LIBRA – THE CROSS OF CHRIST

SUMMARY

Prophetically the sign of Libra follows the sign of Virgo. Virgo pictures the virgin mother of the Seed of the Woman, the holy child, whose father is God. Jesus was born of Mary for a special purpose, to be the kernel of wheat that falls to the ground and dies, and by dying produces life. Libra provides more details of the death. Libra consists of four stars in a rectangle representing a pair of scales tipping: a place of trial and testing to prove worth.

POSITION OF THE SIGNS

The sign of Libra is surrounded by menacing evil. Above is Serpens, the coiling constrictor snake poised to snatch the Crown (Corona). To the West is Scorpio, the stinging scorpion poised to kill and to eat. To the South is the tail of Hydra, the Sea serpent, indicating by its position the disregard and disrespect of the rulers of the world for the King of Kings dying upon the Cross (Libra). To the East is Mary (Virgo), powerless to save her son – watching him die.

The constellation Crux: four bright stars in the shape of the cross [at the very bottom right in the diagram]. This tells us Libra is not just any altar, or any test, it is the trial of Christ. The position very deep in the South of the sky points to the wickedness and injustice of man, that they should crucify the Son of God, the Holy One, who did not deserve to die for any fault of his own.

The constellation Corona: or Crown, speaks of the wreath of the victor – that the Messiah passes the test. It is also in the shape of a cup – the communion cup of believers – who share in the victory by partaking of Christ’s blood by faith.

The constellation Victima: [wrongly named Lupus in the diagram] is a picture of the slain carcass of the sacrificial animal – the pierced body of Christ - the communion bread of believers.
LIBRA – THE SCALES

The Hebrew name for the sign is Mozanaim – ‘the Scales’. The Latin word Libra means ‘weighing’. The Arabic name means ‘Scorpion’s claws’. The star names support the sign picture: Zuben al Genubi – ‘the price deficient’ or ‘South claw’; Zuben al Chemali – ‘the price which covers’ or ‘North claw’; Zuben al Akrab – ‘the price of the conflict’ or ‘Scorpion’s claw’.

The path of the Sun crosses the sign very slightly below the star Zuben al Genubi. All three bright stars are above the ecliptic.

The brightest star in Libra is Zuben al Chemali, 160 light years from our Sun, magnitude 2.6. Zuben al Genubi is a binary star (primary is magnitude 2.7, secondary is magnitude 5.2), 77 light years from our Sun. Zuben al Akrab is magnitude 3.9, 152 light years from our Sun.

The star names of Libra hint at the thick presence of evil involved in this event. Specifically, the “claws” of Scorpio surround on all sides. A scorpion is a member of the spider class, Arachnida, carnivorous animals who catch prey. In addition to eight legs, the scorpion has two claws in front to catch and crush prey. Its mouth has two sharp appendages or fangs to tear parts off its victim. Scorpions avoid the light and hunt at night. The venom from the tail of a scorpion may be injected into a victim to paralyze or to kill it if necessary.

The arrangement of the stars is in the pattern of a spider web – a trap from which there is no escape.

A scorpion’s sting is unbearably painful. This prophetic imagery connects Libra to a horrifying excruciating death.

A spider and a scorpion have eight legs, whereas an insect has only six legs. The spiritual number eight means HOLY MAN (8) and six means MAN (6). How can it be that a ‘holy man’ is inflicting horror and pain upon another man? Is that so far-fetched? Is not history full of wars,
persecutions, and martyrdoms inspired and whipped up by ‘holy men’ (religious leaders of all kinds)? Being outwardly religious does not limit the inward capacity for hating others.

The mystery of this prophetic event deepens. The evil that surrounds has the appearance of holiness or religion but because it is associated with the scorpion we understand its nature is pure evil. The eight legs plus the two claws is a total of ten appendages. The number 10 means TESTIMONY (10). The creature here is not just any religious leader – he is a holy man of THE TESTIMONY – the Law of God: in other words, a Jewish priest. More than that, he must be a Jewish high priest, since the consent of the high priest and his council is required to execute the death penalty.

The body of spiders and scorpions are divided into two parts: a cephalothorax and an abdomen. In contrast, the insect is divided into three parts: a head, a thorax, and an abdomen. In the spider and the scorpion the parts of the head are fused directly upon the thorax. How horrifying are these headless spiders and scorpions? What is the spiritually interpretation of an animal which has no head? An animal with no head is a spiritual picture of a creature whose will is controlled by another being. When God made Adam and Eve, he gave them a free will, to choose to love and obey him or to choose to reject him. But the animal with no head has no free will: he is bound to obey his master, which in the case of the scorpion must represent an evil spiritual master.

Outwardly, the appearance is of a holy man. Inwardly the individual is under the spiritual control of evil. The religious leaders of Jesus’ day claimed to be the most dedicated (holy) followers of the religion of their ancestor Abraham on the earth: ‘We are Abraham’s descendants and have never been the slaves of anyone.’ (John 8:33)

Jesus told them exactly what they were:

“If God were your Father, you would love me because I came from God and now am here...Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. You belong to your father the devil and you want to carry out your father’s desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him.” (John 8:42-44)

Spiders and scorpions have hard outer shells: there is no exposed skin flexible enough to vibrate with sound waves. Therefore, like scaly snakes they can have no sense of hearing. Snakes, spiders, and scorpions rely on sight, taste, smell, and vibrations they sense through touch. In contrast, insects have highly developed sound makers and the sense of hearing.

How horrifying are these outwardly religious but inwardly evil people? A picture of the mouth of a spider with its deadly fangs might help to convey the menacing danger they embody:
The names of the stars suggest a pair of scales: the price which is deficient versus the price which covers. The sign of a pair of scales is universally recognized as the symbol of the legal trial. A trial or test of serious import is underway here: a guilty verdict would result in the penalty of death. Has the accused committed a crime deserving death? If not, then the accuser makes a false accusation and is guilty of a terrible misjudgment.

The answer to the question of the righteousness of the accused is found in the position of the three bright stars in Libra relative to the ecliptic. All three of the bright stars are above the ecliptic. Prophetically, the sky is divided between the Land (above the ecliptic) and the Sea (below the ecliptic). The Land is the home of the righteous and the Sea is the home of the wicked and the sinful. The location of the three stars above the ecliptic tells us they represent a righteous person – one who does not deserve death. Occasionally there are evil signs in the Land portion of the sky – but the way they are depicted, e.g. Draco the dragon, informs us immediately that they are evil persons in the wrong place. There are also righteous signs in the Sea portion of the sky, but in the same way we immediately recognize them as virtuous and not evil because their character is associated with good. In the case of Libra there is such clue so we must rely on the position of the stars relative to ecliptic to tell us whether the person is righteous.

There are three bright stars. The spiritual number three means GOD (3). This is a powerful clue that the person under trial is God in the flesh, the Messiah, the holy child, the Seed of the Woman, Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus Christ is indeed the second person of the trinity, who committed no sin during his incarnation when he walked upon the earth. Not guilty of a sin deserving death. Not even guilty of a sin deserving a lessor penalty.
ASTRONOMICAL DISTANCES OF THE STARS IN LIBRA

The star **Zuben al Chemali**, which means *the price is sufficient*, is 77 light years from the earth. The number 77 means FALSE PROPHET (77). The star **Zuben al Gennubi**, which means *the price is deficient*, is 160 light years from earth. The number 160 means HOLY CHURCH (160). The star **Zuben al Akrab**, which means *the price of the conflict*, is 152 light years from the earth. The spiritual number 152 means AUTHORITY OF SCRIPTURE (152).

How do we make sense of the fact the number 77 appears in Libra? Did we not just demonstrate by the position of the stars (above the ecliptic) that the person under trial is righteous? How could a False Prophet be righteous? It is impossible. But, here is the subtlety of the scene: Jesus is accused of being a false prophet, of claiming that He was the Son of God:

“The high priest said to him ‘I charge you under oath by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God’ Jesus replied ‘Yes, it is as you say’” (Matt. 26:63-64)

The high priest rushed to judgment and exclaimed:

“He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy. What do you think?’ ‘He is worthy of death’ they [the Sanhedron] answered.” (Matt. 26:65-66)

So, the star **Zuben al Chemali**, is telling us Christ, faced the accusation of being a False Prophet, but was not guilty of that accusation because his words were true, not false. His resurrection from the dead vindicates him: death could not hold him because he had no guilt.

Then there is the star **Zuben al Gennubi**: *the price is deficient*. This star is 160 light years from earth and that number means THE HOLY CHURCH (160). Now wait – it appears there is another person on that cross! This is confirmed by Scripture:

“Don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus, were baptised into his death?...If we have been united with him in his death, we will certainly be united with him in his resurrection.” (Romans 6:3-4)

The sins of all those who would come to believe in Christ were placed on the cross. Our righteousness was, as the name of the star says, insufficient to cover the price of our sins.

Here is the mystery of the Cross: Christ did not die for his own sins, because he committed no sin. The price Christ paid by offering his life as a sacrifice, was to cover our sins. His righteousness sufficient to cover the price, to pay for the sins of those who ask for forgiveness in his name and believe he was raised from the dead.
Finally there is the star **Zuben al Akrab, the price of the conflict**. This connects the events at the Cross of Christ to the origin of sin: the fall of Adam in the Garden of Eden and the resulting conflict between mankind and God, and the promise that peace with God would be accomplished by the Seed of the Woman crushing the head of the snake. The distance of the star is 152 light years, whose spiritual number means AUTHORITY OF SCRIPTURE (152). The great promise of God to Adam in the garden, which was made on oath, is vindicated. The authority of God’s Word (Scripture) is proven and upheld.

**CRUX: THE SOUTHERN CROSS – THE MESSIAH ‘CUT-OFF’**

![Crux constellation diagram]

The constellation CRUX has the Hebrew name ‘Adom’ which means ‘cut-off’. The sign is in the unmistakable shape of the Roman cross (and the four cornered Hebrew letter Tau).

There are three bright stars: A-crux (321 light years); B-crux (353 light years), and G-crux (88 light years). The star names have been lost. ‘A’, ‘B’, and ‘G’ relate to their relative brightness, ‘A’ being the brightest.

The Coalsack is the most prominent dark nebula in the sky. It is 600 light years from the earth. A dark nebula is a dark patch in the otherwise bright Milky Way. It is caused by interstellar dust so thick star light cannot shine through it.

Daniel prophesied concerning the ‘cutting-off’ of the Messiah:

“Know and understand this: from the issuing of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One [Messiah], the ruler, comes there will be seven ‘sevens’ and sixty-two ‘sevens’. It will be rebuilt with streets and a trench but in times of trouble. After the sixty-two ‘sevens’ the Anointed One [Messiah] will be cut-off [Adom] and have nothing.” (Daniel 9:25-26)

Daniel is referring to the decree of Cyrus the Persian to permit the rebuilding and resettlement of Jerusalem. Sixty-nine ‘sevens’ is a period of 69 x 7 = 483 years. According to current secular historians, Babylon was invaded by the Persians in 538 BC. However, this does not agree with the account of the Greek historian Ptolemy who places the reign of Cyrus much later: starting around 456 BC. Suffice to say, there is disagreement among experts as to when Babylon fell and Cyrus became king. In our chronology we place the decree of Cyrus at 486 BC (see our paper “Bible History – By Sabbaticals, Jubilees, and Generations” in section 10 TIME on our website: [www.biblenumbersforlife.com](http://www.biblenumbersforlife.com)). Our date falls between the estimate of current secular historians and the date of Ptolemy.
Our date for the exile of the Jews is 556 BC, the decree of Cyrus is 486 BC, the birth of Christ is 3 BC, and the crucifixion of Christ on the Cross is 33 AD. From 486 BC to 3 BC is 483 years - the exact period of 69 weeks according to the prophecy of Daniel. We believe when Jesus left his throne in Heaven and incarnated the prophetic clock stopped and then began again when Jesus died on the Cross in 33 AD.

For further clarification, we believe that in 3 BC when Jesus left Heaven and incarnated, he fulfilled the prophecy of Daniel of being “cut-off”. When he left Heaven he ‘cut himself-off’ from all his divine attributes and heavenly privileges and became a man-child. At age 37 when he died on the Cross – he was ‘cut-off’ even further – he exited from the land of the living.

ASTRONOMICAL DISTANCES TO THE STARS IN CRUX

The brightest star in Crux is at the bottom of the cross and is 321 light-years from earth. The number 321 is equal to 3 x 107. The spiritual number 3 means GOD (3) and the 107 means CRY TO GOD IN DISTRESS (107). So, we read in the gospel accounts Jesus [GOD (3) IN THE FLESH] cried out three (3) times to GOD (3) THE FATHER:

“My God, my God why hast thou forsaken me?” (Matt. 27:46)

“Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing” (Luke 23:34)

“Father, into your hands I commit my spirit” (Luke 23:46)

The location of A-crux at the bottom of the Cross and at the very Southern part of the sky highlights the extremity of Christ’s suffering and the full extent to which the Father in Heaven (symbolized by the most Northern part of the sky) turned him over to his suffering.

The next brightest star in Crux is at the location where a hand of Christ is nailed to the Cross and it is 88 light-years from earth. The spiritual number 88 means SAINTS AFFLICTED (88). The affliction of the saints referred to by the spiritual number 88 is specifically the affliction of God upon them. It is not the random mishaps of life or history that might throw a person into a difficult situation. Rather, it is the punishment of God upon his people for their sin, or in this case the punishment that falls upon Jesus Christ on behalf of people who believe in him.

“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)

The third brightest star in Crux is located at the top of the Cross and it is 353 light-years from earth. The number 353 is a prime number, the 81st prime. The spiritual number 81 means
HOLY ANGELS (81). Above the head of Christ on the cross was nailed a placard which read: “King of the Jews”. In addition to the physical torment and suffering of Christ, there was a keen anguish of soul: the pain of rejection and humiliation. At Christ’s birth the holy angels spoke to Mary concerning him: “He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High. The Lord will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever.” (Luke 1:32-33). As Christ suffered, he must have felt the sting of hopes dashed and the offense of rejection by his own people.

Finally, in the celestial scene there is the Sack of Coal positioned at the side of the Cross – 600 light years from earth. In the Bible the spiritual number 600 signifies an ARMED FORCE (600). For example: “And there went from thence of the family of the Danites, out of Zorah and out of Eshtaol, six hundred men appointed with weapons of war.” (Judges 18:11). The association of the number 600 with Crux is a prophecy that military men will be near to the Cross: men with dark souls - devoid of sensitivity to the sufferings of others, men trained in the technique of applying torture by crucifixion. These are the ones who taunted Jesus and struck him in the face while he was blind-folded, who applied the lashes, who impaled the crown of thorns, who nailed him to the cross, and who pierced his side with a lance.

We see now the two claws of the Scorpion: the North Claw is religious men with dark souls and the South Claw is military men with dark souls. The military men, clad in metal helmets, metal breastplates, metal shields, and metal daggers begin to closely approximate the hard shelled remorseless killers that spiders and scorpions exhibit in nature. Like the headless scorpion and spider, soldiers set their own moral compass aside, and perform whatever duty they are commanded by the officers above them, however heinous. When religion mixes with the military it becomes a deadly combination – a tool of Satan.

To finish off our examination of scorpions we look to genetics for spiritual insight. The human has 22,000 genes and the scorpion has 32,000 genes\(^1\). The spiritual number 22 means LIGHT (22). Man was created to bear the image of God and to glorify God: to be a spiritual light to the world and to the universe (if you include angels). The spiritual number 32 means FELLOWSHIP (32), which is usually interpreted in the positive sense as a WITNESS (2) of the SACRIFICE (16). However, it can also be interpreted in the negative sense as DIVISION (2) of the SACRIFICE (16). Here is a clue from genetics that the ones who killed Jesus, who DIVIDED (2) the SACRIFICE (16), were his own people: those from the FELLOWSHIP (32) - the people of God.

My fellow believer, may I ask you, are you trapped in a religious system that disguises itself as the fellowship of the people of God? Do you feel oppressed? Spiritually quenched? Get out of there! It is the trap of the devil. Jesus died on the Cross to give you the power to escape.

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\(^1\) Source: https://www.sciencenews.org/article/scorpion-genome-decoded
VICTIM SLAIN – THE BODY OF CHRIST BROKEN FOR YOU – THE EUCHARIST

When Jesus celebrated the Last Supper with his disciples he spoke of his broken body:

“While they were eating, Jesus took [unleavened] bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying ‘Take and eat; this is my body’” (Matt. 26:26)

What was that bread? Speaking to the Jews, Jesus said:

“I tell you the truth it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven [the manah] but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” “Sir”, they said, “from now on give us this bread”. Then Jesus declared “I am the bread of life.” (John 6:32-35)

What does it mean for the Christian to eat the communion bread? “For whenever you eat this bread...you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.” (1 Cor. 11:26)

The Last Supper with the Lord is meant to be commemorated by Christians down through the ages. It speaks of our faith in our communion with God through the death of Christ on the Cross. Eating is one of the ways covenants are entered into and commemorated. By believing in the sacrifice of Christ, we entered into covenant with God. By celebrating communion, by breaking bread with other disciples, we testify that we continue to believe.

The making of unleavened bread is instructive of the death of Christ. First, the kernel of wheat must harden and fall to the ground. Figuratively speaking, it must die. That kernel is then ground to powder by millstones, kneaded, then heated in an oven: a picture of violent death.
CORONA – ROYAL CROWN OF THE BRIDE – COMMUNION CUP OF THE SAINTS

The interpretation of this sign must take into consideration its location in the sky (see page 1). The sign Corona sits snuggly and securely between two constellations signifying the power and protection of Christ for his loved ones: Hercules (The Coming of Christ for His Bride) and Bootes (The Good Shepherd – The Resurrected Christ – Watching over his Sheep [in the meantime]). Beneath the sign of Corona, Serpens is reaching up with jaws open in threatening fashion but is restrained by Ophiuchus (Christ wrestling with Satan in the Garden of Gethsemane).

Corona is located at the side of the large and majestic sign of the Good Shepherd (Bootes) in the heavens. Corona symbolizes the prize of the victor in the great contest at the Cross. What did Jesus die for? To obtain a crown? Or to obtain a bride? The location of Corona beside the Good Shepherd and a bit lower than his full height, importantly not over his head, suggests it was not a crown Christ died for, it was a Bride – a Woman who would wear his crown of victory.

Scripture is crystal clear on this: “Christ loved the Church and gave himself up for her” (Ephesians 5:25a). The story of the Cross is a love story not a power trip. Christ did not have his eyes on the throne he would occupy upon his victory at the Cross or the many crowns that he would wear – he had his eyes upon his beloved: “to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.” (Ephesians 5:25b)

Christ won the victory at the Cross, but the bride is the beneficiary of his sacrifice. Our sins are forgiven, we have been joined to our husband, and as his bride we share in his position, his power and his authority. “I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for those who believe.” (Ephesians 1:18-23)
The pagans looked in the sky at Corona and they too saw a Queen, the bride of the King. They understood the Queen would have power, glory and authority. Their name for the Queen of Heaven was Ashorteh but they made the error of worshipping the Queen, not the King. The pagans even made special cakes marked with the sign of the Cross, signifying they understood the connection between Libra, Crux, and Corona. They offered these cakes up to their false god. This false worship was adopted by Israelites, which thing the Lord hated:

“The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead their dough, to make cakes to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto other gods, that they may provoke me to anger.” (Jer. 7:18)

The stars in Corona form the tiara of the bride of Christ, which represents his work on the Cross. In this fashion the LORD is indicating it is the work of Christ on the Cross that is the worthy thing and that which our eyes are directed to, that glory may come to Him. The Bride herself is invisible in the heavens – thus indicating that we live to glorify Christ – and it was never God’s intention in the sign Corona to glorify the Bride.

SPIRITUAL NUMBERS IN THE SIGN CORONA

There are 21 stars in the sign Corona. The spiritual number 21 means LAWLESSNESS (21). This is a number associated with the wicked harlot of Revelations. How could this be? Scriptures condemn lawlessness and urge Christians to live according to morals that are above reproach. Could there be any connection between lawlessness and the Bride of Christ? No. The reason is there are 21 visible stars in Corona, but 3 stars are binary so there are actually in total 24 stars in Corona. The spiritual number 24 means PRIEST (24). By this God is indicating that not only have Christians become part of Jesus’ royal family in heaven, we have become priest also.

“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.” (1 Peter 2:9)

The brightest star in Corona is Alphecca which means “The Shining”. This star is 75 light-years from the earth. The spiritual number 75 means MISSIONARY (75). Although the Bride of Christ is invisible in the heavens, she is meant to be visible on earth according to Jesus’ own words:

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.” (Matt. 5:16)

The church wears her royal tiara, but is not taken up in good fortune. Her heart has become changed, and now she longs to reach out to other sinners that they might be saved as well.
The next brightest star in Corona is Nusakan and is 114 light-years from earth. The spiritual number 114 means OLD COVENANT RESTORED (114). We know that the period of time that the church is on the earth is the New Covenant. The star Nusakan connects Corona to the sign Hercules, which represents Christ coming down out of the heavens to take his bride back to heaven to be with him forever. When the event of the rapture occurs, when the Bride of Christ is gone, the Old Covenant with the Jews will be restored and they will be God’s people on the earth again.

THE SIGN CORONA AS THE COMMUNION CUP

The sign Corona appears at the right hand side of The Good Shepherd (Bootes). The right hand is the hand of favor, or fellowship. One can look at Corona as the communion cup, the offer of fellowship which Christ extends to the world: forgiveness of sins based on faith in his shed blood at Calvary. At the Last Supper Christ clarified the meaning of the cup:

“Then he took the cup [of wine] gave thanks and offered it to all of them, saying ‘Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.” (Matt. 26:27-28)

To the right of the sign of Corona is the sign of Hercules (Christ coming down from heaven to retrieve his bride). Sharing the cup of communion is also meant to proclaim the message of the return of Christ:

“For whenever you eat this bread [Victima], or drink this cup, [Corona] you proclaim the Lord’s death [Crux; Libra] until he comes [Hercules].” (1 Cor. 11:26)

“The Spirit and the Bride say ‘Come!’ And let him who hears say ‘Come!’ Whoever is thirsty, let him come. And whoever wishes let him take the free gift of the water of life.” (Rev. 22:17)

Amen. Come Lord Jesus.