

The Gospel in the Stars

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Job 38: 32 *Mazzaroth* = The twelve signs (AV 1611 marginal reference)

signs - Genesis 1:14 (first reference in HB)
lights in the firmament ...let them be for signs

Signs are placed to warn of *something* or *some One* to come.

God has both numbered and named all the stars (Ps 147:4) for a purpose.

First century Jewish Historian, *Josephus*, says that Bible Astronomy was founded by Adam, then preserved by Seth and Enos and lastly written in Jewish tradition.

The *twelve signs of Mazzaroth* (called the Zodiac by Gentiles) were named by Adam. Adam did this to preserve the hope of God's revelation of the promised Redeemer; which promise was made to him and his wife in Genesis 3:15 (the *protoevangel*).

In this text we see 'the serpent' (*thee*) and 'Israel' (*the woman*); 'the antichrist' (*thy seed*) and the Messiah (*her seed*) and the irreconcilable feud (*enmity*) between them with promised crushing of the enemy (*bruise head*) by the wounded Saviour (*bruise heel*).

That this truth could be seen in the starry heavens was known by the generations of Noah and his sons after they exited the ark and replenished the earth.

This is evidenced in Genesis 11:4, where we read 'Babel' had *a tower whose top may reach unto heaven*.

The signs of the zodiac have been found in similar towers (or *ziggurats*) of the many civilizations which scattered from Babel: e.g. Egypt, Iran, Arabia, Iraq, ancient Nimrud; sites excavated by Sir Henry Rawlinson in 19th century. [citation - 'Bible-History.com']

The names of the zodiac are also found in numerous ancient writings : Babylonian 'Creation Tablets', in Syria, Persia, Phoenician cuneiform tablets, Greek and Roman mythology.

Historians note "these same 12 figures and names have been perpetuated in all the astronomic records of all the ages and nations. They are part of the common and universal language of astronomical science."

God wrote and enshrined the gospel truth in the heavens where no human hand could alter it. Two thousand-plus years later the nation of Israel came in possession of

the "Scriptures of Truth" which contained the *sure word of prophecy* of the promised Redeemer; and then the zodiac was superseded by the Bible.

The fact of 'the gospel in the stars' is found in Psalm 19.

Bullinger outlines Psalm 19 as having two major themes (**A**) with two related minor themes (**B**); as follows :

A	<i>The heavens</i>	v 1-4
B	<i>in them the sun</i>	v4-6
A	<i>The scriptures</i>	v 7-10
B	<i>in them, thy servant</i>	v11-14

He notes that Psalm 19 is a confirmation of God's two Books of Revelation: the heavens and the scriptures.

Both books *declare, sheweth, and uttereth, day unto day and night unto night the glory of God...i.e. God's Messiah.* cf - **2 Cor 4:6**

The number of the Signs is twelve, which is the number of Government by Divine Appointment (ref: *Biblical Mathematics*, by Ed Vallowe, 2010, The Olive Press).

Each year the sun gradually moves through the zodiac by the "procession of the equinoxes".

The twelve signs are:

1. Virgo (the Virgin): with a corn of wheat in one hand and a branch in the other.
2. Libra (the scales): the figure of a pair of balances in the weighing (one end up).
3. Scorpio (the scorpion): shown with its tail uplifted in anger, stinging.
4. Sagittarius (the bowman): a man on a horse aiming his bow at the scorpion.
5. Capricorn (the goat): the figure of a goat sinking down in death with its tail as a fish.
In the goat we have the atoning sacrifice, the fish are the atoned people.
6. Aquarius (the water bearer): a man pouring an inexhaustible supply of water into the mouth of a fish.
7. Pisces (the fishes): two fishes bound together, one looking to the north star, the other following the sun.
8. Aries (the ram): a strong male sheep lying down and watching over a field.
9. Taurus (the bull): a figure of a strong bull rushing forward with his horns set to pierce through and destroy his enemies.
10. Gemini (the twins): a man & woman seated together in endeared affection.
11. Cancer (the crab): the possession held safe in strong claws.
12. Leo (the lion): a great lion coming east to west & treading upon Hydra (the serpent) .

The zodiac is divided into three books, each consisting of four signs.

Book One - The Redeemer's 1st coming

- A Virgo The prophecy of the promised seed
- B Libra The Redeemer's work of grace
- B Scorpio The Redeemer's conflict
- A Sagittarius The prophecy fulfilled

Book Two - The Redeemed

- A Capricorn The prophecy of deliverance
- B Aquarius the results of work bestowed
- B Pisces the results of work enjoyed
- A Aries The prophesied deliverance fulfilled

Book Three - The Redeemer's 2nd coming

- A Taurus The prophecy of coming judgment
- B Gemini The Redeemer's glorious reign
- B Cancer The Redeemer's possession safe
- A Leo The prophecy of complete triumph

references :

1. *The Gospel in the Stars* by Joseph A. Seiss; 1972, Kregel Publ.
2. *The Witness of the Stars* by E.W. Bullinger; 2000, Kregel Publ.
3. *The Companion Bible*, Appendix 12, 1922, Kregel Publ.