

stand still for this foolishness.

Astrology, and other forms of mysticism, paganism and occult philosophies have grown apace with the rejection of God and His revelation. In their origin many of these cults were "searching for God". Now, their devotees are "searching for answers apart from God". It is sad indeed to find some who claim to be "Christians" who give even half-serious consideration to these pagan superstitions.

(copied from *Plain Talk*)

# The Carriage Drive Messenger



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NEWSWORTHY NOTES:

This section removed to preserve member's privacy

**Radio Programs:** WJLS 99.5FM every Sunday at 9:00AM  
WQAZ 101.5FM every Sunday at 5:30PM  
(WQAZ CAN ALSO BE FOUND AT 98.5 FM)

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## TIMES OF SERVICES

**Sunday:** Bible Study 10:00am  
Morning Worship 10:50am  
Evening Worship 6:30pm  
**Wednesday:** Bible Study 7:30pm

INCREDIBLE BELIEF  
by Bob Pulliam

Does it seem incredible to you that people would actually believe Joseph Smith's claims<sup>1</sup> to inspiration? Does it seem unreal to you that folks would actually accept the far-out doctrine of Mary Baker Eddy<sup>2</sup> that all matter is nothing but an illusion? Do you wonder how the "faith healers" receive such a following with their transparent fakery?

I do too. But I find the answer in the human nature that is so abundant everywhere. It can be found in people who believe in UFO's, Bigfoot, the "Bermuda Triangle", ESP, Astrology, Biorhythms, etc... etc... The list of foolish notions abound. And there is a vast following for all of this nonsense. Vast followings, however, prove nothing! Millions of people believe in the existence of ESP, although there is not a shred of reliable evidence for it. In fact, people who claim to have such powers lose their powers when controls are put on their demonstrations to keep them from using tricks. Many people believe in the ability to walk on "scorching hot" coals without burning the feet. They do not know the trick behind the practice. People will believe what they want to believe whether it is right or not. They could know the truth if they wanted to, but they would rather believe than investigate.

There's no telling how many people believe that Oral Roberts can raise people from the dead. There is no evidence of it; only claims. The "Reverend" Jim Jones "raised" more than forty people from the dead!!! After the lamentable mass suicide, several admitted to faking death so Jones could raise them. Is that comparable? You bet it is! If one man can deceive the masses, the next can do so also. And might even have better technology with which to do it!

And is it possible that there are some among us who follow, but have not investigated? It sure is! The truth can be followed with false motives just as easily as false doctrine. As it is written, "Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God" (Hebrews 3:12); and, "Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Prove yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? - unless indeed you are disqualified." (II Corinthians 13:5)

You can be sure that when Oral Roberts, Peter Popoff, Ernest Angley, Rex Humbard, etc... are all gone, others will have come to take their place. While it's not the most profound of statements, nevertheless, it is true: People will hear what they want to hear, and see what they want to see. Paul said it so well, and why should we be surprised, or think it incredible?...

*"...after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears..."*

(II Timothy 4:3)

And I guess that about says it all!

*Something to Think About...*

**Some of us may feel  
that life is a terrible  
disappointment, yet we  
want to stay here and  
be disappointed as  
long as we can.**

*(The following article was written many years ago... in the sixties, I think. I point that out so you may know that the figures cited are much higher today - bp)*

## THE STARS REBELLED by Robert Turner

In the U.S. alone, an estimated 10 million people believe that their destiny is determined by the relation of the stars to earth at the time of their birth. They believe that the force of the stars (some consider it a mystic force, others relate it to more modern concepts of 'radiation') program one's birth chart with classic histories of others who were so born, it is possible to predict character and potentials.

The prophets of God ridiculed and condemned "the star-gazers, the monthly prognosticators" (Isa 47:12f) and said that Jehovah "frustrateth the signs of the liars, and maketh diviners mad:" (44:24f). "Witchcraft" ("sorcery" ASV) is condemned as a work of the flesh (Gal 5:20), and "soothsaying" (like sorcery) is cast in an evil light; (Acts 16:16, 13:8 - 10). We have no reason to believe the modern star-gazer and soothsayer, or their devotees, will fare any better. As Van Baalen put it, "the findings of astrology makes man dependent upon a *fate* rather than upon God. Obedience to the guiding influence of the Holy Spirit is replaced by object submission to mute forces in nature." (Chaos of Cults, p29)

Astrology is based on the Zodiac, "an imaginary belt in the heavens, 16 degrees broad, including the paths of the moon and all the principle planets and, as it's middle line, the ecliptic, or sun's path." (Webster) One's birthdate falls within one of twelve divisions of the year, associated with the twelve divisions (and "signs") of the zodiac; and the relation of the "stars" in that division determine his "fate". But even if the ancient "star-gazers" correctly divined the influence of each planet, *the relative position of Sun, Earth, and planets has changed since the zodiac was formulated.*

From the Houston Post *Parade*, for June 3, '73, we quote Mort Weisinger in his article, "Is Astrology a \$100 Million Hoax?"

"Professor Owen S. Rachleff, who teaches a course at New York University that debunks the occult arts, invariably convinces his students that astrology is snake oil because it still clings to the ancient belief which erroneously places the earth, not the sun, at the center of the solar system, and which ignores precession, or the regular shifting of the earth's equinoxes. It is precession which has caused each sun sign to fall back about 30 days in the last 2000 years, so that everyone who thinks he's an Aries is really an Aquarius, etc."

We might say (if you are in the mood for it) that the stars would not