

# Ephraim—Manasseh And the Sign of Taurus

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After having studied the first six tribes as located on the east and south of the Tabernacle and then considering Levi as located in the center, we now proceed to the west side of the Tabernacle as according to Num. 2: 18-20. "On the west side shall be the standard of the camp of EPHRAIM according to their armies: and the captain of the sons of Ephraim shall be ELISHAMA, the son of AMMIHUD..... And by him shall be the tribe of MANASSEH: and the captain of the children of Manasseh shall be GAMALIEL the son of PEDAHZUR."

It is interesting to note that Ephraim and Manasseh, the two sons of Joseph adopted by Jacob, were placed on the opposite side of the Tabernacle from the camp of Judah. Judah was on the east which speaks of the breaking forth of new light, but Ephraim and Manasseh were on the west referring to a new day. Time was reckoned in the olden days from sunset to sunset, so the west was really the timing of a new day, and Ephraim and Manasseh are always in connection with the timings of God in a special way whereas Judah being on the east is more associated with the light or rising understanding. So time and light are the balance as shown forth in these opposite locations.

The heavenly sign of Ephraim and Manasseh is not hard to discern, for it is written of them in Deut. 33: 17, "His glory is like the firstling of his BULLOCK, and his horns are like the horns of unicorns (Heb. "reem"--WILD OX): with them he shall push the people together to the ends of the earth: and they are the ten thousands of EPHRAIM, and they are the thousands of MANASSEH." In reading these words we immediately know there is but one sign of a BULL or OX in the zodiac, and that is the sign of TAURUS whose sign extends from April 21st to May 21st. And, though Ephraim and Manasseh have this as their heavenly sign and the emblem on their standard, it must be noted that they are not just bullish in pushing people around when once they have overcome their natural traits. Rather their "push" then becomes to "push the people together" or to bring forth unity. Ephraimites and Manassites are known for great strength, even as the strength of the bull, not necessarily physical strength

but great inner strength, and this strength is what carries them through to uniting people together in God. Unsanctified strength in them can be disastrous, but by God's processing in making them overcomers that strength is indeed most blessed.

Now consider some of the bright stars in the Constellation Taurus and their meanings as connected with the tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh and as emblemized on their standard that was lifted above their camp. Located in the bull's eye is the brightest star known as AL DEBARAN and meaning LEADER. Ephraim and Manasseh are natural and supernatural leaders by reason of the light of the eye or by spiritual vision. Their strength is not simply in brute or natural force but rather by the power of spiritual insight.

The next brightest star is located at the tip of the left horn with the name of EL NATH meaning SLAIN or WOUNDED. What a contrast there is between STRENGTH and SLAIN, yet these two tribes paradoxically fulfill both aspects. Their strength is made known in their willingness to be a sacrifice unto God--and what methods are used in wounding and slaying them, often even "wounded in the house of their friends!"

To these bright stars must be added two notable groups of stars in Taurus, and they are the PLEIADES and the HYADES. The Pleiades group is located in the right shoulder of the bull, and its name means CONGREGATED. We cannot go into the individual names of these stars, known as the SEVEN STARS, suffice it to say that they are termed as the SEVEN DAUGHTERS, or feminine in word meanings. The influence of godly women is strongly manifested in Ephraim and Manasseh, and the men thereof do well to take heed to it. God has CONGREGATED a great company of women in these two tribes for a specific work as is seen in the Heb. word for Pleiades which is SUCCOTH meaning BOOTHS or TABERNACLES. This refers to the scriptural use of booths which were in strong evidence upon Israel's departure from Egypt and later on at the celebration of the Feast of Tabernacles. So it is the women of Ephraim and Manasseh are congregated together for strength in getting out of Egypt, or the world system, and also in the triumphant celebration of the soon upcoming fulfillment of the O.T. type of the Feast of Tabernacles. Thus the women are particularly used in "getting out" and "getting in".

As for the HYADES, this group is located in the face of the bull and also means CONGREGATED. The Hyades is also feminine and known as "sisters" which again con-

firms the fact of the forcefulness of the women of Ephraim and Manasseh. Twice feminine groups are given prominence in these two tribes, and both meaning CONGREGATED. This brings to mind the lovely scripture in Ps. 68:10-11, "Thy CONGREGATION hath dwelt therein.....The Lord gave the word: great was the COMPANY of THOSE that published it." The one obscure item the translators did to this scripture was translate the feminine word as THOSE instead of WOMEN, for it should read, "Great was the COMPANY of WOMEN that published it." Nothing could be truer of Ephraim and Manasseh with the strong influence of spiritual women among them.

We are not going to consider the associate constellations at this time but will in the next article take up one such constellation for further clarification.

Our thoughts now must be turned to the two captains of the tribes that so well depict the firstfruits of the people. Of the tribe of Ephraim is ELISHAMA, the son of AMMIHUD. ELISHAMA means GOD HEARS which is significant. It is one thing for a man to hear God, but it is another thing for God to hear the man. The reason God hears the man and harkens to what he has to say is because that man has first truly learned to keep still and hear what God has to say. A true picture of the overcomers in Ephraim is that they have indeed learned well to be still and know that He is God before they speak to God and ask for rash things. What they say is so reasonable unto God that He hears, appreciates and therefore works in their behalf. This experience of having God hear is born out of AMMIHUD meaning HONORABLE PEOPLE. Yes, they are a people filled with the honor of God until their lives are honorable unto Him by means of His great work within them.

As for the captain of Manasseh, his name is GAMALIEL the son of PEDAHZUR. The name means REWARD OF GOD, but in the Heb. it goes even further meaning RIPENED OF GOD, and even WEANED OF GOD. What a scope of meaning! And surely the overcomers of Manasseh fulfill this meaning. They are pruned and dunged and watered of God until they are no longer children but able to stand in their own rights in their calling, fully ripened unto maturity. Furthermore, they are so weaned of God that there is nothing left upon which to lean--and sometimes it seems that even He Himself withdraws from them that they might know what it is to stand alone by knowledge only and with no apparent sense of His nearness. Such an experience is birthed out of PEDAHZUR which means the ROCK (GOD) RANSOMS OR RELEASES. Only in the full realization that God has fully ransomed or delivered can anyone experience the weaning that at times seems to cut him off even from the Lord

Himself. Such is the experience of the firstfruits of  
Manasseh.

Let me remind you that you need not  
be born under Taurus to be of Ephraim or Manasseh, but if  
you are of one of these tribes, then you will find that the  
things written herein apply to you in particular. True  
Taurians are of great inner strength when once the bull-  
ishness has been eradicated. ~~They have keen spiritual in-~~  
~~sight to balance their strength.~~ Their women are of great  
import in the work of God, and their overcomers are able  
to stand by ~~knowledge not blessings, in honor and not~~  
~~greatness,~~ through God's ability and not their own. Bless-  
ed be the multitude of Ephraim and Manasseh, and blessed  
be their place among the greatness of Israel!

N.C.N.

Ephraim, Manasseh and Taurus--  
Blessed and wondrous they be,  
Honor and strength and such knowledge,  
Standing in God they are free.  
Women and men of these tribings,  
Emblemed by Taurus above,  
Walk in His strength and His wisdom,  
Move by His infinite love.  
Push they the people together,  
Unity goes where they'd trod,  
Ephraim, Manasseh and Taurus--  
Blessed, yea, blessed of God!

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REDEMPTION WRITINGS