

**WISE MEN  
FROM THE  
EAST  
AND OTHER ESSAYS**

**EIGHT INVESTIGATIONS ON ASTROLOGICAL THEMES**

by

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## A WORD OF INTRODUCTION

The essays which form this volume largely have their origins in talks which were delivered - mainly to astrological groups - over about a ten year period. They have undergone a degree of editing, but by and large I have tried to retain the form in which they were originally presented. For this reason each is dated with the year in which it was first prepared. This may sometimes assist in placing it in context

The first of these essays, *Wise Men from the East*, began as an article for the Journal of the Federation of Australian Astrologers. However since that date it has also been delivered in various forms as a talk to a number of groups, as well as being reprinted in the above publication. Apart from these appearances in the Journal, it also forms one of the contributions in an anthology of Australian astrological writing published by the FAA and entitled *Under Capricorn*.

In general the themes of the essays are reflections upon two issues that have been of continuing importance for me. The first is the relationship between astrology and the Christian tradition. As I am an ordained priest of the Anglican Church, this has naturally been a matter with which I have been confronted on a number of occasions. That particular group of essays are therefore a kind of Apologia for my involvement in an area which - at least in our present age - has not in general found favour with the majority of those who seem to speak publicly for the Church.

The second involves several attempts to answer the question, "If one accepts the astrological concept, what kind of world does this imply?" As one reads the pages of astrological journals it is apparent that astrologers are much given to the discussion of the practical issues of their trade. However far less is written with regard to what one might call the philosophical questions which its practice raises. I have tried to take at least a few steps down this path.

I hope therefore that the essays will be of interest. Perhaps there may even be those who find in them some things which may be of help in their own quest to find those patterns of meaning that underlie the structures of this world in which we live.

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## **CONTENTS**

1	Wise Men from the East	p. 3
2	The Nine Objections to Astrology	p. 17
3	A Lady in Tasmania	p. 29
4	Jews, Jesus, and Astrologers	p. 40
5	Is it True?	p. 49
6	Pathway Through the Desert	p. 58
7	The Four Pillars of Wisdom	p. 69
8	Counsels Secret to Us	p. 81