place.”
- Ascellus (North and South): “Ass,” or, of course, in modern times: *donkey*.²⁹
- Other stars somewhere are: *Ma’alaph* (Arabic); assembled thousands, and *Al Himarein* (Arabic), the kids or the lambs.

²⁹ These are two famous stars that equate this constellation with the tribe of Issachar, Gen. 49:11.

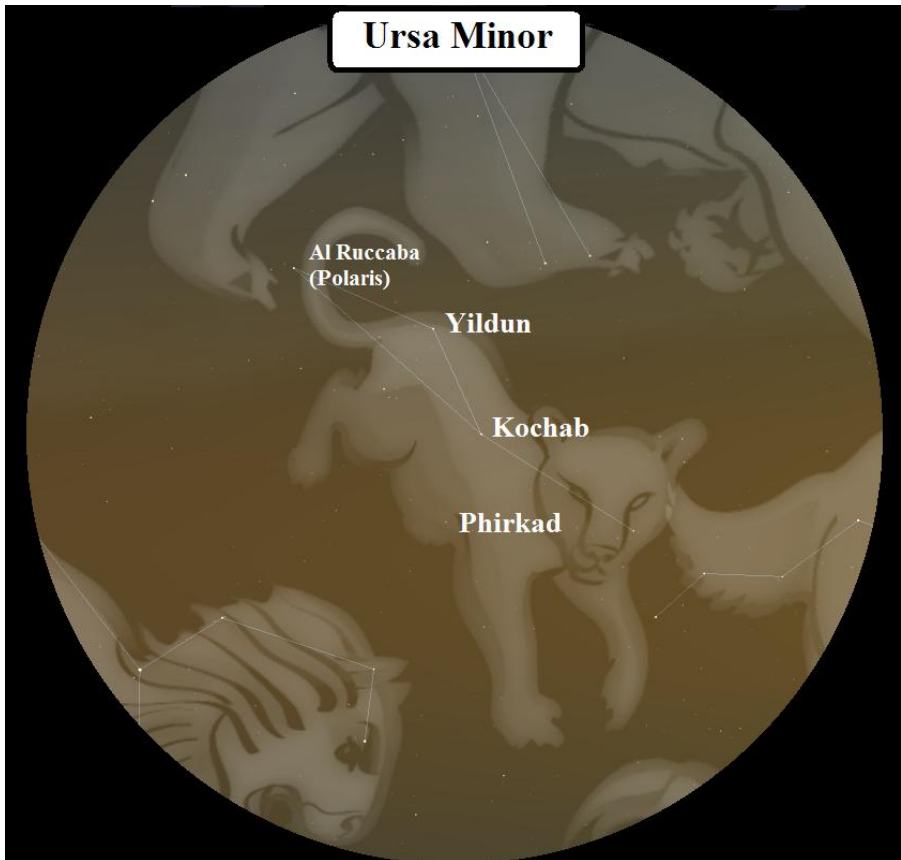
The Greater and Lesser Sheepfolds



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS



Ursa Minor (the Sheepfolds)



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Constellation Name:

Lesser Sheepfold. The Hebrew word for this constellation has been corrupted to represent a bear because the two words had a similar in sound.

Star Names:

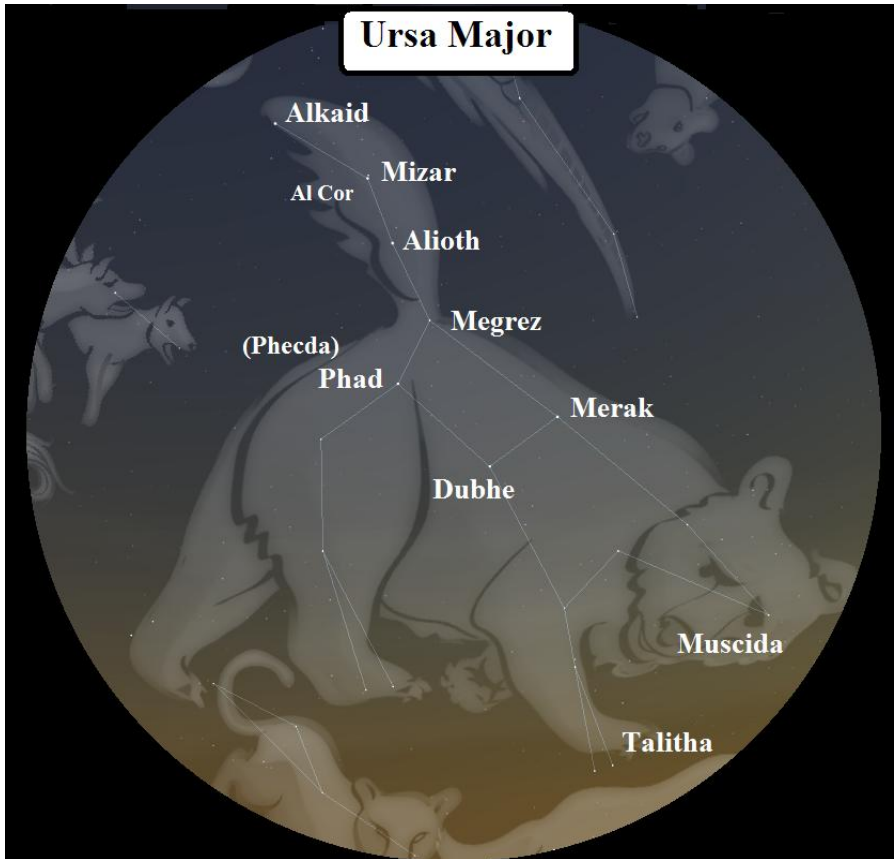
- Kochab: ‘waiting Him who comes’
- Al Ruccaba: “the turned or ridden on” (Pole star)
- Yildun: unknown
- Phirkad or Al Phirkadian: “the calves, or young” (as in Deut 22:6; “the redeemed assembly”)

Stars not identified but known to have existed in this constellation are:

Al Gedi: the kid; *Al Kaid:* the assembled; *Arcas* or *Arctos* (from which comes the word “arctic) which probably means, according to one interpreter: “a traveling company,” or according to another: “the stronghold of the saved.”³⁰

³⁰ Bullinger, p. 154.

Ursa Major (The Greater Sheepfold)



Constellation Name: The Greater Sheepfold

Ursa means “bear.” Moderners call it the “Big Dipper.” But even the American Indians considered it a camp, and the stars leading away (the handle) were campfires lit by braves on a hunt.

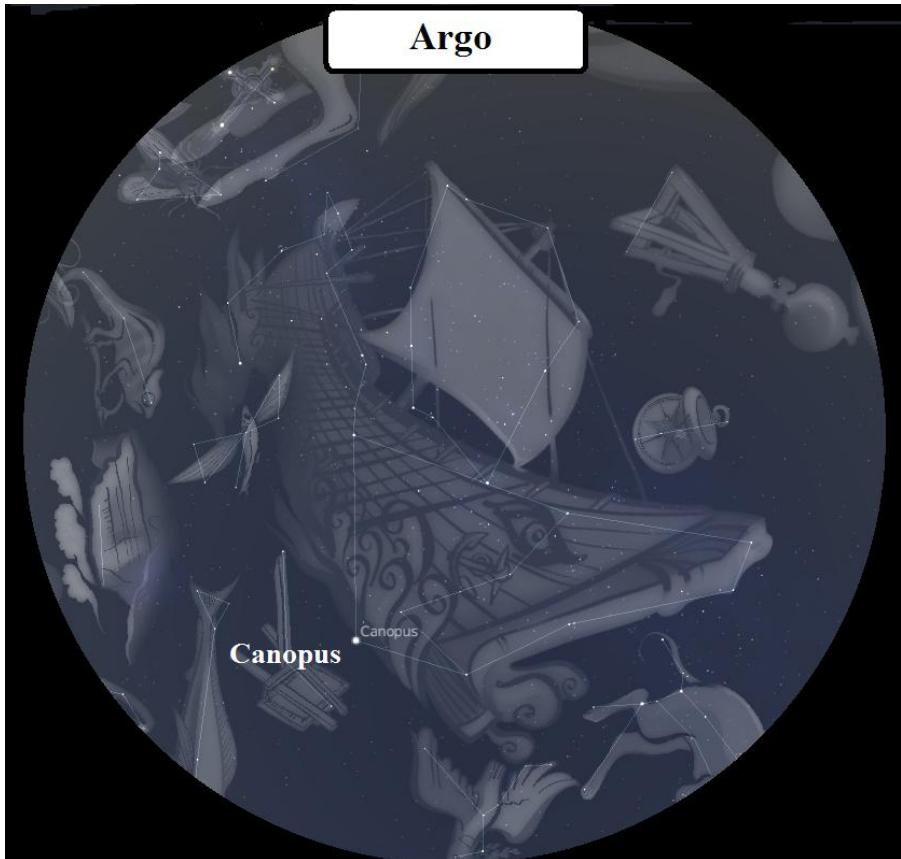
A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Star Names:³¹

- Dubhe: *a herd of animals, or a flock*
- Merach (Hebrew): *the flock* (Arabic): *the purchased*
- Phacda, or Phecda: *visited, guarded, numbered*
- Alioth: *a she goat*
- Mizar, *separate, or small*
- Al Cor: *the lamb*
- Al Kaid: *the assembled*; or in Arabic: Benet Naish; *the daughters of the assembly (or church).*
- Megrez: *separated*
- Talitha: unknown
- Muscida: unknown

³¹ Unidentified: *El Alcola*, the sheepfold; *Cab'd al Asad*; multitude, many assembled; *Annaish*: the assembled; *El Kaphrah*, protected, covered; *Dubhe Lachar*, the latter herd or flock; *Hilike*; company of travelers; *Amaza*, coming and going; *Calisto*, the sheepfold set or appointed. These stars all, no doubt refer specifically to the sealed and redeemed faithful, especially at the end of time.

The Ship (Argo)



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Constellation Name:

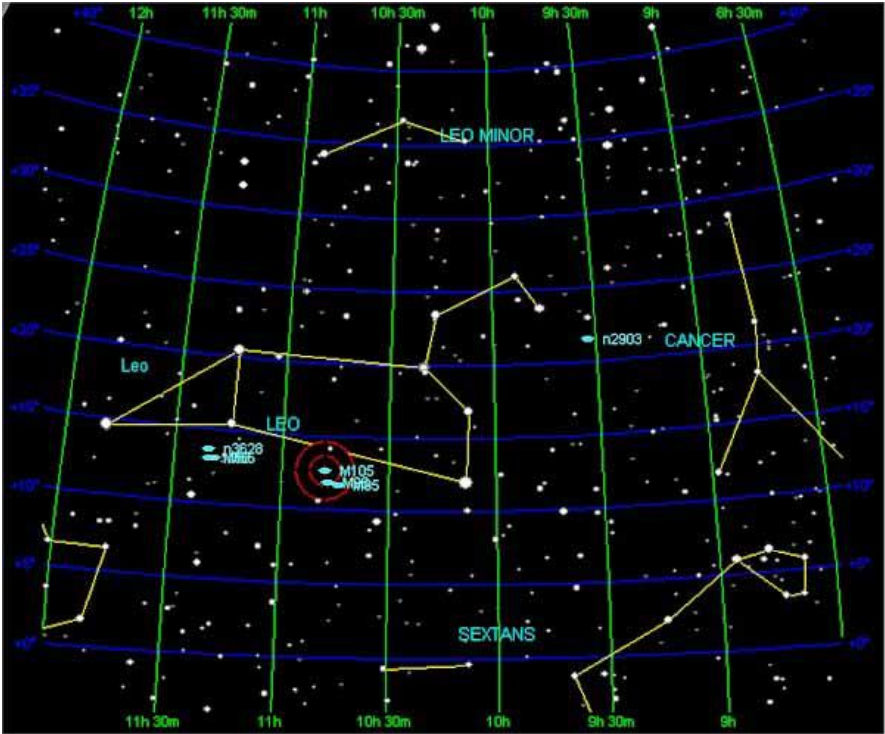
Argo: a company of travelers

Star Names:

- Canopus: *the possession of Him who comes*

Not identified: *Sephina*, the multitude of abundance; *Tureis*, the possession; *Asmidiska*, the released, who travel; *Soheil* (Arabic); the desired; *Subilon*, the Branch.

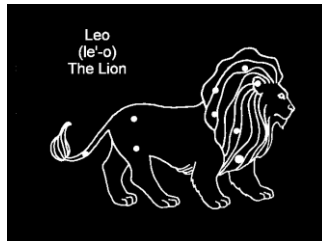
The Sheepfolds



Chapter 14

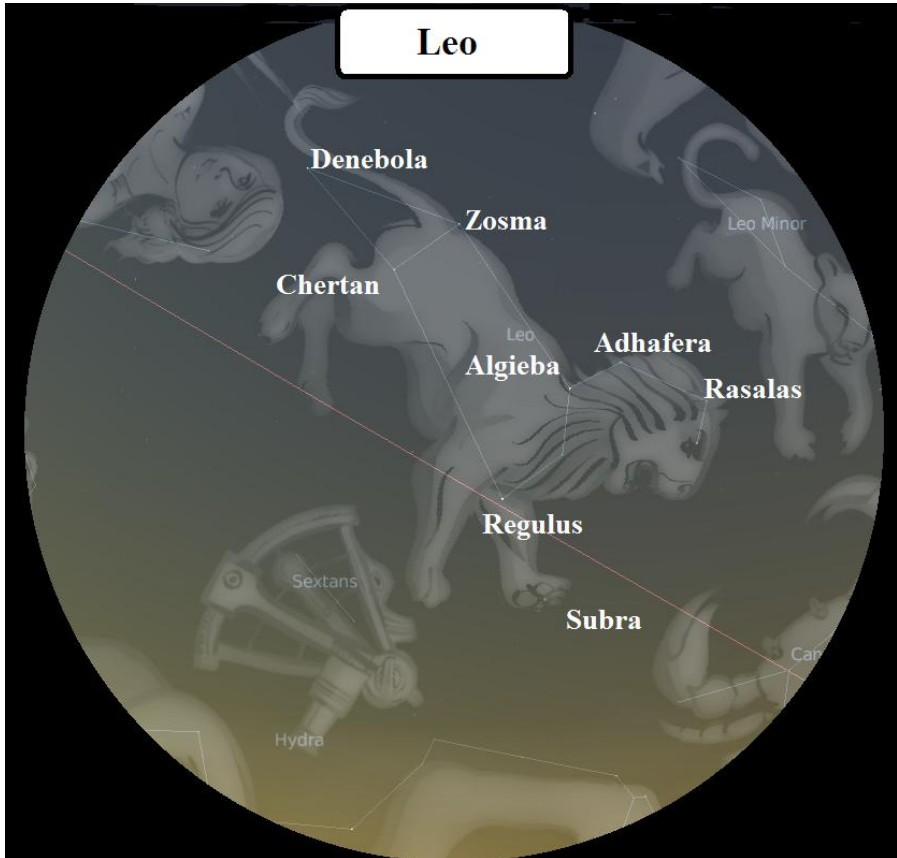
Leo, the Lion

The Vanquisher of Evil



The constellation Leo provides the final climax to the Zodiac and its story.

Leo (the Lion)



The stars in Leo all point to Jesus as the coming conqueror and judge.

Constellation Name:

In all cultures: a lion.

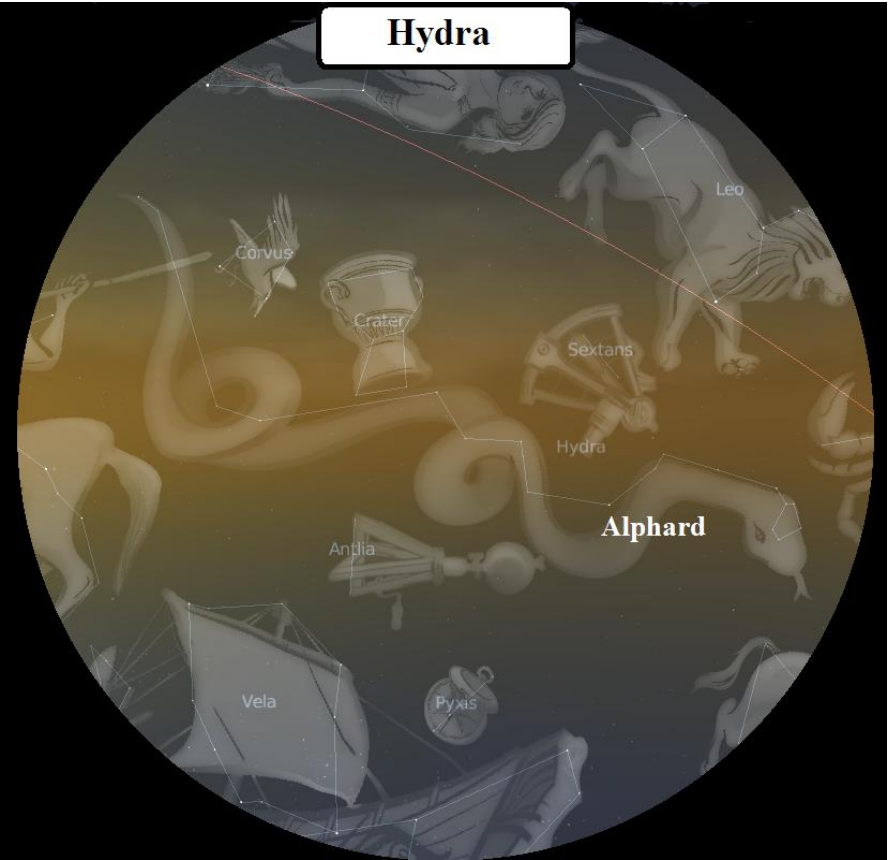
A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Star Names:

- Regulus: The star at the heart of the lion, meaning “treading under foot.”
- Denebola: The star in the tip of the tail, meaning, “the Judge,” or “The Lord who comes.”
- In the main, Al Giebha, “the exaltation.”
- Zosma: A star on the hind part, which signifies, “shining forth.”
- Adhafera, or Al Dafera, “the enemy put down.”
- Rasalas: unknown
- Subra: unknown

Further star names include: Sarcam, “the joining” (thought to be where the zodiacal circle begins and ends), Minchir al Asad, “the punishing” or “tearing of the lion;” Deneb Aleced, “the judge who comes to seize.”

Hydra (the Sea Snake)



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Hydra

Hydra, the snake, is underneath the lion, receiving the retribution for evil. The star names clearly identify this snake as the enemy of all mankind.

Constellation Name:

Hydra, a female serpent.

Star Names:

- Alphard: The brightest star, at the heart of the serpent is called, *Al Phard*, which means “separated, put away.”

Somewhere adjacent is Al Drian, meaning, “The Abhorred.” Another star is Minchar al Sugia, “the piercing of the deceiver.”

Crater (the Cup)



A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Crater, or *the Cup* rests in judgment on the back of the snake.

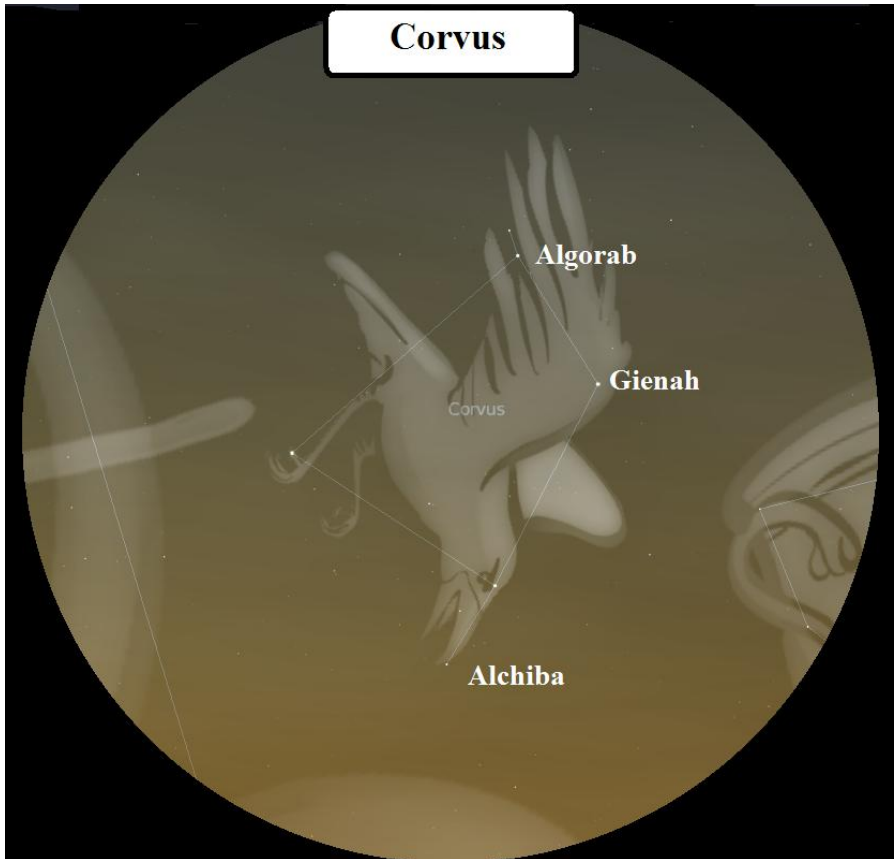
Constellation Name:

“Cup”

Star Names:

Al Ches, or Alkes: *the cup*

Corvus (the Raven)



Corvus, the raven, is seen preying upon the carcass of the serpent.

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Constellation Name:

Raven

Star Names:

- Al Goreb (Arabic), or from Hebrew *Oreb*:
Raven
- Alchiba, or Al Chibar (Arabic), which means,
joining together, or Hebrew *Chiba*, which
means: *accursed*.
- Gienah: unknown
- Minchar al Gorab, likely in the feet means,
“the raven tearing to pieces.”

Modern Star Names



Modern Star Names

Following is list from a free internet source providing information about the modern names of the stars. The list is simply provided for interest. Caution is advised as to the accuracy of the list, or the meanings provided. The list includes many modern constellation names that have nothing to do with the ancient star catalogues. The list is largely secular, but demonstrates how many names have survived right down to the present day.

Star Names List

The following are a list of the star names in sorted alphabetical order. So if you're looking for an "S" name, this list makes it a little easier. Independent stars and constellations are shown with their name in boldface, with the number of stars in parentheses after the names.

NAME	Alternate Names	Constellation	Meaning
Acamar		Eridanus	end of the river
Achemar		Eridanus	end of the river
Achird		Cassiopeia	(unknown)
Acrux		Crux	first of the cross
Acubens		Cancer	claw
Adhafera		Leo	curl of the hair

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Adhil		Andromeda	train of a garment
Ain		Taurus	eye of the bull
Al Athfar		Lyra	talons (with Aladfar)
Al Bali		Aquarius	the swallower
Al Dhanab		Grus	tail
Al Gieba		Leo	forehead
Al Giedi		Capricornus	goat
Al Haud		Ursa Major	the pond
Al Na'ir		Grus	the bright
Al Nair		Indus	bright
Al Niyat		Scorpius	the arteries
Al Reschia	<i>Rischia</i>	Pisces	rope
Al Thalimain		Aquila	the two ostriches (actually two stars)
Aladfar		Lyra	talons (with Al Athfar)
Albireo		Cygnus	iris
Alchibah		Corvus	tent
Alcor		Ursa Major	black horse (?)
Alcyone		Pleadies	queen who wards off evil and storms
Aldebaran		Taurus	follower

Modern Star Names

Alderamin		Cepheus	right forearm
Alfirk		Cepheus	flock
Algenib		Pegasus	flank
Algol		Perseus	the ghoul / the demon star
Algorab		Corvus	raven
Alioth		Ursa Major	black horse / black bull
Alkaid	<i>Benetnasch</i>	Ursa Major	the leader / daughters of bier
Alkalurops		Bootes	shepherd's crook
Alkes			cup
Almach		Andromeda	the weasel
Almeisan	<i>Alhena</i>	Gemini	shining / the mark
Alnilam		Orion	arrangement of pearls (middle of the belt)
Alnitak		Orion	belt (east)
Alphard	<i>Cor Hydrae</i>	Hydra	solitary / heart of the hydra
Alpheratz	<i>Sirrah</i>	Andromeda	the horse or the navel
Alsafi		Draco	cooking tripod
Alshain		Aquila	falcon
Altair		Aquila	flying one

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Alterf		Leo	glance
Aludra		Canis Major	maidenhood
Alula Australis		Ursa Major	first leap of the gazelle
Alula Borealis		Ursa Major	first leap of the gazelle
Alya		Serpens	the tail of a sheep
Ancha		Aquarius	hip-bone
Andromeda (5)	<i>Andromedae</i>		the daughter of Cassiopeia
Angetenar		Eridanus	curve of the river
Ankaa		Phoenix	(a magical bird)
Antares		Scorpius	anti-Ares (rival of Mars)
Antlia	<i>Antliae</i>		the pump
Apus	<i>Apodis</i>		the bird of paradise
Aquarius (8)	<i>Aquarii</i>		the water carrier
Aquila (5)	<i>Aqualae</i>		the eagle
Ara (2)	<i>Arae</i>		the altar
Arcturus		Bootes	bear-guard
Aries (5)	<i>Arietis</i>		the ram
Arkab		Sagittarius	hamstriking
Arneb		Lepus	hare
Arrakis		Draco	dancer

Modern Star Names

Ascella		Sagittarius	armpit
Asellus Astralius		Cancer	southern donkey
Asellus Borealis		Cancer	northern donkey
Asmidiske		Puppis	little shield
Asterope		Pleadies	lightning / twinkling / sun- face
Atik		Perseus	shoulder
Atlas		Pleadies	he who dares suffers (father)
Atria		Triangulum Australe	height of the triangle
Auriga (7)	<i>Aurigae</i>		the charioteer
Auva		Virgo	the barker
Avior		Carina	(unknown meaning, modern)
Azelfafage		Cygnus	tortoise (originally a part of Lyra)
Azha		Eridanus	hatching place
Baham		Pegasus	livestock
Baten Kaitos		Cetus	belly of Cetus
Beid		Eridanus	ostrich eggs
Bellatrix		Orion	warriress
Betelgeuse		Orion	hand of Al-Jazwa

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Bootes (7)	<i>Bootis</i>		the oxherd
Botein		Aries	little belly
Caelum	<i>Caeli</i>		the graving tool
Camelopardalis			the giraffe
Cancer (6)	<i>Cancris</i>		the crab
Canes Venatici (3)	<i>Canum Venaticorum</i>		the hunting dogs
Canis Major (7)	<i>Canis Majoris</i>		the big dog
Canis Minor (3)	<i>Canis Minoris</i>		the little dog
Canopus		Carina	Menelaus's helmsman
Capella		Auriga	she-goat
Caph		Cassiopeia	palm
Capricornus (5)	<i>Capricorni</i>		the horned goat
Carina (5)	<i>Carinae</i>		the keel of the Argo
Cassiopeia (7)	<i>Cassiopeiae</i>		the wife of Cepheus
Castor		Gemini	beaver / first twin
Celaeno		Pleadies	swarthy
Centaurus (6)	<i>Centauri</i>		the centaur
Cepheus (6)	<i>Cephe</i>		a legendary king
Cetus (7)	<i>Ceti</i>		the whale or the menace
Chamaeleon	<i>Chamaeleontis</i>		the chamaeleon

Modern Star Names

Chara		Canes Venatici	joy
Cheleb	<i>Celbalrai</i>	Ophiuchus	dog of the shepherd
Choo or Qu		Ara	staff
Circinus	<i>Circini</i>		a pair of compasses
Columba (4)	<i>Columbae</i>		the dove
Coma Berenices	<i>Comae Berenices</i>		Bernice's lock of hair
Cor Caroli		Canes Venatici	heart of Charles
Corona Australis	<i>Coronae Australis</i>		the southern crown
Corona Borealis (3)	<i>Coronae Borealis</i>		the norther crown
Corvus (6)	<i>Corvi</i>		the crown / the raven
Coxa	<i>Chort / Chertan</i>	Leo	hip / small rib
Crater	<i>Crateris</i>		the cup
Crux (4)	<i>Crucis</i>		the cross
Cujam		Hercules	club
Cursa		Eridanus	chair / footstool (of Orion)
Cygnus (7)	<i>Cygni</i>		the swan
Dabih		Capricornus	slaughterer

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Delphinus (4)	<i>Delphini</i>		the dolphin
Deneb		Cygnus	tail of the hen
Deneb Algiedi		Capricornus	tail of the goat
Deneb or Al Dhanab al Dulfim		Delphinus	tail of the dolphin
Denebola		Leo	tail of the lion
Diphda	<i>Deneb Kaitos</i>	Cetus	frog / tail of Cetus
Dorado	<i>Doradus</i>		the goldfish
Draco (13)	<i>Draconis</i>		the dragon
Dschubba		Scorpius	forehead
Dubhe	<i>Dubh / Dubb / Alruccabah</i>	Ursa Major	bear
Dziban		Draco	the two jackals
Edasich		Draco	hyena
El Nasl		Sagittarius	arrowhead
El Nath		Taurus	the butting
Electra		Pleadies	amber
Eltanin		Draco	snake (arabic)
Enif		Pegasus	nose
Equuleus (2)	<i>Equulei</i>		the little horse
Er Rai		Cepheus	shepherd
Eridanus (10)	<i>Eridani</i>		the river
Fomalhaut		Piscis	mouth of the fish

Modern Star Names

		Austrinus	
Fornax	<i>Fornacius</i>		the furnace
Fum al Samakah		Pisces	the fish's mouth
Furud		Canis Major	solitary ones
Gacrux		Crux	gamma of the cross
Gemini (9)	<i>Geminorium</i>		the twins
Gemma	<i>Alphecca</i>	Corona Borealis	gem or the broken
Giauza		Draco	dragon
Gienah		Cygnus	wing
Gomeisa		Canis Minor	the bleary eyed
Graffias	<i>Acrab</i>	Scorpius	claws / scorpion
Grumium		Draco	jaw
Grus (3)	<i>Gruis</i>		the crane
Hadar	<i>Agena</i>	Centaurus	unknown
Hamal		Aries	ram
Heka	<i>Meissa</i>	Orion	white spot / shining
Hercules (8)	<i>Herculis</i>		a famous hero
Heze		Virgo	unknown
Homam		Pegasus	the high-minded man
Horologium	<i>Horologii</i>	Hercules	the clock
Hydra (4)	<i>Hydrae</i>		a legendary

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

			dragon
Hydrus	<i>Hydri</i>		the water serpent
Indus (2)	<i>Indi</i>		the Indian
Jabbah		Scorpius	forehead
Jabhat al Akrah		Scorpius	scorpion's forehead
Kabdhilinan		Auriga	anklebone of the rein-holder
Kaffaljidhmah		Cetus	cut-short hand
Kaus Australis		Sagittarius	bow (southern)
Kaus Borealis		Sagittarius	bow (northern)
Kaus Media		Sagittarius	bow (middle)
Ke Kuan		Centaurus	cavalry officer
Keid		Eridanus	broken eggshell
Kerhah		Cepheus	blaze
Kitalpha		Equuleus	part of the horse
Kochab	<i>Kokab</i>	Ursa Minor	star
Kornephoros		Hercules	club-bearer
Kraz		Corvus	unknown
Kuma		Draco	as last
Lacerta	<i>Lacertae</i>		the lizard
Leo (11)	<i>Leonis</i>		the lion
Leo Minor (2)	<i>Leonis Minoris</i>		the little lion
Lepus (3)	<i>Leporis</i>		the hare

Modern Star Names

Lesath	<i>Lesuth</i>	Scorpius	sting / bite
Libra (5)	<i>Librae</i>		the scales
Lupus (2)	<i>Lupi</i>		the wolf
Lynx			the lynx
Lyra (6)	<i>Lyrae</i>		the lyre
Maaz		Auriga	he-goat
Maia		Pleadies	mother / grandmother / nurse
Marfik		Ophiuchus	elbow
Markab		Vela	ship
Massim		Hercules	wrist
Matar		Pegasus	rain
Mebsuta		Gemini	outstretched
Megrez		Ursa Major	insertion point
Mekbuda		Gemini	pulled in paw
Men		Lupus	unknown
Menkalinan		Auriga	shoulder of him of the reigns
Menkar	<i>Menkab</i>	Cetus	nostril
Menkent		Centaurus	shoulder of the center
Menkib		Perseus	shoulder
Mensa	<i>Mensae</i>		the table
Merak	<i>Mirak</i>	Ursa Major	loins

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Merope		Pleadies	eloquent / bee-eater / mortal
Mesarthim		Aries	servants
Miaplacidus		Carina	placid waters
Microscopium	<i>Microscopii</i>		the microscope
Mimosa		Crux	(name of a plant)
Minhar al Shuja		Hydra	the snake's nose
Minkar		Corvus	beak
Mintaka		Orion	belt (west)
Mira		Cetus	wonderful
Mirach		Andromeda	the loins
Mirak	<i>Izar/ Pulcherrima</i>	Bootes	loins / loincloth
Mirfak	<i>Marfak</i>	Perseus	elbow
Mirzam		Canis Major	(unknown meaning)
Mizar		Ursa Major	corruption of "Mirak (loins)"
Monoceros	<i>Monocerotis</i>		the unicorn
Mothallah	<i>Caput Trianguli</i>	Triangulum	head of the triangle
Muhlifain		Centaurus	unknown
Muliphein		Canis Major	two causing dispute / swearing an oath
Mulu-lizi		Libra	man of fire

Modern Star Names

Muphrid		Bootes	isolated / lance-bearer's
Musca	<i>Muscae</i>		the fly
Muscida		Ursa Major	muzzle
Na'ir al Saif		Orion	bright tip of the sword
Naos		Puppis	ship
Nashira		Capricornus	she who brings good news
Nekkar	<i>Nakkar</i>	Bootes	cattleman
Nihal		Lepus	camels drinking
Nodus Secundus	<i>Altais</i>	Draco	second knot
Norma	<i>Normae</i>		the carpenter's level
Nunki		Sagittarius	of Enki
Nusakan		Corona Borealis	the two series
Octans	<i>Octanis</i>		the octant
Ophiuchus (7)	<i>Ophiuchi</i>		the snake holder
Orion (10)	<i>Orionis</i>		the hunter
Pavo (2)	<i>Pavonis</i>		the peacock
Pegasus (9)	<i>Pegasi</i>		the winged horse
Perseus (5)	<i>Persei</i>		the heroic rescuer of Andromeda
Phact	<i>Phaet</i>	Columba	dove

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Phad	<i>Phecda</i>	Ursa Major	thigh
Pherkab		Ursa Minor	calf
Phoenix (2)	<i>Phoenicis</i>		the phoenix
Pictor	<i>Pictoris</i>		the painter (or the easel)
Pisces (3)	<i>Piscium</i>		the fish
Piscis Austrinus (2)	<i>Piscis Austrini</i>		the southern fish
Pleadies (11)			(a cluster within Taurus)
Pleione		Pleadies	sailing queen (mother)
Polaris		Ursa Minor	pole star
Pollux		Gemini	much wine / second twin
Porrina		Virgo	(Roman goddess of childbirth)
Praecipula		Leo Minor	principal star
Priijpati		Auriga	Lord of Creation
Primus Hyadum		Taurus	first Hyad
Procyon		Canis Minor	before the dog
Propus	<i>Tejat prior</i>	Gemini	forward foot
Puppis (3)	<i>Puppis</i>		the poop deck (of the Argo)
Pyxis	<i>Pyxidis</i>		the box, the compass or the

Modern Star Names

			Argo
Rana		Eridanus	frog
Ras Algethi		Hercules	head of the kneeling one
Ras Alhague		Ophiuchus	head of the snake
Ras Elased		Leo	head of the lion
Rasalas		Leo	head of the lion
Rastaban		Draco	head of the snake
Regulus	<i>Cor Leonis / Kalb</i>	Leo	Heart of the Lion
Reticulum	<i>Reticuli</i>		the net (or the optical instrument)
Rigel		Orion	foot
Rigel Kentaurus	<i>Rigilkent</i>	Centaurus	foot of the centaur
Rotanev		Delphinus	Venator backwards
Ruchba		Cygnus	hen's knee
Ruchbah	<i>Rukbah</i>	Cassiopeia	knee
Rukbat		Sagittarius	knee
Sabik		Ophiuchus	the preceding
Sadachbia		Aquarius	lucky star of tents
Sadal Melik		Aquarius	lucky star of the king

A PLANISPHERE OF THE HEAVENS

Sadal Suud		Aquarius	luck of lucks
Sadalbari		Pegasus	lucky star of the excellent one
Sadatoni		Auriga	two young goats
Sadr		Cygnus	breast
Sagitta	<i>Sagittae</i>		the arrow
Sagittarius (9)	<i>Sagittarii</i>		the archer
Sargas		Scorpius	seizer / smiter / weapon of the god of war
Sarin		Hercules	unknown
Scheat		Pegasus	leg
Schedar	<i>Shedir</i>	Cassiopeia	breast
Schemali		Cetus	northern (branch of the tail)
Scorpius (10)	<i>Scorpii</i>		the scorpion
Sculptor	<i>Sculptoris</i>		the sculptor (originally the studio)
Scutulum	<i>Aspidiske</i>	Carina	little shield
Scutum	<i>Scuti</i>		the shield
Segin	<i>Navi</i>	Cassiopeia	(unknown)
Serpens (4)	<i>Serpentis</i>		the snake
Sextans	<i>Sextantis</i>		the sextant
Shaula		Scorpius	raised tail
Sheliak or		Lyra	harp

Modern Star Names

Shelyak			
Sheratan		Aries	the two signs
Signus		Bootes	(a bastardized version of Thegius, Medieval Latin from Arabic transliteration of Greek "bootes")
Sirius		Canis Major	scorching
Situla		Aquarius	water jar
Skat	<i>Scheat / Seat</i>	Aquarius	the shin
Spica	<i>Azimech</i>	Virgo	ear of wheat
Sualocin		Delphinus	Nicolaus backwards
Suhail		Vela	unknown
Sulafat		Lyra	tortoise
Syrma		Virgo	train of a garment
Talitha Australis		Ursa Major	third leap of the gazelle
Talitha Borealis	<i>Dnoces</i>	Ursa Major	third leap of the gazelle
Tania Australis		Ursa Major	second leap of the gazelle
Tania Borealis		Ursa Major	second leap of the gazelle

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Tarazed		Aquila	plundering falcon
Tarf		Cancer	glance / eye
Taurus (5)	<i>Tauri</i>		the bull
Taygeta		Pleadies	long-necked
Tegmine		Cancer	cover
Tejat		Gemini	foot?
Telescopium	<i>Telescopii</i>	Pleadies	the telescope
Thabit		Orion	fixed star
The Garnet Star		Cepheus	unknown
The Peacock Star		Pavo	the peacock
Thuban		Draco	snake
Tian Ke		Vela	heaven's record
Triangulum (2)	<i>Tranguli</i>		the triangle
Triangulum Australe (2)	<i>Trianguli Australis</i>		south triangle
Tsih	<i>Ci</i>	Cassiopeia	(whip?)
Tucana	<i>Tucanae</i>		the toucan
Tyl	<i>Kin Yu</i>	Draco	unknown / goldfish
Ukdah		Hydra	the knot
Unuk Al Hay	<i>Unukalhai</i>	Serpens	neck of the snake
Ursa Major (17)	<i>Ursae Majoris</i>		the big bear
Ursa Minor (5)	<i>Ursae Minoris</i>		the little bear
Vega		Lyra	the swooping

Modern Star Names

			eagle
Vela (5)	<i>Velorum</i>		the sails
Vindemiatrix		Virgo	vine-harvester (female)
Virgo (9)	<i>Virginis</i>		the virgin
Volans	<i>Volantis</i>		the flying fish
Vulpecula	<i>Vulpeculae</i>		the little fox
Wasat		Gemini	middle of the sky
Wezen		Canis Major	the weight
Wezn	<i>Wazn</i>	Columba	weight
X-1			the first discovered black hole (not visible)
Yed Posterior		Ophiuchus	eastern hand
Yed Prior		Ophiuchus	western hand
Yildun		Ursa Minor	star
Zaniah		Virgo	corner
Zaurak		Eridanus	boat
Zavijava	<i>Alaraph</i>	Virgo	barker's corner / grape gatherer
Zhou		Serpens	an imperial dynasty
Zi	<i>Dz</i>	Columba	son
Zi Ceng		Leo	second general
Zozma		Leo	loincloth

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Zuben El Genubi		Libra	southern claw (of the scorpion)
Zuben Eschamali		Libra	northern claw (of the scorpion)
Zubenhakrabi	<i>Zubanalakrab</i>	Libra	scorpion's claw

What is a constellation?

A constellation is a group of stars that have been given named because they form a certain picture in the sky. There are 88 modern constellations and 12 Zodiac Constellations. There are many constellations in the sky. They divide the sky into more parts. They are used to help you remember some of the stars. This page covers the twelve **Zodiac Constellations**.

They are :

1. **Aquarius**
 2. **Pisces**
 3. **Aries**
 4. **Capricorn**
 5. **Gemini**
 6. **Cancer**
 7. **Taurus**
 8. **Leo**
 9. **Virgo**
 10. **Libra**
 11. **Scorpio**
 12. **Sagittarius**
-

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The **Aquarius** constellation is a picture of a water bearer.



It is visible between latitudes 65 and -90 degrees.
It is best seen in October (at 9:00 PM)

What is a constellation?

The **Pisces** constellation is a picture of a fish



It is visible between latitudes 90 and -65 degrees
It is best seen in November (at 9:00 PM)

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The **Aries** constellation is a picture of a ram's head
it is visible between latitudes 90 and -60 degrees



It is best seen in December (at 9:00 PM)

What is a constellation?

The **Capricorn** constellation is a picture of a sea goat



It is visible between latitudes 60 and -90 degrees
It is best seen in September (at 9:00 PM)

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The **Gemini** constellation is a picture of two twins



It is visible between latitudes 90 and -60 degrees

What is a constellation?

The **Cancer** constellation is a picture of a crab



It is visible between latitudes 90 and -60 degrees
It is best seen in March (at 9:00 PM)

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The **Taurus** constellation is a picture of a bull
It is visible between latitudes 90 and -65 degrees



It is best seen in January (at 9:00 PM)

What is a constellation?

The **Leo** constellation is a picture of a lion



It is visible between latitudes 90 and -65 degrees
It is best seen in April (at 9:00 PM)

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The **Virgo** constellation is a picture of a maiden



It is visible between latitudes 80 and -80 degrees
It is best seen in May (at 9:00 PM)

What is a constellation?

The **Libra** constellation is a picture of a scale



It is visible between latitudes 65 and -90 degrees
It is best seen in June (at 9:00 PM)

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The **Scorpio** constellation is a picture of a scorpion.



It is visible between latitudes 40 and -90 degrees
It is best seen in July (at 9:00 PM)

What is a constellation?

The **Sagittarius** constellation is a picture of an archer.



It is visible between latitudes 55 and -90 degrees
It is best seen in August (at 9:00 PM)

Sources Used

<http://www.astro.wisc.edu/~dolan/constellations/constellations.html>
<http://www.seasky.org/pictures/sky7b.html>

Stellar Brightness

The Brightest Stars, as Seen from the Earth

Adapted from Norton's 2000.0, 18th edition (copyright 1989, Longman Group UK) with additional comments taken from [Bill Baity's Sky Pages](#)

Common Name	Scientific Name	Distance (light years)	Apparent Magnitude	Absolute Magnitude	Spectral Type
Sun		-	-26.72	4.8	G2V
Sirius	Alpha CMa	8.6	-1.46	1.4	A1V _m
Canopus	Alpha Car	74	-0.72	-2.5	A9II
Rigel Kentaurus	Alpha Cen	4.3	-0.27	4.4	G2V + K1V
Arcturus	Alpha Boo	34	-0.04	0.2	K1.5III _p
Vega	Alpha Lyr	25	0.03	0.6	A0Va
Capella	Alpha Aur	41	0.08	0.4	G6III + G2III
Rigel	Beta Ori	~1400	0.12	-8.1	B8I _{ae}
Procyon	Alpha CMi	11.4	0.38	2.6	F5IV-V

The Brightest Stars

Achernar	Alpha Eri	69	0.46	-1.3	B3Vnp
Betelgeuse	Alpha Ori	~1400	0.50 (var.)	-7.2	M2Iab
Hadar	Beta Cen	320	0.61 (var.)	-4.4	B1III
Acrux	Alpha Cru	510	0.76	-4.6	B0.5Iv + B1Vn
Altair	Alpha Aql	16	0.77	2.3	A7Vn
Aldebaran	Alpha Tau	60	0.85 (var.)	-0.3	K5III
Antares	Alpha Sco	~520	0.96 (var.)	-5.2	M1.5Iab
Spica	Alpha Vir	220	0.98 (var.)	-3.2	B1V
Pollux	Beta Gem	40	1.14	0.7	K0IIIb
Fomalhaut	Alpha PsA	22	1.16	2.0	A3Va
Becrux	Beta Cru	460	1.25 (var.)	-4.7	B0.5III
Deneb	Alpha Cyg	1500	1.25	-7.2	A2Ia
Regulus	Alpha Leo	69	1.35	-0.3	B7Vn
Adhara	Epsilon CMa	570	1.50	-4.8	B2II
Castor	Alpha Gem	49	1.57	0.5	A1V + A2V
Gacrux	Gamma Cru	120	1.63 (var.)	-1.2	M3.5III
Shaula	Lambda Sco	330	1.63 (var.)	-3.5	B1.5IV

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Magnitudes

The magnitude scale was invented by an ancient Greek astronomer named Hipparchus in about 150 B.C. He ranked the stars he could see in terms of their brightness, with 1 representing the brightest down to 6 representing the faintest. Modern astronomy has extended this system to stars brighter than Hipparchus' 1st magnitude stars and ones much, much fainter than 6.

As it turns out, the eye senses brightness logarithmically, so each increase in 5 magnitudes corresponds to a decrease in brightness by a factor 100. The absolute magnitude is the magnitude the stars would have if viewed from a distance of 10 parsecs or some 32.6 light years. Obviously, *Deneb* is intrinsically very bright to make this list from its greater distance. *Rigel*, of nearly the same absolute magnitude, but closer, stands even higher in the list. Note that most of these distances are really nearby, on a cosmic scale, and that they are generally uncertain by at least 20%. All stars are variable to some extent; those which are visibly variable are marked with a "v".

What are apparent and absolute magnitudes? Apparent is how bright they appear to us in the sky. The scale is somewhat arbitrary, as explained above, but a magnitude difference of 5 has been set to exactly a factor of 100 in intensity. Absolute magnitudes are how bright a star would appear from some standard distance, arbitrarily set as 10 parsecs or about 32.6 light years. Stars can be as bright as absolute magnitude -8 and as faint as absolute magnitude +16 or fainter. There are thus (a very few) stars more than 100 times brighter than Sirius, while hardly any are known fainter than Wolf 356.

-----[Chris Dolan's Home Page](#)

The Brightest Stars

This book is the fifth book in this series on sacred astronomy. Also available are book one: *The Torah of the Heavens*; The sacred meaning of the constellations in the heavens; Book two: *The Clock of the Heavens*, a study of the chronology of the Bible as related to the movements of the heavens; Book three: *The Signs of the Heavens*, a treatise discussing signs occurring in the sky or atmosphere, both past and future; and Book four: *The Creator of the Heavens*; a book on astronomy from a creationist's viewpoint.

At this writing additional books can be purchased online at www.lulu.com/sbehrmann or directly from the author.