

Biblical Astronomy

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NEW MOON REPORT

Nehemia Gordon from Jerusalem, Israel (or should I say Hong Kong, China) compiled the following New Moon Report for the months of January and February 2013 and the beginnings of the Eleventh and Twelfth Months on the Biblical Calendar.

Eleventh Month – “So far all the observers have reported not seeing the new moon from Israel on Saturday January 12, 2013. It is still possible others have seen it and I will report further if I receive further information.”

Nehemia Gordon
Hong Kong, China

So much for the new moon report for January. I lost all of my e-mails and I got this report off of the Karaite-Korner Website. There were no further new moon reports for January on the Website. So I do not know if the new moon was seen by anyone in Israel since I do not have the e-mail report from the New Moon Society, which is another source for moon sightings from Israel.

According to my list of possible new moon sightings from the March/April 2012 newsletter. The new moon should have been spotted on January 12 from Israel when the moon was 0.94% illuminated and 9.61° above the horizon at five minutes past sunset, or, possibly January 13, when the moon was 4.43% illuminated and 22.16° above the horizon at five minutes past sunset.

Twelfth Month – “New Moon Report - February 2013 - the Twelfth Biblical Month has begun! Rosh Chodesh Sameach!! The new moon was sighted in Israel by Yoel Halevi 5:26pm.” This report was received on February 11, 2013. That is the entire New Moon report for the month of February.

The next New Moon is expected to be visible from Jerusalem, Israel near sunset on March 13, 2013 when the moon will be 3.53% illuminated and 20.17° above the horizon at five minutes past sunset. The first crescent light of the moon should be easily seen from the United States near sunset on March 12. There is a very slight possibility that the first crescent will be seen from Israel near sunset on March 12.

That will be a very interesting New Moon to observe. There will be an expectedly very bright comet below the moon with its tail next to the moon as seen from Israel on March 13. As seen from the United States on March 13, the comet will be below the moon with its tail pointing toward the first crescent light and possibly covering the moon.

Chart 602 shows how the event of the New Moon, comet and *Mars* will appear from Jerusalem at 30 minutes past sunset on March 13, 2013. This is a very rare event for a bright comet to be beneath the New Moon of the Aviv. Well, most likely Aviv 1, if the barley in the land of Israel is in the aviv stage at that time. If it is not, then the following month will be the month of the Aviv. We will just have to wait a few weeks to see what happens. There is also the possibility that the comet will fizzle out and not put on a good show. The tail may not be as large and bright as seen on the chart. It is difficult at best to predict what a comet will look like when it passes close to the sun.

Chart 603 shows how the celestial event will appear from Portland, Oregon (my neck of the woods) at 30 minutes past sunset on March 13, 2013. Here, the tail of the comet is shown pointing to the first crescent light of the New Moon. The crescent is at the bottom of the moon and looks like a thin smile. The chart only shows the black moon.

Another interesting factor about this event is that it occurs in the Sign and constellation *Pisces*. The constellation *Pisces* represents the nation of Israel. Not just the land, but the nation as a whole.

It includes all of the Jewish people throughout the earth. I believe that half of that population resides in the United States. And it includes all who are in Messiah, who are the true Israel.

This is what is testified to in a number of books, including *The Witness of the Stars* by E.W. Bullinger (1893) pp.96, 97; *The Gospel in the Stars* by Joseph A. Seiss (1882) p. 83; *Star Names: Their Lore and Meaning* by Richard Hinckly Allen (1899) p.341.

The following is from E.W. Bullinger's *The Witness of the Stars*, pp. 96, 97 concerning the Sign and constellation *Pisces*.

"Indeed, this sign of PISCES has always been interpreted of Israel. Both Jews and Gentiles have agreed in this. ABARBANEL, a Jewish commentator, writing on Daniel, affirms that the Sign PISCES always refers to the people of Israel. He gives five reasons for this belief, and also affirms that a conjunction of the planets Jupiter and Saturn always betokens a crisis in the affairs of Israel. Because such a conjunction took place in his day (about 1480 AD) he looked for the coming of Messiah.

"Certain it is, that when the sun is in PISCES all the constellations which are considered *noxious*, are seen above the horizon. What is true in astronomical observation is true also in historical fact. When God's favour is shown to Israel, "the Jew's enemy" puts forth his malignant powers. When they increased and multiplied in Egypt, he endeavoured to compass the destruction of the nation by destroying the male children; but their great Deliverer remembered His covenant, defeated the designs of the enemy, and brought the counsel of the heathen to nought. So it was in Persia; and so it will yet be again when the hour of Israel's final deliverance has come.

There can be no doubt that we have in this Sign the foreshowing of the multiplication and blessing of the children of promise, and a token of their coming deliverance from all the power of the enemy."

Certain celestial events occurred in *Pisces* when Israel was being lead into captivity and also when they were delivered from captivity. Signs occurred in *Pisces* when Israel was delivered from the grips of Egypt. Signs occurred in *Pisces*, including lunar eclipses and planetary conjunctions when the 10 northern tribes were taken into captivity around 722 BCE. These events are shown in the Biblical Astronomy DVD set *A Voice Crying*

in the Heavens. The DVD set is available in the Products section on the Biblical Astronomy Website at www.biblicalastronomy.com

I did an article on Comet PANSTARRS and the New Moon in the March/April 2012 issue of *Biblical Astronomy*. It included two charts. One, **Chart 582**, similar to **Chart 602** in this newsletter and the other, **Chart 583**, shows the path of Comet PANSTARRS from March 13, 2013 to April 5, 2013. You can access the March/April 2012 newsletter in the Newsletters section on the Biblical Astronomy Website. You can open the web version of the newsletter, highlight **Chart 583** and then print it if you wish.

The reddish dots on **Chart 583** are in one-day increments. During the 7 days of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the comet passes through the upper torso of the constellation *Andromeda*. The space between the first dot and the second dot is from sunset March 13 to sunset March 14. That will also most likely be the first day of Aviv on the Biblical Calendar. You can find where the comet is during the week of unleavened bread by starting there and counting up to the 14th and 15th day of Aviv and then on to the 21st day of Aviv. It is nice how that works out so you can see where the comet is on each day of the Biblical month. The space between the dots shortens as the days go on and the comet gets further from the earth. It appears to move faster when it is at its closest distance to the earth.

Andromeda is the bound and chained woman and represents the bride to be of Messiah in bondage to the beast from the sea. She is the captive daughter of Zion.

"Hear now this, thou afflicted...
Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion;
Put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem...
Shake thyself from the dust;
Arise, and sit down, O Jerusalem:
Loose thyself from the bands of thy neck, O captive
daughter of Zion.
For thus saith the LORD, Ye have sold yourselves
for nought;
And ye shall be redeemed without money."
Isaiah 51:21-52:3

You will notice on both Charts, **602** and **603**, that the planet *Mars (Adom)* is also in *Pisces*. *Mars* represents the warrior archangel Michael. It is Michael who defends Israel from the Dragon.

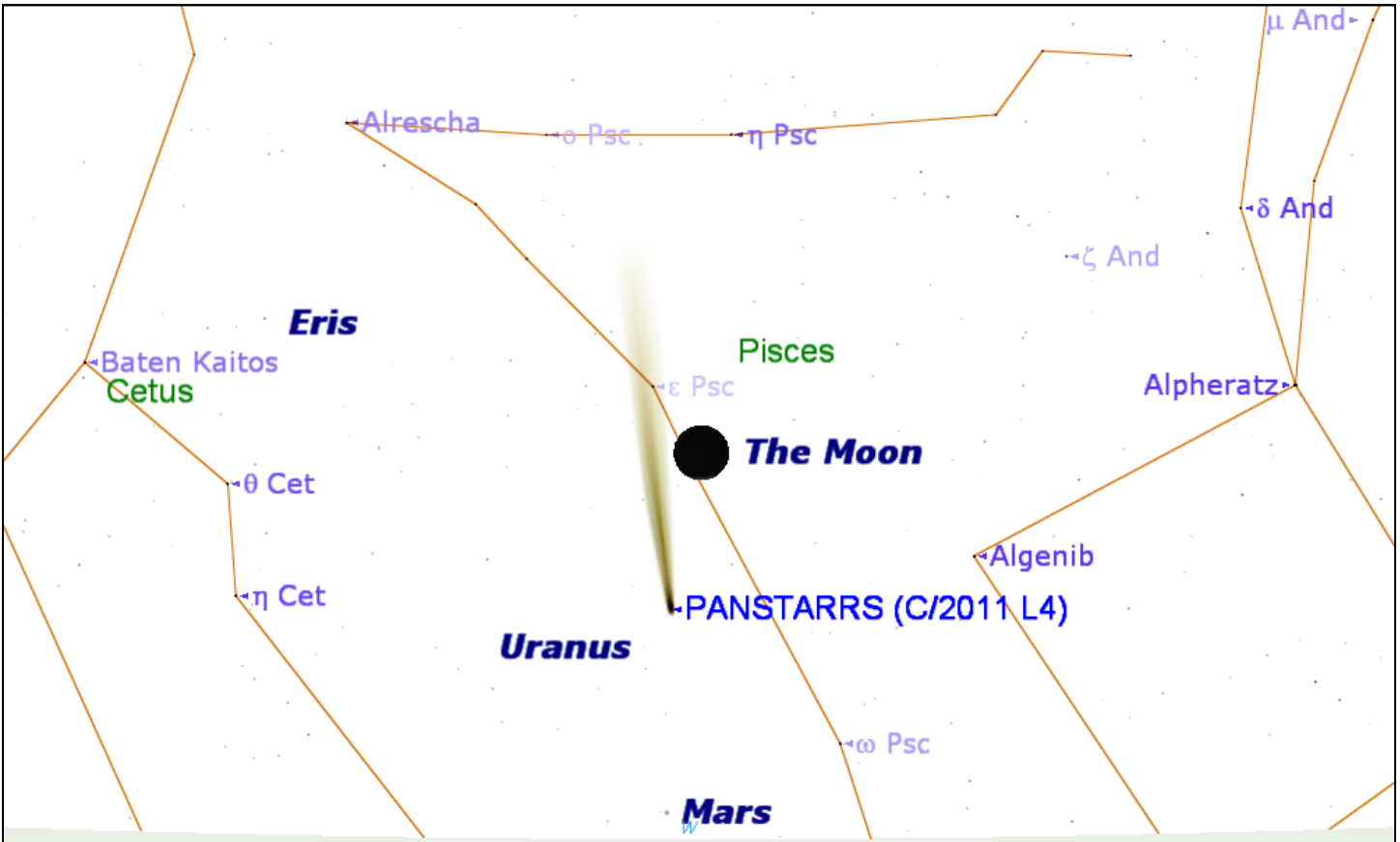


Chart 602 - Mars, the New Moon and Comet PANSTARRS as seen from Jerusalem at 30 minutes past sunset on March 13, 2013.

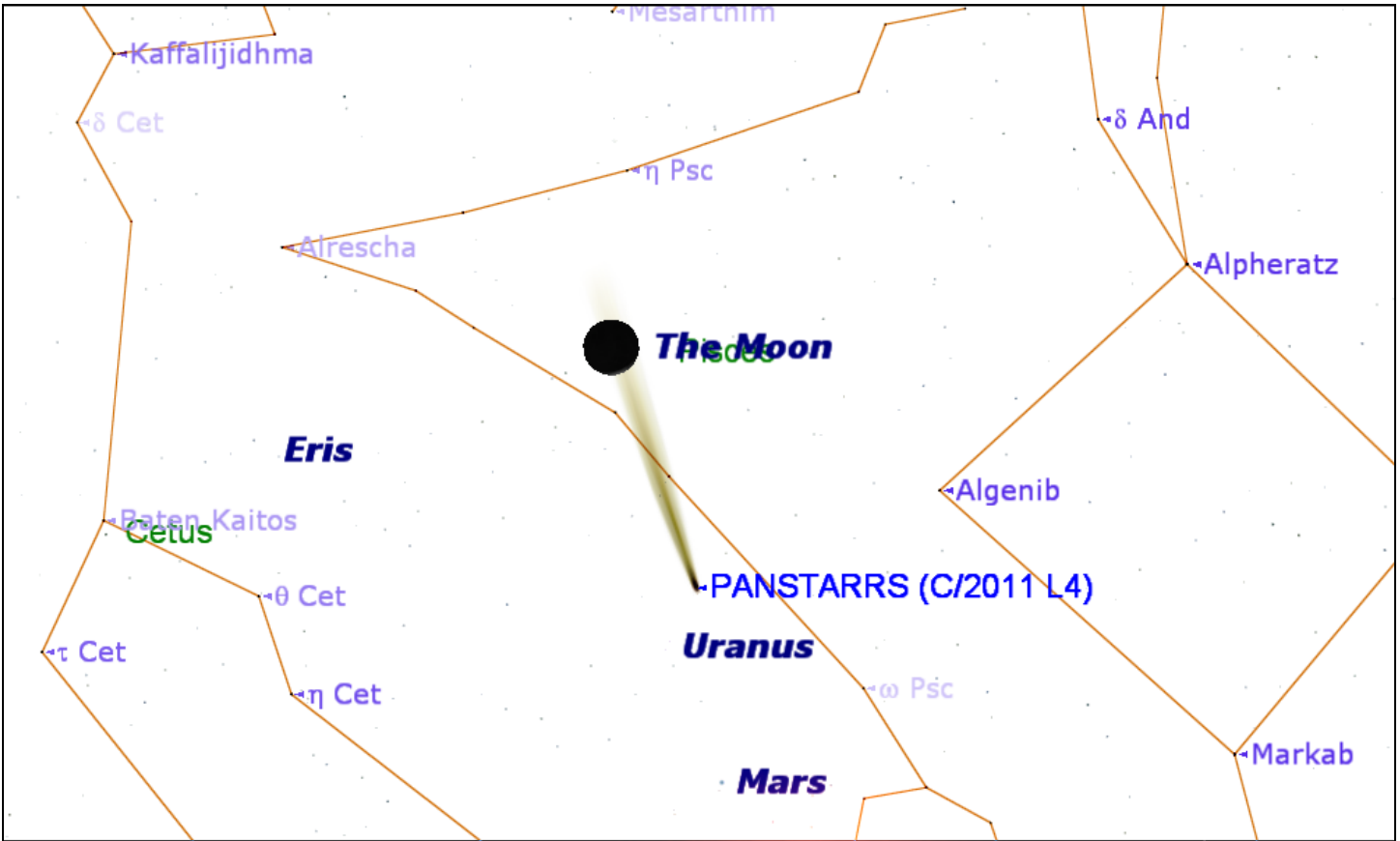


Chart 603 – Mars, the New Moon and Comet PANSTARRS as seen from Portland, Oregon at 30 minutes past sunset on March 13, 2013.

Please read Daniel 12:1 to 12:10. That section is speaking of the onset of the Great Tribulation that is to take place in the last days. It is at the beginning of that time that Michael will stand up for the children of Israel. That particular time will last for a time, times, and an half or, 3.5 years, or 1,260 days.

Revelation 12:1 to 13:1 is about the beginning of that thousand two hundred *and* threescore days. It is where there is a great war in heaven where Michael and his angels fight against the dragon and his angels and end up casting the dragon and his angels out of heaven and into the earth. Then when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman who brought forth the man *child*. And the woman (Israel) fled to the wilderness into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times and half a time (Daniel 12:7), from the face of the serpent.

And the dragon cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. But the earth helped the woman and swallowed up the flood. Then the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of Yehovah and have the testimony of Messiah Yahshuah. Please read the whole chapter of Revelation.

Both Daniel 12:1 to 12:10 and Revelation 12:1 to 13:1 are most likely speaking of the same time. The 3.5-year Great Tribulation will most likely start near the Spring Feast of Passover and end in the Fall Feasts of Day of Trumpets, Yom Kippur, Tabernacles and the Last Great Day. If this be that time, we will soon know.

Chart 604 shows the position of Comet PANNSTARRS looking toward the western horizon at dusk from March 7, to March 20, 2013. The comet will reach perihelion (28 million miles from the sun) at 11:00 P.M. EST on March 9, 2013. It should shine brightly right after sunset during the following two weeks. It is expected to be around a 0.0 magnitude at its brightest, give or take two magnitudes. It should be around a first magnitude on March 13 for its rendezvous with the New Moon. Two or three days later it will drop by one magnitude. Its closest approach to the earth will occur on March 5, 2013 at a distance of around 102 million miles.

You may be wondering why I am covering so much of this event in March when this is the January/February newsletter. The short version is that I have been having of number of serious attacks from the adversary over the past two months or so. Every day it is something. I have never been attacked in such a way before in my life. My computer crashed in late January and I ordered a new one but my programs would not work on it, especially my astronomy programs. The computer used the Windows 8 operating system. I had to send that back for a refund. I ordered a refurbished computer with Windows XP with expedited shipping,

which I paid an extra \$25.00. It still took close to two weeks to get to me. Then I had other problems. I could not find my Microsoft Office 2000 program for one and there were a host of other problems. Thank you for all of your prayers and support through my "hard times."

I will not mention any names here because I do not know if the persons referred to want their names known. One subscriber sent me her Windows 2000 Premium program. That solved many problems. Also my Adobe 9 Pro program would not load. It had a corrupted file. I use that to convert the newsletter to the pdf format that I send you each month. I had purchased Microsoft Office 2010 home and student, but that had a number of problems. But another subscriber showed me how to convert Word documents to the pdf format using Office 2010. So, now I can create the newsletter in Office 2000, then open the file in Office 2010 and convert it to the pdf format. Other subscribers sent me their hard earned money. That was also a blessing and helped to cover the costs of a refurbished computer and programs such as Office 2010, which I use to convert files to pdf. The only other alternative was to purchase an upgrade to Adobe 9, which would have cost \$200. I paid \$400 for the program about 3 years ago. At any rate, thanks a million to all those who came to my rescue.

I want to get the information on the comet to you before anything else happens. That is the most important news for the first half of this year at least. I also feel real bad about making this a double issue. This is the first time since I started doing the newsletter in 1996 that I will only have 9 issues for the year, Messiah willing.

MICHAEL AND GABRIEL GET TOGETHER

The planets *Mars (Adom)* and *Mercury (Catab)* came into a very close conjunction when Mercury passed 0.3⁰ north of Mars on February 8, 2013.

Chart 605 shows the positions of the planets in the Sign and constellation *Aquarius* at the time of conjunction.

As mentioned earlier, the planet *Mars* represents the warrior archangel Michael, and *Mercury* represents the messenger archangel Gabriel, who is at times also a warrior. There are some interesting scriptures referring to Michael and Gabriel in the book of Daniel. Please read Daniel 8:15-27; 9:21-27; 10:8-21; and 12:1-13.

In Daniel 10:12-13 both Michael and Gabriel were fighting together against "the prince of the kingdom of Persia," which was most likely a very high ranking evil spirit in the Devil's camp.

The main theme of the Sign and constellation *Aquarius* is: *Their blessings ensured, or the living waters of blessing poured forth for the redeemed.* For that to happen, the Devil needs to be at least neutralized.

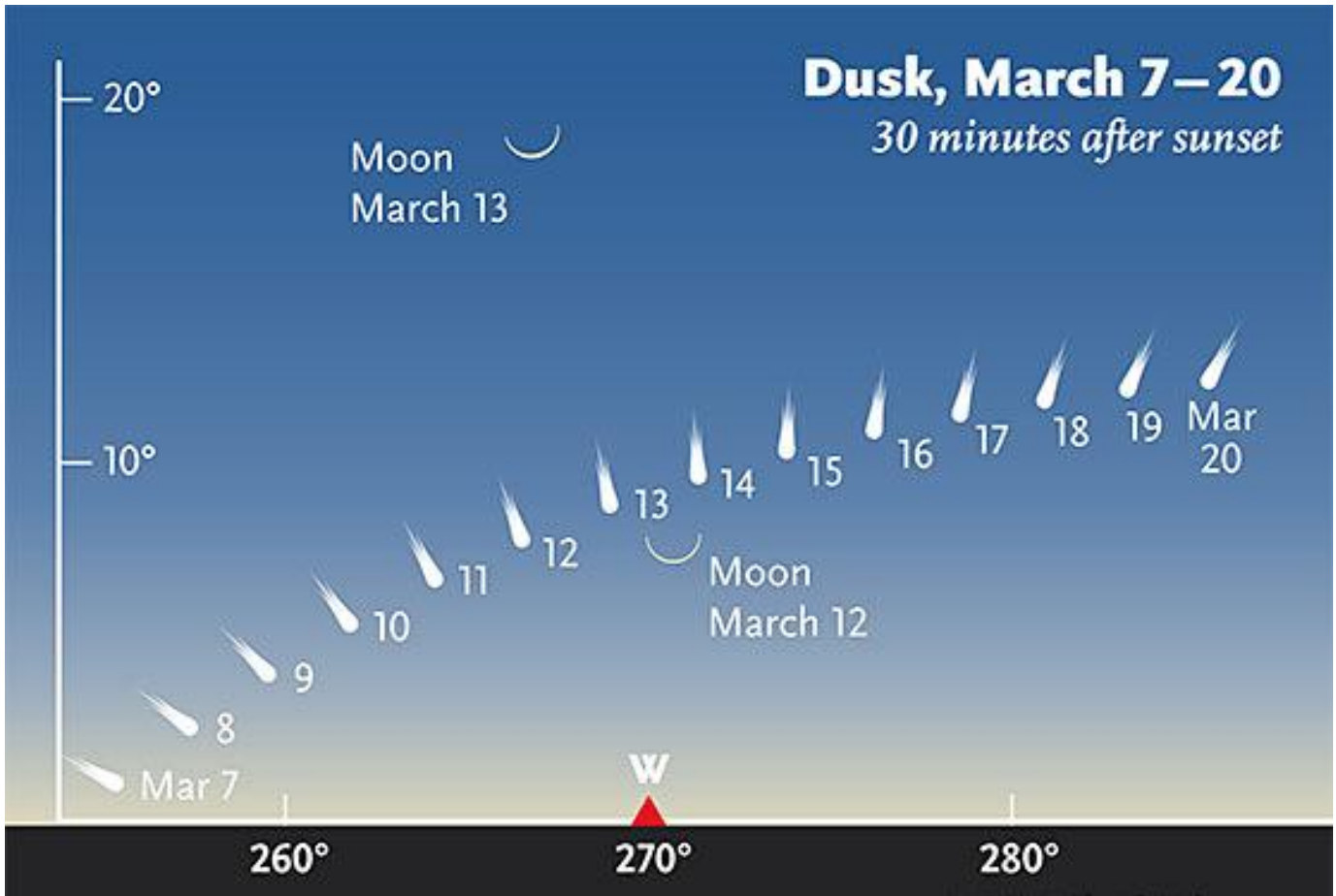


Chart 604 – Position of Comet PANSTARRS looking west at dusk from March 7 to March 20, 2013

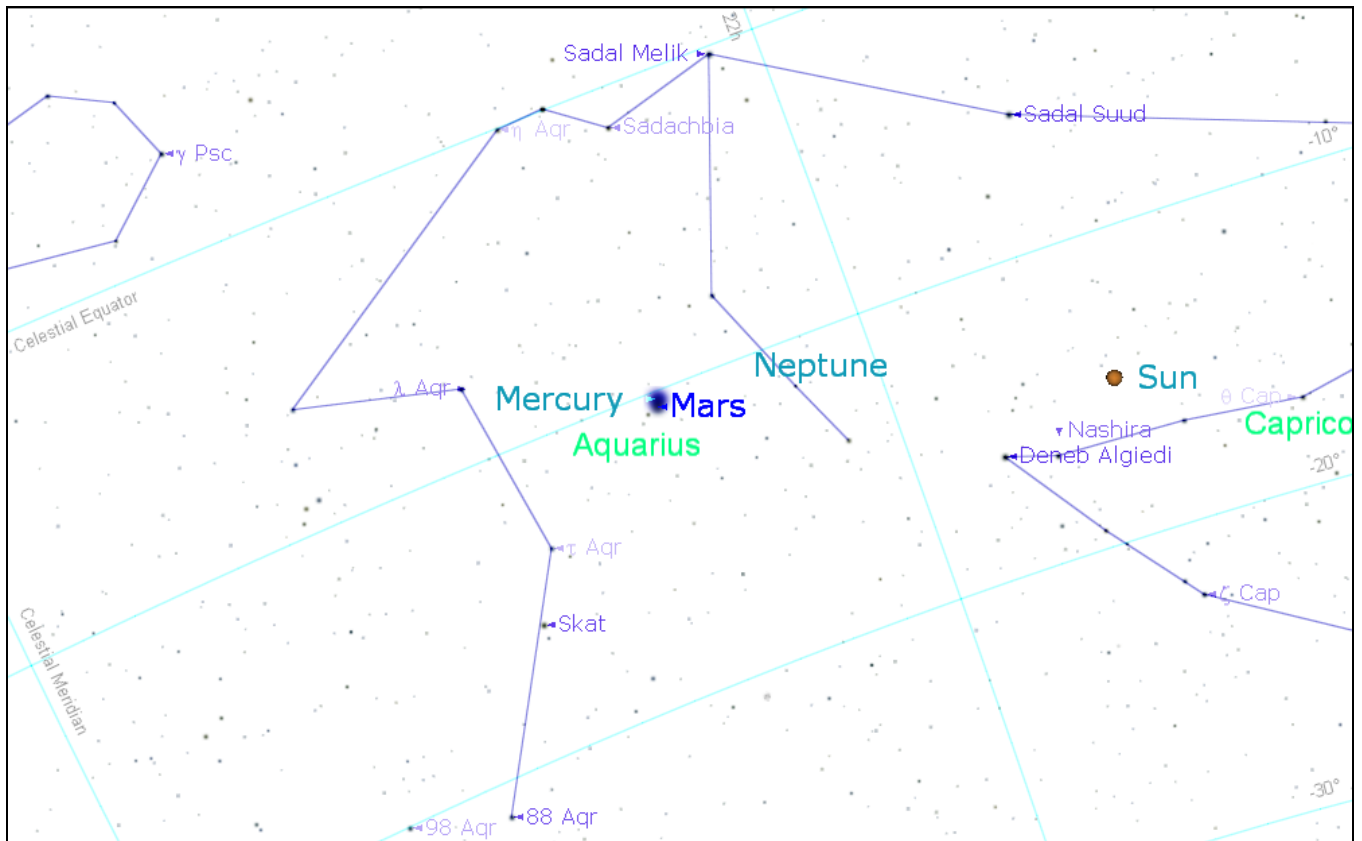
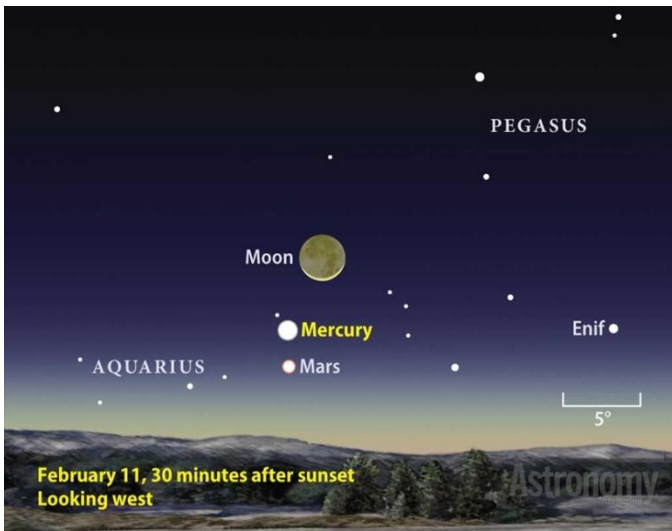


Chart 605 – Close conjunction of Mars and Mercury in Aquarius on February 8, 2013

The chart below shows New Moon for the Twelfth Month on the Biblical Calendar with the planets *Mars* and *Mercury* below it on March 11, 2013.



This event took place in the constellation *Aquarius*. This was another unique New Moon.

The planet *Mercury* (*Catab*) appeared at its best and brightest for the year in the evening sky on February 16, 2013.

The chart below shows *Jupiter* (*Zedek*) close to the first quarter moon in the constellation *Taurus* on February 17, 2013.



Jupiter is near the opposite eye of the bull from the star *Aldebaran*, which is in the other eye. *Aldebaran* is a giant red star. The main theme of *Taurus* is *Messiah, the coming Judge of all the earth*. *Taurus* is actually a Reem. A very large extinct animal that was much larger than the bulls of today. It was said to have fur as white as snow. *Aldebaran* is a giant red star that represents eyes of fire. The star formation *Pleiades* is just to the right of the moon. *Pleiades* have been known as the seven sisters. These seven stars represent the seven angels of the seven churches of Revelation 1:20.

Messiah is seen coming in judgment in Revelation 1:7-20. In Revelation 1:14, His head and his hairs were white, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire. And he had in his right hand seven stars.

The Hebrew name for *Jupiter* is *Zedek*. It is a root to *Melchizedek*. *Yahshuah* is The High Priest forever after the order of *Melchizedek* (Hebrews 7:17). *Jupiter* can represent both *Yehovah* and *Yahshuah*. *Jupiter* is also known as the King planet.

I know that subscribers who have been with *Biblical Astronomy* for many years know most of all of these things. Many new subscribers have subscribed over the past three months. Much of this is for their benefit to catch them up to speed.

The following is from an article in the March 2013 issue of *Sky & Telescope*, which was published in December 2012. They happened to be spot on. A very large fireball fell on Russia and injured over 1,100 people. This was the largest meteor ever to be recorded to fall near a populated area.

Keep an eye out for fireballs

“February is a quiet month for meteor showers. The only one astronomers recognize is the minor Alpha Centaurids, and it lies deep in the southern sky. Rates for sporadics — meteors that don’t belong to a specific shower — run between 5 and 10 per hour.

Not all is lost, however. Fireballs can provide an unexpected treat in an otherwise down month. Although most meteors derive from bits of interplanetary debris no larger than a grain of sand, larger particles can make spectacular atmospheric entries. By definition, fireballs exceed *Venus’* brilliance (around magnitude -4). They can cast shadows and often leave behind persistent trains — a lingering glow caused by ionization in the upper atmosphere.”



Yehovah bless you abundantly in His love and grace.