

**An imagination on the New Images of the Zodiac relative to
Rudolf Steiner's lectures on the Gospel of St Matthew**
*Submitted by Mary Stewart Adams, November 2014 ~ in response to
Margaret Runyon's question regarding shared study and the New Images of
the Zodiac*

Lecture I

September 01, 1910

The post-Atlantean migrations. The Iranians and Turanians.
Zarathustra

*Beginning here with the constellation **Libra** and its new image, which shows the penetration
of Earth forces by Christ impulse~demonstrating the equanimity that results from aligning to
the "godly world goals"*

September 02, 1910

Lecture II

The secrets of space and time. The Moses and Hermes
Wisdom. Comparison of the Turanians and the Hebrews

***Scorpio**, which image depicts the human being (in seeming two-fold nature), grasping the life
forces in the matter of Earth*

September 03, 1910

Lecture III

Interchanging activity of Thoth-Hermes and Moses, as
reflection of a cosmic process. The secret of the Hebrew
people. Human thought the reflection of divine vision. The
power of ancient clairvoyance passes into the inner
organization of man. The law of numbers in respect of heredity
in the sequence of generations

***Sagittarius**, the region traditionally ruled by Jupiter~which gives us weight, measure, and
number~where the human being develops the capacity for looking upon the astral sheath of
the Earth*

September 04, 1910

Lecture IV

The ancient Hebrew consciousness of God. The secret of the
development of a people, as image of cosmic development.
Principal and subsidiary currents in the preparation for the
Christ-event

***Capricorn**~referred to in some esoteric texts as the 'signature of God', this region is one of
two gateways in the zodiac (with Cancer, its opposite), and in the new image of the zodiac, it
indicates the time in the cycle of the year when the human being has the capacity to illumine
the soul*

Lecture V

September 05, 1910

Jesus ben Pandira and Initiation among the Essenes. The secret of numbers. Reflection of cosmic conditions in human evolution. The secret of the blood in the line of descent, and the secret of cosmic space

Aquarius as image of future humanity, which activity is prepared for in Essene tradition~this image from Imma von Eckardstein demonstrates the human being who is enlivened by the life streams of earthly matter

September 06, 1910

Lecture VI

Stages of downward penetration of divine nature into a human individuality, and the going forth of this individuality into the cosmos. The spiritual nature of man and the earthly Adam. The superpersonal memory in the blood of the generations. The Essene and Nazarene colonies. The pupils of Jesus ben Pandira: Matthai and Netzer. The two Jesus children

Pisces, in which we find the mystery of 'as above, so below' with spiritual nature streaming down to encounter human nature striving upward~they meet, face-to-face, in both realms (spiritual and physical). The new image depicts the human being who has strengthened his physical sheath for the Ego

September 07, 1910

Lecture VII

The law concerning the stages of the perfecting of human qualities (the Eight-fold path). Nature of Initiation in pre-Christian Mysteries. Descent into the physical body and expansion into the Macrocosm. The dangers connected with this. The twelve helpers of the Hierophant. The Christ-event the beginning of freedom. Christ the model — the fulfilment — of the great Initiation

*Here we can imagine **Aries**, and the role of the Christ events during the Passion or Holy Week as they enliven and illumine the 8-fold path teaching of the Buddha~this happens under Aries stars. The new image of the zodiac depicts the human being who is aware of how the spiritual world is illuminated by one's own light, which implies a process of initiation*

Lecture VIII

September 08, 1910

The bringing forth of the secrets of the Mysteries into the external world through the historic Christ-event. The Kingdom of Malchut and the Kingdoms of Heaven. The nature of the Ego in the Kingdom

*For the image of **Taurus**, the artist renders the human being absorbing the life of the surrounding world.*

Lecture IX

September 09, 1910

The Initiation of the Ego. The Gospels are the books of the Mysteries. The Life of Christ, a repetition of Initiation on the great plane of world history

*In the region of **Gemini** the human being undergoes surrender to the forces of another world. This constellation is along the Milky Way, and the 'dual' nature of Gemini is redeemed in the "repetition of Initiation" described in this chapter*

Lecture X

September 10, 1910

The gradual endowment of the human ego-forces with the knowledge of the Mysteries. The Beatitudes. The Healings. The Heavenly Bread. The new Essene teaching

*In the region of **Cancer**, the human being can now seek to become one with what is new. This is rooted in the new "essence teaching" that results from permeation of human ego forces with Christ Mystery.*

September 11, 1910

Lecture XI

The advent of instructing and life-giving powers from the cosmos through the Christ. Their transmission to the disciples. Their awakening. The avowal of Peter. The Son of Man — the Son of the living God. The founding of new communities on the basis of moral and spiritual relationships. Leading forth of the disciples into the Macrocosm by the Christ. The inpouring of the power of the Sun-Word through the mystery of Golgotha. The gradual growth upwards into the Kingdoms of Heaven

*The region of **Leo** is governed by the forces of the Sun, as the mighty heart of worlds. In the new image of the zodiac for Leo, we find the human being bringing to maturity the spiritual fruits in pouring from the great cosmic mystery described above*

Lecture XII

September 12, 1910

The upward development of man, and the descent of divine beings into human souls and bodies. The four points of view of the Evangelists in accordance with the Initiation of each. The Baptism in Jordan and the life and death of Christ Jesus as two stages of Initiation. The Resurrection revealing Christ as the Spirit of earthly existence. The Sun-Aura in the Earthly-Aura. The divinity of Man. Human quality of the Gospel of Matthew

*The contemplation culminates with **Virgo**, the Divine Sophia, who nurtures, births, and embodies the divinity of earthly man. Note that *Virgo* lies opposite *Pisces* on the great cosmic wheel, and that while *Pisces* (aligned here to lecture VI) imagines the downward penetration of divine nature into human individuality, here in *Virgo*, the emphasis is on the upward development of man, which is forecast by the being of *Anthroposophia*, who has as though come forth from man to act as divine model of our future becoming (see additional lectures in "The Search for the New Isis, the Divine Sophia"). In *Virgo*, the human being appears bearing the new-born.*

The New Images of the Zodiac were created by Rudolf Steiner's contemporary, artist Imma von Eckardstein, and they appeared in the original *Calendar of the Soul* for the year 1912-13. Rudolf Steiner remarked that this calendar was to be considered an organic part of the Anthroposophical Movement, and that these new images represented the waking and sleeping of certain elemental forces throughout the cycle of the year. He also recommended that aspirants undertake to artistically recreate these images each year during the Holy Nights season, as a way of 'weaving a basket' for the spiritual fruits ripening in the coming year.

The New Images as etched by artist Margot Rössler in the 1950s are on display in the foyer of the Anthroposophical Society in America, Ann Arbor, MI, and can be found in the facsimile edition of the original calendar produced by Steiner Books.

You may also purchase an 11x17 poster with all twelve images, created by artist Patricia DeLisa, at www.fairytalemoons.com Proceeds go to the Anthroposophical Society in America, to further support this work. Card sets of the same are in production.

Click here for my four-part webinar on the images:
<http://www.anthroposophy.org/webinar-mary-adams/>

