

Astrology:



Is It Compatible with Christianity?

Astrology may be an innocent pastime for some people, but it is simply one of the ancient occult arts of fortune-telling repopularised in the 20th century. Astrology falsely claims to have solutions to basic questions we all ask, including "Who am I, and what is going to happen in the future?"

No one doubts that Astrology is popular, with estimates of between 50% and 75% of the adult population of Western nations (such as Europe and the USA) making some effort to read their horoscopes regularly.

Those involved with Astrology claim that the fixed positions of stars, planets and the moon exert a mysterious and decisive influence on people, places and events. The daily events of a person's entire life can supposedly be charted from the information of the exact time of the birth of that person, by checking the relative positions of the stars and planets etc.

There are various forms of Astrology - Babylonian, Chaldean, Chinese and Greek are the better known. The Greek system devised by Ptolemy around 130AD is the main system used in the western world today.

The Scientists Views

Astrology is not the same as Astronomy, which is the scientific study of stars and planets using telescopes and radio waves etc. The United States Astronomical Society declares "Whatever hides behind the title of Astrology... is nothing more than a mixture of superstition, duplicity (lies) and business."

Eighteen Nobel prize winners and 186 other prominent American scientists signed a statement in 1975 denouncing the "pretentious claims of astrological charlatans" and stated **"There is no scientific basis of fact whatsoever for the assumptions that the stars foretell events and influence lives."**

Astronomical and scientific bodies around the world have convincingly charged Astrology and its claims as fraudulent and without scientific merit. It is widely recognised that the sun and moon do have gravitational and tidal influences on the earth, but their effect is general and cannot affect the destiny of any individual. I have always wondered why Astrologers reject the possibility of the influence by the planet closest to us - the Earth? Various scientific surveys have been undertaken to check these claims. One survey in Paris looked at 2815 musicians and concluded that they were born throughout the year on a chance basis without favour from any zodiac sign. Among other studies Mars was checked with murderers and also military men, and Libra with painters. All were supposed to be strong influences, but the evidence proved the astrological claims wrong.

Perhaps the biggest and most comprehensive study was undertaken by Michael and Francois Cauquelin, which studied the horoscopes of over 25,000 people. After exhaustive scientific and

mathematical tests they concluded that astrology was a sham; the zodiac signs in the sky at the birth times of people had no power to decide fate or affect hereditary characteristics or impulsive actions.

In their conclusions the Cauquelins stated **"Whoever claims to predict the future by consulting the stars is fooling either himself or someone else."**

The Encyclopedia Britannica calls Astrology scientifically untenable since the rise of modern physics. It goes on to call Astrology **"a pseudo or false science which may have popular interest but which is devoid of intellectual value."** Does that mean if you have half-a-mind to follow your horoscope maybe that is all you need?

Popular astrologers often boast about their accuracy rate in predicting the future. Jeanne Dixon, Linda Goodman, Joan Quigley and Nostradamus may be better known than most, but like the others their failure rates are very high. Most syndicated columns in newspapers and magazines take refuge in vague predictions so general and ambiguous it is hard to prove or disprove their claims. Astrology is FORTUNE-TELLING or DIVINATION, with some guesswork thrown in to fill the gaps.

Author Rene Noorbergen states, "To believe in Astrology, you must support the philosophy that you are a 'Born Loser,' or a 'Born Winner.'" Astrology allows no room for us choosing to change the direction of our lives if such actions do not conform with its blueprint of destiny. Astrology is FATALISM, a spiritual straitjacket, giving us a life with limited choices. It also provides us with an excuse for not making changes in our lives when these are needed.

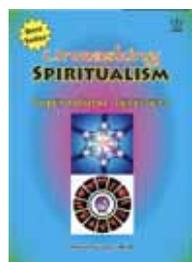
Contrary to claims by many modern astrologers the Bible does not support their activity but repeatedly gives strong condemnation for this ancient occult deception. So Astrology is bankrupt, both Biblically and scientifically. Jesus Christ came so we could have choices, and to offer us a better way. I can trust Jesus because He holds the future. So can you!

God forbids ALL occultic practices. See Deuteronomy 18:9-12, which lists those whose ways are detestable to God. These include Child Sacrifices, Divination, Sorcery, Omen Interpretation, Witchcraft, Spell-casting, Mediums, Spiritualists and those who consult the dead. God's command to Israel were to destroy such people. God rejects Astrology and all occultism.

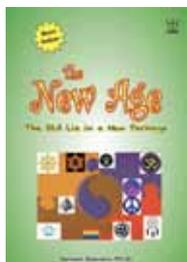
The Bible rejects Astrology because it leads people to transfer their worship of the infinite creator God towards those things

THE FLAWS IN ASTROLOGY

According to Astrology	According to Science
The earth is the centre of the universe (Ptolemaic system).	Copernicus and Galileo proved the earth revolves around the sun.
The planets known to the ancient people influence astrology.	The planets Uranus (1781) Neptune (1846) and Pluto (1930) were discovered after the construction of most astrological charts. Some have since included Neptune and Uranus only.
Astrologers use the same Zodiac system as the ancient Greeks.	Since Hipparchus (about 130BC) structured the Zodiac, there has been a gradual shift in the line of the poles, called the "precession of the equinoxes." This shift now exceeds one month, thus distorting both the charts and the philosophy behind them.
Everyone is affected by the planet above their place and time of birth.	Anyone born in Alaska, northern Canada, Finland, Greenland, Norway, Siberia, Sweden or any other Arctic area cannot have a valid horoscope because no planets are visible for several weeks each year.
The number of houses (constellations) comprising the Zodiac belt varies between astrological schools. These include 8, 10, 12 and go as high as 24.	This is a wide and variable base on which to establish a "science."
No one is able to determine accurately the precise date of a new star age. The beginning of the Age of Aquarius has been given dates as varied as 1904, 1910, 1917, 1936, 1962, 2160, 2375, & 3000.	Why can't a "science" determine anything as basic as this?
Astrology alleges that the time and place of your birth forms your character.	Your character is determined by your genes, heredity & environment; fear and rejection can affect you in the womb.



"Unmasking Spiritualism - Supernatural Deceivers?"
(Book, E-book)



"The New Age - the Old Lie in a New Package" (Book, E-book, CD, DVD)



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The above resources are available, along with resources on other cults and spiritual deceptions, from our secure web shop. Bible Studies without a cult bias are also available - please inquire for details. There are also a variety of articles of interest, plus prayer guidelines for breaking cult and other curses for free download.

"Have nothing to do with the things of darkness, but rather expose them." (Ephesians 5:11)

Astrology and Scripture

Biblical Reference	Instruction
Deuteronomy 18:10-12	All occult practices are forbidden by God. Those who engage in them should be driven out.
2 Kings 23:3-5	King Josiah makes a covenant with God to follow Him. He removes the priests of idolatry from the land, including those who burn incense to the sun, moon and planets.
Isaiah 47:13-14	Isaiah mocked the futility of the astrologers to help the people of Israel.
Daniel 2: 2-47	Daniel revealed the falseness and futility of the arts of the astrologers, magicians and soothsayers of Babylon.
Amos 5	Historically the god Moloch had planetary and solar associations. Amos condemned such worship, which involved infant sacrifice and prostitution.
Jeremiah 10:3 - 7	Jeremiah warned against all heathen practices (idolatry) and encouraged the people to trust God instead of the "wise men" of other nations.

"Don't act like the people who make horoscopes and try to read their fate and future in the stars. Don't be frightened by predictions such as theirs for it is all a pack of lies. Their ways are futile and foolish" (Jeremiah 10:2-3, LB).

God states that Astrologers will not be saved from the coming Divine judgement: **"You have advisors by the ton - your astrologers and stargazers, who try to tell you what the future holds. But they are as useless as dried grass burning in a fire. They cannot even deliver themselves. You will get no help from them"** (Isaiah 47:13-14, LB).



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