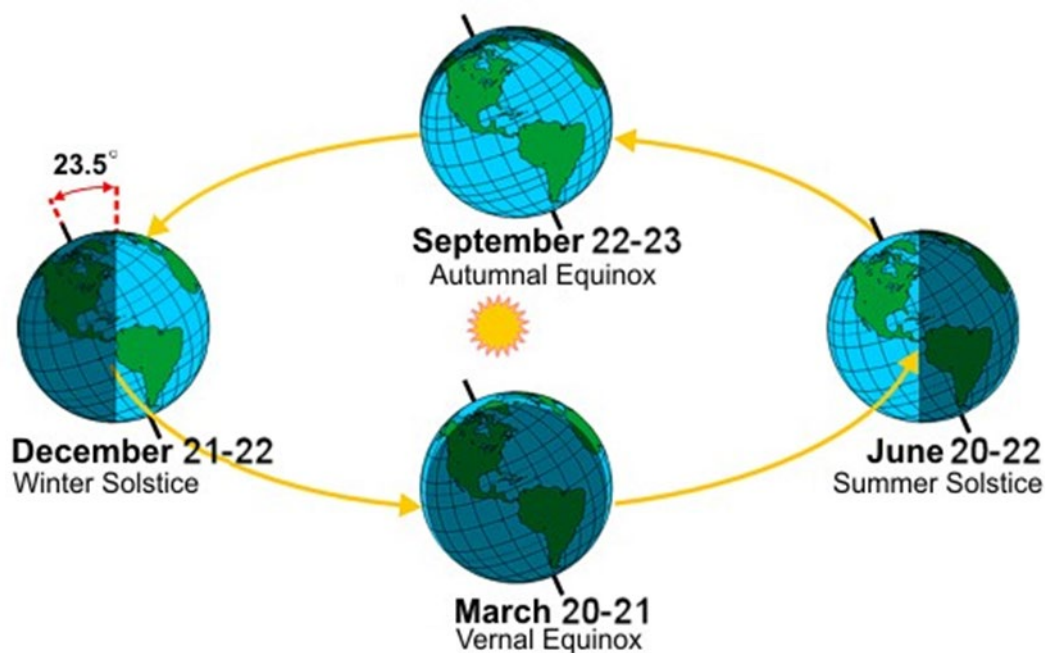


2022 Solstice Greeting

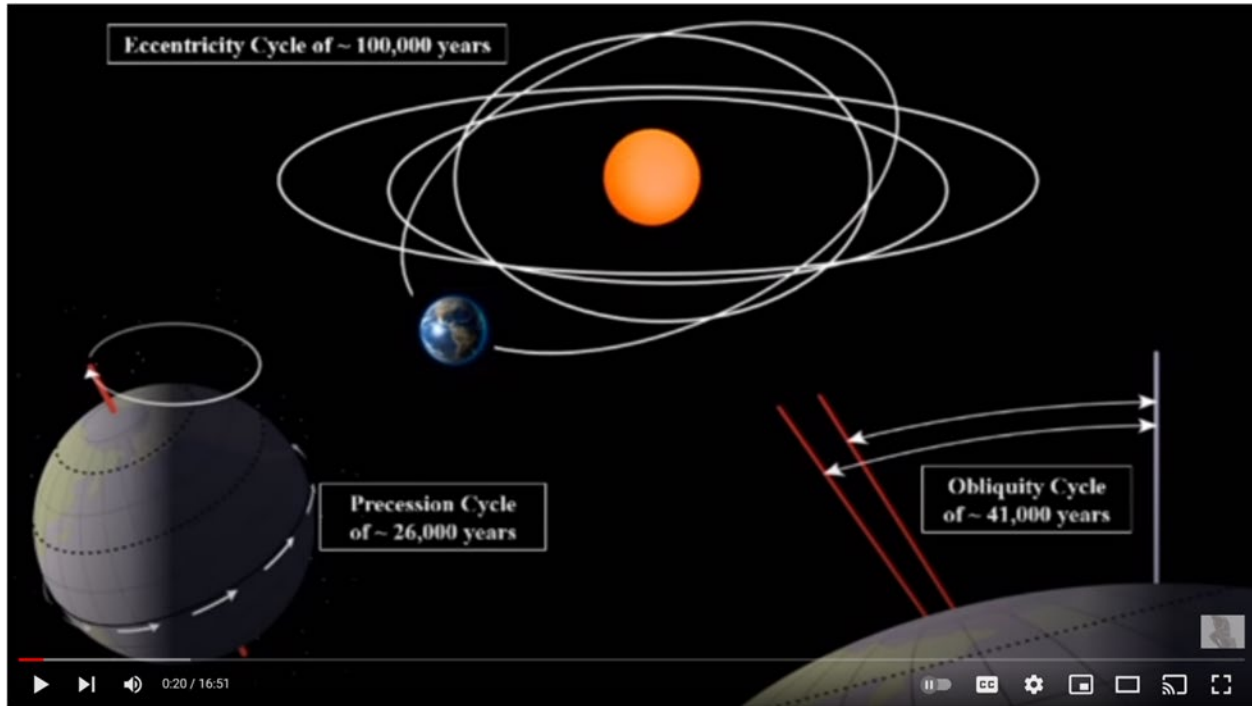
It is again time to wish you all Solstice Greetings. In the Northern Hemisphere, Solstice is the preeminent feast on which others are based. In our Solstice Greetings over these many years, we have explored the celebrations of different cultures which are celebrated around the time of Winter Solstice: Christmas, Hanukkah, Saturnalia, Yule, Festa Jumia, Yalda, Makahiki, Soyal and Korochun name a few.

Occasionally, we have investigated the science giving rise to the Solstice. The seasons are the result of a present 23.5-degree tip in the rotational axis of the earth in relation to its solar axis. At Equinox the solar radiation in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres are the same, at Solstice there is one extreme in the Northern Hemisphere and the opposite extreme in the Southern.



Here is Fresh Information

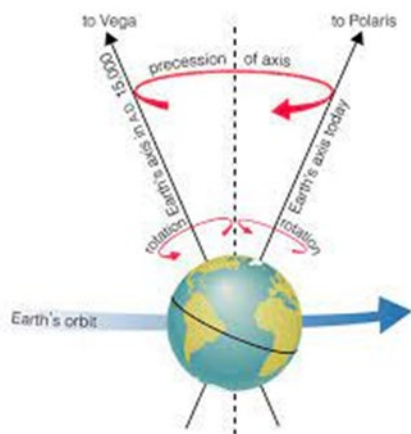
There are greater cycles at work: Obliquity, Eccentricity and Precession affect the Earth's orbit. The angle of declination between the Equatorial and Elliptical Orbits does not remain at 23.5 degrees but varies between 22.1 and 24.5 degrees over a 41,000-year cycle (Obliquity). The path of Earth around the Sun is not a circle, rather it is an ellipse which changes its shape in a 100,000-year cycle (Eccentricity). Most interestingly the Earth wobbles slowly so that the North Pole points to a different point in the visible cosmos in a cycle of 26,000 years (Precession).



For those who might like to dig deeper, the YouTube video below is a precise explanation of these three cycles. The Serbian mathematician Milutin Milankovitch (1878-1958) took these three scientifically measured cycles and blended them mathematically into a single cycle, known as the Milankovitch Cycle, which cycle has now been shown to correlate with the historic cyclical glaciation and warming of our planet. **This video goes to the essence of what is being conveyed and is highly recommended.** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PFfwIOzVlh8>

Without discounting Obliquity or Eccentricity, let's take a closer look at Precession. Shown in this static drawing or 3-minute animation:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qIVgEoZDjok>



The Greek mathematician and astronomer Hipparchus (127 BC) is generally recognized as the first to scientifically prove precession. He saw that the visible zodiac moved backwards at his estimate of 1° in 100 years (later shown to be 1° every 72 years). Precession causes the identity of the Pole Star to change over time. Polaris was not the pole star when the pyramids were built, it was Thuban (Alpha Draconis). By the year 15,000 Vega will be the North Star. Everything stated above is scientifically accurate. We now segue into a bit of Astrology.

Even in not so ancient times, there was little demarcation between Astronomy and Astrology, the connecting factor being the belief that the motion of stars ruled destinies on Earth. The cycle of precession, the time it takes to come back to the same view of the sky as when started, lasts 25,800 years. The ancients knew of this from general observation long before Hipparchus and gave great credence to it, calling this 25,800-year cycle the “Great Year.” The Great Year is subdivided by the twelve Constellations of the Zodiac, each 2,150-year period known as its own “Age.”

Since approximately 1 AD we have been in the House of Pisces, symbolized by fish which is a Christian symbol. From the point of view of European culture, it can be postulated that the last 2,000 years have been shaped by Christian culture. Another example of the change of Astrological Ages is symbolized by: Mithras slaying the Bull as ending of the Age of Taurus and the beginning of the Age of Aries, about 4300 BCE, which date coincides with the rise of cities in the Tigris-Euphrates River valley. Mithras is thus seen as a god of the cosmos with the power to move the heavens and regulate the great astrological cycles.

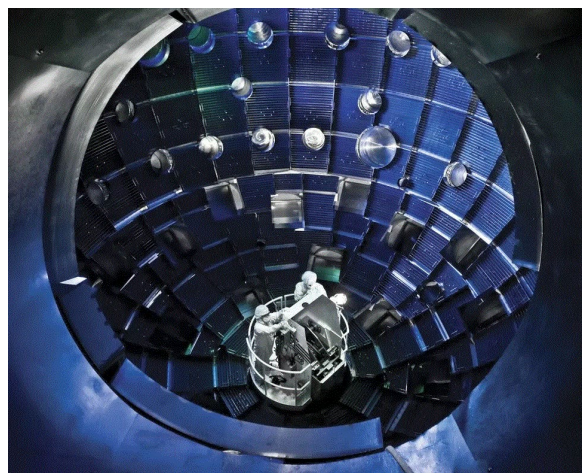


The boundaries between the houses of the Zodiac are imprecise: 2012 and 2021 have been postulated (along with other times from 1968 to 2150) as the time of transition from the Age of Pisces to the Age of Aquarius. In cosmic time we are certainly somewhere near the cusp of this transition. A common view expressed by astrologers sees the Age of Aquarius as a time when humanity takes control of the Earth and its own destiny as its rightful heritage, and a time of revelation of truth and the expansion of consciousness.

Will it be Love and Peace? As in the 1969 classic “Age of Aquarius” from the Broadway Musical Hair. Listen to the link below: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kjxSCAalsBE>



Or could the Aquarian Age be a time of bountiful, unlimited and inexpensive energy? An announcement was made last week that there had been a breakthrough in the production of energy by a nuclear fusion which, if realized to its full potential, could change everything! <https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-63950962>



The last few years, marked by pestilence and war, have been a little dark. As with the darkest Solstice night, the next morning dawns on days of increasing light, and hope for better times ahead.