

Biblical Astronomy

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15-Year Anniversary Issue



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NEW MOON REPORT

Nehemia Gordon from Jerusalem, Israel compiled the following New Moon Report for the month of July 2011, and the beginning of the Fourth month on the Biblical calendar.

“On Saturday July 2, 2011 the new moon was sighted from Israel. The moon was first sighted from Jerusalem at 7:58 by Yoel Halevi and shortly thereafter by Nehemiah Gordon, Arveh Levi, Devorah Gordon, Miri Burgin, Willie Ordricsek, and Val Prtroff. The moon was also sighted from Ariel at 8:16 by Frank and Charlotte Mecklenburg.”

The next new moon is expected to be visible from Jerusalem, Israel near sunset on August 1, 2011 when the moon will be 4.97% illuminated and 10.23⁰ above the horizon at five minutes past sunset.

As shown above, this is the 15-year anniversary issue of *Biblical Astronomy*. The first issue was published in July 1996. It doesn't seem as if 15 years have come and gone. “Time flies when you are having fun” as they say. When I started this newsletter to act in part as addendum to my book *A Voice Crying in the Heavens*, I only expected to be writing updates until the year 2000, and then 2003. I really thought there was a good chance that everything concerning Messiah's return would be finished by then. After receiving more info, including an unmistakable sign from the Almighty (in 1997), I decided to continue with the newsletter and took a closer look at what those powerful celestial Signs that took place between the spring of 1996 and the fall of 2003 could actually mean. Those signs were, however, the greatest signs ever to occur portraying the Great Tribulation and there will be nothing like them again for

thousands of years into the future. They could not have been for nothing.

Then I took a deeper look into matters and all the major Biblical events that were marked out with great celestial events from the creation of Adam through the year 2047. At that time I came to the conclusion that the events from 1996 to 2000 were showing a one-hour warning starting after the last Jubilee year, which started on the Day of Atonement in 1997 and ended on the Day of Atonement in 1998. If going by 1,000 years is as 1 day and 1 day is as 1,000 years, then one hour would equal just a little less than 42 years ($24 \times 42 = 1,008$ years) where 24 hours equals 1 day and 42 minutes equals one hour. Or you can divide 1000 years by 24 hours to see how many years there are in one hour (41.67). Six days equals 6,000 years. There are 144 hours in 6 normal days. So, 143 hours have figuratively passed since the creation of Adam (in the 1 day equals 1,000 years calendar). The last hour or the 144th hour started after the Day of Atonement in the fall of 1998, which also started the first year in the counting of 42 years and will end on the Day of Atonement in the year 2040. That will be the beginning of the last Shabuah that will last until Tishri 1 or 10 in the year 2047, which is also a Jubilee year. Tishri 10, 2047 will begin the Grand Jubilee and 50th year since the last Jubilee and the 6,001st year since the **Fall** of Adam.

I have believed for over 30 years that Adam was created in the year 3961 BC. I have also believed for a number of years that Adam fell in 3954 BC. I do not have the room to go through all the calculations and scriptures here. There are exactly 6,000 years from Tishri 1, 3961 BC and Tishri 1, 2040. On that day September 8, 2040 there will be a great Sign in the heavens. The first light of the crescent new moon will be in the midst of all five of the bright planets, all in Bethulah

(Virgo). See the Biblical Astronomy DVD set. You can also check these things out for yourself if you have a good Astronomy program.

It was in the autumn of 1998 when I first went through these calculations. From that time we had one hour (figuratively speaking) until 2040. Now it is close to 13 years later. We now only have about 41 minutes left before preparations for Shabbat must be complete (and this will be a most important Shabbat, the Grand Jubilee. And the time has just flown by from 1998 to this point. We are about one-third of the way there, to the year 2040.

I pray that all the figures above did not confuse you. At any rate, I am thankful for the opportunity to continue serving you. This is the beginning of the sixteenth year for the *Biblical Astronomy Newsletter*, and by the grace of Yahweh and His Son Yahshuah (Jesus) I pray that I may continue to serve you for many years more. Even to the end.

I am not off to a great beginning but thank Yahshuah for upholding me through some troubled waters. About two or three weeks ago my computer started acting up and then went out altogether. After many days of trying to figure out what happened and how to repair it, I called a friend who repairs computers. I spent a few sleepless days at his house analyzing the problem and then figuring out the best way to resolve the issue. The motherboard and the power supply went caput. However most of the files on the hard drive were intact. My friend put the good files on a repaired Dell computer he had and went from there. I now have it at home and it took many days to get my files and programs downloaded and up and running. It hasn't cost me anything so far except for a lot of sleepless days. I do want to pay him for it though. It took me four or five days of complete rest to recuperate and am I am just now writing the July newsletter. It should have been published three weeks ago. It seems that I can no longer guarantee that the newsletter will be out at the first week of the month. But I can guarantee that it will get done with Yashuah's help. Satan seems to be attacking from many fronts but in the end his attempts are futile. Yahshuah always comes through.

I am full of joy in knowing that I must be doing something that is getting the adversary all riled up at me. The more darts he fires at me, the more Yahweh pours His grace upon me and passes to me more wisdom and knowledge. PRAISE YAHWEH for all His grace and blessings that He

bestows upon us in our time of need and tribulation. I never cease to be amazed at his wondrous love and grace.

PARTIAL SOLAR ECLIPSE

There was a partial solar eclipse on July 1, 2011, one month after the partial solar eclipse that occurred on June 1, 2011. This happens from time to time. It is nothing extra special to have two partial solar eclipses a month apart. Solar eclipses occur about every 6 months and lunar eclipses occur two weeks before a solar eclipse or two weeks after a solar eclipse and sometimes both for the same solar eclipse.

The following information on this eclipse is from Astronomy.com.

“A **partial solar eclipse** occurs July 1, but few people are likely to see it. The Moon's shadow touches Earth only in a small region between Antarctica and South Africa. And the eclipsed Sun hovers just above the northern horizon in the Southern Hemisphere's winter sky. The eclipse reaches maximum at 8h40m Universal Time, when the Moon blocks 10 percent of the Sun.”

Chart 564 shows the positions of the sun and the moon in the constellation Gemini at the time of the eclipse as seen from 1,544 miles NE of the South Pole. This was only seen by a handful of people and only a small portion of the sun was seen covered by the moon. This was not especially a great sign.

THE SOUTHERN DELTA AQUARIDS

The Southern Delta Aquarid Meteor Shower will peak on July 30. The article below on the shower is from Astronomy.com.

Fiery streaks radiate from a moist place

“One of the year's most prolific meteor showers, the Southern Delta Aquarids, reaches its peak July 30. The Moon obliges observers by reaching its new phase the same day, making for ideal conditions. The meteors appear to radiate from the constellation Aquarius the Water-bearer, which rises in late evening and climbs highest in the hours before dawn.

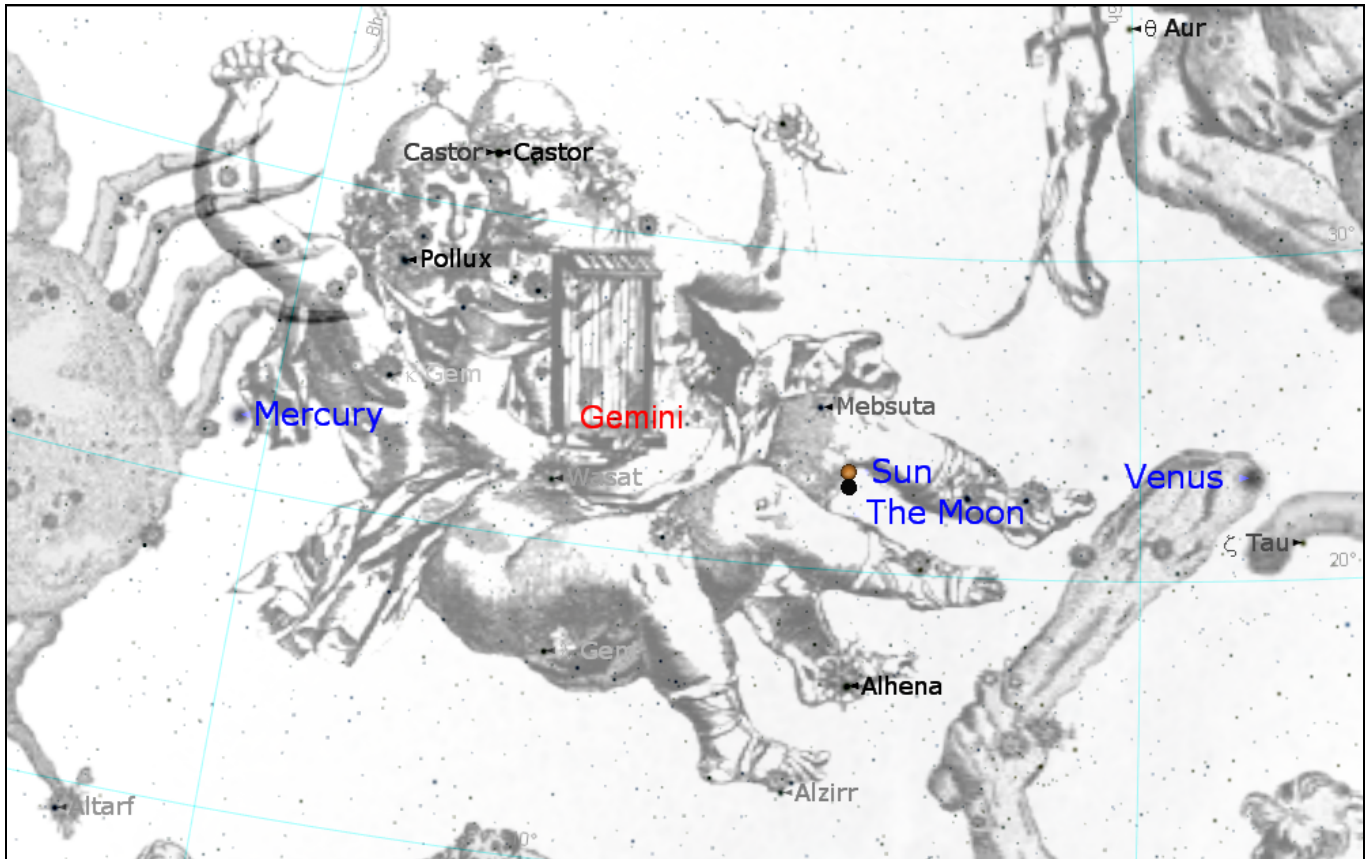


Chart 564 – Positions of the sun and the moon in Gemini at the time of the Partial Solar Eclipse on July 1, 2011. This is an ecliptic view and as seen from 1,544 miles NE of the South Pole.

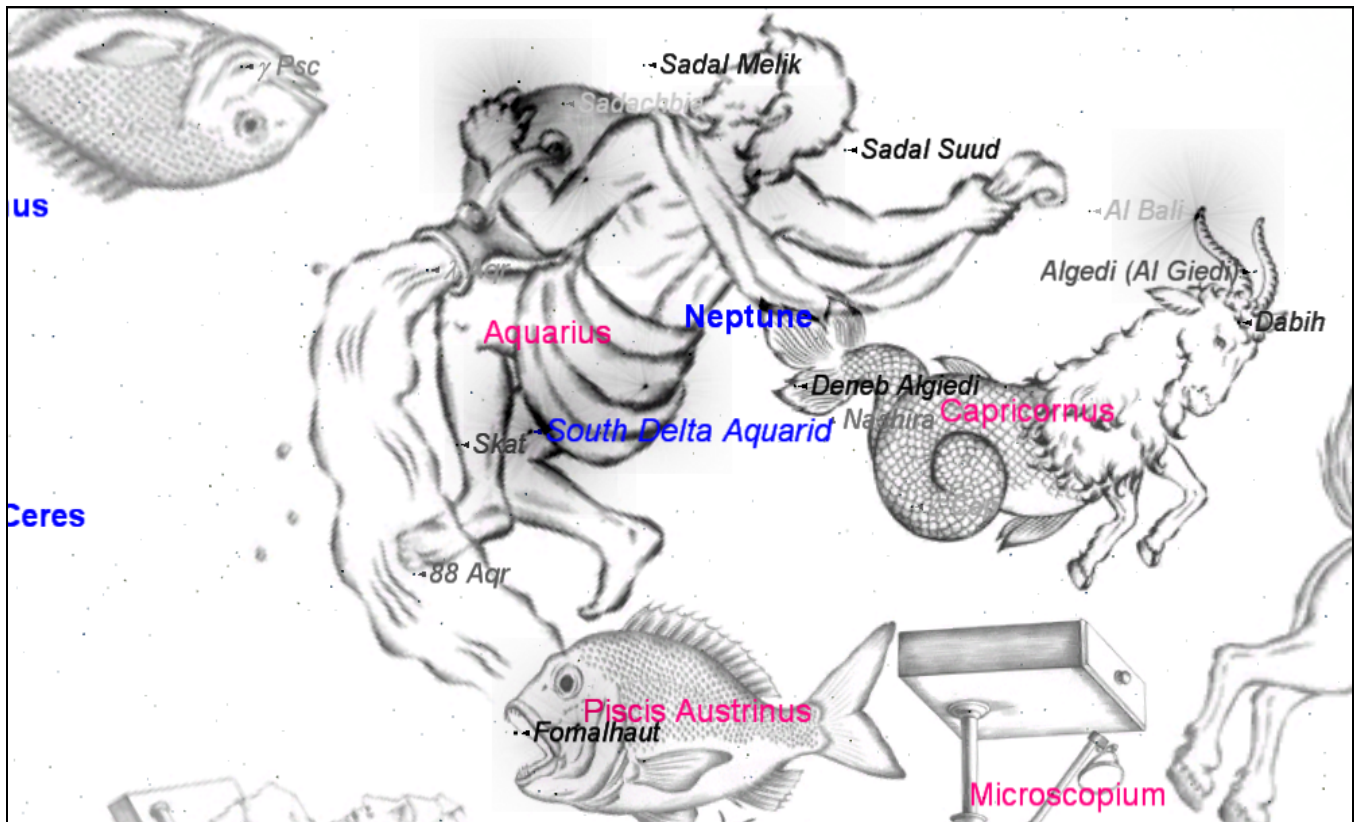


Chart 565 – The radiant of the South Delta Aquarid Meteor Shower that peaks on July 30, 2011. The radiant of this shower is in the legs of Aquarius. The radiant of the Eta Aquarid Shower in May was in the urn.

Although the Delta Aquarids produces a lot of meteors while it's active from July 12 to August 23, it doesn't produce the high peak rates some other showers do. At its best, you can expect to see an average of between 15 and 20 meteors per hour under excellent conditions. Fortunately, those rates remain nearly constant for a day or two on either side of the peak. For the best views, find an observing site far removed from city lights."

The simulation below of the Delta Aquarids is from Astronomy.com

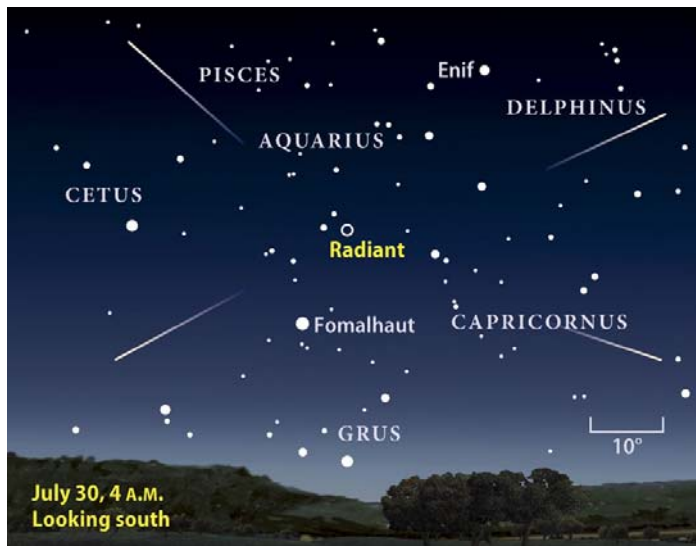


Chart 565 shows the radiant of the shower in the leg of *Aquarius*. The Eta Aquarids that took place back in May had its radiant in the urn that is pouring forth the gift of holy spirit.

The Sign *Aquarius* portrays Yahweh's blessings being poured forth, specifically the gift of holy spirit that was given by The Holy Spirit, Yahweh Elohim and poured forth by Jesus who poured forth this gift upon the Twelve Apostles and many more after his resurrection and then ascension where he was seated at the right hand of his Father in the heavens. After Yahshuah was seated at the right hand of his Father, Yahweh handed all authority over to him (except authority over Yahweh) until all of his enemies are under his feet (I Corinthians 15:24-28). The last enemy that will be abolished is death. It was Yahshuah who poured forth the gift of holy spirit in Acts (Acts 2:33). Since that day, millions have received the gift of holy spirit and this gift continues to be poured forth until the beginning of the Great Tribulation. To those who have not yet received this gift, I suggest that you do so in the near future.

ASTRONOMICAL HOAXES ARE ON THE RISE

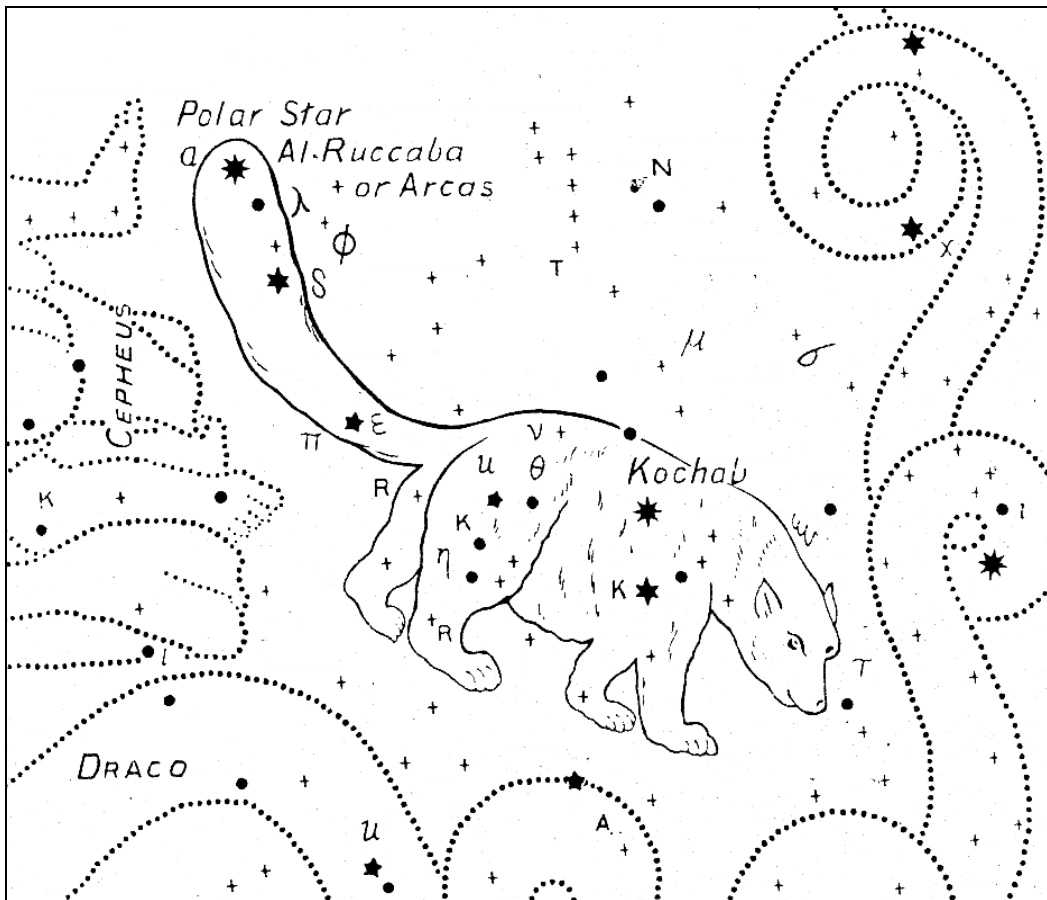
Every year there a number of hoaxes going around through e-mails and websites. This year there is a larger volume of hoaxes and hyped-up false information going around.

Many Biblical Astronomy subscribers who have been reading this publication a number of years know that we have been down this road before. Much of the "hyped-up" info that is going around now is the same stuff as before such as comets colliding, Planet X, Nemesis, comets striking the earth, etc. Most of these are shown on U-Tube, which was not available until recent years. There are not as many e-mail hoaxes except for when they send the links through e-mails.

Planet X is a theory that was put forth in the late 70's and some have been saying for the past 30 years that it is real, when there is no real evidence that it is. It pops its head up about every 5 years. It was suppose to have come and gone and leave the earth in shambles two or three times over the past 12 years. It is the same old hype pretty much when this false info is passed around. You can do a search in the Newsletters section to see where I have written on it before. You need not log in, just select Newsletters at the bottom of the web page (it is in the yellow bar) after entering the Biblical Astronomy Website. I do not know if the search engine can be accessed when you log in. A different page comes up. You do not need to log in for viewing newsletters from July 1996 through June 2011. At the top of the Newsletters page select "Search all Newsletters." Then type in Planet X in the box and hit enter or select. Most of the issues that were written on it will come up. You can also search for other subjects you may be interested in.

There are a lot of rumors going around about Comet Elenin such as it causing earthquakes on earth and that it is thousands of times larger than it actually is. There is one U-Tube production that is half hype and half-truth. Here is the link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h3DvFkY8bnA>

The celestial events as far as where the planets are and the comet and it occurring on Yom Teruah are all correct. This is interesting when considering the celestial events that took place this past spring. I was going to cover this event in the September newsletter and I still am. The comet will most likely not be visible without binoculars or a telescope. I will have more on this later.



URSA MINOR (the Little Bear)

The lesser sheepfold

Ursa Minor is a decan constellation of the Sign *Cancer*.

Ancient Names for this constellation

Ursa Minor (Lat.) – *the little bear* or *the lesser bear* (it is also known as the lesser fold or flock). I could not find any other ancient names for this constellation.

Complementing scriptures to this constellation picture

Genesis 22:17 (TS) – “that I shall certainly bless you, and I shall certainly increase your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore, and let your seed possess the gate of their enemies.”

Stars in *Ursa Minor* and the meanings of their names

Al Ruccaba (Arab.) – *the turned* or *ridden on*.

Kochab (Heb.) – *waiting Him who cometh*.

Al Pherkadain (Arab.) – *the calves*, or *the young* (as in Deut. 22:6), *the redeemed assembly*.

Al Gedi (Arab.) – *the kid*.

Al Kaid (Arab.) – *the assembled*.

Arcas, or *Arctos* (Gr. and Lat.) – *a traveling company; or the stronghold of the saved*.

The following is from E.W. Bullinger's *The Witness of the Stars*, pp. 150-154:

Here we come to another grievous mistake, or ignorant perversion of primitive truth, as shown in the ancient names of these two constellaions.

It is sufficient to point to the fact that no Bear is found in any Chaldean, Egyptian, Pesian, or Indian Zodiacs, and that no bear was ever seen with such a tail! No one who had ever seen a bear would have called attention to a tail, such as no bear ever had, by placing in its very tip the most important, wondrous, and mysterious Polar Star, the central star of the heavens, round which all others revolve. The patriarchal astronomers, we may be sure, committed no such folly as this.

The primitive truth that there were *two*, or a pair of constellations is preserved; and that of these two, one is larger, and the other smaller. But what were they? We have the clue to the answer in the name of the brightest star of the larger constellation, which is called *Dubheh*. Now *Dubheh* means *a herd of animals*. In Arabic, *Dubah* means *cattle*. In Hebrew, *Dohver*, is *a fold*; and hence in Chaldee it meant *wealth*. The Hebrew *Dohveh*, means *rest* or *security*; and certainly there is not much of either to be found or enjoyed with bears! The word occurs in Deuteronomy 33:25 "As thy days so shall thy strength be." The Revised Version gives in the margin, "So shall *thy rest* or *security* be." This accords with what we have already seen under CANCER: "Couching down between the sheepfolds, he saw a resting-place that it was good."

Here are the two Sheepfolds, then; the Greater fold, and Lesser; and here is the *rest* and *security* which the flocks will find therein.

But in Hebrew there is a word very similar in sound, though not in spelling--*dohv*, which means *a bear*! So we find in Arabic *dub*; Persian, *deeb* and *dob*. We can see, therefore, how the Hebrew *Dohver*, *a fold*, and *Dohv*, *a bear*, were confused; and how the Arabic *Dubah*, *cattle*, might easily have been mistaken by the Greeks, and understood as a bear.

The constellation, which we must therefore call THE LESSER SHEEPFOLD, contains 24 stars, viz., one of the 2nd magnitude, two of the 3rd, four of the 4th, etc.

The brightest star, **a** (at the point of the tail), is the most important in the whole heavens. It is named *Al Ruccaba*, which means *the turned* or *ridden on*, and is today the Polar or central star, which does not revolve in a circle as does every other star, but remains, apparently, fixed in its position. But though the star does not revolve like the others, the central point in the heavens is very slowly but steadily moving. When these constellations were formed the Dragon possessed this important point, and the star **a**, in *Draco*, marked this central point. But, by its gradual recession, that point is sufficiently near this star *Ruccaba*, in *the Lesser Sheepfold*, for it to be what is called "the Polar Star." But, how could this have been known five or six thousand years ago? How could it have been known when it received its name, which means *the turned* or *ridden on*? That it was known is clear: so likewise was it made known in the written Word that the original blessing included not merely the multiplicaiton of the seed of faithful Abraham, but it was then added, "And thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies" (Gen 22:17).

This star was called by the Greeks the "*Cynosure*." ARATUS seems to apply this term to the whole of the seven stars of the *Lesser Bear*. Mr. Robert Brown, Jr., shows that this word once supposed to be Hellenic, is non-Hellenic, and possibly Euphratean in origin, from a word which he transliterates *An-nas-sur-ra*, and renders it, "as it literally means, *high in rising*, i.e., in heavenly position." (*Euphratean Stellar Researches*). Is not this the primitve truth of the Revelation? Will not this Lesser Fold be high, yea, the highest in heavenly position?

The Polar Star has been removed from the Dragon, and is now in *the Lesser Fold*; and when the Dragon shall be cast down from the heavens, the heavenly seed will be safely folded there. But this is *the Lesser Sheepfold*. These are they who all through the ages have been "partakers of the heavenly calling," who desired a better country, that is, *a heavenly*; wherefore God "hath prepared for them a city," the city for which Abraham himself "looked." This was no earthly city, but a city "whose builder and maker is God" (Heb 11:10-16). These have always been a smaller company, a "little flock," but the kingdom shall be theirs, even the kingdom of God, for which they now look and wait. They have not yet "received the promises; but, having seen them afar off" by faith, they "were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth" (Heb 11:13). Their Messiah has accomplished "the redemption of the purchased possession," and in due time the redeemed will inherit it, "unto the praise of His glory" (Eph 1:13).

The bright star **b** is named *Kochab*, which means *waiting Him who cometh*. Other stars are named *Al Pherdadain* (Arabic), which means *the calves*, or *the young* (as in Deut 22:6), *the redeemed assembly*. Another, *Al Gedi*, means *the kid*. Another is *Al Kaid*, *the assembled*; while *Arcas*, or *Arctos* (from which we derive the term *Arctic* regions), means, according to one interpreter, *a travelling company*; or, according to another, *the stronghold of the saved*.

But there is not only the heavenly seed, which is compared "to the stars of heaven," but there is the seed that is compared to "the sand of the sea"--the larger flock or company, who will enjoy the earthly blessing.