

# Esoteric Exordium On The Theorem Of The Zodiacal Decanates: Part II

*By Stephen Pugh*

## THE ZODIACAL DECANATES

SIGN	ORDINARY WHEEL	REVERSED WHEEL
Aires	Mars, Sun, Jupiter	Jupiter, Sun, Mars
Taurus	Venus, Mercury, Saturn	Saturn, Mercury, Venus
Gemini	Mercury, Venus, Saturn	Saturn, Venus, Mercury
Cancer	Venus, Mercury, Moon	Moon, Mercury, Venus
Leo	Jupiter, Sun, Mars	Mars, Sun, Jupiter
Virgo	Venus, Saturn, Mercury	Mercury, Saturn, Venus
Libra	Mercury, Saturn, Jupiter	Jupiter, Saturn, Mercury
Scorpio	Pluto, Venus, Mars	Mars, Venus, Pluto
Sagittarius	Sun, Mars, Jupiter	Jupiter, Sun, Mars
Capricorn	Mercury, Venus, Saturn	Mer. Venus, Saturn
Aquarius	Venus, Mercury, Saturn	Saturn, Mercury, Venus
Pisces	Mars, Moon, Jupiter	Jupiter, Moon, Mars

Progress, process and passage of the human soul, as we have seen, through any one particular sign of the solar zodiac of twelve constellations is ruled, regulated and controlled by the specific tests and trials associated with the conditioning triangle of planetary ray decanates which astrologically rule or govern the corresponding solar birth month. I am choosing my words with care. The purpose of the study of the decanates is to follow the psychological life history of that triple – in time and space phenomenal entity that we call a human being during both the involutory and evolutionary aspects, phases, or stages of the ONE GREAT PATH. This excursus on the subject of the decanates does not discuss the third aspect of the Path as it would be for our limited understanding;

abstract, theoretical, and metaphysical. It is the period (yet not one of time) wherein the fourth dimensional astrological wheel becomes dominated and its multiple energy effects controlled. Simultaneously, serially, and sequentially the cycle of major initiations begin.

The Tibetan's revolutionary thesis on the dual mode of progression through the signs reverses all previous astrological thought and normal procedure on the method of study or approach to understanding the role and function of the zodiacal decanates on human psychological behavior. His hypothesis will be rejected a priori by exoteric astrologers as it has no demonstrable basis in observable material fact. The physical sun does not reverse its motion - real or apparent – in any sign. It is the heart of the sun that the disciple responds to upon the counter-clockwise reversed wheel of discipleship, not the physical sun. During the third phase of the "One Path" it is the central spiritual sun that the initiate responds to, the mysterious source of the life, will, purpose and the forward progressive motion of the Monad. Exoteric astrologers find all of this quite difficult to understand as they have no conception of the sevenfold etheric constitution or fundamental triple nature of the internal atomic anatomy of the solar atom, or of the human atom for that matter. Those astrologers, seeking to cast the horoscope of the soul, and those ray psychologists who seek to understand the conditioning impact the three major aspects of the solar process have

upon the psychological life history of the human soul, would do well to experiment with the Tibetan's esoteric instructions on the subject of the zodiacal decanates. They will not find this astrological exercise a waste of time and hopefully - in due time - will be rewarded by first finding their own true "place in the Sun" and, secondly, correctly placing and therefore accurately determining their client/subjects' evolutionary status on the Great Wheel (the One Path) before attempting any esoteric astrological counseling. This is necessary, is it not, prior to attempting any meaningful or helpful analysis of the inner life, ray make-up, or the major initiatory crises of disciples and of initiates?

Astrology, as it is presently studied, is subject to the Great Illusion, owing to the reversal of ideas that takes place upon the astral plane as the ideas descend downwards from the higher spiritual planes of archetypical ideation. In order to take the next step forward in the field of astrology, astrologers must free themselves from the illusion of the reversal of ideas that takes place upon the astral plane. The physical universe is a mirrored, distorted, imperfect reflection of the perfect universe that exists within the immutable divine thought. Esoteric astrologers do not base their correspondences and analogies on the physical appearance of things, as do exoteric astrologers. To the esotericist, even the septenary prismatic spectrum of light on the physical plane does not correspond with the inner esoteric division of seven colors. This is an important point to note. The apparent retrogression of humanity backwards through the twelve signs of the zodiac, based upon the precession of the equinoxes, is an integral part of the Great Illusion. Mankind appears to follow the clockwise path of the sun around the zodiac from Pisces to Aries, thus retrograding through the signs. Individual human beings eventually, one by one, reverse this procedure and esoterically "face the East" and proceed in the opposite direction. Only several million human beings have accomplished this according to D.K, since the door into the

human kingdom was closed in Atlantean days. The original sin of man took place eons ago when humanity reversed the proper direction of its true course around the great wheel of spiritual unfoldment.

Man deviated from the natural course of the counter-clockwise zodiacal current, began to proceed backwards around the wheel by following the apparent clockwise motion of the sun and became totally conditioned by the physical appearance of things, as being declarative of reality. Counter-clockwise is the true path of the motion of the axial rotation and orbital revolution of the Earth the cause of the apparent daily and annual motion of the sun. The Earths' real motion causes the apparent motion of the sun and the heavens to proceed clockwise.

Obviously, our Sun or solar system is not the central point in the sidereal heavens that the solar zodiac revolves around. Neither does our sun, in reality, pass through the twelve signs of the zodiac in the course of one solar year, *a sweep of the lesser zodiac*, or in a Great Year or cycle of approximately 25,000 years, *a greater round of the zodiac*. The astronomical calendar or time clock that is measured in star-fixed ages, determined by the precessional cycle, with a new constellation dawning every 2200 years, is based upon the Great Illusion or the appearance of things. Thus we have the various astronomical ages of humanity catalogued and timed according to the apparent backwards sweep of the Sun through the constellations. Historically speaking, this system of time keeping – through accurate recording of observable celestial phenomena in the immediate physical environment – is the first true and great scientific achievement of man, thus making astrology the matrix science of all other sciences. No matter how convenient the astronomical calendar is to us from a scientific observational point of view, astrology is itself, largely based upon illusion and the zodiac is nothing more than the imaginary path of the Sun through the heavens. The Sun and the planets are not in any sign or any constellation, and by that I mean *they are not*

*in any zodiac, i.e., the tropical zodiac, the sidereal zodiac or the zodiac of constellations;* they only appear to be so and this from the totally limited viewpoint of the microscopic human being on the tiny and insignificant planet Earth. In reality, the planets are in our solar system revolving around our sun as it pursues its revolutionary orbit around a grand cosmic center. The interpretation of a human horoscope is largely psychometrical and based upon the thought form of the sign that has been cultivated by astrologers through the ages. It is well known - again due to the precession of the equinoxes that the particular solar birth month and corresponding constellation do not coincide. The sun is - only from the standpoint of time - about 24 degrees away from where it is stated to be. For example, the sun is not in the sign Aries in the month of March, but in the constellation of Pisces. This is owing to the Vernal point's (0" of Aries of the tropical zodiac) westward (about 50" per annum or one degree every 72 years) recession clockwise through the zodiac of "fixed stars." I would remind astrologers of the extreme relativity of the mathematics incidental to precession because of the fact that the obliquity of the ecliptic is not a constant. When the inclination of the Earth's axis is again in the future (as it was for long ages in the past) correctly aligned and stabilized in its proper position perpendicular to the ecliptic, plane precession will not occur. During these periods there is no difference between the moving tropical zodiac (tied to the Vernal Point) and the zodiac of so-called fixed stars. No true accuracy will be derived by astrologers until the axis of the Earth once again stabilizes. It is the twelve creative Hierarchies that are the intermediaries between the twelve sidereal constellations and the solar months of birth. Through this relationship the energy of life itself (operating via the twelve Hierarchies) both causes and creates the constantly shifting inter-ratio of day and night forces that exist within the phenomenal confines of our planetary world of light and darkness. These relationships are eternally established within

the hierarchical structure of the substance of space and the auric egg of Earth itself and are intimately connected with the conditioning process that the material life circumstances and the immediate physical environment have upon the psychological life process of human beings. Hence, the Tibetan's statement that the sun's placement in a solar sign is indicative of an esoteric truth, though not an exoteric fact.

Therefore, for technical diagnostic work and for the practical application of the Tibetan's esoteric instructions on the zodiacal decanates I use the tropical zodiac, the 12 solar signs, and the equal house system. I do not use equatorial coordinates or quadrant house systems. The reference plane for all spiritual symbolism is the ecliptic. This is the plane of the 'sweep of the sun along the path of life.' Metaphorically speaking, the study of the decanates is the study of the path of the son of the Sun. In reality our sun is moving anti-clockwise in an orbital revolutionary path around a greater cosmic Sun. According to the Secret Doctrine the central conditioning star of our solar system is the star Alcyone that is found in the Pleiades in the Constellation of Taurus, the Bull. The Tibetan states that the period of orbital revolution of our sun around its central cosmic Sun comprises a period Of 250,000 years. Although modern exoteric science does not yet recognize this occult fact, its pundits are not far from the truth when they state that it takes our solar system about 200,000 terrestrial years to revolve around the center of our galaxy in the Milky Way. According to hierarchical teachings on the subject as our Sun and attendant planets (one of the seven inner star systems of the cosmic zodiacal ray wheel) pursues its orbital revolutionary journey around its cosmic center along with the six other systems, at the same time it appears, to be passing through the twelve constellations of the solar zodiac (as do the other six star systems). During this cycle the sun spends approximately 25,000 years in each sign (12 divided into 250,000 years plus the transition time). The transition period of

the sun from one sign to the next takes 5,000 years. The unique opportunity of our zeitgeist lies in the fact that Aquarius governs the greater immediate period of 25,000 years and it is also simultaneously the sign our sun is entering on the lesser 2,500 year cycle. A greater and a lesser zodiacal cycle are presently coinciding, a rare occurrence. Based upon their respective ray cycles, each of the other six star systems also transit through the solar zodiac of 12 constellations. Think this out.

Even though the entire science of astrology is based upon a non-existent condition and has no basis in material fact it is yet eternally based on truth. Constellations, suns, star groups and planetary systems do exist, and the myriad of cosmic ray energies emanating from them, circulate throughout the etheric field of space. Continually circulating through the sevenfold etheric body of the cosmic ray Logos at incredible velocity, the atomic radiation of these great Entities is by no means an illusion but a definite result of eternal relationships pursued within the Unknown Wheel of Parabrahman. On Earth, it is humanity's misuse of these various ray energies which has fostered the Great Illusion and created a false reality. Esoteric astrologers are occupied with universal relationships, the interplay of energies, and the nature of what lies behind the Great Illusion. They are concerned with the inner subjective realities of which the outer illusion is but the phenomenal appearance (not the material appearance). Ray astrologers also examine the internal atomic etheric anatomy of the individual human life unit. Through utilizing the Law of Correspondences and analogy in a precise scientific manner they relate with accurate knowledge the cyclic life processes of the inter-related hierarchical life units (united via the action of the antahkarana.) The major task of man in this world cycle is to master and dissipate the Great Illusion. This will be, perhaps, the major scientific achievement of the Aquarian Age. In order to take this mental step forward we must correctly understand the actual sidereal

constitution of our immediate universe along with determining the proper motions of the interrelated cosmic, solar, and planetary atoms found within the circumference of its cosmic logic ring-pass-not. In order to accomplish this it will be essential to identify the astronomical sources of the seven cosmic rays along with determining the respective orbital periods of their inner circle of seven star systems, as they sweep along the same cosmic plane around their identical grand cosmic center. As well, it will necessitate comprehension of the knowledge of the seven types of specific substance found within the 4th dimensional etheric structure of space contained in the logic ring-pass-not of our cosmic ray Logos. Finally, the mathematics incidental to the dual inter-relationship between the two great zodiacal wheels, the cosmic and the solar, will one day be determined. Each of these two wheels constitute essential unities in space and thus follow their respective inward, outward, and onward motions, but they do so in conjunction with one another. Both wheels form major aspects of the intra-cosmic etheric body of the cosmic ray Logos. Both of the two wheels also revolve around the identical grand cosmic sun, but the wheel of seven is found within the wheel of twelve. The extension of all microcosmic analogies upon the path of liberation find their higher correspondence in one of the major etheric centers of our cosmic logic universal macrocosmic prototype. The two great wheels – in the individual human being – find their microcosmic atomic replica in the ray relationship that exists between the seven centers in the etheric body and the twelve petal lotus at the top of and surrounding the head. The keys to the universal mysteries of occult cosmology do not lie outside of ones self but rather are found and turned within. Above all else, for humanity, in the heavens, it is our sun (and its path) that is the grand instructor, great significator, and supreme symbol of humanity's spiritual unfoldment along THE GREAT PATH. The task of esoteric astrologers is to intuit the meaning of the dramatic celestial picture

emblazoned by the sweep of the sun around the path of life. It is their task to translate the meaning and nature of the relationship that exists between the subjective a priori noumenonal world of the seven rays of color to the objective phenomenal world composed of the artificially instituted conditions of light and darkness that exist on Earth for the initiation of humanity.

In part I (*Journal of Esoteric Psychology, Vol.3, No.2, 1987*) of this article I introduced the fundamental principles of the Tibetan's theory on the dual mode of progression through the decanates of the solar zodiacal wheel. As well, I also considered the exoteric and esoteric process of the seven signs Aries thru Libra. Part II of this article continues the delineation and assignment of the decan rulers of the zodiac through considering the remaining five signs of the Great Wheel of Spiritual Unfoldment.

We will be analyzing both the clockwise and counter-clockwise path of the human soul as it enters and travels through the signs Scorpio, Sagittarius, Capricorn, Aquarius and Pisces. Before we do so however, a brief perusal of the following tabulation will prove helpful in order to refresh our minds as to the fundamental triple nature of the correspondences used when esoterically delineating the theme of the zodiacal decanates.

### The One Great Path

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Aspect</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Aspect</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Aspect</b>
Personality development	Soul development	Monadic development
Mutable Cross Active Intelligence	Fixed Cross Love–Wisdom	Cardinal Cross Will–Purpose
Physical Body	Astral Body	Mental Body
Throat Center	Heart Center	Head Center
Sacral Center	Solar Plexus	Basic Center

Ordinary Wheel	Reversed Wheel	Dominated Wheel
First Decan	Second Decan	Third Decan
Physical Tests	Astral Tests	Mental Tests
Probationary Path	Discipleship	Path of Initiation
Strength	Illumination	Love

## SCORPIO

### Clockwise On The Ordinary Wheel

1 <sup>st</sup> Decan	Pluto	1st Ray (Non-Sacred)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Decan	Venus	5 <sup>th</sup> Ray (Non-Sacred)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Decan	Mars	6 <sup>th</sup> Ray (Non-Sacred)

The developing personality whose consciousness is polarized upon the Mutable Cross and who is proceeding clockwise around the Wheel of Life during the involutory aspect, stage or phase of the One Great Path enters the 5th sign via Pluto, Venus and Mars. The lessons of the tests and trials occultly associated with the Plutonian ruled first decan of Scorpio are concerned with the development of the physical will of the personality. Plutonian rays stimulate the inherent human urge to have dominion and control over the physical plane environment and material circumstances. The unconscious, blind, stupid and ignorant cruelty of the unevolved Scorpio type is accounted for by Pluto's rulership of the physical decanate of the sign. The urge for self-preservation at any cost and the instinctual faculty for survival and self-defense are accelerated. Pluto gives great powers of physical endurance, bestows strength and a material constitution capable of withstanding great pressures. The rays of Pluto transmit the

destructive third aspect potencies of the Will. This force enables one to remove physical blockages, impediments and handicaps that retard the process of personality integration from proceeding forward. The non-sacred 1st ray power of Pluto ruling the physical decan of the sign that it is the natural ruler of, creates situations and environmental circumstances involving unusual stress, discomfort, disruption, hardship and pain. This marks this decan as one of the most difficult in the zodiac. The regenerative and recuperative powers of the Scorpio physical constitution are well known and the rulership of Pluto in this decan accounts for it. The Venusian rays of the second decan incite and develop the unconscious astral fears, hatreds and selfish ambitions of the exoteric Scorpio personality type. This influence increases the personal longing and attachment to those things that will bring material security, safety, personal gain and status seeking ego fulfillment. Martian power in the third decan conditions the growth of the developing mental aspect of the personality triad. The selfish, mean, ambitious, prideful and separative mind of the lower Scorpio type are accounted for by Mars. The struggle, strife, and fighting exhibited by the man who is subjectively under the rulership of the third decan is notable. The material concerns of the rational physical world and the five human senses dominate the attention of the limited but developing brain. Tremendous mental effort is expended by the man in order to gain control and power over his life amidst the warring elementals of the lower three worlds of personality endeavor. The mentally polarized Scorpio personality is a dominating and leading force to be reckoned with and one potentially dangerous to cross or to interfere with as the separative and selfish plans of the lower self conditioned by Mars brook no interference. The profound materialism of the exoteric type of this sign is accounted for by Mars' rulership of the final decan and, as well, the love of power and control over men and measures. Mental manipulation with surgical skill is a forte.

## SCORPIO

### Anti-Clockwise on the Reversed Wheel

1 <sup>st</sup> Decan	Mars	6 <sup>th</sup> ray (Non-Sacred)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Decan	Venus	5 <sup>th</sup> Ray (Sacred)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Decan	Pluto	1 <sup>st</sup> Ray (Non-Sacred)

Proceeding upon the Wheel of Discipleship, the eighth sign is entered by the man whose consciousness is subjectively polarized on the fixed Cross via Mars, Venus and Pluto. The tests of Mars in the first decan of Scorpio deal with sex, physical comfort, and money. Selflessness must be demonstrated in the handling of one's sexual relationships, life conditions, and financial affairs. Obviously, not easy tasks. Through the Venusian influence the cessation of the astral dualism so prevalent and distressing in the fourth ray Scorpio make-up eventuates. The inner man no longer swings between the polar opposites and neither is he torn apart by the warring dualities of existence. This process leads to the ending of pain and suffering through entering into a state of true spiritual peace based upon a harmonious and rhythmic adjustment to the current of life. The successful negotiation of the trials of the 2nd decan of Scorpio brings about the expression of spiritual transcendence, illumination, love, and Soul control. The third decan of Scorpio on the Reversed Wheel is ruled by Pluto. The terrific tests of the final decan of Scorpio are designed to enable the Initiate to demonstrate that the form side of life is no longer the dominant factor but that the lessons learnt through the use of form have been retained. Through traumatic strife and struggle, final triumph and victory are attained by the soul over the battling elemental forces of the lower three worlds of Personality endeavor. Pluto governs the death and cessation of old thought forms, ideas and mental attitudes. The first death (occultly speaking) takes place and the inner man stands free from the trammels of matter and form. The second death then awaits in

Pisces and the esoteric process of the intervening three signs prepares the man through one pointed aspiration, Initiation, and world service for the final redemptive act of the 12th sign.

### SAGITTARIUS

#### Clockwise on the Ordinary Wheel

1 <sup>st</sup> Decan	Sun	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ray (Non-Sacred)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Decan	Mars	6 <sup>th</sup> Ray (Non-Sacred)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Decan	Jupiter	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ray (Sacred)

Proceeding clockwise on the Wheel of Illusion the sign Sagittarius is entered by the ordinary man, crucified upon the Common Cross, via the Sun in the first decan, Mars in the central decan, and Jupiter in the third. In the first decan the Sun stimulates the expression of power of a lower order, increases selfishness and fosters material ambition. The incentives of the animal nature are strong in this decanate. The lessons of the first decan concern the development of the ability to provide for one's physical needs. The power to fight for personal goals is brought to the forefront under the rulership of Mars in the Central decan and the individual astral body becomes highly stimulated. Mars is the Hierarchical ruler of Sagittarius - the Lunar Lords, sacral center, Personality elementals, etc. and powerfully supplements and reinforces the process of the sixth ray ruled central decanate. The struggle to achieve lower desires brings one into conflict and strife as personality satisfaction is selfishly sought. The lessons of the second decan are concerned with desire and the ability to satisfy desire for personal selfish need. Jupiter in the third decanate guarantees the successful satisfaction of personality desire and materialistic objectives. Its materially benefic influence enables one to attain individual goals and fulfill personal ambition. The blind, narrow and limited mental faculty of the exoteric

Sagittarius type is expanded under Jupiter's influence and greater material vistas and physical objectives are envisioned. The lessons of the third decan concern the ability to attain the envisioned personal goals and desired objectives, through utilizing the attractive power of the second ray selfishly.

### SAGITTARIUS

#### Anticlockwise on the Reversed Wheel

1 <sup>st</sup> Decan	Jupiter	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ray (Sacred)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Decan	Mars	6 <sup>th</sup> Ray (Non-Sacred)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Decan	Sun	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ray (Non-Sacred)

During the second major aspect of the One Great Path, the Individual who is subjectively crucified upon the Cross of the Crucified Christ, and who is proceeding on the Wheel of Reality, enters the ninth sign via Jupiter in the first, Mars in the central, and the Sun in the third decanate. The lessons of the first decan deal with the process of the transmutation of material desire into spiritual love. Spiritual aspiration is heightened here as Jupiter bestows expansion of vision beyond the material confines of the physical world. Jupiter's influence grants the power to make progress upon the Path and to walk the Way. The esoterically ruled process of the second ray ruled first decan is dynamically reinforced by Jupiter's rulership of Sagittarius and thus the forces of hope, faith, trust and positive enduring optimism outweigh the gravity of the Earth life. The tests of Mars in the central decan are occupied with stimulating the qualities of devotion and idealism. Mars grants the power to achieve the goals of spiritual undertakings and successfully fight for ideals.

The tests and trials of the third decan are ruled by the Sun. They are concerned with the sublimation of personality actions into efforts

which are consecrated to the good of the whole. The rays of the Sun reveal the light of the Soul, thus bringing about identification with the Hierarchy and the expression of Love-Wisdom. This process leads to the ability to be creative in the higher spiritual sense, thus sublimating the lower diaphragm forces into their higher corresponding centers. The power of the Sun guarantees the success of the quest and proves beyond doubt the Presence of the Soul as an eternal Reality in the Past, Present, and Future.

### **CAPRICORN**

#### **Clockwise on the Ordinary Wheel**

1 <sup>st</sup> Decan	Mercury	4 <sup>th</sup> Ray (Sacred)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Decan	Venus	6 <sup>th</sup> Ray (Sacred)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Decan	Saturn	3 <sup>rd</sup> Ray (Sacred)

Undeveloped and average man enters the third sign Capricorn via Mercury, Venus, and Saturn. Mercury indicates that the line of least resistance for man is conflict and struggle. Initially this leads through choice to deeper concretion and immersion in form. The tests of the Mercury ruled physical decanate concerns gaining knowledge of the form nature and understanding its intelligent use for practical purposes. Identification with the form side of life is the dominant factor. In the central decan Venus fosters the desire for material gain and ambition. The longing for personal control over the world of physical things is stimulated as a means of selfish ego fulfillment. The process of the central decan leads to the establishing of a code of material values that the individual lives by. The tests of the Venus ruled decan deal with the development of the ability to attract to oneself the physical things that fulfill personal desire of any type. Status seeking urges, the desire for physical safety and the longing for physical comfort are strong. Circumstances and people

are manipulated to further these ends. The desire to be seen and known, based on material position in social circumstances, is dominant. The tests and trials of the Saturn ruled mental decan of Capricorn confine the man in the depths of matter, producing a hardening and crystallization of his personality nature. The mental nature is developed and strengthened through the constant opposition and resistance Saturn provides in the material world. As a result, this decan produces powerful and authoritative minds that are attached to old, hard, and true ways, while simultaneously opposing new ways, means, and efforts. In this decan the criterion of knowledge is stern and severe and allows no room for flexibility or deviation from the established norm. The combination of the third ray and Saturn - exoterically conditioning the process of the third decan in the sign where Saturn is the ruler - produce great material adeptness and physical expertise in manipulation and control.

### **CAPRICORN**

#### **Anti-Clockwise on the Reversed Wheel**

1 <sup>st</sup> Decan	Saturn	3 <sup>rd</sup> Ray (Sacred)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Decan	Venus	5 <sup>th</sup> Ray (Sacred)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Decan	Vulcan	1 <sup>st</sup> Ray (Sacred)

The Individual disciple enters the tenth sign via Saturn, Venus, and Vulcan. Saturn in the physical decan of Capricorn on the Reversed Wheel reveals the true nature of the third aspect of Divinity. The karmic laws of Divine creativity in form are learned and, as well, an understanding of the underlying purpose inherent in substance is intelligently appreciated. The tests of the first decan concern the ability to control matter and consciously wield the form nature as a tool in the working out of the Plan of God on Earth before the eyes of men. Venus in the second decan reveals the true nature of the conscious



intelligent love of God. The tests of this decan are occupied with the development of the principles of true sharing and demonstration of that fact in nature that we term brotherhood. Through Venus, the light and love of the Soul pour through the hearts of men, and illuminate the dark places of the Earth. The first ray sacred energies of Vulcan produce liberation from the confining walls of the material world. Vulcan removes through destruction those forms that impede the light of reality. Divinity is then known and expressed, unhindered by material form. The labors of the Vulcan ruled mental decan of Capricorn lead to successive transgressions of previously held metaphysical ring-pass-nots. Through the influence of Vulcan, the positive, enduring first aspect of the first ray enables the Initiate to break through the mental barrier of time. The divine immortality of the eternal human Soul is known. This is the Will that conquers death.

### AQUARIUS

#### Clockwise on the Ordinary Wheel

1 <sup>st</sup> Decan	Venus	5 <sup>th</sup> Ray (Sacred)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Decan	Mercury	4 <sup>th</sup> Ray (Sacred)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Decan	Saturn	3 <sup>rd</sup> Ray (Sacred)

Upon the Wheel of the Personality as it rolls onward into illusion, Aquarius is the second sign entered via Venus, Mercury, and Saturn. Under the influence of Venus in the first decan, the non-thinking, affectionate, instinctual mind begins to develop love in embryo. The influence of the Venusian physical decan of Aquarius produces the development of sensitive, aesthetically pleasing, highly coordinated, refined, functional human bodies. The preoccupation with sex and the physical body are strong in this decan. Venus is also stimulating the physical plane expression of purity and refinement in Aquarian body types, i.e., sports medicine, nutrition, 'high tech' foods, amino

acids, vitamins, etc. Through the fifth ray energy of Venus, a new era of scientific understanding of human physiology is appearing. Venus is also responsible for the appearance of a new type of physical individualism on the planet at this time. The lessons, tests, and trials of the central decan are governed by Mercury and thus subject the emotional nature of the exoteric Aquarian to constant conflict and struggle. The dualistic, unstable influence of the fourth ray predisposes the mundane Aquarian to continual astral/emotional turmoil, schism and cleavage. Self-deprecation and the depths of depression are often experienced. The hills and valleys, with the accompanying highs and lows of emotional experience, serve to round out and develop the sensitive ability of the Aquarian to relate to all facets of life experience. The inherent dual nature of the sign Aquarius is accentuated by the natural spiritual dualism of Mercury which makes the second decan a versatile and volatile area of experience. Through constant and unceasing struggle, Mercury and the fourth ray produce a need for harmony, rhythm and continual adjustment, leading to the development of sensitive fluidity in emotional response. The mental influence of Saturn enables the Individual to analyze correctly and eventually choose higher spiritual values. The tests of Saturn in the mental decanate concern an ability to understand and overcome suffering, pain, and difficult situations, without becoming exhausted or defeated. Through Saturn in the third decan, conflict supervenes and, through suffering, produces a dividing of the ways, offering the opportunity to choose the way of higher inclinations and not the physical path of least resistance.

### AQUARIUS

#### Anti-Clockwise on the Reversed Wheel

1 <sup>st</sup> Decan	Saturn	3 <sup>rd</sup> Ray (Sacred)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Decan	Mercury	4 <sup>th</sup> Ray (Sacred)

3 <sup>rd</sup> Decan	Venus	5 <sup>th</sup> Ray (Sacred)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Decan	Jupiter	(Non-Sacred) 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ray (Sacred)
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Upon the Wheel of the Soul as it rolls onward into reality, the disciple enters the eleventh sign via Saturn, Mercury, and Venus. The tests of the physical decan concern the removal and destruction of the hindrances to the free expression of spiritual values. Saturn preserves those things that are good, true, and useful, thus retaining the value of the past, while at the same time opening the door to the future. Opportunity to bring about needed physical changes are offered and are successful if the correct choices are made. The tests of the first decan are difficult and cannot be avoided. Saturn sets the stage for and proffers the material circumstances and environmental conditions which offer the needed resistance and opposition best suited to enable the disciple to take the next spiritual step forward. In the central decan Mercury brings in the illuminating light of the Soul, enabling the Initiate to interpret the inner meaning of events and circumstances. The ability is developed to harmoniously unite the past and the future through understanding the significance of the present. The lessons of the central decan bring about the growth and development of intuition with its illuminating brilliance. In the third decan, Venus confers the gifts of true brotherhood and offers tests and trials that are intended to aid in the fusion process between the heart and mind. Through this process, a code of spiritual values is developed wherein ethical life principles supercede moral judgment. The Venusian spiritual influence increases the individual sense of group responsibility and in the Aquarian age will create a new type of group conscious individualism.

### PISCES

#### Clockwise on the Ordinary Wheel

1 <sup>st</sup> Decan	Mars	6 <sup>th</sup> Ray (Non-Sacred)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Decan	Moon	4 <sup>th</sup> Ray

Upon the Wheel of the Personality as it rolls onward into illusion, the undeveloped and average man enters the sign Pisces via Mars, the Moon, and Jupiter. Mars, the God of War and the producer of conflict inaugurates the cycle of rebirth upon the ordinary wheel with strife, struggle, effort, and pain. The binding hardships of the physical plane life become dominating and controlling factors in the life of the physically polarized Personality. The tests of this decan are concerned with the user of physical power along selfish lines for the satisfaction of Personality objectives. The tests and trials of the Moon ruled central decan foster the development of the instinctual feeling nature through conflict focused in form. The Moon indicates that the unconscious astral life is the dominating factor in the developing Personality process. The instinctual and unconscious astral life of the ordinary wheel or Common Cross Piscean is conditioned by non-sacred fourth ray forces emanating from one of the occultly hidden planets of Esoteric Astrology. This ray energy produces the experience of constant change and mutability and offers little opportunity for emotional stability. This constant conflict and struggle creates great and extreme emotional imbalances within the psyche, but nevertheless serves to inaugurate the transmutation process of instinctual intelligence into a developed sentient faculty. The emotional temperament of the Lunar decan is extremely fluid and negative and thus prone to many insecurities and fears. The central decan of Pisces is a difficult, dark, unstable, versatile and volatile testing ground. In the third decanate the influence of Jupiter guarantees the beneficence of physical incarnation, promotes evolutionary growth, and expands the limited mental development. Progress forward along the material Path of ordinary existence is made possible and facilitated through the expansive and receptive qualities of Jupiter's second ray

energy. The successful satisfaction of Personality objectives and goals are ambitiously achieved.

### PISCES

#### Anti-Clockwise on the Reversed Wheel

1 <sup>st</sup> Decan	Jupiter	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ray (Sacred)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Decan	Vulcan	1 <sup>st</sup> Ray (Sacred)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Decan	Mars	6 <sup>th</sup> Ray (Non-Sacred)

Upon the Wheel of Life as it rolls onwards into reality, the disciple enters the final sign via Jupiter, Vulcan, and Mars. In the first decan Jupiter endows the Individual with a physical and personality constitution which is uniquely suited with a material receptivity which makes it possible to respond to the full range of contacts in the environment. Bestowing the development of true spiritual consciousness and divine vision, the lessons of the first decan result in the achievement of the fusion of the dualities of physical existence on Earth. Power to move forward along the spiritual Path is granted with an undeniable optimism that powerfully overcomes the negative inertia, inhibition, blockages and tamasic qualities of the physical plane. Through the power of Vulcan in the central decan the influence of the Soul supersedes all previous Lunar control. The tests and trials of the Vulcan decan enable the Initiate to demonstrate his conscious dominion, control, and triumph over the form side of life. The positive and enduring qualities of the first aspect of the first ray (the reverse of the destroyer aspect) enable the initiate to isolate himself - without losing connection - within the universal ocean of substance. The second death is attained and the tomb of matter can no longer imprison the inner life. Spirit and matter become synonymous terms within the realm of conscious experience. The Initiate culminates his career in the final decan of the Great Wheel with the fiery process of war and

strife summoning up from his inner resources a tremendous final effort. Mars in the third decan of Pisces on the Reversed Wheel clearly indicates that the mode of final spiritual attainment requires an all-exacting struggle. Mars, the planet of beneficent fusion enables the Initiate to completely fuse his Individual will with the will of the Lord God of Being, thus overcoming the final obstacles to absolution and at-one-ment.

#### Author's Note:

The assignment of the decanate rulers for the sign Leo were incorrectly given in part one of this article. I offer my apology to the readers of the Journal for this error. Obviously, it is the Sun that is the central decan ruler of Leo and not Jupiter. The correct rulerships are given below.

### LEO

#### Clockwise on the Ordinary Wheel

1 <sup>st</sup> Decan	Jupiter
2 <sup>nd</sup> Decan	Sun
3 <sup>rd</sup> Decan	Mars

### LEO

#### Anti-clockwise on the Reversed Wheel

1 <sup>st</sup> Decan	Mars
2 <sup>nd</sup> Decan	Sun
3 <sup>rd</sup> Decan	Jupiter

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