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Revelation 18:4

"And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."

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Editor's Note

Messianic believers are entrusted with task of spreading the light to the darkened world. Being the Children of light and of the day, it is out duty to emphasize on the need of the light to the rest of the people in the darkened world. Messiah insists that we become productive with the light given to us by the Almighty father: Matthew 5:14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Matthew 5:15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

We all have been allotted a task by the Almighty Father, unfortunately many are not zealous in their allotment. In this issue the foregoing is well elaborated in "BELEIVER'S END TIMES TASK". Read also about "A BLINDED JUDGE" by Martin Makokha. As the scheme of end-time prophecy is revealed in relation to world events, it behooves the children of Elohim to become ever more alert and watchful as outlined by Lawrence Mugambi in "WATCH". We must infer that stars cannot foresee the future if we think the God of the Bible is the one genuine God. To believe that stars have the capacity to foresee the future is to believe that they are gods! It substitutes the stars for Elohim and gives Elohim's glory to others. That is a type of idolatry, which Elohim opposes, whether it is done intentionally or not as inputted by Paul K. Wambui in "IDOLATRY BEHIND ASTROLOGY; THE ZODIAC SIGN". John Kennedy Changandu premiere with "ISAAC AND REBEKAH". In "BASIC HOME EDUCATION" by Abigail Chepkoech we are advised on how to relate and raise our kids biblically. Paul Njogu Mureithi tells us more about "EUNUCHS BORN FROM THEIR MOTHER'S WOMB". "MESSIAH AS A PACKAGE" Continues...

As we come to the close of gentile age (world being governed by gentile leaders) we should be vigilant because Satan is very busy devising way to make the believers error and consequently miss in the Messianic Kingdom. Henceforth let's not be ignorant of Satan's devices, lest he gets an advantage of us and make us miss the soon coming kingdom : 2 Corinthians 2:11 Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

Shalom.

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BELIEVER'S END-TIME TASK



By Peter G. King'ori

Every person in the world has a role to play in the end time events that will usher the Messianic kingdom. Unfortunately, most of the people will play their role unaware. For those who take the Bible as their guide, they have been fully advised on what to do and have been instructed on what to do; hence they will play their role aware. As Messianic believers we are of the latter group, that is, those who play their role aware. We are advised to be alert, awake and sober as we play our role: 1 Thessalonians 5:4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. 5:5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness. 5:6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. 5:7 For they that sleep sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

Messianic believers are entrusted with task of spreading the light to the darkened world. Being the Children of light and of the day, it is our duty to emphasize on the need of the light to the rest of the people in the darkened world. Messiah insists that we become productive with the light given to us by the Almighty father: Matthew 5:14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Matthew 5:15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

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Most people are busy pursuing vanities which have time frame at expense of life eternally. Nothing in the entire world can be compared to the hidden treasures of the world to come. Paul emphasized the foregoing in: Philippians 3:13 "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,". We should be pursuant of the heavenly treasure which is hid in our Savior. We should input on our task ardently knowing that time is of essence and hence redeem time. Our thoughts and deeds should be directed to the work of the Almighty Father. Let no one suppress your input in the allotted task of spreading the Light. Our Almighty Father is faithful and will reward us justly.

As we come to the close of gentile age (world being governed by gentile leaders) we should be vigilant because Satan is very busy devising way to make the believers error and consequently miss in the Messianic Kingdom. Henceforth let's not be ignorant of Satan's devices, lest he gets an advantage of us and make us miss the soon coming kingdom: 2 Corinthians 2:11 Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

Shalom.

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By Martin Makokha

A Blinded **JUDGE**

Kenyans have just finished a constitutional process of electing their political leaders who will reign for the next 5 years. The process is usually marked by high political tensions which at times results into bloodshed and displacement of people.

This year has been quite different compared to the past elections as the, 'Christians' have come out strongly with some 'church leaders' whipping their congregations towards a certain course. You may be forgiven if you thought that the whipping was due to some Christian values that particular candidates hold, no. Among the four presidential contestants was a serving church bishop who never received attention from fellow ministers, in fact from all the tallies, he led from behind. If there was to be a church candidate then this was the man, a man of the collar, never involved in any documented scandal or even political extremism. But he was never supported by the church, funny enough he was even defeated by the one championing for optimum farming. Funny to say that bang smokers stood with their man as Christian ministers abandoned their fellow minister.

In Kenya the constitution dictates that after every five years, every citizen who is 18 years and above and is a registered voter makes a decision through the ballot. This gives every such citizen an opportunity to be the judge on who she/he wants to take over the government. Yes. Article 1 of the first chapter of Kenyan constitution declares that all sovereign power is vested in the people, who can exercise it directly or indirectly through their elected leaders.

As a judge, you are given immense constitutional powers to decide on who will lead the country for a term of five years. How do you as a believer exercise such powers? How do you make a choice that is Biblically approved and correct? There are various guidance from the Bible on this matter, due to time and space I will only discuss one.

Kenyan politics is marked by the exchange of gifts to the extent that a candidate who gives more has high chances of being elected into office. Not once you will hear people saying that they will vote for whoever gave them something. As believers

we must stand by the tenets of the Bible in such matters and speak the language of the Scriptures.

Elohim, the Creator of heaven and earth knew very well the repercussions of such like actions and thus warned the Israelites:

"And thou shalt take no gift: for the gift blindeth the wise, and perverteth the words of the righteous" **Exodus 23:8**

Adams Clarke had the following to say on the above verse "A strong ordinance against selling justice, which has been the disgrace and ruin of every state where it has been practiced.....This was the more necessary in those early and corrupt times, as he who had most money, and gave the largest presents to the king or queen, was sure to gain his cause in the king's court; whether he had right and justice on his side or not"

It's only at the election period that a voter is given the powers by the constitution to become the king/queen and is expected to offer a judgment. At such a time the voter wields power to hire and fire but if this voter is a Bible believer, then he should be guided by the Bible.

This ordinance is as true now as it was in the Biblical times. Majority of the 14M or so people who casted their ballots are Bible believing and believe on the validity of the above verse. How many Bible believing people voted on account of a gift, money, harambee contribution that a particular candidate had given them? Going to the ballot, you had an opportunity not to be blinded by anything but to go for justice.

As believers we need to be asking ourselves, why is one willing to offer 'gifts' for a position in the public service. If the position is about serving you and me, then why give money? Psalmist tells us the real reason why our politicians use money in getting our vote;

"In whose hands is mischief and their right hand is full of bribes" **Psalms 26:10**

Yes, the politician gives you money because his hand is full of mischief; he knows very well that once he gets to that public office, he will make more than what he's giving you. He will have

an opportunity not to service you but to his interests.

Paul says that money is the root of all evil (1 Tim.6:10) and true it has destroyed many not only in this era but also in the Biblical era. Prophet Samuel's sons were killed by Elohim for receiving and being blinded by the bribes in form of gifts (1 Sam.8:3)

Who among the current Church leadership and their membership just like Samuel can stand today and declare these words;

"Behold, here I am: witness against me before the LORD, and before his anointed: whose ox have I taken? Or whose ass have I taken? Or whom have I defrauded? Whom have I oppressed? Or of whose hand have I received any bribe to blind mine eyes therewith? And I will restore it you" 1 Sam.12:3

Who among the clergy and the flock can declare, 'which politician's gift, money, harambee, bribe etc. have I taken?' Without care and shame people have perfected the art of moving from one campaign meeting to the next. Once a candidate gives out money, the crowd rushes to the opponent's camp to pick some more money. Now come the voting period, who are you going to vote for?

What motivated you to wake up early to vote? The gift? The

propaganda shared by the opponents? What really stirred you? When that politician gave you money what was it for? Any job you did for him? Does he usually give you such money or just happened in the last few months?

As believers we need to be different from the world and be careful on our participation in politics. We should be truthful and never be blinded by the gifts.

Follow me on YouTube for in-depth teachings on the above and others through channel: **ma makokha**

Without care and shame people have perfected the art of moving from one campaign meeting to the next. Once a candidate gives out money, the crowd rushes to the opponent's camp to pick some more money.

By Lawrence Mugambi

WATCH!

As the scheme of end-time prophecy is revealed in relation to world events, it behoves the children of Elohim to become ever more alert and watchful. One of the most important Biblical commands to the saint of Elohim today, is to 'watch' for the return of the Messiah. *"For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to*

watch. Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the Master of the house cometh, at even, or in the morning: least coming suddenly he finds you sleeping. And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch!" Mark 13:33-37. To the observant believer there should be no doubt that we are in the closing days of time, and that the King of kings is soon to return, yet the Bible warns that many today (even believers) will be asleep and unaware of the 'signs of the times'. *"Therefore, let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober."* 1 Thessalonians 5:6.

Watch. ...and Wait

When Messiah came the first time, as a babe in Bethlehem, there were those watchful of His coming —devout people like Simeon and the prophetess, Anne; waiting for the coming of the Messiah (Luke 2:25-38). The lives

of both these servants of Elohim were well spent when the promised one finally appeared; yet, they did not despair in waiting, and did not “grow weary in well doing.” Anne the prophetess was widowed and old, yet she abode in the Temple night and day praising Elohim; waiting for the Messiah with fasting and prayer. If only we would follow her example, what heavenly blessings and strength would be given us! On the other hand, the sad consequences of straying from the ‘temple of prayer’ should be impressed upon our minds, for if we are not stayed upon Messiah, if we are not regenerated with the hope of His coming, we will lose the power to with-stand the enemy and our faith will waver. We are living in a wicked age where ‘iniquity abounds’. The Bible tells us “that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, and saying ‘Where is the promise of his coming?’” 2 Peter 3:34. *“But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint”* Isaiah 40:31. The promise of His coming will be real to those who wait on Him and like Simeon and Anne they will be led “by the Spirit into the Temple” to see the Messiah.

The promise of His coming will be real to those who wait on Him and like Simeon and Anne they will be led “by the Spirit into the Temple” to see the Messiah.

We are given another example of those who were waiting for the Messiah’s first coming. *“When Yahshua was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, Where is*

he that is born king of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him. They departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were

come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down and worshipped him.” Matthew 2:1, 2, 9-11. And there is also the example of the shepherds in the field, who later witnessed the manager scene, and were, in the middle of the night, awake and watching over their flocks: *“There were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them. . . And the angel said unto them, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the City of David a Saviour, which is Messiah the Lord.”* Luke 2:8-11. I am sure we do not suppose that it was by mere chance heaven chose to give this famous angelic proclamation of the King’s birth to these alert shepherds keeping watch over their flocks. In this age, before the glorious appearing of the Redeemer, when the world is consumed by forces of darkness; in this darkest night, let us look for the star of His coming as did the wise men, let us remain awake and alert like the shepherds, and above all let us wait upon the Lord, as did the saints at the Temple, that the Holy Spirit may minister unto us in the hope of His coming.

Watch. ...Alone

Watching and waiting will not be easy for the children of Elohim, as the strength and ranks of the enemy increase before the final day of reckoning. But, Elohim assures us in His Word that *“Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from Messiah Yahshua our Lord.”* Romans 8:38, 39. What a wonderful promise! Notwithstanding, the multitudes, the principalities and powers, will still always try their level best to discourage our faith in the Lord and in His appearing; Satan will always have the majority on His side, but as long as there is even one “watch tower in the wilderness” (II Chronicles 20:24), the Gospel truth of the soon coming Kingdom will prevail. May we therefore stand alone with Elohim, with the mighty minority of heaven. May we say as did David, who faced the giant in the name of the Lord and was victorious — *“I watch and am as a sparrow alone upon the house top.”* Psalms 102:7. Watch. ..and be Ready

"Make the watch strong." Jeremiah 51:12. *"Be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."* Matthew 24:44. In the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until Noah entered the ark, and knew not until the flood came, and took them all away. *"So shall also the coming of the Son of man be."*

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Matthew 24:44. In the days before

the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in Marriage, until Noah entered the ark, and knew not until the flood came, and took them all away. *"So shall also the coming of the Son of man be."* There will be many people unprepared for the coming of the great judge. Even we who consider ourselves His people must be careful that we do not fall into the class that will bewail the coming of the Lord.

The Bible tells us that some will tire of watching for His coming and will eat and drink with the drunken and smite their fellow servants saying, *"The Lord delayeth His coming. The Lord of that servant shall come in a day when he looketh not for him. and in an hour that he is not aware of, and shall cut him asunder, and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."* Matthew 24: 49-51. What a sad, sad day that will be for the back-slidden servant! *"But for the servant whom the Lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them? And if he shall come in the second watch, or in the third watch and find them so, blessed are those servants."* Luke 12:35-38. In Matthew 25 Yahshua relates the parable of ten virgins (believers) who are waiting in the night for the bridegroom (Messiah). Five He calls foolish and five wise. The foolish five

had not prepared themselves adequately for the long wait through the night. They did not bring enough oil to keep their lamps alight while they slumbered and slept and awaited the bridegroom. The ten virgins awoke at mid-night, and the five foolish, finding their lamps had run out, went to search for more oil. The bridegroom came while they were gone; and went inside the wedding chamber with the five wise virgins who were prepared to wait through the night for His coming; but, the five unprepared were left outside and the door was barred.

Now is the time to prepare, Believers! *"Of the times and seasons, brethren, ye had no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord cometh as a thief in the night."* 1 Thessalonians 5:1, 2. *"See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil."* Ephesians 5:15, 16. Watch, pray and be ready! *"Be instant (prepared) in season and out of season."* *"Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong."* 1 Corinthians 16:13. *"Let your loins be girded about, and your light burning; and be yourselves like unto men that wait for their Lord, that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately."* Luke 12:35.

Watch. ...and Pray

"Watch ye and pray" was Yahshua's command to the disciples in Gethsemane (Mark 14:38), and just as Messiah asked His disciples, before Calvary, to keep watch and pray with him in the garden of Gethsemane, He is asking His disciples today to remain awake and watch and pray throughout the symbolic 'night in Gethsemane' that is prevalent on this earth before His second appearing. We must pray that Elohim will help us preserve through the night that is to precede Messiah's coming. and from which He will deliver us at His coming — if we remain faithful. *"Watch ye therefore; and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass (Matthew 24) and to stand before the Son of man."* Luke 2:36. *"For ye know not what hour your Lord doth come, but know this, that if*



the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come he would have WATCHED, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up.” Matthew 24:42. “Continue in prayer, and watch.” Colossians 4:2.

Article by MZR Editor adopted from Mt. Zion Reporter, 1982 Bul/Chisleu. More of these articles are in <https://jsd-cog.org/judah-magazines> To facilitate quick reference of the topics in Judah Magazines please download [this document](#). Thanks and be blessed. Shalom

Yours in Messiah,
Lawrence Mugambi

*“Hope is the thing with feathers That perches
in the soul And sings the tune without the
words And never stops at all.”*

Emily Dickinson



THE ZODIAC SIGN

Idolatry Behind Astrology

By Paul K Wambui

Astrology is defined as "the ancient art or science of divining human fate and future from hints provided by the positions of stars and other heavenly bodies" - Encyclopedia Britannica, Vol. 2, p. 575, 1956. It assumes that the location and movement of celestial bodies have a significant impact (but not total control) on human lives.

According to The Bible, Astrology is unrealistic and named among idolatry acts. A perfect instance is during the reign of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon as in Daniel 4:7-8. Then came in the magicians, the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers: and I told the dream before them; but they did not make known unto me the interpretation thereof. 8 But at the last Daniel came in before me, whose name was Belteshazzar, according to the name of my god, and in whom is the spirit of the holy gods: and before him I told the dream, saying,

The term "horoscope" refers to a diagram of the positions of the celestial bodies that is used to forecast their impact on people's lives.

Astrology attempts to advise people how to act based on the position of the stars, etc. So people "trust their lucky stars" and "thank their lucky stars." They seek guidance from some Occult source other than Elohim.

[Isaiah 47:13, 14](#) - Babylon originated astrology. Elohim promised to destroy Babylon, then asked what the astrologers, stargazers, and monthly prognosticators would do to stop Him. All these were involved in astrology, but they were powerless against Elohim.

As the earth revolves around the sun, the "Zodiac" is a thin strip or belt of the skies in which the sun, moon, and major planets appear. This zone is split into twelve sections, each of which has a constellation (a collection of stars) that has been named after that portion. Each of these 12 constellations is known as a "Zodiac sign." The sign under which a person was born is considered to be the portion in which the sun may be found during the time of year when he or she was born. Random House College Dictionary defines "occult" as "magic, astrology, and other claimed disciplines claiming use or knowledge of secret, mysteri-

ous, or supernatural agencies." Witchcraft and sorcery, Satanism, spiritualism, fortune-telling, and psychics are examples of occult activities.

Because the sun is so important to man's needs, ancient humans assumed that other celestial bodies must be as well. They assumed that the greatest celestial bodies were the most significant, thus they called the sun, moon, and major planets after their primary gods, while the stars were named after minor gods. The gods' actions were supposed to be represented by the motions of celestial bodies. Men attempted to discover the intentions of the gods and thereby foretell the future by examining these motions. If the celestial bodies went in a given direction and certain occurrences occurred, then similar events should occur the next time they move in that direction.

The 12 "signs" [of the Zodiac] are geometrical divisions of 30 degrees in length counted from the position of the sun at the spring equinox in the technical sense. The signs of the Zodiac correlated rather well with the constellations in Hipparchus' day [2000 years ago when the signs of the Zodiac were created]; that is, the first sign (named Aries) matched with the constellation Aries. Because of precession [the swaying of the earth's axis], there is now a difference the length of a sign, therefore the constellation Pisces now occupies the sign Aries." - 959 in Encyclopedia Britannica, Vol. 23.

The constellations were at specific points in the sky at specific times of the year when astrology was developed 2000 years ago. Because that constellation was where it was at that time of year 2000 years ago, astrology says you were born under a given sign if you were born at a certain time of year. The earth, on the other hand, wobbles a little, like a top wobbling on its axis. As a result, the constellations are no longer where astrology predicts they should be at the time of your birth, 2000 years later. They're really a whole sign out of sync! Because you were born at a specific time of year, astrology says you were born under a specific sign, which means you were born when a con-

stellation was at a specific point. However, the constellation of that sign was nowhere near where they claimed it was! However, keep in mind that the location of the stars is believed to establish your personality and fate. The next constellation down the line is the one under which you were truly born. As a result, astrological practice contradicts astrology theory. If there was ever any truth to its forecasts, it no longer exists.

It is possible to practice idolatry without intentionally performing worship rituals. Coveting, for example, is idolatry ([Eph. 5:5](#); [Col. 3:5](#)). Idolatry is anything that puts created things in the position that only God should occupy.

The negativity of Zodiac signs is that the believes are based with reflex to birthdays; every single unit of the Zodiac signs represent people born within the range of the sun as in the table below:

House	Unicode Character	Ecliptic Longitude ($a \leq \lambda < b$)	Latin name	Gloss	Greek name (Romanization of Greek)
1	♈	0°	Aries	Ram	Κριός (Krios)
2	♉	30°	Taurus	Bull	Ταῦρος (Tauros)
3	♊	60°	Gemini	Twins	Δίδυμοι (Didymoi)
4	♋	90°	Cancer	Crab	Καρκίνος (Karkinos)
5	♌	120°	Leo	Lion	Λέων (Leōn)
6	♍	150°	Virgo	Maiden	Παρθένος (Parthenos)
7	♎	180°	Libra	Scales	Ζυγός (Zygos)
8	♏	210°	Scorpio	Scorpion	Σκορπίος (Skorpios) ^[46]
9	♐	240°	Sagittarius	(Centaur) Archer	Τοξότης (Toxotēs)
10	♑	270°	Capricornus	Mountain Goat or "Goat-horned" Sea-Goat	Αἰγόκερως (Aigokerōs)
11	♒	300°	Aquarius	Water-Bearer	Υδροχόος (Hydrokhoos)
12	♓	330°	Pisces	2 Fish ^[47]	Ιχθύες (Ikthyes)

We must infer that stars cannot foresee the future if we think the God of the Bible is the one genuine God. To believe that stars have the capacity to foresee the future is to believe that they are gods! It substitutes the stars for God and gives God's glory to others. That is a type of idolatry, which God opposes, whether it is done intentionally or not.

[Galatians 4:8, 9](#) - Gentiles had been idol worshipers, but were converted to the true God. Why then go back to the principles of heathenism? Idolatry is as clearly forbidden today as in the Old Testament. [[2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1](#); [Gal. 5:19-21](#); [1 John 5:21](#); [1 Cor. 10:14ff](#); etc.]

Everything that astrology claims to accomplish is fulfilled for Christians through Jesus Christ and His word.

* The true meaning of life is revealed only in God's word, not in Occult appeals to other forces.

* The true understanding of your character and what kind of person you should seek to become can be found in God's word, not in the Occult.

* The best way to prepare for the future is found in God's word. It may not tell everything people want to know about the future, but it tells everything we need to know. It is the only sure way to know what God plans for the future, especially life after death.

All true spiritual needs of the believer are met through God and His word. Why look elsewhere? To seek answers in astrology is to show a lack of faith in God and to turn instead to heathen idolatry.

[1 Thessalonians 5:22](#) - Let us abstain from every form (appearance) of evil. [[Col. 2:18, 19](#); [Acts 19:19](#)]

Weaknesses of the Zodiac Theorem

Speculations about a 13th zodiac sign appear every now and again, with claims that this enigmatic addition might upend the astrological system as we know it. Based on its astrological placement in the zodiac's chart of the sky, the widely-circulated internet notion (which appears to have originated in a viral astronomy-related post created for youngsters) claims that the constellation Ophiuchus should be regarded the 13th zodiac sign. But hold off on altering your zodiac sign just yet: the notion lacks astrological validity. As an astrologer, I'm relieved to announce that astrology still has just 12 signs, and Ophiuchus remains a constellation rather than a sign of the zodiac.

That isn't to say that Ophiuchus hasn't grabbed

people's interest. While Ophiuchus isn't a zodiac sign, we may have some fun guessing what characteristics it could have if it were. From around Nov. 29 to Dec. 17 each year, the sun travels through the constellation of Ophiuchus, which is considered Sagittarius territory in tropical astrology (the basis for mainstream western astrology). If Ophiuchus were a sign, it's said to have certain characteristics in common with Sagittarius and Scorpio (given that those are its neighboring constellations). Being passionate, spiritual, smart, and attractive are all examples of this. However, all zodiac signs have flaws, and Ophiuchus zodiac signs are no exception. "Ophiuchans are brutish because they are quick-tempered, deceptive, and nasty," astrologer Lisa Stardust, creator of The Astrology Deck, tells Bustle. "They are motivated by money and driven by a desire for fame, and they may be greedy by promoting [themselves] at the expense of others."

Any opinions concerning Ophiuchus' strengths and limitations at this stage are pure guesswork, not founded on decades of astrological evidence that informs most modern-day practice. There is no element or modality linked with Ophiuchus, and unlike the other signs, it does not have an opposing sign to balance out its energy or provide context for its attributes. But, just for fun, let's look at some of the most challenging Ophiuchus personality qualities if this constellation were to become a legitimate part of the zodiac.

The conclusion is: Belief in the existence of astrology to predict human life is an abomination: Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: [Ecclesiastes 12: 13-14](#); Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this *is the whole duty of man*. 14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether *it be good, or whether it be evil*.

John Kennedy Changandu

*Your star is not God. So why consult it? Your star
sign is not your identity. So why own it?*

Deuteronomy 18:10-12 "There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or daughter pass through the fire [as a sacrifice], one who uses divination and fortune-telling, one who practices witchcraft, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, or one who casts a charm or spell, or a medium, or a spiritist, or a necromancer [who seeks the dead]. For everyone who does these things is utterly repulsive to the LORD; and because of these detestable practices the LORD your God is driving them out before you."

ISAAC & REBEKAH

By John Kennedy Changandu

We all grew up reading and hearing these great love stories. Tristan and Iseult, Ndemi and Wanjiru, Romeo and Juliet, Oliver and Jennifer (in Erich Segal's spell-binding 1971 novel, *Love Story*), and many others, all so very moving, adventurous and oft times with a dash of tragedy. Such is the Genesis 24 story of Isaac (Yitzhak in Hebrew) and Rebekah. It is without doubt one of the greatest and most beautiful love stories in the entire Bible.

You see, old man Abraham was healthy and hale, but quite advanced in years and Elohim had blessed him "...all things..." (Verse 1). So with the many years "under his belt", his concern naturally turned to the future and, more specifically, to what would amount to be the perfect marital setting for his heir - his only son Isaac. This was especially so, bearing in mind that Elohim had given Abraham a number of sublime promises (Genesis 13:14-17, 15:17-21, 17:4-8).

He therefore summons Eliezer (the Damascene), the oldest of his servants and the man in charge of his entire household. He intends to dispatch him on such a critically important mission that he has to put him under solemn oath first. He wants Eliezer to go and get a suitable wife for his only son, Isaac. The bride must not come from among the neighboring Canaanites, but must be obtained from Abraham's extended family in faraway Haran. Eliezer immediately assembles a caravan of ten of his master's camels, loads them up with all manner of good things and, along with some men, sets off on the all-important journey. They travel to Mesopotamia. On reaching these far off lands, the exhausted party decides to take a break from the tiring journey beside a well. Eliezer then sends up an arrow prayer to the God of heaven whom his master Abraham serves. He entreats Him to make his mission successful and to guide him to the right destination.

Almost immediately thereafter, a beautiful young

maiden comes to the well. She not only courteously lets the stranger drink from her water pitcher, but also offers to water all Eliezer's camels! Just as Eliezer, in prayer, had sought to happen! Could she be the one?



Eliezer closely observes the girl in action. He then requests that she introduce herself and to his amazement, it turns out that she is Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel, the son of Milcah, wife to Nahor, Abraham's brother! She is indeed, the answer to Eliezer's prayer! The man is overjoyed!

Later, Rebekah does not hesitate, but agrees to accompany Eliezer back to the Land of Canaan. When at a distance she learns that a man they were seeing coming to meet them was her future husband, Rebekah immediately alights from her camel and demurely veils her face. Isaac is over the moon when he sees her! He takes her into his mother's tent, and then, a few days later, the two lovebirds are wedded. Isaac loved Rebekah and though his mother Sarah died shortly thereafter, he Isaac, was comforted by reason of Rebekah's presence in his life (Genesis 24:67). O what a beautiful story!

This moving love story is a word painting of Elohim's love for his people, Israel. Wealthy old man Abraham, "blessed in all things" (Genesis 24:1), is a type of Elohim. That is why Abraham is described as both AGED and VERY WEALTHY. Let us look at the parallels: He, Abraham is described as old, just as Elohim is described as the "Ancient of Days" (Daniel 7:9). He is from the beginning and no one can number his years.



As regards wealth, Eliezer had this to say about Abraham: "...I am Abraham's servant. The LORD has blessed my master abundantly, and he has become wealthy. He has given him sheep and cattle, silver and gold, menservants and maidservants, and camels and donkeys..." (Genesis 24:34-35, NIV). This is in similitude to Elohim, about whom we are told in Psalm 24:1 and 1 Corinthians 10:26, that: "...the earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof..." In the book of Haggai, we read: "...the silver is mine and the gold is mine." declares the LORD Almighty (Haggai 2:8, NIV). In the Psalms, it is declared: "... for every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills. I know every bird in the mountains, and the creatures of the field are mine..." (Psalm 50:10 - 11, NIV).

So in so far the parameters of wealth in our text are concerned, Abraham typifies Elohim.

Further, Isaac is a type of Yahshua as we are told that he is an ONLY son (Genesis 22:2). Remember that the question of Ishmael does not arise because Ishmael was never a part of God's plan for Abraham. Abraham actually erred in accepting Sarah's "Mpango wa Kando" idea (the taking on of Sarah's handmaid Hagar for a concubine, in Genesis 16:1-4). This error, and its subsequent consequences in the birth of the wild, warlike Ishmael (Genesis 16:11-12), continues to be the source untold suffering, bloodletting and violence in the Middle East and indeed, the entire world today. Almost the whole multi-faceted global terror architecture as is known today is somewhat linked to Ishmael's progeny. The terrorist organizations: Al-Qaeda, ISIL, Al-Shabaab, Boko Haram, Taliban, Hezbollah, Hamas, Janjaweed, Abu Sayaf, Muslim Brotherhood etc., seem to almost always have a connection to the children of Ishmael. But I digress.

So, as far as Elohim is concerned, Isaac was an only son, in the similitude of Yahshua, who is the only begotten Son of Elohim (John 3:16, Proverbs 30:4, John 1:14). Just as Isaac was heir to all of Abraham's

estate (Genesis 21:10), so also, is Yahshua the heir to all of Elohim's estate (Hebrews 1:2).

That is why we see Abraham exercise a lot of caution as to the kind of bride his son Isaac should marry. He actually put Eliezer under oath, just to ensure that some random Canaanite or Gentile damsel did not end up becoming his daughter-in-law (Genesis 24:2-3). We shall revisit this point later.

Abraham's servant, Eliezer, typifies the Holy Spirit. He is the oldest and most senior of all Abraham's servants. He is in charge of Abraham's household and "...ruled over all that he (Abraham) had..." (Genesis 24:2, brackets mine). We see that Eliezer's primary desire is to ensure that Abraham's instructions are fully executed (Genesis 24:48). The Holy Spirit too, is keen to see Elohim's will carried out (Isaiah 11:1- 5, Isaiah 61:1-3, Acts 1:8 etc.). Just as Abraham sends Eliezer on an errand to find a bride for Isaac, so does the Holy Spirit too, desire that many people join Yahshua's Bride, the True Church. Says the word of Elohim:

[17]And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. (Revelation 22:17).

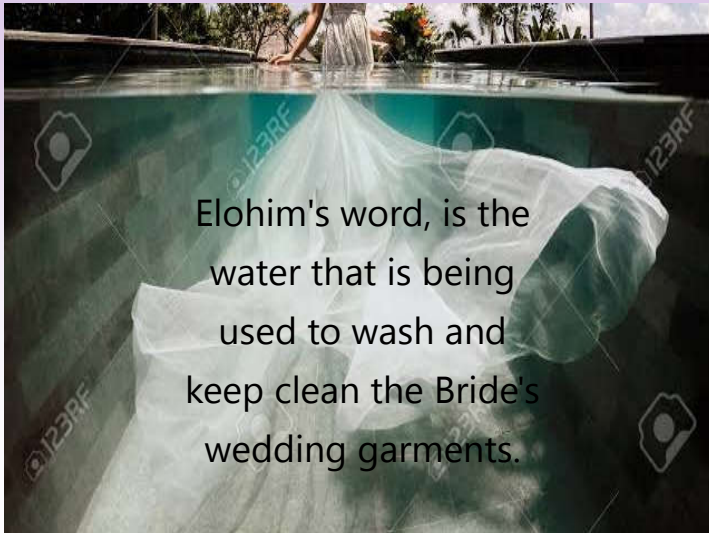
Also, just as Eliezer gave out precious gifts (not his own, but obtained from Abraham's bountifulness) to Rebekah, Isaac's bride (Genesis 24:22) and also to Rebekah's relatives (verse 53), so also does the Holy Spirit give precious gifts to us. These gifts are sourced

from the Heavenly Father. Says the apostle: "...every good and perfect gift comes from above, from the Father of the Heavenly lights..." (James 1:17). Another scripture bearing this out is 1 John 15:26.

Rebekah, Isaac's bride, is a type of the True Church, the Church of God (7th Day), the Daughter of Zion, which is Yahshua's Bride. We learn that the maiden is comely, beautiful and a virgin. No

The church therefore ought to maintain spiritual purity, unstained by the wickedness and idolatry of the world. Just as a Canaanite girl would not have been acceptable to Abraham, so will Elohim not accept a church polluted with paganism and Gentile idolatry for His Son, Yahshua.

man has known her. Likewise, the True Church is likened to a beautiful virgin betrothed to Yahshua (Jeremiah 6:2, KJV; 2 Corinthians 11:2). The church therefore ought to maintain spiritual purity, unstained by the wickedness and idolatry of the world. Just as a Canaanite girl would not have been acceptable to Abraham, so will Elohim not accept a church polluted with paganism and Gentile idolatry for His Son,



Yahshua. Elohim's word, is the water that is being used to wash and keep clean the Bride's wedding garments (cf John 13:8, 15:3, 17:17, Ephesians 5: 26-27, Revelation 19:7-9 etc.). This Bride, the True Church is even now, getting ready for the marriage Supper of the Lamb (Revelation 19:7-9).

We also see that Rebekah had absolutely no hesitation in agreeing to follow Eliezer back to the Land of Canaan and to getting married to Isaac (whom she had never seen before)! It is testament to the amount of faith and sense of adventure that, the young lady had! We too have never seen Yahshua, yet as believers, we should, like Rebekah, have total faith and commitment in our covenant relationship with Him. As believers, ours is wholly a walk of faith (Habakkuk 2:4, Hebrews 12:1-3, 11:6).

Finally, we see that Eliezer chose exactly ten camels for the mission to Haran. What is the significance of this number? Why did not he pick less or more than ten camels? The number typifies the Ten Commandments. We see young Rebekah diligently seeking to satiate the thirst of TEN camels! This is no mean feat. A thirsty camel can drink up to 200 liters of water in just one session! Remember too, that these

beasts were arriving in Haran after a long, arduous journey across a desert! They must have been very thirsty indeed. Since there were ten of them, it means that Rebekah had to draw approximately 2,000 liters of water for them! That is the level of industry and determination that the girl had. She did not complain or go to seek extra help. This is the amount of diligence that Elohim expects of us in keeping His Ten Commandments. "If you love me, keep my Commandments" (John 14:15). Indeed, the True Church is described as one that "...has the Testimony of Yahshua and keeps the Commandments of Elohim..." (Revelation 12:17, 14:12). Any church claiming to be Elohim's church and is opposed to the keeping of God's Commandments is simply still wallowing in darkness. Says Isaiah the prophet:

"Bind up the testimony and seal up the law among my disciples..." (Isaiah 8:16). Again, "...to the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, they have NO LIGHT OF DAWN" (Isaiah 8:20, NIV, emphasis added).

The apostle Paul put it this way:

[12]Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, WORK OUT YOUR OWN SALVATION with fear and trembling (Philippians 2:12, KJV, emphasis added).

Though it is absolutely true that we are saved by the grace of God, yet grace is not a license to trample on the immutable laws of God (Romans 6:1-2). On the contrary, like Rebekah watering the ten camels, we too must be diligent in upholding and keeping the Ten Commandments. Says Paul: "...not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the DOERS of the law shall be justified." (Romans 2:13, KJV, emphasis mine). Blessings.

Pst Ken Changa Ndungata



BASIC Home EDUCATION

By Abigail Chepkoech

A three years old child plays games in phone in church, watches cartoon in church, 7 years old kid owns the TVs remote controller, can't help serve the visitors or help the mother in the kitchen, since they're maybe playing temple run or watching tom and jerry. We say the child is still young, but how young is old? While I was young, I remember my mom taught me that when adults are having a chat, I should not sit around; or when mom or dad calls, I should respond immediately. Today, I have seen mothers shouting because the child doesn't respond when called, especially when they're playing a game on phone or watching a cartoon. Times have changed, did it carry manners with it?

We are trying to make the kids feel loved in every way possible, but mostly, we end up being irresponsible, spoiling them, and denying them the basic home education. The first teacher a child meets is a parent or a guardian, whose major role is to mold the child into a well-mannered person. How much have you neglected your responsibility? Prov 29:15 The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame. When you leave your child with your phone or TV carelessly any time he wants it, you're being irresponsible, no matter the age. When are you planning to teach him how to do house chores or help mother in the kitchen? When are you planning teach him how to entertain visitors? When are you planning to teach your child personal responsibilities like bathing on his own, making his bed, cleaning his clothes etc.? When will he socialize and play with friends out in the field? Are you too busy to teach him, or you love him so much that you want the house help to do everything for him and he should just eat, watch the TV, sleep and go to school?

While teaching Sabbath school kids, I have met some who can say all the rosary prayers but can't say a prayer for meals or recite a verse as simple as

Philippians 4:4. Why is this so? We are losing our children to the world, and to technology. 5 days in a week, the child goes to school, the teacher teaches what she wants, and when they come home in the evening, they get into watching what they want. On Sabbath, the child comes to church, and because you say he is still young, you leave him outside with your phone while you are listening to teachings of spirituality. So in a week, you just have a day with him. A child's brain is usually so free and receptive of anything that is there to be learnt. Prov 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. You let your daughter stay without a head veil because she is still too young, the next time you'll find her with plaited hair because the friends taught her while you were busy elsewhere. You allow your son to watch anything on TV or phone, the next time he'll introduce his girlfriend to you or find him outside smoking. Then you'll blame Satan and start praying harder, but if you won't seriously act, it will be vain prayers.

Spare the rod and spoil the child. Until recently, the child used to belong to the community, in matters of discipline. Today, no parent will allow anyone to discipline his child, or defend them even when they err. While we do this, back at home, do we take time to discipline them ourselves or we don't want to hurt them so we let them be? Prov 22:15 Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him. If we don't become vigilant on what our children do, or what kind of adults they are becoming, if we are not utterly responsible for their character, then we never bore our own kids, but helped the world bear them. While being spiritual, let's also be practical.

Luke 2:52 And Yahshua increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with Elohim and man.

SHALOM

Messiah as a Package

MSAK RVIST EVANGELISM

By Peter G. King'ori

The 6th M. S. A. K (Messianic Students Association of Kenya) rally was hosted by R. V. I. S. T. As usual the rally begins with evangelism some days prior the Sabbath. We are living in perilous times that were prophesied by the Prophets and hence its paramount to redeem time by giving the world the "Meat in due season". The conveying of the 3rd Angel's Message is the "Meat in due season" that Messiah wants to find his faithful servants giving to the world as outlined in Mathew 24:45-46.

Matthew 24:45 Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? 24:46 Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing.

As usual, the 3rd Angel Messenger reinforces the M. S.A.K evangelism wise, the former being a friend of the latter. It's not because we have more hours or resources than the others that we have time to convey the message, it's because of the passion, zeal and obedience to Messiah's directives. At the end of the ages each of us shall give his/her account to Elohim on how he/she spent his/her life and affirmed by 2nd Corinthians 5:10 and Romans 14:12.

2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

Romans 14:12 So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

The open Air meeting to convey the 3rd Angel's Message was held in a center outside the Institution (R. V. I. S. T). Prior the commencement of the message conveyance we made sure we had all documents in place. As Messianic believers, its paramount to make sure that we are harmony with everyone including the government agencies that are in ground we are conveying the message to avoid any inconveniences. The nearby churches also played a role in ensuring that the documentation was in place in time. After getting the go ahead from the police and local authorities, the message conveyance commenced.

The host made sure that everything needed for the message

conveyance including and not limited to Instruments was available in time. It was a big sacrifice bearing in mind, the host was students and hence had to input in Elohim's vineyard concurrently with their studies, the former superseding the latter at the time. The response from the audience was truly amazing. The aforementioned was proven by positive engagements from some of the message recipients who wanted the message to be expounded to them more. Personally, I had someone who approached me and bought a book to have some topics written therein for him. We also exchanged contacts with him for future engagement.

On the Sabbath we had reinforcement from the nearby churches that had congregated together with us on the morning part of the Sabbath and in the afternoon part had joined as in the Open air meeting for the 3rd Angel's Message conveyance. From the prophecy, the last days, will be perilous time. It's the Messianic believers that have been entrusted with the special message that can help the world despite this perilous time. Hence it's imperative to allot time for inputting in Elohim's vineyard. The students have allotted time for the conveying the 3rd Angel's Message despite their tight academic calendar. May Elohim bless them abundantly for their ardent job and reciprocate in their studies. Elohim is not mocked, whatever we plant the same we shall harvest at the appointed time.

Matthew 16:27 For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.

Revelation 22:12 And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

Romans 2:6 Who will render to every man according to his deeds:

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Shalom.

In Pictures





Eunuchs Born from their Mother's Womb

By Njogu Mureithi

Matthew 19:10-12(KJV) *His disciples say unto him, If the case of the man be so with his wife, it is not good to marry. But he said unto them, All men cannot receive this saying, save they to whom it is given. **For there are some eunuchs, which were so born from their mother's womb:** and there are some eunuchs, which were made eunuchs of men: and there be eunuchs, which have made themselves eunuchs for the kingdom of heaven's sake. He that is able to receive it, let him receive it.*

Perceived mostly as a curse, congenital (born with) malformations of the reproductive system are existent and have been so for a long time. Yahshua the Messiah at one point found it necessary to refer to this fact to explain to his disciples the thorny issue of divorce and remarriage. It is the opening statement, **"For there are some eunuchs, which were so born from their mother's womb:"** that carries a factual statement with a scientific explanation to Intersex, a part of the disdained group of LGBTQIA community.

Society in general, and the church specifically, has accepted all forms congenital malformations of all other body systems except the reproductive system. This one is viewed only from the point of view of a "curse". Any discussion concerning this subject is done in hushed tones or discouraged altogether.

Whilst the moral decadence of today's society has made the intersex group be painted immoral, these people, formerly categorized as hermaphrodites, have a scientific and factual basis for their anatomical disorders. Intersex is **a group of conditions in which there is a discrepancy between the external genitals and the internal genitals** (the testes and ovaries). 0.02% to 0.05% of the world population are affected by this condition and the Messianic Community is no exempt. Examples of these people include those with androgen insensitivity, hypospadias, Klinefelter syndrome, Turner's syndrome, Mullerian duct agenesis etc. These people cannot make a choice on whether or not they want to be eunuchs. They were born in this state. They cannot reproduce because the anomaly is deeply embedded in their genetic or chromosomal make up. And so were the eunuchs that Yahshua referred to in his opening statement.

The other groups of the LGBTQIA community are as a result of a conscious choice of immorality over acceptable norms and are condemned by the Word of Elohim. Paul noted that, during the times of the end, and probably in Rome during the reign of the emperors, a group of people would reject the Word of Elohim. They would be given to their vile pleas-

ures and commit, by choice, to unnatural relations. This is the group that deserves condemnation.

Romans 1:26-32 (TS2009) *Because of this Elohim gave them over to degrading passions. For even their women exchanged natural relations for what is against nature, and likewise, the men also, having left natural relations with woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing indecency, and receiving back the reward which was due for their straying. And even as they did not think it worthwhile to possess the knowledge of Elohim, Elohim gave them over to a worthless mind, to do what is improper, having been filled with all unrighteousness, whoring, wickedness, greed, evil; filled with envy, murder, fighting, deceit, evil habits; whisperers, slanderers, haters of Elohim, insolent, proud, boasters, devisers of evils, disobedient to parents, without discernment, covenant breakers, unloving, unforgiving, ruthless; who, though they know the righteousness of Elohim, that those who practice such deserve death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.*

And while at it, let us also guide ourselves against the sins mentioned in the same verses: those of **whoring, wickedness, greed, evil; envy, murder, fighting, deceit, evil habits; whisperers, slanderers, haters of Elohim, insolent, proud, boasters, devisers of evils, disobedient to parents, without discernment, covenant breakers, unloving, unforgiving and ruthlessness**. For how else are we better if we condemn them and continue doing what is evil before the eyes of Elohim?

3 John 1:2 *Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.*

Njogu Mureithi,

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