

## The Constellations and the World Spirit

This morning I had a chance to reflect upon answers I gave at a recent seminar, to the question of "What is the difference between the Constellations and the Signs of the Zodiac?" The answers I gave at the time were those provided in the accompanying chapters of this book.

However I wonder today if I have yet fully characterised the spiritual activity of the constellations.

To recap first on a couple of important points.

1) Both are right, so where are they right.

2) Sidereal / Constellations are real and the home of the world spirit. ([see The Big Picture](#)) Further if we view them from the Sun, the internalised Spirit, rather than the Earth, we further emphasises a spiritual orientation. ([see: What is the Birth Chart?](#)) But what is this spiritual orientation?

3) Tropical / Signs are not real, they are a human made, 12 fold division of the suns path, starting at the northern hemisphere spring equinox. As such they will relate to purely human phenomena. Specifically being related to the Sun's path, they talk of the internalised spirit, as opposed to the World Spirit the Constellations describe. Being related to the Earth phenomena ie seen from the Earth, the Spring equinox and the north hemisphere; this all brings the internalised spirit to Earth. The internalised spirit and its degree of incarnation, is responsible for the psychological 'quality' of the human, which is what the signs of the zodiac are used primarily to describe. Sagittarius is a description of a psychological / internalised spiritual approach to life, while on Earth.

Jupiter, Fire, Mutable, Positive – An expansive adventurous, adaptable 'student'.

We also need to see that the Signs gained prominence in our cultural development, after Golgotha, and at the beginning of the process of internalisation of spirit. So its uptake is synonymous in human history with the strengthening of the internalised spirit, and human emancipation from the World Spirit. We have internalised the spirit and gained freedom from the direct universe, and in turn can objectively and consciously now perceive it. We all agree this is a natural and good thing.

To take this one step further, we have to see that the Sun's path we are dividing into 12 parts, is embedded in the sphere of the planets. As, seen from the Earth, the Sun exists between Venus' path and Mars'. This planetary dimension means that the birth chart made of these elements is telling us of the internalised spirit possessed / captured, by the Astrality, while incarnated on Earth. Thus it is a great chart, for looking at the Astral karma the internalised spirit has chosen to experience in this incarnation, while on Earth. Watching the transits of the planets over the natal chart gives the timing of these events coming into play. **Thus making this chart the perfect tool to objectify the astrality and then consciously choose how we wish to respond.** Therefore making it the best tool for the period of consciousness soul, we are presently in.

So in these two systems we have our normal BD polarity - spirit and matter, which probably should be characterised more as our connection to World Spirit – the constellations and manifest spirit – the signs.

Based upon these Astronomical realities I have concluded, that using the constellations and heliocentric orientation, will give us a reading of the spiritual urges coming from within the individual, while the Earth orientated Sign chart will give us a reading of the karma the spirit experiences in life, and experienced often as things coming from outside towards us. This assessment is also based somewhat upon my observation of the information coming from these charts and where and how I experienced them, as much as following the "astronomical reality".

My considerations today, regarding the constellations, were on the nature of the World Spirit and where it is appropriate.

There are some folks who focus solely upon the constellations, and consider it ONLY appropriate to use the constellations and usually criticise the Signs with some fervour. I trust I have shown above, where the signs are of particular use for the modern human, and especially for Anthroposophists, however I can not say the same for the constellations.

The constellations are the home of the World Spirit, which can be easily characterised as the 'Cosmic Plan'. ([see: The Creative Formative Forces](#)) The constellations 'live' in the Galaxy and the Star realm, and so are beings of the realm of the archetypes, and thus the home of the formative forces, which lead to the base 'thoughts', upon which all the species find their source. Hence my characterisation of this being the cosmic plan. These are the basic impulses upon which life, finally manifests and follows, and which enter our planetary sphere as Saturn 1. ([See Lievegoed](#)) In this way, the stars can be characterised as 'God the father', or spiritual impulses outside us, rather than 'The Son', or internalised spirit impulses, which we modern humans are, or can be.

So, if we humans as incarnated spirit beings, use the constellations as an orientation, we are linking ourselves back to our spiritual archetypal impulse or 'God the Father', rather than our incarnated spirit impulse - 'The Son'. This is not a bad thing. However being aware of our spiritual archetypal impulse is like 'remembering our roots' or our heredity. However in our daily life our 'success' comes from how we act in the environment we find ourselves, not in what distant land we come from.

So what part of our being are we focusing on with the constellations?

**It is our spiritual connection with the universal plan, that deep inner urge of what we wish to bring to Earth, as a being of the Universe.** But this is an urge, if not tempered by the incarnated spirit, is akin to what we expressed in the Sentient Soul period of human development. This was a time when we still responded unconsciously to the spiritual impulses. We were children of God without freedom, without the ability to consciously move through our karma and determine our own fate, which is now the task of our time. A task imaged in the taking on of the Signs, as the predominate 12 fold influence, by our present culture. We can not imagine that this development has been some random accident of the last 2000 years. This has to have been a conscious event, fostered by our cultural fathers, whoever they may have been, to foster our incarnating spirit.

So while I appreciate there is a place for using the constellations, I suggest we need to be clear this is 'a external message from the Gods' and that this message has to be objectified and seen in the light of our inner spirits reality. This message needs to become a free impulse or at least an impulse we consciously choose to enact. So the constellations need to be filtered through the Signs. The impulse must be tempered by the reality at hand, for it to become an appropriate response.

## **Heliocentric and Geocentric**

Both, the heliocentric planets in the constellations and the geocentric planets in the signs have their place. In between these two extremes, we have two midway points - the heliocentric chart with the signs as the background, and the geocentric chart with the constellations as the background.

This first one, the heliocentric planetary position with the Signs as the background, has a particular problem. The signs are a 12 fold division on the suns path beginning at the Spring equinox of the Earth. Being a Sun centred chart this is therefore an impossibility.

The Signs in this context, have to be seen as a 12 fold division of the Earth's path, with the beginning referenced to the Earth's position at its northern hemisphere Spring Equinox and not the Sun's perspective. This change from a Sun related phenomena, to an Earth related phenomena, is such a significant change that these should not be called 'the Signs', but

something else. For example when we make the small change of reference, from using a 12 fold division of the Sun's path and the spring equinox point ie Signs, to a 12 fold division of the Sun's path and the eastern horizon at the moment of birth, we call this new division, 'the Houses'. This house division indicates where any indicated event will occur in a persons life, rather than with the sign, where we see the 'psychological' nature of the impulse to become manifest, in the house. Eg Mars in Aries in the 2<sup>nd</sup> house would mean a sudden gain of a new possession, while Mars in Taurus in the 2<sup>nd</sup> would be, the possession would be achieved through ones consistent efforts.

So in the Heliocentric chart, we could call the signal division, the 'Terra Signs' to honour the roll of the Earth in this perspective. With the Terra Signs we are bringing a World Spirit phenomena, not to the Sun / Internal Spirit, but to the Earth / the physical body. These signs should have a similar action to the houses, however rather than showing, which part of your life things manifest, they would be somewhere between the Sun Signs and the Houses.

If the Sun Signs show the psychological or 'thinking' side of things, and the houses show the physical / will side of our lives, then this in between phase could be looked for, in the feeling realms of the human. More particularly how the internal spirits impulses effect our feelings, emotions or even in our etheric body and their subsequent impact upon our physical health and then our lives on Earth. This is a suggestion only and could no doubt be refined further.

A heliocentric chart using terra signs, can therefore be considered to provide a picture of the liberated internalised spirit, (not possessed by the Astrality), while living in a sentient feeling form. It would be fair to say that using the Terra Signs, indicates specific 'life' activities on Earth, while if we use Mars Signs, we would get a picture of the Internalised Spirits life on Mars.

I appreciate much of this is from 'spiritual scientific research' or some might say, supposition, and even though I have used tried and true 'game rules', I appreciate further physical investigation is required.

The second option – the geocentric chart ( and thus the Sun embedded in the planets) with the constellation background, however seems far more straightforward.

It describes, how the World Spirit impulse is received by the astrally possessed internalised Spirit, while on Earth.

So it can be seen as a chart of what inspires one, however the reception of that inspiration, would be conditioned by the nature of ones astral possession. Sometimes this would be clear and positive at other times it could be highly suspect. From another angle, this is how our unconscious wanderings through life, are influenced by The Cosmic Plan.

Next would be to identify The Plan as represented by the constellations. What are the Gods of the various constellations trying to convey to us? This has been addressed by other writers.

In all this I have not addressed the notion that the constellations are represented in the physical body.

We often see the physical body divided into 12 parts and associated to the zodiac. There is no doubt a significant and real relationship here. Whether this is signs or the constellations is never made particularly clear. It can happily be neither. It can just be, a 12 fold division of the body, and thus have an archetypal relationship to the Zodiac Sphere. It can also be both, as I have seen both Sidereal and Tropical Astrologers quote "planetary afflictions in Sign /Constellation indicate debilitation in that part of the body" Look at any Sign Pisces feet, or Capricorn issues with their knees, or Suchers Pre Natal embryology for examples.

I harmonise this through appreciating the Spirit / Physical body polarity that exists in manifestation. The Hydrogen Carbon relationship, that forms the primary interaction of life, and stays bounds with each other till 'death'. In homeopathy it is identified that to best effect the Spirits activity we need to use the minerals. So while the spirits activity is found openly

active in the thinking and psychology of the human it is found as an internalised formative principle, within the physical structure as well.

If I had not seen so much direct evidence of the signs relationship to bodily problems, I would easily go with the constellations as a ruler of the physical body. As, if we did not have an incarnated spirit, our bodies would still conform to the rhythms of 'The Plan', as we see in animals, plants and minerals. But my experience says I have to accept both, and for this moment I live with the vagueness of that stance.