

Spirit's Day Studies

The Writings of Jane Lead,
17th Century Christian Mystic



Diane Guerrero, Editor
8220 Gage Blvd #707
Kennewick, WA 99336 USA
www.janelead.org
diane@janelead.org

Created: 3/6/2019
Revised: 3/7/2019

Abbreviations used in this study
janelead.org/files/66035327.pdf

John Pordage and Astrology

Question: I read John Pordage's statement of faith and was relieved to know that he was not a Socinian! But I had a little "red flag" go up when I read that he was an "accomplished astrologer." I know that words can mean different things in different eras. Also, I suppose one could study movement of the stars, planets, etc. and not be involved with any predictions or fortune-telling.

I understand your skepticism concerning "astrology:" It's true that certain words had different meanings back then; words such as "magic," "alchemy," "mysticism," etc. The following words can indeed be found in the writings of Jane Lead, John Pordage, Jacob Boehme, and William Law:

Constellations: Jane Lead and Pordage

Mazzaroth: King James Bible and Boehme

Astrology/Astrologer: Pordage, Boehme, King James Bible

Astronomy/Astronomer: Boehme

Magic/Magician: Jane Lead, Boehme, Pordage, William Law

Magus: Jane Lead, Boehme, William Law

Magia: Jane Lead, Boehme, Pordage

But this doesn't even scratch the surface, because the names of specific planets and constellations can be found in many of these writings as well!

In the Bible, we see that the word "Mazzaroth" was used to represent the twelve signs of the Zodiac (Job 38:32). It is my belief that these "signs in the heavens" were used by the Old Testament Patriarchs and Prophets to teach their descendants and others about the God of the Universe.

Numerous studies have been done by Bible teachers and scholars that illustrate how the message of salvation can be found in the different constellations. So we see that God placed the message of salvation in the skies (heavens) for ALL THE WORLD TO SEE! So that ALL could learn about the one true God and be saved; and ALL who refuse to acknowledge Him should be condemned (Mk. 16:16)

This message in the stars is such a rich and deep study. Along that same line E.W. Bullinger (1837-1913, Anglican clergyman) put forth a book titled "The Witness of the Stars." There are many others as well, including a book from the 1500's titled, "Astrology Theologized" by Valentin Weigel. I've never read it myself, although I always meant to; but from what I have heard from others it appears to be a sound writing. But let everyone decide these things for themselves.

Perhaps an even more provocative reason why these mystics were interested in the planets and stars was to understand their direct influence over man, this world, and the properties of nature. Boehme said that the "natural man" is, in fact, "under the instigation, government and dominion of the stars."¹ Jane Lead wrote,

[The Beast's reign] shall be put an end to by degrees, and first in some chosen witnesses allotted, who importunately look after Zion's freedom at this time, and are weary of being tributaries to these usurped powers: From which nothing can totally free you, but total death, after the way of spiritual dying, which operates both mystically and magically, by and through the heavenly constellations. This is a death worthy of acceptance indeed, which at once shall put an end to all earthly sense and sin. (*Fountain of Gardens, Vol. 1, 11:10 SDV*)²

However, all this in no way acknowledges or condones "horoscopes," or the predicting of the future; which is indeed heresy, and an abomination to the Lord. (Deu. 18:10-15)

¹ [Lexicon 7: A Jacob Boehme Dictionary](#) by Wayne Krauss. Published Aug. 2018 by Jacob Boehme Online.

² [A Fountain of Gardens, Vol. 1](#), by Jane Lead, Published 1697. *Spirit's Day Version* by Diane Guerrero.