

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

The theme of cosmic reversal

BIRTH OF JESUS

The open, yet secret, arrival of the King

- **defeats death**, nullifying the claim of the lord of the dead on believers
- **inaugurates the kingdom**, initiating the reclaiming of the nations
 - Begins at ground zero; gates of hell
- **heals the transgression of heaven and earth** whose effects still linger

Romans 10

¹⁴ How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? . . .

¹⁸ But I ask, have they not heard? Indeed they have, for

“**Their voice (LXX)** has gone out to all the earth,
and their words to the ends of the world.”

Psalm 19

¹ The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

² Day to day pours out speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge.

³ There is no speech, nor are there words,
whose voice is not heard.

⁴ Their voice (LXX; MT = “their line)
goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.

Revelation 12:1-5

¹ And a great sign appeared in heaven: **a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.** ² She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth. ³ And **another sign** appeared in heaven: behold, **a great red dragon**, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems.

Rev 12:1-5

⁴ His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it. ⁵ **She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne ...**

BETH ALPHA MOSAIC FLOOR



Sun, Moon, ecliptic

Sun

The Moon



3:37p.m.
Earth
7° N
-53° 36' 31"



Gemini

Cancer

Leo

Sun
Virgo

The Moon

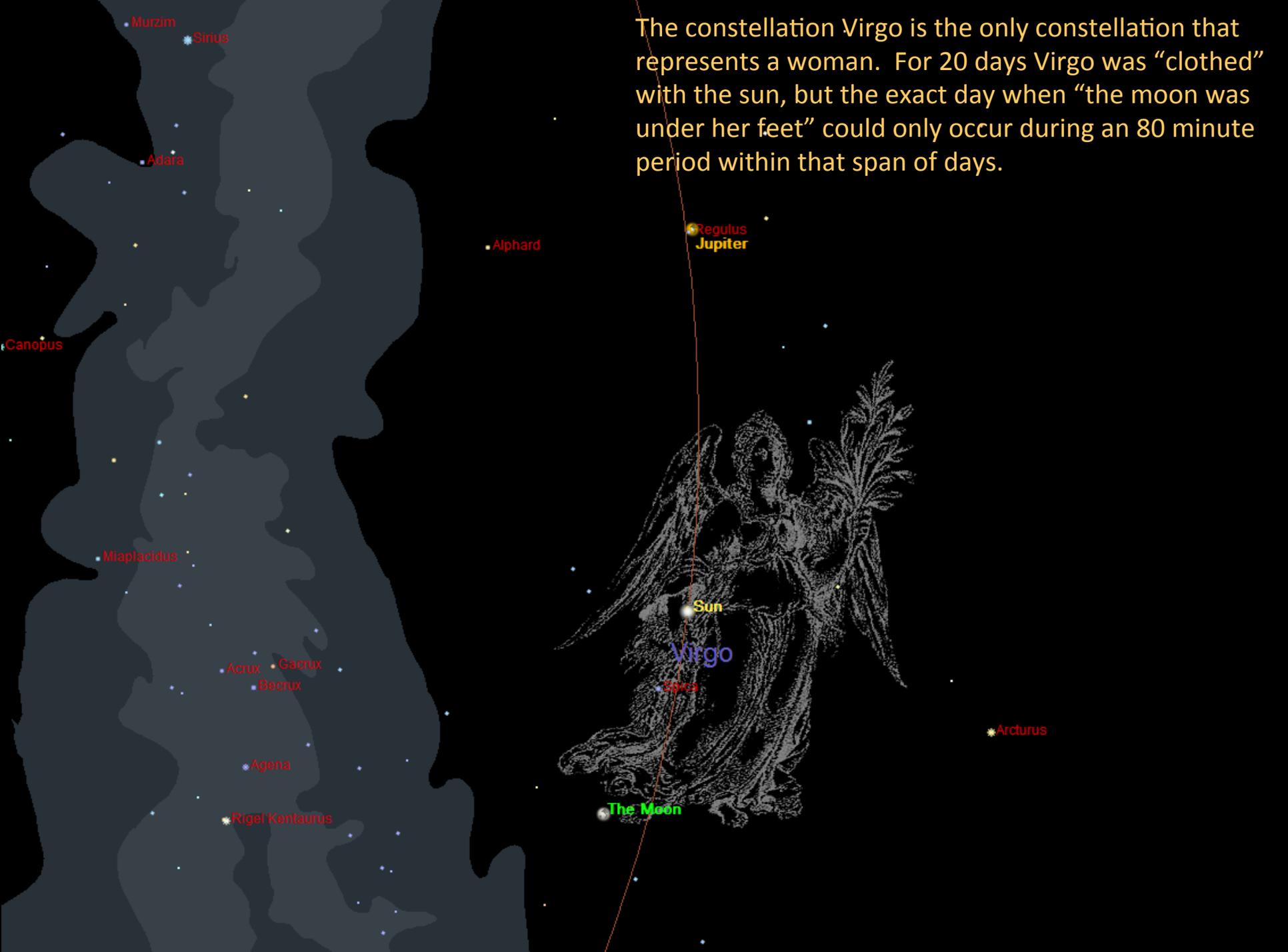
Libra

Scorpius

Sagittarius

Capricornus

The constellation Virgo is the only constellation that represents a woman. For 20 days Virgo was “clothed” with the sun, but the exact day when “the moon was under her feet” could only occur during an 80 minute period within that span of days.



• Murzim

• Sirius

• Adara

• Alphard

• Regulus
• Jupiter

• Canopus

• Miaplacidus

• Acrux • Gacrux
• Becrux

• Agena

• Rigel Kentaurus

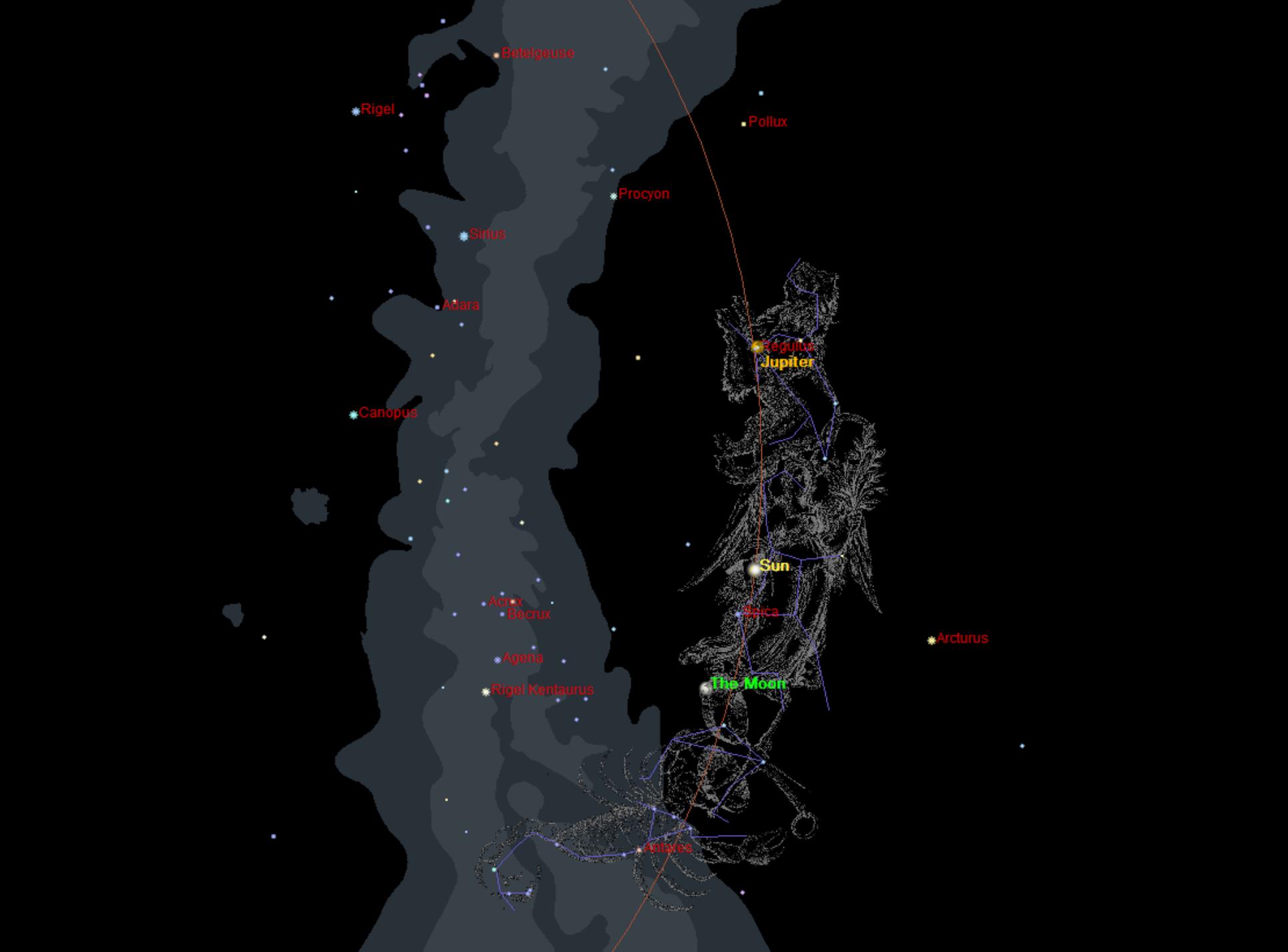
• Sun

• Virgo

• Spica

• The Moon

• Arcturus



Betelgeuse

Rigel

Pollux

Procyon

Sirius

Adara

Regulus
Jupiter

Canopus

Sun

Alex
Becrux

Saica

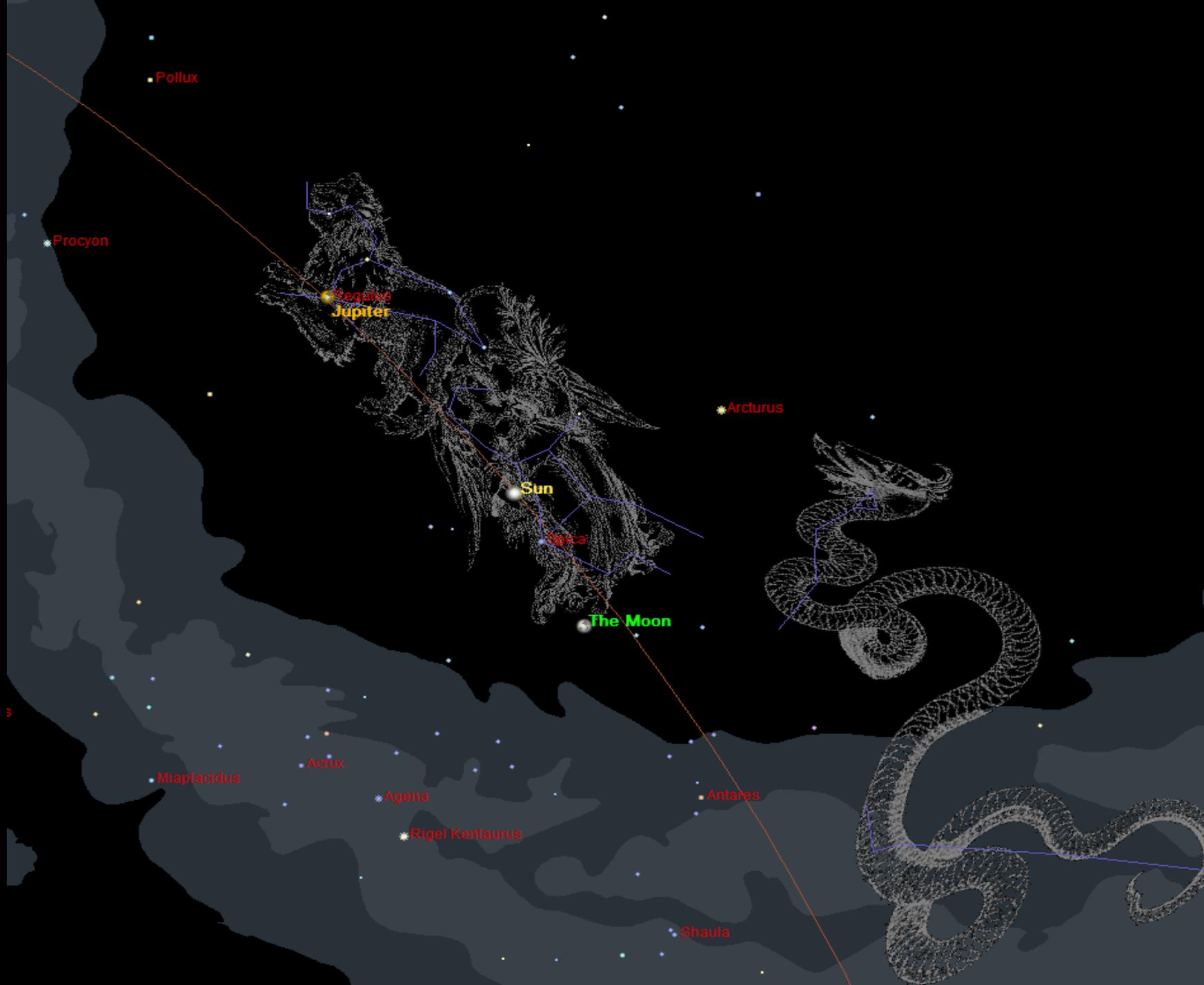
Arcturus

Agena

The Moon

Rigel Kentaurus

Antares





Alphard



Regulus
Jupiter

Leo

Sun

Virgo

The Moon

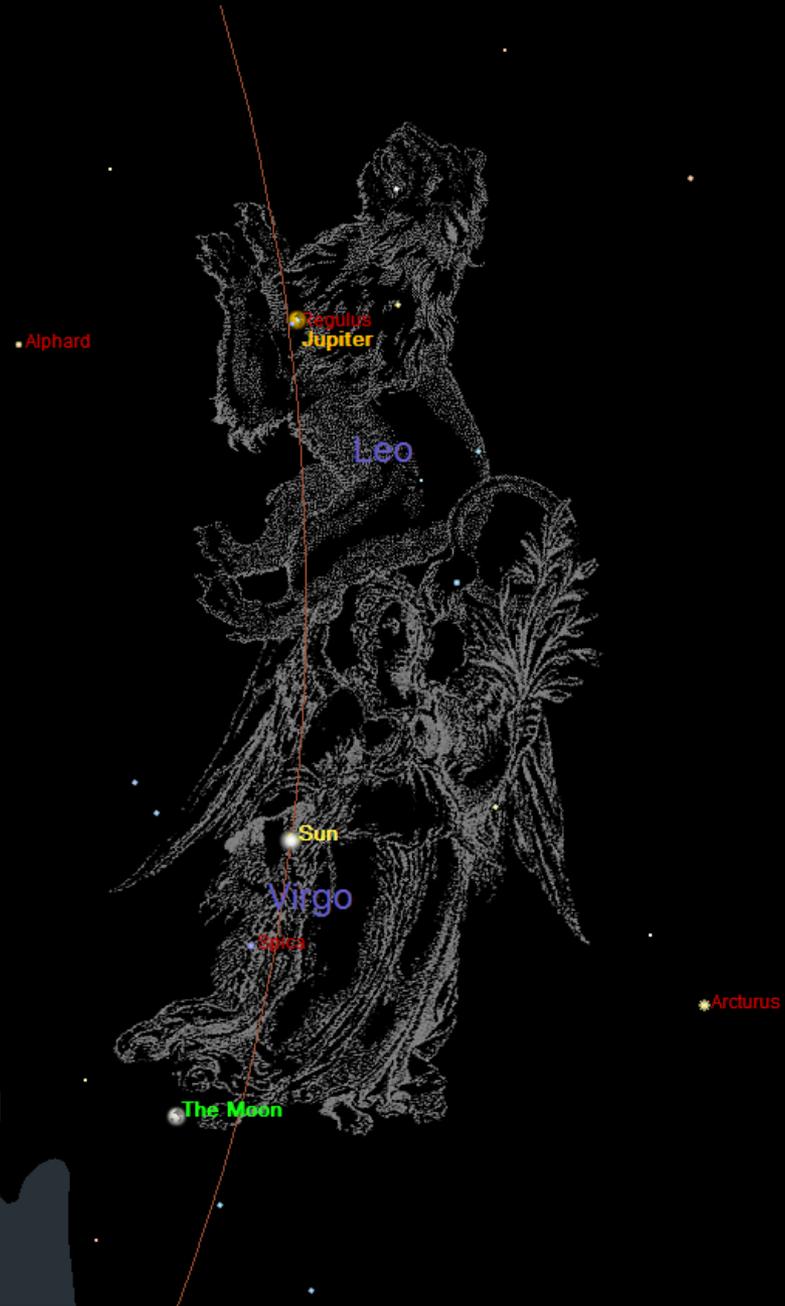
Arcturus

3 B.C.

September 11

The Sept. 11, 3 B.C. date also corresponded to Rosh-Hashanah (Tishri 1), New Year's day for Jews and the Day of Trumpets.

Tishri 1 was also the "New Year's Day" of the civil calendar according to the calendar accepted in Judah during the divided monarchy (Thiele). That is, it marked the first day of the reign of every new Davidic king.



Jewish Calendar

The **first month** of the Jewish calendar = Nisan

Nisan falls in the **spring**, when **Passover** occurs.

This **first month** reckoning was set in Exod
12:1-2

This was an innovation; Passover had not
existed prior to the exodus.

Jewish Calendar

However, the ancient **beginning of the year is in Tishri**, the seventh month

Tishri brings in the fall season (harvest)

Tishri 1 = Rosh Hashanah, when the year number changes.

Jewish Calendar

This **concept of different starting points for an annual cycle** seems strange, but we use it as well.

- Our "new year" starts in January, but there are other "new year" beginnings in our culture.
- The new "school year" starts in September
- Businesses have "fiscal years" that start at various times of the year.

Jewish Calendar & the Flood

Gen 7:6 – “Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters came upon the earth.”

Gen 7:11 – “**In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month**, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened.”

– **Noah was 600 years old** when flood began in **the month after Tishri** (“second month”)

Jewish Calendar & the Flood

(after dove didn't return)

Gen 8:13, 14 - In the six hundred and **first year, in the first month, the first day of the month (Tishri 1), the waters were dried from off the earth.** And Noah removed the covering of the ark and looked, and behold, the face of the ground was dry. **In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth had dried out.**

(first drying = Tishri 1 = a year since the flood began)

Jewish Calendar & the Flood

- Noah had therefore turned 601 sometime before the earth had dried out.
- **Early Judaism took this to mean that Noah's birthday was Tishri 1**
- **Where have we seen Tishri 1 before?**

Jewish Calendar & the Flood

- This would then mean Jesus and Noah shared a birthday (Tishri 1)
- This would create a mental and spiritual link in the Jewish mind between Jesus and Noah

Flood Timing and Noah

- Astronomically, the second month is marked by the heliacal appearance of the Pleiades
- The Pleiades (Hebrew, *kima*; כימה) are mentioned three times in OT (Amos 5:8; Job 9:9; 38:31), always in pairing with Orion (*kesil*).
- Many in ancient world (including Jews)

Flood Timing and Noah

- Job 38:31 - “Can you bind the chains of the **Pleiades** or loose the cords of Orion?”
- 11QTgJob - “Can you bind the chains of the *naphila* or loose the cords of Orion?”

Jewish Calendar & the Flood

- Noah's birthday associated with God's judgment (flood)
- Flood wiped earth clean of evil
- Source of that evil was transgression of heaven and earth (Watchers; Gen 6)
 - The offending sons of God put in the Abyss (Tartarus = 2 Peter 2:4) “until time of the end”
- Noah's birth associated with death of the nephilim
- But the evil persisted (Gen 6:4; Num 13:33)

Theological Messaging

- Jesus' birth signaled the same thing
- Reversal of evil of sons of God and nephilim
- Jesus = king = kingdom
 - Kingdom inaugurated during his ministry
 - Death and resurrection = seated at right hand of God “at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him” (1 Pet 3:22)
- His return = time of end / release of Watchers (Rev 9)