

Abraham's Astronomy (A Heka Re Mdw)

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This paper gives insight into understanding the astronomy of The Book of Abraham as well as a Heka practitioners theory

The Book of Abraham gives an astrological depiction of the universe as conjured by the LDS Prophet Joseph Smith. It makes use of Hebrew mathematics (10 base), cubits and named references to astronomical objects. As many other iterations of the creation story, Smith attempts to educate the layman on his concepts or Abraham's concepts of astronomy.

- Historical background

The ground work on The Book of Abraham began in 1835 with the purchase of Egyptian papyi and Joseph Smith's efforts into creating what he called an Egyptian Grammar and alphabet. He produced a text called Grammar and Alphabet of the Egyptian language which contains notes of a pseudo-Egyptian language as well as theorized mathematical systems of Egyptian hieroglyphs.

It is clear from inspection of the Joseph Smith documents that Smith had no knowledge of the works of Thomas Young and Jean Francois Champollion's efforts to decipher the ancient Egyptian language.

Scientific research prior to 1835 into the night's sky was still quite extensive. Even the famous Eagle Nebula was first catalogued in 1745 by Jean-Philippe de Cheseaux. Humanity had some impressive telescopes even at those times.

Carl Friedrich Gauss in Germany around the time of Joseph Smith was calculating orbits of planets in a mere 3 hours time. Charles Messier in France was cataloging a large number of nebulae phenomena and Caroline Herschel was discovering comets.

Joseph Smith's text of the Book of Abraham is introduced in an exciting time in history.

- The Mountain East of Bethel

Altitude was and still is of great importance in being able to best observe stars. The tale of Abraham setting off to make camp on the mountain east of Bethel and west of Hai may have included star observations. The mountain most likely to be named in the story is Mount Zion, having an elevation of 2,510 feet (765 meters).

Although the story contained within the text of the Book of Abraham is creatively inspired by Smith. It is still interesting to suppose the thought processes used by Smith in creating this astronomical story.

- The Urim and Thummim

A device shared by both Abraham and Joseph Smith. The divination device has at least two mentions in the Bible and was used to aid Joseph Smith in translation of the LDS texts.

KryptoMagick's interpretation of a Urim and Thummim may be any objects used to focus internal and supernatural forces to aid divination work. These may be crystals, keyhole stones, shells and other rocks and minerals.

- Abraham's Astronomy

The text of the Book of Abraham educates the reader on a divine order of celestial bodies as well as generally familiarizes the reader with elements from our local solar system.

Kolob – The Governing Star

- Location – nearest planet to God
- Period (time in which it takes the celestial body to make a full rotation) – 1000 years

Greater light – The Sun

- Age – younger than the moon

Lesser light – The Moon

- Age – older than the sun

Abraham 3:10 makes reference to what I interpret as God's understanding of the total system of stars in the universe until one is able to potentially travel to God's stellar throne.

God's Throne

Following what I understand of Ancient Egyptian Astronomy and the legends of Osiris-Re lead me to believe that God's Throne would either be the constellation Orion as discovered by Numerical Heka (N.HK=A) or the constellation Canis Minor.

Kolob's Period

The revolution of the planet Kolob is said to equal that of a single day of God's time. The number of years equaling a single revolution is that of 1000 years. 1000 years is likely inspired from Joseph Smith's study of the Bible and Hebrew texts. The Hebrew numbering system is 10 base.

Noble and Great Ones

Interpreted as Betelgeuse, Rigel and Venus through use of Numerical Heka

Abraham 4:16

Interpreted to describe the relationship between the Moon cycle and stellar period of the universe.

- Betel Heqet Venus Transformations

While invoked in the Wiccan ritual of Drawing Down the Star. A number of linguistic/numerical modular shifts occurred to me. Those shifts resulted in the Betel Heqet Venus Transformations that are integrated as part of the Book of Egyptian Cryptography – Code Generator.

The mathematical method or Numerical Heka uses modular addition and subtraction to add or subtract names or other words to form magical codes.

The Betel Heqet Venus Transformations when applied to the Book of Mormon name Nephi and the Book of Abraham planet Kolob yielded the following star map.

Betel Heqet Venus Star Map

Map Part One - “Orion’s Arrow”

Betelgeuse – Star Conduit
Venus – Local Reference Coordinate
Rigel – Coordinate
Betelgeuse Rigel Quadrant – Coordinate
Cygnus – Coordinates
Vega – Kolob or center X coordinate
Altair – Coordinate
Sadina - Coordinate
Eagle Nebula (M16) – The Pillars of Creation NGC 6760

At the time of constructing Map Part One the planetary bodies of our solar system were aligned in such a way that Mercury was the top of a pyramid with Venus, Jupiter and Saturn making up the line of the base of the stellar pyramid.

Map Part Two - “Kolob Course”

Venus – Local Reference Coordinate
Lyra – Coordinate
Sadira – Coordinate
Lyra Cluster (Beta Scuti)[M26]

Map Two suggests that M26 in the Lyra Cluster is another prime planetary birthing ground with 38 stars.

- Connecting the Kolob Theorem, Betel Heqet Venus transformations and the Book of Abraham

It’s highly unlikely that Joseph Smith had access to any current astrological data regarding what he theorized was the planet Kolob. Because of what we know of the principals of astrophysics and the

fixed periods of celestial bodies we can infer the Smith's use of the very round figure of 1000 years per revolution is inconsistent with what we have observed in nature.

The Betel Heqet Venus transformations and Numerical Heka suggest that the planet Vega is the planet Kolob. Brigham Young has been quoted in saying that distance between Earth and Kolob is 27,000 light years. In comparison with Vega, that is a difference of around 2000 light years.

Numerical Heka suggests that there may be a theoretical relationship between the period of a planet and the revolution of planet.

- Conclusions

There is little ingenuity involved in the creation of the astronomy used in the text of the Book of Abraham. The reader generally does not learn more than one is taught about the universe in modern grade school. Smith's use of Hebrew concepts of stellar time are obvious and synonymous with his use of pseudo-Hebrew phrases.