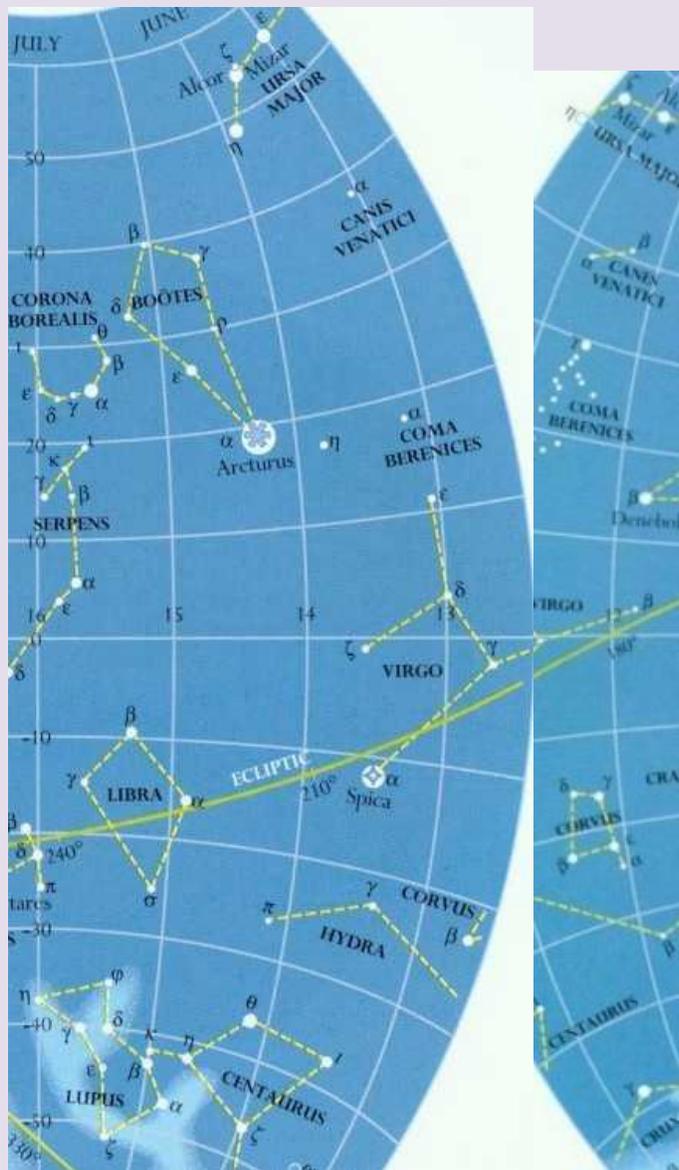


VIRGO – THE SEED OF THE WOMAN

SUMMARY OF THE SIGN

Our interpretation is the sign of **Virgo** is prophetic of the “Seed of the Woman”, who will crush the head of the snake as promised by God to Adam and Eve (Genesis 3:15). **Virgo** portrays a virgin who bears the Messiah. By definition this means the conception must be immaculate. In other words, her Seed will literally be the Son of God and not a Son (descendant) of Adam. This permits the child to be sinless and therefore qualified to offer his life as atonement for the sins of mankind (or Adam-kind). The three decan star signs support this interpretation.

POSITION IN THE SKY



Source of Image: Jim Kaler Star Maps

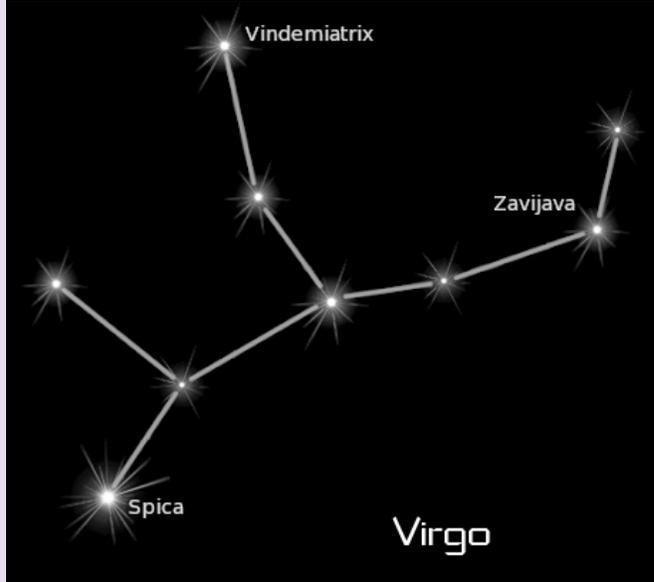
Virgo, “The Virgin”, mother of the Seed of the Woman, lies on her back looking up in the direction of **Coma**, “The Desired One”, the infant dandling on her knees. In her left hand she holds a “Sheaf of Wheat” [the bright star **Spica**] which is pointed down to the ground.

From **Virgo** the star **Spica** points to **Centaurus**, “The Despised One”: the mighty one who falls in battle. A centaur is part horse, part man pointing to the dual nature of Christ: fully man and fully God. The bright star in **Centaurus** [just off the diagram at the bottom] is **Toliman** which means: “The Beginning and The End”.

The infant child of **Virgo** will become **Boötes**: “The Good Shepherd”. The very bright star **Arcturus** means “He Comes”, connecting the identity of the holy Christ child [**Coma**] born to die and suffer for our sins [**Centaurus**] with the Messiah who shall return to Earth to rule and reign [**Boötes**].

Four of the brightest stars in the night sky are located in the signs of Virgo: **Toliman**: 3rd; **Arcturus**: 4th; **Hadar** 11th; **Spica** 16th. The identity of the Seed of the Woman, Jesus Christ, is the key to interpreting all the stars. Have you seen the light (in the stars)?

VIRGO



The Hebrew name for the star sign is **Bethulah** and means "Virgin". The picture of the Virgin is of a woman holding a tree branch (pointed up) in her right hand and a sheaf of wheat (pointed down) in her left hand. **Spica** is the bright star in the left hand and it means "The Branch". Oddly the star named "The Branch" refers to the sheaf of wheat she is holding. The Hebrew name for **Spica** is **Tsemach** and means "The Branch". **Zavijava** in her left shoulder means "Gloriously Beautiful". The star in the right hand is **Vindemiatrix** which means "The Branch who comes". The star **Subilon** means "Ear of Wheat", **Subilah** means "Who Carries".

Virgo looks like a woman reclining on her left side facing towards us who are looking back at her from the earth. Her head is on the right of the diagram above. **Virgo** is a constellation which is in line with the path of the sun, the ecliptic, which passes first just above **Spica**, the sheaf of wheat, in Virgo's left hand, continues through Virgo's left shoulder, **Zavijava**, on its way towards **Leo**. The path of the sun through the stars is always left to right when viewed from the earth. Interestingly, the fulfillment of prophecy in the stars proceeds from right to left.

Virgo is rich in stars: there are over 100 stars and **Spica** is the brightest, of the 1st magnitude. The Hebrew word for the star **Spica** is **Tsemach** and means "THE BRANCH". This word is found in only four passages in the Old Testament. Each passage provides a different perspective on the Seed of the Woman: (listed in order of the timing of the prophecies uttered)

"In that day **THE BRANCH** [**Tsemach**] of the LORD will be beautiful and glorious [an allusion to the star **Zavijava**], and the fruit of the land [an allusion to the sheaf of wheat] will be the pride and glory of the survivors in Israel." (Isaiah 4:2) [~700 BC]¹

"The days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up to David a righteous **BRANCH** [**Tsemach**], a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The LORD Our Righteousness" (Jeremiah 23:5,6) [~575 BC]

¹ The gematria of Isa. 4:2 is 3368 = 8 x 421 [82nd prime]. 8 means "New Man" or "Holy Man" signifying Jesus is the Son of God not the son of Adam [Most appropriate for the sign Virgo]. The number 82 means "Throne of God" signifying this One will sit down at God's right hand. In other words he is the Messiah, the ruler of heaven and earth.

“Listen O high priest Joshua and you associates seated before you, who are men symbolic of things to come: I am going to send my servant THE BRANCH [Tsemach].”
(Zechariah 3:8) [~520 BC]

“Tell him [Joshua] this is what the LORD Almighty says: Here is the man whose name is THE BRANCH, and he will branch out from this place and build the temple of the LORD.”
(Zechariah 6:12) [~520 BC]

In all four passages the word **Tsemach** is in reference to the Messiah: He will be beautiful and glorious (Isaiah); He will be a King out of the line of David (Jeremiah); He will be a servant (Zechariah 3); He will be a man (Zechariah 6). In Zechariah even the name of the Messiah, Joshua or Jesus, is mentioned twice. Each of the four Old Testament references correspond to a gospel portrayal of the life of Christ: Matthew (a King); Mark (a servant); Luke (a man); and John (beautiful and glorious).

These four Bible references demonstrate that prophets of the Old Testament respected the truth of God in the stars. The star name, **Tsemach**, is attached to one of the brightest stars in the sky and is located on the ecliptic in a constellation associated with God’s promise in the Garden of Eden to send a Messiah to save the world. The fact there are only four occurrences of the word **Tsemach** in all Scripture indicates the prophets used that star name very advisedly. It was uttered in prophecy only in special circumstances directly related to the promised Messiah and only when the prophet received special revelation from God to that effect. The lack of further background explanation provided in their prophecies regarding the significance of the star name suggests the prophets took for granted their audience would be aware of it and be able to piece together the meaning of the message from their own star knowledge.

Jesus taught the significance of the sheaf of wheat (where **Spica** is located in the sign):

“I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies it produces many seeds.” (John 12:24)

We see in the star sign **Virgo** that the sheaf of wheat is pointed down to the ground. We could even go so far as to say the wheat is almost touching the ground. The poetic interpretation of this picture is the Seed of the Woman: THE BRANCH, the Messiah, the sheaf of wheat she is symbolically carrying in her left hand, the child she will bring into the world, will be born to die. Combining the star picture with the analogy taught by Jesus, we see the truth that his death will not be in vain but will multiply seeds or believing ones on the earth.

This lesson is reinforced by the branch in the right hand of **Virgo**. We can connect this branch that is pointing upward with prophecies of Scripture that refer to the resurrection of Christ:

“A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch [allusion to branch in right hand] will bear fruit [allusion to wheat in left hand]. The Spirit of the Lord will be upon Him – the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and fear of the LORD. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; but with righteousness and judgment he will judge the needy; with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.” (Isaiah 11:1-4)

We have here a mixed metaphor: there is the stump of a tree, suggesting the tree has been cut down, prophetic of Christ’s death; and, a shoot coming out of the stump, suggesting life out of death, suggesting the resurrection of Christ.

The sun is symbolic of the Holy Spirit. The sun is like God, so bright our eyes are too weak to behold him. The sun, like God, gives light and life to all the earth. The sun, like God, sees all and judges all under its intense gaze. In its travel through the sky the sun passes almost directly over the star **Spica**. Thus it should come as no surprise that Jesus will be filled with the Holy Spirit, as the passage above quoted from Isaiah 11:1-4 suggests.

In another reference to the Holy Spirit we have the account of the conception of Jesus:

“‘How will this be’ Mary asked the angel, ‘since I am a virgin?’ The angel answered, ‘The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So, the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.’” (Luke 1:35)

We have a hint of this truth in the position of the sign **Virgo**. The virgin is reclining, or lying on her side. The sun passes directly over her, overshadowing her, as it passes over the entire length of her body, from her feet up to her head, on its way through the sky. Once again, the signs in the stars portray the exact same truth as Scripture, only pictorially.

Although the sign clearly portrays a virgin, the central message of Virgo is not about the woman it is about her son Jesus. Pagans misunderstood this star sign and inappropriately worshipped the “Queen of Heaven”, which practice God detested. Mary was a sinner herself and described the child she would bear as “**God my savior**” (Luke 1:47). Note: The word ‘Jesus’ means ‘Jehovah saves’. Even today there are millions who pray to Mary in the belief she has special access to God because of her relationship as mother of Jesus. This is not the message of **Virgo** nor is it the truth from Scripture. **Virgo** is pictured in the stars in the prostrate position, i.e. lying stretched out on the ground. This is the position of self-humility and veneration of God. Mary described herself in this way when she said “**For he has regarded the lowly estate of his maid servant**” (Luke 1:48). This is not the language of one who seeks worship, praise, or glory for herself.

MEDITATION

Of all the seed bearing plants, why did Jesus choose wheat to communicate the concept of life out of death in his parable? Why did he not say, “Unless a kernel of barley falls to the ground and dies...”? Jesus was communicating a spiritual truth to his audience. He chose wheat so his audience would connect his lesson with a star (Spica) from a sign (VIRGO) whose spiritual message they would all understand. Does this not suggest the Lord Jesus understood and accepted the signs in the stars were given by God and spoke of Him? How can Christians today ignore God’s message in the stars if Jesus himself taught truth from it?

Jesus said:

“I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one can come unto the Father but by me.”
(John 14:6)

The word ‘Zodiac’ means ‘The Way’. Could Jesus make it any clearer the stars speak of him?

God bless you.

COMA – THE DESIRED OF THE NATIONS



The picture is of a male child on the knee of a woman. Sometimes the woman is pictured on a throne. The name **Coma** in Hebrew means “The Desired”. The Egyptian name for the sign was “The Desired Son”. The Greek word for hair sounds like **Coma** and that is how the name of the sign was wrongly changed to the ‘Hair of Berenice’. The Hebrew name for the child of the **Coma** sign is Yeshua, or “Jesus”. There are no bright stars in **Coma** but there are many star clusters and distant galaxies. In **Coma** there are not just billions of distant stars, but thousands of galaxies of stars! This may be taken to symbolize the fullness of the glory of Christ of which we have only the barest of glimpses now.

This decan sign is located directly above, or farther North of the ecliptic, relative to **Virgo**, which itself is directly on the path of the sun. Both **Coma** and **Virgo** are located in a dark part of space, far removed and North of the starry Milky Way, otherwise known as the galactic equator. The main message of **Coma** is to show that the sheaf of wheat and the branch that **Virgo** is holding signify a person who will be her own son. The fact that **Virgo and Coma are located in a dark part of space tells us the birth of the Messiah will come at a period of history that is spiritually dark.**

Isaiah chapter 9 describes the first coming of the Messiah:

“The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned...For unto us a child is born, [Virgo] to us a son is given, [Coma] and the government will be upon his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government there will be no end. He will reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom, establishing justice and righteousness from that time forth and forever.” (Isaiah 9:2-7)

The apostle Peter also compared the coming of Jesus to a light shining in a dark place:

“We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty...And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.” (2 Peter 1:19)

The prophet Haggai also connected the sign of **Coma** with the Messiah’s first coming. The fresh revelation given to Haggai is that Jesus’ coming would bring a blessing to the Gentile Nations:

“In a little while longer I will once more shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. I will shake all the nations, and the desired [Coma] of the nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory’ says the LORD Almighty.” (Haggai 2:7)[~520BC]

It may surprise some to learn the prophets and apostles paid attention to God’s truth in the stars. More than that, they urged us to pay attention to the witness of God in the stars:

“Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens. Who created all these? He brings out the starry host one by one and calls them each by name [star signs]. Because of his great power and mighty strength none of them is missing.” (Isaiah 40:26)

Before we leave **Coma** it is worth noting the little child dandling on the knee of the woman in that sign had a Hebrew name: Jeshua (Jesus). When the angel announced to Mary that she was the blessed one among women he also told her what the child’s name would be:

“...the angel said to her, ‘Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High’” (Luke 1:31)

No prophecy in Scripture prior to Christ foretold what the name of the Messiah would be. The only prophecy which foretold the name of the Messiah was in the stars (sign of Coma). Before

Jesus was born, God ensured through the angel that everything in Jesus' life would fulfill all the promises made by God both in the stars and in the Scriptures. This shows both the stars and the Scriptures originated in God. Both are respected by him as sacred truth.

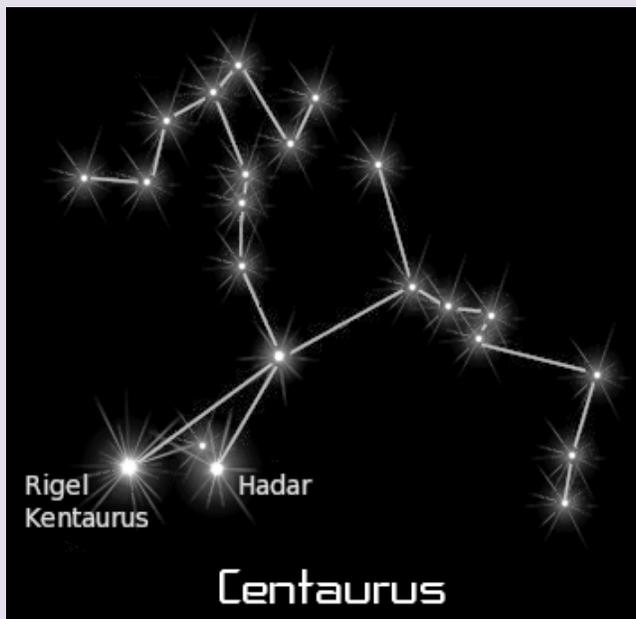
MEDITATION

Coma appears almost like a thought bubble above the sign of the virgin. As a 'maidservant of the LORD' it is likely her thoughts as a young girl were fixed on God. We learn that when Mary delivered the baby Jesus the shepherds who were watching their flocks by night came with a report of a great company of angels giving glory to God. Scripture says "**Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart**" (Luke 2:19).

Do you find yourself like Mary absorbed with thoughts of God? Or are you distracted by vain things? Are you like the shepherds spending each night contemplating the truth of God (displayed in the stars in the evening sky)? Or, are you seeking action at the Inn in Bethlehem? He permits distractions in this life. But those whose mind is set on him are highly esteemed.

God bless you.

CENTAURUS – THE DESPISED ONE



Hebrew, Greek, and Chaldeans agree the name of this sign is "**The Despised One**". The picture is a dual natured Centaur with the torso of a man connected to the body of a horse (at the point where the four lines join in the diagram). The centaur has a spear pointing to the upper left in the direction of the sign **Lupus**, the slain offering (a decan of **Libra**, the Cross).

Stars in the sign include: **Alpha Centauri** or **Toliman** (front knee of the horse) "The Heretofore and the Hereafter". We recognize this as a title of Christ: the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end, the one which is, which was, and which is to come – the Almighty. **Toliman** is the 3rd brightest star in the sky. The star **Hadar** (other foreleg) means "Magnificent".

The name of this star sign in Hebrew is the same word that is used in the prophecy of Isaiah:

"He was despised [Centaurus] and rejected of men, a man of sorrows and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised [Centaurus] and we esteemed him not" (Isaiah 53:3).

(Note: This constellation contains 35 stars. The spiritual number 35 means "Suffering Servant")

The location of this sign tells the story of suffering, judgment, and death. The star **Toliman** is located the furthest South in the sky relative to the equator of the earth than any star in any sign belonging to the Mazzaroth (or Zodiac). This means the star can only be seen in the most southern latitudes. In its own way this star of all the stars is rejected from the eyes of men.

The south of the sky signifies the darkness and sin of this world. Between the legs of "The Despised One" is the sign of the **Southern Cross** or **Crux**. The Hebrew letter tau, which is in the shape of a cross, signifies to be "cut off" or to die. Thus we see in the star signs the mighty Centaur laid upon the cross to die as a despised and rejected man. Not only that, but given the nature of death by crucifixion, to die in the most terrible form of suffering imaginable.

The sign tells us more about his death. The centaur is positioned in the sky as if charging with spear or lance to pierce the sign **Lupus**, or sacrificial offering, from the constellation **Libra**, the Cross. We see from this that the Lord Jesus voluntarily offered his own life as a sacrifice or sin offering:

"The reason the Father loves me is that I lay down my life – only to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father." (John 10:17-18)

The dual nature of Centaurus speaks of the dual nature of Christ: both man and God. He humbled himself and took on the form of a man, but as we learned from the lesson of the stars in **Virgo**, he was mighty in wisdom, in power, and full of the Holy Spirit. From the earthly perspective people could only see the man. From the spiritual perspective he possessed great might. Nicodemus said **"Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing unless God were not with him."** (John 3:2). Interestingly, in Greek myth centaurs were wise teachers and healers.

MEDITATION

We showed earlier how Mary had the attitude that the thoughts and meditation of her heart were dedicated to the Lord. The Lord Jesus demonstrated the attitude that his will was submitted to the Father. Jesus laid down his life and allowed the Father to direct him. Every word Jesus spoke, every deed Jesus did was according to the will of the Father. Jesus said:

"For I do not speak on my own accord, but the Father who sent me commanded me what to say and how to say it." (John 12:49)

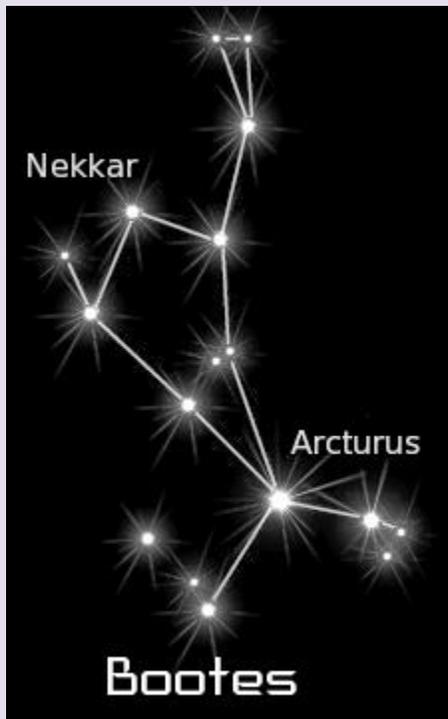
The message of Centaurus is we cannot live a life of power in the Spirit, of wisdom and healing until we surrender all to Jesus. Our lives cannot glorify him unless he fills us. He cannot fill us if there are areas of our life in rebellion to his authority.

We know our life is surrendered to him if he asks us to say something or do something and we do not resist the Holy Spirit. This is the secret of the powerful overcoming Christian life, to die to self.

Have you laid everything on the altar to him? Are you hearing his voice saying ‘this is the way, walk ye in it’? If you are struggling in this area here is the spiritual principle: take a step back to Mary. Allow your thoughts and mind to center on him. When we see him in his glory and majesty, when we see him in all the fullness of his love, then it will be our joy to serve him and lay down our life before him.

God bless you.

BOOTES / ARCTURUS – THE GOOD SHEPHERD



Bootes pictures a shepherd standing upright with staff in the right hand and an upraised sickle in the left hand.

It is a large constellation with a bright star **Arcturus**, which means “He Comes”, in the left knee. In the head the star **Nekkar** means “The Pierced”. Other stars: **Merga** (sickle) “Who Bruises”, **Mizar** or **Mirac** (at the waist) “Guarding”, **Muphride** (left calf) “Who Separates”, and **Al Katurops** (in the tip of the staff) “The Branch”.

Bootes is very bright: **Arcturus** is a star of the 1st magnitude and there are 6 of the 3rd magnitude and 11 of the 4th magnitude.

The ancient name of the sign may have been **Arcturus**. Speaking of God Job said “...he fastens the stars [in their place]. He alone spreads out the heavens; and treads on the waves of the sea; He made: **Arcturus, Orion, the Pleiades, and the Chambers of the South**” (Job 9:7-9)

The Good Shepherd stands above the sign of **Virgo**, above and to the left of the sign of **Coma**, almost as high up in the heavens as **Centaurus** was deep down in the south. To the immediate left of the staff of the **Good Shepherd** is the sign of **Corona Borealis**, the crown. Below **Corona Borealis**, in the direction **Arcturus** is facing, is the mouth of **Serpens**, the great serpent who is stretching out to take the crown but is being restrained by **Ophiuchus**.

Here is a picture of the heart of Lord Jesus: although he is standing right beside the crown **Corona Borealis** he is not grasping for it. Yes, the Father has crowned him and Jesus is seated now at the right hand of God, but the crowns and thrones mean little to Jesus. His thoughts are always on the sheep. When we see the elders pictured in Revelations, we see them casting down their crowns, prostrating themselves and worshipping the Lamb. They too care nothing of crowns or thrones. All their attention is on the shepherd of the sheep. It is true love: the shepherd for the sheep, and the sheep for the shepherd.

The location of the **Good Shepherd** high up in the heavens tells us the sign is a symbol of the resurrected Christ, ruling and protecting the flock he has purchased with his blood. Jesus makes this connection plain for us in Scripture:

“I tell you the truth: I am the Good Shepherd [Arcturus]. The Good Shepherd [Arcturus] lays down his life [Centaurus] for the sheep. The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. The man runs away because he is a hired man and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the Good Shepherd [Arcturus]. I know my sheep and my sheep know me – just as the Father knows me and I know the Father – and I lay down my life for the sheep [Centaurus].” (John 10:11-14)

The **Good Shepherd** has two implements in his hands: a staff and a sickle. The spear or lance that **Centaurus** wielded to pierce himself transformed into a staff of authority. The sickle in the left hand speaks of both the harvest of the seeds and the judgment of the wicked. The Seed of the Woman (**Virgo**), has laid down his life [the Kernel of Wheat falling to the ground], and now is ready to reap the harvest of souls who believe in him. The sickle is not a weapon to use against the Serpent because that battle was won at the cross. Authority is firmly in Christ's hands (staff): authority over his flock and also authority in the spiritual realm over the Serpent.

The star **Muphride** means “Who Separates”. Here we see the Good Shepherd is also a picture of judgment at the end of the age. Jesus will judge between true believers and all others:

“The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. The owner's servants came to him and said, ‘Sir, didn't you sow good seeds in your field? Where did the weeds come from?’ ‘An enemy did this’ he replied. The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’ ‘No’ he answered ‘because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First, collect the weeds

and tie them in bundles to be burned, then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.”
(Matthew 13:24-30)

“The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send out his angels and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.” (Matthew 13:37-43)

MEDITATION

Is Jesus your shepherd? Do you hear his voice? Do you follow him? The Lord makes this amazing statement: “All who ever came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them.” And he says “the hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep...he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.”

It seems a common principle of all religions that those in the flock support the one who ministers to them. Such a person is a hireling. Jesus plainly teaches us not to put our trust in hirelings. We have been called to spiritual life in Christ, not to follow man’s ways. We are to congregate as his children in sincerity and truth, under his Lordship and protection, to love one another, and to minister to one another. It is possible and it is preferable to have church without paid ministers. This requires a body of elders and other men to share the preaching and pastoral duties. Those who minister for free receive a reward in heaven. Those who ask for money receive their reward on earth. Let us store up riches for ourselves in heaven.

It is safe to say many of us have received a blessing through the ministry of a professional Christian at some time in our life. Because they take money does not appear to negate their gift. This teaching of Christ regarding hirelings is hard to comprehend. Yet, who are we to teach the Lord? He says “But you have this in your favor: you hate the doctrine of the Nicolatians² which I also hate.” (Rev.2:6) He hates it. Do we want to promote something he hates? Fast answer to that question: No! A thousand times No! The goal of every church

² Nicolatian means “to conquer the lay people”. The doctrine of the Nicolatians is to divide the body of Christ into clergy and laity. Scholars have tried to associate this sin with a deacon named Nicolas who was known to live carnally. However, that is not the plain meaning of the word ‘Nicolatian’. The church in Pergamon was tainted with this sin and its alter ego ‘the doctrine of Balaam’ (Rev. 2:14-15) from which we get the idea of professional ministry. Balaam sold his prophetic gift and is condemned for it, along with all others who ‘rush for profit’ (Jude 11). No small coincidence, the word Balaam in Hebrew means “Lord of the people”.

should be to promote lay ministry, period. When we get to the place where professional Christians occupy all positions of public ministry, we know something has gone badly wrong.

The apostle Paul provided for his own needs while he ministered in the local church. He set the standards for those who minister: **“We are not trying to please men but God, who tests our hearts. You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed – God is our witness. As apostles of Christ we could have been a burden to you, but we were gentle among you, like a mother caring for her children. We loved you so much we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well, because you had become so dear to us. Brothers, surely you remember our toil and hardship; we worked night and day in order not to be a burden to anyone while we preached the gospel to you.”** (1 Thess. 2:4-9)

God bless you.

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