

by Tal Davis

What's

So

Bad About

Have you ever stood on a remote beach on a cloudless night and looked up at the sky? It is a breath-taking sight! You can see an endless array of shining stars and planets forming various constellations and the vast Milky Way. For thousands of years, people have looked at the heavens and imagined what they mean. In ancient times, star-gazers believed the stars provided clues to the fortunes of people and influenced



life on earth by their locations in the sky. This was called astrology and should not be confused with astronomy, the modern scientific observation of the universe. Astrology had no basis in science and is not real. Today, however, astrology is still a popular past-time for many people when they read their daily horoscopes in newspapers or on the Internet.

Horoscopes?

You don't need to look to the stars to seek direction for your life.

Horoscopes are readings made by professional astrologers supposedly based on the locations of the stars and planets on people's birthdays.

What Horoscopes Are

Horoscopes are organized according to 12 symbols, called the signs of the Zodiac, which correspond to 12 star constellations. Serious readers of horoscopes believe they provide foresight about events of their lives and wisdom for making decisions. For Christians, however, there are significant reasons for avoiding astrology, horoscopes, or any other kind of fortune telling.

In the Bible, God warned His people against looking for signs in the heavens, as did the nations around them who worshiped false gods: "This is what the LORD says: Do not learn the way of the

nations or be terrified by signs in the heavens, although the nations are terrified by them" (Jeremiah 10:2).

Leviticus 19:31 has a strong warning for the Israelites that still applies today: "Do not turn to mediums or consult spiritists, or you will be defiled by them; I am the LORD your God."

God made fun of false teachers who used astrology to predict the future: "You are worn out with your many consultations. So let them stand and save you—the astrologers, who observe the stars, who predict monthly what will happen to you. Look, they are like stubble; fire burns them up. They cannot deliver themselves from the power of the flame" (Isaiah 47:13-14).

What Scripture Says

The clear teaching of the Bible is that the universe, and everything in it, was created by God for His glory and honor: "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims the work of His hands" (Psalm 19:1).

You don't need to look to the stars to seek direction for your life. You need only to pray to God Himself to show you what to do and how to live each day. Next time you gaze at the sky, say a prayer. Thank the Creator of the wondrous universe for His love and care for you. 