

History of Astrology

by LeLonni Campbell

What do Johanna Kepler, Nicholls Culpeper, Tycho Brahe, Pope Leo, Ronald Reagan, Hippocrates, Sir Isaac Newton, the Greek, Roman, Moslems, Christians, Jewish, Egyptians, Native American, Druids and many others have in common? Astrology. Astrology was the first science and all other sciences have evolved from it. The Arabs came up with the first mathematical system so they could chart the stars. Astronomy is the little brother of Astrology, all major religions at one time or another embraced Astrology. It has been with us from the dawn of time. Now that is an amazing legacy.

Today we look at Astrology as a way to understand ourselves and others, as well as, a way to understand what is going on in our life, but that is not the origin of this ancient science. Way back when most people didn't know what day they were born much less the time, birth charts were not done for the common man, but were reserved for royalty, generals and people of importance. Astrology's main function was to predict world events, weather, droughts, and times of stress and times of bounty. The astrologers of old did not have all the fancy equipment we have today. They sat and watched the stars and the sky, and they observed what happened when the planets made their trip through the sky. They saw that every time Saturn and Jupiter were in conjunction, or next to each other, a King or important person died. They saw when Mars was prominent, wars broke out. They could predict eclipse. They feared comets as the harbingers of bad news. The first physicians were astrologers who drew charts for the moment a sick person took to their sick bed. From this chart they would predict the development of the disease, and they would predict a good or bad outcome. The physician knew which planets ruled what parts of the body. They knew Mars was head injuries and they knew Saturn could mean death if not well placed. Herbs for healing were picked according to the phases of the Moon. They also planted crops according to the phases of the Moon. We still do this today

During the dark ages, astrology was not highly regarded. It was during this time it stated to get the reputation of not being a science, but a superstition. Much of the knowledge from the ancients was lost during this time period. Not just knowledge of astrology was lost, but knowledge of our history as a species in general was lost as well. Some brave men kept the science alive it became part of secret cults. It has never fully shaken that false image it had acquired during those times. Religions felt threatened by astrology so they banished it, and made it a sin or crime to study or use it. But it was never fully repressed and therefore not all was lost. Many of the ancient's myths are stories about our universe and the energy of the planets. The study of Astrology only creates more awe for the orderliness of the universal forces, and how humankind is a part of nature, and a part of the whole. Our ability to work in harmony with the universe is what allows us success in our lives

Astrology is very much a part of our modern life on a daily level, but we are just not aware of it as such. Where do you think we got our system for keeping track of time? Why do we have two sets of 12 to account for a day? Each hour day and night has a sign that rules it. Our months are based on the lunar cycle, and if you think about it, not

only do our days have 12 hours and our nights have 12 hours, but our year has 12 months. Historically 12 has been an important number and a sacred number. Examples from the bible include the 12 tribes of Israel, the 12 disciples of Jesus. In Mythology Hercules had 12 labors and it goes on and on throughout history

Astrology is having resurgence, not only with the common man, but academia as well. Lately books are being written on the subject by well respected Authors, who have studied and researched the subject. My two favorites are Psyche and Cosmo's by Richard Tarnas and The Fated Sky by Benson Bobrick. Both books are a good read. These books explore not only the history of Astrology but show how it is relevant in today's world. If we watch the planetary cycles, we can predict times of strife, just as our ancient forefathers did. We can recognize times when the world in general is feeling liberal or conservative, we realize everything is happening as it should. We are collectively making choices and decisions because of the energy the universe is projecting.

Astrology helps us make choices and it helps us recognize ourselves as a part of nature. It helps us understand this biblical quote on a grander level: "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heavens"